



Operations Manual

2006 Edition

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PREFACE AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Operations Manual. *The Board of Directors shall create and maintain an Operations Manual to provide information about the policies, procedures and operations of the USFA. Such procedures shall include, but not be limited to: procedures for handling disciplinary issues, grievances by individual or organizational members, removal from a team or declaring an athlete, coach, trainer, manager, administrator or official ineligible to participate. [USFA Bylaws Article XV, para. 18]*

This edition of the Operations Manual, 2006-1 (November 2006), is a major revision in organization and style in order to better serve the membership and the volunteer administrators throughout the country. This version has incorporated actions of the Board and procedural changes of the USFA that have occurred in the last ten years. The manual will be updated periodically as necessary in accordance with the actions of the USFA Board of Directors and on the basis of recommended corrections and/or modifications. Certain Appendices in this version are works in progress as information is compiled and collated as a permanent record. An index will be added during 2007. The version number given on the footer of each page will indicate updates.

Unless otherwise explicitly provided, references in this Operations Manual to other documents and publications should be construed to mean the current versions of those materials at the time of the application of the provision in question.

This edition could not have succeeded without the pioneering efforts of the task force appointed eight years ago of Nancy Anderson, George Kolombatovich, George Masin and David Sapery. Their efforts remained in limbo as others sought to find sufficient time to continue the goal of a manual that would be used with ease in the “field”. In the last two years Kalle Weeks and Tanya Brown of the Tournament Committee, David Sapery of the data management resource committee, Edwin “Buzz” Hurst of the Division and Section Committee, Sam Cheris as current Vice President and key administrator through the years, Donald Alperstein, League counsel, Nancy Anderson – current USFA President, Bill Oliver and Greg Dilworth of the FOC, and USFA staff, particularly, Dana Brown, Christine Simmons, and Corinne Greenman, have aided, abetted and given impetus to the editor in chief. Suggestions to enable this manual to be more user friendly are welcome and should be forwarded to info@usfencing.org.

Carla-Mae Richards, Editor-in-Chief

Retired Director of Technical Programs

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USFA BYLAWS

ARTICLE XV

Section 18

Operations Manual. The Board of Directors shall create and maintain an Operations Manual to provide information about the policies, procedures and operations of the USFA. Such procedures shall include, but not be limited to: procedures for handling disciplinary issues, grievances by individual or organizational members, removal from a team or declaring an athlete, coach, trainer, manager, administrator or official ineligible to participate.

Section 19c

The USFA shall promptly review and act on requests for sanctions of international athletic competitions. The guidelines for such review shall be as set forth in the Operations Manual

Section 21

The procedures to be used with respect to resolving disputes on matters of discipline, grievances, eligibility or participation shall be set forth in the Operations Manual.

ARTICLE XII

Section 2

Fencing Officials Commission. The Fencing Officials Commission is a Commission. It is not a Committee of the Board of Directors subject to the provisions of the preceding section. It shall be composed and elected/appointed as provided in the Operations Manual

ARTICLE XXXIII

Section 2

Composition. The Athlete Advisory Group shall consist of not less than eight nor more than 10 athletes who meet the standards set forth in the Operations Manual, selected as follows:

- a) two athletes chosen by the incumbent members of the Athlete Advisory Group prior to the end of their term;
- b) three athletes elected under the procedures specified in the Operations Manual by the top point holders as designated in the Operations Manual;
- c) the USFA's representative and alternate representative to the USOC Athlete Advisory Council, if they are not included within the five members chosen pursuant to subsections (a) and (b); and
- d) three additional athletes who meet the standards set forth in the Operations Manual chosen by those selected pursuant to subsections (a) through (c) above.

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Chapter 1: United States Fencing Association

Section 1: The Corporation

The United States Fencing Association, herein referred to as the USFA, is a non-profit organization incorporated under the laws of the State of Colorado. The Internal Revenue Service has recognized the Association as a tax-exempt organization, 501(c)(3), and contributions to the USFA qualify as charitable deductions for the donor to the extent permitted by law. Information about such contributions may be obtained from the USFA Financial Services Department.

The USFA tax identification number is solely for the use of the USFA and not available for use by any other organization affiliated with the USFA. Divisions or Sections who have obtained their own unique tax identification number are required to file with the IRS. A copy of such filings must be submitted to the USFA Financial Services Department.

Section 2: Mission of the USFA [Report to the Board of Directors, December 2005]

MISSION

- *Direct, administer and promote the sport of fencing in U.S.*
- *Develop programs, services and opportunities that enable members, from recreational to Olympian, to reach their maximum potential.*
- *To select athletes and cadre to participate in and strive to secure Olympic, World Championship and Pan American Medals.*

GOALS

- To Enhance International Influence and Competitive Performances*
- To Enhance the USFA Governance Structure*
- To Enhance and Broaden the Delivery of Services to Members*
- To Increase USFA Revenues*

Section 3: History Overview

The USFA was founded in New York City on April 22, 1891, as the Amateur Fencers League of America (AFLA). Previously the Amateur Athletics Union (AAU) had conducted fencing competitions. See Appendix A for a brief history of the USFA.

United States fencers have achieved considerable prestige on and off the strip. Despite financial and geographical handicaps to participation in most major international competitions, US fencers have competed with distinction internationally since 1904.

See Appendix B for details on USFA members who have distinguished themselves in international fencing matters – Fédération Internationale d’Escrime (FIE), International Olympic Committee (IOC), and a summary of US performances at World Championships and Olympic Games.

Section 4: Jurisdiction and Affiliations

The USFA is a member of the United States Olympic Committee (USOC) as the national governing body (NGB) of the Olympic sport of fencing in the United States and of the FIE, the official international governing body of worldwide fencing. The FIE is a member of the IOC (International Olympic Committee).

The FIE governs all official international fencing competitions including the World Fencing Championships and the Olympic Games. The FIE establishes the eligibility criteria for athletes to compete in official FIE competitions: World Cup competitions, World Championships for all age categories, and the Olympic Games. See the current edition of the Athlete Handbook for information on FIE competitions.

The USFA, as a member of the USOC, works in close cooperation with the USOC in the selection and training of athletes for the US fencing teams to the Olympic and Pan American Games. For these teams the USFA nominates athletes and cadre members for USOC approval. For all other international fencing teams the USFA selects athletes and the cadre members. Every athlete on any US team must be a current competitive member of the USFA who is a citizen of the United States and eligible to represent the United States. Every official staff (cadre) member of US teams must be a current member of the USFA.

The USFA maintains close relations with other sports organizations, including the US Fencing Coaches Association (USFCA) and the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA). Many of the active fencing coaches in the United States are members of the USFA.

Section 5: National Office

The National Office is located in Colorado Springs, CO. It has several departments addressing specific areas of USFA operation: Membership Services, National Events, Financial Services, High Performance Operations and International Programs. All departments and the day-to-day operations of the USFA are the responsibility of the Executive Director who as the CEO implements the policies and programs of the USFA.

At the beginning of each season the USFA Membership Services generates for incoming Division and Section officers a CD containing documents relevant to the effective operation of the Division or Section. These documents contain information to provide service to the members, forms and information for operating competitions in the area, and forms and information from the Director of National Events for the new season of national tournaments and national championships.

- sample bylaws,
- national calendar,
- membership applications for individuals and clubs,
- Athlete Handbook,
- USFA Rules,
- Spectator Guide

Section 6: Volunteer Administration Structure

A. Congress

The USFA Congress, which represents a broad spectrum of US membership, convenes annually, normally during the Summer National Championships. The composition of the Congress is defined in the USFA Bylaws as amended in July 2001, in Article XIII, Section 1. The responsibilities of the Congress as described in the Bylaws include:

- a) to elect four (4) directors to the Board of Directors;
- b) to elect the non-Athlete members of Nominating Committee as described below;
- c) to approve any nominations by the President for the following positions, and such other positions as the Board of Directors or Executive Committee shall designate:
 - (i) Editor of American Fencing Magazine
 - (ii) Chair and members of the Hall of Fame Committee
 - (iii) Appointments to the Board of Directors other than those specified in Section 8 c) of Article VIII;
- d) to propose legislation and resolutions to the Board of Directors and Executive Committee;
- e) may recall or impeach any national officer.

The Congress shall have such other responsibilities and power as may be designated in the Bylaws or delegated by the Board of Directors or the Executive Committee

B. Board of Directors

The 2001 edition of the *USFA Bylaws* states that *the Board of Directors of the USFA is the governing body of the USFA and is wholly responsible for the management and policies of the USFA*. The composition of the Board of Directors is specified in the Bylaws of the USFA, and includes *the elected officers of the USFA; one director elected by the members of each Section; six Athletes who have been members of a Senior World Team, Pan American Games Team or Olympic Games Team within the past ten years, elected by athletes; four directors elected by the Congress; and up to four directors appointed by the President with the approval of Congress or the Board of Directors*.

The athlete members of the Board are elected by the USFA Athlete Advisory Group; athletes eligible for service are those who meet the standards set forth in the USOC Bylaws. These athlete members of the Board serve two years or until their successors have been elected and qualify. [Bylaws as amended in 2001]

C. Standing Committees

1) Executive Committee (EC)

The 2001 edition of the *USFA Bylaws* states: “The Board of Directors shall have an Executive Committee composed of not less than five members which Committee shall include the President, each of the three Vice Presidents and the Secretary and such other members (who may, but need not, be members of the Board of Directors) as may be appointed by the President and approved by the Board of Directors. The Executive Committee, shall have such powers as the Board may by resolution prescribe or delegate, provided, however, that the power so delegated shall be limited to the power to take action until the next meeting of the Board of Directors.”

2) High Performance Committee (HPC) [Reconstituted July 2006]

[Formerly Olympic Fencing Committee, International Selection Committee, International Committee, High Performance Committee, International Performance Steering Committee]

The mission of the High Performance Committee is to develop and/or oversee programs to maximize the results of the individuals and teams selected by the USFA to represent the USFA and the United States in international fencing tournaments and/or competitions including the Olympic and Pan American Games. *[Adopted by the High Performance Committee, February 2001]*

See Appendix C for the role and scope of responsibilities of the Committee.

POLICY APPROVED BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS, 9/95

That for all teams that will be selected by the United States Fencing Association for competitions, tournaments, or training camps that will start after January 1, 1997:

- Selection criteria will be published by the USFA in the *Athlete's Handbook*, the *National Newsletter*, and/or *American Fencing*, no later than August 31 in advance of the event for which selection is required.
- "Selection criteria" is taken to include:
 - ◇ the point system for selection
 - ◇ the time commitment for athletes
 - ◇ the financial commitment for athletes

It is further moved that the above requirements be placed in the *USFA Operations Manual*.

3. Athlete Advisory Group [USFA Bylaws Article XXXIII, 2001

The Athlete Advisory Group shall establish procedures for the appointment of athletes to positions within the USFA and, when appropriate shall establish procedures for and oversee the election of athletes by athletes; shall advise the President with respect to athlete issues and appointments; and shall undertake such projects as the Athlete Advisory Group shall determine to be in the interest of USFA athletes or as are assigned to it by the USFA.

4. Wheelchair Committee (WC)

In 2005 the US Paralympic Committee (USPC), under the auspices of the USOC, and the USFA reached an agreement whereby US Fencing and Wheelchair Fencing have a USOC Performance Partnership Agreement which stipulates that the USFA is to manage the Wheelchair Championship program and functions related to it, in accordance with the contractual agreement with the USOC.

U.S. Fencing and Wheelchair Fencing have a USOC Performance Partnership Agreement which stipulates that the USFA is to manage the Wheelchair Fencing Championship program and functions related to it, in accordance with the contractual agreement with the USOC. Wheelchair fencing operates under the rules and regulations of the international governing body, the Wheelchair and Amputee Sports Federation (IWAS) and the International Wheelchair Fencing Committee (IWFC).

5. Tournament Committee (TC) [BOD Feb, 2002, Oct. 2003]

The Tournament Committee sets the criteria for venue selection for US Fencing events, reviews information about alternative sites, and provides guidance to the National Office concerning preferences of the Tournament Committee. Negotiation of contracts is the responsibility of the National Office, taking into account the Tournament Committee criteria, costs, and other factors that may be relevant. Final decisions concerning venues rest with the Executive Director. [BOD, 10/03]

The Tournament Committee (TC) is responsible for planning and running national level domestic competitions and will be consulted in the operation of international competitions held in the US. The TC establishes guidelines for the facilities necessary to hold these tournaments. The Director of National Events solicits and reviews bids to host National tournaments. The bids are presented to the TC, which then evaluates the bids based on its criteria. Negotiation of contracts is the responsibility of the Executive Director, taking into account the TC evaluation, as well as associated costs, and other factors that may be relevant to effective operation of the tournaments.

The TC assigns a Bout Committee chair and additional Bout Committee personnel to conduct the competitions at the North American Cup and National Championship tournaments. It acts as a focal point for all the groups that support tournament organizational functions, such as the Fencing Officials Commission (FOC), armorers, local organizing committees (LOC), and works closely with the Director of National Events and the Executive Director.

The TC reviews reports about National tournaments and makes recommendations as appropriate to the Board of Directors for changes affecting the operation of a tournament, such as qualification criteria, rating of competitions, etc. The TC recommends to the HPC changes to the formats of competitions. The TC recommends changes in procedures and other relevant matters for USFA staff to incorporate in the running of National tournaments.

The TC, based on recommendations from the High Performance Committee (HPC) and the Director of High Performance (HPD), determines the date and place of the National Championships and the possibility of separating Division I National Championships from Summer National Championships as necessary in relation to the timing of selection of one or more international teams.

6. The US Fencing Officials Commission (FOC) [www.fencingofficials.org]

BYLAWS: ARTICLE XII: Section 2

....

The Fencing Officials Commission is a Commission. It is not a Committee of the Board of Directors subject to the provisions of the preceding Section. It shall be composed and elected/appointed as provided in the Operations Manual

The Fencing Officials Commission (hereafter referred to as the FOC) is composed of twelve to sixteen members, each of whom serves a term of four years. The terms of the entire Commission are staggered in four groups, each identified by the final year of its term, so that in each year the terms of three or four members expire. The

President of the USFA nominates candidates to fill vacancies and submits them for approval to the Board of Directors. If necessary, the President of the USFA may nominate individuals to fill vacancies for unexpired terms. Any USFA member who is a member of the FIE *Commission d'Arbitrage* or *Commission de Reglements* is automatically a member of the Fencing Officials Commission. [BOD Oct. 2004]

The FOC members annually elect a chair or co-chairs from among themselves. The Commission members, due to the nature of their duties, are expected to hold or have held a valid current FIE referee license or one of the highest USFA domestic referee ratings .

The Commission has responsibility for:

- developing referees
- assigning US referees to international competitions as mandated by the FIE
- submitting candidates to the FIE for examination or recommending removal as an international referee
- preparing and presenting referee seminars
- developing and administering referee examinations
- interpreting and recommending changes to the rules
- conducting hearings on matters referred by the USFA Board of Directors
- selecting and assigning referees at the National Championships and at all National USFA competitions in the United States
- acting as USFA liaison with schools and colleges on referees

See Appendix D for description of the referee rating system, Appendix E for the Referee Code of Ethics, and Appendix F for procedures for handling complaints against a member of the FOC. The FOC has established its own web site that contains details on testing for referee rating, relevant documents for referees, list of all rated referees with option to sort by Division, Rule Book, etc. The web site is accessed at www.fencingofficials.org.

7. Youth Committee

The Youth Committee is responsible for development and oversight of programs for the Youth age groups including competitive framework appropriate for each age group. The Committee monitors the programs to ensure a sound pipeline system to the cadet and junior level of athletes to accomplish performance goals of the USFA as well as a healthy environment for the young athlete.

Section 7: Publications and Communications

A. American Fencing

American Fencing is the official publication of the USFA. *American Fencing* was founded by Jose de Capriles and William L. Osborn, who served as Editor and Publisher, respectively, without remuneration. The magazine is distributed to members of the USFA four times a year as part of their membership benefits, and is often used for official announcements to the USFA members. Subscriptions also circulate throughout the fencing world. See Appendix A for list of past editors of the magazine.

Persons who wish to submit articles or advertisements for publication in the magazine should send them addressed to the Editor of *American Fencing* c/o the USFA National Office.

American Fencing serves as a resource and gives priority to official communications from officers of the USFA and chairpersons of any committee or commission duly established by the USFA. To ensure publication, submissions must be identified as an official communication so that it is not mistaken for a regular article or letter being proposed for publication at the discretion of the Editor.

All questions of policy regarding *American Fencing* are referred to the American Fencing Policy Board: the USFA President, Secretary, and Treasurer, the Editor of the magazine, and the Editors Emeriti. The Executive Director is an advisor to the Policy Board.

"The Editor of American Fencing may subcontract for certain services, including advertising sales, page layout and design, and prepress work." [BOD review, 7/06]

B. National Newsletter

In addition to *American Fencing* magazine, the USFA publishes a quarterly National Newsletter containing timely information and tournament entry forms to the membership. In September 2003, the National Newsletter was incorporated as an insert in the *American Fencing* magazine. In September 2004, the Newsletter was converted to an electronic newsletter sent by e-mail to current members of the USFA whenever there is information about current or new programs as well as entry forms to distribute to the membership.

C. Athlete Programs Handbook

At the beginning of each fencing season the USFA publishes an *Athletes Programs Handbook* that describes current programs offered by the USFA to provide opportunities for athletes of all ages and proficiency levels to enhance their domestic and international competitive experiences as well as gain the means by which to become world class athletes. The Director of High Performance will notify the USFA membership of changes to any of the programs or international requirements by email and by posting on the USFA International web site, www.international.usfencing.org, with the caption of "Change to Athletes Handbook."

D. Operations Manual

The USFA publishes an Operations Manual that will be posted on the US Fencing website and that is updated periodically. This manual serves to assist the administrative units to understand their responsibilities and manner in which to manage qualifying tournaments and local competitions.

E. USFA Website

The official USFA website address is www.USFencing.org. The website, under the authority of the USFA, is a source of information about USFA competitions throughout the country, international competitions, member fencing clubs, the national schedule of tournaments, and official forms and documents. The website provides links to the different committee web pages and to Division and Section websites.

Section 8: Organizational Units

A. Division Specifications

For the purpose of administering its local affairs and conducting competitions for USFA members, the United States is divided into more than 60 Divisions [See Appendix G for the current list of Divisions and Sections]. The first Divisions were established on March 20, 1892, in Nebraska and New England.

The boundaries of a Division must follow either established political or postal boundaries, though that Division may be made up of several non-contiguous political or postal entities. For example, a Division could be defined as being comprised of several states, one state, or contiguous counties within one or more states. The National Division was created for those USFA members who reside in an area not currently within the boundaries of any Division or who reside outside the United States or are members of the Armed Forces.

Petitions for the establishment of a new Division or for the partition of an existing Division must include an acceptable description of the boundaries of the anticipated new Division.

See Appendix H for Guidelines for Forming a New Division. Contact the USFA Director of Membership Services at the National Office for the latest edition of the Division Operating Guide, produced by the Division Section Committee and USFA staff.

B. Section Specifications

Non-administrative regional units, called Sections, exist for the primary purpose of conducting annual regional championships and qualifying competitions for National Championships among Divisions located within the Section. The first annual Sectional Championship was organized on the Pacific Coast in 1925.

A Section is defined as including the geographical area of its constituent Divisions. The name given to a Section indicates the general region of the United States which it encompasses.

For further information regarding the boundaries of Divisions and Sections, see the USFA website, contact the USFA Director of Membership Services or the chair of the Division or Section concerned. See Appendix G for a listing of the current Sections and their Divisions and the web site for the Section. Each Section web site also has the web address for the Divisions within that Section.

C. Group Exemption

The USFA offers its Divisions the opportunity to take part in the group exemption process with the Internal Revenue Service in accordance with the program outlined below. Participation will be on a voluntary basis, and will require compliance with existing regulations. The following paragraphs describe a method that will accommodate this process with only slight changes in existing Division or Section structure.

[BOD Sept. 2002]

Implementation: Divisions and Sections must amend their bylaws to include the following paragraphs:

The (Division) (Section) is an administrative unit of the USFA and is subject to general supervision and control under the provisions in the USFA Bylaws and Operations Manual. The fiscal year of the (Division) (Section) will be that of the USFA [currently August 1 to the following July 31].

The purpose of the (Division) (Section) is to support, enhance, and develop the sport of fencing. A copy of the Bylaws for each Division or Section will be retained by the National Office. The (Division) (Section) shall submit bylaw revisions to the USFA National Office within 90 days of the revision.

All required financial reports, officers' reports, and Division Bylaw changes must be filed with the USFA National Office by their specified due dates. All Divisions and Sections participating in the Group Exemption process are required to obtain a distinct Tax Identification Number. The USFA Membership Services Director will offer assistance in this endeavor. A Division or Section that fails or elects not to comply with the above implementation procedures, will not be afforded the advantages of this program.

The advantage to participating in this program is that it allows corporations and other sponsors to make tax-deductible donations to the Division or Section. It is also possible to obtain state sales tax exemption once a Division or Section is federally exempt (under the group exemption of the USFA.)

D. Policy on Mailing Lists [BOD July & October 2000

Mailing Lists can be provided by the Director of Membership Services by following these procedures:

1. Division & Section Use Of Lists

- Each Division will be entitled to receive on request up to four sets of lists and/or labels of their members during each membership year at no cost.
- Each Section may receive on request up to two lists and/or labels of their members during each membership year at no cost
- These lists may only be used only for official Division and Section business.
- These lists cannot be used for third party solicitation purposes.
- Additional lists or labels will be made available at \$.05 per name for labels or \$1 per page for lists.

2. Use of Lists By Other Groups

- USFA Committees and Commissions, Educational Institutions, fencing camps, competition sponsors, and constituent entities that support, promote and carry out the mission of the USFA may submit a written request (standard form) to the Executive Director of the USFA, stating items of information to be included.
- Candidates for any elected office of the USFA may request mailing list and/or labels.
- Use of lists shall be limited to the purposes stated in the application, which must be consistent with USFA purposes and mission.

- Characteristics of the desired list(s) must be specified in the request, e.g. by age category, by gender, by type of membership, by weapon, by classification of fencer, by classification as official, etc., in alphabetical, geographic, other order.
- The applicant must agree to the security of the list (non-proliferation) and name the person(s) responsible for list custody and security.
- Commissions and committees of USFA shall be treated in the same manner as Divisions, with respect to lists pertinent to their respective areas of responsibility.
- A fee shall be charged for lists and/or labels, shipping, and administrative services, based on costs.

USFA members who do not wish to appear on such lists may contact the USFA Director of Membership Services in writing requesting that their membership mailing information not be included on any mailing list other than that used for distributing official fencing information and news.

Section 9: United States Fencing Foundation [USFF]

A. USFF History

The United States Fencing Foundation (USFF) was established in 1986 when the 1984 LA Olympics achieved unprecedented financial success, 40% of the surplus was awarded to the USOC, 40% to the Los Angeles Organizing Committee, and 20% was split among the NGBs. The USFA share was \$1,285,218. It was invested in the USFF to provide a revenue stream for future grants to the USFA.

B. TRUSTEES

The USFA Board of Directors elects the USFF Board of Trustees in accordance with the USFF Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws. Two trustees must be nationally elected USFA officers currently serving, and five must be USFA members not serving as nationally elected officers. At least one of the five non-officer members shall have been a past officer of the Association. See Appendix A for more details.

Section 10: USFA Hall of Fame (See Appendix I)

The Hall of Fame committee assists the USFA in selecting members with especially outstanding achievements in American fencing, whether through competition, coaching, or service for induction into the USFA Hall of Fame. The Committee solicits suggestions from the membership, makes nominations, prepares interpretive materials, conducts the balloting at Congress meetings, and organizes the presentation of awards to the honorees.

The Hall of Fame Committee may from time to time submit slates of candidates whose careers generally predate 1950 and who have not previously been voted into the Hall of Fame, accompanied by the candidates' credentials, for consideration by the Congress. Voters may vote "yes" or "no" on each candidate. A candidate shall be declared elected on receiving a simple majority of "yes" votes. The number of candidates is not to exceed ten in any one year.

[BOD, September 1999]

Section 11: Coach Recognition Programs

A. USOC/USFA Coach of the Year Program

In 1996, the United States Olympic Committee started a program to recognize outstanding achievements in coaching. Initially the program considered two coaches submitted by each NGB; one as their Developmental Coach of the Year and one as their Elite Coach of the Year. In 2004 the USOC added a third category, Volunteer Coach of the Year. The coaches are nominated based on their accomplishments within a category in the previous calendar year. In 2004 the USOC also added the Doc Counsilman Science Award to recognize those coaches who have maximized the use of Sports Science in enhancing the development of athletes in their sport.

The coaches named by each sport for each category will be candidates for the USOC Coach of the Year in each category. The top five volunteer, developmental and national finalists, along with the winner of the "Doc Counsilman" Science award winner will be flown to the annual Coach of the Year event. Each of these coaches receives a plaque and is recognized by the USOC in its annual Coach of The Year Souvenir Program book.

Five finalists in each category are named, and the USOC votes on a USOC Developmental Coach of the Year and USOC National (replaces original title of Elite) Coach of the Year. USFA Coaches of the Year are listed in Appendix I.

The USFA adopted this program to recognize coaches for their contributions to the sport and to elevate the status of the coaching profession in fencing.

Each USFA member club may nominate a top coach in each of the categories listed below covering the most recent calendar year (January 1 to December 31). Member clubs will receive nomination forms and information via email distribution.

VOLUNTEER COACH - a coach who does not receive payment in any form for his/her involvement in coaching at any level. The nominee should actively be coaching youth athletes.

DEVELOPMENTAL COACH - a coach of a Youth Club, High School or Junior level athlete or a coach directly responsible for coaching athletes to the National or Junior national level. They can receive payment for services.

NATIONAL COACH - the coach of an elite athlete who competes at the highest level of the sport or a coach of an Elite level Club, or coach of a Collegiate, Pan-Am, World Championship or Olympic Games team. The nominee must currently be coaching or within one year of their retirement.

“DOC” COUNSILMAN SCIENCE AWARD - a coach who utilizes science, medicine and/or technology as an integral part of his/her coaching methods or has created innovative ways to integrate sport science into coaching.

Chapter 2: USFA Membership¹

Section 1: Rights of Membership

The USFA Board of Directors has established specific categories of memberships to differentiate age groups and those who are eligible to compete, those who coach and those who support the sport. The USFA Board of Directors determines the rights and regulations associated with each category of membership. All individual members, except the Associate class of membership, may participate in competitions held under the auspices of the USFA. This participation is subject to the limitations specified in the USFA Bylaws as well as regulations and limitations approved by the Board of Directors with respect to particular categories of members or types of competitions. These limitations are published in the *USFA Operations Manual* and the *USFA Athlete Handbook that describes, in detail, criteria for national tournaments*.

A member is not entitled to vote in USFA elections or participate in competitions until USFA Membership Services has received and processed the member's dues and fees. Payment of dues to a Division Secretary or other duly appointed agent renders a fencer eligible only to fence in local competitions sanctioned by the Division where the dues were paid. Once the membership has been satisfactorily processed, the individual will receive a membership card.

A. Voting Privileges [Article IX, Section 6, 2001 USFA Bylaws]

All individual members in good standing, including those holding a Family membership, who have paid their dues (membership processed and fee collected), as specified by the Board of Directors, on or before February 1st of each membership year and who have attained their 18th birthday as of that date shall have the right to vote on all matters that may be voted on by the USFA and its member Divisions. In addition these members may hold any office to which they may be elected or appointed. A person is considered a member when the USFA National office satisfactorily processes the membership application and associated fees. Members whose applications are incomplete, e.g., missing required signatures, will not be considered in good standing until all information has been completed, signatures have been obtained and fees have been collected.

Members must inform the USFA Director of Membership Services of their date of birth, if not noted on their membership application, on or before February 1st of the current membership year or stated in writing that they have, or will attain their 18th birthday as of that date to be eligible to vote in any USFA election.

B. International License

Competitive members of the USFA can apply for an FIE License in order to compete in international competitions. See the *Athlete Handbook* for rules governing application for an FIE License and entry procedures for FIE World Cup competitions. Members of the USFA may not compete in any international team competitions representing the United States without specific approval of the committee designated by the Board to select members of international teams or by the National coach who has been given the authority to field teams at international competitions.

¹ See Article IV USFA Bylaws, 2001

C. New Members

A new member whose individual one-year dues are paid between April 1 and July 31 shall be entitled to membership through the next membership year without the payment of additional dues. A person who has not been a member of the USFA for the past five years will be treated as a new member in establishing the expiration date of membership.

Section 2: Categories of Membership

The membership year commences on August 1 and ends on the following July 31. All dues are payable in full on application for membership and thereafter when the next membership year begins, or when one's membership expires, whichever is later. See Appendix A for dues structure.

For each individual membership category one can pay for one year or three years of membership. If one's status for a category changes, e.g., age change creates a different status during the three year period, the change will be recorded in the system and a new membership card issued. If one does not receive the new card, notify the Director of Membership Services.

A. Individual Memberships

- 1) Honorary Membership: Open to any person who shall have rendered distinguished service to the cause of fencing. A candidate shall be elected an Honorary Member of the Corporation by the Board of Directors of the Corporation upon a two-thirds vote of those present at any meeting. Honorary Members shall have all the rights and privileges of Life Members
- 2) Senior Membership: Open to all persons who will attain 20 years of age as of January 1 following the beginning of the membership year upon payment of the dues for the membership year as specified herein. There are three types of Senior Membership: Senior, Coach and Veteran. Persons over 20 years of age are Senior members unless they fall within the definition of coach or veteran.
- 3) Coach category: Those coaches who are competing and are coaching and notify the USFA that they are coaches who are competing.
- 4) Veteran category: Those competitors who are 40 years or will become at least 40 years of age as of January 1 of the current fencing season.
- 5) Junior Membership: Open to all persons who will be younger than 20 years of age as of January 1 following the beginning of the membership year upon payment of the dues for the membership year as specified herein
- 6) The three-year Junior membership is valid for the period in which the member meets the age criteria, after which the membership is changed to Senior.
- 7) Associate Membership: Open to all persons upon payment of the dues for the membership year as specified herein. Associate members shall have all the rights and privileges of Senior membership, subject to the limitation that they shall not be eligible to fence in USFA or international competitions.
- 8) Associate Coach: category for those coaching or teaching fencers and no longer competing in USFA or FIE competitions
- 9) Associate Parent: category for parents of any fencer who are interested in receiving regular communications – email newsletters, American Fencing magazine, special notices – about the activities of the organization and its affiliates. Associate Parent category also provides the parent the opportunity to vote on the affairs of the USFA and the Division in which the child or children are competing.

