Acknowledgements

REVIEW COMMITTEE:
In order to ensure accuracy of information and correctness of language and clarity of presentation, the following individuals were members of the review committee:

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Bradley Baker   Board of Directors
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Aaron Clements   Chair, ROC Advisory Group
Alex Wood    Chair, National Team Oversight Committee
Soren Thompson   Chair, Athlete Advisory Group
Jennie Salmon   Chair, Youth Development Committee
Bill Becker    Chair, Tournament Oversight Committee
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Kris Ekeren   Director of Membership
Tanya Brown   Competition Manager/Co-Editor, Athlete Handbook
Jim Page    Director of Sports Strategy
Nicole Jomantas   Communications Manager

DISTRIBUTION LIST
The current membership is notified of the posting and revisions to the current edition of the Athlete Handbook via electronic USA FENCING eNEWSLETTER sent to all current members of the organization.

The Handbook is the property of the USFA and is available on the USFA website, About Us/Manuals:  www.usfencing.org
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PREFACE
This book is written for fencers, coaches, and parents to gain an understanding of the competitive and developmental programs of USA Fencing (USFA). It contains information that will allow fencers to progress in the sport of fencing to as high a level as they desire. When there are modifications to any of the programs described herein, such changes will be posted to the USFA website, About Us/Manuals (www.usfencing.org ), the posted Athlete Handbook will be updated and an eblast (USA Fencing eNewsletter) will be sent to the membership notifying them of the changes to the Handbook. All National Team changes must have the explicit approval of the national coach or coaches and the High Performance Director.

Periodically, the USFA 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 USFA national office informed of their current email address (es) as it 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 one’s mailing address is current to ensure receipt of information mailed by the USFA and the National Weapon Coaches. The USFA will post the latest information on the USFA website. You can contact the USFA by email: information@usfencing.org.

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

The annual 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 USFA web site and so modified in the Athlete Handbook.
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Chapter 1 – USA Fencing & Membership

1.1 About the USFA
The United States Fencing Association (USFA), also known as USA Fencing and referred to herein as USFA, is a nonprofit corporation under the laws of the State of Colorado. The Internal Revenue Service has recognized the Association 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 USFA National Office.

The USFA is the official governing body for amateur fencing in the United States. The Fédération Internationale d’Escrime (FIE), the United States Olympic Committee (USOC) and other organizations recognize its exclusive jurisdiction. It is the officially designated National Governing Body (NGB) of fencing by the USOC.

The USFA is the sole representative of U.S. fencing to the FIE – the governing body for all official international fencing competitions including the World Fencing Championships and fencing at the Olympic Games. Any U.S. fencer wishing to participate in official international competitions must be accredited by the USFA to the FIE or to the host country as to amateur standing and qualification.

Details on the operations of the USFA are described in the latest edition of the USFA Operations Manual available at the USFA website. The Operations Manual explains the competitive opportunities for all members and the manner in which competitions should operate within the tenets of the organization and of the sport.

The governance of the organization is specified in the USFA Bylaws [amended July, 2010], and can be found on the USFA website under About Us/Manuals.

1.2 USFA Purpose
[USFA Bylaws, amended July 2010]
The purposes of the USFA shall be:
1. To serve as the National Governing Body for the sport of fencing in the United States, and in that capacity to fulfill the lawful obligations imposed on national governing bodies and to enjoy the privileges and prerogatives accorded national governing bodies by United States Law, the USOC and the FIE.
2. To provide local, regional and national competitive opportunities for fencers of all levels of ability under uniform rules and regulations and to strive for improvement in all aspects of organizing and conducting fencing competition.
3. To select, support and prepare individuals and teams to represent the United States in international fencing competitions.
4. To develop, support and promote fencing referees in domestic and international competition.
5. To promote the sport of fencing in the United States and around the world and to disseminate information about fencing so that people may be exposed to and enjoy its many physical, mental and social benefits.
6. To provide support in the form of information and programs to fencing instructors and to organizations and groups that offer fencing opportunities.
7. To make available information and opportunities that will allow fencing practitioners to enhance their skills and to increase the enjoyment and benefit they derive from the sport.
8. To provide assistance and support to other organizations that promote fencing or conduct fencing competitions in a manner consistent with the purposes, goals and means of the USFA.
9. To foster good will and harmonious relationships with fencers and fencing organizations in foreign countries for the betterment of the sport of fencing.
1.3 USFA Membership
USFA membership is required by all individual members of USFA Member Clubs who utilize the USFA insurance program. Competitive memberships are required to compete in any USFA sanctioned event. The membership year coincides with the fencing season which occurs between August 1 and the following July 31. All dues are payable on application for membership and thereafter on or before the next membership year begins. Membership dues are not prorated at any time.

1.3.1 Membership Dues
The annual dues of the USFA, as approved by the USFA Board of Directors, are as follows:

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1.3.2 Membership Definitions
Non-Competitive Membership: Open to all persons upon payment of the dues for the membership year as specified herein. Includes secondary medical/accident insurance, but does not allow the member to vote or compete. Magazine subscription and membership card are not included. Membership is upgradeable.

Competitive Membership: Open to all persons upon payment of the dues for the membership year as specified herein. Competitive members have the right to enter and compete in local, division, regional, and national-level competitions, and subject to deadlines as to the date of membership, shall have the right to vote or be a candidate for office in USFA or division elections. Competitive members may join for one-year or three-year terms upon payment of dues as determined by the Board of Directors.

Professional Membership: Professional members, including coaches, have the same rights, benefits, and privileges as Competitive members, and additionally receive the benefit of an additional insured certificate for the general liability insurance policy purchased by the Association. In order to become a Professional member, an individual must successfully complete such background screening within 30 days of application as may be required by the Association. Any individual who is selected to travel to any USFA designated international competition at the USFA’s expense is required to be a Professional member. All coaches employed by Member Clubs must be Professional Members of USA Fencing by the 2012-2013 season. [BoD, April 2012]
Supporting Membership: Supporting members enjoy the rights, benefits, and privileges of membership with respect to voting and holding National or division office or appointments; Supporting members may not compete in USFA sanctioned competitions. A Supporting membership is the minimum level required of all USFA Division Officers, tournament volunteers and officials. Supporting members may upgrade their membership upon payment of dues equivalent to the current membership type. Supporting membership upgrades are available for parents of individuals under the age of 18.

Life Membership: On payment of dues as determined by the Board of Directors, Life members have the same rights, benefits, and privileges as Competitive members, and may vote in elections of the USFA membership subject to the member voting age restriction and deadlines as to the date of membership and hold National or Division elected positions. Life members retain these rights, benefits, and privileges for the remainder of their natural lives without the payment of additional dues. Life members seeking the benefits of Professional membership may do so upon payment of an annual fee equal to the difference between a Professional and Competitive membership and successful completion of periodic background checks.

Life Installment: Open to all persons upon payment of one-tenth the dues for Life membership at the time of enrollment. Upon payment of membership dues installments for ten consecutive years at the same rate as at the time of enrollment, the membership will automatically be converted to Life membership. [BoD, February 2004] The purpose of this category is to allow individuals to become Life members by spreading the cost of the Life membership fee over a period of ten years. Dues must be paid in ten consecutive years.

Benefactor Membership: Life members may show their continuing support of the Association by upgrading their membership to Benefactor status. Benefactor memberships are grouped in four levels (Endowment, Patron, Benefactor, and Philanthropist), with the dues for each level as determined by the Board of Directors. Benefactor members receive additional benefits, including insignia and devices for wear, a certificate, and additional recognition through the Association’s channels of communications. Dues paid towards one tier may be credited against the dues required for the next tier.

Subscription Membership: Open to all persons on payment of specified dues, but having the limitations that Subscription members may not compete, vote, nor hold office in the Association. Subscription members receive American Fencing magazine and other periodicals and electronic news releases from the Association.

Olympic Life Membership: This membership is restricted to athletes who have been selected for the Olympic Team. Membership Services will assign this level to those athletes on August 1 of the Olympic year. Olympic Life members have the same rights, benefits, and privileges as Competitive members, and may vote in elections of the USFA membership subject to the member voting age restriction and deadlines as to the date of membership. Olympic Life members retain these rights, benefits, and privileges for the remainder of their natural lives without the payment of additional dues. Olympic Life members seeking the benefits of Professional membership may do so upon payment of an annual fee equal to the difference between a Professional and Competitive membership and successful completion of periodic background check.

Paralympic Life Membership: This membership is restricted to athletes who have been selected for the Paralympic Team. Membership Services will assign this level to those athletes on August 1 of the Paralympic year. Paralympic Life members have the same rights, benefits, and privileges as Competitive members, and may vote in elections of the USFA membership subject to the member voting age restriction and deadlines as to the date of membership. Paralympic Life members retain these rights, benefits, and privileges for the remainder of their natural lives without the payment of additional dues. Paralympic Life members seeking the benefits of Professional membership may do so upon payment of an annual fee equal to the difference between a Professional and Competitive membership and successful completion of periodic background check.
Affiliate Club: An Affiliate club is allowed to send teams to Championship Team Competitions (at Junior Olympic Fencing Championships, Division I National Championships and USA Fencing National Championships). Affiliate clubs receive website listing, magazine subscription, affiliate certificate/sticker, but do not participate in the USFA insurance program.

Member Clubs: Member Clubs receive insurance coverage through the USFA policy, website listing, ability to field a team at national championship events, magazine subscription and club certificate/sticker. All members of the USFA Clubs must be individual members of USFA, All coaches employed by Member Clubs must be Professional Members of USA Fencing by the 2012-2013 season. [BoD, April 2012]

1.3.3 How to Become a USFA Member
To become a USFA member visit the USFA website, www.usfencing.org, where you can either use the online registration system or download an application and return it with your payment of dues by fax or by regular mail as listed on the application. You may request an application by email or by calling the National Office: information@usfencing.org or 719-866-4511. Another option is to sign up at a local tournament. Please be aware that the USFA cannot consider one a member in good standing or provide proof of membership until the application and dues have been processed by the National Office. If one signs up at a local event, it is the individual’s responsibility to ensure that the application is forwarded to the National Office in a timely manner.

1.3.4 Membership Benefits
There are numerous benefits associated with USFA Membership:
- Subscription to American Fencing magazine (Subscription or higher levels), published four times a year.
- Periodic electronic news releases and eblasts.
- Secondary Athlete Accident/Excess Medical Insurance: covers USFA sanctioned activities (contact USFA Membership Services for policy specifics).
- Access to Primary Medical and Excess Accident Coverage at special member rates.
- Coaches Liability Insurance (Professional Memberships only): contact USFA Membership Services for details.
- Voting privileges: Members at Supporting or higher levels 18 and older as of Feb. 1 of the membership year who have provided their date of birth, have the right to vote on USFA issues and in USFA elections.
- Right to compete in USFA sanctioned competitions (Competitive membership - must meet eligibility requirements of specific competition).
- Discounts on Travel and Fencing Equipment.
- USFA Membership Profile: Recognition as a member of USA Fencing
- Membership dues support the sport at all levels from grassroots to the Olympic and Paralympic Games

USFA Competitive Membership provides the opportunity to compete or qualify in local, regional, and national events. For parents and coaches, membership provides the opportunity to participate in the administration at the Division, Regional and National level.

1.3.5 Divisions/Regions
For local and regional operational responsibilities, the USFA has divided the United States into 6 regions and 67 divisions. The Youth Development Committee, Regional Organizing Committee and Divisions serve as administrative units to schedule competitions for the different weapons and age groups, tailored to the needs of the area. Among the competitions that are scheduled, the divisions have the responsibility to conduct specific competitions to qualify a prescribed number of fencers to the Junior Olympic Fencing Championships and the USA Fencing National Championships; additional qualification paths are available through Regional events for the USA Fencing National Championships. Fencers may earn classifications at these competitions if specific criteria are met. Refer to Chapter 2 for more detail.
1.3.6 Voting
Members in good standing who are 18 and older, as of Feb. 1 of the membership year and who have provided the USFA with their date of birth by Feb. 1 of the membership year may vote on matters of the USFA in accordance with the provisions of the USFA Bylaws.

1.3.7 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 club that the member will represent in USFA competitions. Each year a member must declare the division affiliation for that membership year. That division is then the one from which the fencer must qualify to the USA Fencing National Championships and the Junior Olympic Fencing Championships. The member may request a change in division if he or she moves to a new geographic location and notifies the USFA 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. Petitions on the basis of missing a division qualifying competition due to going to school elsewhere will not be considered.
1.3.8 Club Representation and Affiliation

The term "club," as used in these procedures, includes any organized fencing group of individual members. The group may be affiliated with a club, industrial institution, association or other entity. A recognized club is one that has a relatively stable organizational structure and membership, a place for regular fencing activity and, preferably, a professional fencing master for lessons and training. The division affiliation of a member club shall be the primary location where its regular fencing activity is conducted. A club may only be a member of one division.

A distinction is made between club "affiliation" and "representation." A fencer may be affiliated with more than one club but can represent only one of them (except as noted below) in USFA competitions during one fencing season.

A fencer may at any time resign from one club and join another, or join or hold membership in two or more clubs. However, only the fencer's first stated club affiliation for a USFA competition in each fencing season becomes that fencer's club representation for that season and no changes in club representation are permitted after Jan. 31. After this deadline, fencers may not change their club representation without special permission of the Board of Directors. In any team competition, fencers can fence only for the club that they last represented before the start of the competition. [BoD, February 2010]

A collegiate or scholastic fencer, who is also a member of another recognized club, may represent his or her school in dual meets and other interscholastic or intercollegiate competitions, and also represent the other club in USFA competitions. In addition, if the rules of his or her school conference require it, he or she may represent his or her school or fence unattached in all USFA individual competitions held during the school fencing season or, in the case of collegiate fencers, during the period in which NCAA rules regarding playing dates have jurisdiction. Such fencers may represent their 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.

Fencers who represent their club after having represented their school during the fencing season must represent their club for the remainder of that fencing season. Fencers who represent their school outside the dates when required to do so, must represent their school for the remainder of the fencing season. Under no circumstances can fencers represent both their school and their club at any USFA team tournament.

A fencer who, while a member of a recognized club, elects to fence unattached may not be permitted to represent any club during the remainder of the season in individual competition, and may not compete in team competitions except as noted above for collegiate fencers in NCAA schools.

All fencers should notify the National Office of all club affiliations at the start of the fencing season or as such club affiliations change. They should also notify competition organizers of such affiliations even if representing another club (or school) or fencing unattached for reasons given above. Competition organizers should apply the same criteria for separating fencers with the same club affiliations as they do for fencers with the same club representation.

If a fencer represents a club that closes during the season with no plan of reopening in the future, or if a fencer makes a permanent move of physical residence into another geographical area, that fencer may request to have his or her club representation changed. The resignation of a coach, conflict within a club, or change of affiliation due to either will not be recognized as justification to change club representation. A fencer in this situation will have to either remain with his or her stated club or fence unattached for the remainder of the season.

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]
Chapter 2 – Domestic Competitions

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

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

2.2 Classifications (Ratings)

2.2.1 What are Classifications?
For the purpose of distinguishing between levels of performance and providing an objective scale for the seeding of competitions, fencers are classified nationally on the basis of competitive experience and achievement into the following classifications: A (highest), B, C, D, E, U (Unclassified, lowest). Classifications are written as A11, B10, B09 with the letter indicating the classification and the number indicating the latest year when that classification was earned or re-earned.

2.2.2 How is a Classification Earned?
Classifications are earned at USFA rated competitions. The rating of a competition determines which classifications are awarded, and the number for each type. Please see Appendix 2.7 for the Classification Reference Chart.

Changes in classifications are allowed at Open USFA-sanctioned individual competitions and at those restricted to Veteran and junior fencers. Division and Regional Youth and Cadet competitions must meet or exceed criteria for C1 (see Chart) to award changes in classification. Classifications may be awarded only at tournaments at which electrical apparatus for the scoring of touches is used. Conductive strips are not required for tournaments to award classifications.

The classification of a fencer in one weapon has no effect on his/her classification in another weapon and is not affected by his/her winning or competing in individual three-weapon competitions, invitational meets, intercollegiate competitions or unofficial club and inter-club competitions.

Classifications from Regional tournaments (RYC, SYC or ROC) are posted once complete results and the program service fee are received from the tournament organizer.

2.2.3 How Classification Changes are made Official?
Classifications from local tournaments must be certified in writing to the Director of Membership Services by the organizer of the competition or tournament at which said classification was earned. Classifications from regional or division qualifiers must be certified by submission of complete results in an Excel format to the Competition Manager by the organizer of the regional tournament or division qualifier at which said classification was earned. Every member of the USFA is personally responsible for ascertaining his or her own classification in each weapon. To avoid questions with respect to individual fencers, each Division, through its Executive Committee or other designated officer or committee, should certify all classification changes (both major and minor) to the National Office. Changes must be reported within 10 business days of the competition or tournament. Failure to report changes in a timely fashion may affect fencers competing in a national competition. Only classifications appearing on the membership listings available on the USA Fencing website are official. Classifications listed on other websites are not official. In case of disagreement between lists, only the official list provided by USA Fencing should be used when seeding tournaments. While many tournament organizers use askfred.net for processing entries and posting of results, currently askfred.net is not linked to the USFA website and tournament organizers must submit results of each competition to the USFA National Office.

As of January 1, 2013 complete results MUST be submitted to the National Office for Classification updates from local tournaments using the Classification Change Form (available on the USFA website under Membership, Divisions, Division Officer Resources, Documents). This form must be signed by a
Division Officer, validating the results. The USFA cannot change a fencer’s classification without this signed form. If one’s classification update has not been posted, the fencer should contact the competition organizer or the appropriate Section/Division officer to determine if the form has been submitted. Once this report is filed with the USFA National Office, the change in classification will be made, except that:

1. No new classifications will be awarded to fencers who compete in competitions they are ineligible for by age or classification. Such ineligible fencers may not be used to calculate the new classifications earned in those events.

2. For events in which any fencers are not current USFA competitive members, the award of any new classifications for that competition may be delayed or withheld until such memberships are properly paid and processed. In all cases, the organizers must have collected membership paperwork and membership fees prior to the start of the competition. Any missing paperwork or fees must be received by the national office within 10 business days from the time the organizer is notified of the problem by the national office.

Classification updates from regional tournaments and division qualifiers MUST be submitted electronically as an Excel spreadsheet and contain complete results to the USFA National Office. The results report is available as an export from Fencing Time v3.02 or later or by using the Results Reporting Form (available on the USFA website under Events, About Tournaments)

**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 resolved 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. Failure to do so will result in the Division qualifiers and/or classifications being recalculated based on the eligible fencers in the competitive field.

2. No qualification or classifications will be awarded to fencers who compete in Division Qualifiers where ineligible athletes (i.e., age, classification, membership, citizenship or representing country) are allowed to compete until the situation is resolved.

3. All entries for the given championship will remain pending until the Division qualifier in question is resolved.

4. Petitions or protests will not be accepted if the situation is not resolved.

Classifications are posted on the USFA website, under Membership, Current Membership Listing, and are searchable by State, Division or Last Name and are updated accordingly due to the automated nature of the membership listing. Classifications may also be viewed in the member’s profile.

**2.2.4 How long are Classifications Valid?**

Classifications are valid for four years after they are earned. If, after four years, the classification has not been re-earned, it then reverts to the next lowest letter and the current year. Such change will be enacted at the beginning of the new fencing season – August 1. For example, if you earned a B in 2005 (B05) and did not re-earn your B for four years, your B would become a C09 on August 1 of 2009. If you then did not re-earn your C09 for four more years, it would become a D13 on August 1, 2013.
2.2.5 How to Determine Classifications for Foreign Fencers

1. If the fencer is listed on the FIE World Rankings during the past four years, FIE points will be considered in order to determine a classification for the competition being seeded:
   a. Award an “A” classification for one FIE 1st – 8th place finish in which FIE points were earned. The year suffix would be the year in which points were earned.
   b. Award a “B” classification for one FIE 9th – 16th place finish in which FIE points were earned. The year suffix would be the year in which points were earned.
   c. Award a “C” classification for one FIE 17th – 32nd place finish in which FIE points were earned. The year suffix would be the year in which points were earned.
   d. Award a “D” classification [to be applied for competitions other than Division I] for one FIE 33rd – 64th place finish in which FIE points were earned. The year suffix would be the year in which points were earned.

2. If a fencer is not listed on the current FIE World Rankings, but has been on a World Senior Team or Pan American Games team, a “B” will be awarded. If the team was a World Cadet or World Junior team, then a “C” will be awarded. The year suffix would be the year in which fencer was on such a team. If that information is not available then assign the year as the earliest year for the current season, viz., for the 2012-2013 season that means the year would 2009.

3. If the fencer has not been a World Team member, but is a member of the country’s national team, a “C” classification will be awarded. Similarly, if the fencer has been entered into the tournament by his fencing federation a “C” classification can be used. In both cases, the year suffix would be the current year.

4. If nothing is known about the fencer and the National Weapon Coach for that weapon does not know anything about the fencer, the “D09” classification should be used. In the case of NAC Division I, however, foreign fencers should be classified as “C” with the earliest year; for the 2012-2013 season, this classification would be a “C09.”

5. When a classification has been assigned to a foreign fencer, the National Weapon Coach for that weapon should be consulted to determine its appropriateness for that tournament. If the National Weapon Coach does not respond, assume that the classification is acceptable.

2.3 Competitive Opportunities within the USFA

2.3.1 Types of Competitions

Open: An 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). Eligibility requirements are explained in section 2.5. The same rules apply to all USFA events that do not carry a specific age restriction (Youth, Cadets, Juniors and Veteran events) whether they are NAC or national championship events, or run by a club, division, section, or region.

To compete in a USFA-sponsored "Open" event, all fencers must be at least 13 years old on January 1 of the competitive season in question unless the fencer is on the National Junior point standings at the entry deadline for that competition. This rule was developed to be consistent with age requirements set by the international fencing community. It is part of a developmental framework designed to give young fencers appropriate competitive bouts as they grow.

Closed: A Closed competition is a sectional, interdivisional, or divisional competition in which eligibility is limited on the basis of sectional or divisional membership.

Age-Restricted: Any USFA age-restricted competition can be rated for classification change consideration except those competitions that are restricted to Cadet (Under 17 or Under 16) or Youth age categories, which must meet the criteria for a Group C1 or higher (See classification chart in Appendix 2.7) 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 must be announced in the schedule. Restricted competitions may not be rated unless the restriction is based solely upon fencers’ classifications or age or Division or Section membership.
Youth: Competitions for those who are 10 and under, 12 and under, and 14 and under, refer to the 2012-2013 Age/Classification Restriction Rules (Table 2.5.1)

Championships: The USFA sponsors National Championships for different levels of development and for different age groups: Junior Olympic Fencing Championships for Under 20 and Under 17 age-group fencers, held during Presidents’ Day weekend in February; USA Fencing National Championships for Division I, IA, II, III, Veteran 40-49, Veteran 50-59, Veteran 60-69, Veteran 70 & Older and Youth 14 fencers, normally held during the first two weeks of July. The Division I National Championships are held in conjunction with the April North American Cup. The Wheelchair National Championships in all weapons (women’s sabre competition is not held at its World Championships or the Paralympic Games) will be held in conjunction with the April North American Cup. Each category of National Championships includes competitions for each of the six weapons: Men’s Epee, Foil, and Sabre and Women’s Epee, Foil, and Sabre. Championship tournaments are only open to U.S. Citizens or Permanent Residents.

Fencers with a Supporting membership category are NOT ELIGIBLE to compete in any USFA sanctioned tournaments. Also, fencers who are under the age of 7 on January 1 of the membership year are not eligible to compete in any USFA tournaments.

2.3.2 National Tournaments and Championships
Division I: The Division I National Championships, held in conjunction with the April NAC, are championships for fencers on the Senior point standings and for the top Juniors and Cadets on their respective point standings; competitors must be US Citizens or Permanent Resident. Fencers qualify for these Championships via the national point standings and top placements from the last Division IA and Division II National Championships (See Section 2.11 for criteria). These Championships are an integral part of the selection path for the Senior World Teams and for members of teams that qualify for the Olympic Games, World Championships, and World University Games.

USA Fencing National Championships (Nationals): The USA Fencing National Championships are typically held the first two weeks of July. Fencers must be US Citizens or Permanent Resident and qualify to compete in this tournament. See section 2.11 for qualifying criteria for each individual event. Events in these championships include (in all six weapons): Youth 14, Veteran 40-49, Veteran 50-59, Veteran 60-69, Veteran 70 & Older, Division IA, Division II, Division III and Senior Team. This is the last tournament for selection of the members of the team to the World Veteran Championships. Fencers must qualify to compete in this tournament as explained in Section 2.11. Please see Table 2.5.1.B for age criteria.

Junior Olympic Fencing Championships (JOs): The Junior Olympic Fencing Championships are held each year in February during the four-day President’s Day holiday weekend. The Junior Olympic Fencing Championships are the championships for the Under 17 (Cadet), Under 20 (Junior) and Under 20 (Junior) Team, in each of the six weapons, and are the final domestic competitions in the selection cycle for the Junior and Cadet World Fencing Championships. Fencers must be US Citizens or Permanent Residents and qualify to compete in this tournament as explained in Section 2.11. Please see Table 2.5.1.A for age criteria.

North American Cup (NAC): The North American Cup Tournaments are a series of National point tournaments organized by USA Fencing. USFA competitive members are eligible to enter NAC tournaments if they meet the conditions of the category of that NAC (see eligibility requirements listed with specific events in Section 2.11). The NAC tournaments are also open to foreign fencers who have an FIE license valid for the current season or can show proof of membership in another fencing federation, and who meet age requirements for specific NAC tournaments. Please see Table 2.5.1.A for age criteria.

The July NAC, held in conjunction with the USA Fencing National Championships, offers events for: Under 19, Under 16, Youth 12, Youth 10, Under 19 Team and Veteran Team These events are not designated as National Championships. The Under 19 and Under 16 events held in July mark the beginning of the domestic season for the Under 19 (Junior) and Under 16 (Cadet) and the end of the domestic season for all other categories. Please see Table 2.5.1.B for age criteria.
2.3.3 Regional Tournaments
Regional Open Circuit (ROC): The Regional Open Circuit (ROC) is designed to promote and develop strong regional tournaments for the Open/Division I-A fencer who seeks competitive opportunities beyond the local and divisional level but below the NAC Division I level. Other competitive opportunities in the ROC tournaments are provided for Veteran (40 & Older) and Division II (C, D, E or U) fencers [BOD, September 2008]. Please check the USFA website under EVENTS, or email roc@usfencing.org for more information.

Youth: The USFA promotes a series of youth tournaments for the Y14, Y12 and Y10 age categories to provide more competitive opportunities for the younger fencers. Schedules for both Super and Regional Youth tournaments are posted on www.usfencing.org under EVENTS.

Super Youth Circuit (SYC): There are numerous Super Youth tournaments throughout the country. Youth fencers may participate in one or more Super Youth tournaments; however, only the competition where the fencer earns the most points will be included in the revised point standings published after the last SYC. These competitions are one of the possible qualification paths for Youth 10 and Youth 12 events at both the April and/or July NACs.

Regional Youth Circuit (RYC): The RYC tournaments are held throughout the season, similar to the Super Youth Circuit tournaments. There are no national points awarded at Regional Youth competitions. These competitions are one of the possible qualification paths for Youth 10 and Youth 12 events at both the April and/or July NACs. The Youth Development Committee is piloting and will maintain a Regional Ranking Point System (RRPS) for the 2012-2013 season. This program is designed to recognize and reward both participation and accomplishment at the RYC Tournament level. The goal of this system is to motivate developing youth athletes to participate in multiple RYC tournaments throughout the competitive season providing them with the developmentally appropriate level of competition. For more information on this program, please visit the USFA website, Events, About Tournaments, RYC Tournament Organizer Resources, Documents.

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

2.3.5 Local/Club 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 USFA website or by emailing information@usfencing.org.
2.4 Entering Competitions/Tournaments

2.4.1 USFA National Tournaments
Fencers may not enter onsite at a National Tournament. For registration accuracy, speed, and environmental reasons, USA Fencing provides an online registration system; we strongly encourage the use of this system. Entry forms are also available to be mailed or faxed to the USFA National Office; all paper entries incur a $10 processing fee. All entries, regardless of method, must be received at the USFA National Office by the published deadline for that tournament. Each National Championship tournament has a separate entry form and online registration site. For the Junior Olympic Fencing Championships and the USA Fencing National Championships, the entry forms are posted on the USFA website. Qualification is required for any Championship tournament, entries remain pending until qualification is confirmed. Any eligible fencer who is not able to use the online registration system may request an entry from the National Office or visit the USFA’s website for the appropriate entry form.

Deadlines for entry are strictly enforced. Deadlines are published on the USFA website; in this book with the schedule in Appendix 1.1; and on the entry forms. The entry deadline date is approximately 6-8 weeks prior to the first day of the tournament. Postmarks are not considered, entries must arrive at the USFA National Office by the posted deadline. Online entry deadlines are as of the posted deadline by 11:59:59 p.m. Pacific Time.

Late entries, with payment of triple the amount for a specified timeframe, or double triple the amount (online only) for a specified timeframe for NAC and Championships tournaments will be accepted up to the posted deadline prior to the start of the tournament. No entries are accepted after that date or at the door. See Appendix 1.1 for deadline dates for the 2012-2013 Season.

Late entries must be received by the posted deadline for NAC and National Championships tournaments, with payment of all required fees received within the published time frame. Under no circumstances will entries be accepted after the published deadline date.

Payment of all fees must accompany the entry form or be successfully completed online for it to be considered received. Entry forms without complete payment or for which credit card was not accepted are returned to the competitor.

Please refer to the Entrants List for the status of an entry. The Entrants List is posted on the specific tournament web page located on the USA Fencing website under EVENTS. **It is the fencer’s responsibility to verify that the events registered for, classification for each weapon, club affiliation and division information is accurate before the final change/withdraw deadline for the tournament.** Any discrepancies must be reported to USA Fencing immediately (email: information@usfencing.org).

For refund of event fee(s), all withdraws must be received by the USFA by the posted withdraw deadline for a refund of event fees. Registration fees are nonrefundable. Refunds for team events are half of the entry fee. An athlete may withdraw through their membership profile under "Competition Schedule" or by written notification via e-mail to amanda.ward@usfencing.org, fax, or mail. Postmarks do not count. No refunds will be given for withdrawals after the posted withdraw deadline. Refunds are processed 4-6 weeks after the tournament.

Unless otherwise specified, the latest edition and/or any relevant updates of the *USFA Rules for Competition*, available on the USA Fencing website, govern USFA competitions. It is the responsibility of each fencer to be familiar with them. Please refer to the Fencing Officials Website (http://fencingofficials.com/) for any questions regarding Rules of Competition.
2.4.2 Regional Open Circuit (ROC)
Entry forms for these competitions are available through links on the USFA website, under EVENTS as provided by the tournament host. Only tournaments posted on the USFA website, under EVENTS are recognized as regional tournaments. Competitors must follow entry procedures published with the entry form that includes the name and place to which entry is to be sent. Registrations for these competitions are **NOT** processed through the USFA office.

2.4.3 Super and Regional Youth Circuits
Entry forms for these competitions are available through links on the USFA website, under EVENTS, as provided by the tournament host. Only tournaments posted on the USFA website, under EVENTS are recognized as regional tournaments. Competitors must follow entry procedures published with the entry form that includes the name and place to which the entry is to be sent. Registrations for these tournaments are **NOT** processed through the USFA office.

2.4.4 Division /Club/Local Competitions
Entry procedures for these competitions vary from competition to competition. Contact the organizers of the competitions to determine their procedures. You must register following the organizer's procedures. Registrations for these tournaments are **NOT** processed through the USFA office.

2.5 Eligibility to Compete
Fencers must be current (expiration of 7/31/2013 or later) competitive USFA members in good standing to compete in competitions conducted under the auspices of the USFA. Foreign fencers must have a current FIE license or provide proof of membership in another fencing federation.

For a fencer to compete in a specific age category competition or any “Open” level of competition conducted under the auspices of the USFA at divisional, sectional, regional or national levels, the following criteria must be met.

- The fencer’s birth year falls within that age bracket **OR**
- If a fencer is currently (as of the entry deadline for that tournament) listed in a National age group point standing, the fencer may enter the next older age category of competition, even if that fencer is younger than allowed by the age bracket.

For categories of competitions in which criteria in addition to age must be met, the fencer must also meet those criteria by the entry deadline. There are specific age eligibility criteria for the Veteran tournaments as well.

Specific age and classification rules for each category are given in Table 2.5.1.

For any USFA competition that is not specific to an age group, the fencer must be at least 13 years old as of January 1 of the current fencing season. The fencing season is the same as the membership year – August 1 through the following July 31. The exception to this rule is that a fencer who is on the Junior national rolling point standings (NRPS) at the entry deadline for the competition and is younger than 13 as of January 1 of the current fencing season will be allowed to compete in the USFA competitions not specific to an age group.

Examples of such competitions are: “Open”, “Unclassified”, “A” competitions, “C or under” competitions, Team competitions of any category unless specified for Juniors or similar age restricted category.
### Table 2.5.1  2012-2013 AGE/CLASSIFICATION RESTRICTION RULES:

#### A. For 2012-2013 Local/National Tournaments & Junior Olympic Fencing Championships (Excluding July NAC, USA Fencing National Championships & Nationals Qualifying Tournaments through Regions and Divisions)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CATEGORY</th>
<th>DIVISION I</th>
<th>DIVISION II</th>
<th>DIVISION III</th>
<th>WHEELCHAIR</th>
<th>VETERAN OPEN (40 &amp; Older)</th>
<th>VETERAN 40-49</th>
<th>VETERAN 50-59</th>
<th>VETERAN 60-69</th>
<th>VETERAN 70 &amp; Older</th>
<th>UNDER 20 (JUNIOR) / U20 TEAM</th>
<th>UNDER 17 (CADET)</th>
<th>YOUTH 14</th>
<th>YOUTH 12</th>
<th>YOUTH 10</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CODE</td>
<td>DV1</td>
<td>DV2</td>
<td>DV3</td>
<td>CHR</td>
<td>VET</td>
<td>V40</td>
<td>V50</td>
<td>V60</td>
<td>V70</td>
<td>U20/JTM</td>
<td>U17</td>
<td>Y14</td>
<td>Y12</td>
<td>Y10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CLASS</td>
<td>A, B, OR C</td>
<td>C, D, OR U</td>
<td>D, E OR U</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### B. 2013 July NAC, USA Fencing National Championships & Associated REGIONAL & DIVISION Qualifying Competitions ONLY

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CATEGORY</th>
<th>DIVISION I</th>
<th>DIVISION IA</th>
<th>DIVISION II</th>
<th>DIVISION III</th>
<th>WHEELCHAIR</th>
<th>VETERAN OPEN (40 &amp; Older)</th>
<th>VETERAN 40-49</th>
<th>VETERAN 50-59</th>
<th>VETERAN 60-69</th>
<th>VETERAN 70 &amp; Older</th>
<th>UNDER 19 (JUNIOR) / U20 TEAM</th>
<th>UNDER 17 (CADET)</th>
<th>YOUTH 14</th>
<th>YOUTH 12</th>
<th>YOUTH 10</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CODE</td>
<td>DV1</td>
<td>D1A</td>
<td>DV2</td>
<td>DV3</td>
<td>CHR</td>
<td>VET</td>
<td>V40</td>
<td>V50</td>
<td>V60</td>
<td>V70</td>
<td>U20/JTM</td>
<td>U17</td>
<td>Y14</td>
<td>Y12</td>
<td>Y10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CLASS</td>
<td>A, B, OR C</td>
<td>C, D, OR U</td>
<td>D, E OR U</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
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<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 2003 can fence in Youth 12 IF the fencer is on the National Youth 10 point standings at the time of the entry deadline for that tournament.
2. Youth 14 – A fencer born after 2001 can fence in Youth 14 IF the fencer is on the National Youth 12 point standings at the time of the entry deadline for that tournament.
3. Cadet (U17) – A fencer born after 1999 can fence in Cadet (U17) local and regional competitions, NAC Cadet tournaments and Junior Olympic Cadet (U17) Fencing Championships and qualifying tournaments IF the fencer is on the National Youth 14 point standings at the time of the entry deadline for that tournament.
4. Junior (U20) – A fencer born after 1999 can fence in Junior (U20) local and regional competitions, NAC Junior (U20) and Junior Olympic Junior (U20) Fencing Championships and qualifying tournaments IF the fencer is on the National Cadet (U17) point standings at the time of the entry deadline for that tournament.
5. Cadet (U16) – A fencer born after 2000 can fence in Cadet (U16) competition for the 2013 July NAC IF the fencer is on the National Youth 14 point standings at the time of the entry deadline for that tournament.
6. Junior (U19) – A fencer born after 2000 can fence in Junior (U19) competition for the 2013 July NAC IF the fencer is on the National Cadet (U16) point standings at the time of the entry deadline for that tournament.
7. Division I, IA, II, III – For all local, regional (including ROC) and national (e.g., NAC) competitions, those born after 1999 must be on the National Junior point standings; for the 2013 National Championships and qualifying competitions for Division I, IA, II, III; those born after 2000 must be on the National Junior point standings.
2.6 Equipment Requirements for Domestic Tournaments

Uniforms (jackets and pants): Standard fencing uniforms (FIE label not required)
Plastrons (underarm protectors): Standard fencing plastron; required with every uniform, with or without official FIE label

Masks:

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

As of August 1, 2012, the conductive bib in foil is required for all USA Fencing-sanctioned events, at all levels (local, division, regional, and national). Details are as follows:

- The lamé part of the bib must cover all of the bib up to a horizontal line 1.5-2 cm below the chin.
- The mask cord must be 30-40 cm long, and can be of any color. It may be straight, or coiled.
- The mask cord must be attached on the non-weapon side of the bib.
- The electrical characteristics of the bib are the same as the lame.
- The electrical characteristics of the mask cord are the same as the body cord.
- Transparent masks are prohibited.
- Masks with exchangeable bibs are allowed. (If the inspection mark is placed on the bib, be sure not to change out your inspection mark!)
- Masks with overlay bibs are available and legal. Both the overlay and the mask itself must have inspection marks though to ensure the bib has no dead spots, and the mask itself is safe.

There are no changes to rules regarding masks for epee, but notably you may NOT use a saber mask or a foil mask with electric bib in epee. The metal on the bib/mask can ground out the opponent's tip. Transparent masks are prohibited in epee.

There are also no changes to rules regarding saber masks. Transparent masks are optional.

