2016-2017
Athlete Handbook
Acknowledgements

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Please contact the USA Fencing National Office with any document/link issues: c.simmons@usfencing.org
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.usafencing.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 the sport.

The Athlete Handbook and Operations Manual provide fencers, coaches, administrators, and parents 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 updated with respect to one’s current mailing address to ensure receipt of information mailed by USA Fencing and the National Weapons Coaches. USA Fencing will post the latest information on the USA Fencing website. You can contact USA Fencing by email: information@usafencing.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 International d’Escrime (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.
Table of Contents

Acronyms Used in the Athlete Handbook ...............................................................10

Chapter 1 - USA Fencing Membership.................................................................11
  1.1 How to Become a USA Fencing Member .....................................................11
  1.2 Age/Citizenship Verification ........................................................................11
  1.3 Division Affiliation .......................................................................................11
  1.4 Club Representation and Affiliation .............................................................11
  1.5 USA Fencing Club Information ...................................................................12

Chapter 2 - Domestic Competitions......................................................................13
  2.1 General Definitions .....................................................................................13
  2.2 Classifications (Ratings) .............................................................................13
    2.2.1 What are Classifications? .....................................................................13
    2.2.2 How is a Classification Earned? ............................................................13
    2.2.3 How are Classification Changes made Official? ....................................13
    2.2.4 How Long is a Classification Valid? ......................................................14
    2.2.5 How to Determine Classifications for Foreign Fencers .........................15
  2.3 Types of Domestic Competitions ................................................................15
    2.3.1 Local Competitions .............................................................................15
    2.3.2 Division Competitions .........................................................................15
    2.3.3 Regional Competitions .......................................................................15
    2.3.4 National Tournament and Championships .........................................16
  2.4 Entering Competitions/Tournaments ............................................................17
    2.4.1 Local/Divisional Competitions .............................................................17
    2.4.2 Regional Tournaments (RYC, SYC, RJCC, ROC) ................................17
      2.4.2.1 Cancellation, Delay, or Rescheduling of Events due to Extreme Weather or Catastrophe ..............................................................................................................................................................17
  2.4.3 USA Fencing National Tournaments .........................................................18
  2.5 Eligibility to Compete ..................................................................................19
    2.5.1 Table: 2016-2017 Age/Classification Eligibility Rules .........................20
  2.6 General Qualifying Information ..................................................................21
    2.6.1 Division Qualifiers ...............................................................................21
    2.6.2 Regional Qualifying Paths .....................................................................22
    2.6.3 Determination of Divisional Qualifiers .................................................22
      2.6.3.1 Table: Number of Qualifiers for Junior Olympic Fencing
      Championships and USA Fencing National Championships from Division Qualifying Competitions (25% rule/round up) ...............................................................23
    2.6.4 Combined Division II/Division III Divisional Qualifier Example .........23
    2.6.5 Petition Process ....................................................................................24
  2.7 Qualifying Competition Protest Process .......................................................25
  2.8 Youth Fencing (Y14, Y12, Y10) .................................................................25
    2.8.1 What is a Youth tournament? .................................................................25
    2.8.2 Youth Local Tournaments ...................................................................25
    2.8.3 Youth Divisional Tournaments ..............................................................25
  2.8 Youth Regional Tournaments ......................................................................26
    2.9.1 Youth 10 RYC .....................................................................................26
    2.9.2 Youth 12 RYC .....................................................................................26
    2.9.3 Youth 14 RYC .....................................................................................26
    2.9.4 Youth 10 SYC .....................................................................................26
2.9.5 Youth 12 SYC .............................................................. 27
2.9.6 Youth 14 SYC .............................................................. 27
2.10 Youth National Tournaments ........................................ 27
  2.10.1 Youth 10 North American Cup (NAC) ........................................ 27
  2.10.2 Youth 12 North American Cup (NAC) ........................................ 28
  2.10.3 Youth 14 North American Cup (NAC) ........................................ 28
  2.10.4 Youth 10 National Championships .......................................... 28
  2.10.5 Youth 12 National Championships .......................................... 29
  2.10.6 Youth 14 National Championships .......................................... 29
2.11 Cadet/Junior Tournaments ............................................... 30
  2.11.1 What is a Cadet/Junior Tournament? ..................................... 30
  2.11.2 Cadet/Junior Local Tournaments .......................................... 30
  2.11.3 Cadet/Junior Divisional Tournaments .................................... 30
  2.11.4 Regional Junior/Cadet Circuit (RJCC) Tournaments ................. 30
    2.11.4.1 Regional Cadet (RCC) ................................................ 30
    2.11.4.2 Regional Junior Circuit (RJC) ....................................... 31
  2.11.5 Cadet/Junior National Tournaments ..................................... 31
    2.11.5.1 Cadet & Junior North American Cup (NAC) .......................... 31
    2.11.5.2 Cadet & Junior – Junior Olympic Fencing Championships ....... 31
    2.11.5.3 Cadet & Junior July Challenge ...................................... 32
2.12 Senior/Open Tournaments ............................................. 33
  2.12.1 What is a Senior/Open Tournament? .................................. 33
  2.12.2 Senior/Open Local Tournaments ....................................... 33
  2.12.3 Senior/Open Divisional Tournaments .................................. 34
  2.12.4 Senior/Open Regional Tournaments .................................... 34
    2.12.4.1 Division II (Div II) Regional Open Circuit (ROC) ............ 34
    2.11.4.2 Division IA (Div IA) Regional Open Circuit (ROC) .......... 34
  2.12.5 Senior/Open National Tournaments .................................... 34
    2.11.5.1 Division III (Div III) North American Cup (NAC) ............. 34
    2.11.5.2 Division II (Div II) North American Cup (NAC) ............... 35
    2.11.5.3 Division I (Div I) North American Cup (NAC) .................. 35
    2.11.5.4 Division II (Div II) USA Fencing National Championships ... 35
    2.11.5.5 Division III (Div III) USA Fencing National Championships . 36
    2.11.5.6 Division IA (Div IA) USA Fencing National Championships . 36
    2.11.5.7 Division I (Div I) National Championships ....................... 37
    2.11.5.8 Division I July Challenge ............................................ 37
2.13 Veteran Tournaments .................................................. 38
  2.13.1 What is a Veteran Tournament? ..................................... 38
  2.13.2 Veteran Local Tournaments .......................................... 38
  2.13.3 Veteran Divisional Tournaments ..................................... 38
  2.13.4 Veteran Regional Tournaments ....................................... 38
    2.13.4.1 Veteran Regional Open Circuit (ROC) ............................. 38
  2.13.5 Veteran National Tournaments ....................................... 39
    2.13.4.1 Veteran (Vet Open, V40, V50, V60, V70+) North American Cup (NAC) ........................................ 39
    2.13.4.2 Veteran (V40, V50, V60, V70+) USA Fencing National Championships ........................................ 39
2.14 Team Events ............................................................ 39
2.15 Competition Seeding ................................................... 42
  2.15.1 Seeding Principles .................................................... 42
    2.15.1.1 Table: Seeding Principles for Specific Categories of Tournaments ........................................ 43
2.16 National Competition Formats ...................................... 45
  2.16.1 Table: National Competition Formats ................................ 45
## Chapter 3 - Awarding Points

### 3.1 Point Standings

- **3.1.1 “Age Out” Policy**
- **3.1.2 Replacement Schedule**
- **3.1.3 Regional Point Standings (Youth, Cadet, Junior)**
- **3.1.4 Regional Open Circuit Point Standings (Div IA, Div II, Veteran)**
- **3.1.5 National Rolling Point Standings (NRPS) (Youth, Cadet, Junior, Senior, Veteran)**
- **3.1.6 Youth Point Standings (SYC and National Tournaments)**
- **3.1.7 National Team Point Standings (Cadet, Junior, Senior, Veteran)**
- **3.1.8 Veteran Point Standings**
- **3.1.9 Wheelchair National Point Standings**

### 3.2 Earning Domestic Points – Overview

- **3.2.1 USA Fencing Domestic Point Tournaments**

### 3.3 Earning Domestic Points – Regional

- **3.3.1 Regional Youth Circuit (RYC)**
- **3.3.2 Regional Junior/Cadet Circuit (RJCC)**
- **3.3.3 Regional Open Circuit (ROC)**

### 3.4 Earning Domestic Points – National

- **3.4.1 SYC Points**

### 3.5 Earning Points – International

- **3.5.1 Strength Factor for USA Fencing International Points**

## Chapter 4 - International Competition

### 4.1 International Competition Categories

- **4.1.1 FIE and Related International Competitions**
- **4.1.2 Age Criteria**
- **4.1.3 Citizen Requirement**
- **4.1.4 International Competitions at which Points Are Earned**
- **4.1.5 FIE Satellite Competitions**
- **4.1.6 Junior and Senior World Cup Team Competitions**
- **4.1.7 Coaching at Designated Competitions**

### 4.2 Entry Procedures and Eligibility Requirements

- **4.2.1 Registration and Eligibility**
- **4.2.2 Finalizing the Entries**
- **4.2.3 Withdrawal Procedures**

### 4.3 FIE

- **4.3.1 Certifying International Competitions**
- **4.3.2 Drug Testing**

### 4.4 National Team Definition

### 4.5 International Teams

### 4.6 Ties for Team Selection

### 4.7 Declination of Championship Team Selection

## Chapter 5 - Men’s Epee

### 5.1 USA Fencing National Point Competitions

### 5.2 Men’s Epee - Senior International Teams Selection

- **5.2.1 2017 Men’s Epee World Championships**
- **5.2.2 2017 Men’s Epee Senior Pan American Zonal Championships**

### 5.3 Men’s Epee – Junior & Cadet International Teams Selection

- **5.3.1 2017 Men’s Epee Junior World Championships**
5.3.2 2017 Men’s Epee Junior Pan American Zonal Championships ........................................ 67
5.3.3 2017 Men’s Epee Cadet World Championship Team ......................................................... 68
5.3.4 2017 Men’s Epee Cadet Pan American Zonal Championships ........................................ 69

Chapter 6 - Men’s Foil ............................................................................................................. 70
6.1 USA Fencing National Point Competitions ........................................................................ 70
6.2 Men’s Foil - Senior International Teams Selection ............................................................. 71
   6.2.1 2017 Men’s Foil World Championships ........................................................................ 71
   6.2.2 2017 Men’s Foil Senior Pan American Zonal Championships .................................... 72
6.3 Men’s Foil – Junior & Cadet International Teams Selection .............................................. 73
   6.3.1 2017 Men’s Foil Junior World Championships ............................................................. 73
   6.3.2 2017 Men’s Foil Junior Pan American Zonal Championships ..................................... 74
   6.3.3 2017 Men’s Foil Cadet World Championship Team ..................................................... 75
   6.3.4 2017 Men’s Foil Cadet Pan American Zonal Championships ..................................... 76

Chapter 7 - Men’s Saber ....................................................................................................... 77
7.1 USA Fencing National Point Competitions ........................................................................ 77
7.2 Men’s Saber - Senior International Teams Selection .......................................................... 78
   7.2.1 2017 Men’s Saber World Championships ....................................................................... 78
   7.2.2 2017 Men’s Saber Senior Pan American Zonal Championships ................................... 79
7.3 Men’s Saber – Junior & Cadet International Teams Selection ............................................ 80
   7.3.1 2017 Men’s Saber Junior World Championships .......................................................... 80
   7.3.2 2017 Men’s Saber Junior Pan American Zonal Championships .................................... 81
   7.3.3 2017 Men’s Saber Cadet World Championship Team .................................................. 82
   7.3.4 2017 Men’s Saber Cadet Pan American Zonal Championships .................................... 83

Chapter 8 - Women’s Epee ................................................................................................... 84
8.1 USA Fencing National Point Competitions ........................................................................ 84
8.2 Women’s Epee - Senior International Teams Selection ....................................................... 85
   8.2.1 2017 Women’s Epee World Championships ................................................................. 85
   8.2.2 2017 Women’s Epee Senior Pan American Zonal Championships ............................ 86
8.3 Women’s Epee – Junior & Cadet International Teams Selection ........................................ 87
   8.3.1 2017 Women’s Epee Junior World Championships ....................................................... 87
   8.3.2 2017 Women’s Epee Junior Pan American Zonal Championships ............................ 88
   8.3.3 2017 Women’s Epee Cadet World Championship Team .............................................. 89
   8.3.4 2017 Women’s Epee Cadet Pan American Zonal Championships ............................ 90

Chapter 9 - Women’s Foil ..................................................................................................... 91
9.1 USA Fencing National Point Competitions ........................................................................ 91
9.2 Women’s Foil - Senior International Teams Selection ....................................................... 92
   9.2.1 2017 Women’s Foil World Championships ................................................................. 92
   9.2.2 2017 Women’s Foil Senior Pan American Zonal Championships ............................ 93
9.3 Women’s Foil – Junior & Cadet International Teams Selection ........................................ 94
   9.3.1 2017 Women’s Foil Junior World Championships ....................................................... 94
   9.3.2 2017 Women’s Foil Junior Pan American Zonal Championships ............................ 95
   9.3.3 2017 Women’s Foil Cadet World Championship Team .............................................. 96
   9.3.4 2017 Women’s Foil Cadet Pan American Zonal Championships ............................ 97

Chapter 10 - Women’s Saber .................................................................................................. 98
10.1 USA Fencing National Point Competitions ................................................................. 98
10.2 Women’s Saber - Senior International Teams Selection ............................................... 99
   10.2.1 2017 Women’s Saber World Championships ........................................................... 99
Chapter 11 - Veteran World Championships .......................................................... 105
  11.1 Tournament Description ............................................................................. 105
  11.2 Eligibility ..................................................................................................... 105
  11.3 Selection Criteria ......................................................................................... 105
  11.4 Ties for Selection ......................................................................................... 105
  11.5 Team Event Selection ................................................................................. 106

Chapter 12 - Wheelchair Fencing ........................................................................ 107
  12.1 Wheelchair Fencing Competitions ............................................................... 107
  12.2 Athlete Eligibility and Classification ........................................................... 107
  12.3 Rules ............................................................................................................ 107
  12.4 Competition ................................................................................................ 107
     12.4.1 Events .................................................................................................. 107
  12.5 Seeding and Formats ................................................................................... 107
  12.6 Wheelchair Point Standings ......................................................................... 108
  12.7 2016 - 2017 Wheelchair Selection Criteria ................................................ 108
  12.8 Wheelchair International Calendar 2016-2017 – Locations TBA .................. 108

Chapter 13 - Disciplinary Procedures and Dispute Resolution ......................... 109
  13.1 Removal from Team, Loss of Points and/or Funding ................................... 109
     13.1.1 General Principles .............................................................................. 109
     13.1.2 Fencer’s Rights ................................................................................... 109
     13.1.3 Definitions .......................................................................................... 109
     13.1.4 Regular Grievance Steps ..................................................................... 110
     13.1.5 Scope .................................................................................................. 110
     13.1.6 Appeals ............................................................................................... 110
     13.1.7 Reimbursement of Fencer’s Expenses .................................................. 110
     13.1.8 Expedited Grievance Steps .................................................................. 111
  13.2 General Disciplinary Procedures ................................................................ 112
     13.2.1 Scope of General Disciplinary Procedures .......................................... 112
          13.2.1 (a) Disciplinary Panels .................................................................. 113
     13.2.2 National Team Disciplinary Procedures .............................................. 114
          13.2.2 (a) National Team Dispute Resolution .......................................... 115
     13.2.3 Scope of National Team Dispute Resolution ....................................... 115

Chapter 14 - Codes of Conduct & USA Fencing Policies .................................. 118
  14.1 Fencer Code of Conduct Agreement ............................................................ 118
  14.2 Non-Fencer Code of Conduct ..................................................................... 120
  14.3 Other Codes of Conduct ............................................................................. 121
     14.3.1 Athletes Code of Conduct (non-National Team member) ..................... 121
     14.3.2 USA Fencing Parent Code of Conduct ................................................. 122
     14.3.3 USA Fencing Spectator Code of Conduct ............................................ 123
  14.4 IOC Stockholm Consensus ........................................................................... 124
Chapter 15 - USA Fencing Safe Sport Policy

I. INTRODUCTION .......................................................................................................................... 126
II. DEFINITIONS .............................................................................................................................. 126
III. SAFE SPORT POLICY .............................................................................................................. 126
   A. APPLICATION .......................................................................................................................... 126
   B. COMMITMENT TO SAFETY ................................................................................................. 126
   C. PROHIBITED CONDUCT ....................................................................................................... 127

Appendices ...................................................................................................................................... 128

1. Domestic Point Table .................................................................................................................. 128
   1.1. Domestic Point Table for Placements of 33-64 when field = 160 or more fencers .......... 129
2. Veteran Point Table ................................................................................................................... 130
3. International Point Tables – Senior, Junior, Cadet ................................................................. 131
4. Regional Point Table (SYC and ROC) ...................................................................................... 133
   4.1. Regional Point Table for Placements of 33-64 ................................................................. 134
5. Regional Map ................................................................................................................................ 135
6. USA Fencing Classification Reference Chart .......................................................................... 136
7. Black Card, Medical Withdrawal, or No-Show ........................................................................ 137
8. Approved Local Tournament Formats ...................................................................................... 137
   8.1. Sharks and Minnows Tournament Format ........................................................................ 139
9. Competition Types .................................................................................................................... 139
10. Pan American Youth & Veteran Championship Selection Criteria .................................. 140
11. Reference Links .......................................................................................................................... 140

Revisions to the 2016-2017 Athlete Handbook after the Publish Date

Revisions are identified in this handbook in Green text

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Chapter/Appendices</th>
<th>Section</th>
<th>Change and/or Update</th>
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<td>Updated date for local rated referee requirement to August 1, 2017</td>
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<td>Adjusted qualification language</td>
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<td>9/21/16</td>
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<td>Domestic Point Table</td>
<td>Adjusted Div I points to match points awarded for competitions without repêchage</td>
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<td>Chapter 4</td>
<td>4.1.5</td>
<td>Clarified procedure for registering for EFC Non-Designated events</td>
<td>12/16/16</td>
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### Acronyms Used in the Athlete Handbook

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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 use the online registration system at www.usfencing.org/page/show/698115-individuals. Please note that there will be a $10 fee for all paper applications, 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 USA Fencing National Office (“National Office”). If one registers at a local event, or submits a paper form, it is the individual’s responsibility to ensure that the application is received by the National Office.

