



USA
FENCING

2015-2016
Athlete
Handbook

U S A F E N C I N G

2015-2016

Athlete Handbook

USA Fencing

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Please contact the USA Fencing National Office with any document/links issues:
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Preface

This book is written for fencers, coaches and parents to help them gain an understanding of the competitive and developmental programs of USA Fencing. It contains information that will allow fencers to progress in the sport of fencing to as high a level as they are capable. Lack of familiarity with the information contained herein is not justification for an appeal. When there are modifications to any of the programs described herein, such changes will be posted to the USA Fencing website, About Us/Manuals (www.usfencing.org). The posted Athlete Handbook will be updated and an eblast (USA Fencing eNewsletter) will be sent to the membership notifying them of the changes to the Handbook. All National Team changes must have the explicit approval of the national coach or coaches and the Director of Sports Performance.

Details on the operations of the organization are described in the latest edition of the USA Fencing Operations Manual available on the USA Fencing website under About Us/Manuals. The Operations Manual explains the competitive opportunities for all members and the manner in which competitions should operate within the tenets of the organization and of the sport.

The Athlete Handbook and Operations Manual provide fencers, coaches, administrators, and parent the information pertinent to all aspects of USA Fencing programs.

Periodically, USA Fencing and the National Weapon Coaches will communicate by email special notices to the membership and/or fencers on the national point standings. Fencers must keep the USA Fencing National Office informed of their current email address(es) as this is the primary communication path to fencers and coaches associated with weapon squad programs, team notifications, and updates to the Handbook. It is just as important that fencers keep the National Office update with respect to one's current mailing address to ensure receipt of information mailed by USA Fencing and the National Weapon Coaches. USA Fencing will post the latest information on the USA Fencing website. You can contact USA Fencing by email: information@usfencing.org.

The current Athlete Handbook is the source book for details on elite athlete programs – national point standings, team selection, and international competitions. Nothing in this Handbook overrides the rules of fencing unless specifically noted. Changes in selection procedures will only be valid if communicated in writing by direct communication to athletes in the top 24 in Senior, top 16 in Junior, top 12 in Cadet, and/or top 8 in Youth 14 rolling point standings and posted on the USA Fencing website as well as modified in the Athlete Handbook.

Fencers who have questions regarding their opportunity to compete that are not answered by USA Fencing may contact the USOC Athlete Ombudsman, Kacie Wallace, by telephone at (888) ATHLETE, or by email at ombudsman@usoc.org.

ABOUT USA FENCING

USA Fencing, formally known as the United States Fencing Association (USA Fencing), is a nonprofit corporation formed under the laws of the State of Colorado. The Internal Revenue Service has recognized the organization as a 501(c) (3) tax-exempt organization, and contributions qualify as charitable deductions for the donor to the extent permitted by law. Information about such contributions may be obtained from the National Office.

USA Fencing is the official governing body for amateur fencing in the United States. The *Federation Internationale d'Esgrime* (FIE), the United States Olympic Committee (USOC) and other organizations recognize its exclusive jurisdiction. It is the officially designated National Governing Body (NGB) of fencing by the USOC.

USA Fencing is the sole representative of U.S. fencing to the FIE – the governing body for all official international fencing competitions including World Fencing Championships and the fencing competitions at the Olympic Games. Any U.S. fencer wishing to participate in official international competitions must have an FIE license secured by USA Fencing and be entered into each event by USA Fencing.

The governance of the organization is specified in the latest version of the USA Fencing Bylaws and can be found on the USA Fencing website under About Us/Board of Directors.

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Revisions to the 2015-2016 Athlete Handbook after the August 7, 2015 Publish Date

Revisions are identified in this handbook in Green text

Chapter/Appendices	Section	Change and/or Update	Date of Change
Chapter 2	2.10.5.2 & 2.10.5.3	Added language to clarify qualifiers	8/21/15
Chapter 2	2.12.4	Corrected Veteran regional points to a %	8/21/15
Chapter 4	4.1.2	Updated to reflect current EFC and FIE Rules	8/31/15
Appendices & Chapter 3	2.2 & 3.3.1	Corrected Points for National Competitions 33-64 and corrected language in 3.3.1	9/9/15
Chapter 2	Table 2.5.1	Corrected Senior Team to "2002 or before"	9/16/15
Athlete Handbook	All Sections	Corrected spelling errors	10/24/15
Cover	Updated Logo		11/13/15
Chapter 3	3.7	Modified language to clarify age eligibility	11/20/2015
Chapter 5-10		Updated to reflect 4 individual fencers for Jr World	12/21/2015
Chapter 2	2.10.4.1 & 2.10.4.2	Clarified RCC & RJC after the Junior Olympic Entry	12/23/15
Athlete Handbook	All Sections	Reformatted	1/5/16
Chapter 15	Section VII	Added language regarding non-compliance notification	2/21/16
Chapter 2	2.14.1.1.	DV1 Championship Seeding corrected	2/21/16
Chapter 15	Section VII A. 2.	Added two additional screening criteria	2/21/16
Chapter 2	Table 2.5.1	Corrected birth year to 2002	3/25/16



Acronyms Used in the Athlete Handbook

SF	Strength Factor that is determined by specific formula for Senior and Junior World Cup and Grand Prix competitions
SSF	Senior Strength Factor
JSF	Junior Strength Factor
WV	Weight Value – a multiplier determined by the national coach of a weapon to be used in the respective point table to determine number of points earned for each placement at certain point competitions
WC	World Cup
SWC	Senior World Cup
JWC	Junior World Cup
EFC	European Fencing Confederation
NAC	North American Cup
JOs	Junior Olympic National Championship
NRPS	National Rolling Point Standings
DE	Direct elimination
RRPS	Regional Ranking Point System
RYC	Regional Youth Circuit
SYC	Super Regional Youth Circuit
ROC	Regional Open Circuit
RJCC	Regional Junior & Cadet Circuit (overall regional event type)
RJC	Regional Junior Circuit
RCC	Regional Cadet Circuit
DV1	Division 1
D1A	Division 1A
DV2	Division 2
DV3	Division 3
JR	Junior (U20/U19)
CDT	Cadet (U17/U16)
VET	Veteran
Y14	Youth Y14 Age Group
Y12	Youth Y12 Age Group
Y10	Youth Y10 Age Group
WCH	Wheelchair Fencing
TM	Team Fencing
AH	Athlete Handbook

Chapter 1 – USA Fencing Membership

1.1 How to Become a USA Fencing Member

You must have a current USA Fencing competitive membership to participate in USA Fencing sanctioned events. To become a USA Fencing member visit the USA Fencing website, www.usfencing.org, where you can either use the online registration system at www.usfencing.org/page/show/698115-individuals or download an application and return it with your payment of dues by fax or regular mail as noted on the application. You may also request an application by email or by calling the National Office: information@usfencing.org or 719-866-4511. Another option is to sign up at a local tournament. Please be aware that USA Fencing cannot consider you a member in good standing or provide proof of membership until the application and dues have been processed by the National Office. If one signs up at a local event, it is the individual's responsibility to ensure that the application is forwarded to the National Office in a timely manner.

1.2 Age/Citizenship Verification

Athletes must have their birth date and citizenship or permanent resident status verified by USA Fencing. You must email a photocopy (scanned or picture from camera/phone) of your birth certificate, passport, green card, driver's license and/or other legal document clearly showing date of birth and citizenship. E-mail documents to Membership Services at information@usfencing.org. Once your birth date has been verified, you do not need to do this again.

Birth year verification is reflected on your membership card. To print a copy of your card, log into your USA Fencing member profile at www.railstation.org/usfencing/ and select Print Membership Card.

1.3 Division Affiliation

A member can declare a division affiliation based on his or her residence, location of the school that member is attending or location of the primary club that the member will represent in USA Fencing competitions. Each fencing season a member must declare the division affiliation for that membership year. That division is the one from which the fencer must qualify to the USA Fencing National Championships and the Junior Olympic Fencing Championships. The member may request a change in division if he or she moves to a new geographic location (permanent residence or school) or selects a primary club which is located in a different division, and notifies the USA Fencing office in writing of the new address and division change request. Members who are living or working for an extended period of time outside of the United States or on active military duty can request "National" Division affiliation; supporting documentation must be submitted to information@usfencing.org.

Once an athlete fences in a qualifying event for a specific national championship, that location becomes their Division affiliation for that national championship. The Junior Olympic National Championships are held in February, the Division I National Championship is in the spring and the National Championships/July Challenge are held in the summer.

1.4 Club Representation and Affiliation

The term "club," as used in this Chapter, includes any organized fencing group of individual members with a current USA Fencing Affiliate or Member club. A recognized club is one that has a relatively stable organizational structure and membership, a place for regular fencing activity and, a professional fencing master for lessons and training. The division affiliation of a member club shall be the primary location where its regular fencing activity is conducted. A club may only be a member of one division.

A distinction is made between club "affiliation" and "representation." A fencer may be affiliated with more than one club but can only represent one of them (except as noted below) in USA Fencing competitions at one time. An athlete's club representation is based on current member and affiliate member clubs. Athletes, who represent a non-USA Fencing Affiliate or Member club, will be considered "Unattached". The only exception will be if an athlete is representing an NCAA program.

All fencers should notify the National Office of all club affiliations at the start of the fencing season and as such club affiliations change during the fencing season. All fencers will have the ability to update their club affiliation in their membership profile twice per season. They should also notify competition organizers of such affiliations even if representing another club (or school) or fencing unattached for reasons given below. Competition organizers should apply the same criteria for separating fencers with the same club affiliations as they do for fencers with the same club representation. Only current USA Fencing Affiliate or Member clubs will be listed in the Membership database.

A collegiate or scholastic fencer, who is also a member of another recognized club, may represent his or her school in dual meets and other interscholastic or intercollegiate competitions, and also represent the other club in USA Fencing competitions. If the rules of his or her school conference require it, he or she may represent his or her school or fence unattached in all USA Fencing individual competitions held during the school's fencing season or, in the case of collegiate fencers, during the period in which NCAA rules regarding playing dates have jurisdiction. Such fencers may represent their other club during the other portions of the fencing season. Athletes should inform the National Office of their NCAA or scholastic representation; this information will be used in accordance with [fencing rule o.13](#).

Any request for club change beyond the parameters noted above requires special permission from the USA Fencing Board of Directors or its designee.

The fencer/club representation relationship may be terminated at any time by either party (fencer or club) by written notice provided to the National Office. [BOD, July 2007]

1.5 USA Fencing Club Information

www.usfencing.org/page/show/698119-clubs

Member Club: Member clubs receive insurance coverage through the USFA policy. All members of the USFA Member Clubs must be individual members of USA Fencing, and all coaches must be Professional Members of USA Fencing.

Affiliate Club: Affiliate clubs are allowed to enter teams to Championship Team Competitions (at Junior Olympic Fencing Championships, Division I National Championships and USA Fencing National Championships), but they do not participate in the USFA insurance program and have no liability coverage through USA Fencing. Even so all coaches must be Professional Members of USA Fencing.

Other than the insurance coverage, benefits will be the same for Member and Affiliate clubs. USA Fencing wants clubs to have the insurance that works best for their business and operations situation, and affiliate clubs will not be penalized for choosing not to participate in the USA Fencing Club Membership insurance program.

Chapter 2 – Domestic Competitions

2.1 General Definitions

A competition (or event) is the aggregate of the bouts (in individual competitions) or of the matches (in team competitions) that determine the winner of the event. Competitions are categorized by weapons, by gender, by age, by classification and by individual competition vs. team competition.

A tournament consists of several competitions held at the same venue in the same period of time.

All USA Fencing sanctioned events must follow Safe Sport policy including utilizing background screened officials.

For more information on the latest edition and/or any relevant updates of the *USA Fencing Rules for Competition*, refer to the USA Fencing website under About Us/Manuals. Please refer to the Fencing Officials Website (<http://fencingofficials.org>) or email rules@fencingofficials.org for any questions regarding the Rules of Competition.

2.2 Classifications (Ratings)

2.2.1 What are Classifications?

Fencers are classified into the following letter classifications: A (highest), B, C, D, E, U (Unclassified, lowest) as well as by national ranking, for those who achieved points at national events. These provide an objective scale for the seeding of competitions. Classifications are written as A13, B11, C10, etc. with the letter indicating the most recent year in which the classification was earned or re-earned. Classifications provide a measuring standard for fencers as they progress through the sport.

Classifications are posted on the USA Fencing website, under Membership, Current Membership Listing, and are searchable by Last Name, First Name, Membership Number, Division or Representing Country and are updated automatically on the membership listing. Classifications may also be viewed in the member's profile.

2.2.2 How is a Classification Earned?

Classifications are earned in each weapon at USA Fencing rated competitions at local, regional or national levels. The rating of a competition is based on number of competitors and classification of the fencers and determines the type and number of classifications awarded or revised. Please see Appendix 2.7 [Classification](#) for the Reference Chart.

2.2.3 How are Classification Changes made Official?

Classification changes from local tournaments must be certified and submitted by the Division to the Manager of Membership Services (information@usfencing.org) using the Classification Change Form (available on the USA Fencing website under Membership, Divisions, Officer Resources, and Documents).

Classification changes from regional tournaments and division qualifiers must be certified by submission of complete results in excel format to the Regional Manager (regionalevents@usfencing.org) by the organizer of the regional tournament or division qualifier at which the classification was earned. The results report is available as an export from Fencing Time v3.02 or later or by using the Results Reporting Form (available on the USA Fencing website under Events, Event Resources). Classification changes will be processed and posted once results are verified and applicable program fees are received by the National Office.

Changes are required to be reported within 10 business days of the competition or tournament. Failure to report may affect fencers competing in future competitions.

Only classifications appearing on the membership listings available on the USA Fencing website are official. Only these listings should be used when seeding tournaments. Results and classifications changes posted on askfred.net must be verified by USA Fencing. If one's classification has not been updated on the USA Fencing website, the fencer should first contact the tournament organizer or the appropriate Division Officer to determine if the change form has been submitted.

Once a report is submitted to the National Office, and any associated fees have been collected, the classification change will be updated within five business days, except in the following situations:

1. Classifications will not be awarded to fencers who compete in competitions in which they are considered age and/or classification ineligible. In addition, such ineligible fencers may not be used to calculate the new classifications earned by others in those events.
2. For events in which any fencers are not current USA Fencing competitive members, the award of any new classifications, points or qualification for that competition may be delayed or withheld until such memberships are properly paid and processed.
3. Organizers submitting classification changes from RYC, SYC, ROC or RJCC tournaments have not yet submitted the required program support fees and/or results report to the National Office.

2.2.4 How long is a Classification Valid?

Classifications are valid for four seasons after they are earned. If, after four seasons, the classification has not been re-earned, it then reverts to the next lowest letter and the then current year. Such change will be enacted at the beginning of the new fencing season – August 1. For example, if you earned a B in 2007 (B07) and did not re-earn your B for four years, your B becomes a C11 on August 1, 2011. If you then did not re-earn your C11 for four more years, it becomes a D15 on August 1, 2015.

2.2.5 How to Determine Classifications for Foreign Fencers

Classifications for foreign fencers will be determined by placement at an FIE World Championship, Grand Prix, or World Cup in the current season and/or previous three seasons based on the chart below

	A	B	C
Senior	1 st – 32 nd	33 rd – 64 th	National Team Member
Junior	1 st – 16 th	17 th – 32 nd	National Team Member
Cadet	1 st – 8 th at Cadet World Championships	9 th – 16 th at Cadet World Championships	National Team Member
Veteran		1 st – 3 rd at Veteran World Championships	5 th – 8 th at Veteran World Championships

1. In all cases, the classification year suffix is the year in which the result was earned. If nothing is known about the fencer, the National Events Department will consult with the National Weapon Coach or Director of Sports Performance regarding which classification should be used.

2.3 Types of Domestic Competitions

2.3.1 Local Competitions

A wide variety of competitions can be found at the local level in clubs or sponsored by local organizations. Schedules for these competitions can be found by contacting your division. Division contact information is available on the USA Fencing website or by emailing information@usfencing.org.

2.3.2 Division Competitions

Divisions hold many different competitions, including qualifying competitions for the Junior Olympic Fencing Championships and the National Championships. Schedules for these competitions can be found by contacting the member's division, or visiting the appropriate website. Division contact information is available on the USA Fencing website or by emailing information@usfencing.org.

2.3.3 Regional Competitions

USA Fencing Regions Map www.usfencing.org/rocreources then click on Regional Map on the bottom of the page.

Regional Open Circuit (ROC): The Regional Open Circuit (ROC) is designed to promote and develop strong regional tournaments for D1A, DV2 and Veteran fencers who seek competitive opportunities beyond the local and divisional level but below the NAC level. The ROCs serve as one of the qualification paths for USA Fencing Championships. There are no national points awarded at ROC competitions; please refer to chapter 3 for more information on the Regional Point structure. For more information, please visit the USA Fencing website, Events, Regional Events, and ROC Resources. For a schedule of ROCs, please check the USA Fencing website under EVENTS, ROC Regional Events.
www.usfencing.org/rocreources

Regional Junior/Cadet Circuit (RJCC): The Regional Junior/Cadet Circuit (RJCC) is designed to promote and develop strong regional tournaments for Junior and Cadet aged fencers who seek competitive opportunities beyond the local and divisional level but below the NAC Junior/Cadet levels. The RJCCs serve as one of the qualification paths for Junior Olympic Fencing Championships and the July Challenge. There are no national points awarded at RJCC competitions; please refer to chapter 3 for more information on the Regional Point structure. The Regional Ranking Point System (RRPS) is a ranking program designed to recognize and reward both participation and accomplishment at the RJCC Tournament level. For information on this program, please visit the USA Fencing website, Events, Regional Events, and RJCC Resources. For a schedule of RJCCs, please check the USA Fencing website under EVENTS, Regional Events.
www.usfencing.org/rjccresources

Super Youth Circuit (SYC): There are numerous Super Youth tournaments throughout the country for Y10, Y12, and Y14 athletes. Youth fencers may participate in one or more Super Youth tournaments; however, only the single best result is included in the revised national point standings published after each SYC. National Points are awarded to the top 40% at an SYC competition. These competitions are one of the qualification paths for Youth 10 and Youth 12 events at the March NAC and the USA Fencing Championships. Please refer to chapter 3 for more information on the Youth Point structure. For information on this program, please visit the USA Fencing website, Events, Regional Events, and SYC Resources. For a schedule of SYCs, please check the USA Fencing website under EVENTS, Regional Events.
www.usfencing.org/sycreources

Regional Youth Circuit (RYC): The RYC tournaments are held throughout the season for Y10, Y12, and Y14 athletes. The goal is to motivate developing youth athletes to participate in multiple RYC tournaments throughout the competitive season providing them with an appropriate level of competition. There are no national points awarded at Regional Youth competitions. These competitions are one of the qualification paths for Youth 10 and Youth 12 events at the March NAC and the USA Fencing National Championships. The Regional Ranking Point System (RRPS) is a ranking program designed to recognize and reward both participation and accomplishment at the RYC Tournament level. Please refer to [chapter 3](#) for more information on the Regional Point structure. For information on this program, please visit the USA Fencing website, Events, Regional Events, and RYC Resources. For a schedule of RYCs, please check the USA Fencing website under EVENTS and RYC Regional Events.
www.usfencing.org/rycreources

2.3.4 National Tournaments and Championships

North American Cup (NAC): The North American Cup Tournaments are a series of tournaments organized by USA Fencing. For Division I NACs, athletes must meet the criteria for a “C” or better classification at the time of their entry. For Division II NACs, athletes must meet the criteria for a “C” or lower classification at the time of their entry. For Division III NACs, athletes must meet the criteria for a “D” or lower classification at the time of their entry.

Junior Olympic Fencing Championships (JOs): The Junior Olympic Fencing Championships are held each year in February over the President's Day holiday weekend. The Junior Olympic Fencing Championships are the national championships for Cadet, Junior and Junior Team in each of the six weapons. Fencers must be US Citizen or Permanent Residents and qualify to compete in this tournament.

Division I National Championships: The Division I National Championships, held in conjunction with the April NAC, are championships for fencers on the Senior point standings and for the top Juniors and Cadets on their respective point standings. Competitors must be US Citizens or Permanent Residents. Fencers qualify for these Championships via the national rolling point standings, top placements from the last Division IA and Division II National Championships and via Modern Pentathlon.

USA Fencing National Championships (Nationals): The USA Fencing National Championships are held in June/July. Fencers must be US Citizens or Permanent Residents and qualify to compete in this tournament. Events in these championships include (in all six weapons): Youth 10, Youth 12, Youth 14, Veteran 40-49, Veteran 50-59, Veteran 60-69, Veteran 70+, Division IA, Division II, Division III and Senior Team. For rating restricted Championship events (Div II/ Div III), the rating of the fencer at the time of qualification determines eligibility to compete.

July Challenge: This competition occurs in conjunction with the USA Fencing National Championships and is a restricted competition based upon eligibility criteria listed in paragraphs 2.10.5.3 & 2.11.5.8. The Division I, Junior and Cadet events held at the July Challenge mark the beginning of the domestic cycle for the Division I, Junior and Cadet.

2.4 Entering Competitions/Tournaments

2.4.1 Local/Divisional Competitions

Entry procedures for these competitions vary from competition to competition. Contact the organizers of the competitions to determine their procedures. You must register following the organizer's procedures. Registrations for these tournaments are not processed through the USA Fencing National Office (sometimes referred to as "National Office").

2.4.2 Regional Tournaments (RYC, SYC, RJCC, & ROC)

Links to online entry forms for these competitions are available on the USA Fencing website, under EVENTS. Only tournaments posted on the USA Fencing Regional Event calendar are recognized as regional tournaments. Registrations for these competitions are not processed through the National Office.

2.4.3 USA Fencing National Tournaments

Fencers may not enter onsite at any National Tournament. For registration accuracy, speed, and environmental reasons, USA Fencing uses an online registration system. The online registration system generates a receipt of payment upon processing of a valid payment. Paper entry forms are also available to be mailed or faxed to the National Office. All entries, regardless of method, must be received at the National Office by the published deadline for that tournament. Qualification is required for any Championship tournament.

For National Championships, entries remain **registered** until qualification is confirmed. Once the event has been confirmed for the athlete, an email will be sent via the database system and it will state that the athlete has been **approved** for that particular event. If the athlete did not qualify or the path with which they qualified is undetermined, the system will generate an **ineligible** email in an effort to get more information.

Deadlines for entry are strictly enforced. Deadlines are published on the USA Fencing website, on the online registration system, and on the entry forms. Postmarks are not considered, entries must arrive at the National Office by the posted deadline. Online entries must be submitted by 11:59:59 p.m. Pacific Time of the posted deadline date.

Late entries are accepted online only for a specified time frame, with payment of triple the total amount due for regular entries up to the posted late entry deadline date by 11:59:59 p.m. Pacific Time. **No entries are accepted after that date.**

For refund of event fee(s), all withdrawals must be received by the National Office by the posted withdrawal deadline. Registration and processing fees are nonrefundable and nontransferable. Refunds for team events are half of the entry fee. To withdraw from a tournament, email information@usfencing.org with the athlete name, member number, and events from which you are withdrawing. No refunds will be given for withdrawals after the posted withdrawal deadline. Refunds are processed 4-6 weeks after the tournament.

A link to the *Entrants List* is posted on the specific tournament web page located on the USA Fencing website under EVENTS - www.usfencing.org/events. It is the fencer's responsibility to verify that the events registered for, classification for each weapon, club affiliation and division information is accurate before the seeding deadline for the tournament. Any discrepancies must be reported to the National Office (information@usfencing.org) before such deadline or they will not be considered.

For Championship tournaments, the online system generates separate emails for each event once entry is confirmed. It is the fencer's responsibility to verify that the Championship events registered for have been officially **approved** by the National Office. Championship eligibility confirmation from clubs, divisions, regional tournament organizers or posted on askfred.net are not considered official. Refunds will be processed by the National Office for any events where an athlete fails to qualify. Refunds are processed 4-6 weeks after the tournament.

2.5 Eligibility to Compete

Fencers must be current competitive USA Fencing members in good standing to compete in USA Fencing sanctioned competitions. Fencers with supporting or non-competitive membership categories are not eligible to compete in any USA Fencing sanctioned competitions; these membership types can be upgraded to competitive membership types. Foreign fencers must have a current FIE license or provide proof of membership in another national fencing federation recognized by the FIE.

Fencers must meet age and/or eligibility requirements found in the chart on the next page.

Table 2.5.1: 2015-2016 Age/Classification Eligibility Rules:

A. For 2015-2016 Local/National Tournaments & Junior Olympic Fencing Championships (Excluding July Challenge, USA Fencing National Championships & Nationals Qualifying Tournaments through Regions and Divisions)

CATEGORY	DIVISION I	DIVISION II	DIVISION III	WHEELCHAIR	VETERAN (40 & Older) / VETERAN TEAM	VETERAN 40-49	VETERAN 50-59	VETERAN 60-69	VETERAN 70 & Older	JUNIOR / JR TEAM	CADET	YOUTH 14	YOUTH 12	YOUTH 10
CODE	DV1	DV2	DV3	CHR	VET/VTM	V40	V50	V60	V70	JR/JTM	CDT	Y14	Y12	Y10
BIRTH YEARS	Born 2002 or earlier	Born 2002 or earlier	Born 2002 or earlier	Born 2002 or earlier	Born 1976 or earlier	1967-1976	1957-1966	1947-1956	Born 1946 or earlier	1996-2002	1999-2002	2001-2004	2003-2006	2005-2008
CLASS	A, B, OR C	C, D, E OR U	D, E OR U	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

B. JulyChallenge, USA Fencing National Championships & Associated REGIONAL & DIVISION Qualifying Competitions ONLY

CATEGORY	DIVISION I	DIVISION IA	DIVISION II	DIVISION III	WHEELCHAIR	VETERAN 40-49	VETERAN 50-59	VETERAN 60-69	VETERAN 70 & Older
CODE	DV1	D1A	DV2	DV3	CHR	V40	V50	V60	V70
BIRTH YEARS	Born 2002 or earlier	Born 2002 or earlier	Born 2002 or earlier	Born 2002 or earlier	Born 2002 or earlier	1967-1976	1957-1966	1947-1956	Born 1946 or earlier
CLASS	A, B, OR C	N/A	C, D, E OR U	D, E OR U	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

CATEGORY	JUNIOR	CADET	YOUTH 14	YOUTH 12	YOUTH 10	SENIOR TEAM
CODE	JR	CDT	Y14	Y12	Y10	STM
BIRTH YEARS	1997-2003	2000-2003	2001-2004	2003-2006	2005-2008	Born 2002 or earlier
CLASS	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

EXCEPTION TO AGE ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA (All other qualification criteria remains):

- Youth 12 – A fencer born after 2006 can fence in Youth 12 IF the fencer is on the National Youth 10 point standings at the time of the entry deadline for that tournament.
- Youth 14 – A fencer born after 2004 can fence in Youth 14 IF the fencer is on the National Youth 12 point standings at the time of the entry deadline for that tournament.
- Cadet (through JO's) – A fencer born after 2002 can fence in Cadet local and regional competitions, NAC Cadet tournaments and Junior Olympic Cadet Fencing Championships and qualifying tournaments IF the fencer is on the National Youth 14 point standings at the time of the entry deadline for that tournament.
- Junior (through JO's) – A fencer born after 2002 can fence in Junior local and regional competitions, NAC Junior and Junior Olympic Junior Fencing Championships and qualifying tournaments IF the fencer is on the National Cadet point standings at the time of the entry deadline for that tournament.
- Cadet (After JO's) – A fencer born after 2003 can fence in Cadet competition for the 2016 July Challenge IF the fencer is on the National Youth 14 point standings at the time of the entry deadline for that tournament.
- Junior (After JO's) – A fencer born after 2003 can fence in Junior competition for the 2016 July Challenge IF the fencer is on the National Cadet point standings at the time of the entry deadline for that tournament.
- Division I – For national (e.g., NAC) competitions, those born after 2002 must be on the National Junior point standings; for the 2016 July Challenge for Division I, those born after 2003 must be on the National Junior point standings.
- Division IA, II, III – For all local, regional (including ROC) and national (e.g., NAC) competitions, those born after 2002 must be on the National Junior point standings; for the 2016 National Championships and qualifying competitions for Division IA, II, III; those born after 2002 must be on the National Junior point standings.
- A fencer who is on the Junior national rolling point standings (NRPS) and is younger than 13 may compete in Senior (Open) competitions.

2.6 General Qualifying Information

2.6.1 Division Qualifiers

Division qualifiers are competitions in which a specified number of fencers, based on their results, qualify to USA Fencing Championships and the Junior Olympic Championships.

Division Qualifiers are restricted to members of the Division for the following events: Division II, Division III and Youth 14 (National Championships) and Cadet and Junior (Junior Olympics). Veteran fencers can qualify for National Championships via DV2 or DV3 Division Qualifiers. Division qualifying tournaments cannot be mixed gender competitions. Division members who have *already* qualified for Div 2/ Div 3/ Y14/ Cadet or Junior Events at the championship for which the qualifier is being held are eligible to compete but will be skipped in the qualifying group for which they have already qualified. Fencers who have earned National points and those who placed high enough at the previous season's championship are the only athletes who are eligible to be skipped over.

Fencers must be US Citizens or Permanent Residents of the United States. Any fencer who is a citizen or permanent resident, who has also represented another country in the last three years, in any Olympic/Pan Am sport, and who has not yet been granted permission to represent the USA by USA Fencing and the FIE is not eligible for any USA Fencing National Championship competition, individual or team, including Division qualifying competitions. A foreign fencer who is in the United States on a visa is NOT eligible to fence in any National Championships, individual or team, or associated Division qualifying competitions. Divisions allowing ineligible athletes to compete in qualifying competitions will be fined by USA Fencing; fines will be withheld from the division's membership rebate.

For information regarding your Division Qualifier schedule, check your Division's website or contact your Division officers. To obtain names, emails and phone numbers for any of the Division's officers, contact the National Office by phone (719-866-4511) or e-mail (information@usfencing.org). Division qualifier information, if known and provided by the Division, is posted on the USA Fencing website under EVENTS, Division Events - www.usfencing.org/page/show/699860-division-events

Policy on Ineligible Fencers in Division Qualifiers:

1. For Division qualifying events in which any ineligible fencers are discovered (i.e., age, classification, membership, citizenship or representing country), the Division and athlete(s) in question will be notified and instructed of the information needed to resolve the situation. Any missing membership forms, fees or paperwork needed to resolve the issue must be received by the National Office within 10 business days from the time of notification of the problem by the National Office. Late submission may result in the Division qualifiers being recalculated based on the eligible fencers in the competitive field.
2. No qualification or classifications will be awarded to fencers who compete in Division Qualifiers where ineligible athletes (i.e., age, classification, membership, citizenship or representing country) are allowed to compete until the situation is resolved.
3. All entries for the given championship will remain pending until the issues regarding the Division qualifier in question are resolved.
4. Petitions or protests will be reviewed after the situation is resolved.

2.6.2 Regional Qualifying Paths

In addition to Division Qualifiers, multiple qualification paths exist on a regional level for qualification to National Championships, Junior Olympics, and the July Challenge. These include:

- Regional Open Circuit Tournaments: Division IA, Division II, Veteran for USA Fencing National Championships
- Regional Junior Cadet Circuit: Junior and Cadet for Junior Olympic Fencing Championships and the July Challenge, if age eligible

- Super Youth Circuit Tournaments: Youth 10, Youth 12 for March North American Cup and USA Fencing National Championships; Youth 14 for USA Fencing National Championships
- Regional Youth Circuit Tournaments: Youth 10, Youth 12 for March North American Cup and USA Fencing National Championships; Youth 14 for USA Fencing National Championships

ROC, RJCC, SYC and division qualifying tournaments cannot be mixed (mixed gender or mixed age) competitions.

Regional Open Circuit: open to current USA Fencing competitive members eligible to fence in open/senior competitions and to foreign fencers with current FIE licenses and/or licenses from fencing federations recognized by the FIE. Foreign fencers are not eligible to compete in USA Fencing National Championship events; therefore these athletes cannot be considered in determining the size of the competitive field in a ROC to determine the number of qualifiers. In the event that a foreign fencer finishes within the ROC automatic qualifying group for Division II, the foreign fencer will be skipped and only the highest-finishing eligible domestic fencers will qualify.

Regional Junior / Cadet Circuit: open to current USA Fencing competitive members eligible to fence in Cadet and/or Junior competitions and to age-eligible foreign fencers with current FIE licenses and/or licenses from fencing federations recognized by the FIE. Foreign fencers are not eligible to compete in USA Fencing National Championship events. In the event that a foreign fencer finishes within the RJCC qualifying group for the Junior Olympic Championships, the foreign fencer will be skipped and only the highest-finishing eligible domestic fencers will qualify. Foreign fencers may qualify for the July Challenge via the RJCC system as it is not a National Championship.

Super Youth Circuit and Regional Youth Circuit: open to current USA Fencing competitive members eligible to fence in youth age competitions and to age-eligible foreign fencers with current FIE licenses and/or licenses from fencing federations recognized by the FIE. Foreign fencers are not eligible to compete in USA Fencing National Championship events. If a foreign fencer falls within the regional (RYC) qualifying percentage in Y12 or Y14 for the USA Fencing National Championships, they will be skipped and the next highest finishing eligible domestic fencers will qualify.

2.6.3 Determination of Qualifiers

Qualifiers are determined by the qualifying information for the various event types (Division). For more information, see Table 2.6.3.1

Only Fencers who qualify through National Points or by placing high enough at last season's championships are considered "automatic qualifiers" at the time they fulfill the qualification requirement. A list of automatic qualifiers will be posted on the USA Fencing website under the Championship tournament page. Those who qualify through a regional path are not considered Automatic Qualifiers, but Regional Qualifiers. They will not be skipped over at any Division Qualifier as the regional list is determined after the final division qualifier report/payment is received to the National Office. Those who qualify through the Division are not considered an "automatic qualifier" and are not posted on the USA Fencing website. RYC qualification is determined after the final RYC competition on a percentage basis. RJCC qualification is determined at the deadline for entry for the Junior Olympic Championships and the July Challenge on a percentage basis. Div 1A and DV2 qualification are points based only (minimum of one Div 1A or DV2 points result). Therefore auto-qualifiers in Div 1A, competing at subsequent Div 1A ROC events do not affect the qualifying field at a Div 1A ROC. There is no automatic qualification path for DV2.

There is no retroactive path to qualification. Therefore, fencers who fail to qualify to enter a National Tournament through a RJCC, ROC, SYC, RYC or Divisional qualifying competition are not considered qualified simply by virtue of a qualifying fencer at the event qualifying at a later qualifying competition as well.

Qualifying forms and instructions are sent to Regional (ROC, RJCC, RYC & SYC) tournament organizers

and Division officers via email; information is also posted on the USA Fencing web site under the Championship tournament page and Regional Resources page. It is the regional tournament organizer's and/or division officer's responsibility to adhere to the qualifying information; failure to do so may result in qualifying field adjustments and/or nullification of the results from the qualifying tournament. Complete results from these qualifying tournaments must be submitted in the proper Excel format; the qualifying report is available as an export in Fencing Time v3.02 or later.

Complete results must be submitted to the National Office via email (nationalevents@usfencing.org) by the regional tournament organizer or division officer no later than 10 business days after the completion of the tournament. These forms must reflect complete results and are the only acceptable notice from the regional tournaments and Divisions regarding their qualifying fencers.

Regional tournament organizers and/or Divisions who do not submit results as described above will be fined by USA Fencing; fines will be withheld from the Division's membership rebate; regional tournaments will be subject to removal of sanctioning and will be responsible for refunding athletes. Additional fines may be assessed by the appropriate USA Fencing committee or Board of Directors.

Table 2.6.3.1: Number of Qualifiers for Junior Olympic Fencing Championships and USA Fencing National Championships from Division Qualifying Competitions (25% rule/round up)

#Competitors	1	2	3-12	13-16	17-20	21-24	25-28	29-32	33-36	37-40	41-44	45-48
#Qualifiers	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12

2.7 Petition Process

In exceptional cases, subject to approval by the USA Fencing Board of Directors or National Office, a member of the USA Fencing in good standing may be permitted to qualify to the Division 1 Championships, Junior Olympic Fencing Championships, the July Challenge or USA Fencing National Championships by petition. No petition may contravene the results of a qualifying competition – a fencer who has fenced in the qualifying competition without withdrawing due to a disabling injury or illness cannot then petition to disregard or override those results. Petitions will be denied for fencers who chose to fence in a regional qualifier (RYC, SYC, RJCC, and ROC) over their Division qualifier.

The following criteria and procedures are applicable to filing a petition:

A petition may be filed by a fencer who qualified (by means of competition or petition) to that same competition in the prior season or whose recent competitive record indicates a strong possibility that the athlete would have qualified had they been able to compete in the qualifying competition but:

1. Was unable to compete in the various qualifying competitions this season due to injury, illness, military deployment/study abroad, compulsory school requirements OR
2. Did compete and had to withdraw because of a disabling injury or illness.

(Note: Mere attendance at an out-of-town school during the qualifying competition shall not constitute inability to compete.)

All petitions must be made through an online system to USA FENCING National Events; petition link is available through the specific tournament page on usfencing.org. Such petitions are to be filed within ten business days following the competition at which the petitioner could have qualified. Relief from this deadline will be granted only when the specific qualifying competition is held less than two weeks prior to the entry deadline. Under no circumstances will petitions be accepted if received after the regular fee entry deadline for the Championships.

The petition must be accompanied by:

- A non-refundable fee of \$100.00, payable to USA FENCING; this will be charged at the

conclusion of the online petition process.

- A written statement that gives the specific details of the dates, reason for absence or withdrawal, and other pertinent facts. Written notice from the independent attending physician and/or statement from the Bout Committee must substantiate any medical reasons if the medical reason required withdrawal from the qualifying competition.
- A summary of the fencer's significant recent competitive results. In particular, results in previous National Championships and recent North American Cup (NAC) competitions should be noted. (Example: top 64 international, top 8 in a USA Fencing NAC/Championship, top 16 at a ROC, top 24 at an SYC)
- Evidence that a copy of the petition has been submitted to the Chair or Secretary of the Division that hosted the qualifying competition. If the basis for the petition does not correspond with information available to the Division officer, then USA FENCING expects the officer to so notify the National Office in writing.
- A completed entry form for the Junior Olympic Fencing Championships or USA Fencing National Championships with the correct registration and entry fees or receipt indicating entry was submitted online. If the petition is not approved, the fees associated with the entry will be refunded.

Responses to the petition will be made via e-mail.

Petitions that do not meet these requirements will not be considered.

Decisions on petitions will be based upon the validity of reasons given for absence or withdrawal and the probability that the fencer would have qualified had they competed in the qualifying competition to its conclusion, based on results achieved in other recent competitions. If a fencer is permitted to enter the Junior Olympic Fencing Championships, July Challenge or USA Fencing National Championship competition by this petition procedure, the fencer's entry will in no way affect the number of qualifiers from the Division involved.

2.8 Qualifying Competition Protest Process

If the qualifying competition was not run in accordance with the USA Fencing rules, a protest may be submitted via email to nationalevents@usfencing.org specifying the rule infraction(s). This must be done immediately to the Bout Committee at the qualifying competition and within three business days after the qualifying competition to the National Office; otherwise, no action will be taken by USA Fencing. Even if a timely protest is submitted, there is no guarantee that the protest will be upheld.

For more detailed information regarding the protest process, see below from the [USA Fencing Operations Manual](#) Chapter 8.

2.9 Youth Fencing (Y14, Y12 Y10)

2.9.1 What is a Youth tournament?

Youth tournaments for fencers who are (10 and under (Y10), 12 and under (Y12), and 14 and under (Y14). Refer to the Age/Classification Restriction Rules for current birth years for these categories ([Table 2.5.1](#))

2.9.2 Youth Local Tournaments

A wide variety of competitions can be found at the local level in clubs or sponsored by local organizations. Schedules for these competitions can be found by contacting your Division. Division contact information is available on the USA Fencing website or by emailing information@usfencing.org.