Names on uniforms: Required only at national tournaments: all levels of NAC, Junior Olympic Championships, National Championships, Wheelchair National Championships [BOD, Sept. 2010]

Blades:

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Blade Size Number</th>
<th>0</th>
<th>2</th>
<th>3</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<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>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Foil</th>
<th>Epee</th>
<th>Sabre</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Blade Length: MM</td>
<td>775</td>
<td>825</td>
<td>765</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>825</td>
<td>850</td>
<td>820</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>850</td>
<td>850</td>
<td>850</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
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 plastron**. In épée and foil, a full jacket is required (i.e. a jacket with croissard/groin strap). In foil and sabre; the lamé must have a croissard/groin strap. Any attachment to a weapon’s handle (i.e. wrist strap, orthopedic grip) must fix the hand in one position such that the top of the thumb is no more than 2 cm. from the inner surface of the guard. Warm-up pants are not allowed. 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; and designs on the leg for Division I fencers only. As the purpose of uniform color or design is for audience interest, such designs should be in good taste.

Note: At USFA national tournaments, any individual engaged in fencing activity of any kind using weapons (giving or taking lesson, practice or informal boutting, etc.) must wear full fencing gear. Failure to do so may result in a black card and expulsion from the venue.

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

**USFA Note:** Masks may feature colored designs on condition that they are approved on the sole and absolute discretion of the Head Referee whose decision is final and cannot be appealed at that event.

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 15 cm high, such that the name is legible from a distance of 15 feet, either (1) on the back of the uniform or lamé between the shoulders; (2) on the front or side of the thigh of the “rear” leg; or (3) on a piece of fabric or lamé material that is firmly sewn to the uniform in such a way that it will not detach during fencing or catch an opponent’s point. Fabric attached to the uniform must be the same color as the part of the uniform to which it is attached. Conductive materials must be attached in such a way as to not alter the conductivity of the metallic vest or jacket. NAMES PRINTED ON TAPE ARE NOT ACCEPTABLE.
2.7 General Qualifying Information

2.7.1 What is a Qualifier?
A qualifying competition is a competition whereby a specified number of fencers qualify to USFA Championships based on their results. Depending on the event, qualifiers are held by the Division or through a Regional qualifier. Qualifiers are held for the USA Fencing National Championships and the Junior Olympic Fencing Championships. Qualification is also required for Youth 10 and Youth 12 fencers to participate in the North American Cups.

Qualifying events are restricted to members of the division as indicated below:
- **Division Qualifying Tournaments:** Division II, Division III, Youth 14 for USA Fencing National Championships; Under 17 (Cadet), Under 20 (Junior) for Junior Olympic Fencing Championships.

**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. Failure to do so will result in the Division qualifiers and/or classifications being recalculated based on the eligible fencers in the competitive field.
2. No qualification or classifications will be awarded to fencers who compete in Division Qualifiers where ineligible athletes (i.e., age, classification, membership, citizenship or representing country) are allowed to compete until the situation is resolved.
3. All entries for the given championship will remain pending until the Division qualifier in question is resolved.
4. Petitions or protests will not be accepted if the situation is not resolved.

Qualifying competitions through regional tournaments are as indicated below:
- **Regional Open Circuit Tournaments:** Division IA, Division II, Veteran for USA Fencing National Championships
- **Super Youth Circuit Tournaments:** Youth 10, Youth 12 for April and July North American Cups; Youth 14 for USA Fencing National Championships
- **Regional Youth Circuit Tournaments:** Youth 10, Youth 12 for April and July North American Cups; Youth 14 for USA Fencing National Championships

ROC, SYC, RYC and division qualifying tournaments cannot be mixed competitions.

If you do not receive a copy of the schedule of competitions in your Division, especially of the competitions required to qualify for Championships, contact one of the Division officers. To obtain names and phone numbers for any of the Division’s officers, contact the USFA office by phone (719-866-4511) or e-mail (information@usfencing.org). Many divisions have a website where the schedule of their competitions is posted. Division qualifiers, if known and provided by the Division, are posted on the USFA website under EVENTS. Regional tournament information, as provided by tournament organizers, is also posted on the USFA website under EVENTS.

The list of automatic qualifiers (fencers who qualify by the point standings or on the basis of the most recent National Championships) is posted on the USFA website after each relevant National point tournament. Qualifiers from Regional tournaments are posted once complete results, membership forms and program service fee are received from the tournament organizer. Only the automatic qualifier list posted on the USFA website serves as the official qualifying list.
2.7.2 Eligibility to Compete in a Qualifier
Fencers must be U.S. citizens OR permanent residents of the United States and current competitive members of the USFA. Any fencer who is a citizen or permanent resident, who has also represented another country in the last three years, and who has not yet been granted permission to represent the USA by the USFA and the FIE is not eligible for any USFA 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.

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. Failure to do so will result in the Division qualifiers and/or classifications being recalculated based on the eligible fencers in the competitive field.
2. No qualification or classifications will be awarded to fencers who compete in Division Qualifiers where ineligible athletes (i.e., age, classification, membership, citizenship or representing country) are allowed to compete until the situation is resolved.
3. All entries for the given championship will remain pending until the Division qualifier in question is resolved.
4. Petitions or protests will not be accepted if the situation is not resolved.

Regional Open Circuit tournaments are open to current USFA competitive members eligible to fence in Open competitions and to foreign fencers with current FIE licenses. Foreign fencers are not eligible to compete in USFA National Championship events; therefore these athletes cannot be considered in determining the size the competitive field to determine the number of qualifiers. In the event that a foreign fencer finishes within the qualifying group, the foreign fencer will be skipped and only the highest-finishing eligible domestic fencers will qualify.

2.7.3 Fencers wishing to change representing country affiliation
The FIE requires that a fencer who is approved to change the country he or she represents must wait three years before representing the new country unless granted special waiver of the three year waiting period by the FIE (See Chapter 5.3.6). The fencer needs to contact the USFA HPD by written letter indicating the desire to change representation from United States to another country with a brief explanation of reasons for such request.

The USFA would then write a letter addressed to the FIE Executive Committee allowing such change with or without three year suspension for effective change of representation. That letter plus athlete’s own letter to the FIE requesting the change in representation would then be sent to the FIE office.

Board of Directors Action May 2011 as it affects U.S. fencer submitting request to change nationality, effective immediately.

"The USFA will not agree to reduce or dispense with the presumptive three-year waiting period for a change of nationality unless the athlete requesting the change has not represented the United States in international competition during the season in which the change is requested. Further, the USFA may not agree to reduce or dispense with the waiting period even if the requesting athlete has not so represented the United States."

In addition to citizenship requirements, fencers must meet the age and classification requirements of the USFA Championships at the time of the qualifier in order to compete in that qualifier.
2.7.4 Determination of Qualifiers

Fencers qualify by finishing in the top 25% of the Division qualifying competition or the top 10% (with a minimum of 4) of the ROC qualifying Division II competitions. In determining the number of qualifiers, the number of competitors is the total number of fencers who competed in the qualifying competition who are eligible to fence in the Championships. Once the number of qualifiers is determined, those who have already qualified to the Championships through either National or Regional paths in that weapon and category are skipped in determining those who have become qualifiers in that competition. For example, if there are 20 competitors in the qualifying competition, of whom four have already qualified for that particular championships event, and if those four are among the group who would qualify, those four are skipped in determining the five qualifiers from that competition. So, if the ones who have already qualified are 1st, 3rd, 6th, and 7th, then the qualifiers are those who have placed 2nd, 4th, 5th, 8th and 9th.

Fencers who qualify through a National or Regional path are considered “automatic qualifiers”. A list of automatic qualifiers is posted on the USFA website under the Championship tournament page. Automatic qualifiers are only recognized from regional tournaments (RYC, SYC or ROC) after results, membership forms and program service fee are received from the tournament organizer. Those who qualify through Division are not considered an “automatic qualifier” and are not posted on the USFA website.

Fencers who fail to qualify through ROC or Divisional qualifying competitions cannot qualify simply by virtue of another fencer who qualified at the qualifying competition becoming an automatic qualifier subsequent to the qualifying competition.

Qualifying forms and instructions are sent to Regional tournament organizers and Division officers via email; information is also posted on the USFA web site under the Championship tournament page. It is the regional tournament organizer’s and/or the 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 USFA National Office via email by the regional tournament organizer or division officer by the stated deadlines and no later than 10 days after the completion of the tournament. These forms must reflect complete results and are the only acceptable notice from the regional tournaments and Divisions regarding their qualifying fencers. The USFA National Office cannot process individual entries until qualifying forms are submitted by the regional tournament organizers or Division officers.

Table 2.7.4.1 Number of Qualifiers for Junior Olympic Fencing Championships and USA Fencing National Championships from Division Qualifying Competitions (25% rule)

<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>
<td>1</td>
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<td>4</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>

[BOD, October 2003]

Table 2.7.4.2 Number of Qualifiers for USA Fencing National Championships from DV2 ROC Competitions (10% rule)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th># Competitors</th>
<th>1-40</th>
<th>41-50</th>
<th>51-60</th>
<th>61-70</th>
<th>71-80</th>
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<th>91-100</th>
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<tr>
<td># Qualifiers</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
2.8 Petition Process
In exceptional cases, subject to approval by the USFA Board of Directors or its designee, a member of the USFA in good standing may be permitted to qualify to the Junior Olympic Fencing Championships or USA Fencing National Championships by petition. No petition may contravene the results of a qualifying competition – a fencer who has fenced in the qualifying competition without withdrawing due to valid medical reasons 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, ROC) over their Division qualifier.

There is no petition or waivers for Division I Nationals, the fencer either meets the qualification standards or does not.

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

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

1. Was unable to compete in the qualifying competitions this season, OR
2. Did compete and had to withdraw because of a disabling injury or illness.

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

All petitions must be made in writing to USA FENCING National Events, 4065 Sinton Road, Suite 140, Colorado Springs, CO 80907. Such petitions are to be filed within five business days following the competition at which the petitioner could have qualified. Relief from this deadline will be granted only when the specific qualifying competition is held less than two weeks prior to the entry deadline. Under no circumstances will petitions be accepted if received after the entry deadline for the Championships.

Here are some examples of petition and their dispositions:

A. If a fencer is injured or becomes ill while competing in a qualifying competition and does not withdraw on a medical basis, the result stands and there is NO petition. It is better not to fence and get medical documentation or to withdraw and ask the bout committee for a written statement verifying the medical withdrawal. That statement or medical documentation must be submitted with the petition.

B. Petitions will not be considered for the case in which fencer is attending school in another division. Division membership is determined by where one lives, or goes to school, or the location of the club that fencer represents in competition. When USFA membership is renewed, the fencer must state the Division to be assigned based on these criteria. That is one’s Division for the year and the one from which one can qualify to Championship tournaments.

C. The Division scheduled the qualifying competition on the same weekend as a NAC or regional tournament. (Divisions try to avoid such conflicts but it may not always be possible.) The fencer must decide in which competition(s) he or she wishes to compete. A petition will not be approved if the fencer decides to fence in the NAC or the regional tournament rather than the qualifying competition.

D. An athlete who petitions over multiple years may have the petition denied by the National Office.

E. Petitions will not be accepted due to qualifying fields being adjusted due to the removal of ineligible fencers in the competition.

The petition must be accompanied by:

- A non-refundable fee of $100.00, payable to USA FENCING
- A written statement that gives the specific details of the dates, reason for absence or withdrawal, and other pertinent facts. Written notice from the 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 competitive results during the past year. In particular, results in previous National Championships and recent North American Cup (NAC) competitions should be noted.
- Evidence that a copy of the petition has been submitted to the Chair or Secretary of the Division that hosted the qualifying competition. If the basis for the petition does not correspond with information available to the Division officer, then USA FENCING expects the officer to so notify the national office in writing.
- A completed entry form for the Junior Olympic Fencing Championships with the correct registration and entry fees or receipt indicating entry was submitted online. If the petition is not approved, these fees associated with the entry will be refunded.
- Inclusion of a fax back sheet for reply to the petition if athlete does not have a current e-mail address; otherwise responses to the petition will be made by e-mail.

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

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

2.9 Qualifying Competition Protest Process

If the qualifying competition was not run in accordance with the USFA rules, a protest may be submitted in writing specifying the rule infraction(s). This must be done immediately to the Bout Committee at the qualifying competition and within THREE BUSINESS DAYS of the qualifying competition to the National Office; otherwise, no action can be taken by the USFA. 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 USFA Operations Manual Chapter 8:

A fencer may appeal to the USFA Board of Directors a decision made by the Bout Committee at a qualifying competition as a possible violation of the rules, by forwarding in writing the appeal to the National Office within three business days after the qualifying competition. If a Jury of Appeal considered the protest at the competition, there is no further appeal of the decision.

- When a local bout committee has decided on an appeal of a decision of a referee, there is no further appeal. Examples of decisions that are made by the Bout Committee that may be appealed are: the format used at the competition disallowing the entry of a fencer or scheduling multiple events in such a way that a fencer is unable to seek qualification in an event, etc.

- At a competition, the next higher authority is the Jury of Appeal. [t.97 of USFA Rules of Competition: (e) The decisions of the Bout Committee that it takes spontaneously or in its own right (as the first level of authority) are subject to appeal to a Jury of Appeal. The Board of Directors may set aside the results of any qualifying competition which does not conform to the USFA Rules of Competition and/or rules specified in the USFA Operations Manual and require that the qualifying competition be rescheduled, designate the qualifiers from that division or section, or require that some or all of the contesting fencers compete in a special qualifying competition held at the site of the National Championships on the day before the National Championship competition is scheduled to be held.
2.10 Competition Seeding & Formats

2.10.1 Seeding Principles

Seeding is the method of ranking the fencers at the beginning of the competition or the initial direct elimination table of the competition. Depending on the type of competition, different seeding principles are used.

In USFA competitions, fencers from the same Division and/or club or school are separated as much as possible in the first round of a competition by applying the rules regarding the separation of fencers of the same nationality as specified by the FIE Rules for Competition for the particular format being used, treating different club representation/affiliations as if they were different nationalities. If foreign fencers are in attendance, the separation for nationality shall take precedence over separation for Division and/or club/school representation/affiliation.

Club representation is the club or school a fencer declares as representing at the first USFA competition fenced in each season. Affiliation is the club or school at which the fencer belongs in addition to the one stated as official "representation." The primary element in separating club mates is "club representation" declared by fencers. A secondary consideration will be club affiliation.

Details on each event’s format can be found in the following sections. Table 2.10.2.1 is a summary of the different formats. More detailed information can be found with each specific tournament in Section 2.11.

Ranked Fencers in a particular weapon are those who have achieved a ranking under the current national point system. National ranking of a fencer is the fencer’s actual place in the National Rolling Point standings (NRPS). The top “x” refers to actual places and not the number of fencers from national standings in a specific event. For the purpose of seeding competitions, Ranked Fencers are subdivided into two groups:

A. A specified number of Ranked Fencers in each weapon in the current National Rolling Point Standings (NRPS) for a particular category shall be entitled to a seeded draw ahead of all other domestic fencers in national USFA individual competitions of that category. Seeding is only given to fencers ranked as follows; if fencers are not in attendance, lower ranked fencers do not “move up” in seeding:

- Division I National Championships* Top 32 in Senior NRPS
- Veteran Open NAC Top 16 in Veteran Open NRPS
- Veteran Age Championships, NAC Top 8 in Veteran Age NRPS
- Junior NAC, JO Champs Top 24 in Junior NRPS
- Cadet NAC, JO Champs Top 16 in Cadet NRPS
- Youth 14 NAC, Nationals Top 12 in Youth 14 NRPS
- Youth 12 NAC Top 8 in Youth 12 NRPS
- Youth 10 NAC Top 4 in Youth 10 NRPS

*Division I Seeding for NAC competitions is detailed in Chapter 2.11.

B. Other Ranked Fencers who have points in the relevant category shall be seeded ahead of all other domestic fencers with the same letter classification but behind all fencers with a higher letter classification.

At National competitions the remaining fencers on the NRPS for that category of competition shall be seeded ahead of other fencers with the same letter classification regardless of year associated with their classification but after fencers with a higher letter classification. For example, a fencer on the NRPS with a B09 will be seeded after all “A” fencers and before other “B” classified fencers, even those who have earned a “B” more recently. Seeding for Division I NAC competitions is explained in 2.11.
Fencers holding a classification in the weapon being fenced, but not having a ranking under the current national point system, will be seeded according to their letter classification first and, within the same letter classification, by their numeric designation (i.e., the year in which they last earned that letter classification). Within each classification/year group the order will be random.

Fencers with a “U” have not yet earned a classification and will be seeded after all other fencers with a classification, distributed randomly among the other fencers with a “U” in that weapon.

Note: 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.

Seeding Principle:
1. Ranked fencers who are deemed as protected fencers are those who are “entitled to a seeded draw ahead of all other domestic fencers…”
   a. In reviewing pools and any conflicts generated, these fencers **CANNOT** be moved out of the pools in which their draw places them. The only exception would be the case of ties in ranking.
      i. Conflict in a pool is: two or more fencers from the same division and/or same club or school
      ii. Review of pool compositions is to minimize such conflicts within the rules governing conflict resolution
   b. 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. Within a classification group, e.g., A, B, C, etc. ranked fencers 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
3. 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 division mates but not with club mates.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CATEGORY</th>
<th>LOCAL/DIVISIONAL/SECTIONAL/REGIONAL</th>
<th>NATIONAL</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>NAC DIVISION I</td>
<td>OPEN: Within each classification, Nat'l Senior Rolling Pts. then year or classification/year only</td>
<td>FIE Pts. (min 2 placements in top 32 of Senior World Cup, Grand Prix, or World Championships), then National Senior Rolling Points, then Classification/Year</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Division I National Championships</td>
<td></td>
<td>Top 32 in National Senior Rolling Points, then ranking within classification, then classification/year</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Division IA National Championships</td>
<td>Within each classification or classification/year only</td>
<td>Ranking within classification; then classification/year</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Division II, III NAC, National Champs</td>
<td>Classification/Year</td>
<td>Classification/Year</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Veteran Open (40 &amp; Older)</td>
<td>Classification/Year</td>
<td>Top 24 in National Junior Rolling Points, then ranking within classification, then classification/year</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Veteran Age Groups NAC, National Champs</td>
<td>Classification/Year</td>
<td>Top 8 in National Age Group standings, then ranking within classification, then classification/year</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Junior NAC, JOs</td>
<td>Within each classification, Nat'l Junior ranking then year or classification and year only</td>
<td>Top 16 in National Cadet Rolling Points, then ranking within classification, then classification/year</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cadet NAC, JOs</td>
<td>National Cadet ranking within classification, then classification/year or classification and year only</td>
<td>Top 12 in National Youth14 Rolling Points, then ranking within classification, then classification/year</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Youth 14 NAC, National Champs</td>
<td>National Youth 14 ranking within classification, then classification/year or classification and year only</td>
<td>Top 8 in National Youth12 Rolling Points, then ranking within classification, then classification/year</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Youth 12 NAC</td>
<td>National Youth 12 ranking within classification, then classification/year or classification and year only</td>
<td>Top 4 in National Youth10 Rolling Points, then ranking within classification, then classification/year</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Youth 10 NAC</td>
<td>National Youth 10 ranking within classification, then classification/year or classification and year only</td>
<td>Seeding is based on Senior national points and participating fencers’ classification/year as of posted entry deadlines</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Division I Team National Champs</td>
<td>Seeding is based on Senior national points and participating fencers’ classification/year as of posted entry deadlines OR classification and year only</td>
<td>Seeding is based on Senior national points and participating fencers’ classification/year as of posted entry deadlines</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Senior Team National Champs</td>
<td>Seeding is based on Senior national points and participating fencers’ classification/year as of posted entry deadlines OR classification and year only</td>
<td>Seeding is based on Senior national points and participating fencers’ classification/year as of posted entry deadlines</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Under 20 Team JO</td>
<td>Seeding is based on Junior national points and participating fencers’ classification/year as of posted entry deadlines OR classification and year only</td>
<td>Seeding is based on Junior national points and participating fencers’ classification/year as of posted entry deadlines</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Veteran Team NAC</td>
<td>Seeding is based on Veteran Open national points and participating fencers’ classification/year as of posted entry deadlines OR classification and year only</td>
<td>Seeding is based on Veteran Open national points and participating fencers’ classification/year as of posted entry deadlines</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Competition Type</td>
<td>Format Description</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-------------------------------------------------------</td>
<td>-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Division I National Championships</td>
<td>One round of pools; 6 or 7-person pool, 80% promoted to simple direct elimination</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Division I NAC</td>
<td>See 2.11.1</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Division IA, II, III National Championships</td>
<td>One round of pools; 5 and 6 or 6 and 7 persons per pool, 80% promoted to simple direct elimination</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Regional Open Circuit (ROC)</td>
<td>One round of pools (of sizes in accord with the Operations Manual maximized to 6 and 7 fencers as possible), with 100% promoted to a direct elimination table.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Division II, III NAC</td>
<td>One round of pools; 5 and 6 or 6 and 7 persons per pool, 100% promoted to simple direct elimination</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>U20, U17 Junior Olympic Fencing Championships</td>
<td>One round of pools; of 6 or 7 persons per pool, 80% promoted to simple direct elimination</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Junior &amp; Cadet NAC</td>
<td>One round of pools of 6 or 7 persons per pool, 80% promoted to simple direct elimination</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Y14 SYC, NAC &amp; National Championships</td>
<td>One round of pools; 5 and 6 or 6 and 7 persons per pool, 100% promoted to simple direct elimination</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Y12, Y10 NAC, Regional &amp; Super Youth Circuit</td>
<td>One round of pools; 5 and 6 or 6 and 7 persons per pool, 100% promoted to direct elimination in which bouts are best 2-out-of-3, 5-touch bouts, 1 minute rest between bouts.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Veteran Age National Championships</td>
<td>One round of pools; 5 and 6 or 6 and 7 persons per pool, 80% promoted** to simple direct elimination in which bouts are 10-touch bouts with two 3-minute periods. There is a one-minute rest between periods. **Unless there are 8 or fewer in the competition, then 100% promoted. [BoD, September 2008]</td>
<td></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 simple direct elimination in which bouts are 10-touch bouts with two 3-minute periods. There is a one-minute rest between periods. Two rounds of pools; 100% promoted to simple direct elimination.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wheelchair NAC &amp; National Championships</td>
<td>Two rounds of pools; 100% promoted to simple direct elimination. Two rounds of pools; 100% promoted to simple direct elimination.</td>
<td></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>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Bouts in the pool round are 5-touch bouts with a 3-minute fencing time limit. For direct elimination, except where noted, maximum score of bout is 15, with three 3-minute periods. There is a one-minute rest between periods. In sabre direct elimination bouts, except Veterans and Youth 10 and 12, a 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 events, the one-minute rest occurs when one fencer's score reaches 5 touches.

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)/Repêchage: Competitions are said to be by Direct Elimination when a competitor is eliminated from the direct elimination tableau after his or her first loss. Repêchage is a method whereby a fencer is eliminated after two losses prior to the round of 8. When repêchage is used, it will start at the round of 32 or 16 (whichever has a complete table first). Unless otherwise noted, DE bouts are to 15 touches, fenced for foil and epee in three 3-minute segments and for sabre in two segments, with the break when one fencer reaches 8 touches.
2.11 USA Fencing National Competitions
This section details the specific events offered at USFA National Competitions. Each section gives the following information:

- General description of the event
- Whether points can be earned at the event (further information on the award and calculation of points can be found in Chapters 3 and 4)
- All eligibility requirements for the event both at the NAC level and the Championship level (age eligibility details can be found in Table 2.5.1).
- Describes the seeding principles and format of the event both at the NAC level and the Championship level (further information on seeding principles can be found in Chapter 2.10 and the USFA Operations Manual).

2.11.1 Division I
This event offers elite level competition for fencers 13 years of age and older (see exception noted below). Points from this category of competition can count towards the Senior, Junior and Cadet point standings. Details on point standings can be found in Chapter 3. Division I is always a Group A4 competition for the purposes of awarding classifications. See Appendix 2.7 for Classification Reference Chart.

2.11.1.1 Division I NAC

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

Fencers entered by a foreign federation will not need to show proof of comparable classification of “C” or better as long as they meet the age criteria and hold a FIE License for the current season. Foreign fencers who enter themselves in a NAC Division I competition must indicate their national ranking or previous results that are comparable to U.S. “C” classification.

B. Seeding
Seeding Principle 1: Fencers who have a minimum of two top-32 finishes in Senior World Cup, Grand Prix or World Championships will be ranked by their standings on the FIE World Rankings as of 10 days prior to the first day of the NAC Division I tournament.

Seeding Principle 2: Following the fencers who meet Seeding Principle 1 will be fencers who are on the U.S. Senior Rolling Point Standings. Foreign fencers will be placed within the national standings according to the point total of their results in NAC competitions counted in the current U.S. Senior Rolling Point Standings. Foreign fencers who have not fenced in any NAC and who do not meet the criteria for principle 1 will be evaluated according criteria used on determining classifications for foreign fencers.

Seeding Principle 3: Fencers who are not ranked according to Principle 1 or 2 will be ranked by their classification and year (e.g., those with A10 precede A09; those with B10 precede B09, etc.). Fencers in any one letter and year group will be distributed randomly within that group.

C. Format
- Men’s and Women’s Epee
  - One pool round
  - 75% advance to DE
  - Repêchage from table of 32 or 16 (wherever the table is complete)
  - DE bout format: 15 touches in three 3-minute segments
- Men’s and Women’s Foil, Men’s and Women’s Sabre
  - One pool round
  - 75% advance to DE
  - No repêchage
  - DE bout format: 15 touches in three 3-minute segments. In sabre, bouts are fenced to 15 touches, with a 1-minute break when the first fencer reaches 8 touches.
2.11.1.2 Division I National Championships

A. Eligibility (age, classification, qualification path)

Fencers must be 13 years old by January 1 (see Table 2.5.1 for exceptions) of the current season AND

- Be on the current National Senior NRPS\^ at the regular fee entry deadline for these Championships OR
- Earn points\^ at a Division I NAC in the current season OR
- Be in the top 8 of the adjusted\* Junior (Under 19) NRPS at the regular fee entry deadline for these Championships of the current season OR
- Be in the top 4 of the adjusted\* Cadet (Under 16) NRPS at the regular fee entry deadline for these Championships of the current season OR
- Placed in the top 8 in the previous season Division I-A National Championships OR
- Placed in the top 4 in the previous season Division II National Championships OR
- In men's epee and women's epee, one of three fencers named by USA Modern Pentathlon. The top three fencers in the USA. Modern Pentathlon in men's épée and women's épée will be eligible to compete in the Division I men's épée and women's épée events, respectively, without qualifying by any other means. U.S. Modern Pentathlon fencers MUST be USFA members.

\^ Points will be awarded for places 33-64 at Senior, Junior and Cadet NACs if there are at least 160 fencers in the competition. These points will be used for seeding national competitions. In order to be considered on the point standings for the purposes of selection or qualification for each category there must be at least one top 32 result and the total points must be at least: 275 for senior; 165 for junior; 110 for cadet.

\* Age adjusted for the 2013 Division I National Championships: For the Junior NRPS, fencers with birth year of 1993 will be “aged out” i.e., eligible birth year range = 1994-2000. For the Cadet NRPS, fencers with the birth year of 1996 will be “aged out” i.e., eligible birth year range = 1997-2000.

B. Seeding

The top 32 ranked fencers in that competition are entitled to a seeded draw ahead of all other fencers. Other ranked fencers who have points in the relevant category shall be seeded ahead of all other domestic fencers with the same letter classification but behind all fencers with a higher letter classification. Non-ranked fencers are seeded according to classification as described in 2.10.

C. Format

- One round of pools
- 80% promoted to DE
- DE bout format: 15 touches in three 3-minute segments. In sabre, bouts are fenced to 15 touches, with a 1-minute break when the first fencer reaches 8 touches.

2.11.2 Division IA

This event offers high-level competition for fencers 13 years and older. This event is offered only at the USA Fencing National Championships; no points are awarded. Division IA National Championships is always at least a Group A3 competition for the purposes of awarding classifications. See Appendix 2.7 for Classification Reference Chart.

A. Eligibility (age, classification, qualifying path)

Fencers must be 13 years old before January 1 of the current season or on the Junior NRPS AND

- Placed in top 8 at the previous season Division I-A National Championships OR
- Placed in top 4 at the previous season Division II National Championships OR
- Placed in top 8, of those eligible and not already qualified, at any current season Division I-A Regional Open Circuit [BoD, August 31, 2011] OR
- Be on the current season’s Division I-A Regional Open Circuit point standings with at least 1000 points at the regular fee entry deadline for these Championships [BoD, August 31, 2011]
B. Seeding
Fencers holding a classification in the weapon being fenced will be seeded according to their letter
classification first and, within the same letter classification, by their numeric classification (i.e., the year in
which they last earned that letter classification). Fencers with the same letter and numeric classification
are seeded randomly.

C. Format
• One round of pools
• 80% promoted to DE
• DE bout format: 15 touches in three 3-minute segments. In sabre, bouts are fenced to 15
touches, with a 1-minute break when the first fencer reaches 8 touches.

2.11.3 Division II
Division II national tournaments provide competition opportunities for fencers 13 years and older with a
classification C or below. National points are not awarded for placements in the Division II competitions.
Division II is always at least a Group B3 competition for the purposes of awarding classifications. See
Appendix 2.7 for Classification Reference Chart.

2.11.3.1 DIVISION II NAC
A. Eligibility (age, classification)
Fencers must be 13 years old before January 1 of the current season or on the Junior NRPS. Fencers
must have a classification of “C”, “D”, “E” or unclassified.

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

B. Seeding
Classification – by letter and year – C, D, E, U. Within the same class and year, randomly

C. Format
• One round of pools
• 100% promoted to DE
• DE bout format: 15 touches in three 3-minute segments. In sabre, bouts are fenced to 15
touches, with a 1-minute break when the first fencer reaches 8 touches.

2.11.3.2 Division II National Championships
A. Eligibility (age, classification, qualification path)
Fencers must be 13 years old before January 1 of the current season or on the Junior NRPS. Fencers
must have a classification in the weapon of “C”, “D”, “E” or Unclassified at the time of the qualifying
competition AND meet age requirements as above AND
• Place in the top 25% of the current season’s Division Qualifying competition (see Table 2.7.4.1 in
Chapter 2.7) [BoD, September 2006] OR
• Qualified for Division 1A, if classification eligible. [BoD, September 2008] OR
• Finish in the top 10% (with a minimum of 4) of a Division II ROC (see Table 2.7.4.2 in Chapter
2.7) [BoD, September 2010]

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

B. Seeding
Classification – by letter and year – C, D, E, U. Within the same class and year, randomly
2.11.4 Division III
Division III national tournaments provide competition opportunities for fencers 13 years and older with a classification D or below. National points are not awarded for placements in the Division III competitions. Division III is always at least a Group C3 competition for the purposes of awarding classifications. See Appendix 2.7 for Classification Reference Chart.

2.11.4.1 Division III NAC

A. Eligibility (age, classification)
Fencers must be 13 years old before January 1 of the current season or on the Junior NRPS. Fencers must have a classification of “D”, “E” or unclassified.

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

B. Seeding
Classification – by letter and year – D, E, U. Within the same class and year, randomly

C. Format
- One round of pools
- 100% promoted to DE
- DE bout format: 15 touches in three 3-minute segments. In sabre, bouts are fenced to 15 touches, with a 1-minute break when the first fencer reaches 8 touches.

2.11.4.2 Division III National Championships

A. Eligibility (age, classification, qualification path)
Fencers must be 13 years old before January 1 of the current season or on the Junior NRPS. Fencers must have a classification in the weapon of “D”, “E” or Unclassified at the time of the qualifying competition AND meet age requirements as above AND

- Place in the top 25% (see Table 2.7.4.1 in Chapter 2.7 for detailed chart) 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; See Appendix 2.7 for more details) OR
- If separate Division III qualifying competition held by Division, then top 25% of the field will qualify for Division III National Championships [BOD September 2006] OR
- Qualified for Division II. [BOD, September 2008].

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

B. Seeding
Classification – by letter and year – D, E, U. Within the same class and year, randomly

C. Format
- One round of pools
- 80% promoted to DE
- DE bout format: 15 touches in three 3-minute segments. In sabre, bouts are fenced to 15 touches, with a 1-minute break when the first fencer reaches 8 touches.
2.11.5 Junior & Cadet

Junior and Cadet events are held on the national level as part of the North American Cups in July, October, November and January. The Junior Olympic Fencing Championships are held in February and include both Junior and Cadet events. These events, along with designated Division I NACs are part of the selection criteria for the Junior/Cadet World Championship Team. Fencers can earn points at these competitions (See Chapters 3 and 4 for a more detailed explanation of points). Please see Table 2.5.1.A for age criteria for October, November, January and February; Table 2.5.1.B for age criteria for July.

2.11.5.1 Junior & Cadet NAC

A. Eligibility (age, classification)

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

B. Seeding

For Juniors, the top 24 on the Junior Points in the competition are entitled to a seeded draw ahead of all other domestic fencers. For Cadets, the top 16 on the Cadet Points are entitled to a seeded draw ahead of all other domestic fencers. See Chapter 2.10 for further details.

C. Format

- One pool round
- 80% advance to DE
- No Repêchage
- DE bout format: 15 touches in three 3-minute segments. In sabre, bouts are fenced to 15 touches, with a 1-minute break when the first fencer reaches 8 touches.

2.11.5.2 Junior & Cadet Junior Olympic Fencing Championships

The Junior Olympic Fencing Championships are held in February and include both Junior and Cadet events. These events, along with designated Division I NACs are part of the selection criteria for the Junior/Cadet World Championship Team.

A. Eligibility (age, classification, qualification)

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

Fencers must meet age requirements as above and be U.S. citizens or permanent residents.

UNDER 20 (Junior) Fencers must meet age eligibility above AND BE

- on the Junior NRPS\(^\wedge\) after the current season’s January NAC OR
- in the top 16 of the Cadet NRPS after the current season’s January NAC OR
- in the top 25% (see Table 2.7.4.1 in Chapter 2.7) in their Division’s Under 20 J.O. qualifying competition

\(^\wedge\)Points will be awarded for places 33-64 at Senior, Junior and Cadet NACs if there are at least 160 fencers in the competition. These points will be used for seeding national competitions. In order to be considered on the point standings for the purposes of selection or qualification for each category there must be at least one top 32 result and the total points must be at least: 275 for senior; 165 for junior; 110 for cadet.
UNDER 17 (Cadet) Fencers must meet age eligibility above AND BE

- on the Cadet NRPS\(^*\) after the current season’s January NAC OR
- in the top 8 of the Youth 14 NRPS after the current season’s January NAC OR
- in the top 25\% (see Table 2.7.4.1 in Chapter 2.7) in their Division’s Under 17 J.O. qualifying competition OR
- qualified for the Under 20 JO Championships [BOD, October 2004].

\(^*\) Points will be awarded for places 33-64 at Senior, Junior and Cadet NACs if there are at least 160 fencers in the competition. These points will be used for seeding national competitions. In order to be considered on the point standings for the purposes of selection or qualification for each category there must be at least one top 32 result and the total points must be at least: 275 for senior; 165 for junior; 110 for cadet.

B. Seeding

For Juniors, the top 24 on the Junior Points in the competition are entitled to a seeded draw ahead of all other domestic fencers. For Cadets, the top 16 on the Cadet Points are entitled to a seeded draw ahead of all other domestic fencers. See Chapter 2.10 for further details.

C. Format

- One pool round
- 80\% advance to DE
- No Repêchage
- DE bout format: 15 touches in three 3-minute segments. In sabre, bouts are fenced to 15 touches, with a 1-minute break when the first fencer reaches 8 touches.

2.11.6 Youth 14/12/10

The Youth National tournaments provide experience for fencers 14 and under; 12 and under; and 10 and under. Points are awarded for these competitions. At least 2 athletes must compete (have fenced) in a given SYC and/or RYC age/weapon event to fulfill eligibility requirements for the Y10 and/or Y12 NAC. Event results submitted with only 1 participant listed will not result in the athlete fulfilling the qualification requirement. In Y14 events, 3 fencers must compete in order for points to be awarded.

2.11.6.1 Youth 14/12/10 NAC

A. Eligibility (age, classification)

- **Y14**: Subject to the exceptions in Table 2.5.1, fencers must be at least 11 years old as of December 31 of the season and no more than 14 years old as of December 31 of the current season.
- **Y12**: Subject to the exceptions in Table 2.5.1, fencers must be at least 9 years old as of December 31 of the season, and no more than 12 years old as of December 31 of the current season.
- **Y10**: Fencers must be at least 7 years old as of December 31 of the season, and no more than 10 years old as of December 31 of the current season.

There are no classification requirements.

B. Qualifying Path -

- **Y14**: no qualifying path

Y12 & Y10: Fencers must fence in at least one Regional or Super Youth Competition in the current season to be eligible to enter the same category and weapon at the April and July NACs; minimum field size at an RYC or SYC is 2. Fencers must state on the paper entry form the RYC/SYC competition(s) at which he or she fulfilled the requirement for either the Youth NACs. Failure to do so will cause the rejection of the entry.
YOUTH-12 Tournament - Fencers must meet age eligibility above AND
- Fence in one Regional Youth Circuit or one Super Youth Circuit or NAC Youth competition in the current season in the age and weapon category (categories) in which fencer requests entry acceptance OR
- Be on the Youth 12 national point standings after the April NAC

YOUTH-10 Tournament - Fencers must meet age eligibility above AND
- Fence in one Regional Youth Circuit or one Super Youth Circuit or NAC Youth competition in the current season in the age and weapon category (categories) in which fencer requests entry acceptance OR
- Be on the Youth 10 national point standings after the April NAC

C. Seeding
The following ranked fencers are entitled to a seeded draw ahead of all other domestic fencers. See Chapter 2.10 for further details.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Youth 14 NAC</th>
<th>Youth 12 NAC</th>
<th>Youth 10 NAC</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Top 12 in Youth 14 points</td>
<td>Top 8 in Youth 12 points</td>
<td>Top 4 in Youth 10 points</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

D. Format
Youth 14
- One round of pools
- 100% promoted out of pools to direct elimination tableau
- DE bout format: 15 touches in three 3-minute segments in foil or epee. In sabre, bouts are fenced to 15 touches, with a 1-minute break when the first fencer reaches 8 touches.

Youth 10 & Youth 12 (Reminder: At all Youth 10 competitions, blade length must be 32.5 inches.)
- One round of pools
- 100% promoted to direct elimination tableau
- DE bout format: Best two of three 5-touch 3 minute bouts

2.11.6.2 Youth 14 Championships
A. Qualifying Path
Fencers must meet age eligibility above AND
- Earn Youth 14 points at a current season Super Youth Circuit Competition OR
- Earn points at a current season Youth 14 NAC, Cadet NAC OR
- Earn points at the previous season’s Youth 14 or Cadet USA Fencing National Championships OR
- Place in the top 25% (see Table 2.7.4.1 in Chapter 2.7) of the fencer’s Division’s Youth 14 qualifying competition held in the current season OR
- Place first in the Y14 event at a current-season RYC tournament [BoD, October 2010]. In mixed events, only the first place finisher is recognized as qualified. There must be at least 2 fencers in the RYC Y14 competitive field.