- 10) Life Membership: Open to all persons upon payment of the Life membership fee specified herein. Life members shall have all the rights and privileges of Senior members, but shall be exempt from the obligation of paying dues subsequent to the payment or waiving of the Life membership fee.
- 11) Olympians/Paralympians: Any athlete member of an Olympic Fencing Team or Paralympic Fencing Team is granted Life membership from the USFA. [BOD, 2/05]
- 12) Supporting Life Membership: Open to all persons upon payment of one-tenth the dues for Life membership at the time of enrollment. Upon payment of supporting membership dues for ten consecutive years at the same rate as at the time of enrollment, the membership will be automatically converted to Life membership. [BOD, 2/04] *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.*

A Family Membership: Open to a maximum of four members of the same family all at the same address and for which no more than two will be granted competitive membership status with the remaining two granted Associate membership status. For this category of membership only one member of the family will receive a copy of the *American Fencing* magazine.

B Club Membership: Open to any organization which (i) actively promotes or offers instruction in or provides facilities for engaging in the sport of fencing, (ii) has met its obligation with respect to the payment of dues for the membership year as specified.

- To be eligible for Club membership in the USFA, a club must meet the following criteria:
 - 1) The owners and/or principal officers of the club or fencing Division of such club must be members of the USFA.
 - 2) All members of the coaching staff, be they paid, volunteer or other similar status, must be members of the USFA.
 - 3) Each Member Club must have a minimum of ten members of the USFA, at the time of the submission of the application, who have declared that club as their club. [BOD September, 1999]
 - 4) The name of the club must be distinctive from that of all then existing club members, as determined by the Executive Director.
 - a. **Motion**: *that all member clubs have a unique name that has at least one distinctive word different from another club. Motion approved. [EC meeting, July 2006]*

An organization whose application for club membership is accepted has the option to request liability insurance coverage available through the USFA for an additional fee. Refer to the USFA club membership application for current insurance rates.

C Corporate (formerly Business) Membership: Open to any corporation, partnership, sole proprietorship or other business entity which has an interest in supporting the development and growth of fencing in the United States upon the payment of the dues for the membership year as specified herein. Vendors wishing to purchase booth space at National USFA tournaments must be Corporate members of the USFA.

D The Subscription category allows individuals or organizations who do not seek membership in the USFA to receive the quarterly fencing magazine, *American Fencing* and regular releases of the *E-Newsletter*.

TABLE 1: SCHEDULE OF MEMBERSHIP FEES

CLASS OF MEMBERSHIP	ANNUAL DUES	DUES PRE-PAID FOR 3-YEARS
<u>Competitive Member</u>		
Senior	\$50	\$130
Junior	\$50	\$130
Coach Competitor	\$50	\$130
Veteran	\$50	\$130
Supporting*	\$120	NA
Life	\$1,200	NA
<u>Non-Competitive Member</u>		
Associate	\$40	NA
Coach	\$40	NA
Parent	\$40	NA
<u>Other</u>		
Family#	\$100	NA
Club	\$40	NA
Corporate	\$500	NA
Subscription, Domestic	\$20	NA
Subscription, Foreign	\$32	NA
*Payment of Supporting Dues for ten consecutive years, membership will be automatically converted to Life Membership.		
Changed, BOD Feb. 2004 (Fence for Fun eliminated, effective Aug. 1, 2004)		
#Up to 4 Members of one family-2 allowed for Competitive Level; 2 for Associate Level		

The Board of Directors establishes the schedule of annual dues of the USFA. Table 1 specifies the fees for each category of membership approved by the Board February 2004.

Section 3: Definition of Division Membership

A fencer must identify to which Division the member will belong. A fencer may be a member of the Division:

- In which the fencer resides; OR
- In which the fencer's club is located, OR
- In which the fencer is a resident student at a school (i.e., not a day student).

The Division for the member becomes the place from which the member can qualify for the Junior Olympic Fencing Championships and the associated qualifying competitions for the Summer National Championships. The Section in which the Division is located is the Section in which the member can compete to qualify for the relevant Summer National Championships competitions.

A fencer may change Division membership if the fencer moves to a place that is located in another Division. Such change will affect the Division and/or Section from which the fencer can then qualify for any National Championship tournament. A fencer, who resides at a school located in another Division, must decide when submitting the membership application whether to represent the Division where his/her home (residence) is located or the Division where his/her school is located. Once the choice is made it cannot be changed in that fencing season.

Persons who have paid for a three-year membership must notify the Director of Membership Services if the Division should be changed at the start of each season. Without such notification the Division will remain the same.

If a member reports a change of address, the member must notify the Director of Membership Services if the Division needs to be changed.

Section 4: Benefits of Membership

Membership in the USFA includes the following benefits:

- Subscription to *American Fencing* magazine, published four times a year.
- Athlete Accident Insurance, is a secondary insurance policy that covers individuals only when participating in authorized USFA activities. (Contact USFA Membership Services for policy specifics).
- Coaches Liability Insurance; contact USFA Membership Services for details.
“U. S. Fencing Association (USFA) offers general liability coverage for member coaches at no additional cost. This coverage is extended to all USFA sanctioned and non-sanctioned fencing events/activities. This coverage is provided as an added benefit of coach membership through USFA.” [BOD Agenda, Sept. 2005]
- Voting privileges: Members 18 and over 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.
- Competitive members may compete in USFA sanctioned competitions if they meet conditions of specific competition.
- Discounts on Travel and Fencing Equipment.
- USFA Membership Card: Recognition as a member of U.S. Fencing and gateway to worldwide fencing.
- Club Memberships:
 - Eligible to enroll in the liability insurance program offered through the USFA
 - Eligible to enter team qualifying competitions for National Team Championships
 - Subscription to *American Fencing*
 - Free Link on USFA website
- Corporate membership:
 - Advertising discount in magazine
 - Free link on USFA website
 - Eligibility for vendor space at national tournaments
 - Magazine
 - Mailing labels at special rates
 - Advertising opportunities in tournament mailings

Section 5: Dues Sharing (*BOD, July 1997*)

The USFA shall each year allocate \$3 of each member's dues to the Division specified by the member and \$1 of each member's dues to the Section in which that Division is located.. The USFA shall pay Divisions and Sections their share of dues on a quarterly basis as long as each is current in filing past and present financial reports with the USFA and in filing Officers' reports for all previous membership years. Until all those reports have been filed, the Division or Section's share of the dues will be held by the USFA.

Twenty-five percent (25%) of the Life Membership fee and Supporting Life Membership fee shall be paid by the USFA to the Division to which the member belongs and five percent (5%)

of the Life Membership fee shall be paid by the USFA to the Section to which the member belongs.

That portion of dues not allocated for Divisions or Sections shall be deposited to the national account of the USFA for general USFA purposes.

Official Policy [*BOD, 9/95*]

- a) Checks will be issued only to those Divisions and Sections that have filed the required financial report (from the Division/Section Treasurer) *and* Division/Section reports indicating current officers. If the Divisions/Sections have not filed the required reports, the funds due will be held in escrow until such time as the reports are current.
- b) Checks will be issued every three months according to the following schedule:
 - 1) November, December, January will be issued approximately February 15
 - 2) February, March, April will be issued approximately May 15
 - 3) May, June, July will be issued approximately August 15
 - 4) August, September, October will be issued approximately November 15
- c) Escrowed funds will be paid upon receipt of delinquent reports. On August 15, all funds held in escrow will be released providing that the conditions in Item (a) above have been met.
- d) Checks are valid for 90 days. There will be a \$15 charge to reissue checks that are no longer valid.

Section 6: Arrears

A member is not entitled to vote in USFA elections or participate in competitions until the USFA has received and processed the member's dues and fees. Payment of dues to a Division Secretary or other duly appointed agent renders a fencer eligible to fence in local competitions. When the USFA National Office has processed the membership application and the accompanying payment of dues, the fencer will be recognized as a member. No person will be eligible to vote in USFA affairs unless the person's dues for the membership year in which the person seeks the right to vote are processed by the USFA Membership Services by February 1 of that membership year. [*Article IX, Section 6, 2001 USFA Bylaws*]

Chapter 3: USFA COMPETITIONS

Section 1: Authorized/Sanctioned Competitions

A. Definition

Webster's Concise English Dictionary defines *sanction* as: "official permission or approval." A USFA sanctioned competition refers to competitions that have been authorized by USFA designated representatives who are responsible for the operation and conduct of official competitions (e.g. the USFA or one of its Divisions or Sections), in accordance with the *Rules of Competition* and related modifications as specified in the current USFA Operations Manual.

The following paragraphs outline the conditions for application of the term sanctioned competition. Succeeding chapters of this Manual expand on specific areas with regards to the conduct of sanctioned competitions. Nothing in the USFA *Operations Manual* should be understood to contradict the specifications of the *USFA Rules of Competition, Part 5, Disciplinary Rules for Competition*. USFA safety requirements must be followed at all USFA sanctioned competitions.

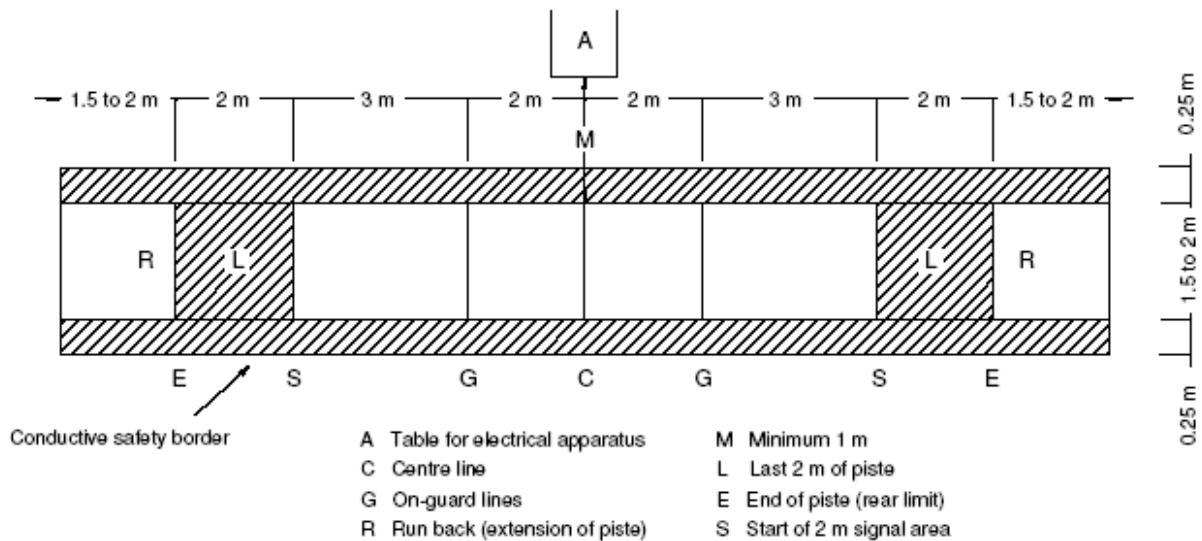
B. Competitor Status

- 1) Current competitive members of the USFA may participate in competitions scheduled by or under the auspices of the USFA Board of Directors or its authorized representatives: e.g., Division officers, Section officers, Regional Youth Coordinators, etc. Foreign fencers may fence in USFA competitions (non-qualifying competitions) by showing proof of membership in another fencing federation or a current season FIE License. Foreign fencers whose entry has been sent by the fencer's fencing federation do not need to show any other proof of membership.
- 2) Competitive members of the USFA may participate in collegiate and scholastic meets for which they are eligible, and in tournaments organized by the Intercollegiate Fencing Association, the National Collegiate Athletic Association, other recognized intercollegiate and interscholastic associations, invitational meets, or unofficial club and inter-club competitions.
- 3) Competitive members of the USFA may participate in foreign individual competitions when such competitions are organized by or under the sponsorship of a National Fencing Federation that is a member of the FIE. Members may also compete in international collegiate or scholastic competitions organized by a group recognized by the FIE, the USFA or the National Fencing Federation of the country in which the competition is held, or the IOC.
- 4) There are age restrictions depending on the category and/or level of the competition. See Chapter 5, Section 1 on specific age eligibility criteria and the current edition of the Athlete Handbook.

C. Competition Requirements

- 1) Competitive members of the USFA can earn classifications at competitions that have been sanctioned by recognized entities under the jurisdiction of the USFA Board of Directors: e.g., Officers of Divisions or Sections, Regional Youth Coordinators or the Tournament Committee. For a competition to be considered sanctioned it must be included in the Division or Section official schedule mailed to the members and/or posted on the corresponding web site or, in the case of Regional Youth Circuit tournaments or National tournaments, published in the annual Athlete Handbook and/or posted on the Youth Committee web site, www.usfaryc.org, and the USFA web site, www.usfencing.org, respectively. The specific categories of competitions at which classifications may be earned are described in Chapter 6.
- 2) Sanctioned competitions must be organized and conducted by persons appointed by the appropriate USFA governing group, e.g., Divisions, Sections, Tournament Committee, Youth Committee, etc. The competitions must be conducted in accordance with current USFA rules of competition as described in the *USFA Rules Book* and the *Operations Manual*. These competitions must be open to current USFA competitive members who meet the stated restrictions of the competitions, such as age category or the type of competition, e.g., Class “C” or Division II or similar restrictions, or as an Open with only minimum age restriction.
- 3) Sanctioned tournaments or competitions are those published by an acceptable USFA official (Division, Section, Regional Youth Circuit or National USFA) means of communication – in print, electronic media via email and/or official web site. Any deviation from published information about the sanctioned competitions – either in manner of operation or splitting or combining to increase the number of classifications to be earned can be the basis for withdrawal of the sanction and thus nullify award of classifications.
- 4) The facility at which USFA sanctioned competitions/tournaments are held must have proper insurance coverage for the duration of the tournament. Consult with USFA Membership Services for details.
- 5) A sanctioned tournament or competition must meet the *USFA Rules of Competition*, including the layout of strips in the facility. Minimum requirements for such strip configuration are divided by the level at which the competitions are held. See Appendix N for strip specifications.
 - a. Local: Fencing strips need to be at least 1 meter wide and 12 meters long, with adequate run-off. They need not be grounded. Scoring apparatus can be located at a reasonable position along the strip, ensuring clear visibility for the referee’s line of sight to the fencing; with placement at the center of the strip optimal. The final two meters of the strip must be clearly marked. In regards to the run off, if the facility does not have the means for exact compliance, accommodations must be made in how the strip usage is handled. For example, if there is insufficient room for the proper length of the strip, then the fencer must be given opportunity in use of the strip to have an equivalent amount of strip during the bouts.

FIGURE 1: OFFICIAL STRIP CONFIGURATION FROM USFA/FIE RULES BOOK



- b. Regional/Qualifier: Fencing strips need to be at least 1.2 meters wide and 14 meters long, with adequate run-off. When possible, finals strips should be grounded. Scoring apparatus must be clearly visible from either end of the strip with placement at the center of the strip optimal for the referee. The final two meters of the strip must be clearly marked
- c. National: Fencing strips must conform to the FIE rules regarding length, width and placement of the scoring machines at the center point of the fencing strip. All strips at national USFA tournaments are required to start the tournament with FIE standard scoring machines equipped with visible bout timing and scoring. This motion is effective November 2006. [BOD, Sept. 2006].

Section 2: Responsibilities

A. Division

Division competitions are the responsibility of the Division officers and its Executive Committee. Only those competitions published in the official Division schedule, whether by newsletter mailed to Division members or posted on the Division website, and which are conducted under the authority of the Division, are deemed to be sanctioned by the Division and may be considered for a rating whereby fencers may earn a classification, all other conditions specified in this Manual being satisfied.

Divisions are responsible for scheduling and conducting the Division qualifying tournaments at which fencers can qualify for specific individual competitions for the Junior Olympic Fencing Championships and for individual and team competitions at the Summer National Championships. The qualifying paths are described in Chapter 8.

The official published schedule is one that is printed and mailed to the members of the Division and/or posted on the official web site of the Division or its Section. At the beginning of each fencing season the Division should mail to its members of the current and prior season a postcard with its web site address and date when the schedule of

competitions will be posted on its web site. In this way the Division keeps its members informed of the status of the schedule without extra mailings and in a way that all the competitors can access schedule details. It is recommended that the Division mail a printed version of the schedule to the clubs in its area with a note specifying that its web site will post changes to and details of the scheduled competitions. Members who can receive email messages should notify the Division of their current email address.

Divisions may, under their auspices, sanction competitions within their territorial boundaries that are organized by current USFA member clubs, individuals or other organizations who must have proper insurance coverage for the event, and for which the Division ensures that such competitions are conducted in accordance with the current USFA *Rules of Competition* and operating procedures. These competitions must be included in the official schedule of Division competitions to be considered “sanctioned” competitions.

It is a common practice that Divisions will list other competitions that are not “sanctioned” by the Division but rather are to inform its members of other competitive opportunities. The Division and/or Section should indicate which competitions or tournaments are not held under their authority, and therefore are not sanctioned.

B. Section

The primary responsibility of the Section is scheduling and conducting the Section Championship tournaments – the tournaments at which fencers will qualify for specific individual competitions at the Summer National Championships (i.e., Under-19 Championships, Division IA Championships). The qualifying paths are described in Chapter 8. The Section Chair and the Section Executive Committee appoint the local organizing committee (LOC) for each Section Championship tournament and oversee the operation of the competitions in accordance with the current rules of competition, including acceptable formats, and operating procedures of the USFA. Any other competitions or tournaments undertaken in some measure by the Section must be held with the consent and willingness of the involved Divisions to sanction the competitions, viz., the Executive Committee of each Division involved.

C. Regional

The USFA has established a Regional Youth Circuit (RYC) for three age categories of youth fencers – Youth 10 for those between the ages of 7 and 10; Youth 12 for those between the ages of 9 and 12; and Youth 14 for those between the ages of 11 and 14. The ages specified refer to the age of the athlete as of the first of January in the current season. See Section 3 of this Chapter for details on age restrictions. Each region has a Regional Youth Coordinator who is responsible for submitting a proposed schedule of one or more regional youth tournaments to the USFA Youth Committee and is responsible for the conduct of the tournaments as a sanctioned USFA tournament. See Appendix ___ for more details on Regional Youth organization and the *Athlete Handbook* for current status of the Youth programs. These tournaments are governed by current USFA *Rules of Competition*. Classifications may be earned at these competitions ONLY if the competitions meet the criteria of the C1 category or better. See Chapter 6 for description of the classification system.

D. Qualifying Competitions

Divisions and Sections have the responsibility to hold competitions to qualify their fencers for the Summer National Championships. Divisions are also responsible for holding competitions to qualify their fencers to the Junior Olympic Fencing Championships. Members of the Division must be notified at least four weeks prior to the date of the competitions that will be used to qualify fencers the Summer National Championships or the Junior Olympic Fencing Championships. This notification must include all pertinent information concerning the location of the tournament, the schedule of competitions and the specific entry details.

To meet these responsibilities each Division must schedule the qualifying competitions no later than the deadline set by the National Office for submission of qualifying forms for the Championships (J.O.s and Nationals) and conduct the Division qualifying tournaments at which fencers can qualify for specific individual competitions for the Junior Olympic Fencing Championships and for individual and team competitions at the Summer National Championships. See the current Athlete Handbook for deadlines for submission of qualifying forms for each of the National Championship tournaments. The qualifying paths are described in Chapter 8.

The allowable formats for qualifying competitions are described in Chapter 7

E. National

National competitions (including the annual National Championship tournaments) are held under the authority of the President of the USFA and the Board of Directors which has delegated the responsibility to the Tournament Committee and the Executive Director.

No meeting of the general membership, the Board of Directors of the USFA, or the USFA Congress shall be held while fencing is in progress at a national tournament (National Championships, Junior Olympic Championships, North American Cup), or an international competition conducted in the United States (e.g., World Cup, World Championships). USFA committees are responsible for ensuring that their meetings do not interfere with the smooth running of any national competition. *[BOD, 1996]*

In the event that the close of registration [for a National tournament] is projected to be prior to 10a.m, that information shall be posted on the USFA website not later than 60 days before the event. *[BOD July 2004]*

In any [National] tournament in which the strips are enclosed so that access to the scoring table is denied to non-competitors, the score shall be clearly posted or clearly announced, in a manner visible or audible to the public, after each touch. *[BOD July 2004]*

In any [National] tournament in which the strips are enclosed so that access to the scoring table is denied to non-competitors, the score shall be clearly posted or clearly announced, in a manner visible or audible to the public, after each touch.
[BOD, July 2004]

Since the above action in July 2004 regarding visibility of the score, the Board of Directors approved the motion that all strips at national USFA tournaments start the

tournament with FIE standard scoring machines equipped with visible bout timing and scoring. This motion is effective with NAC B, November 2006. [*BOD, Oct. 2006*]

In the event that the close of registration is projected to be prior to 10a.m, that information shall be posted on the USFA website not later than 60 days before the event. [*BOD, July 2004*]

This motion was further modified by the *BOD, October 2006*, so that the Summer National Championships are not included in this requirement.

Section 3: Scheduling of Competitions

A. Division and Section

The USFA fencing season officially begins on August 1 and ends July 31. Divisions and Sections should adhere to the guidelines specified here.

The Division and Section schedules must include the information described in the following paragraphs.

- 1) Distinguish competitions that will not require electrical equipment – all USFA competitions should be conducted with electrical scoring equipment. It would be expected that the only non-electric competitions would be those specified as “novice”, competitions for fencers who have competed less than one or two years.
- 2) The place, date, and time for close of registration for each competition at the tournament. In cases where competitions will start in the evening, especially during the week, those responsible for determining the schedule should consider the age of the competitors; e.g. for the younger age fencers it is detrimental for a competition to end late in the evening during the week. Such time considerations should be noted in developing the schedule of qualifying competitions.
- 3) The schedule must specify the entry fee and conditions for entries. The schedule must indicate the name and address of the person to whom entries are to be sent if pre-registration is required and the closing date for entries.
- 4) There should be a description of the terms, if any, for admission of spectators.
- 5) Any special regulations or conditions governing the competitions and/or the venue must be specified.
 - a. At the beginning of each season (and not later than October 1) each Section and Division must publish dates of team and individual competitions, including competitions from which fencers can qualify to enter competitions at the Junior Olympic Fencing Championships and/or competitions at the Summer National Championships. The official published schedule is one that is mailed to the members and/or posted on the official web site of the Division/Section.
 - b. In determining dates of competitions and/or tournaments, every effort should be made to avoid scheduling qualifying competitions on the same weekend as the national tournaments, i.e., the North American Circuit (NAC) tournaments.

- c. Similarly, divisions should strive to avoid, to the extent possible, scheduling Youth14 qualifying competitions to the Summer Nationals on the same weekend as a Super Regional Youth Circuit tournament.
- d. Division and Sections must give at least four weeks' notice of qualifying competitions to National Championships: Junior Olympics and Summer Nationals.

Each type of competition or tournament must be explicitly described in the schedule published by an authorized agent of the USFA: i.e., Division, Section, Regional Youth Coordinator or the USFA. Some examples of competitions that might be held are given below. Competitions at a tournament are gender specific unless the schedule states that the competition will be mixed. The description given in the published schedule of any tournament must specify gender and the weapon which will be fenced.

All tournaments at which fencers can earn qualification to any USFA National Championship competition must be gender specific, i.e., mixed competitions are NOT permitted in any qualifying competition¹. In all other cases, if a Division has determined that a mixed competition will be held if less than a certain number of fencers enter a competition, then that must be so stated: what that minimum number is, below which the competition will combine both the men and women's events in that weapon. Classifications can be earned in a mixed competition – see paragraph D below.

The schedule must indicate the possibility that a single gender competition could become a mixed competition if numbers so dictate or if participants express a desire for it to become mixed. Under no circumstances can a qualifying competition be a mixed competition¹.

Section 4: Types of Tournaments

A. Open

An Open competition is one in which the only restriction is that the athlete be at least 13 years old as of January 1st of that season or on the National Junior point standings at the close of entries.

B. Closed

A closed competition is a USFA competition in which eligibility is limited on the basis of sectional or division membership. In a closed competition athletes must meet the minimum age requirement of 13 years old as of January 1st of the season or be on the National Junior Point Standings.

C. Restricted

- 1) A restricted competition is one in which the eligibility of competitors is limited on the basis of classification, rank, age, academic status, or special invitation. Athletes must meet the minimum age requirement, 13 years old as of January 1st of the current season or, if younger than 13, be on the National Junior point

¹ A specific exemption has been provided for the Regional Youth competitions in that for 6 or fewer entries in a competition, the competition can become a mixed competition for that age category.

standings, to compete in a restricted competition unless the restriction is based on Youth age categories. All competitors must comply with the restrictions of the competition.

- 2) Restricted competitions limited to fencers of a certain age or academic status shall not be further restricted on the basis of classification or rank unless the contrary is specifically announced in the schedule.
- 3) The designation of a competition as Class B or Class C (or any other classification designation) indicates the highest level of fencers permitted to participate therein. These competitions allow fencers of lower classifications unless information to the contrary is specifically announced in the schedule. Minimum age rules are in effect for these competitions.
- 4) In age-restricted competitions, fencers must meet the age criteria specified in the current season edition of the *Athlete Handbook*.
- 5) A fencer may be too old or too young to enter a National competition. Refer to the most recent edition of the *Athlete Handbook* for current information on age restrictions which supersedes specifications herein.

D. Mixed (Co-ed)

A mixed (or co-ed) competition is a competition in which members of both sexes may compete. Mixed competitions are not permitted in competitions used to determine qualifiers to the National Championships competitions. Youth competitions may be mixed if there are 6 or fewer competitors of one gender in a specific Youth category (Youth 14, Youth 12 or Youth 10). Classifications can be earned at mixed competitions, disregarding the gender of the athlete and simply comparing the classifications of all fencers relative to the rules for earning a new classification. If the competition is a Youth or Cadet competition, classifications can only be earned if the competition meets the criteria for C1 or better. See Chapter 6.

E. Team

A team competition is a competition between groups of two or more fencers. For any particular team competition, the number of fencers on a team is the same for all teams and is specified in advance. Team competitions have been held for teams with as few as two members (e.g., in a mixed doubles competition where the teams have one male and one female fencer in one weapon) to as many as six members (e.g., in a six-weapon team competition where the teams are made up of a male and a female fencer in each of the three weapons).

For National Team Championship competitions and associated qualifying competitions mixed teams are not allowed; each team is a single weapon team composed of no fewer than three members with one additional allowed as a substitute (if available). Refer to Chapter 8 for qualifying information on the National Team Championship tournaments.

F. National Qualifying Competitions

The title “Championship” is limited to the most important competitions or tournaments in national, sectional, or divisional schedules.

Each Division is responsible for scheduling competitions for fencers to qualify for specific events at the Junior Olympic Fencing Championships; each Division and Section is responsible for scheduling competitions for fencers to qualify for events at the Summer National Championships.

Division National qualifying competitions are restricted to members of the Division. Section National qualifying competitions are restricted to members of Divisions in that Section. The qualifying competitions must adhere to the rules governing qualifying competitions: age of participants, citizenship requirements, classification restrictions, etc. These qualifying competitions, including the Regional and Super Regional Youth Circuit, must be held prior to the deadline specified in the National calendar for submission of the complete results of the qualifying competitions.

- 1) The division qualifying forms are included on a CD sent by the Director of Membership Services to all officers of a Division when the report of new officers for the next competitive season is received. The Director of National Events must receive complete results of each qualifying competition given on the qualifying forms from the Division before individual entries from division qualifiers can be processed. Failure to submit such qualifying forms will delay the processing of entries from that Division and can jeopardize the eligibility of the fencers to the National Championships.
- 2) Incomplete or “adjusted” qualifying reports will jeopardize the eligibility of the fencers competing in those competitions and qualifying for the Championships tournament.

Each of the ten Sections must hold Section Championships in the events which will qualify individuals for the Summer National Championships.

All competitions that qualify individuals or teams to the Summer National Championships, be it through the Division or the Section, are open only to competitive members of the Division or Section who are permanent residents or US citizens and who meet the age requirements for each competition. For some Sectional Championships athletes must qualify from their respective Divisions. To determine if one’s Section requires qualifying from one’s division to the Section Championships, check the Section website for information on schedule and requirements. See Appendix I for list of Sections and their websites.

Competitive members who meet the requirements of the USFA and the Section or Division and who are in good standing and file a timely and proper entry shall not be denied entry to a qualifying competition or other sanctioned competition unless the athlete arrives after close of registration for the particular competition in which he/she is entered.

The Sectional Championships must be held prior to the deadline specified in the National calendar for submission of the complete results of the qualifying competitions. The Section qualifying forms are included on a CD sent by the Director of Membership Services to all officers of a Section at the beginning of a new season when the report of new officers for the next competitive season is received.

The Director of National Events must receive complete results reported on the qualifying report forms for all places fenced in the qualifying competition. Entries for the National

Championships cannot be processed until these forms are received. Failure to submit such qualifying forms will delay the processing of entries from that Division and Section and can jeopardize the eligibility of the fencers to the National Championships.

G. National Championships

The USFA sponsors the National Championship tournaments listed below and in which competitions are held for all three weapons and for each gender. Rules governing National Championships are described in Chapter 8.

- Junior Olympic Fencing Championships
- Division I National Fencing Championships
- Summer National Fencing Championships

Section 5: NATIONAL TROPHIES

The Executive Director shall maintain a current list of all Trophies related to National Events and the events for which there are no permanent Trophies. Upon request, this list shall be made available to any member of the USFA.

A. Donation of Permanent Trophy

USFA members or organizations that wish to establish a Permanent Trophy shall follow the following procedures:

- 1) Identify the event for which the Trophy is intended.
- 2) If it is a memorial Trophy in honor of an individual, prepare a rationale for the appropriateness of this honor.
- 3) Prepare a financial proposal that shall include the assured funding for the Trophy. Funding shall include design, manufacture and acquisition costs. Also included in funding shall be a transit case and engraving and maintenance costs in perpetuity.
- 4) The proposal shall include the design of the Trophy and the intended date for initial presentation.
- 5) The proposal shall be submitted to the USFA Executive Director. If proper, the Executive Director shall refer the proposal to a review committee, which he chairs. The review committee shall consist of, as appropriate, a member of the Hall of Fame Committee, the Official Historian of the USFA, 20% athlete representation, and others as deemed necessary. A timely response shall be given to the proposal. Feedback shall be given to the donor to refine the proposal until its acceptability or non-acceptability is clear.
- 6) The Executive Director shall forward acceptable proposals to the USFA Executive Committee for review and vote. The Executive Committee shall remand unacceptable proposals and present acceptable proposals to the USFA Board of Directors with a recommendation for approval and implementation.

