



FLORIDA CHAPTER ISA TREE CLIMBING CHAMPIONSHIP and FIELD DAY

February 18-19, 2017
Kit Land Nelson Park
APOPKA, FL

WELCOME 

 Thank You Sponsors!

PLATINUM SPONSORS

A Budget Tree Service - Winter Springs, FL
Asplundh - Newberry, FL
Davey Tree Expert Co. - Kent, OH
Echo Chainsaws - Orlando, FL
Husqvarna
Tree Stuff - Indianapolis, IN

GOLD SPONSORS

Altec Industries - West Palm Beach, FL
Earth Advisors - Hollywood, FL
Murray's Tree Service - S Pasadena, FL

SILVER SPONSORS

ArborWear - Chagrin Falls, OH
ArborWorks, LLC - Tallahassee, FL
Bishop Company - Whittier, CA
BrightView Tree Care - Orlando, FL
Miller's Tree Service, LLC - Tallahassee, FL

PRIZE PACKAGE

SPONSORS

ArborMaster
Buckingham
Husqvarna
Oregon
Samson
Silky
Vermeer

Welcome to the Florida Chapter ISA Tree Climbing Championship and Field Day

"To be poor and be without trees, is to be the most starved human being in the world. To be poor and have trees, is to be completely rich in ways that money can never buy."

- Clarissa Pinkola Estés

WHAT IS ISA?

The International Society of Arboriculture (ISA) is a world-wide professional organization dedicated to continuing education for arborists, to tree care research, and to serving tree care consumers around the world.



ISA has served the tree care industry for more than 80 years as a scientific and educational organization and continues to be a dynamic medium through which arborists around the world share their experience and knowledge for the benefit of society. ISA is aligned on many fronts with other green organizations and is working hard to foster a better understanding of trees and tree care through research and the education of professionals as well as global efforts to inform tree care consumers.

The global ISA headquarters is in Champaign, IL.

WHAT IS THE FLORIDA CHAPTER ISA?

The Florida Chapter shares the same dedication to the tree care industry, with a further commitment to serving the needs particular to Florida's professional arborists and tree care consumers. The chapter is one of 37 regional chapters of the parent organization of ISA. All regional ISA chapters and associate organizations play a critical role in reaching out to the tree care professional and the public with education, events (like the Tree Climbing Championship) and support.

The Florida ISA office is in Sarasota, FL.

You may have see our specialty license plates on Florida highways! The TreeAreCool license plate revenues benefit our Florida urban tree environment through tree research, scholarships and ongoing education of tree-care practitioners, and by providing public education programs about tree care and preservation.

Help us keep our trees cool. Order your specialty plate today and you will help benefit the trees of Florida!



HELP SAVE
OUR TREE ENVIRONMENT

AND PRESERVE FLORIDA'S GREATEST GREEN RESOURCE
With Florida's unique environment, extra attention must be paid to preserving our natural resources, especially our trees. By purchasing a TreesAreCool license plate you help underwrite programs that directly benefit trees of Florida which help keep our state the uniquely beautiful place we all call home. Plus healthy trees benefit wildlife, increase property values and help cool and clean the air.

Go to www.TreesAreCool.com

WHAT IS THE TREE CLIMBING CHAMPIONSHIP?

The **INTERNATIONAL TREE CLIMBING CHAMPIONSHIP (ITCC)** series provides educational opportunities for arborists (through a safe, competitive event) to:

- Demonstrate proficiency in climbing based on judging criteria established from industry best practices and safety standards.
- Introduce new techniques and equipment in a controlled, safe environment for review by a qualified judging panel composed of industry experts.
- Encourage the use of industry safety standards and best practices to improve safety within the arborist community.
- Create an environment that allows for educational interaction between ISA members and other industry stakeholders, such as equipment manufacturers, suppliers, trainers, researchers, business owners, and field personal in order to increase worker safety and training.
- Provide public education about the industry and positive public exposure for the profession.

Professional tree climbing competitions are held around the world to provide a platform for arborists to learn about the latest in climbing techniques and innovations in equipment. They showcase the highest level of professional skills and safety, providing a competitive learning environment for those working in the industry.

Industry safety standards in nearly every participating country have benefited from these innovations. The events also instill a respect for the role of the tree climber and a strong focus for the individuals of the climber community to improve safety in the work environment for all tree care workers.

The competitions simulate working conditions of arborists in the field. Male and female competitors perform five different events during preliminary rounds. Each event tests a competitor's ability to professionally, and safely maneuver in a tree while performing work-related tree-care tasks in a timely manner.