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 https://www.railstation.org.USFencing/LoginNew.aspx 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 (JOs). 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 National 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.

Foreign fencers living in the United States shall declare division affiliation designations at event registration for conflict resolution purposes.

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 status. A recognized club is one that has a stable organizational structure and membership, a location for regular fencing activity and, a USA Fencing Professional Member providing 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 same club representation. Only current USA Fencing Affiliate or Member Club 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 at all USA Fencing individual competitions held during the school's fencing season or, in 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 USA Fencing policy. All members of the USA Fencing 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 Competition (at JOs, Div I National Championships and USA Fencing National Championships), but they do not participate in the USA Fencing 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 requires all clubs to have coverage levels no less than those listed at http://www.usfencing.org/page/show/698120-insurance.
Chapter 2 - Domestic Competitions

2.1 General Definitions

An event (or competition) 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 events held at the same venue in the same period of time.

Beginning on August 1, 2017, all USA Fencing local sanctioned tournaments must have at least one rated referee.

Beginning on Sept. 1, all USA Fencing sanctioned events must have at least one rated referee. All tournament officials must be compliant with the USA Fencing Safe Sport Policy, including maintaining a current background check. In addition, all officials must complete the free, online 90-minute Safe Sport Training Course by Jan. 1, 2017.

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.

For information on back cards, medical withdrawal, and no shows - see Appendix 7

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 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 (http://www.usfencing.org/current-member-list), 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, divisional, 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 6 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
Classifications


Complete Event Officials Form, including a currently valid USA Fencing background screen, must be submitted with any Classification Change Report (available on the USA Fencing website at http://assets.ngin.com/attachments/document/0081/0529/Event_Officials_Form.xls).

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 by using the Results Reporting Form (available on the USA Fencing website at http://www.usfencing.org/reporting). Classification changes will be processed and posted once results and referee reports are verified and applicable program fees are received by the National Office.

Regional organizers are required to report classification changes within 72 hours (3 days) from the competition or tournament end date. Failure to report may affect fencers competing in future competitions, as well as the organizer’s status in future bidding.

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 classification 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/referee reports to the National Office.

Should an athlete representing the USA earn a classification based on the chart in 2.2.5, he/she must contact the National Office to update classification.

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 effective at the beginning of the new fencing season – August 1. For example, if you earned a B in 2009 (B09) and did not re-earn your B for four more years, your B became a C13 on August 1, 2013. If you then did not re-earn your C11 for four more years, it becomes a D17 on August 1, 2017.
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 in the weapon in which the athlete requests entry, based on the chart below:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>A</th>
<th>B</th>
<th>C</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Senior</td>
<td>1st – 64th</td>
<td>65th – 96th</td>
<td>National Team member</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Junior</td>
<td>1st – 32nd</td>
<td>33rd – 64th</td>
<td>National Team member</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cadet</td>
<td>1st – 16th at Cadet World Championships</td>
<td>17th – 32nd at Cadet World Championships</td>
<td>National Team member</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Veteran 50 – 59</td>
<td>1st – 3rd at Veteran World Championships</td>
<td>5th – 8th at Veteran World Championships</td>
<td>9th – 16th at Veteran World Championships</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Veteran 60 – 69</td>
<td>1st – 3rd at Veteran World Championships</td>
<td></td>
<td>5th – 8th at Veteran World Championships</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Veteran 70+</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>1st – 3rd at Veteran World Championships</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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.

National Team member is defined as a fencer that has represented another nation in international competition and/or has been entered by another nation into a USA Fencing competition.

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 (http://www.usfencing.org/page/show/2520204-division-info-for-members) 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 (JOs) and the USA Fencing National Championships (Divisions II and III, Y14, Veteran). Schedules for these competitions can be found by contacting the member’s division, or by visiting the appropriate website. Division contact information is available on the USA Fencing website (http://www.usfencing.org/page/show/2520204-division-info-for-members) or by emailing information@usfencing.org.

2.3.3 Regional Competitions

USA Fencing Region Map is located at www.usfencing.org/roc-resources and in Appendix 5. A calendar of regional events can be found on the USA Fencing website (http://www.usfencing.org/regional-events).

Regional Open Circuit (ROC): The ROCs serve as one of the qualification paths for certain events at the USA National Fencing Championships and July Challenge. There are no national points awarded at ROC competitions; please refer to Chapter 3 for more information on the Regional Point structure. For a schedule of ROCs, please check the USA Fencing website (http://www.usfencing.org/regional-events).
Regiona Junior/Cadet Circuit (RJCC): 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 a schedule of RJCCs, please check the USA Fencing website (http://www.usfencing.org/regional-events).

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 according to the point table in Appendix 4. These competitions are one of the qualification paths for Y10 and Y12 events at the March NAC and the USA National Fencing Championships. Please refer to Chapter 3 for more information on the Regional Point structure. For a schedule of SYCs, please check the USA Fencing website (http://www.usfencing.org/regional-events).

Regional Youth Circuit (RYC): The RYC tournaments are held throughout the season for Y10, Y12 and Y14 athletes. These competitions are one of the qualification paths for Y10 and Y12 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 a schedule of RYCs, please check the USA Fencing (http://www.usfencing.org/regional-events).

High School Fencing: High School fencing tournaments are held throughout the season for athletes in 9th – 12th grade. The goal of this program is to continue to motivate developing High School athletes to participate in High School tournaments/leagues throughout the competitive season.

There are no national or regional points awarded at Recognized High School competitions. However, those athletes with a current USA Fencing High School or Competitive membership may earn classifications based on the total number that fence in the High School individual event. The athlete would have to be a current member as of and during the particular tournament to receive a classification change. Those that don’t have a current USA Fencing High School or Competitive membership will not receive classification changes. High School Recognized tournaments are not required to meet the C1 tournament requirement to award classifications. These competitions are not a qualification path for the USA Fencing National Championships.

2.3.4 National Tournament and Championships

A schedule of all events and deadlines can be found online at: http://www.usfencing.org/national-events.

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

Junior Olympic Fencing Championship (JOs): The Junior Olympic Fencing Championships are held each year in February over the President’s Day holiday weekend. JOs is the National Championships for Cadet, Junior and Junior Team in each of the six weapons. Fencers must be U.S. citizen or permanent residents, meet age criteria, and qualify to compete in this tournament. Athletes that have represented
another country in the last 3 years at FIE level competitions (Senior/Junior) are not eligible to compete in a National Championship.

Division I National Championships: The Div 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 U.S. citizens or permanent residents. Fencers qualify for these Championships via the National Rolling Point Standings, top placements from the last Div IA and Div II National Championships and via Modern Pentathlon. Athletes that have represented another country in the last 3 years at FIE level competitions (Senior/Junior) are not eligible to compete in a National Championship.

USA Fencing National Championships (Nationals): The USA Fencing National Championships are held in June/July. Fencers must be U.S. citizens or permanent residents and qualify to compete in this tournament. Events in these Championships include (in all six weapons): Y10, Y12, Y14, Veteran 40-49, Veteran 50-59, Veteran 60-69, Veteran 70+, Div IA, Div II, and Div III. For rating restricted Championship events (Div II/ Div III), the rating of the fencer at the time of qualification determines eligibility to compete. Athletes that have represented another country in the last 3 years at FIE level competitions (Senior/Junior) are not eligible to compete in a National Championship.

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 2.11.5.3 & 2.12.5.8. The Div I, Junior, Cadet and Senior Team (composite team) events held at the July Challenge mark the beginning of the domestic cycle for the Div I, Junior and Cadet season (Junior and Cadet aged out NRPS).

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 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 (http://www.usfencing.org/regional-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.

2.4.2.1 Cancellation, Delay, or Rescheduling of Events due to Extreme Weather or Catastrophe

In the most extreme circumstances, regional tournaments may be cancelled, delayed, or rescheduled by the majority decision of a group composed of the Tournament Organizer, the USA Fencing Regional Manager, the relevant oversight committee Chair (YDC or TC), the relevant Regional Coordinator and the USA Fencing Director of Operations and/or the Executive Director. USA Fencing has the right to require any Regional Tournament Organizer to cancel, delay, or reschedule a Regional Tournament in the best interest of the membership due to unforeseen extreme weather occurrences or other catastrophic circumstances. Organizers must include in their public tournament information page their refund policy in the case that a catastrophic event causes the cancellation, delay or rescheduling of their tournament.
Regional tournaments which are cancelled due to no fault of the Organizer will be rescheduled, if possible, within the season for which the tournament was awarded.

Organizers may NOT cancel, delay or reschedule a Regional Tournament without the approval of the aforementioned group. Tournament organizers cancelling an ROC, RJCC, RYC or SYC without approval, shall refund all monies paid by registered tournament entrants, including fees associated with non-ROC, non-RJCC, non-RYC or non–SYC events. If such cancellation is made unreasonably and/or on short notice, the tournament organizer may additionally be held responsible for reimbursement of expenses incurred by tournament entrants, and organizers are strongly encouraged to maintain general business liability insurance to provide for such an eventuality. In no event will USA Fencing be held responsible for the refund or reimbursement of any such fees or expenses, and by bidding, tournament organizers agree to hold USA Fencing harmless and to indemnify USA Fencing against any claims made by tournament entrants as a result of the cancellation of a tournament or as a result of the withdrawal of sanction by USA Fencing.

2.4.3 USA Fencing National Tournaments

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. There will be a $20 fee assessed to all paper entry forms. 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 determined. 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 National Office is unclear how the athlete qualified, they will show as waitlisted. 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.

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/all-events. It is the fencer’s responsibility to verify that the events registered for, classification for each weapon, and division information is accurate before the seeding deadline for the tournament. Any discrepancies must be reported to the National Office (information@usfencing.org) no later than 48 hours after the seeding for that event is posted on the USA Fencing website. Club affiliation changes may be considered until the end of check-in for that event.
The National Coach and/or the Director of Sports Performance may make modifications to seeding classification and ranking no later than 48 hours after the seeding for that event is posted on the USA Fencing website.

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.
### 2.5.1 Table: 2016-2017 Age/Classification Eligibility Rules

#### A. For 2016-2017 Local/National Tournaments & Junior Olympic Fencing Championships (Excluding July Challenge individual events, USA Fencing National Championships & Nationals Qualifying Tournaments through Regions and Divisions)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CATEGORY</th>
<th>DIVISION I</th>
<th>DIVISION IA</th>
<th>DIVISION II</th>
<th>DIVISION III</th>
<th>Senior (Open)</th>
<th>WHEELCHAIR</th>
<th>VETERAN (40 &amp; Older/ VETERAN TEAM</th>
<th>VETERAN 40-49</th>
<th>VETERAN 50-59</th>
<th>VETERAN 60-69</th>
<th>VETERAN 70 &amp; OLDER</th>
<th>JUNIOR/ JR TEAM</th>
<th>CADET</th>
<th>YOUTH 14</th>
<th>YOUTH 12</th>
<th>YOUTH 10</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CODE</td>
<td>Div I</td>
<td>Div IA</td>
<td>Div II</td>
<td>Div III</td>
<td>SA CPN</td>
<td>CHR</td>
<td>VET/VTM</td>
<td>V40</td>
<td>V50</td>
<td>V60</td>
<td>V70</td>
<td>JR/JTM</td>
<td>CDT</td>
<td>Y14</td>
<td>Y12</td>
<td>Y10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CLASS</td>
<td>A, B, OR C</td>
<td>C, D, E OR U</td>
<td>D, E OR U</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
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<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### B. July Challenge, USA Fencing National Championships & Associated REGIONAL & DIVISION Qualifying Competitions ONLY

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CATEGORY</th>
<th>DIVISION I</th>
<th>DIVISION IA</th>
<th>DIVISION II</th>
<th>DIVISION III</th>
<th>WHEELCHAIR</th>
<th>VETERAN 40-49</th>
<th>VETERAN 50-59</th>
<th>VETERAN 60-69</th>
<th>VETERAN 70 &amp; OLDER</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CODE</td>
<td>Div I</td>
<td>Div IA</td>
<td>Div II</td>
<td>Div III</td>
<td>CHR</td>
<td>V40</td>
<td>V50</td>
<td>V60</td>
<td>V70</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CLASS</td>
<td>A, B, OR C</td>
<td>C, D, E OR U</td>
<td>D, E OR U</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### EXCEPTION TO AGE ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

(All other qualification criteria remains):

1. Youth 12 – A fencer born after 2007 can fence in Y12 IF the fencer is on the National Youth 10 Point Standings at the time of the entry deadline for that tournament.
2. Youth 14 – A fencer born after 2005 can fence in Y14 IF the fencer is on the National Youth 12 Point Standings at the time of the entry deadline for that tournament.
3. Cadet (through JO’s) – A fencer born after 2003 can fence in Cadet local and regional competitions, NAC Cadet tournaments and Junior Olympic Cadet Fencing Championship and qualifying tournaments IF the fencer is on the National Youth 14 Point Standings at the time of the entry deadline for that tournament.
4. Junior (through JO’s) – A fencer born after 2003 can fence in Junior local and regional competitions, NAC Junior and Junior Olympic 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.
5. Cadet (After JO’s) – A fencer born after 2004 can fence in Cadet competition for the 2017 July Challenge IF the fencer is on the National Youth 14 Point Standings at the time of the entry deadline for that tournament.
6. Junior (After JO’s) – A fencer born after 2004 can fence in Junior competition for the 2017 July Challenge IF the fencer is on the National Cadet Point Standings at the time of the entry deadline for that tournament.
7. RJCCs held between JOs regular entry fee deadline and the Junior Olympic Championship will allow fencers that meet either the Junior Olympic birth year criteria or the July Challenge birth year criteria. Those who meet only the Junior Olympic birth year criteria may only earn new classifications, but will not receive regional points.
8. Division I – For national (e.g., NAC) competitions, those born after 2003 must be on the National Junior Point Standings; for the 2017 July Challenge for Division I, those born after 2004 must be on the National Junior Point Standings.
9. Division IA, II, III – For all local, regional (including ROC) and national (e.g., NAC) competitions, those born after 2003 must be on the National Junior Point Standings; for the 2017 National Championships and qualifying competitions for Division IA, II, III; those born after 2004 must be on the National Junior Point Standings.
10. A fencer who is on the National Junior 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 National Championships and the Junior Olympic Championships.