B. Criteria for Trophies:

The proposed trophy must be of scale, dignity and quality comparable to existing National Trophies. Original designs, sculptures and adapted art objects or antiques will be favored. Off-the-shelf commercial Trophies will not be favored. *[BOD, 9/2002]*

Section 6: National Calendar

At least three months prior to the first national tournament, the dates for all National tournaments should be available in the National Calendar posted on the USFA web site. The national calendar will be published in the USFA Athlete Handbook. The dates of the National Tournaments are established by the Director of National Events in consultation with the Tournament Committee, the High Performance Committee, the Director of High Performance and the Executive Director. Once the dates for the different categories of national tournaments are confirmed, those dates will be released to the membership, even if all venues have not been fully resolved.

The National calendar will also specify for each National Championships tournament the deadline dates for submission of entries and for submission of qualifying result reports from Divisions and Sections.

The National Calendar posted on the US Fencing website will be updated periodically as additional information becomes available. The daily schedule of each competition for each national tournament will be developed by the Tournament Committee and the Director of National Events based on recent history of participation in those events and, wherever possible, on a rotation of the days for specific competitions within the season.

Chapter 4: Tournament Management

Section 1: Organization

The organization of a competition or tournament is the responsibility of an organizing committee appointed or approved by the appropriate USFA sanctioning body. The organizing committee provides for the physical facilities, necessary equipment, supplies, personnel and awards to ensure the smooth running of the tournament. This organizing committee is normally referred to as the Local Organizing Committee (LOC). In the case of national and international tournaments held in the United States, the LOC coordinates with the Director of National Events for domestic events and the Executive Director for international events.

For National tournaments, the Director of National Events arranges for the appropriate physical facilities and is responsible for the logistics of all tournament equipment and supplies. The Tournament Committee (TC), the Technical Committee (TECH) and the Fencing Officials Commission (FOC) select the personnel required for effective operation of the tournament. At each national tournament the Director of National Events, the Bout Committee (BC) Chair, the Tournament Committee (TC Rep), the FOC reps and the Head Tech will coordinate the organization and management of the tournament.

Throughout the national tournament the TC Rep is the person representing the USFA and ensuring that each competition is in compliance with the Rules of Competition approved by the Board of Directors and the operation of each competition as specified by the High Performance Committee (HPC) and specified in the current edition of the Athlete Handbook. The TC Rep will review with the BC Chair the seeding rules that will be followed for each of the competitions in the tournament, ensuring that all athletes are treated in a fair and judicious manner and with an emphasis on those competitions that count towards selection of athletes for international teams. The TC Rep, in consultation with the BC Chair will determine the best procedures in instances when unexpected problems or situations arise affecting the operation of the tournament; e.g., power failures, weather conditions limiting air travel, etc. When necessary they will enact the procedures of the Crisis Management Group (see Section 5) with the TC rep ensuring that all efforts will be made to contact those persons responsible for decisions on how the tournament should be handled. The TC Rep will be an advocate for the athletes and focus on the impact of the decisions on selection of athletes for international competitions.

Section 2: Technical Components

A. Uniform (See m25 of FIE Rules of Competition)

Fencers must wear the required clothing: regulation fencing jacket and pants, underarm protector (plastron), knee socks (for those wearing knickers) and a fencing glove that covers half the forearm. Women must wear breast protectors. Warm-up pants are not allowed. In épée and foil, a full jacket is required (i.e., a jacket with croissard/groin strap). Any attachment to a weapon's handle 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. See the FOC website, <http://www.fencingofficials.org/FAQ/FAQ.html>, for more detailed description on range of acceptability for the handle. Fencing uniforms must not have any rips, tears, holes, or the like. U.S. Fencing allows uniforms of a single pastel color and/or a design on the rear (unarmed)

arm and leg. As the purpose of uniform color or design is for audience interest, such designs should be in good taste. See Note A at end of this chapter.

B. Imprint Of Name

In all three weapons, fencer's last name must be printed such that it is legible from a distance of 15 feet, by hand or machine in capital letters between 8 and 10 cm high. Name may be placed either (1) on the back of the jacket for epee or on the lamé for foil and sabre between the shoulders; (2) on the front or side of the thigh of the "rear" leg. A name imprint that has faded is not acceptable as the letters of the name must be clearly visible to spectators. Last name can be imprinted on a piece of fabric or lamé material that is firmly sewn to the uniform (back of jacket or lamé or rear leg) in such a way that it will not detach or catch the opponent's point during fencing. Fabric attached to the uniform must be the same color as the part of the uniform to which it is attached. Lamé materials must be attached in such a way so as not to alter the conductivity of the metallic vest or jacket. Names printed on tape are not acceptable.

C. Glove, Blades

In electric sabre, the glove, whether a regulation sabre glove or a glove used with a regulation manchette, must overlap the metallic jacket that, itself, must overlap the cloth jacket.

Sabre blades marked with the year of manufacture and/or conforming to the new, stiffer FIE standards are required for all USFA competitions except Youth 10 competitions. The requirement for the new sabre blades will necessitate a flexibility test at USFA National competitions. Even when the year is specified on the blades, this is not a guarantee that the blades will pass the flexibility test. Allow additional time for weapons check at these competitions.

For all Youth 10 competitions, fencers **must** use blades that are either 30 inches or 32 inches long. The flexibility requirement of the sabre blade, i.e., blades marked as S2000 do not apply for this age group. [BOD, Sept. 2001]

D. Masks

- 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" to prevent them from being used in training or competition without the awareness of the participants. [BOD, July, 2001]
- Masks must have sewn-in bibs. [BOD, ~1993]
- The mask must include a functioning safety strap at the rear. [Update of USFA Rules, 2006, which were approved by BOD, Sept. 2006]

Section 3: Bout Committee [See Note B at end of the Chapter]

A. Responsibilities

The Bout Committee, under the direction of its chair, has the ultimate authority for conducting a competition. It is in charge of all personnel, competitors, officials and other persons present, including spectators. At national tournaments, the TC Rep, the Head FOC Referee and the BC Chair ensure that the competitions at the tournament are conducted in

accordance with the criteria specified in the current rules of competition, operating procedures of the USFA and the *Athlete Handbook*.

B. Decision Making

The Bout Committee is not a parliamentary body that makes administrative decisions by majority vote. However, on questions properly brought to it on appeal, the Bout Committee decides by majority vote. In such cases, the chair has only one vote. In case of a tie in the vote of the bout committee, the decision of the referee stands when the protest deals with the decision of the referee during a bout.

Any person involved, directly or indirectly, in the protest of the decision being appealed, fencer, the coach, club mate or relative must remove him or her self from hearing the protest. If a person needs to remove him or herself, a replacement or replacements will be named by the lead Head FOC referee or the TC rep. The Bout Committee must resolve all conflict of interest issues before hearing the appeal.

C. Tournament Changes

The Bout Committee has no power to amend the rules of fencing. In emergency cases it may change the manner in which the competition or competitions will be conducted after consultation with the Crisis Management Group (see Section 5.) and with the consent of the fencers directly or indirectly affected. In all such cases a report of the action taken must be submitted to the Board of Directors.

D. Protest to Bout Committee

If the protest is lodged at the strip with the referee, the fencer can appeal to the Bout Committee which will convene at the strip. In that instance, the decision of the Bout Committee is final and there is no further appeal permitted. There is no appeal of the Bout Committee when it is the appellate body for a referee decision. [Once the fencer unhooks, there is no longer a jurisdiction for a protest.]

If a fencer or team disagrees with an action of the Bout Committee, not in its appellate (appeal) capacity, the individual or team can appeal the decision of the Bout Committee to a Jury of Appeal.

2. Principle of jurisdiction (*FIE t.95, 2004 FIE Rules of Competition*)

t.95 (a) Whatever juridical authority has taken a decision, this decision may be subject to an *appeal* to a higher juridical authority, **but only to one such appeal**.

(b) No decision on a question of *fact* can be the subject of an appeal (cf. t.122).

(c) An appeal against a decision only *suspends* that decision when it can be judged immediately.

E. Composition of Bout Committee

1) USFA National Tournaments

The Bout Committee for USFA tournaments shall consist of three members of the USFA in good standing. The Bout Committee operations will be supported by volunteer staff who will record results from each round of the competitions and will monitor the progress of the competitions. Results will be transferred to electronic medium and rounds will be generated by specific tournament software: *XSeed* is the current software in use at all National tournaments.

The Bout Committee for each competition at a National tournament will include the Bout Committee Chair, the Head FOC referee and the Tournament Committee representative. The members of the Bout Committee for each competition at a National Tournament will be posted in a prominent place at the venue prior to the start of each competition at the tournament. The Bout Committee can request the presence of the Head Tech in matters dealing with apparent equipment problems or questions regarding conformity of equipment.

An athlete representative, if present and not of the same club or school affiliation as the protesting fencer nor involved in the same competition, will be requested, in a non voting capacity, to participate in the deliberations of the Bout Committee as an advocate for the athlete.

2) Local & Regional USFA Tournaments or Competitions

The Bout Committee for competitions other than National Tournaments will consist of at least three persons: the Bout Committee Chair and two others familiar with the rules of fencing and the conduct of USFA competitions. The persons serving on the Bout Committee for local or regional tournaments should represent different clubs or divisions, respectively. These individuals shall be named prior to the start of the tournament.

Any member of the Bout Committee who is a competitor or team captain may not participate in the seeding of pools or details for the format for the competition in which he or she is involved.

3) Authority of the Bout Committee Chair

The chair of the Bout Committee for local and regional tournaments is responsible for review of plans and programs set up by the organizing committee, the conduct of the competition, assignment of referees (at National competitions, this is the responsibility of the Head FOC referee), format of the competition, seeding of pools, and direct elimination operation and maintenance of discipline. At local or regional tournaments a separate person may be named for assignment of referees. This person should be a high-rated referee who is not a participant in any of the competitions in the tournament.

4) Appointment of Bout Committee For National Tournaments

The Tournament Committee shall appoint the Bout Committee Chair or Chairs and competition staff persons for operation of the Bout Committee for each national tournament. The FOC will be responsible for appointing the FOC assigners for each National tournament, one of whom will be considered the head FOC referee and member of the Bout Committee. See www.fencingofficials.org for more information on functions of the FOC.

See Appendix K for details on Bout Committee operations for National tournaments and for Regional Youth Circuit tournaments.

Section 4: Jury of Appeal

A. Duties

The Jury of Appeal is responsible for hearing a protest against a decision of the Bout Committee, when that decision has been made by the Bout Committee in other than its appellate (appeal) capacity. (See Section 3) The decisions of the Jury of Appeal are final.

A member of the Jury of Appeal must excuse himself or herself if he or she is personally involved or if, by reason of his or her affiliation, he or she is confronted with a potential conflict of interest; no proxy votes are permitted.

B. Procedures

When the Jury of Appeal is convened, any person involved in the decision being appealed or any person who is the coach, club mate or relative of a fencer involved in that decision shall not be eligible to serve as a member of the Jury of Appeal. The Jury of Appeal shall resolve all conflict of interest issues before hearing the appeal. During its deliberations, the Jury of Appeal shall have the right to consult with advisors (e.g., technical or legal experts) as it sees fit. Such advisors are not required to be voting members of the Jury of Appeal.

Each member of the Jury of Appeal, including the chair, shall cast one vote. All decisions of the Jury of Appeal are decided by majority vote. In the event of a tie vote, the decision of the Bout Committee stands.

In all cases, the record of the action taken and the reason therefore must be filed with the Secretary for presentation to the National Office.

C. Composition

1) Division

The Jury of Appeal at a divisional competition shall be composed of all current members of the Board of Directors, the USFA Congress, the divisional executive committee present at the competition, and the club or team captain of every club or team competing that is present and not otherwise represented. A member of the Bout Committee may not serve on a Jury of Appeal.

The chair shall be the chair of the division unless the Division Chair is also a member of the Bout Committee. In the absence of the Division Chair, the Jury of Appeal shall elect a chair from among its members.

2) Section

The Jury of Appeal at a sectional competition shall be composed of all current members of the Board of Directors, the USFA Congress, and the executive committee of that Section present at the competition, the FOC representative, and an officer from every division competing and not otherwise represented. A member of the Bout Committee may not serve on a Jury of Appeal.

The chair shall be the chair of the section. In his or her absence, the Jury of Appeal shall elect a chair from among its members.

3) National [BOD July 2004]

The Jury of Appeal at a national competition shall be composed of two members each from the following groups, if present and unaffiliated:

- Tournament Committee
- Fencing Officials Commission
- Coaches Committee
- International Committee (now High Performance Committee)
- Athlete Advisory Group

At the beginning of each national tournament, the Tournament Committee Representative shall compile a list of all those eligible to serve on the Jury of Appeal, consisting of no more than two representatives and two alternates from each of the above groups, chosen from those who will be in attendance at the tournament. A member of the Bout Committee may not serve on a Jury of Appeal. This list will be posted at registration and at the location of the bout committee throughout the tournament.

The Jury of Appeal shall elect a chair from among its members.

D. Spectators

“Spectators” include any and all persons attending a competition (including teammates, coaches, parents, etc.) who are not at the moment engaged in active participation therein either as contestants, or in any official capacity recognized by the rules.

Spectators are required, in the interest of safety and good order, to obey all USFA rules regarding spectators and any directives of the referee or the bout committee.

Section 5: Crisis Management Group (formerly “Act of God” Committee)

A. National Tournaments

National competitions and/or tournaments may be cancelled, delayed, rescheduled or reformatted at the discretion of the USFA as a result of “Acts of God”. These may include, but are not limited to, fire, earthquake, flood, or any other natural disaster, including times when a “state of emergency” has been declared in any part of the country that will have a major impact on the operation of the tournament. The USFA/Bout Committee/Local Organizing Committee is not responsible for reimbursing any expenses incurred by participants attending the affected tournament or competition.

The International Committee (12/93) (now the High Performance Committee) established an Act of God Committee to be called in the event of weather or related tournament emergencies. This committee will relieve the burden of decision from the TC Rep on site. The committee is composed of: the USFA President, the Committee Chairs of the: HPC, TC, Athletes’ Rep, and a representative of the National office. The committee will decide on all Act of God situations that involve National events. Each member of the committee will designate alternates in the event that they are unable to be reached by telephone. The

TC Rep will ascertain the availability of each member of the committee to meet in person or by conference call.

The Crisis Management Group shall make such decisions after consultation with such authorities, experts and advisors, as it deems appropriate.

No final decision to cancel, delay, reschedule or change the format of any National competition shall be made until after the Crisis Management Group has diligently attempted to consult, by telephone or otherwise, with the USFA President.

B. Sections and Divisions

Sectional and Divisional competitions and/or tournaments may be cancelled, delayed, rescheduled or reformatted by the decision of a group composed of the BC chair, the organizing committee and all members of the Sectional or Divisional Executive Committee who are present at the competition. If the affected competition is a part of any qualifying path to a National Championships, no change shall be made to the competition until there has been a diligent effort to consult with the Chair of the USFA Tournament Committee and/or the Chair of the High Performance Committee, the Executive Director, or Officer Liaison with the HPC.

NOTE A

Resolved, That for the season commencing August 1, 1995, restrictions on the design of uniforms are suspended for all competitions at the **local, divisional, and sectional level (but not the national level)**, subject to compliance with the following:

1. In all non-FIE designated competitions, fencers may wear colored or decorated uniforms, including those that bear the names, marks and logos of sponsors who have complied with the requirements of this Resolution, and the application of all rules governing uniform coloration and decoration (but not uniform construction and materials) are suspended for the designated period at the indicated competitions;
2. Individual (i.e., direct) sponsorships are prohibited, and only contributions of funds, equipment or services to clubs and organized programs are permitted and are eligible for promotion and recognition;
3. All participating sponsors must pay to the United States Fencing Association a cash amount of \$50.00 as a condition of participation;
4. All arrangements for the donation of funds, goods or services in exchange for public acknowledgment or the display of marks, logos, names or other sponsor-identifying information are subject to compliance with the USFA's agreement with Atlanta Centennial Olympic Properties (ACOP) and with any other existing agreement between the USFA and a sponsor that provides for exclusivity in sponsorship and promotion. Only sponsorship arrangements approved through the National Office of the United States Fencing Association are permitted, but such approval shall not be withheld upon submission of a Sponsorship Agreement in the form previously approved that complies with the provisions of this Resolution and that does not jeopardize the amateur standing of any fencer and that does not imperil the status of the USFA under any contract or affiliation. *[BOD 9/95]*

NOTE B: *Functions of the Directoire Technique (D.T.=Bout Committee) [Excerpt from 2005 FIE Rules]*

o.58 *The functions of the Directoire Technique (D.T.) include the strict but complete organization of the different events and the obligation to see that the Rules are adhered to; the D.T. cannot decide on any departure from the Rules except when circumstances arise in which it is absolutely impossible to apply them.*

The D. T. is responsible for the technical organization of the competitions and for ensuring their smooth running.

Hence:

- (a) *It checks technical installations;*
- (b) *It checks the entries;*
- (c) *It draws up the pool sheets and direct elimination table, according to the rules for individual and team events;*
- (d) *It allocates referees at the suggestion of the Refereeing delegate, as well as strip assignments;*
- (e) *It supervises the start and progress of the event on the various strips*
- (f) *It examines complaints and solves them;*
- (g) *It checks results with the help of the Organizing Committee;*
- (h) *It prepares the subsequent events sufficiently in advance to be able to warn the fencers, officials and judges;*
- (i) *It supervises the dissemination of results.*
- (j)

3. Operation

o.60 *The D. T. must always attend events from beginning to end, so as to solve any problem which could arise and thus ensure that the event continues to run smoothly. All the decisions of the D. T. must be displayed sufficiently in advance on a clearly visible notice-board to be consulted by the fencers and officials. In principle, fencers and officials may not lay a complaint against changes in the timetable or any other matter about which information has been displayed at the required time.*

o.62 *When the D. T. has to make a judgment in the case of an appeal against a referee's decision, the decisions of the D. T. may be made by the majority of the members present (who must be at least three) at the moment of the appeal.*

CHAPTER 5: GENERAL ENTRY INFORMATION

Section 1: Eligibility and Fencer Responsibility

A. General

Only current competitive members of the USFA in good standing or holders of valid, current FIE licenses are eligible to compete in team or individual competitions scheduled by or under the auspices of the USFA provided that the competitors meet the entry requirements for the competition. See Chapter 8 for special eligibility requirements for all National Championships competitions.

The categories of competitive membership are established by the USFA Board of Directors. See Chapter 2 on USFA membership.

If a member's division is not in good standing, the Board of Directors may transfer the member to the National Division and establish rules regarding eligibility to enter competitions and for the holding of additional competitions as may be appropriate.

A fencer who has entered a competition but has failed to pay the required entry fee, and has either participated in the competition or failed to withdraw from the competition in a timely fashion, shall be liable to the appropriate organizing committee for the amount of the entry fee and shall be ineligible to enter any subsequent competition until restored to good standing by payment of the sum due.

Every entry form certifies the entrant's eligibility for the particular competition not only with respect to USFA membership in good standing or bearer of current FIE competitive license but also as to compliance with every other requirement of that competition.

It is the responsibility of the fencer to ensure that an entry form for a competition is filed in accordance with the organizing committee's regulations for that competition.

Unless otherwise specified, the *USFA Rules for Competition* govern USFA competitions and it is the responsibility of each fencer to be familiar with them.

It is the responsibility of the fencer to provide the necessary equipment to compete in accordance with the rules of the USFA.

B. Age Eligibility

For any USFA competition that is not specific to an age group, the athlete 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 exemption to this rule is that an athlete who is on the Junior national point standings (NRPS) at the time of 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 competitions whereby athlete must be at least 13 years old on January 1 or, if younger, on the National Junior Point standings are: "Unclassified", "A" competitions,

“C” competitions, Open, etc., or Team competitions in any category unless specified for juniors or similar age restricted category.

Similarly age restrictions will be applied to Junior, Cadet and Youth competitions: See the current edition of the *Athlete Handbook* for specific birth year ranges for each age group.

For all USFA Junior Competitions: athlete must be between ages of 13 and 19 years as of January 1 of the current fencing season. The exemption will be those athletes younger than 13 as of January 1 who are on the Cadet NRPS at the time of the close of entries for that USFA competition.

For all USFA Cadet Competitions: athlete must be between ages of 13 and 16 years as of January 1 of the current fencing season. The exemption will be those athletes younger than 13 as of January 1 who are on the Youth 14 NRPS at the time of the entry deadline for that USFA competition.

For all USFA Youth 14 competitions: athlete must be between ages of 11 and 14 years as of December 31 of the fencing season. The exemption will be those athletes younger than 11 as of December 31 who are on the Youth 12 NRPS at the time of the entry deadline for that USFA competition.

For all USFA Youth 12 competitions: athlete must be between ages of 9 and 12 years as of December 31 of the fencing season. The exemption will be those athletes younger than 9 as of December 31 who are on the Youth 10 NRPS at the time of that USFA competition.

For all USFA Youth 10 competitions: athlete must be between ages of 7 and 10 years as of January 1 of the fencing season. There are no exemptions for Youth 10 competitions.

Fencers must be at least 7 years of age as of January 1 of the fencing season to be eligible to compete in any USFA competition.

Section 2: Representation in USFA Team Competitions

A. Definition of Club

The term “club” refers to any organized fencing group of individual members. The group may be affiliated with a club, industrial institution, school, association, or other entity.

The club may only be a member of one division which shall be where its regular fencing activity is conducted. To be eligible for Club membership in the USFA, a club must meet the following criteria:

- 1) The owners and/or principal officers of the club of such club must be USFA members.
- 2) All members of the coaching staff must be members of the USFA.
- 3) Each Member Club must have a minimum of ten members of the USFA who have declared that club as their club. *[BOD September, 1999]*

B. Club Representation and Affiliation

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 provided for below) in USFA competitions during each fencing season.

- 1) A fencer may at any time resign from one club and join another, or join or hold membership in two or more clubs. However, within the same fencing season, no fencer may represent in competition more than one club without special permission of the Board of Directors. The fencer’s first stated club affiliation at a USFA competition in each fencing season becomes that fencer’s club representation for that season, unless the fencer changes club representation by January 31st or before any team qualifying competition, whichever occurs the earliest.
- 2) The club representation rules are in effect whether or not a fencer plans to compete on a team in USFA team competition(s).
- 3) A collegiate or scholastic fencer, who is also a member of a private 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 the fencer’s school conference require it, he or she may represent his or her school or fence unattached in all USFA individual competitions held during the period of time specified for that conference and/or NCAA rules governing the sport of fencing. Such fencers may represent their club when such representation is allowed by the scholastic or collegiate conference rules.
- 4) 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 one tournament.
- 5) A fencer who, while affiliated with 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 in 3 above for scholastic and/or collegiate fencers.
- 6) 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 in paragraph 3 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.

C. Composition of Teams

There shall be no limitation on the number of team entries from one club unless the appropriate governing body fixes a specified limit in advance.

- 1) Members of two or more teams representing the same club may not be interchanged during the competition (see restrictions for National Championships in Chapter 8).

- 2) The names of individual fencers on the team should be filed at the time the team entry is submitted, with verification of the team members when the team registers at the tournament.
- 3) No team shall be permitted to compete with a lesser number of members than required for the particular competition (which shall be three unless otherwise announced in the schedule).
- 4) Every individual member of a team shall, by participating in the competition, personally certify his or her eligibility to compete on that team.

D. Composite teams

- 1) A composite team is one whose members do not represent the same club (they may all be unattached). Such teams are permitted in Divisional or Sectional team competitions unless notice to the contrary is included in the schedule of competitions. Further, a fencer may be part of a composite team in a competition in which his or her club is formally represented with the approval of the appropriate division or Bout Committee Chair.
- 2) Composite teams in the National Championship qualifying round will not count in determining qualifiers or number of qualifiers to the National Championships. Composite teams are NOT permitted in the National Team Championships. [*BOD circa. 1995*]
- 3) Composite teams must furnish a guarantee for the safe custody of any trophy that may be won.
- 4) The bout committee shall refuse the entry of any composite team when, in its judgment, the conditions of subsections, have not been complied with in every respect.
- 5) A fencer who is a member of a club may fence on a composite team without prejudice to his right to represent his club during the same season

Section 3: Entry Fees

- 1) The required fees must accompany every entry. All fees are determined by the appropriate USFA sanctioning body and shall be announced in the tournament schedule.
- 2) Procedures for entering competitions will be included in the tournament schedule information and is governed by the appropriate USFA sanctioning body.

Section 4: Assumption of risk

Every fencer engaging in competition, and every person attending a competition in any capacity whatsoever, does so at his or her own risk and peril and neither the organization having jurisdiction over the competition nor the organization furnishing the place for the competition, nor any officer, official, agent or employee of either of the aforementioned organizations, shall be liable in any manner for any damage, injury, or loss suffered by any person as a competitor, official, attendant, or spectator at a fencing competition regardless of

whether or not there has been compliance with the rules and regulations prescribed herein, whether or not any official has waived or failed to enforce strict compliance therewith.

Section 5: Denial of entry

The entry from a member, who is not in good standing because of arrears in dues or entry fees, because of disciplinary penalties in effect, or otherwise, shall be rejected.

Chapter 6: Classification System

Section 1: Classifications

Each USFA sanctioned competition may be rated on the basis of the level or relative strength of the participants and the number of participants in the competition. The level of the fencer is determined by the classification each fencer has earned. Letters “A” through “E” are awarded to a fencer on the basis of the fencer’s performance in the competition, i.e., the placement the fencer has achieved. “A” classification is the highest letter a fencer can earn. There are two digits appended to each letter indicating the calendar year in which that letter classification was earned or re-earned, e.g., “A05” means the classification of “A” was earned in 2005. A fencer who has not yet achieved a classification in a weapon is given a “U” for unclassified without any year attached to the letter.

Section 2: Types of Competition for Ratings

- A. AGE RESTRICTED COMPETITION: Any USFA age restricted competition can be rated for classification change consideration except that those competitions that are restricted to Cadet (Under 17 or Under-16) or Youth age categories must meet the criteria for a Group C1 or higher for the competition to be rated for classification changes. [*BOD, July, 2003*] See Table 2 at end of chapter.
- B. RESTRICTED: Competitions may be restricted to fencers under or over a certain age, to Unclassified fencers or novices (relatively inexperienced fencers), 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 Division or Section membership.
 1. SCHOLASTIC: Competitions that are conducted under the auspices of a scholastic organization, e.g., NCAA, High School Athletic Association, etc. are not rated for the purpose of classification changes.
 2. MIXED: A Division may schedule competitions open to both men and women. For the purpose of seeding and rating such competitions, men and women’s ratings will be considered to be equivalent.
 - a. If there are six or fewer fencers in a gender specific competition and there is an opposite gender-specific competition in the same weapon at the same venue on that day the two can be combined for one mixed competition. As an example, if a youth 12 girls’ foil has 6 entries and a 12 boys’ foil is being held at the same venue that day, the two could be combined for one competition.
 - b. For competitions that have more than six fencers in each gender specific competition, the competitions shall remain separate.

- c. The Division's schedule shall specify the conditions under which competitions will change from gender specific to mixed competition.
- d. No qualifying competition for Junior Olympic Fencing Championships or National Fencing Championships may be mixed. Any qualifying competition that is conducted as a mixed competition will not count for qualification for that National or J.O. Championships.
- e. Competitions held at State Games may be considered for USFA rating if:
 - 1. All competitors are current competitive members of the USFA
 - 2. The local Division has given its sanction for the competitions, publicized the tournament and has posted relevant information on its web site.
 - 3. The Division has assigned one or more of its members to conduct the competition according to current USFA fencing rules.

Section 3: Awarding Classifications

A. GENERAL PRINCIPLES

For the purpose of providing reasonable equality of strength in the seeding of competitions, fencers are classified nationally on the basis of competitive achievement into the following classifications, from high to low: Class A (highest), Class B, Class C, Class D, Class E, and Class U (Unclassified, lowest). Within each of these major classifications (with the exception of classification of U), a two digit number is attached to the letter to indicate the calendar year in which the fencer earned the letter classification or re-earned that classification.

This minor classification shall be indicated by a two digit number appended to the major classification (e.g., "A04" would be the classification of a fencer who achieved an "A" classification in 2004). The minor classifications shall be used to rank the fencers within the major classifications so that, for example, a "C06" shall be considered to be ranked higher than a "C05" but lower than all "B" fencers.

Details of the rules that govern the classification of fencers is described in Appendix M: *[BOD. July 2002]*

1. If a competition qualifies as more than one group (i.e., Group A1 and Group B3), each fencer will earn the higher classification to which that fencer is entitled. For example, if a competition qualifies as Group A1 and as Group B3, the winner earns an "A", as the Group A1 award is higher for that place; the fencer who finishes eighth earns a "C", as the Group B3 award is higher for that place.
2. A fencer can earn an "A" or "B" classification by attaining distinction in international competition which in the judgment of the Board of Directors is equivalent to that described in Appendix M and summarized in Table 2. The awarding of the classification may be retroactive.

3. A fencer qualifies for a “B” classification by fencing in the final round of four as a member of a team that wins a Division I National Team Championships. *[BOD, Oct. 2000]*
4. A fencer qualifies for a “C” classification by fencing in the final four as a member of a Team that places second or third in the Division I US National Team Championships. *[BOD, Oct. 2000]*

B. ESTABLISHING CLASSIFICATIONS FOR FOREIGN FENCERS

For USFA competitions, foreign fencers who have not fenced in any USFA competition will be evaluated for an equivalent classification according to the criteria given below.

