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Climbing

INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION OF **SPORT CLIMBING**

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ASSOCIATION



ARISF

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IFSC National Federation

Rio de Janeiro, August 4<sup>th</sup>, 2016

Dear National Federations,

It is with great pride that we have welcomed the announcement that Sport Climbing will be featured in the Tokyo 2020 Olympics and we want to thank you for your dedication and support which have helped us reach this goal. This is a chance for us to celebrate our sport, with its wide range of disciplines practiced, and the Athletes who impress us every single day.

'Climbing is an instinct' we say at the IFSC, paying homage to the fact that humankind was climbing long before it became an international sport. There are rich climbing traditions in many areas across the world and local climbing lore and outdoor climbing techniques join competitive climbing in shaping the sport's values. While the outdoor world offers its own challenges and thrills to climbers, the international circuit has offered competition climbers many unique opportunities, has pushed the level of climbing to impressive heights, and has showcased the beauty and grace of the sport.

Since the creation of the IFSC in 2007, we have seen even more interest in the sport, and your dedication to the values and growth of competitions and membership is the backbone of this growth.

Your organisations have played key roles in orchestrating, regulating, and promoting events, supporting athletes, and maintaining good practice. As Federations, it is your work in education about climbing safety, financial support, provision of training spaces, and dedication to values of a clean sport which have widened our membership, shaped talented athletes, and paved the way to this Olympic decision. We recognise your hard work and would like to express our heartfelt thanks.

We are very proud of this achievement and extremely grateful for all you have done to support this journey. While we celebrate this milestone, we also look (up) to the future. The Olympic announcement is an important foothold and milestone on our climb, offering many opportunities for further growth and recognition. We look forward to the rest of the climb.

Best regards,

Marco Maria Solaris  
*IFSC President*

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