Division qualifiers are restricted to members of the division for the following events: Div II, Div III and Y14 (USA Fencing National Championships) and Cadet and Junior (JOs). Veteran fencers can qualify for USA Fencing National Championships via Division II or Division III Division qualifiers. Division qualifying tournaments cannot be mixed gender competitions. Fencers who have earned national points and those who placed high enough at the previous season's Championship are the only athletes who will be skipped over. Athletes who have already qualified via a regional path will not be skipped over at any division qualifier.

Fencers must be U.S. citizens or permanent residents of the United States. Any fencer who is a U.S. citizen or permanent resident, who has also represented another country in the last three years, in any FIE and/or Union International de Pentathlon Monderne (UIPM) event, 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; a $500 fine, which may be invoiced or 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 email (information@usfencing.org). Division qualifier information, if known and provided by the division, is posted on the USA Fencing website at www.usfencing.org/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 USA Fencing National Championships, Junior Olympic Fencing Championships, and the July Challenge. These include:

- **Regional Open Circuit Tournaments (ROC):** Division IA, Division II, Veteran for USA Fencing National Championships
- **Regional Junior Cadet Circuit (RJCC):** Junior and Cadet for Junior Olympic Fencing Championships and the July Challenge, if age eligible
- **Super Youth Circuit Tournaments (SYC):** 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 (RYC):** 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. RYC qualifying tournaments with less than 5 entrants in a given gender may mix by gender, but may not mix ages.

**Regional Open Circuit (ROC):** 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.

**Regional Junior Cadet Circuit (RJCC):** 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. National point holders will not be skipped on the Regional Ranking List when determining the number of qualifiers.

**Super Youth Circuit and Regional Youth Circuit (SYC/RYC):** 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. National point holders will not be skipped on the Regional Ranking List when determining the number of qualifiers.

2.6.3 Determination of Divisional Qualifiers

Division qualifiers are determined by the qualifying information for various event types. 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.”** Those who qualify through the division are not considered an “automatic qualifier” and are not posted on the USA Fencing website. Those who qualify for Div IA, Div II, or Div III by earning regional ROC points are not considered automatic qualifiers at divisional qualifiers and should not be skipped over.
Due to Youth (RYC), Cadet and Junior (RJCC) Regional Rankings not being 100% finalized until the last event has been submitted and processed by the National Office, those with regional points are not skipped over at any Y14, Cadet or Junior Division Qualifier. This includes any athlete who has reached the pre-assigned minimum regional point total for qualification.

Div IA and Div II qualification are points based only (minimum of one Div IA or Div II points result). Therefore, auto-qualifiers in Div IA, competing at subsequent Div IA ROC events do not affect the qualifying field at a Div IA ROC. There is no automatic qualification path for Div II.

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 do not qualify 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 website under the Championship tournament page and Regional Resources page (http://www.usfencing.org/page/show/2516271-tournament-resources). 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 72 hours 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 may be invoiced or withheld from the division’s membership rebate; regional tournaments will be subject to removal of sanctioning and will be responsible for refunding fees to the athlete. Additional fines may be assessed by the appropriate USA Fencing committee or Board of Directors.

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th># Competitors</th>
<th>1</th>
<th>2</th>
<th>3-12</th>
<th>13-16</th>
<th>17-20</th>
<th>21-24</th>
<th>25-28</th>
<th>29-32</th>
<th>33-36</th>
<th>37-40</th>
<th>41-44</th>
<th>45-48</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td># Qualifiers</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

2.6.4 Combined Division II/Division III Divisional 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).

2.6.5 Petition Process

In exceptional cases, subject to approval by the USA Fencing Board of Directors or National Office, a member of USA Fencing in good standing may be permitted to qualify to the Division I 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. U.S. citizens and permanent residents are eligible to petition.

The following criteria and procedures are applicable to filling 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.
3. Ineligible fencer in the qualifying competition

(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 www.usafencing.org. Such petitions are to be filed within 10 business days following a 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 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, Division I National Championships, USA Fencing National Championships, or July Challenge 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 email.

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, Division I National Championships, July Challenge or USA Fencing National Championship competition by this petition procedure, the fencers’ entry will in no way affect the number of qualifiers from the division involved.

2.7 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.

2.8 Youth Fencing (Y14, Y12, Y10)

2.8.1 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)

2.8.2 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 at http://www.usfencing.org/page/show/2520204-division-info-for-members or by emailing information@usfencing.org

2.8.3 Youth Divisional Tournaments

Each division will host a qualifying tournament for Y14 National Championships only (Y12 and Y10 use regional 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 (http://www.usfencing.org/page/show/2520204-division-info-for-members).

2.9 Youth Regional Tournaments

2.9.1 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 final placement and 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 2.15.1.1; all competition format information can be found in Table 2.16.1.

2.9.2 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 final placement and 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 2.15.1.1; all competition format information can be found in Table 2.16.1.

2.9.3 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 final placement and 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 of 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 bound in Table 2.15.1.1; all competition format information can be found in Table 2.16.1.

2.9.4 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, rounding up, 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 USA Fencing 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 2.15.1.1; all competition format information can be found in Table 2.16.1.

### 2.9.5 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, rounding up, 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 2.15.1.1; all competition format information can be found in Table 2.16.1.

### 2.9.6 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, rounding up, 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 2.15.1.1; all competition format information can be found in Table 2.16.1.

### 2.10 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.

#### 2.10.1 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 2.15.1.1; all competition format information can be found in Table 2.16.1.

2.10.2 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 2.15.1.1; all competition format information can be found in Table 2.16.1

2.10.3 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
   No qualifying path

C. Seeding and Format
   All information regarding seeding can be found in Table 2.15.1.1; all competition format information can be found in Table 2.16.1.

2.10.4 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 U.S. citizen or permanent resident AND
   • Be on the Y10 National Point Standings at the regular fee entry deadline OR
   • Be on the Y10 Regional Youth Point Standings in your region at the regular fee entry deadline OR
   • Top 65% of your region’s Y12 Regional Youth Point Standings by entry deadline OR
   • Participate in a SYC or RYC in the current season
C. *Seeding and Format*

All information regarding seeding can be found in Table 2.15.1; all competition information can be found in Table 2.16.1.

### 2.10.5 Youth 12 National Championships

#### A. Eligibility (age, classification)

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

#### B. Qualification

When determining qualifications using top 65% on regional points lists or top 8 on National Rolling Point Standings, ONLY foreign fencers are skipped.

#### C. Qualifying Path

- Fencers must meet age requirements in Table 2.5.1 AND be a U.S. citizen or permanent resident AND
- Be on the Y12 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
- Earn at least 70 Y12 Regional Points during the current season OR
- Be in the top 30% of your region's Y14 Regional Point Standings at the regular fee entry deadline (number will be based on the size of the region's points list) OR
- Earn at least 175 Y14 Regional Points during the current season OR
- Place in the top 25% of the fencer's division's Y14 National Championship qualifying competition

#### D. Seeding and Format

All information regarding seeding can be found in Table 2.15.1; all competition format information can be found in Table 2.16.1.

### 2.10.6 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. Qualification

When determining qualifications using top 30% on regional points lists or top 16 on National Rolling Points Standings, ONLY foreign fencers are skipped.

#### C. Qualifying Path

- Fencers must meet age requirements AND be a U.S. citizen or permanent resident AND
- Be on the Youth 14 National Point Standings at the regular entry fee deadline OR
- Be in the top 16 of the Y12 National Point Standings at the regular entry fee 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
- Earn at least 175 Y14 Regional Points during the current season OR
- Place in the top 25% (round up) of the fencer's division's Y14 National Championship qualifying competition
D. Seeding and Format
All information regarding seeding can be found in Table 2.15.1; all competition format information can be found in Table 2.16.1.

2.11 Cadet/Junior Tournaments

2.11.1 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.

2.11.2 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).

2.11.3 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 – http://www.usfencing.org/page/show/2520204-division-info-for-members.

2.11.4 Regional Junior/Cadet Circuit (RJCC) Tournaments

2.11.4.1 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 final placement and 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 on 1 January in the year of the competition. 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 2.15.1; all competition format information can be found in Table 2.16.1.

RCCs held after the entry fee deadline for the Junior Olympic Championships and before the Junior Olympic Championships take place are regional qualifiers for the July Challenge within the 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 Olympic Championships that season. Athletes ageing 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.
2.11.4.2 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 on 1 January in the year of the competition. 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 2.15.1; all competition format information can be found in Table 2.16.1.

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 Challenge within that calendar year and the Junior Olympics the following year. For these specific RJCs, organizers are permitted to allow entry to athletes aging into the Junior NAC category at that year’s July Challenge and to athletes who age out of the Junior category after the Junior Olympic 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.

2.11.5 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.

2.11.5.1 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 on 1 January in the year of the competition. Fencers younger than that must, as of the entry deadline, be on the Y14 National 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 2.15.1; all competition format information can be found in Table 2.16.1.

2.11.5.2 Cadet & Junior – Junior Olympic Fencing Championships

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

A. Eligibility (age, classification)

Subject to the exceptions in Table 2.5.1, fencers must be at least 13 years old on 1 January in the year of the competition. Fencers younger than that must, as of the regular fee entry deadline, be on the Y14 National 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 U.S. citizens or permanent residents.

When determining qualifications using top 25% on regional points lists or top 8 or top 16 respectively on National Rolling Point Standings, ONLY foreign fencers ARE skipped.

B. Qualification

CADET
- Fencers must meet 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
- Earn at least 110 regional points on either the Cadet or Junior Regional Point Standing 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 Point Standings OR
- Earn at least 110 regional points on the Junior Regional Point Standing OR
- Be in the top 25% (round up) of their division’s Junior JO qualifying competition

C. Seeding and Format
All information regarding seeding can be found in Table 2.15.1; all competition format information can be found in Table 2.16.1.

2.11.5.3 Cadet & Junior July Challenge with Senior Team

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 on 1 January in the year of the competition. 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 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 list).
CADET
- Fencers must meet 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
- Earn at least 65 regional points on the Cadet or Junior Regional Point Standing OR
- Foreign athletes who meet the USA Fencing classification standard of “A”, “B” or “C” as defined in the Section 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 rankings after JOs) OR
- Be in the top 50% of your region’s Junior Regional Circuit Points OR
- Earn at least 65 regional points on the Junior Regional Point Standing 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”, “B” as defined in the Section 2.2.5

C. Seeding and Format
All information regarding seeding can be found in Table 2.15.1.1; all competition format information can be found in Table 2.16.1.

Senior Team events at the July Challenge Tournament: The Senior Team events at the July Challenge Tournament are no longer a Championship event. 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.

2.12 Senior/Open Tournaments

2.12.1 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 Senior/Open event, all fencers must be a current competitive member of USA Fencing, at least 13 years old on 1 January in the year of the competition unless the fencer is on the National Junior Point Standings at the entry deadline for that competition.

2.12.2 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.

Competitors must be at least 13 years old on 1 January in the year of the competition.
2.12.3 Senior/Open Divisional Tournaments

Each division will host a qualifying tournament for Division II (Div II) and/or Division III (Div III) for the USA Fencing National Championships. Divisions may also hold senior/open tournaments during the season to provide general competition opportunities. Divisional information can be found through the division-specific websites – http://www.usfencing.org/page/show/2520204-division-info-for-members.

2.12.4 Senior/Open Regional Tournaments

2.12.4.1 Division II (Div II) 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 at least 13 years old on 1 January in the year of the competition 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 2.15.1; all competition format information can be found in Table 2.16.1.

2.11.4.2 Division IA (Div IA) 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 IA competitions; regional points are awarded to the top 40% of the field.

A. Eligibility (age, classification, qualifying path)
   Fencers must be at least 13 years old on 1 January in the year of the competition or in the Junior national rolling point standings (NRPS)

B. Seeding and format
   C. All information regarding seeding can be found in Table 2.15.1; all competition format information can be found in Table 2.16.1.

2.12.5 Senior/Open National Tournaments

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

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

A. Eligibility (age, classification)
   Fencers must be at least 13 years old on 1 January in the year of the competition 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 requirements 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 2.15.1.1; all competition format information can be found in Table 2.16.1.

2.11.5.2 Division II (Div II) North American Cup (NAC)
Division II national tournaments provide competition opportunities for fencers 13 years and older with classification of C or below. No regional or national points are awarded. For awarding classifications, Division II tournaments are always at least a Group B3 competition.

A. Eligibility (age, classification)
Fencers must be at least 13 years old on 1 January in the year of the competition or on the Junior national rolling points standings (NRPS). Fencers must have a classification of “C”, “D”, “E”, or “U”.

If a fencer meets the classification requirements 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 seeing can be found in Table 2.15.1.1; all competition format information can be found in Table 2.16.1.

2.11.5.3 Division I (Div I) North American Cup (NAC)
This event offers elite level competition for fencers 13 years of age or 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 GroupA4 competition.

A. Eligibility (age, classification)
Fencers must be at least 13 years old on 1 January in the year of the competition. 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 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 seeing can be found in Table 2.15.1.1; all competition format information can be found in Table 2.16.1.

2.12.5.4 Division II (Div II) 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 at least 13 years old on 1 January in the year of the competition 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 U.S. 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 IA ROC Regional Point Standings OR
- Be on the Div II ROC Regional Point Standings OR
- Place in the top 40% of any current season Div II or Div IA NAC

If at the time you compete in a qualifying event you meet the age and/or classification criteria, you are eligible for that event at the National Championship, if you qualify.

C. **Seeding and Format**
All information regarding seeing can be found in Table 2.15.1.1; all competition format information can be found in Table 2.16.1.

### 2.12.5.5 Division III (Div III) 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 at least 13 years old on 1 January in the year of the competition 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 U.S. 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 IA 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 Div III, Div II or D1A NAC of the current season
- Qualified for Division II, if classification eligible

A fencer must meet the classification requirement at the qualifying competition and when he or she registers for the Championship with USA Fencing.

C. **Seeding and Format**
All information regarding seeing can be found in Table 2.15.1.1; all competition format information can be found in Table 2.16.1.

### 2.12.5.6 Division IA (Div IA) USA Fencing National Championships

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

A. **Eligibility (age, classification, qualification path)**
Fencers must at least 13 years old on 1 January in the year of the competition or on the Junior National Rolling Point Standings (NRPS) and be a U.S. 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 IA 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 Div IA 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 OR
- Place in the top 40% of any current season Div IA NAC

C. Seeding and Format
All information regarding seeing can be found in Table 2.15.1.1; all competition format information can be found in Table 2.16.1.

2.12.5.7 Division I (Div I) National Championships

The Division I 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 at least 13 years old on 1 January in the year of the competition (see Table 2.5.1 for exceptions). Fencers must have a classification of “A”, “B”, or “C” at the entry deadline and be a U.S. 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 IA 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 epee 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 seeing can be found in Table 2.15.1.1; all competition format information can be found in Table 2.16.1.

2.12.5.8 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 I (age, classification and qualification path)
Fencers must be at least 13 years old on 1 January in the year of the competition (see Table 2.5.1 for exceptions). 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 entry deadline and age eligible OR
- Top 24 of the Cadet NRPS at the regular fee deadline and age eligible OR
- Top 16 from Div IA 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”, “B” as defined in the Section 2.2.5.

C. **Seeding and Format**

All information regarding seeing can be found in Table 2.15.1.1; all competition format information can be found in Table 2.16.1.

### 2.13 Veteran Tournaments

#### 2.13.1 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+).

#### 2.13.2 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

#### 2.13.3 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 – http://www.usfencing.org/page/show/2520204-division-info-for-members.

#### 2.13.4 Veteran Regional Tournaments

#### 2.11.5.1 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 Combine or Veteran age-group event. See Table 2.5.1 for details.