Competitive tree climbing also introduces the public to the skills professional tree climbing arborists must use for safe, professional tree work.

The **FLORIDA CHAPTER TCC** is a regional competition that is held at a different location in Florida each year. The winners (1 male and 1 female) have several months to practice and hone their climbing skills in preparation to represent Florida at the upcoming ITCC where they will compete against other climbers from around the world. In the summer of 2017 the ITCC will be held at the National Arboretum in Washington DC.

Visit our Exhibitors!

Saturday
February 18, 2017
9 AM - 5 PM

A Budget Tree Service
Bandit Industries

Kids' Climb!



Sponsored by
Davey Tree Expert Co.
Managed by Pathfinders

Saturday
February 18, 2017
noon - 3 PM

Bring the kids! Join the fun!

The always-popular Kids' Climb will be open from noon until 3 PM on Saturday. Let the kids climb and hang out in the trees! This fun event provides some great photo opportunities so bring that camera along.

Helmets and climbing saddles provided. *A signed waiver will be required; notary to be provided on-site.*

What You Are Watching...

Tree climbing competitions simulate working conditions of arborists in the field. Male and female competitors perform 5 different events during preliminary rounds to qualify for the Masters' Challenge. Each event tests a competitor's ability to professionally and safely maneuver in a tree while performing work-related tree-care tasks in a timely manner.

The competitors you are watching today are competing for the chance to represent Florida and climb at the March 2015 ITCC in Tampa, FL. The Florida Chapter is proud of their first-time hosting of the International competition!

Preliminary Qualifying Events

Competitors are scored individually in the 5 events - Aerial Rescue, Belayed Speed Climb, Secured Footlock, Throwline and Work Climb (full descriptions below). The competitor with the highest score in each event is the winner of that event. First, second, and third place for men and women are awarded for each event.

Competitors' scores for all 5 events are combined and the 5 male and 5 female competitors with the highest combined score from the preliminary events move on to the Masters' Challenge Championship.

Masters' Challenge Event

The Masters' Challenge consists of one event and competitors are scored on technique and skill. The competitors in this round with the highest score are named the male and female Florida Chapter Champions and go on to represent the Florida Chapter at the International Tree Climbing Championship, competing with climbers from around the entire world. This Masters' Challenge is scheduled for the 2nd day of the weekend event.

The 5 Preliminary Events

1 AERIAL RESCUE

The Aerial Rescue Event simulates a job-site emergency and tests the contestant's ability to apply his/her knowledge and technical skills to rescue an injured person (represented by a dummy) in a safe and efficient manner.

The Aerial Rescue Event is a timed event that showcases the climber's ability to climb up to and then safely lower an injured climber who is unable to descend without assistance. Competitors are provided with details of the rescue scenario prior to the start of the event, and they are required to assess the situation and plan a rescue.

This event begins when the contestant first finds the victim (dummy), and ends when he/she safely brings the victim (dummy) to the ground or when time runs out.

The Aerial Rescue format is as follows:

- The victim (dummy) is installed in the tree 20 to 25 feet (6 to 7.5 meters) above the ground.
- The 'incident' has just occurred, and the contestant, as first responder, will assume control of the site, take control of all relevant safety issues, and will contact local emergency services.

- The contestant must enter the tree using a previously installed line located approximately 15 to 20 feet (4.5 to 6 meters) from the dummy.
- While the contestant is entering the tree, the emergency medical technician (EMT) arrives. The EMT, unable to perform the aerial rescue his/herself, informs the contestant that the victim must be lowered safely to the ground so that the EMT can perform an assessment.

2 BELAYED SPEED CLIMB

The Belayed Speed Climb tests the climber's ability to climb a predetermined route from the ground to about 60 feet up a tree using a belayed climbing system for safety. This event is timed, and the competitor must determine the best and most efficient route to take to reach the top of the tree to avoid getting the rope snagged on branches causing them to break limbs or damage the tree. The competitor who reaches and rings the final bell in the shortest time is the winner. Sometimes multiple bells are used to mark the route, in this case all the bells must be rung 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.

3 SECURED FOOTLOCK

The Secured Footlock Event measures the contestant's ability to vertically ascend into a tree. Footlocking is a commonly used technique to ascend into the tree. Many climbers will use the footlock to enter into the tree because it is much faster and less tiring than some other methods.

The Secured Footlock format is as follows:

- The event is timed, with a maximum time limit of 60 seconds, and the contestant with the fastest time wins.
- Competitors must ascend 15 meters (49' 2.5")
- Mechanical ascenders may not be used.

BELAYED SPEED CLIMB 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.