2.9.3 Youth Divisional Tournaments

Each Division will host a qualifying tournament for Y14 National Championships only (Y12 and Y10 use other qualifying paths). Divisions may also hold other Youth tournaments during the season to provide general competition opportunities. Divisional information can be found through the Division-specific websites -

2.9.4 Youth Regional Tournaments

2.9.5 Youth 10 RYC

This event is offered as part of the Regional Youth Circuit (RYC). Regional points are awarded to any competitor competing in his/her home region. Regional points are awarded based on the size of the competitive field; no national points are awarded. At least 2 athletes must compete in a given RYC age/weapon event to fulfill eligibility requirements or to earn regional points.

- A. *Eligibility (age, classification)*
Subject to the listed exceptions, fencers must meet the birth years in [Table 2.5.1](#). There are no classification requirements.
- B. *Seeding and Format*
All information regarding seeding can be found in [Table 2.14.1](#); all competition format information can be found in [Table 2.15.1](#)

2.9.6 Youth 12 RYC

This event is offered as part of the Regional Youth Circuit (RYC). Regional points are awarded to any competitor competing in his/her home region. Regional points are awarded based on the size of the competitive field; no national points are awarded. At least 2 athletes must compete (have fenced) in a given RYC age/weapon event to fulfill eligibility requirements or to earn regional points.

- A. *Eligibility (age, classification)*
Subject to the listed exceptions, fencers must meet the birth years in [Table 2.5.1](#). There are no classification requirements.
- B. *Seeding and Format*
All information regarding seeding can be found in [Table 2.14.1](#); all competition format information can be found in [Table 2.15.1](#)

2.9.7 Youth 14 RYC

This event is offered as part of the Regional Youth Circuit (RYC). Regional points are awarded to any competitor competing in his/her home region. Regional points are awarded based on the size of the competitive field; no national points are awarded. At least 2 athletes must compete (have fenced) in a given RYC age/weapon event to fulfill eligibility requirements or to earn regional points.

- A. *Eligibility (age, classification)*
Subject to the listed exceptions, fencers must meet the birth years in [Table 2.5.1](#). There are no classification requirements.
- B. *Seeding and Format*
All information regarding seeding can be found in [Table 2.14.1](#); all competition format information can be found in [Table 2.15.1](#)

2.9.8 Youth 10 SYC

This event is offered as part of the Super Youth Circuit (SYC). National Points are awarded to 40% of the competitive field to a maximum of 64; no regional points are awarded. At least 2 athletes must compete in a given SYC age/weapon event to fulfill eligibility requirements for the March NAC and Summer National Championships. In all SYC Youth events, 3 fencers must compete in order for National points to be awarded.

- A. *Eligibility (age, classification)*
Subject to the listed exceptions, fencers must meet the birth years in [Table 2.5.1](#). There are no classification requirements.

B. Seeding and Format

All information regarding seeding can be found in Table [2.14.1](#); all competition format information can be found in Table [2.15.1](#)

2.9.9 Youth 12 SYC

This event is offered as part of the Super Youth Circuit (SYC). National Points are awarded to 40% of the competitive field to a maximum of 64; no regional points are awarded. At least 2 athletes must compete in a given SYC age/weapon event to fulfill eligibility requirements for the March NAC. In all SYC Youth events, 3 fencers must compete in order for National points to be awarded.

A. Eligibility (age, classification)

Subject to the listed exceptions, fencers must meet the birth years in [Table 2.5.1](#). There are no classification requirements.

B. Seeding and Format

All information regarding seeding can be found in Table [2.14.1](#); all competition format information can be found in Table [2.15.1](#)

2.9.10 Youth 14 SYC

This event is offered as part of the Super Youth Circuit (SYC). National Points are awarded to 40% of the competitive field to a maximum of 64; no regional points are awarded. At least 2 athletes must compete in a given SYC age/weapon event to fulfill eligibility requirements. In all SYC Youth events, 3 fencers must compete in order for National points to be awarded.

A. Eligibility (age, classification)

Subject to the listed exceptions, fencers must meet the birth years in [Table 2.5.1](#). There are no classification requirements.

B. Seeding and Format

All information regarding seeding can be found in Table [2.14.1](#); all competition format information can be found in Table [2.15.1](#)

2.9.11 Youth National Tournaments

The Youth National tournaments provide a higher-level experience for fencers 10 and under (Y10), 12 and under (Y12), and 14 and under (Y14). National Points are awarded for these competitions.

2.9.12 Youth 10 North American Cup (NAC)

A. Eligibility (age, classification)

Fencers must meet the birth years in Table [2.5.1](#). There are no classification requirements.

B. Qualifying Path

- Fence in one Regional Youth Circuit or one Super Youth Circuit competition in the current season in the age and weapon category (categories) in which fencer requests entry acceptance OR
- Be on the Youth 10 national point standings at the regular fee entry deadline

C. Seeding and Format

All information regarding seeding can be found in Table [2.14.1](#); all competition format information can be found in Table [2.15.1](#)

Youth 12 North American Cup (NAC)

A. Eligibility (age, classification)

Subject to the listed exceptions, fencers must meet the birth years in Table [2.5.1](#). There are no

classification requirements.

B. *Qualifying Path*

- Fence in one Regional Youth Circuit or one Super Youth Circuit competition in the current season in the age and weapon category (categories) in which fencer requests entry acceptance OR
- Be on the Youth 12 national point standings at the regular fee entry deadline
- Be on the Youth 10 national point standings at the regular fee entry deadline

C. *Seeding and Format*

All information regarding seeding can be found in Table [2.14.1](#); all competition format information can be found in Table [2.15.1](#)

2.9.14 Youth 14 North American Cup (NAC)

A. *Eligibility (age, classification)*

Subject to the listed exceptions, fencers must meet the birth years in [Table 2.5.1](#). There are no classification requirements.

B. *Qualifying Path*

Noqualifying path

C. *Seeding and Format*

All information regarding seeding can be found in Table [2.14.1](#); all competition format information can be found in Table [2.15.1](#)

2.9.15 Youth 10 National Championships

A. *Eligibility (age, classification)*

Fencers must meet the birth years in [Table 2.5.1](#). There are no classification requirements.

B. *Qualifying Path*

- Fencers must meet age requirements in [Table 2.5.1](#) AND be a US Citizen or Permanent Resident AND
- Be on the Youth 10 national point standings at the regular fee entry deadline **OR**
- Be on Y10 Regional Youth point standings at the regular fee entry deadline **OR**
- Top 65% of your region's Y12 Regional Youth point standings by entry deadline and meet the age criteria

C. *Seeding and Format*

All information regarding seeding can be found in Table [2.14.1](#); all competition format information can be found in Table [2.15.1](#)

2.9.16 Youth 12 National Championships

A. *Eligibility (age, classification)*

Subject to the listed exceptions, fencers must meet the birth years in [Table 2.5.1](#). There are no classification requirements.

B. *Qualifying Path*

- Fencers must meet age requirements in [Table 2.5.1](#) AND be a US Citizen or Permanent Resident AND
- Be on the Youth 12 national point standings at the regular fee entry deadline OR
- Be in the top 8 of the Y10 national point standings at the regular fee entry deadline OR

- Be in the top 65% (round up) of *your region's* Y12 regional point standings at the regular fee entry deadline (number will be based on the size of the Region) OR
- Be in the top 30% of *your region's* Y14 regional point standings at the regular fee entry deadline and meet the age criteria (number will be based on the size of the Region's points list) OR
- Place in the top 25% of the fencer's Division's Youth 14 National Championship qualifying competition

C. *Seeding and Format*

All information regarding seeding can be found in Table [2.14.1](#); all competition format information can be found in Table [2.15.1](#)

2.9.17 Youth 14 National Championships

A. *Eligibility (age, classification)*

Subject to the listed exceptions, fencers must meet the birth years in [Table 2.5.1](#). There are no classification requirements.

B. *Qualifying Path*

- Fencers must meet age requirements AND be a US Citizen or Permanent Resident AND
- Be on the Youth 14 national point standings at the regular fee entry deadline OR
- Be in the top 16 of the Y12 national point standings at the regular fee entry deadline OR
- Be in the top 30% (round up) of *your region's* Y14 regional point standings at the regular fee entry deadline (number will be based on the size of the Region) OR
- Place in the top 25% (round up) of the fencer's Division's Youth 14 National Championship qualifying competition

C. *Seeding and Format*

All information regarding seeding can be found in Table [2.14.1](#); all competition format information can be found in Table [2.15.1](#)

2.10 Cadet/Junior Tournaments

2.10.1 What is a Cadet/Junior Tournament?

This is a competition for those who are 17 and under (Cadet) or 20 and under (Junior). Refer to the Age/Classification Restriction Rules for current birth years for these categories [Table 2.5.1](#).

2.10.2 Cadet/Junior Local Tournaments

A wide variety of competitions can be found at the local level in clubs or sponsored by local organizations. Schedules for these competitions can be found by contacting your division. Division contact information is available on the USA Fencing website or by emailing information@usfencing.org.

2.10.3 Cadet/Junior Divisional Tournaments

Each Division will host a qualifying tournament for the Junior Olympic National Championships (JOs). Divisions may also hold other Cadet/Junior tournaments during the season to provide general competition opportunities. Divisional information can be found through the Division-specific websites - www.usfencing.org/page/show/698127-divisions

2.10.4 Regional Cadet/Junior Circuit (RJCC) Tournaments

2.10.4.1 Regional Cadet (RCC)

The Cadet Regional Tournament is offered as part of the Regional Junior Cadet Circuit (RJCC). No national points are awarded; regional points are awarded to any competitor competing in their home region. Regional points are awarded based on the size of the competitive field.

A. *Eligibility (age, classification)*

Subject to the exceptions in Table [2.5.1](#), fencers must be at least 13 years old by January 1 of the current season. Fencers younger than that must, as of the entry deadline, be on the Y14 national rolling point standings to be eligible. There are no classification requirements.

B. *Seeding and Format*

All information regarding seeding can be found in Table [2.14.1](#); all competition format information can be found in Table [2.15.1](#)

RCCs held after the regular entry fee deadline for the Junior Olympic Championships and before the Junior Olympic Championships take place are regional qualifiers for the July Challenger within that calendar year and the Junior Olympics the following year. For these specific RCCs, organizers are permitted to allow entry to athletes ageing into the cadet NAC category at that year's July Challenge and to athletes who age out of the cadet category after the Junior Olympics Championships that season. Athletes aging out will not receive regional ranking points for their placement but will be counted in the total number of participants when regional points are awarded to eligible athletes.

RCCs held after the Junior Olympic Championships will only accept entries from athletes for which the tournament serves as a qualification path.

2.10.4.2 Regional Junior Circuit (RJC)

The Junior Regional tournament is offered as part of the Regional Junior Cadet Circuit (RJCC). No national points are awarded; regional points are awarded to any competitor competing in their home region. Regional points are awarded based on the size of the competitive field.

A. *Eligibility (age, classification)*

Subject to the exceptions in Table [2.5.1](#), fencers must be at least 13 years old by January 1 of the current season. Fencers younger than that must, as of the entry deadline, be on the Cadet national rolling point standings to be eligible. There are no classification requirements.

B. *Seeding and Format*

All information regarding seeding can be found in Table [2.14.1](#); all competition format information can be found in Table [2.15.1](#)

RJCs held after the regular entry fee deadline for the Junior Olympic Championships and before the Junior Olympic Championships take place are regional qualifiers for the July Challenger within that calendar year and the Junior Olympics the following year. For these specific RJCs, organizers are permitted to allow entry to athletes ageing into the junior NAC category at that year's July Challenge and to athletes who age out of the junior category after the Junior Olympics Championships that season. Athletes aging out will not receive regional ranking points for their placement but will be counted in the total number of participants when regional points are awarded to eligible athletes.

RJCs held after the Junior Olympic Championships will only accept entries from athletes for which the tournament serves as a qualification path.

2.10.5 Cadet/Junior National Tournaments

These national tournaments, along with designated Division I NACs, are part of the selection criteria for the Junior/Cadet World Championship Team. Fencers can earn national points at these competitions.

2.10.5.1 Cadet & Junior North American Cup (NAC)

A. *Eligibility (age, classification)*

Subject to the exceptions in Table [2.5.1](#), fencers must be at least 13 years old by January 1 of the current season. Fencers younger than that must, as of the entry deadline, be on the Y14 point standings to be eligible for Cadet events or be on the Cadet point standings to be eligible for Junior events. There are no classification requirements.

B. *Seeding and Format*

All information regarding seeding can be found in Table [2.14.1](#); all competition format information can be found in Table [2.15.1](#)

2.10.5.2 Cadet & Junior - Junior Olympic Fencing Championships

The JOs are held each February on President's weekend.

A. *Eligibility (age, classification, qualification)*

Subject to the exceptions in Table [2.5.1](#), fencers must be at least 13 years old by January 1 of the current season. Fencers younger than that must, as of the regular fee entry deadline, be on the Y14 point standings to be eligible for Cadet events or on the Cadet point standings to be eligible for Junior events. There are no classification requirements.

Fencers must meet age requirements as above and be US Citizens or Permanent Residents.

B. *Qualification – when determining qualification using top 25% on regional points lists or top 8 or top 16 respectively on NRPS, foreign fencers ARE skipped.*

C. *Qualification*

CADET

- Fencers must meet age eligibility AND
- Be on the Cadet national rolling point standings (NRPS) at the regular fee entry deadline OR
- Be in the top 25% of their region's Cadet Regional Circuit point standings at the regular fee entry deadline OR
- Be in the top 25% of their region's Junior Regional Circuit point standings at the regular fee entry deadline OR
- Be in the top 8 of the Youth 14 national rolling point standings (NRPS) at the regular fee entry deadline OR
- Be in the top 25% (round up) of their Division's Cadet JO qualifying competition OR
- Be in the top 25% (round up) of their Division's Junior JO qualifying competition. Junior event must occur first.

JUNIOR

- Fencers must meet age eligibility AND
- Be on the Junior national rolling point standings (NRPS) at the regular fee entry deadline OR
- Be in the top 16 of the Cadet national rolling point standings (NRPS) at the regular fee entry deadline OR
- Top 25% on your region's Junior RJCC Regional Points Standings OR
- Be in the top 25% (round up) of their Division's Junior JO qualifying competition

D. *Seeding and Format*

All information regarding seeding can be found in Table [2.14.1](#); all competition format information can be found in Table [2.15.1](#)

2.10.5.3 Cadet & Junior July Challenge

The July Challenge is held in late June early July, in conjunction with the USA Fencing National Championships. This competition constitutes the beginning of the Cadet and Junior point cycle/season which is why their NRPS are updated with the new season's birth year span in April each year. Only those that meet the new season's birth year span are eligible to compete in these events.

A. *Eligibility (age, classification)*

Subject to the exceptions in Table [2.5.1](#), fencers must be at least 13 years old by January 1 of the current season. Fencers younger than that must, as of the regular fee entry deadline, be on the Y14 point standings to be eligible for Cadet events or on the Cadet point standings to be eligible for Junior events. There are no classification requirements for US Athletes.

- B. *Qualification—when determining qualification using top 25% or 50% on regional points or national points lists, foreign fencers ARE NOT skipped (fencers who age out are skipped or deleted from the points lists).*

CADET

- Fencers must meet age eligibility AND
- Be on Cadet NRPS (Age out after JOs) **OR**
- Be in the top 50% of the Y14 national rolling point standings (NRPS) at the regular fee entry deadline **OR**
- Be in the top 50% of your region's Cadet Regional Circuit Points **OR**
- Top 50% of their region's Junior Regional Circuit Points **OR**
- Foreign athletes who meet the USA Fencing classification standard of "A", "B" or "C" as defined in the Athlete Handbook [2.2.5](#)

JUNIOR

- Fencers must meet age eligibility AND
- On Junior NRPS (Age out rankings after JOs) by entry deadline **OR**
- On Cadet NRPS (Age out after JOs) **OR**
- Be in the top 50% of your region's Junior Regional Circuit Points **OR**
- Be in the top 25% of the Youth 14 national rolling point standings (NRPS) at the regular fee entry deadline **OR**
- Foreign athletes who meet the USA Fencing classification standard of "A" or "B" as defined in the Athlete Handbook [2.2.5](#)

- C. *Seeding and Format*

All information regarding seeding can be found in Table 2.14.1; all competition format information can be found in Table 2.15.1

2.11 Senior/Open Tournaments

2.11.1 What is a Senior/Open Tournament?

A senior/open competition is one in which all competitors are eligible to compete without regard to their divisional membership, classification, rank, or age (except for minimum ages as specified in this handbook). The same rules apply to all USA Fencing events that do not denote a specific age restriction (Youth, Cadets, Juniors and Veteran events) whether they are a NAC or National Championship or run by a club, division, or region.

To compete in a USA Fencing-sponsored "Open" event, all fencers must be a current competitive member of USA Fencing, at least 13 years old on January 1 of the current season unless the fencer is on the National Junior Point Standings at the entry deadline for that competition.

2.11.2 Senior/Open Local Tournaments

A wide variety of competitions can be found at the local level in clubs or sponsored by local organizations. Schedules for these competitions can be found by contacting your division. Division contact information is available on the USA Fencing website or by emailing information@usfencing.org.

2.11.3 Senior/Open Divisional Tournaments

Each Division will host a qualifying tournament for Division II (DV2) and/or Division III (DV3) for the USA Fencing National Championships. Divisions may also hold other senior/open tournaments during the season to provide general competition opportunities. Divisional information can be found through the Division-specific

websites - www.usfencing.org/page/show/698127-divisions

2.11.4 Senior/Open Regional Tournaments

2.11.4.1 division II (DV2) Regional Open Circuit (ROC)

Division II tournaments, offered as part of the Regional Open Circuit (ROC), provide competition opportunities for fencers 13 years and older with a classification of C or below. National points are not awarded for placements in the Division II competitions; regional points are awarded to the top 40% of the field.

A. *Eligibility (age, classification)*

Fencers must be 13 years old before January 1 of the current season or on the Junior national rolling point standings (NRPS). Fencers must have a classification of “C”, “D”, “E” or “U”.

B. *Seeding and Format*

All information regarding seeding can be found in Table [2.14.1](#); all competition format information can be found in Table [2.15.1](#)

2.11.4.2 Division 1A (D1A) Regional Open Circuit (ROC)

Division IA tournaments, offered as part of the Regional Open Circuit (ROC), provide competition opportunities for fencers 13 years and older. National points are not awarded for placements in the Division 1A competitions; regional points are awarded to the top 40% of the field.

A. *Eligibility (age, classification, qualifying path)*

Fencers must be 13 years old before January 1 of the current season or on the Junior national rolling point standings (NRPS)

B. *Seeding and Format*

All information regarding seeding can be found in Table [2.14.1](#); all competition format information can be found in Table [2.15.1](#)

2.11.5 Senior/Open National Tournaments

2.11.5.1 Division III (DV3) North American Cup (NAC)

Division III national tournaments provide competition opportunities for fencers 13 years and older with a classification D or below. No points are awarded. For awarding classifications, Division III tournaments are always at least a Group C3 competition.

A. *Eligibility (age, classification)*

Fencers must be 13 years old before January 1 of the current season or on the Junior national rolling point standings (NRPS). Fencers must have a classification of “D”, “E” or “U”.

If a fencer meets the classification requirement when his or her application is processed by USA Fencing and subsequently earns a higher classification, the fencer retains eligibility for that tournament.

B. *Seeding and Format*

All information regarding seeding can be found in Table [2.14.1](#); all competition format information can be found in Table [2.15.1](#)

2.11.5.2 Division II (DV2) North American Cup (NAC)

Division II national tournaments provide competition opportunities for fencers 13 years and older with a classification of C or below. No points are awarded. For awarding classifications, Division II tournaments are always at least a Group B3 competition.

A. *Eligibility (age, classification)*

Fencers must be 13 years old before January 1 of the current season or on the Junior national rolling point standings (NRPS). Fencers must have a classification of “C”, “D”, “E” or “U”.

If a fencer meets the classification requirement when his or her application is processed by USA Fencing, and subsequently earns a higher classification, the fencer retains eligibility for that tournament.

B. Seeding and Format

All information regarding seeding can be found in Table [2.14.1](#); all competition format information can be found in Table [2.15.1](#)

2.11.5.3 Division I (DV1) North American Cup (NAC)

This event offers elite level competition for fencers 13 years of age and older. National points are awarded towards the Senior, Junior and Cadet National Point Standings, depending on age eligibility. For awarding classifications, Division I tournaments are always at least a Group A4 competition.

A. Eligibility (age, classification)

Fencers must be 13 years old before January 1 of the current season. Fencers must have a classification of “A”, “B”, or “C” at the entry deadline or be ranked in the top 32 of the senior rolling point standings, top 16 of the junior rolling point standings or top 8 of the cadet rolling point standings at the entry deadline.

Foreign fencers who entered in a NAC Division I competition must indicate their national ranking or previous results that are comparable to at least a US “C” classification.

B. Seeding and Format

All information regarding seeding can be found in Table [2.14.1](#); all competition format information can be found in Table [2.15.1](#)

2.11.5.4 Division III (DV3) USA Fencing National Championships

This event is part of the USA Fencing National Championships, held each summer. No points are awarded.

A. Eligibility (age, classification, qualification path)

Fencers must be 13 years old before January 1 of the current season or on the Junior national rolling point standings (NRPS). Fencers must have a classification of “D”, “E” or “U” at the time of the qualifying competition AND be a US Citizen or Permanent Resident.

B. Qualification

Fencers must meet eligibility requirements AND:

- Place in the top 25% (round up) of the total number of “D”, “E” or “U” fencers competing in the current season Division’s Division II Qualifying competition (when Division II and Division III qualifying competition held together) OR
- If separate Division III qualifying competition held by Division, then top 25% of the field will qualify for Division III National Championships OR
- Be on the Division I-A or Division II Regional Open Circuit point standings, if classification eligible, at the regular fee entry deadline for these Championships OR
- Place in the top 40% at 2016 Div III NAC
- Qualified for Division II, if classification eligible

If a fencer meets the classification requirement at the qualifying competition or when his or her application is processed by the USFA and subsequently earns a higher classification, the fencer retains eligibility for that tournament.

C. Seeding and Format

All information regarding seeding can be found in Table [2.14.1](#); all competition format information

can be found in Table [2.15.1](#)

2.11.5.5 Division II (DV2) USA Fencing National Championships

This event is part of the USA Fencing National Championships, held each summer. No points are awarded.

A. *Eligibility (age, classification, qualification path)*

Fencers must be 13 years old before January 1 of the current season or on the Junior national rolling point standings (NRPS). Fencers must have a classification in the weapon of "C", "D", "E" or "U" at the time of the qualifying competition AND be a US Citizen or Permanent Resident

B. *Qualification*

Fencers must meet eligibility requirements AND:

- Place in the top 25% of the current season's Division Qualifying competition OR
- Be on the current season's Div I-A ROC Regional Point Standings OR
- Be on the Div II ROC Regional Point Standings

If a fencer meets the classification requirement at the qualifying competition or when his or her application is processed by the USFA and subsequently earns a higher classification, the fencer retains eligibility for that tournament.

C. *Seeding and Format*

All information regarding seeding can be found in Table [2.14.1](#); all competition format information can be found in Table [2.15.1](#)

2.11.5.6 Division 1A (D1A) USA Fencing National Championships

This event is part of the USA Fencing National Championships, held each summer. No points are awarded. For awarding classifications, Division 1A tournaments are always at least a Group A3 competition.

A. *Eligibility (age, classification, qualifying path)*

Fencers must be 13 years old before January 1 of the current season or on the Junior national rolling point standings (NRPS) and be a US Citizen or Permanent Resident. There is no classification requirement.

B. *Qualification*

Fencers must meet eligibility requirements AND:

- Have placed in the top 8 at the previous season's Division I-A National Championships **OR**
- Have placed in the top 4 at the previous season's Division II National Championships **OR**
- Be on the current season's D1A ROC Regional Point Standings **OR**
- Be in the top 8 of the Division II Regional Open Circuit point standings at the regular fee entry deadline.

C. *Seeding and Format*

All information regarding seeding can be found in Table [2.14.1](#); all competition format information can be found in Table [2.15.1](#)

2.11.5.7 Division 1 (DVI) National Championships

The Division 1 National Championships are held annually in April. This event, along with other designated competitions, is part of the selection criteria for the Senior World Championship or Olympic Team.

A. *Eligibility (age, classification, qualification path)*

Fencers must be 13 years old by January 1 (see Table [2.5.1](#) for exceptions) of the current season. Fencers must have a classification of "A", "B", or "C" at the entry deadline and be a US Citizen or Permanent Resident

B. *Qualification*

Fencers must meet eligibility requirements AND:

- Be on the current Senior National Rolling Point Standings (NRPS) at the regular fee entry deadline OR
- Be in the top 8 of the adjusted* Junior national rolling point standings (NRPS) at the regular fee entry deadline OR
- Be in the top 4 of the adjusted* Cadet national rolling point standings (NRPS) at the regular fee entry deadline OR
- Have placed in the top 8 in the previous season's Division I-A National Championships OR
- Have placed in the top 4 in the previous season's Division II National Championships OR
- For Epee ONLY: the top three USA Fencing Modern Pentathlon fencers will be eligible to compete in the Division I épée events without qualifying by any other means. USA Modern Pentathlon fencers MUST be USA Fencing members.

* Age adjusted, reflecting updated points lists after the ineligible Cadet & Junior fencers are "aged out" after the end of their current season.

C. *Seeding and Format*

All information regarding seeding can be found in Table [2.14.1](#); all competition format information can be found in Table [2.15.1](#)

2.11.5.8 Division I July Challenge

The July Challenge is held in June/July, in conjunction with the USA Fencing National Championships. This event constitutes the beginning of the Senior/open season.

A. *Eligibility for Division 1 (age, classification, qualification path)*

Fencers must be 13 years old by January 1 (see Table [2.5.1](#) for exceptions) of the current season. Fencers must have a classification of "A", "B", or "C" at the entry deadline.

B. *Qualification*

Fencers must meet eligibility requirements AND:

- Be on the current Senior National Rolling Point Standings (NRPS) at the regular fee entry deadline OR
- Top 48 of Junior NRPS at the regular fee deadline and age eligible OR
- Top 24 of the Cadet NRPS at the regular fee deadline and age eligible OR
- Top 16 from Div I-A Regional Points Standings OR
- Be in the top 4 of the Division II regional points at the regular fee entry deadline OR
- 2016 NCAA National Championships Individual Competitors (24) OR
- Foreign athletes who meet the USA Fencing classification standard of an "A" or "B" as defined in the Athlete Handbook [2.2.5](#)

C. *Seeding and Format*

All information regarding seeding can be found in Table [2.14.1](#); all competition format information can be found in Table [2.15.1](#)

2.12 Veteran Tournaments

2.12.1 What is a Veteran Tournament?

Veteran tournaments provide competition opportunities for fencers 40 years and older. There are five categories of veteran events: Open (ages 40 and above), V40 (ages 40-49), V50 (ages 50-59), V60 (ages 60-69), and V70 (ages 70+).

2.12.2 Veteran Local Tournaments

A wide variety of competitions can be found at the local level in clubs or sponsored by local organizations. Schedules for these competitions can be found by contacting your division. Division contact information is

available on the USA Fencing website or by emailing information@usfencing.org.

2.12.3 Veteran Divisional Tournaments

Each Division will host a qualifying tournament for V40 (ages 40-49), V50 (ages 50-59), V60 (ages 60-69), and V70 (ages 70+) events for the USA Fencing National Championships. Divisions may also hold other Senior/open tournaments during the season to provide general competition opportunities. Divisional information can be found through the Division-specific websites - www.usfencing.org/page/show/698127-divisions

2.12.4 Veteran Regional Tournaments

2.12.4.1 Veteran Regional Open Circuit (ROC)

Veteran Regional tournaments are offered as part of the Regional Open Circuit (ROC). National points are not awarded; regional points are awarded to the top 40% of the finishers.

A. *Eligibility (age, classification)*

Fencers must meet the age eligibility requirements to fence in a Veteran Combined or Veteran Age-Group events. See Table [2.5.1](#) for details.

B. *Seeding and Format*

- C. All information regarding seeding can be found in Table [2.14.1](#); all competition format information can be found in Table [2.15.1](#)

2.12.5 Veteran National Tournaments

At national tournaments, Vet Open, V40, V50, V60, and V70 events are held. National points are awarded for these competitions.

2.12.5.1 Veteran (Vet Open, V40, V50, V60, V70+) North American Cup (NAC)

A. *Eligibility (age, classification)*

Age eligibility for the separate age categories is governed by the FIE rules for the Veteran World Championships (V50/V60/V70). Veteran Open, V40, V50, V60, and V70+ fencers must meet the birth years in Table [2.5.1](#)

B. *Qualifying Path*

There is no qualifying path to compete in the NAC Veterans events. Fencers must meet age requirements as noted above.

C. *Seeding and Format*

All information regarding seeding can be found in Table [2.14.1](#); all competition format information can be found in Table [2.15.1](#)

2.12.5.2 Veteran (V40, V50, V60, V70+) USA Fencing National Championships

V40, V50, V60 and V70 events are held at the USA Fencing National Championships; there is no Championship event for Vet Open. Veteran National Championships is the last tournament for selection for the World Veteran Championships at which National points are awarded.

A. *Eligibility (age, classification)*

Age eligibility for the separate age categories (V50, V60 and V70) is governed by the FIE rules for the Veteran World Championships. For each Veteran Age group fencers must meet the birth years specified in Table [2.5.1](#). Fencers must be US Citizens or permanent residents who have not represented another country in the last 3 years.

B. *Qualifying Path*

Must meet eligibility requirements above AND:

- Compete in the current season's Division qualifying competition for Division II and/or Division III Championships OR
- Compete in any Regional Open Circuit event during the current season OR
- Compete in any NAC during the current season OR
- Be on the Veteran Age Group national rolling point standings (NRPS) at the regular fee entry deadline OR
- Be on the Veteran Combined Regional point standings at the regular fee entry deadline

C. *Seeding and Format*

All information regarding seeding can be found in Table [2.14.1](#); all competition format information can be found in Table [2.15.1](#)

2.13 Team Events

At the national level, there are five categories of team event: Youth 14 (Y14TM), Junior (JTM), Senior (STM), Division I, (DV1TM), and Veteran (VETTM). The Youth 14 team events are held at the April NAC. The Junior team events are held at the Junior Olympic Fencing Championships. The Senior team events are held at the October NAC, January NAC, and USA Fencing National Championships. Division I Team is a National Championship event ONLY, held in conjunction with the Division I National Championships. Veteran team events are held at the March NAC.

A. *Eligibility*

Senior or Division I team members must be at least 13-years-old as of January 1 of the current season. Junior team members must meet the posted birth year criteria for the specific team competition or be on the Cadet national rolling point standings (NRPS) at the regular fee entry deadline. Members of the Veteran team must meet the posted birth year criteria for the specific team competition. Members of the Youth 14 team must meet the posted birth year criteria.

Specific age and classification rules for each category are given in Table [2.5.1](#).

Teams must register for the tournament by the posted deadlines. All members must meet the appropriate tournament criteria. There is no minimum number of teams to hold an event.

Team events at NACs: All non-championship team events held at the national level will have no club or division affiliation requirements. Any three or four fencers that are age-, gender- and/or classification-eligible for the event may enter a team. They must be competitive USA Fencing members.

Junior Olympics/Division I/USA Fencing National Championships:

- All Club Teams and team members must be current club and competitive USA Fencing members
- No more than three teams per USA Fencing Member Club/Affiliate Club per event will be allowed to enter.
- Members of the team must have represented the Club at a competition during the current season.
- Club Team members must be US Citizens or Permanent Residents who have not represented another country in the past three years.
- USA Modern Pentathlon may enter one team in men's épée and one team in women's épée in the Division I National Team Championships without participating in a qualifying competition
- Exceptions to club membership requirements are granted to members of teams representing USA Modern Pentathlon or any branch of the Armed Services. Those fencers must submit entries identifying themselves as members of these teams by the deadline for entries to the National Championships. By doing so, these fencers waive the right to fence on any other team. Members on these teams need not have represented that organization prior to the National Championships.
- The rules governing members of the teams for the Division I National Team Championships are not waived for this exemption: the fencers must have a classification of "A", "B", or "C".
- Classifications are not awarded for Team Championship competitions

B. *Registration*

Teams are required to submit 3-4 team member names and captain name with the team entry- this will streamline the verification of membership, national rolling point standings (NRPS) and classification prior to the tournament. Those fencers who are NCAA fencers will need to self-monitor club affiliation and NCAA eligibility.

- Team events will follow posted entry deadlines.
- Seeding information will be based on the same deadlines used for individual events.
- Preliminary team seeding and table will be posted on the USA Fencing website. Any discrepancies should be emailed to nationalevents@usfencing.org.

C. *At the Venue*

1. ALL Team Captains or their representatives must check-in with the Team Events Bout Committee during the designated time to verify their team. Captains or representatives will need to remain present in the venue for fencer order determination. Once the roster has been verified at check-in, no other changes will be allowed.

2. ALL Team Captains should verify the information used for seeding as posted. If discrepancies are not reported to the Bout Committee by the close of check-in, the information stands as presented.
3. Table will be constituted and Team Captains or Representatives will then determine fencer order.
4. Depending on the size of the event, a coin flip or equivalent may be used or the higher seeded team will automatically be designated as the "winner of the coin flip" and assigned the 1-2-3 side. The bout committee may also conduct a coin flip or equivalent with or without the captains present. (Match order: 3-6, 1-5, 2-4, 1-6, 3-4, 2-5, 1-4, 2-6, 3-5)
5. Direct elimination from beginning of competition. Relay format, 9 bouts to a maximum score of 45 – increments of 5 touches or maximum time of 3 minutes for each bout. Fence-off for 3rd.

D. Seeding Teams

Seeding for team NAC competitions is in accordance with the rules established for the all USA Fencing National Team Championship tournaments.

For the Senior and Division I team event, seeding is based on the participating fencers' Senior national rolling points as of 10 days prior to the start of the tournament and classifications earned by the appropriate posted tournament deadline.

For the Junior team event, seeding is based on the participating fencers' Junior national rolling points as of 10 days prior to the start of the tournament and classifications earned by the appropriate posted tournament deadline.

For the Veteran team event, seeding is based on the participating fencers' Veteran Open national rolling points as of 10 days prior to the start of the tournament and classifications earned by the appropriate posted tournament deadline.

For the Youth 14 team event, seeding is based on the participating fencers' Youth 14 national rolling points as of 10 days prior to the start of the tournament and classifications earned by the appropriate posted tournament deadline.

Teams with the same seed value are randomized by computer for seeding rank.

Teams: To seed teams for competitions a seed value is calculated for each team based on the national rolling point standing (NRPS): senior point standings for the Senior teams, junior point standings for the Junior teams, Veteran open point standings for Veteran teams, youth 14 points standings for the Youth 14 teams, and/or the classification of each member of the team. The National Rolling Point standing and the classification of each member of the team are those as of 10 days prior to the start of the tournament.

National Rolling Point Standings (NRPS): The first set of team points for each member of the team is based on the fencer's national rolling point standing (NRPS). A fencer who is first on the national rolling point standings (NRPS) receives 132 points, second receives 131 points and so on, down to 32nd (32nd = 101 points). Fencers who are ranked 33rd or lower on the national rolling point standings (NRPS) are allocated 50 points. Fencers who are not on the national rolling point standings (NRPS) are not given any points. (See [appendix 2.1-2.3](#) for complete point tables)

Classification: Each member of the team receives points based on their classification and the year classification was last earned.

- As are given a value between 670 and 640
- Bs are given a value between 570 and 540
- Cs are given a value between 470 and 440
- Ds are given a value between 370 and 340
- Es are given a value between 270 and 240
- Us are given a value of 100 points

Within each classification the year is reflected in 10 point increments, with an A14 worth 670 points, an A13 worth 660 points, A12 given 650 points and A10 worth 640 points. The same process is used for the other letter classifications (B, C, D, and E). Those fencers who have yet to earn a classification (U) are given 100 points.

The individual seed value is calculated by adding the calculated NPRS and classification points for each team member. The three highest total point values are then added. This sum becomes the team's total points. Teams are then ranked by highest team total points (number 1 seed) to lowest team total points (last seeded team).

Example:

Fencer	NRPS	Team points	Classification	Team points	Total points
A	18th	115	A14	670	785
B		0	C13	460	460
C		0	U	100	100
D	53rd	50	B14	570	620
TEAM SEEDING POINTS: (Sum of the best three)					1865

2.14 Competition Seeding

2.14.1 Seeding Principles

Seeding is the method of ordering the fencers at the beginning of the competition by their relative strength, strongest to weakest.

In USA Fencing competitions, fencers from the same Division and/or club or school are separated if possible based on FIE rules for separating fencers of the same nationality. If foreign fencers are in attendance, the separation for nationality shall take precedence over separation for Division and/or club/school representation/affiliation.

The National Rolling Point Standings (NRPS) and classifications as of ten days prior to the tournament will be used for seeding a domestic point tournament.

Details on each event's format can be found in Table [2.15.1](#).

Within any random group, the seeding order is re-randomized whenever changes are made to an entry list, so the relative positions of fencers within such groups may change.

Table 2.14.1.1: Seeding Principles for Specific Categories of Tournaments

CATEGORY	LOCAL/DIVISION/REGIONAL	NATIONAL
Division I NAC and National Championships	OPEN: Within each classification, Nat'l Senior Rolling Pts. then year or classification/year only	National Senior Rolling Point Standings, followed by classification (A, B, C, D, E, U) and within each classification by year in which classification last earned. Same class and year are randomized.
Division IA National Championships	Classification/Year	Classification/Year
Division II, III NAC, National Champs	Classification/Year	Classification/Year
Veteran Open (40 & Older)	Classification/Year	National Veteran Open Point standings, then classification/year
Veteran Age Groups NAC, National Champs	Classification/Year	Top 8 in National Age Group standings, then ranking within classification, then classification/year
Junior NAC, JOs, RJCC	National Junior Rolling Points, then classification/year	FIE Junior Pts (min 2 placements in top 32 of Junior World Cup or World Championships), National Junior Rolling Points, then classification/year
Cadet NAC, JOs, RJCC	National Cadet Rolling Points, then	National Cadet Rolling Points, then

Table 2.14.1.1: Seeding Principles for Specific Categories of Tournaments

CATEGORY	LOCAL/DIVISION/REGIONAL	NATIONAL
	classification/year	classification/year
Youth 14 NAC, National Champs., RYC, SYC	National Youth14 Rolling Points, then classification/year	National Youth14 Rolling Points, then classification/year
Youth 12 NAC, National Champs., RYC, SYC	National Youth12 Rolling Points, then classification/year	National Youth12 Rolling Points, then classification/year
Youth 10 NAC, National Champs., RYC, SYC	National Youth10 Rolling Points, then classification/year	National Youth10 Rolling Points, then classification/year
Division I Team National Champs	Seeding is based on Senior national points and participating fencers' classification/year as of posted entry deadlines OR classification and year only	Seeding is based on Senior national points and participating fencers' classification/year as of posted entry deadlines
Senior Team National Champs	Seeding is based on Senior national points and participating fencers' classification/year as of posted entry deadlines OR classification and year only	Seeding is based on Senior national points and participating fencers' classification/year as of posted entry deadlines
Under 20 Team JO	Seeding is based on Junior national points and participating fencers' classification/year as of posted entry deadlines OR classification and year only	Seeding is based on Junior national points and participating fencers' classification/year as of posted entry deadlines
Veteran Team NAC	Seeding is based on Veteran Open national points and participating fencers' classification/year as of posted entry deadlines OR classification and year only	Seeding is based on Veteran Open national points and participating fencers' classification/year as of posted entry deadlines

- Within the same classification values, the order is random.
- Ties in the national rolling point standings (NRPS) are seeded randomly
- **Direct Elimination Seeding:** fencers are seeded by their results in the pool round wherein the results of fencers in all the pools are ordered by best results to poorest results: highest ratio of victories vs. bouts fenced, touches scored vs. touches received.

