

## Round 1: British Paraclimbing Series 2015-16

**Scotland's second inclusive climbing competition was held again at the Edinburgh International Climbing Arena: Ratho, on Saturday 19th September 2015.**

For 2015 the event was part of the British Para Climbing Series organised by the BMC and so members of the GB Para Climbing Team attended from all over Britain, with a team from Surrey, others from Devon and Liverpool and London.

There was a total of 24 competitors in ten different categories (male and female) with the introduction of a new category of Arm Amputee. The ages of the climbers ranged from 13 years to 40 and the routes and boulder problems gave a good spread of difficulty to cater for some newcomers to the ParaClimb scene as well as the GB Team members.

Routes were set by a team led by Ian Dunn and Calum Forsyth, with help from volunteer setters Chris Card (boulders), Ryan Henderson and Jay Carr (routes). Graeme Morrison acted as ParaClimb Event Coordinator and Graeme Hill, GB Team Manager, was on hand to give advice about disability categories.

There were some exceptional displays of climbing, particularly one of the boulder problems which involved either a very tough rock-over or an all-out dyno, with many opting for the dyno and two competitors in the Arm Amputee category holding it!

The event was held alongside the MCoFS Scottish National Youth Climbing Championships for lead and speed (which attracted 150~ competitors), so it was a particularly busy day at Ratho.

All the podium placed winners received trophies or medals and prizes donated by DMM, and like the youth competition, we had specially commissioned trophies from Stonemith for the Scottish Champions.

We would like to thank everyone who took part and who patiently waited for the Youth event to conclude before a grand prize ceremony and a late finish at 8pm. Good luck to all those who are going on the other Rounds of the British Paraclimbing Series - the next round is being held in London on the 13th Oct, then in Newcastle on the 7th Nov (contact the BMC to enter these competitions).

### 1st Place Winners & Scottish Champions:

#### 1. Using Upper and Lower Limbs (PG1)

Female: Esme Harte

Male: Dave Bowes



**Supported by:**



Scottish Champion: James Thompson (Edinburgh)

2. Using Upper Limbs Only (PG2) no entrants

3. Using Upper Limbs Only (that have impairments) no entrants

4. Athletes with Sensory Impairments

Female: Georgia Pilkington

Male: John Churcher

5. Athletes with Learning Disabilities

6. Emotional & Behavioural Difficulties (EBD) no entrants

7. Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD)

Male: Ben Williams

8. Autistic Spectrum Condition (ASC)

Male: Pete Roberts

9. Mental Health support Needs

Male: Gerard West

10. Arm Amputee (NEW)

Male & Female: Mathew Phillips

We would like to thank all the volunteers who helped with belaying at the ParaClimb competition and the staff at EICA: Ratho who hosted the competition. DMM generously supplied a range of prizes from bags, karabiners and quickdraws to posters, mugs and keyrings.