B. **Seeding and Format**

All information regarding seeing can be found in Table 2.15.1.1; all competition format information can be found in Table 2.16.1.
2.13.5 Veteran National Tournaments

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

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

A. Eligibility (age, classification, qualifying path)
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 seeing can be found in Table 2.15.1.1; all competition format information can be found in Table 2.16.1.

2.11.5.2 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, qualifying path)
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. Athletes that have represented another country in the last 3 years at FIE level competitions (Senior/Junior) are not eligible to compete in a National Championship.

B. Qualification
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 Combine regional point standings at the regular fee entry deadline

C. Seeding and Format
All information regarding seeing can be found in Table 2.15.1.1; all competition format information can be found in Table 2.16.1.

2.14 Team Events

At the national level, there are six categories of team events: Y14 (Y14TM), Cadet (CTM) Junior (JTM), Senior (STM), Division I (DVITM) and Veteran (VETTM).
A. **Eligibility**

Senior or Division I team members must be at least 13 years old on 1 January in the year of the competition. 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 the 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. All registered members of a team must be present on site.

**Senior Team events at the July Challenge Tournament:** The Senior Team events at the July Challenge Tournament are no longer a Championship event. 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. All registered members of a team must be present on site.

**Div I Team event at April NAC:** This is championship team event held at the national level, which will have club or division affiliation requirements. Any three or four fencers that are age, gender, citizenship, have represented their club in the current season and are classification eligible (C or above) for the event may enter a team. They must be competitive USA Fencing members. All registered members of a team must be present on site.

**Junior Olympic Fencing Championships/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 U.S. 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 epee and one team in women’s epee 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 team 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 the 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 deadline.
- 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 nionalevents@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 points standing (NRPS): Senior point standings for the Senior teams, Junior point
standings for the Junior teams, Veteran open points standings for the Veteran teams, Youth 14 point standings for the Youth 14 teams, and/or the classification of each member of the team. The National Rolling Point standings 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 standings (NRPS). A fencer who is first on the national rolling point standings (NRPS) receives 132 points, second received 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 appendices 1 - 2 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 NRPS 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:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fencer</th>
<th>NRPS</th>
<th>Team Points</th>
<th>Classification</th>
<th>Team Points</th>
<th>Total Points</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>18th</td>
<td>115</td>
<td>A16</td>
<td>670</td>
<td>785</td>
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<tr>
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<td>0</td>
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<td>50</td>
<td>B16</td>
<td>570</td>
<td>620</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

TEAM SEEDING POINTS: (Sum of the best three) 1865

2.15 Competition Seeding

2.15.1 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 2.15.1.1.

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.

### 2.11.5.1 Table: Seeding Principles for Specific Categories of Tournaments

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CATEGORY</th>
<th>LOCAL</th>
<th>DIVISION/REGIONAL</th>
<th>NATIONAL</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Open Competitions, Division I, IA NACs, ROCs Div I July Challenge (National only) | Classification/Year                          | DV1A: Nat'l Senior Rolling Points the classification/year.  
DV2: Classification/Year only | FIE Senior Points (min 2 placements in top 32 of Senior World Cup, Grand Prix, World Championships, or Olympic Games), then National Senior Rolling Points, then Classification/Year. |
<p>| Div I and IA National Championships | N/A                                        | N/A                                                    | 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 II, III NACs, ROCs, National Championships | Classification/Year                      | Classification/Year                                      | Classification/Year |
| Veteran Open (40 &amp; Older) | Classification/Year                      | Classification/Year                                      | National Veteran Open Point Standings, then classification/year |
| Veteran Age Groups NAC, National Champs | Classification/Year                      | Classification/Year                                      | Top 8 in National Age Group, standings, then ranking with classification, then classification/year. |
| Junior                    | Classification/Year                      | National Junior Rolling Points, then classification/year | FIE Junior Points (min 2 placements in top 32 of Junior World Cup or World Championships), National Junior Rolling Points, then classification/year. |
| Cadet                     | Classification/year                      | National Cadet Rolling Points, then classification/year | National Cadet Rolling Points, then classification/year |
| Youth 14                  | Classification/year                      | National Youth 14 Rolling Points, then classification/year | National Youth 14 Rolling Points, then classification/year |
| Youth 12                  | Classification/year                      | National Youth 12 Rolling Points, then classification/year | National Youth 12 Rolling Points, then classification/year |
| Youth 10                  | Classification/year                      | National Youth 10 Rolling Points, then classification/year | National Youth 10 Rolling Points, then classification/year |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Division</th>
<th>Team</th>
<th>Seeding Details</th>
<th>Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
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<td>I Team</td>
<td>National Champs</td>
<td>Seeding is based on Senior National Points and participating fencers’ classification/year as of posted entry deadlines OR classification and year only</td>
<td>Seeding is based on Senior National Points and participating fencers’ classification/year as of posted entry deadlines OR classification and year only</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Seeding is based on Senior National Points and participating fencers’ classification/year as of posted entry deadlines OR classification and year only</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Senior</td>
<td>Seeding is based on Senior National Points and participating fencers’ classification/year as of posted entry deadlines OR classification and year only</td>
<td>Seeding is based on Senior National Points and participating fencers’ classification/year as of posted entry deadlines OR classification and year only</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Under 20 Team</td>
<td>Seeding is based on Junior National Points and participating fencers’ classification/year as of posted entry deadlines OR classification and year only</td>
<td>Seeding is based on Junior National Points and participating fencers’ classification/year as of posted entry deadlines OR classification and year only</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>JO (Junior)</td>
<td>Seeding is based on Junior National Points and participating fencers’ classification/year as of posted entry deadlines OR classification and year only</td>
<td>Seeding is based on Junior National Points and participating fencers’ classification/year as of posted entry deadlines OR classification and year only</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Under 17 Team</td>
<td>Seeding is based on Cadet National Points and participating fencers’ classification/year as of posted entry deadlines OR classification and year only</td>
<td>Seeding is based on Cadet National Points and participating fencers’ classification/year as of posted entry deadlines OR classification and year only</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>NAC (Cadet)</td>
<td>Seeding is based on Cadet National Points and participating fencers’ classification/year as of posted entry deadlines OR classification and year only</td>
<td>Seeding is based on Cadet National Points and participating fencers’ classification/year as of posted entry deadlines OR classification and year only</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Under Y14 Team</td>
<td>Seeding is based on Y14 National Points and participating fencers’ classification/year as of posted entry deadlines OR classification and year only</td>
<td>Seeding is based on Y14 National Points and participating fencers’ classification/year as of posted entry deadlines OR classification and year only</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>NAC</td>
<td>Seeding is based on Y14 National Points and participating fencers’ classification/year as of posted entry deadlines OR classification and year only</td>
<td>Seeding is based on Y14 National Points and participating fencers’ classification/year as of posted entry deadlines OR classification and year only</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Veteran</td>
<td>Seeding is based on Veteran Open National Points and participating fencers’ classification/year as of posted entry deadlines OR classification and year only</td>
<td>Seeding is based on Veteran Open National Points and participating fencers’ classification/year as of posted entry deadlines OR classification and year only</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Team</td>
<td></td>
<td>Seeding is based on Veteran Open National Points and participating fencers’ classification/year as of posted entry deadlines OR classification and year only</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
- Within the same classification values, the order is random.
- Ties in the National Rolling Point Standings (NRPS) are seeding 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**

I. 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.

II. 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.

   1. Conflict in a pool is: two or more fencers from the same division and/or same club or school
   2. Review of pool compositions is to minimize such conflicts within the rules governing conflict resolution

III. 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 Resolutions:**

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 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.

### 2.16 National Competition Formats

**2.16.1 Table: National Competition Formats**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Division I National Championships</th>
<th>One round of pools; 6 or 7 person pool, 80% promoted to simple direct elimination.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Division I NAC and July Challenge</td>
<td>One round of pools; 6 or 7-person pool, 75% promoted to single elimination. The national coaches, sports performance and tournament committee may elect to use specialized formats for Division I national tournaments to be published in each tournament’s athlete packet.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Division IA, II, III National Championships, Division IA NAC</td>
<td>One round of pools, 6 and 6 or 6 and 7 persons per pool, 80% promoted to simple direct elimination.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Div IA, Div II, Veteran Regional Open Circuit (ROC)</td>
<td>One round of pools (of sizes in accordance with the Operations Manual maximized to 6 and 7 fencers as possible), with 100% promoted to a direct elimination table.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Division II, III NAC

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Division II, III NAC</th>
<th>One round of pools; 5 and 6 or 6 and 7 persons per pool, 100% promoted to simple direct elimination. See Appendix 4 for regional formats.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

### Junior Olympic Fencing Championships

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Junior Olympic Fencing Championships</th>
<th>One round of pools; of 6 or 7 persons per pool, 80% promoted to simple direct elimination.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

### Junior & Cadet NAC and July Challenge

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Junior &amp; Cadet NAC and July Challenge</th>
<th>One round of pools of 6 or 7 persons per pool, 80% promoted to simple direct elimination.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

### Y14 SYC, NAC & National Championships

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Y14 SYC, NAC &amp; National Championships</th>
<th>One round of pools; 5 and 6 or 6 and 7 persons per pool, 100% promoted to simple direct elimination.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

### Y12 NAC, National Championships, Regional and Super Youth Circuit

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Y12 NAC, National Championships, Regional &amp; Super Youth Circuit</th>
<th>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.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

### Y10 NAC, National Championships, Regional & Super Youth Circuit

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Y10 NAC, National Championships, Regional &amp; Super Youth Circuit</th>
<th>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.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

### Veteran Age National Championships

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Veteran Age National Championships</th>
<th>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]</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

### Veteran Open NAC & Veteran Age NAC

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Veteran Open NAC &amp; Veteran Age NAC</th>
<th>One round of pools; 5 and 6 or 6 and 7 persons per pool, 100% promoted to single direct elimination in which bouts are 10 touch bouts with two 3 minute periods. There is a one minute rest between periods.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

### Wheelchair NAC & National Championships

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Wheelchair NAC &amp; National Championships</th>
<th>Two rounds of pools; 100% promoted to simple direct elimination.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

### Team Competitions NAC & Championships

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Team Competitions NAC &amp; Championships</th>
<th>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.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

### 2.17 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 (FIE label not required)

**Masks:** Mask bibs must be fixed to the exterior of the grille staring 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 12K punch test will be impounded or given a visible mark to signify that the mask is “not approved for use” [per FIE rule m.257.d].

In foil competitions, the conductive bib is required at all levels (local, divisional, 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: NACs, July Challenge, JOs, Division I Championships, USA Fencing National Championships and Wheelchair National Championships [BOD, Sept. 2010]

Blades: See table below; for Y10 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)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Blade Size Number</th>
<th>0</th>
<th>2</th>
<th>3</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Blade Length: MM</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Foil</td>
<td>775</td>
<td>825</td>
<td>850</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Epee</td>
<td>775</td>
<td>825</td>
<td>850</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sabre</td>
<td>765</td>
<td>820</td>
<td>850</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

For information on the regulations for Sabre 800NW gloves, reference the Rule Book. 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.24.4.c). In epee and foil, a full jacket is required (i.e., a jacket with croissard/groin strap). In foil and sabre; the lame must have croissard/groin strap. Any attachment to a weapon's handler (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-ups, camps or clinics. Failure to comply may results 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 Referee Commission (formerly 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.com that clearly show the entirety of the design. Accepted designs will be posted on the Referee Commission (formerly 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 lame between the shoulders; (2) on the front side of the thigh of the “rear” leg; or (3) on a piece of fabric of lame material that is firmly sewn to the uniform in such a way that it will 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 eliminations when a competitor is eliminated from the direct elimination tableau after his or her first loss.

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, reference Table 2.16.1.
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 Standings (Div IA, Div II, 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 – http://www.usfencing.org/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 – 4.

3.1.1 “Age Out” Policy

For domestic events, Junior and Cadet fencers will “age out” at the end of the Junior Olympic Fencing Championships (see Table 2.5.1). 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 (on or before August 1), the Youth and Veteran 40-49 point standings are updated 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 updated to reflect those who are eligible in each age category for the next Veteran World Championships.

3.1.2 Replacement Schedule

Points on each of the above standings (except Regional Youth and Team Point Standings – for Team Point Standings, see section 3.1.7) remain until replaced by the equivalent event in the following season. If there is no equivalent event, points will remain for 12 months, or until a fencer ages out of a given category (Youth, Cadet, Junior). The replacement schedule is included with each competitive category in Chapter 3 and Chapters 5-10 for the designated calendar.

For example, points earned at the first Div I NAC of the season will be replaced by points earned at the first Div I NAC of the following season.

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 division affiliation). These point standings are posted online and are updated within five business days after the tournament organizer has properly submitted results, event officials form, membership forms and paid the program service fee. For more information on this point system please visit – www.usfencing.org/page/show/2292457-regional. These point standings are not used for seeding, only National Point Standings are used for seeding at regional tournaments.

Regional tournament organizers will use the applicable national point standings for seeding as of 5:00 PM MT the Wednesday prior to the tournament.
3.1.4 Regional Open Circuit Point Standings (Div IA, Div II, Veteran)

ROC events award regional points maintained on a points list that combines all regional results. 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 the tournament organizer has properly submitted results, event officials form, membership forms and paid the program service fee. For more information on this point system – www.usfencing.org/page/show/2292457-regional.

Regional tournament organizers will use the applicable point standings as of 5:00 PM MT the Wednesday prior to the tournament.

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.

National Rolling Point Standings are used in the following situations:
- To seed USA Fencing national, regional and divisional competitions (see Table 2.15.1.1)
- 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 only)

3.1.6 Youth Point Standings (SYC and National Tournaments)

For the Y10 and Y12 age categories, points may be earned by competing at North American Cup (NAC) events for one’s own age category and the next older category. Y14 athletes may earn points in Y14, Cadet, Junior, and Div I national events for which they are eligible to compete.

National points earned at SYC events 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 Tournaments and the one SYC per eligible category in which the fencer has earned the most points (see Formula for Youth Points below).

The Youth Point Standings will be computed on a rolling point basis. See Section 3.1.2 for replacement schedule.

**Formula for Youth Point Standings BEST FOUR RESULTS = TOTAL POINTS:**
- Youth 10: Sum of the four highest results in SYC Y10, SYC Y12, NAC Y10, NAC Y12, National Championship Y10, National Championship Y12 (up to 2 national results may be used per age category, only one SYC result per age category)
- Youth 12: Sum of the four highest results in SYC Y12, SYC Y14, NAC Y12, NAC Y14, National Championship Y12, National Championship Y14 (up to 2 national results may be used per age category, only one SYC result per age category)
Youth 14: Sum of the four highest results from SYC Y14, NAC Y14, National Championship Y14, any national Cadet, Junior, Div I events (only one SYC result)

3.1.7 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 and Chapter 12 for Wheelchair)
- To select athletes for designated international competitions according to the following schedule:
  - Cadet Team Points – generated after the second designated Cadet international event
  - Junior Team Points – generated after the second designated Junior World Cup
  - Senior Team Points – generated after the fourth designated Senior international competitions (World Cup or Grand Prix)
  - Veteran Team Points – generated after the second Veteran NAC

3.1.8 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.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CATEGORY</th>
<th>BORN</th>
<th>WORLD CHAMPS/TEAM PTS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>COMBINED</td>
<td>1977 OR EARLIER</td>
<td>NO</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>40-49</td>
<td>1968-1977</td>
<td>NO</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>50-59</td>
<td>1958-1967</td>
<td>YES</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>60-69</td>
<td>1948-1957</td>
<td>YES</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>70+</td>
<td>1947 OR EARLIER</td>
<td>YES</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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. For veterans who have aged into the next age group, (e.g., 40-49 to 50-59, 50-59 to 60-69, etc.), they also will carry the best two results from the previous three domestic Veteran competitions, plus points earned at the last Veterans World Championships, regardless of in which age group those points were earned. 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 Open (40 years and older) points are best results from the two Veteran Open NACs in December and April. [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. There is no Veteran 40-49 event at the Veteran World Championships.