SECURED FOOTLOCK SCORING

The event is based purely on time. The fastest contestant to the top 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 1-second difference in time between those scores, 1 point (of the 20 possible points) is deducted from the climber's score. No more than 20 points may be earned or deducted for this event.



AERIAL RESCUE SCORING

The Aerial Rescue Event is worth up to 50 points. Forty-five (45) points are awarded for each of the six scoring sections listed below, and 5 additional efficiency points can be awarded based on completion time.

- Risk Assessment & Rescue Plan - 7 points
- Ascent & Movement to Casualty - 7 points
- Casualty Assessment & Handling - 13 points
- Descent - 7 points
- Landing - 7 points
- Victim is unclipped within time limit - 4 points

THROWLINE SCORING

The Throwline Event is worth up to 30 points.

- Contestants may register only two throws with the judges.
- Isolating a throwline in the targets is worth 10, 7, 5, and 3 points, respectively, depending on the difficulty and height of the throw. The time is recorded when the first throwline is scored.
- Additional points can be scored for installing a climbing line over one target in each set. Installing a climbing line is worth 5, 4, 3, and 2 points, respectively, depending on the difficulty and height of the throw.
- A 3-point deduction is given if a contestant does not install at least one climbing line within the time limit.
- The contestant with the highest point total is the winner.
- In the event of a tie, the contestant with the fastest time is the winner. If the times are identical, the contestant with the fastest first score is the winner.

WORK CLIMB SCORING

The Work Climb Event is worth up to 80 points. Scoring for this event is based on completion of stations (35 points), discretionary points from the judges (15 points), and time (30 points). No points are awarded for any task not completed correctly. There is a predetermined time limit for this event.

4

THROWLINE

The Throwline Event tests the contestant's ability to install a climbing line into a tree using a throwbag and throwline. In this event eight (8) branch unions are designated as targets, representing different climbing points in the tree that would be suitable as a tie-in point. Their suitability is based on the tie-in point's location

in the tree and capacity to hold the weight of the climber. The contestant must accurately place two lines in the tree within the 6-minutes allotted.

The Throwline format is as follows:

- Two distinct sets of four targets (making a total of eight possible target options) are set in the tree.
- The contestant must choose one target from each side of the tree, making for a total of two possible lines set. Judges only score a throw if it is in the target area and both ends of the throw line are isolated, meaning they are hanging parallel and touching the ground.
- Additional points may be earned for installing a climbing line through one target on each side of the tree.

5

WORK CLIMB

The Work Climb Event tests the contestant's ability to move about the tree. Within a pre-determined period of time, the contestants must visit four to five stations that represent work being done in and around the tree (such as pruning).

The Work Climb format is as follows:

- The contestant starts from a staging area near the top of the tree.
- The contestant must visit four or five work stations, performing a specified task at each station.
- Each station is equipped with a bell or horn; the contestant must ring the bell or sound the horn before continuing to the next station.
- The contestant may complete the stations in any order

Station descriptions:

- **The Handsaw Station** - The contestant must reach the station, install his or her lanyard call for "stand clear", and ring the bell with a handsaw.
- **The Limb Toss Station** - The contestant must reach the station, install the lanyard, call for "stand clear", then ring the bell with a handsaw. The contestant will receive confirmation that all is clear from the head judge prior to throwing a limb at the target on the ground. The contestant gets two attempts to toss the limb inside the target zone and receives points according to his/her attempts and successes.
- **The Limb Walk Station** - The contestant must walk out on the limb starting from a predetermined mark on the limb, install the lanyard, call for "stand clear", ring the bell with a handsaw and then walk back in on the limb, returning to the predetermined mark all without activating the buzzer (that indicates that the climber has put too much weight on the limb and not in the climbing system (the rope) which may be unsafe in the work environment).
- **The Landing Station** - The contestant must call for "stand clear", sound a horn or bell by hand, perform a controlled descent and land on a target on the ground. Time stops when the contestant has landed, is in a standing position, and has fully disconnected the climbing line and friction hitch from the tree climbing saddle/harness.

Masters' Challenge Event

The Masters' Challenge Event is the championship round of the competition. It is typically held on the 2nd day of the event. The top 5 men and top 5 women finishers from the preliminary round advance to the Masters' Challenge to compete for the title of Florida Chapter TCC Champion and the winners (1 man, 1 woman) of the Masters' Challenge go on to compete at the International TCC Event, competing against climbers from around the world. During March 2015, the Florida Chapter ISA will be proud host to the ITCC in Tampa, FL

The Masters' Challenge is designed to judge the contestant's overall productivity and skill with a rope and saddle in the tree. Each station requires the contestant to demonstrate the skills and abilities needed to perform safe and efficient tree work. This is a timed event, pre-determined by the judges, based on the difficulty of the tree and its stations. The various stations in this event represent work being done in and around the tree, such as pruning. Each station requires the contestant to demonstrate the skills and abilities needed to perform safe and efficient tree work.

