Acknowledgements

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DISTRIBUTION LIST

The current membership is notified of the posting and revisions to the current edition of the Athlete Handbook via the USA Fencing website at usafencing.org

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Please contact the USA Fencing National Office with any document/link issues: c.simmons@usafencing.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. The posted Athlete Handbook will be updated and an e-blast (USA Fencing E-Newsletter) 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 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 USOPC 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’Éscrime (FIE), the United States Olympic and Paralympic Committee (USOPC) and other organizations recognize its exclusive jurisdiction. It is the officially designated National Governing Body (NGB) of fencing by the USOPC.

USA Fencing is the sole representative of U.S. Fencing to the FIE – the governing body for all official international fencing competitions including World Fencing Championships and the fencing competitions at the Olympic Games. Any U.S. fencer wishing to participate in official international competitions must have an FIE license secured by USA Fencing and be entered into each event by USA Fencing.
The governance of the organization is specified in the latest version of the USA Fencing Bylaws and can be found on the USA Fencing website under About Us/Board of Directors.
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<tr>
<td>AH</td>
<td>Athlete Handbook</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CDT</td>
<td>Cadet (U17/U16)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DE</td>
<td>Direct Elimination</td>
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<tr>
<td>Div I</td>
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<td>Div IA</td>
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<td>Div III</td>
<td>Division III</td>
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<tr>
<td>EFC</td>
<td>European Fencing Confederation</td>
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<tr>
<td>FIE</td>
<td>Federation International d’Éscrime</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ICL</td>
<td>International Competitive License – Foreign Fencers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IRC</td>
<td>International Regional Circuit – Y10, Y12, Y14, CDT &amp; JR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IWAS</td>
<td>International Wheelchair &amp; Amputee Sports Federation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JOs</td>
<td>Junior Olympic National Championship</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JR</td>
<td>Junior (U20/U19)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JSF</td>
<td>Junior Strength Factor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JWC</td>
<td>Junior World Cup</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NAC</td>
<td>North American Cup</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NRPS</td>
<td>National Rolling Point Standings</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RCC</td>
<td>Regional Cadet Circuit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RJC</td>
<td>Regional Junior Circuit</td>
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<td>Regional Open Circuit</td>
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<td>Strength Factor</td>
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<td>United States Olympic and Paralympic Committee</td>
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<tr>
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<td>States Center for SafeSport</td>
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Chapter 1 - USA Fencing Membership/International Competitive License

1.0 How to Become a USA Fencing Member

You must have a current USA Fencing Competitive level membership to participate in USA Fencing sanctioned events. To become a USA Fencing member, visit the USA Fencing website, usafencing.org, where you can use the online registration system HERE. 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.

1.1 Age/Citizenship

Competitive, Collegiate Competitive members and International Competitive License holders should have their birth date and citizenship or permanent resident status verified by USA Fencing. Please 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. Email documents to Member Services at information@usafencing.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 in to your USA Fencing member profile at member.usafencing.org and select “View Membership Card” and then print.

1.2 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. 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@usafencing.org.

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

1.3 International Competitive License

(Foreign athletes representing another country)

You must have a current USA Fencing International Competitive License to participate in USA Fencing
National tournaments. To obtain an International License, visit the USA Fencing website at usafencing.org, or you can use the online registration system HERE. Please note that there will be a $10 fee for all paper license applications. Please be aware that USA Fencing cannot consider your International Competitive License valid until the application and dues have been processed by the USA Fencing National Office (“National Office”). If one registers at a local or regional event, or submits a paper form, it is the individual’s responsibility to ensure that the application is received by the National Office.

1.3.2 International Fencers at Regional Tournaments
International fencers, competing in Regional Tournaments only, can either purchase the International Competitive License or they will be assessed a $10 International Admin fee for each regional tournament they enter during the 2019-20 season.

1.4 Age/Citizenship
Athletes with an International Competitive License must have their birth date, citizenship, representation status and residence address verified by USA Fencing. Please email a photocopy (scanned or picture from camera/phone) of your birth certificate, passport, driver’s license and/or other legal document clearly showing date of birth and citizenship. Email documents to Membership Services at information@usafencing.org. Once your birth date has been verified, you do not need to do this again.

Birth year verification is reflected on your International Competitive License. To print a copy of your license, log into your USA Fencing profile at member.usafencing.org and select Print International Competitive License.

1.5 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, High School 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 Coach 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, Affiliate and High School Member clubs. Athletes, who represent a non-USA Fencing Affiliate, High School or Member Club will be considered “unattached.”

All fencers should notify the National Office of all club affiliations at the start of the fencing season and as such, club affiliation changes 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 Clubs will be listed in the membership database. You cannot affiliate with a nonmember club. Only the club listed in the athlete’s membership profile will be considered valid.
A collegiate or high school 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]

1.6 USA Fencing Club Information

Click HERE for Club Information

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

**High School Club:** High Schools that sponsor a varsity or club fencing team can join USA Fencing as High School Clubs. Members of the team are registered as individual High School Club members and can earn USA Fencing recognized ratings at recognized High School tournaments. PLEASE NOTE: While ratings earned at High School events are applied to the individual fencer’s USA Fencing profile, High School Club memberships are not valid for sanctioned local, regional and national events. Individual fencers must upgrade to full a full Competitive membership if fencing in sanctioned events.

**Insurance:** Insurance Information

**Collegiate Club:** Colleges and/or universities that sponsor a fencing club can join USA Fencing as Collegiate Clubs. Members of the team are registered as individual Collegiate Competitive members and can also earn USA Fencing recognized ratings at collegiate club tournaments. Collegiate Competitive members can fence in USA Fencing sanctioned tournaments as long as they meet the age, classification and citizenship criteria for the particular events.
Chapter 2 - Domestic Competitions

2.0 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.

All USA Fencing sanctioned events must have at least one rated referee. Click here for a current list of rated referees. 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.

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 Referees’ Commission website or email rules@fencingofficials.org for any questions regarding the rules of competition.

For information on black cards, medical withdrawal, and no shows, see the Appendices.

2.1 Classifications

2.1.1 What are Classifications?

Fencers are classified into the following letter classifications: A (highest), B, C, D, E and 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 A18, B17, C19, 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 (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.

2.1.2 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 the Appendices.

2.1.3 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@usafencing.org) using the Classification Change Form available on the USA Fencing by clicking here.
Complete Event Officials Forms, including valid USA Fencing background screens and Safe Sport certifications must be submitted with the Classification Change Report (available on the USA Fencing here).

Classification changes from regional tournaments and division qualifiers must be certified by submission of complete results (upload) in the online tournament system 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 usafencing.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 classification changes may impact an individual fencers seeding and/or the rating of the competition the fencer is participating in. In addition, it will affect an 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 non-USA Fencing tournament registration sites, 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 classification chart, he/she must contact the National Office to update classification.

2.1.4 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 2010 (B10) and did not re-earn your B for four more years, your B became a C14 on August 1, 2014. If you then did not re-earn your C14 for four more years, it becomes a D18 on August 1, 2019.
### 2.1.5 How to Determine Classifications for Foreign Fencers

Classifications for foreign fencers will be determined by placement at an FIE World Championships, 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>A</th>
<th>B</th>
<th>C</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Senior</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1st – 64th</td>
<td>65th – 96th</td>
<td>National Team member</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Junior</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1st – 32nd</td>
<td>33rd – 64th</td>
<td>National Team member</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Cadet</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1st – 16th at Cadet World Championships</td>
<td>17th – 32nd at Cadet World Championships</td>
<td>National Team member</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Veteran 50 – 59</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<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><strong>Veteran 60 – 69</strong></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1st – 3rd at Veteran World Championships</td>
<td>5th – 8th at Veteran World Championships</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Veteran 70+</strong></td>
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<tr>
<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.

### 2.2 Types of Domestic Competitions

#### 2.2.1 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 ([Division Information](#)) or by emailing information@usafencing.org.
2.2.2 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 (Division Information) or by emailing information@usafencing.org.

2.2.3 Regional Competitions

The USA Fencing Region Map is located at www.usafencing.org/roc-resources and in the Appendices. A calendar of regional events can be found on the USA Fencing website (usafencing.org/regionalevents).

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 (usafencing.org/regionalevents).

Regional 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. For a schedule of RJCCs, please check the USA Fencing website (usafencing.org/regionalevents).

Super Junior/Cadet Circuit (SJCC): There will be three SJCC tournaments during the 2019-20 season. Junior and cadet age fencers may participate in the Super Junior/Cadet Circuit; however, only the single best result is included in the revised National Point Standings published after the last SJCC.

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.

International Regional Circuit (IRC): There may be two or more International Regional Circuit tournaments held outside the United States. Athletes that place in the top 32 of the combined IRC list for Junior and Cadet, are eligible to compete in these events at the July Challenge. In addition, youth athletes that fencing in an IRC in Y10, Y12 and/or Y14 will meet the prerequisite for fencing in the March Youth NAC.

National points are awarded to the top 40 percent at an SYC competition according to the point table in the Appendix. 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 Youth Point structure. For a schedule of SYCs, please check the USA Fencing website (usafencing.org/regionalevents).

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. Please refer to Chapter 3 for more information on the Regional Point structure. For a schedule of RYCs, please check the USA Fencing (usafencing.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 and the current classification of those fencers 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 do not 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.

2.2.4 **National Tournaments and Championships**

A schedule of all events and deadlines can be found online at usafencing.org.

**North American Cup (NAC):** The North American Cup Tournaments are a series of tournaments organized by USA Fencing (Y10, Y12, Y14, Cadet, Junior, Div I, Div II, Div III, Vet Open, Vet Age, Para, and Cadet/Y14/Junior/Senior Team). 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. JOs is the National Championships for Cadet, Junior and Junior Team in each of the six weapons. Fencers must be a U.S. citizen or Permanent Resident, meet age criteria and qualify to compete in this tournament. Athletes that have represented another country in the last three years at FIE level competitions (Senior/Junior and those athletes that represented another country in the Cadet World Championships) 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 National Senior Rolling Point Standings for Seniors, Juniors and the top 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 least three years at FIE level competitions (Senior/Junior and those athletes that represented another country in the Cadet World Championships) are not eligible to compete in a National Championship, unless the athlete has been officially approved by the FIE to represent the USA.
Para National Championship: The Para National Championship is held in conjunction with either the March or April NAC tournaments. Competitors must be U.S. citizens or Permanent Residents.

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+, Veteran 80, Div IA, Div II and Div III. For classification restricted championship events (Div II/Div III), the classification of the fencer at the time of qualification determines eligibility to compete.

Athletes that have represented another country in the least three years at FIE level competitions (Senior/Junior and those athletes that represented another country in the Cadet World Championships) are not eligible to compete in a National Championship, unless the athlete has been officially approved by the FIE to represent the USA.

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). Those athletes in the National Division must meet the event criteria for the July Challenge.

2.3 Entering Competitions/Tournaments

2.3.1 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 currently processed through the National Office.

2.3.2 Regional Tournaments (RYC, SYC, RJCC, ROC, SJCC, IRC)

Links to online entry forms for these competitions are available on the USA Fencing website (usafencing.org/regional-events). Only tournaments posted on the USA Fencing Regional Event Calendar are recognized as regional tournaments. Registrations for these competitions will be processed through the National Office.

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

In 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 Director of Operations, the relevant Regional Coordinator 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 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 emailed, mailed or faxed to the National Office. For faster processing of paper entries, email your form to nationalevents@usafencing.org. 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 pending 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, or 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 paper 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. To withdraw from a tournament, email information@usafencing.org with the athlete/team name, member number, and events from which you are withdrawing. No event fee refunds will be given for withdrawals after the posted withdrawal deadline. Event fee 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 – usafencing.org. 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@usafencing.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 approved. 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 are not considered official until verified by USA Fencing. Event fee refunds will be processed by the National Office for any events where an athlete fails to qualify.

Event fee refunds are processed 4-6 weeks after the tournament. There are no event fee refunds after the posted deadline for the tournament.

2.5 Eligibility to Compete

Fencers must be current Competitive USA Fencing members in good standing or hold a current International Competitive License to compete in USA Fencing sanctioned national competitions. Foreign Fencers, competing only in sanctioned regional tournaments, can purchase an International Competitive License or add an additional international admin fee to their registration each time they fence in a regional tournament. Supporting or Non-Competitive membership categories are not eligible to compete in any USA Fencing sanctioned competitions; these membership types must be upgraded to Competitive membership types. The High School membership category is specifically for High School competitions and this membership type is not eligible to compete in any USA Fencing sanctioned competitions.

Fencers must meet age and/or eligibility requirements found in the chart on the next page. For locally sanctioned classification restricted tournaments, eligibility is determined based on the classification at the time of a fully completed and paid registration. For division qualifiers, eligibility is determined as of the tournament start date.

Eligibility for national classification restricted tournament requiring qualification is determined at the start of the tournament at which the qualification was earned. For example, a D rated fencer may potentially earn a C rating at a division qualifier, but National Championship eligibility will be determined based on the D rating the fencer began the qualification tournament with.
## Table A: 2019-2020 Age/Classification Eligibility Rules
For 2019-20 Local/National Tournaments & Junior Olympic Fencing Championships (Excluding July Challenge, USA Fencing National Championships & Nationals qualifying tournament 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>PARA FENCING</th>
<th>SENIOR TEAM</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>VETERAN 80 &amp; Older</th>
<th>JUNIOR JR TEAM</th>
<th>CADET</th>
<th>YOUTH 14</th>
<th>YOUTH 12</th>
<th>YOUTH 10</th>
<th>YOUTH 10</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CODE</td>
<td>DV1</td>
<td>DV1 A</td>
<td>DV2</td>
<td>DV3</td>
<td>Open</td>
<td>CHR</td>
<td>STM</td>
<td>VET/VTM</td>
<td>V40</td>
<td>V50</td>
<td>V60</td>
<td>V70</td>
<td>V80</td>
<td>JR/ JTM</td>
<td>CDT</td>
<td>Y14</td>
<td>Y12</td>
<td>Y10</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BIRTH YEARS</td>
<td>Born 2006 or earlier</td>
<td>Born 2006 or earlier</td>
<td>Born 2006 or earlier</td>
<td>Born 2006 or earlier</td>
<td>Born 1980 or earlier</td>
<td>19711980</td>
<td>19611970</td>
<td>19511960</td>
<td>Born 1050 or earlier</td>
<td>Born 1940 or earlier</td>
<td>2000-2006</td>
<td>2003-2006</td>
<td>2005-2008</td>
<td>2007-2010</td>
<td>2009-2012</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CLASS</td>
<td>A, B, OR C</td>
<td>N/A</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>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### 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>PARA FENCING</th>
<th>VETERAN 40-49</th>
<th>VETERAN 50-59</th>
<th>VETERAN 60-69</th>
<th>VETERAN 70 &amp; Older</th>
<th>VETERAN 80 &amp; Older</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CODE</td>
<td>DV1</td>
<td>D1A</td>
<td>DV2</td>
<td>DV3</td>
<td>CHR</td>
<td>V40</td>
<td>V50</td>
<td>V60</td>
<td>V70</td>
<td>V80</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BIRTH YEARS</td>
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<td>Born 2006 or earlier</td>
<td>Born 2006 or earlier</td>
<td>Born 1971-1980</td>
<td>1961-1970</td>
<td>1951-1960</td>
<td>1940 or earlier</td>
<td>Born 1950 or earlier</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CLASS</td>
<td>A, B, OR C</td>
<td>N/A</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>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### EXCEPTION TO AGE ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA
(All other qualification criteria remains):
1. Youth 12 – A fencer born after 2010 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 2008 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 2006 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 10 Point Standings at the time of the entry deadline for that tournament.
14 Point Standings at the time of the entry deadline for that tournament.

4. Junior (through JO’s) – A fencer born after 2006 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 2007 can fence in Cadet competition for the 2020 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 2007 can fence in Junior competition for the 2020 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 2006 must be on the National Junior Point Standings; for the 2020 July Challenge for Division I, those born after 2006 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 2006 must be on the National Junior Point Standings; for the 2020 National Championships and qualifying competitions for Division IA, II, III; those born after 2006 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) competition
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 the 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 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. Any fencer who is a U.S. citizen who has also represented another country in the last three years, in any FIE and/or Union International de Pentathlon Mondérne (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 may be fined by USA Fencing – a $500 fine, which may be invoiced or withheld from the division’s membership rebate.

Athletes that have represented another country in the last three years at FIE level competitions (Senior/Junior and those athletes that represented another country at the Cadet World Championships) are not eligible to compete in a National Championship.

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@usafencing.org).

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 “registered” 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 the 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 Junior/Cadet Circuit Tournament (SJCC):** Junior and Cadet for the Junior Olympics and the July Challenge
- **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
- **International Regional Circuit Tournament (IRC):** Junior and Cadet for the July Challenge. For Y10, Y12 and Y14, attending this international tournament satisfies the prerequisite for the March Youth NAC.

ROC, RJCC, SYC, SJCC and division qualifying tournaments cannot be mixed (mixed gender or mixed age) competitions. RYC qualifying tournaments with less than five entrants in a given gender may mix by gender, but may not mix ages.

**Regional Open Circuit (ROC):** Open to current USA Fencing members, with a competitive type membership are eligible to fence in open/senior competitions and to foreign fencers with a current ICL (International Competitive License) or that chose to pay the International Admin fee for region only tournaments. Foreign fencers are not eligible to compete in USA Fencing National Championship events. Foreign fencers will be required to create a profile in the USA Fencing database prior to competing in any sanctioned tournament.

**Regional Junior/Cadet Circuit (RJCC):** Open to current USA Fencing members with a competitive type membership are eligible to fence in Cadet and/or Junior competitions and to age-eligible foreign fencers with a current ICL (International Competitive License) or that chose to pay the International Admin fee for region only tournaments. Foreign fencers are not eligible to compete in USA Fencing National Championship events. Foreign fencers will be required to create a profile in the USA Fencing database prior to competing in any sanctioned tournament. Foreign fencers may qualify for the July Challenge via the SJCC/RJCC system as it is not a National Championship but will need an International Competitive License to fence in this national tournament. 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 members with a competitive type membership are eligible to fence in youth age competitions and to age-eligible foreign fencers with a current ICL (International Competitive License) or that chose to pay the International Admin fee for region only tournaments. Foreign fencers are not eligible to compete in USA Fencing National Championship events. Foreign fencers will be required to create a profile in the USA Fencing database prior to competing in any sanctioned tournament. 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.
When determining who has qualified for a Championship, only fencers who qualify through National Points are skipped over to the next eligible fencer. Fencers that qualify for championships via regional points are not skipped over. Those who qualify through the division should not be skipped. For example, if a fencer competes and qualifies in a Junior division qualifier and is age eligible for Cadet, he/she will not get skipped over if they choose to also fence in the Cadet division qualifier. 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.