Veteran Seeding

1. Ranked fencers who are deemed as protected fencers are those who are “entitled to a seeded draw ahead of all other domestic fencers...” Seeding is only given to fencers ranked as follows; if fencers are not in attendance, lower ranked fencers do not “move up” in seeding.
2. National Veteran Age Category Rolling Point Standings, with top 8 ranked ahead of all others, followed by rank within each classification, followed by year within that classification.
 - a. In reviewing pools and any conflicts generated, these fencers **CANNOT** be moved out of the pools in which the draw places them. The only exception would be the case of ties in ranking.
 - i. Conflict in a pool is: two or more fencers from the same division and/or same club or school
 - ii. Review of pool compositions is to minimize such conflicts within the rules governing conflict resolution
3. Within a classification group, e.g., A, B, C, etc. ranked fencers (NRPS) will be seeded ahead of non-ranked fencers regardless of year of classification
 - a. Fencers within a particular classification group with a ranking **CANNOT** be moved to resolve pool conflicts

Seeding Conflict Resolution:

1. In the first round of pools, conflicts of fencers within a pool from the same division or club who are on the National Rolling point standings in their weapon and category (special rules apply for Div. I NAC) will be resolved, if possible, by movement of lowest ranked fencer in the pool with a conflict or conflicts;



priority of movement will be non-ranked fencers (those with the lowest classification in that pool) before ranked fencers

- a. Foreign fencers can be intermingled with ranked fencers if the foreign fencer's international result history justifies relative strength of the foreign fencer with the U.S. fencers.
2. In resolving conflicts within pools, priority is given to club conflict vs. division conflicts so that when resolving conflicts fencers may be in pool with fencers from the same division.
3. Lower ranked fencer is moved, when necessary, to resolve conflicts of club or division.

2.15 National Competition Formats

Table 2.15.1: National Competition Formats

<i>Division I National Championships Division I NAC</i>	One round of pools; 6 or 7-person pool, 80% promoted to simple direct elimination One round of pools; 6 or 7-person pool, 75% promoted to simple direct elimination (except Men's and Women's Epee, in which 75% are promoted to a DE with repêchage from the table of 32 or 16; whichever is complete)
<i>Division IA, II, III National Championships DV1A, DV2, Vet Regional Open Circuit (ROC)</i>	One round of pools; 5 and 6 or 6 and 7 persons per pool, 80% promoted to simple direct elimination. One round of pools (of sizes in accord with the Operations Manual maximized to 6 and 7 fencers as possible), with 100% promoted to a direct elimination table.
<i>Division II, III NAC</i>	One round of pools; 5 and 6 or 6 and 7 persons per pool, 100% promoted to simple direct elimination.
<i>Junior Olympic Fencing Championships Junior & Cadet NAC</i>	One round of pools; of 6 or 7 persons per pool, 80% promoted to simple direct elimination. One round of pools of 6 or 7 persons per pool, 80% promoted to simple direct elimination.
<i>Y14 SYC, NAC & National Championships Y12 NAC, National Championships, Regional & Super Youth Circuit</i>	One round of pools; 5 and 6 or 6 and 7 persons per pool, 100% promoted to simple direct elimination. One round of pools; 5 and 6 or 6 and 7 persons per pool, 100% promoted to direct simple elimination in which bouts are 15-touch bouts.
<i>Y10 NAC, National Championships, Regional & Super Youth Circuit Veteran Age National Championships</i>	One round of pools; 5 and 6 or 6 and 7 persons per pool, 100% promoted to simple direct elimination in which bouts are 10-touch bouts with two 3-minute periods. One round of pools; 5 and 6 or 6 and 7 persons per pool, 80% promoted* to simple direct elimination in which bouts are 10-touch bouts with two 3-minute periods. There is a one-minute rest between periods. *If there are 8 or fewer in the competition, then 100% promoted. [BOD, September 2008]
<i>Veteran Open NAC & Veteran Age NAC</i>	One round of pools; 5 and 6 or 6 and 7 persons per pool, 100% promoted to simple direct elimination in which bouts are 10-touch bouts with two 3-minute periods. There is a one-minute rest between periods. Two rounds of pools; 100% promoted to simple direct elimination.
<i>Wheelchair NAC & National Championships Team Competitions NAC & Championships</i>	Direct elimination from beginning of competition. Relay format, 9 bouts to a maximum score of 45 – increments of 5 touches or maximum time of 3 minutes for each bout. Fence-off for 3 rd

2.16 Equipment Requirements for Domestic Tournaments

Uniforms (jackets and pants): Standard fencing uniforms (FIE label not required)
Plastrons(underarm protectors): Standard fencing plastron; required with every uniform, I (FIE label not required)

Masks: Masks bibs must be fixed to the exterior of the grille starting from the reinforcement band onwards and extending as protection for the neck. Must withstand 12K punch test; elastic strap at back of mask is required. Masks that do not pass the 12-kg punch test will be impounded or given a visible mark to signify that the mask is “not approved for use” [per FIE rule m.25.7.d].

In foil competitions, the conductive bib is required at all levels (local, division, regional, and national). Details can be found in the USA Fencing Rulebook:m.27.

There are no changes to rules regarding masks for epee, but you may NOT use a sabre mask or a foil mask with electric bib in epee (Rule Book: m.30, USA Fencing clarification) The metal on the bib/mask can ground out the opponent’s tip.

Names on uniforms: Required only at national tournaments: NAC, July Challenge, Junior Olympic Championships, Division I Championships, National Championships and Wheelchair National Championships [BOD, Sept. 2010]

Blades: See table below; for Youth 10 competitions, maximum blade length of 32.5”; all other competitions, standard blade length of 70–90cm (~27.5”–35.4”) for Foil/Epee and 70–88cm (~27.5”–34.6”) for Sabre. (FIE Material Rules, Jan. 2011, M.8, M.16, M.23)

Maximum Lengths, Blade sizes 0-3			
Blade Size Number	0	2	3
Blade Length: MM			
Foil	775	825	850
Epee	775	825	850
Sabre	765	820	850

Information on the new regulations for Sabre 800NW gloves click [HERE](#).

Fencers must wear the required clothing— regulation fencing jacket and pants, underarm protector (plastron), knee socks, and a fencing glove that covers half the forearm. Women must wear breast protectors. Chest protection is allowed for men, but must be worn under the jacket (Rule Book: m.25.4.c). In épée and foil, a full jacket is required (i.e. a jacket with croissard/groin strap). In foil and sabre; the lame must have a croissard/groin strap. Any attachment to a weapon’s handle (i.e. wrist strap, orthopedic grip) must fix the hand in one position such that the top of the thumb is no more than 2 cm. from the inner surface of the guard. It is not permissible to fence in warm-up pants. Fencing uniforms must not have any rips, tears, holes, etc. USA Fencing allows uniforms of a single color other than black and designs on the rear (unarmed) arm. As the purpose of uniform color or design is for audience interest, such designs should be in good taste.

Note: At USA Fencing national tournaments, for safety and insurance purposes, fencers and coaches must wear mask and glove while participating in drills, lessons, warm-up, camps, or clinics. Failure to comply may result in removal from the venue. (Rule Book: t.15.2)

Note: At USA Fencing local, divisional, and regional competitions, there are no restrictions on colors or decorations on uniforms, providing that the uniforms still comply with all other requirements.

USA Fencing Note: Masks may feature colored designs, on condition that they are approved by the Fencing Officials Commission at least 30 days before being used for the first time in an official USA Fencing competition OR at the discretion of the head referee at the event. Fencers must submit pictures to masks@fencingofficials.org that clearly show the entirety of the design. Accepted designs will be posted on the Fencing Officials Commission website.

In all three weapons, each fencer's last name must be printed legibly, by hand or machine, in navy blue capital letters between 8 and 10 cm high, such that the name is **legible** from a distance of 15 feet, either (1) on the back of the uniform or lamé between the shoulders; (2) on the front or side of the thigh of the "rear" leg; or (3) on a piece of fabric or lamé material that is firmly sewn to the uniform in such a way that it will not detach during fencing or catch an opponent's point. Fabric attached to the uniform must be the same color as the part of the uniform to which it is attached. Conductive materials must be attached in such a way as to not alter the conductivity of the metallic vest or jacket. NAMES PRINTED ON TAPE ARE NOT ACCEPTABLE. ([Rule Book](#): t.45.5 and m.25.3h)

Bouts in the pool round are 5-touch bouts with a 3-minute fencing time limit.

A "pool round" is defined as that portion of a competition in which a group of fencers are divided into equal or near equal sub-groups of 5, 6, 7 or more fencers. The fencers in each sub-group or pool fence all the other fencers in their pool in 5-touch, 3-minute bouts. The results of all the fencers in the pool round are ordered from highest or best results to lowest to determine the group of fencers promoted to the next round and seeding of the fencers for the next round.

Direct Elimination (DE): Competitions are said to be by Direct Elimination when a competitor is eliminated from the direct elimination tableau after his or her first loss.

Repêchage: Repêchage is a method whereby a fencer is eliminated after two losses prior to the round of 8. When repêchage is used, it will start at the round of 32 or 16 (whichever has a complete table first).

Bout format is as contained in the Rule Book. Veterans and Youth 10 DEs, are 10-touch bouts with two periods; the one-minute rest occurs when one fencer's score reaches 5 touches or when three minutes have elapsed, whichever occurs first.

For information on competition types, click [HERE](#).

Chapter 3 – Awarding Points

3.1 Point Standings

USA Fencing maintains the following point standings:

1. Regional Point Standings (Youth, Cadet, Junior)
2. Regional Open Circuit Point Standings (DV1A, DV2, Veteran)
3. National Rolling Point Standings (NRPS) (Youth, Cadet, Junior, Senior, Veteran)
4. National Team Point Standings (Cadet, Junior, Senior, Veteran)
5. Wheelchair National Point Standings

Point standings for all groups are posted on the USA Fencing website - www.usfencing.org/page/show/695476-current-point-standings. Points are normally updated within five business days after each national point tournament and/or international competition.

The tables used to determine points per place for each category of regional, national and international point competitions can be found in [Appendices 2.3-2.5](#)

3.1.1 Replacement Schedule

Points on each of the above standings (except team point standings) remain until replaced by the equivalent event in the following season. If there is no equivalent event, points will remain for 12 months. The replacement schedule is included with each competitive category in Chapter 3 and Chapters 5-10 for the designated calendar.

EXAMPLE OF PAST USE OF SEQUENCE REPLACEMENT METHOD

	2014-2015	2015-2016
	DATE	DATE
#1	Aug2014	Aug2015
#2	Sept2014	Sept2015
#3	Oct2014	Oct2015
#4	Nov2014	Nov2015
#5	Nov2014	Nov2015
#6	Dec2014	Dec2015
#7	Jan2015	Jan2016
#8	Jan2015	Feb2016
#9	Mar2015	Mar2016
#10	Apr2015	Apr2016
#11	May2015	May2016

3.1.2 “Age Out” Policy

After the Junior and Cadet World Championships, Junior and Cadet point standings reflect their final standings for the season. For the July Challenge, the Cadet and Junior national rolling point standings (NRPS) contain those fencers who meet the age requirements for the next World Cadet and World Junior Championships, respectively. After the National Championships in July and on or about August 1, the Youth and Veteran 40-49 point standings are revised to include only those who meet the age criteria for the new season. After the Veterans World Championships in the fall, the remaining Veteran age point standings are modified to reflect those who are eligible in each age category for the next Veteran World Championships.

NOTE: When the age related point standings are revised to reflect only those who meet age criteria for the new season, only those who remained in the same age category in which they earned international points retain those points for the new season. Those who age out no longer retain international age related points.

3.1.3 Regional Point Standings (Youth, Cadet, Junior)

Regional Point Standings for Youth, Cadet, and Junior reflect an athlete's results at RYC and/or RJCC tournaments within their home region (based on your Division affiliation). These point standings are posted online and are updated within five business days after each Regional tournament once the organizer has submitted results, membership forms and paid the program service fee. For more information on this point system - www.usfencing.org/regionalrankings

3.1.4 Regional Open Circuit Point Standings (D1A, DV2, Veteran)

ROC events award regional points maintained on one nationwide regional points lists. An athlete that meets the event criteria can fence at any ROC and may earn points at any ROC. These point standings are posted online and are updated within five business days after each Regional tournament once the organizer has submitted results, membership forms and paid the program service fee. For more information on this point system - www.usfencing.org/regionalrankings

3.1.5 National Rolling Point Standings (NRPS) (Youth, Cadet, Junior, Senior, Veteran)

National rolling points are earned at North American Cups, National Championships, July Challenge, SYCs (Youth only), and designated international events as listed in the selection criteria for each weapon.

Cadet, Junior and Senior Rolling points can only be earned at an event as indicated in the selection criteria for each weapon.

National Rolling Point Standings are used in the following situations:

- To seed USA Fencing national competitions.
- As a qualifying path to the various National Championship tournaments.
- As a measure of the progress of the fencer in his or her peer group.
- To select athletes for international competition prior to the activation of the current season's National Team Point Standings (Cadet, Junior, Senior, Vet only)

3.1.6 National Team Point Standings (Cadet, Junior, Senior, Veteran)

National team points are earned at North American Cups, National Championships, July Challenge, and international events as listed in the selection criteria for each weapon.

National Team Point standings are used in the following situations:

- To select fencers for specific international teams (see [Chapters 5-10](#) for weapon specific criteria, [Chapter 11](#) for Veteran details and [Chapter 12](#) for Wheelchair).
- To select athletes for designated international competitions according to the following schedule:
 - Cadet Team Points – generated after the second Cadet-designated international event
 - Junior Team Points – generated after the second designated Junior World Cup
 - Senior Team Points – generated after the fourth designated Senior international competition (World Cup or Grand Prix)
 - Veteran Team Points – generated after the second Veteran NAC

3.1.7 Wheelchair National Point Standings

Wheelchair National points are earned at North American Cups, Wheelchair National Championships and international events as listed in the selection criteria for each weapon. Refer to [Chapter 12](#).

3.2 Earning Domestic Points – Overview

3.2.1 USA Fencing Domestic Point Tournaments

Tournaments at which Regional Points can be earned:

	D1A	DV2	Junior	Cadet	Y14	Y12	Y10	Vet
D1A ROC	X							
DV2 ROC		X						

Regional Junior Circuit			X
Regional Cadet Circuit			X
Y14 RYC			X
Y12 RYC			X
Y10 RYC			X
Vet ROC			X

- Best 3 results from ROCs count toward Regional point totals on a seasonal point basis
- Best 2 results from RJCCs within the athlete's region count toward Regional point totals on a rolling point basis
- Best 3 results from RYCs within the athlete's region count toward Regional point totals on a seasonal point basis

Tournaments at which National Points can be earned:

	Senior	Junior	Cadet	Y14	Y12	Y10	Veteran
DV1 NAC/National Championship/July Challenge	X	X	X				
Junior NAC/JOs/July Challenge		X	X				
Cadet NAC/JOs/July Challenge			X	X			
Y14 NAC/National Championship/SYC				X	X		
Y12 NAC/National Championship/SYC					X	X	
Y10 NAC/National Championship/SYC						X	
Veteran NAC/National							X

- Points are only earned in categories for which one is age eligible.
- Only the single best SYC result in each age category counts toward national point totals

3.3 Earning Domestic Points - Regional

3.3.1 Regional Youth Circuit (RYC)

The goal of this system is to motivate developing youth athletes to participate in multiple RYC tournaments throughout the competitive season providing them with the developmentally appropriate level of competition. Fencers only earn points at RYC's within their home region (Region is assigned based on Division affiliation). Only the best 3 results count towards the point total. These points may qualify Y12 and Y14 fencers to the USA Fencing National Championships. RYC points are **not** used in any National Point Standings. For more information on this program, please visit the USA Fencing website, Events, Regional Events, and RYC Resources.

Using the formula below, RYC tournaments will award points to all participants:
 $(\# \text{ entries} - \text{place} + 1) / \# \text{ entries} \times 100 \text{ points}$

When there is a mixed gender Youth competition, points are not separated out by gender.

The winner of each RYC, regardless of size of field, will earn 100 points. The size of the participant field is based on all athletes in the event, regardless of region. RYC Regional Points are only earned by fencers competing in their own region. At least 2 fencers must compete in a given RYC event for Regional Points to be awarded.

3.3.2 Regional Junior/Cadet Circuit (RJCC)

The Regional Junior/Cadet Circuit (RJCC) is designed to promote and develop strong regional tournaments for Junior and Cadet aged fencers who seek competitive opportunities beyond the local and divisional level but below the NAC Junior/Cadet levels.

Fencers only earn points at RJCCs within their home region (your Region is assigned based on Division affiliation). Only the best 2 results count towards the point total. These points may qualify Cadet and Junior fencers to the USA Fencing Junior Olympics and July Challenge. Points earned at Regional Junior/Cadet tournaments are not considered in determination of national point standings; they are only reflected in regional point standings. For more information on this program, please visit the USA Fencing website, Events, Regional Events, and RJCC Resources.

Using the formula below, RJCC tournaments will award points to all participants:
 $((\# \text{ entries} - \text{place} + 1) / \# \text{ entries}) \times 100 \text{ points}$

The winner of each RJCC, regardless of size of field, will earn 100 points. The size of the participant field is based on all athletes in the event, regardless of region. Regional RJCC Points are only earned in the fencer's own region.

RJCCs must have at least 2 competitors and **cannot be fenced with mixed gender.**

3.3.3 Regional Open Circuit (ROC)

In each ROC category (Division I-A, Division II, and Veterans), competitions will award points to the top 40% of the competitive field (rounded up to the next higher integer) to a maximum of 64th place, using the point tables for regional competitions found in [Appendix 2.5](#).

Only the best 3 results, in each respective category, count towards the point total. These points will qualify D1A, DV2, and Veteran ROC fencers to the USA Fencing National Championships in D1A, DV2, DV3, and Veteran. For qualification path details, refer to chapter 2.

ROCs must have at least 2 competitors and **cannot be fenced as mixed gender.**

3.4 Earning Domestic Points - National Structure of Point Standings

The calculation of the total points for Senior, Junior, and Cadet fencers is based on a combination of two groups: Group I and Group II. In general, the Group I set reflects domestic point tournaments while, in most cases, Group II reflects international competitions. The point total is the sum of the points from Group I and Group II, according to a defined set of criteria found in Chapters 6-11.

The point tables for the National tournaments for the current fencing season are found in [Appendices 2.1-2.3](#). These tables show the number of points that could be earned for placement in each category of point competition.

In the Veteran National point competitions, points are awarded to a maximum place of 64th or to the last place in the competition, whichever is smaller.

For Senior, Junior, Cadet and Youth National point competitions (NACs, JOs, July Challenge and National Championships), points will be awarded to the direct elimination table in which the top 40% of the competitive field falls (rounded to the next lower integer). If 40% cut-off falls within a pool round, the points will be awarded starting with the direct elimination round. In competitions that include simple direct elimination format, the rounds are places final 4, 5-8, 9-16, 17-32. See the chart below:

Field Size:	Points Awarded to Table of:
2-4	Gold Medalist
5-7	2
8-12	4
13-22	8
23-42	16
43-159	32
160+	64

For competitions that have direct elimination with repêchage, at 32, the rounds are places: final 4, 5-8, 9-12, 13-16, 17-24, 25-32. For competitions with repêchage starting at 16, the rounds are: final 4, 5-8, 9-12, 13-16.

In competitions where there are at least 160 fencers, rolling points will be awarded for places 33-64 and do not trickle down to Y14 (unless specified in weapons selection criteria). The methods used for awarding points for 33-64 are given in [Chapters 5-10](#) for each weapon.

In case of a tie, the points are averaged for each place involved (e.g., 3 tied for 25th receive the average of points for 25th, 26th, and 27th place). If a fencer is excluded from a competition, that place is left vacant and no one receives the points for that place.

A Weight Value (WV) is a multiplier assigned when there is a schedule conflict between a domestic and international event. The WV is always a “1” unless stated otherwise in the selection criteria in [Chapters 5-10](#). The WV differs from the Strength Factor, as the WV is not based on a formula but on an evaluation of the national weapon coach.

3.4.1 SYC Points

The Super Youth Circuit (SYC) competitions will award points to the top 40% of the competitive field (rounded up to the next higher integer) to a maximum of 64th place. In all SYC Youth events, 3 fencers must compete in order for points to be awarded. Points will be awarded based on the eligible (i.e., current competitive members) fencers in starting competitive field. Refer to [Points Tables](#) for greater detail on youth points.

If the Cadet events at an SYC are sanctioned as Regional Cadet Circuit events, regional points will be awarded to participants fencing in their home region.

3.5 Earning Points – International

The point tables for international points can be found in [Appendix 2.4](#).

Specific FIE Junior World Cup (JWC) individual competitions and European Fencing Confederation (EFC) Cadet competitions are selected by the Sports Performance Department and the National Coaches and specified as *designated* international competitions. The designated international competitions are normally considered in the Group II calculations. See the weapon-specific selection criteria for further details.

Points will be awarded for results at designated Junior World Cup and designated Senior World Cup and Grand Prix competitions as described below. Points will not be awarded in cases where the FIE has nullified the results and not awarded points for a Senior or Junior World Cup or Grand Prix competition. Exception may be considered for those World Cups held in the U.S., which may not meet FIE standards.

- Points will be awarded to the direct elimination table in which the top 40% of the competitive field falls (rounded down to the next lower integer). If 40% cut-off falls within a pool round, the points will be awarded starting with the direct elimination round.
- If the strength factor of the Senior World Cup competition equals 2.0 or greater and the starting competitive field is 82 or greater, points will be awarded for placements between 33 and 64 (see [Appendix 2.4](#) for point table).

3.5.1 Strength Factor for USA Fencing International Points

The Strength Factor (SF) is a multiplier used to gauge the strength of the World Cup (Senior and Junior) or Senior Grand Prix competition and to determine the number of USA Fencing points earned for placement in the competition. The Junior and Senior Strength Factor (SF) takes into consideration the size (N) of the field (actual number of competitors) and the number of FIE ranked fencers in the competition. If a competitor is on both the Junior and Senior FIE ranking list, the better of the two values is used in the calculation of the Junior (JSF) or Senior (SSF) Strength Factor. The SSF is applied to the Point Table in [Appendix 2.4](#). The JSF is applied to the Point Table in [Appendix 2.4](#). The FIE standings used are those at the start of the competition. The maximum value allowed for the JSF and SSF is 2.0 even if the formula generates a higher value. If the weapon's team selection criteria assign a weight value, that value will override the value generated by the SF formula.

FORMULA FOR SENIOR STRENGTH FACTOR (SSF)

$$SSF = [N/10 + 7(Sr8) + 6(Sr16) + 5(Sr32) + 4(Sr64) + 3(Jr16) + 2(Sr100)]/100$$

Where SSF	=	Senior Strength Factor
N	=	Number of Competitors
Sr8	=	No. of fencers 1-8 in the FIE Senior World Cup standings
Sr16	=	No. of fencers 9-16 in the FIE Senior World Cup standings
Sr32	=	No. of fencers 17-32 in the FIE Senior World Cup standings
Sr64	=	No. of fencers 33-64 in the FIE Senior World Cup standings
Sr100	=	No. of fencers 65-100 in the FIE Senior World Cup standings
Jr16	=	No. of fencers 1-16 in the FIE Junior World Cup Standings

FORMULA FOR JUNIOR STRENGTH FACTOR (JSF)

$$JSF = [N/3 + 10(Jr8) + 8(Jr16) + 6(Jr32) + 12(Sr16)]/100$$

Where JSF	=	Junior Strength Factor
N	=	Number of Competitors
Jr8	=	No. of fencers 1-8 in the FIE Junior World Cup standings
Jr16	=	No. of fencers 9-16 in the FIE Junior World Cup standings
Jr32	=	No. of fencers 17-32 in the FIE Junior World Cup standings
Sr16	=	No. of fencers 1-16 in the FIE Senior World Cup standings

Some designated Cadet competitions will be assigned a weight value, based on the assessment of its expected competitive strength.

3.6 Point Standings

3.6.1 Youth Point Standings (SYC and National Tournaments)

For the three Youth age categories, points may be earned by competing at North American Circuit (NAC) competitions for one's own age category and the next older category. National points earned at SYC tournament are awarded at a 0.8 scale of the Youth NAC/Championship points table. The point table for SYC competitions can be found in [Points Tables](#).

The point standings after the USA Fencing National Championships are the final standings for the three Youth age categories for that season. On August 1, only those fencers who meet the age criteria for the new season for each age category in each weapon will appear on the points lists.

For the Youth point standings, the point total is the sum of the best four results earned at the combination of eligible competitions at the National Youth tournaments and the one SYC in which the fencer has earned the most points (see [Formula for Youth Points](#))

The Youth point standings will be computed on a rolling point basis. National tournaments in the current season will replace national tournaments from the previous season; SYC tournaments in the current season will replace SYC tournaments from the previous season. In each case, the replacing tournament may be held at a different location and/or different time period. The critical determinant for replacement is the sequence or order last season to current season, or when 12 months has elapsed, whichever occurs first. If fewer SYCs are held in the new season, those points are dropped 12 months after they were earned.

Formula for Youth Point Standings BEST FOUR RESULTS = TOTAL POINTS:

Youth 10: Sum of – Highest SYC Y10 result, Highest SYC Y12, the last two NAC Y10 and Y12

Youth 12: Sum of – Highest SYC Y12 result, Highest SYC Y14, the last two NAC Y12 and Y14 and Y14 Nationals

Youth 14: Sum of – Highest SYC Y14 result, and the highest 3 point results from Y14 and Cadet NACs and Y14 Nationals and Cadet JO's

3.6.2 Cadet Point Standings

The (age) cycle for the Cadet point standings begins with the July Challenge and finishes with the following World Cadet Championships. The July Challenge reflects age eligibility as specified by the FIE for the next World Cadet Championships (i.e., between the ages of 13 and 16 as of January 1 prior to the next World Cadet Championships).

3.6.3 Junior Point Standings

The (age) cycle for the Junior point standings begins with the July Challenge and finishes with the World Junior Championships. The July Challenge age eligibility is in accordance with the FIE age criteria for the next World Junior Championships (i.e., fencer must be between the ages of 13 and 19 as of January 1 of the year of the next World Championships).

3.6.4 Senior Point Standings

Senior points can be earned by anyone who meets the age and eligibility requirements found [HERE](#)

3.7 Veteran Point Standings

There are five groups of Veteran Rolling Point Standings based on results at National Veteran competitions and three groups of Veteran Team Point Standings. **The Veteran NAC is open to any competitive fencer who will turn at least 40 years old during the year of the competition. There are four age categories: 40-49, 50-59, 60-69, 70 & older- where age eligibility is determined by the fencer's year of birth.**

CATEGORY	AGE BRACKET	BORN	WORLD CHAMPS/TEAM PTS
COMBINED	40 AND OLDER	1976 or earlier	NO
40-49	BETWEEN 40 & 49 YRS OLD	1967-1976	NO
50-59	BETWEEN 50 & 59 YRS OLD	1957-1966	YES
60-69	BETWEEN 60 & 69 YRS OLD	1947-1956	YES
70+	70 YEARS OLD & OLDER	1946 or earlier	YES

There are two types of Veteran Rolling Point Standings:

1. The Combined Age Point Standings, and
2. The Age Specific Standings (40-49 years, 50-59 years, 60-69 years, and 70+ years).

Veteran Rolling Point Standings are the best two of the three domestic Veteran Competitions, plus points earned at the last Veterans World Championships. There is no Veteran 40-49 event at the Veteran World Championships.

Veteran Open (40 years and older) points are best results from the two Veteran Open NACs in December and April. [BOD, July 1, 2013]

For veterans who have aged-into the next age group [e.g., from 40-49 to 50-59, 50-59 to 60-69, etc.] Veteran Rolling Point Standings are the best two of the three from the prior year's younger-aged category domestic Veteran Competitions, plus points earned at the last Veterans World Championships. These points are used for seeding only and not for Veteran Team Point Standings. In the event of a tie in points with an older veteran fencer in the same age group, the older fencer will be seeded higher. [BOD, July 1, 2013]

Veteran Team Point Standings are calculated as the best two of the three domestic Veteran Age Competitions in the current season. Team Point Standings are calculated for the selection of Veteran 50-59, Veteran 60-69 and Veteran 70+ World Teams. These are the categories established by the FIE for the Veterans World Championships.

Chapter 4 - International Competition

4.1 1 International Competition Categories

There are different categories of international competition at which FIE and/or USA Fencing points can be earned.

Category of International Competition	License Required	FIE Pts Awarded	USA Fencing Pts Awarded	Max # of Entries allowed by FIE/EFC	Max # of Entries allowed by USA Fencing	Registration Fee	Squad Fee
<i>FIE Individual Senior World Cup/Grand Prix - "A" Designated</i>	FIE	YES	YES	12	12	\$30	
<i>FIE Individual Senior World Cup held in USA - "A" Designated</i>	FIE	YES	YES	30	30	\$30	
<i>FIE Individual Senior Grand Prix held in USA - "A" Designated</i>	FIE	YES	YES	20	20	\$30	
<i>FIE Individual Junior World Cup - "A" Designated</i>	FIE	YES	YES	12	12	\$30	\$250
<i>FIE Individual Junior World Cup held in USA - "A" Designated</i>	FIE	YES	YES	30	30	\$30	\$250
<i>FIE Individual World Cup - "A" Non-Designated Junior & Senior</i>	FIE	YES	NO	12	4 [#]	\$30	
<i>FIE Team World Cup, Junior & Senior</i>	FIE	YES**	NO	1 TM - 4 Fencers	1 TM - 4 Fencers		
<i>FIE Satellite</i>	FIE	YES	NO	No Limit	#	\$30	
<i>FIE World Championships – Junior & Senior - annual</i>	FIE	YES	YES	SR=4 fencers/per weapon; JR=3 fencers/per weapon			
<i>FIE World Championships – Cadet – annual</i>	FIE	NO	YES	3 Fencers per weapon			
<i>FIE World Veteran Championships - annual</i>	FIE	NO	YES	4 Fencers per weapon per age category			
<i>Wheelchair Fencing World Championships – every 2 years</i>	IWAS	IWAS					
<i>Wheelchair Fencing World Cup Competitions</i>	Included with Reg	IWAS					
<i>Designated European Cadet competitions</i>	EFC	NO	YES	20	20	\$30	\$250
<i>Non-designated European Cadet competitions</i>	EFC	NO	NO	20	4 [#]		

<i>Pan American Zonal Championships, Senior - annual</i>	FIE	YES	NO	4 fencers per weapon		
<i>Pan American Zonal Championships, Junior - annual</i>	FIE	YES	See selection criteria	4 fencers per weapon	\$30	\$250
<i>Pan American Zonal Championships, Cadet - annual</i>	FIE	NO	NO	4 fencers per weapon	\$30	\$250
<i>Pan American Zonal Olympic Qualifiers - every 4 years-in year of Olympic Games</i>	FIE	NO	NO	If USA has no OG qualifiers in one or more weapons, 1 fencer/weapon		
<i>World University Games-every other (odd) year</i>	FIE	NO	NO	4 per weapon		
<i>Pan American Games – year prior to Olympic Games</i>	FIE	NO	NO	See Official Selection Procedures		
<i>Youth Olympic Games – every 4 years-middle of Olympic Game cycle</i>	FIE	NO	NO	See Official Selection Procedures		
<i>Olympic Games – every 4 years</i>	FIE	YES	YES	See Official Selection Procedures		

*More than 4 entries from a country require funding 1 or more referees

**FIE Team points (by country) for FIE World Team standings

4.1.1 FIE and Related International Competitions

The FIE sets the rules for international competitions and tournaments and has established a world ranking system for Senior and Junior fencers.

Fencers can only be entered in FIE competitions and tournaments by their national fencing federation. Similarly, entry into competitions organized under the auspices of the European Fencing Confederation (EFC) can only be done by the fencer's national fencing federation. USA Fencing is responsible for entering US fencers in all of these international competitions.

For competitions other than those under the auspices of the FIE or the EFC, fencers are responsible for their own entry in accordance with the information provided by the organizer of the competition.

Information regarding the international calendar, eligibility, and deadlines is posted on the USA Fencing website, under the Athlete tab. A list of the fencers who have requested entry in each international competition and those who have been accepted is posted on RailStation.

www.usfencing.org/page/show/695248-international-competition

4.1.2 Age Criteria

FIE Rules about the age of participants at official FIE events:

- No fencer is allowed to take part in an official event of the FIE unless he or she is at least 13 years old on 1 January in the year of the competition.
- Fencers taking part in all the official FIE Cadet competitions must be under 17 years old at midnight on the 31st December of the year preceding the year in which the competition takes place.

- Fencers taking part in all the official FIE Junior competitions, individual or team, must be under 20 years old at midnight on 31st December of the year preceding the year in which the competition takes place.
- Apart from the stipulations above, there is no maximum age limit for those taking part in any other official events of the FIE, except in regard to the different Veteran categories.
- All participants in an official competition of the FIE who are under the age of majority in the country in which such competition is being held must either:
 - be accompanied by a person who is a parent or guardian of the participant or who has been delegated in a form valid in the country of the competition from a parent or guardian of such participant to act on behalf of the participant regarding health related issues;
 - or have such power of attorney issued to a person who has achieved his/her majority and who will be at the competition site during the comp

EFC Rules about the age of participants at EFF Cadets Circuit and Championships:

- The participants in cadet competitions are principally those who can participate at World Cadets Championships in the same fencing season, thus reaching 17 years on or after 1st of January of the year when the World Championships are held.
- The lowest age fencers should be those who under same conditions will be 12 years old
- However, it is possible that in case of some extraordinary advanced young fencer, upon written agreement of his/her parents, coach and doctor recommendation even younger fencer can participate in given cadet competition

4.1.3 Citizenship Requirement

To compete in Junior World Cup, Senior World Cup, Grand Prix individual and team competitions or to be selected for World Championships, World University Games, Pan American Zonal Championships, Pan American Games, Youth Olympic Games, and the Olympic Games, fencers must be United States citizens, in possession of a US Passport, and eligible to represent the United States by selection deadlines.

Permanent Residents in the process of obtaining US citizenship may request entry to Cadet designated events. Approved Permanent Residents will be selected, in rank order, after eligible US citizens.

For rules regarding change of country affiliation, see the FIE statutes. The fencer needs to contact the USA Fencing Director of Sports Performance in writing indicating the desire to change representation to or from United States with a brief explanation of reasons and support for such request.

4.1.4 International Competitions at which Points are Earned

The list of Senior, Junior and Cadet designated international competitions is posted on the USA Fencing's website, under Athlete Information.

www.usfencing.org/page/show/695248-international-competition

USA Fencing athletes can earn international points towards the national point standings only from results achieved at competitions noted in the weapon selection criteria.

4.1.5 FIE Satellite Competitions

FIE points, on a scale much smaller than that applied for World Cup competitions, are awarded for FIE Satellite competitions. USA Fencing points are NOT awarded for results obtained at satellite competitions, or non-designated European Cadet competitions.

Athletes wishing to enter FIE Satellite competitions must register online. Athletes wishing to enter a non-designated Junior or Senior World Cup competitions or non-designated European Cadet competitions must send an email to international@usfencing.org at least 30 days prior to the competition. The calendars can be found at www.fie.org or www.eurofencing.info/tournaments.

4.1.6 Senior and Junior World Cup Team Competitions

For each World Cup team competition, each country can enter one team of three fencers plus a substitute. The FIE World Cup Team standings are used to seed teams at World Cup Team competitions, Senior & Junior World Team Championships, and team competitions at the Olympic Games. Qualification for team events at the Olympic Games is based on the FIE World Team standings. The National Weapon Coach, in consultation with the Director of Sports Performance, will determine selection of the fencers for each World Cup Team competition, considering, but not limited to, the following criteria:

- National point standings
- Performance in prior domestic and international competitions

4.1.7 Coaching at Designated Competitions

National coaches and coaches officially representing USA Fencing at an international competition may not coach any non-USA fencer and may not coach against any USA fencer while at that international competition.

4.2 Entry Procedures and Eligibility Requirements

4.2.1 Registration and Eligibility

All entries / payments / withdraws must be received at the National Office by the posted deadlines, no later than 11:59:59 PM Pacific Time. No entries will be accepted after the posted deadlines.

Any athlete who is age eligible may register online and request entry to a competition.

Entries will be accepted online only by the entry deadline for each international competition, except for force majeure.

By registering for an international competition, the athlete is confirming his / her intent to attend the competition if selected. The athlete's registration does not guarantee the fencer will be selected for the competition.

Fees

The following table shows the associated fees for each competition level:

<u>LEVEL</u>	<u>REGISTRATION FEE</u>	<u>SQUAD FEE</u>	<u>LATE FEES</u>
Senior	\$30	N / A	\$30 (Registration Fee) + \$255 (Late Fee) = \$280
Junior	\$30	\$250	\$30 (Registration Fee) + \$250 (Squad Fee) + \$255 (Late Fee) = \$535
Cadet	\$30	\$250	\$30 (Registration Fee) + \$250 (Squad Fee) + \$255 (Late Fee) = \$535

LateEntryRegistration

USA Fencing will accept late entries for international competitions ONLY IF:

- Registration is completed online AND
- Valid \$30 non-refundable registration fee is paid AND
- Valid \$255 refundable late fee is paid AND
- Valid \$250 refundable squad fee is paid, if applicable

Waitlist Procedures

After the regular entry deadline and prior to the late entry deadline, all waitlisted fencers who registered by the regular entry deadline will be placed on the waitlist in rank order.

Following the late entry deadline, all remaining fencers (regular and late entry) will be placed on the waitlist in rank order.

If a vacancy for individual international competition becomes available, the first alternate person will be notified by email. The notified athlete must reply within 24 hours of the time of the email sent. If no reply is received by email, the next alternate will be notified.

Selection

Athletes will be selected based on Points standings as of the Regular Entry Deadline in the following order:

SENIOR EVENTS (Grand Prix, World Cup – held internationally, World Cup – held within US, Satellite):

1. Top 24 athletes on the Senior National Points standings
2. Top 12 athletes on the Junior National Points standings
3. Top 8 athletes on the Cadet National Points standings
4. All remaining athletes on the Senior National Points standings
5. All remaining athletes on the Junior National Points standings
6. All remaining athletes on the Cadet National Points standings
7. Athletes not on any National Points standings; these athletes will be ranked according to USA Fencing classification. If ties remain, fencers will be chosen by drawing lots.

**When National Rolling Points standings are used for Senior and junior international event selections, all non-US citizens will be removed from the standings.

JUNIOR EVENTS (World Cup – held internationally, World Cup – held within US, Non-designated Junior Events):

1. Top 24 athletes on the Junior National Points standings
2. Top 12 athletes on the Cadet National Points standings
3. All remaining athletes on the Junior National Points standings
4. All remaining athletes on the Cadet National Points standings
5. Age-eligible athletes not on any National Points standings; these athletes will be ranked according to USA Fencing classification. If ties remain, fencers will be chosen by drawing lots.

**When National Rolling Points standings are used for Senior and Junior international event selections, all non-US citizens will be removed from the standings.

