

Report – 1st. Women Rock Climbing Competition - 2007



1ST. WOMEN ROCK CLIMBING COMPETITION
April 15-16 2007

The Adventure Club – Pakistan is a non commercial, sports organization, dedicated to promote education oriented healthy adventure activities especially among youth. The major activities of the Club include Rock Climbing, Camping, Trekking and Mountaineering.

Apart from the above activities, the supporting objectives of the Club are the following,

- To make concrete efforts to minimize the increasing rate of pollution
- To create awakening among public at large regarding protection of wildlife
- To arouse sense of utility of forests and to stop deforestation
- To restrict youths from narcotics by offering them healthy activities
- To establish free medical camps in remote mountain areas
- To collect and publish authentic information regarding areas, altitudes and distances etc.

The Club announces several programs to attract people from various walks of life and for the current year 2007, a female Rock Climbing Competition was the highlight of the Schedule of Activities – 2007.



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Since the year 2007 has been declared as Visit Pakistan Year by the government therefore the exclusive competition program was presented to the ministry of tourism for their support and patronage. For detailed presentation, Mr. Tahir Imran Khan, the founder President of the Club, alongwith Ms. Amna Khan and Nausheen Khan, two active members and rock climbers form the Club met with our dynamic minister for tourism, Ms. Nilofar Bakhtiar, who appreciated the vibrant idea and included it in the **Calendar of Events** of Ministry of Tourism, Government of Pakistan for the Visit Pakistan Year 2007, being celebrated to project the image of the country as Destination Pakistan 2007. Moreover, the competition was associated with International Women Day (i.e. March 8) and the following caption assigned to the competition;

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Considering the time constraints and to make it a prestigious event, the initially selected dates were changed and finally it was scheduled for April 15-16 2007.

An invitation was sent to educational institutions, various clubs, organizations and associations involved in adventure / outdoor activities. The program was announced in newspapers as well as on various internet mailing groups. A few international organizations were also invited for participation. Apart from the participation in the competition, the Club also offered for free training / coaching sessions to all participants for which Mr. Tahir Imran Khan and Mr. Bryan Hugill alongwith the support team of the Club were made available for Rock Climbing training sessions.



The Adventure Club – Pakistan made a practical demonstration at The City School – Margalla Campus, Islamabad, where Ms. Amna Khan rappelled down the rope, fixed from the five storey high building of the school. The breathtaking demonstration was so exciting and thrilling that all the viewer students and staff appreciated her daring presentation. We are grateful to the management of The City School as Ms. Saneeha Khalid, director operations, took special interest and offered their full support to the competition.

First training session was organized for City School girls, to be followed by Roots Schools System, Fatima Jinnah Women University and Aga Khan Girl Guides. Several individuals were also trained for rock climbing. Initially we got training request from 200 enthusiasts. To give

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them training in a short period was a mammoth task, however the Club didn't only gave them the basic training but offered a second session for further practice to the selected 83 girls.

The competition was planned to be held at Margalla Rocks, where the Club has selected several pitches for practice. For the competition, an exclusive site was selected, which was established by the Club about a decade ago. The place is ideal for amateurs with good climbing angle and reasonable holds on the pitch. A short track to the base of rocks offers an easy approach to the venue.

After providing a good practice and selecting 68 girls for qualifying round / quarter finals, Mr. Bryan Hugill, Mr. Tariq Rashid and Mr. Saeed Ahmed were requested to organize the competition as jury members. Mr. Bryan Hugill also extended his cooperation and was present at all training sessions and gave practical demonstration and useful technical tips to the contestants, while Mr. Saeed Ahmed actively participated in all arrangements and other important tasks.

On 15th. April 2007, the quarter finals started at 1030 hrs. for the four categories -16 years), Senior (16 +) and Special Speed Competition (open for all). For first three categories, the formula for quarter finals was to select 50% of top marks securing members, while a scoring sheet was designed, mainly based on their stance, style and speed.



Sixty eight girls participated in quarter finals and as per the results, three from Minors, thirteen from Junior and eleven from Seniors were selected for semi finals.

On 16th. April 2007, the day started at 1100 hrs. with semi finals and the formula was to select five contestants from Junior and Senior categories for finals. After semi finals, the special competition category made their speed ascent and positions were determined for top three girls. The final was scheduled at 1600 hrs and on the arrival of the guest of honour, Madam Minister for Tourism, a Club members unfurled the flag with Event Logo of Destination Pakistan – 2007

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and asked for the permission to start the finals. With permission of the chair, the finals started and a huge crowd of spectators enjoyed and appreciated their skill and epic climbing on a 90 degrees bare rock wall. The spectators included the friends of the contestants, their family members, dignitaries and adventure enthusiasts.

After completing the final round, the Madam Minister was requested to award the winners with exclusively designed shields and certificates. On this great and unique moment, the honourable minister expressed her comments and sentiments to all the contestants and winners. She encouraged the winners and offered a free trip to any destination in Pakistan.