B. Seeding
The following ranked fencers are entitled to a seeded draw ahead of all other domestic fencers. See Chapter 2.10 for further details.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Youth 14</th>
<th>Top 12 in Youth 14 points</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

C. Format
- One round of pools
- 100% promoted out of pools to direct elimination tableau
- DE bout format: 15 touches in three 3-minute segments in foil or epee. In sabre, bouts are fenced to 15 touches, with a 1-minute break when the first fencer reaches 8 touches.
2.11.7 Veteran
There are five categories of veteran events: Open (ages 40 and above), V40 (ages 40-49), V50 (ages 50-59), V60 (ages 60-69), and V70 (ages 70 and above). At NAC tournaments, Open, V40, V50, V60, and V70 events are held. V40, V50, V60 and V70 events are held at the USA Fencing National Championships. Points are awarded for these competitions. See Chapters 3 and 4 for more details on how points are awarded and calculated.

2.11.7.1 Veteran Open, V40, V50, V60, V70 North American Cup
A. Eligibility (age, classification)
Open: Must be at least 40-years-old as of December 31 of the season.

V40: Must be at least 40 years old as of December 31 of the current season, and must not have reached 50-years-old as of the first day of the month in which the next Veteran World Championships will be held (typically the September after the USA Fencing National Championships; 2013 Veteran World Championships will be held in October).

Age eligibility for the separate age categories is governed by the FIE rules for the Veteran World Championships.

V50: Must be at least 50-years-old and must not have reached 60-years-old as of the first day of the month in which the next Veteran World Championships will be held (typically the September after the USA Fencing National Championships; 2013 Veteran World Championships will be held in October).

V60: Must be at least 60-years-old and must not have reached the age of 70 as of the first day of the month in which the next Veteran World Championships will be held (typically the September after the USA Fencing National Championships; 2013 Veteran World Championships will be held in October).

V70: Must be at least 70-years-old as of the first day of the month in which the next Veteran World Championships will be held (typically the September after the USA Fencing National Championships; 2013 Veteran World Championships will be held in October).

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

C. Seeding
The following ranked fencers are entitled to a seeded draw ahead of all other domestic fencers. See Chapter 2.10 for further details.

| Event                        | Seed
|------------------------------|------
| Veteran Open NAC             | Top 16 in Veteran points
| Veteran Age Championships, NAC | Top 8 in Veteran Age points

D. Format (NAC)
- One round of pools
- 100% promoted to direct elimination tableau
- DE bout format: 10 touches in two 3-minute segments. In sabre, bouts are fenced to 10 touches, with a 1-minute break when the first fencer reaches 5 touches.

2.11.7.1 Veteran – V40, V50, V60, V70 – USA Fencing National Championships
A. Eligibility (age, classification)
Age eligibility for the separate age categories is governed by the FIE rules for the Veteran World Championships.

For the USA Fencing National Championships, fencers must be a U.S. citizen or permanent resident.
V40: Must be at least 40 years old as of December 31 of the current season, and must not have reached 50-years-old as of the first day of the month in which the next Veteran World Championships will be held (typically the September after the USA Fencing National Championships; 2013 Veteran World Championships will be held in October).

V50: Must be at least 50-years-old and must not have reached 60 years old as of the first day of the month in which the next Veteran World Championships will be held (typically the September after the USA Fencing National Championships; 2013 Veteran World Championships will be held in October).

V60: Must be at least 60-years-old and must not have reached the age of 70 as of the first day of the month in which the next Veteran World Championships will be held (typically the September after the USA Fencing National Championships; 2013 Veteran World Championships will be held in October).

V70: Must be at least 70-years-old as of the first day of the month in which the next Veteran World Championships will be held (typically the September after the USA Fencing National Championships; 2013 Veteran World Championships will be held in October).

B. Qualifying Path
Fencer must state on entry the competition at which he or she met qualification criteria. Failure to do so will be the basis for rejection of entry. For the USA Fencing National Championships, fencers must be a U.S. citizen or permanent resident.

VETERAN – must meet age eligibility requirements above AND compete in the weapon event
• Current season Division qualifying competition for Division II and/or Division III Championships in which only those with a “C” classification or lower (D, E, or U) may compete OR
• Any Regional Open Circuit event during the current season OR
• Any NAC during the current season.

C. Seeding
The following ranked fencers are entitled to a seeded draw ahead of all other domestic fencers. See Chapter 2.10 for further details.

Veteran Age Championships Top 8 in Veteran Age points

D. Format
• One round of pools
• 80% promoted from pool round; however, if there are 8 or fewer fencers registered in the event, 100% shall be promoted from pool round [BOD, September 2008]
• DE bout format: 10 touches in two 3-minute segments. In sabre, bouts are fenced to 10 touches, with a 1-minute break when the first fencer reaches 5 touches or the first 3 minutes end, whichever occurs first.
2.11.8 Team Events

There are five categories of team events: Division I, Senior, Veteran, Under 20, Under 19 and Youth 14. The Under 20 team events are held at the Junior Olympic Fencing Championships. The Under 19 team events are held at the July NAC. The Senior team events are held at the USA Fencing National Championships and the November NAC. Veteran team events are held at the July NACs. Division I Team Championships are held in conjunction with the April Division I Championships. The Youth 14 team events are held at the April NAC.

A. Eligibility

Members of the Senior or Division I team must be at least 13-years-old as of December 31 of the current season.

Members of the Under 19 team must be at least 13-years-old and under 19-years-old as of January 1 of the next season. Members of the Under 20 team must be under 20 years old as of January 1 of the current season. Members of the Veteran team must be at least 40 years old as of December 31 of current season. 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. Per the Board of Directors, February 2012 meeting, there is no longer a minimum number of teams required to hold the event. Per the Board of Directors, March 2012 meeting, classifications are no longer awarded in team championship events.

Team events at NACs: All non-championship team events held at the national level will have no club or division affiliation requirements. Any three or four fencers that are age-, gender- and/or classification-eligible for the event may enter a team. [BoD, July 2010]

Junior Olympics/Division I/USA Fencing National Championships [BoD July 2010, revised]:
- All Club Teams and team members must be current club and competitive USFA members respectively.
- No more than three teams per USFA member club per event will be allowed to enter.
- Members of the team must meet age criteria as stated in Table 2.5.1
- Members of the team must have represented the Club at a competition during the 2012-2013 Season.
- Club Team members must be U.S. citizens or permanent residents who have not represented another country in the past three years, and have represented the club in USFA competitions this season.
- USA Modern Pentathlon may enter one team in men’s épée and one team in women’s épée in the Division I National Team Championships without participating in a qualifying competition. [BOD February 2000]
- Exceptions to club membership requirements are granted to members of teams representing USA Modern Pentathlon or any branch of the Armed Services. Those fencers must submit entries identifying themselves as members of these teams by the deadline for entries to the National Championships. By doing so, these fencers waive the right to fence on any other team. Members on these teams need not have represented that organization prior to the National Championships. The rules governing members of the teams for the Division I National Team Championships are not waived for this exemption: the fencers must have a classification of “A”, “B”, or “C”.

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B. Registration
Teams are required to submit 3-4 team member names and captain with the team entry - this will streamline the verification of membership, NRPS and classification prior to the tournament. Those fencers who are NCAA fencers will need to self-monitor club affiliation and NCAA eligibility.
1. Team events will follow posted entry deadlines.
2. Seeding information will be based on the same deadlines used for individual events.
3. Preliminary team seeding and table will be posted on the USFA web site.
   a. This will allow the teams to verify information and contact the National Office with any corrections by a designated date. If teams fail to do so, information stands as presented.

C. At the Venue
1. ALL Team Captains or their representatives must check-in with the Team Events Bout Committee during the designated time to verify their team; Captains or representatives will need to remain present in the venue for fencer order determination. Once changes are made, 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 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. (Match order: 3-6, 1-5, 2-4, 1-6, 3-4, 2-5, 1-4, 2-6, 3-5)
5. Direct elimination from beginning of competition. Relay format, 9 bouts to a maximum score of 45 – increments of 5 touches or maximum time of 3 minutes for each bout. Fence-off for 3rd.

D. Seeding Teams
Seeding for national team competitions is in accordance with the rules established for the U.S. National Team Championships.

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

For the Under 19/Under 20 team event, seeding is based on the participating fencers’ Junior national 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 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 at the National Team Championships a seed value is calculated for each team based on the national rolling point standing (NRPS): senior point standings for the Senior teams, junior point standings for the Under 19/Under 20 teams, and veteran open point standings for Veteran teams, and/or the classification of each member of the team. The National standing and the classification of each member of the team are those as of 10 days prior to the start of the National Championships.

NRPS Points: The first set of team points for each member of the team is based on the fencer’s national rolling point standing (NRPS) A fencer who is first on the NRPS receives 132 points, second receives 131 points and so on, down to 32nd (32nd = 101 points). Fencers who are ranked 33rd or lower on the NRPS are allocated 50 points. Fencers who are not on the NRPS are not given any points. (See appendix for complete points table)

Classification: Each member of the team receives points based on their classification and the year classification was last earned.
   • As are given a value between 670 and 640
• Bs are given a value between 570 and 540
• Cs are given a value between 470 and 440
• Ds are given a value between 370 and 340
• Es are given a value between 270 and 340
• Us are given a value of 100 points

Within each classification the year is reflected in 10 point increments, with an A12 worth 670 points, an A11 worth 660 points, A10 given 650 points and A09 worth 640 points. The same process is used for the other letter classifications (B, C, D, and E). Those fencers who have yet to earn a classification (U) are given 100 points.

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

Example:

<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>A12</td>
<td>670</td>
<td>785</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>C11</td>
<td></td>
<td>460</td>
<td>460</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>U</td>
<td></td>
<td>100</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>53rd</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>B12</td>
<td>570</td>
<td>620</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**TEAM SEEDING POINTS:** (Sum of the best three) **1865**
Chapter 3 – Awarding Points

3.1 Definition of Point Standings
USA Fencing maintains national point standings for specific groups of the membership: Youth 10, Youth 12, Youth 14, Cadet (Under-17), Junior (Under-20), Senior (13 and older), and Veteran (40 and older, 40-49, 50-59, 60-69, and 70 and older). The basic point standings are considered the National Rolling Point Standings (NRPS). The point standings are posted on the USFA website and through RailStation and updated after each national point tournament and designated international competition.

The tables used to determine how many points a placement is awarded for each category of national point competitions can be found in Appendix 2.3-2.5

National Rolling Point Standings are used in the following situations:
- To seed USFA national competitions.
- As a qualifying path to the National Championships and the Junior Olympic Fencing Championships.
- To determine which fencers are eligible to submit entry requests for Junior World Cups, Senior World Cups and Grand Prix events, and/or designated Cadet competitions. (See Chapter 5).
- As a measure of the progress of the fencer in his or her peer group.

National Team Point standings (calculated for Wheelchair, Veteran, Cadet, Junior and Senior) are used to select fencers for specific international teams (see Chapters 7-12 for weapon specific criteria and Chapter 6.13 for Veteran details, Chapter 14 for Wheelchair), and may be used to select fencers for specific USFA or USOC funding programs (see Chapter 13). Through the first part of the fencing season rolling point standings are used to select entries for designated international competitions: European Cadet, Junior World Cup, Senior World Cup and Grand Prix competitions (see Chapter 5). Team point standings are used in the later part of the season to prioritize entry requests to World Cup competitions and to select members of the teams to any official USA Fencing international team, e.g., World Championships, Olympic Games, etc.

USA Fencing maintains regional point standings for specific groups of the membership: Division IA, Division II and Veteran (40 and older). The basic point standings are considered the Regional Point Standings (RPS). The point standings are posted on the USFA website and through RailStation and updated after each Regional Open Circuit tournament.

The Youth Development Committee maintains regional point standings for specific groups of the membership: Youth 10, Youth 12, and Youth 14. The basic point standings are considered the Regional Ranking Point System (RRPS). This pilot program is design to recognize and reward both participation and accomplishment at the RYC Tournament level. The goal of this system is to motivate developing youth athletes to participate in multiple RYC tournaments throughout the competitive season providing them with the developmentally appropriate level of competition. For more information on this program, please visit the USFA website, Events, About Tournaments, RYC Tournament Organizer Resources, Documents.

3.2 Earning Domestic Points
Structure of Point Standings
The calculation of the total points for Senior, Junior, and Cadet is based on a combination of two groups: Group I and Group II. The point total is the sum of the points from Group I and Group II, according to a defined set of criteria. In general the Group I set reflects domestic point tournaments while, in most cases, Group II set reflects international competitions. The rolling point standing reflects the national ranking of fencers in each category. A similar process determines the team standings for which only those competitions specified in the selection criteria are included in the point total. The methods used for calculating point totals are given in Chapter 4 for each age group, and team selection criteria is explained for each weapon in Chapters 7-12.
3.2.1 USFA National Domestic Point Tournaments

**North American Cup (NAC)**
- **Division I** – points count for Senior, Junior, and Cadet standings (each weapon differs on how Division I competitions may count and may not be used in all categories or all weapons)
- **Veteran** – points count for the Veteran group (40 & older) and for the Veteran age groups – 40-49, 50-59, 60-69, and 70 and older
- **Junior** – points count for the Junior and Cadet standings
- **Cadet** – points count for the Cadet and Youth 14 standings
- **Youth 14** – points count for the Youth 14 and Youth 12 standings
- **Youth 12** – points count for the Youth 12 and Youth 10 standings
- **Youth 10** – points count for the Youth 10 standings

**Junior Olympic Fencing Championships (JO)**
- **Junior (Under-20) Championships** – points count for the Junior and Cadet standings
- **Cadet (Under-17) Championships** – points count for the Cadet and Youth 14 standings

**USA Fencing National Championships**
- **Division I National Championships** – points count for Senior, Junior, and Cadet point standings (there are instances when Division I National Championships may not be included).
- **Veterans Age Group Championships** – points count for 40-49, 50-59, 60-69, and 70 and older point standings
- **Youth 14 Championships** – points count for Youth 14 and Youth 12 point standings

**July NAC**
- **Junior (Under-19)** – points count for Junior and Cadet standings
- **Cadet (Under-16)** – points count for Cadet and Youth 14 standings
- **Youth 12** – points count for Youth 12 and Youth 10 point standings
- **Youth 10** – points count for Youth 10 point standings

**Super Youth Circuit (SYC) Tournaments** – Best SYC result counts toward point totals on a rolling point basis; points are updated **ONLY AFTER** results and program service fee are received by the National Office from the SYC tournament organizer
- **Youth 14** – points count for Youth 14 and Youth 12 point standings
- **Youth 12** – points count for Youth 12 and Youth 10 point standings
- **Youth 10** – points count for Youth 10 point standings

3.2.2 Awarding Points Based on Placement - Domestic

The number of points earned is determined by placement and category of competition. The point tables for the National tournaments for the current fencing season are found in Appendix 2.3-2.4. These tables show the number of points that could be earned for placement in each category of point competition.

The schedule for calculating the domestic points for the Rolling Point Standings (RPS) throughout the season, from one National point competition to another (or one SYC to another), can be found with each point table category in Chapter 4.

After the Junior and Cadet World Championships in April, Junior and Cadet point standings reflect the end of season standings. For the NAC held at the National Championships in July (started in 2011) the cadet and junior NRPS reflect only those fencers who are age-eligible for the next World Cadet and World Junior Championships respectively. On or about August 1 the Youth and Veteran 40-49 point standings are revised to include only those who meet the age criteria for the new season. After the Veterans World Championships in the fall, the remaining Veteran age point standings are modified to reflect those who are eligible in each age category for the next Veteran World Championships.
The Super Youth Circuit (SYC) competitions will award points to the top 40% of the field regardless of where the cut-off occurs, be it within a pool round or a direct elimination bracket. At least 2 athletes must compete (have fenced) in a given SYC age/weapon competition to fulfill eligibility requirements for the Y10 and/or Y12 NAC. Event results submitted with only 1 participant listed will not result in the athlete fulfilling the qualification requirement. In Y14 events, 3 fencers must compete in order for points to be awarded.

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

For Senior, Junior, Cadet and Youth National point competitions (NAC, J.O. and National Championships), points will be awarded starting with the direct elimination round where the top 40% of the competitive field falls, to a maximum* place of 32nd. In some cases points will be awarded for places 33-64 depending on the size of the competitive field (see explanation below). If 40% cut-off falls within a pool round, the points will be awarded starting with the direct elimination round. In competitions that include simple direct elimination format, the rounds are places final 4, 5-8, 9-16, 17-32, 33-64*.

For competitions that have direct elimination with repêchage beginning at 32 the rounds are places: final 4, 5-8, 9-12, 13-16, 17-24, 25-32, 33-64*. For competitions with repêchage starting at 16, the rounds are: final 4, 5-8, 9-12, 13-16, 17-32.

If 40% of the field equals a mixed fraction number, the fraction portion of the number is dropped; and the whole number equals the place for which points will be awarded.

In case of a tie for placement, 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.

*NOTE:
Points will be awarded for places 33-64 at Senior, Junior and Cadet NAC competitions if there are at least 160 fencers in the competition; varies by weapon, check chapters 7-12 for details. These points will only be reflected in Senior, Junior and Cadet Point standings and will be used for seeding national competitions. In order to be considered on the point standings for the purposes of selection or qualification based on points athlete must have at least one top 32 result and the total points must be at least: senior = 275; junior = 165; cadet = 110.

3.2.3 Regional Open Circuit (ROC)
The Regional Open Circuit (ROC) point standings are calculated according to the following guidelines:
In each ROC category (Division I-A, Division II, and Veterans), points will be awarded to the top 32 fencers in each respective event at each of the following tournaments, using the same schedule of points as that used for placement in Division I events without repêchage:
• Any sanctioned tournament designated as a Regional Open Circuit tournament; OR
• Any North American Cup tournament; OR
• USA Fencing National Championships.

For purposes of determining a fencer’s ROC points list placement, the fencer’s best three results from current season Division I-A tournaments will be utilized to determine a fencer’s eligibility for Division I-A National Championships.
3.2.4 Regional Youth Circuit (RYC)
The Youth Development Committee maintains regional point standings for specific groups of the membership: Youth 10, Youth 12, and Youth 14. The basic point standings are considered the Regional Ranking Point System (RRPS). This pilot program is designed to recognize and reward both participation and accomplishment at the RYC Tournament level. The goal of this system is to motivate developing youth athletes to participate in multiple RYC tournaments throughout the competitive season providing them with the developmentally appropriate level of competition. For more information on this program, please visit the USFA website, Events, About Tournaments, RYC Tournament Organizer Resources, Documents.

3.2.5 Expiration and Replacement of Points
For the National Rolling Point Standings (NRPS) a current competition result replaces the comparable competition result of the prior season. If the competition is not being held in the next season or is not included in the criteria for Team Points, those points are dropped 12 months after they were earned. Points earned at National Championships, including Junior Olympic Fencing Championships, are retained until the next Championships.

The rolling point concept was introduced for the Youth Point standings at the beginning of the 2010-2011 season. As the SYC tournaments vary each season in terms of location and timing, the rolling point standings for youth use the sequence number (e.g., SYC #3 last season is replaced by SYC #3 this season) of a tournament vs. location/organizer/date to determine when a previous SYC is replaced with a "current" SYC. See Chapter 4.5 for schedule of tournament replacements as it will affect the Youth Rolling Point standings.
3.3 Awarding of Points – International
Chapter 5 describes the different international competitions and who is eligible to compete in each one.

The point tables for international points can be found in Appendix 2.5. When official results are not available on the Internet, international points for USFA national point standings will be awarded after the complete official results have been submitted to the USFA International Programs Department. Results must be submitted within 30 days of an international competition. When an international competition occurs close to or at the same time as the time specified for selection of fencers for an international team, then the results must be submitted within five business days after that competition to be considered for the team point standings.

Changes to the National Rolling Point Standings (NRPS) will be used for seeding a domestic point competition if the international results are submitted or posted on the FIE website at least ten days prior to the domestic point tournament.

Certain FIE Junior World Cup individual competitions and European Fencing Confederation Cadet competitions are selected by each National Weapon Coach and annotated as Designated International competitions. These competitions are selected in accordance with the plan of the weapon towards developing world-class fencers. All 8 Senior World Cup and Grand Prix competitions are designated for senior point standings be it for the current team selection or for the start of the following season team selection. The Designated International and World Cup and Grand Prix competitions are normally considered in the Group II calculations.

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

- Fencer placed in the direct elimination round of 4, 8, 16, 32, or 64 in which the top 40% of the competitive field falls to a maximum of 32nd place, or 64th as specified in item b below.

- If the strength factor of the World Cup competition equals 2.0 and the fencer is promoted to the 2nd day table of 64 (complete or incomplete), placements between 33 and 64 will be awarded points (see Appendix 2.5 for point table).

If the fencer’s total number of points is less than 275 for Senior standings, 165 for Junior standings, or 110 for cadet standings OR does not include one domestic point result of 32nd place or better, the fencer is not considered satisfying qualification or selection standards that are based on points.
Points awarded for international competitions will remain in place until the competition is held again in the following calendar year. If such competition is not held the next calendar year or if the competition is not designated by the national coach, the points will be dropped 12 months after that international point competition. Points earned at World Championships remain until the next World Championships or Olympic Games. Points earned at the Olympic Games remain in effect until the next World Championships.

Results obtained by junior or cadet fencers at Designated Senior World Cup or Grand Prix competitions held after the Junior and Cadet World teams are selected will be considered in Senior rolling point standings only unless otherwise specified in team selection for the next season.
3.3.1 Strength Factor for USFA International Points
The Strength Factor (SF) is a multiplier used to gauge the strength of the World Cup (Senior and Junior) or Senior Grand Prix competition and used to determine the number of USFA points earned for placement in the competition. Some Designated Cadet competitions will be assigned a multiplier, based on the national coach’s assessment of its expected competitive strength. The Junior and Senior Strength Factor (SF) takes into consideration the size (N) of the field (actual number of competitors) and the number of FIE ranked fencers in the competition. If a competitor is on both the Junior and Senior FIE ranking list, the better of the two values is used in the calculation of the Junior (JSF) or Senior (SSF) Strength Factor. The SSF is applied to Column M of the Point Table in Appendix 2.5. The JSF is applied to Column L of the Point Table in Appendix 2.5. The FIE standings used are those at the start of the competition. The maximum value allowed for the SF is 2.0, even if the formula generates a higher value.

FORMULA FOR SENIOR STRENGTH FACTOR (SSF)

SSF = \[\frac{N/10 + 7(Sr8) + 6(Sr16) + 5(Sr32) + 4(Sr64) + 3(Jr16) + 2(Sr100)}{100}\]
Where SSF = Senior Strength Factor
N = Number of Competitors
Sr8 = No. of fencers 1-8 in the FIE Senior World Cup standings
Sr16 = No. of fencers 9-16 in the FIE Senior World Cup standings
Sr32 = No. of fencers 17-32 in the FIE Senior World Cup standings
Sr64 = No. of fencers 33-64 in the FIE Senior World Cup standings
Sr100 = No. of fencers 65-100 in the FIE Senior World Cup standings
Jr16 = No. of fencers 1-16 in the FIE Junior World Cup Standings

FORMULA FOR JUNIOR STRENGTH FACTOR (JSF)

JSF = \[\frac{N/3 + 10(Jr8) + 8(Jr16) + 6(Jr32) + 12(Sr16)}{100}\]
Where JSF = Junior Strength Factor
N = Number of Competitors
Jr8 = No. of fencers 1-8 in the FIE Junior World Cup standings
Jr16 = No. of fencers 9-16 in the FIE Junior World Cup standings
Jr32 = No. of fencers 17-32 in the FIE Junior World Cup standings
Sr16 = No. of fencers 1-16 in the FIE Senior World Cup standings
Chapter 4 – Point Standings and Team Selection

4.1 Overview of Point Calculations
Point standings are calculated differently for each age group and for each weapon in the case of Senior, Junior, and Cadet. The formula for Youth and Veteran is the same regardless of weapon and age group in terms of which competitions are considered and how points are calculated.

This chapter will discuss typical rolling point cycles for each of the age categories for which the USFA has established an objective point system. For the Senior, Junior, and Cadet categories it is important to read the relevant weapon chapter (Chapters 7-12) to understand the elements included for the Team point standings.

Rolling and Team point standings are based on the sum of points earned in Group I and Group II sets of competitions defined by the team selection criteria for each category and weapon. In general the Group I set reflects domestic point tournaments while, in most cases, Group II set reflects international competitions. The variations in Group I and Group II regarding the competitions that are counted is based on the performance plan for each weapon and each age category.

The calculations for rolling points will reflect what competitions and what weight values each competition is given for team selection for the new season. Thus changes will occur in how points are handled from one season to another and from one tournament to the next. Changes in weight values will occur with the latest competition; the manner in which competitions are counted and points are calculated will change based on next season’s selection criteria after the last team has been selected in the current season.

4.1.1 Point Standings
For the Senior point standings, the minimum number of points is 275 of which there must be points for at least one top 32 result at a domestic point competition. For the Junior point standings, the minimum number of points is 165 of which there must be points for at least one top 32 result at a domestic point competition. Similarly, for Cadet point standings, the minimum number of points is 110 of which there must be points for at least one top 32 result at a domestic point competition. If fencer’s point totals falls below the minimum or there is not at least one top 32 result points, the standing will ONLY be used for seeding national competition but will not satisfy standards for selection or qualification based on points.

For the National Rolling Point Standings (NRPS), a current competition result replaces the comparable competition result of the prior season or year unless such competition is not being held during the next season. In that case, points earned at a specific point competition will be valid for 12 months. Points earned at National Championships, including Junior Olympic Fencing Championships, are retained until the next such Championships.

### DOMESTIC COMPETITIONS USED FOR ROLLING AND TEAM

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TOURNAMENT TYPE</th>
<th>POINTS COUNTED IN</th>
<th>REPLACED BY</th>
<th>2012-2013 Team</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>DOMESTIC POINT TOURNEY</td>
<td></td>
<td>2012-2013 Rolling</td>
<td>2012-2013 Team</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Div. I NAC</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>October 2012</td>
<td>For use for Jr &amp; Cdt</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>December 2011</td>
<td>November 2012</td>
<td>See Chapters 7-12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>January 2012</td>
<td>December 2012</td>
<td>See Chapters 7-12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Div. I Natl Champs</td>
<td>April 2012- Rolling Only For Jr &amp; Cdt all Wpns except CWE</td>
<td>April 2013</td>
<td>For use for Jr &amp; Cdt</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>For Jr and Cdt</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>See Chapters 7-12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Div. I Natl Champs</td>
<td>April 2012</td>
<td>April 2013</td>
<td>See Chapters 7-12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Junior NAC</td>
<td>November 2011</td>
<td>November 2012</td>
<td>See Chapters 7-12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>January 2012</td>
<td>January 2013</td>
<td>See Chapters 7-12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cadet NAC</td>
<td>October 2011</td>
<td>October 2012</td>
<td>See Chapters 7-12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>November 2011</td>
<td>January 2013</td>
<td>See Chapters 7-12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>J0’s - Jr &amp; Cdt</td>
<td>February 2012</td>
<td>February 2013</td>
<td>For use Jr/Cdt World Team. See Ch. 7-12</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
4.2 Senior Point Standings
Senior fencers who meet eligibility criteria may compete and earn USFA National Points at Division I domestic events. Highly ranked Senior fencers can request entry to and earn points at designated Senior World Cup and Grand Prix competitions. See Chapter 5 for eligibility details.

Senior International points are calculated using the point table in Appendix 2.5. A Strength Factor is applied in calculating international points, described in Chapter 3.3.

4.3 Junior Point Standings
Junior fencers may earn National Points at National Junior and Division I competitions. Highly ranked Junior point fencers can request entry to and earn points at designated Junior World Cup and Senior World Cup and Grand Prix competitions. See Chapter 5 for eligibility details.

The (age) cycle for the Junior point standings starts at the July NAC and closes after the World Junior Championships. The July Junior NAC age eligibility is in accordance with the next World Junior Championships (i.e., between the ages of 13 and 19 as of January 1 of the year of the next World Championships). When Division I National Championships are held in April points earned at that competition may count for the next season only in Rolling point standings.

Junior and Senior International points are calculated using the point table in Appendix 2.5. A Strength Factor is applied to the value in the point table for Junior and Senior World Cup competitions, as described in Chapter 3.3.

4.4 Cadet Point Standings
Cadet fencers may compete and earn USFA National points in their age category and in the Junior category. Points may be earned and considered in Cadet Rolling points and possibly in Team selection criteria. That determination will be made each season. For 2012-2013, see Chapters 7-12 to check the use of Division I NAC and Division I Nationals for each cadet weapon.

Cadet fencers who have achieved high standings may be accepted to compete in designated international Cadet competitions and may be considered to compete in Junior World Cup competitions. The restrictions on entering international competitions reflect the standards of performance expected of any fencer prior to advancing to international competition. See Chapter 5 for details. The minimum total number of points a fencer must have to be listed on the Cadet Point standings is 110 of which at least one point result must be a placement of 32nd or better.

The (age) cycle for the Cadet point standings starts at the July NAC held during the National Championships and closes after the following World Cadet Championships. The July Cadet NAC reflects age eligibility as specified for the next World Cadet Championships (i.e., between the ages of 13 and 16 as of January 1 of the next World Cadet Championships).

Designated Cadet Competitions are international competitions restricted to top point Cadet fencers. Cadet fencers can earn Group II points at those competitions for rolling and team point standings.

There is no strength factor formula for any of the international designated cadet competitions. The National coach in each weapon decides on the international cadet competitions as part of the World Cadet Team selection criteria for that weapon and may decide that specific competitions are given a weight value (WV). That weight value is then applied to the points earned for specific placement at that international designated cadet competition. Points are awarded to a maximum place of 32nd.
4.5 Youth Rolling Point Standings

For the three Youth categories, points may be earned by competing at North American Circuit (NAC) competitions for one’s own age category and the next older category. For example, Y12 fencer can earn points on the Y12 Point Standings at Y12 and Y14 point competitions. Points can also be earned through the Super Youth Circuit (SYC) competitions. The best SYC result will count towards fencer’s total in youth point standings. The best SYC result is the one in which the fencer earns the most points in his or her age category and the next older category for Y10 and Y12 standings.

Youth fencers who are too young to compete in the next age category can compete in that next age category if they are on the point standings for their age category in that weapon at the entry deadline for the competition or tournament. For example, if a fencer is listed on the National Y10 point standings in men’s foil at the entry deadline for the competition or tournament, that fencer can compete in the Y12 men’s foil competition even if the fencer is younger than the minimum age required. See Chapter 2.5 for specifications for each age category.

The season for the Youth point standings coincides with the membership year, August 1 through July 31; the point standings after the July NAC are the final standings for the three Youth age categories for that season. The point standings on August 1, the beginning of the new season, are updated to include only those fencers who meet the age criteria for the new season for each age category in each weapon.

For the Youth point standings, the point total is the sum of the best four points earned at the eligible tournaments for that age group. For example, for the Youth 10 point standings, the point total is the sum of the best four points earned at the combination of Youth 10 and Youth 12 competitions at the NAC tournaments and the one SYC where the fencer has earned the most points in SYC competitions at which the fencer has competed in the last 12 months (see Chapter 3.2.3).

The youth age group point total is calculated from the best two results in the fencer’s own national age group competitions. Age group point winner patches are given in each Youth Age group (Y14, Y12, and Y10) at USA Fencing National Championships/July NAC.

The Youth point standings will be computed on a rolling point basis whereby a current SYC competition will replace a similar SYC held last season. The SYC may be held at a different location and different time periods so the critical determinant for replacement is the sequence or order of SYC last season to current season or when 12 months has elapsed whichever occurs first. Therefore, SYC #1 last season will be replaced by SYC #1 this season and so on. Only the best SYC result (highest point total) in each age category will count towards the total number of points.

**Formula for Youth Point Standings**

**BEST FOUR RESULTS = TOTAL POINTS:**

**Youth 10:** Sum of – Highest SYC Y10 result, Highest SYC Y12, the last two NAC Y10 and Y12  
**Youth 12:** Sum of – Highest SYC Y12 result, Highest SYC Y14, the last two NAC Y12 and Y14  
**Youth 14:** Sum of – Highest SYC Y14 result, the last two NAC Y14, the last NAC Cadet and Cadet JO’s

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SYC</th>
<th>2011-2012</th>
<th>2012-2013</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PLACE</td>
<td>DATE</td>
<td>PLACE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>#1</td>
<td>TX</td>
<td>Sept 2011</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>#2</td>
<td>ROCH</td>
<td>Oct 2011</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>#3</td>
<td>MO</td>
<td>Nov 2011</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>#4</td>
<td>AZ</td>
<td>Dec 2011</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>#5</td>
<td>TX</td>
<td>Jan 2012</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>#6</td>
<td>DC</td>
<td>Feb 2012</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>#7</td>
<td>WA</td>
<td>Feb 2012</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>#8</td>
<td>OH</td>
<td>Mar 2012</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>#9</td>
<td>NJ</td>
<td>Mar 2012</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>#10</td>
<td>CA</td>
<td>May 2012</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>#11</td>
<td>NY</td>
<td>May 2012</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
4.6 Veteran Point Standings

There are five groups of Veteran Rolling Point Standings based on results at National Veteran competitions. The Veteran NAC is open to any competitive fencer who is at least 40 years old on December 31 of the current season. There are four age categories: 40-49, 50-59, 60-69, 70 & older- as of the first of the month of the next World Veteran Championships. If dates are not set for the next Veterans World Championships, Oct 1 will be the default date used to determine age eligibility.

There are two types of Veteran Rolling Point Standings: the Combined Age Point Standings, and the Age Specific Standings (40-49, 50-59, 60-69 and 70+). Veteran Rolling Point Standings are the best 2 of the 3 domestic Veteran Competitions plus points earned at the last World Veteran Championships. There is no Veteran 40-49 event at the World Veteran Championships.

Veteran Team Point Standings are calculated as the best 2 of the 3 domestic Veteran Age Competitions in the current season. Team Point Standings are calculated for the selection of Veteran 50-59, Veteran 60-69, Veteran 70+ World Teams. These are the categories established by the FIE for the World Veteran Championships. The age requirement is the age of the fencer on the first of the month in which the next World Veteran Championships will be held. If dates are not set for the next Veterans World Championships, Oct 1 will be the default date used to determine age eligibility.

EXAMPLE: POINT STANDINGS FOR DEC 2012 NAC

**Veteran (40 And Older): Best Two of 1-3**
1. December 2011 Veteran NAC
2. March 2012 Veteran NAC
3. 2012 World Veteran Champs

**Veteran 40-49: Best Two of 1-3**
1. December 2011 Veteran NAC
2. March 2012 Veteran NAC
3. July 2012 Veteran 40-49 Natl Chmp

**Veteran 50-59: Rolling Pts: Best Two of 1-3**
1. December 2011 Veteran 50-59 NAC
2. March 2012 Veteran 50-59 NAC
3. July 2012 Veteran 50-59 Natl Chmps

**Veteran 50-59: Team Pts: Best Two of 1-3**
1. December 2012 Veteran 50-59 NAC
2. March 2013 Veteran 50-59 NAC
3. July 2013 Veteran 50-59 Natl Chmps

**Veteran 60-69: Rolling Pts: Best Two of 1-3**
1. December 2011 Veteran 60-69 NAC
2. March 2012 Veteran 60-69 NAC
3. July 2011 Veteran 60-69 Natl Chmps

**Veteran 60-69: Team Pts: Best Two of 1-3**
1. December 2012 Veteran 60-69 NAC
2. March 2013 Veteran 60-69 NAC
3. July 2013 Veteran 60-69 Natl Chmps

**Veteran 70+: Rolling Pts: Best Two of 1-3**
1. December 2011 Veteran 70+ NAC
2. March 2012 Veteran 70+ NAC
3. July 2012 Veteran 70+ Natl Chmps

**Veteran 70+: Team Pts: Best Two of 1-3**
1. December 2012 Veteran 70 + NAC
2. March 2013 Veteran 70 + NAC
3. July 2013 Veteran 70 + Natl Chmps
Chapter 5 – International

5.1 International Competition Categories
There are different categories of international competitions at which FIE and/or USFA points can be earned.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CATEGORY OF INTERNATIONAL COMPETITIONS</th>
<th>FIE License Required</th>
<th>FIE PTS</th>
<th>USFA PTS</th>
<th>Max Nbr Entries by FIE</th>
<th>Max Nbr Entries by USFA</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>FIE Individual World Cup - “A”</td>
<td>YES</td>
<td>YES</td>
<td>YES</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Designated Junior &amp; Senior</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FIE Grand Prix - GP</td>
<td>YES</td>
<td>YES</td>
<td>YES</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FIE Team World Cup</td>
<td>YES</td>
<td>YES</td>
<td>NO</td>
<td>1 TM-4 Fencers</td>
<td>1 TM-4 Fencers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FIE Satellite</td>
<td>YES</td>
<td>YES</td>
<td>NO</td>
<td>No Limit</td>
<td>4*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FIE World Championships – Junior &amp; Senior</td>
<td>YES</td>
<td>YES</td>
<td>YES</td>
<td>SR=4 fencers; JR=3 fencers Per weapon</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FIE World Championships – Cadet</td>
<td>YES</td>
<td>NO</td>
<td>YES</td>
<td>3 Fencers per weapon</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FIE World Veteran Championships</td>
<td>YES</td>
<td>NO</td>
<td>YES</td>
<td>4 Fencers per weapon per age category</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Designated European Cadet</td>
<td>NO</td>
<td>NO</td>
<td>YES</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pan American Zonal Championships,</td>
<td>YES</td>
<td>YES</td>
<td>NO</td>
<td>3 fencers per weapon</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Junior &amp; Senior</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pan American Zonal Olympic Qual.</td>
<td>YES</td>
<td>NO</td>
<td>NO</td>
<td>If no OG qualifiers in a weapon, 1 fencer</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Olympic Games</td>
<td>YES</td>
<td>YES</td>
<td>YES</td>
<td>If tm qualified 3 per weapon; otherwise FIE standards determine number</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*More than 4 requires referees to be assigned

5.1.1 FIE and Related International Competitions
An international competition that is classified as an FIE World Cup competition is held under the auspices and rules of the International Fencing Federation, the FIE. There are two age groups for individual World Cup ("A") competitions: Senior and Junior (Under 20); for Seniors, there is an additional category – Grand Prix (GP). A limited number of fencers can be entered by a country/federation in each type of World Cup competition with the greatest restriction on Senior Grand Prix (GP) competitions. See table above.