CADET EVENTS (Designated Events, Non-designated Cadet Events):

1. Athletes on the Cadet National Points standings in the following order:
 - a. USCitizen
 - b. Approved Permanent Residents
 - c. WaitlistUSCitizen
 - d. WaitlistapprovedPermanentResident

2. Age-eligible athletes not on any National Points standings; these athletes will be ranked according to USA Fencing classification in the same order as above. If ties remain, fencers will be chosen by drawing lots.
3. After Late Entry deadline, any athletes remaining on the waitlist will be selected in the following order:
 - a. US Citizen in rank order
 - b. Permanent Resident in rank order

4.2.2 Finalizing the Entries

The point standings as of the day after the entry deadline will determine the priority order of fencers and alternates. Results that change the point standings between the deadline and the competition will not affect selection. Notification of selection will be sent by email to all fencers who have entered.

If there are ties on the point standings, it will be resolved by the following criteria:

- Total number of points accumulated in Group II of the selection criteria. See [Chapter 3](#) for specific details.
- Highest points earned at a single designated World Cup or GP used in calculating the sum of points in Group II
- Next highest points earned at a single designated World Cup or GP until there is no tie
- Highest place at a single designated World Cup or GP
- Next highest place at a single designated World Cup or GP until there is no tie
- Highest place in any U.S. national point competition
- Next highest place in any U.S. national point competition until there is no tie
- If there is still a tie, then the Director of Sports Performance, National Weapon Coach, and a representative from the AAC will resolve the tie

4.2.3 Withdrawal Procedures

Withdrawals must be received no later than the Regular Entry Deadline for that competition. Failure to withdraw by the posted deadline may result in a fine of \$250.

Penalty for Late Withdrawal

USA Fencing will fine athletes who do not arrive in time for an event with no notice to the Sports Performance Department \$1000 dollars plus fines levied by the FIE.

Medical Waivers for Illness or Injury

Athletes seeking relief from penalties due to an injury or illness must provide documentation from a qualified independent physician stating the nature of injury or illness. This documentation must be sent to the USA Fencing Sports Performance Department (international@usfencing.org).

Other Force Majeure

Athletes with other issues that prevent them from attending an international event, i.e. cancelled flights, family crisis, etc., can report their justification and supporting documentation directly to the USA Fencing Sports Performance Department (international@usfencing.org), which may authorize the withdrawal without penalty.

4.3 FIE

For the most recent FIE Rules, Statutes, and Administrative Rules, visit: www.fie.org

4.3.1 Certifying International Competitions

An international competition must satisfy FIE criteria for points to be awarded.

4.3.2 Drug Testing

Please refer to www.usada.org and www.fie.org for all information concerning drug testing.

4.4 National Team Definition

Athletes are considered members of the National Team who are selected for the Olympic and Paralympic Games or Cadet, Junior, Senior and Veteran World Championships.

4.5 International Teams

USA Fencing establishes selection criteria for the international tournaments outlined below. Specific selection criteria for these tournaments are found in [Chapters 5-10](#), [Chapters 11](#) and [Chapter 12](#) discuss Wheelchair and Veteran selection, respectively.

- Junior and Cadet World Fencing Championships
- Senior World Fencing Championships
- Senior Team World Fencing Championships
- World University Games
- Olympic Games
- Pan American Games
- Pan American Junior and Cadet Fencing Zonal Championships
- Pan American Senior Zonal Fencing Championships
- Wheelchair Fencing World Championships
- Paralympic Games
- Wheelchair Fencing Zonal Championships
- World Veteran Fencing Championships
- Youth Olympics Games

4.6 Ties for Team Selection

Ties for team selection will be resolved in the following priority:

- Total number of points accumulated in Group II of the selection criteria. See [Chapter 3](#) for specific details.
- Highest points earned at a single designated World Cup or GP used in calculating the sum of points in Group II.
- Next highest points earned at a single designated World Cup or GP until there is no tie.
- Highest place at a single designated World Cup or GP
- Next highest place at a single designated World Cup or GP until there is no tie.
- Highest place in any U.S. national point competition
- Next highest place in any U.S. national point competition until there is no tie. If there is still a tie, then the Director of Sports Performance, National Weapon Coach, and a representative from the AAC will resolve the tie.

Chapter 5 - Men's Epee

USA Fencing National Point Competitions

Note regarding 2015-2016 Cadet (U17) & Junior (U20) points standings: Points awarded for the 2015 February/March I Division I National Championships will be considered for *Rolling Points Only*.

Points awarded for 33-64 at Senior, Junior and Cadet NACs and Championships are used in *Rolling Points Only*.

For any designated event that does not meet the FIE criteria, points will be calculated according to the USFA Strength Factor formula and be considered in Group I, unless otherwise specified in selection criteria.

National and International Event Conflicts

The National Coach, in consultation with the Director of Sports Performance and USA Fencing Athlete Advisory Group weapon representatives, may assess a weight value to a domestic event should it conflict with a designated international event. As conflicts arise, weight values will be indicated both in the selection criteria and in the international calendar posted [HERE](#).

Men's Epee - Senior International Teams Selection

**2016 Men's Epee Olympic Games
August 6-14, 2016, Rio de Janeiro, BRA**

POSTED: April 30, 2015

SELECTION DATE: April 12, 2016

SELECTION: The top three athletes on the National Senior Team Point Standings will be eligible for nomination to the US Olympic Committee for the 2016 Olympic Team and will be eligible to compete in the individual and team competition. The fourth athlete on the National Senior Team Point Standings will be eligible for nomination as the replacement athlete for the team competition only.

SUM OF GROUP I AND GROUP II

GROUP I = SUM OF TWO HIGHEST POINTS EARNED AT 1-3

1. NAC Division I: 9/1/2015 to Selection Date*
2. 2016 Division I National Championships
3. Competitions specified in Group II below not included in Group I sum

GROUP II = SUM OF FIVE HIGHEST POINTS EARNED AT 4-5

4. Designated Senior World Cup and Grand Prix competitions: 3/31/2015 to Selection Date (MAXIMUM of FOUR 33-64 results count in Group II)
5. 2015 Senior World Championships (Top 32 result)

Weight Value for 2015 Senior World Championships = 2.0.

*Weight Value for the 2015 December Div 1 NAC = .8.

The 2015 Division I July Challenge will count for Rolling points only.

2016 Men's Epee Senior Pan American Zonal Championships June, 2016 - TBD

POSTED: April 30, 2015

SELECTION DATE: April 12, 2016

SELECTION: The top four athletes on the National Senior Team Point Standings will be selected as members of the Senior Pan American Zonal Championship Team and will be eligible to compete in the individual competition.

The National Weapon Coach may select a fifth fencer within five (5) business days of team selection solely for the team competition for the Senior Pan American Zonal Championships. The fifth fencer will be recommended by the National Weapon Coach and reviewed by a panel composed of the National Weapon Coach, a fencing representative from the USOC Athlete Advisory Council (AAC) and the Director of Sports Performance (or, in his or her absence, the Chief Executive Officer). This fencer may become the fourth member of the team for the team competition in place of one of the four fencers selected for the Senior Pan American Zonal Championship individual event. This fencer is not eligible for the individual competition (unless one of the four fencers becomes injured and the fifth fencer named to the team is also the first alternate for the individual competition).

Should an athlete qualify for the Pan American Zone Olympic Qualifying Event and not be selected for the Zonal Championships as above, he will automatically qualify for the Zonal Championships as the first athlete.

SUM OF GROUP I AND GROUP II

GROUP I = SUM OF TWO HIGHEST POINTS EARNED AT 1-3

1. NAC Division I: 9/1/2015 to Selection Date*
2. 2016 Division I National Championships
3. Competitions specified in Group II below not included in Group I sum

GROUP II = SUM OF FIVE HIGHEST POINTS EARNED AT 4-5

4. Designated Senior World Cup and Grand Prix competitions: 3/31/2015 to Selection Date (MAXIMUM of FOUR 33-64 results count in Group II)
5. 2015 Senior World Championships (Top 32 result)

Weight Value for 2015 Senior World Championships = 2.0.

*Weight Value for the 2015 December Div 1 NAC = .8.

The 2015 Division I July Challenge will count for Rolling points only.

2016 Men's Epee Pan American Zone Olympic Qualifying Event April, 2016 - TBD

POSTED: April 30, 2015

SELECTIONDATE: March 21, 2016

SELECTION: If the USA does not qualify a team through the team qualification or an individual through the FIE Individual AOR by Zone, the top one fencer on the National Senior Team Point Standings will qualify for the Pan American Zone Olympic Qualifying Event.

SUM OF GROUP I AND GROUP II

GROUP I = SUM OF TWO HIGHEST POINTS EARNED AT 1-2

1. NAC Division I: 9/1/2015 to Selection Date*
2. Competitions specified in Group II below not included in Group I sum

GROUP II = SUM OF FIVE HIGHEST POINTS EARNED AT 3-4

3. Designated Senior World Cup and Grand Prix competitions: 3/31/2015 to Selection Date (MAXIMUM of FOUR 33-64 results count in Group II)
4. 2015 Senior World Championships (Top 32 result)

Weight Value for 2015 Senior World Championships = 2.0.

*Weight Value for the 2015 December Div 1 NAC = .8.

The 2015 Division I July Challenge will count for Rolling points only.

Men's Epee – Junior & Cadet International Teams Selection

2016 Men's Epee Junior World Championships April 1-10, 2016 - Bourges, FRA

POSTED: April 30, 2015

REVISED: December 17, 2015

SELECTION DATE: February 16, 2016

SELECTION: The top four athletes on the National Junior Team Point Standings will be selected as members of the Junior World Championship Team and will be eligible to compete in the individual competition.

The National Weapon Coach may select a fifth fencer within five (5) business days of team selection solely for the team competition for the Junior World Championships. The fifth fencer will be recommended by the National Weapon Coach and reviewed by a panel composed of the National Weapon Coach, a fencing representative from the USOC Athlete Advisory Council (AAC) and the Director of Sports Performance (or, in his or her absence, the Chief Executive Officer). This fencer may become the fourth member of the team for the team competition in place of one of the four fencers selected for the Junior World Championship individual event. This fencer is not eligible for the individual competition (unless one of the

four fencers becomes injured and the fifth fencer named to the team is also the first alternate for the individual competition).

SUM OF GROUP I AND GROUP II

GROUP I = SUM OF FOUR HIGHEST POINTS EARNED AT 1-5

1. NAC Junior: 9/1/2015 to Selection Date
2. 2015 Junior July Challenge
3. Junior Olympic Fencing Championships Junior: February 2016
4. NAC Division I: 9/1/2015 to Selection Date*
5. Competitions specified in Group II below not included in Group II sum

GROUP II = SUM OF THREE HIGHEST POINTS EARNED AT 6-9

6. Designated Junior World Cup competitions: 9/1/2015 to Selection Date
7. Designated Senior World Cup and Grand Prix competitions: 9/1/2015 to Selection Date (MAXIMUM of TWO 33-64 results count in Group II)
8. 2015 Junior World Championships (Top 32 result)
9. 2015 Senior World Championships (Top 32 result)

Weight Value for 2015 Senior and Junior World Championships = 2.0.

*Weight Value for the 2015 December Div 1 NAC = .8.

The 2015 Division I July Challenge will count for Rolling points only.

2016 Men's Epee Junior Pan American Zonal Championships TBD

POSTED: April 30, 2015

SELECTION DATE: TBD

SELECTION: The top four registered athletes as of the selection date will be selected as members of the Junior Pan American Zonal Championships Team and be eligible to compete in the individual and team competitions. Athletes selected for the individual event will be required to fence in the Team event, unless a waiver is obtained from the Director of Sports Performance. Athletes will be selected in the following order:

1. Top 24 athletes on the National Junior Team Point Standings
2. Top 12 athletes on the National Cadet Team Point Standings
3. All athletes remaining on the National Junior Team Point Standings
4. All athletes remaining on the National Cadet Team Point Standings

**2016 Men's Epee Cadet World Championship Team
April, 2016 - Bourges, FRA**

POSTED: April 30, 2015

SELECTION DATE: February 16, 2016

SELECTION: The top three athletes on the National Cadet Team Point Standings will be selected as members of the Cadet World Championship Team and will be eligible to compete in the individual competition.

SUM OF GROUP I AND GROUP II

GROUP I = SUM OF FIVE HIGHEST POINTS EARNED AT 1-8

1. NAC Cadet: 9/1/2015 to Selection Date
2. 2015 Cadet July Challenge
3. Junior Olympic Fencing Championships - Cadet: February 2016
4. NAC Junior: 9/1/15/2015 to Selection Date
5. 2015 Junior July Challenge
6. Junior Olympic Fencing Championships - Junior: February 2016
7. NAC Division I: 9/1/15 to Selection Date*
8. Competitions specified in Group II below not included in Group II sum

GROUP II = SUM OF THE TWO HIGHEST POINTS EARNED AT 9-12

9. Designated Cadet International competitions: 9/1/2015 to Selection Date
10. Designated Junior World Cup competitions: 9/1/2015 to Selection Date
11. 2015 Cadet World Championships (Top 16 result)
12. 2015 Junior World Championships (Top 32 result)

Weight Value for 2015 Junior World Championships = 2.0.

*Weight Value for the 2015 December Div 1 NAC = .8.

The 2015 Division I July Challenge will count for Rolling points only.

**2016 Men's Epee Cadet Pan American Zonal Championships
TBD**

POSTED: April 30, 2015

SELECTION DATE: TBD

SELECTION: The top four registered athletes on the National Cadet Team Point Standings as of the selection date will be selected as members of the Cadet Pan American Zonal Championships Team and be eligible to compete in the individual competition.

Chapter 6 – Men’s Foil

USA Fencing National Point Competitions

Note regarding 2015-2016 Cadet (U17) & Junior (U20) points standings: Points awarded for the 2015 February/March I Division I National Championships will be considered for *Rolling Points Only*.

Points awarded for 33-64 at Senior, Junior and Cadet NACs and Championships are used in *Rolling Points Only*.

For any designated event that does not meet the FIE criteria, points will be calculated according to the USFA Strength Factor formula and be considered in Group I, unless otherwise specified in selection criteria.

National and International Event Conflicts

The National Coach, in consultation with the Director of Sports Performance and USA Fencing Athlete Advisory Group weapon representatives, may assess a weight value to a domestic event should it conflict with a designated international event. As conflicts arise, weight values will be indicated both in the selection criteria and in the international calendar posted [HERE](#).

Men’s Foil - Senior International Teams Selection

2016 Men’s Foil Olympic Games August 6-14, 2016, Rio de Janeiro, BRA

POSTED: April 30, 2015

SELECTION DATE: April 12, 2016

SELECTION: The top three athletes on the National Senior Team Point Standings will be eligible for nomination to the US Olympic Committee for the 2016 Olympic Team and will be eligible to compete in the individual and team competition. The fourth athlete on the National Senior Team Point Standings will be eligible for nomination as the replacement athlete for the team competition only.

SUM OF GROUP I AND GROUP II

GROUP I = SUM OF TWO HIGHEST POINTS EARNED AT 1-4

1. NAC Division I: 9/1/2015 to Selection Date
2. 2015 Division I July Challenge
3. 2016 Division I National Championships
4. Competitions specified in Group II below not included in Group I sum

GROUP II = SUM OF FIVE HIGHEST POINTS EARNED AT 5-6

5. Designated Senior World Cup and Grand Prix competitions: 3/31/2015 to Selection Date (MAXIMUM of TWO 33-64 results count in Group II)
6. 2015 Senior World Championships (Top 32 result)

Weight Value for 2015 Senior World Championships = 2.0.

2016 Men's Foil Senior Pan American Zonal Championships June, 2016 - TBD

POSTED: April 30, 2015

SELECTIONDATE: April 12, 2016

SELECTION: The top four athletes on the National Senior Team Point Standings will be selected as members of the Senior Pan American Zonal Championship Team and will be eligible to compete in the individual competition.

The National Weapon Coach may select a fifth fencer within five (5) business days of team selection solely for the team competition for the Senior Pan American Zonal Championships. The fifth fencer will be recommended by the National Weapon Coach and reviewed by a panel composed of the National Weapon Coach, a fencing representative from the USOC Athlete Advisory Council (AAC) and the Director of Sports Performance (or, in his or her absence, the Chief Executive Officer). This fencer may become the fourth member of the team for the team competition in place of one of the four fencers selected for the Senior Pan American Zonal Championship individual event. This fencer is not eligible for the individual competition (unless one of the four fencers becomes injured and the fifth fencer named to the team is also the first alternate for the individual competition).

SUM OF GROUP I AND GROUP II

GROUP I = SUM OF TWO HIGHEST POINTS EARNED AT 1-4

1. NAC Division I: 9/1/2015 to Selection Date
2. 2015 Division I July Challenge
3. 2016 Division I National Championships
4. Competitions specified in Group II below not included in Group I sum

GROUP II = SUM OF FIVE HIGHEST POINTS EARNED AT 5-6

5. Designated Senior World Cup and Grand Prix competitions: 3/31/2015 to Selection Date (MAXIMUM of TWO 33-64 results count in Group II)
6. 2015 Senior World Championships (Top 32 result)

Weight Value for 2015 Senior World Championships = 2.0.

2016 Men's Foil Pan American Zone Olympic Qualifying Event April, 2016 - TBD

POSTED: April 30, 2015

SELECTIONDATE: March 14, 2016

SELECTION: If the USA does not qualify a team through the team qualification or an individual through the FIE Individual AOR by Zone, the top one fencer on the National Senior Team Point Standings will qualify for the Pan American Zone Olympic Qualifying Event.

SUM OF GROUP I AND GROUP II

GROUP I = SUM OF TWO HIGHEST POINTS EARNED AT 1-3

1. NAC Division I: 9/1/2015 to Selection Date
2. 2015 Division I July Challenge
3. Competitions specified in Group II below not included in Group I sum

GROUP II = SUM OF FIVE HIGHEST POINTS EARNED AT 4-5

4. Designated Senior World Cup and Grand Prix competitions: 3/31/2015 to Selection Date (MAXIMUM of TWO 33-64 results count in Group II)
5. 2015 Senior World Championships (Top 32 result)

Weight Value for 2015 Senior World Championships = 2.0.

Men's Foil – Junior & Cadet International Teams Selection

**2016 Men's Foil Junior World Championships
April, 2016 – Bourges, FRA**

POSTED: May 28, 2015

REVISED: December 17, 2015

SELECTION DATE: February 16, 2016 (or after the conclusion of the Junior Pan American Zonal Championships, whichever is later)

SELECTION: The top four athletes on the National Junior Team Point Standings will be selected as members of the Junior World Championship Team and will be eligible to compete in the individual competition.

The National Weapon Coach may select a fifth fencer within five (5) business days of team selection solely for the team competition for the Junior World Championships. The fifth fencer will be recommended by the National Weapon Coach and reviewed by a panel composed of the National Weapon Coach, a fencing representative from the USOC Athlete Advisory Council (AAC) and the Director of Sports Performance (or, in his or her absence, the Chief Executive Officer). This fencer may become the fourth member of the team for the team competition in place of one of the four fencers selected for the Junior World Championship individual event. This fencer is not eligible for the individual competition (unless one of the four fencers becomes injured and the fifth fencer named to the team is also the first alternate for the individual competition).

SUM OF GROUP I AND GROUP II

GROUP I = SUM OF FOUR HIGHEST POINTS EARNED AT 1-7

1. NAC Junior: 9/1/2015 to Selection Date
2. 2015 Junior July Challenge
3. Junior Olympic Fencing Championships Junior: February 2016
4. NAC Division I: 9/1/2015 to Selection Date*
5. 2015 Division I July Challenge
6. 2016 Junior Pan American Zonal Championships (Top 8 result) (Domestic Junior Competitions DE without repêchage points table will be used.). Athletes who enter individual

event must also fence in the Team event to earn points.

7. Competitions specified in Group II below not included in Group II sum

GROUP II = SUM OF THREE HIGHEST POINTS EARNED AT 8-11

8. Designated Junior World Cup competitions: 9/1/2015 to Selection Date
9. Designated Senior World Cup and Grand Prix competitions: 9/1/2015 to Selection Date
(MAXIMUM of TWO 33-64 results count in Group II)
10. 2015 Junior World Championships (Top 32 result)
11. 2015 Senior World Championships (Top 32 result)

Weight Value for 2015 Senior and Junior World Championships = 2.0.

*Weight Value for the 2015 October Div I NAC = .7 for junior fencers.

**2016 Men's Foil Junior Pan American Zonal Championships
TBD**

POSTED: April 30, 2015

SELECTION DATE: TBD

SELECTION: The top four registered athletes as of the selection date will be selected as members of the Junior Pan American Zonal Championships Team and be eligible to compete in the individual and team competitions. Athletes selected for the individual event will be required to fence in the Team event. Athletes will be selected in the following order:

5. Top 24 athletes on the National Junior Team Point Standings
6. Top 12 athletes on the National Cadet Team Point Standings
7. All athletes remaining on the National Junior Team Point Standings
8. All athletes remaining on the National Cadet Team Point Standings

**2016 Men's Foil Cadet World Championship Team
April, 2016 – Bourges, FRA**

SELECTION: The top three athletes on the National Cadet Team Point Standings will be selected as members of the Cadet World Championship Team and will be eligible to compete in the individual competition.

SUM OF GROUP I AND GROUP II

GROUP I = SUM OF FOUR HIGHEST POINTS EARNED AT 1-9

1. NAC Cadet: 9/1/2015 to Selection Date
2. 2015 Cadet July Challenge
3. Junior Olympic Fencing Championships - Cadet: February 2016
4. NAC Junior: 9/1/2015 to Selection Date
5. 2015 Junior July Challenge
6. Junior Olympic Fencing Championships - Junior: February 2016
7. NAC Division I: 9/1/2015 to Selection Date^^

8. 2015 Division I July Challenge ^^
9. Competitions specified in Group II below not included in Group II sum

POSTED: May 28, 2015

SELECTION DATE: February 16, 2016

GROUP II = SUM OF THE THREE HIGHEST POINTS EARNED AT 10-13

10. Designated Cadet International competitions: 9/1/2015 to Selection Date*
11. Designated Junior World Cup competitions: 9/1/2015 to Selection Date
12. 2015 Cadet World Championships (Top 8 result)
13. 2015 Junior World Championships (Top 32 result)

^^For Cadet Men's Foil, all Division I NAC & Championships (including the July Challenge) events will have a Weight Value of .8.

Weight Value for 2015 Junior World Championships = 2.0.

*Weight Value for CMF Halle = .8

2016 Men's Foil Cadet Pan American Zonal Championships TBD

POSTED: April 30, 2015

SELECTION DATE: TBD

SELECTION: The top four registered athletes on the National Cadet Team Point Standings as of the selection date will be selected as members of the Cadet Pan American Zonal Championships Team and be eligible to compete in the individual competition.

Chapter 7 – Men’s Saber

USA Fencing National Point Competitions

Note regarding 2015-2016 Cadet (U17) & Junior (U20) points standings: Points awarded for the 2015 February/March I Division I National Championships will be considered for *Rolling Points Only*.

Points awarded for 33-64 at Senior, Junior and Cadet NACs and Championships are used in *Rolling Points Only*.

For any designated event that does not meet the FIE criteria, points will be calculated according to the USFA Strength Factor formula and be considered in Group I, unless otherwise specified in selection criteria.

National and International Event Conflicts

The National Coach, in consultation with the Director of Sports Performance and USA Fencing Athlete Advisory Group weapon representatives, may assess a weight value to a domestic event should it conflict with a designated international event. As conflicts arise, weight values will be indicated both in the selection criteria and in the international calendar posted [HERE](#).

Men’s Saber - Senior International Teams Selection

2016 Men’s Saber World Team Championships April, 2016, Rio de Janeiro, BRA

POSTED: April 30, 2015

SELECTION DATE: March 28, 2015

SELECTION: The top three athletes on the National Senior Team Point Standings will be selected as members of the Senior World Team Championship Team.

The National Weapon Coach may select a fourth fencer within five (5) business days of team selection for the competition for the Senior World Team Championships. The fourth fencer will be recommended by the National Weapon Coach and reviewed by a panel composed of the National Weapon Coach, the fencing representative from the USOC Athlete Advisory Council (AAC), the Director of Sports Performance (or, in his or her absence, the Chief Executive Officer).

Should an athlete(s) qualify for the 2016 Olympic Games and not be selected for the World Team Championships as above, he will automatically qualify for the World Team Championships as the first (and second, if applicable) athlete.

SUM OF GROUP I AND GROUP II

GROUP I = SUM OF TWO HIGHEST POINTS EARNED AT 1-3

1. NAC Division I: 9/1/2015 to Selection Date*
2. 2015 Division I July Challenge
3. Competitions specified in Group II below not included in Group II sum

GROUP II = SUM OF FIVE HIGHEST POINTS EARNED AT 4-5

4. Designated Senior World Cup and Grand Prix competitions: 3/31/2015 to Selection Date (MAXIMUM of THREE 33-64 results count in Group II)
5. 2015 Senior World Championships (Top 32 result)

Weight Value for 2015 Senior World Championships = 2.0.

**2015 October Division 1 NAC*

- Will count for Rolling points only
- Weight Value = .8

2016 Men's Saber Senior Pan American Zonal Championships June, 2016 - TBD

POSTED: April 30, 2015

SELECTION DATE: May 30, 2016

SELECTION: The top four athletes on the National Senior Team Point Standings will be selected as members of the Senior Pan American Zonal Championship Team and will be eligible to compete in the individual competition.

The National Weapon Coach may select a fifth fencer within five (5) business days of team selection solely for the team competition for the Senior Pan American Zonal Championships. The fifth fencer will be recommended by the National Weapon Coach and reviewed by a panel composed of the National Weapon Coach, a fencing representative from the USOC Athlete Advisory Council (AAC) and the Director of Sports Performance (or, in his or her absence, the Chief Executive Officer). This fencer may become the fourth member of the team for the team competition in place of one of the four fencers selected for the Senior Pan American Zonal Championship individual event. This fencer is not eligible for the individual competition (unless one of the four fencers becomes injured and the fifth fencer named to the team is also the first alternate for the individual competition).

Should an athlete(s) qualify for the 2016 Olympic Games and not be selected for the Pan American Zonal Championships as above, he will automatically qualify for the Pan American Zonal Championships as the first (and second, if applicable) athlete.

SUM OF GROUP I AND GROUP II

GROUP I = SUM OF TWO HIGHEST POINTS EARNED AT 1-4

1. NAC Division I: 9/1/2015 to Selection Date*
2. 2015 Division I July Challenge
3. 2016 Division I National Championships
4. Competitions specified in Group II below not included in Group I sum

GROUP II = SUM OF FIVE HIGHEST POINTS EARNED AT 5-6

5. Designated Senior World Cup and Grand Prix competitions: 3/31/2015 to Selection Date (MAXIMUM of THREE 33-64 results count in Group II)
6. 2015 Senior World Championships (Top 32 result)

Weight Value for 2015 Senior World Championships = 2.0.

**2015 October Division 1 NAC*

- Will count for Rolling points only
- Weight Value = .8

**2016 Men's Saber Pan American Zone Olympic Qualifying Event
April, 2016 - TBD**

POSTED: April 30, 2015

SELECTIONDATE: March 28, 2016

SELECTION: If the USA does not qualify a USA athlete through the FIE Individual Official Ranking or the FIE Individual AOR by Zone, the top one fencer on the National Senior Team Point Standings will qualify for the Pan American Zone Olympic Qualifying Event.

SUM OF GROUP I AND GROUP II

GROUP I = SUM OF TWO HIGHEST POINTS EARNED AT 1-3

1. NAC Division I: 9/1/2015 to Selection Date*
2. 2015 Division I July Challenge
3. Competitions specified in Group II below not included in Group I sum

GROUP II = SUM OF FIVE HIGHEST POINTS EARNED AT 4-5

4. Designated Senior World Cup and Grand Prix competitions: 3/31/2015 to Selection Date (MAXIMUM of THREE 33-64 results count in Group II)
5. 2015 Senior World Championships (Top 32 result)

Weight Value for 2015 Senior World Championships = 2.0.

**2015 October Division 1 NAC*

- Will count for Rolling points only
- Weight Value = .8

Men's Saber – Junior & Cadet International Teams Selection

**2016 Men's Saber Junior World Championships
April, 2016 - Bourges, FRA**

POSTED: May 28, 2015

REVISED: December 17, 2015

SELECTIONDATE: February 22, 2016 (or after the conclusion of the Junior Pan American Zonal Championships, whichever is later)

SELECTION: The top four athletes on the National Junior Team Point Standings will be selected as members of the Junior World Championship Team and will be eligible to compete in the individual competition.

The National Weapon Coach may select a fifth fencer within five (5) business days of team selection solely for the team competition for the Junior World Championships. The fifth fencer will be recommended by the National Weapon Coach and reviewed by a panel composed of the National Weapon Coach, a fencing representative from the USOC Athlete Advisory Council (AAC) and the Director of Sports Performance (or,

in his or her absence, the Chief Executive Officer). This fencer may become the fourth member of the team for the team competition in place of one of the four fencers selected for the Junior World Championship individual event. This fencer is not eligible for the individual competition (unless one of the four fencers becomes injured and the fifth fencer named to the team is also the first alternate for the individual competition).

SUM OF GROUP I AND GROUP II

GROUP I = SUM OF FOUR HIGHEST POINTS EARNED AT 1-7

1. NAC Junior: 9/1/2015 to Selection Date[^]
2. 2015 Junior July Challenge
3. Junior Olympic Fencing Championships Junior: February 2016
4. NAC Division I: 9/1/2015 to Selection Date*
5. 2015 Division I July Challenge
6. 2016 Junior Pan American Zonal Championships (Top 8 result) (Domestic Junior Competitions DE without repêchage points table will be used.). Athletes who enter individual event must also fence in the Team event to earn points.
7. Competitions specified in Group II below not included in Group II sum

GROUP II = SUM OF FOUR HIGHEST POINTS EARNED AT 8-11

8. Designated Junior World Cup competitions: 8/1/2015 to Selection Date
9. Designated Senior World Cup and Grand Prix competitions: 9/1/2015 to Selection Date (MAXIMUM of THREE 33-64 results count in Group II)
10. 2015 Junior World Championships (Top 16 result)
11. 2015 Senior World Championships (Top 32 result)

Weight Value for 2015 Senior and Junior World Championships = 2.0.

[^]Weight Value for 2015 November Junior NAC = .8.

*2015 October Division 1 NAC

- Will count for Rolling points only
- Weight Value = .8

2016 Men's Saber Junior Pan American Zonal Championships TBD

POSTED: April 30, 2015

SELECTION DATE: TBD

SELECTION: The top four registered athletes as of the selection date will be selected as members of the Junior Pan American Zonal Championships Team and be eligible to compete in the individual and team competitions. Athletes selected for the individual event will be required to fence in the Team event. Athletes will be selected in the following order:

1. Top 24 athletes on the National Junior Team Point Standings
2. Top 12 athletes on the National Cadet Team Point Standings
3. All athletes remaining on the National Junior Team Point Standings
4. All athletes remaining on the National Cadet Team Point Standings

**2016 Men's Saber Cadet World Championship Team
April, 2016 - Bourges, FRA**

POSTED: April 30, 2015

SELECTION DATE: February 22, 2016

SELECTION: The top three athletes on the National Cadet Team Point Standings will be selected as members of the Cadet World Championship Team and will be eligible to compete in the individual competition.

SUM OF GROUP I AND GROUP II

GROUP I = SUM OF FOUR HIGHEST POINTS EARNED AT 1-9

1. NAC Cadet: 9/1/2015 to Selection Date
2. 2015 Cadet July Challenge
3. Junior Olympic Fencing Championships - Cadet: February 2016
4. NAC Junior: 9/1/2015 to Selection Date
5. 2015 Junior July Challenge
6. Junior Olympic Fencing Championships - Junior: February 2016
7. NAC Division I: 9/1/2015 to Selection Date*
8. 2015 Division I July Challenge
9. Competitions specified in Group II below not included in Group II sum

GROUP II = SUM OF THE THREE HIGHEST POINTS EARNED AT 10-15

10. Designated Cadet International competitions: 8/1/2015 to Selection Date (Best 2 results only; results only count in Group II, no carryover to Group I)
11. Designated Junior World Cup competitions: 8/1/2015 to Selection Date
12. Designated Senior World Cup competitions: 9/1/2015 to Selection Date (MAXIMUM of THREE 33-64 results count in Group II)
13. 2015 Cadet World Championships (Top 8 result)
14. 2015 Junior World Championships (Top 16 result)
15. 2015 Senior World Championships (Top 32 result)

Weight Value for 2015 Senior and Junior World Championships = 2.0.

**2015 October Division 1 NAC*

- Will count for Rolling points only
- Weight Value = .8

**2016 Men's Saber Cadet Pan American Zonal Championships
TBD**

POSTED: April 30, 2015

SELECTION DATE: TBD

SELECTION: The top four registered athletes on the National Cadet Team Point Standings as of the selection date will be selected as members of the Cadet Pan American Zonal Championships Team and be eligible to compete in the individual competition.

Chapter 8 – Women’s Epee

USA Fencing National Point Competitions

Note regarding 2015-2016 Cadet (U17) & Junior (U20) points standings: Points awarded for the 2015 February/March I Division I National Championships will be considered for *Rolling Points Only*.

Points awarded for 33-64 at Senior, Junior and Cadet NACs and Championships are used in *Rolling Points Only*.

For any designated event that does not meet the FIE criteria, points will be calculated according to the USFA Strength Factor formula and be considered in Group I, unless otherwise specified in selection criteria.

National and International Event Conflicts

The National Coach, in consultation with the Director of Sports Performance and USA Fencing Athlete Advisory Group weapon representatives, may assess a weight value to a domestic event should it conflict with a designated international event. As conflicts arise, weight values will be indicated both in the selection criteria and in the international calendar posted [HERE](#).

Women’s Epee - Senior International Teams Selection

2016 Women’s Epee Olympic Games August 6-14, 2016, Rio de Janeiro, BRA

POSTED: April 30, 2015

SELECTION DATE: April 12, 2016

SELECTION: The top three athletes on the National Senior Team Point Standings will be eligible for nomination to the US Olympic Committee for the 2016 Olympic Team and will be eligible to compete in the individual and team competition. The fourth athlete on the National Senior Team Point Standings will be eligible for nomination as the replacement athlete for the team competition only.

SUM OF GROUP I AND GROUP II

GROUP I = SUM OF THREE HIGHEST POINTS EARNED AT 1-3

1. NAC Division I: 9/1/2015 to Selection Date*
2. 2016 Division I National Championships
3. Competitions specified in Group II below not included in Group I sum

GROUP II = SUM OF FIVE HIGHEST POINTS EARNED AT 4-5

4. Designated Senior World Cup and Grand Prix competitions: 3/31/2015 to Selection Date (MAXIMUM of FOUR 33-64 results count in Group II)
5. 2015 Senior World Championships (Top 32 result)

Weight Value for 2015 Senior World Championships = 2.0.

*Weight Value for the 2015 December Division 1 NAC = .8.

The 2015 Division I July Challenge will count for Rolling points only.

2016 Women's Epee Senior Pan American Zonal Championships June, 2016 - TBD

POSTED: April 30, 2015

SELECTION DATE: April 12, 2016

SELECTION: The top four athletes on the National Senior Team Point Standings will be selected as members of the Senior Pan American Zonal Championship Team and will be eligible to compete in the individual competition

The National Weapon Coach may select a fifth fencer within five (5) business days of team selection solely for the team competition for the Senior Pan American Zonal Championships. The fifth fencer will be recommended by the National Weapon Coach and reviewed by a panel composed of the National Weapon Coach, a fencing representative from the USOC Athlete Advisory Council (AAC) and the Director of Sports Performance (or, in his or her absence, the Chief Executive Officer). This fencer may become the fourth member of the team for the team competition in place of one of the four fencers selected for the Senior Pan American Zonal Championship individual event. This fencer is not eligible for the individual competition (unless one of the four fencers becomes injured and the fifth fencer named to the team is also the first alternate for the individual competition).

SUM OF GROUP I AND GROUP II

GROUP I = SUM OF THREE HIGHEST POINTS EARNED AT 1-3

1. NAC Division I: 9/1/2015 to Selection Date*
2. 2016 Division I National Championships
3. Competitions specified in Group II below not included in Group I sum

GROUP II = SUM OF FIVE HIGHEST POINTS EARNED AT 4-5

4. Designated Senior World Cup and Grand Prix competitions: 3/31/2015 to Selection Date (MAXIMUM of FOUR 33-64 results count in Group II)
5. 2015 Senior World Championships (Top 32 result)

Weight Value for 2015 Senior World Championships = 2.0.

*Weight Value for the 2015 December Division 1 NAC = .8.

The 2015 Division I July Challenge will count for Rolling points only.

2016 Women's Epee Pan American Zone Olympic Qualifying Event April, 2016 - TBD

POSTED: April 30, 2015

SELECTION DATE: March 21, 2016

SELECTION: If the USA does not qualify a team through the team qualification or an individual through the FIE Individual AOR by Zone, the top one fencer on the National Senior Team Point Standings will qualify for the Pan American Zone Olympic Qualifying Event.

SUM OF GROUP I AND GROUP II

GROUP I = SUM OF THREE HIGHEST POINTS EARNED AT 1-2

1. NAC Division I: 9/1/2015 to Selection Date*
2. Competitions specified in Group II below not included in Group I sum

GROUP II = SUM OF FIVE HIGHEST POINTS EARNED AT 3-4

3. Designated Senior World Cup and Grand Prix competitions: 3/31/2015 to Selection Date (MAXIMUM of FOUR 33-64 results count in Group II)
4. 2015 Senior World Championships (Top 32 result)

Weight Value for 2015 Senior World Championships = 2.0.

*Weight Value for the 2015 December Division 1 NAC = .8.

The 2015 Division I July Challenge will count for Rolling points only.

Women's Epee – Junior & Cadet International Teams Selection

**2016 Women's Epee Junior World Championships
April, 2016 - Bourges, FRA**

POSTED: April 30, 2015

REVISED: December 17, 2015

SELECTION DATE: February 16, 2016

SELECTION: The top four athletes on the National Junior Team Point Standings will be selected as members of the Junior World Championship Team and will be eligible to compete in the individual competition.

The National Weapon Coach may select a fifth fencer within five (5) business days of team selection solely for the team competition for the Junior World Championships. The fifth fencer will be recommended by the National Weapon Coach and reviewed by a panel composed of the National Weapon Coach, a fencing representative from the USOC Athlete Advisory Council (AAC) and the Director of Sports Performance (or, in his or her absence, the Chief Executive Officer). This fencer may become the fourth member of the team for the team competition in place of one of the four fencers selected for the Junior World Championship individual event. This fencer is not eligible for the individual competition (unless one of the four fencers becomes injured and the fifth fencer named to the team is also the first alternate for the individual competition).

SUM OF GROUP I AND GROUP II

GROUP I = SUM OF FOUR HIGHEST POINTS EARNED AT 1-5

1. NAC Junior: 9/1/2015 to Selection Date
2. 2015 Junior July Challenge
3. Junior Olympic Fencing Championships Junior: February 2016
4. NAC Division I: 9/1/2015 to Selection Date*
5. Competitions specified in Group II below not included in Group I sum

GROUP II = SUM OF THREE HIGHEST POINTS EARNED AT 6-9

6. Designated Junior World Cup competitions: 9/1/2015 to Selection Date
7. Designated Senior World Cup and Grand Prix competitions: 9/1/2015 to Selection Date (MAXIMUM of TWO 33-64 results count in Group II)
8. 2015 Junior World Championships (Top 16 result)
9. 2015 Senior World Championships (Top 32 result)

Weight Value for 2015 Senior and Junior World Championships = 2.0.

*Weight Value for the 2015 December Division 1 NAC = .8.

The 2015 Division I July Challenge will count for Rolling points only.

