

World Cup climbing returns to Edinburgh

The Edinburgh International Climbing Arena (EICA) last hosted an International Federation of Sport Climbing (IFSC) World Cup climbing event in 2017, and, once again it was the Speed climbers who opened proceedings for the three-day event featuring 189 athletes – 97 male, 92 female – from around the world across Lead and Speed.

Poland's 2021 world champion Natalia Kalucka was top of the women's category with 7.00 seconds, closely followed by Emma Hunt of USA who secured herself a personal record, and a new national record, of 7.02.

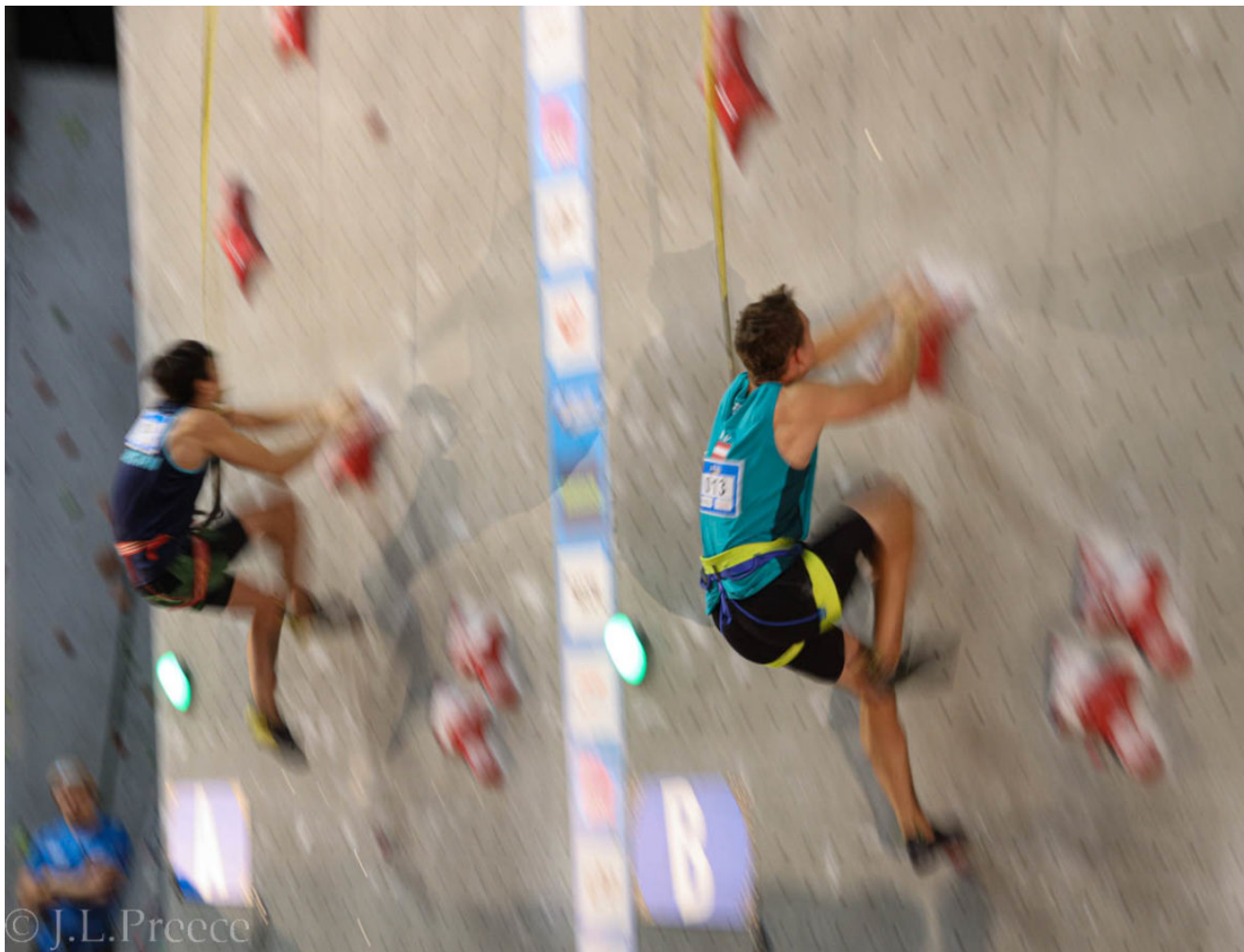






Sitting in third was Aleksandra Kalucka of Poland who joins her sister at the top end of the qualification rankings tapping at 7.06.

Samuel Watson won bronze at the recent Youth World Championships in Dallas, Texas, breaking Youth Speed records along the way, and the American continued that fast form by finishing top of the men's qualification, tapping at 5.49.





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Just behind Watson is China's Long Jianguo who sits second with 5.50 and Spain's Erik Noya Cardano in third with 5.56.

The top 16 from both the men and women's qualification will compete in the finals' series on Saturday evening at 7:00pm (UTC +1) just after the day's Lead qualification.