If the fencer is listed on the World Cup standings, FIE points will be considered in order to determine a classification for the competition being seeded:

1. “A” classification for one finals finish [8 points or more in any one World Cup; 16 points or more in Grand Prix World Cup; 24 points or more in World Championships]. The year suffix would be either the year in which points were earned or the year of the start of the current season.
2. “B” classification for one 9-16 finish [4 points or more in one World Cup] The year suffix would be either the year in which points were earned or the year of the start of the current season.
3. “C” classification for one 17-32 finish [for NAC Division I, FIE points equal to 2 or more in any one World Cup would warrant a “C” without a year indicated, just a “C” classification].]
4. “D” classification without a year suffix for one 33-64 finish [to be applied for NAC competitions other than Division 1] [one result in FIE standings awarded 2 or more FIE points]

If a fencer is not listed on the current FIE World Cup standings, but has been on a

5. World Senior Team or Pan American Games team, a “B” may be awarded; if the fencer was a member of a World Cadet or World Junior team then “C” should be awarded. The year suffix would be the year in which athlete was on such a team. If that information is not available omit the year suffix.
6. 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 appropriate. 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.

If nothing is known about the fencer, the “D” classification should be used without a year suffix. In the case of NAC Division I, however, foreign fencers have been classified as “C” with the earliest year; for example, for the 2006-2007 season, this classification would be a “C03.”

Another means by which one can evaluate a foreign fencer’s equivalent classification is by use of the BIO form used at National tournaments. In this way one can obtain information on the fencer’s most recent performances. See Appendix N for this form.

Section 4: Administration of Classifications

1. Classifications must be certified in writing to the Director of Membership Services by the organizer of the competition in 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 should be reported within two weeks. Failure to report changes in a timely fashion may affect athletes competing in a national competition.
2. Classifications become official when verified at the National Office by the issuance of a new membership card specifying the new classification(s).
3. A fencer drops one level of major classification if that fencer fails, during a period of four years, to re-achieve the results necessary to earn that major classification. All such reclassifications will take effect at the beginning of the fencing season (i.e., August 1)

For example, a fencer classified as “B00” was reclassified as “C04” at the start of the 2004-2005 fencing season. The minor classification changes at the same time to indicate that the new classification was awarded in the calendar year 2004. A fencer who loses an “E” classification as a result of the application of this rule becomes Unclassified.

4. A fencer remains unclassified in all weapons as long as he or she does not qualify for one of the other classifications under the foregoing rules.
5. The classification of a fencer in one weapon has no effect upon his or her classification in another weapon and is not affected by his or her winning or competing in individual three-weapon competitions, invitational meets, intercollegiate competitions, or unofficial club and inter-club competitions.
6. Classifications can be earned only in regularly scheduled competitions run by the USFA, its Sections, its Divisions or through official regional youth tournaments. Classifications can only be awarded if adequate notice of the competition has been given to the members of the organizing body via such means as a published schedule on the Division’s web site, newsletter, or notices sent to all USFA clubs within the Division or Section. Classifications can be earned in competitions sanctioned by a body of the USFA but not run by that body (e.g., State Games) only after the sanctioning body has determined that the competition has been run in such a manner as to justify the awarding of classifications.

TABLE 2: USFA CLASSIFICATION REFERENCE CHART

COMPETITION	MINIMUM COMPETITORS	CLASSIFIED FENCERS REQUIRED	CLASSIFIED FENCERS MUST FINISH	CLASSIFICATIONS AWARDED
GROUP E1	6	NONE	N/A	1 → E
GROUP D1	15	NONE	N/A	1 → D 2-4 → E
GROUP C1	15	2 C's & 2 D's & 2 E's (or higher)	2 C's & 2 D's (or higher) in top 8	1 → C 2-4 → D 5-8 → E
GROUP C2	25	4 D's & 4 E's (or higher)	4 D's (or higher) in top 8	1 → C 2-4 → D 5-8 → E
GROUP C3	64	24 D's & 12 E's (or higher)	4 D's in top 8 & 4 E's (or higher) in top 12	1-4 → C 5-8 → D 9-16 → E
GROUP B1	15	2 B's & 2 C's & 2 D's (or higher)	2 B's & 2 C's (or higher) in top 8	1 → B 2-4 → C 5-6 → D 7-8 → E
GROUP B2	25	2 B's & 2 C's & 2 D's (or higher)	2 B's & 2 C's (or higher) in top 8	1 → B 2-4 → C 5-8 → D 9-12 → E
GROUP B3	64	24 C's & 12 D's (or higher)	4 C's in top 8 & 4 D's (or higher) in top 12	1-4 → B 5-8 → C 9-16 → D 17-32 → E
GROUP A1	15	2 A's & 2 B's & 2 C's (or higher)	2 A's & 2 B's (or higher) in top 8	1 → A 2-4 → B 5-6 → C 7-8 → D
GROUP A2	25	2 A's & 2 B's & 2 C's (or higher)	2 A's & 2 B's (or higher) in top 8	1 → A 2-4 → B 5-8 → C 9-10 → D 11-12 → E
GROUP A3	64	24 B's & 12 C's (or higher)	4 B's in top 8 & 4 C's (or higher) in top 12	1-4 → A 5-8 → B 9-16 → C 17-24 → D 25-32 → E
GROUP A4	64	12 A's & 12 B's & 12 C's (or higher)	4 A's in top 8 & 4 B's (or higher) in top 12	1-8 → A 9-16 → B 17-24 → C 25-32 → D 33-48 → E

Division I NAC and National Championships are always Group A4 competitions.

Division I-A National Championships are always at least Group A3 competitions.

Division II NAC and National Championships are always at least Group B3 competitions.

Division III NAC and National Championships are always at least Group C3 competitions.

Changes in classifications are allowed at USFA sanctioned individual competition 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).

Chapter 7: Competition Procedures

Section 1: Seeding

A. Individual Competition

Seeding is the order that ranks the fencers prior to the beginning of the competition and/or the direct elimination phase of the competition. Depending on the type of competition, different seeding principles are used.

For each USFA sanctioned competition, the first round of the competition will be seeded according to the “strength” of the competitors. “Strength” for this purpose is measured by national ranking and classification in the weapon. Weapon classification is represented by the letters, from highest to lowest, of “A”, “B”, “C”, “D”, and “E” followed by two digits representing the year in which the classification was earned. The letter U, unclassified, is used to indicate that the fencer has not yet gained a result sufficient for a classification. Unless otherwise specified in the Athlete Handbook for national tournaments, fencers are ordered from the highest letter, “A” to the lowest letter, “U”. Within each letter the fencers are ordered by the trailing two digits representing the calendar year in which that letter was last earned in that weapon (e.g., A05, “A” classification last earned in the year 2005). A refinement of this method of seeding is the use of national rolling point standings. An even further refinement is the use of the World standings, used only at the highest level of NAC tournaments.

The Bout Committee is responsible for the operation of each competition including the seeding of fencers in the first round of USFA sanctioned competition.

B. National Rankings

- (1) **National Rolling Point Standings (NRPS)** There are National Point standings for senior, junior, cadet, youth 14, youth 12, youth 10, veterans (combined and by age group of 40-49, 50-59, and 60 and older).
- (2) **Ranked Fencers** in a particular weapon are those who are listed on the current National Rolling Point Standings (NRPS). For the purpose of seeding competitions, Ranked Fencers are divided into two groups when seeding competitions:
A specified number of fencers on the current NRPS in each weapon for a particular category (e.g., senior, junior, cadet, etc.) are entitled to a protected seeded draw in that those fencers will be seeded ahead of all other domestic fencers in USFA individual competitions of that category, according to the following table:

TABLE 3: PRIORITY IN SEEDING USFA COMPETITIONS

CATEGORY Natl; Div-Section	LOCAL/REGIONAL/SECTIONAL	NATIONAL
NAC DIVISION 1; OPEN or By Class	Within each classification, Nat'l Senior Rolling Pts then year OR just classification-year	1. FIE Pts (min. 2 top 32 results), 2. All on National Senior Points, 3. Classification-Year
Division I National Championships; Div./Sec Champs.		1. Top 32 in Natl Senior Points, 2. Ranking within classification, 3. Classification/year
Division 1A NAC & Natl Champs; Open or By Class	Within each classification, Nat'l Senior Rolling Pts then year OR just classification and year	1. Ranking within classification; 2. Classification/year
Division II, III NAC, Natl/Div. Champs	Classification/Year	Classification/Year
Veterans Combined	Classification/Year	1. Top 16 in National Veterans Points, 2. Ranking within classification, 3. Class/year
Veterans 50-59, 60 & older	Classification/Year	1. Top 8 in National Age standings, 2. Ranking within class, 3. Class/year
Junior: NAC, Natl. Champs., JOs, Div. Or Section Junior	Within each classification, Nat'l Junior ranking then year OR just classification and year.	1. Top 24 in Natl Junior Points, 2. Ranking within classification, 3. Classification/year
Cadet NAC, Natl Champs., JOs, Div.	Natl Cadet ranking within classification, then classification/year OR just classification and year	1. Top 16 in Natl Cadet Points, 2. Ranking within classification, 3. Classification/year
Youth 14 – NAC, Regional Youth, Natl Champs, Div	Natl Youth 14 ranking within classification, then classification/year OR just classification and year	1. Top 12 in Natl Youth14 Points, 2. Ranking within classification, 3. Classification/year
Youth 12 NAC, Regional Youth, @ Natls, Div.	Natl Youth 12 ranking within classification, then classification/year OR just classification and year	1. Top 8 in Natl Youth12 Points, 2. Ranking within classification, 3. Classification/year
Youth 10 NAC, Regional Youth, At Summer Natls	Natl Youth 10 ranking within classification, then classification/year OR just classification and year	1. Top 4 in Natl Youth10 Points, 2. Ranking within classification, 3. Classification/year

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 number of fencers from national standings.

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 B05 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 the current edition of the Athlete Handbook.

After seeding the group of ranked fencers who are given priority in seeding fencers within each letter classification will be seeded first by the national point standings for that category and then by the year in which classification last earned. Those fencers with the same classification and year and no national ranking will be seeded randomly. Fencers with a "U" have not yet

earned a classification and will be seeded after all other fencers with a classification and distributed randomly among the other fencers with a “U” in that weapon. In developing the pools fencers within the same classification may be swapped to resolve club and/or division team mates.

C. Division and Regional Competitions

In some areas of the country, Divisions and regions have established a ranking system for the fencers in their Division. Since those rankings reflect performance of the fencers among themselves, those may be more meaningful in seeding Division competitions if the participants in the competition are just members of the Division. If the Division does not have its own ranking system or the participants represent other Divisions, then the Division should seed the competition on the basis of the classifications of the fencers, class and year, randomizing within the same classification and year. Separating team mates can be done among those with the same classifications, disregarding year if necessary.

In Division and Sectional competitions, seeding can use the national rolling point standings within each classification or it can use just the classification, letter and year, for seeding.

After the first round seeding is based on the results of the promoted fencers from the last round.

D. Club Mates

In all domestic competitions, fencers representing the same club and/or Division are to be separated as much as possible by applying the rules regarding the separation of fencers representing the same country as specified by the *FIE Rules for Competition (o.13.)* When the first round of the competition consists of pools, club representations and/or Divisions are treated as if they were different nationalities. For purposes of US fencing, the separation for club representation takes precedence over separation for Division representation. In separating team mates it is important to swap fencers at the same level, primarily with same classification. Note, however, that ranked fencers may not be swapped – they must maintain their positions even if there are club mates among the ranked fencers in the pool.

E. Seeding Teams

At the annual meeting of the USFA Board of Directors, September 2006, the Board approved combining the Division I Team Championships and the Senior Team Championships into a single Senior Team National Championships tournament for each weapon starting at the 2007 Summer Nationals.

Seeding for the Senior National Team Championships and the Under 19 Team National Championships tournament would be in accordance with the national senior and junior rolling point standings, respectively, at the time entries are closed. The priority in seeding will be the National point standings followed by the classification of the remaining team members prior to the start of the National Championships tournament.

The Tournament Committee will review the effectiveness of these changes and will make a recommendation if these changes should be adopted for future National Team Championships.

The Division I National Team Championships will be held as a separate team tournament when the Division I National Individual Championships are scheduled for a separate time and place from the Summer National Championships; otherwise, the Division I Team and the current Senior Team Championships become one Senior Team Championship tournament.

Section 2: Formats

A. General

In local competitions there are a number of variations that can be used to benefit the level of fencers in that division, both in individual and team competitions. In addition to the formats that are discussed below, the following can be used at non qualifying competitions:

- Brazilian: 100% promoted from a pool round to direct elimination
- Canadian: 80% promoted to simple direct elimination down to 16 fencers; followed by 2 pools of 8 fencers, fenced on 4 strips; 8 fencers promoted to direct elimination of 8.

If the Division sees a need for additional direct elimination bouts then it can add repêchage to its format in the direct elimination round, whether at complete tableau of 32 or of 16. This allows fencers to gain more experience with 15 touch bouts before competing at a national tournament.

Whatever format the Division or Region decides to use, it must be announced and posted before the start of the competition.

B. Pools

A “pool round” describes a group of fencers divided into equal or near equal sub-groups of 5 and 6 or 6 and 7 fencers each. The design of the pool round should have no more than two different sizes of pools. If there are fewer than 10 fencers it is recommended that there is one pool of the fencers; for 7-9 fencers the pool should be conducted on two strips if possible. The fencers in each sub-group or pool fence all the other fencers in their pool in 5-touch, 3-minute bouts. If there is a withdrawal from a pool after the round has commenced no changes are made to any pool, including the one with the withdrawal. If there is a withdrawal after the pools have been announced but prior to the start of any fencing, the Bout Committee could consider a reseed. If a fencer is not present when the referee validates the pool sheet at the strip before fencing begins the Bout Committee may decide to reseed the pools.

Seeding of pool rounds of competitions must be in accordance with the seeding rules explained in Section 1 above. Bouts in pool rounds are 5-touch bouts for a maximum fencing time of three minutes. Except as noted in paragraphs below, bouts in direct elimination round are 15-touch bouts in 3 3-minute periods (fencing time) with 1-minute rest period between each fencing period. In sabre, the 1 minute break occurs when one fencer scores 8 touches.

The results of all the fencers in the pool round are ordered from highest or best results (most wins, most touches scored-least touches received) to lowest results to determine the group of fencers promoted to the next round and seeding of the fencers for the next round. Because tournament software is used, the computations are done internally based on the manual input of the results of each pool in the round. The computer program then generates a listing of the

fencers' results, from the number 1 fencer to the last fencer in the round and indicates where the cut off is for those who are promoted to the next round.

In Veteran competitions the bouts in direct elimination are 10-touch bouts in two 3-minute periods with a 1 minute rest between periods. In Veteran's sabre, the one minute break occurs when one fencer scores 5 touches or at the end of 3 minutes, whichever occurs first.

For Youth 10 and Youth 12 competitions, direct elimination is best 2 of 3 5-touch bouts, with a 1 minute break between bouts. Each bout has a maximum of 3-minutes fencing time.

C. Direct Elimination: National Competitions

Direct elimination can be simple elimination whereby when a fencer loses a bout in the tableau the fencer is eliminated. Or the direct elimination can be with repêchage whereby a fencer remains in direct elimination until the fencer loses two bouts prior to the tableau of 8 fencers. Once in the tableau of 8 when the fencer loses a bout, the fencer is awarded placement in accordance with that portion of the tableau of final 8 fencers at which fencer was eliminated and on the basis of the fencer's seed into the initial tableau relative to all others who were eliminated at the same point in that round of direct elimination.

Seeding of the initial direct elimination tableau is based on the results of the fencers in the final round of pools preceding the establishment of the tableau. For some competitions 80% of the fencers are promoted from the preceding pool round to the direct elimination round and at others 100% are promoted from the pool round to the direct elimination round. See Table 4 for summary of the formats for the national tournaments. For NAC Division I tournaments, a different formula is used for the competitions. See the Athlete Handbook.

Based on the actual number of fencers present, the Bout Committee will decide, in accordance with a predetermined percentage¹, the number of fencers that will be promoted and will post that information before the start of the competition. The rules governing creation of the seeding table is given in the *FIE Rules for Competition*, o.19-o.25. Minor modifications may be made for USFA competitions depending on the specific purpose and category of competition.

D. Formats for Qualifying Competitions

In the qualifying competitions for National and Junior Olympic Championships the Division or Section can use any of these formats:

- 1 or 2 rounds of pools, 100% promoted to direct elimination through first place.
- 1 or 2 rounds of pools followed by direct elimination, with approximately 80% of the competitors in each round promoted to the next round of pools or to the direct elimination round.

Once entries close for a competition and the total number of competitors present is known, the BC Chair will determine how many pools of what size will be established for the first round. The pools so determined must have at least 5 fencers in each and preferably will have no more than 7. In cases where the pools will not all be the same size only two different sizes are allowed, e.g., 5- and 6-person pools, 6- and 7-person pools. If there are less than ten fencers registered, those fencers can be placed in one pool and can be fenced on two strips.

In all qualifying competitions for which the formula includes one or more rounds of pools, the first choice for determination of the number of pools is that each pool contains 7 fencers; the second choice is that each pool contains 6 fencers. When neither of these options is possible, given the number of fencers, the pools should be a combination of 7-person pools and 6-person pools, with the top seeded fencers have the larger pools. The top seeded fencers are not moved; instead the fencers seeded lowest are moved to meet this priority in pool size distribution. In doing so, club conflicts must be avoided to the extent possible.

Once the fencing in the pool round has started, no changes can be made to any pool even if a pool falls below the size of the smaller pools in the round due to an unexpected withdrawal (i.e., black card or medical withdrawal) of one or more of the fencers.

See Appendix O for Order of Bouts for different size pools and for multiple team mates in a pool. See Appendix N for Tournament Forms and team seeding prior to the 2007 National Championships. See Appendix Q for rules governing use of repêchage in direct elimination.

See *Athlete Handbook* for more information on conduct of NAC tournaments.

¹ Effective with the 2006 Summer Nationals, all National Championship competitions, excluding Youth 14, Wheelchair, and Team competitions, will have the following format: One round of pools with 80 percent of the fencers promoted to a direct elimination tableau without repêchage to a final of 8. Competitions affected by this change are: Division IA, Division II, Division III, and Veterans competitions. [*BOD, Sept. 2005*]

TABLE 4: NATIONAL COMPETITION FORMATS

Division I National Championships	One round of pools; 6 or 7-person pool, 80% promoted to simple direct elimination
Division I NAC	See <i>Athletes Handbook</i> for format
Division I-A II, III National Championships	One round of pools; 5 and 6 or 6 and 7 persons per pool, 80% promoted to simple direct elimination.
Division II, III NAC	One round of pools; 5 and 6 or 6 and 7 persons per pool, 100% promoted to simple direct elimination.
U19, U16 National Championships U20, U17 Junior Olympic Champs.	One round of pools; of 6 or 7 persons per pool, 80% promoted to simple direct elimination.
Junior & Cadet NAC	One round of pools of 6 or 7 persons per pool, 80% promoted to direct elimination with repêchage.
Y14 NAC & National Championships	One round of pools; 5 and 6 or 6 and 7 persons per pool, 100% promoted to simple direct elimination.
Y12, Y10 NAC, Regional & Super Regional Youth Circuit, & Competitions at Summer National Championships. [30" or 32" blades required for Youth 10]	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.
Veteran Age National Championships	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.
Veteran Combined & Veteran Age NAC	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
Wheelchair NAC	Two rounds of pools; 100% promoted to simple direct elimination
Wheelchair National Championships	One round of pools, 100% promoted to simple direct elimination
NATIONAL TEAM CHAMPIONSHIPS	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 1 st and 3 rd
Division I National Team Championships	Seeding is based on best results of three members of the team in Division I National Individual Champs.
Senior National Team Championships	Seeding is based on best results of three members of the team in D1A, DV2 or DV3 competition.
U19 National Team Championships	Seeding is based on best results of three members of the team in Under 19 National Individual Champs.

Chapter 8: Rules Governing USFA National Championships

In this Chapter references to National Championships pertain to the following tournaments: Junior Olympic Fencing Championships, Summer National Fencing Championships and Division I National Fencing Championships. Any exceptions to this definition will be so stated.

Section 1: Eligibility

A. Competitors

1. Fencers must be U.S. citizens OR permanent residents of the United States and current competitive members of the USFA in good standing who meet the qualification standards specified for each category of competitions designated as USFA National Championships. Youth 10 and Youth 12 are exempted from this criteria regarding citizenship because they are not designated as National Championships at this time.
2. Any fencer who is a citizen or permanent resident who has represented another country within the last three years and who has not been granted permission to represent the United States is not eligible to compete in any USFA National Championship competition, individual or team, including Division and Section qualifying competitions. A foreign fencer who is in the US on a visa is NOT eligible to fence in any National Championships competition, individual or team, or associated Division or Section qualifying competitions. [BOD 9/1998]
3. Foreign fencers and those who have represented another country within the past three years may compete in other US point competitions: North American Circuit, Regional Youth Circuit and Super Regional Youth Circuit competitions. Though those fencers will not be listed on the national point standings; a separate point table will be kept to aid in seeding these fencers in future non-Championship point competitions.
4. In qualifying competitions for the individual National Championship competitions, the number of qualifiers is determined by the number of eligible contestants competing for qualification. Those who are not eligible to fence in the National Championships *cannot* be counted in determining the number of qualifiers from that competition. Fencers who are not eligible by reason of citizenship or age may not be permitted to compete in those qualifying competitions.

Section 2: Entry Timeliness

The timeliness of an entry is determined by **receipt** of the entry form at the USFA office; postmarks are NOT considered in determining timeliness. The entry deadline is as of midnight (Mountain Time) on the stated date. An entry is considered to be timely only if it is received by the entry deadline with payment in full. Entries received without payment will be returned to the sender and the date of resubmission becomes the receipt date in determining the timeliness of the entry.

A late entry is an entry received after the published entry deadline for a tournament and by a specified date prior to the start of the tournament. [BOD, 9/01] Entries received after the late entry date will not be accepted and will be returned.

TABLE 5 KEY DATES FOR NATIONAL EVENTS

COMPETITION	DEADLINE
NORTH AMERICAN CIRCUIT TOURNAMENT	
Entry Deadline	Approximately one month prior to the tournament
Withdrawal for refund of entry fees	The Monday before first day of the NAC –
ALL NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS	
Appeal forms due at National Office	Within five business days after the competition at which the fencer could have qualified. Must be received at the National Office NO LATER THAN the entry deadline
Withdrawal for refund of entry fees	The Monday before first day of National Tournament – NAC and Championships
JUNIOR OLYMPIC FENCING CHAMPIONSHIPS	
Divisional qualifying competitions	Five weeks before first day of Junior Olympics
Entry forms due at National Office	At least five weeks prior to start of Championships.
Late Entry Period	Must be received NO LATER THAN three weeks prior to first day of tournament with payment of triple fees.
SUMMER NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS	
Divisional qualifying competitions	At least three weeks before Sectional Championships
Divisional qualifying forms due at National Office	At least six weeks before first day of Summer National Championships
Sectional Championships	At least six weeks before first day of National Championships
Sectional qualifying forms due at National Office	Three business days after Sectional Championships
Entry forms due at National Office	At least six weeks prior to start of National Championships.
Late Entry Period	Must be received NO LATER THAN four weeks prior to first day of tournament with payment of triple fees.
DIV. I NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS HELD WITH APRIL NAC	
National Rolling Point Standings basis for qualification	No later than four weeks before first day of Division I National Championships when held at a separate time from the Summer National Championships
Entry forms due at National Office	At least one month prior to start of Championships.
Late Entry Period	Must be received NO LATER THAN two weeks prior to first day of tournament with payment of triple fees.

Section 3: Teams

National Team Championships are conducted annually by the USFA in each weapon (and for two levels, senior and junior). All members of a team are to be competitive members of the same USFA Member Club and their USFA Member Club must enter the team. Each team member must have represented that club according to the rules of team representation as specified in Chapter 5: Section 2 B of the USFA Operations Manual. Automatically qualifying to the National Team Championships will be any team from a current USFA member club that placed first through fourth in the previous year's championships. Teams otherwise qualify through their Division with each Division qualifying a minimum of two clubs who have entered teams in their Division's qualifying competition, up to a maximum of no more than fifty percent of the number of clubs that competed in the qualifying competition. [BOD, 9/02] The maximum number of teams that can qualify was changed to 6 by the BOD in October 2003.

The number of clubs that qualify is based on the number of separate member clubs who have fielded teams in the qualifying competition.

- A. Fencers are not permitted to represent a club in team championship competition unless they satisfy the club representation rules in Chapter 5, and meet one of the following criteria:
 - 1. They have represented that club at least once during that regular season either in a competition in the division or in the Sectional Championships of the section in which the club is located, OR
 - 2. They have represented that club at least once during that regular season in a North American Circuit competition or in the Junior Olympic Championships, OR
 - 3. They have represented the same club in the last National Championships and have notified the National Office in writing before April 15 (and be able to prove so by, for example, certified mail with return receipt requested) of their intent to represent that club at the coming National Championships.
 - 4. Once they have represented a club in USFA competition they cannot represent any other club in that fencing season without special permission of the USFA Executive Committee.
- B. US Modern Pentathlon Association may enter one team in men's épée and one team in women's épée in Division I National Team Championships without participating in a qualifying competition. [BOD 2/2000]
- C. Exceptions to club membership requirements are granted to members of teams representing the US Modern Pentathlon Assoc. or representing 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 "C", "B", or "A".
- D. Teams can have up to four members registered for the team competition, three of whom fence in a team match. The fencer listed as the fourth fencer for a team match

is the substitute or replacement athlete. A team can fence without a substitute but must have the same three fencers for all team matches.

- E. Alternate teams are not permitted in any Team Championship. *[BOC, circa 1989]*
- F. The person named as Captain need not be one who fences on the team. If the Captain is a member of the team, then that person is one of the four team members. After the Captain of the team has registered the names of the four fencers as members of the team, done on the day prior to that National Championship Team competition, no changes can be made to that list of team members; the Captain can withdraw a fencer but cannot add a fencer even if the number of members falls to three. No team will be allowed to fence with fewer than three members.
- G. Teams shall represent a club that is a member club of the USFA no later than the time of the qualifying competition. The number of teams a club has entered in the team qualifying competition will not affect how many clubs qualify as the club will only be counted once. In addition, if one of the teams from that club earns a qualification spot no other team from that club will change that outcome. The club earns the right to enter one team in the national team championships.
- H. Any club or school or bona fide organization that is a current USFA club member that qualifies to field a team in the Division I Team Championships will also qualify to field a team in the Senior Team Championships. Divisions may either hold a separate Senior Team and a separate Division I qualifying competition to qualify clubs for the Senior Team Championships or just hold one Team Qualifier competition for clubs to qualify to the Division I and the Senior Team Championships. *[BOD, Oct. 2003]* Separate qualifying competitions must be held for the Under-19 National Team Championships.
- I. Members of the teams entered in the Division I National Team Championships must have a classification of C or better prior to the start of the National Championships tournament. *[BOD, 2/2006, effective 2006 National Championships]*.
- J. A duly qualified and entered team for the National Championships need not limit the composition of its team to those members who were members of that team in the qualifying competition.
- K. Composite teams are not permitted at any National Team Championships. *[BOD 9/02]*
- L. In September 2006, the USFA Board of Directors approved that there be only one Senior National Team Championship at the Summer National Championships beginning in 2007.

A separate Division I National Team Championships will be scheduled when the Division I National Individual Championships will be held at a separate time and place from the Summer National Championships; otherwise, the Division I Team and the current Senior Team Championships will become one Team Championship tournament. *[BOD, 9/06]*

- M. Seeding for the National Team Championships, senior or Under-19, will be in accordance with the national senior and junior point standings, respectively, at the time entries are closed. The priority in seeding will be the National point standings followed by the classification of the remaining team members. [This type of seeding

teams will be evaluated after the 2007 National Championships with a report to the Board for continuation of the method of seeding.] *[BOD, Sept. 2006]*

Section 4: Qualification Criteria

A. For Qualifying Competitions

- (1) All qualifying competitions must conform strictly to the rules governing USFA competitions. Each division, at its discretion, may designate its Divisional Championships as its qualifying competition to the Sectional Championships, if such is required by the Section, and to the National Championships. The divisions and sections must give at least three weeks notice of the date, time and place of the qualifying competitions.
- (2) Each division is required to schedule qualifying competitions for each competition for which there are divisional qualifying requirements for the National Championships. Divisions should hold separate qualifying competitions, whenever possible, for each Championship competition. Divisions and Sections must make every reasonable effort to ensure that competition schedules permit competitors to qualify for all competitions for which they are eligible.
- (3) All qualifying competitions should be scheduled with regard to date, time, and location in such a manner as to prevent undue hardship to members wishing to attend such competitions. They may not be scheduled in conflict with major religious holidays or competitions on the National Calendar in that weapon (such as North American Circuit tournaments). If a division is geographically large, the qualifying competitions should be held on weekends or national holidays.
- (4) Organizers of Divisional and Sectional Qualifying Tournaments for National Championship tournaments must arrange that at least one referee with a rating of five or higher is present at such tournaments in order to achieve some minimum quality assurance. *[BOD July 2002]*
- (5) The FOC shall publish a list of approved Sectional Championship representatives and the cost of travel and attendance at the Sectional Championships by an FOC Representative selected by the Section from that list shall be borne by the Section. *[BOD, Oct. 2003]*
- (6) In the event that the number of entries for a qualifying competition is equal to or less than the number of authorized qualifiers, the qualifying competition need not be held and all entries shall be qualified for that event at the National Championships.
- (7) In the event that the number of entries for the National Division is greater than the minimum number of qualifiers allowed, a qualifying competition may be held at the site of the National Championships on the day before that National Championship competition is scheduled to be held.
- (8) There are no alternates to any National Championship competition; only those who have met the qualifying standard will be eligible to enter the National Championships. *[BOD, circa 1989]*
- (9) Qualification places must be determined regardless of the format used — the number of qualifiers is not increased due to ties. By “ties” it is meant that the fencers are tied

in all indicators as explained in the *2005 USFA Rules for Competition*. If two or more fencers finish in a tie for the last qualifying place(s), which fencer(s) are qualifiers must be determined by fencing as many barrage bouts as needed to determine the qualifier(s). If a format with direct elimination is used, only ties for the last qualifying place must be resolved by fencing a barrage between the fencers involved. The barrage should match the finals format as fenced. For example, if the tie occurs in the direct elimination round, then the fencers fence a 15-touch bout; if tie occurs in a 5-touch round robin final, the barrage bouts must be five-touch bouts.