### 3.1.9 Wheelchair National Point Standings

Wheelchair National points are earned at the 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:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Div IA</th>
<th>Div II</th>
<th>Junior</th>
<th>Cadet</th>
<th>Y14</th>
<th>Y12</th>
<th>Y10</th>
<th>Veteran</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Div IA ROC</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Div II ROC</td>
<td></td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RJC</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RCC</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Y14 RYC</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Y12 RYC</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Y10 RYC</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Veteran ROC</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- Best 3 results from ROCs held in any region 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:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Senior</th>
<th>Junior</th>
<th>Cadet</th>
<th>Y14</th>
<th>Y12</th>
<th>Y10</th>
<th>Veteran</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Div I NAC/National Championship/July Challenge</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Junior NAC/JOs/July Challenge</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cadet NAC/JOs/July Challenge</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Y14 NAC/National Championships/SYC</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Y12 NAC/National Championships/SYC</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Y10 NAC/National Championships/SYC</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Veteran NAC/National Championships</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- Points are only earned in categories for which one is age eligible
- 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)

Fencers only earn points at RYCs within their home region (region is assigned based on division affiliation). 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 seeding or team selection purposes.

Using the formula below, RYC tournaments will award points to all participants:
(# entries – place + 1) / # entries) x 100 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)

Fencers only earn points at RJCCs within their home region (region is assigned based on division affiliation). 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, for seeding or team selection purposes; they are only reflected in Regional Point Standings.

Using the formula below, RJCC tournaments will award points to all participants: 
((#entries – place +1) / # entries) x 100 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 the region. Regional RJCC points are only earned in the fencers 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 IA, 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 4.

The best 3 results, in each respective category, count towards the point total. These points will qualify Div IA, Div II and Veteran ROC fencers to the USA Fencing National Championships in Div IA, Div II, Div III and Veteran. For qualification path details, refer to Chapter 2.

ROC’s must have at least 2 competitors and cannot be fenced as mixed gender.

3.4 Earning Domestic Points – National

Structure of Point Standings
Point standings for Cadet, Junior, and Senior fencers is based on a combination of two groups: Group I and Group II. In general, Group I reflects domestic point tournaments while, in most cases, Group II reflects international competitions. Please see Chapters 5 – 10 for selection criteria.

The point tables are found in Appendices 1 and 2.

In the Veteran national point competitions, points are awarded to a maximum place of 64th.

For Youth, Cadet, Junior, and Senior National point competitions (NACs, JOs, July Challenge and National Championships), points will be awarded to the direct elimination table in which the top 32 (to a maximum of 40%) of the competitive field falls (rounded to the next lower integer) to a maximum of 64th place. If the top 32 (to a maximum of 40%) cut-off falls within a pool round, the points will be awarded starting with the direct elimination round. See the chart below:
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Field Size</th>
<th>Points Awarded to Table of</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2-4</td>
<td>Gold Medalist</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5-7</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8-12</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13-22</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23-42</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>43-159</td>
<td>32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>160+</td>
<td>64</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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 to the points awarded when there is a schedule conflict between a domestic and international event. The WV is always 1.0 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 national 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. Refer to the Points Table for greater detail on youth points.

### 3.5 Earning Points – International

The point tables for international points can be found in Appendix 3. 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 Group II calculations. See the weapon-specific selection criteria for further details.

Points will be awarded for results at events described in Chapters 5 – 10. Points will be awarded when the FIE has nullified the results and not awarded FIE points for a designated Junior or Senior international competition (using the applicable Strength Factor formula – see Section 3.5.1 below)

- 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 3 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 3. The JSF is applied to the Point Table in Appendix 3. 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)**

\[
SSF = \frac{N/10 + 7 \text{ (Sr8)} + 6 \text{ (Sr16)} + 5 \text{ (Sr32)} + 4 \text{ (Sr64)} + 3 \text{ (Jr16)} + 2 \text{ (Sr100)}}{100}
\]

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 JUNIORS STRENGTH FACTOR (JSF)**

\[
JSF = \frac{N/3 + 10 \text{ (Jr8)} + 8 \text{ (Jr16)} + 6 \text{ (Jr32)} + 12 \text{ (Sr16)}}{100}
\]

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

There is no Strength Factor for designated Cadet international competitions. A Weight Value may be assigned based on the assessment of its expected competitive strength.
## 4.1 International Competition Categories

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category of International Competition</th>
<th>License Required</th>
<th>FIE Points Awarded</th>
<th>USA Fencing Points Awarded</th>
<th>Max # of Entries Allowed by FIE/EFC</th>
<th>Max # of Entries Allowed by USA Fencing</th>
<th>Registration Fee</th>
<th>Squad Fee</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>FIE Individual Senior World Cup/Grand Prix – &quot;A&quot; Designated</td>
<td>FIE</td>
<td>YES</td>
<td>YES</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>$30</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FIE Individual Senior World Cup held in USA – &quot;A&quot; Designated</td>
<td>FIE</td>
<td>YES</td>
<td>YES</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>$30</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FIE Individual Senior Grand Prix held in USA - &quot;A&quot; Designated</td>
<td>FIE</td>
<td>YES</td>
<td>YES</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>$30</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FIE Individual Junior World Cup – “A” Designated</td>
<td>FIE</td>
<td>YES</td>
<td>YES</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>$30</td>
<td>$250</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FIE Individual Junior World Cup held in USA – “A” Designated</td>
<td>FIE</td>
<td>YES</td>
<td>YES</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>$30</td>
<td>$250</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FIE Individual World Cup – “A” Non-Designated Junior &amp; Senior</td>
<td>FIE</td>
<td>YES</td>
<td>NO</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>4#</td>
<td>$30</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FIE Team World Cup, Junior &amp; Senior</td>
<td>FIE</td>
<td>YES**</td>
<td>NO</td>
<td>1 TM-4 Fencers</td>
<td>1 TM – 4 Fencers</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FIE Satellite</td>
<td>FIE</td>
<td>YES</td>
<td>NO</td>
<td>No limit</td>
<td>4#</td>
<td>$30</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FIE World Championships – Junior &amp; Senior – Annual</td>
<td>FIE</td>
<td>YES</td>
<td>YES</td>
<td>SR=4 fencers per weapon; JR=4 fencers per weapon</td>
<td>SR=4 fencers per weapon; JR=4 fencers per weapon</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FIE World Championships – Cadet – Annual</td>
<td>FIE</td>
<td>NO</td>
<td>YES</td>
<td>3 fencers per weapon</td>
<td>3 fencers per weapon</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FIE World Veteran Championships – Annual</td>
<td>FIE</td>
<td>NO</td>
<td>YES</td>
<td>4 fencers per weapon per age category</td>
<td>4 fencers per weapon per age category</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wheelchair Fencing World Championships – every 2 years</td>
<td>IWAS</td>
<td>IWAS</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wheelchair Fencing World Cup Competitions</td>
<td>IWAS</td>
<td>IWAS</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Designated European Cadet Competitions</td>
<td>EFC</td>
<td>NO</td>
<td>YES</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>$30</td>
<td>$250</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-designated European Cadet Competitions</td>
<td>EFC</td>
<td>NO</td>
<td>NO</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>4#</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pan American Zonal Championships, Senior – Annual</td>
<td>FIE</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>NO</td>
<td>4 fencers per weapon</td>
<td>4 fencers per weapon</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
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 - http://www.usfencing.org/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 of 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 of 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:
  o 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:
  o 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 competition.

**EFC Rules about the age of participants at EFC 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 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 Citizen 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 U.S. citizenship may request entry to Cadet designated events. Approved permanent residents will be selected, in rank order, after eligible U.S. 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 Cadet, Junior and Senior designated international competitions is posted on the USA Fencing’s website, under Athlete Information - [http://www.usfencing.org/international-calendar](http://www.usfencing.org/international-calendar).

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 and Non-Designated EFC Events

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 Cadet competitions.

Athletes wishing to enter FIE Satellite competitions must register online.

Athletes wishing to enter a non-designated Junior or Senior Word Cup competitions or non-designated Cadet competitions must send an email to [international@usfencing.org](mailto:international@usfencing.org) at least 30 days prior to the competition. The calendars can be found at [www.fie.org/competitions](http://www.fie.org/competitions) or [www.eurofencing.info/tournaments](http://www.eurofencing.info/tournaments). Athletes will be entered on a first – come, first-serve basis and only up to four (4) fencer for each event will be entered.
4.1.6  Junior and Senior 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

No coach of a USA fencer may coach against another USA fencer at any international competition. Furthermore, no National or designated Team USA coach may coach any athlete from another nation at an international competition in any bout, regardless of whether the foreign athlete is competing against a USA fencer.

4.2  Entry Procedures and Eligibility Requirements

4.2.1  Registration and Eligibility

All entries/payments/withdraws must be received by 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:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>LEVEL</th>
<th>REGISTRATION FEE</th>
<th>SQUAD FEE</th>
<th>LATE FEES</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Senior</td>
<td>$30</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>$30 (Registration Fee) + $255 (Late Fee) = $280</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Junior</td>
<td>$30</td>
<td>$250</td>
<td>$30 (Registration Fee) + $250 (Squad Fee) + $255 (Late Fee) = $535.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cadet</td>
<td>$30</td>
<td>$250</td>
<td>$30 (Registration Fee) + $250 (Squad Fee) + $255 (Late Fee) = $535.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Late Entry Registration
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 Point 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-U.S. 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-U.S. citizens will be removed from the standings.

CADET EVENTS (Designated Events):

1. Athletes on the Cadet National Points standings in the following order:
   a. U.S. citizen
   b. Approved permanent residents
   c. Waitlist U.S. citizen
   d. Waitlist approved permanent resident
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. U.S. 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 Grand Prix used in calculating the sum of points in Group II
- Next highest points earned at a single designated World Cup or Grand Prix until there is no tie
- Highest place at a single designated World Cup or Grand Prix
- Next highest place at a single designated World Cup or Grand Prix 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 US 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, Wheelchair, 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. Chapter 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
- Paralympic Games
- Wheelchair Fencing World Championships
- Wheelchair Fencing Zonal Championships
- World Veteran Fencing Championships
- Youth Olympic 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 Grand Prix used in calculating the sum of points in Group II.
- Next highest points earned at a single designated World Cup Grand Prix until there is no tie.
- Highest place at a single designated World Cup or Grand Prix.
- Next highest place at a single designated World Cup or Grand Prix until there is no tie.
- Highest place in an 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 Weapons Coach, and a representative from the AAC will resolve the tie.

4.7 Declination of Championship Team Selection

Should an athlete decline his or her selection to a Championship Team, the next highest ranked athlete as of the day of selection will be named to the Team.
Chapter 5 - Men’s Epee

5.1 USA Fencing National Point Competitions

Note regarding 2016-2017 Cadet (U17) & Junior (U20) Points Standings: points awarded for the 2016 April Div 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 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 on the USA Fencing website. (http://www.usfencing.org/international-calendar)
5.2 Men’s Epee - Senior International Teams Selection

5.2.1 2017 Men’s Epee World Championships

TBD - Leipzig, GER

POSTED: May 10, 2016

SELECTION DATE: At the conclusion of the 2017 Div I National Championships

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

The National Weapon Coach may select a fifth fencer within ten (10) business days of selection solely for the team competition. The fifth fencer will be recommended by the National Weapon Coach and reviewed by a panel composed of a fencing representative from the USOC Athlete Advisory Council (AAC) and the Director of Sports Performance (or, in his or her absence, the Executive Director). 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 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 Div I: 9/1/2016 to Selection Date
2. 2017 Div I National Championship
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: 4/1/2016 to Selection Date (MAXIMUM of FOUR 33-64 results count in Group II)
5. 2016 Olympic Games (Top 16 result)

Weight Value for the 2016 Olympic Games = 2.0.

The 2016 Div I July Challenge will count for Rolling Points only.
5.2.2 2017 Men’s Epee Senior Pan American Zonal Championships

June, 2017 - TBD

POSTED: May 10, 2016

SELECTION DATE: At the conclusion of the 2017 Div I National Championships

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

The National Weapon Coach may select a fifth fencer within ten (10) business days of selection solely for the team competition. The fifth fencer will be recommended by the National Weapon Coach and reviewed by a panel composed of a fencing representative from the USOC Athlete Advisory Council (AAC) and the Director of Sports Performance (or, in his or her absence, the Executive Director). 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 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 Div I: 9/1/2016 to Selection Date
2. 2017 Div I National Championship
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: 4/1/2016 to Selection Date
   (MAXIMUM of FOUR 33-64 results count in Group II)
5. 2016 Olympic Games (Top 16 result)

Weight Value for the 2016 Olympic Games = 2.0.

The 2016 Div I July Challenge will count for Rolling Points only.
5.3 Men’s Epee – Junior & Cadet International Teams Selection

5.3.1 2017 Men’s Epee Junior World Championships

April, 2017 - Plovdiv, BUL

POSTED: May 10, 2016

SELECTION DATE: At the conclusion of the 2017 Junior Olympic Fencing Championships

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 ranked 5th through 8th on the Junior Team Point Standings or one of the Cadets qualified for the Cadet World Championships within ten (10) business days of selection solely for the team competition. The fifth fencer will be recommended by the National Weapon Coach and reviewed by a panel composed of a fencing representative from the USOC Athlete Advisory Council (AAC) and the Director of Sports Performance (or, in his or her absence, the Executive Director). 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 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: 9/1/2016 to Selection Date
2. 2016 Junior July Challenge
4. NAC Div I: 9/1/2016 to Selection Date
5. 2016 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: 9/1/2016 to Selection Date
8. Designated Senior World Cup and Grand Prix competitions: 9/1/2016 to Selection Date
9. 2016 Junior World Championships (Top 32 result)
10. 2016 Olympic Games (Top 16 result)

Weight Value for the 2016 Olympic Games and Junior World Championships = 2.0.
5.3.2 2017 Men’s Epee Junior Pan American Zonal Championships

TBD

POSTED: May 10, 2016

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. 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
5. All other athletes (using order to finalize entries as indicated in Athlete Handbook)

*As a reminder, athletes must register online by the registration deadline to be eligible for selection.

Athletes may register for the individual competition only, the team competition only or both events.
5.3.3 2017 Men’s Epee Cadet World Championship Team

April, 2017 - Plovdiv, BUL

POSTED: May 10, 2016

SELECTION DATE: At the conclusion of the 2017 Junior Olympic Fencing Championships

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.

The number one ranked fencer will be selected for the Cadet Mixed Team event at the Cadet World Championships.

SUM OF GROUP I AND GROUP II

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

1. NAC Cadet: 9/1/2016 to Selection Date
2. 2016 Cadet July Challenge
4. NAC Junior: 9/1/2016 to Selection Date
5. 2016 Junior July Challenge
7. NAC Div I: 9/1/2016 to Selection Date
8. 2016 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 10-13

10. Designated Cadet International competitions: 9/1/2016 to Selection Date
11. Designated Junior World Cup competitions: 9/1/2016 to Selection Date
12. 2016 Cadet World Championships (Top 16 result)
13. 2016 Junior World Championships (Top 32 result)

Weight Value for the Junior World Championships = 2.0.
5.3.4 2017 Men’s Epee Cadet Pan American Zonal Championships

TBD

POSTED: May 10, 2016

SELECTION DATE: TBD

SELECTION: The top four registered athletes 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. Athletes will be selected in the following order:

1. All athletes on the National Cadet Team Point Standings
2. All athletes on the National Cadet Rolling Point Standings
3. All athletes on the National Y14 Point Standings
4. All other athletes (using order to finalize entries as indicated in Athlete Handbook)

*As a reminder, athletes must register online by the registration deadline to be eligible for selection.
Chapter 6 - Men’s Foil

6.1 USA Fencing National Point Competitions

Note regarding 2016-2017 Cadet (U17) & Junior (U20) Points Standings: points awarded for the 2016 April Div 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 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 on the USA Fencing website. (http://www.usfencing.org/international-calendar)
6.2 Men’s Foil - Senior International Teams Selection

6.2.1 2017 Men’s Foil World Championships

TBD - Leipzig, GER

POSTED: May 10, 2016

SELECTION DATE: At the conclusion of the 2017 Div I National Championships

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

The National Weapon Coach may select a fifth fencer within ten (10) business days of selection solely for the team competition. The fifth fencer will be recommended by the National Weapon Coach and reviewed by a panel composed of a fencing representative from the USOC Athlete Advisory Council (AAC) and the Director of Sports Performance (or, in his or her absence, the Executive Director). 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 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 Div I: 9/1/2016 to Selection Date
2. 2017 Div I National Championship
3. Competitions specified in Group II below not included in Group II sum

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

4. Designated Senior World Cup and Grand Prix competitions: 4/1/2016 to Selection Date (MAXIMUM of TWO 33-64 results count in Group II)
5. 2016 Olympic Games (Top 16 result)

Weight Value for the 2016 Olympic Games = 2.0.

