

Rigging Contest

Purpose

To evaluate each contestant's ability to tie eight (8) different rigging knots and reeve two (2) types of blocks.

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, and safety glasses with side shields. Prescription glasses can be used only if they are equipped with ANSI approved side shields.

Equipment and Materials

The following equipment will be provided by the contest committee:

- Rope for tying knots (colored on the "live" end)
- Reeving blocks with rope
- Barriers to separate contestants during the contest
- A weighted bucket or barrel (if used)
- Safety glasses with side shields
- Hard hats
- **There will be 6 stations**

The contestant may provide the following:

- Safety glasses with side shields
- Hard hat

Contest Guidelines

These guidelines will be followed during this contest:

1. The competition judges will choose 15 knots that every competitor will need to know how to tie. **These knots will be chosen from the most current version of the Ironworkers Rigging reference manual.** Each of the 15 knots will be assigned a number 1-15. Each competitor will then pull a total of 8 numbers and tie the 8 knots which correspond with the 8 numbers chosen.

2. Two (2) different sets blocks will be selected on the day of the contest. Blocks to be used will be the following combinations: 2&1, 2&2, and 3&3.
3. Contestants will be randomly selected to determine the order in which they will demonstrate their ability to tie the knots and reeve the blocks.
4. Contestants must wear their hard hat and safety glasses at all times when tying knots and reeving the blocks.
5. Contestants will be given 30 minutes to tie the 8 knots and reeve 2 blocks.
6. Each knot must be finished for the type of knot tied, for example, as the Barrel Hitch or Scaffold Hitch with an equalizing bowline.
7. The contestant must state the name of the knot before tying the knot. The contestant must also say when they are finished tying the knot. Once the contestant states that they are finished, the contestant cannot change or re-tie the knot.
8. When tying the bowline, the knot must be finished with the tail on the inside (inside bowline).
9. For the reeving portion of the contest, the top blocks must be suspended for reeving.
10. The reeving of the blocks will not be considered complete without the Becket Hitch tied correctly (Fig. 3.9 in Rigging Manual – Latest Edition).
11. 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.
12. 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.

Contest Scorecard

This contest will be scored as follows:

1. The Rigging contest is worth fourteen (14) points with the knot tying portion worth eight (8) points and the block reeving portion worth six (6) points.
2. There are eight (8) knots and the contestant will receive one (1) point for each correctly tied knot.
3. The contestant will receive three (3) points for each set of correctly reeved blocks, that is to say a total of six (6) points for both sets if correctly reeved.
4. Here is an example of the scoring procedure:
 - A contestant correctly ties 7 of the 8 knots.
 - The contestant then correctly reeves 1 of the 2 sets of blocks.
 - The contestant will earn $7 + 3 = 10$ points out of the maximum of 14.
5. Contest judges should use the scoring sheet on the following page to record each contestant's scores and then determine the points earned by each contestant.
6. These results will be submitted to the contest officials responsible for compiling the overall competition results.

