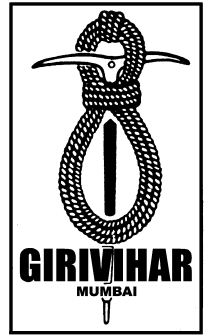


GIRIVIHAR

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2009 COMPETITION REPORT

The Sixth edition of Girivihar's Open Bouldering Competition was held over January 23-27, 2009, at CBD Belapur, Navi Mumbai. Responding to our request, the nodal development agency for the region, CIDCO, along with Petzl emerged as a major supporter / sponsor of the event and also included our event as a part of Navi Mumbai Festival.

This annual open competition was originally started by the club in 2004. Anyone who enjoys climbing can participate. It has since grown to be one of the biggest open competitions in the Indian climbing circuit with the additional hue of a get-together. The competition, which used to span bouldering and sport climbing, was this year restricted to bouldering bringing the event in line with the sustainable potential of Belapur's crags. Bouldering on artificial climbing walls, introduced 2 years back was a major segment this year to fill the entire first half of 3 Days of the four-day event.

Venue

With artificial bouldering becoming a full fledged competition segment, the organizers for this time also, Eventually ended up at the same spot as last years competition – a combination of the art gallery of the **Gaurav Mhatre Kala Kendra** and the mini-complex of stage and lawns just opposite that building. The rationale behind this combination was that the lawns could host the artificial walls and the actual competition while the adjacent gallery could serve as isolation zone for competitors and host film shows, discussions during after hours. Officials of the **Navi Mumbai Municipal Corporation (NMMC)** were kind enough to hear us out and extend the said premises on hire for the required duration.

Jury / Technical team

This year the President of Jury was **Mr. Abhijit Burman** who also was the Competition In-charge. Artificial Bouldering rules and regulations, score sheets were in accordance with ICC's released format and documents for Bouldering. Mumbai's best known rock climber **Vaibhav Mehta** was chief route setter for both the outdoor half and the Indoor half of the competition.

Participation / Highlight

With the participation of total 51 participants (including both Natural and Artificial), Participation was bit on a lower side this year compared to last year, but the highlight of the Event was the participation of 7 Iranian Climbers who had come down all the way from Iran to participate in the competition. Further, the line up included the 2 Climbers from Iran national team and one of them being Mohammad Jaffari, who had won Junior Youth Asian Championship in 2002.

Artificial Bouldering

This discipline, introduced 2 years earlier, graduated to a full blown competition segment this year encompassing whole first 3 days of the event. It started off with the qualifying rounds of all categories namely, Boys, Girls, Women's, & Men's.

There were 3 Women participants in all, out of which one was from Iran, and other being Shanti Rani Devi, 1st Ranked climber of India (Bouldering), third being a climber from Manipur named Shshi Rani Devi.

The Juinior Girls category saw only 2 girls as participants, one all the way from Delhi and other from Mumbai.

After the 5 relatively very easy qualifying routes, 12 participants made it to the semi-final of both Boys and Men's category.

Boys category saw the 2 Iranian climbers taking 1st and 2nd place respectively, without much of the competition from other finalists.

The Semifinal round of the Men's category's proved to be quite a task with 3 routes out of the 4, virtually impossible to finish in given time period, Since none of the climbers were able to top any of the three routes or reach the "Zone", prompting the Manager of Iranian climbing team, Mr. Ahmad to approach the route-setter for some explanation about one particularly difficult route that was set. After few discussions and some valuable pointers regarding the hold and move by route-setter Vaibhav Mehta, both the top climbers of Iranian team were able to finish of the route with relative ease, leaving Mr. Ahmad contented about the quality of the route setting and routes that were set.

Gholamali Bavatzadeh from Iran was leading the competition at this point with less number of attempts and more "zones" in his kitty leaving Mohammad J at 2nd place.

Men's Finals was a different affair all together, with 4 routes of completely different types, saw 11 competitors sweating it out for the ultimate prize. All the competitors were brought in for observation with 8 minutes of observation of all the 4 routes and then the climbing started with each boulder at a time.

Finals started off with a slight technical and powerful first route, went into a challenging & technical Dyno on the second route, third route saw climbers start with a run and jump to a hold 8 feet above ground with a technical and very balancing finish, which went into a highly acrobatic final 4th route, which truly deserved to be the final route of the Men's Finals, leaving the climbers upside down on a single big foot-hold with the finishing hold at the base of the wall.

As the competition progressed it was getting clear that Mohammad J. will emerge winner as he finally flashed all the routes in the final leaving Gholamali in 2nd place who took more than one attempts on 2nd route.