Only the fencer’s national fencing federation can enter the fencer(s) in any FIE or European Fencing Confederation (EFC) sanctioned competition. The USFA is responsible for entering US fencers in all international competitions, World Championships, World University Games, Pan American Zonal Championships, Pan American Games, and Olympic Qualifying competitions.

5.1.2 Age Criteria
FIE rules require that athletes must be 13 years or older on January 1 immediately preceding the next World Championships to compete in any FIE official competition, individual or team: Satellite, World Cup, World Championships, World University Games, and Olympic Games. This rule also applies to Pan American Zonal Championships and Pan American Games.

Information regarding the international calendar, eligibility, and deadlines is posted on the USA Fencing’s website, under Athlete Info. A list of the fencers who have requested entry in each international competition and those who have been accepted is posted on RailStation.
5.1.3 Citizenship Requirement
Fencers must be United States citizens and eligible to represent the United States to compete in Cadet Designated, Junior World Cup, Senior World Cup, Grand Prix individual and team competitions, and to be selected for teams to World Championships, World University Games, Pan American Zonal Championships, Pan American Games, Youth Olympic Games, and the Olympic Games.

5.1.4 Designated International Competitions
Designated World Cup competitions are those selected by the High Performance Director in consultation with the National Coach of each weapon, as competitions that are most suited to the goals of the weapon program in developing world-class fencers. Designated International Cadet competitions are restricted to Cadet-age fencers (at least 13 years old and under 17 years old as of January 1st of the year of the next World Cadet Championships). Designated international competitions are generally categorized as Group II competitions in the formula for computing points for the National Rolling and Team Point standings (see Chapters 7-12). The list of Senior, Junior, and Cadet designated international competitions can be found in Chapters 7-12 for each weapon and posted on the USA Fencing’s website, under Athlete Info; this information is also posted on RailStation.

5.1.5 FIE Entry Limitations
The FIE has established an entry limit of 12 athletes from each country in each weapon for Senior and Junior World Cup competitions. For competitions held in Europe, the host country can enter an additional eight fencers. For competitions held outside of Europe, the host country can enter a maximum of 30 fencers. There are no exceptions to this rule.

Grand Prix competitions are limited to eight fencers per country per weapon. The host country may enter up to 12 fencers, plus the number of fencers needed to make up the pools, up to a maximum of 20 fencers.

5.1.6 FIE Satellite & Non Designated International Competitions
FIE points, on a scale much smaller than that applied for World Cup competitions, are awarded for FIE Satellite competitions. USFA points are NOT awarded for results obtained at satellite competitions, non-designated Junior World Cup competitions, or non-designated European Cadet competitions.

Athletes wishing to enter FIE Satellite competitions, non-designated Junior World Cup competitions or non-designated European Cadet competitions must send an email to international@usfencing.org at least 30 days prior to the competition. A limit of four fencers will be accepted for any satellite or non-designated competition. The calendars can be found at http://www.fie.ch/ or www.eurofencing.info/tournaments.

5.1.7 Designated Cadet Competitions
An International Designated Cadet competition is the term given by the USFA to describe international cadet competitions where Cadet age fencers can gain international competitive experience. They are held under the auspices of the European Fencing Confederation which has set a limit of 20 fencers per country per weapon. The USFA has established an entry limit of 20 athletes that may enter the international Cadet competitions (for which USA Fencing needs to supply two referees; for more than 20, four referees are required).

Fencers are entered in these competitions by the USFA through the European Fencing Confederation (EFC) website (http://www.eurofencing.info/theefc). Failure to provide the appropriate number of referees will incur a fine of 500 Euros per missing referee.

At EFC tournaments, the name on the back of fencer’s uniform is NOT required but for safety reasons FIE equipment should be used (800 NW clothes, 1600 NW masks, 800 NW plastron and FIE homologated blade).

Some of the organizers may include team competitions. Specific rules have not been established by the FIE for the conduct of the team competitions. If the team event is held after the individual event, seeding
of teams will be based on results of the members of the team. If team event is held before individual event, seeding will be based on the EFC Cadet Ranking list.

5.1.8 Senior World Cup Team Competitions

In the 2012-2013 season there will be five FIE Senior World Cup Team competitions for each weapon, which are scheduled with an individual World Cup competition. A country can enter one team of three fencers plus a substitute. The FIE World Cup Team standings are used to seed teams at Team World Cup competition, at the Senior Team World Championships, and the team competitions at the Olympic Games. Qualification for the team events at the Olympic Games is on the basis of the FIE World Team standings. With performance in the team competitions critical to qualifying fencers to the Olympic Games, the USFA supports the participation in World Cup team competitions for each weapon to the extent possible within the constraints of the budget for each season. The National Weapon Coach, in consultation with the High Performance Director, will determine selection of the fencers for each World Cup Team competition based on the following criteria (not in any particular order):

- National point standings
- Performance in prior domestic and international team competitions
- Junior and/or senior results at international competitions

Team entry fee will be reimbursed by the USFA. It is recommended that one person pay the fee and obtain a receipt. If the organizer is unable to provide a receipt, a receipt should be written that can be signed by the person receiving the entry fee. The receipt must be dated and include name and/or city of team competition. Team entry fees may be advanced, with three weeks’ notice, to the team coach accompanying the team but a receipt is still required to be submitted to the USFA.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TABLE 5.1 FEES FOR INTERNATIONAL COMPETITIONS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Subject</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Entry Fee European Cadet competition</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Entry fee Junior World Cup competition</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Entry fee Senior World Cup competition</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Entry fee Grand Prix competition</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Entry fee FIE team competition</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Individual entry fee World Championships</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Team entry fee World Championship</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

5.2 Entry Procedures and Eligibility Requirements

5.2.1 Eligibility

Eligibility for entry in a World Cup is determined by the USFA point standings as of the USFA entry deadline. Entry deadlines for each weapon and for each international competition are listed in each weapon chapter, Chapters 7-12, and posted on the USA Fencing’s website under Athlete Info. The selection date is normally the day after the entry deadline. Results that change the point standings between the selection deadline and the competition have no effect on the selection.

In order to compete in Junior and Senior World Cups, Senior Grand Prix, Satellite, or non-designated competitions an athlete must be a current competitive member (expiration date July 31, 2013 or later), have a valid FIE License (2012-2013), and meet specific eligibility criteria defined below. FIE licenses can only be ordered through the USFA; see Athlete Info on the USFA Website, for the FIE License Application. There is an annual charge of $60 for the FIE License, payable to the USFA. The FIE License includes a one year subscription to the FIE quarterly magazine, *Escrime*. Fencers must have signed and submitted the signature page of the current USFA Code of Conduct to the National Office; found with the FIE License Application under Athlete Info on the USFA Website.
TABLE 5.2.1 ELIGIBILITY – A Fencer will be considered for entry in competitions IF#

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Eligible to compete</th>
<th>Maximum Selected</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Senior Grand Prix</td>
<td>Top 24 S, Top 12 J</td>
<td>8 fencers allowed by FIE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Senior World Cups</td>
<td>Top 24 S, Top 12 J</td>
<td>12 fencers allowed by the FIE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Junior World Cups</td>
<td>Top 24 J, Top 12 C</td>
<td>12 fencers allowed by the FIE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-Designated Junior</td>
<td>Any fencer on the Junior Rolling Point</td>
<td>Maximum of 4 accepted</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Satellite</td>
<td>Any fencer on the Senior Rolling Point</td>
<td>Maximum of 4 accepted</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cadet Designated</td>
<td>Any fencer on the Cadet Rolling Point</td>
<td>Up to 20 fencers will be selected</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-Designated Cadet</td>
<td>Any fencer on Cadet Rolling Point</td>
<td>Maximum of 4 accepted</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

S –Senior Point Standings J – Junior Point Standings C – Cadet Point Standings

To be considered “on the point standings”, fencers must have at least 275, 165, or 110 points (senior, junior, cadet respectively) of which there is at least one top 32 result.

## Athletes who do not meet the standards described in the table may enter a competition if approved by the National Weapon Coach and the High Performance Director.

For World Cup competitions organized by the USFA, the number of entries allowed is:
- Junior World Cup up to 30 fencers plus additional to make up the pools.
- Senior World Cup up to 30 fencers plus additional to make up the pools
- Grand Prix 8 plus an additional 12 fencers plus up to 20 to make up the pools

5.2.2 Entry Procedures

Entries will only be accepted ONLINE through RailStation (https://www.railstation.org/USFencing) by the entry deadline for each international competition. This entry does not guarantee that the fencer will be selected for the competition. Deadlines are published in the Athlete Handbook in the relevant weapons chapters (7-12), on the USFA Website, and on RailStation for each international competition. Deadlines are usually 30 days prior to the competition, or the Monday closest to 30 days, whichever is earlier, or 60 days prior to an international competition in a country to which athletes must obtain a visa. **All entries must be received by the posted deadlines no later than 11:59:59 p.m. Pacific Time. NO LATE ENTRIES WILL BE ACCEPTED.**

When fencers register for an international competition in RailStation, they are stating that they will compete in that competition, if selected. Withdrawals must be received no later than the entry deadline for that competition. Failure to withdraw by the posted deadline will result in fines as described below plus any fines levied by the FIE.

**Withdrawing from an International Competition**: Any fencer who withdraws from an international competition must do so by email to International@USFencing.org or through their membership profile under “Competition Schedule” by the posted entry deadline date.

**Penalty for Late Withdrawal from International Events**

Athletes who are accepted to participate in international events to represent the USA and USA Fencing have an obligation to follow through and participate in the competition. Competition slots at international events are highly coveted by all our best athletes – a sign of accomplishment and of progress toward excellence in international Fencing. We want to field full teams of our best fencers whenever we can.

In addition, USA Fencing bases its commitment to send and support the cadre, coaches and referees on the numbers of Fencers who are accepted to participate in an event. The organization must commit in
advance of each tournament to cover all of these associated costs. The withdrawal of a fencer leaves an
unfortunate hole in the group participating but does not relieve the organization's expenses for those
attending to support the team.

In the case where a squad fee has been collected to help the organization cover the costs of sending the
team that fee will be non-refundable.

**Failure to Pay the Squad Fee**
Athletes who fail to pay the squad fee, USA Fencing will fine those athletes $500 dollars. All penalties
must be paid before registration for future tournaments will be accepted.

**Penalty for Late Withdrawal**
In addition, USA Fencing will fine athletes who withdraw in the last week (7 days) before an event $500
dollars and require those athletes to pay any fines levied by the FIE for late withdrawal.

USA Fencing will fine athletes who do not show up for an event with no notice to the International
Department $1000 dollars plus whatever fines are levied by the FIE.

FIE Fines are 500 Euros for withdrawal during the week before the event without a medical waiver. Fines
for no-shows are in excess of 1000 Euros.

All penalties must be paid before registration for future tournaments will be accepted.

**Medical Waivers for Illness Or Injury**
USA Fencing has developed an official form which must be used by athletes seeking relief from penalties
because of illness or injury. A copy of that form is available on the USA Fencing web site under Athlete
Info. The report on the illness or injury must come directly from the doctor requesting the waiver on behalf
of the athlete to the USA Fencing International Department.

**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 excuse directly to the USA Fencing International Department and that
staff member can authorize the withdrawal without penalty.
5.2.3 Finalizing the Entries
The point standings the day after the entry deadline will determine the list of fencers and alternates. Results that change the point standings between the deadline and the competition will not affect the selection. Notification of selection will be sent by email to all fencers who have entered online and to the respective national coaches. It is the fencer’s responsibility to notify the national office or update their membership profile of his or her most current email address.

If an alternate spot for the individual international competition becomes available the first alternate will be notified by email within 24 hours. The notified athlete must reply within the same day. If no reply is received by email, the next alternate will be notified.

Members of the team which will compete at a World Cup team competition are selected from the list of accepted athletes by the National Weapon Coach in conjunction with the High Performance Director within five business days after the selection date. Athletes will be notified accordingly.

Upon acceptance to a Junior World Cup or Cadet Designated, athletes must submit a Squad Fee of $275 online through RailStation within one week of notification. This fee is required to compete in each International competition and is used to defray the cost for referees to those International competitions or pay the fine assessed by International Federations when USFA cannot send an International referee. Failure to make payment will be taken as a withdrawal with related fine imposed; the next alternate will be notified.

Cadet International Competitions: Rolling point standings will be used for selection of Cadet fencers for the first two International Cadet competitions, after which the Team point standings will be in effect. A maximum of 20 fencers will be accepted for Cadet Designated International competitions.

Junior International Competitions: Rolling point standings will be used for selection of fencers for the first two Junior World Cup competitions; after which the Team point standings will be in effect. A maximum of 12 fencers are allowed by the FIE for Junior World Cup competitions. Fencers on the Junior point standings will have priority over fencers who are only on the Cadet point standings.

Senior International Competitions: Senior Rolling point standings will be used to determine which fencers are accepted at the specified entry deadline for Senior World Cup or Grand Prix competitions for the first four Senior competitions that count for the next team selection; after which the Senior Team point standings will be used until the team members and alternates to the team are selected. Once the members and alternates of the National team (e.g. World Senior, World Junior, World Cadet, Pan American Junior, Pan American Senior, World University Games, Olympic Games) are selected and have accepted such appointment those athletes will have first priority in any selection that occurs after the team is finalized for upcoming World Cup competitions. Following those athletes the next group of eligible athletes will be those on the rolling point standings.

Fencers on the senior point standings will have priority in selection over fencers who are only on the Junior point standings. A maximum of 12 fencers are allowed for Senior World Cup competitions and a maximum of 8 fencers are allowed for Grand Prix competitions. (FIE Rules, o.79)
5.3 FIE RULES

5.3.1 Referees – A Grade and Candidate A Grade competitions and Grand Prix

[5.3.1 (2011)]

1. **The number** of FIE A or B Grade **referees** (cf. t.35) that must accompany teams to A Grade JUNIOR competitions is:
   i. 1–4 fencers: No obligation to provide a referee
   ii. 5–9 fencers: One referee
   iii. 10 or more fencers: Two referees

2. Should a national federation not provide the required number of referees, a fine (cf. o.86, table of financial penalties and fines) will be inflicted on it if it has notified the fact 15 days in advance. This fine is doubled if there was no notification 15 days in advance.

   This fine must be **paid by the delegation to the organizers** so that they are able to arrange for other referees to replace those missing as necessary.

   If a national federation does not pay this fine, it must **reduce the participation** of its fencers in conformity with the quotas (cf. o.81.1 above).

3. For **Open A Grade, Grand Prix and World Cup team competitions**, 7 referees, proposed by the Refereeing Commission, will be designated by the Executive Committee, and delegations will not have to provide any referees. The additional referees required (not less than 5) will be provided by the organizing committee. All the referees will be at the expense of the organizers who in return will keep the entry fees.

5.3.2 FIE Administrative Rules, March 2010, on the subject of FIE Licenses

The national federation ordering a FIE license confirms that the athletes who participate in FIE competitions agree to:

1. abide by the provisions of the FIE Rules and Statutes;
2. respect the FIE anti-doping Rules, use neither prohibited substances nor prohibited methods and agree to undergo any in competition and out-of competition testing;
3. transfer to the FIE any individual or collective image rights and agree to be filmed (notably by the television), photographed, identified and registered in any way. The FIE undertakes to use these rights only in connection with the promotion and development of fencing in the following media: publications and reviews, Internet website, audiovisual aids.

FIE Statutes, April 2011, on the subject of FIE Licenses

Compulsory Character of Licence

a) This licence is compulsory for all fencers taking part in any official competition of the F.I.E. No entry will be valid if a competitor does not have a valid licence for the current year.
b) This licence is also compulsory for the following persons:
   - Members of the Executive Committee and of the commissions of the F.I.E.;
   - All officials designated for the World Championships and Olympic Games; and
   - All A or B referees of the F.I.E.
5.3.3 CERTIFYING WORLD CUP COMPETITIONS

A World Cup competition must satisfy the following criteria to retain its designation as a World Cup and for points to be awarded by the FIE and the USFA. (USFA may include such points in Group I for a competition for which the FIE has not awarded points.)

Excerpt of o.76 in FIE Rules for Organizing Competitions, January 2011: (NOTE: OPEN competition is the same as SENIOR in the USFA Athlete Handbook.)

1. Participation must include fencers:
   - From at least eight countries, for OPEN competitions IN EUROPE;
   - From at least five countries, for OPEN competitions OUTSIDE Europe;
   - From at least five countries, for JUNIOR competitions.
2. Participation must include a minimum of:
   - Ten fencers listed in the top 32 in the official ranking of the FIE and representing at least five different countries for open competitions in Europe (no requirement for competitions outside Europe).

5.3.4 FIE World Ranking (FIE Rules of Organization, January 2011)

The FIE World Cup ranking system is computed on a rolling point system: The competition held during the current year replaces the corresponding competition held the year before. If a competition does not take place in the current season, the points obtained at the same competition in the previous season are removed on the anniversary of the competition.

Individual World Rankings: FIE Rule o.83

1. Official FIE individual ranking

Principles

a) The official Open ranking of the FIE takes into account the best five results of the World Cup, Grand Prix or Satellite competitions in which the fencer has participated, irrespective of continent, plus the World Championships or Olympic Games and the Zonal Championships.
b) The official Junior ranking of the FIE takes into account the best six results of the World Cup competitions in which the fencer has participated, irrespective of continent, as well as the World Championships and the Zonal Championships.
c) For both Open and Junior rankings, the ranking is kept permanently up to date. The competition in the current year cancels out the corresponding competition held the year before, and the points allocated for a competition cancel out the points attributed to the same competition in the previous season. If a competition does not take place in the current season, the points obtained at the same competition in the previous season are deleted on the anniversary of the competition.
d) In the event of equal points, the ranking is based on who has gained the most first places, then second places, etc.
   If there is a complete tie, the fencers are ranked equal.
e) After each competition which is taken into account to establish the ranking, this is updated automatically after verification of the results by the FIE.
f) Except where special rules apply, the official up-to-date FIE ranking is the deciding factor for all rankings, seedings, exemptions, etc.

Scale of points

2. a) The ranking is based on the following points system:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Place</th>
<th>Points</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1st</td>
<td>32 points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2nd</td>
<td>26 points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3rd</td>
<td>20 points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5th – 8th</td>
<td>14 points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9th – 16th</td>
<td>8 points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17th – 32nd</td>
<td>4 points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>33rd – 64th</td>
<td>2 points</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
b) Points obtained in an **individual A Grade World Cup** competition are as listed above.

c) Points obtained in a **Grand Prix** competition of the FIE and a **Zonal Championship** are multiplied by a factor of 1.5.

d) Points obtained in the individual events of the **Open World Championships** and in the **Junior World Championships** are multiplied by a factor of 2.5.

e) Points obtained in the individual events of the **Olympic Games** are multiplied by a factor of 3.0. At the **Olympic Games**, fourth place is awarded 54 points.

f) Only fencers who have **actually participated** in a direct elimination table can receive any points.

### TABLE 5.3.4 FIE POINT SCALE FOR INDIVIDUAL FIE EVENTS [FIE Rules o.83]

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Placement</th>
<th>Satellite</th>
<th>World Cups: Junior &amp; Senior Factor = 1.0</th>
<th>Grand Prix Zonal Championships Factor = 1.5</th>
<th>Junior &amp; Senior World Champs Factor = 2.5</th>
<th>Olympic Games Factor = 3.0</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1st</td>
<td>4 points</td>
<td>32 points</td>
<td>48 points</td>
<td>80 points</td>
<td>96 points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2nd</td>
<td>3 points</td>
<td>26 points</td>
<td>39 points</td>
<td>65 points</td>
<td>78 points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3rd</td>
<td>2 points</td>
<td>20 points</td>
<td>30 points</td>
<td>50 points</td>
<td>60 points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4th OG only</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>54 points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5th – 8th</td>
<td>1 points</td>
<td>14 points</td>
<td>21 points</td>
<td>35 points</td>
<td>42 points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9th – 16th</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>8 points</td>
<td>12 points</td>
<td>20 points</td>
<td>24 points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17th – 32nd</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>4 points</td>
<td>6 points</td>
<td>10 points</td>
<td>12 points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>33rd – 64th</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>2 points</td>
<td>3 points</td>
<td>5 points</td>
<td>6 points</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Team FIE Rankings: FIE Rule o.84**

1. **Official team ranking of the FIE**

   **Principle**

   a) The official team ranking of the FIE takes into account a team’s **best four results** in the Team World Cup competitions, irrespective of continent, plus the Open World Championships or the Olympic Games and the Zonal Championships.

   b) The official team ranking of the FIE is **updated on a permanent basis**: the event which is held during the current year cancels out the corresponding event held the year before, just as the points obtained during the new event replace the points obtained the year before. If an event does not take place in the current season, the points obtained at the same event in the previous season are deleted on the anniversary of the event.

   c) Should several teams **have the same points**, the same rules shall apply as for the official FIE individual ranking (cf. o.83).

   d) Except where special rules apply, the updated official team ranking is the **deciding factor** for all rankings, seedings, etc.

2. **Team scale of points**

   a) The ranking will be based on the following scale of points:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Place</th>
<th>Points</th>
<th>Place</th>
<th>Points</th>
<th>Place</th>
<th>Points</th>
<th>Place</th>
<th>Points</th>
<th>Place</th>
<th>Points</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1st</td>
<td>64 points</td>
<td>5th</td>
<td>32 points</td>
<td>9th</td>
<td>25 points</td>
<td>13th</td>
<td>21 points</td>
<td>17th-32nd</td>
<td>8 points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2nd</td>
<td>52 points</td>
<td>6th</td>
<td>30 points</td>
<td>10th</td>
<td>24 points</td>
<td>14th</td>
<td>20 points</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3rd</td>
<td>40 points</td>
<td>7th</td>
<td>28 points</td>
<td>11th</td>
<td>23 points</td>
<td>15th</td>
<td>19 points</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4th</td>
<td>36 points</td>
<td>8th</td>
<td>26 points</td>
<td>12th</td>
<td>22 points</td>
<td>16th</td>
<td>18 points</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

   b) For the World Team Championships, the points indicated above are multiplied by two.

   c) Points obtained in a Zonal Team Championship have a factor of 1.0.
5.3.5 Video Refereeing: FIE Technical Rules, t.42, January 2011

a) Video-refereeing is compulsory at all three weapons at Grand Prix, Senior World Cup individual and team competitions, the World Championships and Olympic Games, Zonal Championships and qualification events for the Olympic Games. It is optional at the Veteran World Championships.

i) For World Cup individual, Grand Prix competitions, Zone Championships and qualification events for the Olympic Games, video-refereeing is compulsory and must be used as soon as the timetable allows the competition to be run on only 4 pistes, and in any case, from the table of 64.

ii) For World Cup team competitions, video-refereeing is compulsory as soon as the timetable allows the competition to be run on only 4 pistes including the match for 3rd place, but excluding the other ranking matches.

iii) For individual and team competitions of the open World Championships, video-refereeing is obligatory as soon as the timetable allows the competition to be run on a maximum of 8 pistes, all equipped for video-refereeing.

iv) For individual competitions of the Junior and Cadet World Championships, video-refereeing is compulsory as soon as the timetable allows the competition to be run on a maximum of 4 pistes, all equipped for video-refereeing.

For team competitions in the conventional weapons, video-refereening is compulsory from the table of 16. In epee, video-refereening is compulsory from the table of 8.

v) For individual and team events at the Olympic Games, the video-refereeing system is mandatory in all three weapons, at all stages of the competition.

b) Appeals

Both in team and individual events, only the fencer on the piste has the right to request a video review.

i) In the individual events, the fencer has:

- in pools, one possible appeal during each bout;
- in direct elimination bouts, two possible appeals.

Should the referee agree with the fencer who appealed for the video-refereeing, the latter is entitled to retain the right of appeal.

ii) In team events, the fencers have one possible right to appeal to the video-refereeing per relay and they are entitled to retain this right should the referee agree with the appeal.

iii) In the case of an appeal for video-refereeing, the referee will walk over to the video consultant, they will watch the video together and after having analysed the action, the referee will give his final decision.

iv) There shall only be a maximum of 4 repetitions of the action. The referee can choose to review the action in real time or in slow motion, at any speed he wishes.

d) At all weapons and at any time, the referee may consult his monitor before making a decision.

e) If the fencers’ scores are equal at the end of the match, for the decisive hit, the referee must use the video-refereeing before even giving his decision, except in the case specified in article t.42.3.d.

f) The video consultant may at any time request that the referee use the video-refereeing.

g) Once the referee, together with the video consultant, has analysed the action, whether it is:

- at the referee’s initiative
- at the request of the athlete
- in case of a tied score, before the decisive hit
- at the video consultant’s request

the decision given by the referee is final and no other review of the same action can be requested.
5.3.6 Citizenship Eligibility

9.2 FENCERS’ NATIONALITY (FIE Statutes, April 2011)

9.2.1 At the Olympic Games a competitor’s nationality is set by rules of the I.O.C. to which the F.I.E. must conform.

9.2.2 For official competitions of the F.I.E., competitors must be strictly of the nationality of the country which they are representing:
   a) The fencer who enjoys multiple nationality must choose which country he wishes to represent. The fact that he has fenced for one of the countries implies that he has made a choice. If he wishes to represent another country of which he enjoys nationality, he must so advise the Office of the F.I.E. and he may only represent this other country after an interval of three years from when he advised the Central Office of the F.I.E., during which he can no longer represent the other country.
   b) A fencer who has already represented a country and acquires a new nationality (from being stateless or through naturalisation) can only represent his new country after an interval of three years from his last participation in a competition for his previous country.
   c) The fencer who acquires a new nationality as a result of marriage may fence for that new country immediately, without waiting three years.
   d) The Executive Committee of the F.I.E., with the agreement of the member federations concerned, and only for just reasons, may reduce or dispense with the interval of three years.
   e) The fencer who has never participated in an official competition of the F.I.E. or in a Regional Championships, is not constrained by these limitations concerning change of nationality and may fence for his new country immediately.
   f) Any change in country which a fencer represents is definitive; no further change can be authorised.
   g) In cases of dispute the Executive Committee of the F.I.E. will make a ruling, which is not subject to appeal.

9.2.3 In the case of other international competitions, the F.I.E., although still in favour of the same ruling, is more tolerant in the matter of countries represented as long as foreigners have actually been residing for five consecutive years in the country which they are invited to represent, and have not represented their own country for five years.

   For these same competitions fencers who are legally stateless may compete as long as they are registered by the member federation of the country in which they live.

Board of Directors Action May 2011 as it affects US fencer submitting request to change nationality, effective immediately. See 9.2.2 d above.

"The USFA will not agree to reduce or dispense with the presumptive three-year waiting period for a change of nationality unless the athlete requesting the change has not represented the United States in international competition during the season which the change is requested. Further, the USFA may not agree to reduce or dispense with the waiting period even if the requesting athlete has not so represented the United States."
Chapter 6 – USA Fencing Teams

6.1 International Teams
USA Fencing is responsible for the selection of the athletes and cadre for the international tournaments listed below. Descriptions of the competitions and their general selection criteria can be found in the following sections. A more detailed description of selection criteria for these major international tournaments can be found in Chapters 7-12, by weapon, with the specific international competitions for each weapon that will count for points for selection.

- Junior and Cadet World Fencing Championships – held annually; date and location pending FIE announcement.
- Senior World Fencing Championships – held every year but year of Olympic Games; next one held August 6-14, 2013 in Budapest Hungary.
- Senior Team World Fencing Championships – held the year of the Olympic Games for each weapon that will not have a team competition at the Olympic Games.
- World University Games – multi sport tournament including fencing, held in odd numbered years; next one July 6-17, 2013 in Kazan Russia.
- Olympic Games – held every four years; next one will be in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil in 2016.
- Pan American Games – multi sport tournament including fencing held every four years, the year before the Olympic Games; next one will be held July 10-26, 2015 in Toronto Canada.
- Pan American Junior and Cadet Fencing Zonal Championships – held annually.
- Pan American Senior Zonal Fencing Championships – held annually.
- Wheelchair Fencing World Championships – usually held every two years; in the recent past this tournament has been held in conjunction with Senior World Championships.
- Paralympic Games includes Wheelchair Fencing – held every four years immediately after Olympic Games; next one will be held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil in 2016.
- Parapan Games – multi sport tournament held every four years, the year before the Olympic Games; next one will be held August 7-14, 2015 in Toronto Canada.
- World Veteran Fencing Championships – held annually in September-October time period; the next one will be held October 1-6, 2013, location TBA.
- Youth Olympics Games – first held August 2010 in Singapore: to be held every four years.

Descriptions of each of these international tournaments can be found in this chapter. The associated selection criteria by weapon can be found in Chapters 6-12, 14.

6.1.1 Eligibility Rules of Senior, Junior, Cadet Team Selection
Fencers must be citizens of and eligible to represent the United States at the time of selection for international teams.

The FIE Statutes state that fencers be at least 13 years old on January 1 in the year of the next World Championships to participate in any FIE competition: World Cup (Senior, Junior, Grand Prix), World Championships (Senior, Junior, Cadet), Pan American Zonal Championships (Senior, Junior), Olympic Games. (10.1.1 FIE Statutes, 2007)

6.1.2 Notification of Selection
Fencers will be selected as members of an international team based on the National Team Point Standings in accordance with the selection criteria for that team for that weapon as described in Chapters 7–12. Final selection of the fencers will be announced within five (5) business days from the ending date of the final team selection competition specified in the team selection criteria. International results that could affect the standings must be received no later than five (5) business days after the last competition that could be included in the standings.

Only those fencers who are U.S. citizens and meet the age criteria at the time of selection can be members of U.S. international teams. If a fencer has US citizenship but has represented another country,
that fencer must have received permission from the FIE to change country representation to be selected for a US team. This written permission must be received three years prior, during which time the fencer has not represented any country (9.2.2 FIE Statues).

When selection is completed for any USFA team, a set of documents will be sent electronically and/or by post to each member of the team and the corresponding alternates. Two key documents are the ACCEPTANCE FORM, by which the fencer notifies the USFA of acceptance of the appointment, and the CODE OF CONDUCT, by which the fencer agrees to rules of conduct. Alternates must also complete these forms to notify the USFA of availability and interest in the team in case one or more of the invited fencers cannot accept the appointment to the team or must withdraw from that team. If these forms are not received by the date specified, it is understood that the fencer does not accept an appointment to that team and will not be named to that team. In order to be sure candidates for teams can be contacted, fencers should keep the USA Fencing office informed of current email address(es). Email address changes need to be sent to international@usfencing.org.

A fencer who accepts appointment to USA Fencing international team must be available for any team competition associated with the tournament as well as any team training camp(s).

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

6.1.3 Selection in More Than One Competition
Fencers who are selected for more than one individual competition as a member of an international team may elect to compete in all such competitions if each competition is held on a separate day. The priority of USA Fencing is to field the strongest team in each team competition and supersedes the interests of a fencer to compete in the second weapon if the fencer is chosen for the team competition.

6.1.4 Alternates for International teams
Alternates for the USFA international teams are chosen on the basis of the National Team Point standings used for selection of that team. The number of alternates is the same as the number of members of the team for each weapon. Those fencers who are not eligible to represent the United States at that tournament are removed from the standings prior to determination of team members and alternates. For example, if there were three positions for each weapon on a team, alternates would be those fencers fourth through sixth place in the team point standings, eliminating fencers not eligible for selection.

6.1.5 Ties for Selection
Ties for selection will be resolved in the following priority:
- Total number of points accumulated for designated World Cup and GP competitions used in calculating the sum of points in Group II of the selection criteria. See Chapter 3.3 for specific details.
- Highest points earned at a single designated World Cup or GP used in calculating the sum of points in Group II.
- Next highest points earned at a single designated World Cup or GP until there is no tie.
- Highest place at a single designated World Cup or GP
- Next highest place at a single designated World Cup or GP until there is no tie.
- Highest place in any U.S. national point competition
- Next highest place in any U.S. national point competition until there is no tie.
- If there is still a tie, then the High Performance Director, National Weapon Coach, and a representative from the AAC will resolve the tie.
6.1.6 Team Travel
The USFA will coordinate travel plans for each international team funded in whole or part by USA Fencing. These plans will reflect the specific circumstances for each team. Fencers and Cadre who accept appointment to an international team must comply with the specific travel plans for that team. Travel funding for fencers for the competitions is discussed in Chapter 13.3.

6.1.7 Personal Equipment
Fencers are responsible for ensuring that their personal equipment meets FIE standards (see Appendix 4.1). Fencers should not travel to an international tournament intending to buy equipment or expecting that the team armorer will assemble such equipment onsite. For Senior, Junior, and Cadet World Championships, World University Games, Pan American Games, and the Olympic Games, fencers will need practice equipment separate from competition equipment. Competition equipment, including the fencer’s uniform, must be submitted to FIE "weapon control" by the team armorer at least 24 hours before the competition, to verify that fencers’ equipment meets all FIE specifications. The team armorer must have sufficient time to ensure that the equipment conforms to FIE standards. Any fencer submitting equipment to the team armorer requiring extensive replacement parts will be charged accordingly.

The FIE requires that each fencer’s uniform display the country colors, a specific pattern approved by the FIE for that country (See Appendix 4.1). Since name and country must be on the back of the jacket or lamé and country colors on the knickers, it is recommended that fencers pack their uniform in their carry-on luggage so that if equipment is delayed or lost by an airline, the fencers have their uniform.

6.1.8 Passport Requirement
Fencers planning to compete in international competitions must have a U.S. passport with an expiration date that is at least six (6) months after the scheduled return date to the United States. WARNING: if you have a passport that needs to be renewed or do not have a passport, DO NOT WAIT to renew your current passport or to apply for a passport. Due to changes in passport requirements to Canada and other countries, the length of time to renew or obtain a passport has dramatically increased. It can be quite costly for expedited service. Persons with a foreign passport must check with the destination country’s embassy on visa requirements. Any intervening stops in a foreign country will also require a visa to "enter" that country.

6.1.9 Team Warm-ups
The USFA will award each member of a U.S. team to World Championships (Cadet, Junior, and Senior), Pan American Games, and Olympic Games a team warm-up, which will be issued once every two years, until a new model is received. Fencers and Cadre must bring the official USFA team warm-up when serving as a member of any official USA team. They are obligated to wear the warm-up at the Opening and Closing ceremonies, at presentation of finalists and at medal award ceremonies of each International tournament in which they are competing. Exceptions to this rule are teams selected under the sponsorship of the U.S. Olympic Committee (Pan American Games and Olympic Games).

If a fencer loses the official USFA warm-up within the two years in which it was awarded, the fencer must pay for a replacement warm-up.

6.1.10 Team Equipment
Leon Paul and the USFA have entered into a sponsorship agreement for the 2012-2013 season to provide a uniform (jacket, knickers, plastron) to the Senior, Junior, and Cadet World Championship Teams. A special agreement for each athlete from these teams is available from USA Fencing. This agreement contains all relevant information and is provided to each team member for review. To receive the apparel package from Leon Paul, an agreement must be signed.
6.2 Selection Criteria
Chapters 6–12 and 14 describe the specific selection criteria. Please see the following chapters for details on selection dates and criteria for or the Senior, Junior, and Cadet Team Point Standings.

- Chapter 6 – Veteran
- Chapter 7 – Men’s Epee
- Chapter 8 – Men’s Foil
- Chapter 9 – Men’s Saber
- Chapter 10 – Women’s Epee
- Chapter 11 – Women’s Foil
- Chapter 12 – Women’s Saber
- Chapter 14 – Wheelchair

6.3 2016 Olympic Games (Rio de Janeiro Brazil)
6.3.1 Tournament Description
Since the IOC has limited fencing to 10 medal events, the number it had before the addition of women’s sabre to the World Championships and ultimately to the Olympic Games, the FIE decided that it would continue the individual competitions in all six weapons, thus limiting the number of team events to four.

For each quadrennium, the FIE decides which two weapons will not have a team event at the next Olympic Games. For the 2016 Olympic Games the two weapons for which there will not be a team event are: men’s sabre and women’s foil.

6.3.2 Eligibility
U.S. citizen at the time of selection who is at least 13 years old on January 1 of the year in which the Olympic Games will be held.

6.3.3 Selection Criteria
A detailed description of the qualification paths established by the FIE are given at the end of this chapter. The USFA will select athletes for those weapon squads that have qualified to compete in the team competition at the Olympic Games. For qualified weapon squads, three athletes will be selected on the basis of the National Team Point standings at the close the April 2016 Division I National Championships. The first alternate, the fourth person in the point standings, will be named the “replacement” athlete.

For those weapon squads that have not qualified for the team competition or for which there is no team competition and for which no US athlete has qualified for the individual competition at the Olympic Games in accordance with the FIE criteria, the #1 athlete in the Team Point standings as stated in the selection criteria will be selected to compete at the Pan American Zonal Qualifying competition. The winner of that competition will earn a place in the individual competition at the Olympic Games.

6.4 Pan American Zonal Olympic Qualifying Tournament (2016)
6.4.1 Tournament Description
Each country in the Americas Zone (members of the Pan American Confederation) may send one fencer in each of the six weapons where they have not qualified any fencer or a team to compete in the 2016 Olympic Games. The winner of each weapon competition will then be allowed to compete in the individual competition at the Olympic Games.

6.4.2 Eligibility and Selection Criteria
For each weapon that has not qualified for the team competition or qualified at least one fencer for the individual competition at the Olympic Games, the #1 fencer on the National Team Point standings will be selected to compete in the Zonal Olympic qualifying competition.

See the USFA website and chapters 7–12 for selection procedures for the 2012 Zonal Olympic Qualifying competition for each weapon.
6.5  Pan American Senior Zonal Championships (July 1-6, 2013 TBA)
6.5.1  Tournament Description
This tournament is held every year under the auspices of the Pan American Fencing Confederation. The FIE has ruled that these zonal championships must be held between July 1st and August 31st, (FIE Administrative Rules, 9.4, Oct. 2010. The Zonal Championships will be awarded FIE points, equivalent to the FIE GP competitions.

6.5.2  Eligibility and Selection Criteria
U.S. citizen at the time of selection who is at least 13 years old on January 1 of the year in which the next Senior World Championships will be held.

The top four fencers in each of six weapons will be selected according to the Team Point Standings as of the date specified in each individual selection criteria in Chapters 7–12.

The National Weapon Coach may select a fifth fencer within five (5) business days of team selection solely for the team competition at the Senior Zonal Championships. The fifth fencer will be recommended by the National Weapon Coach and reviewed by a panel composed of the National Weapon Coach, the fencing representative from the USOC Athlete Advisory Council (AAC), the High Performance Director (or, in his absence, the Executive Director), and a fencer representative from the, USA Fencing Athlete Advisory Group (AAG). Funding may be available for the fifth fencer through the weapon squad budget. This fencer may become the fourth member of the team for the team competitions in place of one of the four fencers selected for the World Championships team. The fencer is not eligible for the individual competition (unless one of the four fencers becomes injured and the fifth fencer named to the team is also the first alternate for the individual competition).