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 & SJCC) 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 (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 the USA Fencing registration database no later than 72 hours after the completion of the tournament. Results and reports will be accepted in any other format. 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 by the deadlines described above may be charged a late fee by USA Fencing for late processing; results will not be able to be uploaded until the late fee is paid in full.

### 2.6.3.1 Table: Number of Qualifiers for Junior Olympic Fencing Championships and USA Fencing National Championships from Division Qualifying Competitions (25 percent 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>
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<tr>
<td># Qualifiers</td>
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<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
Total number of Division II qualifiers = 12 (based on 46 total C, D, E, and U fencers)
Total number of Division III qualifiers = 10 (based on 38 total D, E, and U fencers)
How to Determine Qualifiers:

List the fencers in order of their finish.

The first 12 qualify for Division II and Division III if classification eligible at the start of the event.

Then count the number of D, E and U fencers. In this example, there are 38 such fencers. 25 percent of that group equals 10, the number of fencers who can qualify for Division III Nationals only.

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 the 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:

• Was unable to compete in the various qualifying competitions this season due to injury, illness, military deployment/study abroad, compulsory school requirements OR
• Did compete and had to withdraw because of a disabling injury or illness OR
• The number of qualifying athletes at a division qualifying tournament changed due to the inclusion of ineligible fencer(s) in the tournament

(Note: Athletes who attend a school or university in the United States, outside of their division, shall not constitute inability to compete.)

All petitions must be made through an online system to USA Fencing National Events; the petition link is available through the specific tournament page on www.usafencing.org. Under no circumstances will petitions be accepted if received after the late fee entry deadline for the Championships.

Petitions received for the same athlete two seasons in a row will not be considered.

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).

• 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, only the event fee 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@usafencing.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.

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 in 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 HERE or by emailing information@usafencing.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 (Division Information).

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 two 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 two 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 two 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 found 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 percent of the competitive field, rounding up, to a maximum of 64; no regional points are awarded. At least two athletes must compete in a given SYC age/weapon event to fulfill eligibility requirements for the March NAC and the USA Fencing National Championships. In all SYC Youth events, three 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 percent of the competitive field, rounding up, to a maximum of 64; no regional points are awarded. At least two athletes must compete in a given SYC age/weapon event to fulfill eligibility requirements. In all SYC Youth events, three 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 percent of the competitive field, rounding up, to a maximum of 64; no regional points are awarded. At least two athletes must compete in a given SYC age/weapon event to fulfill eligibility requirements. In all SYC Youth events, three 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
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
   - For athletes that compete in a IRC, fence in one International Regional Circuit competition, held at a IRC, during the current season in the age and weapons category in which the 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
   - For athletes that compete in one International Regional Circuit competition, held at a IRC, during the current season in the age and weapons category in which the 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, except the birth year criteria, for North American athletes. Athletes that compete in one International Regional Circuit competition during the current season in the age and weapon category in which the fencer requests entry, are eligible to fence in an Y14 NAC.

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, representation, classification)
   Fencers must meet the birth years in Table 2.5.1., and be a U.S. citizen or Permanent Resident. There are no classification requirements.

B. Qualifying Path
   • 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
   • Earn at least 60 Y12 Regional Points during the current season (Total points = an athlete’s top three point results) OR
   • Participate in a SYC or RYC in the current season

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

2.10.5 Youth 12 National Championships
A. Eligibility (age, representation, classification)
   Subject to the listed exceptions, fencers must meet birth years in Table 2.5.1 and be a U.S citizen or Permanent Resident. There are no classification requirements.

B. Qualifying Path
   • Be on the Y12 National Point Standings at the regular fee entry deadline OR
   • Earn at least 70 Y12 Regional Points during the current season (Total points = an athlete’s top three point results) OR
   • Earn at least 150 Y14 Regional Points during the current season (Total points = an athlete’s top three point results) OR
   • Place in the top 25 percent of the fencer’s division’s Y14 National Championship qualifying competition

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.
2.10.6 Youth 14 National Championships

A. Eligibility (age, representation, classification)
Subject to the listed exceptions, fencers must meet the birth years in Table 2.5.1 and be a U.S. Citizen or Permanent Resident. There are no classification requirements. Athletes that have represented another country in the last three years at FIE level competitions (Senior/Junior and those athletes that represented another country at the Cadet World Championships) are not eligible to compete in a National Championship.

B. Qualification
When determining qualifications top 16 on National Rolling Points Standings, ONLY foreign fencers are skipped.

C. Qualifying Path
• Be on the Youth 14 National Point Standings at the regular entry fee deadline OR
• Earn at least 150 Y14 Regional Points during the current season (Total points = an athlete’s top three point results) OR
• Place in the top 25 percent (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?
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@usafencing.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 – Division Information.

2.11.4 Regional Junior/Cadet Circuit (RJCC) Tournaments

A. 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 fencer competing in their home region. Regional points are awarded based on final placement and the size of the competitive field.

• Eligibility (age, classification)
Subject to the exceptions in Table 2.5.1, fencers must be at least 13 years old on January 1 in the year of the competition. Fencers younger than that must, as of the final entry deadline, be on the Y14 national rolling point standings to be eligible. There are no classification requirements.

- **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.

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 aging 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 aging out will not receive regional ranking points for their placement but will be counted in the total number of participants when regional points are awarded to eligible athletes.

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

**B. 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.

- **Eligibility (age, classification)**
  Subject to the exceptions in Table 2.5.1, fencers must be at least 13 years old on January 1 in the year of the competition. Fencers younger than that must, as of the final entry deadline, be on the Cadet national rolling point standings to be eligible. There are no classification requirements.

- **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.

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.

**C. Super Junior & Cadet Circuit SJCC**
The Super Junior & Cadet Circuit tournament three times during the 2019-2020 season. National points are awarded to the top 40 percent of the competitors at a .2 weight value of the National Point Tables.

Eligibility (age, classification)
Subject to the exceptions in Table 2.5.1, (Junior and Cadet age criteria after the Junior Olympics). Fencers younger than the birth year span in Table 2.5.1. must be on the Cadet NRPS as of the final entry deadline to be eligible. There are no classification requirements. Aged out Junior and Cadet fencers are not eligible for this competition (see Table 2.5.1 the second and third tables on the page).

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.

An SJCC, held after the regular entry fee deadline for the Junior Olympic Championships takes place, will award Junior and Cadet National Points to the top 40 percent to age eligible fencers. These National Points will qualify the age eligible fencer to the July Challenge within that calendar year and the Junior Olympics the following year.

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.

Cadet/Junior North American Cup (NAC)
- Eligibility (age, classification)
  Subject to the exceptions in Table 2.5.1, fencers must be at least 13 years old on January 1 in the year of the competition. Fencers younger than that must, as of the final 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.

- 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.

Cadet/Junior – Junior Olympic Fencing Championships
Eligibility (age, classification):
Subject to the exceptions in Table 2.5.1, fencers must be at least 13 years old on January 1 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 a U.S. Citizen or Permanent Resident representing the United States. Athletes that have represented another country in the last three years at FIE level competitions (Senior/Junior and those athletes that represented another country at the Cadet World Championships) are not eligible to compete in a National Championship.
When determining qualifications for the top 8 or top 16 respectively on National Rolling Point Standings, ONLY foreign fencers ARE skipped.

**Qualification**

**CADET**

- Fencers must meet eligibility **AND**
- Be on the Cadet National Rolling Point Standings (NRPS) at the regular fee entry deadline **OR**
- Earn at least **110** regional points on either the Cadet or Junior Regional Point Standing (Total points = an athlete’s top two point results) **OR**
- Be in the top 25 percent (round up) of their division’s Cadet JO qualifying competition **OR**
- Be in the top 25 percent (round up) of their division’s Junior JO qualifying competition. Junior event must occur first **OR**
- For EPEE ONLY: the top **3** (on Modern Pentathlon Point Standings) USA Fencing Modern Pentathlon fencers will be eligible to compete in the JO epee events without qualifying by any other means. USA Modern Pentathlon fencers MUST be USA Fencing members.

**JUNIOR**

- Fencers must meet age eligibility **AND**
- Be on the Junior national rolling point standings (NRPS) at the regular fee entry deadline **OR**
- Earn at least **110** regional points on the Junior Regional Point Standing (Total points = an athlete’s top two point results) **OR**
- Be in the top 25 percent (round up) of their division’s Junior JO qualifying competition **OR**
- For EPEE ONLY: the top **3** (on Modern Pentathlon Point Standings) USA Fencing Modern Pentathlon fencers will be eligible to compete in the JOI epee events without qualifying by any other means. USA Modern Pentathlon fencers MUST be USA Fencing members.

**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**.

**Cadet & Junior July Challenge (this is not a NAC)**

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.

- **Eligibility (age, classification)**
Subject to the exceptions in Table 2.5.1, fencers must be at least 13 years old on January 1 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 U.S. athletes.

- Qualification – when determining qualification using 25 percent or 50 percent 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 percent of the Y14 national rolling point standings (NRPS) at the regular fee entry deadline OR
- Earn at least 65 regional points on their regions Cadet Regional Point Standing OR
- Earn at least 65 regional points on their regions Junior Regional Circuit Points OR
- Placed in the top 32 on the final International Regional Circuit Points List, for each weapon and gender, by the regular fee entry deadline OR
- Foreign athletes who meet the USA Fencing classification standard of “A”, “B” or “C” as defined in the Section 2.2.4.

**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
- Earn at least 65 regional points on your regions Junior Regional Point Standing OR
- Be in the top 25 percent of the Youth 14 national rolling point standings (NRPS) at the regular fee entry deadline OR
- Placed in the top 32 on the final International Regional Circuit Points List, for each weapon and gender, by the regular fee entry deadline OR
- Foreign athletes who meet the USA Fencing classification standard of “A”, “B” as defined in the Section 2.2.4.

**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.

### 2.12 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 January 1 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 (Div IA)

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@usafencing.org.

Competitors must be at least 13 years old on January 1 in the year of the competition or be on the Junior NRPS.

2.12.3 Senior 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 – Division Websites.

2.12.4 Senior Regional Tournaments

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 percent of the field.

Eligibility (age, classification)

Fencers must be at least 13 years old on January 1 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”.

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.

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 percent of the field.

Eligibility (age, classification, qualifying path)

Fencers must be at least 13 years old on January 1 in the year of the competition or in the Junior national rolling point standings (NRPS)

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.

2.12.5 Senior National Tournaments

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.

Eligibility (age, classification)

Fencers must be at least 13 years old on January 1 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.

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.

Division III (Div III) 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.

Eligibility (age, classification)

Fencers must be at least 13 years old on January 1 in the year of the competition or on the Junior national rolling points 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.

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.

(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 Group A4 competition.
**Eligibility (age, classification)**
Fencers must be at least 13 years old on January 1 in the year of the competition. Fencers must have a classification of “A”, “B”, or “C” at the entry deadline or be on the Junior NRPS.

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.

**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.

**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.

**Eligibility (age, classification, qualification path)**
Fencers must be at least 13 years old on January 1 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.

**Qualification**
Fencers must meet eligibility requirements AND:
- Place in the top 25 percent 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 percent of any current season Div II or Div III NAC, if held

UPDATE – If you have qualified for Division II, meet the age and classification standard on the day you register online for the Championship, you are eligible to fence in that event at the National Championship. If you qualified for Division II at your Division Qualifier and at that same time earned a higher classification, you are eligible for the National Championship. In this instance, please email nationalevents@usafencing.org for registration assistance.

**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.

**(Div III) USA Fencing National Championships**
This event is part of the USA Fencing National Championships, held each summer. No points are awarded.

**Eligibility (age, classification, qualification path)**
Fencers must be at least 13 years old on January 1 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.
Qualification

Fencers must meet eligibility requirements AND:

• Place in the top 25 percent (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 percent 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 percent at Div II or Div III NAC of the current season, if held
• Qualified for Division II, if classification eligible

UPDATE – If you have qualified for Division II, meet the age and classification standard on the day you register online for the Championship, you are eligible to fence in that event at the National Championship. If you qualified for Division II at your Division Qualifier and at that same time earned a higher classification, you are eligible for the National Championship. In this instance, please email nationalevents@usafencing.org for registration assistance.

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.

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.

Eligibility (age, classification, qualifying path)

Fencers must at least 13 years old on January 1 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.

Qualification

Fencers must meet eligibility requirements AND

• 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 percent of any current season Div IA NAC, if held

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.

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. Athletes that have represented another country in the last 3 years at FIE level competitions (Senior/Junior and those athletes that represented another country at the Cadet World Championships) are not eligible to compete in a National Championship.

Eligibility (age, classification, qualification path)
Fencers must be at least 13 years old on January 1 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.

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 on the current adjusted* Junior National Rolling Point Standings (NRPS) at the regular fee entry deadline OR
- Be on the current 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 3 (on Modern Pentathlon Point Standings) 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.

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.

Division I July Challenge (this is not an NAC)
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.

Eligibility for Division I (age, classification and qualification path)
Fencers must be at least 13 years old on January 1 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 meet the specific event criteria below. This is not a NAC.

Qualification
Fencers must meet eligibility requirements AND
- Be on the current Senior National Rolling Point Standings (NRPS) at the regular fee entry deadline OR
- On aged out Junior NRPS at the regular fee entry deadline and age eligible OR
- Top 24 of the Cadet NRPS at the regular fee entry 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
- 2020 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 2.2.4.

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.
Senior Team events at the July Challenge Tournament: The Senior & Veteran Team events at the July Challenge Tournament are not Championship events. 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 or have an ICL (International Competitive License).

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), V70 (ages 70+) and V80 (ages 80+).

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@usafencing.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+) and V80 (ages 80+) 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 – Division Information.

2.13.4 Veteran Regional Tournaments

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 percent of the finishers.

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.

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.

2.13.5 Veteran National Tournaments
At National Tournaments, Vet Open, V40, V50, V60, V70 and V80 events are held. National points are awarded for these competitions.

**Veteran (Vet Open, V40, V50, V60, V70+, V80+) North American Cup (NAC)**

**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/V80). Veteran Open, V40, V50, V60, V70+ and V80+ fencers must meet the birth years in Table 2.5.1.

**Qualifying Path**

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

**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.

**Veteran (V40, V50, V60, V70, V80+) USA Fencing National Championships**

V40, V50, V60, V70 and V80+ events are held at the USA Fencing National Championships; there is no Championship event for Vet Open or Vet Team. Veteran National Championships is the last tournament for selection for the World Veteran Championships at which national points are awarded. Athletes must be U.S. Citizen or Permanent Resident.

**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.

**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

**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.

### 2.14 Team Events

At the national level, there may be seven categories of team events: Y14 (Y14TM), Cadet (CTM), Junior (JTM), Senior (STM), Division I (DV1TM) and Veteran (VETTM).
Eligibility: Senior or Division I team members must be at least 13 years old on January 1 in the year of the competition or on the Junior NRPS. 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 needs to be two 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 and Veteran Team events at the July Challenge Tournament: The Senior & Veteran Team events at the July Challenge Tournament are no longer a Championship events. 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 and gender 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 National Championship: The Div I Team event is a Championship event. All championship team events, held at the national level, will have a club requirement. Any three or four fencers that meet the age and gender for the event may enter a team if they have represented the club during the current season. They must be competitive USA Fencing members and US Citizens or Permanent Residents. All registered members of a team must be present on site.

Junior Olympic Fencing Championships: The JO Team event is a Championship event. All championship team events, held at the national level, will have a club requirement. Any three or four fencers that meet the age and gender for the event may enter a team if they have represented the club during the current season. They must be competitive USA Fencing members and US Citizens or Permanent Residents. All registered members of a team must be present on site.

A. Registration:
   Teams are required to register 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 nationalevents@usafencing.org.

B. The Team Captain will check in the team during the one hour check in on the day of the event. Teams may periodically be given an opportunity to check in the night before the
Please check the tournament **Athlete Packet for this information at usaflagging.org**

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. If a team has an alternate, all members of the team must present at the strip when called, for every match.

6. 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.

**E. 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 point 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 630
- Bs are given a value between 570 and 530
- Cs are given a value between 470 and 430
- Ds are given a value between 370 and 330
- Es are given a value between 270 and 230
- Us are given a value of 100 points

For example, for a competition on September 1, 2019, within each classification the year is reflected in 10 point increments, with an A19 worth 670 points, an A18 worth 660 points, A17 given 650 points and A16 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>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>18th</td>
<td>115</td>
<td>A19</td>
<td>670</td>
<td>785</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>C17</td>
<td>460</td>
<td>460</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>U</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>53rd</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>B19</td>
<td>570</td>
<td>620</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Team Seeding Points: (sum of 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 2.16.1.1.

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.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CATEGORY</th>
<th>LOCAL</th>
<th>DIVISION/REGIONAL</th>
<th>NATIONAL</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Open Competitions, Division I, IA NACs, ROCs Div I July Challenge (National only)</td>
<td>Classification/Year</td>
<td>DVIA: Nat'l Senior Rolling Points the classification/year. DV2: Classification/Year only</td>
<td>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.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Div I and IA National Championships</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>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.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Division II, III</td>
<td>Classification/Year</td>
<td>Classification/Year</td>
<td>Classification/Year</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Veteran Open (40 &amp; Older)</td>
<td>Classification/Year</td>
<td>Classification/Year</td>
<td>Classification/Year</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Veteran Age</td>
<td>Classification/Year</td>
<td>Classification/Year</td>
<td>Top 8 in National Age Group, standings, then ranking with classification, then classification/year.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Junior NAC</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>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.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Junior</td>
<td>Classification/Year</td>
<td>National Junior Rolling Points, then classification/year</td>
<td>National Junior Rolling Points, then classification/year.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cadet</td>
<td>Classification/year</td>
<td>National Cadet Rolling Points, then classification/year</td>
<td>National Cadet Rolling Points, then classification/year</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Youth 14</td>
<td>Classification/year</td>
<td>National Youth 14 Rolling Points, then classification/year</td>
<td>National Youth 14 Rolling Points, then classification/year</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Youth 12</td>
<td>Classification/year</td>
<td>National Youth 12 Rolling Points, then classification/year</td>
<td>National Youth 12 Rolling Points, then classification/year</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

49
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Youth 10</th>
<th>Classification/year</th>
<th>National Youth 10 Rolling Points, then classification/year</th>
<th>National Youth 10 Rolling Points, then classification/year</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Division I Team</td>
<td>Seeding is based on Senior National Points and participating fencers’ classification/year only as of the posted entry deadlines OR classification and year only</td>
<td>Seeding is based on Senior National Points and participating fencers’ classification/year only as of the posted entry deadlines OR classification and year only</td>
<td>Seeding is based on Senior National Points and participating fencers’ classification/year only as of the posted entry deadlines</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Senior Team</td>
<td>Seeding is based on Senior National Points and participating fencers’ classification/year only as of the posted entry deadlines OR classification and year only</td>
<td>Seeding is based on Senior National Points and participating fencers’ classification/year only as of the posted entry deadlines OR classification and year only</td>
<td>Seeding is based on Senior National Points and participating fencers’ classification/year only as of the posted entry deadlines</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Junior Team</td>
<td>Seeding is based on Junior National Points and participating fencers’ classification/year only as of the posted entry deadlines OR classification and year only</td>
<td>Seeding is based on Junior National Points and participating fencers’ classification/year only as of the posted entry deadlines OR classification and year only</td>
<td>Seeding is based on Junior National Points and participating fencers’ classification/year only as of the posted entry deadlines</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cadet Team</td>
<td>Seeding is based on Cadet National Points and participating fencers’ classification/year only as of the posted entry deadlines OR classification and year only</td>
<td>Seeding is based on Cadet National Points and participating fencers’ classification/year only as of the posted entry deadlines OR classification and year only</td>
<td>Seeding is based on Cadet National Points and participating fencers’ classification/year only as of the posted entry deadlines.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Y14 Team
Seeding is based on Y14 National Points and participating fencers’ classification/year only as of the posted entry deadlines OR classification and year only

Veteran Team
Seeding is based on Veteran Open National Points and participating fencers’ classification/year only as of the posted entry deadlines OR classification and year only

- 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 and will not be moved from their pool even if there is a club or division conflict. 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.