The 2016 Div I July Challenge will count for Rolling Points only.
6.2.2 2017 Men’s Foil Senior Pan American Zonal Championships

June, 2017 - TBD

POSTED: May 10, 2016

SELECTION DATE: At the conclusion of the 2017 Div I National Championships

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

The National Weapon Coach may select a fifth fencer within ten (10) business days of selection solely for the team competition. The fifth fencer will be recommended by the National Weapon Coach and reviewed by a panel composed of a fencing representative from the USOC Athlete Advisory Council (AAC) and the Director of Sports Performance (or, in his or her absence, the Executive Director). 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 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 Div I: 9/1/2016 to Selection Date
2. 2017 Div I National Championship
3. Competitions specified in Group II below not included in Group II sum

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

4. Designated Senior World Cup and Grand Prix competitions: 4/1/2016 to Selection Date (MAXIMUM of TWO 33-64 results count in Group II)
5. 2016 Olympic Games (Top 16 result)

Weight Value for the 2016 Olympic Games = 2.0.

The 2016 Div I July Challenge will count for Rolling Points only.
6.3 Men’s Foil – Junior & Cadet International Teams Selection

6.3.1 2017 Men’s Foil Junior World Championships

April, 2017 - Plovdiv, BUL

POSTED: May 10, 2016

SELECTION DATE: February 20 or at the conclusion of the 2017 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 ranked 5th through 8th on the Junior Team Point Standings or one of the cadets qualified for the Cadet World Championships within ten (10) business days of selection solely for the team competition. The fifth fencer will be recommended by the National Weapon Coach and reviewed by a panel composed of a fencing representative from the USOC Athlete Advisory Council (AAC) and the Director of Sports Performance (or, in his or her absence, the Executive Director). 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 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: 9/1/2016 to Selection Date
2. 2016 Junior July Challenge
4. NAC Div I: 9/1/2016 to Selection Date
5. 2016 Div I July Challenge
6. 2017 Junior Pan American Zonal Championships (Top 8 result) (Domestic Junior Competitions 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: 9/1/2016 to Selection Date
9. Designated Senior World Cup and Grand Prix competitions: 9/1/2016 to Selection Date
10. 2016 Junior World Championships (Top 32 result)
11. 2016 Olympic Games (Top 16 result)

Weight Value for the 2016 Olympic Games and Junior World Championships = 2.0.
6.3.2  2017 Men’s Foil Junior Pan American Zonal Championships

TBD

POSTED: May 10, 2016

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 who enter the individual event must also fence in the team event to earn points. 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
5. All other athletes (using order to finalize entries as indicated in Athlete Handbook)

*As a reminder, athletes must register online by the registration deadline to be eligible for selection.

Athletes may register for the individual competition only, the team competition only or both events.
6.3.3 2017 Men’s Foil Cadet World Championship Team

April, 2017 - Plovdiv, BUL

POSTED: May 10, 2016

SELECTION DATE: At the conclusion of the 2017 Junior Olympic Fencing Championships

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.

The number one ranked fencer will be selected for the Cadet Mixed Team event at the Cadet World Championships.

**SUM OF GROUP I AND GROUP II**

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

1. NAC Cadet: 9/1/2016 to Selection Date
2. 2016 Cadet July Challenge
4. NAC Junior: 9/1/2016 to Selection Date
5. 2016 Junior July Challenge
7. NAC Div I: 9/1/2016 to Selection Date*
8. 2016 Div 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: 9/1/2016 to Selection Date
11. Designated Junior World Cup competitions: 9/1/2016 to Selection Date
12. Designated Senior World Cup competitions: 9/1/2016 to Selection Date
13. 2016 Cadet World Championships (Top 8 result)
14. 2016 Junior World Championships (Top 32 result)
15. 2016 Olympic Games (Top 16 result)

Weight Value for the 2016 Olympic Games and Junior World Championships = 2.0.

*For Cadet Men’s Foil, all Division I NAC & Championships (including the July Challenge) events will have a Weight Value of .8.
6.3.4 2017 Men’s Foil Cadet Pan American Zonal Championships

TBD

POSTED: May 10, 2016

SELECTION DATE: TBD

SELECTION: The top four registered athletes 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. Athletes will be selected in the following order:

1. All athletes on the National Cadet Team Point Standings
2. All athletes on the National Cadet Rolling Point Standings
3. All athletes on the National Y14 Point Standings
4. All other athletes (using order to finalize entries as indicated in Athlete Handbook)

*As a reminder, athletes must register online by the registration deadline to be eligible for selection.
Chapter 7 - Men’s Saber

7.1 USA Fencing National Point Competitions

Note regarding 2016-2017 Cadet (U17) & Junior (U20) Points Standings: points awarded for the 2016 April 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 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 on the USA Fencing website.

(http://www.usfencing.org/international-calendar)
7.2 Men’s Saber - Senior International Teams Selection

7.2.1 2017 Men’s Saber World Championships
TBD - Leipzig, GER

POSTED: May 10, 2016

SELECTION DATE: At the conclusion of the 2017 Div I National Championships.

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

The National Weapon Coach may select a fifth fencer within ten (10) business days of selection solely for the team competition. The fifth fencer will be recommended by the National Weapon Coach and reviewed by a panel composed of a fencing representative from the USOC Athlete Advisory Council (AAC) and the Director of Sports Performance (or, in his or her absence, the Executive Director). 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 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: 9/1/2016 to Selection Date*
2. 2017 Division I National Championship
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: 4/1/2016 to Selection Date (MAXIMUM of THREE 33-64 results count in Group II)
5. 2016 Olympic Games (Top 16 result)

*Weight Value for the 2016 December Div I NAC = .8.

Weight Value for the 2016 Olympic Games = 2.0.

The 2016 Div I July Challenge will count for Rolling Points only.
7.2.2 2017 Men’s Saber Senior Pan American Zonal Championships

June, 2017 - TBD

POSTED: May 10, 2016

SELECTION DATE: At the conclusion of the 2017 Div I National Championships

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

The National Weapon Coach may select a fifth fencer within ten (10) business days of selection solely for the team competition. The fifth fencer will be recommended by the National Weapon Coach and reviewed by a panel composed of a fencing representative from the USOC Athlete Advisory Council (AAC) and the Director of Sports Performance (or, in his or her absence, the Executive Director). 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 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: 9/1/2016 to Selection Date*
2. 2017 Division I National Championship
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: 4/1/2016 to Selection Date (MAXIMUM of THREE 33-64 results count in Group II)
5. 2016 Olympic Games (Top 16 result)

*Weight Value for the 2016 December Div I NAC = .8.

Weight Value for the 2016 Olympic Games = 2.0.

The 2016 Div I July Challenge will count for Rolling Points only.
7.3 Men’s Saber – Junior & Cadet International Teams Selection

7.3.1 2017 Men’s Saber Junior World Championships

April, 2017 - Plovdiv, BUL

POSTED: May 10, 2016

SELECTION DATE: February 27, 2017 or at the conclusion of the 2017 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 ranked 5th through 8th on the Junior Team Point Standings or one of the cadets qualified for the Cadet World Championships within ten (10) business days of selection solely for the team competition. The fifth fencer will be recommended by the National Weapon Coach and reviewed by a panel composed of a fencing representative from the USOC Athlete Advisory Council (AAC) and the Director of Sports Performance (or, in his or her absence, the Executive Director). 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 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 1-8

1. NAC Junior: 9/1/2016 to Selection Date
2. 2016 Junior July Challenge
4. NAC Division I: 9/1/2016 to Selection Date*
5. 2016 Division I July Challenge
6. 2017 Junior Pan American Zonal Championships (Top 8 result) (Domestic Junior Competitions Points Table will be used.) Athletes who enter individual event must also fence in the Team event to earn points.
7. Non-designated Junior World Cups (with Junior World Cup strength factor formula applied, see Athlete Handbook)
8. Competitions specified in Group II below not included in Group II sum

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

9. Designated Junior World Cup competitions: 9/1/2016 to Selection Date
10. Designated Senior World Cup and Grand Prix competitions: 9/1/2016 to Selection Date
    (MAXIMUM of THREE 33-64 results count in Group II)
11. 2016 Junior World Championships (Top 16 result)
12. 2016 Olympic Games (Top 16 result)

*Weight Value for the 2016 December Div I NAC = .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.

Weight Value for the 2016 Olympic Games and Junior World Championships= 2.0.
7.3.2 2017 Men’s Saber Junior Pan American Zonal Championships

TBD

POSTED: May 10, 2016

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 who enter the individual event must also fence in the team event to earn points. 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
5. All other athletes (using order to finalize entries as indicated in Athlete Handbook)

*As a reminder, athletes must register online by the registration deadline to be eligible for selection.

Athletes may register for the individual competition only, the team competition only or both events.
7.3.3 2017 Men’s Saber Cadet World Championship Team

April, 2017 - Plovdiv, BUL

POSTED: May 10, 2016

SELECTION DATE: February 27, 2017

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.

The number one ranked fencer will be selected for the Cadet Mixed Team event at the Cadet World Championships.

SUM OF GROUP I AND GROUP II

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

1. NAC Cadet: 9/1/2016 to Selection Date
2. 2016 Cadet July Challenge
4. NAC Junior: 9/1/2016 to Selection Date
5. 2016 Junior July Challenge
7. NAC Division I: 9/1/2016 to Selection Date*
8. 2016 Division I July Challenge
9. Non-designated Junior World Cups (with Junior World Cup strength factor formula applied, see Athlete Handbook)
10. Competitions specified in Group II below not included in Group II sum

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

11. Designated Cadet International competitions: 9/1/2016 to Selection Date
   (Best 2 results only; results only count in Group II, no carryover to Group I)
12. Designated Junior World Cup competitions: 9/1/2016 to Selection Date
13. Designated Senior World Cup competitions: 9/1/2016 to Selection Date
   (MAXIMUM of THREE 33-64 results count in Group II)
14. 2016 Cadet World Championships (Top 8 result)
15. 2016 Junior World Championships (Top 16 result)
16. 2016 Olympic Games (Top 16 result)

*Weight Value for the 2016 December Div I NAC = .8.

An additional weight value of 1.5 will be applied to top 32 results at Junior World Cup 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.

An additional weight value of 1.5 will be applied to top 64 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.

Weight Value for the 2016 Olympic Games and Junior World Championships = 2.0.
7.3.4 2017 Men’s Saber Cadet Pan American Zonal Championships

TBD

POSTED: May 10, 2016

SELECTION DATE: TBD

SELECTION: The top four registered athletes 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. Athletes will be selected in the following order:

1. All athletes on the National Cadet Team Point Standings
2. All athletes on the National Cadet Rolling Point Standings
3. All athletes on the National Y14 Point Standings
4. All other athletes (using order to finalize entries as indicated in Athlete Handbook)

*As a reminder, athletes must register online by the registration deadline to be eligible for selection.
Chapter 8 - Women's Epee

8.1 USA Fencing National Point Competitions

Note regarding 2016-2017 Cadet (U17) & Junior (U20) Points Standings: points awarded for the 2016 April Div 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 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 on the USA Fencing website. (http://www.usfencing.org/international-calendar)
8.2 Women’s Epee - Senior International Teams Selection

8.2.1 2017 Women’s Epee World Championships

TBD - Leipzig, GER

POSTED: May 10, 2016

SELECTION DATE: At the conclusion of the 2017 Div I National Championship

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

The National Weapon Coach may select a fifth fencer within ten (10) business days of selection solely for the team competition. The fifth fencer will be recommended by the National Weapon Coach and reviewed by a panel composed of a fencing representative from the USOC Athlete Advisory Council (AAC) and the Director of Sports Performance (or, in his or her absence, the Executive Director). 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 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 Div I: 9/1/2016 to Selection Date
2. 2017 Div I National Championship
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: 4/1/2016 to Selection Date (MAXIMUM OF FOUR 33-64 results count in Group II)
5. 2016 Olympic Games (Top 16 result)

Weight Value for the 2016 Olympic Games = 2.0.

The 2016 Div I July Challenge will count for Rolling Points only.
8.2.2  2017 Women’s Epee Senior Pan American Zonal Championships

June, 2017 - TBD

POSTED: May 10, 2016

SELECTION DATE: At the conclusion of the 2017 Div I National Championship

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

The National Weapon Coach may select a fifth fencer within ten (10) business days of selection solely for the team competition. The fifth fencer will be recommended by the National Weapon Coach and reviewed by a panel composed of a fencing representative from the USOC Athlete Advisory Council (AAC) and the Director of Sports Performance (or, in his or her absence, the Executive Director). 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 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 Div I: 9/1/2016 to Selection Date
2. 2017 Div I National Championship
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: 4/1/2016 to Selection Date (MAXIMUM of FOUR 33-64 results count in Group II)
5. 2016 Olympic Games (Top 16 result)

Weight Value for the 2016 Olympic Games = 2.0.

The 2016 Div I July Challenge will count for Rolling Points only.
8.3 Women’s Epee – Junior & Cadet International Teams Selection

8.3.1 2017 Women’s Epee Junior World Championships

April, 2017 - Plovdiv, BUL

POSTED: May 10, 2016

SELECTION DATE: At the conclusion of the 2017 Junior Olympic Fencing Championships

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 ranked 5th through 8th on the Junior Team Point Standings or one of the cadets qualified for the Cadet World Championships within ten (10) business days of selection solely for the team competition. The fifth fencer will be recommended by the National Weapon Coach and reviewed by a panel composed of a fencing representative from the USOC Athlete Advisory Council (AAC) and the Director of Sports Performance (or, in his or her absence, the Executive Director). 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 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: 9/1/2016 to Selection Date
2. 2016 Junior July Challenge
4. NAC Div I: 9/1/2016 to Selection Date
5. 2016 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: 9/1/2016 to Selection Date
8. Designated Senior World Cup and Grand Prix competitions: 9/1/2016 to Selection Date
9. 2016 Junior World Championships (Top 16 result)
10. 2016 Olympic Games (Top 16 result)

Weight Value for the 2016 Olympic Games and Junior World Championships = 2.0.
8.3.2 2017 Women’s Epee Junior Pan American Zonal Championships

TBD

POSTED: May 10, 2016

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. 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. Allathletes remaining on the National Cadet Team Point Standings
5. All other athletes (using order to finalize entries as indicated in Athlete Handbook)

*As a reminder, athletes must register online by the registration deadline to be eligible for selection.

Athletes may register for the individual competition only, the team competition only or both events.
8.3.3 2017 Women’s Epee Cadet World Championship Team

April, 2017 - Plovdiv, BUL

POSTED: May 10, 2016

SELECTION DATE: At the conclusion of the 2017 Junior Olympic Fencing Championships

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.

The number one ranked fencer will be selected for the Cadet Mixed Team event at the Cadet World Championships.