- (10) 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 in that event (athletes who are automatic qualifiers) are skipped in determining those who have qualified for that competition. For example, if there are 20 competitors in the qualifying competition, of which four have already qualified for that particular championships event, those four are skipped in determining the five qualifiers from that competition. Example: If the automatic qualifiers placed 1st, 3rd, 6th, and 7th, then the qualifiers are those who have placed 2nd, 4th, 5th, 8th and 9th.
- (11) Acceptable formats for qualifying competitions, individual or team, are:
- By pools throughout; or
 - Preliminary round of pools of 5 and 6 or 6 and 7 persons per pool
 - Promotion of between 70% and 100% to a direct elimination tableau.
 - Simple direct elimination tableau without repêchage.
 - Direct elimination with repêchage can be considered.
- (12) A fencer may appeal to the USFA Executive Committee 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.
- (13) 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.

B. Qualifying Paths to National Championships

1) Terminology

- NRPS stands for National Rolling Point Standings, which are available on the US Fencing website. All dates “as of” refer to that year of the Championships.
- The fencing season is the same as the membership year, August 1 through the following July 31; unless otherwise specified, fencing season will be Current.
- Current fencing season is the season in which the Championships are held.
- Next fencing season is the fencing season that starts after the Championships.
- January 1 refers to the Current fencing season unless otherwise specified.

2) Age Rules

For each age category of competition there are specific minimum and maximum age criteria.

For USFA Junior (Under-20) Competitions (NAC, J.O.s and respective qualifying competitions): The athlete must be between ages of 13 and 19 years as of January 1 of the **CURRENT** fencing season.

For USFA Junior (Under-19) Competitions (Summer Nationals & respective qualifying competitions): The athlete must be between ages of 13 and 19 years as of January 1 of the **NEXT** fencing season.

The exception for the Junior category of competition will be those athletes younger than 13 as of January 1 who are on the Cadet NRPS at the entry deadline for an NAC or at the qualifying competition for the Junior Olympic Championships or Summer National Championships.

For all USFA Cadet (Under-17) Competitions (NAC, J.O.s and respective qualifying competitions): The athlete must be between ages of 13 and 16 years as of January 1 of the **CURRENT** fencing season.

For all USFA Cadet (Under-16) Competitions (Summer Nationals & respective qualifying competitions): athlete must be between ages of 13 and 16 years as of January 1 of the **NEXT** fencing season.

The exception for Cadet category will be those athletes younger than 13 as of January 1 who are on the Youth 14 NRPS at the entry deadline for an NAC or at the qualifying competition for the Junior Olympic Championships or Summer National Championships.

For all USFA Youth 14 competitions (NAC & Summer Nationals & respective qualifying competitions): athlete must be between ages of 11 and 14 years as of December 31 of the current fencing season. The exception will be those athletes younger than 11 as of December 31 who are on the Youth 12 national point standings at the time the normal entry deadline has occurred for that USFA competition.

For all USFA Youth 12 competitions: athlete must be between ages of 9 and 12 years as of December 31 of the current fencing season. The exception will be those athletes

younger than 9 as of December 31 who are on the Youth 10 national point standings at the time the normal entry deadline has occurred for that USFA competition.

For all USFA Youth 10 competitions: athlete must be between ages of 7 and 10 years as of December 31 of the current fencing season. There are no exceptions for Youth 10 competitions.

No person who is under 7 years of age as of December 31 of the fencing season will be eligible to compete in any USFA competition.

See the Athlete Handbook for the current fencing season for the exact birth year brackets for eligibility to any of the National Championships competitions and for verification of the cut off date for position on National Rolling Point standings.

Section 5: Junior Olympic Championships (J.O.s)

Championships held on Presidents' weekend in February

BOD approved motion – 25% of the eligible contestants would qualify, 10/03, effective as of the 2005 JO Championships

UNDER-17 CHAMPS Fencers must be 13 years or older¹ and Under 17 years old as of January 1 of the current season. **AND**

- Be on the Cadet NRPS at the entry deadline for the Under-17 Championships **OR**
- Be in the top 8 of the Youth 14 NRPS at the entry deadline for the Under-17 Championships **OR**
- Be in the top 25% [Table 6a] in the Division's Under-17 J.O. qualifying competition.
- Be a qualifier for the Under-20 JO Championships [*BOD, 10/2004*]

UNDER-20 CHAMPS Fencers must be 13 years or older¹ and Under-20 years old as of January 1 of the current season. **AND**

- on the Junior NRPS at entry deadline for the Under-20 Championships **OR**
- in the top 16 of the Cadet NRPS at the entry deadline for the Under-20 Championships **OR**
- in the top 25% [Table 6a] in the Division's Under-20 J.O. qualifying competition

TABLE 6a: NUMBER OF QUALIFIERS FOR CHAMPIONSHIPS

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

1

¹ An athlete who is younger than the minimum age allowed may compete in the event IF, at the entry deadline, that athlete is on the NRPS for the category just below that of the competition; i.e., athlete on Youth 14 NRPS is eligible for Cadet competitions; athlete on Cadet NRPS is eligible for Junior competitions; athlete on Junior NRPS is eligible for all other competitions

Section 6: Division I National Championships

[Held w/Summer Nationals except in Olympic year when held in April with NAC Youth tournament]

DIVISION I CHAMPIONSHIPS

Fencers must be 13¹ or older as of January 1 **AND**

- Be on the National Senior NRPS at the entry deadline for the National Championships **OR**
- Be in the top 8 of the Junior (U-19) NRPS at the entry deadline for the National Championships **OR**
- Be in the top 4 of the Cadet (U-16) NRPS at the entry deadline for the National Championships **OR**
- Placed in the top 8 in the previous year's Division I-A National Championships **OR**
- Placed in the top 4 in the previous year's Division II National Championships **OR**
- Three men's epee fencers and three women's epee fencers named by the U.S. Modern Pentathlon Association

Section 7: Summer National Championships [BOD October 2003]

Normally held the first week of July.

A. Qualification From Section Championships

TABLE 6b: NUMBER OF QUALIFIERS FOR DIVISION I-A NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

# Competitors	1-7	8-32	33-36	37-40	41-44	45-48	49-52	53-56	57-60	61-64	65-68	69-72
# Qualifiers	1-7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18

BOD action specifying the number of qualifiers, 10/03, effective as of the 2004 Summer National Championships

DIVISION I-A CHAMPS

Fencers must be at least 13 old¹ as of January 1 of the next fencing season **AND**

- Place in the top 25% at the current Senior Section Championships (Table 6b), minimum of 8 fencers if application of the 25% rule results in less than 8) [BOD, 10/03] **OR**
- Placed in top 8 at the previous year's Division I-A National Championships **OR**
- Placed in top 4 at the previous year's Division II National Championships **OR**
- Be current season's Under-19 Section Champion

UNDER-19 CHAMPS

Fencers must be between the ages of 13¹ and 19 years on January 1 of the next fencing season. Younger is allowed in the qualifying competition if athlete is on the Cadet NRPS at the entry deadline for the qualifying competition **AND**

- Place in the top 25% [Table 6b] at that year's Under-19 Section Championships **OR**
- Be on the Under-19 NRPS on May 1 of the year of the Championships **OR**
- Be in the top 16 of the Under-16 NRPS on May 1 of the year of the Championships

B. Division National Qualifying Competitions

TABLE 6a: NUMBER OF QUALIFIERS FROM DIVISION QUALIFYING COMPETITIONS

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

DIVISION II CHAMPS

Fencers must have a classification in the weapon of "C", "D", "E" or Unclassified at the entry deadline for the qualifying competition **AND** be at least 13 years old² as of January 1 of that year's Championships **AND** – [modified by BOD, 10/03, limited qualifying paths, BOD, 9/06]]

- Place in the top 25% [Table 6a] of the Division Qualifying competition

¹An athlete who is younger than the minimum age allowed may compete in the event IF, at the entry deadline, that athlete is on the NRPS for the category just below that of the competition; i.e., athlete on Youth 14 NRPS is eligible for Cadet competitions; athlete on Cadet NRPS is eligible for Junior competitions; athlete on Junior NRPS is eligible for all other competitions.

DIVISION III CHAMPIONSHIPS

Fencers must have a classification in the weapon of “D”, “E” or Unclassified at the entry deadline for the qualifying competition **AND** be at least 13 years old¹ as of January 1 of that year’s Championships **AND** – [BOD modification, 9/06]

- Place in the top 25% [Table 7] 25% of “D” and under fencers in Division’s Division II qualifying competition **OR**
- If separate Division III qualifying competition held by Division, then top 25%

UNDER-16 CHAMPS

Fencers must be between the ages of 13¹ AND 16 on January 1 of the next fencing season. Younger is allowed to compete in the qualifying competition if athlete is on the Youth 14 NRPS at the entry deadline for the qualifying competition **AND**

- Be on the Under-16 NRPS at the time of the Division’s qualifying competition **OR**
- Place in the top 25% [Table 6a] of the Division’s U-16 qualifying competition **OR**
- Be in the Top 8 of the Youth 14 NRPS at the entry deadline for the Championships **OR**
- Be a qualifier for the Under-19 National Championships [BOD 10/2004]

YOUTH 14 CHAMPS

Fencers must be between the ages of 11¹ and 14 as of December 31 of the year preceding the Summer Nationals. Younger is allowed if athlete is on the Youth 12 NRPS at the entry deadline for the qualifying competition **AND**

- Be on the Youth 14 NRPS at the time of the Division’s qualifying competition **OR**
- Place in the top 25% [Table 7] of the Division’s Youth 14 qualifying competition **OR**
- Be a qualifier for the Under-19 National Championships [BOD 10/2004]

VETERANS CHAMPS

The Veterans Age National Championships have three separate age categories: “40-49” as of January 1 of the current season; “50-59”, and “60 and older” as of the first of the month in which the Veterans World Championships are held.(usually early September). [BOD 10/2003] See the Athletes Handbook for dates of the World Veterans Championships.

VETERAN

For each Veterans age category, the athlete must meet the age criteria specified in the Athletes Handbook **AND** have fenced in

- Current Season Section Championships **OR**
- Current Season Division qualifying competition for Division II Championships See rules governing Division II competitions **OR**
- Any NAC during the current season.

Section 8: NON CHAMPIONSHIP COMPETITIONS AT SUMMER NATIONALS

YOUTH-12

Youth 12 is a National Youth tournament but is not a National Championships at this time. Fencers must be between the ages of 9¹ and 12 as of December 31 of the year preceding the Championship tournament **AND**

- Fenced in at least one Regional or Super Regional Youth Circuit competition in the current season in that age category and that weapon **OR**
- Fencer must state on the Entry Form the competition(s) at which the athlete fulfilled the requirement. Failure to do so will be basis for rejection of the entry.
- Be on the Youth 12 NRPS as of the entry deadline for the Summer Nationals

¹An athlete who is younger than the minimum age allowed may compete in the event IF, at the entry deadline, that athlete is on the NRPS for the category just below that of the competition; i.e., athlete on Youth 14 NRPS is eligible for Cadet competitions; athlete on Cadet NRPS is eligible for Junior competitions; athlete on Junior NRPS is eligible for all other competitions

YOUTH-10

Youth 10 is a National Youth tournament but is not a National Championships at this time. Fencers must be between the ages of 7 and 10 as of December 31 of the year preceding the Summer Nationals tournament **AND**

- Fenced in at least one Regional or Super Regional Youth Circuit competition in the current season in that age category and that weapon **OR**
- Fencer must state on the Summer Nationals Entry Form the competition(s) at which the athlete fulfilled the requirement. Failure to do so will be basis for rejection of the entry.
- Be on the Youth 10 NRPS as of the entry deadline for the Summer Nationals

Section 9: National Team Championships

The number of clubs that qualify to field a team at the National Championships is based on the number of unique USFA Member Clubs represented at the Division’s Team qualifying competitions – Division I, Senior, or Under-19 Team. *Each Division qualifies a minimum of two clubs who have entered teams in their Division's qualifying competition, up to a maximum of no more than fifty percent of the number of clubs that competed in the qualifying competition. [BOD, 9/02] BY Board action, 10/03, the maximum number of clubs that can qualify a team is 6.*

There will always be a Senior Team Championships at the Summer National Championships. Division I National Team Championships will be held **ONLY** when the Division I National Individual Championships are held at a separate date and separate venue from the Summer National Championships. Each category of Team Championships will use the same formula for determining how many clubs qualify to field a team in a National Team Championships. *[BOD, Sept. 2006]*

Table 6b: Number of Qualifiers for Team Championships

# Unique Clubs	2	3	4-5	6-10	>10
# Qualifiers	2	3	4	5	6

Nbr Member Clubs qualified for Team Championships – BOD Oct. 2003

DIVISION I TEAM

Each member of the team at the Division I National Team Championships must have a classification of “C” or higher and have represented the club in USFA competitions in the current season. Athlete must be at least 13 years old¹ on January 1 of the year of the Championships. *[BOD, February 2006]* The Division I Team Championships is combined with Senior Team Championships for the 2007 Summer National Championships. No qualifying competition will be held in 2007. *[BOD, Sept. 2006]*

SENIOR TEAM

Any current competitive member of the USFA who has represented the club at USFA competitions in the current season may be a member of the club’s team. Athlete must be at least 13 years old¹ on January 1 of the year of the Championships..

The purpose of the Division team qualifying competitions is to qualify USFA member clubs to field a team at the National Team Championships. The Division may hold separate team qualifying competitions for Division I and Senior Team National Championships or they may hold just one for both categories. Division I Team Championships will only be held if the Division I Individual Championships are held at a separate date and place from the Summer National Championships. USFA Member Clubs qualify teams to the Championships by

- the Division qualifying competition **OR**
- being a USFA member club that placed in the top 4 at the previous Division I Team Championships **OR**
- being a member club that placed in the top 4 at the previous Senior National Team Championships
- US Modern Pentathlon may enter one men’s epee team and one women’s epee team

¹.An athlete who is younger than the minimum age allowed may compete in the event IF, at the entry deadline, that athlete is on the NRPS for the category just below that of the competition; i.e., athlete on Youth 14 NRPS is eligible for Cadet competitions; athlete on Cadet NRPS is eligible for Junior competitions; athlete on Junior NRPS is eligible for all other competitions

UNDER-19 TEAM The members of the team must be between the ages of 13¹ and 19 as of January 1 of the NEXT season and the club a current USFA member club.

- Placed in the top 4 at the previous Under-19 National Team Championships **OR**
- Qualify at the Division's Under-19 Team qualifying competition

Section 10: Certification of Qualifiers

A. Within 10 days after the completion of each of its qualifying competitions, the Secretary of each Division or Section shall transmit to the USFA National Office a certified list of the final placement of all competitors in the qualifying competitions.

These forms do not constitute the required entries for the Tournament, which must be submitted by each competitor. Individual entries cannot be processed until the National Office has received the appropriate qualifying result forms from the Division or Section. All requested information must be provided in a legible format on the forms provided by the National Office.

B. The USFA National Office shall check the certified lists against the list of USFA members in good standing and shall use these lists to process the entries.

Section 11: Qualification by Appeal

In exceptional cases, subject to approval by the USFA Executive Committee, a member of the USFA in good standing may be permitted to qualify to the Junior Olympic Championships or Summer National Championships by appeal. No petition may contravene the results of a qualifying competition. If a fencer is permitted to enter a National Championship competition by the appeal procedure, the fencer's entry will in no way affect the number of qualifiers from the Division or Section involved. Because entry into Division I National Championships is based on NRPS, appeals are not considered for Division I Nationals.

A. Examples of appeals and their dispositions:

1. If you are injured or become ill while competing in a qualifying competition and do not withdraw on a medical basis, your result stands and there is NO appeal. 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 your appeal.
2. Appeals will not be considered if a fencer is attending school in another division. Division membership is determined by where you live, where you go to school, or the location of the club that you represent in competition. When you renew your membership in the USFA, you must state the Division to which you wish to be assigned based on these criteria. That is your Division for the year and the one from which you must qualify to Championship tournaments.
3. Appeals will not be considered if the Division scheduled the qualifying competition on the same weekend as an NAC. Divisions and Sections try to avoid such conflicts but it may not always be possible. The athlete must decide in which competition (s)he wishes to compete. An appeal will not be approved if the athlete decides to fence in the NAC rather than the qualifying competition.
4. If the qualifying competition was not run in accordance with the USFA rules, you may submit a protest in writing to the USFA Director of National Events at the National Office specifying the rule infraction(s). This must be done within THREE DAYS after the qualifying competition; 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 favorably resolved.

B. How to file an appeal

An appeal may be filed by a fencer who qualified to that same competition in the prior season or whose competitive record during the current fencing season indicates a strong possibility that the fencer would have qualified had the fencer been able to compete in the qualifying competition but:

1. was unable to compete in the qualifying competitions this season (attendance at an out of town school during the qualifying competition shall not constitute inability to compete), OR
2. did compete and had to withdraw because of a disabling injury or illness.

All appeals must be made in writing to the Director of National Events, USFA National Office, 1 Olympic Plaza, Colorado Springs, CO 80909-5774. Such appeals **are to be filed within five business days** following the competition at which the petitioner could have qualified. Petitions must be received at the National Office no later than two weeks prior to the entry deadline for the Junior Olympic or Summer National Championships (no petition accepted for Division I National Championships) to which the petitioner seeks entry. 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.

The appeal must be accompanied by:

1. A non refundable-filing fee, payable to the USFA. See current season Athlete Handbook for amount.
2. 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.
3. A summary of the fencer's significant competitive results during the past year. In particular, results in previous National Championships and recent North American Circuit competitions should be noted.
4. The appropriate Division and/or Section Officer will be notified by the Director of National Events of submission of appeals from athletes from that Division or Section, depending on specific competition for which appeal is being filed. The officer can then file a statement recommending denial of appeal and reasons thereto. If no statement is filed, it will be assumed the officer has no objection to approval of appeal. [*BOD February 2003*]
5. A completed entry form for the tournament with the correct registration and entry fees. If the petition is not approved, these fees associated with the entry will be refunded.
6. A fax back sheet for reply to the appeal if athlete does not have a current e-mail addresses; ; if no fax information is provided the response to the appeal will be made by e-mail.
7. Petitions that do not meet these requirements will not be considered.
8. See the Appeal Checklist at end of this chapter for assistance in filing a proper appeal.

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 (s)he competed in the qualifying competition to its conclusion, based on results achieved in other competitions.

Section 12: Entries and fees

- A. Entry forms for the individual Division I National Championships are sent by email or mail if email is not available to each eligible competitor. Entry forms for the Team National Championships are posted on the web site and sent to members via e-mail newsletter. Entry forms for the Junior Olympic Championships and Summer National Championships are sent to all current USFA members by email in a Tournament Newsletter and posted on the USFA website.
- B. Every individual or team qualifier who wishes to participate in the National Championship competitions must file an official entry with the USFA National Office by the entry deadline specified on the official entry form.

- B. Entries, individual or team, received after the entry deadline will be accepted up until two weeks prior to the National Championships with payment of triple the amount due for all fees.
- C. Every entry must be accompanied by the required fees. All fees are determined by the Board of Directors and shall be announced in the schedule for the Tournament. Entries received without payment will be returned to sender and will not be considered as received.
- D. Each entrant should include a self-addressed stamped postcard or a fax return sheet with the entry form for confirmation of receipt of entry. These are the only acceptable proof of submission of timely entry.
- E. Entries will be checked against the certified list of qualifiers from the Division and/or Section. Determination shall be made of the number of fencers eligible to qualify from each Division and the number of valid entries actually on hand from the Division. Every entrant shall be sent confirmation of his/her acceptance for the Tournament.
- F. Entries cannot be processed until the Division or Section sends the complete results of the qualifying competitions to the National Office. Delays in processing of timely entries will occur if Division or Section results are not received promptly.
- G. Event fees will be refunded if the National Office receives written notification of withdrawal by the Monday prior to the first day of the tournament. Registration fees are non-refundable. Any refunds due to fencers will be sent after the tournament.

Section 13: Assumption of Risk

Every fencer engaging in competition, and every person attending a competition in any capacity whatsoever, does so at his or her own risk and peril and neither the organization having jurisdiction over the competition nor the organization furnishing the place for the competition, nor any officer, official, agent or employee of either of the aforementioned organizations, shall be liable in any manner for any damage, injury, or loss suffered by any person as a competitor, official, attendant, or spectator at a fencing competition regardless of whether or not there has been compliance with the rules and regulations prescribed herein, whether or not any official has waived or failed to enforce strict compliance therewith.

Section 14: Denial of Entry

An entry will be rejected if from a member who is not in good standing because of arrears in dues or entry fees, or because of disciplinary penalties in effect, or other sanctions that have been imposed.

APPEALS CHECKLIST FOR SUBMISSION TO NATIONAL OFFICE Additional Information May Be Requested to Fully Process Petition

- Non-refundable petition fee; see current Athlete Handbook for amount.
- Letter from athlete outlining the reason for the appeal with a summary of significant competition results during the last year
- Copy of letter sent to a Division/Section Officer notifying them of the Appeal
- Letter from a physician if the petition is for medical reasons (*if needed*)
- Letter from Bout Committee Chair if a medical withdrawal occurred during the qualifier (*if needed*)
- Email address or fax back sheet for reply to the appeal
- Appeal submitted within five business days of the qualifier
- Championship Entry form and payment

If your petition is incomplete, it will be returned to you unprocessed.

A. FORMATION OF THE USFA

The United States Fencing Association (USFA) was founded in 1891 as the Amateur Fencers League of America (AFLA) by a group of New York fencers seeking independence from the Amateur Athletic Union. The AFLA changed its name to the United States Fencing Association in 1981.

The USFA was incorporated as a non-profit corporation in Pennsylvania in 1964 in compliance with the Amateur Sports Act and opened its national office at the Olympic Training Center in Colorado Springs, Colorado in August of 1982. Carla-Mae Richards was hired as the USFA's first full time Executive Director in 1983.

B. STATUS

The Amateur Sports Act specifically named the *United States Olympic Committee* (USOC) as the coordinating body for amateur athletic activity in the United States directly relating to international Olympic athletic competition. The Act included provisions for recognizing National Governing Bodies (NGBs) for the sports on the Olympic and Pan American Games programs.

The USFA is the recognized National Governing Body (NGB) for the sport of fencing in the United States. The USFA is affiliated with the *Federation Internationale d'Esgrime (FIE)*, the international federation governing the world wide sport of fencing. The FIE was founded in Paris in 1913. In 1960 Miguel A. de Capriles became the first non-European president of the FIE.

C. MISSION

In keeping with its mission, the USFA sends teams to the World Championships, the World Under-20 Championships and the World Under-17 Championships. In addition, the USFA develops programs to assist its top athletes towards achieving international results.

The USFA selects teams to represent the USA at the Olympic Games, Pan American Games, World University Games and Pan American Fencing Confederation Championships for seniors, juniors and cadets. In 2006 the FIE mandated that each of the four world zones would establish annual zonal championships at which athletes could earn points for the FIE World point standings for seniors and juniors. There are four zones defined by the FIE: Asia-Oceania, African, Europe, Americas (Western Hemisphere).

The US has hosted two World Championships (1958 in Philadelphia and 1989 in Denver), one World Team Championships in women's foil and women's sabre in 2004; three World Junior Championships at Notre Dame University (1971, 1979, 1988) and two World Junior & Cadet Championships (Denver- 1993 and South Bend – 2000).

The USFA conducts the annual Coaches College from late July through the middle of August at the Olympic Training Center in Colorado Springs, Colorado. The Coaches College began in 1983 to further coaching development and has become one of its most popular educational programs.

D. United States Fencing Foundation (USFF) [*S. Sobel Memo to BOD, 1/29/2005*].

The United States Fencing Foundation (USFF) is a Colorado Corporation. It was established in 1986 as one of similar corporations formed by National Governing Bodies of Olympic Sports (NGBs). When the 1984 LA Olympics achieved unprecedented financial success, 40% of the surplus was awarded to the USOC, 40% to the Los Angeles Organizing Committee, and 20% was split among the NGBs. The USFA share was \$1,285,218. It was invested in the USFF to shield the money from immediate use and provide a revenue stream for future grants to the USFA.

The goals of the USFF are to maximize income to provide financial aid to carry out the purposes of the USFA, and to preserve the principal fund for the future. Under the leadership of Irwin Bernstein, since 1986 the USFF has earned and distributed to the USFA over 2 million dollars and still holds and invests a balance of over 1.5 million dollars.

The USFA Board of Directors elects the USFF Board of Trustees in accordance with the USFF Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws. The election shall be for 7 trustees to serve until the end of the next quadrennial. [The period of time between each Summer Olympic Games is defined as the quadrennial period.] Two trustees must be nationally elected USFA officers currently serving, and five must be USFA members not serving as nationally elected officers. At least one of the five non-officer members shall have been a past officer of the Association. Should the officer or non-officer member status of any trustees change, the trustees shall be automatically removed. The Bylaws provide that vacancies may be filled by a majority vote of the remaining trustees, until the next meeting of the Board of Directors. [*Excerpts from S. Sobel Memo to BOD, 1/29/2005*]

Board of Trustees for the USFF (2004-2008), Stephen B. Sobel, Derek W. Cotton, Edward Wright, Sherry Posthumus, Robert J. Prifrel, Robert S. Dow and Stephen S. Trevor. [*BOD Feb. 05*]

APPENDIX A: THE US FENCING ASSOCIATION

FORMERLY AMATEUR FENCERS LEAGUE OF AMERICA (AFLA)

	PRESIDENT	VICE PRES.	SECRETARY	TREASURER	
1891 – 1925	Dr. Graeme M. Hammond*		W. Scott O'Connor*		
1926 – 1929	Col. Henry Breckinridge*		F. Barnard O'Connor*		
1930 – 1933	F. Barnard O'Connor		Leon M. Schoonmaker*		
1934 – 1935	Leon M. Schoonmaker*		J. Howard Hanway*		
1936 – 1939	Harold Van Buskirk*		Dernell Every*	J. Howard Hanway*	
1940 – 1943	John R. Huffman		John R. Huffman		
1944	Harold Van Buskirk –		Pres. Unable to complete term of office		
1945 – 1948	Dernell Every*		Ervin S. Acel	George Cochrane	
1949 – 1952	Miguel A. de Capriles*		Warren A. Dow*	Rudolph Ozol	
1952 – 1956	Jose R. de Capriles*		Dernell Every*	Robert S. Driscoll	
1957 – 1960	Donald S. Thompson		Ralph M. Goldstein*		
1960 – 1964	Dr. Paul T. Makler		Allan S. Kwartler*	Rudolph Ozol	
The Amateur Fencers League of America, AFLA, incorporated as a non profit organization in Pennsylvania in 1964.					
1964 – 1968	Norman Lewis		Exec. VP* started '68	Anthony J. Orsi*	Leo Sobel*
1968 – 1972	Alan Miles Ruben	Norman Lewis*	William J. Latzko	Peter Tishman*	
In 1973 Bylaws changed to add two Vice Presidents to the Exec. V-P*					
1972 – -1976	Stephen B. Sobel	William A. Goering * Chaba M. Pallaghy Emily B. Johnson*	Irwin F. Bernstein*	Peter Tishman*	
1976 – 1980	Irwin F. Bernstein*	Micki Conti Emily B. Johnson* Manny Forrest	Eleanor Turney*	Howard P. Goodman	
In June 1981, the name of the organization was changed to “United States Fencing Association.”					
1980 – -1982	Emily B. Johnson*	Dr. Marius Valsamis* Mary Huddleson* Charles Thompson*	Dr. Fred G. Rhodes*	William J. Latzko	
In August 1982, the USFA opened its national office at the Olympic Training Center in Colorado Springs, CO with one full time employee, Ann Whiting, and hired its first full time Executive Director, Carla-Mae Richards, February 1983.					
1982 – 1984	Michel A. Mamlouk Carla-Mae Richards ED, '83-	Dr. Marius Valsamis* Mary Huddleson* Charles Thompson*	Dr. Fred G. Rhodes*	William J. Latzko	
1984 – 1988	Lewis W. Siegel Carla-Mae Richards ED	Carl Borack Colleen Olney* George G. Masin	John Higgs-Coulthard	Samuel D. Cheris	
1988 – 1990	Samuel D. Cheris Carla-Mae Richards ED	George G. Masin Gerrie F. Baumgart Jack D. Tichacek	Paul Soter	Elvira Orly	
1990 – 1992	Michel A. Mamlouk Carla-Mae Richards ED Ralph A. Zimmerman*, Interim ED '92(Sick Leave by Richards)	George G. Masin Gerrie F. Baumgart Jack D. Tichacek	Paul Soter	Elvira Orly	

APPENDIX A:

THE US FENCING ASSOCIATION

In 1992 Vice President office changed from one Executive Vice President and two Vice Presidents to three equal Vice Presidents. Also in 1992, Presidential term of office changed from two years to four years; USFA was incorporated in Colorado.				
1992 – 1996	Stephen B. Sobel Carla-Mae Richards ED, '94 Selden Fritschner ED, '94-2/95 William A. Goering*, Interim ED '95	William A. Goering* Stacey R. Johnson Michael A. Marx	Ann McBain Ezzell	Jennings Smith*
Vice President (V-P) for 1996-2000 period changed: Tom DiCerbo was elected a V-P but died before taking office. George Kolombatovich was appointed V-P until Fall Board meeting at which time Board elected Edwin Hurst.				
1996 – 2000	Donald W. Alperstein Michael Massik ED, 1/96-	Edwin K. (Buzz) Hurst Sherry Posthumus Ralph A. Zimmerman* Tom DiCerbo*, died shortly after elected George Kolombatovich interim VP, 7/96-9/96	Andrew R. Gearhart, resigned, replaced by Michael E. Sullivan	Robert J. Prifrel
2000 – 2004	Stacey R. Johnson Michael Massik ED	Barbara A. Lynch Sherry Posthumus Ralph A. Zimmerman*	Donald K. Anthony, Jr.	Michael Sullivan
2004 –	Nancy E. Anderson Michael Massik ED	Samuel D. Chervis J. Roberto Sobalvarro Edward Wright	Linda M. Merritt	Derek W. Cotton

The office of Foreign Secretary was an elective position from 1951 to 1968, when it was discontinued. This office was held successively by Tracy Jaeckel, General John V. Grombach, Ralph Goldstein, Norman Lewis and George Worth. It was reinstated as an appointed position September 1, 1973. Since reinstatement, the office has been held by Chaba Pallaghy, Michel Mamlouk, Joseph Byrnes, Samuel D. Chervis and Charles Higgs-Coulthard. The office was discontinued in 1991 with the responsibilities of the Foreign Secretary assumed by staff at the USFA national office.