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 2.16.1.1.

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.

### 2.16 National Competition Formats - /add National Epee format

#### 2.16.1 Table: National Competition Formats

Reminder:

**Maximum DE Field Size of 256**

Beginning at the 2019 October North American Cup, a maximum of 256 fencers will be promoted out of pools for all events. With a promotion rate of 75% currently being utilized for Division I events, rarely do tables of 512 occur. This change would only affect Div I field sizes greater than 341 fencers. At events with an 80% promotion rate (junior, cadet, Div IA, Div II, III, Y12 and Y14), this change would only affect fields with more than 320 fencers.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Division I National Championships</th>
<th>One round of pools; 6 or 7 person pool, 80 percent promoted to simple direct elimination.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Division I NAC Epee Format</td>
<td>One-day event with two rounds of pools. Top 34 fencers will receive a bye into the second round of pools. Byes will be awarded based on the USA Fencing National Rolling Points Standings, as of the regular seeding deadline (10 days before the start of the tournament).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Division I NAC and July Challenge (see the tournament Athlete Packet for more information regarding DV1 Epee formats)</td>
<td>One round of pools; 6 or 7-person pool, 75 percent 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 percent 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 percent promoted to a direct elimination table.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Event Description</td>
<td>Description</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>--------------------------------------------------------</td>
<td>-----------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Division II, III, IA NAC</td>
<td>One round of pools; 5 and 6 or 6 and 7 persons per pool, 100 percent promoted to simple direct elimination.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Division II, III, IA Championship</td>
<td>One round of pools; 5 and 6 or 6 and 7 persons per pool, 80 percent promoted to simple direct elimination.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Junior Olympic Fencing Championships</td>
<td>One round of pools; of 6 or 7 persons per pool, 80 percent promoted to simple direct elimination.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Junior &amp; Cadet NAC and July Challenge</td>
<td>One round of pools of 6 or 7 persons per pool, 80 percent promoted to simple direct elimination.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Y14 SYC &amp; NAC</td>
<td>One round of pools; 5 and 6 or 6 and 7 persons per pool, 100% promoted to simple direct elimination.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Y14 National Championship</td>
<td>One round of pools; 5 and 6 or 6 and 7 persons per pool, 80% promoted to simple direct elimination.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Y12 NAC, Regional and Super Youth Circuit</td>
<td>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.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Y12 National Championship</td>
<td>One round of pools; 5 and 6 or 6 and 7 persons per pool, 80% promoted to simple direct elimination.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Y10 NAC, National Championships, Regional &amp; Super Youth Circuit</td>
<td>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.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Veteran Age National Championships</td>
<td>One round of pools; 5 and 6 or 6 and 7 persons per pool, 100% promoted to simple direct elimination in which bouts are 10 touch bouts with two 3 minute periods. There is a one-minute rest between periods.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Veteran Open NAC &amp; Veteran Age NAC</td>
<td>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.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Parafencing NAC &amp; National Championships</td>
<td>Two rounds of pools; 100%promoted to simple direct elimination.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Team Competitions NAC &amp; Championships</td>
<td>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.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
2.17 Equipment Requirements for Domestic Tournaments

2.17.1 Requirements for Domestic Tournaments

Uniforms, Plastrons, Chest Protectors, Masks and Blades:

Uniforms (jackets and pants): Standard fencing uniforms are acceptable (FIE label not required). 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. 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. In Sabre, 800NW gloves are required at all levels of competition (local, divisional, regional, and national). 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.

Names on uniforms: Required only at national level tournaments: NACs, July Challenge, JOs, Division I Championships, USA Fencing National Championships and Parafencing National Championships [BOD, Sept. 2010]. 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 on the back of the uniform or lame between the shoulders; or 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).

Plastrons (underarm protectors): Standard fencing plastron; required with every uniform (FIE label not required)

Chest Protectors: Women must wear chest or breast protectors. Chest protection is allowed for men, but must be worn under the jacket (Rule Book: m.24.4.c). In foil, this breast /chest protector must be worn below the protective plastron and have the following characteristics: The entire outside of the chest protector (the side facing the opponent) must be covered with a soft material such as E.V.A. (Ethylene-vinyl acetate) of four mm thickness and density of 22kg/m3. (The material can be attached to the current plastic models or incorporated into the manufacture of new chest protectors). The material must have the SEMI technical mark at the center of the upper edge. We are aware that manufacturers may not offer older style "hubcap" protectors that conform to the rules. Therefore, fencers who use this style of protector are allowed to retrofit their
existing protectors to bring them into compliance with the rules—that is, by attaching the required soft material to the protector. These retrofitted protectors are NOT required to have the manufacturer/FIE mark, but retrofitted protectors must be inspected at equipment check to ensure that they comply with the rules. Once inspected, the technician will apply the competition’s inspection mark.

**Masks:**

Mask bibs must be fixed to the exterior of the grille starting from the reinforcement band onwards and extending as protection for the neck. Must withstand 12K punch test; elastic strap at back of mask is required. Masks that do not pass the 12K punch test will be impounded and given a visible mark to signify that the mask is “not approved for use” at any level of competition (local, regional, divisional, or national) [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.

Sabre and foil masks with electric bib are not allowed for use in epee at any level (local, divisional, regional, or national) [Rule Book: m.30, USA Fencing clarification]. The metal on the bib/mask can ground out the opponent’s tip.

**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). For all weapons, any attachment to a weapon’s handle (i.e., wrist strap, orthopedic grip) must fix the hand in one position such that the top of the thumb is no more than 2cm from the inner surface of the guard.

### Maximum Lengths, Blade Sizes 0-3

<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>

Note: At USA Fencing sanctioned 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 result in removal from the venue (Rule Book: t.15.2).

Note: At USA Fencing local, divisional, and regional competitions, there are no restrictions on colors or decorations on uniforms, providing that the uniforms still comply with all other requirements.
USA Fencing Note: Masks may feature colored designs, on condition that they are approved by the Referees’ 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.org that clearly show the entirety of the design. Accepted designs will be posted on the Referees' Commission (formerly Fencing Officials Commission) website.

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.

**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.

USA Fencing Note: Masks may feature colored designs, on condition that they are approved by the Referees' 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.org that clearly show the entirety of the design. Accepted designs will be posted on the Referees' 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 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).

**Other Tournament Information:**

Bout 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 2.15.1.
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. Parafencing National Point Standings

Point standings for all groups are posted on the USA Fencing website – 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.

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 Team Point Standings) remain until replaced by the equivalent event in the following season. If there is no equivalent event, points will remain for 12 months, 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 – Regional Points List. These point standings are not used for seeding, only National Point Standings are used for seeding at regional tournaments. Click here to see the Regional Recognition program information.

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 one 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 please click here. Click here to see the Regional Recognition program information.

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 SJCCs (Junior and Cadet 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, Veteran, Youth & Para)

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 point 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 Junior & Cadet Point Standings (SJCC and National Tournaments)

For the Cadet and Junior age categories, points may be earned by competing at North American Cup (NAC) and National Championship events. Cadet athletes may earn points in Cadet, Junior, and Div I national events for which they are eligible to compete. Junior athletes may earn points in Junior and Div I national events for which they are eligible to compete.

National points earned at SJCC events are awarded at a 0.2 scale of the Cadet/Junior NAC Points Table. The point table for Junior and Cadet competitions can be found in Points Tables.

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

For the Junior and Cadet Rolling 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 SJCC per eligible category in which the fencer has earned the most points (see information on the formula for Junior and Cadet points by clicking the link below).

See Chapters 5 – 12 for specific weapon information.

3.1.8 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 and Chapter 11 for Veteran and Chapter 12 for Parafencing)

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

3.1.9 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 five age categories: 40-49, 50-59, 60-69, 70 & older, and 80 & older – where age eligibility is determined by the fencer’s year of birth.
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] Further, the original, i.e. older, fencer in the Top 8 in National Age Group standings as defined in Table 2.15.1.1 will have his/her position protected for the first NAC point event.

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.

### 3.1.10 Parafencing National Point Standings

Parafencing National points are earned at the North American Cups, Parafencing 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>Div IA ROC</th>
<th>Div II ROC</th>
<th>Junior</th>
<th>Cadet</th>
<th>Y14</th>
<th>Y12</th>
<th>Y10</th>
<th>Veteran</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Div II ROC</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>RJC</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>RCC</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Y14 RYC</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Y12 RYC</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Y10 RYC</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Veteran ROC</td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>X</td>
<td></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>Event</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/SJCC</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cadet NAC/JOs/July Challenge/SJCC</td>
<td></td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Y14 NAC/National Championships/SYC</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Y12 NAC/National Championships/SYC</td>
<td></td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Y10 NAC/National Championships/SYC</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></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
- The single best SJCC result in each age category counts toward national rolling 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:

\[
\frac{(#\text{entries} - \text{place} + 1)}{# \text{ entries}} \times 100 \text{ points}
\]

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

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

3.3.4 **Regional Open Circuit (ROC)**

In each ROC category (Division I A, Division II and Veterans), competitions will award points to the top 40 percent 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 the Appendix.

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**. ROCs 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 are 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.

Point standings for Y10, Y12, and Y14 are based on one group reflecting results at domestic national point tournaments (NAC, Championship, SYC, and SJCC).

The point tables are found in **Appendices**. 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 percent) of the competitive field falls (rounded to the next lower integer) to a maximum of 64th place. If the top 32 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.

If a fencer who previously represented another nation in EFC and/or FIE international competition is approved, in accordance with the relevant statutes, to represent the United States, and at the time of approval has USA Fencing national points, his or her cadet, junior, senior and veteran national points standings will be adjusted based on the principles listed below.

The following principles apply to individuals who previously competed for another nation in EFC and FIE competitions, including all cadet, junior, senior and veteran events and currently have national points:

- Consistent with each weapon’s selection criteria, points earned at a domestic event (while representing either another nation or the USA), will count in both national rolling and team point standings.
- Consistent with each weapon’s selection criteria, points earned at international events (EFC cadet events, World Cup, Grand Prix, World Championships, etc.) while representing another nation will count only in the national rolling point standings; and points earned at international events (EFC cadet events, World Cup, Grand Prix, World Championships, etc.) while representing the United States will count in both the rolling and national team points standings.

3.4.1 Strength Factor for USA Fencing Division I North American Cup events

The strength factor (SF) is a multiplier used to gauge the strength of an event and to determine the number of USA Fencing points earned for placement in the competition. The strength factor takes into consideration the size (N) of the field and the number of ranked fencers in the competition. The strength factor is applied to the Point Table in Appendices.

The strength factor will be used for all Division I North American Cups and the July Challenge with a minimum strength factor of .8 and a maximum Strength Factor of 1.1.

The Division I National Championships will have a minimum Strength Factor of 1.0 and a maximum of 1.1.

**FORMULA FOR STRENGTH FACTOR (SF)**

\[
SF = \frac{[N/10 + 6(SrFIE32) + 5(Sr4) + 4(Sr8) + 3 (Sr16) + 2(Sr32) + 1(SR64)]}{100}
\]

- N=Number of competitors
- SrFIE32=Number of athletes ranked in the top 32 of the FIE World Rankings
- Sr4=Number of athletes ranked 1-4 in the National Rolling Point Standings
- Sr8=Number of athletes ranked 5-8 in the National Rolling Point Standings
- Sr16=Number of athletes ranked 9-16 in the National Rolling Point Standings
- Sr32=Number of athletes ranked 17-32 in the National Rolling Point Standings
Sr64=Number of athletes ranked 33-64 in the National Rolling Point Standings. The following principles will be used when calculating the strength factor:

- The size of the field (N) used will be those fencers who complete a pool round
- The FIE and USA Fencing standings are those at the start of the competition
- The strength factor is calculated to the thousandths digit (for example, .906)
- If there is a tie in the point standings all tied fencers will be counted in the calculation of the strength factor. (For example, if two fencers are tied for 8th in the point standings, both fencers will count in the number of athletes ranked 5-8.)
- Foreign Fencers – Prior to seeding each event, foreign fencers will be added to the rolling point standings (if applicable.)
- Points earned at a NAC by a foreign fencer will roll off as the event is replaced. Once a foreign fencer has no domestic points, he or she will be removed from the rolling points list (as to not affect the strength factor).
- Fencers ranked in the FIE Top 32 and USA Fencing top 64 will be recognized in both calculations.

3.4.2 SYC Points

The Super Youth Circuit (SYC) competitions will award national points at .8 of the NAC/Championship points table to precisely the top 40 percent of the competitive field (rounded up to the next higher integer) to a maximum of 64th place.

For example:
- Field = 100 fencers therefore 40 fencers earn national points
- Field = 103 fencers therefore 42 fencers earn national points (40 percent = 4.2)
- Field = 200 fencers therefore 64 fencers earn national points (40 percent = 80 but awarding points is capped at 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.

3.4.3 SJCC Points

The Super Junior and Cadet Circuit (SJCC) competitions will award national points at 0.2 of the NAC/Championship points table to the top 40 percent of the competitive field (rounded up to the next higher integer) to a maximum of 64th place.

For Example:
- Field = 100 fencers therefore 40 fencers earn national points
- Field = 103 fencers therefore 42 fencers earn national points (40 percent = 41.2)
- Field = 200 fencers therefore 64 fencers earn national points (40 percent = 80 but awarding of points is capped at 64th place)

In all SJCC events, 3 fencers must compete in order for points to be awarded. Refer to the Points Table for greater detail on Junior and Cadet points.
3.5 **Earning Points – International**

The point tables for international points can be found in the Appendices.

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 to the direct elimination table in which the top 40 percent of the competitive field falls (rounded down to the next lower integer). If 40 percent 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 the Appendix 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 a designated Senior or Junior international event 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 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 the Appendices. The JSF is applied to the Point Table in the Appendices. 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)**

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

Where 
- \(SSF\) = Senior Strength Factor
- \(N\) = Number of Competitors excluding DNF
- \(Sr8\) = 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)**

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

Where 
- \(JSF\) = Junior Strength Factor
- \(N\) = Number of Competitors excluding DNF
- \(Jr8\) = 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.

For further details regarding the point values of events for team selection, please visit [http://www.usafencing.org/selection-criteria](http://www.usafencing.org/selection-criteria) to view the 2019-20 selection criteria.
### Chapter 4 - International Competition

#### 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 – “A” 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 – “A” 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 - “A” 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</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>No Limit</td>
<td>$30</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>4 fencers per weapon</td>
<td>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 (parafencing) – every 2 years</td>
<td>IWAS</td>
<td>IWAS</td>
<td>YES</td>
<td>No Limit</td>
<td>No Limit</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wheelchair Fencing World Cup (Parafencing) Competitions</td>
<td>IWAS</td>
<td>IWAS</td>
<td>YES</td>
<td>No Limit</td>
<td>No Limit</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>Event</td>
<td>Fencing Body</td>
<td>Team</td>
<td>Individual</td>
<td>Entries</td>
<td>Entries</td>
<td>Cost A</td>
<td>Cost B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-------</td>
<td>--------------</td>
<td>------</td>
<td>------------</td>
<td>---------</td>
<td>---------</td>
<td>--------</td>
<td>--------</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>$30</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pan American Youth &amp; Veteran Championships</td>
<td>FIE</td>
<td>NO</td>
<td>NO</td>
<td>TBD</td>
<td>TBD</td>
<td>$30</td>
<td>$250</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>$30</td>
<td>$250</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pan American Zonal Championships – Junior – Annual</td>
<td>FIE</td>
<td>YES</td>
<td>See selection criteria</td>
<td>4 fencers per weapon</td>
<td>4 fencers per weapon</td>
<td>$30</td>
<td>$250</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pan American Zonal Championships – Cadet – Annual</td>
<td>FIE</td>
<td>NO</td>
<td>NO</td>
<td>4 fencers per weapon</td>
<td>4 fencers per weapon</td>
<td>$30</td>
<td>$250</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pan American Zonal Olympic Qualifiers – every 4 years in year of Olympic games</td>
<td>FIE</td>
<td>NO</td>
<td>NO</td>
<td>If USA has no OG qualifiers in one or more weapons, 1 fencer/weapon</td>
<td>If USA has no OG qualifiers in one or more weapons, 1 fencer/weapon</td>
<td>$30</td>
<td>$250</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>World University Games – every other (odd) year</td>
<td>FIE</td>
<td>NO</td>
<td>NO</td>
<td>4 per weapon</td>
<td>4 per weapon</td>
<td>$30</td>
<td>$250</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pan American Games – year prior to Olympic Games</td>
<td>FIE</td>
<td>NO</td>
<td>NO</td>
<td>See Official Selection Procedures</td>
<td>See Official Selection Procedures</td>
<td>$30</td>
<td>$250</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Youth Olympic Games – every 4 years – middle of Olympic Game Cycle</td>
<td>FIE</td>
<td>NO</td>
<td>NO</td>
<td>See Official Selection Procedures</td>
<td>See Official Selection Procedures</td>
<td>$30</td>
<td>$250</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Olympic Games – every 4 years</td>
<td>FIE</td>
<td>YES</td>
<td>YES</td>
<td>See Official Selection Procedures</td>
<td>See Official Selection Procedures</td>
<td>$30</td>
<td>$250</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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

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

### 4.1.1 International Competitions

Fencers can only be entered in FIE, EFC and IWAS competitions and tournaments by their national fencing federation. USA Fencing is responsible for entering US fencers in all FIE, EFC and IWAS international competitions.