In the competition, initially the girls from City School performed very well and one of the contestants, Rida Abid made a speed climb of the competition and completed her climb in a record time i.e. 48 seconds. Ms. Aneeqa Butt performed well in minor category and made her climb, neatly and without any foul. Overall City School got two positions and one record of fastest climb. Roots School also performed well and got 3 positions out of 12 in 4 categories. Fatima Jinnah Women University started in a great manner with Mariam and Amna as their main players. At the end, Amna won the Speed Climb Event, while Naheeda stood fourth in Senior category. Aga Khan Girl Guides made remarkable feat and got 6 positions among twelve op positions.

The working / technical support was from M/s Panoramic Pakistan, while M/s Siddique Mirza, Khalid Mehmood, Muhammad Ali, Irshad Hussain and Fida Hussain extended their full time cooperation throughout the event. Mr. Amjad Ali Raja was also a great help as he designed the event logo and other items and also helped to decorate the venue and sitting arrangements.



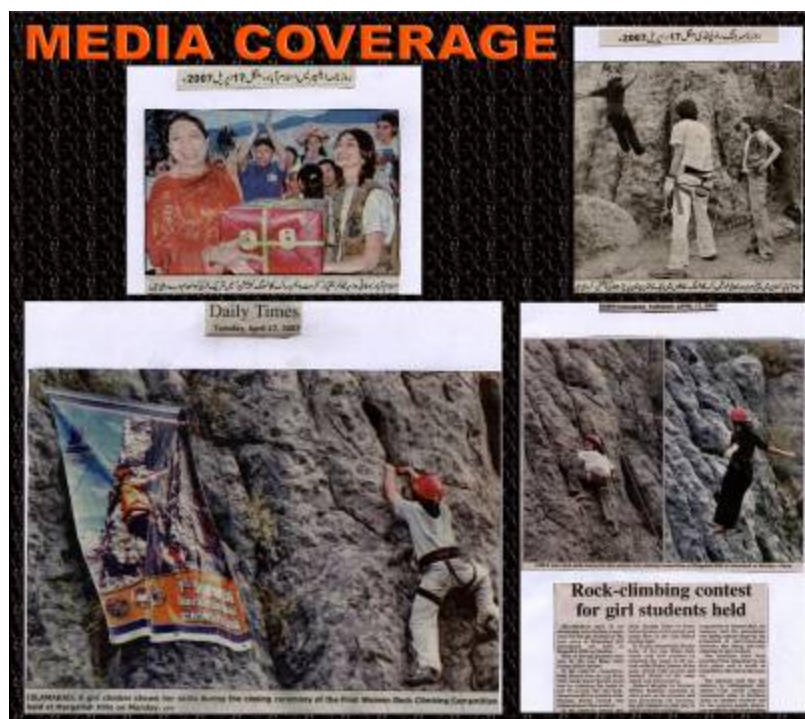
Apart from the organizers i.e. The Adventure Club – Pakistan / Panoramic Pakistan – Islamabad, following organizations / individuals helped to make the event colorful and successful.

Mr. Abdul Rehman – Health Equipment Gym
Mr. Bryan Hugill
Mr. Khalid Mehmood – Instant Press
Mr. Lateef Faizee – Shezan Limited
Ms. Munawwara Mehmood
Mr. Qamar Suleman – Hiking Association
Ms. Saadia Bassir – Gear Up
Mr. Saeed Ahmed – Hi Tech Center
Ms. Saneeha Khalid – The City School
Ms. Sharea Ijaz
Mr. Tariq Rashid - Tahtan (pvt) Limited

We are grateful for their cooperation and thank all the guests and above all the contestants to participate and show a daring and memorable event. A team of climbers have been selected for further training, while others are encouraged to join the Club and practice this game. Finding the great potential of the rock climbers and taking their response in consideration, we are making concrete efforts to make this event on regular basis to be further changed into national championship in coming years. In this regard, The Club is pleased to announce 2nd. Rock Climbing Competition on February 22-23-24' 2008. For this program, training sessions for new members will start in October 2007. It is further to mention that in the year 2008, we are getting handsome support from experienced rock climbers of international repute and initially, will invite contestants from SAARC countries.

We are grateful to the Ministry of Tourism and exclusively to the Madam Minister, Ms. Nilofar Bakhtiar for her special interest and encouragement, which gave us a boost to make prestige and high status of the event and we expect the patronage of the Ministry in future for which we extend our full support and assistance.

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SCORE CARD

	Category / Age Group	Institution
	Minor (8-12 years)	
1	Saba Haider	Aga Khan Girl Guide
2	Khadija Saleem	Roots School System
3	Aneeqa Butt	The City School
	Junior (12 – 16 years)	
1	Roohi Ahmad	Aga Khan Girl Guide
2	Safeena Ahmad	Aga Khan Girl Guide
3	Rida Abid	The City School
	Senior (16 years +)	
1	Rozina Zafar	Aga Khan Girl Guide
2	Farhat Jabeen	Aga Khan Girl Guide
3	Naheed Akhtar	Aga Khan Girl Guide
	Speed Climb Event	
1	Amna Khan	Fatima Jinnah Women University
2	Kiren	Roots School System
3	Marvi	Roots School System
	Fastest Climb of Competition	
1	Rida Abid	The City School
	Special Prize	
1	Nahida Ahmed	Fatima Jinnah Women University