

Column Climb Contest

Purpose

To evaluate each contestant's ability to climb a 35 foot column.

Eligibility

The apprentice competing at the District Council level must be an apprentice during the year he or she is competing to go onto the International Competition. The apprentice may come from any year apprenticeship. He or she may only compete at the International level once.

Clothing Requirement

Contestants must wear long pants, shirt with sleeves, work boots (no tennis shoes), hard hat.

Equipment and Materials

The following equipment will be provided by the contest committee:

- 35 foot unpainted column (12 inch wide flange or standard column) with a bell to ring connected to the top of the column. **Locals 84/135 will be using a W12 x 55 (12 ¼" deep, 10" wide, 5/8" thick column)**
- Safety harness with a retractable line
- Lift available and in the air in the event any of the contestants has a problem
- Safety glasses with side shields (optional)
- Hard hats
- Work gloves

The contestant may provide the following:

- Safety glasses with side shields
- Hard hat
- Work gloves

Contest Guidelines

These guidelines will be followed during this contest:

1. Contestants will be randomly selected to determine the order in which they will demonstrate their ability to climb the column.
2. Contestants must wear their hard hat and work gloves at all times when climbing the column.
3. Each participant will wear a safety harness attached to a retractable safety line.

4. Clothes and equipment will be the same as required for everyday wear on a job – no shorts, modifications, specialized treatments, or special soles are allowed to clothing and boots.
5. A pad and wire brush will be at the base of the column for each participant to have the opportunity to clean boots at the beginning of climb.
6. Participants will have 30 seconds from the time their name/number is called to be at the column and ready to climb.
7. Participants will be timed from when their second foot leaves the ground to the time they ring the bell at the 35' level.
8. No running starts will be allowed.
9. Two (2) judges will be assigned to examine work gear and boots prior to each contestant beginning their climb.
10. Three (3) judges will time the column climb and the high and low times will be thrown out – the middle time will be recorded for scoring purposes.
11. The contestant may climb either the face or web of the column.
12. The contestant must demonstrate correct safety practices at all times. The contest judges may stop a competitor at any time if they deem the contestant's manner to be hazardous to either themselves or others. Such stoppage will disqualify the contestant from that section of the contest. If the contestant is warned a second time, he or she will be disqualified as a contest participant.
13. While the contest is in progress, there shall be no communication between the contestants or between the contestants and anyone else except as directed by a judge or contest official.
14. No "Showboating" or applying stickers at top of column. **Any violation of this rule will result in competitor receiving "0" points.**
15. **No audio visual recording equipment will be allowed on the competitor**

Contest Scorecard

This contest will be scored as follows:

1. The Column Climb contest is worth five (5) points. The apprentice who has the fastest time for the climb will receive the full five (5) points.
2. In the event there is a tie for first place, a second column climb will be held to break the tie.
3. The column climb is worth from five (5) to one (1) points based on ranking in the event. The first place contestant will be awarded five (5) points. Each place following first will be deducted 1 quarter percentage point (0.25). Meaning second place will be awarded 4.75 point; third place will receive 4.50 points, fourth place 4.25 points and so on. Each contestant who completes the column climb (i.e., climbing to the top and ringing the bell) will be awarded at least 1 point no matter the amount of time and where the contestant places in the contest ranking. Here is a list of the points possible:

Place	Points
1	5.00
2	4.75
3	4.50
4	4.25
5	4.00
6	3.75
7	3.50
8	3.25
9	3.00
10	2.75
11	2.50
12	2.25
13	2.00
14	1.75
15	1.50
16	1.25
17 →	1.00

4. Contest judges should use the scoring sheet on the following page to record each contestant's time and then determine the points earned by each contestant.
5. These results will be submitted to the contest officials responsible for compiling the overall competition results.
6. Each competitor's first time and score will be used for the overall competition.
7. The top 10 fastest competitors will then be eligible for a "winner takes all" climb. The climber with the fastest time will receive a special trophy and \$500.00 **from the Texas and Mid-South States District Council.**