The Masters' Challenge Event format is as follows:

- The contestant starts from outside the arena, without any equipment installed in the tree.
- Once in the arena, the contestant must assess the tree, install a climbing system, and ascend the tree.
- The contestant must visit as many stations as he or she can, performing a specified task at each station.
- Each station is equipped with a bell or horn; the contestant must ring the bell or sound the horn before continuing to the next station.
- The contestant must descend from the tree and remove all equipment from the tree before time runs out.

Station Descriptions

- **The Handsaw Station** - The contestant must reach the station, install his or her lanyard, call for "stand clear" and then ring the bell with a handsaw.
- **The Limb Toss Station** - The contestant must reach the station, install the lanyard, call for "stand clear" and then ring the bell with a handsaw. The contestant then receives confirmation that all is clear from the head judge prior to throwing a limb at the target on the ground. Several limbs are located in a bucket at the station; the contestant is allowed three attempts to get a limb in the target.
- **The Limb Walk Station** - The contestant must reach the station, install the lanyard, call for "stand clear", ring the bell with a handsaw and then leave the station without activating the buzzer (activating the buzzer indicates that the climber has put too much weight on the limb and not in the climbing system (the rope), which may be unsafe in the work environment).



MASTERS' CHALLENGE SCORING

The Masters' Challenge is worth up to 300 points. The judges score the contestant's movements from the time he/she enters the arena until he/she returns to the ground and removes all equipment installed during the event.

Scoring for this event is based on

- Installation of a climbing line - 18 points
- Entry into the tree - 15 points
- Completion of stations - 60 points each
- Descent and removal of gear - 12 points
- Discretionary points from the judges - 15 points
- No scoring points are awarded for any task not completed correctly or within the time limit
- Time is only used in the event of identical scores.
- A mandatory 20-point deduction is given for failing to retrieve all equipment within the time limit.
- The overall winner of the competition will be the contestant with the highest point total in the Masters' Challenge Event, and will go on to compete at the International TCC.

During March 2015, the Florida Chapter ISA will be proud host to the ITCC in Tampa, FL

FLORIDA CHAPTER TCC CLIMBERS

winner(s) will compete at ITCC in Washington DC during Summer 2017

Ethan	Allen	Davey Tree
* Alisha	Amundson	Tree Girl Designs
Steve	Brown	Backridge Tree Service
Rob	Calley	Backridge Tree Service
Christopher	Coates	Advanced Arboriculture, LLC, NC
* Mike	Cross	ArborWorks, LLC
Christopher	Delostrinos	KDT Tree Service
Christopher	DeNoma	JLH Tree Service
Anthony	Duffey	Duffey Tree Care
* Jason	Gerrish	Tree Huggers
Michael	Gross, Jr.	A Budget Tree Service
Craig	Henderson	Armstrong Tree Service
Trevor	Hill	Davey Tree
Robert	Hubbard	ArborGreen Tree Care
James	Hyatt	O'Neil's Tree Service
James	Jones	Davey Tree
Doug	LaFortune	Treewise Consulting, LLC
* Paul	Lloyd-Jones	JLH Tree Service
Forrest	McCullough	McCullough & Sons Expert Tree Care
Nicholas	Meyers	BrightView
Tyler	Mock	BrightView
Jonathan	Muszynski	Florida Tree Care Company
Matt	Neal	If Trees Could Talk
Taylor	Passetti	ArborWorks, LLC
Logan	Patterson	Arbor-Ops, LLC
Charles	Porthouse	O'Neil's Tree Service
Jacob	Puett	Anglin' Brothers Tree Care
Brian	Reneau	B&T Tree Service
Philippe	Rudisill	Armstrong Tree Service
Brian	See	O'Neil's Tree Service
Carson	Smith	O'Neil's Tree Service
Richard	Smith	A Budget Tree Service
Kyle	Thornton	KDT Tree Service
Tim	Walters	Miller's Tree Service
Cory	Wilson	ArborWorks, LLC

* *Previous Florida TCC Champion*

Thank you:

Florida TCC Chair Adam Jackson

Arbor Fair Chair Julie Iooss

2017 Florida Chapter President Lori Ballard

Our Sponsors and Exhibitors

Our many dedicated volunteers on the ground, in the trees and in equipment!