SUM OF GROUP I AND GROUP II

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

1. NAC Cadet: 9/1/2016 to Selection Date
2. 2016 Cadet July Challenge
4. NAC Junior: 9/1/2016 to Selection Date
5. 2016 Junior July Challenge
7. NAC Div I: 9/1/2016 to Selection Date
8. 2016 Division I July Challenge
9. Competitions specified in Group II below not included in Group II sum

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

10. Designated Cadet International competitions: 9/1/2016 to Selection Date
11. Designated Junior World Cup competitions: 9/1/2016 to Selection Date
12. 2016 Cadet World Championships (Top 8 result)
13. 2016 Junior World Championships (Top 16 result)

Weight Value for the Junior World Championships = 2.0.
8.3.4 2017 Women’s Epee Cadet Pan American Zonal Championships

TBD

POSTED: May 10, 2016

SELECTION DATE: TBD

SELECTION: The top four registered athletes 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. Athletes will be selected in the following order:

1. All athletes on the National Cadet Team Point Standings
2. All athletes on the National Cadet Rolling Point Standings
3. All athletes on the National Y14 Point Standings
4. All other athletes (using order to finalize entries as indicated in Athlete Handbook)

*As a reminder, athletes must register online by the registration deadline to be eligible for selection.
Chapter 9 - Women's Foil

9.1 USA Fencing National Point Competitions

Note regarding 2016-2017 Cadet (U17) & Junior (U20) Points Standings: points awarded for the 2016 April Div 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 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 on the USA Fencing website.

(http://www.usfencing.org/international-calendar)
9.2 Women’s Foil - Senior International Teams Selection

9.2.1 2017 Women’s Foil World Championships

TBD - Leipzig, GER

POSTED: May 10, 2016

SELECTION DATE: At the conclusion of the 2017 Div I National Championship

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

The National Weapon Coach may select a fifth fencer within ten (10) business days of selection solely for the team competition. The fifth fencer will be recommended by the National Weapon Coach and reviewed by a panel composed of a fencing representative from the USOC Athlete Advisory Council (AAC) and the Director of Sports Performance (or, in his or her absence, the Executive Director). 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 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 Div I: 9/1/2016 to Selection Date
2. 2016 Div I July Challenge
3. 2017 Div I National Championship
4. Competitions specified in Group II below not included in Group II sum

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

5. Designated Senior World Cup and Grand Prix competitions: 4/1/2016 to Selection Date
   (MAXIMUM of TWO 33-64 results count in Group II)
6. 2016 Olympic Games (Top 16 result)

Weight Value for the 2016 Olympic Games = 2.0.
9.2.2  2017 Women’s Foil Senior Pan American Zonal Championships

       June, 2017 - TBD

POSTED: May 10, 2016

SELECTION DATE: At the conclusion of the 2017 Div I National Championship

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

The National Weapon Coach may select a fifth fencer within ten (10) business days of selection solely for the team competition. The fifth fencer will be recommended by the National Weapon Coach and reviewed by a panel composed of a fencing representative from the USOC Athlete Advisory Council (AAC) and the Director of Sports Performance (or, in his or her absence, the Executive Director). 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 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 Div I: 9/1/2016 to Selection Date
   2. 2016 Div I July Challenge
   3. 2017 Div I National Championship
   4. Competitions specified in Group II below not included in Group II sum

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

   5. Designated Senior World Cup and Grand Prix competitions: 4/1/2016 to Selection Date
      (MAXIMUM of TWO 33-64 results count in Group II)
   6. 2016 Olympic Games (Top 16 result)

Weight Value for the 2016 Olympic Games = 2.0.
9.3 Women’s Foil – Junior & Cadet International Teams Selection

9.3.1 2017 Women’s Foil Junior World Championships

April, 2017 - Plovdiv, BUL

POSTED: May 10, 2016

SELECTION DATE: At the conclusion of the 2017 Junior Olympic Fencing Championships

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 ranked 5th through 8th on the Junior Team Point Standings or one of the cadets qualified for the Cadet World Championships within ten (10) business days of selection solely for the team competition. The fifth fencer will be recommended by the National Weapon Coach and reviewed by a panel composed of a fencing representative from the USOC Athlete Advisory Council (AAC) and the Director of Sports Performance (or, in his or her absence, the Executive Director). 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 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: 9/1/2016 to Selection Date
2. 2016 Junior July Challenge
4. NAC Div I: 9/1/2016 to Selection Date
5. 2016 Div 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: 9/1/2016 to Selection Date
8. Designated Senior World Cup and Grand Prix competitions: 9/1/2016 to Selection Date
9. 2016 Junior World Championships (Top 16 result)
10. 2016 Olympic Games (Top 16 result)

Weight Value for the 2016 Olympic Games and Junior World Championships= 2.0.
9.3.2 2017 Women’s Foil Junior Pan American Zonal Championships

TBD

POSTED: May 10, 2016

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. 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
5. All other athletes (using order to finalize entries as indicated in Athlete Handbook)

*As a reminder, athletes must register online by the registration deadline to be eligible for selection.

_Athletes may register for the individual competition only, the team competition only or both events._
9.3.3  2017 Women’s Foil Cadet World Championship Team

April, 2017 - Plovdiv, BUL

POSTED: May 10, 2016

SELECTION DATE: At the conclusion of the 2017 Junior Olympic Fencing Championships

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.

The number one ranked fencer will be selected for the Cadet Mixed Team event at the Cadet World Championships.

SUM OF GROUP I AND GROUP II

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

1. NAC Cadet: 9/1/2016 to Selection Date
2. 2016 Cadet July Challenge
4. NAC Junior: 9/1/2016 to Selection Date
5. 2016 Junior July Challenge
7. NAC Div I: 9/1/2016 to Selection Date
8. 2016 Div 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 10-13

10. Designated Cadet International competitions: 9/1/2016 to Selection Date
11. Designated Junior World Cup competitions: 9/1/2016 to Selection Date
12. 2016 Cadet World Championships (Top 8 result)
13. 2016 Junior World Championships (Top 16 result)

Weight Value for the Junior World Championships = 2.0.
9.3.4 2017 Women’s Foil Cadet Pan American Zonal Championships

TBD

POSTED: May 10, 2016

SELECTION DATE: TBD

SELECTION: The top four registered athletes 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. Athletes will be selected in the following order:

1. All athletes on the National Cadet Team Point Standings
2. All athletes on the National Cadet Rolling Point Standings
3. All athletes on the National Y14 Point Standings
4. All other athletes (using order to finalize entries as indicated in Athlete Handbook)

*As a reminder, athletes must register online by the registration deadline to be eligible for selection.
Chapter 10 - Women's Saber

10.1 USA Fencing National Point Competitions

Note regarding 2016-2017 Cadet (U17) & Junior (U20) Points Standings: points awarded for the 2016 April 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 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 on the USA Fencing website. (http://www.usfencing.org/international-calendar)
10.2 Women’s Saber - Senior International Teams Selection

10.2.1 2017 Women’s Saber World Championships
TBD - Leipzig, GER

POSTED: May 10, 2016

SELECTION DATE: At the conclusion of the 2017 Div I National Championships.

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

The National Weapon Coach may select a fifth fencer within ten (10) business days of selection solely for the team competition. The fifth fencer will be recommended by the National Weapon Coach and reviewed by a panel composed of a fencing representative from the USOC Athlete Advisory Council (AAC) and the Director of Sports Performance (or, in his or her absence, the Executive Director). 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 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: 9/1/2016 to Selection Date
2. 2017 Division I National Championship
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: 4/1/2016 to Selection Date
   (MAXIMUM of TWO 33-64 results count in Group II)
5. 2016 Olympic Games (Top 16 result)

Weight Value for the 2016 Olympic Games = 2.0.

2016 Div I July Challenge
- Will count for Rolling Points only for Seniors
- Weight Value = .8
10.2.2 2017 Women’s Saber Senior Pan American Zonal Championships

June, 2017 - TBD

POSTED: May 10, 2016

SELECTION DATE: At the conclusion of the 2017 Div I National Championships.

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

The National Weapon Coach may select a fifth fencer within ten (10) business days of selection solely for the team competition. The fifth fencer will be recommended by the National Weapon Coach and reviewed by a panel composed of a fencing representative from the USOC Athlete Advisory Council (AAC) and the Director of Sports Performance (or, in his or her absence, the Executive Director). 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 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: 9/1/2016 to Selection Date
2. 2017 Division I National Championship
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: 4/1/2016 to Selection Date (MAXIMUM of TWO 33-64 results count in Group II)
5. 2016 Olympic Games (Top 16 result)

Weight Value for the 2016 Olympic Games = 2.0.

2016 Div I July Challenge
- Will count for Rolling Points only for Seniors
- Weight Value = .8
10.3 Women’s Saber – Junior & Cadet International Teams Selection

10.3.1 2017 Women’s Saber Junior World Championships

April, 2017 - Plovdiv, BUL

POSTED: May 10, 2016

SELECTION DATE: February 22, 2017 or at the conclusion of the 2017 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 ranked 5th through 8th on the Junior Team Point Standings or one of the cadets qualified for the Cadet World Championships within ten (10) business days of selection solely for the team competition. The fifth fencer will be recommended by the National Weapon Coach and reviewed by a panel composed of a fencing representative from the USOC Athlete Advisory Council (AAC) and the Director of Sports Performance (or, in his or her absence, the Executive Director). 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 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 1-8

1. NAC Junior: 9/1/2016 to Selection Date
2. 2016 Junior July Challenge
4. NAC Division I: 9/1/2016 to Selection Date
5. 2016 Division I July Challenge*
6. 2017 Junior Pan American Zonal Championships (Top 8 result) (Domestic Junior Competitions Points Table will be used.) Athletes who enter individual event must also fence in the Team event to earn points.
7. Non-designated Junior World Cups (with Junior World Cup strength factor formula applied, see Athlete Handbook)
8. Competitions specified in Group II below not included in Group II sum

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

9. Designated Junior World Cup competitions: 9/1/2016 to Selection Date
10. Designated Senior World Cup and Grand Prix competitions: 9/1/2016 to Selection Date (MAXIMUM of TWO 33-64 results count in Group II)
11. 2016 Junior World Championships (Top 16 result)
12. 2016 Olympic Games (Top 16 result)

*Weight Value for the 2016 Div I 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.

Weight Value for the 2016 Olympic Games and Junior World Championships= 2.0.
10.3.2 2017 Women’s Saber Junior Pan American Zonal Championships

TBD

POSTED: May 10, 2016

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 who enter the individual event must also fence in the team event to earn points. 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
5. All other athletes (using order to finalize entries as indicated in Athlete Handbook)

*As a reminder, athletes must register online by the registration deadline to be eligible for selection.

Athletes may register for the individual competition only, the team competition only or both events.
10.3.3 2017 Women’s Saber Cadet World Championship Team

April, 2017 - Plovdiv, BUL

POSTED: May 10, 2016

SELECTION DATE: February 22, 2017

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.

The number one ranked fencer will be selected for the Cadet Mixed Team event at the Cadet World Championships.

SUM OF GROUP I AND GROUP II

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

1. NAC Cadet: 9/1/2016 to Selection Date
2. 2016 Cadet July Challenge
4. NAC Junior: 9/1/2016 to Selection Date
5. 2016 Junior July Challenge
7. Non-designated Junior World Cups (with junior world cup strength factor formula applied, see Athlete Handbook)
8. NAC Division I: 9/1/2016 to Selection Date
9. 2016 Division I July Challenge*
10. Competitions specified in Group II below not included in Group II sum

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

11. Designated Cadet International competitions: 9/1/2016 to Selection Date
    (Best 2 results only; results only count in Group II, no carryover to Group I)
12. Designated Junior World Cup competitions: 9/1/2016 to Selection Date
13. Designated Senior World Cup competitions: 9/1/2016 to Selection Date
    (MAXIMUM of TWO 33-64 results count in Group II)
14. 2016 Cadet World Championships (Top 8 result)
15. 2016 Junior World Championships (Top 16 result)
16. 2016 Olympic Games (Top 16 result)

*Weight Value for the 2016 Div I July Challenge = .8.

An additional weight value of 1.5 will be applied to top 64 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.

Weight Value for the 2016 Olympic Games and Junior World Championships = 2.0.
10.3.4 2017 Women’s Saber Cadet Pan American Zonal Championships

TBD

POSTED: May 10, 2016

SELECTION DATE: TBD

SELECTION: The top four registered athletes 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. Athletes will be selected in the following order:

1. All athletes on the National Cadet Team Point Standings
2. All athletes on the National Cadet Rolling Point Standings
3. All athletes on the National Y14 Point Standings
4. All other athletes (using order to finalize entries as indicated in Athlete Handbook)

*As a reminder, athletes must register online by the registration deadline to be eligible for selection.
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 group fencers must meet the birth years below.

Birth Year Eligibility dates for FIE Veterans World Championships:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2015</th>
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<td>60+</td>
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<td>1947-1956</td>
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<tr>
<td>70+</td>
<td>1945 and before</td>
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<td>1947 and before</td>
</tr>
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</table>

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 after 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 the 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

If there is a tie in points such that not all four persons can be clearly selected as the team members or as the four alternates, then the tie(s) must be resolved using the following procedure. This tie breaking procedure is to be conducted in the sequence set forth below. (Ex: If a tie is resolved with the first step, then no further action is to be taken).

1. Among those tied, the person who has the highest result in any one of the three competitions counting towards Veteran Team selection will be selected.

2. If all those tied have the same high result, then the athlete who has the best third result among the three events counting towards Veteran World Team selection.
3. If the persons are still tied, then the fencers will fence off in a 10 touch bout with two three minute periods. The fence off will be held no sooner than ten minutes after the last competition in the event and no later than the end of the same day's competitions. Should there be more than two fencers who need to fence off, this will be held as a round robin of 10 touch bouts.

4. If one person is not present for the fence off, the tie will be resolved in favor of the fencer who is present.

5. If none of the persons tied for a position are present at the final competition at which selection will be accomplished, the position will be determined by a priority electronically generated by the scoring machines on the final strip, conducted by the chair of the bout committee immediately after the final competition in the event and under the supervision of the chair of the Veterans Committee or his/her designee.

11.5 Team Event Selection

The athlete with the best result in the individual event for each of the Categories A, B and C at that Veteran World Championship will be selected as the first member in their Category for the Team event in that weapon at that Veteran World Championship. The athletes with the second best result in each of the three Categories will be selected to be the substitutes for each Category in the Team event. Should either of the top two fencers be tied, e.g. both were third places, a coin flip will be conducted by the Team captain to determine the priority for the position. Should either of the athletes with the best results not be available to compete in the team competition, the position will go the athlete with the third best result, and so on.
Chapter 12 - Wheelchair Fencing

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 permanent disabilities that include, but are not limited to, amputation, spinal cord injury, traumatic brain injury, stroke and cerebral palsy are eligible to compete. 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 (International Wheelchair & Amputee Sports Federation) determines the specific category for each wheelchair fencer.

Participation in USA Fencing and IWAS Wheelchair Fencing tournaments are open to any fencer who is eligible to be classified by IWAS and is at least 13 years old on 1 January in the year of the competition (see Table 2.5.1). There is no maximum age limit.

12.3 Rules

USA Fencing Wheelchair Fencing operates under IWAS Rules: http://www.usfencing.org/rules

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

12.4 Competition

12.4.1 Events

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Men’s</th>
<th>A</th>
<th>B</th>
<th>C</th>
</tr>
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<td>X</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Foil</td>
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<td>X</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saber</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Epee Team</td>
<td>Combined team - all classifications</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Foil Team</td>
<td>Combined team - all classifications</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saber Team</td>
<td>Combined team - all classifications</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Women’s</th>
<th>A</th>
<th>B</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Epee</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Foil</td>
<td>X</td>
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<tr>
<td>Saber</td>
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<tr>
<td>Epee Team</td>
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<td>Foil Team</td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saber Team</td>
<td>Combined team - all classifications</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

When competing in IWAS tournaments (ex: World Cup, Grand Prix, and World Championships) and the Paralympic Games, athletes will compete in categories according to their gender and classification. Events offered at IWAS tournaments are listed in the tables above. Note that not all events will be offered at all IWAS tournaments and that even if offered, some may not be considered official events if the athlete pool (number of entrants or number of countries represented) does not meet IWAS requirements.

Events contested at the Paralympic Games are highlighted in the above tables in yellow.

In domestic competitions, athletes will compete in categories according to their gender, but classifications will be combined.

12.5 Seeding and Formats

Please refer to Table 2.15.1 for seeding and 2.16.1 for format information.
12.6 **Wheelchair Point Standings**

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. Division I Points Table will be used for domestic competitions and the Senior Points Table will be used for international competitions.

12.7 **2016 - 2017 Wheelchair Selection Criteria**

**Selection Date:** TBD after the calendar is approved by IWAS. A date will be set for selection approximately 30-90 days before the event.