For competitions other than those under the auspices of the FIE, EFC or IWAS, 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 member.usafencing.org.

### 4.1.2 Age Criteria

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

- No fencer may obtain an FIE License, enabling him or her to enter an official FIE competition, until they have reached their 13th birthday.
- 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 applicable selection deadlines.

Permanent residents in the process of obtaining U.S. citizenship may request entry only to Cadet international 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. Fencers wishing to change nationality must 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.

Please reference 3.4 above for information concerning the transfer of points when a fencer changes his or her fencing nationality.

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 - http://www.usafencing.org/international-calendar.

USA Fencing athletes can only earn points towards the National Point Standings from results achieved at competitions specified in the weapon selection criteria.
4.1.5  FIE Satellite Competitions & Non-designated Junior & Cadet Competitions

FIE points are awarded at FIE Satellite competitions. USA Fencing points are NOT awarded for results obtained at Satellite competitions, or non-designated Junior and Cadet competitions.

Athletes wishing to enter FIE Satellite and non-designated junior and cadet competitions must register online. A maximum of four athletes will be selected for FIE Satellite and non-designated junior and cadet international competitions based on 4.2.1 below.

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 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
- Development opportunities

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.

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) = $285</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>

➢ The squad fee is refundable if athlete is not selected to attend the competition. Refunds will be processed upon completion of the event.
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 will be notified by email. The notified athlete must reply within 24 hours of the time the email was sent. If no reply is received by email, the next alternate will be notified.

Selection
Athletes will be selected based on point standings as of the regular entry deadline in the following order. The points used for selections as indicated on the international calendar:
http://www.usafencing.org/international-calendar.

SENIOR EVENTS:
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 Point Standings are used for Senior and Junior international event selections, all non-U.S. citizens will be removed from the standings.

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:**

Athletes on the Cadet National Points standings in the following order:

a) U.S. citizen  
b) Approved permanent residents  
c) 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.  
d) After late entry deadline, any athletes remaining on the waitlist will be selected in the following order:
   - U.S. citizen in rank order
   - Permanent resident in rank order

**Petition Process**

An athlete who has represented the United States at a Senior World Championships or Olympic Games within the previous four years may petition entry into a Senior World Cup or Grand Prix competition if he or she is not eligible for selection via the traditional method (national point standings). A petition will only be considered if the athlete was required to take time off from all qualifying competitions due to a medical condition, illness, pregnancy or military service for the six-month period preceding the petition.

At least ten days prior to the regular entry deadline of the Senior World Cup or Grand Prix in which the athlete would like to compete; the athlete must file a petition containing the following information:

- Senior World Championship or Olympic Games competitive history  
- Reason for time off (with medical documentation)

A panel made up of the following individuals will have the authority to approve or deny a petition:

- USA Fencing Director of Sports Performance  
- A National Weapon Coach (if the National Weapon Coach is the personal coach of the athlete involved, he or she will be required to recuse him or herself)  
- Two athletes appointed by the USA Fencing Athletes Advisory Council (from a different weapon than the athlete submitting petition)  
- A member of the USA Fencing Sports Performance Resource Team  

Considerations:

- Petitioning athlete must have made every reasonable effort to attend qualifying North American Cup, July Challenge or National Championship events prior to submitting a petition.  
- An athlete may petition for selection to a maximum of three events in a twelve-month period.  
- Petitions need not be requested consecutively (athlete can choose a maximum of three competitions within the twelve-month period).  
- The panel will consider the athlete’s competitive history and will have discretion on how many petitions to grant (to a maximum of three in a twelve-month period).
• An athlete granted a petition may apply for additional petitions if there is a subsequent medical condition, illness, pregnancy or military service that results in the athlete being out of qualifying competitions for a new six-month period.

4.2.2 Finalizing the Entries

The point standings as of the day after the regular entry deadline will determine the priority order of fencers and alternates. Results that change the point standings between the regular entry 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 or EFC.

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@usafencing.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@usafencing.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](http://www.usada.org) and [www.fie.org](http://www.fie.org) for all information concerning drug testing.

4.4  **National Team Definition**

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

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.

- Junior and Cadet World Fencing Championships
- Senior World Fencing Championships
- World University Games
- Olympic Games
- Pan American Games
- Pan American Youth & Veteran Zonal Championships
- Pan American Junior and Cadet Fencing Zonal Championships
- Pan American Senior Zonal Fencing Championships
- Paralympic Games
- Parafencing World Championships
- Parafencing 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 selection date will be named to the Team.
Chapter 5 - Men’s Epee

5.1 Men’s Epee Points

Notes:

• Points awarded at the 2019 April Division I National Championship will be considered for rolling points only for Junior and Cadet Men’s Epee.

• Points awarded for 33-64 placements at Senior, Junior and Cadet domestic competitions will be considered for rolling points only.

• For any international designated event that does not meet the FIE criteria (see FIE Organization rule o.4) points will be calculated according to the strength factor formula and be considered in Group I, unless otherwise specified in selection criteria.

5.2 2020 Senior Men’s Epee Olympic Games

July 24-August 9, 2020 – Tokyo, Japan

POSTED: May 8, 2019

SELECTION DATE: At the conclusion of the Division I National Championship

SELECTION: The top three athletes on the National Senior Team Point Standings will be selected for the 2020 Olympic Team and be eligible to compete in the individual and team competitions. The fourth athlete on the National Senior Team Point Standings will be selected as the replacement athlete for the team competition only.

SUM OF GROUP I AND GROUP II

GROUP I = SUM OF THE TWO HIGHEST POINTS EARNED AT 1-3
1. NAC Division I: 9/1/2019 to selection date
2. 2020 Division I National Championship
3. Competitions specified in Group II below not included in Group II sum

GROUP II = SUM OF THE FIVE HIGHEST POINTS EARNED AT 4-5
4. Designated Senior World Cup and Grand Prix competitions: 5/1/2019 to selection date
   (MAXIMUM of FOUR 33-64 results count in Group II)
5. 2019 Senior World Championships (Top 32 result)

Weight Value for the 2019 Senior World Championships =2.0

The 2019 Division I July Challenge will count for rolling points only.

Official FIE 2020 Olympic Games qualification system can be found HERE.

*Should USA Fencing fail to qualify a Team for the 2020 Olympic Games, athletes will be nominated by name using the official FIE 2020 Olympic Games qualification system found HERE.
5.3  2020 Senior Men’s Epee Pan American Zone Olympic Qualifying Event
TBD, 2020 – TBD

POSTED: May 8, 2019

SELECTION DATE:  April 4, 2020

SELECTION:  If the USA fails to qualify a team or any individuals through the official FIE 2020 Olympic Games qualification system found HERE, the top one fencer on the National Senior Team Point Standings will qualify for the Pan American Zone Olympic Qualifying Event.

SUM OF GROUP I AND GROUP II

GROUP I = SUM OF THE TWO HIGHEST POINTS EARNED AT 1-2
1. NAC Division I: 9/1/2019 to selection date
2. Competitions specified in Group II below not included in Group II sum

GROUP 2 = SUM OF THE FIVE HIGHEST POINTS EARNED AT 3-4
3. Designated Senior World Cup and Grand Prix competitions: 5/1/2019 to selection date (MAXIMUM of FOUR 33-64 results count in Group II)
4. 2019 Senior World Championships (Top 32 result)

Weight Value for the 2019 Senior World Championships =2.0

The 2019 Division I July Challenge will count for rolling points only.

5.4  2020 Senior Men’s Epee Pan American Zonal Championships
June, 2020 – TBD

POSTED: May 8, 2019

SELECTION DATE:  At the conclusion of the Division I National Championship

SELECTION:  The top four fencers on the National Senior Team Points Standings will be selected as members of the Senior Pan American Zonal Championships Team and 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 USOPC Athlete Advisory Council (AAC) and the Director of Sports Performance (or, in his or her absence, the Executive Director). At the time of replacement, the National Weapon Coach must also name which fencer will be replaced. 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 selected individual fencers becomes injured and the
The fifth fencer named to the team is the first alternate for the individual competition. Should a fencer decline his or her selection for the individual or team event, the next highest ranked fencer will qualify based on the criteria. In the case of injury or illness, the next highest ranked fencer will qualify based on the criteria.

SUM OF GROUP I AND GROUP II GROUP I = SUM OF THE TWO HIGHEST POINTS Earned AT 1-3
1. NAC Division I: 9/1/2019 to selection date
2. 2020 Division I National Championship
3. Competitions specified in Group II below not included in Group II sum

GROUP 2 = SUM OF THE FIVE HIGHEST POINTS Earned AT 4-5
4. Designated Senior World Cup and Grand Prix competitions: 5/1/2019 to selection date
   (MAXIMUM of FOUR 33-64 results count in Group II)
5. 2019 Senior World Championships (Top 32 result)

Weight Value for the 2019 Senior World Championships =2.0

The 2019 Division I July Challenge will count for rolling points only.

5.5 2020 Junior Men’s Epee World Championships
April 3-11, 2020 – Salt Lake City, USA

POSTED: May 8, 2019; updated August 1, 2019

SELECTION DATE: At the conclusion of the Junior Olympic Championship

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

The National Weapon Coach may select a fifth fencer ranked 5th through 8th on the National 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 USOPC Athlete Advisory Council (AAC) and the Director of Sports Performance (or, in his or her absence, the Executive Director). At the time of replacement, the National Weapon Coach must also name which fencer will be replaced. 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 selected individual fencers becomes injured and the fifth fencer named to the team is the first alternate for the individual competition).

Should a fencer decline his or her selection for the individual or team event, the next highest ranked fencer will qualify based on the criteria. In the case of injury or illness, the next highest ranked fencer will qualify based on the criteria.

SUM OF GROUP I AND GROUP II GROUP I = SUM OF THE FOUR HIGHEST POINTS Earned AT 1-6
1. NAC Junior: 9/1/2019 to selection Date#
2. 2019 Junior July Challenge
3. Junior Olympic Fencing Championships (Junior): February, 2020
4. NAC Division I: 9/1/2019 to selection date
5. 2019 Division I July Challenge
6. Competitions specified in Group II below not included in Group II sum

GROUP 2 = SUM OF THE THREE HIGHEST POINTS EARNED AT 7-10
7. Designated Junior World Cup competitions: 9/1/2019 to selection date^ 
8. Designated Senior World Cup and Grand Prix competitions: 9/1/2019 to selection date
9. 2019 Junior World Championships (Top 32 result)
10. 2019 Senior World Championships (Top 32 result)

Weight Value for the 2019 Senior and Junior World Championships =2.0

#The November NAC junior men’s epee event will have a weight value of .8 for junior fencers.

^In order to be eligible for the Junior World Championship TEAM event, athletes must register and make themselves available to fence in at least one Junior Team event during the 2019/2020 season (Junior World Cup team events and/or Junior Pan American Zonal Team event). If selected, athletes must actually be present at one Junior Team event during the 2019/2020 season (Junior World Cup team event and/or Junior Pan American Zonal Team event).

5.6 2020 Junior Men’s Epee Pan American Zonal Championships  TBD, 2020 – TBD

POSTED: May 8, 2019

SELECTION DATE: TBD

SELECTION: The top four registered fencers as of the selection date will be selected as members of the Junior Pan American Zonal Championship 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 not on any National Point Standings will be ranked according to USA Fencing classification. If ties remain, fencers will be chosen by drawing lots.

*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, but registration for all events must be done online.
5.7  2020 Cadet Men’s Epee World Championships
April 3-11, 2020 – Salt Lake City, USA

POSTED: May 8, 2019

SELECTION DATE: At the conclusion of the Junior Olympic Championship

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

Should a fencer decline his or her selection for the event, the next highest ranked fencer will qualify based on the criteria. In the case of injury or illness, the next highest ranked fencer will qualify based on the criteria.

SUM OF GROUP I AND GROUP II

GROUP I = SUM OF THE FIVE HIGHEST POINTS EARNED AT 1-9
1. NAC Cadet: 9/1/2019 to selection date
2. 2019 Cadet July Challenge
3. Junior Olympic Fencing Championships (Cadet): February, 2020
4. NAC Junior: 9/1/2019 to selection date
5. 2019 Junior July Challenge
7. NAC Division I: 9/1/2019 to selection date
8. 2019 Division I July Challenge
9. Competitions specified in Group II below not included in Group II sum

GROUP 2 = SUM OF THE THREE HIGHEST POINTS EARNED AT 10-13
10. Designated Cadet International competitions: 9/1/2019 to selection date
11. Designated Junior World Cup competitions: 9/1/2019 to selection date
12. 2019 Cadet World Championships (Top 16 result)
13. 2019 Junior World Championships (Top 32 result)

Weight Value for the 2019 Cadet and Junior World Championships =2.0

5.8  2020 Cadet Men’s Epee Pan American Zonal Championships
TBD, 2020 – TBD

POSTED: May 8, 2019

SELECTION DATE: TBD

SELECTION: The top four registered fencers as of the selection date will be selected as members of the Cadet Pan American Zonal Championship Team. 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 remaining on the National Y14 Point Standings
4. All other athletes not on any National Point Standings will be ranked according to USA Fencing classification. If ties remain, fencers will be chosen by drawing lots.

*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

Notes:

• Points awarded at the 2019 April Division I National Championship will be considered for rolling points only for Junior and Cadet Men’s Foil.
• Points awarded for 33-64 placements at Senior, Junior and Cadet domestic competitions will be considered for rolling points only.
• For any international designated event that does not meet the FIE criteria (see FIE Organization rule 0.4) points will be calculated according to the strength factor formula and be considered in Group I, unless otherwise specified in selection criteria.

6.2 2020 Senior Men’s Foil Olympic Games
July 24-August 9, 2020 – Tokyo, Japan

POSTED: May 8, 2019

SELECTION DATE: At the conclusion of the Division I National Championship

SELECTION: The top three athletes on the National Senior Team Point Standings will be selected for the 2020 Olympic Team and be eligible to compete in the individual and team competitions. The fourth athlete on the National Senior Team Point Standings will be selected as the replacement athlete for the team competition only.

SUM OF GROUP I AND GROUP II

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

1. NAC Division I: 9/1/2019 to selection date
2. 2020 Division I National Championship
3. Competitions specified in Group II below not included in Group II sum

GROUP 2 = SUM OF THE FOUR HIGHEST POINTS EARNED AT 4-5

4. Designated Senior World Cup and Grand Prix competitions: 5/1/2019 to selection date (MAXIMUM of TWO 33-64 results count in Group II)
5. 2019 Senior World Championships (Top 32 result)

Weight Value for the 2019 Senior World Championships =2.0

The 2019 Division I July Challenge will count for rolling points only.

Official FIE 2020 Olympic Games qualification system can be found HERE. *Should USA Fencing fail to qualify a Team for the 2020 Olympic Games, athletes will be nominated by name using the official FIE 2020 Olympic Games qualification system found HERE.
6.3 2020 Senior Men’s Foil Pan American Zone Olympic Qualifying Event
TBD, 2020 – TBD

POSTED: May 8, 2019

SELECTION DATE: April 4, 2020

SELECTION: If the USA fails to qualify a team or any individuals through the official FIE 2020 Olympic Games qualification system found HERE, the top one fencer on the National Senior Team Point Standings will qualify for the Pan American Zone Olympic Qualifying Event.

SUM OF GROUP I AND GROUP II
GROUP I = SUM OF THE TWO HIGHEST POINTS EARNED AT 1-2
1. NAC Division I: 9/1/2019 to selection date
2. Competitions specified in Group II below not included in Group II sum

GROUP 2 = SUM OF THE FOUR HIGHEST POINTS EARNED AT 3-4
3. Designated Senior World Cup and Grand Prix competitions: 5/1/2019 to selection date (MAXIMUM of TWO 33-64 results count in Group II)
4. 2019 Senior World Championships (Top 32 result)

Weight Value for the 2019 Senior World Championships =2.0

The 2019 Division I July Challenge will count for rolling points only.

6.4 2020 Senior Men’s Foil Pan American Zonal Championships June, 2020 – TBD

POSTED: May 8, 2019

SELECTION DATE: At the conclusion of the Division I National Championship

SELECTION: The top four fencers on the National Senior Team Points Standings will be selected as members of the Senior Pan American Zonal Championships Team and 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 USOPC Athlete Advisory Council (AAC) and the Director of Sports Performance (or, in his or her absence, the Executive Director). At the time of replacement, the National Weapon Coach must also name which fencer will be replaced. 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 selected individual fencers becomes injured and the fifth fencer named to the team is the first alternate for the individual competition).

Should a fencer decline his or her selection for the individual or team event, the next highest ranked fencer will qualify based on the criteria. In the case of injury or illness, the next highest ranked fencer will qualify based on the criteria.

**SUM OF GROUP I AND GROUP II**

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

1. NAC Division I: 9/1/2019 to selection date
2. 2020 Division I National Championship
3. Competitions specified in Group II below not included in Group II sum

GROUP 2 = SUM OF THE FOUR HIGHEST POINTS EARNED AT 4-5

4. Designated Senior World Cup and Grand Prix competitions: 5/1/2019 to selection date (MAXIMUM of TWO 33-64 results count in Group II)
5. 2019 Senior World Championships (Top 32 result)

Weight Value for the 2019 Senior World Championships =2.0

The 2019 Division I July Challenge will count for rolling points only.

**6.5 2020 Junior Men’s Foil World Championships**

*April 3-11, 2020 – Salt Lake City, USA*

**POSTED:** May 8, 2019; updated August 1, 2019

**SELECTION DATE:** At the conclusion of the Junior Olympic Championship or the 2020 Pan American Zonal Championship, whichever event is later.

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

The National Weapon Coach may select a fifth fencer ranked 5th through 8th on the National 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 USOPC Athlete Advisory Council (AAC) and the Director of Sports Performance (or, in his or her absence, the Executive Director). At the time of replacement, the National Weapon Coach must also name which fencer will be replaced. 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 selected individual fencers becomes injured and the fifth fencer named to the team is the first alternate for the individual competition).
Should a fencer decline his or her selection for the individual or team event, the next highest ranked fencer will qualify based on the criteria. In the case of injury or illness, the next highest ranked fencer will qualify based on the criteria.