In 1982 the Board of Directors voted to accept the offer of the U.S. Olympic Committee to open an office at the newly established Olympic Training Center in Colorado Springs, CO. In August Anne Whiting was hired as Secretary for the office. In February 1983, Carla Mae Richards was hired as the first full time Executive Director. In 1994 she stepped down to become Director of Technical Programs and Seldon Fritschner was hired to fill the position of Executive Director. He left in June 1995. Until the hiring of Michael Massik in January 1996, William Goering was named interim Executive Director.

With the 1997 National Championships the USFA took control of the quality management and financial operations of the U.S. National Tournaments. Under this new system, the local organizing committee acts as a subcontractor to the USFA and provides, for a guaranteed fee, certain negotiated services to support the tournament. The USFA retains the responsibility for most of the specific fencing related activities of the tournament, while the local organizing committee concentrates its efforts on providing such things as volunteers, tournament assistance and assorted tournament enhancements

Affiliate Membership was discontinued in 1995. It was an option for any sports organization which (i) conducts, on a level of proficiency appropriate for the selection of fencers to represent the United States in international fencing competition, a national program or regular national fencing competition and (ii) has met its obligation with respect to the payment of dues for the membership year as specified herein.

Editors of *American Fencing* from 1950 are: (* Deceased)

Jose R. de Capriles*	1950 to 1969
William. S. Latzko	Spring 1969
Ralph Goldstein*	Summer 1969 to Fall 1976
Harriet King	Winter 1976 to Fall 1978
Emily Johnson*	Winter 1978 to Summer 1980
Mary T. Huddleson*	Fall 1980 to Fall 1986
Albert Axelrod*	Winter 1987 to Winter 1990
Bruce Milligan	Spring 1991 to Fall 1992
Candi MacConaugha	Winter 1993 to Fall 1999
Michael Sullivan (Interim Editor)	Winter 1999 to Spring 2000
Meg Galipault	Fall 2000 to Spring 2004
Cindy Bent Findlay	Fall 2004 to present

APPENDIX B: INTERNATIONAL RECOGNITIONS

FIE SERVICE

Donald W. Alperstein:	Disciplinary Commission, 2004 –
Gerrie F. Baumgart:	Disciplinary Commission, 2001 – 2004
Jeffrey B. Bukantz:	Rules Commission, 2000 –
Carl Borack:	Promotion & Publicity Commission, 1996 to present; President, 2004 –
Samuel D Cheris:	Awarded Membre d’Honneur, 1998; FIE Executive Committee (1996-2004) President of Statutes & Legal Commission, 2000 – Member of Special Rules Commission for World Championships & Olympic Games, 2005 – Protocol Officer for World Championships & Olympics, 2001 – 2004
Daniel R. DeChaine, Jr.	Member of SEMI Commission, 1985 –
Jose R, de Capriles	Deputy President, FIE, 1960-1964
Miguel A. de Capriles	President, FIE, 1960-1964
Frederic R. Coudert	IOC Member, 1937-1948; IOC Honorary Member, 1950-1955
Ralph M. Goldstein	FIE Arbitrage, 1960-1964
Gen. John.V. Grombach	Secretary General, FIE, 1960-1964
Peter A. Harmer:	US Member of Medical Commission, 2000 – 2004; 2004 – rep. Australia
Sada Jacobson	Athletes Commission, 2005 –
Daniel J. Kellner:	Athletes Commission, 2002 – 2004
George Kolombatovich:	Arbitrage (Officials) Commission, 2000 –, President, 2004 –
Ann E. Marsh, M.D.	Medical Commission, 2004 –
Leo G. Nunes	Treasurer, FIE, 1960-1964
Chaba M. Pallaghy:	Vice President, 1993 – 1996; Executive Committee, 1981 – 1996; Arbitrage Commission, 1988 – 1996, President, 1992 – 1996
J. Brooks Parker	IOC Member, 1950-1951 (Died suddenly in 1951)
Marius Valsamis, MD	FIE Medical Commission 1980 - 2000
Felicia T. Zimmermann:	Athletes Commission, 1996 – 1998

REFEREES

2004 Olympic Games:	Athens GRE – Derek Cotton, Referee; George Kolombatovich, FIE Referee Delegate; Sam Cheris, FIE Protocol Officer
2004 Paralympic Games:	Athens, GRE – Sharon Everson, Jon Moss; George Kolombatovich, FIE Chief of Referees,
2000 Olympic Games:	Sydney, AUS – Derek Cotton
2000 Paralympic Games:	Sydney, AUS – Sharon Everson, Jon Moss; FIE Chief of Referees, George Kolombatovich
1996 Olympic Games:	Atlanta, GA; Gerrie Baumgart, Jeffery Bukantz, Emmanuil Kaidanov, George Kolombatovich, Marcos Lucchetti, and Russell Wilson, all refereed in the finals.
1996 Paralympic Games	Atlanta, GA:Gerrie Baumgart, Luis Casado, Derek Cotton, Sharon Everson, Ann Ezzell, Vladimir Lilov, David Micahnik, Jon Moss, and Atilio Tass, all refereed in the finals.
1992 Olympic Games	Spain - George Kolombatovich, Ralph Zimmerman (Both refereed in finals)
1992 Paralympic Games	Spain – United States did not participate
1988 Olympic Games	Seoul, KOR – Russell Wilson, referee in finals
1984 Olympic Games	Los Angeles, CA - Jeffrey Bukantz, Ralph Zimmerman, George Kolombatovich, Russell Wilson, Robert Blum

INTERNATIONAL ACTIVITY

The USFA has achieved considerable prestige on and off the strip. Despite financial and geographical handicaps to participation in most major international competitions, US athletes have competed with distinction internationally since 1904. In the 2006 World Junior and Cadet Championships, the US athletes broke US records by winning 9 individual medals of which three were gold medals and one team GOLD, junior women's sabre team won its third consecutive team GOLD. Besides the 9 individual medals, five other athletes made the final 8. The United States placed third in the FIE World standings for the Championships, the highest placing ever.

Periodically the USFA has undertaken to host World Championships – cadet, junior and senior. In addition, its long standing Martini international tournament was added to the calendar of the FIE as a World Cup tournament.

USFA HOST OF WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS AND OLYMPIC GAMES

World Senior Champs.	1958	Philadelphia, PA
	1989	Denver, CO
World Sr. Team Champs. – Women's Foil and Sabre	2004	New York, NY
World Junior Champs.	1971, 1979, 1988, 2000	South Bend, IN
World Cadet Champs.	1993	Denver, CO
World Jr Cadet Champs	2000	
World Cup Sr Men's Sabre	Intl 1961	New York, NY
World Cup Sr MS, WF		New York, NY
World Cup Sr – MS, WF, WS	Held in NYC, VA, Peabody, MA	
World Cup Sr WF, WS	2005, 2006	Las Vegas, NV
World Veterans Champs First held in 1997 in ME only	2002, 2005	Tampa, FL
Olympic Games	1932, 1984	Los Angeles, CA
	1996	Atlanta, GA

The highest honor and vote of confidence in US fencing was bestowed by the FIE in 1960, when it elected Miguel de Capriles as President of the FIE for a four-year term and entrusted the running of international fencing affairs to an all US Bureau that included Jose de Capriles as Deputy President; Gen. J.V. Grombach as Secretary-General; and Leo G. Nunes as Treasure.

The honor of taking the Olympic oath at the opening ceremony on behalf of all the assembled athletes was given to Lt. George C. Calnan, men's foil fencer, in the 1932 Olympiad and to George V. Worth, sabre fencer, in the 1959 Pan American Games. The honor of carrying the flag for the US delegation as it entered the stadium for the opening ceremonies was awarded to Dr. Norman C. Armitage (member of 6 Olympic Teams in sabre – 1928, 1932, 1936, 1948, 1952, 1956) in the 1952 and 1956 Olympic Games, and to Miguel de Capriles (epee) in the 1951 Pan American Games. In the 1968 Olympic Games, Mrs. Janice Lee York Romary (ten time National Champion in foil) became the first woman to carry the flag of the US delegation in the opening ceremonies in honor of her sixth competitive appearance in the Olympic Games (1948 – 1968).

The honor of carrying the flag for the US delegation for the closing ceremonies was awarded to Peter Westbrook (12 time National Sabre Champion) in the 1992 Olympic Games.

RECENT NOTABLE US PERFORMANCES – WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS & OLYMPIC GAMES (Incomplete – to be completed)

2000 WORLD TEAM CHAMPIONSHIPS

GOLD: Women's Sabre Team: (Chris Becker, Nicole Mustilli, Sada Jacobson, Mariel Zagunis)

2001 WORLD TEAM CHAMPIONSHIPS

BRONZE Women's Foil Team (Ann Marsh, Erinn Smart, Felicia Zimmermann, Iris Zimmermann)

2004 WORLD TEAM CHAMPIONSHIPS

SILVER Women's Sabre Team (Emily Jacobson, Sada Jacobson, Caitlin Thompson, Mariel Zagunis)

2005 WORLD TEAM CHAMPIONSHIPS

GOLD: Women's Sabre Team (, Sada Jacobson, Caitlin Thompson, Rebecca Ward, Mariel Zagunis)

2004 OLYMPIC GAMES:

GOLD: Mariel Zagunis, Women's Sabre, individual

BRONZE: Sada Jacobson, Women's Sabre, individual

Fourth: Men's Foil Team (Jed Dupree, Dan Kellner, Jon Tiomkin, Greg Chang (Alt))

Men's Sabre Team (Ivan Lee, Jason Rogers, Keeth Smart, Tim Morehouse (Alt))

Sixth: Men's Epee Team (Seth Kelsey, Cody Mattern, Soren Thompson, Jan Viviani (sub))

Seventh: Soren Thompson, Men's Epee Individual

2006 WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS

GOLD: Rebecca Ward, Women's Sabre Individual (first woman to win all three World Championships titles in the same year: Cadet, Junior and Senior)

SILVER: Mariel Zagunis, Women's Sabre Individual (winner of the FIE World Cup two years in a row)

BRONZE: Sada Jacobson, Women's Sabre Individual

SILVER: Women's Sabre Team: Sada Jacobson, Caitlin Thompson, Rebecca Ward, Mariel Zagunis

GOLD Curtis Lovejoy, Wheelchair Men's Foil Category C

OLYMPIC TEAMS 1988-2004

1988 Seoul, Korea (Names in bold fenced individual & team; others fenced team only)

Sherry Posthumus, Team Leader; Carl Borack, Team Captain; Dan Dechaine, Armorer;
Coaches: Yves Auriol, Csaba Elthes, Aladar Kogler

ME: **Robert Marx**, John Moreau, Lee Shelley, Robert Stull, **Steve Trevor**
MF: **Peter Lewison**, **David Littell**, **Michael Marx**, Greg Massialas, George Nonomura
MS: Robert Cottingham, Paul Friedberg, **Michael Lofton** (now Sankofa), **Steve Mormando**,
Peter Westbrook
WF: **Caitlin Bilodeaux**, Elaine Chervis, **Sharon Monplaisir**, **Mary Jane O'Neill**, Molly
Sullivan

1992 Barcelona, Spain (Names in Bold fenced individual & team)

Sherry Posthumus, Team Leader; Carl Borack, Team Captain;
Dan Dechaine, Team Armorer; Coaches: Yves Auriol, Wes Glon, Aladar Kogler

ME: Robert Marx, Jon Normile, Chris O'Loughlin (Team did not qualify)
MF: Eric Nick Bravin, Zaddick Longenbach, Michael Marx (Team did not qualify)
MS: **Robert Cottingham**, John Friedberg, **Michael Lofton** (Sankofa), **Steve Mormando**,
Peter Westbrook
WF: **Caitlin Bilodeaux**, Ann Marsh, Sharon Monplaisir, **Mary Jane O'Neill**, **Molly Sullivan**

1996 Atlanta, GA (Athletes fenced individual & team)

Sherry Posthumus, Team Leader; Carl Borack, Team Captain; Carl Oberg, Armorer;
Coaches: Aladar Kogler, Buckie Leach, Zoran Tulum

ME: James Carpenter, Michael Marx, Tamir Bloom
WE: Leslie Marx, Nhi Lan Le, Elaine Chervis
MS: Peter Cox, Thomas Stzalkowski, Peter Westbrook
WF: Ann Marsh (7th), Felicia Zimmermann, Suzanne Paxton
MF: Cliff Bayer, Peter Devine, Eric Nick Bravin

2000 Sydney, Australia (Only Women's Foil qualified for team & individual)

Robert Largman, Team Leader; Carl Borack, Team Captain Matthew Porter, Armorer,
(Carla-Mae Richards, Staff Liaison), USOC Trainer;
Coaches – Buckie Leach, Yefim Litvan

ME: Tamir Bloom
MF: Cliff Bayer
MS: Keeth Smart, Akhnaten Spencer-EI
WE: Arlene Stevens
WF: Ann Marsh, Felicia Zimmermann, Iris Zimmermann (Erinn Smart, replacement athlete)
Individual & Team

2004 Athens, Greece

Robert Largman, Team Leader; Jeffrey Bukantz, Team Captain; Lonnie Sellers, USOC Trainer, Ron Herman, Armorer; (Carla-Mae Richards, Staff Liaison);
Coaches: Yury Gelman, Arkady Burdan,
Xtra Credentials-Coaches: Simon Gershon, Ed Korfanty, Buckie Leach, Paul Soter,

ME: Wesley Seth Kelsey, Cody Mattern, Soren Thompson, (Jansson Viviani-replacement)
MF: Jedediah Dupree, Dan Kellner, Jon Tiomkin, (Gregory Chang, replacement)
MS: Ivan Lee, Jason Rogers, Keeth Smart, (Tim Morehouse, replacement)
WE: Kamara James
WF: Erinn Smart
WS: Emily Jacobson, Sada Jacobson, Mariel Zagunis
(no team event, just individual competition)

2004 PARALYMPIC FENCING TEAM

Marcella Denton – Team Leader
Leszek Stawicki – Head Coach
Jerry Benson – Assistant Coach

Athletes

Kris Alexander, Category A, Women's Epee & Foil
Susan Gilmore, Category A, Women's Epee & Foil
Carol Hickey, Category B, Women's Epee & Foil
Gary Van der Wege, Category A, Men's Epee & Foil
Gerard Moreno, Category B, Men's Foil & Sabre
Scott Rodgers, Category B, Men's Foil & Epee
Mario Rodriguez, Category A, Men's Foil & Sabre
Sean Shumate, Category B, Men's Epee & Sabre

FIE

George Kolombatovich, Arbitrage & D.T.
Sharon Everson & Jon Moss, Referees

APPENDIX C: HIGH PERFORMANCE COMMITTEE

Role and Scope of Responsibilities:

1. To establish system(s) and criteria for the selection of individual athletes and teams to participate in all international competitions in which athletes or teams are selected by the USFA to represent the United States.
2. To determine the appropriate cadre to accompany athletes and teams selected to represent the United States and to make appropriate selections of such cadre.
3. To approve and monitor programs developed by the National Training Director for the distribution of funds to and among elite athletes at all levels at which it believes it appropriate, including, but not limited to senior, junior and cadet.
4. To approve and monitor programs developed by the National Training Director for team preparation and training for International competitions, including, but not limited to the Olympic Games, the World Championships, the Pan American Games, the World University Games, and World Cup competitions.

To approve and monitor the High Performance Plan of the USFA or other planning information or programs developed by the National Training Director for submission to the USOC.

6. To prepare and oversee codes of conduct and disciplinary matters affecting USFA athletes competing in national and international events.
7. Establish the responsibilities of the members of a cadre for a team. [Cadre for a team may include any or all of the following: coaches, chief of mission, team captain, weapon captain, armorer, trainer. On any team, one person may be charged with performing the responsibilities of one or more of the positions.]

To disseminate information to athletes and prospective cadre members about the selection systems and USFA programs to increase the competency of fencers, including distributing an Athlete Handbook describing, among other things, selection systems, funding programs, and other programs which are administered or overseen by the Committee.

To coordinate utilization of referees at international competitions or tournaments with the Fencing Officials Commission.

Adopted by the High Performance Committee, February 2001

Report to the Board of Directors, July 2006

Issued by Stacey Johnson, Newly Appointed Chair of the High Performance Committee, July 2006

DESCRIPTION OF RESPONSIBILITIES

Among the responsibilities of the committee is the review and approval of selection criteria for all US international teams. The committee will also select cadre for international teams and develop a process for creating a pool of candidates for cadre. The HPC works in conjunction with the HPD to ensure that High Performance program goals and objectives are met. Additionally, the HPC works closely with the FOC in terms of recommending and communicating information pertinent to international referee selection that may have impact on US Fencing performance. The HPC must work closely with the FIE Advisory Committee to facilitate information and policy concerns in the international fencing policy arena to increase fair play internationally and level the playing field for US competitors.

1. HPC will ensure the Athlete Handbook is completed on an annual basis to supply all needed information to athletes, coaches and cadre.
2. HPC will ensure appropriate selection systems are reviewed, approved and distributed.
3. HPC will ensure appropriate cadres are selected for all international teams.
4. HPC will discuss and recommend strategies which will improve opportunities for athletes and coaches to pursue their respective goals in sport, as well as, develop strategies to overcome obstacles that prevent accomplishment of the organization's high performance goals.
5. HPC will serve as the appointment body when called upon for any grievances associated with the High Performance area.
6. HPC will recommend international policy issues for consideration by the FIE Advisory Committee.

Role of Vice President of International (VPI) – the VPI is the primary policy liaison who represents the voice of the USFA Executive Committee during the conduct of meetings. The primary role of the VPI is to ensure a smooth flow of communication is ongoing between the HPC, the Executive Committee and the President. The VPI will communicate key policy positions developed and adopted by the HPC back to the USFA EC and Board when appropriate. The VPI will work closely with the Chair of the HPC and the HPD to assure that programs and funding are directed towards the goals of the USFA.

Role of the Chair of the HPC – is to collaborate with the HPD and VPI in terms of working to achieve the High Performance goals. Specifically, the Chair of the HPC sets the agendas and meetings of the HPC. The Chair of the HPC ensures that critical policy information is communicated to other key committee chairs including but not limited to FOC, FIE Advisory Committee and Tournament Committee. The Chair of the HPC ensures that key deadlines are met in matters of selection criteria and cadre selection for international tournaments. The Chair of the HPC will make appointments to grievance panels when required.

Staff Role of High Performance Director (HPD):

1. HPD is responsible for all direction, contracts and oversight of the National Coaches.
2. HPD has the responsibility to provide feedback and performance reviews to National Coaches.
3. HPD will be responsible with the National Coaches in each of the weapons and with the National Disabled Fencing Coach, to develop the performance program for each weapon for presentation to the HPC.
4. HPD will ensure a coach representative is recommended to the Chair of the HPC for inclusion.
5. HPD will ensure that goals and objectives are developed for Youth, Cadet, Junior, Senior and Disabled fencers, and that the US is making successful progress towards attainment of those goals and objectives.
6. HPD will ensure that a network of coaches is developed in the overall National Coaching Program.
7. HPD will submit regular reports to the HPC.
8. HPD will facilitate communications to enhance program outcomes.
9. HPD will act as a primary liaison between the USFA and USOC in terms of High Performance activities.
10. HPD will sit as a non-voting, primary staff position to the HPC.

APPENDIX D: REFEREE RATING SYSTEM

Ten domestic rating levels (10, the lowest, through 1, the highest) and the international (FIE:"A" - highest; "B" - entry level) ratings are recognized by the USFA. To obtain a domestic Referee rating in a particular weapon, a candidate must first attend a Referee Seminar; then the candidate must pass the written General Section and the specific weapon section of the FOC Referee Examination. Within one year of successful completion of the written portion of the exam, a candidate must pass a practical examination. The written examination is to be taken without any reference materials (e.g., the Rules, Penalty Chart or consultation with others).

A score of 90% or better is required in the general section and in each of the weapons being examined. The required passing scores are as follows:

General 54/60; Foil 27/30; Épée 27/30; Sabre 27/30

Successfully completing the Seminar and passing the written exam will result in a rating of 10, for each weapon for which the candidate has passed the examination. At the successful conclusion of the practical examination, the referee candidate will be awarded a rating that reflects the skill demonstrated in the exam. Ratings of 9 – 5 are awarded at this point.

A rating of 4 can be awarded at any time at the discretion of a member of the FOC, based on observed level of officiating at a national tournament.

Ratings of 3, 2, and 1 are awarded by a vote of the Commission at its annual meeting

Examiners must submit a copy of the written answer sheet and the practical evaluation form to the Referee Development Committee (RDC@fencingofficials.org) for candidates earning referee ratings. These documents must be sent within fourteen days of the examinations; examiners will retain a copy of reports for one year. Examiners must give written notification of passing to any candidate at the time the examinations are passed.

The level of qualification for each referee rating is as follows:

- A level 10 rating requires a passing score on the written exam and a demonstrated proficiency at a level equivalent to the finals of an Unclassified competition
- A level 9 rating requires a passing score on the written exam and a demonstrated proficiency at a level equivalent to the finals of an E rated competition.
- A level 8 rating requires a passing score on the written exam and a demonstrated proficiency at a level equivalent to the finals of a D rated competition.
A level 7 rating requires a passing score on the written exam and a demonstrated proficiency at a level equivalent to the finals of a C rated competition.
- A level 6 rating requires a passing score on the written exam and a demonstrated proficiency at a level equivalent to the finals of a B rated competition.
- A level 5 rating requires a passing score on the written exam and a demonstrated proficiency at a level equivalent to the first round of an Open North American Cup competition. A level 5 rating must be earned before subsequent ratings can be earned.
- A level 4 rating requires a demonstrated proficiency at a level equivalent to the Direct Elimination round of 128 of an Open North American Cup competition.
- A level 3 rating requires a demonstrated proficiency at a level equivalent to the Direct Elimination round of 32 of an Open North American Cup competition.
- A level 2 rating requires a demonstrated proficiency at a level equivalent to the Direct Elimination round of 8 of an Open North American Cup competition.
- A level 1 rating requires a demonstrated proficiency at any level of an Open North American Cup competition.

All rated USFA referees must attend a Commission-approved seminar every year. Candidates for a national rating must take the Referee Seminar prior to taking the written examination, and they must have attended an FOC approved seminar and passed the written examination before they will be allowed to take the practical examination.

The Commission publishes periodically (at least annually) a list of nationally and internationally rated referees and is responsible for maintaining the accuracy of the list. Referees' ratings may be changed by the Commission. Rating of any referee will be lowered automatically one level if the referee has not been a referee at the rated level for a period of two years. After two more years of not officiating at the rated level, the referee will lose the referee rating and the referee's name will be removed from the FOC list of referees. The list of rated referees, published by the Commission, will indicate the most recent year of activity.

One must be a current member of the USFA to be retained on the list of referees. Any referee whose USFA membership has lapsed for more than one year will lose his/her referee ratings; to regain the ratings, the referee must retake the examination and attend the Referee Seminar.

In order to assist a candidate in obtaining a national rating, the Commission has established the following policy regarding examinations at national tournaments. One must understand that the examination of referees may not be considered as the primary function of the FOC at a national tournament. Every effort will be made to allow for examinations at these tournaments as long as they do not interfere with the proper conduct of the tournament.

Only those candidates who have attended a Referee Seminar and passed their written examination may be considered to take the practical examination.

No practical examinations will be given at any North American Circuit tournament or at the Junior Olympic Championships.

Only those candidates for a rating increase who have submitted a request in writing to the Commission may be considered to take the practical examination. Such written notification must be received at least three weeks prior to the competition.

Only those candidates who present themselves to the Commission representative thirty minutes prior to the start of the competition may be considered to take the practical examination.

Written examinations may be administered at a national tournament if requested in writing to the Commission. Such written notification must be received at least three weeks prior to the tournament.

Referees who wish to be observed for a possible increase in rating must send their request in writing to the Commission. Such written notification must be received at least three weeks prior to the tournament. The referees must then present themselves to the Commission representative thirty minutes prior to the start of the competition.

The Commission representative may have to deny a properly presented request for an examination if, at the discretion of the Commission representative, it would not be in the best interest of the competition (e.g., those who could act as examiners must be utilized as referees). Examinations, written or practical, may not in any way disrupt the tournament.

The Commission is the sole authority for the submission of candidates to the FIE for examination or removal as an international referee. Any referee with a 2 rating or higher, who would like to be tested by the FIE, should send the request, in writing, to the Commission. The Commission will notify the candidate if the request is approved and, if it is, when and where the candidate may take the examination. If the Commission is considering removal of a US referee on the FIE list due to inactivity, etc., the Commission will notify that referee, in writing, that removal is being contemplated prior to any action being taken.

The Commission has established two classes of approved examiners: the **Certified Referee Examiner** and the **Certified Referee Instructor**.

- The **Certified Referee Examiner** is primarily responsible for supervising the written portion of the Referee Examination, for conducting Rules Interpretation Seminars, and for serving as liaison to the FOC for the referees in his or her geographic area.
<http://www.fencingofficials.org/CRI/index.html> for more current listing.
- The **Certified Referee Instructor** is primarily responsible for conducting approved FOC Referee Seminars, for supervising practical referee examinations, and for issuing ratings to successful candidates. The CRI is authorized to award ratings up to two levels below his/her own rating in a given weapon, up to a 5.
http://www.fencingofficials.org/CRI/FOC_Examiners_May_2006.pdf

The Commission maintains a list of CRE and CRI on the FOC website. Only individuals published in this list are authorized to conduct certified examinations and seminars.
<http://www.fencingofficials.org/>

Fencing Officials Commission Certified Referee Instructors May 2006
Last name First Name Division City State Phone (H) Phone 2 Email

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APPENDIX E – REFEREE CODE OF ETHICS

(Adopted by the Board of Directors, Sept. 1997)

The concepts of honor and right have permeated the practice of arms for centuries. From the medieval Code Duello – which held that only the just cause would triumph – to the codification of rules covering the emergence of competitive fencing in the nineteenth century, it is clear that both concepts are inextricably linked with the sport.

Combined, they constitute fencing's essential spirit, an ineffable sense that justice will be done for the combatants.

This is the spirit that fencing referees must clearly recognize, embrace, represent and communicate.

It is not unlike the standard Hippocratic oath crafted for physicians: The physician must not only be prepared to do what is right himself, but also to make the patient, the attendants, and externals cooperate.

This code of ethics seeks to establish for fencing officials – in particular the Referee - a guide to the exercise of honor and right. It considers four areas: Integrity, Competence, Responsibility and Dignity.

INTEGRITY

- The Rules of Fencing assign sweeping powers to the Referee and important ones to ancillary officials. It would be impossible to fulfill the letter of these “laws” in the absence of the sense of incorruptibility the idea of integrity implies.
- Article t.34 states: “By accepting a position as referee or judge, the person so designated pledges his honor to respect the rules and to cause them to be respected, and to carry out his duties with the strictest impartiality and absolute concentration.”
- For this reason alone referees must maintain and promote complete neutrality.
- Referees should accept assignments only when no conflict of interest exists.
- Even in those instances that may suggest a conflict of interest, the Referee must make it known immediately to the assignors, e.g. pupil or former pupil, same club, etc.
- Referees are representative of the body conducting the competition and, therefore, must not consider themselves associated with any country, club or individual during the competition.
- Referees are present at the competition solely to officiate; it is inappropriate to coach or assist athletes during the competition.
- Referees are to respect other Referees to the utmost. It is improper to publicly indicate disapproval of the actions of other referees.

COMPETENCE

- Referees must know the rules.
- Referees must apply the rules.
- Referees must stay current on interpretations of the rules.
- Referees must attend required seminars on the rules.
- Referees must offer their judgment to appropriate Officials Commissions concerning rules that do not accomplish their intended goal.

RESPONSIBILITY

- Referees must be available for assignment from the time they are required to report until released by the assignors.
- Referees must do nothing that would interfere with their mental and physical abilities to perform.
- Referees must check with the assignors for reporting times and be present a minimum of one-half hour prior to the starting time of the round.
- Referees must be within earshot of all announcements affecting referees unless properly excused from the competition area.
- Referees are to be completely familiar with the duties assigned by Article t.35 of the Fencing Rules and carry them out scrupulously.
- Referees must insure that score sheets are accurate and that they are turned in to the Bout Committee immediately upon completion of a bout or match.

DIGNITY

- Referees must be properly attired at all times.
- Referees should refrain from joining in horseplay or other exhibitionism.
- Referees should exercise authority but avoid inciting contestants to misbehave.
- Referees should strive to conduct themselves in such a way that they earn a high regard from others.
- Referees should volunteer for withdrawal if unable to continue to perform.

This code is intended to provide the general principles by which Fencing Referees shall guide themselves and by which they will be measured by the Fencing Officials Commission.

APPENDIX F

HANDLING COMPLAINTS AGAINST A MEMBER OF THE FOC

In *February 2000*, the USFA Board of Directors adopted the following resolution concerning the discipline of FOC members:

WHEREAS, the Fencing Officials Commission (FOC) was established to examine, accredit and assign referees for national and international events. It is further charged with the duty of evaluating referee performance and the awarding of domestic ratings to these officials. In order that the corps of referees be free from partisan or political influences, the FOC is, and must be, the sole authority regarding these issues; and

WHEREAS, the USFA Board of Directors controls the FOC budget and the USFA President appoints or re-appoints up to 25% of the Commission's members each year:

THEREFORE, the FOC, acting under authority delegated by the Board, has the primary responsibility for monitoring the proper performance of their FOC duties by the Commission's members and desires to establish a procedure with the Board for handling complaints regarding members of the FOC itself in the following manner:

No complaint against a member of the FOC will be acted upon unless made in writing and delivered to both the Chair of the FOC and the USFA Officer Liaison. The latter will place the establishment of a Disciplinary Panel on the agenda of the next Board of Directors meeting as an Urgent item. If the Board approves such motion, the Panel will consist of five (5) members and be formed as follows: two (2) members will be appointed by the President, two (2) members shall be appointed by the Chair of the FOC and one (1) member shall be appointed with the joint concurrence of the President and the Chair. At least one athlete shall be a member of the panel.

The Disciplinary Panel will review the complaint. It may then dismiss it as either spurious or without merit, or, if it determines that the complaint presents a prima facie case (if the facts are as alleged, the complaint has substance) it will investigate the allegations using USFA procedures for due process and make a determination of an appropriate discipline, if any. This may be a reprimand, removal from the FOC, or suspension or revocation of USFA membership. In all cases, the Panel will submit a written report to the Board of Directors.

