

Adherence to Guidelines and Safe Operating Procedures for Rocky Mountain Chapter of International Society of Arboriculture Tree Climbing Competition

In accordance with local, state, and CDC recommended Guidelines for safety protocols in terms of Covid-19, please see action items listed below for our event to be held in Sterne Park, over the weekend of August 14-16th, 2020.

As this is an outdoor event and at no point-indoors, we will be able to provide more than adequate space for social distancing for all concerned parties.

On all days, at beginning of day, and as participants show up; each person will be given a temporal temperature reading, answer health questions, and provide a phone number for contact. This data will be recorded and available to concerned parties upon request.

Questions to participants:

- 1) Do you have a fever (greater than 100.4), or have had a fever in last 48 hours?
- 2) Do you have a cough? (not associated with allergies or other known medical conditions)
- 3) Do you have shortness of breath?
- 4) Do you have any other symptoms? (including body aches, chills, sore throat, chest tightening, recent loss of sense of smell, fatigue, or gastrointestinal symptoms such as nausea, vomiting, or diarrhea).

If all questions answered “NO”, and no fever- participants are allowed to attend event and proceed.

This information will be taken in central location at the North shelter, where our event operational crew is stationed.

Our event will provide facial PPE for each volunteer and competitor.

We will provide hand sanitizer at each location on all days of each event (3 areas of use on Friday, 5 areas of use on Saturday, and 3 areas of use on Sunday.

We are insisting all volunteers, competitors, and sponsors of events to wear facial coverings and practice social distancing of SIX feet from others.

All days- Volunteers arriving at 6-7AM will proceed with answering 4 questions, have temperature reading, then go directly to their assigned positions for duration of event.

Friday- Competitors will be queued up in line along Ida Ave in the turf area, for check in, gear check, group assignment, and to compete in one climbing event (only one competitor at a time may participate) the other competitors will be queued in line in 6' increments (markings for distance will be clearly visible)

Saturday- Competitors will again queue along Ida Ave for “entrance” to the event only after screening. After Covid-19 screening, competitors will be instructed to report directly to tree/station that the 9 person groups will then stay in all day-rotating to next tree event setup, for duration of event, until they finish last event and assemble in a spatially distanced manner for brief recognition ceremony of winners and announcement of competitors to return for Sunday’s event.

During Saturday’s events, the groups of competitors will be sequestered as an entity (4 separate groups), next to the event they are to accomplish, but not inside the event, nor spread free range- this will be accomplished by a taped off area allowing the competitors a minimum of 30 square feet each (in accordance of recommendations for distancing). As groups finish the event, they will be instructed to move, as a group, to the next tree, and queue in holding corral.

Sunday- All volunteers and competitors, will again queue along Ida Ave at 6:30AM and proceed with COVID-19 questions/temperature readings, then proceed to assigned location. Competitors are sequestered away from event (so they can’t get an edge on competition)- this will also be under socially distant rules and event staff will also have more than adequate space to maintain 6’ distancing.

Event staff will be instructed to maintain distancing, leading by example, also enforcing guidelines as needed. On the rare and occasional interaction between judges, staff, or competitor and event staff- Facial coverings are mandatory. The only exception to mandatory facial covering will be on a sole individual basis for tree climbers while executing an event, so as not to hinder breathing while under exertion. As our event has a long and successful understanding and use of PPE required for our jobs, I foresee no reasonable objection from participants-this is just an added level of safety and precaution, along with eye protection, hard hats, and relevant equipment to the action being accomplished.

All of the food provided; dinner on Friday night, and breakfasts on Saturday and Sunday, along with lunch on Saturday will be individually wrapped (boxed meals) and given out, by a sole individual, on a metered schedule as to avoid any grouping of peoples needlessly. All water and Gatorade provided for climbers, staff, and volunteers will be individual single use bottles, again given out in metered fashion, by one individual per cooler, not a “free for all” access.