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

1. NAC Junior: 9/1/2019 to selection date
2. 2019 Junior July Challenge
3. Junior Olympic Fencing Championships (Junior): February, 2020
4. NAC Division I: 9/1/2019 to selection date#
5. 2019 Division I July Challenge
6. 2020 Junior Pan American Zonal Championships (Top 8 result. Domestic Junior DE points table will be used to award points. Athletes who enter the 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 2 = SUM OF THE THREE HIGHEST POINTS EARNED AT 8-11**

8. Designated Junior World Cup competitions: 9/1/2019 to selection date*^^%
9. Designated Senior World Cup and Grand Prix competitions: 9/1/2019 to selection date
10. 2019 Junior World Championships (Top 32 result)
11. 2019 Senior World Championships (Top 32 result)

Weight Value for the 2019 Senior and Junior World Championships =2.0

*All Designated Junior World Cups, except for the January 25-26, 2020 Junior World Cup held in the USA, will have a minimum strength factor of 1.2.

**6.6 2020 Junior Men’s Foil Pan American Zonal Championships**

POSTED: May 8, 2019

SELECTION DATE: TBD

SELECTION: The top four registered fencers as of the selection date will be selected as members of the Junior Pan American Zonal Championship Team. 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 not on any National Point Standings will be ranked according to USA Fencing classification. If ties remain, fencers will be chosen by drawing lots.

*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, but registration for all events must be done online.

6.7 2020 Cadet Men’s Foil World Championships
April 3-11, 2020 – Salt Lake City, USA

POSTED: May 8, 2019; updated August 1, 2019

SELECTION DATE: At the conclusion of the Junior Olympic Championship

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

Should a fencer decline his or her selection for the event, the next highest ranked fencer will qualify based on the criteria. In the case of injury or illness, the next highest ranked fencer will qualify based on the criteria.

SUM OF GROUP I AND GROUP II GROUP I = SUM OF THE FOUR HIGHEST POINTS EARNED AT 1-9
1. NAC Cadet: 9/1/2019 to selection Date
2. 2019 Cadet July Challenge
3. Junior Olympic Fencing Championships (Cadet): February, 2020
4. NAC Junior: 9/1/2019 to selection Date
5. 2019 Junior July Challenge
7. NAC Division I: 9/1/2019 to selection date*
8. 2019 Division I July Challenge*
9. Competitions specified in Group II below not included in Group II sum

GROUP 2 = SUM OF THE THREE HIGHEST POINTS EARNED AT 10-15
10. Designated Cadet International competitions: 9/1/2019 to selection date
11. Designated Junior International competitions: 9/1/2019 to selection date**
12. Designated Senior World Cup & Grand Prix competitions: 9/1/2019 to selection date
13. 2019 Cadet World Championships (Top 8 result)
14. 2019 Junior World Championships (Top 32 result)
15. 2019 Senior World Championships (Top 32 result)

Weight Value for the 2019 Cadet and Junior World Championships =2.0
*For cadet men’s Foil, all Division I NAC and Championships (including the July Challenge) events will have a maximum weight value of .8.

^All Designated Junior World Cup events will have a minimum strength factor of 1.2.

*The January 25-26, 2020 Junior World Cup held in the USA is not designated for cadet men’s foil. Points earned will only be reflected in the junior men’s foil rankings (not cadet men’s foil rankings).

6.8 2020 Cadet Men’s Foil Pan American Zonal Championships TBD, 2020 – TBD

POSTED: May 8, 2019

SELECTION DATE: TBD

SELECTION: The top four registered fencers as of the selection date will be selected as members of the Cadet Pan American Zonal Championship Team. 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 remaining on the National Y14 Point Standings
4. All other athletes not on any National Point Standings will be ranked according to USA Fencing classification. If ties remain, fencers will be chosen by drawing lots.

*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

Notes:

- Points awarded at the 2019 April Division I National Championship will be considered for rolling points only for Junior and Cadet Men’s Saber.

- Points awarded for 33-64 placements at Senior, Junior and Cadet domestic competitions will be considered for rolling points only.

- For any international designated event that does not meet the FIE criteria (see FIE Organization rule 0.4) points will be calculated according to the strength factor formula and be considered in Group I, unless otherwise specified in selection criteria.
7.2 2020 Senior Men’s Saber Olympic Games
July 24-August 9, 2020 – Tokyo, Japan

POSTED: May 8, 2019

SELECTION DATE: At the conclusion of the Division I National Championship or the 2020 Seoul Grand Prix, whichever event is later.

SELECTION: The top three athletes on the National Senior Team Point Standings will be selected for the 2020 Olympic Team and be eligible to compete in the individual and team competitions. The fourth athlete on the National Senior Team Point Standings will be selected as the replacement athlete for the team competition only.

SUM OF GROUP I AND GROUP II GROUP I = SUM OF THE TWO HIGHEST POINTS EARNED AT 1-3
1. NAC Division I: 9/1/2019 to selection date
2. 2020 Division I National Championship
3. Competitions specified in Group II below not included in Group II sum

GROUP 2 = SUM OF THE FIVE HIGHEST POINTS EARNED AT 4-5
4. Designated Senior World Cup and Grand Prix competitions: 5/1/2019 to selection date (MAXIMUM of THREE 33-64 results count in Group II)
5. 2019 Senior World Championships (Top 32 result)

Weight Value for the 2019 Senior World Championships =2.0

The 2019 Division I July Challenge will count for rolling points only.

Official FIE 2020 Olympic Games qualification system can be found HERE.

*Should USA Fencing fail to qualify a Team for the 2020 Olympic Games, athletes will be nominated by name using the official FIE 2020 Olympic Games qualification system found HERE.

7.2.1 2020 Senior Men’s Saber Pan American Zone Olympic Qualifying Event  TBD, 2020 – TBD

POSTED: May 8, 2019

SELECTION DATE: April 4, 2020

SELECTION: If the USA fails to qualify a team or any individuals through the official FIE 2020 Olympic Games qualification system found HERE, the top one fencer on the National Senior Team Point Standings will qualify for the Pan American Zone Olympic Qualifying Event.

SUM OF GROUP I AND GROUP II GROUP I = SUM OF THE TWO HIGHEST POINTS EARNED AT 1-2
1. NAC Division I: 9/1/2019 to selection date
2. Competitions specified in Group II below not included in Group II sum

**GROUP 2 = SUM OF THE FIVE HIGHEST POINTS EARNED AT 3-4**

3. Designated Senior World Cup and Grand Prix competitions: 5/1/2019 to selection date (MAXIMUM of THREE 33-64 results count in Group II)

4. 2019 Senior World Championships (Top 32 result)

Weight Value for the 2019 Senior World Championships = 2.0

The 2019 Division I July Challenge will count for rolling points only.

**7.3 2020 Senior Men’s Saber Pan American Zonal Championships**

*June, 2020 – TBD*

**POSTED:** May 8, 2019

**SELECTION DATE:** At the conclusion of the Division I National Championship or the 2020 Seoul Grand Prix, whichever event is later.

**SELECTION:** The top four fencers on the National Senior Team Points Standings will be selected as members of the Senior Pan American Zonal Championships Team and 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 USOPC Athlete Advisory Council (AAC) and the Director of Sports Performance (or, in his or her absence, the Executive Director). At the time of replacement, the National Weapon Coach must also name which fencer will be replaced. 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 selected individual fencers becomes injured and the fifth fencer named to the team is the first alternate for the individual competition).

Should a fencer decline his or her selection for the individual or team event, the next highest ranked fencer will qualify based on the criteria. In the case of injury or illness, the next highest ranked fencer will qualify based on the criteria.

**SUM OF GROUP I AND GROUP II GROUP I = SUM OF THE TWO HIGHEST POINTS EARNED AT 1-3**

1. NAC Division I: 9/1/2019 to selection date
2. 2020 Division I National Championship
3. Competitions specified in Group II below not included in Group II sum

**GROUP 2 = SUM OF THE FIVE HIGHEST POINTS EARNED AT 4-5**

4. Designated Senior World Cup and Grand Prix competitions: 5/1/2019 to selection date (MAXIMUM of THREE 33-64 results count in Group II)

5. 2019 Senior World Championships (Top 32 result)
Weight Value for the 2019 Senior World Championships =2.0

The 2019 Division I July Challenge will count for rolling points only.

7.4 2020 Junior Men’s Saber World Championships
April 3-11, 2020 – Salt Lake City, USA

POSTED: May 8, 2019; updated August 1, 2019

SELECTION DATE: At the conclusion of the Junior Olympic Championship or the 2020 Junior Pan American Zonal Championship, whichever event is later.

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

The National Weapon Coach may select a fifth fencer ranked 5th through 8th on the National 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 USOPC Athlete Advisory Council (AAC) and the Director of Sports Performance (or, in his or her absence, the Executive Director). At the time of replacement, the National Weapon Coach must also name which fencer will be replaced. 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 selected individual fencers becomes injured and the fifth fencer named to the team is the first alternate for the individual competition).

Should a fencer decline his or her selection for the individual or team event, the next highest ranked fencer will qualify based on the criteria. In the case of injury or illness, the next highest ranked fencer will qualify based on the criteria.

SUM OF GROUP I AND GROUP II
GROUP I = SUM OF THE THREE HIGHEST POINTS EARNED AT 1-7
1. NAC Junior: 9/1/2019 to selection Date
2. 2019 Junior July Challenge
3. Junior Olympic Fencing Championships (Junior): February, 2020
4. NAC Division I: 9/1/2019 to selection date#
5. 2019 Division I July Challenge
6. 2020 Junior Pan American Zonal Championships (Top 8 result. Domestic Junior DE points table will be used to award points. Athletes who enter the 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 2 = SUM OF THE FOUR HIGHEST POINTS EARNED AT 8-11
8. Designated Junior World Cup competitions: 9/1/2019 to selection date*^
9. Designated Senior World Cup and Grand Prix competitions: 9/1/2019 to selection date (Maximum of THREE 33-64 results count in Group II)
10. 2019 Junior World Championships (Top 16 result)
11. 2019 Senior World Championships (Top 32 result)

Weight Value for the 2019 Senior and Junior World Championships =2.0

#The December NAC Division I men’s saber event will have a weight value of .8 for junior fencers.

* The Junior World Cup event held in the USA will have a minimum strength factor of 1.0.

^In order to be eligible for the Junior World Championship TEAM event, athletes must register and make themselves available to fence in at least one Junior Team event during the 2019/2020 season (Junior World Cup team events and/or Junior Pan American Zonal Team event). If selected, athletes must actually be present at one Junior Team event during the 2019/2020 season (Junior World Cup team event and/or Junior Pan American Zonal Team event).

### 7.5 2020 Junior Men’s Saber Pan American Zonal Championships
TBD, 2020 – TBD

**POSTED:** May 8, 2019

**SELECTION DATE:** TBD

**SELECTION:** The top four registered fencers as of the selection date will be selected as members of the Junior Pan American Zonal Championship Team. 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 not on any National Point Standings will be ranked according to USA Fencing classification. If ties remain, fencers will be chosen by drawing lots.

*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, but registration for all events must be done online.

### 7.6 2020 Cadet Men’s Saber World Championships
April 3-11, 2020 – Salt Lake City, USA

**POSTED:** May 8, 2019

**SELECTION DATE:** At the conclusion of the Junior Olympic Championship
SELECTION: The top three fencers on the National Cadet Team Points Standings will be selected as members of the Cadet World Championship Team and be eligible to compete in the individual competition. Should a fencer decline his or her selection for the event, the next highest ranked fencer will qualify based on the criteria. In the case of injury or illness, the next highest ranked fencer will qualify based on the criteria.

SUM OF GROUP I AND GROUP II

GROUP I = SUM OF THE THREE HIGHEST POINTS EARNED AT
1. NAC Cadet: 9/1/2019 to selection Date
2. 2019 Cadet July Challenge
3. Junior Olympic Fencing Championships (Cadet): February, 2020
4. NAC Junior: 9/1/2019 to selection Date
5. 2019 Junior July Challenge
7. NAC Division I: 9/1/2019 to selection date
8. 2019 Division I July Challenge
9. Competitions specified in Group II below not included in Group II sum

GROUP 2 = SUM OF THE THREE HIGHEST POINTS EARNED AT 10-15
10. Designated Cadet International competitions: 9/1/2019 to selection date
11. Designated Junior International competitions: 9/1/2019 to selection date*
12. Designated Senior World Cup & Grand Prix competitions: 9/1/2019 to selection date (Maximum of THREE 33-64 results count in Group II)
13. 2019 Cadet World Championships (Top 8 result)
14. 2019 Junior World Championships (Top 16 result)
15. 2019 Senior World Championships (Top 32 result)

Weight Value for the 2019 Cadet, Junior and Senior World Championships =2.0

* The Junior World Cup event held in the USA will have a minimum strength factor of 1.0.

7.7 2020 Cadet Men’s Saber Pan American Zonal Championships
TBD, 2020 – TBD

POSTED: May 8, 2019

SELECTION DATE: TBD

SELECTION: The top four registered fencers as of the selection date will be selected as members of the Cadet Pan American Zonal Championship Team. 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 remaining on the National Y14 Point Standings
4. All other athletes not on any National Point Standings will be ranked according to USA Fencing classification. If ties remain, fencers will be chosen by drawing lots.

*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

Notes:
• Points awarded at the 2019 April Division I National Championship will be considered for rolling points only for Junior and Cadet Women’s Epee.

• Points awarded for 33-64 placements at Senior, Junior and Cadet domestic competitions will be considered for rolling points only.

• For any international designated event that does not meet the FIE criteria (see FIE Organization rule o.4) points will be calculated according to the strength factor formula and be considered in Group I, unless otherwise specified in selection criteria.

8.2 2020 Senior Women’s Epee Olympic Games July 24-August 9, 2020 – Tokyo, Japan

POSTED: May 8, 2019

SELECTION DATE: At the conclusion of the Division I National Championship

SELECTION: The top three athletes on the National Senior Team Point Standings will be selected for the 2020 Olympic Team and be eligible to compete in the individual and team competitions. The fourth athlete on the National Senior Team Point Standings will be selected as the replacement athlete for the team competition only.

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

1. NAC Division I: 9/1/2019 to selection date
2. 2020 Division I National Championship
3. Competitions specified in Group II below not included in Group II sum

GROUP 2 = SUM OF THE FIVE HIGHEST POINTS EARNED AT 4-5

4. Designated Senior World Cup and Grand Prix competitions: 5/1/2019 to selection date (MAXIMUM of FOUR 33-64 results count in Group II)
5. 2019 Senior World Championships (Top 32 result)

Weight Value for the 2019 Senior World Championships =2.0

The 2019 Division I July Challenge will count for rolling points only.

Official FIE 2020 Olympic Games qualification system can be found HERE.

*Should USA Fencing fail to qualify a Team for the 2020 Olympic Games, athletes will be nominated by name using the official FIE 2020 Olympic Games qualification system found HERE.
8.3 2020 Senior Women’s Epee Pan American Zone Olympic Qualifying Event
TBD, 2020 – TBD

POSTED: May 8, 2019

SELECTION DATE: April 4, 2020

SELECTION: If the USA fails to qualify a team or any individuals through the official FIE 2020 Olympic Games qualification system found HERE, the top one fencer on the National Senior Team Point Standings will qualify for the Pan American Zone Olympic Qualifying Event.

SUM OF GROUP I AND GROUP II

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

1. NAC Division I: 9/1/2019 to selection date
2. Competitions specified in Group II below not included in Group II sum

GROUP 2 = SUM OF THE FIVE HIGHEST POINTS EARNED AT 3-4

3. Designated Senior World Cup and Grand Prix competitions: 5/1/2019 to selection date (MAXIMUM of FOUR 33-64 results count in Group II)
4. 2019 Senior World Championships (Top 32 result)

Weight Value for the 2019 Senior World Championships =2.0

The 2019 Division I July Challenge will count for rolling points only.

8.4 2020 Senior Women’s Epee Pan American Zonal Championships
June, 2020 – TBD

POSTED: May 8, 2019

SELECTION DATE: At the conclusion of the Division I National Championship

SELECTION:
The top four fencers on the National Senior Team Points Standings will be selected as members of the Senior Pan American Zonal Championships Team and 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 USOPC Athlete Advisory Council (AAC) and the Director of Sports Performance (or, in his or her absence, the Executive Director). At the time of replacement, the National Weapon Coach must also name which fencer will be replaced. 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 selected individual fencers becomes injured and the fifth fencer named to the team is the first alternate for the individual competition).
Should a fencer decline his or her selection for the individual or team event, the next highest ranked fencer will qualify based on the criteria. In the case of injury or illness, the next highest ranked fencer will qualify based on the criteria.

**SUM OF GROUP I AND GROUP II**

**GROUP I = SUM OF THE TWO HIGHEST POINTS EARNED AT 1-3**
1. NAC Division I: 9/1/2019 to selection date
   2020 Division I National Championship
2. Competitions specified in Group II below not included in Group II sum

**GROUP 2 = SUM OF THE FIVE HIGHEST POINTS EARNED AT 4-5**
3. Designated Senior World Cup and Grand Prix competitions: 5/1/2019 to selection date (MAXIMUM of FOUR 33-64 results count in Group II)
4. 2019 Senior World Championships (Top 32 result)

Weight Value for the 2019 Senior World Championships =2.0

The 2019 Division I July Challenge will count for rolling points only.

**8.5 2020 Junior Women’s Epee World Championships**
**April 3-11, 2020 – Salt Lake City, USA**

**POSTED:** May 8, 2019; updated August 1, 2019

**SELECTION DATE:** At the conclusion of the Junior Olympic Championship

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

The National Weapon Coach may select a fifth fencer ranked 5th through 8th on the National 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 USOPC Athlete Advisory Council (AAC) and the Director of Sports Performance (or, in his or her absence, the Executive Director). At the time of replacement, the National Weapon Coach must also name which fencer will be replaced. 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 selected individual fencers becomes injured and the fifth fencer named to the team is the first alternate for the individual competition).

Should a fencer decline his or her selection for the individual or team event, the next highest ranked fencer will qualify based on the criteria. In the case of injury or illness, the next highest ranked fencer will qualify based on the criteria.
SUM OF GROUP I AND GROUP II

GROUP I = SUM OF THE FOUR HIGHEST POINTS EARNED AT 1-6
1. NAC Junior: 9/1/2019 to selection Date
2. 2019 Junior July Challenge
3. Junior Olympic Fencing Championships (Junior): February, 2020
4. NAC Division I: 9/1/2019 to selection date
5. 2019 Division I July Challenge
6. Competitions specified in Group II below not included in Group II sum

GROUP 2 = SUM OF THE THREE HIGHEST POINTS EARNED AT 7-10
7. Designated Junior World Cup competitions: 9/1/2019 to selection date^*
8. Designated Senior World Cup and Grand Prix competitions: 9/1/2019 to selection date
9. 2019 Junior World Championships (Top 32 result)
10. 2019 Senior World Championships (Top 32 result)

Weight Value for the 2019 Senior and Junior World Championships =2.0

^In order to be eligible for the Junior World Championship TEAM event, athletes must register and make themselves available to fence in at least one Junior Team event during the 2019/2020 season (Junior World Cup team events and/or Junior Pan American Zonal Team event).

