

## 2022-23 Scottish National Bouldering League – Youth Participation Update

We have provided the following update to provide clarity around the eligibility to participate in the Scottish National Bouldering League.

The Scottish National Bouldering League (SNBL) is an accessible series of competitions for junior to veteran climbers, which takes place at bouldering venues across Scotland each winter.

### Categories:

- Para Open (16 and older)
- Junior (16-17 years)
- Adult (18-44 years)
- Vets (45 and older)
- Male and female in each category

There is no under 16 categories for the SNBL.

### Why?

SNBL was created as a league to cater for Junior and Senior competitors; it was not and never has been the intention for it to be a youth competition. The league piggy backs on the pre-existing individual climbing walls winter bouldering series, selecting one from each participating wall to host a SNBL Round each month. It is at the discretion of the host wall as to what age categories they wish to put on for their own competitions. Some have different categories to SNBL and some walls offer lower age categories and some do not, but only the scores of 16yrs+ are taken for the age categories in SNBL. There are various reasons some walls don't operate lower age categories including setting, parental supervision, venue capacities etc...

### But younger climbers took part in 2021-22?

This is true. In 2021-22 we piloted using the App Griptonite which competitors registered directly through. The age categories were the same as always as stated above however, the system did not prevent or restrict incorrect categories being entered. This resulted in some competitors under 16yrs entering the series and we apologise that this was not picked up at the time.

### That's disappointing... Where can they compete then?

Youth climbers under 16yrs can enter a range of ClimbScotland competitions (The FUN Comp, The YCS, and our National Comps). In addition, the climbing walls below have under 16yr age categories and youth climbers can compete at each round of their local wall's winter bouldering series or visit their neighbouring wall's events as well. Here are some worth checking out:

[Hang On, Hamilton](#): Fun comp – 8yrs+ / Open (SNBL): 16yrs+

[Avertical World, Dundee](#): 7yrs+ (experienced boulders)

[Alien Rock, Edinburgh](#): 14yrs+

[3 Wise Monkeys, Fort William](#): any age

[Eden Rock, Edinburgh](#): any age

[The Climbing Academy, Glasgow](#): 8yrs (open Cat)

*'Please note: If you have any queries or questions regarding these competitions, please contact the venues directly'*