



**UNIFIED PULLING
FEDERATION**

(Wall Climb Rules)

Fees/Membership

1. No membership fees
2. All breeds and mixed breeds welcome
3. The show host will send \$10.00 per dog that competes in each event to the UPF. Hosts may not charge more than \$20 (US) per dog

Eligibility

1. All dogs competing for qualifying legs and points must be 36 weeks of age
2. All dogs must have their own climbing harness and flat buckled collar
3. All dogs must be kept in a safe/secure crate
4. All dogs must use a flat, buckled collar. No pinch collars or choke chains allowed
5. All dogs must be on 4' lead when not in crate or competing
6. No females in heat will be allowed to compete or be present at show site
7. No human/dog aggressive dogs will be allowed to climb or at the show site
8. Animal abuse will not be tolerated. This includes physical or verbal abuse. The chief judge reserves the right to disqualify (DQ) a handler for abuse
9. The chief judge will determine if a dog is injured or too thin to participate at time of measuring
10. All dogs must be measured no more than 24 hours before the event
11. All dogs must be measured using the same wicket
12. Judges measuring their own dog must have two witnesses

Height Classes

- 13" and under class
- 14"-18" class
- 19"-23" class
- 24"-28" class
- 29"-33" class
- Unlimited class 34"+

A dog measuring between 13" and 14" will be in the 13" and under class. A dog measuring between 18" and 19" will be in the 14" to 18" class

Wall Procedures

As of: May 11, 2025

1. Handler must bring their dog up when called. Dogs will be notified when they are on deck
2. Climb order is based on height from shortest to tallest in a class. Climb order can only be changed if a handler has back-to-back dogs then the taller dog can be moved to the end of the class
3. Any dog that relieves itself on the runway or wall will be DQ'd
4. The dog will be hooked by the handler. Tug steward or belayer may assist
5. Tug must be secured in place and not held by a person
6. Dogs are allowed 5 fouls/misses total. Once the dog has missed 5 times, they are out. Courtesy jump at a lower height is allowed and encouraged.
7. Dog must be between 5' and 15' from the wall, these must be marked for the handler to see. Marking of other increments is allowed but dog's feet must be between the 5' and 15' marks
8. Handler must wait for the belayer to be ready before they release their dog to climb
9. Dog must remove the tug with their teeth/mouth
10. Once the tug height is set and a dog attempts a jump the tug cannot be lowered unless it is a courtesy jump
11. You must attempt to follow your dog after releasing it, to catch it if equipment fails
12. Anything can be used to get the dog to release the wall tug. Example: "out" command, food, another tug, a toy, parting stick, etc. Judge must approve use of anything other than an "out" command before the dog starts. Food must only be given in designated area
13. Alibies will be determined by the judge. Example: belay rope hits the tug rope; handler may suggest an alibi but judge's ruling final
14. Heights for each class must be called by the same person. The person calling heights must remain in the same spot for the entire class
15. Winners of each class will be determined by height climbed; divided by the height of dog at the withers. If two dogs of the same height jump the same height the dog that, did it in the least number of attempts wins. If a third tie breaker is needed it will be a jump-off
16. Absolutely no performance enhancing drugs. The UPF will have a drug test conducted by a licensed vet

Belayers

1. Belayer must apprentice under chief belayers before being allowed to belay in a competition,
2. Judges may belay
3. During regular season events, belayers/judges may belay their own dogs in the absence of a backup belayer, but it must be videoed, no exception.

Handlers

1. Double-handling allowed. One person may release the dog, and a second person may hang the bait and tap the wall for encouragement
2. Anyone may clap or cheer for a dog if from 10' away

Point System

1st place	10 points
2nd place	7 points

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3rd place 5 points

Add 1 additional point for every dog they beat in their class

10 points for Highest Climb 18" and under

10 points for Highest Climb 19" and over

Classes determined by height climbed divided by height of dog at the withers

Nationals

1. To be eligible to compete, a dog must compete in 5 events to qualify for nationals (2025 option to buy-in available)
2. All titles earned during season will be handed out at nationals
3. Sky's the Limit award will be awarded at nationals. Sky's the Limit award is the dog with the most number of points for the season
4. At nationals you may NOT belay your own dog, no exception

Equipment

Wall Climb

1. Wall must be made of solid construction, sturdy, 4' wide x 16' tall. Wall must have a belayer system
2. Rope and carabiners must be rock climbing grade and checked by judge
3. Wall matting should be anti-fatigue or equivalent and should be replaced when worn
4. Tug rope must be weighted to keep it from getting stuck at the top of the wall
5. Tug must be held off the wall a minimum of 10" and not laying flat against the wall
6. Harness must have 4 straps and a handle attachment for the carabiner (not a ring or metal attachment). Recommended harnesses include Ruffwear Web Master , double back or equivalent

Bait

1. Each contestant is required to have their own bait for their personal dog to use
2. Bait tug or pillow must lay flat against the increment line and be attachable by Velcro
3. All bait used by contestants can be checked by judge, prior to use
4. No live or dead animals allowed (hide from game animals, cows, rabbits is acceptable provided it is NOT still part of the animal and has been dried)

Sanctioning

1. Show season is 11/1 thru 9/30. Shows may be sanctioned outside of these dates but do not count towards qualifying for nationals
2. All events must be sanctioned 30 days before event
3. Events can be scheduled any day of the week (Monday – Sunday). No limit on the number of pulls scheduled per event
4. NO Alcohol or drug use permitted at any UPF event
5. A list of sanctioned Wall Judges and Belayers is on the UPF website
6. Entry forms, result, score and summary sheets must be sent to the webmistress apbtme2@gmail.com; per dog fees must be sent to the treasurer through PayPal (using 'send to a friend' feature) within 10 days of conclusion of event. Email for PayPal is karenpearce.upf@gmail.com

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7. Paperwork and per dog fees for events sanctioned in September MUST be received within 24 hours of event weekend
8. Paperwork and per dog fees received late incur a \$50 late charge

Judging

1. To become a sanctioned wall judge you must apprentice 4 events under a senior judge

Points Titles

Title Name	Points Earned
CLIMB 1	100
CLIMB 2	200
CLIMB 3	300
CLIMB 4	400
CLIMB 5	500
CLIMB 6	600
CLIMB 7	700
CLIMB 8	800
CLIMB 9	900
CLIMB 10	1,000*

Titles will continue on indefinitely going 100 points at a time