See chapters 7–12 for selection procedures for the 2013 Senior Pan Am Zonal Championships for each weapon.

6.6  2016 World Team Championships: Men’s Sabre and Women’s Foil (2016 TBA)
6.6.1  Tournament Description
Since only four weapons of the six weapons are included in the Olympic schedule for team competitions the FIE established a separate World Team Championships for the two weapons omitted from the Olympic Fencing Team competition. Three fencers comprise one team with a fourth fencer as substitute. The format is the relay team format.

6.6.2  Eligibility
U.S. citizen at the time of selection who is at least 13 years old on January 1 of the year in which the next Olympic Games will be held.

6.6.3  Selection Criteria
The top four fencers in the National Team Point standings in each of the two weapons will be selected for the team competition with the top three members of the team and the fourth member the substitute to be used as needed during the team competition.
6.7 World University Games (July 6-17, 2013 – Kazan Russia)

6.7.1 Tournament Description
A multi-sport tournament aimed at university student athletes and held in odd numbered years. Individual and team competitions are held for six weapons (Men’s Epee, Men’s Foil, Men’s Saber, Women’s Epee, Women’s Foil, and Women’s Saber).

6.7.2 Eligibility
Team members must be U.S. citizens at time of selection and be at least 17 and less than 28 years of age on January 1, 2013. Athlete must meet the academic requirements stated below.

6.7.3 Academic Regulations
a) students who are officially registered for and pursuing a full time course of study at a university or similar institute whose status as a university is recognized by the appropriate national academic authority of their country;
b) Former students of the institutions mentioned in a) who have obtained their academic degree or diploma in the year preceding the event (2012).
c) High school graduates after January 1, 2013, entering a post-secondary institution for the first time in August/September 2013

6.7.4 Selection Criteria
The top four fencers in the National Team Point standings in each of the two weapons will be selected for the team competition with the top three members of the team and the fourth member the substitute to be used as needed during the team competition.

6.8 Junior (Under-20) World Championships (TBA)

6.8.1 Tournament Description
Individual competitions for six weapons and a three person junior team championship in each of six weapons are held. Team competitions are conducted using the relay team format. The six weapons are: Men’s Epee, Foil, and Sabre; Women’s Epee, Foil, and Sabre.

Three fencers in each of six weapons are selected for the individual competitions at the World Junior Championships. In the case of injury or withdrawal of one or more of the top three fencers the replacement will be the next person(s) in the Junior World team point standings as specified in the individual selection criteria in Chapters 7–12 for each weapon. The National Weapon Coach may nominate a fourth fencer for the Junior team competition within five (5) business days of the selection of the team. That fencer must be ranked fourth through sixth (4-6) in the team point standings or be the highest-ranking cadet fencer on the Cadet World team who is not a member of the Junior World Team. The High Performance Director (or, in his absence, the Executive Director), National Weapon Coach and representative from the AAG will review the nomination.

6.8.2 Eligibility
U.S. citizen at the time of selection who is at least 13 years old and under 20 years old on January 1 of the year in which the Junior World Championships will be held.

6.8.3 Selection Criteria
The top three fencers will be selected according to the National Junior (Under-20) Team Point standings for each of the six weapons. See Chapters 7–12 for details of selection dates and criteria for Junior Team Point Standings.
6.9  Cadet (Under-17) World Championships (TBA)
6.9.1  Tournament Description
The Cadet World Championships are held in the same time period and same place as the Junior World Championships with individual competitions for the six weapons: Men’s Epee, Foil, and Sabre; Women’s Epee, Foil, and Sabre. Each country can enter three fencers for the individual competition in each weapon.

6.9.2  Eligibility
U.S. citizen at the time of selection who is at least 13 years old and under 17 years old on January 1 of the year in which the Cadet World Championships will be held.

6.9.3  Selection Criteria
The top three fencers will be selected according to the National Cadet (Under-17) Team Point standings for each of the six weapons. See Chapters 7–12 for details of selection dates and criteria for the Cadet Team Point Standings.

6.10  Pan American Junior/Cadet Zonal Championships (February 8-16, 2013, TBA)
6.10.1  Tournament Description
This is an annual tournament for six weapons with a maximum of three per country in each weapon for each age category. These Championships are held under the auspices of the Pan American Fencing Confederation. The FIE requires that they be held during the Junior season and FIE Junior World Cup points are accorded to places in the individual competition (FIE Administrative Rules, 9.4, 2010).

These Championships will be held February 2013. Due to the timing of the tournament, during the Junior Olympic Fencing Championships, USA Fencing is currently not planning to field a team to this tournament. Athletes wishing to enter this competition, must send an email to international@usfencing.org at least 30 days prior to the competition.

6.10.2  Eligibility
Fencers must be U.S. citizens at the time of selection. Juniors must meet the age requirements for the next Junior World Championships. Cadets must meet the age requirements for the next Cadet World Championships.

6.10.3  Selection Criteria
USA Fencing is currently not planning to field a team to this tournament therefore, selection criteria has not been established. If athletes wish to enter this competition, the Junior/Cadet World Championship Team criteria will be used to establish selection.
6.11 Youth Olympics Games 2014
6.11.1 Tournament Description
The first Youth Olympic Games were held August 2010, under the auspices of the International Olympic Committee (IOC). Athletes were between the ages of 15 and 17. The YOG will be held in similar cycle as Summer Olympic Games, every four years.

For the 2010 YOG, the FIE mandated the criteria by which athletes would be selected for the sport of fencing at the Games as one fencer per country per weapon (total of 6 weapons).

The best ranked fencers of each continent at the Cadet World Championships held in April 2010 qualified to participate in the Youth Olympic Games, according to the following distribution:

- Asia/Oceania: 2 places per event
- America: 2 places per event
- Africa: 1 place per event
- Europe: 4 places per event
- Host country: 4 places per event

Mixed team competition
The mixed team competition consisted of a maximum of 10 continental teams of six (6) competitors each (3 Men and 3 Women) chosen on the basis of the individual rankings.

For the 2010 YOG the US athletes selected for the YOG were:
- Katherine Holmes (Wash. DC), WE
- Mona Shaito (Garland, TX), WF (Lee Kiefer of Lexington, KY, qualified but was unable to go.)
- Alexander Massialas (San Francisco, CA), MF
- Celina Merza, (Wayne, NJ), WS
- Will Spear (Wynantskill, NY), MS
6.12 World Veteran Championships (October 1-6, 2013, TBA)

6.12.1 Tournament Description
Individual competitions are held for six weapons (Men’s Epee, Men’s Foil, Men’s Sabre, Women’s Epee, Women’s Foil, and Women’s Sabre). These Championships were started in 1998 as an annual tournament. For the World Veteran Championships, each country can enter four fencers in each of six weapons (women’s saber added in 2005) in each of three age categories (50-59, 60-69 and 70+). The 70+ category was added in 2009 for Men and in 2010 for Women.

6.12.2 Eligibility
U.S. citizen at time of selection who is between 50 and 59 years of age, 60 and 69 years of age, or 70 and older on the 1st of the month in which the next World Veteran Championships are being held.

6.12.3 Selection Criteria
The top four fencers in each weapon in each of the three age categories will be selected according to the Veteran Age Team Point standings at the USA Fencing National Championships. The Veteran Age Team standings are calculated as the best two of three national tournaments: the NAC age specific Veteran tournaments in December and March, and the Veteran Age Championships at the USA Fencing National Championships.

6.12.4 Ties for selection
In case of ties in team point standings for selection to the World Veteran Championships based on the best two of three results from the qualifying events:
1. The highest point award in one event shall resolve the tie; in case the tie remains, then
2. The next highest point award in the three events shall resolve the tie; in case the tie remains, then
3. A ten touch direct elimination fence-off at Summer Nationals shall resolve the tie.

6.13 World Wheelchair Championships
The next World Wheelchair Championships will be held 2013.

Each Nation can enter a **maximum** of three (3) fencers for each weapon and category up to a **maximum** of 12 male fencers and a **maximum** of 10 female fencers.

6.14 Paralympic Games
The Paralympic Games are held in the same year as the Olympic Games. Since the 1988 Seoul Summer Games, they have also taken place at the same venues as the Olympic Games. In June 2001, an agreement was signed between the International Olympic Committee and the International Paralympic Committee aiming to secure the organization of the Paralympic Games. The agreement reaffirmed that the Paralympic Games, from 2008 on, will always take place shortly after the Olympic Games, using the same sporting venues and facilities.

The first Paralympic Games were held in 1960 in Rome, Italy, with wheelchair fencing as one of the sports offered. In 1976 the Paralympic Games offered fencing in two categories of athletes, based on the degree of disability, for each event (three men’s and one women’s – foil).

Fencing competitions at the next Summer Paralympic Games will be held 2016 in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.
### Chapter 7 – Men’s Epee

#### 7.1 DESIGNATED INTERNATIONAL COMPETITIONS FOR 2012-2013

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FIE Schedule as of October 21, 2012
Selection for World Cups will take place the day after the entry deadline.

**USA FENCING NATIONAL POINT COMPETITIONS**
Points awarded for the 2012 Division I National Championships will be considered for *Rolling Points Only*. Points will be awarded for places 33-64 at Senior, and Junior NACs if there are at least 160 fencers in the competition. These points will be used for seeding national competitions. In order to be considered on the point standings for the purposes of selection or qualification for each category there must be at least one top 32 result and the total points must be at least: Senior = 275; Junior = 165; Cadet = 110.
7.2 MEN’S EPEE - SENIOR INTERNATIONAL TEAMS SELECTION CRITERIA
7.2.1 2013 MEN’S EPEE SENIOR WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS
August 6-14, 2013 – Budapest HUN

Selection Date: June 1, 2013 [or after last World Cup prior to June 15, 2013]

Sum of Group I and Group II

Group I – Sum of TWO highest points earned at 1-3.
1. NAC Division I: 10/1/2012 – Selection Date
2. 2013 Division I National Championships
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. January 1, 2013 – June 2013: Designated Senior World Cup and Grand Prix Competitions
5. 2012 Olympic Games (top 16 results) [WV=2.0]

* Senior and Junior Men’s Epee NAC award points for places 33-64 IF there are at least 160 fencers in the competition.

Points to be awarded for 33-64 if field has 160 or more competitors and SF = 2.0. No limit on number of 33-64 that can be considered in Group II.
7.2.2 2013 MEN’S EPEE WORLD UNIVERSITY GAMES
July 6-17, 2013 – Kazan RUS

Selection Date: Jun 1, 2013

Athletes Selected: See Eligibility criteria stated below and refer to 6.7.3 Academic Regulations; weapon team is composed of a maximum of 4 athletes, all of whom can compete in the individual competition and 3 of whom will compete in team competition with 4th as the substitute.

Sum of Group I and Group II

Group I – Sum of TWO highest points earned at 1-3

For Division I and Junior NAC events, points may be awarded to the top 64 fencers*

1. NAC Division I: October 2012 – Selection Date
2. 2013 Division I National Championships
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. January 1, 2013 – Selection Date: Designated Senior World Cup and Grand Prix Competitions
   (33-64 results can be used in Group II point calculations**)
5. 2012 Olympic Games (top 16 results) [WV=2.0]

Athletes must be U.S. citizens at time of selection and be at least 17 and less than 28 years of age on January 1, 2013, born between January 1, 1985 and December 31, 1995. Athlete must meet the academic requirements stated below.

*Senior and Junior Men’s Epee NAC will award points for places 33-64 IF there are at least 160 fencers in the competition.

**Any 33-64 results at World Cup competitions can be considered in Group II if there are at least 160 fencers in the competition and SF = 2.0.
7.2.3 PAN AMERICAN ZONAL SENIOR CHAMPIONSHIPS
July 1-6, 2013 TBA

Selection Date: June 1, 2013 [or after last World Cup prior to June 15, 2013]

Sum of Group I and Group II

Group I – Sum of **TWO** highest points earned at 1-3.

1. NAC Division I: 10/1/2012 – Selection Date
2. 2013 Division I National Championships
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. January 1, 2013 – Selection Date: Designated Senior World Cup and Grand Prix Competitions
5. 2012 Olympic Games (top 16 results) [WV=2.0]

* Senior and Junior Men’s Epee NAC award points for places 33-64 IF there are at least 160 fencers in the competition.

Points to be awarded for 33-64 if field has 160 or more competitors and SF = 2.0. No limit on number of 33-64 that can be considered in Group II.
7.3  INTERNATIONAL JUNIOR AND CADET TEAMS SELECTION CRITERIA

7.3.1  2013 MEN’S EPEE JUNIOR WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP TEAM
TBA

SELECTION DATE: 2013 Junior Olympic Championships

SELECTION: The top three athletes in the National Junior Team Point Standings will be selected as members of the Junior World Team and eligible to compete in the individual and team competitions.

SUM OF GROUP I AND GROUP II

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

1. NAC Under-19: July 2012
2. NAC Junior (Under-20): 9/1/2012 – Selection Date
3. NAC Division I: 10/1/2012 – Selection Date
4. 2013 Junior Olympic Under-20 Championships
5. Competitions specified in Group II below not included in Group II sum

GROUP II = SUM OF THE THREE HIGHEST POINTS EARNED AT 6-8

6. Designated Junior World Cup competitions: 10/1/2012 – Selection Date
7. Designated Senior World Cup & Grand Prix competitions: 4/27/2012 – Selection Date
   No limit on number of 33-64 results that can be considered in Group II.
8. 2012 Junior World Championships (top 32 results)

7.3.2  2013 PAN AMERICAN ZONAL JUNIOR CHAMPIONSHIPS
TBA February 8-16, 2013

Due to the timing of the tournament, during the Junior Olympic Fencing Championships, USA Fencing is currently not planning to field a team to this tournament. Athletes wishing to enter this competition, must send an email to international@usfencing.org at least 30 days prior to the competition. Selection will be based on the Junior World Championship criteria.
7.3.3 2013 MEN’S EPEE CADET WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP TEAM
TBA

SELECTION DATE: 2013 Junior Olympic Championships

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

SUM OF GROUP I AND GROUP II

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

1. NAC Under-16: July 2012
2. NAC Under-19: July 2012
3. NAC Cadet (Under-17): 9/1/2012 - selection date
4. NAC Junior (Under-20): 9/1/2012 - selection date
5. NAC Division I: 10/1/2012 - selection date
6. 2013 Junior Olympic Under-17 Championships
7. 2013 Junior Olympic Under-20 Championships
8. Competitions specified in Group II below not included in Group II sum

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

9. Designated Cadet competitions: 9/1/2012-Selection Date
10. Designated Junior World Cup competitions: 10/1/2012-Selection Date
11. 2012 Cadet World Championships (top 16 results)
12. 2012 Junior World Championships (top 32 results)

7.3.4 2013 PAN AMERICAN ZONAL CADET CHAMPIONSHIPS
TBA February 8-16, 2013

Due to the timing of the tournament, during the Junior Olympic Fencing Championships, USA Fencing is currently not planning to field a team to this tournament. Athletes wishing to enter this competition, must send an email to international@usfencing.org at least 30 days prior to the competition. Selection will be based on the Cadet World Championship criteria.
### 8.1 DESIGNATED INTERNATIONAL COMPETITIONS FOR 2012-2013

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<th>Cat.</th>
<th>Type</th>
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FIE Schedule as of August 1, 2012

Selection for World Cups will take place the day after the entry deadline.

### USA FENCING NATIONAL POINT COMPETITIONS

Points awarded for the 2012 Division I National Championships will be considered for **Rolling Points Only**. In order to be considered on the point standings for the purposes of selection or qualification for each category there must be at least one top 32 result and the total points must be at least: Senior = 275; Junior = 165; Cadet = 110.
8.2 MEN’S FOIL SENIOR INTERNATIONAL TEAMS SELECTION CRITERIA

8.2.1 2013 MEN’S FOIL SENIOR WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS
August 6-14, 2013 – Budapest HUN

Selection Date: Division I National Championships [April 2013]

Sum of Group I and Group II

Group I – Sum of TWO highest points at 1-3
1. NAC Division I: 10/1/2012 – Selection Date
2. 2013 Division I National Championships
3. Competitions specified in Group II below not included in Group II sum

Group II – Sum of the THREE highest points earned at 4-5
4. June 20, 2012 – March 31, 2013: Designated Senior World Cup and Grand Prix Competitions
   (Maximum of TWO 33-64 results can be used in Group II point calculations)
5. 2012 Olympic Games (top 16 results) [WV=2.0]

8.2.2 2013 MEN’S FOIL WORLD UNIVERSITY GAMES
July 6-17, 2013 – Kazan, RUS

Selection Date: Division I National Championships [April 2013]

Athletes Selected: See Eligibility criteria stated below and 6.7.3 Academic Regulations; weapon team is composed of a maximum of 4 athletes, all of whom can compete in the individual competition and 3 of whom will compete in team competition with a 4th as the substitute.

Sum of Group I and Group II

Group I – Sum of TWO highest points earned at 1-3
For Division I and Junior NAC events, points may be awarded to the top 64 fencers*
1. NAC Division I: October 2012 – Selection Date
2. 2013 Division I National Championships
3. Competitions specified in Group II below not included in Group II sum

GROUP II – Sum of the THREE highest points earned at 4-5
4. June 20, 2013 – Selection Date: Designated Senior World Cup and Grand Prix Competitions
   (Maximum of TWO 33-64 results can be used in Group II point calculations)
5. 2012 Olympic Games (top 16 results) [WV=2.0]
6. Athletes must be U.S. citizens at time of selection and be at least 17 and less than 28 years of age on January 1, 2013, born between January 1, 1985 and December 31, 1995. Athlete must meet the academic requirements stated below.
8.2.3 PAN AMERICAN SENIOR ZONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS
July 1-6, 2013 TBA

Selection Date: Division I National Championships [April 2013]

Sum of Group I and Group II

Group I – Sum of **TWO** highest points at 1-3

1. NAC Division I: 10/1/2012 – Selection Date
2. 2013 Division I National Championships
3. Competitions specified in Group II below not included in Group II sum

Group II – Sum of the **THREE** highest points earned at 4-5

4. June 20, 2012 – March 31, 2013: Designated Senior World Cup and Grand Prix Competitions
   (Maximum of **TWO** 33-64 results can be used in Group II point calculations)
5. 2012 Olympic Games (top 16 results) [WV=2.0]
8.3 MEN’S FOIL JUNIOR AND CADET INTERNATIONAL TEAMS SELECTION CRITERIA

8.3.1 2013 MEN’S FOIL JUNIOR WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP TEAM TBA

SELECTION DATE: 2013 Junior Olympic Championships

SELECTION: The top three athletes in the National Junior Team Point Standings will be selected as members of the Junior World Team and eligible to compete in the individual and team competitions.

SUM OF GROUP I AND GROUP II

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

1. NAC Under-19: July 2012
2. NAC Junior (Under-20): 9/1/2012 – Selection Date
3. NAC Division I: 10/1/2012 – Selection Date
4. 2013 Junior Olympic Under-20 Championships
5. Competitions specified in Group II and not included in Group II sum

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

6. Designated Junior World Cup competitions: 10/1/12 – Selection Date
7. Designated Senior World Cup competitions: 4/28/2012 – Selection Date: (MAXIMUM of TWO 33-64 results count)
8. 2012 Junior World Championships (top 32 results)
9. 2012 Olympic Games (top 32 results) [WV-2.0]

8.3.2 2013 PAN AMERICAN JUNIOR MEN’S FOIL ZONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS TBA February 8-16, 2013

Due to the timing of the tournament, during the Junior Olympic Fencing Championships, USA Fencing is currently not planning to field a team to this tournament. Athletes wishing to enter this competition, must send an email to international@usfencing.org at least 30 days prior to the competition. Selection will be based on the Junior World Championship criteria.
8.3.3 2013 MEN’S FOIL CADET WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP TEAM
TBA

SELECTION DATE: 2013 Junior Olympic Championships

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

SUM OF GROUP I AND GROUP II

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

1. NAC Under-16: July 2012
2. NAC Under-19: July 2012
3. NAC Cadet (Under-17): 9/1/2012 – Selection Date
4. NAC Junior (Under-20): 9/1/2012 – Selection Date
5. NAC Division I: 10/1/2012 – Selection Date
6. 2013 Junior Olympic Under-17 Championships
7. 2013 Junior Olympic Under-20 Championships
8. Competitions specified in Group II and not included in Group II sum

GROUP II = SUM OF THE TWO HIGHEST POINTS EARNED AT 9-14

9. 9/1/12 – 2/19/13: Designated Cadet competitions
10. 10/1/12 – 2/19/13: Designated Junior World Cup competitions
11. Designated Senior World Cup competitions: 4/28/2012 – Selection Date
(MAXIMUM of TWO 33-64 results count)
12. 2012 Cadet World Championships (top 16 results)
13. 2012 Junior World Championships (top 32 results)
14. 2012 Olympic Games (top 32 results) [WV-2.0]

8.3.4 2013 PAN AMERICAN CADET MEN’S FOIL ZONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS
TBA February 8-16, 2013

Due to the timing of the tournament, during the Junior Olympic Fencing Championships, USA Fencing is currently not planning to field a team to this tournament. Athletes wishing to enter this competition, must send an email to international@usfencing.org at least 30 days prior to the competition. Selection will be based on the Cadet World Championship criteria.
Chapter 9 – Men’s Sabre

9.1 DESIGNATED INTERNATIONAL COMPETITIONS FOR — 2012-2013

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<th>Cat.</th>
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<th>Place</th>
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FIE Schedule as of August 1, 2012
Selection for World Cups will take place the day after the entry deadline.

USA FENCING NATIONAL POINT COMPETITIONS

Points awarded for the 2012 Division I National Championships will be considered for Rolling Points Only. In order to be considered on the point standings for the purposes of selection or qualification for each category there must be at least one top 32 result and the total points must be at least: Senior = 275; Junior = 165; Cadet = 110.

WEIGHT VALUES FOR DIVISION I NAC & CHAMPIONSHIPS – MEN’S SABRE

| October NAC | 0.8 |
| November NAC | 1.0 |
| December NAC | 1.0 |
| Nationals | 1.0 (revised 11/19/12) |
9.2  MEN’S SABRE - SENIOR INTERNATIONAL TEAMS SELECTION CRITERIA

9.2.1  2013 MEN’S SABRE SENIOR WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS
August 6-14, 2013 – Budapest HUN

Selection Date June 1, 2013 [or after last World Cup prior to June 15, 2013]

Sum of Group I and Group II

Group I – Sum of **TWO** highest points earned at 1-3

1. NAC Division I: 10/1/2012 – Selection Date
2. 2013 Division I National Championships
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. January 1, 2013 – Selection Date: Designated Senior World Cup and Grand Prix Competitions
   (Maximum of **TWO** 33-64 results can be used in Group II point calculations)
5. 2012 Olympic Games (top 16 results) [WV=2.0]

9.2.2  2013 MEN’S SABRE WORLD UNIVERSITY GAMES
July 6-17, 2013 – Kazan, RUS

Selection Date: June 1, 2013

Athletes Selected: See Eligibility criteria stated below and 6.7.3 Academic Regulations; weapon team is composed of a maximum of 4 athletes, all of whom can compete in the individual competition and 3 of whom will compete in team competition with a 4th as the substitute.

Sum of Group I and Group II

Group I – Sum of **TWO** highest points earned at 1-3

For Division I and Junior NAC events, points may be awarded to the top 64 fencers*

1. NAC Division I: October 2012 – Selection Date
2. 2013 Division I National Championships
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. January 1, 2013 – Selection Date: Designated Senior World Cup and Grand Prix Competitions
   (Maximum of **TWO** 33-64 results can be used in Group II point calculations)
5. 2012 Olympic Games (top 16 results) [WV=2.0]

Athletes must be U.S. citizens at time of selection and be at least 17 and less than 28 years of age on January 1, 2013, born between January 1, 1985 and December 31, 1995. Athlete must meet the academic requirements stated below.
9.2.3 2013 PAN AMERICAN SENIOR MEN’S SABRE ZONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS
July 1-6, 2013 TBA

Selection Date: June 1, 2013 [or after last World Cup prior to June 15, 2013]

Group I – Sum of TWO highest points earned at 1-3

1. NAC Division I: 10/1/2012 – Selection Date
2. 2013 Division I National Championships
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

   (Maximum of TWO 33-64 results can be used in Group II point calculations)
5. 2012 Olympic Games (top 16 results) [WV=2.0]
9.3 MEN’S SABRE – JUNIOR & CADET INTERNATIONAL TEAMS SELECTION CRITERIA

9.3.1 2013 MEN’S SABRE JUNIOR WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP TEAM - TBA

SELECTION DATE: TBD pending calendar (tentative February 25, 2013)

SUM OF GROUP I AND GROUP II

Group I = Sum of **FOUR** highest points earned at 1-5

1. NAC Under -19, July 2012
2. NAC Junior (Under-20): 9/1/2012 – Selection date
3. NAC Division I: 10/1/2012 – Selection date
4. 2013 Junior Olympic Under-20 Championships
5. Competitions specified in Group II below not included in Group II sum

Group II = Sum of the **FOUR** highest points earned at 6-8

6. Designated Junior World Cup competitions 10/1/2012 - Selection Date
7. Designated Senior World Cup & Grand Prix competitions** 4/27/2012 - Selection Date
   (Maximum of **TWO** 33-64 results considered in Group II point calculations)
8. 2012 Junior World Championships (top 32 results)

**Additional weight value of 1.5 for top 32 results; normal SF for places 33-64 when SF = 2.0

9.3.2 2013 PAN AMERICAN JUNIOR MEN’S SABRE ZONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS
TBA February 8-16, 2013

Due to the timing of the tournament, during the Junior Olympic Fencing Championships, USA Fencing is currently not planning to field a team to this tournament. Athletes wishing to enter this competition, must send an email to international@usfencing.org at least 30 days prior to the competition. Selection will be based on the Junior World Championship criteria.
9.3.3 MEN’S SABRE 2013 CADET WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP TEAM
TBA – March -April 2013

SELECTION DATE: TBD pending calendar (tentative February 25, 2013)

SUM OF GROUP I AND GROUP II

Group I = Sum of **FOUR** highest points earned in 1-8

1. NAC Under-16 July 2012
2. NAC Under-19 July 2012
3. NAC Cadet (Under-17) 9/1/2012 - selection date
4. NAC Junior (Under-20): 9/1/2012 - selection date
5. NAC Division I: 10/1/2012 - selection date
6. 2013 Junior Olympic Under-17 Championships
7. 2013 Junior Olympic Under-20 Championships
8. Competitions specified in Group II below not included in Group II sum

Group II = Sum of the **FOUR** highest points earned in 9-13

9. Designated Cadet competitions: 9/1/2012-Selection Date
**ONLY** Best **THREE** results count for Group II or Group I
10. Designated Junior World Cup competitions 10/1/2012-Selection Date
(If FIE criteria not met, points will be calculated according to the USFA SF formula and considered in Group I)
11. Designated Senior World Cup & Grand Prix competitions** 4/27/2012 to selection date
(MAXIMUM of **TWO** 33-64 results considered in Group II point calculations)
12. 2012 Cadet World Championships (top 16 results)
13. 2012 Junior World Championships (top 32 results)

** Additional weighting of 1.5 for top 32 results; normal SF for places 33-64 when SF = 2.0

9.3.4 2013 PAN AMERICAN ZONAL CADET MEN’S SABRE CHAMPIONSHIPS
TBA February 8-16, 2013

Due to the timing of the tournament, during the Junior Olympic Fencing Championships, USA Fencing is currently not planning to field a team to this tournament. Athletes wishing to enter this competition, must send an email to international@usfencing.org at least 30 days prior to the competition. Selection will be based on the Cadet World Championship criteria.
### 10.1 Designated International Competitions for 2012-2013

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Cat.</th>
<th>Type</th>
<th>Place</th>
<th>Ctry</th>
<th>Start</th>
<th>End</th>
<th>USFA Entry &amp; Withdraw Deadline</th>
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FIE Schedule as of August 1, 2012
Selection for World Cups will take place the day after the entry deadline.

### USA Fencing National Point Competitions

Points awarded for the 2012 Division I National Championships will be considered for **Rolling Points Only.** Points will be awarded for places 33-64 at Senior and Junior NACs if there are at least 160 fencers in the competition. These points will be used for seeding national competitions. In order to be considered on the point standings for the purposes of selection or qualification for each category there must be at least one top 32 result and the total points must be at least: Senior = 275; Junior = 165; Cadet = 110.
10.2 WOMEN’S EPEE - SENIOR INTERNATIONAL TEAMS SELECTION CRITERIA

10.2.1 2013 WOMEN’S EPEE SENIOR WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS
August 6-14, 2013 – Budapest HUN

Selection Date: June 1, 2013 [or after last World Cup prior to June 15, 2013]

Sum of Group I and Group II

Group I – Sum of THREE highest points earned at 1-3

1. NAC Division I: 10/1/2012 – Selection Date
2. 2013 Division I National Championships
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. January 1, 2013 – Selection Date: Designated Senior World Cup and Grand Prix Competitions
   (Points to be awarded for 33-64 if field has 160 or more competitors and SF = 2.0. There is no limit on number of 33-64 results that can be considered in Group II.)
5. 2012 Olympic Games (top 16 results) [WV=2.0]

10.2.2 2013 WOMEN’S EPEE WORLD UNIVERSITY GAMES
July 6-17, 2013 – Kazan RUS

Selection Date: June 1, 2013

Athletes Selected: See Eligibility criteria stated below and 6.7.3 Academic Regulations; weapon team is composed of a maximum of 4 athletes, all of whom can compete in the individual competition and 3 of whom will compete in team competition with a 4th as the substitute.

Sum of Group I and Group II

Group I – Sum of THREE highest points earned at 1-5

1. NAC Division I: October 2012-Selection Date
2. 2013 Division I National Championships
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. January 1, 2013 – Selection Date: Designated Senior World Cup and Grand Prix Competitions
   (Points to be awarded for 33-64 if field has 160 or more competitors and SF = 2.0. There is no limit on number of 33-64 results that can be considered in Group II.)
5. 2012 Olympic Games (top 16 results) [WV=2.0]

Athletes must be U.S. citizens at time of selection and be at least 17 and less than 28 years of age on January 1, 2011, born between January 1, 1983 and December 31, 1993. Athlete must meet the academic requirements stated below.

**Any 33-64 results at World Cup competitions can be considered in Group II if there are at least 160 fencers in the competition and SF = 2.0.
10.2.3  2013 PAN AMERICAN SENIOR ZONAL WOMEN’S EPEE CHAMPIONSHIPS
July 1-6, 2013 TBA

Selection Date: June 1, 2013 [or after last World Cup prior to June 15, 2013]

Sum of Group I and Group II

Group I – Sum of **THREE** highest points earned at 1-3

1. NAC Division I: 10/1/2012 – Selection Date
2. 2013 Division I National Championships
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. January 1, 2013 – Selection Date: Designated Senior World Cup and Grand Prix Competitions
   (Points to be awarded for 33-64 if field has 160 or more competitors and SF = 2.0. There is no limit on number of 33-64 results that can be considered in Group II.)
5. 2012 Olympic Games (top 16 results) [WV=2.0]
10.3 WOMEN’S EPEE – JUNIOR AND CADET INTERNATIONAL TEAMS SELECTION

10.3.1 2013 WOMEN’S EPEE JUNIOR WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS
TBA

SELECTION DATE: 2013 Junior Olympic Championships

SELECTION: The top three athletes in the National Junior Team Point Standings will be selected as members of the Junior World Team and eligible to compete in the individual and team competitions.

SUM OF GROUP I AND GROUP II

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

1. NAC Under-19: July 2012
2. NAC Junior (Under-20): 9/1/2012 – Selection Date
3. NAC Division I: 10/1/2012 – Selection Date
4. 2013 Junior Olympic Under-20 Championships
5. Competitions specified in Group II below not included in Group II sum

GROUP II = SUM OF THE THREE HIGHEST POINTS EARNED AT 6-8

6. Designated Junior World Cup competitions: 10/1/2012 – Selection Date
7. Designated Senior World Cup and Grand Prix competitions: 1/13/2013 – Selection Date
   (Maximum of TWO 33-64 results considered in Group II point calculations)
8. 2012 Junior World Championships (top 32 results)

10.3.2 2013 PAN AMERICAN JUNIOR ZONAL WOMEN’S EPEE CHAMPIONSHIPS
TBA February 8-16, 2013

Due to the timing of the tournament, during the Junior Olympic Fencing Championships, USA Fencing is currently not planning to field a team to this tournament. Athletes wishing to enter this competition, must send an email to international@usfencing.org at least 30 days prior to the competition. Selection will be based on the Junior World Championship criteria.
10.3.3  2013 WOMEN’S EPEE CADET WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS
TBA

SELECTION DATE: 2013 Junior Olympic Championships

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

SUM OF GROUP I AND GROUP II

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

1. NAC Under-16 July 2012
2. NAC Under-19 July 2012
3. NAC Cadet (Under-17): 9/1/2012 - selection date
4. NAC Junior (Under-20): 9/1/2012 - selection date
5. NAC Division I: 10/1/2012 - selection date
6. 2013 Junior Olympic Under-17 Championships
7. 2013 Junior Olympic Under-20 Championships
8. Competitions specified in Group II below not included in Group II sum

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

9. Designated Cadet competitions: 9/1/2012-Selection Date (Weight Factor = 1.3)
10. Designated Junior World Cups: 9/1/2012- selection date
11. 2012 Cadet World Championships (top 16 result)
12. 2012 Junior World Championships (top 32 result)

10.3.4  2013 PAN AMERICAN ZONAL CADET WOMEN’S EPEE CHAMPIONSHIPS
TBA February 8-16, 2013

Due to the timing of the tournament, during the Junior Olympic Fencing Championships, USA Fencing is currently not planning to field a team to this tournament. Athletes wishing to enter this competition, must send an email to international@usfencing.org at least 30 days prior to the competition. Selection will be based on the Cadet World Championship criteria.
11.1 Designated International Competitions for 2012-2013

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<tr>
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FIE Schedule as of October 22, 2012
Selection for World Cups will take place the day after the entry deadline.

**USA FENCING NATIONAL POINT COMPETITIONS**

Points awarded for the 2012 Division I National Championships will be considered for *Rolling Points Only*. In order to be considered on the point standings for the purposes of selection or qualification for each category there must be at least one top 32 result and the total points must be at least: Senior = 275; Junior = 165; Cadet = 110.
11.2 WOMEN’S FOIL SENIOR INTERNATIONAL TEAMS SELECTION CRITERIA

11.2.1 2013 WOMEN’S FOIL SENIOR WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS
August 6-14, 2013 – Budapest HUN

Updated: 22 October 2012

Selection Date: Division I National Championships [April 2013]

Sum of Group I and Group II

Group I – Sum of TWO highest points earned at 1-3.
1. NAC Division I: 10/1/2012 – Selection Date
2. 2013 Division I National Championships
3. Competitions specified in Group II below not included in Group II sum

GROUP II – Sum of the THREE highest points earned at 4-5
4. June 1, 2012 – April 15, 2013: Designated Senior World Cup and Grand Prix Competitions
   (Maximum of TWO 33-64 results can be used in Group II point calculations)
5. 2012 Olympic Games (top 16 results) [WV=2.0]

11.2.2 2013 WOMEN’S FOIL WORLD UNIVERSITY GAMES
July 6-17, 2013 – Kazan, RUS

Updated: 22 October 2012

Selection Date: Division I National Championships [April 2013]

Athletes Selected: See Eligibility criteria stated below and 6.7.3 Academic Regulations; weapon team is composed of a maximum of 4 athletes, all of whom can compete in the individual competition and 3 of whom will compete in team competition with a 4th as the substitute.

Sum of Group I and Group II

Group I – Sum of TWO highest points earned at 1-3
1. NAC Division I: October 2012-Selection Date
2. 2013 Division I National Championships
3. Competitions specified in Group II below and not included in Group II sum

Group II – Sum of the THREE highest points earned at 4-5
4. June 1, 2012 – Selection Date: Designated Senior World Cup Competitions
   (Maximum of TWO 33-64 results considered in Group II point calculations.
5. 2012 Olympic Games (top 16 results) [WV=2.0]

Athletes must be U.S. citizens at time of selection and be at least 17 and less than 28 years of age on January 1, 2011, born between January 1, 1983 and December 31, 1993. Athlete must meet the academic requirements stated below.
11.2.3  2013 PAN AMERICAN SENIOR WOMEN’S FOIL ZONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS
July 1-6, 2013 TBA

Updated: 22 October 2012

Selection Date: Division I National Championships [April 2013]

Sum of Group I and Group II

Group I – Sum of **TWO** highest points earned at 1-3.

1. NAC Division I:  10/1/2012 – Selection Date
2. 2013 Division I National Championships
3. Competitions specified in Group II below not included in Group II sum

Group II – Sum of the **THREE** highest points earned at 4-5

4. June 1, 2012 – April 15, 2013:  Designated Senior World Cup & Grand Prix Competitions
   (Maximum of TWO 33-64 results can be used in Group II point calculations)
5. 2012 Olympic Games (top 16 results) [WV=2.0]
11.3 WOMEN'S FOIL JUNIOR AND CADET INTERNATIONAL TEAMS SELECTION

11.3.1 2013 WOMEN'S FOIL JUNIOR WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS TEAM
TBA

SELECTION DATE: 2013 Junior Olympic Championships

SELECTION: The top three athletes in the National Junior Team Point Standings will be selected as members of the Junior World Team and eligible to compete in the individual and team competitions.

