

Umpires and Referees Committee Selection

Sub-committee (SSC)

Selection Policies and Procedures

October 20, 2018

1. General

- a. The purpose of the Selection Sub-committee (SSC) is to provide competent officials and to distribute assignments fairly.
- b. The SSC will select referees, other major officials and umpires for all 5 Star events and other National competitions such as Ranking events. The SSC will also select/approve officials for all foreign assignments.
- c. All officials appointed to any position must be active USATT members and active officials, including compliance with SafeSport, Background check and recertification.
- d. Consideration will be given to:
 - i) Maintaining qualification of International Referees (IRs) and preparing National Referees (NRs) to qualify as IRs.
 - ii) Maintaining qualification of Blue Badge umpires and those striving to attain that qualification.
- e. Referees and Chief Umpires (ChUs) and their deputies:
 - i) Will normally be selected 6 months in advance of the tournament.
 - ii) The SSC will take the initiative in selecting major officials rather than waiting for applications. Once the selections are completed, SSC Chair will notify URC Chair of the selection.

2. US Open Referees

US Open Referees will be appointed on a rotational basis among our active IRs. The referee whose last US Open assignment was longest ago will serve unless that referee is unavailable for a valid reason. If it is a valid reason, they will then be next on the list.

- a. Referees will normally be appointed six months in advance.

- b. We will develop a schedule so Referees will know when they are due to serve.

3. US Open Deputy Referees

- a. We will invite one foreign IR as Deputy Referee. The selected Referee will have a say as to who they would like as DR. The SSC will make the decision.
- b. We will select one US NR or IR, if NR is unavailable, as a 2nd deputy Referee.
- c. Assignments will be based on preparing NRs to qualify as IRs.

4. US Nationals Referees

- a. The Referee for the Nationals will normally be an NR or IR, if NR is unavailable.
- b. The Referee will normally have served as a Deputy Referee at the previous US Open.

5. US Nationals Deputy Referees

- a. We will appoint an NR or IR as a deputy.
- b. If the Referee is inexperienced the Deputy will be more experienced.
- c. We will normally invite Canada to provide an NR or IR as a 2nd deputy.

6. Chief Umpire (ChU) Open & Nationals

The SSC will select international umpires (IUs) as ChU and Deputy ChU at least one of whom has served before. There should also be some input from the Referee as to the selection of ChU and DChU.

7. Referees for other US tournaments

- a. US Ranking Tournaments.
 - i) IR or NR
 - ii) Proximity to trials location will be a consideration
 - iii) Coordination with the High-Performance Committee

- b. 3 and 4 Star Tournaments.
 - i) The tournament director is responsible for selecting a Referee subject to approval by the National Sanctioning Coordinator (NSC)
 - ii) The Referee should be an IR, NR, RR or a CR who is an IU or NU. After January 1, 2019 CR will not be qualified unless an exception is granted by the National Sanctioning Coordinator (NSC), currently Larry Thoman. (This exception is not in the Tournament Guide).
- c. 0 – 2 Star tournaments will be selected by the sponsoring club with approval of the Regional Sanctioning Coordinator (RSC).

8. Umpires US Open

- a. The number of umpires required will be based on the different competitions to be held.
- b. We should have approximately 40 umpires + additional requirements for other events.
- c. US will provide 18-20 umpires.
- d. The call for umpires will go out to all active umpires stipulating the priority for assignment.
- e. US umpires will normally be limited to IU, NU or RU.
- f. All umpires applying will be referred to the committee.
- g. If not enough IU, NU or RU apply we will consider club umpires (CU) to be selected by the committee. All club umpires must be recommended by a referee or tournament director unless the umpire has served before and has had a favorable evaluation.

9. Umpires US Nationals

- a. We should have approximately 35 umpires including 24 US umpires
- b. We will solicit IU, NU, RU and CU for the Nationals.
- c. The CU should be recommended by a Referee or tournament director unless the umpire has served before and has a favorable evaluation.

10. Foreign Assignments

- a. Foreign assignments will be selected by the SSC.
- b. Maximum participation by different officials is a goal. The selection process is not completed on a “rotational basis.”
- c. Only Referees and Umpires that have been active and effective at US Open and/or Nationals will be considered.
- d. If the ITTF or a host association requests a specific referee that referee will normally be assigned unless there is a valid reason. The assignment will be referred to the URC chair for approval by the URC.
- e. A non-specific invitation by a foreign association. The URC chair will put out a call for referee specifying:
 - i) Tournament name, date, location venue and visa requirements. Include the name of the Referee, if known.
 - ii) Selection criteria
 - iii) Application deadline and email address to send application.
 - iv) Expected date of selection announcement.
- f. Canadian tournaments. NRs and NUs are eligible and will be given consideration.
- g. Criteria in the invitation will be considered.
- h. Olympics and Paralympics.
 - i) The ITTF normally recommends an umpire and an alternate. All umpires for these competitions are Blue Badge.
 - ii) We will normally accept the ITTF recommended umpire.
 - iii) If the primary ITTF recommendation has umpired at a previous comparable competition we may select the alternate.
- i. Pan Am Games and Para Pan Am Games.
 - i) Priority will go to Blue Badge umpires.
 - ii) An umpire will not be selected if s/he has participated at a previous comparable competition unless no other qualified candidate is available.

- j. World Championships.
 - i) Deputy referees are invited by the ITTF subject to USATT approval.
 - ii) We will invite umpires as per the ITTF invitation.
 - iii) Priority will be given to umpires who have not attended before.
 - iv) Umpires who have worked these competitions will not be selected again if other qualified applications are received.
 - v) Consideration will be given to Blue Badge umpires or those pursuing that qualification. Umpires who have passed the AUT or ARE are considered Blue Badge in Progress (BBP) and will be considered with those already Blue Badge.

11. Other international assignments

- a. Maximum participation by different officials is a goal.
- b. If evaluations will be conducted, priority will be given to Blue Badge umpires needing evaluations to retain their BB qualification or BBP to receive their BB qualification.
- c. Umpires finding positions on the web and volunteering to attend at their own expense will normally be approved. The selection will still be voted and approved by SSC.

12. Conflict of Interest Policy

- a. Any member of the selection committee, who submits his /her name for an assignment, will not vote on the nominees for that assignment.
- b. We have two alternate members of the committee. They will be asked by the SSC Chair to vote when necessary.

13. Call for Umpires or Referees should include the following information:

- a. Tournament date and location
- b. Selection criteria
- c. Referee of the event if not a call for referee

- d. Compensation information (e.g. mileage, per diem)
- e. Arrival and departure information
- f. Any special information (e.g. referee/umpire briefing)
- g. Application deadline
- h. Email address to which applications should be sent
- i. Expected date of announcement of selection results

14. Appeals Procedure

- a. If any applicant believes that the selection result and/or process is unfair or incorrect that applicant can appeal to the URC chair with a copy to the SSC chair by email within 24 hours of announcement of the assignment. The appeal must include the basis for the appeal.
- b. The URC Chair will review the appeal. If the chair decides that it is legitimate s/he will contact the SSC chair and may direct that the SSC revote with specific attention to the submitted basis of appeal.
- c. A revote by the subcommittee is final.