If Board action is recommended, the accused and the complainant shall be notified in writing.

The accused shall have the opportunity to speak to the Board and to be represented by counsel (of his/her own choosing and at his/her own expense) prior to the Board's decision. The Board of Directors can either ratify the recommendation of the Panel or decide by majority vote in favor of a lesser penalty. It cannot vote in favor of a harsher sanction than that recommended by the Disciplinary Panel.

APPENDIX G: DIVISIONS & SECTIONS OF THE USFA
LIST OF DIVISIONS WITH SECTION AFFILIATION & SECTION WEB SITE

1	Alabama	SE	http://www.fencealabama.org
2	Alaska	PNW	http://www.uaf.edu/fencing/alaskafencing
3	Arizona	RM	http://www.azfencingdivision.net/
4	Ark-La-Miss [AR, LA, & MS]	SW	http://www.almdiv.org/
5	Border Texas	SW	http://www.fencingelpasotx.org/
6	Capitol [DC]	MA	http://capdiv.usfencing.org/
7	Central California	PC	http://www.cencalfencing.com/
8	Central Florida	SE	http://www.centralflfencing.com/
9	Central Pennsylvania	MA	http://www.midatlanticfencing.com/
10	Colorado	RM	http://www.explore-systems.com/colodiv/index.do
11	Columbus Ohio	GL	http://www.columbusfencing.org/gls/
12	Connecticut	NA	http://www.candlewoodfencing.com
13	Gateway Florida	SE	http://www.thumbprint-productions.com/fencing/
14	Georgia	SE	http://www.gafencing.org/
15	Gold Coast, Florida	SE	http://www.goldcoastdivision.org/
16	Green Mountain [Vermont]	NA	http://www.vtfencing.org
17	Gulf Coast Texas	SW	http://www.gulfcoastfencing.org/
18	Harrisburg [PA]	MA	http://www.harrisburgusfa.org/
19	Hawaii	PC	http://fencehawaii.org/
20	Hudson [NY]-Berkshire [MA]	NA	http://www.hudsonberkshire.com
21	Illinois	MW	http://www.il-usfa.org/
22	Indiana	GL	http://www.nd.edu/~dtl/fencing/indiv.html
23	Inland Empire [Eastern WA, Northern ID & MT]	PNW	http://www.pnwsection.com/
24	Iowa	MW	http://home.mchsi.com/~dmfc/IowaDivision/IowaDivisionIndex.html
25	Kansas	RM	http://ksfencing.org/
26	Kentucky	GL	http://www.kyfencing.com/
27	Long Island [NY]	NA	http://www.liusfa.org
28	Louisiana	SW	http://www.louisianafencing.org/
29	Maryland	MA	http://www.maryland-fencing.org/
30	Metropolitan [NYC]	MET	http://www.metrodivision.com/
31	Michigan	GL	http://www.michfencing.org/
32	Minnesota	MW	http://www.mnfencing.org/
33	Mountain Valley [CA]	PC	http://www.mountainvalleyfencing.com/
34	Nebraska-South Dakota	RM	http://lincoln.inetnebr.com/organizations/lfc/nsd_div
35	Nevada	PC	http://www.greatbasin.net/~nevdiv
36	New England [Eastern MA, Rhode Island]	NA	http://www.neusfa.org
37	New Jersey	MA	http://njfencing.org/
38	New Mexico	RM	http://www.geocities.com/Colosseum/Arena/2293/nmdiv.html
39	North Carolina	SE	http://www.ncfencing.org/
40	North Coast [CA, north of Mt. Valley & No. Calif. Divs.]	PC	http://www.snowcrest.net/ricketts/NC_SDIV.html
41	North Texas	SW	http://www.norhtexasfencing.org/
42	Northeast [NH & ME]	NA	http://www.northeastfencing.net
43	Northeast PA	MA	n/a
44	Northern California	PC	http://www.norcalfence.org/
45	Northern Ohio	GL	http://northernohiofencing.com/
46	Oklahoma	SW	http://www.okdivisionfencing.org/
47	Orange Coast [CA]	PC	http://www.ocfencing.org/
48	Oregon	PNW	http://www.usfa-or.org/
49	Philadelphia [PA]	MA	http://www.phildiv-usfa.org/

APPENDIX G: DIVISIONS & SECTIONS OF THE USFA
LIST OF DIVISIONS WITH SECTION AFFILIATION & SECTION WEB SITE

50	Plains Texas	RM	http://www.plaintexasdivision.com/
51	San Bernardino [CA]	PC	http://www.usfasb.org/
52	San Diego [CA]	PC	http://www.sdfencing.com/
53	South Carolina	SE	http://www.scfencing.org/
54	South Jersey	MA	http://www.midatlanticfencing.com/
55	South Texas	SW	http://www.southtexasdivision.org/
56	Southern California	PC	http://socalfence.org/
57	Southern Louisiana	SW	http://www.southwestfencing.org/
58	Southwest Ohio	GL	http://www.louisianafencing.org/
59	St. Louis [MO]	MW	http://hometown.aol.com/brucesikes/stlouisfencing.html
60	Tennessee	SE	http://tnfencing.org/
61	Utah-Southern Idaho	PNW	http://www.utahfencing.org/
62	Virginia	SE	http://www.va-usfa.org/
63	Westchester-Rockland [NY]	NA	http://www.westrockdivision.org
64	Western New York	NA	http://www.wnyfencing.org
65	Western Pennsylvania	MA	http://www.westernpafencing.com/
66	Western Washington	PC	http://www.wwdfencing.org/
67	Wisconsin	MW	http://www.wifencing.org/widiv.htm
68	Wyoming	RM	http://applempco.uwyo.edu/fencing.html

SECTIONS WITH DIVISION AFFILIATIONS & WEB SITE LOCATIONS

GREAT LAKES SECTION - <http://www.columbusfencing.org/gls/>

Columbus [OH], Indiana, Kentucky, Michigan, Northern Ohio, Southwest Ohio

METROPOLITAN SECTION - <http://www.metrodivision.com/> Metropolitan [NYC]

MID ATLANTIC SECTION - <http://midatl.usfencing.org>

Capitol [DC], Central Pennsylvania, Harrisburg [PA], Maryland, New Jersey, Northeast PA, Philadelphia [PA], South Jersey, Western Pennsylvania

MIDWEST SECTION - <http://www.fencing.net/pages/orgs/midwest/>

Illinois, Iowa, Minnesota, St. Louis [MO], Wisconsin

NORTH ATLANTIC SECTION - <http://www.nas-usfa.org/>

Connecticut, Hudson [NY]-Berkshire [MA], Long Island [NY], New England [Eastern MA, Rhode Island], Northeast [NH & ME], Green Mountain [Vermont], Westchester-Rockland [NY], Western New York

PACIFIC COAST SECTION - <http://www.pcsfencing.com/>

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 - <http://www.pnwsection.com/>

Alaska, Inland Empire [Eastern WA, Northern ID & MT], Oregon, Utah-Southern Idaho, Western Washington

ROCKY MOUNTAIN SECTION - <http://www.rms-usfa.org/>

Arizona, Colorado, Kansas, Plains Texas, Nebraska-South Dakota, New Mexico, Wyoming

SOUTHEAST SECTION - <http://www.sesfencing.com/>

Alabama, Central Florida, Gateway Florida, Georgia, Gold Coast Florida, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, Virginia

SOUTHWEST SECTION - <http://www.southwestfencing.org/>

Ark-La-Miss [AR, LA, & MS], Border Texas, Gulf Coast Texas, Southern Louisiana, North Texas, Oklahoma, South Texas

NATIONAL DIVISION - www.usfencing.org

Those residing in a non-designated geographical area, assigned primarily for those in the military and those residing outside of the United States

APPENDIX G: DIVISIONS & SECTIONS OF THE USFA

LIST OF DIVISIONS WITH SECTION AFFILIATION & SECTION WEB SITE

<http://www.geocities.com/rockymountaincircuit/rules.html> - Rocky Mtn

The purpose of the Rocky Mountain Section Circuit/Cup is to recognize the best fencers in our Section. The Section Circuit Competitions are open to all fencers and all fencers will be tracked regardless of their Section Alignment but only members of RMS are eligible to win the cup.

There are three categories in each weapon: (1) Men; (2) Women (3) Junior Men's (4) Junior Women's. The Section Circuit champion will receive free tournament registrations and fees for all Circuit events for the following season.

<http://pcsfencing.com/senior/>

The Section supports the [Senior Circuit tournaments](#): a series of tournaments within the section, which offer Section fencers the opportunity for excellent competitions with fencers from all over the world. The Pacific Coast Section presents awards to the overall winners of the circuit for each season. These winners must be members of the Divisions within the Pacific Coast Section.

The Section supports the inclusion of Veterans competitions in the Senior Circuit tournaments. [Click here](#) for more information about these competitions and other competitions for Veterans within the Section.

<http://pcsfencing.com/junior/>

The Pacific Coast Section also hosts the Pacific Coast [Junior Circuit](#) with tournaments in Southern California, Arizona and Nevada.

The Pacific Coast Junior Circuit was established by the Pacific Coast Section to promote youth and junior fencing competitions within the southern portion of the Section. The circuit includes a tournament in the Arizona Division (Rocky Mountain Section) for 2005-2006.

<http://www.southwestfencing.org/SSCC/>

The Southwest Sectional Circuit Cup is a collective effort of the member Divisions of the Southwest Section, USFA. Its purpose is to promote increased participation among all levels of fencers in tournaments outside their home Divisions, to provide elite athletes with serious fencing at Regional competitions, to increase the size and strength of tournaments throughout the Section, to better prepare fencers for competition on the National level, and to promote fencing in general across the Section.

STATE GAMES WITH FENCING

Bay State Games – New England
Nutmeg Games – Connecticut
Empire State Games – New York
Maine State Games – Maine
Georgia State Games – Georgia
Texas State Games – Texas

APPENDIX H: GUIDELINES FOR FORMING NEW DIVISIONS

In accordance with Article XIV Section 1 of the Bylaws of the US Fencing Association, the Board of Directors established the following Guidelines to inform its decisions regarding the establishment of new divisions.

- 1) The proposed division should encompass a minimum of two USFA member clubs.
- 2) These clubs must have been member clubs of the USFA for at least three years.
- 3) The two clubs must each have a minimum of 15 USFA members.
- 4) The new division will be in a probationary status for two years. During that period, it must increase the size of its membership by 10%.
- 5) A complete set of By-Laws for the proposed division must be included with the petition to the Board.
- 6) The application must include a rationale for the proposed division that explains how it will better serve its members' interest than the current division.
- 7) The application must include, along with the petition itself and the proposed By-Laws, a statement that Guidelines (1), (2), and (3) above are met or a rationale as to why they should be waived.

The application should be sent to the National Office of the USFA, attention USFA Secretary, and a full copy, including all enclosures, must be sent to the current division and section chairs for comment. The Executive Committee of the USFA will review the application and any comments made by the chairs and, if it desires more information, may refer the application to other committees of the USFA for review and comment. When it is satisfied that it has the necessary information to make a recommendation, it will place the application on the agenda of the next meeting of the Board of Directors with its recommendation for approval or disapproval.

Article XV of the USFA Bylaws:

Section 4 Application for Division Charter. The application for a Charter, addressed to the Secretary of the USFA, shall be signed by not less than ten members, accompanied by the dues and fees for the current year prescribed in these Bylaws and outlining the territorial jurisdiction sought for the proposed Division.

Section 5 Grant or Denial of Division Charters. The Congress shall, at its discretion, grant or deny the request for a Charter. If granted, the Charter shall be the Constitution of the Division and the members thereof shall, within six months, adopt rules for the administration of local affairs not inconsistent with these Bylaws and submit a copy to the Secretary of the USFA.

APPENDIX I: RECOGNITION PROGRAMS

A. USFA COACH OF THE YEAR

YEAR	ELITE	DEVELOPMENTAL	VOLUNTEER
1996	A. "Buckie" Leach	Abdel Monem Salem	
1997	A. "Buckie" Leach	Andrea Lagan	
1998	Aladar Kogler		
1999	Vladimir Nazlymov	Gary Copeland	
2000	Ed Korfanty	Joseph Pechinsky	
2001/02	Arkday Burdan	George Kyaratskhelia	
2003	Ed Korfanty	Mikhail Petin	
2004	Ed Korfanty	Mikhail Sarkosov	Norman & Robbie Flam

(Data & article from Cathy Sellers of USOC, Manager, Coaching, 2005)

The Coach of the Year Program

The United States Olympic Committee Coach of the Year Recognition Program was started in 1996 with the idea to honor and recognize the efforts of US coaches. Coaches are the ones who are typically behind the scenes, whose recognition of a job well done is through the efforts of their athletes. The sense of victory is knowing that the training plan, technical and psychological preparation along with the tactics that they have designed --- work.

The original format of the program recognized the National and Developmental Coaches. In 2003, the USOC added the Volunteer and "Doc" Counsilman award, with the hopes of honoring those coaches working at the grassroots level and those coaches who exemplify the use of scientific knowledge at the highest level, respectively. In 2004, the USOC invited the U.S. Paralympics Division to nominate a coach for National Coach of the Year recognition.

How were these coaches selected?

Each National Governing Body (NGB) within the Pan-American and Olympic movement is encouraged to submit a nominee in each of the four categories—National, Developmental, Volunteer and "Doc" Counsilman Science Award.

The NGB is sent a nomination form, which requested information about the nominees coaching record for the current year along with the coaching honors/ recognitions, community involvement, service to sport and professional memberships. The NGB also provides a biography on each of the nominees (which are included in this program). This gives insight for a more complete picture of the coach and their accomplishments.

The USOC Coaching and Sport Sciences Division acted as an internal panel for the difficult task of reviewing all the submissions (approximately 45 per category) and selecting the five finalists in each category. The five finalists are then sent to a second panel of reviewers (inside and outside of the USOC) for the selection of the winner.

What are the differences in the categories?

The National Coach of the Year nominee is an elite level club, collegiate, Pan-Am, World Championship or Olympic Games coach or the coach of an elite athlete who competes at the highest level of their sport.

APPENDIX I: RECOGNITION PROGRAMS

The nominee for the Developmental Coach of the Year is a coach of a youth club, High School or Junior- level coach or coaches an athlete at the junior and/or elite level.

The Volunteer Coach of the Year works with the “grassroots” level athlete and must truly be a volunteer, as they can not receive payment in any form for their involvement in coaching at any level. The USFA is always seeking nominations for this award. If there is someone who fits this category, send the name of that person to the USFA Executive Director with an explanation of the work done as a volunteer coach.

James Edward “Doc” Counsilman was the legendary swimming coach at the University of Indiana. One of his most notable athletes was Mark Spitz, who captured seven gold medals at the 1972 Munich Olympics.

Counsilman published over a 100 papers on swimming research in a wide variety of areas: interval training, strength training, isokinetic and biokinetic exercises, hypoxic training, and altitude training, just to name a few.

In an effort to honor coaches who conduct and use research along with developing innovative training methods, the USOC instituted the “Doc” Counsilman award in 2003.

APPENDIX I: RECOGNITION PROGRAMS

B. USOC Athlete of the Year Program

Each year the USOC recognizes the top male and top female athletes and the top team as selected by their respective member organizations. The names of the athletes and teams are placed on ballots used to select the USOC Sportsman, Sportswoman and overall Team of the Year. Members of the USOC Board of Directors along with representatives of the national media participate in the voting to select the USOC Sportsman, Sportswomen and Team of the Year.

2004 Male Athletes of the Year

Fencing: Soren Thompson (San Diego, Calif.)

2004 Female Athletes of the Year

Fencing: Mariel Zagunis (Beaverton, Ore.)

2004 Teams of the Year

Fencing: Olympic Men's Saber Team –

Keeth Smart (Brooklyn, N.Y.), Ivan Lee (Brooklyn, N.Y.) and Jason Rogers (Los Angeles, Calif.)

	Male	Female	Team
1981	Mark Smith	Jana Angelakis	
1982	Michael Marx	Jana Angelakis	
1983	Peter Westbrook	Debra Waples	
1984	Peter Westbrook	Vincent Bradford	
1985	Michael Marx	Caitlin Bilodeaux	
1986	Lee Shelley	Vincent Bradford	
1987	Michael Marx	Caitlin Bilodeaux	
1988	Peter Lewison	Caitlin Bilodeaux	
1989	Peter Westbrook	Donna Stone	
1990	Michael Marx	Donna Stone	
1991	Michael Lofton	Mary Jane O’Neill	
1992	Michael Marx	Laurel Skillman	
1993	Ben Atkins	Ann Marsh	
1994	Nick Bravin	Felicia Zimmermann	
1995	Cliff Bayer	Ann Marsh	
1996	Peter Westbrook	Ann Marsh	
1997	Cliff Bayer	Iris Zimmermann	
1998	Akhnaten Spencer-El	Kelly Williams	
1999	Cliff Bayer	Andrea Ament	
2001	Ivan Lee	Mariel Zagunis	Women’s Foil team (Ann Marsh, Felicia & Iris Zimmermann, Erinn Smart)
2002	Keeth Smart	Sada Jacobson	
2003	Keeth Smart	Sada Jacobson	
2004	Soren Thompson	Mariel Zagunis	Men’s Sabre Team (Keeth Smart, Ivan Lee, Jason Rogers)
2005	Dan Kellner	Sada Jacobson	Women’s Sabre Team (Sada Jacobson, Mariel Zagunis, Caitlin Thompson, Rebecca Ward)

APPENDIX I: RECOGNITION PROGRAMS

C. USFA SERVICE AWARDS

"Service Awards" were initially given at the 2000 Summer Nationals. At that point the categories were not formalized, and the process was to identify people who deserved recognition, and then to confer upon them an award that described the reason. During Stacey Johnson's term, she began to categorize the awards as service to fencing, the USFA and to clubs and divisions. When Miller and Baker left substantial legacies, Ms. Johnson's EC engrafted their names to the respective awards.

Ray Miller Award for Service to the Sport of Fencing

- 2001 Dan DeChaine, Carla-Mae Richards
- 2002 Jack Baker
- 2003 Joseph Byrnes
- 2004 Peter Harmer, PhD
- 2005 Stacey Johnson
- 2006 Sherry Posthumus

Jack Baker Award – Service to the USFA

- 2001 Jack Keane
- 2002 Irwin Bernstein
- 2003 Chaba Pallaghy
- 2004 Carl Borack
- 2005 David Sapery
- 2006 Alex Beguinet

USFA Award for Service to Divisions and Sections

- 2001 Edwin Buzz Hurst
- 2002 Linda Merritt
- 2003 Jerry Benson
- 2004 Wendell Kubik
- 2005 Steve Sobel and Donald Alperstein
- 2006 Dana Brown (USFA Staff)

Special USFA Service Award, July 2001 [Board Action]

Andrea Lagan was recognized and awarded a certificate of appreciation for her service in developing a new coaches education web link on the USFA web site. Ms. Lagan thanked David Sapery for all of the contributions he has made in the development and maintenance of the USFA web site.

The FOC Distinguished Service Award is a new Award, established 2003, which is determined by the Fencing Officials Commission to recognize the service of those referees who have worked at the very highest levels and offered a life-time of service in so doing.

- 2003 Gay Jacobsen MacLellan
- 2004 Ed Richards
- 2005 Bill Goering
- 2006 Russell Wilson

APPENDIX I: RECOGNITION PROGRAMS

D. Briefs on Hall of Fame Individuals (to be completed)

Irwin Bernstein – Lifetime distinguished service to fencing.

Vincent Bradford – Olympian, 5-time National Champion, 2 weapons; 2-time Pan Am, 2 weapons.

Joseph Byrnes – Lifetime distinguished service to fencing.

Csaba Elthes - Leading US sabre coach for more than 2 decades; 6 times Olympic coach, 2 times Pan Am coach.

Michael Marx – 4-time Olympian, 8-time National Champion, 3-time Pan Am

Alex Orban – 4-time Olympian, 5-time National Champion, 2-time Pan Am

Joseph Pechinsky – Coach; from a small city, not a national fencing center, he has been a leading developer of boys and girls in all three weapons from beginners to nationally prominent competitors

Paul Pesthy – 4-time Olympian, 5-time National Champion, 4-time Pan Am

Albertson van Zo Post – 6 national championships in 3 weapons; won 2 Olympic golds (1904, 1 with the Cuban foil team!); later a novelist

Peter Westbrook – Olympic Bronze medalist; 13-time US sabre champion; 5-time Olympian; 4-time Pan Am; the dominant sabre fencer in US history.

APPENDIX I: RECOGNITION PROGRAMS

E. HALL OF FAME

For details on each member contact Andy Shaw, andy_lsc@msn.com
www.fencingonfairfield.com

2006 Inductees in BOLD

Michel Alaux

John Allair
Jana Angelakis
Norman C. Armitage
Albert Axelrod
Caitlin Bilodeaux Banos
Irwin F. Bernstein
Charles George Bothner
Vincent Bradford
Eric Nick Bravin
Col. Henry Breckenridge
Dr. Daniel Bukantz
Joseph Byrnes
Lt. George C. Calnan
Hugo M. Castello
James M. Castello
Julio M. Castello
Dean Cetrulo
Lajos Csiszar
Dr. Samuel D'Ambola
Michael D'Asaro
Istvan Danosi
Jose R. de Capriles
Miguel A. de Capriles
Michael De Cicco
Irving Dekoff
Andre Deladrier
Clovis Deladrier
John Dimond
Helena Mroczkowska Dow
Warren A. Dow
Csaba Elthes
Dernell Every
Ralph Faulkner
Isabel Mildred Fish
Nikki Tomlinson Franke
Maxwell Garret
Adeleine Gehrig
Jean Jacques Gillet
Ralph M. Goldstein
Robert M. Grasson
Sherman Hall
Dr. Graeme M. Hammond
Eugene Hamori
Joanna De Tuscan Harding
Gustave Heiss
Alvar Hermanson
John R. Huffman

Tracey Jaeckel

Mathilde Jagemann

Uriah Jones
Julia Jones Pugliese
Anthony J., Keane
Harriet King
Aladar Kogler
Allan S. Kwartler
Neil Lazar
Joseph L. Levis
Norman Lewis
Edward Lucia
Gay Jacobsen MacLellan
Michael Marx
George Masin
Helene Mayer
Raymond J. Miller
Maxine Mitchell
James Montague
Nicholas Murray
James A. Murray Jr.
Oden Niederkirchner
Leo G. Nunes
Dr. Tibor Nyilas
Denise O'Connor
Heizaburo Okawa
Alex Orban
Joseph Brooks Bloodgood Parker
Joe Pechinsky
Paul Pesthy
Rene Pichart
Albertson Van Zo Post
Edwin A. Richards
Frank S. Righeimer
Janice Lee York Romary
J. Sanford Saltus
Maj. General Thomas J. Sands
Mikhail Sankofa (Michael Lofton)
George L. Santelli
Charles R. Schmitter
Charles Lee Shelly
Stanley Sieja
Joseph Smith
Stephen B. Sobel
Donna Stone
Charles Tatham
Maria Cerra Tishman
Nicholas Toth
Eleanor Turney
Harold Van Buskirk
Joseph Vince
Marion Lloyd Vince
Peter Westbrook
Ruth C. White

APPENDIX J: INTERNATIONAL TEAMS

SENIOR EVENT	2006, Turino, ITA	2005, Leipzig, GER	2004 OG, Athens, GRE	2003, Havana, CUB
	PL	PL	PL	PL
W. EPEE	<i>131 Entries</i> 31 HURLEY, Courtney 53 HURLEY, Kelley 70 BURT Lacey 72 LAWRENCE, Maya	<i>132 Entries</i> 61 HURLEY, Kelley 83 LAWRENCE, Maya 86 WILLOCK, Lauren 115 CAMPBELL, Lindsay	<i>39 Entries</i> 25 JAMES, Kamara	<i>120 Entries</i> 57 EIM, Stephanie 82 SPILMAN, Elisabeth 98 JAMES, Kamara 99 HURLEY, Kelley
WE TEAM	17 24 Teams	15 23 Teams	Team Did not qualify	13 24 Teams
W. FOIL	<i>89 Entries</i> 22 THOMPSON, Hannah 31 CROSS, Emily 54 WILLETTE, Doris 55 ZIMMERMANN, Iris	<i>89 Entries</i> 25 THOMPSON, Hanna 56 NEMECEK, Samantha 65 WILLETTE, Doris 76 AMENT, Andrea	<i>25 Entries</i> 17 SMART, Erinn Team not on OG Program	<i>68 Entries</i> 11 SMART, Erinn 24 ZIMMERMANN, Iris 47 THOMPSON, Hannah 50 CROSS, Emily
WF TEAM	15 18 Teams	10 19 Teams	9th 11 Teams, NYC Wlds	9 14 Teams
W. SABRE	<i>90 Entries</i> 1st WARD, Rebecca 2nd ZAGUNIS, Mariel 3rd JACOBSON, Sada 23 THOMPSON, Caitlin	<i>81 Entries</i> 5 JACOBSON, Sada 7 WARD, Rebecca 9 ZAGUNIS, Mariel 26 THOMPSON, Caitlin	<i>24 Entries</i> 1 ZAGUNIS, Mariel 3 JACOBSON, Sada 12 JACOBSON, Emily Team not on OG Program	<i>73 Entries</i> 5 JACOBSON, Sada 7 ZAGUNIS, Mariel 33 JACOBSON, Emily 43 BECKER, Christine
WS TEAM	2nd 19 Teams	1st 17 Teams	2nd 13 Teams, NYC Wlds	6 15 Teams
M. EPEE	<i>171 Entries</i> 26 THOMPSON, Soren 39 KELSEY, Seth 73 SOLOMON, Benjamin 118 BRATTON, Benjamin	<i>177 Entries</i> 36 KELSEY, Seth 63 THOMPSON, Soren 64 MATTERN, Cody 76 SOLOMON, Benjamin	<i>37 Entries</i> 7 THOMPSON, Soren 19 KELSEY, Seth 22 MATTERN, Cody Viviani, Jan (TM sub)	<i>158 Entries</i> 8 THOMPSON, Soren 56 KELSEY, Seth 61 MATTERN, Cody 82 HANSEN, Eric
ME TEAM	19 34 Teams	14 28 Teams	6 8 Teams	18 39 Teams
M. FOIL	<i>123 Entries</i> 34 DUPREE, Jedediah 43 GETZ, Kurt 45 TIOMKIN, Jonathan 65 HORANYI, Andras	<i>142 Entries</i> 35 KELLNER, Dan 45 HORANYI, Andras 52 DUPREE, Jedediah 66 TIOMKIN, Jonathan	<i>36 Entries</i> 16 KELLNER, Dan 30 TIOMKIN, Jonathan 33 DUPREE, Jedediah Chang, Greg (TM alt)	<i>124 Entries</i> 38 DUPREE, Jedediah 57 GERBERMAN, Steven 59 KELLNER, Dan 64 TIOMKIN, Jonathan
MF TEAM	10 25 Teams	8 27 Teams	4 8 Teams	9 26 Teams
M. SABRE	<i>113 Entries</i> 16 SMART, Keeth MOREHOUSE, Timothy 31 WILLIAMS, James 57 LEE, Ivan	<i>113 Entries</i> 29 LEE, Ivan 41T CROMPTON, Adam 45 ROGERS, Jason 47 MOREHOUSE, Timothy	<i>39 Entries</i> 12 LEE, Ivan 15 SMART, Keeth 25 ROGERS, Jason Morehouse, Tim (TM alt.)	<i>106 Entries</i> 12 LEE, Ivan 18 SMART, Keeth 31 ROGERS, Jason 58 HAGAMEN, Timothy
MS TM	11 23 Teams	5 25 Teams	4 9 Teams	12 20 Teams

APPENDIX J: INTERNATIONAL TEAMS

Senior	2002, Lisbon, POR	2001, Nimes, FRA	2000 OG, Sydney, AUS	1999, Seoul, KOR
	PL	PL	PL	PL
	<i>Entries</i>	<i>125 Entries</i>	<i>39 Entries</i>	<i>104 Entries</i>
WE	40 JAMES, Kamara 59 SUCHORSKI, Kristin 78 FLORES, Daisy 82 LESZKO, Julia	50 SPILMAN Elisabeth 57 LESZKO, Julia 59 JAMES, Kamara 68 SUCHORSKI, Kristin	32 STEVENS, Arlene	54 EIM, Stephanie 68 STEVENS, Arlene 78 CHERIS, Elaine 83 LE, Nhi Lan
WETM	20 28 Teams	21 26 Teams	NO TEAM	18 23 Teams
	<i>64 Entries (Inc)</i>	<i>87 Entries</i>	<i>40 Entries</i>	<i>83 Entries</i>
WF	21 ZIMMERMANN, Iris 41 SMART, Erinn 51 CROSS, Emily 55 THOMPSON, Hannah	20 ZIMMERMANN, Iris 25 CROSS, Emily 44 SMART, Erinn 45 MARSH, Ann	11 ZIMMERMANN, Iris 16 MARSH, Ann 20 ZIMMERMANN, Felicia	3T ZIMMERMANN, Iris 31 SMART, Erinn 39 MARSH, Ann 55 ZIMMERMANN, Felicia
WFTM	5 16 Teams	3rd 16 Teams	4 9 Teams	7 19 Teams
	<i>60 Entries</i>	<i>80 Entries</i>	<i>W. Chmps, 32 Entries (Inc)</i> Budapest, HUN	<i>59 Entries</i>
WS	5 JACOBSON, Sada 17 JACOBSON, Emily 19 BECKER, Christine 35 ZAGUNIS, Mariel	7 JACOBSON, Emily 11 ZAGUNIS, Mariel 12 JACOBSON, Sada 21 MUSTILLI, Nicole	22 BECKER, Christine 24 MUSTILLI, Nicole 31 ZAGUNIS, Mariel JACOBSON, Sada	9 BECKER, Christine 20 WILLIAMS, Kelly 24 BARTHOLOMEW, Sue 34 LATHAM, Christine
WSTM	9 14 Teams	5 18 Teams	1st 8 Teams	11 14 Teams
	<i>Entries</i>	<i>146 Entries</i>	<i>42 Entries</i>	<i>132 Entries</i>
ME	45 KELSEY, Seth 80 HANSEN, Eric 99 TAUSIG, Justin 142 SNIDER, Jeff	36 HANSEN, Eric 65 GREENHOUSE, Rashaan 75 BURKE, Nat 85 MATTERN, Cody	29 BLOOM, Tamir	45 NORMILE, Jon 46 TAUSIG, Justin 52 MARX, Michael 92 STULL, Robert
METM	13 40 Teams	14 33 Teams	Did Not Qualify Team	15 25 Teams
	<i>Entries</i>	<i>116 Entries</i>	<i>40 Entries</i>	<i>112 Entries</i>
MF	27 DUPREE, Jedediah 45 KELLNER, Dan 72 TIOMKIN, Jonathan 102 WOOD, Alex	46 DUPREE, Jedediah 64 TIOMKIN, Jonathan 70 KELLNER, Dan 93 CHANG, Tim	10 BAYER, Cliff	12 BAYER, Cliff 80 DEVINE, Peter 84 LONGENBACH, Zaddick 93 KELLNER, Dan
MFTM	10 28 Teams	13 25 Teams	Did Not Qualify Team	11 25 Teams
	<i>64 Entries (Inc)</i>	<i>83 Entries</i>	<i>39 Entries</i>	<i>86 Entries</i>
MS	10 SMART, Keeth 40 LEE, Ivan 54 RAYNAUD, Herby 59 SPENCER-EL, Akhnaten	24 SMART, Keeth 35 LEE, Ivan 47 RAYNAUD, Herby 55 ROGERS, Jason	30 SMART, Keeth 34 SPENCER-EL, Akhnaten	24 SPENCER-EL, Akhnaten 50T LASKER, Terrence 58 RAYNAUD, Herby 73 SMART, Keeth
MSTM	11 20 Teams	7 18 Teams	Team Did Not Qualify	11 18 Teams