SUM OF GROUP I AND GROUP II

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

1. NAC Under-19: July 2012
2. NAC Junior (Under-20): 9/1/2012 – Selection Date
3. NAC Division I: 10/1/2012 – Selection Date
4. 2013 Junior Olympic Under-20 Championships
5. Competitions specified in Group II below not included in Group II sum

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

6. Designated Junior World Cup competitions: 11/01/12 - Selection Date
7. Designated Senior World Cup and Grand Prix: 4/28/2012-Selection Date
8. 2012 Junior World Championships (top 16 results)

11.3.2 2013 PAN AMERICAN JUNIOR WOMEN'S FOIL ZONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS
TBA February 8-16, 2013

Due to the timing of the tournament, during the Junior Olympic Fencing Championships, USA Fencing is currently not planning to field a team to this tournament. Athletes wishing to enter this competition, must send an email to international@usfencing.org at least 30 days prior to the competition. Selection will be based on the Junior World Championship criteria.
11.3.3  2013 WOMEN’S FOIL CADET WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS

TBA

SELECTION DATE:  2013 Junior Olympic Championships

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

SUM OF GROUP I AND GROUP II

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

1. NAC Under-16: July 2012
2. NAC Under-19: July 2012
3. NAC Cadet (Under-17): 9/1/2012 – Selection Date
4. NAC Junior (Under-20): 9/1/2012 – Selection Date
5. Junior Olympic Under-17 Championships: February 2013
7. NAC Division I: 10/1/2012 – Selection Date
8. Competitions specified in Group II and not included in Group II sum

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

9. Designated Cadet competitions: 09/01/12 – Selection Date
10. Designated Junior World Cup competitions: 11/01/12 – Selection Date
11. Designated Senior World Cup and Grand Prix: 04/28/2012 – Selection Date
12. 2012 Cadet World Championships (top 8 results)

11.3.4  2013 PAN AMERICAN ZONAL CADET WOMEN’S FOIL CHAMPIONSHIPS

TBA February 8-16, 2013

Due to the timing of the tournament, during the Junior Olympic Fencing Championships, USA Fencing is currently not planning to field a team to this tournament. Athletes wishing to enter this competition, must send an email to international@usfencing.org at least 30 days prior to the competition. Selection will be based on the Cadet World Championship criteria.
### 12.1 DESIGNATED INTERNATIONAL COMPETITIONS FOR 2012-2013

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Cat.</th>
<th>Type</th>
<th>Place</th>
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<th>End</th>
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<td>GBR</td>
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<td>HUN</td>
<td>6-Aug-13</td>
<td>14-Aug-13</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

FIE Schedule as of August 1, 2012
Selection for World Cups will take place the day after the entry deadline.

#### USA FENCING NATIONAL POINT COMPETITIONS

Points awarded for the 2012 Division I National Championships will be considered for **Rolling Points Only**. In order to be considered on the point standings for the purposes of selection or qualification for each category there must be at least one top 32 result and the total points must be at least: Senior = 275; Junior = 165; Cadet = 110.
12.2 WOMEN’S SABRE - SENIOR INTERNATIONAL TEAMS SELECTION

12.2.1 2013 WOMEN’S SABRE WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS
August 6-14, 2013 – Budapest HUN

Selection Date: June 1, 2013 [or after last World Cup prior to June 15, 2013]

Sum of Group I and Group II

Group I – Sum of TWO highest points earned at 1-3

1. NAC Division I: 10/1/2012 – Selection Date
2. 2013 Division I National Championships
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. January 1, 2013 – Selection Date: Designated Senior World Cup and Grand Prix Competitions
   (Maximum of TWO 33-64 results can be used in Group II point calculations)
5. 2012 Olympic Games (top 16 results) [WV=2.0]

12.2.2 2013 WOMEN’S SABRE WORLD UNIVERSITY GAMES
July 6-17, 2013 – Kazan RUS

Selection Date: June 1, 2013 [or after last World Cup prior to June 15, 2013]

Athletes Selected: See Eligibility criteria stated below and 6.7.3 Academic Regulations; weapon team is composed of a maximum of 4 athletes, all of whom can compete in the individual competition and 3 of whom will compete in team competition with a 4th as the substitute.

Sum of Group I and Group II

Group I – Sum of TWO highest points earned at 1-3

1. NAC Division I: October 2012 – Selection Date
2. 2013 Division I National Championships
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. January 1, 2013 – Selection Date: Designated Senior World Cup and Grand Prix Competitions
   (maximum of TWO 33-64 results can be used in Group II point calculations)
5. 2012 Olympic Games (top 16 results) [WV=2.0]

Athletes must be U.S. citizens at time of selection and be at least 17 and less than 28 years of age on January 1, 2011, born between January 1, 1984 and December 31, 1995. Athlete must meet the academic requirements stated below.
12.2.3  2013 WOMEN'S SABRE PAN AMERICAN SENIOR ZONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS  
July 1-6, 2013, TBA

Selection Date: June 1, 2013 [or after last World Cup prior to June 15, 2013]

Tournament Date & Location: TBD

Sum of Group I and Group II

Group I – Sum of **TWO** highest points earned at 1-3

1. NAC Division I: 10/1/2012 – Selection Date
2. 2013 Division I National Championships
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. January 1, 2013 – Selection Date: Designated Senior World Cup and Grand Prix Competitions  
   (Maximum of **TWO** 33-64 results can be used in Group II point calculations)
5. 2012 Olympic Games (top 16 results) [WV=2.0]
12.3 JUNIOR AND CADET WOMEN’S SABRE INTERNATIONAL SELECTION CRITERIA
12.3.1 2013 WOMEN’S SABRE JUNIOR WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS

TBA

SELECTION DATE: TBD pending calendar (tentative February 25, 2013)

SELECTION: The top three athletes in the National Junior Team Point Standings will be selected as members of the Junior World Team and eligible to compete in the individual and team competitions.

SUM OF GROUP I AND GROUP II

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

1. NAC Under-19: July 2012
2. NAC Junior (Under-20): 9/1/2012 – Selection Date
3. NAC Division: I 9/1/2012 – Selection Date
4. 2013 Junior Olympic Under-20 Championships
5. Competitions specified in Group II below not used in Group II Sum
   (MAXIMUM of TWO 33-64 can be carried over to Group I)
6. Non-Designated Junior World Cups (9/1/2012 – Selection Date)

Points at domestic point competitions will be awarded to the top 40% of the field to the nearest quadrant to a maximum of 32nd place.

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

7. 10/1/2012 – Selection Date: Designated Junior World Cup competitions
   (if FIE criteria not met, points will be calculated according to the USFA SF formula and be considered in Group I)
8. 5/01/2012 – Selection Date: Designated Senior World Cup and Grand Prix competitions**
   (MAXIMUM of TWO 33-64 results considered in Group II point calculations)
9. 2012 Junior World Championships (top 16 results)
10. 2012 Olympic Games (top 16 results)[WV-2.0]

**Additional weight value of 1.5 for top 32 results; normal SF for places 33-64 when SF = 2.0

12.3.2 2013 PAN AMERICAN ZONAL WOMENS’ SABRE JUNIOR CHAMPIONSHIPS

TBA February 8-16, 2013

Due to the timing of the tournament, during the Junior Olympic Fencing Championships, USA Fencing is currently not planning to field a team to this tournament. Athletes wishing to enter this competition, must send an email to international@usfencing.org at least 30 days prior to the competition. Selection will be based on the Junior World Championship criteria.
12.3.3 2013 WOMEN’S SABRE CADET WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS
TBA

SELECTION DATE: TBD pending calendar (tentative February 25, 2013)

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

SUM OF GROUP I AND GROUP II

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

1. NAC Under-19: July 2012
2. NAC Under-16: July 2012
3. NAC Junior (Under-20): 9/1/2012 – Selection Date
4. NAC Cadet (Under-17): 9/1/2012 – Selection Date
5. NAC Division I:  9/1/ 2012 – Selection Date
6. 2013 Junior Olympic Under-20 Championships
7. 2013 Junior Olympic Under-17 Championships
8. Competitions specified in Group II below not used in Group II Sum
(MAXIMUM of TWO 33-64 results can be carried or used in Group I)
9. Non-Designated Junior World Cups (9/1/ 2012 – Selection Date)

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

10. 9/1/2012 – Selection Date: Designated Cadet competitions
(ONLY BEST TWO COUNT for either Group II or Group I)
11. 10/1/2012 – Selection Date: Designated Junior World Cup competitions
(If FIE criteria is not met, points will be calculated according to the USFA SF formula and counted in Group I)
12. 05/01/2012 – Selection date: Senior World Cup & Grand Prix competitions**
(MAXIMUM of TWO 33-64 results count)
13. 2012 Cadet World Championships (top 8 results)
14. 2012 Junior World Championships (top 16 results)
15. 2012 Olympic Games (top 16 results) )[WV-2.0]

**Additional weight value of 1.5 for top 32 results; normal SF for places 33-64 when SF = 2.

12.3.4 2013 WOMENS’ SABRE PAN AMERICAN ZONAL CADET CHAMPIONSHIPS
TBA February 8-16, 2013

Due to the timing of the tournament, during the Junior Olympic Fencing Championships, USA Fencing is currently not planning to field a team to this tournament. Athletes wishing to enter this competition, must send an email to international@usfencing.org at least 30 days prior to the competition. Selection will be based on the Cadet World Championship criteria.
Chapter 13 – Fencer Funding and Recognition Programs

13.1 Fencer Recognition Programs
13.1.1 Youth Performance Recognition
This program is designed to recognize Gold, Silver, and Bronze medalists at domestic national tournaments in Youth 14, Youth, 12, and Youth 10 events.

Gold, Silver, and Bronze medalists in each of the three events (Y14, Y12, and Y10) will be awarded a patch indicating their accomplishment. Patches have the USFA logo and indicate the medal, weapon, and year.

Patches will be awarded at the awards presentation at the tournament.

13.1.2 Youth Point Winner
Age group point winner patches are given in each Youth Age group (Y14, Y12, and Y10) at USA Fencing National Championships/July NAC. The age group point winner is calculated as the fencer in each age group who has had the best two results in the fencer’s own national age group competitions.

13.2 International Funding
Each weapon is allocated a specific budget which the High Performance Director together with the National Weapon Coach, determines how programs can best be funded. The budget allocation is designed to promote the development of the weapon towards international success and can include programs for cadet, junior, and senior fencers.

13.2.1 Travel Grants
This section will be updated upon budget approval

13.3 World Championship Team Funding
This section will be updated upon budget approval

13.4 Athlete Funding Programs
13.4.1 Requirements for Receiving Funding
As a precondition for obtaining funding from the USOC (grants or stipends), fencers may be required by the USFA to do any or all of the following:

- Sign Athlete Contract
- Agree to Standards of Conduct as promulgated by the USFA
- Submit to doping control and drug testing as required by the USFA, FIE, USOC, FISU, USADA, WADA, PASO, or IOC, or other governing body
- Maintain training records and competition records as required by the National Weapon Coach
- Develop and maintain an appropriate ongoing training and competition plan in consultation with the National Weapon Coach
- Submit any required records and plans for review by the National Weapon Coach
- Submit any required reports for review by the National Weapon Coach
- Participate in team training and competition activities as designated by the National Weapon Coach
13.5 USOC Elite Athlete Health Insurance (EAHI) –
http://www.teamusa.org/For-Athletes/Athlete-Services/Elite-Athlete-Health-Insurance.aspx

The United States Olympic Committee (USOC) Elite Athlete Health Insurance Program (EAHI) provides a level of base support by offering a program of health and major medical insurance for designated Elite Athletes in order to minimize the out-of-pocket expenses incurred by insured athletes for costs of medical care.

Each National Governing Body (NGB) receives from the USOC a guaranteed number of EAHI slots to distribute to its Elite Athletes. Distribution of these EAHI slots is based on criteria established by the NGB and approved by the USOC.

The conditions of the USOC EAHI for 2012 are explained below. The 2013 EAHI criteria will replace this section after the criteria and conditions have been approved by the USOC and posted on the USOC web site.

Fencers are notified of their eligibility by the International Programs Director via email.

A. Number of EAHI slots allocated: 18
B. Eligibility and Criteria Approved for EAHI:

Fencers will be evaluated by the criteria listed below. The evaluation date will be December 1, 2012 (rankings to be inclusive of 2012 World Championship results).

Eligibility will be determined by the US Senior Team Point Standings as of the evaluation date. The top three (3) athletes in each weapon per gender on the US Senior Team Point Standings on the evaluation date will be offered Elite Athlete Health Insurance.

Should one of these fencers decline the insurance, the slot will be offered in the following manner:

The highest-ranking US fencer on the International Fencing Federation (FIE) Senior Individual Rankings as of the evaluation date who does not already have EAHI will be offered the slot regardless of weapon or gender. Should this athlete decline the insurance, the next highest-ranking US fencer regardless of weapon or gender (see ‘Note’ below) on the FIE Individual Rankings will be offered the slot, etc.

Should a tie occur in the FIE Senior Individual Rankings, the US Senior Team Point Standings will be used to break the tie. A tie after this point will be broken by the High Performance Director or his/her designee, and the athlete with the highest potential for medals based on previous international results and future competitive potential will be nominated.

Note: No weapon shall have more than five (5) athletes (per weapon/gender) enrolled in EAHI. Only after the top four (4) athletes (per weapon/gender) have been offered EAHI based on the criteria above, and have accepted or declined, will the 5th athlete (per weapon/gender) be offered EAHI. No fencers ranked lower than 5th on the US Senior Team Point Standings as of the evaluation date will be offered EAHI.

Athletes will have 45 days to enroll in EAHI by completing and returning the EAHI enrollment forms provided by the USOC. Athletes will be considered to have declined EAHI if their enrollment forms are not completed and returned to the USOC within 45 days of receiving notification from USA Fencing Association. Using the above criteria, that slot will be awarded to the next eligible athlete.

Any remaining slots after using the above criteria will go unused.
13.6 USOC Athlete Support Performance Pool

Below is the USOC Stipend funding criteria through the 2012 Calendar year. The 2013 USOC stipend funding will replace this section after it has been approved by the USOC and posted on the USOC web site.

Fencers are notified of their eligibility via email by the International Programs Manager. They are required to sign an Athlete Agreement and Code of Conduct.

Eligibility and Criteria Approved for Direct Athlete Support:
1. Athletes who meet the criteria as outlined below (per gender/weapon) may qualify to receive the specified level of support, provided they are willing to commit per the outlined guidelines in the 2012 USA Fencing Athlete Agreement. An athlete’s level of support will be adjusted according to the criteria outlined below and/or if he/she does not meet the conditions of the 2012 USA Fencing Athlete Agreement at the review periods listed below (any adjustments to an athlete’s level of support will take effect on the first day of following month, i.e., January 1, May 1, September 1):
   a. FIE World Cup rankings as of December 15, 2011
   b. FIE World Cup rankings as of April 15, 2012
   c. FIE World Cup rankings as of September 1, 2012.

2. For Women's Saber and Men's Epee (no 2012 Olympic Team Events):
   If an athlete has an Individual FIE World Cup Ranking as outlined below, he/she may receive the following level of support:
   a. Ranked #1 on the FIE World Cup Rankings receives $4,000
   b. Ranked 2-4 on the FIE World Cup Rankings receives $3750
   c. Ranked 5-8 FIE World Cup ranking receives $2500 per month
   d. Ranked 9-16 FIE World Cup ranking receives $2000 per month
   e. Ranked 17-20 FIE World Cup ranking receives $1500 per month
   f. Ranked 21-24 FIE World Cup ranking receives $1000 per month

3. For those weapons identified as 2012 Olympic Team Events (Men's and Women's Foil, Women's Epee, Men's Saber):
   If an athlete has an Individual FIE World Cup Ranking as outlined below, he/she may receive the following level of support:
   a. Ranked #1 on the FIE World Cup ranking receives $4000 per month
   b. Ranked 2-4 on the FIE World Cup ranking receives $3750
   c. Ranked 5-8 on the FIE World Cup ranking receives $2500 per month
   d. Ranked 9-16 on the FIE World Cup ranking receives $2000 per month
   e. Ranked 17-24 on the FIE World Cup ranking receives $1000 per month
   f. Ranked 25-32 on the FIE World Cup ranking receives $750 per month

4. For those weapons identified as 2012 Olympic Team Events (Men's and Women's Foil, Women's Epee, Men's Saber):
   If an individual athlete does not meet the criteria as outlined in #3 above but is included in the FIE Team World Cup Rankings (identified 2012 Olympic Team Events only), he/she may be eligible to receive the following level of support, provided he/she:
   • Signs and complies with the USA Fencing Athlete Agreement;
   • Attends the number of World Cup competitions as outlined in his/her USA Fencing Athlete Agreement;
   • Participates in at least one half of the team events through the relevant review period as outlined in #1 above, to include World Cup competitions with team events and Zonal Championships/Qualifiers;
   • Participates in the required number of National Team training camps per the USA Fencing Athlete Agreement unless there is a verified direct conflict with an NCAA event (championship or qualifier) or verified medical reason; and
   • Agrees to train with the team on a year-round basis with a National Team Coach.
   a. 1-2 FIE Team World Cup ranking receives $2500 per month
   b. 3-4 FIE Team World Cup ranking receives $2000 per month
   c. 5-6 FIE Team World Cup ranking receives $1500 per month
   d. 7-8 FIE Team World Cup ranking receives $1000 per month
Up to four (4) athletes per weapon/gender may be selected for team event funding as follows:

- The top three (3) US athletes on the US Senior National Team Point Rankings are guaranteed to be selected for team event funding.

- The fourth athlete selected for team event funding will be identified as follows:
  1. The fourth ranked US athlete on the US Senior National Team Point Rankings; or
  2. The fourth athlete to make up the Team may be recommended by the National Coach to an established review group who will put forth their nomination for team funding for final approval by the USA Fencing Executive Director and/or the High Performance Director. The recommendations will be based on the athlete’s performance at Grand Prix and World Cup events, previous international competitive experience, performance in previous team events, injury, performance at National Team Training Camps, etc.

Important Notes:
Athletes who qualify under both criteria (#3 and #4 above) will receive the higher level of support.

13.7 USOC Operation Gold Award
USOC Operation Gold Awards reward athletes for top-place finishes in a sport’s most competitive international competition of the year. The award amount varies from $1,000 to $25,000 depending on the year, the athlete’s place and/or finish at the Operation Gold competition and whether the athlete competes in a sport/discipline/event on the Olympic Games program or on the Pan American Games program. Team Sports (defined as three or more athletes) receive funding for 1-6 place finishes in non-Olympic years, while Individual Sports (defined as one or two athletes) receive funding for 1-8 place finishes in non-Olympic years.

If the Operation Gold qualifying competition is something other than the Olympic Games, Pan American Games (for Pan American-only sports/events) or World Championships, the world’s top 10 countries (according to international federation rankings/ratings) must be in the competition pool. If less than the world’s top 10 countries are present, eligibility for Operation Gold Awards is conditional and a different payment schedule will be used.

Additionally, in non-Olympic years, athletes who qualify for more than one award automatically receive the higher award. At the Olympic Games, athletes will be paid Operation Gold for multiple medal performances. The Operation Gold Payment schedule is as follows:

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<th>SUMMER Payment Schedule-2012</th>
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NOTE 1: All six weapons will be eligible for the awards for results in the individual competitions at the 2012 World Championships; only the four weapons with team events at the 2013 Olympic Games will be eligible for these awards for results at the team competitions at the 2012 World Championships.

NOTE 2: For Men’s Epee and Women’s Sabre, team awards will be available based on results at the 2012 Pan American Games.

The 2013 Operation Gold Award will replace this section once it is approved by the USOC.
Chapter 14 – Wheelchair Fencing

14.1 History
Wheelchair fencing was developed by Sir Ludwig Guttmann at the Stoke Mandeville Hospital in Great Britain. It was introduced at the 1960 Paralympic Games in Rome and there are currently 35 countries practicing wheelchair fencing on the international level. From a spectator's point of view, the most striking feature of wheelchair fencing is the fact that athletes compete in wheelchairs that are fastened to the floor. These chairs allow the fencers freedom of movement in the upper body only, but the activity is as fast-paced as in fencing competitions for the able-bodied. Men and women with disabilities that include, but are not limited to, an amputation, spinal injury or cerebral palsy, are eligible to compete in events including foil and épée (men and women), and saber (men). The official governing body is the International Wheelchair and Amputee Sports Federation (IWAS).

14.2 Wheelchair Fencing in the United States
In the last few years the USFA has accepted the responsibilities for the wheelchair fencing programs which had been handled previously by Wheelchair Sports, Inc., and U.S. Paralympics. During the transition period, the USFA has been working with U.S. Paralympics in a cooperative effort to develop world class wheelchair fencing athletes as well as broaden the base of wheelchair fencing. U.S. fencers have distinguished themselves in World Cups, World Championships, and Paralympic Games since the program started for U.S. wheelchair athletes in the ’90s.

The USFA organizes two NAC wheelchair tournaments each season, usually held in conjunction with the October and March NACs. The National Wheelchair Fencing Championships are held in April.

The high performance director, in conjunction with the national coaching staff, is tasked with producing the annual high performance plan, establishing selection criteria for international teams; and developing training camps and clinics. The wheelchair committee is responsible for plans for broader development of wheelchair fencing through expansion of available coaches to train wheelchair fencers.

14.3 International Paralympic Committee
The International Paralympic Committee (IPC) is the global governing body of the Paralympic movement. The IPC organizes the Summer and Winter Paralympic Games and serves as the international federation for 13 sports, for which it supervises and coordinates the World Championships and other competitions.

Visit www.paralympic.org for more information.
14.4 Wheelchair Fencing
14.4.1 Athlete Eligibility and Classification
There are three categories of competition, based upon disability classification. The three categories are: A, B, and C, with each category indicating the degree of disability from least “A” to most severe “C.” An official classifier for IWAS determines the specific category for each wheelchair fencer. Athletes compete according to category at international tournaments, but the categories are combined for competition at U.S. tournaments. The events contested for wheelchair fencers at U.S. tournaments include men’s and women’s events for foil, epee and sabre. Internationally, women’s sabre is not an event at the Paralympic Games, although it is sometimes contested at non-Paralympic competitions. The list of fencers and their results and points indicates the fencer’s level for selection purposes. For the Wheelchair World Championships there are normally only events for A and B fencers, though competitions can be held for the C fencers. For the Paralympic Games, the competitions are only for “A’ and “B” fencers with separate competitions for each group.

14.4.2 Playing area
In the able-bodied sport of fencing, two fencers compete on a 14-meter strip. In wheelchair fencing, fencing is static. The wheelchairs are fixed in place to the ground by metal frames. The chair is preferably clamped to both sides of the frame to keep the chair from tipping. The length of the playing area is decided by the fencer with the shortest arms. This person decides if the distance will be at his distance or that of his opponent. One arm/hand holds the fencing weapon. The other arm is used to hold on to the chair when lunging and recovering.

14.4.3 Rules
The rules for wheelchair fencing include the fixed distance between fencers. The target for foil and saber competitions is exactly the same as for able-bodied competition. In epée competition, the target is everything above the waist, with a conductive apron worn below the waist to aid in cancellation of these touches. Feet must remain on the footrest and the fencer must remain seated (no daylight between the fencer’s buttocks and the seat of the chair). The chair must be fixed at a 110 degree angle to the central bar.

14.4.4 Refereeing and Judging Of Hits
Only officials approved by the IWFC will officiate.

t.34 “The bout is directed by the referee, who may be seated, and must be in a position to follow the fencing phrases while being able to see the scoring apparatus.”

The main object is the same as for able-bodied competition. The first fencer to score 15 points (direct elimination) or five points (preliminary pool play) against the opponent wins. A point is awarded each time a fencer touches the opponent in the target area. Direct elimination matches consist of three three-minute periods.

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

14.4.5 Seeding and Formats
Please refer to Chapter 2.10 for seeding and format information.
14.5 Selection Criteria World Championships Budapest 2013

IWAS has restricted the number of athletes the U.S. may enter into the 2013 Wheelchair World Championships to three (3) fencers for each weapon and category; up to a maximum of twelve (12) male and ten (10) female athletes.

It is imperative that the USFA be notified of your availability for this team as soon as possible since there is a very small window for making the arrangements. Send your acceptance notice to international@usfencing.org. If notice is not received by xx 2013 the next eligible person in the point standings will be contacted for the team slot. It would be helpful if you notified the Office if you are not able to accept the appointment so that the next athlete in line could be contacted sooner.

14.7 Wheelchair Domestic Calendar 2012-2013

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14.8 Wheelchair International Calendar 2012-2013*

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*IWAS has not yet confirmed the competition calendar. For further updates please go to: http://www.iwASF.com/iwASF/index.cfm/sports/iwas-wheelchair-fencing/wheelchair-fencing-calendar/

For further information contact the USFA National Office at international@usfencing.org
Chapter 15 – Drug Testing Programs

15.1 Domestic Drug Testing
The US Anti-Doping Agency (USADA) is independent of the USOC and the sport federations to ensure that the sports at the Olympic Games are represented by athletes who are not using illegal methods or substances to improve their performances. Commitment and cooperation between the USADA and the National Governing Bodies (NGBs) are required to implement a credible drug testing program.

The US Anti-Doping Agency maintains a complete drug testing and education program, distributes a Guide to prohibited substances and provides a confidential toll-free Drug Reference Line for clarification on relevant matters (1-800-233-0393). Information can also be obtained at the USADA web site - www.usantidoping.org, as well as by sending an email to drugreference@usantidoping.org. All questions regarding substances, procedures, and disciplinary actions should be directed to USADA.

It is the fencer's responsibility to ensure that no substance enters his/her body which is prohibited by the rules. Even if the substance taken by the fencer is one found in an "over-the-counter" medicine, it may contain a banned substance and may result in a "positive" finding. Every fencer who enters a National tournament must sign a statement on the entry form acknowledging that he/she has been informed of the Drug Control procedure and of the USADA Drug Reference Line, (800) 233-0393, for questions on any medication the fencer may be taking. The USADA Hotline may be called anonymously, or you can have your name and sport recorded when making the call. All inquiries are logged and the advice given is recorded. An advantage of giving your name and sport is that you can list the medication you took when reporting to doping control and the USADA records will prove that you were advised that the medication was not on the banned list.

Drug testing may be conducted at any National tournament at which points are awarded for selection of international teams. USADA will be responsible for conducting the drug testing and will be the agency to adjudicate "positive" tests. USADA will also be conducting “Out Of Competition” (OOC) testing on a random basis of a select group in each sport. For fencing this group will be top fencers in the senior standings. These lists will be updated periodically. Fencers added to the OOC pool will be notified with a packet to be completed and returned to USADA.

Those fencers who are on the list given to USADA will be randomly selected for “Out of Competition” testing and must keep USADA informed as to their whereabouts so that the testing team can find them if and when their name is drawn for that testing. If the fencer is not found for the Out of Competition test, it is considered a “failure” and can lead to other problems for the fencer. Fencers in the OOC pool MUST file a quarterly locator form with USADA. Provisions have been made to complete this form on the USADA web site. Failure to file this report will jeopardize the fencer’s future competitive eligibility.

USFA requires fencers to sign the following waiver to compete in National Tournaments:

I understand that drug testing may be conducted for fencers who compete in this tournament and that detection of the use of banned drugs would be cause for suspension for a period of 3 months, 1 year, or 2 years, based on substance detected. I will lose any national points earned. By registering for this tournament, I am consenting to be subject to drug testing if selected and its penalties if declared positive for a banned substance. If selected, I am aware that failure to comply with the drug test will be cause for the same penalties as for those who are positive for a banned substance. I KNOW THAT I MAY CALL THE USADA HOTLINE, 800-233-0393, FOR QUESTIONS ABOUT MEDICATIONS AND BANNED SUBSTANCES OR PRACTICES. I realize that there are OVER-THE-COUNTER medications that may contain banned substances and that it is my responsibility to insure that I do not inadvertently take any medication that contains a banned substance.
15.2 FIE DRUG TESTING
The FIE requires drug testing of the medalists at FIE World Cup and World Championships tournaments. If a fencer’s test is positive the fencer’s national federation will be informed. The National Federation will then inform the fencer and will work with the fencer to resolve the issues involved. The principles of drug testing are the same whether done by USADA or by an agency for the FIE at FIE competitions.

Please refer to the FIE Medical Handbook, the FIE Technical Rules Chapter 6 and t.127, and the FIE Organization Rules o.64 and o.76 for more information.

**WARNING:** The FIE has implemented an additional rule in that a person for whom Sample A is positive will be suspended with the FIE Executive Committee responsible for taking action against the fencer involved.
Chapter 16 – Disciplinary Procedures & Dispute Resolution

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

16.1.1 General Principals

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

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

16.1.2 Fencers’ Rights

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

16.1.3 Definitions

The following terms shall have the following meanings:

- "Disinterested" shall mean a person who will not be personally affected by the outcome of a panel hearing and none of whose relatives, significant other, students, coaches, or club mates will be affected by the outcome of a panel hearing. If all fencers who might be affected by a panel hearing agree, the disinterested requirements with respect to a club mate may be waived.
- "Executive Director" shall mean the Executive Director of the USFA or his/her designee.
- "Other Affected Athlete" shall mean any fencer who might be removed from a team or denied a place on a team if a fencer's grievance is upheld by a panel.
- "Team Leader" shall mean the person designated by the USFA as the Team Leader for any team. The Team Leader may be Captain, the Chief of Mission, the manager, a coach or any other party accompanying a team to a competition. The Team Leader may be different parties for different periods of time during a competition. If the Team Leader is not disinterested, the remaining members of the cadre may select a person to act as Team Leader for the purposes described herein.
- "Team Panel" shall mean all of the Disinterested cadre for the Team that are willing to serve and at least one disinterested fencer who is on the Team, provided, however, if there are more than four Disinterested cadre that are willing to serve, the Team Panel shall consist of three of the Disinterested cadre that are willing to serve who shall be chosen by lot.
- "Panel" shall mean a panel consisting of not less than three (3) Disinterested USFA members (who may, but need not be, members of the USFA committee responsible for team selections). At least 20% of the membership of the Panel shall be USOC Athletes, provided however, no USOC Athlete shall be contending for a team in the same competition as the fencer initiating the grievance procedure or subject to potential discipline. The Panel shall be selected by the Chair of the USFA committee responsible for team selections, provided, however, that if the Chair is not disinterested, the Panel shall be selected by the Executive Director.
- "Team Panel Report" shall mean the written report prepared by the Team Panel consisting of its findings of fact and determination of what action(s) should or should not be taken.
- "Panel Report" shall mean the written report prepared by the Panel consisting of its findings of fact and recommendation(s), which may include concurring or dissenting reports.
- "USOC" shall mean the United States Olympic Committee
• “USOC Athlete” shall mean a fencer who has competed in fencing at the Olympic Games, Pan American Games, or World Championships within the previous ten (10) years.

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

16.1.5 Scope
These procedures are intended to be used when a fencer or cadre member:
- Contests being removed from a team;
- Contests an improper denial of a place on a team selected using criteria specified by the USFA;
- Contests an improper preclusion by the USFA of his/her opportunity to compete at any event.

Notwithstanding the above, once a team has staged (e.g., gathered at any point in or outside the United States for purposes of traveling to or participating in a competition), any discipline or removal shall be based on the procedures set forth in the Expedited Grievance Steps in Chapter 8.1.

16.1.6 Appeals
Decisions of the USFA committee responsible for team selections may be appealed to the Board of Directors of the USFA or its designee.

16.1.7 Reimbursement of Fencer’s Expenses
The reasonable travel expense (as arranged by the USFA) of the fencer to the Panel hearing and the review by the USFA committee responsible for team selections shall be reimbursed if the place of the meeting is more than 50 miles from the fencer's residence. Travel expense shall not be reimbursed:
- If the Panel hearing or meeting takes place within 50 miles of the site, and within 24 hours following a selection competition in the fencer's weapon; or
- The Panel finds that the claim of the fencer is frivolous, groundless or undertaken in bad faith.

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

Procedures
- The Panel shall be selected by the Chair of the USFA committee responsible for team selections, provided, however, that if the Chair is not disinterested, the Panel shall be selected by the Executive Director.
- The Executive Director shall inform the fencer and any Other Affected Fencers of the issues or allegations which have been referred to the Panel, and the names of the members of the Panel.
- If the fencer, cadre member, or any Other Affected Athlete objects to any member of the Panel being a member, the fencer or Other Affected Athlete shall inform the person that named the Panel (Chair of the USFA committee responsible for team selections or the Executive Director), who shall have the discretion to replace the Panel member.
- The Executive Director shall inform the fencer and any Other Affected Athlete of the date, time and place of the Hearing, and the manner in which the Hearing shall take place. The Hearing may be held in person, or by teleconference.
- The Panel shall conduct a Hearing at a time and place determined by the Chair of the Panel. The Hearing may be adjourned from time to time as deemed necessary by the Chair of the Panel in order to obtain additional information, obtain testimony from witnesses or receive written submissions from any party. At, or if available before, the Hearing, the fencer and any Other Affected Athlete shall have the right to receive copies of any written information provided to the Panel members concerning the Hearing or any charges or allegations.
- The Panel is not bound by the rules of evidence. Witnesses may testify in person, by telephonic instrument, or if there is no objection, by written declaration or affidavits.
- The fencer or any Other Affected Athlete shall have the following rights:
  - To appear personally and be represented by counsel at the Hearing and at the review by the USFA committee responsible for team selections.
  - To cross-examine all witnesses and present any additional relevant evidence.
To testify on his/her own behalf, or remain silent.

- As soon as practicable, as but no later than two weeks after the close of the Hearing, the Panel shall prepare the Panel Report and submit it to the Executive Director. The Executive Director shall send a copy of the Panel Report to the fencer, any Other Affected Athlete, and each member of the USFA committee responsible for team selections within one week after receiving it.
- The recommendation(s) of the Panel shall not be effective or implemented unless approved by the USFA committee responsible for team selections.
- Absent extraordinary circumstances, the failure to comply with any of the time limitations set forth herein shall not be grounds to overturn the decision in question or prohibit the imposition of sanctions.
- 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 the USFA, or the Constitution or Bylaws of the USOC, including the right to seek the intervention of the USOC CEO or to submit any dispute to arbitration.

16.1.8 Expedited Grievance Steps

Scope
These procedures are intended to be used once a team has staged (e.g., gathered at any point in or outside the U.S. for purposes of traveling to or participating at a competition), when a fencer or cadre member:
- contests being removed from a team;
- contests an improper denial of a place on a team selected using criteria specified by the USFA;
- contests an improper preclusion by the USFA of his/her opportunity to compete at any competition;
- Is or may be subjected to discipline by the USFA, whether the action on which any proposed discipline is based occurred before or after the team has staged.

Reimbursement of Fencer's Expenses
All expenses, including counsel, shall be the responsibility of the fencer or cadre member.

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

Procedures
- The Team Leader shall inform the fencer and any Other Affected Athletes of:
  - The issues or allegations which have been referred to the Team Panel.
  - The date, time and place of Hearing, and the manner in which the Hearing shall take place. The Hearing may be held in person, by teleconference, or as may otherwise be directed by the Team Leader.
- The Panel shall conduct a Hearing at a time and place determined by the Team Leader. The Hearing may be adjourned from time to time as deemed necessary by the Team Leader in order to obtain additional information, obtain testimony from witnesses or receive written submissions from any party. At or prior to the Hearing, if available, the fencer and any Other Affected Athlete shall have the right to receive copies of any written information provided to the Panel members concerning the Hearing or any charges or allegations.
- The Panel is not bound by the rules of evidence. Witnesses may testify in person, by telephonic instrument, or if there is no objection, by written declarations or affidavits.
- The fencer and any Other Affected Athlete shall have the rights:
  - To appear personally and be represented by counsel at the Hearing.
To cross-examine all witnesses and present any additional relevant evidence.
To testify on his/her own behalf, or remain silent.
To address the Panel or otherwise make a statement of position personally or through his/her 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 USFA 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 USFA 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 the USFA, or the Constitution or Bylaws of the USOC, including the right to seek the intervention of the USOC CEO or to submit any dispute to arbitration.

16.2 General Disciplinary Procedures [revised BoD, January 2011]

16.2.1 Scope of General Disciplinary Procedures

Chapter 16.2(a) concerns procedures for the discipline of USFA members and National Team Disciplinary Procedures. The procedures in Chapter 16.2(a) will be used when a member of the USFA is or may be subject to discipline by the USFA, except that:

- If the proposed discipline involves, or may involve the USFA member being removed from a USFA or USOC team, or being precluded from an opportunity to compete at any event, the Athlete/Cadre Grievance Procedures adopted by the USFA shall be utilized; and

- If a member of the USFA is on a team representing the USFA or the USOC, such member may be subject to immediate discipline, including, but not limited to being removed from a team, banned from participating at a competition, or sent home under the Expedited Discipline/Grievance Procedures set forth in Chapter 16.1 or under procedures adopted by the USOC.

Generally stated, Chapter 16.2(b) concerns resolving complaints against a national coach or such coach’s official designee by a high-level fencer, the high-level fencer’s parent (if the high-level fencer is a minor), or the high-level fencer’s coach. For such disputes, the complainant should consider the appropriateness of the dispute resolution procedure in Chapter 16.2(b) (National Team Dispute Resolution) before seeking any relief that may be possible under the disciplinary procedure in Chapter 16.2(a) (Disciplinary Panels).

[Chapter 16.2(c) concerns procedures for the discipline of persons in authority within the USFA for sexual misconduct.] [To be included at a later date].
16.2(a) Disciplinary Panels

Definitions

The following terms shall have the following meanings for Chapter 16.2(a):

- “Fencer” shall mean those who are currently actively engaged in amateur competition in fencing on a local, national or international level or who have represented the United States in fencing in international competitions within the previous ten (10) years.

- “Disinterested” shall mean a person who will not be personally affected by the outcome of a panel hearing and none of whose relatives, significant other, students, coaches, or club mates will be affected by the outcome of a panel hearing. If all members, who might be affected by a panel hearing agree, the “Disinterested” requirements with respect to a club mate may be waived.

- “Executive Director” shall mean the Executive Director of the USFA or his designee. Such designee may be any Disinterested USFA member. Including, but not limited to an officer of a USFA Division or Section.

- “Panel” shall mean a panel consisting of not less than three (3) Disinterested USFA members (who may, but need not be members of the Board of Directors). At least 20% of the membership of the Panel shall be Fencers, provided, however, no Fencer shall be contending for a team in the same event as the person subject to potential discipline. The Panel and its Chair shall be selected by the Executive Director, provided, however, that if the Executive Director is not disinterested, they shall be selected by the President of the USFA.

- “Panel Report” shall mean the written report prepared by the Panel consisting of its findings of fact and recommendations(s), which may include concurring or dissenting reports.

RIGHTS OF THE ACCUSED - Persons potentially subjected to discipline shall have the rights set forth herein and as set forth in the Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws of the USFA and the Constitution and Bylaws of the United States Olympic Committee.

EXPENSES OF THE ACCUSED - Except as otherwise provided by the Board, all expenses of the accused, including counsel, shall be their own responsibility.

APPEALS - Decisions of the Panel may be appealed to the Board of Directors of the USFA or its designee.

Procedures

A. At the request of an officer or director of the USFA (including an officer of a Division or Section of the USFA), a Panel shall be appointed under these Procedures.

B. If the person selecting the Panel deems it appropriate, or at the request of the Chair of the Panel, the person who selected the Panel shall designate a person to present evidence to the Panel on behalf of the USFA. In addition to presenting evidence, such person shall also be able, at his discretion, to request the type(s) of sanctions which he believes are appropriate for the infraction.

C. The Executive Director shall inform the accused in writing of the charges which have been referred to the Panel, the names of the members of the Panel, the name of the person, if any, who will present evidence to the Panel, and the possible discipline or sanctions that could be imposed.
D. If the accused objects to any member of the Panel being a member, the accused shall inform the person that named the Panel (President or the Executive Director), who shall have the discretion to replace the Panel member.