If selected, athletes must actually be present at one Junior Team event during the 2019/2020 season (Junior World Cup team event and/or Junior Pan American Zonal Team event).

8.6 2020 Junior Women’s Epee Pan American Zonal Championships
TBD, 2020 – TBD

POSTED: May 8, 2019

SELECTION DATE: TBD

SELECTION: The top four registered fencers as of the selection date will be selected as members of the Junior Pan American Zonal Championship 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 not on any National Point Standings will be ranked according to USA Fencing classification. If ties remain, fencers will be chosen by drawing lots.

*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, but registration for all events must be done online.

8.7 2020 Cadet Women’s Epee World Championships
April 3-11, 2020 – Salt Lake City, USA
SELECTION DATE: May 8, 2019

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

Should a fencer decline his or her selection for the event, the next highest ranked fencer will qualify based on the criteria. In the case of injury or illness, the next highest ranked fencer will qualify based on the criteria.

SUM OF GROUP I AND GROUP II

GROUP I = SUM OF THE FOUR HIGHEST POINTS EARNED AT 1-9
1. NAC Cadet: 9/1/2019 to selection Date
2. 2019 Cadet July Challenge
3. Junior Olympic Fencing Championships (Cadet): February, 2020
4. NAC Junior: 9/1/2019 to selection Date
5. 2019 Junior July Challenge
7. NAC Division I: 9/1/2019 to selection date*
8. 2019 Division I July Challenge*
9. Competitions specified in Group II below not included in Group II sum

GROUP 2 = SUM OF THE TWO HIGHEST POINTS EARNED AT 10-13
10. Designated Cadet International competitions: 9/1/2019 to selection date
11. Designated Junior World Cup competitions: 9/1/2019 to selection date
12. 2019 Cadet World Championships (Top 8 result)
13. 2019 Junior World Championships (Top 32 result)

Weight Value for the 2019 Cadet and Junior World Championships =2.0

*For cadet women’s epee, all Division I NAC and Championships (including the July Challenge) events will have a maximum weight value of .8.

8.8 2020 Cadet Women’s Epee Pan American Zonal Championships
TBD, 2020 – TBD

POSTED: May 8, 2019

SELECTION DATE: TBD

SELECTION: The top four registered fencers as of the selection date will be selected as members of the Cadet Pan American Zonal Championship Team. 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 remaining on the National Y14 Point Standings
4. All other athletes not on any National Point Standings will be ranked according to USA Fencing classification. If ties remain, fencers will be chosen by drawing lots.
*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

Notes:
- Points awarded at the 2019 April Division I National Championship will be considered for rolling points only for Junior and Cadet Women’s Foil.
- Points awarded for 33-64 placements at Senior, Junior and Cadet domestic competitions will be considered for rolling points only.
- For any international designated event that does not meet the FIE criteria (see FIE Organization rule o.4) points will be calculated according to the strength factor formula and be considered in Group I, unless otherwise specified in selection criteria.

9.2 2020 Senior Women’s Foil Olympic Games

July 24-August 9, 2020 – Tokyo, Japan

POSTED: May 8, 2019

SELECTION DATE: At the conclusion of the Division I National Championship

SELECTION: The top three athletes on the National Senior Team Point Standings will be selected for the 2020 Olympic Team and be eligible to compete in the individual and team competitions. The fourth athlete on the National Senior Team Point Standings will be selected as the replacement athlete for the team competition only.

SUM OF GROUP I AND GROUP II

GROUP I = SUM OF THE TWO HIGHEST POINTS EARNED AT 1-3
1. NAC Division I: 9/1/2019 to selection date
2. 2020 Division I National Championship
3. Competitions specified in Group II below not included in Group II sum

GROUP 2 = SUM OF THE FOUR HIGHEST POINTS EARNED AT 4-5
4. Designated Senior World Cup and Grand Prix competitions: 5/1/2019 to selection date
   (MAXIMUM of TWO 33-64 results count in Group II)
5. 2019 Senior World Championships (Top 32 result)

Weight Value for the 2019 Senior World Championships =2.0

The 2019 Division I July Challenge will count for rolling points only.

Official FIE 2020 Olympic Games qualification system can be found HERE.

*Should USA Fencing fail to qualify a Team for the 2020 Olympic Games, athletes will be nominated by name using the official FIE 2020 Olympic Games qualification system found HERE.
9.3 2020 Senior Women’s Foil Pan American Zone Olympic Qualifying Event
TBD, 2020 – TBD

POSTED: May 8, 2019

SELECTION DATE: April 4, 2020

SELECTION: If the USA fails to qualify a team or any individuals through the official FIE 2020 Olympic Games qualification system found HERE, the top one fencer on the National Senior Team Point Standings will qualify for the Pan American Zone Olympic Qualifying Event.

SUM OF GROUP I AND GROUP II GROUP I = SUM OF THE TWO HIGHEST POINTS EARNED AT 1-2
   1. NAC Division I: 9/1/2019 to selection date
   2. Competitions specified in Group II below not included in Group II sum

GROUP 2 = SUM OF THE FOUR HIGHEST POINTS EARNED AT 3-4
   3. Designated Senior World Cup and Grand Prix competitions: 5/1/2019 to selection date (MAXIMUM of TWO 33-64 results count in Group II)
   4. 2019 Senior World Championships (Top 32 result)

Weight Value for the 2019 Senior World Championships =2.0

The 2019 Division I July Challenge will count for rolling points only.

9.4 2020 Senior Women’s Foil Pan American Zonal Championships
June, 2020 – TBD

POSTED: May 8, 2019

SELECTION DATE: At the conclusion of the Division I National Championship

SELECTION: The top four fencers on the National Senior Team Points Standings will be selected as members of the Senior Pan American Zonal Championships Team and 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 USOPC Athlete Advisory Council (AAC) and the Director of Sports Performance (or, in his or her absence, the Executive Director). At the time of replacement, the National Weapon Coach must also name which fencer will be replaced. 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 selected individual fencers becomes injured and the fifth fencer named to the team is the first alternate for the individual competition).

Should a fencer decline his or her selection for the individual or team event, the next highest ranked fencer will qualify based on the criteria. In the case of injury or illness, the next highest ranked fencer will qualify based on the criteria.

**SUM OF GROUP I AND GROUP II**

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

1. NAC Division I: 9/1/2019 to selection date
2. 2020 Division I National Championship
3. Competitions specified in Group II below not included in Group II sum

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

4. Designated Senior World Cup and Grand Prix competitions: 5/1/2019 to selection date (MAXIMUM of TWO 33-64 results count in Group II)
5. 2019 Senior World Championships (Top 32 result)

Weight Value for the 2019 Senior World Championships =2.0

The 2019 Division I July Challenge will count for rolling points only.

### 9.5 2020 Junior Women’s Foil World Championships

**April 3-11, 2020 – Salt Lake City, USA**

**POSTED:** May 8, 2019; updated August 1, 2019

**SELECTION DATE:** At the conclusion of the Junior Olympic Championship

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

The National Weapon Coach may select a fifth fencer ranked 5th through 8th on the National 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 USOPC Athlete Advisory Council (AAC) and the Director of Sports Performance (or, in his or her absence, the Executive Director). At the time of replacement, the National Weapon Coach must also name which fencer will be replaced. 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 selected individual fencers becomes injured and the fifth fencer named to the team is the first alternate for the individual competition).

Should a fencer decline his or her selection for the individual or team event, the next highest ranked fencer will qualify based on the criteria. In the case of injury or illness, the next highest ranked fencer will qualify based on the criteria.
SUM OF GROUP I AND GROUP II
GROUP I = SUM OF THE FOUR HIGHEST POINTS EARNED AT 1-6
1. NAC Junior: 9/1/2019 to selection Date
2. 2019 Junior July Challenge
3. Junior Olympic Fencing Championships (Junior): February, 2020
4. NAC Division I: 9/1/2019 to selection date
5. 2019 Division I July Challenge
6. Competitions specified in Group II below not included in Group II sum

GROUP II = SUM OF THE THREE HIGHEST POINTS EARNED AT 7-10
7. Designated Junior World Cup competitions: 9/1/2019 to selection date*^%
8. Designated Senior World Cup and Grand Prix competitions: 9/1/2019 to selection date
9. 2019 Junior World Championships (Top 16 result)
10. 2019 Senior World Championships (Top 32 result)

Weight Value for the 2019 Senior and Junior World Championships = 2.0
*All Designated Junior World Cups, except for the January 25-26, 2020 Junior World Cup held in the USA, will have a minimum strength factor of 1.2.
%The January 25-26, 2020 Junior World Cup held in the USA will have a minimum strength factor of .8 and will only count for junior women’s foil.

^In order to be eligible for the Junior World Championship TEAM event, athletes must register and make themselves available to fence in at least one Junior Team event during the 2019/2020 season (Junior World Cup team events and/or Junior Pan American Zonal Team event). If selected, athletes must actually be present at one Junior Team event during the 2019/2020 season (Junior World Cup team event and/or Junior Pan American Zonal Team event).

9.6 2020 Junior Women’s Foil Pan American Zonal Championships
TBD, 2020 – TBD

POSTED: May 8, 2019

SELECTION DATE: TBD

SELECTION: The top four registered fencers as of the selection date will be selected as members of the Junior Pan American Zonal Championship 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 not on any National Point Standings will be ranked according to USA Fencing classification. If ties remain, fencers will be chosen by drawing lots.

* 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, but registration for all events must be done online.
9.7 2020 Cadet Women’s Foil World Championships
April 3-11, 2020 – Salt Lake City, USA

POSTED: May 8, 2019

SELECTION DATE: At the conclusion of the Junior Olympic Championship

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

Should a fencer decline his or her selection for the event, the next highest ranked fencer will qualify based on the criteria. In the case of injury or illness, the next highest ranked fencer will qualify based on the criteria.

SUM OF GROUP I AND GROUP II

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

1. NAC Cadet: 9/1/2019 to selection Date
2. 2019 Cadet July Challenge
3. Junior Olympic Fencing Championships (Cadet): February, 2020
4. NAC Junior: 9/1/2019 to selection Date
5. 2019 Junior July Challenge
7. NAC Division I: 9/1/2019 to selection date
8. 2019 Division I July Challenge
9. Competitions specified in Group II below not included in Group II sum

GROUP 2 = SUM OF THE THREE HIGHEST POINTS EARNED AT 10-13

10. Designated Cadet International competitions: 9/1/2019 to selection date
11. Designated Junior International competitions: 9/1/2019 to selection date*^*^ 
12. 2019 Cadet World Championships (Top 8 result)
13. 2019 Junior World Championships (Top 16 result)

Weight Value for the 2019 Cadet and Junior World Championships =2.0

*All Designated Junior World Cup events will have a minimum strength factor of 1.2.

^The January 25-26, 2020 Junior World Cup held in the USA is not designated for cadet women’s foil. Points earned will only be reflected in the junior women’s foil rankings (not cadet women’s foil rankings).

9.8 2020 Cadet Women’s Foil Pan American Zonal Championships
TBD, 2020 – TBD

POSTED: May 8, 2019

SELECTION DATE: TBD

SELECTION: The top four registered fencers as of the selection date will be selected as members of the Cadet Pan American Zonal Championship Team. 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 remaining on the National Y14 Point Standings
4. All other athletes not on any National Point Standings will be ranked according to USA Fencing classification. If ties remain, fencers will be chosen by drawing lots.

*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

Notes:
- Points awarded at the 2019 April Division I National Championship will be considered for rolling points only for Junior and Cadet Women’s Saber.
- Points awarded for 33-64 placements at Senior, Junior and Cadet domestic competitions will be considered for rolling points only.
- For any international designated event that does not meet the FIE criteria (see FIE Organization rule o.4) points will be calculated according to the strength factor formula and be considered in Group I, unless otherwise specified in selection criteria.

10.2 2020 Senior Women’s Saber Olympic Games
July 24-August 9, 2020 – Tokyo, Japan

POSTED: May 8, 2019

SELECTION DATE: At the conclusion of the Division I National Championship or the 2020 Seoul Grand Prix, whichever event is later.

SELECTION: The top three athletes on the National Senior Team Point Standings will be selected for the 2020 Olympic Team and be eligible to compete in the individual and team competitions. The fourth athlete on the National Senior Team Point Standings will be selected as the replacement athlete for the team competition only.

SUM OF GROUP I AND GROUP II

GROUP I = SUM OF THE TWO HIGHEST POINTS EARNED AT 1-3
1. NAC Division I: 9/1/2019 to selection date
2. 2020 Division I National Championship
3. Competitions specified in Group II below not included in Group II sum

GROUP 2 = SUM OF THE FIVE HIGHEST POINTS EARNED AT 4-5
1. Designated Senior World Cup and Grand Prix competitions: 5/1/2019 to selection date (MAXIMUM of TWO 33-64 results count in Group II)
2. 2019 Senior World Championships (Top 16 result)
Weight Value for the 2019 Senior World Championships = 2.0

The 2019 Division I July Challenge will count for rolling points only.

Official FIE 2020 Olympic Games qualification system can be found [HERE](#).

*Should USA Fencing fail to qualify a Team for the 2020 Olympic Games, athletes will be nominated by name using the official FIE 2020 Olympic Games qualification system found [HERE](#).*

### 10.3 2020 Senior Women’s Saber Pan American Zone Olympic Qualifying Event

**TBD, 2020 – TBD**

**POSTED:** May 8, 2019

**SELECTION DATE:** April 4, 2020

**SELECTION:** If the USA fails to qualify a team or any individuals through the official FIE 2020 Olympic Games qualification system found [HERE](#), the top one fencer on the National Senior Team Point Standings will qualify for the Pan American Zone Olympic Qualifying Event.

**SUM OF GROUP I AND GROUP II**

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

1. NAC Division I: 9/1/2019 to selection date
2. Competitions specified in Group II below not included in Group II sum

**GROUP 2 = SUM OF THE FIVE HIGHEST POINTS EARNED AT 3-4**

3. Designated Senior World Cup and Grand Prix competitions: 5/1/2019 to selection date (MAXIMUM of TWO 33-64 results count in Group II)
4. 2019 Senior World Championships (Top 16 result)

Weight Value for the 2019 Senior World Championships = 2.0

The 2019 Division I July Challenge will count for rolling points only.

### 10.4 2020 Senior Women’s Saber Pan American Zonal Championships

**June, 2020 – TBD**

**POSTED:** May 8, 2019

**SELECTION DATE:** At the conclusion of the Division I National Championship or the 2020 Seoul Grand Prix, whichever event is later.

**SELECTION:** The top four fencers on the National Senior Team Points Standings will be selected as members of the Senior Pan American Zonal Championships Team and 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 USOPC Athlete Advisory Council (AAC) and the Director of Sports Performance (or, in his or her absence, the Executive Director). At the time of
replacement, the National Weapon Coach must also name which fencer will be replaced. 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 selected individual fencers becomes injured and the fifth fencer named to the team is the first alternate for the individual competition).

Should a fencer decline his or her selection for the individual or team event, the next highest ranked fencer will qualify based on the criteria. In the case of injury or illness, the next highest ranked fencer will qualify based on the criteria.

**SUM OF GROUP I AND GROUP II**
GROUP I = SUM OF THE TWO HIGHEST POINTS EARNED AT 1-3
1. NAC Division I: 9/1/2019 to selection date
2. 2020 Division I National Championship
3. Competitions specified in Group II below not included in Group II sum

GROUP 2 = SUM OF THE FIVE HIGHEST POINTS EARNED AT 4-5
4. Designated Senior World Cup and Grand Prix competitions: 5/1/2019 to selection date
   (MAXIMUM of TWO 33-64 results count in Group II)
5. 2019 Senior World Championships (Top 16 result)

Weight Value for the 2019 Senior World Championships = 2.0

The 2019 Division I July Challenge will count for rolling points only.

**10.5 2020 Junior Women’s Saber World Championships**
April 3-11, 2020 – Salt Lake City, USA

**POSTED:** May 8, 2019; updated August 1, 2019

**SELECTION DATE:** At the conclusion of the Junior Olympic Championship or the 2020 Junior Pan American Zonal Championship, whichever event is later.

**SELECTION:** The top four fencers on the National Junior Team Points Standings will be selected as members of the Junior World Championship Team and be eligible to compete in the individual competition. The National Weapon Coach may select a fifth fencer ranked 5th through 8th on the National 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 USOPC Athlete Advisory Council (AAC) and the Director of Sports Performance (or, in his or her absence, the Executive Director). At the time of replacement, the National Weapon Coach must also name which fencer will be replaced. 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 selected individual fencers becomes injured and the fifth fencer named to the team is the first alternate for the individual competition).

Should a fencer decline his or her selection for the individual or team event, the next highest ranked fencer will qualify based on the criteria. In the case of injury or illness, the next highest ranked fencer will qualify based on the criteria.
SUM OF GROUP I AND GROUP II

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

1. NAC Junior: 9/1/2019 to selection Date
2. 2019 Junior July Challenge
3. Junior Olympic Fencing Championships (Junior): February, 2020
4. NAC Division I: 9/1/2019 to selection date#
5. 2019 Division I July Challenge
6. 2020 Junior Pan American Zonal Championships (Top 8 result. Domestic Junior DE points table will be used to award points. Athletes who enter the 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 2 = SUM OF THE THREE HIGHEST POINTS EARNED AT 8-11

8. Designated Junior World Cup competitions: 9/1/2019 to selection date^  
9. Designated Senior World Cup and Grand Prix competitions: 9/1/2019 to selection date  
   (Maximum of TWO 33-64 results count in Group II)
10. 2019 Junior World Championships (Top 16 result)
11. 2019 Senior World Championships (Top 32 result)

Weight Value for the 2019 Senior and Junior World Championships =2.0

#The December NAC Division I women’s saber event will have a maximum weight value of .8 for junior fencers.

^In order to be eligible for the Junior World Championship TEAM event, athletes must register and make themselves available to fence in at least one Junior Team event during the 2019/2020 season (Junior World Cup team events and/or Junior Pan American Zonal Team event). If selected, athletes must actually be present at one Junior Team event during the 2019/2020 season (Junior World Cup team event and/or Junior Pan American Zonal Team event).