**2016 Women's Epee Junior Pan American Zonal Championships
TBD**

POSTED: April 30, 2015

SELECTION DATE: TBD

SELECTION: The top four registered athletes as of the selection date will be selected as members of the Junior Pan American Zonal Championships Team and be eligible to compete in the individual and team competitions. Athletes selected for the individual event will be required to fence in the Team event, unless a waiver is obtained from the Director of Sports Performance. Athletes will be selected in the following order:

1. Top 24 athletes on the National Junior Team Point Standings
2. Top 12 athletes on the National Cadet Team Point Standings
3. All athletes remaining on the National Junior Team Point Standings
4. All athletes remaining on the National Cadet Team Point Standings

**2016 Women's Epee Cadet World Championship Team
April, 2016 - Bourges, FRA**

POSTED: April 30, 2015

SELECTION DATE: February 16, 2016

SELECTION: The top three athletes on the National Cadet Team Point Standings will be selected as members of the Cadet World Championship Team and will be eligible to compete in the individual competition.

SUM OF GROUP I AND GROUP II

GROUP I = SUM OF FOUR HIGHEST POINTS EARNED AT 1-8

1. NAC Cadet: 9/1/2015 to Selection Date
2. 2015 Cadet July Challenge
3. Junior Olympic Fencing Championships - Cadet: February 2016
4. NAC Junior: 9/1/2015 to Selection Date
5. 2015 Junior July Challenge

6. Junior Olympic Fencing Championships - Junior: February 2016
7. NAC Division I: 9/1/2015 to Selection Date*
8. Competitions specified in Group II below not included in Group II sum

GROUP II = SUM OF THE TWO HIGHEST POINTS EARNED AT 9-12

9. Designated Cadet International competitions: 9/1/2015 to Selection Date
10. Designated Junior World Cup competitions: 9/1/2015 to Selection Date
11. 2015 Cadet World Championships (Top 8 result)
12. 2015 Junior World Championships (Top 16 result)

Weight Value for 2015 Junior World Championships = 2.0.

*Weight Value for the 2015 December Division 1 NAC = .8.

The 2015 Division I July Challenge will count for Rolling points only.

**2016 Women's Epee Cadet Pan American Zonal Championships
TBD**

POSTED: April 30, 2015

SELECTION DATE: TBD

SELECTION: The top four registered athletes on the National Cadet Team Point Standings as of the selection date will be selected as members of the Cadet Pan American Zonal Championships Team and be eligible to compete in the individual competition.

Chapter 9 – Women’s Foil

USA Fencing National Point Competitions

Note regarding 2015-2016 Cadet (U17) & Junior (U20) points standings: Points awarded for the 2015 February/March I Division I National Championships will be considered for *Rolling Points Only*.

Points awarded for 33-64 at Senior, Junior and Cadet NACs and Championships are used in *Rolling Points Only*.

For any designated event that does not meet the FIE criteria, points will be calculated according to the USFA Strength Factor formula and be considered in Group I, unless otherwise specified in selection criteria.

National and International Event Conflicts

The National Coach, in consultation with the Director of Sports Performance and USA Fencing Athlete Advisory Group weapon representatives, may assess a weight value to a domestic event should it conflict with a designated international event. As conflicts arise, weight values will be indicated both in the selection criteria and in the international calendar posted [HERE](#).

Women’s Foil - Senior International Teams Selection

2016 Women’s Foil World Team Championships April, 2016, Rio de Janeiro, BRA

POSTED: April 30, 2015

SELECTION DATE: March 15, 2016

SELECTION: The top three athletes on the National Senior Team Point Standings will be selected as members of the Senior World Team Championship Team.

The National Weapon Coach may select a fourth fencer within five (5) business days of team selection for the competition for the Senior World Team Championships. The fourth fencer will be recommended by the National Weapon Coach and reviewed by a panel composed of the National Weapon Coach, the fencing representative from the USOC Athlete Advisory Council (AAC), the Director of Sports Performance (or, in his or her absence, the Chief Executive Officer).

SUM OF GROUP I AND GROUP II

GROUP I = SUM OF TWO HIGHEST POINTS EARNED AT 1-3

1. NAC Division I: 9/1/2015 to Selection Date
2. 2015 Division I July Challenge
3. Competitions specified in Group II below not included in Group I sum

GROUP II = SUM OF FIVE HIGHEST POINTS EARNED AT 4-5

4. Designated Senior World Cup and Grand Prix competitions: 3/31/2015 to Selection Date (MAXIMUM of TWO 33-64 results count in Group II)
5. 2015 Senior World Championships (Top 32 result)

Weight Value for 2015 Senior World Championships = 2.0.

**2016 Women's Foil Senior Pan American Zonal Championships
June, 2016 - TBD**

POSTED: April 30, 2015

SELECTIONDATE: May 23, 2016

SELECTION: The top four athletes on the National Senior Team Point Standings will be selected as members of the Senior Pan American Zonal Championship Team and will be eligible to compete in the individual competition.

The National Weapon Coach may select a fifth fencer within five (5) business days of team selection solely for the team competition for the Senior Pan American Zonal Championships. The fifth fencer will be recommended by the National Weapon Coach and reviewed by a panel composed of the National Weapon Coach, a fencing representative from the USOC Athlete Advisory Council (AAC) and the Director of Sports Performance (or, in his or her absence, the Chief Executive Officer). This fencer may become the fourth member of the team for the team competition in place of one of the four fencers selected for the Senior Pan American Zonal Championship individual event. This fencer is not eligible for the individual competition (unless one of the four fencers becomes injured and the fifth fencer named to the team is also the first alternate for the individual competition).

SUM OF GROUP I AND GROUP II

GROUP I = SUM OF TWO HIGHEST POINTS EARNED AT 1-4

1. NAC Division I: 9/1/2015 to Selection Date
2. 2015 Division I July Challenge
3. 2016 Division I National Championships
4. Competitions specified in Group II below not included in Group I sum

GROUP II = SUM OF FIVE HIGHEST POINTS EARNED AT 5-6

5. Designated Senior World Cup and Grand Prix competitions: 3/31/2015 to Selection Date (MAXIMUM of TWO 33-64 results count in Group II)
6. 2015 Senior World Championships (Top 32 result)

Weight Value for 2015 Senior World Championships = 2.0.

**2016 Women's Foil Pan American Zone Olympic Qualifying Event
April, 2016 - TBD**

POSTED: April 30, 2015

SELECTIONDATE: March 15, 2016

SELECTION: If the USA does not qualify a USA athlete through the FIE Individual Official Ranking or the FIE Individual AOR by Zone, the top one fencer on the National Senior Team Point Standings will qualify for the Pan American Zone Olympic Qualifying Event.

SUM OF GROUP I AND GROUP II

GROUP I = SUM OF TWO HIGHEST POINTS EARNED AT 1-3

1. NAC Division I: 9/1/2015 to Selection Date
2. 2015 Division I July Challenge
3. Competitions specified in Group II below not included in Group II sum

GROUP II = SUM OF FIVE HIGHEST POINTS EARNED AT 4-5

4. Designated Senior World Cup and Grand Prix competitions: 3/31/2015 to Selection Date (MAXIMUM of TWO 33-64 results count in Group II)
5. 2015 Senior World Championships (Top 32 result)

Weight Value for 2015 Senior World Championships = 2.0.

Women's Foil – Junior & Cadet International Teams Selection

**2016 Women's Foil Junior World Championships
April, 2016 – Bourges, FRA**

POSTED: May 28, 2015

REVISED: December 17, 2015

SELECTION DATE: February 16, 2016

SELECTION: The top four athletes on the National Junior Team Point Standings will be selected as members of the Junior World Championship Team and will be eligible to compete in the individual competition.

The National Weapon Coach may select a fifth fencer within five (5) business days of team selection solely for the team competition for the Junior World Championships. The fifth fencer will be recommended by the National Weapon Coach and reviewed by a panel composed of the National Weapon Coach, a fencing representative from the USOC Athlete Advisory Council (AAC) and the Director of Sports Performance (or, in his or her absence, the Chief Executive Officer). This fencer may become the fourth member of the team for the team competition in place of one of the four fencers selected for the Junior World Championship individual event. This fencer is not eligible for the individual competition (unless one of the four fencers becomes injured and the fifth fencer named to the team is also the first alternate for the individual competition).

SUM OF GROUP I AND GROUP II

GROUP I = SUM OF FOUR HIGHEST POINTS EARNED AT 1-6

1. NAC Junior: 9/1/2015 to Selection Date
2. 2015 Junior July Challenge
3. Junior Olympic Fencing Championships Junior: February 2016
4. NAC Division I: 9/1/2015 to Selection Date
5. 2015 Division I July Challenge
6. Competitions specified in Group II below not included in Group II sum

GROUP II = SUM OF THREE HIGHEST POINTS EARNED AT 7-10

7. Designated Junior World Cup competitions: 9/1/2015 to Selection Date*
8. Designated Senior World Cup and Grand Prix competitions: 9/1/2015 to Selection Date (MAXIMUM of TWO 33-64 results count in Group II)
9. 2015 Junior World Championships (Top 16 result)

10. 2015 Senior World Championships (Top 32 result) Weight Value for 2015 Senior and Junior World Championships = 2.0.

*JWFTimisoara – minimum strength factor = 1.2.

**2016 Women's Foil Junior Pan American Zonal Championships
TBD**

POSTED: April 30, 2015

SELECTION DATE: TBD

SELECTION: The top four registered athletes as of the selection date will be selected as members of the Junior Pan American Zonal Championships Team and be eligible to compete in the individual and team competitions. Athletes selected for the individual event will be required to fence in the Team event, unless a waiver is obtained from the Director of Sports Performance. Athletes will be selected in the following order:

1. Top 24 athletes on the National Junior Team Point Standings
2. Top 12 athletes on the National Cadet Team Point Standings
3. All athletes remaining on the National Junior Team Point Standings
4. All athletes remaining on the National Cadet Team Point Standings

**2016 Women's Foil Cadet World Championship Team
April, 2016 – Bourges, FRA**

POSTED: April 30, 2015

SELECTION DATE: February 16, 2016

SELECTION: The top three athletes on the National Cadet Team Point Standings will be selected as members of the Cadet World Championship Team and will be eligible to compete in the individual competition.

SUM OF GROUP I AND GROUP II

GROUP I = SUM OF FOUR HIGHEST POINTS EARNED AT 1-9

1. NAC Cadet: 9/1/2015 to Selection Date
2. 2015 Cadet July Challenge
3. Junior Olympic Fencing Championships - Cadet: February 2016
4. NAC Junior: 9/1/2015 to Selection Date
5. 2015 Junior July Challenge
6. Junior Olympic Fencing Championships - Junior: February 2016
7. NAC Division I: 9/1/2015 to Selection Date
8. 2015 Division I July Challenge
9. Competitions specified in Group II below not included in Group I sum

GROUP II = SUM OF THE THREE HIGHEST POINTS EARNED AT 10-13

10. Designated Cadet International competitions: 9/1/2015 to Selection Date
11. Designated Junior World Cup competitions: 9/1/2015 to Selection Date

12. 2015 Cadet World Championships (Top 8 result)
13. 2015 Junior World Championships (Top 16 result)

Weight Value for 2015 Junior World Championships = 2.0.

2016 Women's Foil Cadet Pan American Zonal Championships TBD

POSTED: April 30, 2015

SELECTION DATE: TBD

SELECTION: The top four registered athletes on the National Cadet Team Point Standings as of the selection date will be selected as members of the Cadet Pan American Zonal Championships Team and be eligible to compete in the individual competition

Chapter 10 – Women's Saber

USA Fencing National Point Competitions

Note regarding 2015-2016 Cadet (U17) & Junior (U20) points standings: Points awarded for the 2015 February/March I Division I National Championships will be considered for *Rolling Points Only*.

Points will not be awarded for 33-64 results at Senior, Junior and Cadet NACs and Championships.

For any designated event that does not meet the FIE criteria, points will be calculated according to the USFA Strength Factor formula and be considered in Group I, unless otherwise specified in selection criteria.

National and International Event Conflicts

The National Coach, in consultation with the Director of Sports Performance and USA Fencing Athlete Advisory Group weapon representatives, may assess a weight value to a domestic event should it conflict with a designated international event. As conflicts arise, weight values will be indicated both in the selection criteria and in the international calendar posted [HERE](#).

Women's Saber - Senior International Teams Selection

2016 Women's Saber Olympic Games August 6-14, 2016, Rio de Janeiro, BRA

POSTED: April 30, 2015

SELECTION DATE: April 12, 2016

SELECTION: The top three athletes on the National Senior Team Point Standings will be eligible for nomination to the US Olympic Committee for the 2016 Olympic Team and will be eligible to compete in the individual and team competition. The fourth athlete on the National Senior Team Point Standings will be eligible for nomination as the replacement athlete for the team competition only.

SUM OF GROUP I AND GROUP II

GROUP I = SUM OF TWO HIGHEST POINTS EARNED AT 1-3

1. NAC Division I: 9/1/2015 to Selection Date*
2. 2016 Division I National Championships
3. Competitions specified in Group II below not included in Group I sum

GROUP II = SUM OF FIVE HIGHEST POINTS EARNED AT 4-5

4. Designated Senior World Cup and Grand Prix competitions: 3/31/2015 to Selection Date (MAXIMUM of TWO 33-64 results count in Group II)
5. 2015 Senior World Championships (Top 16 result)

Weight Value for 2015 Senior World Championships = 2.0.

**2015 October Division 1 NAC*

- Will count for Rolling points only for seniors
- Weight Value = .8

2015 Division 1 July Challenge

- Will count for Rolling points only for seniors
- Weight Value = .8

2016 Women's Saber Senior Pan American Zonal Championships June, 2016 - TBD

POSTED: April 30, 2015

SELECTION DATE: April 12, 2016

SELECTION: The top four athletes on the National Senior Team Point Standings will be selected as members of the Senior Pan American Zonal Championship Team and will be eligible to compete in the individual competition.

The National Weapon Coach may select a fifth fencer within five (5) business days of team selection solely for the team competition for the Senior Pan American Zonal Championships. The fifth fencer will be recommended by the National Weapon Coach and reviewed by a panel composed of the National Weapon Coach, a fencing representative from the USOC Athlete Advisory Council (AAC) and the Director of Sports Performance (or, in his or her absence, the Chief Executive Officer). This fencer may become the fourth member of the team for the team competition in place of one of the four fencers selected for the Senior Pan American Zonal Championship individual event. This fencer is not eligible for the individual competition (unless one of the four fencers becomes injured and the fifth fencer named to the team is also the first alternate for the individual competition).

SUM OF GROUP I AND GROUP II

GROUP I = SUM OF TWO HIGHEST POINTS EARNED AT 1-3

1. NAC Division I: 9/1/2015 to Selection Date*
2. 2016 Division I National Championships
3. Competitions specified in Group II below not included in Group I sum

GROUP II = SUM OF FIVE HIGHEST POINTS EARNED AT 4-5

4. Designated Senior World Cup and Grand Prix competitions: 3/31/2015 to Selection Date (MAXIMUM of TWO 33-64 results count in Group II)
5. 2015 Senior World Championships (Top 16 result)

Weight Value for 2015 Senior World Championships = 2.0.

**2015 October Division 1 NAC*

- Will count for Rolling points only for seniors
- Weight Value = .8

2015 Division 1 July Challenge

- Will count for Rolling points only for seniors
- Weight Value = .8

**2016 Women's Saber Pan American Zone Olympic Qualifying Event
April, 2016 - TBD**

POSTED: April 30, 2015

SELECTIONDATE: March 28, 2016

SELECTION: If the USA does not qualify a team through the team qualification or an individual through the FIE Individual AOR by Zone, the top one fencer on the National Senior Team Point Standings will qualify for the Pan American Zone Olympic Qualifying Event.

SUM OF GROUP I AND GROUP II

GROUP I = SUM OF TWO HIGHEST POINTS EARNED AT 1-2

1. NAC Division I: 9/1/2015 to Selection Date*
2. Competitions specified in Group II below not included in Group I sum

GROUP II = SUM OF FIVE HIGHEST POINTS EARNED AT 3-4

3. Designated Senior World Cup and Grand Prix competitions: 3/31/2015 to Selection Date (MAXIMUM of TWO 33-64 results count in Group II)
4. 2015 Senior World Championships (Top 16 result)

Weight Value for 2015 Senior World Championships = 2.0.

**2015 October Division 1 NAC*

- Will count for Rolling points only for seniors
- Weight Value = .8

2015 Division 1 July Challenge

- Will count for Rolling points only for seniors
- Weight Value = .8

Women's Saber – Junior & Cadet International Teams Selection

**2016 Women's Saber Junior World Championships
April, 2016 – Bourges, FRA**

POSTED: April 30, 2015

REVISED: December 17, 2015

SELECTIONDATE: February 22, 2016 (or after the conclusion of the Junior Pan American Zonal Championships, whichever is later)

SELECTION: The top four athletes on the National Junior Team Point Standings will be selected as members of the Junior World Championship Team and will be eligible to compete in the individual competition.

The National Weapon Coach may select a fifth fencer within five (5) business days of team selection solely for the team competition for the Junior World Championships. The fifth fencer will be recommended by the National Weapon Coach and reviewed by a panel composed of the National Weapon Coach, a fencing

representative from the USOC Athlete Advisory Council (AAC) and the Director of Sports Performance (or, in his or her absence, the Chief Executive Officer). This fencer may become the fourth member of the team for the team competition in place of one of the four fencers selected for the Junior World Championship individual event. This fencer is not eligible for the individual competition (unless one of the four fencers becomes injured and the fifth fencer named to the team is also the first alternate for the individual competition).

SUM OF GROUP I AND GROUP II

GROUP I = SUM OF FOUR HIGHEST POINTS EARNED AT 1-8

1. NAC Junior: 9/1/2015 to Selection Date
2. 2015 Junior July Challenge
3. Junior Olympic Fencing Championships Junior: February 2016
4. 2016 Junior Pan American Zonal Championships (Top 8 result) (Domestic Junior Competitions DE without repêchage points table will be used.) Athletes who enter individual event must also fence in the Team event to earn points.
5. Non-designated Junior World Cups (with Strength Factor formula applied to a maximum value allowable of 2.0 – reference chapter 3 Junior World Cup Strength Factor formula)
6. NAC Division I: 9/1/2015 to Selection Date[^]
7. 2015 Division 1 July Challenge*
8. Competitions specified in Group II below not included in Group I sum

GROUP II = SUM OF FOUR HIGHEST POINTS EARNED AT 9-12

9. Designated Junior World Cup competitions: 8/1/2015 to Selection Date
10. Designated Senior World Cup and Grand Prix competitions: 9/1/2015 to Selection Date (MAXIMUM of TWO 33-64 results count in Group II)
11. 2015 Junior World Championships (Top 8 result)
12. 2015 Senior World Championships (Top 32 result)

Weight Value for 2015 Senior and Junior World Championships = 2.0.

[^]Weight Value for the 2015 October Division 1 NAC = .8.

*Weight Value for the 2015 Division 1 July Challenge = .8.

An additional weight value of 1.5 will be applied to top 32 results at Senior World Cup and Grand Prix competitions held outside of the USA. The event must have a minimum strength factor of 2.0 for the additional 1.5 to be applied.

2016 Women's Saber Junior Pan American Zonal Championships TBD

POSTED: April 30, 2015

SELECTION DATE: TBD

SELECTION: The top four registered athletes as of the selection date will be selected as members of the Junior Pan American Zonal Championships Team and be eligible to compete in the individual and team competitions. Athletes selected for the individual event will be required to fence in the Team event. Athletes will be selected in the following order:

1. Top 24 athletes on the National Junior Team Point Standings
2. Top 12 athletes on the National Cadet Team Point Standings
3. All athletes remaining on the National Junior Team Point Standings
4. All athletes remaining on the National Cadet Team Point Standings

**2016 Women's Saber Cadet World Championship Team
April, 2016 – Bourges, FRA**

POSTED: April 30, 2015

SELECTION DATE: February 22, 2016

SELECTION: The top three athletes on the National Cadet Team Point Standings will be selected as members of the Cadet World Championship Team and will be eligible to compete in the individual competition.

SUM OF GROUP I AND GROUP II

GROUP I = SUM OF FOUR HIGHEST POINTS EARNED AT 1-10

1. NAC Cadet: 9/1/2015 to Selection Date
2. 2015 Cadet July Challenge
3. Junior Olympic Fencing Championships - Cadet: February 2016
4. NAC Junior: 9/1/2015 to Selection Date
5. 2015 Junior July Challenge
6. Junior Olympic Fencing Championships - Junior: February 2016
7. NAC Division I: 9/1/2015 to Selection Date[^]
8. 2015 Division 1 July Challenge*
9. Non-designated Junior World Cups (with Strength Factor formula applied to a maximum value allowable of 2.0 – reference chapter 3 Junior World Cup Strength Factor formula)
10. Competitions specified in Group II below not included in Group I sum

GROUP II = SUM OF THE FOUR HIGHEST POINTS EARNED AT 11-16

11. Designated Cadet International competitions: 8/1/2015 to Selection Date
(Best 2 results only; results only count in Group II, no carryover to Group I)
12. Designated Junior World Cup competitions: 8/1/2015 to Selection Date
13. Designated Senior World Cup and Grand Prix competitions: 9/1/2015 to Selection Date
(MAXIMUM of TWO 33-64 results count in Group II)
14. 2015 Cadet World Championships (Top 8 result)
15. 2015 Junior World Championships (Top 16 result)
16. 2015 Senior World Championships (Top 32 result)

Weight Value for 2015 Senior and Junior World Championships = 2.0.

[^]Weight Value for the 2015 October Division 1 NAC = .8.

*Weight Value for the 2015 Division 1 July Challenge = .8.

An additional weight value of 1.5 will be applied to top 32 results at Senior World Cup and Grand Prix competitions held outside of the USA. The event must have a minimum strength factor of 2.0 for the additional 1.5 to be applied.

2016 Women's Saber Cadet Pan American Zonal Championships
TBD

POSTED: April 30, 2015

SELECTIONDATE: TBD

SELECTION: The top four registered athletes on the National Cadet Team Point Standings as of the selection date will be selected as members of the Cadet Pan American Zonal Championships Team and be eligible to compete in the individual competition.

Chapter 11 – Veteran World Championships

11.1 Tournament Description

Individual competitions are held for six weapons. For World Championships, each country can enter four fencers in each of the six weapons in each of the three age categories (50-59 years, 60-69 years and 70+ years).

An FIE license for the season in which a fencer qualifies for Veteran World Championships is required to compete i.e. for the 2016 Veteran World Championships, a 2015-2016 FIE license is required.

At this time, individual athletes participating in the Veterans World Championships are responsible for funding their trip and expenses.

Team warm-ups are available for purchase. Information on the apparel ordering process will be provided to the members of the team once selected.

11.2 Eligibility

Must be a U.S. citizen at the time of selection, which is immediately following the conclusion of the USA Fencing National Championship. Age eligibility for the separate age categories is governed by the FIE rules for the Veteran World Championships. Veteran Age groups fencers must meet the birth years below.

Birth Year Eligibility dates for FIE Veterans World Championships

	2014	2015	2016
50+	1955-1964	1956-1965	1957-1966
60+	1945-1954	1946-1955	1947-1956
70+	1944 and before	1945 and before	1946 and before

11.3 Selection Criteria

The top four fencers in each weapon in each of the three age categories will be selected according to the Veteran Age Team Point standings at the USA Fencing National Championships. The next four, in order of their standings, will be named alternates to the team to replace any in the top four unable to accept appointment to the team. Any foreign fencers on the point standings will be removed when determining team standings. The Veteran Age Team standings are calculated as the best two of three national tournaments: the NAC age-specific Veteran tournaments in December and April, and the Veteran Age Championships at the USA Fencing National Championships.

11.4 Ties for selection

TBD

Chapter 12 – Wheelchair Fencing

The official governing body is the International Wheelchair and Amputee Sports Federation (IWAS).

The International Paralympic Committee (IPC) is the global governing body of the Paralympic movement. The IPC organizes the Summer and Winter Paralympic Games and serves as the international federation for 13 sports, for which it supervises and coordinates the World Championships and other competitions. Visit www.paralympic.org for more information on international wheelchair fencing. For more information on USA Fencing Wheelchair, visit www.usfencing.org/wheelchairfencing

12.1 Wheelchair Fencing Competitions

USA Fencing organizes two NAC wheelchair tournaments each season, held in conjunction with the October and January NACs; the National Wheelchair Fencing Championships are held annually in April. World Championships are held in alternating odd years.

12.2 Athlete Eligibility and Classification

Men and women with disabilities that include, but are not limited to, amputation, spinal cord injury, and cerebral palsy, are eligible to compete in events including foil, epee, and sabre (men only at Paralympic Games).

Official age for participation in USA Fencing and IWAS Wheelchair Fencing tournaments is 13 years old on 1 January in the year of the competition; there is no maximum age limit.

There are three categories of competition, based upon disability classification. The three categories are: A, B, and C, with each category indicating the degree of disability from least “A” to most severe “C.” An official classifier for IWAS determines the specific category for each wheelchair fencer. In international competition, athletes compete according to disability classification. Disability classifications are combined for domestic competition.

For the Paralympic Games, the competitions are only for “A” and “B” fencers with separate competitions for each group; Category “C” fencing is not an official competition in the Paralympic Games.

12.3 Rules

USA Fencing Wheelchair Fencing operates under IWAS rules: <http://www.iwasf.com/iwasf/index.cfm/sports/iwas-wheelchair-fencing/>

For further information contact the USFA National Office at international@usfencing.org.

12.4 Seeding and Formats

Please refer to Table [2.14.1.1](#) for seeding and [2.15.1](#) for format information.

12.5 Wheelchair Point Standings

The Wheelchair NACs are open to any competitive fencer who meets the age eligibility in Table [2.5.1](#). Wheelchair national points represent the total of the highest points earned at two domestic and two international competitions in the last 12 months. The resulting standings of the wheelchair fencers in each category (A, B, C) are used for selecting athletes for international competitions.

2016 Wheelchair Selection Criteria

Selection Date: TBD after the calendar is approved by IWAS.

Points: A date will be set for selection approximately 30-90 days before the championships event. Selections will be based of the national rolling points. For team selection athletes will be selected based off their rolling points only within their Wheelchair Fencing category (A, B, or C).

Rolling Points: These points are comprised of the best two domestic and best two international competitions in the last 12 months.

To be eligible for Championships (Zone and World) athletes must attend at least one camp held at one of the NAC's in the last 12 months, any pre-championship camp, compete in your weapon at 2 of the last 3 national Wheelchair Fencing events, and two of the designated world cups.

It is highly recommended that athletes participate in every camp. If not enough competitors enter your event at the NAC or Nationals, a waiver of this requirement can be granted by the Director of Sports Performance in conjunction with the National Coach.

Designated events will be announced after the final approval of the calendar by IWAS.

USA Fencing will determine and publish their funding policy once the funding amounts are known.

IWAS and LOC will determine the number of fencers per weapon, gender and category (up to a maximum) for international championship events. Others who meet the above selection criteria and are within the established IWAS/LOC criteria but not funded by USA Fencing may participate in this event if they take personal responsibility for their own funding.

12.9 Wheelchair International Calendar 2015-2016 – Some locations TBA

EVENTTYPE	DESIGNATED	CITY	STARTDATE	ENDDATE	ENTRY DEADLINE
World Championships		Eger(HUN)	9/17/15	9/24/15	
World Cup		Paris(FRA)	10/21/15	10/25/15	
World Cup		Sharjah(UAE)	12/14/15	12/21/15	
World Cup		Eger(HUN)	February	February	
World Cup		Montreal(TBC)	May	May	
European Championships		Italy	May	May	
Americas Championships		TBC	TBC	TBC	
Asian Championships		TBC	TBC	TBC	

ParalympicGames		Rio(BRA)	9/7/16	9/18/15	
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The IWAS competition calendar and updates are available on the following website:

For additional information, contact the USA Fencing National Office at international@usfencing.org

Chapter 13 – Disciplinary Procedures & Dispute Resolution

13.1 Removal from Team, Loss of Points and/or Funding

13.1.1 General Principles

A fencer may be passed over in selection, removed from a team after selection, denied funds, have points removed that are improperly earned or lose eligibility for international selection for cause. Such cause shall be limited to:

- Doping based on a confirmed positive of a "B" sample in accordance with U.S. Anti-Doping Agency protocol; OR
- Disciplinary reason, for serious misconduct detrimental to fencing; OR
- Inability or unwillingness to participate fully in all significant team activities; OR
- Injury or other incapacity which will significantly detract from the fencer's performance; OR
- Failure to maintain a reasonable program of training, conditioning and/or competition; OR
- Ineligibility by reason of U.S. citizenship status at the start of the Olympic team selection cycle, i.e., points will not be awarded to non-citizens at competitions which count for selection of the Olympic Team until fencer is a U.S. citizen. The USOC will consider a waiver to those fencers who can demonstrate that they could become citizens before the final selection competition of USA Fencing.

13.1.2 Fencers' Rights

Fencers have the rights set forth herein and as set forth in the Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws of USA Fencing and the Constitution and Bylaws of the USOC.

13.1.3 Definitions

The following terms shall have the following meanings:

- "Disinterested" shall mean a person who will not be personally affected by the outcome of a panel hearing and none of whose relatives, significant other, students, coaches, or club mates will be affected by the outcome of a panel hearing. If all fencers who might be affected by a panel hearing agree, the disinterested requirements with respect to a club mate may be waived.
- "Executive Director" shall mean the Executive Director of USA Fencing or his/her designee.
- "Other Affected Athlete" shall mean any fencer who might be removed from a team or denied a place on a team if a fencer's grievance is upheld by a panel.
- "Team Leader" shall mean the person designated by USA Fencing as the Team Leader for any team. The Team Leader may be Captain, the Chief of Mission, the manager, a coach or any other party accompanying a team to a competition. The Team Leader may be different parties for different periods of time during a competition. If the Team Leader is not disinterested, the remaining members of the cadre may select a person to act as Team Leader for the purposes described herein.
- "Team Panel" shall mean all of the Disinterested cadre for the Team that are willing to serve and at least one disinterested fencer who is on the Team, provided, however, if there are more than four Disinterested cadre that are willing to serve, the Team Panel shall consist of three of the Disinterested cadre that are willing to serve who shall be chosen by lot.
- "Panel" shall mean a panel consisting of not less than three (3) Disinterested USA Fencing members (who may, but need not be, members of the USA Fencing committee responsible for team selections). At least 20% of the membership of the Panel shall be USOC Athletes, provided

however, no USOC Athlete shall be contending for a team in the same competition as the fencer initiating the grievance procedure or subject to potential discipline. The Panel shall be selected by the Executive Director, provided, however, that if the Executive Director is not disinterested, the Panel shall be selected by the President

- "Team Panel Report" shall mean the written report prepared by the Team Panel consisting of its findings of fact and determination of what action(s) should or should not be taken.
- "Panel Report" shall mean the written report prepared by the Panel consisting of its findings of fact and recommendation(s), which may include concurring or dissenting reports.
- "USOC" shall mean the United States Olympic Committee
- "USOC Athlete" shall mean a fencer who has competed in fencing at the Olympic Games, Pan American Games, or World Championships within the previous ten (10) years.

13.1.4 Regular Grievance Steps

The following is the process that will normally be followed in the Grievance process.

13.1.5 Scope

These procedures are intended to be used when a fencer or cadre member:

- Contests being removed from a team;
- Contests an improper denial of a place on a team selected using criteria specified by USA Fencing;
- Contests an improper preclusion by USA Fencing of his/her opportunity to compete at any event.

Notwithstanding the above, once a team has staged (e.g., gathered at any point in or outside the United States for purposes of traveling to or participating in a competition), any discipline or removal shall be based on the procedures set forth in the Expedited Grievance Steps in Chapter [13.1.8](#).

13.1.6 Appeals

Decisions of the USA Fencing committee responsible for team selections may be appealed to the Board of Directors of USA Fencing or its designee.

13.1.7 Reimbursement of Fencer's Expenses

The reasonable travel expense (as arranged by USA Fencing) of the fencer to the Panel hearing and the review by the USA Fencing committee responsible for team selections shall be reimbursed if the place of the meeting is more than 50 miles from the fencer's residence. Travel expense shall not be reimbursed:

- If the Panel hearing or meeting takes place within 50 miles of the site, and within 24 hours following a selection competition in the fencer's weapon; or
- The Panel finds that the claim of the fencer is frivolous, groundless or undertaken in bad faith.

All other expenses, including counsel, shall be the responsibility of the fencer or cadre member.

Procedures

Chapter 4 The Panel shall be selected by the Chair of the USA Fencing committee responsible for team selections, provided, however, that if the Chair is not disinterested, the Panel shall be selected by the Chief Executive Officer.

Chapter 5 The Chief Executive Officer shall inform the fencer and any Other Affected Fencers of the issues or allegations which have been referred to the Panel, and the names of the members of the Panel.

Chapter 6 If the fencer, cadre member, or any Other Affected Athlete objects to any member of the Panel being a member, the fencer or Other Affected Athlete shall inform the person that named the Panel (Chair of the USA Fencing committee responsible for team selections or the Chief Executive Officer), who shall have the discretion to replace the Panel member.

- Chapter 7** The Chief Executive Officer shall inform the fencer and any Other Affected Athlete of the date, time and place of the Hearing, and the manner in which the Hearing shall take place. The Hearing may be held in person, or by teleconference.
- Chapter 8** The Panel shall conduct a Hearing at a time and place determined by the Chair of the Panel. The Hearing may be adjourned from time to time as deemed necessary by the Chair of the Panel in order to obtain additional information, obtain testimony from witnesses or receive written submissions from any party. At, or if available before, the Hearing, the fencer and any Other Affected Athlete shall have the right to receive copies of any written information provided to the Panel members concerning the Hearing or any charges or allegations.
- Chapter 9** The Panel is not bound by the rules of evidence. Witnesses may testify in person, by telephonic instrument, or if there is no objection, by written declaration or affidavits.
- Chapter 10** The fencer or any Other Affected Athlete shall have the following rights:
 To appear personally and be represented by counsel at the Hearing and at the review by the USA Fencing committee responsible for team selections.
 To cross-examine all witnesses and present any additional relevant evidence.
 To testify on his/her own behalf, or remain silent.
- Chapter 11** As soon as practicable, as but no later than two weeks after the close of the Hearing, the Panel shall prepare the Panel Report and submit it to the Chief Executive Officer. The Chief Executive Officer shall send a copy of the Panel Report to the fencer, any Other Affected Athlete, and each member of the USA Fencing committee responsible for team selections within one week after receiving it.
- Chapter 12** The recommendation(s) of the Panel shall not be effective or implemented unless approved by the USA Fencing committee responsible for team selections.
- Chapter 13** Absent extraordinary circumstances, the failure to comply with any of the time limitations set forth herein shall not be grounds to overturn the decision in question or prohibit the imposition of sanctions.
- Chapter 14** Nothing herein shall preclude any fencer or Other Affected Athlete, during the procedures set forth above or at its conclusion, from seeking to enforce or protect his/her rights under any provision of the Bylaws of USA Fencing, or the Constitution or Bylaws of the USOC, including the right to seek the intervention of the USOC CEO or to submit any dispute to arbitration.

13.1.8 Expedited Grievance Steps

Scope

These procedures are intended to be used once a team has staged (e.g., gathered at any point in or outside the U.S. for purposes of traveling to or participating at a competition), when a fencer or cadre member:

- contests being removed from a team;
- contests an improper denial of a place on a team selected using criteria specified by USA Fencing;
- contests an improper preclusion by USA Fencing of his/her opportunity to compete at any competition;
- is or may be subjected to discipline by USA Fencing, whether the action on which any proposed discipline is based occurred before or after the team has staged.

Reimbursement of Fencer's Expenses

All expenses, including counsel, shall be the responsibility of the fencer or cadre member.

Appeals

A fencer or cadre member may request that the USA Fencing committee responsible for team selections overrule any decision made by the Team Panel. A fencer or cadre member may request that the Board of

Directors of USA Fencing, or its designee, overrule any decision made by the Team Panel or by the USA Fencing committee responsible for team selections. Such rights to appeal are subject to there being time available for the body to accept and or act on any request. In the absence of any action by such an appellate body, the decision of the Team Panel or the lower body that has acted shall be the decision of USA Fencing.

Procedures

- The Team Leader shall inform the fencer and any Other Affected Athletes of:
 - The issues or allegations which have been referred to the Team Panel.
 - The date, time and place of Hearing, and the manner in which the Hearing shall take place. The Hearing may be held in person, by teleconference, or as may otherwise be directed by the Team Leader.
- The Panel shall conduct a Hearing at a time and place determined by the Team Leader. The Hearing may be adjourned from time to time as deemed necessary by the Team Leader in order to obtain additional information, obtain testimony from witnesses or receive written submissions from any party. At or prior to the Hearing, if available, the fencer and any Other Affected Athlete shall have the right to receive copies of any written information provided to the Panel members concerning the Hearing or any charges or allegations.
- The Panel is not bound by the rules of evidence. Witnesses may testify in person, by telephonic instrument, or if there is no objection, by written declarations or affidavits.
- The fencer and any Other Affected Athlete shall have the rights:
 - To appear personally and be represented by counsel at the Hearing.
 - To cross-examine all witnesses and present any additional relevant evidence.
 - To testify on his/her own behalf, or remain silent.
 - To address the Panel or otherwise make a statement of position personally or through his/her counselor representative.
- As soon as practicable after the close of the Hearing, the Team Panel shall prepare the Team Panel Report and submit it to the Chief Executive Officer. The Chief Executive Officer shall send a copy of the Team Panel Report to the fencer, any Other Affected Athlete, and each member of the USA Fencing committee responsible for team selections within one week after receiving it.
- The recommendation(s) of the Panel shall be effective and implemented unless stayed by the USA Fencing committee responsible for team selections or the Board of Directors or its designee.
- Absent extraordinary circumstances, the failure to comply with any of the time limitations set forth herein shall not be grounds to overturn the decision in question or, to prohibit the imposition of sanctions.
- Nothing herein shall preclude any fencer or Other Affected Athlete, during the procedures set forth above or at its conclusion, from seeking to enforce or protect his/her rights under any provision of the Bylaws of USA Fencing, or the Constitution or Bylaws of the USOC, including the right to seek the intervention of the USOC CEO or to submit any dispute to arbitration.

13.2 General Disciplinary Procedures

13.2.1 Scope of General Disciplinary Procedures

[Chapter 13.2\(a\)](#) concerns procedures for the discipline of USA Fencing members and National Team Disciplinary Procedures. The procedures in [Chapter 13.2\(a\)](#) will be used when a member of USA Fencing is or may be subject to discipline by USA Fencing, except that:

- If the proposed discipline involves, or may involve the USA Fencing member being removed from a USA Fencing or USOC team, or being precluded from an opportunity to compete at any event, the Athlete/Cadre Grievance Procedures adopted by USA Fencing shall be utilized; and
- If a member of USA Fencing is on a team representing USA Fencing or the USOC, such member may be subject to immediate discipline, including, but not limited to being removed from a team, banned from participating at a competition, or sent home under the Expedited

Discipline/Grievance Procedures set forth in [Chapter 13.1](#) or under procedures adopted by the USOC.

Generally stated, [Chapter 13.2\(b\)](#) concerns resolving complaints against a national coach or such coach's official designee by a high-level fencer, the high-level fencer's parent (if the high-level fencer is a minor), or the high-level fencer's coach. For such disputes, the complainant should consider the appropriateness of the dispute resolution procedure in [Chapter 13.2\(b\)](#) (National Team Dispute Resolution) before seeking any relief that may be possible under the disciplinary procedure in [Chapter 13.2\(a\)](#) (Disciplinary Panels).