E. The Panel shall conduct a Hearing at a time and place determined by the Chair of the Panel. The Chair of the Panel shall inform the accused of the date, time and place of the Hearing, and the manner in which the Hearing shall take place. The Hearing may be held in person, by teleconference, or as may otherwise be directed by the Chair of the Panel.

F. The Hearing may be adjourned from time to time as deemed necessary by the Chair of the Panel in order to obtain additional information, obtain testimony from witnesses or receive written submissions from any party. At, or prior to the Hearing, if available, the accused shall receive copies of any written information provided to the Panel members concerning the Hearing or any charges or allegations.

G. The Panel is not bound by the rules of evidence. Witnesses, may testify in person, by telephonic instrument, or if there is no objection, by written declarations or affidavits.

The accused shall have the rights:

a. To appear personally and be represented by counsel or other representative of his choosing at the Hearing and at any review by the Board of Directors or its designee.

b. To cross-examine all witnesses and present any additional relevant evidence.

c. To testify on his own behalf, or remain silent.

d. To address the Panel or otherwise make a statement of position personally or through his counsel or representative.

As soon as practicable, but no later than two weeks after the close of the Hearing, the Panel shall prepare the Panel Report and submit it to the 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 after receiving it.

H. Any sanctions proposed or directed by the Panel shall be effective unless they are disapproved by the Board of Directors or its designee within 30 days, provided, however, any proposed sanction which provides for the suspension, denied continuation of membership to, or expelling of the member shall not be effective unless such recommendation is approved by a 2/3 vote of the Board as provided by the bylaws. The Board of Directors or its designee may stay the imposition of any sanction until the Board can vote to approve, disapprove, or modify the sanction.

I. The Board of Directors, or its designee, may approve, disapprove, or modify the sanction proposed or directed by the Panel, provided, however, they may not take any action more detrimental to the accused than the sanction proposed or directed by the Panel.

J. Absent extraordinary circumstances, the failure to comply with any time limitations set forth herein shall not be grounds to overturn or prohibit the imposition of sanctions.
16.2.2 National Team Disciplinary Procedures

In the event of any alleged breach of the USA Fencing (USFA) 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 Sport Strategist Director, National Weapon Head Coach, and representative from the AAC the nature of the charges, the conclusions of the investigation and any discipline imposed or recommended.

Activity:

- Loss of specified privileges at the competition
- Involuntary withdrawal or bar of the offending individual from that day’s activities
- Involuntary withdrawal or bar from the entire competition
- Offending 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 Sport Strategy, 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 the USFA, 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 Sport Strategy, National Weapon Head Coach, and representative from the AAC and any reasonable expenses incurred by the USFA 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 Sport Strategy, 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 Sport Strategy, National Weapon Head Coach, and representative from the AAC, the Board of Directors of the USFA, 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 the USA Fencing.
16.2(b) National Team Dispute Resolution

This dispute resolution procedure is intended to manage conflicts and to foster strong relationships between international fencers, coaches, and USFA staff.

16.2.3 Scope of National Team Dispute Resolution

This dispute resolution procedure applies to a complaint by an Aggrieved Party against a National Coach, as those terms are defined below. To be eligible to use this procedure, a complaint must pertain to a National Coach’s role as an international coach on behalf of the USFA, in contrast to a dispute about the National Coach’s role as private fencing coach, fencing club administrator, or USFA 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 USFA funds by a National Coach, delegation of responsibilities by the National Coach to a third party, and the National Coach’s conduct.

This dispute resolution procedure is not intended to displace informal conversations and other informal resolutions.

Definitions

The following terms shall have the following meanings for Chapter 16.2(b):

“Aggrieved Party” shall mean a fencer, who is a current representative of the USFA in international fencing competition or has a material chance of representing the USFA 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 the USFA in international fencing competition or has a material chance of representing the USFA in international fencing competition in the near future, when pursuing the minor fencer’s interests; or the personal coach, if such coach is a USFA member, of a fencer who is a current representative of the USFA in international fencing competition or has a material chance of representing the USFA 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 USFA Fencing Athlete Council.

“Executive Director” shall mean the Executive Director of the USFA.

“High Performance Director” shall mean the High Performance Director of the USFA.

“National Coach” shall mean a coach employed or contracted by the USFA to represent the USFA 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 the USFA 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 High Performance Director 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 rights to have any Athlete Council member so invited:
be present at any telephonic or in-person meetings under the dispute resolution process between the Aggrieved Party and the National Coach or the High Performance Director and be heard by the National Coach or High Performance Director in a reasonable manner.

D. The Aggrieved Party has the right to submit a written complaint concerning the matter to the High Performance Director. The submission of a written complaint concerning the matter to the High Performance Director by an Aggrieved Party concerning a National Coach’s role as an international coach on behalf of the USFA initiates this dispute resolution procedure.

E. The High Performance Director shall make a determination whether the complaint has sufficient merit to proceed and is otherwise not deficient. To this end, the High Performance Director may conduct reasonable inquiries.
If the High Performance Director determines that the complaint lacks sufficient merit to proceed or is otherwise deficient, he or she shall inform the Aggrieved Party of such determination in writing within two (2) weeks of the receipt of the complaint.
If the High Performance Director 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 High Performance Director 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 16.2(b)(G). The High Performance Director’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 High Performance Director 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 16.2(a) [or Chapter 16.2(c)]. If so, the High Performance Director may request that those disciplinary procedures be initiated consistent with those procedures.

F. During the investigation contemplated by Chapter 16.2(b)(E)(ii), the High Performance Director 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 High Performance Director’s inquiries within five (5) days of such inquiries and otherwise discuss the matter with the High Performance Director. If the High Performance Director requests that the National Coach’s response be in writing, the National Coach shall do so within five (5) days of such request. The High Performance Director may share the National Coach’s response(s), written or otherwise, with the Aggrieved Party. The National Coach’s obligations under this Chapter 16.2(b)(F) shall not supersede, or otherwise be implemented in a manner inconsistent with, the National Coach’s due process rights under Chapter 16.2(a).
G. The High Performance Director may request that the Aggrieved Party and the National Coach enter into mediation or arbitration. This may include mediation and arbitration provided by the USFA or by an individual or individuals designated by the High Performance Director. 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 High Performance Director terminates such mediation or arbitration.

H. If the High Performance Director’s position is unfilled or if the High Performance Director does not respond within the two (2)-week limits consistent with Chapter 16.2(b)(E), the Aggrieved Party may contact in writing the Executive Director about the unfilled position or the failure of the High Performance Director to act and submit the written complaint to the Executive Director for his or her action. In such an event, the dispute resolution process under Chapter 16.2(b)(C)-(G) shall be followed, with the Executive Director fulfilling those obligations of the High Performance Director and with the two (2)-week limits in Chapter 16.2(b)(E) beginning on the date the Executive Director receives such written complaint.

I. The initiation or resolution of this dispute resolution process shall not prejudice the Aggrieved Party from the ability to seek appropriate relief under Chapter 16.2(a)[, Chapter 16.2(c),] or other appropriate procedures.

[16.2(c) Sexual Misconduct Disciplinary Procedures]

[To be determined by the Athlete Protection Task Force.]
Chapter 17 - Code of Conduct

17.1 Fencer Code of Conduct Agreement [BoD revised 29 Mar 12, effective 9 Apr 12]

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 the USA Fencing Association and to the United States Olympic Committee in promoting sustained competitive excellence in the sport.

Athlete Pledge: I pledge to uphold the spirit of the Athlete Code of Conduct (ACC), which offers a general guide to my conduct as a member of the National Team, or as a member of any named team to any USA Fencing designated event, training camp or competition. I hereby acknowledge that I have been informed that USA Fencing has adopted Grievance Procedures, which are contained in the USA Fencing Athlete Handbook, that provide me with the right to a hearing if my opportunity to compete is denied for any reason or if I am charged with any violation of the ACC.

By signing the ACC, I (1) accept nomination and, if accepted, selection to the National Team and/or to any named team to any USA Fencing designated event, training camp or competition, (2) agree to abide by this ACC and the Grievance Procedures noted above, which will be used by USA Fencing to resolve any alleged violations of the ACC, (3) agree to submit any dispute that arises in relation to my nomination or selection to the National Team, or to any named team, to any USA Fencing designated event, training camp or competition, to USA Fencing pursuant to the Grievance Procedures apply as soon as I sign the USA Fencing Athlete Agreement.

I have familiarized myself with the ACC and understand that acceptance of its provisions as written is a condition of my selection to the National Team, or to any named team to any USA Fencing designated event, training camp or competition. This ACC must be signed in an unaltered form in all applicable places in order for an individual to become a member of the National Team or the team to any designated event, training camp or competition. The duration of any activity (event, training camp or competition) is defined as the period beginning when a participant comes under the supervision of a Team Leader, Team captain, National Coach or other person vested with the authority of USA Fencing until the participant is no longer under such immediate supervision.

AS MEMBER OF THE NATIONAL TEAM OR A MEMBER OF A USFENCING 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 the Olympic Movement Anti-Doping Code (OMAC), World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA), United States Anti-Doping Agency (USADA), the FIE or USA Fencing;
- Will refrain from conduct detracting from my ability or that of my teammates to attain peak performance;
- I will seek to attend team functions, meetings, practices, competitions and media events, in a timely manner and refrain from actions and activities that would be a disruption, either to myself or my teammates;
- Will respect the property of others whether personal or public;
• Will respect members of my Team, other teams, spectators and officials and will notify persons invested with supervision of the team at events, training camps or competitions of any circumstances that would prevent any member from being able to compete or participate at an optimal level;
• Will engage in no form of discriminatory behavior or verbal, physical or sexual harassment or abuse (see USA Fencing policy on sexual misconduct and harassment), I understand that it is a USA Fencing rule that any sexual contact or advance or any other inappropriate sexually oriented behavior directed toward an athlete by another athlete is prohibited;
• Will follow USA Fencing Rules, including by way of example, rules regarding required attendance at camps and events and curfew at events while a member of a USA Fencing team;
• Will abide by the FIE rules regarding eligibility for World Cup and World Championship competition, with USOC rules regarding eligibility for Olympic competition, and rules concerning allowable trademark identification on clothing and equipment worn or used at all of these events;
• I 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 advertising or promotional purposes 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;
• Will remember that at all times I am an ambassador for my sport, my country and the Olympic Movement;
• Will follow any additional rules of conduct for a USA Fencing event, training camp or competition established by the Team Leader, Team Captain, or any other person vested with the authority of USA Fencing.

**AFFIRMATION:** I have read and accept this Code of conduct, including the USA Fencing Grievance Procedure contained in the USA Fencing Athlete Handbook. I agree to the rules, guidelines, jurisdiction and procedures stated in these documents as a condition of being selected to and remaining a member of the National Team or any named team to any USA Fencing designated event, training camp or competition.

Signature Date

Parent/Guardian Certification
(For participants under the Age of 18 as of the Date of Signature)

Signature Date

Relationship (Parent or Guardian)
17.2 Non-Fencer Code of Conduct

The following rules of conduct will be applied to all USA Fencing personnel who are members of the cadre at any international or domestic World Cup, World Championship, Pan American Games, World University Games, Youth Olympics, Olympic Games, or Paralympic Games competition. Any failure to adhere to this code of conduct may result in disciplinary action.

The following shall be considered violations of the USA Fencing Code of Conduct for Non-Fencing personnel:

- Violation of the Amateur Sports Act, which requires that USA Fencing must provide an equal opportunity to amateur fencers, coaches, trainers, administrators and officials to participate in amateur athletic competition without discrimination on the basis of race, color, religion, age, sex or national origin.
- Any inappropriate sexual contact or advance or any other inappropriate sexually oriented behavior or action directed towards a fencer by a cadre member, including violation of any sexual misconduct or harassment policy of USA Fencing that may be in effect.
- The sale or distribution of illegal drugs or the illegal sale or distribution of any substance on the World Anti-Doping Agency’s (WADA) recognized list of banned substances.\(^1\)
- The illegal possession or use of illegal drugs in the presence of a fencer by a cadre member.
- Engaging in any activity that contravenes the stricter of the laws of the United States of America (USA) or the host country in which the activity is taking place.
- Providing alcohol to a fencer by a cadre member when the fencer is under the legal age and therefore prohibited from purchasing or consuming alcohol.
- The act or the appearance of intoxication from the use of alcohol or illegal drugs in the presence of a fencer or cadre member.
- Any non-consensual physical contact with or abuse (including verbal abuse) of any person by a cadre member.
- Any intentional act of dishonesty in connection with any USA Fencing-related activity.
- Any non-consensual physical contact, obscene language or gesture or other threatening language or conduct directed toward any official, which is related to any decision made by such official in conjunction with a USA Fencing-related event.
- Violation of any team rule of conduct as established by the United State Olympic Committee (USOC), USA Fencing, the Federation International d’Escrime (FIE), or person in authority leading an international team, including but not limited to deportment, curfew, practice, team meeting attendance, and prompt attendance at competitions.
- Any other act, conduct or omission not provided in this code which is detrimental to the image or reputation of USA Fencing, the USA or sport of fencing, or which violates a rule established by the USOC, FIE, International Olympic Committee (IOC) or other governing body.

All members of any traveling party including personal coaches are expected to adhere to and reinforce the rules and regulations listed above.

AFFIRMATION: I have read and accept this Code of Conduct, including the USFA Grievance Procedure contained in the USFA Athlete Handbook. I agree to the rules, guidelines, jurisdiction and procedures stated in this document as a condition of being authorized to participate as a member of the cadre or to coach any USA Fencing athletes at any international or domestic World Cup, World Championship, Pan American Games, World University Games, Youth Olympics, Olympic Games, or Paralympic Games competition, camp, or other fencing activity.

______________________________
Signature

______________________________
Date

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\(^1\) The United States Anti-Doping Agency (USADA) adheres to WADA guidelines. USADA at [www.usantidoping.org](http://www.usantidoping.org), drug reference number: (national: 800-233-0393), (international: 719-785-2020)
17.3 USA Fencing Policy on Massage

1. Only US Fencing members who hold an appropriate certification as a healthcare provider (MD, DO, DC, certified athletic trainer (ATC), physical or occupational therapist, or massage therapist (LMT, CMT)) and who are appointed by US Fencing to a team or sponsored event in an official capacity as a healthcare provider can provide massage therapy to team members.

2. Any athlete who is a minor must have a signed consent form, release or waiver of liability from his/her parents to be eligible for massage therapy services from the designated US Fencing staff. The appropriate form will be provided to all athletes in settings covered by this policy by US Fencing prior to the beginning of the covered trip, competition or camp. Any US Fencing member who engages in massage of a minor in violation of this policy shall be deemed acting in a manner detrimental to the welfare, interests or character of the US Fencing and shall be subject to disciplinary action that can result in suspension, expulsion or denial of membership.

3. Under no circumstances will an athlete be required to be naked to receive massage services from the designated staff. At a minimum, all athletes will wear shorts and females will additionally wear a bra or top. In all cases, the athlete will also be appropriately draped during the massage.

4. Although the US Fencing has no authority over private activities involving US Fencing members in private settings, it nevertheless recommends due diligence by all members of US Fencing to avoid unprofessional conduct, exploitation or abuse involving massage.

5. Nothing in this policy is meant to prohibit ad hoc massage of athletes in exigent circumstances by others (for example a coach or teammate) in a public setting when the personnel designated in Section 1 are not immediately available (this situation would generally involve massage of the extremities due to cramping during a bout).

6. Any USA Fencing member who provides massages in violation of this policy may be subject to disciplinary action that can result in suspension, expulsion, or denial of membership. USA Fencing will maintain a reporting and adjudication system and will mandate case reporting to the Athlete Protection Officer (APO), who will oversee and coordinate investigations of all instances reported by members of USA Fencing who believe they have been subject to misconduct in regards to receiving massage or who are aware of cases that contravene this policy. On recommendation of the APO, USA Fencing may institute disciplinary action through its adjudication system. Details of the reporting system and the designated APO will be published prior to any event covered by this policy on USA Fencing's website and, if possible, in the Athlete's Handbook, and such details will additionally be included in any event-specific communication issued by USA Fencing (such as the Athlete's Packet for national tournaments).
17.4 USA Fencing Policy for Responding to Allegations of Certain Misconduct

Preamble: Realizing that certain types of misconduct may jeopardize the SafeSport environment embraced and fostered by USA FENCING, the following policy is in effect for responding to allegations of certain forms of behavior by, or of conduct that threatens the well-being of, USA FENCING members, as specified herein.

Procedure

1. Regardless of whether a member has previously been subjected to a background check, or has been excused on appeal from a “red light” resulting from a background check, additional investigation, perhaps leading to disciplinary, protective or remedial action, will be taken if any executive employee, officer, member of the Board of Directors, principal committee chair or the Athlete Protection Officer receives any credible information that a current USA Fencing member:
   a. has been convicted of, or
   b. has received a deferred sentence for, or
   c. has entered any plea of guilty or no contest to, or
   d. has pending charges
   for any crime that under prevailing USA FENCING criteria would result in a “red light” background check or for any conduct that constitutes a disreputable act pertaining to minors or athletes and that contravenes USA FENCING’s SafeSport commitment. To invoke the procedures described in this Policy, the information need not satisfy the rules of evidence or the standards imposed on law enforcement agencies.

2. If the information consists of, or is supported by, published or official documentation, the recipient shall report the information and any supporting explanation, evidence and documentation to the USA FENCING Athlete Protection Officer (APO), who shall inform the President, the Executive Director, and General Counsel that an evaluation has been undertaken, as described in Section 5, below.

3. To preclude the submission of claims without substance, if the information is not supported by published or official documentation, it shall be reported by the recipient to the President, who shall designate a member of the Board of Directors to further investigate the information, to determine whether the report is sufficiently reliable that it should be conveyed to the APO for disposition under Section 5 below. This designated member shall be free to consult with USA Fencing General Counsel to assist in the evaluation of the information.

4. If any person specified in Section 1, above, receives information of the nature there described that concerns an individual who is not a USA FENCING member but who is involved in the sport of fencing or comes into close proximity with fencers or fencing activities, that information shall be reported by the recipient to the President, who shall designate a member of the Board of Directors to further investigate the information. This designated member shall consult with USA FENCING General Counsel and the APO, and shall then determine whether to submit a proposed recommendation for action to the Board of Directors. Such action may include, but is not limited to, barring the individual from entering any USA FENCING sanctioned tournament, venue, or club.

5. Upon receipt of a report or information as provided in this Policy, the APO shall evaluate the accuracy of the allegations and material received and shall attempt to gather any additional evidence necessary to determine whether there is good reason to believe that the conditions stated in Section 1, above, have been established. The APO shall report his or her findings and recommendations to the President, the Executive Director, and General Counsel, who shall individually or together recommend proposed disciplinary, remedial or protective actions to the Board of Directors for consideration and disposition.

6. If any allegation or information that would invoke the procedures set forth in this Policy concerns the actions of the person to whom the Policy otherwise requires a report be made, or to a family member, student, or other individual closely affiliated with that person, then the informant shall be in compliance with the Policy if he or she makes the required report to any of the President, the Executive Director, General Counsel, or the APO who is not the subject of, or affiliated with the individual who is the subject of, the allegations or information, and that person shall thereafter have the duties assigned herein to the person being accused.

7. Any information or report submitted under this Policy that is deemed at any level of review to be frivolous, fraudulent, vexatious, vindictive or intentionally defamatory shall subject the person providing the information or report to disciplinary action.
17.5 USFA Sexual Harassment Policy

POLICY STATEMENT
It is the policy of the USFA to promote a cooperative work and sports environment in which there exists mutual respect for all fencers, coaches, officials, volunteers and staff. Sexual harassment is inconsistent with this objective and contrary to the USFA policy of equal employment and sports opportunity without regard to age, sex, sexual orientation, alienage, citizenship, religion, race, color, national origin, ethnic origin, disability, or any other personal status. Sexual harassment is illegal under Federal and State laws, and will not be tolerated within the USFA.

PROHIBITED CONDUCT: It is a violation of USFA policy for any employee or member of the USFA to engage in sexual harassment or to retaliate against any member of the USFA for raising an allegation of sexual harassment or for filing a complaint alleging sexual harassment.

Definition of Sexual Harassment
For purposes of this policy, sexual harassment is defined as unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors, and other oral and written communications or physical conduct of a sexual nature when:

1. Submission to such conduct is made either explicitly or implicitly a term or condition of any individual's employment, USFA appointment, selection to a USFA team or participation in any USFA activity.
2. Submission to or rejection of such conduct by an individual is used as a basis for any decision affecting the employment, USFA appointment, or USFA selection or participation in any USFA activity by such individual.
3. Such conduct has the purpose or effect of interfering with an individual's work, sport performance or participation in USFA activities or creates an intimidating, hostile or abusive work or sport environment.

EXAMPLES OF SEXUAL HARASSMENT
Examples of sexual harassment include but are not limited to the following:
- Requesting or demanding sexual favors in exchange for employment or sport opportunity such as hiring, firing, USFA appointments, USFA selections or participation in a USFA sponsored activity
- Submitting unfair or inaccurate job or sport evaluations or denying training, promotion or access to other employment, sport or organizational opportunities because sexual advances have been rejected
- Sexual comments, teasing or jokes, sexual slurs, demeaning epithets, derogatory statements about an individual's attire or body
- Inquiries or discussions about sexual activities
- Pressure to accept sexual invitations, to meet privately, to date, or to have sexual relations.
- Sexually suggestive letters or other written materials
- Sexual touching, brushing up against another in a sexual manner, graphic or sexually suggestive gestures, cornering, pinching, grabbing, kissing, or fondling.
- Sexual assault or non-consensual sexual relations
CONSENSUAL RELATIONSHIPS
Amorous dating or sexual relationships that might be appropriate in other circumstances have inherent dangers when they occur between supervisors or other members of the USFA in positions of authority and any person for whom there is a professional responsibility. These dangers can include:

- Fencers, volunteers or employees may feel coerced into an unwanted relationship because they fear that refusal to enter into the relationship will adversely affect their employment, sport opportunity or ability to participate in USFA activities
- Conflicts of interest may arise when supervisors or officials are required to evaluate performance or make personnel decisions with respect to an individual with whom they are having a romantic relationship
- The perception that employees, volunteers, coaches or fencers who are involved in a romantic relationship with a person having professional, supervisory or promotional responsibility for them might receive an unfair advantage
- That if the relationship ends in a way that is not amicable, it may have an undesirable effect on either or both of the parties, and the USFA.

Supervisors or other members of the USFA in positions of authority who have professional, supervisory or promotional responsibility for other individuals should realize that any romantic or sexual involvement with other employees, volunteers, coaches or fencers may raise questions as to the mutuality of the relationship and may lead to charges of sexual harassment. For the reasons stated above, such relationships are discouraged.

FALSE AND MALICIOUS ACCUSATIONS
Members of the USFA who make false and malicious complaints of sexual harassment, as opposed to complaints which, even if erroneous, are made in good faith, will be subject to disciplinary action.

PROCEDURES: The USFA has developed procedures to implement this policy. The President and Executive Director have the ultimate responsibility for overseeing compliance with this policy. In addition, each Officer, Committee Chair, Team Captain, Team Manager and activity supervisor is required to report any complaint of sexual harassment to the President and Executive Director. All employees and members of the USFA are required to cooperate in any investigation. If they fail to report any incident of sexual harassment, or refuse to cooperate in any investigation they may effectively waive or forfeit any available remedies at law and may themselves be subjected to disciplinary action for failure to comply with this USFA Sexual Harassment Policy.

INVESTIGATION: A designated USFA representative shall schedule a confidential meeting with the person making the complaint. Thereafter, that representative shall thoroughly investigate the complaint, which investigation will include an interview with the alleged harasser and any potential witnesses. Upon completion of the investigation, the person making the complaint shall be contacted and advised of the outcome of the investigation. The USFA will conduct the investigation as expeditiously as possible and will act upon its results as appropriate.

USFA CONTACT PERSONS
A person wishing to file a complaint may do so by contacting any of the following:
Executive Director
High Performance Director
Any USFA Officer
USFA Counsel or Associate Counsel
FOC Chair
Tournament Committee Chair
Division or Section Chair
On USFA Team Trips: the Team Captain, Team Manager, and Chief of Delegation
At USFA competitions and activities: the person in charge of the competition or activity.
Chapter 18 - Appendices

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# Appendix 1 – Calendars

## APPENDIX 1.1: 2012-2013 NATIONAL TOURNAMENT DATES AND DEADLINES

All online entries must be received by the posted deadlines no later than 11:59:59 PM Pacific Time.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event Name and types of deadlines</th>
<th>Competitions</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Dates and Deadlines</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>October NAC</td>
<td>Division I/Division II/Cadet</td>
<td>St. Louis, MO</td>
<td>October 12-15, 2012</td>
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<tr>
<td>Regular Fee Entry Deadline</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>September 3, 2012</td>
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<tr>
<td>Late Fee Entry Period</td>
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<td>September 4-17, 2012</td>
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<tr>
<td>Double Late fees Online Only</td>
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<td>September 18-24, 2012</td>
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<tr>
<td>Withdraw/Classification Change Deadline</td>
<td></td>
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<td>October 1, 2012</td>
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<tr>
<td>November NAC</td>
<td>Division I/Junior</td>
<td>Virginia Beach, VA</td>
<td>November 9-12, 2012</td>
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<tr>
<td>Regular Fee Entry Deadline</td>
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<td>October 1, 2012</td>
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<tr>
<td>Late Fee Entry Period</td>
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<td>October 2-15, 2012</td>
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<td>October 16-22, 2012</td>
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<td>Withdraw/Classification Change Deadline</td>
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<td>December NAC</td>
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<td>Milwaukee, WI</td>
<td>December 7-10, 2012</td>
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<td>Late Fee Entry Period</td>
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<td>October 30-November 12, 2012</td>
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<td>November 13-19, 2012</td>
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<td>Withdraw/Classification Change Deadline</td>
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<td>November 26, 2012</td>
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<td>January NAC</td>
<td>Junior/Cadet/Youth 14</td>
<td>Louisville, KY</td>
<td>January 18-21, 2013</td>
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<td>December 10, 2012</td>
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<td>December 11-24, 2012</td>
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<td>December 25-31, 2012</td>
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<td>January 7, 2013</td>
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<tr>
<td>Junior Olympic Fencing Championships</td>
<td>Junior/Cadet/Junior Team</td>
<td>Baltimore, MD</td>
<td>February 15-18, 2013</td>
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<tr>
<td>Division Qualifying Reports Due</td>
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APPENDIX 1.2: CALENDAR OF MAJOR DATES FOR USA FENCING TOURNAMENT/DATE CONSIDERATIONS

Visit USFA website Events or [http://www.teamusa.org/USA-Fencing/Events.aspx](http://www.teamusa.org/USA-Fencing/Events.aspx)

**SCHEDULE OF DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME:** Daylight Savings Time starts the second Sunday in March and ends the first Sunday in November.

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<td>September 29-30, 2012</td>
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<td>ROC – Buffalo D1A DV2 Vet</td>
<td>October 6-7</td>
<td>Buffalo, NY</td>
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**COLLEGE BOARD SAT TESTS:**

| October North American Cup Division I/Division II/Cadet | October 12-15, 2012 | St. Louis, MO |
| 2012 Veteran World Championships | October 17-21, 2012 | Krems AUT |
| SYC 2 – Fencer’s Academy | October 20-21, 2012 | St. Louis, MO |
| ROC – Danny Bukantz D1A DV2 | October 20-21, 2012 | Maplewood, NJ |
| ROC – Crescent City Open D1A DV2 VET | October 27-29, 2012 | New Orleans, LA |
| SYC 3 – Steve Sobel | November 2-4, 2012 | Morristown, NJ |
| ROC – Alice B. D1A DV2 | November 3-4, 2012 | Houston, TX |
| ROC – Remenyik Open D1A Vet | November 3-4, 2012 | Evanston, IL |

**COLLEGE BOARD SAT TESTS:**

| November North American Cup Division I/Junior | November 9-12, 2012 | Virginia Beach, VA |
| Thanksgiving Holiday | November 22, 2012 | |
| ROC – Columbia International D1A | November 16-18, 2012 | Beaverton, OR |
| SYC 4 – Bernie Stein Memorial | Nov. 30-Dec. 2, 2012 | Chandler, AZ |
| ROC – Charm City D1A | December 1-2, 2012 | Baltimore, MD |

**COLLEGE BOARD SAT TESTS:**

| December North American Cup Division I/Veteran/Division II | December 7-10, 2012 | Milwaukee, WI |
| Hanukkah | December 8-16, 2012 | |
| Christmas Day | December 25, 2012 | |
| SYC 5 – Sword in the Stone | January 4-6, 2013 | Durham, NH |
| January North American Cup Youth 14/Cadet/Junior | January 18-21, 2013 | Louisville, KY |
| Martin Luther King Jr Day | January 21, 2013 | |
| ROC – Battle in Seattle D1A | January 25-27, 2013 | Seattle, WA |

**COLLEGE BOARD SAT TESTS:**

| SYC 6 – Capitol Clash | January 26, 2013 | |
| Junior Sabre World Cup | February 2-3, 2013 | Chandler, AZ |
| Super Bowl | February 3, 2013 | |
| 2013 Pan American Junior Zonal Championships | February 6-16, 2013 | TBA |
| ROC – Cobra DV2 | February 10, 2013 | Jersey City, NJ |
| Junior Olympic Fencing Championships Junior/Cadet/Junior Team | February 15-18, 2013 | Baltimore, MD |
| Presidents Day | February 18, 2013 | |

**COLLEGE BOARD SAT TESTS:**

<p>| March 9, 2013 | |
| ROC – Dean Alexander Memorial D1A DV2 VET | March 9-10, 2013 | Chandler, AZ |
| Daylight Savings Begins | March 10, 2013 | |
| 2013 NCAA Regional Tournaments | March 10-11, 2013 | |</p>
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<td>SYC 8 – Mission</td>
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<td>Oct. 6, Nov. 3, Dec. 1, Jan 26, March 9, May 4, June 1</td>
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Appendix 2 – Reference Tables

9.2 FENCERS’ NATIONALITY (FIE Statutes, April 2011)

9.2.1 At the Olympic Games a competitor’s nationality is set by rules of the I.O.C. to which the F.I.E. must conform.

9.2.2 For official competitions of the F.I.E., competitors must be strictly of the nationality of the country which they are representing:

a) The fencer who enjoys multiple nationality must choose which country he wishes to represent. The fact that he has fenced for one of the countries implies that he has made a choice. If he wishes to represent another country of which he enjoys nationality, he must so advise the Office of the F.I.E. and he may only represent this other country after an interval of three years from when he advised the Central Office of the F.I.E., during which he can no longer represent the other country.

b) A fencer who has already represented a country and acquires a new nationality (from being stateless or through naturalisation) can only represent his new country after an interval of three years from his last participation in a competition for his previous country.

c) The fencer who acquires a new nationality as a result of marriage may fence for that new country immediately, without waiting three years.

d) The Executive Committee of the F.I.E., with the agreement of the member federations concerned, and only for just reasons, may reduce or dispense with the interval of three years.

e) The fencer who has never participated in an official competition of the F.I.E. or in a Regional Championships, is not constrained by these limitations concerning change of nationality and may fence for his new country immediately.

f) Any change in country which a fencer represents is definitive; no further change can be authorised.

g) In cases of dispute the Executive Committee of the F.I.E. will make a ruling, which is not subject to appeal.

9.2.3 In the case of other international competitions, the F.I.E., although still in favour of the same ruling, is more tolerant in the matter of countries represented as long as foreigners have actually been residing for five consecutive years in the country which they are invited to represent, and have not represented their own country for five years.

For these same competitions fencers who are legally stateless may compete as long as they are registered by the member federation of the country in which they live.

Board of Directors Action May 2011 as it affects US fencer submitting request to change nationality, effective immediately. See 9.2.2 d above.

"The USFA will not agree to reduce or dispense with the presumptive three-year waiting period for a change of nationality unless the athlete requesting the change has not represented the United States in international competition during the season which the change is requested. Further, the USFA may not agree to reduce or dispense with the waiting period even if the requesting athlete has not so represented the United States."
### 2.2 Domestic Point Table

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The minimum number of points required for a fencer to be considered on the Senior point standings is 275; on the Junior point standings is 165; on the cadet point standings is 110.
### 2.3 POINTS FOR PLACEMENTS OF 33-64

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For all other National point competitions, points will be awarded for placement within the direct elimination bracket in which the top 40% of the competitive field falls to a maximum place of 32nd.

Points will be awarded for places 33-64 when there are at least 160 fencers in a National Domestic Senior, Junior or Cadet point competition. When such points are awarded they will not cascade below Cadet category of standings. Fencers must have at least one 32nd point result for qualification or selection based on points; otherwise position on point standings affects ONLY Seeding national point competitions.
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a. Determine points by multiplying actual strength factor (maximum value 2.0)

** No more than TWO 33-64 results would count in Group II ; any others would fall into Group I.
2.6 USFA Divisions & Region
The Sections of the USFA and their Divisions are:

**Great Lakes Section**
Columbus [OH], Indiana, Kentucky, Michigan, Northern Ohio, Southwest Ohio

**Metropolitan Section**
Metropolitan [NYC]

**Mid Atlantic Section**
Capitol [DC], Central Pennsylvania, Harrisburg [PA], Maryland, New Jersey, Northeast Penn., Philadelphia [PA], South Jersey, Western Pennsylvania

**Midwest Section**
Illinois, Iowa, Minnesota, St. Louis [MO], Wisconsin

**North Atlantic Section**
Connecticut, Hudson [NY]-Berkshire [MA], Green Mountain (VT), Long Island [NY], New England [Eastern MA, Rhode Island], Northeast [NH & ME], Green Mountain [Vermont], Westchester-Rockland [NY], Western New York

**Pacific Coast Section**
Central California, Hawaii, Mountain Valley [CA], Nevada, North Coast [CA, north of Mt. Valley & No. Calif. Divs.], Northern California, Orange Coast [CA], San Bernardino [CA], San Diego [CA], Southern California

**Pacific Northwest Section**
Alaska, Inland Empire [Eastern WA, Northern ID & MT], Oregon, Utah-Southern Idaho, Western Washington

**Rocky Mountain Section**
Arizona, Colorado, Kansas, Plains Texas, Nebraska-South Dakota, New Mexico, Wyoming

**Southeast Section**
Alabama, Central Florida, Gateway Florida, Georgia, Gold Coast Florida, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, Virginia

**Southwest Section**
Ark-La-Miss [AR, LA, & MS], Border Texas, Gulf Coast Texas, Southern Louisiana, North Texas, Oklahoma, South Texas

**National Division**
Those residing in a non-designated geographical area, assigned primarily for those in the military and those residing outside of the United States.
### 2.7 USFA Classification Reference Chart

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>COMPETITION RATING</th>
<th>MINIMUM NBR COMPETITORS</th>
<th>RATED FENCERS REQUIRED</th>
<th>RATED FENCERS MUST FINISH</th>
<th>CLASSIFICATIONS AWARDED</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>GROUP E1</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>1 → E</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GROUP D1</td>
<td></td>
<td>4 E’s (or higher)</td>
<td>1 → D</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Changed per BOD 7/09</td>
<td></td>
<td>2 C’s &amp; 2 D’s (or higher)</td>
<td>2-4 → E</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GROUP C1</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>4 D’s &amp; 4 E’s (or higher)</td>
<td>1 → C</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GROUP C2</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>24 D’s &amp; 12 E’s (or higher)</td>
<td>1 → C</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GROUP C3</td>
<td>64</td>
<td>24 C’s &amp; 12 D’s (or higher)</td>
<td>1 → C</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GROUP B1</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>2 B’s &amp; 2 C’s &amp; 2 D’s (or higher)</td>
<td>1 → B</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GROUP B2</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>2 B’s &amp; 2 C’s &amp; 2 D’s (or higher)</td>
<td>1 → B</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GROUP B3</td>
<td>64</td>
<td>24 A’s &amp; 12 B’s &amp; 12 C’s (or higher)</td>
<td>1 → A</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Changed per BOD 7/07</td>
<td></td>
<td>2 A’s &amp; 2 B’s &amp; 2 C’s (or higher)</td>
<td>2 → B</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GROUP A1</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>24 B’s &amp; 12 C’s (or higher)</td>
<td>1 → A</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GROUP A2</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>24 B’s &amp; 12 C’s (or higher)</td>
<td>1 → A</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GROUP A3</td>
<td>64</td>
<td>24 B’s &amp; 12 C’s (or higher)</td>
<td>1 → A</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GROUP A4</td>
<td>64</td>
<td>12 A’s &amp; 12 B’s &amp; 12 C’s (or higher)</td>
<td>1 → A</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Division I NAC and National Championships are always Group A4 competitions.
Division I-A National Championships are always at least Group A3 competitions.
Division II NAC and National Championships are always at least Group B3 competitions.
Division III NAC and National Championships are always at least Group C3 competitions.
Changes in classifications are allowed at USFA sanctioned individual competitions that are restricted to Veterans and to Junior fencers.
Division, Section and Regional Youth and Cadet Competitions must meet or exceed criteria for C1 to award changes in classification. (BOD, July ’02, July 03).
The USFA does permit classification changes at mixed competitions without regard to gender of fencers.

Per the Board of Directors, March 2012, classifications are no longer awarded in team championship events.
2.8 Combined Division II/Division III Qualifier Example

Below is an example of how to determine qualifiers for Division III when the Division holds only one competition to determine qualifiers for both Division II and Division III.

A Division II/III qualifying competition has the following entries:
Number of C fencers = 8
Number of D fencers = 12
Number of E fencers = 11
Number of U fencers = 15

Total Number of Fencers = 46

List the fencers in order of their finish.

The first 12 who have not already qualified to Division II by other paths are qualifiers from the Division’s competition.

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

Starting with the first fencer after those qualified for Division II (in this example, 13th place); count off the next 10 D, E, or U fencers who have not already qualified by other paths. These 10 D, E, or U fencers are qualified for Division III. (Any C fencers in this range are skipped, but not counted against the 10, because they are not eligible to fence Division III.)

2.9 Black Card vs. Medical Withdrawal

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 round – fencer keeps place in table to determine results AND may be used towards competitive field total to determine classification AND/OR qualification to championships. Medical withdrawal should be indicated in results submitted to National Office.

Black Card

If fencer receives a black card (failure to appear at strip or in accordance with penalty chart in the rule book) at any point during 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.

FIE Rule T 105 (2010 Edition)

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 all the fencers ranked after the disqualified fencer move up one place in the results of the competition.

If necessary the two third places are decided according to their ranking for the composition of the table.