**Selection:** Selections will be based on the Wheelchair National Points only within the athlete's Wheelchair Fencing category (A, B, or C).

IWAS and LOC will determine the number of fencers per weapon, gender and category for international events.

12.8 **Wheelchair International Calendar 2016-2017 – Locations TBA**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event Type</th>
<th>Designated</th>
<th>City</th>
<th>Start Date</th>
<th>End Date</th>
<th>Entry Deadline</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>World Cup</td>
<td>Pisa (ITA)</td>
<td>11/11/16</td>
<td>11/13/16</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>World Cup</td>
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<td>World Cup</td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>World Cup</td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Americas Championships</td>
<td>TBC</td>
<td>TBC</td>
<td>TBC</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The IWAS competition calendar and updates are available on the following website: [http://www.iwasf.com/iwasf/index.cfm/sports/iwas-wheelchair-fencing/competitions1/](http://www.iwasf.com/iwasf/index.cfm/sports/iwas-wheelchair-fencing/competitions1/)

For additional information, contact the USA Fencing National office at [international@usfencing.org](mailto:international@usfencing.org)
Chapter 13 - Disciplinary Procedures and 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/Paralympic team selection cycle, (i.e., points will not be awarded to non-citizens at competitions which count for selection of the Olympic/Paralympic 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 Fencer’s 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 items shall have the following meanings:

- “Disinterested” shall mean a person who will not be personally affected by the outcome of a panel hearing and one 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, which includes U.S. Paralympics.
- “USOC Athlete” shall mean a fencer who has competed in fencing at the Olympic Games, Paralympic Games, Pan American Games, Parapan 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 Executive Director.

Chapter 5 The Executive Director shall inform the fencer and any Other Affected Fencers of the issue 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 Executive Director), who shall have the discretion to replace
the Panel member.

Chapter 7 The Executive Director 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 US Fencing committee responsible for team selection.
• 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, but no later than two weeks after the close of the Hearing,
the Panel shall prepare the Panel Report and submit it to the Executive Director. The
Executive Director 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
outside the U.S. for purposes of traveling 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 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 or 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 counsel or 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 Executive Director. The Executive Director 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 concerns procedures for the discipline of USA Fencing members and National Team Disciplinary Procedures. The procedure in this Chapter 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 Procedures set forth in Chapter 13.1.8 or under procedures adopted by the USOC.

Generally stated, this Chapter 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 13.2.2 (a) (National Team Dispute Resolution) before seeking any relief that may be possible under the disciplinary procedure in Chapter 13.2.1 (a) (Disciplinary Panels) below.

13.2.1 (a) Disciplinary Panels

Definitions

The following terms shall have the following meanings for this Chapter:

- “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.
- “Executive Director” shall mean the Executive Director 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 Executive Director, provided, however, that if the Executive Director 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 recommendation(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 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 Executive Director shall inform the accused in writing of the charges which have been referred to the Panel, the names of the members of the Panel, and 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 Executive Director), 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 Hearting, 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.
   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/her own behalf, or remain silent.
   d. To address the Panel or otherwise make a statement of position personally or through his/her 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 Executive Director. The Executive Director 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 of 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, National Weapon Head Coach, and representative from the AAC the nature of the charges, the conclusion 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 individual 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, 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, 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, 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, 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 (a) 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 a 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:

- “Aggrieved Party” shall mean a fencer who is a current representative of USA Fencing 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 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.
- “Executive Director” shall mean the Executive Director of USA Fencing.
- “Director of Sports Performance” shall mean the Director of Sports Performance 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 before or after discussing the matter with the National Coach.
C. At any time 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 right 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 and be heard by the National Coach or Director of Sports Performance 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. The submission of a written complaint concerning the matter to the Director of Sports Performance 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 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 may conduct reasonable inquiries.

If the Director of Sports Performance determines 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 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 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 13.2.3 (G). The Director of Sports Performance’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 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 13.2.3 (A). If so, the Director of Sports Performance may request that those disciplinary procedures be initiated consistent with those procedures.

F. During the investigation, the Director of Sports Performance 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’s inquiries within five (5) days of such inquiries and otherwise discuss the matter with the Director of Sports Performance. If the Director of Sports Performance 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 may share the National Coach’s response(s), written or otherwise, with the Aggrieved Party. The National Coach’s obligations shall not supersede, or otherwise be implemented in a manner inconsistent with the National Coach’s due process rights.

G. The Director of Sports Performance 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. 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 terminates such mediation or arbitration.

H. If the Director of Sports Performance’s position is unfilled or if the Director of Sports Performance does not respond within the two (2) week limit, the Aggrieved Party may contact in writing the Executive Director about the unfulfilled position or the failure of the Director of Sports Performance to act and submit the written complaint to the Executive Director for his or her action. In such an event, the dispute resolution process shall be followed, with the Executive Director fulfilling those obligations of the Director of Sports Performance and within the two (2) week limit beginning the date the Executive Director 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 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 to 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, as applicable, the International Olympic Committee (IOC), International Paralympic Committee (IPC), World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA), United States Anti-Doping Agency (USADA), the Federation International d’Escrime (FIE), International Wheelchair & Amputee Sports Federation (IWAS) 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 conduct 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/Paralympic 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, Regional Championship, Pan American Games, Parapan 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 US 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 athlete 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 sexual 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.
- 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 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 States Olympic Committee (USOC), USA Fencing, the Federation International d’Escrime (FIE), International Wheelchair & Amputee Sports Federation (IWAS), or person in authority leading an international team, including but not limited to the 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, IWAS, International Olympic Committee (IOC), International Paralympic Committee (IPC) 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, Regional Championship, Pan American Games, Parapan 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

14.3.1 Athletes Code of Conduct (non-National Team member)

- Fence for fun.
- Work hard to improve your skills.
- Lean 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.

Failure to comply with the USA Fencing Code of Conduct may result in removal from the venue and/or suspension or revocation of USA Fencing membership.

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
14.3.2  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 fencing and support the officials. This approach will help in the development and support of the sport. Refrain from criticizing the officials, and 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 at a competition or practice – it is destructive. Assist USA Fencing in removing the physical and verbal abuse in sports.

Failure to comply with the USA Fencing Code of Conduct may result in removal from the venue and/or suspension or revocation of USA Fencing membership.

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
14.3.3 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 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 supporting after the competition – win or lose. Recognize a good effort and sportsmanship.

Failure to comply with the USA Fencing Code of Conduct may result in removal from the venue and/or suspension or revocation of USA Fencing membership.

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 recommended 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

Updated information from the IOC as of November 2015:

1. Transgender guidelines
   A. Since the 2003 Stockholm Consensus on Sex Reassignment in Sports, there has been a growing recognition of the importance of autonomy of gender identity in society, as reflected in the laws of many jurisdictions worldwide.
   B. There are also, however, jurisdictions where autonomy of gender identity is not recognised in law at all.
   C. It is necessary to ensure insofar as possible that trans athletes are not excluded from the opportunity to participate in sporting competition.
   D. The overriding sporting objective is and remains the guarantee of fair competition. Restrictions on participation are appropriate to the extent that they are necessary and proportionate to the achievement of that objective.
E. To require surgical anatomical changes as a pre-condition to participation is not necessary to preserve fair competition and may be inconsistent with developing legislation and notions of human rights.

F. Nothing in these guidelines is intended to undermine in any way the requirement to comply with the World Anti-Doping Code and the WADA International Standards.

G. These guidelines are a living document and will be subject to review in light of any scientific or medical developments.

In this spirit, the IOC Consensus Meeting agreed the following guidelines to be taken into account by sports organisations when determining eligibility to compete in male and female competition:

1. Those who transition from female to male are eligible to compete in the male category without restriction.

2. Those who transition from male to female are eligible to compete in the female category under the following conditions:
   2.1. The athlete has declared that her gender identity is female. The declaration cannot be changed, for sporting purposes, for a minimum of four years.
   2.2. The athlete must demonstrate that her total testosterone level in serum has been below 10 nmol/L for at least 12 months prior to her first competition (with the requirement for any longer period to be based on a confidential case-by-case evaluation, considering whether or not 12 months is a sufficient length of time to minimize any advantage in women’s competition).
   2.3. The athlete’s total testosterone level in serum must remain below 10 nmol/L throughout the period of desired eligibility to compete in the female category.
   2.4. Compliance with these conditions may be monitored by testing. In the event of non-compliance, the athlete’s eligibility for female competition will be suspended for 12 months.

2. Hyperandrogenism in female athletes

In response to the interim award dated 24 July 2015 in Chand v AFI and IAAF CAS 2014/A/3759, the IOC Consensus Meeting recommended:

- Rules should be in place for the protection of women in sport and the promotion of the principles of fair competition.
- The IAAF, with support from other International Federations, National Olympic Committees and other sports organisations, is encouraged to revert to CAS with arguments and evidence to support the reinstatement of its hyperandrogenism rules.
- To avoid discrimination, if not eligible for female competition the athlete should be eligible to compete in male competition.
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.

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. SAFE SPORT 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.

Report 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

The Safe Sport Policy Manual in full is located on the USA Fencing Website (http://www.usfencing.org/safe-sport). Please reference that document for the most recent language and all related documents (Safe Sport Abuse Report Form, Travel Authorization for Minor Officials, etc.)
### Appendices

#### 1. Domestic Point Table

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1.1. Domestic Point Table for Placements of 33-64 when field = 160 or more fencers

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**WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS BONUS POINTS FOR ROLLING STANDINGS ONLY**

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### 3. International Point Tables – Senior, Junior, Cadet

Refer to [Chapter 3, Chapters 5-10](#) for application.

**Senior World Cup, Grand Prix, World Championships & Olympic Games**

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*Junior – Determine points by multiplying actual strength factor (maximum value 2.0)
### 4. Regional Point Table (SYC and ROC)

<table>
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<tr>
<th>PLACE</th>
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<th>ROC</th>
<th>PLACE</th>
</tr>
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### 4.1. Regional Point Table for Placements of 33-64

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</table>

Per YDC, this needs to be calculated at a 0.8 scale of the Youth NAC/Championship Table
Regional boundaries will be reassessed each quadrennial in order to respond to the growth and shifts of the fencing membership throughout the country.
### 6. USA Fencing Classification Reference Chart

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>EVENT RATING</th>
<th>MINIMUM NBR COMPETITORS</th>
<th>RATED Fencers Required</th>
<th>RATED Fencers Must Finish</th>
<th>CLASSIFICATIONS AWARDED</th>
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<tr>
<td>GROUP E1</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>NONE</td>
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<td>GROUP D1</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>4 E’s (or higher)</td>
<td>In top 8</td>
<td>1 → D</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Changed per BOD 7/09</td>
<td></td>
<td>2 C’s &amp; 2 D’s (or higher)</td>
<td>In top 8</td>
<td>1 → C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GROUP C1</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>2 C’s &amp; 2 D’s (or higher)</td>
<td>In top 8</td>
<td>2 → D</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GROUP C2</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>4 D’s &amp; 4 E’s (or higher)</td>
<td>In top 8</td>
<td>5 → E</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GROUP C3</td>
<td>64</td>
<td>24 D’s &amp; 12 E’s (or higher)</td>
<td>In top 12</td>
<td>1 → C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GROUP B1</td>
<td>15</td>
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<td>2 → D</td>
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<td>GROUP B2</td>
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<td>5 → E</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GROUP B3</td>
<td>64</td>
<td>24 C’s &amp; 12 D’s (or higher)</td>
<td>In top 12</td>
<td>5 → E</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GROUP A1</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>2 A’s &amp; 2 B’s &amp; 2 C’s (or higher)</td>
<td>In top 8</td>
<td>1 → A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Changed per BOD 7/07</td>
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<td>2 A’s &amp; 2 B’s (or higher)</td>
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<td>In top 8</td>
<td>3 → C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GROUP A3</td>
<td>64</td>
<td>24 B’s &amp; 12 C’s (or higher)</td>
<td>In top 12</td>
<td>5 → E</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GROUP A4</td>
<td>64</td>
<td>12 A’s &amp; 12 B’s &amp; 12 C’s (or higher)</td>
<td>In top 12</td>
<td>8 → A</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Local tournaments must use at least one rated referee in order to issue classifications.
Division I NAC and National Championships are always Group A4 events.
Division IA NAC & National Championships are always at least Group A3 events.
Division II NAC and National Championships are always at least Group B3 events.
Division III NAC and National Championships are always at least Group C3 events.
Changes in classifications are allowed at USA Fencing sanctioned individual events 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 events without regard to gender of fencers.
Recognized high school events may issue classification changes based on this chart and are not required to meet the C1 tournament rating.

Per the Board of Directors, March 2012, classifications are no longer awarded in team championship events.
7. Black Card, Medical Withdrawal, or No-Show

Black Card
If 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 the 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 pool round (fencer does not complete pool), then 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 DE period – 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 the fencer fails to appear on the strip, it is treated as an elimination.

USA Fencing Rule t.105 (2015 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.

8. Approved Local Tournament Formats

As recommended by the tournament task force and approved by the 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 of at least 12 fencers)
6. NCAA Championship Format – Round Robin with super DE (top 4/8)
7. “Sharks and Minnows” – see Appendix 8.1
8. Super Pools/Canadian Elite (Pools to DE to Pool(s) to DE)

Tournament formats with provisional approval:
1. Pool(s) to DE with loser’s 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 the 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 and Youth 10, with one-minute rests between periods. In sabre direct elimination bouts, except Veterans and Youth 10, 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 and Youth 10 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:**
Division qualifiers, Regional Youth Circuit (RYC), Regional Open Circuit (ROC) and Super Youth Circuit (SYC) are 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 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 and Youth 10, with one-minute rests between periods. In sabre direct elimination bouts, except Veterans and Youth 10, 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 and Youth 10 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(s) 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.
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 for 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.
8.1. 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 USA Fencing 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 (Top 16 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

9. 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 6) 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 Championship 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.
High School Fencing: High School fencing tournaments are held throughout the season for athletes in 9th – 12th grade. The goal of this program is to continue to motivate developing High School athletes to participate in High School tournaments/leagues throughout the competitive season.

There are no national or regional points awarded at Recognized High School competitions. However, those athletes with a current USA Fencing High School or Competitive membership may earn classifications based on the total number that fence in the High School individual event. The athlete would have to be a current member as of and during the particular tournament to receive a classification change. Those that don’t have a current USA Fencing High School or Competitive membership will not receive classification changes. High School Recognized tournaments are not required to meet the C1 tournament requirement to award classifications. These competitions are not a qualification path for the USA Fencing National Championships.

10. Pan American Youth & Veteran Championship Selection Criteria

If the Pan American Youth & Veteran Championship is held during the 2016-2017 season, the following selection criteria will apply:

POSTED: TBD

SELECTION DATE: TBD – Should the selection date be later than the USA Fencing National Championships, points earned at National Championships for the National Rolling Points Standings will count toward team selection.

SELECTION: Should the Organizing Committee restrict the number of fencers able to compete in the event, the team members of the Pan American Youth & Veteran Championships will be selected based on the criteria below. The number of fencers selected to compete will, at maximum, match the Organizing Committee’s limit, or exhaust the number of fencers registered, whichever number is the lowest. Athletes will be selected in the following order and will be eligible to compete in the individual competition.

1. All athletes on the National Rolling Point Standings (using the NRPS for which the athlete is age eligible)
2. All other athletes (using order to finalize entries as indicated in Athlete Handbook)

Note: This tournament does not always conform to the same age categories as USA Fencing. When the tournament information is announced, USA Fencing will indicate which age categories are eligible to compete and which NRPS will used to select team members for each event. If an age category at the Pan American Youth & Veteran Championships spans two of the age categories used by USA Fencing, those ranked on the NRPS of the older age category will be selected before those in the younger age category(ies).

11. Reference Links

Video Referencing (t.42)

Safe Sport – http://www.usfencing.org/safe-sport

Anti-doping – www.usada.org/


RC Site – http://www.fencingofficials.org/blog/

Calendars – Regional – http://www.usfencing.org/regional-events
National – http://www.usfencing.org/national-events
International – http://www.usfencing.org/international-events