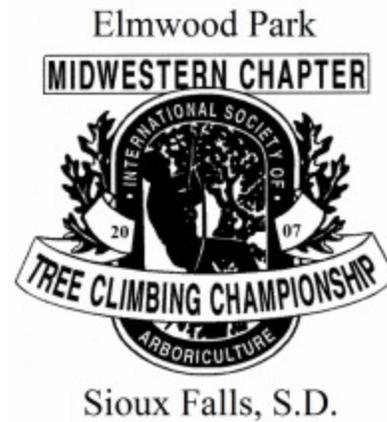


2007 Midwestern ISA Tree Climbing Championship

With the South Dakota sun shining, 21 competitors from 5 different Midwest states competed for the chance to go to Honolulu, HI and compete with some of the best tree climbers in the world. This day long event had over 25 sponsors, making for exceptional prizes for top finishers.



The location of the event was held at Elmwood park in Sioux Falls, SD. The event was located amongst some of the largest cottonwoods in the area. The Foot Lock event was won by Noel Boyer (MO) followed up by James Melton (NE) and Brandon Hendrickson (KS). The Belayed Speed Climb winner was James Melton (NE) followed up by Jerel Converse (NE) and Joe Johnson (MO). Throwline champion went to Jerel Converse (NE) followed up by Mark Cummins (KS) and Joe Johnson (MO). The Aerial Rescue event went to Joe Johnson (MO) followed by Brandon Shields (MO) and Brandon Hendrickson (KS). Work Climb went to Noel Boyer (MO), Joe Johnson (MO) and Jerel Converse (NE).

The Masters Challenge was held in a huge Plains Cottonwood tree. The top 3 contestants from the five preliminary events who competed for the championship were Brandon Shields, Joe Johnson and Jerel Converse. Contestants in the Master's Challenge performed an ISA Traditional North American style work climb with the winner Brandon Shields (MO) heading to Hawaii. Ann Koenig (MO) was the only female to compete and was named 2007 female champion and will also be going to Honolulu, HI to compete for the ISA championship.

Thanks to the City of Sioux Falls, Duane Stall, Tim Crews and volunteers for their time and effort that went into organizing and setting up this successful 2007 event.

*Aaron Kiesz is the
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