Boy's Artificial Bouldering

Final Ranking	Number	Family Name	First Name	Nation / State
1 st	B-009	Harati	Masoud	Iran
2 nd	B-010	Hemati	Saeid	Iran
3 rd	B-006	Basha	Mohammed	Karnataka
4 th	B-008	Bhalerao	Vicky	Maharashtra
5 th	B-012	Kohare	Suraj	Maharashtra

Girl's Artificial Bouldering

Final Ranking	Number	Family Name	First Name	Nation / State
1 st	G-002	Thoke	Praya	Maharashtra
2 nd	G-001	Rao	Anjali	Delhi

Women's Artificial Bouldering

Final Ranking	Number	Family Name	First Name	Nation / State
1 st	W-003	Devi	Shanti Rani	Karnataka
2 nd	W-005	Dashti	Sayeh T.	Iran
3 rd	W-004	Devi	Sushi Rani	Manipur

Men's Artificial Bouldering

Final Ranking	Number	Family Name	First Name	Nation / State
1 st	M-022	Mahmodabadi	Mohammad J.	Iran
2 nd	M-015	Bavatzadeh	Gholamali	Iran
3 rd	M-021	Ferdosipour	Behzad	Iran
4 th	M-002	Sharma	Ankit	Rajasthan
5 th	M-016	Desai	Rohan	Maharashtra

Natural Bouldering

Bouldering entails the ascent of difficult routes on small to medium sized rocks. This year natural bouldering was held on only one of the flanks of the hills at Artist Village, at the new nursery as opposed to both in last year. After the 3 days of hardcore plastic climbing, natural bouldering was a quite and calm affair, with only 12 or Odd boulders for seniors and 14 boulders for juniors, most of them with multiple routes marked in separate colors, were chosen for the competition. The difficulty of routes ranged from V0 to V8,

In this open competition, competitors are given personal score sheets, in which the points awarded for each route and the grade of difficulty of that route are shown in advance. With this in hand, the competitor designs a personal climbing itinerary, climbing as many routes of his choice and ability through the day. At each boulder, judges and observers note on the score sheet whether a given route was completed or not and if completed, then in how many attempts it happened. Maximum points are awarded to a 'flash' or completion of route at the very first attempt. The Natural segment of the competition saw Gholamali B. from Iran emerge as winner with completing almost 17 routes out of 22, thus scoring the highest number of points.

Boys' Natural Rock Bouldering

Final Ranking	Number	Family Name	First Name	Nation / State	Point
1 st	B-009	Harati	Masoud	Iran	9946.5
2 nd	B-013	Sindhur	Eranna	Karnataka	9734
3 rd	B-010	Hemati	Saeid	Iran	9554
4 th	B-012	Kohare	Suraj	Maharashtra	8002.5
5 th	B-011	Jadhav	Sunny	Maharashtra	7715.5

Women's Natural Rock Bouldering

Final Ranking	Number	Family Name	First Name	Nation / State	Point
1	W-003	Devi	Shanti Rani	Karnataka	2317
2	W-004	Devi	Sushi Rani	Manipur	1450

Men's Natural Rock Bouldering

Final Ranking	Number	Family Name	First Name	Nation / State	Point
1 st	M-015	Bavatzadeh	Gholamali	Iran	10050
2 nd	M-022	Mahmodabadi	Mohammad J.	Iran	7216.5
3 rd	M-008	A	Sadiq	Karnataka	6890
4 th	M-018	Shinde	Ranjit	Maharashtra	4993.5
5 th	M-014	Khurangale	Indranil	Maharashtra	3910

Solid support

The competition would have been impossible without the help we got from our sponsors. The club brings energy and ability to the table. But it is the sponsors and donors who help pay the bill, which this time neared Rs 7 lakhs. Some of the sponsors provided financial backing, others donated in kind as in the case of prizes for winners. While climbers who topped their categories earned cash awards they also got climbing boots, crash mats, harnesses, chalk bags, boulder bags and day packs. Our main sponsors included **CIDCO, Petzl, Entre-prises, AVI Industries, Kangchenjunga Mountaineering Foundation, Wildcraft, Gypsy Tents, Countryside, Rocksport, High Places Management Pvt. Ltd., Wander Struck, Hills & Trails, Samarth Erectors & Developers, OWN Pvt. Ltd. & Natura Outdoor Education and Training Solutions Pvt. Ltd.** In addition to this, we received donations from supportive individuals. **Thank you all for your continuing support.**

Feedback

. Please mail in your feedback, any feedback you have about the competition, to info@girivihar.org
.We will try and improve.

SEE YOU ALL NEXT YEAR. HAPPY CLIMBING!

**Franco Linhares
President
Girivihar**

**Abhijit Burman
Competition-in-Charge
Girivihar**