13.2.1 (a) Disciplinary Panels

Definitions

The following terms shall have the following meanings for [Chapter 13.2\(a\)](#):

- "Fencer" shall mean those who are currently actively engaged in amateur competition in fencing on a local, national or international level or who have represented the United States in fencing in international competitions within the previous ten (10) years.
- "Disinterested" shall mean a person who will not be personally affected by the outcome of a panel hearing and none of whose relatives, significant other, students, coaches, or club mates will be affected by the outcome of a panel hearing. If all members, who might be affected by a panel hearing agree, the "Disinterested" requirements with respect to a club mate may be waived.
- "Chief Executive Officer" shall mean the Chief Executive Officer of USA Fencing or his designee. Such designee may be any Disinterested USA Fencing member. Including, but not limited to an officer of a USA Fencing Division or Section.
- "Panel" shall mean a panel consisting of not less than three (3) Disinterested USA Fencing members (who may, but need not be members of the Board of Directors). At least 20% of the membership of the Panel shall be Fencers, provided, however, no Fencer shall be contending for a team in the same event as the person subject to potential discipline. The Panel and its Chair shall be selected by the Chief Executive Officer, provided, however, that if the Chief Executive Officer is not disinterested, they shall be selected by the President of USA Fencing.
- "Panel Report" shall mean the written report prepared by the Panel consisting of its findings of fact and recommendations(s), which may include concurring or dissenting reports.

RIGHTS OF THE ACCUSED - Persons potentially subjected to discipline shall have the rights set forth herein and as set forth in the Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws of USA Fencing and the Constitution and Bylaws of the United States Olympic Committee.

EXPENSES OF THE ACCUSED - Except as otherwise provided by the Board, all expenses of the accused, including counsel, shall be their own responsibility.

APPEALS - Decisions of the Panel may be appealed to the Board of Directors of USA Fencing or its designee.

Procedures

- A. At the request of an officer or director of USA Fencing (including an officer of a Division or Section of USA Fencing), a Panel shall be appointed under these Procedures.
- B. If the person selecting the Panel deems it appropriate, or at the request of the Chair of the Panel, the person who selected the Panel shall designate a person to present evidence to the Panel on behalf of USA Fencing. In addition to presenting evidence, such person shall also be able, at his discretion, to request the type(s) of sanctions which he believes are appropriate for the infraction.
- C. The Chief Executive Officer shall inform the accused in writing of the charges which have been

referred to the Panel, the names of the members of the Panel, the name of the person, if any, who will present evidence to the Panel, and the possible discipline or sanctions that could be imposed.

- D. If the accused objects to any member of the Panel being a member, the accused shall inform the person that named the Panel (President or the Chief Executive Officer), who shall have the discretion to replace the Panel member.
- E. The Panel shall conduct a Hearing at a time and place determined by the Chair of the Panel. The Chair of the Panel shall inform the accused of the date, time and place of the Hearing, and the manner in which the Hearing shall take place. The Hearing may be held in person, by teleconference, or as may otherwise be directed by the Chair of the Panel.
- F. The Hearing may be adjourned from time to time as deemed necessary by the Chair of the Panel in order to obtain additional information, obtain testimony from witnesses or receive written submissions from any party. At, or prior to the Hearing, if available, the accused shall receive copies of any written information provided to the Panel members concerning the Hearing or any charges or allegations.
- G. The Panel is not bound by the rules of evidence. Witnesses, may testify in person, by telephonic instrument, or if there is no objection, by written declarations or affidavits.

The accused shall have the rights:

- a. To appear personally and be represented by counsel or other representative of his choosing at the Hearing and at any review by the Board of Directors or its designee.
- b. To cross-examine all witnesses and present any additional relevant evidence.
- c. To testify on his own behalf, or remain silent.
- d. To address the Panel or otherwise make a statement of position personally or through his counsel or representative.

As soon as practicable, but no later than two weeks after the close of the Hearing, the Panel shall prepare the Panel Report and submit it to the Chief Executive Officer. The Chief Executive Officer shall send a copy of the Panel Report to the accused and each member of the Board of Directors or its designee within one week after receiving it.

- H. Any sanctions proposed or directed by the Panel shall be effective unless they are disapproved by the Board of Directors or its designee within 30 days, provided, however, any proposed sanction which provides for the suspension, denied continuation of membership to, or expelling of the member shall not be effective unless such recommendation is approved by a 2/3 vote of the Board as provided by the bylaws. The Board of Directors or its designee may stay the imposition of any sanction until the Board can vote to approve, disapprove, or modify the sanction.
- I. The Board of Directors, or its designee, may approve, disapprove, or modify the sanction proposed or directed by the Panel, provided, however, they may not take any action more detrimental to the accused than the sanction proposed or directed by the Panel.
- J. Absent extraordinary circumstances, the failure to comply with any time limitations set forth herein shall not be grounds to overturn or prohibit the imposition of sanctions.

13.2.2 National Team Disciplinary Procedures

In the event of any alleged breach of the USA Fencing Code of Conduct a disciplinary panel will be convened on site immediately and will consist of the following individuals if present and not disqualified by a conflict of interest:

- Chief of Mission
- Team Captain

- Team Leader/Manager
- A team coach whose fencer(s) are not involved
- A fencer over 18 years of age

The hearing to investigate charges, recommend discipline if appropriate, and where necessary to impose disciplinary measures shall be conducted at a time and place and in a manner determined by the highest-ranking member of cadre present (ranked highest to lowest from the preceding list top-down). The hearing shall provide the accused due process rights as follows: the right to be present, the right to be represented, the right to confront and question witnesses, the right to call witnesses and the right to address the panel. Promptly following the conclusion of any such hearing, the Disciplinary Panel shall report to the Director of Sports Performance & Development, National Weapon Head Coach, and representative from the AAC the nature of the charges, the conclusions of the investigation and any discipline imposed or recommended.

Activity:

- Loss of specified privileges at the competition
- Involuntary withdrawal or bar of the offending individual from that day's activities
- Involuntary withdrawal or bar from the entire competition
- Offending individuals sent home
- Other sanctions as deemed appropriate, including assessment of any damages caused by the misconduct
- Recommendation of post-competition sanctions as deemed appropriate

If discipline cannot be adjudicated at the competition, the Director of Sports Performance & Development, National Weapon Head Coach, and representative from the AAC may require a report from the Disciplinary Panel and is empowered to mete out sanctions or refer the matter to the Board of Directors of USA Fencing, or its designee, for further investigation and potential discipline. The consequential costs of any disciplinary action imposed by the Panel or by the Director of Sports Performance & Development, National Weapon Head Coach, and representative from the AAC and any reasonable expenses incurred by USA Fencing or its members in connection with the disciplinary proceeding shall be the responsibility of the party being disciplined. Appeal from the decision of a Disciplinary Panel may be made by the individual or individuals involved to the Director of Sports Performance & Development, National Weapon Head Coach, and representative from the AAC within 15 days of receipt of notice of the panel decision. The decision may be delivered orally at the time of the hearing. The decision of the Disciplinary Panel may be appealed to the Director of Sports Performance & Development, National Weapon Head Coach, and representative from the AAC, the Board of Directors of USA Fencing, or its designee, at the election of the appealing party. The body to which the appeal is addressed shall appoint a panel to hear the appeal and render a final decision as expeditiously as reasonably possible. These rules and regulations have been promulgated for the protection of all fencers, coaches, officials and others under the authority of USA Fencing.

13.2.2 (b) National Team Dispute Resolution

This dispute resolution procedure is intended to manage conflicts and to foster strong relationships between international fencers, coaches, and USA Fencing staff.

13.2.3 Scope of National Team Dispute Resolution

This dispute resolution procedure applies to a complaint by an Aggrieved Party against a National Coach, as those terms are defined below. To be eligible to use this procedure, a complaint must pertain to a National Coach's role as an international coach on behalf of USA Fencing, in contrast to a dispute about the National Coach's role as private fencing coach, fencing club administrator, or USA Fencing member. Examples of matters that might come within the scope of the dispute resolution procedure, include, but

are not limited to, actual, apparent, or potential conflicts of interest by the National Coach, allocation of coaching resources during international competitions, selection for international tournaments, selection of dates and locations of training camps, other requirements imposed by a National Coach, allocation of USA Fencing funds by a National Coach, delegation of responsibilities by the National Coach to a third party, and the National Coach's conduct.

This dispute resolution procedure is not intended to displace informal conversations and other informal resolutions.

Definitions

The following terms shall have the following meanings for [Chapter 13.2\(b\)](#):

"Aggrieved Party" shall mean:

A fencer, who is a current representative of USA Fencing in international fencing competition or has a material chance of representing USA Fencing in international fencing competition in the near future, when pursuing his or her own interests; the parent or guardian of a minor fencer, acting as the minor fencer's representative, where the minor fencer is a current representative of USA Fencing in international fencing competition or has a material chance of representing USA Fencing in international fencing competition in the near future, when pursuing the minor fencer's interests; or the personal coach, if such coach is a USA Fencing member, of a fencer who is a current representative of the USA Fencing in international fencing competition or has a material chance of representing USA Fencing in international fencing competition in the near future, when pursuing the fencer's interests or the coach's own interest.

"Athlete Council" shall mean:

The USA Fencing Athlete Council.

"Chief Executive Officer" shall mean:

The Chief Executive Officer of USA Fencing.

"Director of Sports Performance & Development" shall mean:

The Director of Sports Performance & Development of USA Fencing.

"National Coach" shall mean:

A coach employed or contracted by USA Fencing to represent USA Fencing in international fencing competition or such a coach's designee, including, but not limited to, a Team Manager, when such designee is officially recognized by USA Fencing in the designee's role and has maintained, or is expected to maintain, that role for more than two (2) months.

Procedures

- A. The Aggrieved Party is encouraged to discuss the matter directly with the National Coach.
- B. The Aggrieved Party may discuss the matter informally with the Director of Sports Performance & Development before or after discussing the matter with the National Coach.
- C. At anytime during the dispute resolution process, the Aggrieved Party may invite an Athlete Council member to facilitate the Aggrieved Party's interactions under the dispute resolution process. The Athlete Council member may decline the Aggrieved Party's request for any or no reason or may refer the invitation to another Athlete Council member. The Aggrieved Party shall have the rights to have any Athlete Council member so invited:

be present at any telephonic or in-person meetings under the dispute resolution process between the Aggrieved Party and the National Coach or the Director of Sports Performance & Development and be heard by the National Coach or Director of Sports Performance & Development in a reasonable manner.

- D. The Aggrieved Party has the right to submit a written complaint concerning the matter to the Director of Sports Performance & Development. The submission of a written complaint concerning the matter to the Director of Sports Performance & Development by an Aggrieved Party concerning a National Coach's role as an international coach on behalf of USA Fencing initiates this dispute resolution procedure.
- E. The Director of Sports Performance & Development shall make a determination whether the complaint has sufficient merit to proceed and is otherwise not deficient. To this end, the Director of Sports Performance & Development may conduct reasonable inquiries.

If the Director of Sports Performance & Development determines that the complaint lacks sufficient merit to proceed or is otherwise deficient, he or she shall inform the Aggrieved Party of such determination in writing within two (2) weeks of the receipt of the complaint. If the Director of Sports Performance & Development determines that the complaint has sufficient merit to proceed and is otherwise not deficient, he or she shall investigate the matter as appropriate and give a written opinion (in addition to any other communications that the Director of Sports Performance & Development may have with the Aggrieved Party) on the matter to the Aggrieved Party within two (2) weeks of the receipt of the complaint, unless the matter has been stayed consistent with [Chapter 13.2\(b\)\(G\)](#). The Director of Sports Performance & Development's goals in issuing the written opinion shall include, but not be limited to, advancing a fair resolution of the conflict and keeping the Aggrieved Party appropriately informed.

Even though the complaint has sufficient merit to proceed and is otherwise not deficient, the Director of Sports Performance & Development nonetheless may, at any time during the dispute resolution process, conclude in matters of sufficient seriousness that the matter should be considered, and perhaps exclusively, under other disciplinary procedures, such as [Chapter 13.2\(a\)](#) or [Chapter 13.2\(c\)](#). If so, the Director of Sports Performance & Development may request that those disciplinary procedures be initiated consistent with those procedures.

- F. During the investigation contemplated by Chapter 13.2(b) (E) (ii), the Director of Sports Performance & Development may (and generally will) discuss the matter with the National Coach and may share the complaint with the National Coach. The National Coach shall respond to any Director of Sports Performance & Development's inquiries within five (5) days of such inquiries and otherwise discuss the matter with the Director of Sports Performance & Development. If the Director of Sports Performance & Development requests that the National Coach's response be in writing, the National Coach shall do so within five (5) days of such request. The Director of Sports Performance & Development may share the National Coach's response(s), written or otherwise, with the Aggrieved Party. The National Coach's obligations under this Chapter 13.2(b) (F) shall not supersede, or otherwise be implemented in a manner inconsistent with, the National Coach's due process rights under Chapter 13.2(a).
- G. The Director of Sports Performance & Development may request that the Aggrieved Party and the National Coach enter into mediation or arbitration. This may include mediation and arbitration provided by USA Fencing or by an individual or individuals designated by the Director of Sports Performance & Development. In the event that the Aggrieved Party and the National Coach agree to mediation or arbitration, the dispute resolution procedure shall be stayed until the mediator(s) or arbitrator(s) concludes such mediation or arbitration or until the Director of Sports Performance & Development terminates such mediation or arbitration.
- H. If the Director of Sports Performance & Development's position is unfilled or if the Director of Sports Performance & Development does not respond within the two (2)-week limits consistent with Chapter 13.2(b) (E), the Aggrieved Party may contact in writing the Chief Executive Officer about the

unfulfilled position or the failure of the Director of Sports Performance & Development to act and submit the written complaint to the Chief Executive Officer for his or her action. In such an event, the dispute resolution process under Chapter 13.2(b) (C)-(G) shall be followed, with the Chief Executive Officer fulfilling those obligations of the Director of Sports Performance & Development and with the two (2)-week limits in Chapter 13.2(b) (E) beginning on the date the Chief Executive Officer receives such written complaint.

- I. The initiation or resolution of this dispute resolution process shall not prejudice the Aggrieved Party from the ability to seek appropriate relief under Chapter 13.2(a) [Chapter 13.2(c)] or other appropriate procedures.

Chapter 14 Codes of Conduct & USA Fencing Policies

14.1 Fencer Code of Conduct Agreement

Introduction: Membership on an USA Fencing National Team, competing around the world in international and at national events, is an honor. It is a distinction few achieve and an accomplishment universally recognized as a distinctive achievement in the sport. It is in that context that we ask you to make the pledge set forth below to USA Fencing and to the United States Olympic Committee in promoting sustained competitive excellence in the sport.

Athlete Pledge: I pledge to uphold the spirit of the Athlete Code of Conduct (ACC), which offers a general guide to my conduct as a member of the National Team, or as a member of any named team to any USA Fencing designated event, training camp or competition. I hereby acknowledge that I have been informed that USA Fencing has adopted Grievance Procedures, which are contained in the USA Fencing Athlete Handbook, that provide me with the right to a hearing if my opportunity to compete is denied for any reason or if I am charged with any violation of the ACC.

By signing the ACC, I (1) accept nomination and, if accepted, selection to the National Team and/or to any named team to any USA Fencing designated event, training camp or competition, (2) agree to abide by this ACC and the Grievance Procedures noted above, which will be used by USA Fencing to resolve any alleged violations of the ACC, (3) agree to submit any dispute that arises in relation to my nomination or selection to the National Team, or to any named team, to any USA Fencing designated event, training camp or competition, to USA Fencing pursuant to the Grievance Procedures apply as soon as I sign the USA Fencing Athlete Agreement.

I have familiarized myself with the ACC and understand that acceptance of its provisions as written is a condition of my selection to the National Team, or to any named team to any USA Fencing designated event, training camp or competition. This ACC must be signed in an unaltered form in all applicable places in order for an individual to become a member of the National Team or the team to any designated event, training camp or competition. The duration of any activity (event, training camp or competition) is defined as the period beginning when a participant comes under the supervision of a Team Leader, Team captain, National Coach or other person vested with the authority of USA Fencing until the participant is no longer under such immediate supervision.

AS A MEMBER OF THE NATIONAL TEAM OR A MEMBER OF A USA FENCING TEAM TO A DESIGNATED TEAM EVENT, TRAINING CAMP OR COMPETITION, I HEREBY PROMISE AND AGREE THAT I:

- Will act in a sportsmanlike manner consistent with the spirit of fair play and responsible conduct;
- Will maintain a level of fitness and competitive readiness that will permit my performances to be at the maximum of my abilities;
- Will submit to a physical examination by USA Fencing medical personnel if my ability to compete is compromised due to physical injury and I understand that such injury may be cause for my not being selected to the National Team, or the Team designated event, being removed from the National Team, or the Team to any designated event, or not being allowed to participate if I remain on the Team;
- Will not commit a doping violation as defined by the International Olympic Committee (IOC), World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA), United States Anti-Doping Agency (USADA), the International Fencing Federation (FIE) or the United States Olympic Committee (USOC);
- Will refrain from conduct detracting from my ability or that of my teammates to attain peak performance;
- I will seek to attend team functions, meetings, practices, competitions and media events, in a timely manner and refrain from actions and activities that would be a disruption, either to myself or my teammates;

- Will respect the property of others whether personal or public;
- Will respect members of my Team, other teams, spectators and officials and will notify persons invested with supervision of the team at events, training camps or competitions of any circumstances that would prevent any member from being able to compete or participate at an optimal level;
- Will engage in no form of discriminatory behavior or verbal, physical or sexual harassment or abuse (see USA Fencing policy on sexual misconduct and harassment), I understand that it is a USA Fencing rule that any sexual contact or advance or any other inappropriate sexually oriented behavior directed toward an athlete by another athlete or person in a position of authority is prohibited;
- Will follow USA Fencing rules established by the Team Leader, Team Captain, or any other person vested with the authority of USA Fencing, including by way of example, rules regarding required attendance at camps and events and curfew at events while a member of a USA Fencing team;
- Will abide by the FIE rules regarding eligibility for World Cup and World Championship competition, with USOC rules regarding eligibility for Olympic competition, and rules concerning allowable trademark identification on clothing and equipment worn or used at all of these events;
- Am aware that USA Fencing sponsors, suppliers, and licensees provide critical support for the Team and that, when requested, I will wear USA Fencing sponsored apparel and use USA Fencing sponsored equipment at official USA Fencing and FIE events;
- Will not use or authorize the use of my name, person, picture, voice, or any of my sports performances for the purpose of trade during designated events without the prior written consent of USA Fencing;
- Will attempt to participate in media and sponsor-related activities if compatible with my training and competitive schedule at designated events when requested by the National Coach or the Team Leader, or his or her designee;
- Will act in a way that will bring respect and honor to myself, my teammates, my family, USA Fencing and the United States of America;
- Will respect the laws, customs and traditions of the countries in which I may be traveling and competing while representing USA Fencing; and
- Will remember that at all times I am an ambassador for my sport, my country and the Olympic Movement.

AFFIRMATION: I have read and accept this Code of conduct, including the USA Fencing Grievance Procedure contained in the USA Fencing Athlete Handbook. I agree to the rules, guidelines, jurisdiction and procedures stated in these documents as a condition of being selected to and remaining a member of the National Team or any named team to any USA Fencing designated event, training camp or competition.

Signature of Fencer: _____ Date: _____

Name (Printed): _____

Address: _____

City, State and Zip Code: _____

Phone Number: _____

Signature of Parent/Legal Guardian: _____ Date: _____

Name (Printed): _____

14.2 Non-Fencer Code of Conduct

The following rules of conduct will be applied to all USA Fencing personnel who are members of the cadre at any international or domestic World Cup, World Championship, Pan American Games, World University Games, Youth Olympics, Olympic Games, or Paralympic Games competition. Any failure to adhere to this code of conduct may result in disciplinary action.

The following shall be considered violations of the USA Fencing Code of Conduct for Non-Fencing personnel:

- Violation of the Amateur Sports Act, which requires that USA Fencing must provide an equal opportunity to amateur fencers, coaches, trainers, administrators and officials to participate in amateur athletic competition without discrimination on the basis of race, color, religion, age, sex or national origin.
- Any inappropriate sexual contact or advance or any other inappropriate sexually oriented behavior or action directed towards a fencer by a cadre member, including violation of any sexual misconduct or harassment policy of USA Fencing that may be in effect.
- The sale or distribution of illegal drugs or the illegal sale or distribution of any substance on the World Anti-Doping Agency's (WADA) recognized list of banned substances.¹
- The illegal possession or use of illegal drugs in the presence of a fencer by a cadre member.
- Engaging in any activity that contravenes the stricter of the laws of the United States of America (USA) or the host country in which the activity is taking place.
- Providing alcohol to a fencer by a cadre member when the fencer is under the legal age and therefore prohibited from purchasing or consuming alcohol.
- The act or the appearance of intoxication from the use of alcohol or illegal drugs in the presence of a fencer or cadre member.
- Any non-consensual physical contact with or abuse (including verbal abuse) of any person by a cadre member.
- Any intentional act of dishonesty in connection with any USA Fencing-related activity.
- Any non-consensual physical contact, obscene language or gesture or other threatening language or conduct directed toward any official, which is related to any decision made by such official in conjunction with a USA Fencing-related event.
- Violation of any team rule of conduct as established by the United State Olympic Committee (USOC), USA Fencing, the Federation International d'Escrime (FIE), or person in authority leading an international team, including but not limited to deportment, curfew, practice, team meeting attendance, and prompt attendance at competitions.
- Any other act, conduct or omission not provided in this code which is detrimental to the image or reputation of USA Fencing, the USA or sport of fencing, or which violates a rule established by the USOC, FIE, International Olympic Committee (IOC) or other governing body.

All members of any traveling party including personal coaches are expected to adhere to and reinforce the rules and regulations listed above.

AFFIRMATION: I have read and accept this Code of Conduct, including the USA Fencing Grievance Procedure contained in the USA Fencing Athlete Handbook. I agree to the rules, guidelines, jurisdiction and procedures stated in this document as a condition of being authorized to participate as a member of the cadre or to coach any USA Fencing athletes at any international or domestic World Cup, World Championship, Pan American Games, World University Games, Youth Olympics, Olympic Games, or Paralympic Games competition, camp, or other fencing activity.

Signature

Date

14.3 Other Codes of Conduct

Athletes Code of Conduct (non-National Team member)

- Fence for fun.
- Work hard to improve your skills.
- Learn sportsmanship, discipline and teamwork.
- Learn the rules and play by them. Always be a good sport.
- Respect your coach, other athletes, your parents, opponents and officials.
- Never argue with an official's decision.

I have read the USA Fencing Athlete Code of Conduct. I understand its requirements and agree to abide by the letter and spirit of the USA Fencing Code of Conduct.

Signature

Date

USA Fencing Parent Code of Conduct

- Support your child's desire to participate in fencing. Children are involved in organized sports for their enjoyment. Make it fun.
- Encourage your child to play by the rules. Remember, children learn best by example, so applaud the competition of each participant.
- Do not embarrass your child by yelling at players, coaches or officials. By showing a positive attitude toward the sport and all of its participants, your child will benefit.
- Emphasize skill development and practice and how they benefit the athlete. De-emphasize events and competition in the lower age groups.
- Know and study the rules of the fencing and support the officials. This approach will help in the development and support of the sport. Refrain from criticizing the officials, and will respect their authority and decisions during bouts
- Applaud a good effort in both victory and defeat, and enforce the positive points of the competition. Never yell or physically abuse your child after a competition or practice – it is destructive. Assist USA Fencing in removing the physical and verbal abuse in youth sports.

I have read the USA Fencing Parent Code of Conduct. I understand its requirements and agree to abide by the letter and spirit of the USA Fencing Parent Code of Conduct.

Signature

Date

USA Fencing Spectator Code of Conduct

- Display good sportsmanship. Always respect athletes, coaches, officials, and other spectators.
- Act appropriately; do not taunt or disturb other spectators; enjoy the competition together.
- Support the referees and coaches by trusting their judgment and integrity. Refrain from criticizing the officials, and will respect their authority and decisions during bouts
- Be a role model by positively supporting athletes by not shouting instructions or criticism to the athletes, coaches, or officials.
- Help provide a safe and fun environment.
- Encourage in a positive manner; profanity and objectionable gestures are offensive.
- Be supportive after the competition – win or lose. Recognize good effort and sportsmanship.

Any spectator who displays poor sportsmanship may be removed from the facility.

Signature

Date

14.4 IOC Stockholm Consensus

Statement of the Stockholm Consensus on Sex Reassignment in Sports

On 28 October 2003, an ad-hoc committee convened by the IOC Medical Commission met in Stockholm to discuss and issue recommendations on the participation of individuals who have undergone sex reassignment (male to female and converse) in sport.

This group was composed of:

Prof. Arne Ljungqvist (SWE)
Prof. Odile Cohen-Haguenauer (FRA)
Prof. Myron Genel (USA)
Prof. Joe Leigh Simpson (USA)
Prof. Martin Ritzen (SWE)
Prof. Marc Fellous (FRA)
Dr. Patrick Schamasch (FRA)

The group confirms the previous recommendation that any “individuals undergoing sex reassignment of male to female before puberty should be regarded as girls and women” (female). This applies as well for female to male reassignment, who should be regarded as boys and men (male).

The group recommends that individuals undergoing sex reassignment from male to female after puberty (and the converse) be eligible for participation in female or male competitions, respectively, under the following conditions:

- Surgical anatomical changes have been completed, including external genitalia changes and gonadectomy
- Legal recognition of their assigned sex has been conferred by the appropriate official authorities
- Hormonal therapy appropriate for the assigned sex has been administered in a verifiable manner and for a sufficient length of time to minimize gender-related advantages in sport competitions.

In the opinion of the group, eligibility should begin no sooner than two years after gonadectomy.

It is understood that a confidential case-by-case evaluation will occur.

In the event that the gender of a competing athlete is questioned, the medical delegate (or equivalent) of the relevant sporting body shall have the authority to take all appropriate measures for the determination of the gender of a competitor.

Sch 12.11.03

Chapter 15 – USA Fencing Safe Sport Policy

I. INTRODUCTION

USA Fencing is committed to improving the development and safety of athletes and participants involved in the sport. Unfortunately, sport can be a high-risk environment for misconduct, including child physical and sexual abuse. While child physical and sexual abuse is one type of misconduct, it is important to remember that this policy covers many inappropriate behaviors that do not involve children. This policy applies regardless of the ages of the individuals involved in the alleged activity.

Here, we identify six primary types of misconduct:

- Sexual Misconduct, including Child Sexual Abuse
- Emotional Misconduct
- Physical Misconduct
- Bullying
- Harassment
- Hazing

All forms of misconduct are intolerable and in direct conflict with USA Fencing ideals.

II. DEFINITIONS

Misconduct

Conduct which results in harm, the potential for harm or the imminent threat of harm. Age is irrelevant to misconduct. There are six primary types of misconduct in sport: emotional, physical and sexual misconduct, bullying, harassment and hazing.

Child, children, minor and youth

Anyone under the age of 18. here, “child”, “children”, “minor” and “youth” are used interchangeably.²

Participants

Participants are minors who participate in a sport activity through a club, organization or event (e.g., minor athletes, officials or referees).

Nothing contained in this policy is intended to supersede, replace, or otherwise abrogate the USA Fencing Bylaws, Athlete Handbook or Operations Manual, or the Ted Stevens Olympic and Amateur Sports Act.

III. SAFESPORT POLICY

A. APPLICATION

This Policy applies to:

- USA Fencing employees, coaches, contracted staff, volunteers, board members, committee and task force members, division officers and other individuals working with athletes or other sport participants while at a USA Fencing event, whether or not they are employees of USA Fencing (collectively, “constituents”).

B. COMMITMENT TO SAFETY

USA Fencing is committed to creating a safe and positive environment for athletes' physical, emotional and social development and to ensuring that it promotes an environment free of misconduct.

USA Fencing recognizes that the process for training and motivating athletes will vary, but it is nevertheless important for everyone involved in sport to support the use of motivational training methods that avoid misconduct.

Reporting obligations are set forth in USA Fencing's Reporting Policy.

C. PROHIBITED CONDUCT

Constituents shall refrain from all forms of misconduct, which include:

- Child sexual abuse
- Sexual misconduct
- Emotional misconduct
- Physical misconduct
- Bullying
- Harassment
- Hazing

1. CHILD SEXUAL ABUSE

Definitions:

- a) Any sexual activity with a minor athlete or participant where consent is not or cannot be given. This includes sexual contact with a minor athlete or participant that is accomplished by deception, manipulation, force or threat of force, regardless of the age of the participants, and all sexual interactions between an adult and a minor athlete or participant, regardless of whether there is deception or the minor athlete or participant understands the sexual nature of the activity.

Note concerning peer-to-peer child sexual abuse: Sexual contact between minors also can be abusive. Whether or not a sexual interaction is between children constitutes child sexual abuse turns on the existence of an aggressor, the age difference between the children, and/or whether there is an imbalance of power and/or intellectual capabilities.

- b) Any act or conduct described as child sexual abuse under federal or state law.

Exception

None

Examples

Sexually abusive acts may include sexual penetration, sexual touching or non-contact sexual acts such as verbal acts, sexually suggestive electronic or written communications, exposure or voyeurism.

2. EMOTIONAL MISCONDUCT

- (1) A pattern of deliberate, non-contact behavior that has the potential to cause emotional or psychological harm to an athlete or participant, regardless of age. Non-contact behaviors include:

- a. Verbal acts
- b. Physical acts
- c. Acts that deny attention or support

- (2) Any act or conduct described as emotional abuse or misconduct under federal or state law (e.g., child abuse, child neglect).

Exceptions

Emotional misconduct does not include professionally-accepted coaching methods of skill enhancement, physical conditioning, team building, discipline or improving athletic performance.

Examples

Examples of emotional misconduct prohibited by this policy include, without limitation:

- (1) **Verbal Acts.** A pattern of verbal behaviors that (a) repeatedly attack an athlete personally (e.g., calling them worthless, fat or disgusting) or (b) repeatedly and excessively yelling at a particular participant or participants in a manner that serves no productive training or motivational purpose.
- (2) **Physical Acts.** A pattern of physical aggressive behaviors such as (a) throwing sport equipment, water bottles, or chairs at, or in the presence of participants, or (b) punching walls, windows or other objects.
- (3) **Acts that Deny Attention and Support.** A pattern of (a) ignoring an athlete for extended periods of time or (b) routinely or arbitrarily excluding participants from practice.

Note: Bullying, harassment, and hazing, defined below, often involve some form of emotional misconduct.

3. PHYSICAL MISCONDUCT

- (1) Contact or non-contact conduct that results in, or reasonably threaten to, cause physical harm to an athlete or participants, regardless of age; or
- (2) Any act or conduct described as physical abuse or misconduct under federal or state law (e.g., child abuse, child neglect, assault).

Exceptions

Physical misconduct does not include professionally-accepted coaching methods of skill enhancement, physical conditioning, team building, appropriate discipline or improving athlete performance

4. SEXUAL MISCONDUCT

- (1) Any touching or non-touching sexual interaction that is (a) nonconsensual or forced, (b) coerced or manipulated, or (c) perpetrated in an aggressive, harassing, exploitative or threatening manner;
- (2) Any sexual interaction between an athlete and an individual with evaluative, direct or indirect authority. Such relationships involve an imbalance of power and are likely to impair judgment or be exploitative; or
- (3) Any act or conduct described as sexual abuse or misconduct under federal or state law (e.g. sexual abuse, sexual exploitation, rape)

Note: An imbalance of power is always assumed between a coach and an athlete, but see Comment 1.

Exceptions

None, but see Comment 1.

Examples

Types of sexual misconduct prohibited under this Policy include:

- (1) Sexual assault,
- (2) Sexual harassment,
- (3) Sexual abuse, or
- (4) Any other sexual intimacies that exploit an athlete. **Minors cannot consent to sexual activity with an adult**, and all sexual interaction between an adult and a minor is strictly prohibited.

Examples of sexual misconduct prohibited under this policy include, without limitation:

- (1) **Touching offenses.** Behaviors that include:
 - a. Fondling an athlete's breasts or buttocks
 - b. Exchange of reward in sport (e.g., team placement, scores, feedback) for sexual favors
 - c. Genital contact
 - d. Sexual relations or intimacies between persons in a position of trust, authority and/or evaluative and supervisory control over athletes or other sports participants.

Comment 1

- (1) **Authority and Trust.** Once the unique coach-athlete relationship is established, the authority and trust on the part of the coach over the athlete shall be assumed, regardless of age. Accordingly, sexual interaction or intimacies between a coach and an athlete or other participant are prohibited, regardless of age, both during coaching and during that period following coaching if an imbalance in power could jeopardize effective decision-making.

Imbalance of Power. Factors relevant to determining whether there is an imbalance of power include, but are not limited to: (a) the nature and extent of the coach's supervisory, evaluative or other authority over the athlete being coached; (b) the actual relationship between the parties; (c) the parties respective roles; (d) the nature and duration of the sexual relations or intimacies; (e) the age of the coach; (f) the age of the athlete or participant; (g) and whether the coach has engaged in a pattern of sexual interaction with other athletes or participants.

- (2) **Exception.** This section does not apply to a pre-existing relationship between two spouses or life partners.

- (2) **Non-touching offenses.** Behaviors that include:

- a. a coach discussing his or her sex life with an athlete
- b. a coach asking an athlete about his or her sex life
- c. coach requesting or sending a nude or partial-dress photo to athlete
- d. exposing athlete to pornographic material
- e. sending athletes sexually explicit or suggestive electronic or written message or photos (e.g. "sexting")
- f. deliberately exposing an athlete to sexual acts
- g. deliberately exposing an athlete to nudity (except in situations where locker rooms and changing areas are shared)
- h. sexual harassment; specifically, the sexual solicitation, physical advances, or verbal or nonverbal conduct that is sexual in nature, and
 - a. is unwelcome, offensive or creates a hostile environment, and the offending individual knows or is told this
 - b. is sufficiently severe or intense to be harassing to a reasonable person in the context.

5. BULLYING

- (1) An intentional, persistent and repeated pattern of committing, or willfully tolerating by another person, physical and non-physical behaviors that are intended or have the reasonable potential, to cause fear, humiliation or physical harm in an attempt to socially exclude, diminish or isolate the targeted athlete(s), as a condition of membership.
- (2) Any act or conduct described as bullying under federal or state law

Exceptions

Bullying does not include group or team behaviors that (a) are meant to establish normative team behaviors, or (b) promote team cohesion.

For example, bullying does not include verbal admonitions to encourage team members to train harder and to push through a difficult training regimen.

Examples

Examples of bullying prohibited by this Policy include, without limitation:

- (1) **Physical behaviors.** Behaviors that include (a) hitting, pushing, punching, beating, biting, striking, kicking, choking, or slapping an athlete; (b) throwing at, or hitting an athlete with objects such as sporting equipment, except that hitting an appropriately garbed athlete with a fencing weapon in a non-brutal manner appropriate to the sport is not prohibited.
- (2) **Verbal and emotional behaviors.** Behaviors that include (a) threatening, frightening, intimidating or humiliating; (b) spreading rumors or making false statements; or (c) using electronic communications, social media, or other technology to threaten, frighten, intimidate or humiliate (“cyberbullying”).

6. HARASSMENT

- (1) A repeated pattern of physical and/or non-physical behaviors that (a) are intended to cause fear, humiliation or annoyance; (b) offend or degrade; (c) create a hostile environment or (d) reflect discriminatory bias in an attempt to establish dominance, superiority or power over an individual athlete or group based on gender, race, ethnicity, culture, religion, sexual orientation, gender expression or mental or physical disability; or
- (2) Any act or conduct described as harassment under federal or state law.

Exceptions

None

Examples

Examples of harassment prohibited by this Policy include, without limitation:

- (1) **Physical offenses.** Behaviors that include (a) hitting, pushing, punching, beating, biting, striking, kicking, choking or slapping an athlete or participant; (b) throwing at or hitting an athlete with objects including sporting equipment, except that hitting an appropriately garbed athlete with a fencing weapon in a non-brutal manner appropriate to the sport is not prohibited.
- (2) **Non-physical offenses.** Behaviors that include (a) making negative or disparaging comments about an athlete’s sexual orientation, gender expression, disability, religion, skin color, or ethnic traits; (b) displaying

offensive materials, gestures, or symbols; (c) withholding or reducing playing time to an athlete based on his or her sexual orientation.

7. HAZING

- (1) Coercing, requiring, forcing or willfully tolerating any humiliating, unwelcome or dangerous activity that serves as a condition for (a) joining a group or (b) being socially accepted by a group's members; or
- (2) Any act or conduct described as hazing under federal or state law.

Exception

Hazing does not include group or team activities that (a) are meant to establish normative team behaviors or (b) promote team cohesion.

Examples

Examples of hazing prohibited by this Policy include, without limitation:

- (1) Requiring, forcing or otherwise requiring the consumption of alcohol or illegal drugs
- (2) Tying, taping or otherwise physically restraining an athlete
- (3) Sexual simulations or sexual acts of any nature
- (4) Sleep deprivation, otherwise unnecessary schedule disruption or the withholding of water and/or food
- (5) Requiring social actions (e.g. grossly inappropriate or provocative clothing) or public displays (e.g. public nudity) that are illegal or meant to draw ridicule
- (6) Beating, paddling or other forms of physical assault
- (7) Excessive training requirements focused on individuals on a team

Comment 2: Activities that fit the definition of hazing are considered to be hazing regardless of an athlete's willingness to cooperate or participate.

D. WILLFULLY TOLERATING MISCONDUCT

It is a violation of this Safe Sport Policy if a constituent knows of misconduct, but takes no action to intervene on behalf of the athlete(s), participant(s), staff member, and/or volunteer.

IV. EDUCATION AND AWARENESS

USA Fencing staff and professional members should have a basic understanding of sexual abuse, as well as "grooming" – the most common strategy used by offenders to seduce their victims. Using a combination of attention, affection and gifts, offenders win the victim's trust (and the trust of the victim's parent or guardian where the victim is a minor), manipulate the victim into sexual activity, and keep the victim from disclosing abuse.

USA Fencing staff and all coaches who are members must complete an awareness training concerning misconduct every two years. This training focuses on the six categories of misconduct:

- Sexual misconduct, including child sexual abuse
- Emotional misconduct
- Physical misconduct
- Bullying
- Harassment
- Hazing

USA Fencing coaches must complete a training and education program as a condition of membership by January 1, 2015.

V. REPORTING AND DISCIPLINE

A. APPLICATION

This reporting policy applies to:

- USA Fencing employees, coaches, contracted staff, volunteers, board members, committee and task force members, division officers and other individuals working with athletes or other sport participants while at an USA Fencing activity or event, whether or not they are employees of USA Fencing. (collectively, "constituents").

B. REPORTING POLICY

Every constituent *shall* report:

1. Observed violations of USA Fencing's Safe Sport Policy,
2. Observations or allegations of child physical or sexual abuse.

Every constituent *may* report: suspected or alleged violations of USA Fencing's Safe Sport Policy, including suspicions of child physical or sexual abuse.

All reported suspicions of child physical or sexual abuse will be reported to the appropriate law enforcement authorities, if sufficient information is provided. Every constituent shall follow applicable state mandatory reporting laws, if any, which may impose mandatory reporting obligations on persons who hold certain positions.

As a matter of policy, USA Fencing does not investigate suspicions or allegations of child physical or sexual abuse or attempt to evaluate the credibility or validity of such allegations as a condition for reporting to the appropriate law enforcement authorities.

USA Fencing also encourages member parents, athletes and other sport participants to report violations of USA Fencing's Safe Sport Policy and/or allegations and suspicions of child physical and sexual abuse.

C. HOW TO REPORT

USA Fencing will take a report in the way that is most comfortable for the person initiating a report including an anonymous, in-person, verbal or written report. Regardless of how you choose to report, it is helpful to USA Fencing for individuals to provide, at a minimum, (1) the name of the complainant(s); (2) the type of misconduct alleged and the name(s) of the individual(s) alleged to have committed the misconduct.