10.6 2020 Junior Women’s Saber Pan American Zonal Championships
TBD, 2020 – TBD

POSTED: May 8, 2019

SELECTION DATE: TBD

SELECTION: The top four registered fencers as of the selection date will be selected as members of the Junior Pan American Zonal Championship Team. 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 not on any National Point Standings will be ranked according to USA Fencing classification. If ties remain, fencers will be chosen by drawing lots.

*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, but registration for all events must be done online.

10.7 2020 Cadet Women’s Saber World Championships
April 3-11, 2020 – Salt Lake City, USA

POSTED: May 8, 2019

SELECTION DATE: At the conclusion of the Junior Olympic Championship

SELECTION: The top three fencers on the National Cadet Team Points Standings will be selected as members of the Cadet World Championship Team and be eligible to compete in the individual competition. Should a fencer decline his or her selection for the event, the next highest ranked fencer will qualify based on the criteria. In the case of injury or illness, the next highest ranked fencer will qualify based on the criteria.

SUM OF GROUP I AND GROUP II

GROUP I = SUM OF THE THREE HIGHEST POINTS EARNED AT 1-9
1. NAC Cadet: 9/1/2019 to selection Date
2. 2019 Cadet July Challenge
3. Junior Olympic Fencing Championships (Cadet): February, 2020
4. NAC Junior: 9/1/2019 to selection Date
5. 2019 Junior July Challenge
7. NAC Division I: 9/1/2019 to selection date
8. 2019 Division I July Challenge
9. Competitions specified in Group II below not included in Group II sum

GROUP II = SUM OF THE FOUR HIGHEST POINTS EARNED AT 10-15
10. Designated Cadet International competitions: 9/1/2019 to selection date (Best TWO results only; results only count in Group II, no carryover to Group I)
11. Designated Junior International competitions: 9/1/2019 to selection date
12. Designated Senior World Cup and Grand Prix competitions: 9/1/2019 to selection date (Maximum of TWO 33-64 results count in Group II)
13. 2019 Cadet World Championships (Top 8 result)
14. 2019 Junior World Championships (Top 16 result)
15. 2019 Senior World Championships (Top 32 result)

Weight Value for the 2019 Cadet, Junior and Senior World Championships =2.0

10.8 2020 Cadet Women’s Saber Pan American Zonal Championships
TBD, 2020 – TBD

POSTED: May 8, 2019

SELECTION DATE: TBD

SELECTION: The top four registered fencers as of the selection date will be selected as members of the Cadet Pan American Zonal Championship Team. 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 remaining on the National Y14 Point Standings
4. All other athletes not on any National Point Standings will be ranked according to USA Fencing classification. If ties remain, fencers will be chosen by drawing lots.

* 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 2020 Veteran World Championships, a 2019-2020 FIE License is required). At this time, individual athletes participating in the Veterans World Championships are responsible for funding their trip and expenses.

11.2 Eligibility

Must be a U.S. citizen at the time of selection, which is immediately following the conclusion of the athlete’s respective qualification event at 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>2017</th>
<th>2018</th>
<th>2019</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>70+</td>
<td>1947 and before</td>
<td>1948 and before</td>
<td>1950 and before</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</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 in 10 touch bouts.

   Should the results of the round robin produce a tie between two fencers, an additional 10 touch bout with
   two, three minute periods will be held to resolve the tie. If the round robin produces a tie between more
   than two fencers, an additional round robin will be held to break the tie. The 10 touch bout (for ties
   between two fencers) and round robin (ties between multiple fencers) format will continue until the tie is
   fully resolved.

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 - Parafencing

12.1 Parafencing Competitions
USA Fencing organizes two NAC para tournaments each season, held in conjunction with the October and January NACs; the National Parafencing 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 parafencer.

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 January 1 in the year of the competition (see Table 2.5.1). There is no maximum age limit.

12.3 Rules
USA Parafencing operates under IWAS Rules: usafencing.org/rules

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

12.4 Competition

12.4.1 Events

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

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 for seeding and 2.16 for format information.

12.6 Parafencing Point Standings

Parafencing National points are earned at the North American Cups, Wheelchair National Championships, World Cups, World Championships and Zonal Championships. U.S. athletes will receive points using the following formulas:

**Domestic Points** - (entries – place +1) / # entries) x 100 points
The winner of each NAC, regardless of size of field, will earn 100 points.

**International Points** – For International events with >10 athletes, the following formula will be used:
(#entries – place +1) / # entries) x 200 points

The winner of an event with >10 athletes will earn 200 points

For International events with 11-20 athletes, the following formula will be used: (#entries – place +1) / # entries) x 250 points

The winner of an event with 11-20 athletes will earn 250 points

For International events with <20 athletes, the following formula will be used: (#entries – place +1) / # entries) x 300 points

The winner of an event with <20 athletes will earn 300 points

The resulting standings of the wheelchair fencers in each category (A, B, C) are used for selecting athletes for international competitions, when entries are limited.

12.7 2019-2020 Parafencing Selection Criteria

IWAS World Cup entries are not limited in number and any interested, classification-eligible athlete may attend.Registrations must be processed by the USA Fencing National Office.

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

If IWAS hosts an entry-limited event, the following criteria will be used:

**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 Para National Points only within the athlete’s parafencing category (A, B, or C).

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

For additional information, contact the USA Fencing National office at international@usafencing.org.
Chapter 13 - Disciplinary Procedures and Dispute Resolution

13.1 General Disciplinary Procedures

13.1.1 Scope of General Disciplinary Procedures

Chapter 13 concerns procedures for the resolution of grievances and the discipline of USA Fencing members, and National Team Disciplinary Procedures. The procedure in this Chapter will be used to file the following types of grievances:

a. Administrative Grievance. USA Fencing or any member of USA Fencing may file a complaint pertaining to any matter within the jurisdiction of USA Fencing, including but not limited to any alleged violation of or grievance concerning: (i) any USA Fencing rule or regulation, (ii) any USA Fencing program or service, (iii) any provision of USA Fencing’s Bylaws, or (iv) any provision of the Ted Stevens Olympic and Amateur Sports Act.

b. Disciplinary Proceeding. USA Fencing or any member of USA Fencing may file a complaint against any member of USA Fencing, or former member of USA Fencing if the action occurred while the person or club was a member, regarding any alleged violation of USA Fencing’s Codes of Conduct, USA Fencing’s SafeSport Policy, or any other rule or regulation relating to conduct.

c. Right to Participate. Any athlete, coach, trainer, manager, administrator or official may file a complaint pertaining to any alleged denial, or alleged threat to deny, of that individual’s opportunity to participate in a USA Fencing competition or protected competition. Any such athlete, official or coach may file a protest or complaint pertaining to any such denial of that individual’s opportunity to participate in a USA Fencing National Team program.

Provided, however:

• If the proposed discipline involves, or may involve the USA Fencing member being removed from a USA Fencing or USOPC team, or being precluded from an opportunity to compete at any event, then, except as otherwise provided herein the National Team Disciplinary Procedures (13.2.3) adopted by USA Fencing shall be utilized;

• Any protest or complaint by a USA Fencing National Team Coach who has a separate contract with USA Fencing shall be governed by and handled as provided in that contract;

• If a member of USA Fencing is on a team representing USA Fencing or the USOPC, 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, as set forth in the Expedited Discipline Procedures set forth in Chapter 13.1.8 or in other procedures adopted by the USOPC; and

• A final decision of a referee or tournament official or other authority during a competition regarding a matter governed by the USA Fencing Rules of Competition and within the jurisdiction of the referee, official or authority under such Rules, shall not be reviewable through, or the subject of, these complaint procedures. Allegations of fraud, corruption, collusion or other comparable misconduct of a USA Fencing referee in violation of the Referee Code of Conduct shall fall under the initial jurisdiction of the Referee Commission. Other complaints or grievances are subject to these complaint procedures without regard to whether the respondent is a referee or tournament official.
13.2 Manner of Filing

The complainant shall file the written complaint with the USA Fencing Ethics Committee or the USA Fencing National Office. When filing a report for SafeSport violations, individuals should use the “USA FENCING SAFESPORT ABUSE/MISCONDUCT REPORTING FORM” located [here](#). SafeSport complaints can be made anonymously and are not subject to the signature requirement. The complaint, shall set forth in clear and concise language:

a. The name and addresses of the parties;
b. Alleged violations, grievance, denial or threat to deny,
c. The facts which support the allegations,
d. The legal basis which supports the relief requested

A complaint that is filed that is not in accordance with 13.2, will render the filing ineffective and the complaint will be considered not to have been filed.

13.2.1 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 others, students, coaches, or clubmates will be directly affected by the outcome of a panel hearing. If all persons complaining and responding to a complaint or protest agree, the “Disinterested” requirement may be waived.

• “Executive Director” shall mean the Executive Director or Chief Executive Officer, as the case may be, of USA Fencing or his or her designee.

• “Panel” shall mean a panel consisting of not less than three (3) Disinterested USA Fencing members (one or more of whom may, but need not be members of the Board of Directors). At least 20 percent of the membership of the Panel shall be USOPC Athletes as defined in this chapter, provided, however, no USOPC Athlete 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 or by the President’s Disinterested designee.

• “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.

• “USOPC” shall mean the United States Olympic and Paralympic Committee.
• "USOPC 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 or has finished in the top half of the USA Fencing’s Division 1 points list in the previous twenty four months.

Procedures

A. At the request of the President, Treasurer, General Counsel or Board of Directors of USA Fencing, a Panel shall be appointed under these Procedures to resolve grievances or disciplinary issues.

B. If the person selecting the Panel deems it appropriate, or at the request of the Chair of the Panel, USA Fencing shall designate a person to present evidence and argument to the Panel on its behalf, including but not limited to the type(s) of sanctions that USA Fencing believes are appropriate for the alleged infraction.

C. The Executive Director shall inform the parties 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 requested or imposed.

D. If any party shall object to any member of the Panel on cognizable grounds such as lack of Disinterest, bias or incapacity, then that party shall inform the person that named the Panel, who shall have the discretion to replace the Panel member, subject to further objection to the named replacement on cognizable grounds.

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 parties of the date, time and place of the Hearing, and the manner in which the Hearing shall take place. The Hearing may be held in person, by teleconference, or as may otherwise be directed by the Chair of the Panel.

F. The Hearing may be adjourned from time to time as deemed necessary by the Chair of the Panel in order to obtain additional information, obtain testimony from witnesses or receive written submissions from any party. At or prior to the Hearing, if available, all parties 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 telephone or video, or by written declarations or affidavit. Witnesses testifying by affidavit or declaration shall be subject to cross-examination as provided herein.

H. Parties shall have the rights at any hearing:

   a. To appear personally and be represented by counsel or other representative of his or her choosing.

   b. To cross-examine all witnesses and present additional relevant, competent and non-cumulative evidence deemed admissible by the Chair.

   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.
I. 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.

J. 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, expulsion or ineligibility of the accused 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.

K. 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.

L. OTHER RIGHTS OF THE ACCUSED – Persons potentially subjected to discipline shall have the rights set forth herein and set forth in the Bylaws of USA Fencing, the Constitution and Bylaws of the United States Olympic and Paralympic Committee, and the Ted Stevens Olympic and Amateur Sports Act.

M. EXPENSES OF THE ACCUSED – Except as otherwise provided by the Board, all expenses of the accused in connection with any proceeding hereunder, including counsel, travel and any transcription costs, shall be their own responsibility. The hearing shall be transcribed only at the request of the accused and then at his or her expense. Audio or video recordings of the hearing shall not be permitted. Except in connection with any appeal or except as required by any legal process or court order, the record of the hearing shall be kept confidential by the parties and the Panel.

N. APPEALS TO THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS – Decisions of the Panel may be appealed to the Board of Directors of USA Fencing or its designee, of which at least 20% must be USOPC athletes as defined in this chapter. Any such appeal shall be conducted on the record of the Panel hearing, including but not limited to the Panel’s report, and not by a hearing de novo. The parties shall have the right to present argument to the Board or its designee, but not new evidence, in connection with the appeal. The Board of Directors, or its designee, may approve, disapprove or modify the sanction proposed or directed by the Panel. Unless it elects to impose a more stringent sanction than that recommended by the Panel, the Board shall not be required to provide a written opinion or otherwise explain its decision.

O. APPEALS TO ARBITRATION - Subject to the provisions herein, any party may appeal to the American Arbitration Association (AAA) a decision of the USA Fencing Board of Directors or its designee that approves or modifies sanctions recommended by a Panel.

To initiate such an appeal, the appealing party shall, within fifteen (15) days of receiving the decision in question, file a claim with the AAA with notice to USA FENCING. The arbitrator(s) appointed by the AAA shall have the authority to decide the matter in accordance with the Commercial Rules of the AAA, as provided for by the Ted Stevens Olympic and Amateur Sports Act, as amended from time to time (36 U.S.C. §§ 220501 et seq.). Untimely appeals shall be of no force or effect, and arbitrators shall have no jurisdiction to consider them or to extend the deadlines for filing. The person commencing the arbitration shall be responsible for any filing fees of the American Arbitration Association, but the fees may be apportioned by the arbitrator(s) pursuant to the Commercial Rules of the AAA. To the extent arbitration hearings or proceedings are conducted, all such arbitration hearings or proceedings shall be conducted in Colorado Springs, Colorado. However, for good cause shown by
clear and convincing evidence, a party may petition the arbitrator(s) to conduct the hearing or proceedings in a different location.

Hearings and proceedings may be conducted telephonically if permitted by the arbitrator(s). The arbitration shall be conducted on the record of the Panel hearing, including but not limited to the Panel’s report, and not by a hearing *de novo*, except upon a showing by clear and convincing evidence that the procedures at the Panel hearing deprived the accused of procedural due process. The standard of review of the Panel’s decision, and of any decision by the Board or its designee to modify the sanctions recommended by the Panel in a manner detrimental to the accused, shall be arbitrary and capricious.

The arbitration shall be governed by the laws of the State of Colorado and the United States. The arbitrator(s) will have no authority or jurisdiction to award compensatory, consequential, punitive or exemplary damages, and any demand for such damages shall be a nullity. Except for AAA fees as provided for above, each party shall bear his, her or its own attorneys’ fees and other costs and expenses. The arbitrator(s) shall issue a reasoned decision explaining the award. The award of the arbitrator(s) shall be final, binding and conclusive on all parties.

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

13.3.1  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. AntiDoping 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 USOPC will consider a waiver to those fencers who can demonstrate that they could become citizens before the final selection competition of USA Fencing.

13.3.2  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 including coaches, administrators or other staff:

- 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.

To the extent any such measure is taken against a fencer or cadre member by USOPC, then the procedures of USOPC and not these Expedited Grievance Steps, shall apply.

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:
  o The issues or allegations which have been referred to the Team Panel.
  o 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:
  o To appear personally and be represented by counsel at the Hearing.
  o To cross-examine all witnesses and present any additional relevant evidence.
  o To testify on his/her own behalf, or remain silent.
  o 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 USOPC, including the right to seek the intervention of the USOPC CEO or to submit any dispute to arbitration.

13.2.3 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.

13.2.3 (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 (b) 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 in international fencing competition or has a material chance of representing USA Fencing in international fencing competition in the near future, when pursuing his or her own interests; the parent or guardian of a minor fencer, acting as the minor fencer’s representative, where the minor fencer is a current representative of USA Fencing in international fencing competition or has 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: \textit{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.

F. 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.

G. 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.

H. 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.

I. 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.

J. 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 and Paralympic 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 and Paralympic Committee (USOPC);

• 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 USOPC 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.
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 and Paralympic Committee (USOPC), 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 USOPC, 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 Member Code of Conduct

As a member of USA Fencing, I am committed to fair competition and respect for other members, including athletes, coaches, referees, volunteers, tournament officials, spectators and fans. I understand that sportsmanship is a key tenant of competition and will exhibit the qualities of sportsmanship at all times. I will:

• Act in a sportsmanlike manner consistent with the spirit of fair play and responsible conduct;

• Abide by all applicable USA Fencing rules and regulations, including USA Fencing’s SafeSport Policy, Athlete Handbook and Rulebook.

• Respect the rights, dignity and worth of all opponents, coaches, referees, officials, administrators, parents, fencers and spectators regardless of race, creed, color, religion, national origin, ethnicity, gender or sexual orientation.

• Support clean competition, including an environment free of doping, and will follow all applicable rules related to anti-doping as established by the United States Anti-Doping Agency, the World Anti-Doping Agency and the Federation International d’Escrime.

• Respect my competitors and other members of the fencing community in person or via electronic or phone communication or social media. Accordingly, I will not bully, harass or otherwise be disrespectful or disparaging to others.

• Remember that at all times I am an ambassador for the sport of fencing, whether in or out of competition.

Failure to comply with the USA Fencing Member Code of Conduct may result in disciplinary action. I have read the USA Fencing Coach Code of Conduct. I understand its requirements and agree to abide by the letter and spirit of the Code.

____________________   __________________
Signature                        Date

14.3.2 Coach Code of Conduct

As a coach in the sport of fencing, it is my duty to serve as a role model for the athletes I work with as well as all members of the fencing community. I accept the responsibility that comes with being in a position of authority and will do my best to help create a positive atmosphere for all involved in the sport.
I will:

• Abide by all applicable USA Fencing rules and regulations, including USA Fencing’s SafeSport Policy, Athlete Handbook and Rulebook.

• Conduct myself in a dignified, professional manner relating to emotions, language, attitude and actions.

• Respect the rights, dignity and worth of all opponents, other coaches, referees, officials, administrators, parents, fencers and spectators regardless of race, creed, color, religion, national origin, ethnicity, gender or sexual orientation.

• Not have any unwarranted physical contact with athletes.

• Address conflicts in a respectful manner and refrain from using profane, abusive, or derogatory language.

• Support clean competition, including an environment free of doping, and encourage fair play at all time.

• Understand my influence as a coach to be an educator and role model, imparting fencing knowledge as well as proper personal, academic, and social behaviors including sportsmanship.

• Be open to the latest coaching practices that take into account the principles of growth and development of fencers including maintaining knowledge of current rules and standards in fencing.

• Ensure that the emotional and physical well-being of my students and all participants in the sport with whom I engage is the highest priority and placed ahead of a personal desire to win or my personal gain.

Failure to comply with the USA Fencing Coach Code of Conduct may result in disciplinary action. I have read the USA Fencing Coach Code of Conduct. I understand its requirements and agree to abide by the letter and spirit of the Code.

__________________________________________________________  ________________________________
Signature                                                Date

14.3.3 USA Fencing Spectator Code of Conduct

As a spectator and supporter of the sport of fencing, I understand that it is my role to help create a positive and supportive environment for everyone involved in a tournament – both on and off the strip. I will:

• Display good sportsmanship by respecting athletes, coaches, referees, officials and other spectators.

