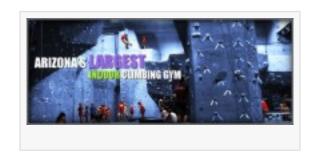


USA Regional Climbing Competition Coming To AZ On The Rocks

/EINPresswire.com/ Vying for one of only 4 spots on the United States national climbing team, approximately 180 climbers will be coming to <u>AZ on the Rocks</u> in Scottsdale, AZ to compete in the Southern Mountain Regional event of USA Climbing.



USA Regional climbing competition coming to AZ on the Rocks on Saturday, May 11, 2013.

Vying for one of only 4 spots on the United States national climbing team, approximately 180 climbers will be coming to Arizona to compete in the Southern Mountain Regional event of USA Climbing. AZ on the Rocks, Arizona's largest indoor <u>rock climbing</u> gym, in Scottsdale, Arizona is hosting this sanctioned USA Climbing (USAC) competition scheduled for May 11, 2013.

This is a full day event and includes roped climbs of extreme difficulty. Top finishers in this event will go on to compete in the Divisionals and then Nationals. The top climbers at the national event will be selected to represent the United States in the International Federation of Sport Climbing world championships, being held in August of 2013 in Vancouver, Canada.

The Southern Mountain Region, consisting of Arizona, New Mexico and Utah, is the largest region in the United States and is home to 5 U.S. Team members. This is the first time an event of such magnitude is being held in the valley since 2007. Kevin J. Berk, Owner of AZ on the Rocks stated, "You will not believe your eyes when you watch these young competitors climb very hard routes and how fast they literally run up the walls during the speed climb competition. I believe our facility record is 5.92 seconds, to get up a 31' tall wall"

AZ on the Rocks home team, the <u>AZR Ascenders</u>, is making a great showing with 36 of its youth team members competing. The youth team also boasts 4 Regional Champions who will be defending their titles at their home gym. The entre competition will be rope climbing which includes top-rope, sport (lead), and speed. Kids will be vying for a spot in the top 7 in order to advance to Divisionals. Earning a spot there can allow you to qualify to compete at Nationals.

AZ on the Rocks, state of the art facility, is fully air-conditioned, and includes approximately 14,000 square feet of climbing terrain, 50 top ropes, lead climbing, a large bouldering (free

climbing) area, fitness equipment, a full yoga studio, an observation deck and a private party/meeting rooms. AZ on the Rocks had artificial features similar to real rock climbing, including a chimney, cracks, overhangs, arêtes, and more. Included in programming and instruction are a youth climbing team, which is ranked 6th in the nation, after school classes, summer camps, and adult instructional classes. AZ on the Rocks offers a variety of options for memberships and day passes for drop-ins. No experience is necessary and no reservations are required. AZ on the Rocks provides an orientation to all first time visitors and gear rentals are available. For more information please visit www.azontherocks.com.

USA Climbing is the recognized National Governing Body of Competition Climbing in the United States and is based in Boulder, CO. USA Climbing hosts more than 200 climbing competitions each year. USA Climbing is a 501(c)3 not-for-profit organization. For more information please visit www.usaclimbing.net.

AZ on the Rocks is Arizona's largest indoor climbing gym. Their climbing wall was constructed in late 2003 and remains the best climbing facility in the state. AZ on the Rocks hosts numerous climbing related activities and competitions year round. They also offer on site Yoga and Fitness facilities to complete their world class climbing gym.

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