1. Safe Sport Coordinator

Individuals reporting child physical or sexual abuse or other misconduct may call, mail, fax or email USA Fencing's Safe Sport Coordinator, whose name and contact information can be found at <http://www.usfencing.org/>. The Safe Sport Coordinator may request that the reporting person submit a Reporting Form, described below.

2. Reporting Form

Individuals reporting child physical or sexual abuse or other misconduct may complete an Incident Report Form, which can be found at <http://www.usfencing.org/>. Information on this form includes:

- 1) The name(s) of the complainant(s)
- 2) The type of misconduct alleged
- 3) The name(s) of the individual(s) alleged to have committed the misconduct
- 4) The approximate dates the misconduct was committed
- 5) The names of other individuals who might have information regarding the alleged misconduct
- 6) A summary statement of the reasons to believe that misconduct has occurred

USA Fencing will withhold the complainant's name on request, to the extent permitted by law.

Note: Reporting Peer-to-Peer Sexual Abuse

Approximately 1/3 of all child sexual abuse occurs at the hands of other children and the obligation to report extends to peer-to-peer child sexual abuse. Whether or not a sexual interaction between children constitutes child sexual abuse turns on the existence of an aggressor, the age difference between the children, and/or whether there is an imbalance of power or intellectual capabilities. **If constituents have any concerns that an interaction between children may constitute sexual abuse, report it immediately to the appropriate law enforcement authorities.**

D. CONFIDENTIALITY, ANONYMOUS REPORTING AND BAD-FAITH ALLEGATIONS

1. Confidentiality

To the extent permitted by law, and as appropriate, USA Fencing will keep confidential the complainant's name on request, not make public the names of potential victims, the accused perpetrator or the people who made a report of child physical or sexual abuse to the authorities.

2. Anonymous Reporting

USA Fencing recognizes it can be difficult to report an allegation of misconduct and strives to remove as many barriers to reporting as possible. **Anonymous reports may be made without the formality of completing an Incident Report Form:**

- By completing the Reporting Form without including their name
- By expressing concerns verbally
- Through email, texts or notes.

However, anonymous reporting may make it difficult for USA Fencing to investigate or properly address allegations.

All reported suspicions of child physical or sexual abuse will be reported to the appropriate law enforcement authorities, if sufficient information is provided.

3. No Retaliation

Regardless of outcome, USA Fencing will support the complainant(s) and his or her right to express concerns in good faith. USA Fencing will not encourage, allow or tolerate attempts from any individual to retaliate, punish, allow or in way harm any individual(s) who reports a concern in good faith. Such actions against a complainant will be considered a violation of this policy and grounds for disciplinary action. Any allegations of retaliation should be reported using the same process as for reporting an initial concern.

4. Bad-Faith Allegations

A report of abuse, misconduct or policy violations that is malicious, frivolous or made in bad faith is prohibited. Such reports will be considered a violation of this policy and grounds for disciplinary action. Depending on the nature of the allegation, a person making a malicious, frivolous or bad-faith report may also be subject to civil or criminal proceedings.

E. DISCIPLINE

USA Fencing will address allegations against constituents under relevant organizational policies.

VI. RESPONDING TO REPORTS OF ALLEGATIONS

A. Allegations of Misconduct Other Than Child Physical or Sexual Abuse

On receipt of an allegation of misconduct, as defined in USA Fencing's Safe Sport Policy, that does not involve child physical or sexual abuse, USA Fencing shall determine the appropriate steps to address the conduct based on several factors, including (i) the age of the complainant or victim, (ii) the age of the accused and (iii) the nature, scope and extent of the allegations. Such steps may include, without limitation:

- The collection of additional information from the individual in question, other individuals with potential knowledge or evidence of the incident or the accused individual
- Formal investigation and hearing
- Retention of legal counsel or investigation services to investigate and/or make a recommendation as to whether a violation of the relevant policy has occurred and/or a recommendation as to the appropriate sanction

B. Allegations of Serious Misconduct Including Child Physical or Sexual Abuse

Where serious allegations of misconduct are at issue (e.g., child physical and sexual abuse as defined in our Safe Sport Policy), USA Fencing may elect in its discretion to undertake a full investigation and hearing before determining the appropriate disciplinary action. This investigation and/or hearing will in no way interfere with an ongoing criminal investigation or prosecution.

C. Procedures

1. Suspension Before Final Resolution

If the reported complaint indicates that an individual's continued employment, membership or participation poses a risk of ongoing physical or emotional harm, USA Fencing may wish to suspend the accused individual pending final resolution of the complaint to eliminate any danger to an athlete, sport participant or other individual. In such instances, USA Fencing will provide the individual with notice and offer her/him an opportunity to contest the suspension.

USA Fencing may suspend the accused individual where there is a reasonable belief that the individual has committed emotional, physical or sexual misconduct. Evidence which may be found sufficient to support a reasonable belief includes, at a minimum:

- the suspension or termination of employment or membership by a national governing body or other sport organization
- an Incident Report Form with specific and credible information
- other legal documentation or report supporting a reasonable belief that the individual has committed emotional, physical or sexual misconduct, including abuse of a child (e.g., a criminal indictment)

For the purposes of this Policy, a suspension from sport involvement shall mean that for the duration of the period of suspension, the accused individual may not participate in any capacity or in any role in the business, events, or activities of USA Fencing.

Any suspension before final resolution may be appealed to the American Arbitration Association (AAA) at the written request of the accused individual within 14 days of the suspension.

2. Investigation

As appropriate, and at its discretion, USA Fencing may institute a formal investigation and hearing procedure to address serious allegations of misconduct (e.g., physical and sexual misconduct). However, USA Fencing anticipates that an investigation and hearing will be undertaken to address only the most serious allegations and patterns of behavior that warrant significant sanctions. Accordingly, USA Fencing anticipates that this disciplinary procedure will be used rarely.

If an investigation is conducted, the complainant, victim and accused individual shall have the right to:

- a. Receive written notice of the report or complaint, including a statement of allegations
- b. Present relevant information to the investigator(s)
- c. Legal counsel, at his or her own expense

3. Procedural Safeguards

In every case where a hearing is warranted pursuant to this Policy, an adjudication shall be conducted that shall in all cases comply with USA Fencing's bylaws. The adjudication shall further conform to the provisions and principles set out hereafter. However, deviations in one or more of the procedural safeguards are permitted, provided the following conditions are satisfied:

- a. The individual is informed of the allegations and evidence brought against him or her
- b. The individual is given a reasonable opportunity to respond to the allegations brought forward
- c. The individual may be represented by legal counsel at his or her expense
- d. The panel member(s) who make the determination are free of conflicts of interests and render an unbiased decision
- e. There is a right to appeal the panel's decision.

4. Preliminary Determination

On receipt of a disclosure and/or additional information made pursuant to this Policy, if the Safe Sport Coordinator is satisfied, in the exercise of his or her discretion, that there is a sufficient reasonable, reliable and persuasive evidence to support the complaint alleging emotional, physical or sexual misconduct, he or she shall notify the Executive Director who, in consultation with the General Counsel, shall constitute a Disciplinary Panel pursuant to [Section 15.2\(a\)](#) of the Athlete Handbook, subject to the approval of the Board of Directors pursuant to the Bylaws. The Disciplinary Panel will include at least one member of USA Fencing's Legal Resource Group.

5. Notice

The accused individual will be notified of a specific date and time to ensure that he or she is available for the hearing. Unless the Disciplinary Panel requires the individual to attend the hearing in person, the individual may appear by telephone conference call. The individual has the right to be represented by legal counsel at the hearing, provided that the counsel's participation may be subject to the reasonable hearing rules related to the conduct of the hearing.

6. Timing

The Disciplinary Panel shall have the authority to set timelines and other rules regarding the proceeding and the conduct of the hearing, as it deems necessary.

On request of the accused individual, and provided that it is necessary to expedite the proceeding to resolve a matter relating to scheduled training or competition, the Disciplinary Panel may render an expedited determination.

7. Evidence

At the hearing, the accused individual will be allowed to present any reasonable evidence or argument that he or she wishes the Panel to consider. The Panel may require or permit documentary evidence, such as the written report of any investigator or other fact-finder, before the hearing and that the names of any witnesses be disclosed before the hearing. The Panel may also consider another organization's determination as evidence to be considered.

If the complainant/alleged victim(s) is a minor, the investigator's or other fact-finder's report may substitute for the minor witness's direct testimony, provided that the accused had an opportunity to present and respond to relevant information collected during the investigation and before the report was transmitted to the Disciplinary Panel.

The Disciplinary Panel may proceed in the accused individual's absence if it cannot locate the individual or if the individual declines to attend the hearing.

8. Findings and Sanctions

The Panel has the discretion to impose sanctions on the individual if it finds based on a preponderance of the evidence that emotional, physical or sexual misconduct has occurred.

The Panel will communicate its finding to the individual. The Panel may impose sanctions on the individual in its findings.

Any sanctions imposed by the Panel against the individual must be proportionate and reasonable, relative to the content that is found to have occurred. The decision regarding the appropriate sanction shall be up to the panel deciding each complaint. In imposing a sanction, the Disciplinary Panel shall consider:

- a. The legitimate interest of USA Fencing in providing a safe environment for its participants
- b. The seriousness of the offense or act
- c. The age of the accused individual and alleged victim when the offense or act occurred
- d. Any information produced by the accused individual, or produced on behalf of the individual, in regard to the individual's rehabilitation and good conduct
- e. The effect on USA Fencing's reputation

- f. Whether the individual poses an ongoing concern for the safety of USA Fencing's athletes and participants
- g. Any other information, which in the determination of the Panel, bears on the appropriate sanction

Sanctions may range from a warning and a reprimand to suspension from sport involvement with USA Fencing for a period of time. Suspensions from sport involvement with USA Fencing may be temporary or permanent. The most severe sanction possible to impose will be permanent suspension from sport involvement and expulsion from USOC activities and facilities.

For the purposes of this Policy, a suspension from sport involvement shall mean that, for the duration of the period of the suspension, the accused individual may not participate in any capacity or in any role in any business, events, or activities conducted or sanctioned by USA Fencing or by any Member Club or Affiliate Club. No Member Club or Affiliate Club shall affiliate itself with any individual suspended from sport involvement or allow such individual to participate in any capacity in any of its business, events, or activities.

In the event that the allegation is made against an athlete, the Panel will communicate its findings to the Disciplinary Panel as set forth in USA Fencing's Olympic Training Center Access Protocol for a determination concerning continued access to an OTC.

9. Confidentiality

The conduct of the hearing will be private. If the Panel determines that the individual has violated policy, it may publish its decision or a brief summary of its decision, unless the accused is a minor. However, if the individual appeals, the summary of the panel's decision will not be disclosed until an appellate decision has been made.

If the Panel determines the accused individual did not violate the relevant policy, the panel will publish a summary only at the individual's written request.

D. APPEAL

If the individual disagrees with the finding or sanction of the Panel and wishes to appeal, he or she may file an appeal with the AAA within 14 days of USA Fencing's finding. A decision rendered by the AAA shall be final and binding on all parties.

VII. USA FENCING – ADDITIONAL POLICIES

The Policies below assist in reducing the risks of potential abuse:

- Screening and Background Check Program
- Club Travel Policy
- Lesson and Practice Policy
- Massage Policy
- Minor Officials Travel Policy
- Social Media and Electronic Communications Policy

A. Screening and Background Check Program

The purposes of USA Fencing's Background Check Program are as follows:

- Protect USA Fencing participants from known offenders so that such known offenders do not have access to USA Fencing members.
- Deter offenders that have not been caught from joining USA Fencing programs.
- Protect USA Fencing's reputation as a sport where participants are protected against abuse.

- Help protect USA Fencing, USA Fencing Clubs and their respective employees and volunteers from liability that could arise from allowing a previous offender to have access to minor participants.

1. USA Fencing Screening Policies

USA Fencing's policy includes set criteria for which a person may be disqualified and prohibited from serving as an employee or volunteer of USA Fencing or USA Fencing Clubs. Under the policy, USA Fencing will not authorize or sanction any employee or volunteer who has routine access to children unless that person consents to be screened and passes a criminal background screen conducted by USA Fencing through the Professional and Background Screening Membership program.

USA FENCING SHALL CONDUCT SCREENING OF ITSEMPLOYEES, MEMBER PROGRAMS AND INDEPENDENT CONTRACTORS AS FOLLOWS:

- All members of the USA Fencing Board of Directors, each member of a USA Fencing committee/task force and division officers shall be screened through the Professional Member program upon their election or appointment to the position and then shall be re-screened every two (2) years.
- All USA Fencing employees shall be screened as a condition of their employment and then shall be re-screened every two (2) years.
- All coaches, instructors and other staff for any USA Fencing National Team event shall be screened as a condition of being selected for such position or shall have been screened by USA Fencing within the past two (2) years.
- All USA Fencing officials for all sanctioned events that will have direct access to minor participants shall be screened through the Professional Member program. Tournament organizers are responsible for verifying the background screen status of officials. If unscreened officials are utilized, the following penalties will apply (beginning October 1, 2015):

i. 1st infraction = an event is hosted with non-compliant referees

1. Email Notice is sent to event director and non-compliant referee(s), and they have 30 days (from when Notice is sent) to rectify Background Check issue.
2. If the issue is cleared in 30 days, 1st infraction/Notice is rescinded.
3. If the issue is not cleared in 30 days, the event host will receive a Warning

ii. 2nd infraction = a second event with a non-compliant referee(s) is hosted within 12 months of the Warning being issued.

1. Email Notice is sent to event director and non-compliant referee(s), and they have 30 days (from when Notice is sent) to rectify Background Check issue.
2. If the issue is cleared in 30 days, the event host stands with the previous Warning.
3. If issue is not cleared in 30 days, the event host will receive a 6 month ban (from when Notice is sent) from hosting sanctioned events.

iii. 3rd infraction = additional non-compliant events will be referred on a case-by-case basis to a disciplinary Review Panel.

- All USA Fencing sanctioned event volunteers that will have direct access to minor participants shall be screened through the Professional Member program. This does not include volunteers who do not have direct access to minor participants.
- USA Fencing Club Screening Policies
- As a condition of its affiliation with USA Fencing, each Member and Affiliate Club must be in compliance with the requirements set forth below:

All Affiliate and Member Clubs employees, independent contractors and volunteers over the age of 18 must be USA Fencing Professional Members prior to such employees, independent contractors, and volunteers having access to youth participants. An approved screen through the USA Fencing background screen program shall be valid for two years. All previously screened persons must be re-screened every two (2) years. Coaches must be current Professional members and complete the online Safe Sport training by January 1, 2015.

In addition, members of the Club Board of Directors and/or owners, program administrators, and anyone with routine access to youth participants must be USA Fencing Professional Members.

2. USA Fencing Criminal Background Check Disqualification Criteria

Automatic Disqualifiers (“Red Light”): Convictions of, disclosure of convictions of, and pending dispositions for any of the following crimes will prompt a determination that an applicant “does not meet” the criminal background screening criteria and a red light determination will be issued:

- a. Any felony (any crime punishable by confinement greater than one year)
 - i. Defined on the basis of exposure to the offense for which the defendant was convicted, pled guilty or pled nolo contendere. If pled down, then the crime to which the defendant ultimately pled.
 - ii. Defined by all crimes punishable by greater than one year in jail or prison, regardless of how characterized by jurisdiction. If range, alternate sentencing, or indeterminate sentencing, outer range > one year.
- b. Any lesser crime involving force or threat of force against a person
- c. Any lesser crime in which sexual relations is an element, including “victimless” crimes of a sexual nature (including pornography).
- d. Any lesser crime involving controlled substances (not paraphernalia or alcohol).
- e. Any crime involving cruelty to animals
- f. Any lesser crime involving cruelty to animals
- g. Any Sex Offender Registrant
- h. Any lesser crime involving harm to a minor

3. USA Fencing Background Check Appeal Procedures

All appeals of “red light” or “adverse action letter” background checks shall be referred to a Safe Sport Coordinator (SSC) for initial evaluation, and when appropriate, for further action in accordance with USA Fencing policies and procedures. In the discharge of these duties, the SSC shall be free to consult with the Executive Director, the President, USA Fencing legal counsel and such other USA Fencing officers, officials and experts as he or she deems appropriate. The SSC shall be hired by the Executive Director. If the SSC is the subject of the complaint, the Executive Director shall serve the functions assigned by this policy to the SSC.

Any member of USA Fencing or applicant for USA Fencing membership who is denied admission or appointment to any position on the basis of a “red light” background check or an “adverse action letter” predicated on the results of a background check shall have a right to seek review of that decision in accordance with the procedures here specified.

1. Should any individual receive a “red light” finding or an “adverse action letter” based on a USA Fencing required background check and wish to contest any resulting USA Fencing decision to deny his or her application for membership or to deny him or her any USA Fencing position or appointment, that individual has a right to a review of the denial. The person who seeks review is referred to herein as “the appellant.” The appellant may act on his or her own behalf during the appeal or maybe assisted by a representative.
2. Unless otherwise notified by USA Fencing that a shorter period is required because of nomination deadlines dictated by USA Fencing, the USOC, the FIE or by prevailing circumstances, the appellant shall have 10 business days from the date that he or she is informed of the decision from which the appeal is being taken to notify the Executive Director or the Safe Sport Coordinator (SSC) of the appeal. If the appeal is made to the Executive Director, it shall be promptly referred by him to the Safe Sport Coordinator.
3. Upon receipt of an appeal, the SSC shall requested from the appellant written consent for his or her complete background check findings to be provided to the SSC and, if the appeal progresses that far, to the Board of Directors or its designee. Failure of the appellant to provide that consent within a reasonable time, as determined by the SSC, shall result in dismissal of the appeal and a waiver of the appellant’s right to seek review of the decision in question.
4. The SSC shall review any evidence and argument submitted by the appellant or on his or her behalf and shall undertake such additional investigation as the SSC believes necessary to make an initial determination of the merits of the appeal. Upon reaching that determination, the SSC shall inform the appellant thereof and shall ascertain from the appellant whether he or she wishes to proceed to a hearing by the Board of Directors or its designee.

5. If the appellant wishes to proceed, the SSC shall so inform the Executive Director, who will forward the appeal to the Board of Directors or its designee. his field in the matter, including (a) all statements, documents and other evidence obtained by him, including the background check findings; (b) the arguments and evidence submitted by the appellant or on his behalf, and (c) the SSC's recommendation whether the decision being appealed should be upheld or overruled and the reasons underlying that recommendation.
6. Upon receipt of the appeal the Board of Directors or its designee shall consider the matter as expeditiously as practical in light of other business demanding its time and attention, being mindful of how the passage of time may affect the efficacy of its final decision in the matter. If the Board has previously provided for the hearing of background check appeals by a committee of the Board, and has constituted and populated such a committee, then the President and Secretary shall refer the matter and provide the file to that committee.
7. The Board (or the designated committee in its stead) shall review the file and conduct a hearing at which it shall take such additional evidence and argument as the appellant, the SSC and officers and officials of U S A Fencing may choose to present. The decision shall be reversed if a majority of the members of the Board (or of the designated committee) present and voting concludes either (a) by a preponderance of the evidence that the background check results were based on erroneous information; or (b) that to a reasonable degree of certainty the applicant does not pose a danger to the individuals with whom he or she is expected to come into contact by virtue of the class of membership, the position or the appointment that was denied on the basis of the "red light" or "adverse action letter."
8. The Executive Director shall communicate the results of the appeal to the appellant with copies to the President, SSC, legal counsel and any other person or organization necessary to effect any change in the appellant's status resulting from the decision on appeal.
9. If the appellant disagrees with the outcome of the appeal, he or she may file a demand for arbitration with the American Arbitration Association as provided in the Bylaws. The award obtained in the arbitration shall be final and binding on all parties.
10. The intentional submission of false information or evidence in connection with any proceeding provided herein shall be grounds for disciplinary action in accordance with USA Fencing disciplinary procedures.
11. If an appeal is granted, the appellant will be required to submit a new background screen when the original background screen ruling expires. If there are no new charges on the updated background screen, the appeal will automatically renew for an additional two years.

B. USA Fencing Member Club Travel Policy

Some USA Fencing participation involves overnight travel for youth fencers to regional and national events. A travel policy provides guidelines so that care is taken to minimize one-on-one interactions between minors and adults while traveling. Further, the policy directs how minor players will be supervised between and during travel to and from competitions. Adherence to travel policies helps to reduce the opportunities for misconduct.

1. Local Travel

- The employees, coaches, and/or volunteers of a local program or team, who are not also acting as a parent/guardian, should not drive alone with an unrelated minor and should only drive with at least two other athletes or another adult at all times, unless otherwise agreed to in writing by the minor's parent.
- Where an employee, coach and/or volunteer are involved in an unrelated minor athlete's local travel, efforts should be made to ensure that the adult personnel are not alone with the unrelated athlete.
- It is recognized that in some limited instances, it will be unavoidable for an employee, coach or volunteer of a local program or team to drive alone with an unrelated minor athlete. However, efforts should be made to minimize these occurrences and to mitigate any circumstances that could lead to allegations of abuse or misconduct.

2. Organization/Club Travel

- Regardless of gender, a coach shall not share a hotel room or other sleeping arrangement with a minor athlete (unless the coach is the parent, guardian or sibling of the athlete).
- Coaches, staff, volunteers and chaperones will often travel with the athletes. No employee, coach or volunteer will engage in team travel without the proper safety requirements in place and on record, including valid drivers' licenses, automobile liability insurance as required by applicable state law, vehicle in safe working order and compliance with all state laws. All chaperones or team managers shall have been screened in compliance with the USA Fencing Screening Policy and all team drivers shall have been screened and the screen shall include a check of appropriate Department of Motor Vehicle records.
- The Club shall provide adequate supervision through coaches and other adult chaperones (for example, a recommended number would include at least one coach or adult chaperone for every five to eight athletes). If a club team is composed of both male and female athletes, then it is recommended that chaperones are arranged of the same gender.
- Athletes should share rooms with other athletes of the same gender, with the appropriate number of athletes assigned per room depending on accommodations.
- Regular monitoring and curfew checks should be made of each room by at least two properly screened adults. All coaches, staff, volunteers and chaperones travelling with a team shall be familiar with the Safe Sport Program Handbook to monitor compliance with all Safe Sport Policies.
- Individual meetings between an athlete and coach may not occur in hotel sleeping rooms.

- All athletes shall be permitted to make regular check in phone calls to parents. Team personnel shall allow for any unscheduled check in phone calls initiated by either the athlete or parents.
- The team shall make every effort to accommodate reasonable parental requests when a child is away from home without a parent.
- Specific travel itineraries will be distributed to parents when they are available and will include a detailed itinerary as well as contact information for all team personnel and chaperones.
- If disciplinary action against an athlete is required while the athlete is traveling without his/her parents, parents will be notified before any action is taken
- No coach or chaperone shall at any time be under the influence of alcohol or drugs while performing their coaching and/or chaperoning duties.
- In all cases involving travel, parents have the right to transport their minor athlete and have the minor athlete stay in their hotel room.

C. USA Fencing Lesson And Practice Policy

- All fencing practices and lessons should be open to observation by parents.
- Two-deep leadership – One professional member and at least one other adult should be present at all practices, lessons, and other sanctioned activities whenever at least one minor athlete is present.
- Open and Observable Environment – An open and observable environment should be maintained for all interactions between adults and minor athletes. Private, or one-on-one situations, should be avoided unless they are open and observable, including meetings.

D. USA Fencing Policy On Massage

1. Subject to Paragraph 5 below, only US Fencing members who hold an appropriate certification as a healthcare provider (MD, DO, DC, certified athlete trainer (ATC), physical or occupational therapist, or massage therapist (LMT, CMT) and who are appointed by USA Fencing to a team or sponsored event in an official capacity as a healthcare provider can provide massage therapy to team members.
2. Any athlete who is a minor must have a signed consent form, release or waiver of liability from his/her parents to be eligible for massage therapy services from the designated US Fencing staff. The appropriate form will be provided to all athletes in settings covered by this policy by US Fencing prior to the beginning of the covered trip, competition or camp. Any US Fencing member who engages in massage of a minor in violation of this policy shall be deemed acting in a manner detrimental to the welfare, interests or character of the US Fencing and shall be subject to disciplinary action that can result in suspension, expulsion or denial of membership.
3. Under no circumstances will an athlete be required to be naked to receive massage services from the designated staff. At a minimum, all athletes will wear shorts and females will additionally wear a bra or top. In all cases, the athlete will also be appropriately draped during the massage.
4. Although the US Fencing has no authority over private activities involving US Fencing members in private settings, it nevertheless recommends due diligence by all members of US Fencing to avoid unprofessional conduct, exploitation or abuse involving massage.

5. Nothing in this policy is meant to prohibit ad hoc massage of athletes in exigent circumstances by others (for example a coach or teammate) in a public setting when the personnel designated in Section 1 are not immediately available (for example, massage of the extremities due to cramping during a bout).
6. Any USA Fencing member who provides massages in violation of this policy may be subject to disciplinary action as described above.

E. USA FENCING TRAVEL POLICIES FOR MINOR OFFICIALS

1. Section 1 – Policies for both the Minor Officials & Supervisors

The following policies apply to persons under the age of 18 who serve as officials at USA Fencing events (“Minor Officials”).

1. For each National event attended by a Minor Official under 18 years of age that requires travel, the Minor Official and his or her parent/guardian on file with USA Fencing must complete the Travel Authorization for Minor Officials form, and must indicate the Supervisor (a parent or guardian, designated family member, or designated USA Fencing Professional member) who will be responsible for the Minor Official during USA Fencing Travel. The form must be completed for each National event and given to the hiring official and the National Office *prior to making travel arrangements*.
2. Regardless of gender, a Supervisor shall not share a hotel room or other sleeping arrangement with a Minor Official (unless the Supervisor is the parent, guardian, sibling or relative of that particular Minor Official).
3. When a Minor Official is not traveling with a parent, guardian, sibling or relative, during USA Fencing Travel, the Minor Official shall always room with Minor Officials or fencing club mates of a similar age, when reasonably possible, and always with a minor official of the same gender; when a Minor Official cannot room with another Minor Official of the same gender, the Minor Official will have a single room and no roommates; USA Fencing will cover half the single room cost at the USA Fencing negotiated volunteer staff rate.
4. Curfews shall be established by the Supervisor each day of the event.
5. The Supervisor (if not the parent/guardian) should carry a signed Minor Officials Medical Treatment Authorization & Consent Form for each Minor Official.

2. Section 2 – Policies for the Minor Official

To ensure the propriety of the Minor Official and the Supervisor, there will be no males in a female’s room and no females in a male’s room at any time (except for a parent, guardian, sibling or relative).

1. *Behavior.* During overnight USA Fencing Travel, Minor Officials shall:
 - i. Be quiet and respect the rights of all tournament officials, USA Fencing staff and other guests in the hotel;
 - ii. Stay in the assigned hotel room; and
 - iii. Acknowledge that the needs and interests of USA Fencing come first.
2. *Financial.* During overnight USA Fencing Travel, Minor Officials are responsible for any:
 - i. Incidental charges at the hotel.

3. Section 3 – Policies for the Supervisor. The Supervisor shall be:

- a. Assigned and shall assume responsibility for the Minor Official for the entire duration of the National Event.
- b. The point of contact in an emergency situation to head referee, bout committee chair, and USA Fencing staff;
- c. Provided Minor Official's personal medical insurance and emergency contact information prior to the beginning of the event and shall keep such information available throughout the duration of the event
- d. Responsible for ensuring that the Minor Official is not participating in unsafe or unsupervised activities;
- e. Be responsible for checking-in with Minor Official multiple times each day;
- f. Responsible for making a written report of travel policy or code of conduct violations to USA Fencing Official Commission, and the National Office, in addition to the parent or legal guardian of the subject Minor Official.

- F. USA FENCING SOCIAL MEDIA AND ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATIONS POLICY** is part of USA Fencing's emphasis on participant safety, communications involving our minor participants should be appropriate, productive, and transparent. Effective communication concerning practice, event and administrative issues among coaches, administrators, athletes and their families is critical.

However, the use of mobile devices, web-based applications, social media, and other forms of electronic communications increases the possibility for improprieties and misunderstandings and also provides potential offenders with unsupervised and potentially inappropriate access to participants. The improper use of mobile and electronic communications can result in misconduct. Adherence to the Social Media and Electronic Communications Policy helps reduce these risks.

All electronic communication between coach and athlete must be for the purpose of communicating information about fencing activities. Coaches, athletes and all administrators must follow common sense guidelines regarding the volume and time of day of any allowed electronic communication. All content between coaches and athletes should be readily available to share with the public or families of the athlete or coach. If the athlete is under the age of 18, any email, text, social media, or similar communication must also copy or include the athlete's parents.

VIII. FORMS

A. USAFENCING SAFESPORT ABUSEREPORTINGFORM



USAFENCING SAFESPORT ABUSEREPORTINGFORM

Reporting Abuse

USA Fencing recognizes it can be difficult for an athlete, teammate, friend or family member to report an allegation of misconduct and strives to remove as many barriers to reporting as possible. You may remain anonymous if you wish. However, where appropriate, the investigative process may require further input and anonymous reporting may make it difficult for USA Fencing to move forward with an investigation.

USA Fencing requires reporting of physical, sexual or other misconduct by any member and strongly encourages reporting of any concerns relating to safe sport. USA Fencing appreciates your willingness to report inappropriate behavior. By submitting this form, you are giving permission to USA Fencing's Safe Sport Program staff to contact you. Out of respect for the importance of this issue and to encourage honest and effective reporting, knowingly making a false or vindictive report will not be tolerated and may be a violation of USA Fencing's Code of Conduct.

A report of abuse, misconduct or policy violation that is malicious, frivolous or made in bad faith is prohibited. Such reports will be considered a violation of USA Fencing's Safe Sport policies and grounds for disciplinary action. Depending on the nature of the allegation, a person making a malicious, frivolous or bad-faith report may also be subject to civil or criminal proceedings.

*Must be completed

Person Being Reported

Provide as much information as possible about the person you are reporting.

First Name * _____

Last Name * _____

Position or Role * _____

Age or Approximate Age * _____

Gender (circle one): Male Female

Club Affiliation * _____

Position(s) this individual holds or held (circle or insert all that apply):

Head Coach Assistant Coach Athlete

Official Other _____

ALLEGED MISCONDUCT INFORMATION

Please provide as much specific information as you are able.

Type of Misconduct (circle or insert all that apply) *

Bullying Emotional
Hazing Physical
Harassment Sexual
Other _____

Location(s) where the incident(s) took place: * _____
City, state, specific location, etc. Or "Unknown." _____

Date(s) or Approximate Date(s) of Misconduct: * _____

Description of Alleged Misconduct: * _____
Please include as much detail as possible (use separate sheet if necessary)

Knowledge of victim(s) involved in alleged offense (circle one):

I can identify the victim(s) involved.
I cannot identify the victim(s) involved.



VICTIM OR VICTIMS

Please identify the victim below. If you wish the victim to remain anonymous (whether the victim is yourself or someone else), then please enter the name as *Anonymous*. You may also be unaware of who the victim is. In this case, please enter, "*Unknown*."

First Name (or *Anonymous* or *Unknown*): * _____

Last Name (or *Anonymous* or *Unknown*): * _____

Age or Approximate Age * _____

Gender: Male Female

Additional Information: _____

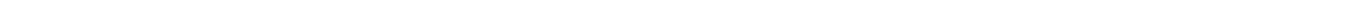
Fill this section out if additional victims are involved.

First Name (or *Anonymous* or *Unknown*): * _____

Last Name (or *Anonymous* or *Unknown*): * _____

Age or Approximate Age * _____

Gender: Male Female



Additional Information: _____

(Use separate sheet if necessary)

YOUR NAME AND RELATIONSHIP TO VICTIM(S)

At your option, you may identify yourself and your relationship to the victim. Alternatively, you may remain anonymous if you wish. However, where appropriate, the investigative process may require further input, and therefore anonymous reporting may make it difficult for USA Fencing to move forward with an investigation.

First Name (or *Anonymous* or *Unknown*):* _____

Last Name (or *Anonymous* or *Unknown*):* _____

Phone: (_____) _____ - _____

E-Mail Address: _____

Relationship to Victim:

Self	Parent/Guardian
Other Family Member	Friend or Acquaintance
Club Member	Coach or Volunteer
Prefer Not to Say	Other _____

INDIVIDUAL(S) WHOMAY HAVE ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

List anyone who maybe able to provide *additional information* regarding the alleged offense. We will not identify you when we contact these individuals.

First Name (or *Anonymous* or *Unknown*):* _____

Last Name (or *Anonymous* or *Unknown*):* _____

Phone: (_____) _____ - _____

E-Mail Address: _____

Relationship to Victim:

Self	Parent/Guardian
Other Family Member	Friend or Acquaintance
Club Member	Coach or Volunteer
Prefer Not to Say	Other _____

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Please provide any other information that you feel would be helpful to an investigation of the alleged offense you have reported

B. TRAVEL AUTHORIZATION FOR MINOR OFFICIALS

**TRAVEL AUTHORIZATION
FOR MINOR OFFICIALS**

“USA Fencing Travel” is defined as travel to or from a USA Fencing National Event. A “Minor Official” is a fencing official under eighteen years of age. USA Fencing Travel by a Minor Official must be supervised by a parent, legal guardian or designated family member of the Minor Official, or a designated USA Fencing Professional member who has passed a background check (each, a “Supervisor”).

For each National Event attended by a Minor Official under 18 years of age that requires travel, the Minor Official must complete this Travel Authorization for Minor Officials form, and must indicate the Supervisor (a parent, legal guardian, designated family member or designated USA Fencing Professional member) who will be responsible for the Minor Official during USA Fencing Travel. The form must be completed for each such event and submitted to the hiring official and the National Office, prior to making travel arrangements. If a parent, legal guardian or designated family member is designated as the Supervisor, the parent, legal guardian, or designated family member must travel with the Minor Official to and from the National Event. If a USA Fencing Professional member is Minor Official designated as the Supervisor, the designated USA Fencing Professional will be responsible for the Minor Official from the time the Minor Official arrives at the designated hotel or location of the USA Fencing National event until the Minor Official departs for the airport to return home.

Minor Official's Name: _____

Committee: _____

Event Date(s): _____

Location: _____

Departure _____

Date: _____

_____ Return Date: _____

_____ Responsibility for the Minor Official (check one): Parent/Legal
Guardian: _____

Designated Family Member: _____

Relationship: _____

USA Fencing Professional Member: _____

MINOR OFFICIAL:

As a Minor Official member of USA Fencing, I understand and agree to comply with this Travel Authorization for Minor Officials.

Minor Official's Signature

Minor Official's Name (Print)

Date: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

PARENT/GUARDIAN (check one):

As the parent or guardian of the above-named Minor Official, I will be traveling with the Minor Official to the National Event and will be responsible for my child during the duration of the National Event.

As the parent or guardian of the above-named Minor Official, I authorize the designated family member to travel with the Minor Official to the National Event. The designated family member will be responsible for my child during the duration of the National Event.

As the parent or guardian of the above-named Minor Official, I authorize the designated USA Fencing Professional member below to be responsible for my child during the duration of the National Event. I understand that the designated USA Fencing Professional member will be responsible for the Minor Official from the time the Minor Official arrives at the hotel or location of the National Event until the Minor Official departs for the airport to return home.

Parent's/Guardian's Signature Parent's/Guardian's Name(Print)

Date: _____ Relationship: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

DESIGNATED SUPERVISOR:

As the parent/guardian, designated family member, or designated USA Fencing Professional member (the "Supervisor"), I understand and will comply with the following guidelines. A signature on this document constitutes unconditional agreement to comply with the stipulations of the document.

Policies for the Official Supervisor.

The Official Supervisor shall be:

- g. Assigned and shall assume responsibility for the Minor Official for the entire duration of the event
- h. The point of contact in an emergency situation for the Minor Official;
- i. Provided Minor Official's personal medical insurance and emergency contact information prior to the beginning of the event and shall keep such information available throughout the event;
- j. Responsible for ensuring that the Minor Official is not participating in unsafe or unsupervised activities;
- k. Be responsible for checking-in with Minor Official multiple times each day;
- l. Responsible for overseeing established curfew; and
- m. Responsible for making a written report of travel policy or Honor Code violations to USA Fencing's National Office and the Fencing Officials Commission, in addition to the parent or legal guardian of the Minor Official.

I hereby agree to comply with the policies set forth above in connection with supervision of the Minor Official listed above during the USA Fencing National Event referenced above.

Supervisor's Signature Supervisor's Name(Print)

Date: _____

Cell Phone: _____ Email: _____

C. TRAVEL POLICY FOR OFFICIALS WHO ARE MINORS

TRAVEL POLICY FOR OFFICIALS WHO ARE MINORS

As a fencing member/official under eighteen years of age ("Minor Member/Official") and parent of a Minor Member/Official, respectively, of USA Fencing, we understand and agree to comply with the following USA Fencing policies. Signatures on this document constitute unconditional agreement to comply with the stipulations of the document.

"USA Fencing Travel" is defined as travel to or from a USA Fencing National event. USA Fencing Travel by a Minor Official must be supervised by a parent/guardian of the Minor Official or a designated family member or a designated USA Fencing Professional member who has successfully passed a background check, (each, a "Supervisor").

Section 1 – Policies for both the Minor Official & Supervisor

6. The Travel Policy for Minor Officials and Minor Officials Medical Treatment Authorization & Consent must be signed and agreed to by the Minor Official and his or her parent/guardian and on file with USA Fencing.
7. For each National event attended by a Minor Official under 18 years of age that requires travel, the Minor Official must complete the Travel Authorization for Minor Officials form, and must indicate the Supervisor (a parent or guardian, designated family member, or designated USA Fencing Professional member) who will be responsible for the Minor Official during USA Fencing Travel. The form must be completed for each National event and given to the hiring official and the National Office *prior to making travel arrangements*.
8. Regardless of gender, a Supervisor shall not share a hotel room or other sleeping arrangement with a Minor Official (unless the Supervisor is the parent, guardian, sibling or relative of that particular Minor Official).
9. When a Minor Official is not traveling with a parent, guardian, sibling or relative, during USA Fencing Travel, the Minor Official shall always room with Minor Officials or fencing club mates of a similar age, when reasonably possible, and always with a minor official of the same gender; when a Minor Official cannot room with another Minor Official of the same gender, the Minor Official will have a single room and no roommates; USA Fencing will cover half the single room cost at the USA Fencing negotiated volunteer staff rate.
10. Curfews shall be established by the Supervisor each day of the event.
11. The directions and decisions of the Supervisor are final.
12. The Supervisor (if not the parent/guardian) should carry a signed Minor Officials Medical Treatment Authorization & Consent Form for each Minor Official.

Section 2 – Policies for the Minor Official

3. To ensure the propriety of the Minor Official and the Supervisor, there will be no males in a female's room and no females in a male's room at any time (except for a parent, guardian, sibling or relative).
4. *Behavior*. During overnight USA Fencing Travel, Minor Officials shall:
 - i. Be quiet and respect the rights of all tournament officials, USA Fencing staff and other guests in the hotel;

- ii. Stay in the assigned hotel room; and
 - iii. Acknowledge that the needs and interests of USA Fencing come first.
5. *Financial.* During overnight USA Fencing Travel, Minor Officials are responsible for any:
- i. Incidental charges at the hotel.
 - ii. If placed in a single room, the minor will cover half the room cost at the USA Fencing negotiated volunteer staff rate.

Section 3– Policies for the Supervisor. The Supervisor shall be:

- n. Assigned and shall assume responsibility for the Minor Official for the entire duration of the National Event.
- o. The point of contact in an emergency situation to head referee, bout committee chair, and USA Fencing staff;
- p. Provided Minor Official's personal medical insurance and emergency contact information prior to the beginning of the event and shall keep such information available throughout the duration of the event
- q. Responsible for ensuring that the Minor Official is not participating in unsafe or unsupervised activities;
- r. Be responsible for checking-in with Minor Official multiple times each day;
- s. Responsible for making a written report of travel policy or code of conduct violations to USA Fencing Official Commission, and the National Office, in addition to the parent or legal guardian of the subject Minor Official.