• Act appropriately and remain orderly so I do not disturb the smooth running of the competition. I will remember to enjoy the competition – regardless of the outcome – and will not taunt or disturb other spectators.

• Abide by all applicable USA Fencing rules and regulations, including USA Fencing’s SafeSport Policy, Athlete Handbook and Rulebook.
• Support the referees and coaches by trusting their judgment and integrity. I understand that continually vocalizing criticism so that it detrimentally affects the good order of the competition is a violation of fencing rules.

• Be a role model by positively supporting athletes and not shouting instructions or criticism to the athletes, coaches or officials.

• Help provide a safe and fun environment for all participants.

• Encourage all competitors in a positive manner, remembering that the use of profanity and objectionable gestures are offensive and are prohibited.

• Be supportive after the competition – win or lose. I will recognize good efforts and sportsmanship.

I acknowledge that failure to comply with the USA Fencing Spectator Code of Conduct may result in removal from the venue or other disciplinary action. I understand its requirements and agree to abide by the letter and spirit of the Code.

__________________________
Signature

__________________________
Date

14.3.4 USA Fencing Code of Conduct for Parties in Disciplinary Proceedings

USA Fencing has been made aware that you are involved in an Ethics, SafeSport or other disciplinary complaint that has been submitted either to the US Center for Safe Sport (“Center”) or to a USA Fencing Disciplinary Panel (“Panel”) and that is currently under investigation. While the case is pending, and after it is resolved, the complaining and defending parties named in the complaint should adhere to the following standards of conduct. These do not assume the truth or falsity, validity or invalidity, of any fact, claim or defense alleged or asserted by any party. They are minimum standards for preventing disruption in our sport.

1. All parties shall at all times behave in a civil and respectful manner toward each other and toward all others involved in the proceeding.

2. Except as permitted by the relevant disciplinary authority (e.g., to prepare for or conduct the hearing of a claim or defense), no party shall communicate directly with an adverse party by any means concerning the subject matter of the proceeding. Nor shall any party cause another person to do so.

3. No party shall retaliate against or harass or intimidate another party, or cause another person to do so, for making or raising any allegation, claim or defense in the proceeding.

4. No party shall retaliate against or harass or intimidate any witness, or otherwise attempt to improperly influence another person’s testimony or cooperation in the proceeding.

5. During the pendency of the proceeding and any appeal therefrom, each party shall minimize communications and physical interactions with each adverse party, and limit them as much as reasonably possible to those necessary and appropriate to the parties’ respective activities involving or relating to the sport of fencing.
6. Adversity in a disciplinary proceeding creates a conflict of interest between opposing parties, pursuant to which, absent a mutual waiver by all parties or a contrary ruling from the Panel, a party must be disqualified from any position or activity in which he or she would have oversight or authority over his or her adversary. Such a conflict does not extend to students, teammates or club-mates of the adversary, absent sufficient evidence to the contrary.

7. The parties, may, in a writing signed by all of them, (i) waive such a conflict, in which event there shall be no disqualifications, or (ii) agree to the nature, scope and duration of disqualification.

8. Any of the parties to such a waiver or agreement may revoke it in writing, in which event it shall be of no further force or effect.

9. If there is no such waiver or agreement, or if it is revoked, then the Panel shall hear and determine any disputes concerning the nature, scope and duration of disqualification arising from a conflict described in this Paragraph 6, both as a preliminary matter and as part of its final report and recommendations. If the proceeding is before the Center, then a hearing officer appointed by the Executive Director shall hear and determine any such dispute as a preliminary matter, pending the Center’s final determination and any appeal therefrom.

10. If any of these standards of conduct are violated, then the violating party may be sanctioned by USA Fencing. If a party believes, based upon good cause, that the standards are insufficient to protect against harassment, abuse, intimidation, retaliation or emotional or physical distress, then the party may request other appropriate restrictions from the relevant Panel, from the Center if the proceeding is before it.

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

The U.S. Olympic and Paralympic Movement is committed to creating and maintaining a sport community where all persons who participate in sport programs and activities can work and learn together in an atmosphere free of misconduct. As a member National Governing Body of the United States Olympic and Paralympic Committee (“USOPC”), and pursuant to federal law, USA Fencing is required to adhere to the rules and regulations of the USOPC and of the U.S. Center for Safe Sport (the “Center”), which has promulgated its “SafeSport Code for the US Olympic and Paralympic Movement” (the “Code”). Pursuant to USA Fencing’s Bylaws as amended effective July 31, 2017, the Code superseded and replaced the USA Fencing SafeSport Policy, which has been amended and restated as set forth herein (the “Policy”).

The six primary types of misconduct remain as follows:

- Sexual Misconduct, including Child Sexual Abuse
- Emotional Misconduct
- Physical Misconduct
- Bullying
- Harassment
- Hazing

The Center now has the exclusive authority to investigate and resolve reports of (a) Sexual Misconduct, and (b) prohibited conduct that is reasonably related to the underlying allegation of Sexual Misconduct. Exclusive authority means (a) the Center will investigate such reports and manage any related hearing or arbitration; and (b) USA Fencing will not conduct its own investigation or disciplinary proceeding with respect to such reports, except as otherwise provided.

On written request of USA Fencing, the Center may, in its discretion, accept authority over one or more reports of any kind of conduct prohibited under the Code, in which event the Center’s jurisdiction over such alleged violations shall be exclusive.

USA Fencing retains jurisdiction over alleged misconduct that is not within the Center’s exclusive jurisdiction.

Reports of Sexual Misconduct may be made directly to the Center. They may also be made to USA Fencing, which will forward them to the Center for investigation and appropriate action, and will also report them to law enforcement as necessary or appropriate. Other kinds of alleged or suspected misconduct should be reported to USA Fencing as provided herein.

Individuals within the jurisdiction of USA Fencing are responsible for knowing the information, policies and procedures outlined in this Policy and the Code, both of which may be amended from time to time. Once posted online, changes are effective immediately unless otherwise noted.

I. INTRODUCTION

A. Application

This Policy and the Code apply to all Covered Individuals, as defined below, all of whom submit to the jurisdiction, policies and procedures of the Center, and of USA Fencing, as the case may be.

B. Online, email, cellular or other electronic media or digital conduct

This Policy may be applied to behavior conducted online or distributed electronically using email, text messages or any other electronic medium. This includes without limitation blogs, web postings, chats and social networking sites.

C. Age and competitive level irrelevant

Except as specifically noted, this Policy applies without respect to age or competitive level.

D. Other remedies
I. This Policy does not replace:
   a. the Ted Stevens Olympic and Amateur Sports Act;
   b. the employment practices of any relevant organization; or
   c. applicable federal or state law.

This Policy does not extend or restrict a person’s right to file charges or claims with any other agency, law enforcement, court or arbitral body. Individuals are encouraged to ensure their rights have not expired through these other avenues.

II. DEFINITIONS (refer to the USA Fencing SafeSport Policy for all 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.

Covered Individual
Any individual who: (a) currently is, or was at the time of a possible violation of this Policy, within the governance or disciplinary jurisdiction of USA Fencing or who is seeking to be within the governance or disciplinary jurisdiction of USA Fencing (e.g., through application for membership), (b) is an Athlete or Nonathlete Participant that USA Fencing or the USOPC formally authorizes, approves or appoints to a position of authority over Athletes or to have frequent contact with Athletes or (c) USA Fencing identifies as being within the Center’s jurisdiction. Without limiting the generality of this definition, “Covered Individuals” include, at a minimum:

1. USA Fencing employees;
2. USA Fencing members
3. Athletes USA Fencing designates for the USADA required testing pool (RTP);
4. Volunteers;
5. Contractors;
6. Medical staff/trainers;
7. Additional individuals USA Fencing identifies as being within its or the Center’s jurisdiction.

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

PROHIBITED CONDUCT
Constituents shall refrain from all forms of misconduct, which include:
• Sexual misconduct and abuse
• Emotional misconduct
• Physical misconduct
• Bullying
• Harassment
• Hazing
REQUIRED PREVENTION POLICIES

USA Fencing is required to implement the following athlete prevention policies:

A. One-on-One Interactions, including meetings and individual training sessions: Covered Organizations are required to establish reasonable procedures to limit one-on-one interactions, as set forth in federal law.
B. Medical Treatment
C. Locker rooms and changing areas
D. Social media and electronic communications
E. Local travel
F. Team travel.

These policies shall apply to:

1) Adult (age 18 or older) USA Fencing members at any facility that is either partially or fully under the jurisdiction of USA Fencing or any of its divisions or member clubs;
2) Adult USA Fencing members who have regular contact with amateur athletes who are minors;
3) Adults authorized by USA Fencing or any of its divisions or member clubs to have regular contact with or authority over an amateur athlete who is a minor; and 4) Adult staff and board members of USA Fencing. (“Applicable Adults”)

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

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

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International Point Tables – Senior, Junior, Cadet

Refer to Chapter 3, Chapters 5-10 for application.
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Determine points by multiplying actual strength factor (maximum value 2.0)
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*Junior – Determine points by multiplying actual strength factor (maximum value 2.0)
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Per USA Fencing, SYC National Points needs to be calculated at a 0.8 scale of the Youth NAC/Championship Table. Per USA Fencing, SJCC National Points needs to be calculated at a 0.2 scale of the Cadet and Junior NAC Table.
Regional boundaries will be reassessed each quadrennial in order to respond to the growth and shifts of the fencing membership throughout the country.
### USA Fencing Classification Reference Chart

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<td>25-32 → E</td>
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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.

### Black Card, Medical Withdrawal, or No-Show (updated black card information on page 148)

**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**

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.
Scoresheet Protests

In the event a scoresheet is protested to the bout committee during the course of a pool, or during the regular review period prior to the direct elimination round, the following policy will be followed:

- If both fencers agree, the scoresheet will be changed
- If both fencers do not agree:
  - The referee of the bout will be paged. If both fencers of the bout are not present, the absent fencer will be paged up to two times.
  - The bout by bout listing at the bottom of the scoresheet, if filled out, will be consulted. If the score recorded in the bout by bout listing confirms the score change requested, it will be changed.
  - If the bout by bout listing is not complete, the referee and bout committee representative will confer with the fencers.

If agreement cannot be reached, the recorded score stands. Referees may not change a scoresheet without both fencers present during a pool or any time prior to turning in the scoresheet to the bout committee. Fencer or spectator submitted video or photos are not valid score documents and will not be used by the bout committee. The standard review period will not be extended during the deliberation of the scoresheet correction. If consensus cannot be achieved prior to the end of the standard review period, the score recorded stands and no further protests will be considered.

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”
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 a 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. Local and Regional 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 0.17).
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 0.23-24).
3. There must be at least 50 percent 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 to a maximum of 5 touches and 3 minutes.
2. All direct elimination bouts must be 15 touches and three 3-minute periods, or 10 touches and two 3-minute periods for Veterans 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.
3. There must be at least 50 percent 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. Local sanctioned tournaments must be advertised for a minimum of fourteen days in order to have classification changes processed by the National Office. Club or division websites, social media, and public online tournament registration platforms are all valid methods of advertising. If the tournament is size restricted, as defined in the Competition Types below, it must be published 30 days in advance for classification changes to be processed by the National Office.
2. Format must be announced when published.
3. Format must be announced at the start of the tournament.

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 National Office 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 and the National Office, 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:
Tournament Committee subcommittee may 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.
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

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 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.

A local sanctioned tournament may cap their competitive field size at no less than 64 people. Should a local tournament institute a field size cap, it must be published at least 30 days in advance and any procedure used to let fencers in once the cap has been reach, such as a waitlist, must be documented and published at least 30 days in advance. Division qualifiers, RYCs, RJCCs, ROCs, SJCCs and SYCs may not cap entries. Restricted competitions may not be rated unless the restriction is based solely upon fencers' classifications or, USA Fencing age categories or division/region membership, or meet the size restrictions defined above.

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.

**Pool sizes for smaller competitive fields**

The following pool sizes should be used for regional and national competitions. When more than one option is listed below, it is at the discretion of the bout committee. The size of fields is followed by the pool sizes to be used.

- 9: one pool double stripped
- 10: two fives; or tripled strip one pool of 10
- 11: six and five
- 12: six and six
- 15: seven and eight; or three fives
- 16: two eights on at least three total strips; or five, five and six
- 17: two sixes and five
- 22: two sixes and two fives
- 29: four sixes and a five; or 3 sevens, and 1 eight double stripped

**Pan American Youth & Veteran Championship Selection Criteria**

If the Pan American Youth & Veteran Championship is held during the 2019-20 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 be 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).

In order to provide a safe environment for all USA Fencing members, including athletes, coaches, parents, referees and spectators, the USA Fencing Board of Directors approved updated black card policies to take effect on Oct. 18, 2019.

Updated Black Card Policy:
Per the Black Card Retention and Review Policy, black cards issued at tournaments at all levels will be tracked and monitored by the National Office and Ethics Committee. This includes local, regional and national tournaments.

All tournament organizers are to send any black card reports at the conclusion of the tournament to the USA Fencing National Office. This may be done either during the results upload through the USA Fencing database or via email at blackcard@usafencing.org.

All black cards must be reported and will be tracked, including black cards that were issued at the strip and later rescinded. Black cards given and rescinded will be recorded and must: 1) include the reason for the initial black card, 2) include rationale for the removal for the card clearly provided and 3) be stored in the black card database to be reviewed by the National Office and Ethics Committee.

All black cards will be categorized and tracked as Level 0 (Administrative and P Black Cards), Level 1 (Standard Black Card) or Level 2 (Severe Offenses).

In certain situations, as detailed below, a Black Card Review Group may be convened. The Black Card Review Group is comprised of two members each from the Tournament Committee, Athlete Council, Referee Commission and Ethics Committee to review both given and rescinded Black Cards annually and convene as needed in the cases of Level 2 and multiple Level 1 black cards received inside of the probation period.

The complete policy is as follows:

All black cards issued by tournament officials shall be tracked and draw additional action as follows, effective October 18, 2019:

Level 0, Administrative Black Cards
Administrative Black Cards are those given for failure to appear on the strip, for mid bout withdrawal, and when no disrespect, unsportsmanlike conduct or other aggravating elements are involved. Administrative black cards, while recorded, do not result in a follow-up email from the USA Fencing National Office or Ethics Committee. and do not put the individual in a probationary period.

Level 1, Standard Black Card
Standard Black Cards are those issued given for disrespect of referees, staff or other official personnel, unsportsmanlike conduct, throwing of equipment, disruptive behavior, issues of safety and other incidents that are
neither administrative nor so extreme or severe as to warrant a Level 2 Black Card. Standard black cards shall be recorded and stored in the USA Fencing National Office database and result in a follow-up email from the USA Fencing National Office (with copies to the Ethics Committee and Black Card Review Group), advising the individual that: 1) the black card has been recorded, 2) the individual has been placed on probation for the remainder of the current season plus 12 months, 3) the black card will be reviewed by National Office Staff and Ethics Committee, and 4) an additional Level 1 Black Card received during the probationary period will trigger a review by the Black Card Review Group, which can determine that the repeated violation warrants a Level 2 Black Card sanction of the individual.

Level 2, Severe Offenses
Level 2 Black Cards are those issued for extreme or severe offenses including but not limited to repeated Level 1 offenses, deliberate physical violence, verbal and verifiable threats, and verifiable cheating.

Level 2 Black Cards may trigger sanctions that could include, but not be limited to, temporary suspension of competition or full membership privileges for a period of up to two months. Such sanctions will be determined in the first instance by the Black Card Review Group. The Black Card Review Group shall make its initial determination upon written submissions required from the issuing referee and Head Referee, and from any written response thereto that the carded individual may timely submit. Following the initial determination, the individual, parent or guardian shall have the right to request a hearing, as set forth below. In the event a hearing is requested, any suspension of membership or competition privileges initially imposed shall be stayed pending the outcome of the hearing. As used herein, “individual” shall include his or her parent or guardian of record, in cases where the individual is a minor.

Promptly following a determination of the Black Card Review Group that upholds a Level 2 Black Card, the USA Fencing National Office shall transmit a follow-up email to the carded individual (with copies to the Ethics Committee and Black Card Review Group), advising the individual as follows:

1) The black card has been recorded.

2) If applicable, a sanction has been issued and recorded. The sanction(s) shall be described in detail.

3) The offending individual has been placed on probation for the rest of the current season plus an additional 12 months.

4) Any additional black cards received during the probationary period will trigger (i) the offending individual’s removal from the entirety of the tournament in which the subsequent black card was received and (ii) review by the Black Card Review Group for possible additional sanctions.

5) The individual may, within 5 business days of receiving the follow-up email, demand, via email to the National Office, Ethics Committee and Black Card Review Group, a hearing before the Black Card Review Group, or before members thereof who meet the requirements for a disciplinary panel as set forth in the Athlete Handbook, to challenge the Group’s initial determination. If the individual does not demand a hearing, then he or she shall be deemed to have accepted the initial determination. Any hearing demanded by the individual shall be conducted as provided in the Athlete Handbook. Following such hearing, the Black Card Review Group, or its selected members, whoever conducted the hearing, shall issue a final determination, which may adhere to its initial determination or impose measures either more or less stringent. Any suspension of membership or competition privileges shall be subject to Board review as set forth in the Bylaws. The individual shall have rights of appeal according to the procedures set forth in the Athlete Handbook.
Additional Tracking of Rescinded Black Cards
Black cards given and rescinded will be recorded. The referee issuing the rescinded black card, and the Head Referee for the relevant event must each, separately, submit a written report that sets forth in detail: 1) the reason for the initial Black Card, 2) the rationale for rescission of the black card and 3) any disagreement with such rescission. All such reports shall be stored in the Black Card database and available to be reviewed by the Referees’ Commission, National Office and Ethics Committee.

Black Card Review Group
The Black Card Review Group shall be comprised of two members each from the Tournament Committee, Athlete Council, Referees’ Commission and Ethics Committee. It shall review both given and rescinded Black Cards annually, and it shall convene promptly to review and conduct required proceedings with respect to all Level 2 black cards. The Black Card Review Group shall create, update, and maintain internal guidelines for how various black cards should be handled for how hearings will be conducted. The Black Carded Review Group shall react timely when reviewing cases.

Reference Links
USA Fencing Rule Book – Rule Book Video Referencing (t.42)
Safe Sport – Safe Sport
Anti-doping – www.usada.org/
FIE Rule Books – FIE Rule Book
RC Site – Referees’ Commission Website
Regional Calendar– http://www.usafencing.org/regional-events
National – https://www.usafencing.org/national-events-calendar
International – https://www.usafencing.org/international-calendar