Under all circumstances, only fencers who have actually received points in the competition can move up a place in the competition’s results.
## Appendix 3 – Reference Documents

### 3.1 PENALTY CHART

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>OFFENSE</th>
<th>ARTICLE</th>
<th>PENALTIES</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>1st group</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Leaving the strip without permission</td>
<td>t.18.3</td>
<td>Y R R</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Simple Corps à corps (foil and sabre) *</td>
<td>t.20</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Corps à corps to avoid a touch *</td>
<td>t.20, t.63</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Turning the back to the opponent *</td>
<td>t.21</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Covering/Substitution of valid target *</td>
<td>t.22, t.49, t.72</td>
<td>E E E</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Touching/taking hold of electrical equipment *</td>
<td>t.22</td>
<td>L D D</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Crossing the side of the strip to avoid being touched</td>
<td>t.28</td>
<td>L</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Delaying the Bout</td>
<td>t.31</td>
<td>O C C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clothing/equipment not working or not conforming; absence of second regulation weapon or bodycord</td>
<td>t.45.1 &amp; 3.b</td>
<td>W A A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Placing the weapon on the strip to straighten it</td>
<td>t.46, t.61, t.70.d</td>
<td>R R</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bending/dragging weapon point on conductive strip (F.E)</td>
<td>t.46, t.61</td>
<td>C D D</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grounding the weapon on the metallic vest (F) *</td>
<td>t.53</td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>In Saber, touch scored with the guard *; any forward movement crossing the legs or feet *</td>
<td>t.70.a, t.75.b.3</td>
<td>R</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Refusal to obey the Referee</td>
<td>t.82, t.84</td>
<td>D</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hair not conforming</td>
<td>t.86</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jostling, disorderly fencing * ; taking off mask before the Referee calls ‘Halt’ ; undressing on the strip</td>
<td>t.86, t.87</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Abnormal fencing action * ; touches with brutality or made during or after a fall *</td>
<td>t.87</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-combativity</td>
<td>t.87</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unjustified appeal</td>
<td>t.122</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fencer or team member not present upon 1st and then second call. If still not present at 3rd call Elimination from the competition.</td>
<td>t.86</td>
<td>3rd call; Elimination</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

---

18-2
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>2nd group</th>
<th>1st</th>
<th>2nd</th>
<th>3rd and add’l</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Using the non-weapon arm or hand *</td>
<td>t.22</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interruption of bout for claimed injury/cramp not confirmed by doctor</td>
<td>t.33</td>
<td>R</td>
<td>R</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Absence of equipment control mark *</td>
<td>t.45.3.a</td>
<td>E</td>
<td>E</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Absence of name on back, absence of National colors where required</td>
<td>t.45</td>
<td>D</td>
<td>D</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deliberate touch not on opponent</td>
<td>t.53, t.66</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dangerous, violent or vindictive action, blow with guard or pommel *</td>
<td>t.87, t.103, t.105</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>3rd group</th>
<th>1st Offense</th>
<th>2nd Offense</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fencer disturbing order on the strip (4)</td>
<td>t.82, t.83, t.96</td>
<td>R L</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dishonest fencing *</td>
<td>t.87</td>
<td>E A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Offence against publicity code</td>
<td>Publicity Code</td>
<td>D C K (1)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Any person not on strip disturbing order</td>
<td>t.82, t.83, t.96.c, t.118</td>
<td>1st Warning (YELLOW CARD) or (4) Expulsion (3) or (4)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>4th group</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fencer equipped with electronic communication equipment permitting him to receive communications during the bout</td>
<td>t.43, t.44, t.45.3.f (1) or (2)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Falsified weapon inspection marks, intentional modification of equipment</td>
<td>t.45.3.c &amp; d</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Manifest cheating with equipment (2)</td>
<td>t.45.3.e</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Refusal of a fencer to fence another competitor (individual or team) properly entered</td>
<td>t.85</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Offense against sportsmanship (1) or (2)</td>
<td>t.87, t.105</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Refusal of fencer to salute opponent, the referee and the audience at the beginning or at the end of the bout</td>
<td>t.87</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Profiting from collusion, favoring an opponent (1)</td>
<td>t.88, t.105</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deliberate brutality (1)</td>
<td>t.105</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Doping (2)</td>
<td>t.129</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

PDF penalty chart posted on the USFA website (www.usfencing.org) and the FOC website (http://fencingofficials.org/)
3.2 REFEREE HAND SIGNALS
PDF of Referee Hand Signals posted on the USFA website (www.usfencing.org)

Hand Signals for USFA Referees

- **On guard:** For the fencers to adopt the on-guard position.
- **Ready?:** To find out if the fencers are ready.
- **Play:** To start and restart the fencing.
- **Halt:** To stop the fencing before a hit is scored, because of the fencer on the Referee’s right.
- **Point in line:** Point in line position from the right towards the fencer on the left.
- **Attack/Stop-hit/Counter-attack:** Attack or stop hit (counter-attack) from the fencer on the Referee’s right.
- **Hit against:** A hit is given against the fencer on the Referee’s left.
- **Hit scored:** One hit scored by the fencer on the Referee’s right.
- **Not Valid:** An off-target hit on the fencer on the Referee’s left.
- **Parry / Counter-time:** A parry or counter-time carried out by the fencer on the Referee’s right.
Hand Signals for USFA Referees

Double hit
Both fencers are hit

Hit for each
Each fencer scores a hit

Simultaneous
Simultaneous attacks

Nothing
No set or warning

Offensive action from the fencer on the Referee’s right, too short and does not hit

Incorrect action or riposte from the fencer on the Referee’s right

Yellow Card: warning
Red Card: one hit against
Black Card: exclusion

Notes
1st The Referee calls the action and gives the hand signal at the same time.
2nd The Referee should refrain from excessive verbiage; use only the appropriate phrase with the gesture i.e. Attack from Left! Parry! Riposte! Touch against Right! Point for Left!
3rd After the action is called, the fencer may still the refuse to register the outcome of the phrase.
4th Each gesture should last for 1-2 seconds, be expressive and correct in their execution.
3.3 TECHNICAL UPDATES FOR USFA NATIONAL TOURNAMENTS

Please refer to the FOC website (http://fencingofficials.org/) for updates to rules and technical information.

3.4 Video Refereeing: FIE Technical Rules, t.42, January 2011

a) Video-refereeing is compulsory at all three weapons at Grand Prix, Senior World Cup individual and team competitions, the World Championships and Olympic Games, Zonal Championships and qualification events for the Olympic Games. It is optional at the Veteran World Championships.

   i) For World Cup individual, Grand Prix competitions, Zone Championships and qualification events for the Olympic Games, video-refereeing is compulsory and must be used as soon as the timetable allows the competition to be run on only 4 pistes, and in any case, from the table of 64.

   ii) For World Cup team competitions, video-refereeing is compulsory as soon as the timetable allows the competition to be run on only 4 pistes including the match for 3rd place, but excluding the other ranking matches.

   iii) For individual and team competitions of the open World Championships, video-refereeing is obligatory as soon as the timetable allows the competition to be run on a maximum of 8 pistes, all equipped for video-refereeing.

   iv) For individual competitions of the Junior and Cadet World Championships, video-refereeing is compulsory as soon as the timetable allows the competition to be run on a maximum of 4 pistes, all equipped for video-refereeing.

For team competitions in the conventional weapons, video-refereeing is compulsory from the table of 16. In epee, video-refereeing is compulsory from the table of 8.

v) For individual and team events at the Olympic Games, the video-refereeing system is mandatory in all three weapons, at all stages of the competition.

b) Appeals

Both in team and individual events, only the fencer on the piste has the right to request a video review.

   i) In the individual events, the fencer has:

   • in pools, one possible appeal during each bout;
   • in direct elimination bouts, two possible appeals.

   Should the referee agree with the fencer who appealed for the video-refereeing, the latter is entitled to retain the right of appeal.

   ii) In team events, the fencers have one possible right to appeal to the video-refereeing per relay and they are entitled to retain this right should the referee agree with the appeal.

   iii) In the case of an appeal for video-refereeing, the referee will walk over to the video consultant, they will watch the video together and after having analysed the action, the referee will give his final decision.

c) There shall only be a maximum of 4 repetitions of the action. The referee can choose to review the action in real time or in slow motion, at any speed he wishes.

d) At all weapons and at any time, the referee may consult his monitor before making a decision.

e) If the fencers’ scores are equal at the end of the match, for the decisive hit, the referee must use the video-refereeing before even giving his decision, except in the case specified in article t.42.3.d.

f) The video consultant may at any time request that the referee use the video-refereeing.

g) Once the referee, together with the video consultant, has analysed the action, whether it is:

   - at the referee’s initiative
   - at the request of the athlete
   - in case of a tied score, before the decisive hit
   - at the video consultant’s request

the decision given by the referee is final and no other review of the same action can be requested.
## 4.1 EQUIPMENT REQUIREMENTS

**Fencers’ Weapons and Equipment Control**


Equipment requirements for international events are different from the requirements for domestic events. Please read these requirements carefully.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ITEM</th>
<th>FIE RULE</th>
<th>SPECIFICATIONS</th>
<th>NOTES</th>
<th>REQUIRED FOR</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Uniform*</td>
<td>m.25</td>
<td>Must be made of material that can resist 800 Newton of pressure</td>
<td>Name and country acronym (USA) must be neatly stenciled on the back of the jacket or lame in blue bold letters 8-10cm high, situated between the shoulder blades.</td>
<td>All official FIE sanctioned tournaments (and USFA events)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Uniform* for team events</td>
<td></td>
<td>Fencing uniforms (including socks) have to be identical for the fencers of the same country during the team events and must bear the FIE homologation logo.</td>
<td>Everyone on the team must have identical logos/country colors, etc. (i.e. if one has country colors on the sleeve, all must have country colors on the sleeve.)</td>
<td>All FIE team events – Championships and Team World Cup competitions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Uniform*</td>
<td>m.25.3d</td>
<td>Fencers’ clothing may be of different colors, <strong>excluding black</strong>.</td>
<td>Colored uniforms are allowed. Designs and patterns must be approved by the FIE 30 days in advance. No requirement</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National Colors</td>
<td>t.45</td>
<td>Knickers must have logo on both legs. Logos on the arms are optional. Logo must be identical for all team members. The logo must be the design approved by the FIE</td>
<td>Logo stenciling is done by Marx Enterprises (503) 245-9271 <a href="mailto:suzmarx1@comcast.net">suzmarx1@comcast.net</a></td>
<td>Sr. Grand Prix, Team events, and all Championships</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mask* (standard)</td>
<td>m.25.7</td>
<td>Must be able to withstand 12 kg punch test. No rust, dents, loose trim, holes in bib. Bibs must be of an FIE-approved design</td>
<td></td>
<td>Senior &quot;A&quot;, Junior World Cups and Cadet competitions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mask FOIL Bib</td>
<td>m.27.2</td>
<td>Electric bib in foil The new bib in foil is mandatory as of 1 January 2009 for senior competitions, and as of 1 October 2009 for the junior competitions. Lame material may be applied by the original manufacturer of the FIE mask or may be applied as a retrofit from an FIE-approved manufacturer. The mask must be on the list of FIE approved electronic-foil masks.</td>
<td>The part of the bib, which is below a horizontal line 1.5 - 2 cm lower than the chin, must be entirely covered with a material that has the same conductive characteristics as the conductive jacket</td>
<td>USFA NACs and Championships of Division I (Senior), Junior, Cadet, Veteran and Wheelchair</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mask* (transparent)</td>
<td>m.25.7</td>
<td>Must also conform to section 2.1.2 in the Annex to FIE material rules</td>
<td>Lexan visor is valid for 2 years from date of manufacture. Lexan must have date visible</td>
<td>Sabre only at this time: Sr. Grand Prix, team events and all Champs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ITEM</td>
<td>FIE RULE</td>
<td>SPECIFICATIONS</td>
<td>NOTES</td>
<td>REQUIRED FOR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>----------------------</td>
<td>----------</td>
<td>--------------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
<td>----------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
<td>--------------------------------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mask*</td>
<td>m.25.7</td>
<td>The mask must contain a horizontal safety strap at the rear of the mask, with the two ends of the strap firmly affixed to the two sides of the mask.</td>
<td>Elastic straps are required on all masks</td>
<td>All FIE competitions and USFA competitions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mask (Transparent)</td>
<td>2007</td>
<td>8) Foil Wireless apparatus are optional at foil in the Grand Prix competitions, World Championships and Olympic Games, from the table of 32 onwards.</td>
<td></td>
<td>As of 1 January 2011</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Under Plastron*</td>
<td>t.43</td>
<td>Must be made of material that can resist 800 Newton of pressure and must carry the logo of an FIE approved manufacturer</td>
<td>Name and country (USA) must be neatly stenciled on back in blue bold letters 8-10cm high</td>
<td>All official FIE tournaments</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Metallic Vest-foil</td>
<td>m.28</td>
<td>Must have less than 5 ohms of resistance, 3x5 mm clip tab, no holes/tears/green spots</td>
<td>Name and country (USA) must be neatly stenciled on back in blue bold letters 8-10cm high</td>
<td>All official FIE sanctioned foil events</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Metallic Jacket-saber</td>
<td>m.34</td>
<td>Must have less than 5 ohms of resistance, 2x3cm clip tab, no holes/tears/green spots</td>
<td>Name and country (USA) must be neatly stenciled on back in blue bold letters 8-10cm high</td>
<td>All official FIE sanctioned saber events</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Foil*</td>
<td>m.6-13</td>
<td>Must pass weight, curvature, angulations, length, flexibility, guard diameter; no dents</td>
<td>Date and manufacturer’s initials must appear in FIE quality label on blade</td>
<td>All official FIE sanctioned foil events</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Epee*</td>
<td>m.14-20</td>
<td>Must pass weight, travel, curvature, angulations, length, flexibility, guard diameter; no dents</td>
<td>Date and manufacturer’s initials must appear in FIE quality label on blade and the date on the blade must correspond to the limits of the latest FIE list of approved blades</td>
<td>All official FIE sanctioned epee events</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saber</td>
<td>m.21-24</td>
<td>Must pass blade curvature, angulations, length, flexibility, guard insulation and tip dimensions</td>
<td>Blade must be S2000 compliant</td>
<td>All official FIE sanctioned saber events</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*FIE Quality Label must be present (FIE Approved)

Whether the fencer or the Team armorer submit equipment to tournament Equipment Control for inspection, FIE Rules dictate that the fencer may submit up to:

- Four (4) Weapons
- Two (2) Body Wires
- Two (2) Conductive Vests/Jackets
- Two (2) Masks
- Two (2) Mask Cords
- Two (2) Sabre Gloves or Overgloves

The athletes are completely responsible for:

- Making certain that approved national logos are on both legs of their knickers, as required, before traveling to the tournament.
- Making certain that their name and country code are neatly stenciled on the backs of their metallic vests, jackets, or uniform jackets, as required, before traveling to the tournament.
• Making certain that all their equipment is functional, clean and in good condition, before traveling to the tournament.
• Making certain that weapons are complete, assembled, in working order and in good condition, before traveling to the tournament.
• Making certain that Equipment Control inspection marks are present on their equipment each time they enter the competition Field of Play.
• Having sufficient extra equipment for practice before traveling to the tournament

Uniform
Any athlete competing in an FIE sponsored competition must have the 800 newton uniform: jacket, knickers and plastron (underarm garment) and a mask with 1600 newton bib and FIE approved label on the back. All athletes competing in team events must also have identical socks.

Each fencer competing in an “A” competition (Junior or Senior), or World Championships must have his or her last name and country acronym (USA) below the name imprinted on the back of the jacket (epee) or lamé (foil and saber). These must be imprinted in navy blue block letters whose height is between 8 cm and 10 cm, the width of the letters will vary according to the length of the name. The imprinting on the lamé must not interfere with the conductivity of the lamé.

The FIE requires that one’s country colors, approved by the FIE, are to be imprinted on the clothes. The national colors for USA are the “shooting stars” and must be imprinted on the sides of both legs (as of 2005). Failure to display the national colors on both legs will prevent the fencer from participating – meaning you will not be allowed to fence. It applies to the following competitions.
• World Championships (all levels)
• Grand Prix World Cups
• Senior World Cup individual competitions – all DE bouts from the 64 onwards
• World Cup Team competitions – all bouts

Breast Protectors/Chest Protection - The FIE policy is as follows:

The use of breast protectors/chest protection at Foil is authorized for Men and Women. At foil, this breast/chest protector must be worn below the protective plastron.

Wireless for Sabre – The FIE has mandated that the wireless apparatus will be used for all Grand Prix and Team competitions in Sabre from the table of direct elimination. Fencers must purchase and provide their own “special wireless” T-Shirt. This is mandatory; failure will result in not being allowed to fence.

FIE Publicity Code states:

If a federation and/or a fencer have signed a sponsorship contract with a commercial or other company, the logo of that sponsorship partner, maximum 125 cm² in size, may be affixed at the top of the sleeve of the non-sword arm of the fencing jacket, on the side of the breeches (left or right) or on the socks. At saber a logo may not be worn on the sleeve.
A fencer may not display more than four such logos. The total surface area of all these logos added together must not exceed 500 cm².

Masks
The FIE has made the wearing of the transparent mask **MANDATORY** for saber fencers at the following (as of the 05-06 season). Failure will result in not being allowed to fence.

- At Grand Prix competitions
- At World Cup Team competitions
- At World Championships (Cadet, Junior, Senior, and Veteran)

4.2  **FIE –SEMI COMMISSION**

Technical Handbook for Homologation / Approval of Fencing Equipment - Version 1.0 AUG2009

The summary table of the certified blades includes the dates of homologation and periodic tests for each manufacturer. The approved blades are marked with the dates included during a one-year period after the date of homologation.

6 **List of épée blades approved by the F.I.E. S.E.M.I.**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>N°</th>
<th>Manufacturer Abbr.</th>
<th>Dates of homologation and periodic tests (month.year)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Léon Paul</td>
<td>(95) (97) (3.00) (2.01) (3.02) (3.04) (4.04) (2.06) (1.07) (04.08)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>France Lames FL</td>
<td>(2.97) (4.98) (1.99) (1.00) (2.01)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Blaise Frères BF</td>
<td>(95) (3.96) (1.98) (11.99) (1.00) (2.01) (1.02) (4.03) (5.04) (2.05) (2.06) (2.07) (2.08) (11.08)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Lammet LM</td>
<td>(95) (1.96) (9.98) (11.99) (11.00) (12.01) (12.02) (1.04) (5.06) (8.08)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Ao Vniti</td>
<td>(2.97) (12.98) (12.99) (11.00) (12.01) (12.02) (12.03) (5.06)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Allstar/Uhlmann FS</td>
<td>(97) (12.99) (2.01) (2.01 N) (3.02)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Weyersberg Kirschbaum KW</td>
<td>(98) (3.01)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Sportservice (STM)</td>
<td>(2.99) (4.00) (4.00 N) (11.01) (7.03) (1.05) (1.05 N) (6.07)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Prieur Sport PS</td>
<td>(3.99) (9.01) (5.02) (2.04) (2.05) (1.06) (1.06 N) (1.07) (1.08) (1.08N) (1.09) (1.09N)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Metal West</td>
<td>(3.03N) (3.05N) (3.06N)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Chevalier d’Auvergne CA</td>
<td>(4.03) (2.05) (1.06) (1.06N) (1.07) (1.08) (1.08N) (1.09) (1.09N)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Gloria-Pro LT</td>
<td>(6.07)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>Dynamo</td>
<td>(9.04N)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Note:** N = non-maraging steel

7 **List of foil blades approved by the F.I.E S.E.M.I.: FOIL, 3/30/2009**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>N°</th>
<th>Manufacturer Abbr.</th>
<th>Dates of homologation and periodic tests (month.year)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>AO VNITI:</td>
<td>(6.96) (9.98) (12.99) (11.00) (12.01) (12.02) (12.03) (5.06) (1.07)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>BLAISE FRERES BF:</td>
<td>(95) (3.96) (1.98) (11.99) (2.01) (1.02) (4.03) (7.04) (9.04) (2.05) (2.06) (2.07) (2.08) (11.08)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>LAMMET LM:</td>
<td>(95) (6.96) (9.98) (11.99) (12.00) (12.01) (12.02) (3.06) (8.08)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>MEGASTAR:</td>
<td>(9.95) (11.96)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Product Name</td>
<td>Certification/Homologation Periods</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>---</td>
<td>-----------------------------------</td>
<td>-------------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>FRANCE LAMES FL</td>
<td>(5.96) (2.97) (3.98) (2.99) (1.00) (2.01)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>ALLSTAR/UHLMANN FS</td>
<td>(97) (12.99) (2.02) (4.05)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>WEYERSBERG KIRCHBAUM KW</td>
<td>(98) (3.01)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>PRIEUR SPORT PS</td>
<td>(3.99) (3.02) (2.04) (2.05) (1.06) (1.07) (1.08) (1.09)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>LEON PAUL</td>
<td>(97) (98) (99) (3.00) (2.01) (4.02) (3.04) (4.04) (2.06) (1.07) (4.08)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>SPORTSERVICE (STM)</td>
<td>(4.00) (11.01) (7.03) (1.05) (6.07)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>CHEVALIER D'AUVERGNE CA</td>
<td>(4.03) (2.04) (2.05) (1.06) (1.07) (1.08) (1.09)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>BLUE GAUNTLET MC</td>
<td>(8.04)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>ABSOLUTE</td>
<td>(1.06)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

In parenthesis are the dates of certification/homologation and periodical inspections.
4.3 Security Tips for International Travel

US OLYMPIC COMMITTEE
SECURITY DIVISION
LARRY M. BUENDORF
CHIEF SECURITY OFFICER
SECURITY TIPS

The following are some security tips that may be useful:

- Wear non-descript clothing with traveling.

- Use the buddy system at airports / hotels / venues for watching personal items (luggage, equipment).

- Keep valuable items in a hotel safety deposit box. Never leave items unattended, including practice sites.

- Carry small amounts of currency, but consider carrying around $10 for buying off muggers. Do not put up resistance against robbers who may resort to violence.

- Be cautious in providing information to strangers (i.e. where you are staying, eating, time schedules, practices, etc.)

- Be aware of suspicious persons and bring them to the attention of the Team Leader or Coaches. Report thefts immediately to your Team Leader/Coaches.

- Do not post schedules, name lists, room assignments in places accessible to the public. This includes locker rooms at practice sites / venues or hotel in-house television that lists meetings, etc. Do not leave this information in your hotel room or locker room where it could be taken.

- Use caution when discarding schedules, name lists, room assignments. Trash containers can be an excellent source of information. SHRED IT OR REGRET IT!

- Lock your room when leaving, but leave the light / radio / television on.

- Do not walk alone at night or venture into unknown areas. Wear non-descript clothing when in questionable areas. Do not display money, personal documents or luxury items such as cameras.

- Do not consult maps in public; this makes you an obvious target for pickpockets and muggers.

- Do not open unidentified or suspicious packages/letters. Notify your Team Leader or Coach. This includes any personal mail and unusual e-mails.

- BE AWARE .....BE LOW-KEY…..BE UNPREDICTABLE.
4.4 IOC Stockholm Consensus

Statement of the Stockholm consensus on sex reassignment in sports
On 28 October 2003, an ad-hoc committee convened by the IOC Medical Commission met in Stockholm to discuss and issue recommendations on the participation of individuals who have undergone sex reassignment (male to female and converse) in sport.

This group was composed of:
Prof. Arne Ljungqvist (SWE)
Prof. Odile Cohen-Haguenauer (FRA)
Prof. Myron Genel (USA)
Prof. Joe Leigh Simpson (USA)
Prof. Martin Ritzen (SWE)
Prof. Marc Fellous (FRA)
Dr Patrick Schamasch (FRA)

The group confirms the previous recommendation that any “individuals undergoing sex reassignment of male to female before puberty should be regarded as girls and women” (female). This applies as well for female to male reassignment, who should be regarded as boys and men (male).

The group recommends that individuals undergoing sex reassignment from male to female after puberty (and the converse) be eligible for participation in female or male competitions, respectively, under the following conditions:

- Surgical anatomical changes have been completed, including external genitalia changes and gonadectomy
- Legal recognition of their assigned sex has been conferred by the appropriate official authorities
- Hormonal therapy appropriate for the assigned sex has been administered in a verifiable manner and for a sufficient length of time to minimise 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
NEW FOIL MASKS WITH A CONDUCTIVE BIB
MANUFACTURERS AND USERS GUIDELINES

NOTICE TECHNIQUE DE FABRICATION DU NOUVEAU
MASQUE AVEC BAVETTE CONDUCTRICE POUR LE FLEURET

At the FIE’s Congress 2007 it was unanimously decided by the participating countries that: «from the 1st January 2009 the use of new foil masks with a valid target bib would be mandatory at the Seniors FIE Official competitions (World Cups, Grand Prix and World Championships, OG) ».

I FIE Rules for the new masks for foil with conductive bib

Consequently the FIE rules concerning the valid target at foil are as follows.

TARGET Limitation of the target

t.47.1. At foil, only hits which arrive on the target are counted as valid.
t.47.2. The target at foil excludes the limbs and the head. It is confined to the trunk, the upper limit being the collar up to 6 cm above the prominences of the collar bones; at the sides to the seams of the sleeves, which should cross the head of the humerus; and the lower limit following a horizontal line across the back joining the tops of the hip bones, thence by straight lines to the junction of the lines of the groin. (FROM JAN.2009 It also includes the part of the bib beneath a horizontal line 1,5 to 2 cm below the chin and which, in any case, may not be lower than the line of the shoulders) (see Figure 4)

Surface Valable - Limitation de la Surface Valable

Application 1er janvier 2009
t.47.2. La surface valable exclut les membres et la tête. Elle est limitée au tronc, en s’arrêtant, vers le haut, au sommet du col, jusqu’à six centimètres au-dessus du sommet des clavicules; sur le côté, aux coutures des manches, qui devront passer par la pointe de l’humérus; vers le bas, suivant une ligne qui passe horizontalement dans le dos, par les sommets des hanches et qui rejoint de là, par une ligne droite, le point de jonction des plis des aines (Cf. schéma ci-dessous). Elle comprend aussi la partie de la bavette en dessous d’une ligne horizontale entre 1,5 et 2 cm au-dessous du menton qui, en tout cas, ne peut pas être plus bas que la ligne des épaules.

Figure 4. Valid target at foil (bib only from JAN 2009)

Surface valable au fleuret (dès janvier 2009)
RULES SPECIFIC TO FOIL
Mask (cf. m.25,7)
m.27.1. The mesh of the mask must not extend below the chin. It must be insulated internally and externally by a plastic material resistant to impact.
m.27.2. (FROM JAN 2009) The part of the bib that is beneath a horizontal line 1.5 - 2cm below the chin, must be entirely covered with a material that has the same conductive characteristics as the conductive jacket.
m.27.3. Means of connection: the electrical contact between the conductive jacket and the mask must be ensured by means of a white coloured wire and one or two crocodile clips (cf. m.32.4).

REGLES SPECIFIQUES AU FLEURET
Masque
m.27.1 Le treillis du masque doit s’arrêter obligatoirement au menton du tireur. Il sera isolé intérieurement et extérieurement, avant tout montage, par une matière plastique résistant aux chocs.
m.27.2 La partie de la bavette sous une ligne horizontale de 1,5 à 2 cm en dessous du menton doit être entièrement recouverte d’une matière ayant les mêmes caractéristiques conductrices que la veste conductrice.
m.27.3 Moyen de connexion : le contact électrique entre la veste conductrice et le masque doit être assuré à l’aide d’un fil et d’une ou deux pinces crocodiles (cf. m.32.4).

Urgent Letter 8-08 18 April 2008
Electric bib in foil
Following the decisions taken by the 2007 Congress, and at the request of the manufacturers, the new bib in foil will be mandatory as of 1 January 2009 for senior competitions, and as of 1 October 2009 for the junior competitions.

Lettre urgente 8-08 18 avril 2008
Bavette électrique au fleuret
Suite aux décisions du Congrès 2007 et à la demande des fabricants, la nouvelle bavette au fleuret sera obligatoire dès le 1er janvier 2009 pour les compétitions seniors et dès le 1er octobre 2009 pour les compétitions juniors.

II  How to get the FIE approval (homologation) for a mask with a conductive bib
In order to get the FIE approval of their masks for foil with a conductive bib, manufacturers must submit by email to the FIE’s SEMI commission address jeddossantos@gmail.com
1. A written request for the FIE’s approval (homologation).
2. A drawing with the dimensions of the mask and photos.
3. A brief description of the masks and the materials employed.
4. The file of fabrication, the CE certificate and the full CE tests made in accordance with the EN13567. It’s clarified that according with the consulted experts opinion: if a mask has already obtained the CE certificate and passed the EN13567 tests, the fact that now an extra layer of conductive fabric is added doesn’t reduce the security and this variation can be tolerated, so a CE new test is not needed! If the mask is entirely new it must be submitted to the CE tests. However in all cases the manufacturer must always send the CE certificate and the CE test report to the SEMI commission.
5. The manufacturers must send by mail a physical sample of their foil mask with a conductive bib, and also one free bib (not installed) to be analysed. In order to understand the design of the conductive bib see paragraph V “The conductive bib”. Also the drawing of the FIE label of quality that the manufacturer intends
to use must be sent by email for approval, this will permit to establish a file with all the valid labels of quality approved by the FIE.

6. For the new foil mask with a conductive bib, the sample of the mask and of the bib must be the final product. It is mandatory that the masks have the approved FIE label of quality, in fabric, placed in a visible location and sewn in the inside of the bib. No logos are allowed in the external area of the masks, nor in the elastic safety strap at the rear of the mask. The only external logo allowed is in the label of quality in the spring (tongue) at the rear of the mask, and must be the one of the manufacturer of the mask. However any and all logos can be placed in the interior of the mask.

We remind you that for masks the FIE label of quality has a maximum diameter of 2.5cm, containing within the label: the letters corresponding to the name of the manufacturer, the letters FIE, and in this case the year 2009. The lettering 1600 N; above or below the FIE label of quality the lettering EN13567 level2, and the CE mark should be present. The label of quality should also be placed in the spring («tongue») that exists in the rear of the mask. A bigger label of quality in fabric can be sewn in the interior of the bib in a visible manner. The letters M2009 must also appear in the spring of the new masks for foil, near the label of quality.

7. The manufacturers must answer any question that the SEMI will put to them!

8. Only masks with a valid CE test report from an FIE approved institute (CRITT, Denkendorf, IFTH) which were tested according with the standard EN 13567, and received a conductive bib can receive the FIE approval (homologation)! The masks which are not simultaneously in accordance with the FIE specifications and the CE EN13567 standard cannot get an approval!

9. When using the wireless signalling system a plate of LEDs is placed on the sides of the masks, so ideally it is recommend that the new designs of masks have the mesh free of any objects in the area inside the masks in order to make possible the installation of the LEDs plates, thus ensuring guarantee a good visibility of the LEDs when illuminated.

10. After the analysis and inspection of the documents and of the mask sample and the bib sample provided by each manufacturer, an FIE’s approval certificate (the homologation) will be given to the manufacturer, which allows them to sell their foil masks with a conductive bib, the so called M2009 masks, with the FIE stamp, and only masks from the official list of foil masks with a conductive bib will be accepted at the FIE’s weapons control.

III FIE’s Official List of Foil Masks With a Conductive Bib - M2009

After getting an approval the Foil Masks will be added to the FIE’s Official List of Foil Masks With a Conductive Bib - M2009.

The list will be published starting from 15 October 2008, at the FIE’s site www.fie.ch, menu FIE Official (FIE Officiel), sub-menu Rules (Règlements). This list it will be updated every time that a new mask from a manufacturer is approved by the FIE.

IV 2 Types of masks for foil with a conductive bib

From the 1st January 2009 for Seniors at the FIE competitions only 2 types of masks for foil are allowed:
- The standard metallic mesh mask with a conductive bib, which can be used at FIE World cups at all the stages of the competition; plus at FIE Grand Prix and World Championships until the end of the tableau 64.
- The Transparent Visor masks with a conductive bib that can be used at all the competitions and at all stages of the competition, being mandatory starting at tableau of
32 through the finals (from the tableau of 32 onwards) at Grand Prix and World Championships.

V The conductive bib

In accordance with m.27.2 the outside part of the bib is conductive, with the conductive area starting at 1.5 to 2 cm below the chin.

As an example consider the typical case of a conductive bib: to obtain the horizontal line, the manufacturers are required to cut a piece of conductive fabric in a shape which after being sewn to the bib covers the external lower area of the bib of their masks. This piece of fabric after being applied to the masks (« sewn ») must guarantee that the central vertical line of this conductive piece starts from 1.5 to 2 cm below the chin and extends to the bottom of the bib and thus assures a horizontal line (see photo).

Manufacturers must consider that the cut of the top of the conductive piece of conductive material should be done in a curved way. Since, once applied to the mask’s bib the curved top of the conductive piece curved will became a horizontal line.

The above described procedure applies to all foil masks and bibs.

Designs with a tolerance of a maximum of 1 cm causing the horizontal line go up on the sides of the mask’s bib, are accepted. But designs where the piece of conductive fabric
provokes a falling horizontal line on the sides of the bib (and consequently a smaller valid target than the one specified by paragraph m.27.2) will not be approved.

VI Means of connecting the valid bib to the electrical jacket
The connection of the valid bib area to the electrical jacket is to be made by a wire comprised of a single conductor electrical isolated cable with 2 crocodile clips. The inner part of the bib will shall feature 2 flaps: each one with a length of 2,0cm x 1,0cm (tolerance of +0,5cm is accepted). The flaps must be sewn and placed in each side of the bib symmetrically and laterally; they must be sewn against the interior of the conductive fabric in order to guarantee the conductivity. And also sewn in the interior border of the bib at a place that ends 1cm below the interior of the conductive fabric horizontal line. One end of the flap must be free in such a way that will not show when not in use, and will fold out once the crocodile is connected (see photo below).
The crocodile clip of the mask wire will be attached to the flap on the “non-sword-arm” side of the fencer.

The flaps will be made of the same conductive material of the bib (or other conductive material), this solution will permit the sewing of new conductive fabric on top of the flaps (whenever a flap becomes worn out).

VII  Mask Wire for the foil mask with a conductive bib and metallic crocodile clips
The mask wires for the foil mask with conductive bib are similar to the ones used in sabre with the condition that all wires must be white! This is a new system! And fencers will equip themselves with new mask wires, being highly desirable for an effect of camouflage to be obtained. This is the reason why was taken the decision of only accept white mask wires at the weapon’s control at FIE foil competitions.
A mask wire can be of 3 types: (A) with a length between 30 cm and a maximum of 40 cm plus the length of the 2 crocodile clips, being the cable with a single conductor isolated (non curled) electrical cable; (B) with a length of 25cm for a coiled cable (in the at rest position position, meaning not stretched) plus the length of the 2 crocodile clips; (C) of a mixed type like the one used (for sabre) in the last Olympics with a total of 30cm, comprised of 10 cm of straight cable followed by 10 cm of coiled cable (in the free (at rest) position meaning not stretched) and followed again by 10 cm of straight cable, plus the length of the 2 crocodiles.
The use of telephonic cables is not allowed, since telephone cable tends to curl with use and extend more then the allowed 40 cm.
Besides the crocodile clips that are of silver or gold-metal plated or copper colour, tape or other material used in the mask wire has to be in white colour.

VIII  Crocodile clips
The metallic crocodile clips are defined in the rules paragraph m.29.c)
The crocodile clip must be robust and ensure perfect contact with the conductive jacket. Its width at the point of contact must be at least 10 mm; the inside of the clip must leave a free space at least 8 mm long by 3 mm high.
La pince crocodile doit être d’un modèle fort et assurer un contact parfait avec la veste conductrice. La largeur à l’endroit du contact devra être au moins de 10 mm, l’intérieur de la pince devra présenter un espace libre d’au moins 8 mm de longueur et 3 mm de hauteur.
In the specific case of foil and of a mask with a conductive bib, one crocodile clip must be clipped onto the back of the conductive jacket (ideally onto a conductive flap placed at the center of the collar); and the other crocodile clip must always be clipped on the non-sword-arm side and on the conductive flap that exists in the inner part of the conductive bib on the non sword-arm side (see next photo).

IX Other designs

Other designs are possible after being proposed by the manufacturers and approved by the SEMI Commission: such as in the case of the mask wire directly connected to the inside of the bib, and in which the wire goes inside the mask up to the top of the mask and falls from the back of the neck to the conductive flap at the base of the rear of the collar. In order to prevent contact with the skin both crocodiles have to be insulated with white plastic material, so this design still is under research and development and has not yet been approved.

- The design of a mask with conductive fabric in the inside of the electric bib is not allowed! This design can assure an electrical contact each time a touch would occur, but has the disadvantage that electrical isolation (in the case of fencers who sweat/perspire a lot) cannot be guaranteed; and also a foil point touching the interior of a bib would produce a hit, situation that is considered dangerous and undesirable.

- Another design of the foil mask with a conductive bib in which the flaps are placed totally inside the bib in such a way that after the cable is installed the crocodile will not be visible, was abandoned for the moment since it requires the use of a mask wire with insulated crocodile connectors in order avoid problems with humid (moist) bibs.

X Impermeability of the inside fabric of the mask

In order to avoid electrical problems with the sweated (damp) conductive bibs or sweated (moisted) electrical jackets, it’s recommended to the manufacturers that they always use good quality and good quality impermeable (water-proof) fabrics in the inside of their masks and electrical jackets.

To avoid false touches due to perspiration (sweat) it is also recommended that the top of the electrical jacket’s collar should be made with 3mm of non-conductive water proof fabric, of the same type of the one used on the inside of the jacket (see photo below).

XI Flap in the collar of the foil electrical jacket

In order to attach the crocodile connector on one end of the mask wire to the electrical jacket a flap should be placed in the middle and at the base of the back of the collar of the electrical vest.
The FIE’s SEMI Commission remains available to answer any questions concerning the described information that the manufacturers of fencing equipment or others might have, feel free to contact us at any time. The SEMI is awaiting the final version of the mask samples, the bib samples and the documents in order to deliver the FIE certificates of approval (homologations), and complete the list of masks for foil with a conductive bib.

XII National Competitions
Transforming a mask to became a foil mask with a conductive bib.

The National Federations have the right and the responsibility to decide by themselves concerning the use or not of foil masks with conductive bibs at their internal competitions! In such case the FIE approved masks may be used. Or the manufacturers can prepare a “Kit” that could easily be adapted to the existing masks, and propose an external bib with flaps that can be applied with glue, Velcro or be sewed to the existing masks bib, and consequently converting the existing masks to the new design in a cheaper way then buying new masks.

Proceeding in this manner a mask becomes a mask with a conductive bib. However, this solution is not applicable to FIE foil competitions where only FIE approved masks mentioned in the list, with a conductive bib sew and produced by a manufacturer, are allowed.