I hereby agree to the policies set forth above in connection with all USA Fencing Travel.

Minor Official's Signature	Minor Official's Name (Print)
Date: _____	
Phone: _____	Email: _____
Minor Official's DOB: _	Minor Official's Gender (M/F): _

Parent's/Guardian's Signature	Parent's/Guardian's Name (Print)
Date: _____	Relationship: _____
Phone: _____	Email: _____

D. MINOR OFFICIALS MEDICAL TREATMENT AUTHORIZATION AND CONSENT

Confidential

MINOR OFFICIALS MEDICAL TREATMENT AUTHORIZATION AND CONSENT

This form grants temporary authority to a designated adult ("Supervisor") to provide and arrange for medical care for the fencing official under eighteen years of age ("Minor Official") in the event of an emergency, where the Minor Official is not accompanied by either parents or legal guardians, and it may not be feasible or practical to contact them. This form should be carried by the Supervisor of the Minor Official.

Minor

Full Legal Name: _____

Home Address: _____

Date of Birth: _____ Gender: _____ Female _____

Male _____

Information for Medical Treatment

Physician's Name and Location of Practice:

Physician's Phone # (if known): (_ _) _

Medical Insurer/Health Plan: _____ Policy #: _____

Allergies to Medications:

Allergies (Other):

Please note all conditions for which the child is currently receiving treatment:

Note any other significant medical information:

AUTHORIZATION AND CONSENT OF PARENT(S) OR LEGAL GUARDIAN(S)

I do hereby state that I have legal custody of the aforementioned Minor. I grant my authorization and consent for _____ (hereafter "Supervisor") to administer general first aid treatment for any minor injuries or illnesses experienced by the Minor. If the injury or illness is life threatening or in need of emergency treatment, I authorize the Supervisor to summon any and all professional emergency personnel to attend, transport, and treat the minor and to issue consent for any X-ray, anesthetic, blood transfusion, medication, or other medical diagnosis, treatment, or hospital care deemed advisable by, and to be rendered under the general supervision of, any licensed physician, surgeon, dentist, hospital, or other medical professional or institution duly licensed to practice in the state in which such treatment is to occur. I authorize the Designated Supervisor to act as my agent to receive, procure, store, and issue any medications which are prescribed for the Minor. I agree to assume financial responsibility for all expenses of such care.

It is understood that this authorization is given in advance of any such medical treatment, but is given to provide authority and power on the part of the Supervisor in the exercise of his or her best judgment upon the advice of any such medical or emergency personnel.

By signing below, I release and hold harmless USA Fencing and its directors, officers, employees, members, volunteers, other participants and agents, of and from, and do discharge and waive, any and all claims, demands, losses, damages, and liabilities related to providing, obtaining or consenting to medical care and obtaining protected health information pursuant to this authorization and consent.

This authorization is effective through: _____.

Signed this _____ day of _____, 20 _____.

Parent/Legal Guardian Signature: _____

Printed Name: _____

Relationship: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Name of Event: _____

Dates of Event: _____

Witness Signature: _____

Printed Name: _____

Confidential

NOTARY FORM
STATE OF _____)
COUNTY OF _____)

I, _____, a Notary Public, do hereby certify that on this _____ day of _____, 201____, personally appeared before me _____, known to me to be the person whose name is subscribed to the foregoing instrument, and swore and acknowledged to me that he executed the same for the purpose and in the capacity therein expressed, and that the statements contained therein are true and correct.

Notary Public, State of _____
Name, Typed or Printed: _____
My Commission Expires: _____

Section 2 – Policies for the Minor Official

6. To ensure the propriety of the Minor Official and the Supervisor, there will be no males in a female's room and no females in a male's room at any time (except for a parent, guardian, sibling or relative).
7. *Behavior.* During overnight USA Fencing Travel, Minor Officials shall:
 - i. Be quiet and respect the rights of all tournament officials, USA Fencing staff and other guests in the hotel;
 - ii. Stay in the assigned hotel room; and
 - iii. Acknowledge that the needs and interests of USA Fencing come first.
8. *Financial.* During overnight USA Fencing Travel, Minor Officials are responsible for any:
 - i. Incidental charges at the hotel.
 - ii. If placed in a single room, the minor will cover half the room cost at the USA Fencing negotiated volunteer staff rate.

Section 3 – Policies for the Supervisor. The Supervisor shall be:

- t. Assigned and shall assume responsibility for the Minor Official for the entire duration of the National Event.
- u. The point of contact in an emergency situation to head referee, bout committee chair, and USA Fencing staff;
- v. Provided Minor Official's personal medical insurance and emergency contact information prior to the beginning of the event and shall keep such information available throughout the duration of the event
- w. Responsible for ensuring that the Minor Official is not participating in unsafe or unsupervised activities;
- x. Be responsible for checking-in with Minor Official multiple times each day;
- y. Responsible for making a written report of travel policy or code of conduct violations to USA Fencing Official Commission, and the National Office, in addition to the parent or legal guardian of the subject Minor Official.

I hereby agree to the policies set forth above in connection with all USA Fencing Travel.

_____ Minor Official's Signature	_____ Minor Official's Name (Print)
_____ Date:	_____ Email:
_____ Phone:	_____ Minor Official's Gender (M/F):
_____ Minor Official's DOB: _	_____ Minor Official's Gender (M/F): _

_____ Parent's/Guardian's Signature	_____ Parent's/Guardian's Name (Print)
_____ Date:	_____ Relationship:
_____ Phone:	_____ Email:

Minor Officials Medical Treatment Authorization Consent Form and Travel Authorization for Minor Officials form are available from the hiring official and/or the National Office (information@usfencing.org).

Appendix 1

1.1 2015/16 USA Fencing Events

October NAC	Division I, Division II, Cadet, Wheelchair, & Senior Team	Richmond, VA	October 9-12, 2015
Registration Opens		August 1, 2015	
Regular Fee Entry Deadline		August 31, 2015	
Triple Fee Entry Deadline (Online Only)		September 14, 2015	
Withdraw Deadline		September 14, 2015	
Classification Change/Seeding Deadline		September 28, 2015	
November NAC	Junior, Cadet & Youth 14	Kansas City, MO	November 13-16, 2015
Registration Opens		September 8, 2015	
Regular Fee Entry Deadline		October 5, 2015	
Triple Fee Entry Deadline (Online Only)		October 19, 2015	
Withdraw Deadline		October 19, 2015	
Classification Change/Seeding Deadline		November 2, 2015	
December NAC	Division I, Division II & Veteran	Baltimore, MD	December 4-7, 2015
Registration Opens		September 28, 2015	
Regular Fee Entry Deadline		October 26, 2015	
Triple Fee Entry Deadline (Online Only)		November 9, 2015	
Withdraw Deadline		November 9, 2015	
Classification Change/Seeding Deadline		November 23, 2015	
January NAC	Division I, Junior, Wheelchair & Senior Team	St. Louis, MO	January 8-11, 2016
Registration Opens		November 2, 2015	
Regular Fee Entry Deadline		November 30, 2015	
Triple Fee Entry Deadline (Online Only)		December 14, 2015	
Withdraw Deadline		December 14, 2015	
Classification Change/Seeding Deadline		December 28, 2015	
Junior Olympic Fencing Championships	Junior, Cadet & Junior Team	Cleveland, OH	February 12-15, 2016
Registration Opens		December 7, 2015	
Division Qualifying Reports Due – within 10 business days of the qualifier and no later than:		January 4, 2016	
Regular Fee Entry & Petition Deadline		January 11, 2016	
Triple Fee Entry Deadline (Online Only)		January 25, 2016	
Withdraw Deadline		January 25, 2016	
Classification Change/Seeding Deadline		February 1, 2016	

March NAC	Division II, Youth 10, Youth 12, Youth 14, & Y14 Team	Salt Lake City, UT	March 11-14, 2016
Registration Opens		January 4, 2016	
Regular Fee Entry Deadline		February 1, 2016	
Triple Fee Entry Deadline (Online Only)		February 15, 2016	
Withdraw Deadline		February 15, 2016	
Classification Change/Seeding Dead line		February 29, 2016	
April NAC & Championships	Championship: Division 1/DV1 Team & Wheelchair NAC: Division III, Veteran & Veteran Team	Richmond, VA	April 8-11, 2016
Registration Opens		February 1, 2016	
Regular Fee Entry Deadline		February 29, 2016	
Triple Fee Entry Deadline (Online Only)		March 14, 2016	
Withdraw Deadline		March 14, 2016	
Classification Change/Seeding Dead line		March 28, 2016	
USA Fencing Championships & July Challenge	Championship: DIA, DV II, DV III, Veteran Age, Y10, Y12, Y14 & Senior Team Invitational: Division I, Junior, Cadet	Dallas, TX	June 29 – July 8, 2016
Day Schedule Available		TBD	
Registration Opens		March 21, 2016	
Qualifying Reports Due – within 10 business days and no later than:		May 9, 2016	
Regular Fee Entry & Petition Deadline		May 16, 2016	
Triple Fee Entry Deadline (Online Only)		May 31, 2016	
Withdraw Deadline		May 31, 2016	
Check-In Schedule Posted		week of June 6, 2016	
Classification Change/Seeding Dead line		June 13, 2016	

Appendix 2 Reference Tables

2.1 Domestic Point Table

P L A C E	NATIONAL COMPETITION							P L A C E
				<i>CadetDE</i>	<i>JuniorDE</i>	<i>Division I</i>	<i>Division I</i>	
	Y10	Y12	Y14	<i>Without</i>	<i>Without</i>	<i>With</i>	<i>Without</i>	
				<i>Repêchage</i>	<i>Repêchage</i>	<i>Repêchage</i>	<i>Repêchage</i>	
1	100	150	200	400	600	1000	1000	1
2	92	138	184	368	552	920	920	2
3	85	127.5	170	340	510	850	850	3
3	85	127.5	170	340	510	850	850	3
5	70	105	140	280	420	700	700	5
6	69.5	104.25	139	278	417	695	695	6
7	69	103.5	138	276	414	690	690	7
8	68.5	102.75	137	274	411	685	685	8
9	53.5	80.25	107	214	321	535	535	9
10	53	79.5	106	212	318	533	530	10
11	52.5	78.75	105	210	315	531	525	11
12	52	78	104	208	312	529	520	12
13	51.5	77.25	103	206	309	506	515	13
14	51	76.5	102	204	306	504	510	14
15	50.5	75.75	101	202	303	502	505	15
16	50	75	100	200	300	500	500	16
17	35	52.5	70	140	210	350	350	17
18	34.5	51.75	69	138	207	348	345	18
19	34	51	68	136	204	346	340	19
20	33.5	50.25	67	134	201	344	335	20
21	33	49.5	66	132	198	342	330	21
22	32.5	48.75	65	130	195	340	325	22
23	32	48	64	128	192	338	320	23
24	31.5	47.25	63	126	189	336	315	24
25	31	46.5	62	124	186	289	310	25
26	30.5	45.75	61	122	183	287	305	26
27	30	45	60	120	180	285	300	27
28	29.5	44.25	59	118	177	283	295	28
29	29	43.5	58	116	174	281	290	29
30	28.5	42.75	57	114	171	279	285	30
31	28	42	56	112	168	277	280	31
32	27.5	41.25	55	110	165	275	275	32

2.2 Points for Placements of 33-64 when field = 160 or more fencers (unless specified in weapon specific selection criteria)

P L A C E	NATIONAL COMPETITION- Continued							P L A C E
				<i>CadetDE</i>	<i>JuniorDE</i>	<i>DivisionI</i>	<i>DivisionI</i>	
	Y10	Y12	Y14	<i>Without</i>	<i>Without</i>	<i>With</i>	<i>Without</i>	
				<i>Repêchage</i>	<i>Repêchage</i>	<i>Repêchage</i>	<i>Repêchage</i>	
33	12.5	18.75	25	50	70	100	100	33
34	12.25	18.375	24.5	49	69	99	99	34
35	12	18	24	48	68	98	98	35
36	11.75	17.625	23.5	47	67	97	97	36
37	11.5	17.25	23	46	66	96	96	37
38	11.25	16.875	22.5	45	65	95	95	38
39	11	16.5	22	44	64	94	94	39
40	10.75	16.125	21.5	43	63	93	93	40
41	10.5	15.75	21	42	62	92	92	41
42	10.25	15.375	20.5	41	61	91	91	42
43	10	15	20	40	60	90	90	43
44	9.75	14.625	19.5	39	59	89	89	44
45	9.5	14.25	19	38	58	88	88	45
46	9.25	13.875	18.5	37	57	87	87	46
47	9	13.5	18	36	56	86	86	47
48	8.75	13.125	17.5	35	55	85	85	48
49	8.5	12.75	17	34	54	84	84	49
50	8.25	12.375	16.5	33	53	83	83	50
51	8	12	16	32	52	82	82	51
52	7.75	11.625	15.5	31	51	81	81	52
53	7.5	11.25	15	30	50	80	80	53
54	7.25	10.875	14.5	29	49	79	79	54
55	7	10.5	14	28	48	78	78	55
56	6.75	10.125	13.5	27	47	77	77	56
57	6.5	9.75	13	26	46	76	76	57
58	6.25	9.375	12.5	25	45	75	75	58
59	6	9	12	24	44	74	74	59
60	5.75	8.625	11.5	23	43	73	73	60
61	5.5	8.25	11	22	42	72	72	61
62	5.25	7.875	10.5	21	41	71	71	62
63	5	7.5	10	20	40	70	70	63
64	4.75	7.125	9.5	19	39	69	69	64

2.3 Veteran Point Table

PLACE	VETERAN COMBINED	PLACE	VETERAN COMBINED	PLACE	VETERAN AGE GROUP	PLACE	VETERAN AGE GROUP
1	600	33	100	1	400	33	70
2	552	34	99	2	368	34	69
3	510	35	98	3	340	35	68
3	510	36	97	3	340	36	67
5	420	37	96	5	280	37	66
6	417	38	95	6	278	38	65
7	414	39	94	7	276	39	64
8	411	40	93	8	274	40	63
9	321	41	92	9	214	41	62
10	318	42	91	10	212	42	61
11	315	43	90	11	210	43	60
12	312	44	89	12	208	44	59
13	309	45	88	13	206	45	58
14	306	46	87	14	204	46	57
15	303	47	86	15	202	47	56
16	300	48	85	16	200	48	55
17	210	49	84	17	140	49	54
18	207	50	83	18	138	50	53
19	204	51	82	19	136	51	52
20	201	52	81	20	134	52	51
21	198	53	80	21	132	53	50
22	195	54	79	22	130	54	49
23	192	55	78	23	128	55	48
24	189	56	77	24	126	56	47
25	186	57	76	25	124	57	46
26	183	58	75	26	122	58	45
27	180	59	74	27	120	59	44
28	177	60	73	28	118	60	43
29	174	61	72	29	116	61	42
30	171	62	71	30	114	62	41
31	168	63	70	31	112	63	40
32	165	64	69	32	110	64	39
WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS BONUS PTS							
FOR ROLLING STANDINGS ONLY							
1	1000	5	700				
2	920	6	695				
3	850	7	690				
3	850	8	685				

2.4 International Point Tables
Refer to [Chapter 3](#), [Chapters 5-10](#) for application.

<i>Place</i>	SENIOR "A", GP & WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS		<i>PLACE</i>	SENIOR "A" & GP	
SR SF =	1.0	SR SF = 2.0			SR SF = 2.0
1	1200	2400	33	142	284
2	1104	2208	34	141.5	283
3	1020	2040	35	141	282
3	1020	2040	36	140.5	281
5	840	1680	37	140	280
6	834	1668	38	139.5	279
7	828	1656	39	139	278
8	822	1644	40	138.5	277
9	642	1284	41	138	276
10	636	1272	42	137.5	275
11	630	1260	43	137	274
12	624	1248	44	136.5	273
13	618	1236	45	136	272
14	612	1224	46	135.5	271
15	606	1212	47	135	270
16	600	1200	48	134.5	269
17	420	840	49	134	268
18	414	828	50	133.5	267
19	408	816	51	133	266
20	402	804	52	132.5	265
21	396	792	53	132	264
22	390	780	54	131.5	263
23	384	768	55	131	262
24	378	756	56	130.5	261
25	350	700	57	130	260
26	346	692	58	129.5	259
27	342	684	59	129	258
28	338	676	60	128.5	257
29	334	668	61	128	256
30	330	660	62	127.5	255
31	326	652	63	127	254
32	322	644	64	126.5	253

Determine points by multiplying actual strength factor (maximum value 2.0)
* Junior - Determine points by multiplying actual strength factor (maximum value 2.0)

P L A C E	CADET INT'L	CADET WORLD CHAMP.	P L A C E	JUNIOR "A" & WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS	
	WV/SF=1.0	WV/SF=1.0		WV/SF=1.0	WV/SF*=2.0
1	700	800	1	600	1200
2	644	736	2	552	1104
3	595	680	3	510	1020
3	595	680	3	510	1020
5	490	560	5	420	840
6	487	556	6	417	834
7	483	552	7	414	828
8	480	548	8	411	822
9	375	428	9	321	642
10	371	424	10	318	636
11	368	420	11	315	630
12	364	416	12	312	624
13	361	412	13	309	618
14	357	408	14	306	612
15	354	404	15	303	606
16	350	400	16	300	600
17	245	280	17	210	420
18	242	276	18	207	414
19	238	272	19	204	408
20	235	268	20	201	402
21	231	264	21	198	396
22	228	260	22	195	390
23	224	256	23	192	384
24	221	252	24	189	378
25	217	248	25	186	372
26	214	244	26	183	366
27	210	240	27	180	360
28	207	236	28	177	354
29	203	232	29	174	348
30	200	228	30	171	342
31	196	224	31	168	336
32	193	220	32	165	330

2.4 Regional Point Table (SYC, and ROC)

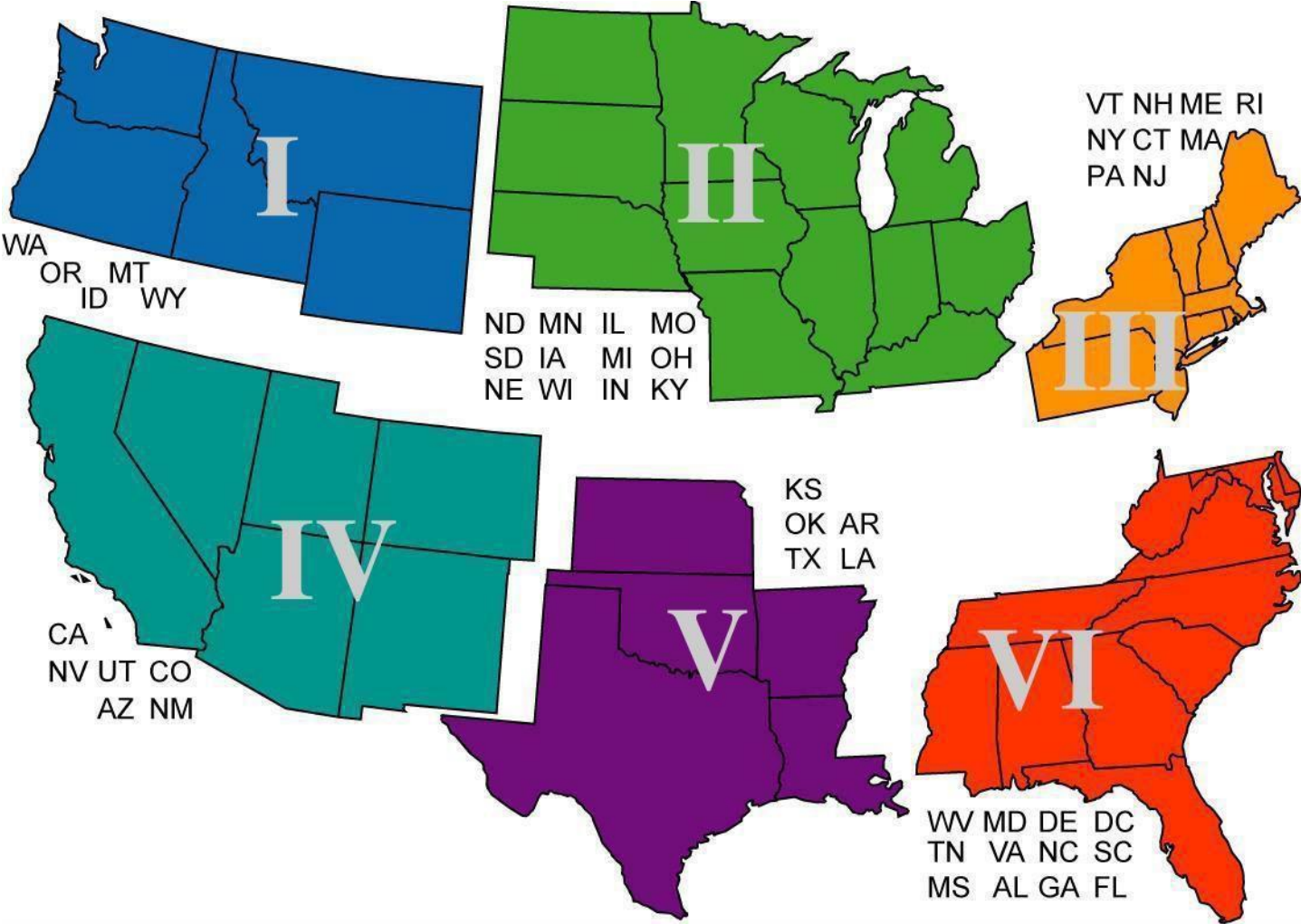
P L A C E	CATEGORY OF COMPETITION						P L A C E
				D1A (DVIw/o Repêchage)	DV2	VET (DVIw/o Repêchage)	
	Domestic Youth10	Domestic Y12	Domestic Y14				
	<i>Used for Super Youth</i>			<i>Used for ROC</i>	<i>Used for ROC</i>	<i>Used for ROC</i>	
1	80	120	160	1000	500	1000	1
2	73.6	110.4	147.2	920	460	920	2
3	68	102	136	850	425	850	3
3	68	102	136	850	425	850	3
5	56	84	112	700	350	700	5
6	55.6	83.4	111.2	695	347.5	695	6
7	55.2	82.8	110.4	690	345	690	7
8	54.8	82.2	109.6	685	342.5	685	8
9	42.8	64.2	85.6	535	267.5	535	9
10	42.4	63.6	84.8	530	265	530	10
11	42	63	84	525	262.5	525	11
12	41.6	62.4	83.2	520	260	520	12
13	41.2	61.8	82.4	515	257.5	515	13
14	40.8	61.2	81.6	510	255	510	14
15	40.4	60.6	80.8	505	252.5	505	15
16	40	60	80	500	250	500	16
17	28	42	56	350	175	350	17
18	27.6	41.4	55.2	345	172.5	345	18
19	27.2	40.8	54.4	340	170	340	19
20	26.8	40.2	53.6	335	167.5	335	20
21	26.4	39.6	52.8	330	165	330	21
22	26	39	52	325	162.5	325	22
23	25.6	38.4	51.2	320	160	320	23
24	25.2	37.8	50.4	315	157.5	315	24
25	24.8	37.2	49.6	310	155	310	25
26	24.4	36.6	48.8	305	152.5	305	26
27	24	36	48	300	150	300	27
28	23.6	35.4	47.2	295	147.5	295	28
29	23.2	34.8	46.4	290	145	290	29
30	22.8	34.2	45.6	285	142.5	285	30
31	22.4	33.6	44.8	280	140	280	31
32	22	33	44	275	137.5	275	32

Regional Points for Placements of 33-64

P L A C E	SUPERYOUTH				ROC			P L A C E
	Y10	Y12	Y14		D1A	DV2	VET	
33	10	15	20		270	135	270	33
34	9.8	14.70	19.6		265	132.5	265	34
35	9.6	14.4	19.2		260	130	260	35
36	9.4	14.10	18.8		255	127.5	255	36
37	9.2	13.8	18.4		250	125	250	37
38	9	13.50	18		245	122.5	245	38
39	8.8	13.2	17.6		240	120	240	39
40	8.6	12.90	17.2		235	117.5	235	40
41	8.4	12.6	16.8		230	115	230	41
42	8.2	12.30	16.4		225	112.5	225	42
43	8	12	16		220	110	220	43
44	7.8	11.70	15.6		215	107.5	215	44
45	7.6	11.4	15.2		210	105	210	45
46	7.4	11.10	14.8		205	102.5	205	46
47	7.2	10.8	14.4		200	100	200	47
48	7	11.30	15.6		195	97.5	195	48
49	6.8	10.2	13.6		190	95	190	49
50	6.6	9.90	13.2		185	92.5	185	50
51	6.4	9.6	12.8		180	90	180	51
52	6.2	9.30	12.4		175	87.5	175	52
53	6	9	12		170	85	170	53
54	5.8	8.70	11.6		165	82.5	165	54
55	5.6	8.4	11.2		160	80	160	55
56	5.4	8.10	10.8		155	77.5	155	56
57	5.2	7.8	10.4		150	75	150	57
58	5	7.50	10		145	72.5	145	58
59	4.8	7.2	9.6		140	70	140	59
60	4.6	6.90	9.2		135	67.5	135	60
61	4.4	6.6	8.8		130	65	130	61
62	4.2	6.30	8.4		125	62.5	125	62
63	4	6	8		120	60	120	63
64	3.8	5.70	7.6		115	57.5	115	64

Per YDC, this needs to be calculated at a 0.8 scale of the Youth NAC/Championship table

2.5 Regional Map



Regional boundaries will be reassessed each quadrennial in order to respond to the growth and shifts of the fencing membership throughout the country

2.6 USA Fencing Classification Reference Chart

COMPETITION RATING	MINIMUM NBR COMPETITORS	RATED FENCERS REQUIRED	RATED FENCERS MUST FINISH	CLASSIFICATIONS AWARDED
GROUP E1	6	NONE	N/A	1 → E
GROUP D1 Changed per BOD 7/09	15	4 E's (or higher)	2 E's (or higher) in top 8	1 → D 2-4 → E
GROUP C1	15	2 C's & 2 D's & 2 E's (or higher)	2 C's & 2 D's (or higher) in top 8	1 → C 2-4 → D 5-8 → E
GROUP C2	25	4 D's & 4 E's (or higher)	4 D's (or higher) in top 8	1 → C 2-4 → D 5-8 → E
GROUP C3	64	24 D's & 12 E's (or higher)	4 D's in top 8 & 4 E's (or higher) in top 12	1-4 → C 5-8 → D 9-16 → E
GROUP B1	15	2 B's & 2 C's & 2 D's (or higher)	2 B's & 2 C's (or higher) in top 8	1 → B 2-4 → C 5-6 → D 7-8 → E
GROUP B2	25	2 B's & 2 C's & 2 D's (or higher)	2 B's & 2 C's (or higher) in top 8	1 → B 2-4 → C 5-8 → D 9-12 → E
GROUP B3	64	24 C's & 12 D's (or higher)	4 C's in top 8 & 4 D's (or higher) in top 12	1-4 → B 5-8 → C 9-16 → D 17-32 → E
GROUP A1 Changed per BOD 7/07	15	2 A's & 2 B's & 2 C's (or higher)	2 A's & 2 B's (or higher) in top 8	1 → A 2 → B 3-4 → C 5-6 → D 7-8 → E
GROUP A2	25	2 A's & 2 B's & 2 C's (or higher)	2 A's & 2 B's (or higher) in top 8	1 → A 2-4 → B 5-8 → C 9-10 → D 11-12 → E
GROUP A3	64	24 B's & 12 C's (or higher)	4 B's in top 8 & 4 C's (or higher) in top 12	1-4 → A 5-8 → B 9-16 → C 17-24 → D 25-32 → E
GROUP A4	64	12 A's & 12 B's & 12 C's (or higher)	4 A's in top 8 & 4 B's (or higher) in top 12	1-8 → A 9-16 → B 17-24 → C 25-32 → D 33-48 → E

Division I NAC and National Championships are always Group A4 competitions.

Division I-A National Championships are always at least Group A3 competitions.

Division II NAC and National Championships are always at least Group B3 competitions.

Division III NAC and National Championships are always at least Group C3 competitions.

Changes in classifications are allowed at USA Fencing sanctioned individual competitions that are restricted to Veterans and to Junior fencers.

Division, Section and Regional Youth and Cadet Competitions must meet or exceed criteria for C1 to award changes in classification. (BOD, July '02, July 03).

USA Fencing does permit classification changes at mixed competitions without regard to gender of fencers.

Per the Board of Directors, March 2012, classifications are no longer awarded in team championship events.

2.7 Combined Division II/Division III Qualifier Example

Below is an example of how to determine qualifiers for Division III when the Division holds only one competition to determine qualifiers for both Division II and Division III.

A Division II/III qualifying competition has the following entries:

Number of C fencers = 8

Number of D fencers = 12

Number of E fencers = 11

Number of U fencers = 15

Total Number of Fencers = 46

List the fencers in order of their finish.

The first 12 who have not already qualified to Division II by other paths are qualifiers from the Division's competition.

Then count the number of D, E, and U fencers. In this example there are 38 such fencers. 25% of that group equals 10, the number of fencers who can qualify for Division III Nationals.

Starting with the first fencer after those qualified for Division II (in this example, 13th place); count off the next 10 D, E, or U fencers who have not already qualified by other paths. These 10 D, E, or U fencers are qualified for Division III. (Any C fencers in this range are skipped, but not counted against the 10, because they are not eligible to fence Division III.)

2.8 Black Card, Medical Withdrawal, or No-Show

Black Card

If a fencer receives a black card at any point during a tournament, the fencer appears in results as "Place - fencer excluded" or "EXC - fencer name"; black carded fencer(s) cannot be used towards competitive field total to determine classification AND/OR qualification to championships.

Medical Withdrawal

If a fencer needs to medically withdraw due to injury or illness, it must be certified by a certified medical professional or athletic trainer, if available, otherwise by the Bout Committee.

If medical withdrawal occurs during a pool round (fencer does not complete pool), then the fencer has no results to report and cannot be used towards competitive field total to determine classification or qualification to championships.

If medical withdrawal occurs after completion of the pool or during a DE round - fencer keeps place in table to determine results AND may be used towards competitive field total to determine classification AND/OR qualification to championships. Medical withdrawal should be indicated in results submitted to National Office.

No Show

If a fencer fails to appear on the strip, it is treated as an elimination.

FIE Rule t.105 (2014 USA Fencing Edition)

1. A competitor who, while fencing, commits certain violent or vindictive actions against his opponent, or who does not fence to his utmost ability, or who profits from a fraudulent agreement with his opponent, may be excluded from the competition.
2. A competitor who is excluded from a competition may not continue to take part in that competition,

even if he is already qualified for promotion to the next round. He loses the right to his individual

classification and the place that he occupied remains unfilled; but the points obtained by the fencer up to the moment of his expulsion remain valid for the classification of the team in the team event, providing that he actually takes part in that team event.

2.9 Approved local tournament formats

The Tournament Formats Task Force was created to clarify and standardize the list of sanctioned tournament formats for all USFA events. The need for this arose from the existing ambiguity in the Operations Manual, as well as divisions running qualifier events using questionable formats. The task force reviewed existing and proposed formats, and makes the following recommendations for integration into the Operations Manual (replacing Operations Manual sections 7.5.1 and 7.5.2), effective August 1, 2013. [BOD June 12, 2013]

Tournament formats approved for awarding classifications

1. Pool(s) to Pool(s) to Pool(s)
2. Pool(s) to standard DE
3. Pool(s) to DE with Repêchage
4. Pool(s) to DE with all places fenced
5. Round Robin (one large pool)
6. NCAA Championship Format - Round Robin with super DE (Top 4/8)
7. "Sharks and Minnows" – See Appendix 2.10.1
8. Super Pools/Canadian Elite (Pools to DE to Pool(s) to DE)

Tournament formats with provisional approval

1. Pool(s) to DE with losers' bracket to earn third (Wrestle backs).

Note: This format was approved in the September Board of Directors meeting with rationale that would have put it in the provisional category if it existed at that time. We recommend it be listed as Provisional and go through further evaluation before being listed as a standard format.

Tournament formats specifically excluded from awarding classifications

1. One touch tournaments
2. Tournaments that go straight to DE
3. Tournaments that exempt a given number of fencers at the start.

Rules for all US Fencing tournaments that award classifications

1. All pool bouts must be 5 touches and 3 minutes (Rule o.17).
2. All direct elimination bouts must be 15 touches and three 3-minute periods, or 10 touches and two 3-minute periods for Veterans, Youth 10, and Youth 12, with one-minute rests between periods. In sabre direct elimination bouts, except Veterans and Youth 10 and 12, the one-minute rest occurs when one fencer's score reaches 8 or 3 minutes have expired in the first period, whichever occurs first. For Veteran, Youth 10, and Youth 12 events, the one-minute rest occurs when one fencer's score reaches 5 touches (Rule o.23-24).
3. There must be at least 50% promotion of fencers between rounds, except when using NCAA Championship format.

Tournament formats for all US Fencing National Qualifiers

Divisional qualifiers, Regional Open Circuit (ROC) and Super Youth Circuit (SYC) are included in this category. Regional Youth Cups (RYC) are not included in this category.

1. One round of pool(s) to Straight DE.
2. Two rounds of pools to Straight DE.

Rules for all US Fencing tournaments that are National Qualifiers

1. All pool bouts must be to a maximum of 5 touches and 3 minutes.

2. All direct elimination bouts must be 15 touches and three 3-minute periods, or 10 touches and two 3-minute periods for Veterans, Youth 10, and Youth 12, with one-minute rests between periods. In sabre direct elimination bouts, except Veterans and Youth 10 and 12, the one-minute rest occurs when one fencer's score reaches 8 or 3 minutes have expired in the first period, whichever occurs first. For Veteran, Youth 10, and Youth 12 events, the one-minute rest occurs when one fencer's score reaches 5 touches (Rule o.23-24).
3. There must be at least 50% promotion of fencers between rounds.
4. DEs with Repêchage and DEs fenced to all places are not allowed for National Qualifiers.
5. There will not be a fence-off for third place unless it is necessary to determine a single qualifying slot.
6. If there is an absolute tie for the final qualifying slot, there must be a fence-off (15-touch bout, or DE format mandated by age-level of event) to determine the final qualifying slot.

Notification

1. Must be published at least 3 weeks prior to the event
2. Format must be announced when published
3. Format must be announced at the start of the tournament
4. Must meet Divisional rules for Sanctioning.
5. Online posting on AskFRED.net and/or the Division website are acceptable methods of notification.

Consequences for failure to follow the above rules

1. Division can remove sanction and void any classifications potentially earned.
2. ROC and SYC organizers who fail to follow the rules should be reviewed by the ROC Committee/Youth Development Committee and possibly be eliminated from consideration for holding an event the following year.
3. Divisions who chronically fail to follow the rules for qualifiers should be reviewed by the Tournament Committee who may require an observer be assigned for future such events, all expenses to be covered by the Division.

Approval of tournament formats not listed above

We feel a subcommittee of the TC should be empaneled to hear proposed new tournament formats in two steps:

1. Provisional approval to judge effectiveness.
2. As appropriate, addition to above approved tournament list.

Appendix 2.10.1: Sharks and Minnows Tournament Format

This tournament format is two rounds of pools, followed by a direct elimination tableau. The first round of pools is seeded per normal USFA tournament standards.

Example (Fencers A-Q, seeded in order)

Pool 1: A, F, G, L, M, R

Pool 2: B, E, H, K, N, Q

Pool 3: C, D, I, J, O, P

The second round of pools contains two types, the "shark" and "minnow" pools. The shark pool is the top-seeded fencers to come out of the first round.

Example (Fencers A-Q, seeded in order)

"Sharks"

Pool 1: A, B, C, D, E, F

"Minnows"

Pool 2: G, J, K, N, O, R

Pool 3: H, I, L, M, P, Q

The DE tableau may or may not have a cut. The participants of the "shark" pool are guaranteed the top seeds, which will be based on their second round pool performance. The remaining spots are based on

the results of the minnow pools. The resulting DE tableau is fenced as normal until a single winner remains.

Example(Top16 promoted):

A (1) v. P (16)

B (2) v. N (15)

C (3) v. M (14)

G (7) v. J (10)

H (8) v. I (9)

Q, R not promoted

Appendix 3 – Reference Links

Rule Book – www.usfencing.org/page/show/695208-rulebook

Safe Sport - www.usfencing.org/page/show/892379-safe-sport

Anti-doping-www.usada.org/

Fie Rule Books - http://static2.fie.org/uploads/5/27571-intro_jan_2014.pdf

Calendars–

National-[Domestic Dates Deadlines](#)

International-[International Competition](#)

Video Refereeing (t.42) - [Rule Book for Video Refereeing](#)

FOC Site- [FOC Website](#)

3.1 Security Tips for International Travel

US OLYMPIC COMMITTEE SECURITY DIVISION

LARRY M. BUENDORF

CHIEF SECURITY OFFICER

SECURITY TIPS

The following are some security tips that may be useful:

- Wear non-descript clothing with traveling.
- Use the buddy system at airports/hotels/venues for watching personal items (luggage, equipment).
- Keep valuable items in a hotel safety deposit box. Never leave items unattended, including practice sites.
- Carry small amounts of currency, but consider carrying around \$10 for buying off muggers. Do not put up resistance against robbers who may resort to violence.
- Be cautious in providing information to strangers (i.e. where you are staying, eating, time schedules, practices, etc.)
- Be aware of suspicious persons and bring them to the attention of the Team Leader or Coaches. Report thefts immediately to your Team Leader/Coaches.
- Do not post schedules, name lists, room assignments in places accessible to the public. This includes locker rooms at practice sites / venues or hotel in-house television that lists meetings, etc. Do not leave this information in your hotel room or locker room where it could be taken.
- Use caution when discarding schedules, name lists, room assignments. Trash containers can be an excellent source of information. SHRED IT OR REGRET IT!
- Lock your room when leaving, but leave the light / radio / television on.
- Do not walk alone at night or venture into unknown areas. Wear non-descript clothing when in questionable areas. Do not display money, personal documents or luxury items such as cameras.
- Do not consult maps in public; this makes you an obvious target for pickpockets and muggers.
- Do not open unidentified or suspicious packages/letters. Notify your Team Leader or Coach. This includes any personal mail and unusual e-mails.
- BE AWARE.....BELOW-KEY.....BE UNPREDICTABLE.

3.2 Competition Types

Closed: A Closed competition is a regional, interdivisional, or divisional competition in which eligibility is limited on the basis of regional or divisional membership.

Age-Restricted: Any USA Fencing age-restricted competition can be rated for classification change consideration except those competitions that are restricted to Cadet or Youth age categories, which must additionally meet the criteria for a Group C1 or higher (See classification chart in Appendix 2.7 - Classification) for the competition to be ranked for classification changes. [BOD, July 2003]

Restricted: Competitions may be restricted to fencers under or over a certain age; to Unclassified fencers or novice; or to other categories of fencers provided that an appropriate description of the basis of eligibility of contestants is announced in the schedule. Restricted competitions may not be rated unless the restriction is based solely upon fencers' classifications or, USA Fencing age categories or Division/Region membership.

Mixed (Co-ed): A mixed (or co-ed/mixed gender) competition is a competition in which members of both sexes may compete. Mixed competitions are not permitted in competitions used to determine qualifiers to the National Championships competitions. Regional Youth Circuit (RYC) competitions may be mixed if there are 5 or fewer competitors of one gender in a specific Youth category (Youth 14, Youth 12 or Youth 10). Classifications can be earned at mixed competitions, disregarding the gender of the athlete and simply comparing the classifications of all fencers relative to the rules for earning a new classification. If the competition is a Youth or Cadet competition, classifications can only be earned if the competition meets the criteria for C1 or better.