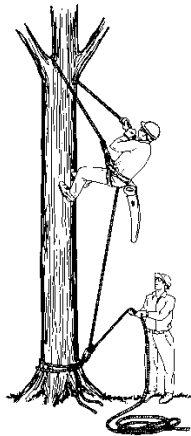# BELAYED SPEED CLIMB EVENT

The Belayed Speed Climb Event tests the contestant's ability to climb a predetermined route from the ground to about 60 feet (18 meters) up a tree, using a belayed climbing system for safety. A bell is installed at the top of the tree to indicate the top of the climb.

The event is timed, and the contestant who reaches and rings the final bell of the course in the least amount of time wins.

There could be more than one bell placed in the tree to determine the route; in such an event, the climber must ring all the bells in order to complete the event.

WHAT IS BELAYING?

Belaying is a means of securing a climbing line. A "belayer" tends the slack in the climber's rope as the climber ascends into the tree. Many arborists use devices that can grab the rope to allow them to tend their own rope without the assistance of another person.

SCORING

The Belayed Speed Climb Event is worth up to 20 points. The event is based purely on time. The fastest contestant to ring the top bell is the winner and receives 20 points. The remaining contestants' scores are calculated by subtracting the fastest contestant's time (in seconds) from the times of each of the other contestants. For every 2-second difference in time between those scores, 1 point (of the 20 possible points) is deducted from the contestant's score. No more than 20 points may be earned or deducted for this event.

For more information on the International Tree Climbing Championship and the International Society of Arboriculture, please visit www.itcc-isa.com.