APPENDIX J: INTERNATIONAL TEAMS

Senior	1998, La Chaux De Fonds, SUI	1997, Capetown, S. Africa	1996 OG, Atlanta, GA, USA
	PL	PL	PL
	<i>64 Entries (Inc)</i>	<i>64 Entries (Inc)</i>	<i>47 Entries</i>
WE	54 BURKE, Jessica 58 LE, Nhi Lan	36 MARX, Leslie 58 MILLER, Margo 61 BURKE, Jessica	16 MARX, Leslie 37 LE, Nhi Lan 39 CHERIS, Elaine
WETM	14 25 Teams	18 30 Teams	8 11 Teams
	<i>64 Entries (Inc)</i>	<i>64 Entries (Inc)</i>	<i>40 Entries</i>
WF	24 SMART, Erinn 43 ZIMMERMANN, Felicia 60 MARTIN, Tasha 63 McDANIEL, Rachel	27 ZIMMERMANN, Felicia 33 MARSH, Ann 40 ZIMMERMANN, Iris 45 DE BRUIN, Monique	7 MARSH, Ann 21 ZIMMERMANN, Felicia 33 PAXTON, Susie
WFTM	11 18 Teams	5 22 Teams	10 11 Teams
	<i>64 Entries (Inc)</i>	<i>64 Entries (Inc)</i>	<i>34 Entries</i>
ME	62 NORMILE, Jon		25 CARPENTER, James 28 MARX, Michael 31 BLOOM, Tamir
METM	20 27 Teams	20 40 Teams	8 11 Teams
	<i>64 Entries (Inc)</i>	<i>64 Entries (Inc)</i>	<i>45 Entries</i>
MF	22 KELLNER, Dan 50 BAYER, Cliff 52 LONGENBACH, Zaddick	40 BAYER, Cliff	34 BAYER, Cliff 37 DEVINE, Peter 39 BRAVIN, Nick
MFTM	5 27 Teams	15 33 Teams	10 11 Teams
	<i>64 Entries (Inc)</i>	<i>65 Entries (Inc)</i>	<i>34 Entries</i>
MS	20 SMART, Keeth 32 SPENCER-EL, Akhnaten 49 DURKAN, Patrick 56 LASKER, Terrence	26 SMART, Keeth 48 LASKER, Terrence 55 SUMMERS, Jeremy 65 SPENCER-EL, Akhnaten	28 COX, Peter 34 STRZALKOWSKI, Thomas 37 WESTBROOK, Peter
MSTM	11 23 Teams	13 25 Teams	9 11 Teams

APPENDIX J: INTERNATIONAL TEAMS

Junior	2006 Taebeek City, KOR	2005 Linz, AUT	2004 Plovdiv, BUL	2003 Trapani, ITA
	<i>60 Entries</i>	<i>67 Entries</i>	<i>47 Entries</i>	<i>44 Entries</i>
JWS	1st WARD, Rebecca	1st ZAGUNIS, Mariel	1st JACOBSON, Emily	1st JACOBSON, Sada
	3rd VLOKA, Caroline	5 WARD, Rebecca	2nd ZAGUNIS, Mariel	6 JACOBSON, Emily
	7 WOZNAK, Dagmara	9 JACOBSON, Emily	31 THOMPSON, Caitlin	10 ZAGUNIS, Mariel
JWSTM	1st 15 Teams	1st 19 teams	1st 16 teams	5 14 teams
	<i>112 Entries</i>	<i>133 Entries</i>	<i>64 Entries</i>	<i>64 Entries</i>
JME	3rd UNGAR, Benjamin	26 CHINMAN, Nicholas	20 VERIGAN, William	5 BRATTON, Benjamin
	42 SHERRILL, Teddy	50 HURME, Tommi	37 CHINMAN, Nicholas	32 SOLOMON, Benjamin
	68 SMITH, Dwight	60 BRATTON, Benjamin	56 BRATTON, Benjamin	48 FRENCH, Timothy
JMETM	12 28 Teams	13 36 Teams	6 32 Teams	7 35 Teams
	<i>79 Entries</i>	<i>84 Entries</i>	<i>64 Entries</i>	<i>54 Entries</i>
JMS	14 THANHOUSER, William	18 CLEMENT, Luther	6 HAGAMEN, Timothy	7 CROMPTON, Adam
	22 ZICH, Matthew	24 GHATTAS, Patrick	34 KRUL, Alexander	20 GHATTAS, Patrick
	39 BIELLEN, Andrew	38 IGOE, Benjamin	38 MOMTSELIDZE, Mike	48 MOMTSELIDZE, Mike
JMSTM	10 18 Teams	6 21 teams	3rd 21 teams	2nd 19 teams
	<i>72 Entries</i>	<i>96 Entries</i>	<i>64 Entries</i>	<i>48 Entries</i>
JWF	1st CROSS, Emily	1st CROSS, Emily	11 CROSS, Emily	8 THOMPSON, Hannah
	7 WILLETTE, Doris	8 WILLETTE, Doris	35 LEAHY, Jacqueline	10 LEAHY, Jacqueline
	42 KNAUER, Lindsay	48 NEMECEK, Samantha	37 LUITJEN, Cassidy	24 CROSS, Emily
JWFTM	4 18 Teams	7 24 Teams	5 23 teams	3rd 16 teams
	<i>94 Entries</i>	<i>110 Entries</i>	<i>64 Entries</i>	<i>64 Entries</i>
JWE	35 HURLEY, Courtney	6 BYERTS, Keri	5 JAMES, Kamara	3rd JAMES, Kamara
	46 HURLEY, Kelley	37 HURLEY, Courtney	55 HURLEY, Kelley	24 SZARWARK, Catherine
	47 FRENCH, Christa	38 HURLEY, Kelley		56 HURLEY, Kelley
JWETM	13 23 Teams	10 30 Teams	16 25 Teams	11 24 Teams
	<i>100 Entries</i>	<i>118 Entries</i>	<i>64 Entries</i>	<i>64 Entries</i>
JMF	11T GETZ, Kurt	11 HORANYI, Andras	3rd MEYERS, Brendan	28 MEYERS, Brendan
	15 HORANYI, Andras	24 GETZ, Kurt	27T KERSHAW, Clinton	41 KIRK-GORDON, Dimitri
	26 MEINHARDT, Gerek	76 CHINMAN, Nicholas	53 KIRK-GORDON, Dimitri	59 GERBERMAN, Steven
JMFTM	9 24 Teams	12 27 teams	9 27 teams	12 24 teams
	4 Medalists	2 Medalists PLUS	3 Medalists PLUS	2 Medalists PLUS
	1 Team GOLD	1 Team GOLD	2 Team Medalists	2 Team Medalists
	2 Finalists	3 Finalists	2 Finalists	4 Finalists

NOTES: Entry fields of 64 or 32 are incomplete results from FIE web site. Data will be completed after search of USFA records. Those years showing less than maximum number of US fencers in events will be completed at that time.

APPENDIX J: INTERNATIONAL TEAMS

Junior	2002 Antalya, TUR	2001 Gdansk, POL	2000 South Bend, IN	1999 Keszthely (HUN)
	<i>46 Entries</i>	<i>60 Entries</i>	<i>32 Entries</i>	<i>Dijon France</i>
JWS	3rd JACOBSON, Sada	1st ZAGUNIS, Mariel	13 ZAGUNIS, Mariel	18 HOOPER, Caitlin
	6 ZAGUNIS, Mariel	2nd JACOBSON, Sada	18 JACOBSON, Sada	19 GOELLNER, Natasha
	12 JACOBSON, Emily	6 GAILLARD, Amelia	30 GAILLARD, Amelia	21 PURCELL, Caroline
JWSTM	2nd 16 teams	1st 15 teams	2nd 13 teams	
	<i>64 Entries</i>	<i>123 Entries</i>	<i>64 Entries</i>	<i>105 Entries</i>
JME	23 FRENCH, Timothy	23 MATTERN, Cody	11 THOMPSON, Soren	6 KELSEY, Seth
	54 SOLOMON, Benjamin	29 THOMPSON, Soren	23 VIVIANI, Jansson	21 THOMPSON, Soren
		48 VIVIANI, Jansson	58 KELSEY, Seth	22 VIVIANI, Jansson
JMETM	13 36 Teams	9 34 Teams	13 27 Teams	3rd 27 Teams
	<i>64 Entries</i>	<i>84 Entries</i>	<i>64 Entries</i>	<i>75 Entries</i>
JMS	3rd MOMTSELIDZE, Mike	2nd LEE, Ivan	3rd LEE, Ivan	10 SPENCER-EL, Akhi
	8 ROGERS, Jason	3rd PARKER, Colin	13 YILLA, Ahmed	19 LEE, Ivan
	9 PARKER, Colin	14 ROGERS, Jason	17 ROGERS, Jason	25 ROGERS, Jason
JMSTM	4 24 teams	1st 22 teams	3rd	9 18 teams
	<i>64 Entries</i>	<i>79 Entries</i>	<i>64 Entries</i>	<i>78 Entries</i>
JWF	16 LEAHY, Jacqueline	3rd AMENT, Andrea	1 ZIMMERMANN, Iris	8 ZIMMERMANN, Iris
	38 CROSS, Emily	7 ZIMMERMANN, Iris	9 SMART, Erinn	24 SMART, Erinn
	44 AMENT, Andrea	31 CROSS, Emily	23 AMENT, Andrea	27 AMENT, Andrea
JWFTM	9 19 teams	5 18 teams	3rd 18 teams	5 17 teams
	<i>64 Entries</i>	<i>100 Entries</i>	<i>64 Entries</i>	<i>90 Entries</i>
JWE	3rd WALTON, Kerry	20 STEVENS, Arlene	13 STEVENS, Arlene	3rd BURKE, Jessica
	23 JAMES, Kamara	63 McGLADE, Jasmine	15 BURKE, Jessica	22 STEVENS, Arlene
	30 McGLADE, Jasmine	89 JAMES, Kamara	45 AMENT, Andrea	40 RUDKIN, Kate
JWETM	9 27 Teams	21 27 Teams		7 22 Teams
	<i>64 Entries</i>	<i>118 Entries</i>	<i>63 Entries</i>	<i>104 Entries</i>
JMF	44 KIRK-GORDON, Dimitri	38 SINKIN, Gabriel	21 CELLINI, Peter	8 DUPREE, Jedediah
	45 SNYDER, Derek	39 GERBERMAN, Steven	28 GERBERMAN, Steven	11 TIOMKIN, Jonathan
	63 MEYERS, Brendan	48 COHEN, Yale	48 ERIKSEN, Kevin	81 ROSEN, Peter
JMFTM	19 29 teams	15 27 teams		9 30 teams
	3 Medalists PLUS	5 Medalists PLUS	2 Medalists	1 Medalist PLUS
	1 Team Medalist	2 Team Golds	3 Team Medalists	1 Team Medalist
	2 Finalists	2 Finalists		3 Finalists
				Nation's Cup=7/32

APPENDIX J: INTERNATIONAL TEAMS

Junior	1998 Valencia, VEN	1997 Tenerife, ESP	1996 Tournai, BEL	1995 Paris, FRA
	<i>89 Entries</i>	<i>64 Entries</i>	<i>91 Entries</i>	<i>98 Entries</i>
JME	15 KELSEY, Seth	33 GREENHOUSE, Rashaan	8 SHAMS, Ryan	12 SHAMS, Ryan
	38 ROSTAL, Scott		33 CLARKE, Alden	58 HANSEN, Eric
	48 GREENHOUSE, Rashaan		65 ROSTAL, Scott	62 CLARKE, Alden
JMETM	10 22 Teams			
	<i>67 Entries</i>	<i>32 Entries</i>	<i>67 Entries</i>	<i>57 Entries</i>
JMS	5 SMART, Keeth	28 SPENCER-EL, Akhnaten	18 LASKER, Terrence	23 LASKER, Terrence
	8 SPENCER-EL, Akhnaten		20 DURKAN, Patrick	24 SUMMERS, Jeremy
	39 DURKAN, Patrick		24 SUMMERS, Jeremy	39 BATES, Sean
JMSTM	4 15 teams			
	<i>60 Entries</i>	<i>32 Entries</i>	<i>70 Entries</i>	<i>72 Entries</i>
JWF	9 SMART, Erinn	2nd ZIMMERMANN, Iris	3rd ZIMMERMANN, Iris	6 ZIMMERMANN, Felicia
	29 AMENT, Andrea	7 DE BRUIN, Monique	7 DE BRUIN, Monique	20T DE BRUIN, Monique
	30 JENNINGS, Susan	10 SMART, Erinn	33 SMART, Erinn	33 WALSH, Sara
JWFTM	9 14 teams			
	<i>68 Entries</i>	<i>64 Entries</i>	<i>91 Entries</i>	<i>94 Entries</i>
JWE	15 BURKE, Jessica	34 MANN, Elisabeth	33 BURKE, Jessica	33 WINTER, Carina
	35 STEVENS, Arlene	38 BURKE, Jessica	47 O'BRIEN, Lauren	47 DYER, Jennifer
	42 RUDKIN, Kate	59 RUDKIN, Kate	51 COLEY, Kari	63 DYGERT, Nicole
JWETM	3rd 17 Teams			
	<i>83 Entries</i>	<i>64 Entries</i>	<i>97 Entries</i>	<i>99 Entries</i>
JMF	19 CHANG, Timothy	3rd BAYER, Cliff	7 BAYER, Cliff	9 BAYER, Cliff
	40 DUPREE, Jedediah	31 WOOD, Alexander	14 KELLNER, Daniel	26 McCLAIN, Sean
	53 GRIFFIN, Ayo	48 ROSEN, Peter	24 DEVINE, Peter	36 DEVINE, Peter
JMFTM	12 22 teams			
	1 Team Medalist	2 Medalists PLUS	1 Medalist PLUS	1 Finalist
	2 Finalists	1 Finalist	2 Finalists	

APPENDIX J: INTERNATIONAL TEAMS

Junior	1994 Mexico City, MEX	1993 Denver, CO
	<i>81 Entries</i>	<i>81 Entries</i>
JME	51 DEWITT, James 53 HANSEN, Eric 57 QUANTANCE, Kimo	35 McCLAIN, Sean 55 POVAR, Garret Lee 66 GREGOR, Gregory
JMETM		
	<i>56 Entries</i>	<i>64 Entries</i>
JMS	29 BATES, Sean 33 CLINTON, Elliott 35 LASKER, Terrence	18 LEVIN, Jason 39 PALESTIS, Paul 54 CRUPI, Anthony
JMSTM		
	<i>79 Entries</i>	<i>60 Entries</i>
JWF	3rd DE BRUIN, Monique 15 ZIMMERMANN, Felicia 42 WALSH, Sara	19 ZIMMERMANN, Felicia 42 SUPER, Margaret 60 SIKES, Julianna
JWFTM		
	<i>71 Entries</i>	<i>71 Entries</i>
JWE	23 DYGERT, Nicole 33 DE BRUIN, Claudette 55 WINTER, Carina	19 BURLEIGH, Bettina 39 DYGERT, Nicole 60 DYER, Jennifer
JWETM		
	<i>37 Entries</i>	<i>88 Entries</i>
JMF	6 DEVINE, Peter 11 BAYER, Cliff 32 McCLAIN, Sean	21 McCLAIN, Sean 29 MORONEY, Brian 55 GEARHART, Andy
JMFTM		
	1 Medal PLUS 1 Finalist	

APPENDIX J: INTERNATIONAL TEAMS

Cadet	2006 Taebeck City, KOR	2005 Linz, AUT	2004 Plovdiv, BUL	2003 Trapani, ITA
	<i>52 Entries</i>	<i>56 Entries</i>	<i>51 Entries</i>	<i>42 Entries</i>
CWS	1 st WARD Rebecca	3 RD WARD, Rebecca	1 ST THOMPSON, Caitlin	6 PARKER, Sarah
	2 nd VLOKA Caroline	22 KELTSNER, Mera	5 WARD, Rebecca	19 THOMPSON, Caitlin
	3 rd JACOBSON Jackie	29 WOZNAK, Dagmara	21 SCHNEIDER, Daria	22 WRIGHT, Carolyn
	<i>75 Entries</i>	<i>94 Entries</i>	<i>92 Entries</i>	<i>83 Entries</i>
CME	1 st WICAS Graham	9 SULAT, Nathaniel	7 CHINMAN, Nicholas	10 UNGAR, Benjamin
	8 GEGAN Cooper	17 WICAS, Graham	47 SMITH, Dwight	14 SHERRILL, Teddy
	49 DUNCAN Corwin	19 CHINMAN, Nicholas	77 KENNEY, Clayton	32 MOODY, Jimmy
	<i>56 Entries</i>	<i>63 Entries</i>	<i>62 Entries</i>	<i>58 Entries</i>
CMS	3 rd DAVIDSON Raskyrie	13 BIELEN, Andrew	7 WILLIAMS, Max	13 THANHOUSER, William
	7 MAHAFFEY Harrison	14T DAVIDSON, Raskyrie	20 BERKOWSKY, Jonathan	17 WILLIAMS, Max
	10 OCHOCKI Aleksander	26 OCHOCKI, Aleksander	33 KOLASA, Matthew	21 ZICH, Matthew
	<i>65 Entries</i>	<i>85 Entries</i>	<i>83 Entries</i>	<i>61 Entries</i>
CWF	24 ROSS Nicole	17 WILLETTE, Doris	10 WILLETTE, Doris	1 st CROSS, Emily
	30 CAPARROS-JANTO, Abigail	18 KNAUER, Lindsay	16 FINKEL, Kelsey	22 EMERSON, Abigail
	33 KNAUER Lindsay	44 WACKER, Jessica	39 NEMECEK, Samantha	47 WILLETTE, Doris
	<i>72 Entries</i>	<i>91 Entries</i>	<i>79 Entries</i>	<i>61 Entries</i>
CWE	1 st HURLEY, Courtney	1 st HURLEY, Kelley	3 rd BYERTS, Keri	26 KANTOR, Rachel
	42 BRANDFIELD-HARVEY Neely	16 FRENCH, Christa	9 HURLEY, Kelley	29 HURLEY, Kelley
	52 SCANLAN Susannah	43 HURLEY, Courtney	33 FRENCH, Christa	35 BYERTS, Keri
	<i>81 Entries</i>	<i>100 Entries</i>	<i>86 Entries</i>	<i>76 Entries</i>
CMF	7 DESMET Ariel	2 nd CHINMAN, Nicholas	9 MEYERS, Brendan	5 MEYERS, Brendan
	9 MEINHARDT Gerek	30 KIM, Isaac	12 KERSHAW, Clinton	45 KERSHAW, Clinton
	40 PARKINS Benjamin	39 GETZ, Kurt	13 KUBIK, Mark	56 BERKOWSKY, Ronald
	5 Medalists	3 Medalists (1 GOLD)	2 Medalists (1 GOLD)	1 Medalists PLUS
	3 Finalists	2 Finalists	3 Finalists	2 Finalists
TOTAL: CADET + JUNIOR MEDALS				
	9 Medalists (3 GOLD)	5 Medalists (3 GOLD)	5 Medalists (2 GOLD)	3 Medalists
	5 Finalists	4 Finalists	5 Finalists	6 Finalists
	1 Team GOLD	1 Team GOLD	1 Team GOLD	2 Team Medalists
			1 Team BRONZE	

APPENDIX J: INTERNATIONAL TEAMS

Cadet	2002 Antalya, TUR	2001 Gdansk, POL	2000 South Bend, IN, USA	1999 Keszthely (HUN)
	<i>48 Entries</i>	<i>43 Entries</i>	<i>28 Entries</i>	<i>8 Entries</i>
CWS	5 ZAGUNIS, Mariel	1st ZAGUNIS, Mariel	3rd ZAGUNIS, Mariel	3rd GAILLARD, Amelia
	8 JACOBSON, Emily	9 GAILLARD, Amelia	9 JACOBSON, Sada	
	17 PARKER, Sarah	17 JACOBSON, Emily	17 GAILLARD, Amelia	
	<i>100 Entries</i>	<i>99 Entries</i>	<i>71 Entries</i>	<i>84 Entries</i>
CME	3rd BRATTON, Benjamin	16 VERIGAN, William	12 BANKS, Michael	10 SOLOMON, Benjamin
	44 UNGAR, Benjamin	29 ROSE, Julian	19 SOLOMON, Benjamin	37 BANKS, Michael
	56 ADJEMIAN, Aaron	66 LEE, Martin	46 FRENCH, Timothy	43 FRENCH, Timothy
	<i>73 Entries</i>	<i>57 Entries</i>	<i>53 Entries</i>	<i>48 Entries</i>
CMS	3rd CLEMENT, Luther	2nd HAGAMEN, Timothy	3rd ROGERS, Jason	3rd PARKER, Colin
	6 GHATTAS, Patrick	9 MOMTSELIDZE, Mike	14 MOMTSELIDZE, Mike	9 ROGERS, Jason
	7 KRUL, Alexander	14 GHATTAS, Patrick	21 ZAGUNIS, Marten	15 WHITMER, Darrin
	<i>68 Entries</i>	<i>61 Entries</i>	<i>63 Entries</i>	<i>72 Entries</i>
CWF	7 CROSS, Emily	7 LEAHY, Jacqueline	13 CROSS, Emily	3rd AMENT, Andrea
	8 LEAHY, Jacqueline	17 LUITJEN, Cassidy	28 LEAHY, Jacqueline	6 CAVAN, Kathryn
	12 FLORENDO, Jessica	23 CROSS, Emily	48 LUITJEN, Cassidy	16 LUITJEN, Cassidy
	<i>81 Entries</i>	<i>73 Entries</i>	<i>69 Entries</i>	<i>79 Entries</i>
CWE	20 SCHNEIDER, Ruth	20 JAMES, Karmara	25 JACOBSON, Raelyn	3rd AMENT, Andrea
	24 McGLADE, Jasmine	38 McGLADE, Jasmine	26 LEIGHTON, Eleanor	23 CHIN, Meredith
	26 SCHIRTZ, Ali	55 LEIGHTON, Eleanor	32 SZARWARK, Catherine	46 WALTON, Kerry
	<i>105 Entries</i>	<i>91 Entries</i>	<i>71 Entries</i>	<i>87 Entries</i>
CMF	3rd MEYERS, Brendan	15 PERRY, Cameron	13 GERBERMAN, Steven	23 SINKIN, Gabriel
	KIRK-GORDON, Dimitri	24 WOODHOUSE, Enoch	19 SINKIN, Jeremy	47 GERBERMAN, Steven
	9 WOODHOUSE, Enoch	44 CARTER, Jonathan	36 SNYDER, Derek	56 SNYDER, Derek
	3 Medalists PLUS	2 Medalists PLUS	2 Medalists PLUS	4 Medals PLUS
	7 Finalists	1 Finalist	1 Finalist	1 Finalist
TOTAL: CADET + JUNIOR MEDALS				
	6 Medalists PLUS	5 Medalists	4 Medalists	5 Medalists
	9 Finalists	3 Finalists	1 Finalist	4 Finalist
	1 Team SILVER	2 Team GOLDS		1 Team BRONZE

APPENDIX J: INTERNATIONAL TEAMS

Cadet	1998 Valencia, VEN	1997 Tenerife, ESP	1996 Tournai, BEL	1995 Paris, FRA
	<i>60 Entries</i>	<i>77 Entries</i>	<i>74 Entries</i>	<i>66 Entries</i>
CME	10 KELSEY, Seth	10 KELSEY, Seth	16 GREENHOUSE, Rashaan	30 SLIPHER, Andrew
	24 VIVIANI, Jan	18 GREENHOUSE, Rashaan	27 CASAS, Arnold	38 TRIBBETT, Eric
	34 THOMPSON, Soren	47 VIVIANI, Jan	66 KELSEY, Seth	57 ROSTAL, Scott
	<i>49 Entries</i>	<i>56 Entries</i>	<i>58 Entries</i>	<i>49 Entries</i>
CMS	3 rd LEE, Ivan	10 PRATT, Daniel	13 SPENCER-EL, Akhnaten	15 CRANE, Robert
	27 PRATT, Dan	14 LA VALLE, David	25 LA VALLE, David	19 LA VALLE, David
	31 WALLEN, James	42 WALLEN, James	27 CRANE, Robert	38 DURKAN, Patrick
	<i>53 Entries</i>	<i>60 Entries</i>	<i>55 Entries</i>	<i>55 Entries</i>
CWF	15 AMENT, Andrea	1 st ZIMMERMANN, Iris	5 ZIMMERMANN, Iris	1 st 1 ZIMMERMANN, Iris
	18 CAVAN, Kathryn	5 SMART, Erinn	12 SMART, Erinn	32 SMART, Erinn
	33 TAKAGI, Melanie	54 CAVAN, Kathryn	27 BREDEN, Ute	37T JENNINGS, Susan
	<i>54 Entries</i>	<i>69 Entries</i>	<i>69 Entries</i>	<i>66 Entries</i>
CWE	6 Ament, Andrea	13 BURKE, Jessica	10 BURKE, Jessica	48 O'BRIEN, Lauren
	7 Rudkin, Kate	21 RUDKIN, Kate	29 COLEY, Kari	50 COLEY, Kari
	15 Stevens, Arlene	40 AMENT, Andrea	66 CAMPBELL, Lindsay	55 RUDKIN, Kate
	<i>63 Entries</i>	<i>78 Entries</i>	<i>81 Entries</i>	<i>73 Entries</i>
CMF	22 FISHER, Joseph	34 FISHER, Joseph	34 MANGUM, Joel	12 WOOD, Alexander
	42 GERBERMAN, Steven	41 MERRITT, Davis	35 FISHER, Joseph	35 CHANG, Timothy
	50 BREDEN, Roland	54 CLARKE, Scott	49 DUPREE, Jedediah	51 ROSEN, Peter
	1 Medalist PLUS	1 Medalist PLUS		1 Medalist
	2 Finalist	1 Finalist	1 Finalist	0 Finalists
TOTAL: CADET + JUNIOR MEDALS				
	1 Medalist PLUS	3 Medalist	1 Medalist	3 Medalist
	3 Finalist	2 Finalist	3 Finalist	2 Finalist
	1 Team BRONZE			

APPENDIX J: INTERNATIONAL TEAMS

Cadet	1994 Mexico City, MEX	1993 Denver, CO
	<i>55 Entries</i>	<i>57 Entries</i>
CME	20 TRIBBETT, Eric	48 CLARKE, Alden
	23 ROSTAL, Scott	56 TUOMINEN, Monty
	47 SHAMS, Ryan	57 GRINGERI, John
	<i>45 Entries</i>	<i>41 Entries</i>
CMS	3 rd LASKER, Terrence	15 CLINTON, Elliott
	7 SUMMERS, Jeremy	39 LASKER, Terrence
	18 CRANE, Robert	40 PALESTIS, Paul
	<i>53 Entries</i>	<i>54 Entries</i>
CWF	17 WALSH, Sara	16 DE BRUIN, Monique
	18 DE BRUIN, Monique	32 WALSH, Sara
	22 DYER, Jennifer	48 DYER, Jennifer
	<i>52 Entries</i>	<i>52 Entries</i>
CWE	3 rd AMENT, Andrea	13 O'BRIEN, Lauren
	23 CHIN, Meredith	19 BURLEIGH, Bettina
		35 DYER, Jennifer
	<i>68 Entries</i>	<i>62 Entries</i>
CMF	11 CHANG, Timothy	18 BAYER, Cliff
	18 BAYER, Cliff	23 DEVINE, Peter
	35 WOOD, Alexander	37 WOOD, Alexander
	2 Medalists PLUS	0 Medals
	1 Finalist	0 Finalists
TOTAL: CADET + JUNIOR MEDALS		
	3 Medalist	0 Medals
	2 Finalist	0 Finalists

APPENDIX L: REGIONAL YOUTH CIRCUIT PROGRAM

Vice-President's Report [July 2005 Agenda, BOD Meeting]

Ro Sobalvarro

As stated in the report to the Board of Directors in February, the Youth Development Committee is not looking to make any major changes to the RYC/SYC system that has been established. Our goal is to more clearly define the roles of the participants and provide a little more direction. Each of the components of the youth development program is broken out and described more fully in the pages that follow.

Overview

Regions – we have divided the country into 12 regions. Regions, for the purposes of the YDC, are defined as the geographic area for which a designated Regional Youth Circuit Coordinator will have responsibility. While fencers are encouraged to fence within their region they are not limited to competitions in their region. Defining the regions does a few things. • Clearly defines who is responsible for coordinating the RYC events in given area. • Establishes a chain of communication. • Pools resources for a given area.

RYC Coordinators – The RYC Coordinator is the one person in each region responsible for establishing the RYC schedule for the region and facilitating communication between the region and the YDC. There will be in place a reporting structure, of which, the regional coordinator is USFA Board of Directors 2004-2005 38 an important part. This reporting structure will provide a logical path for any concerns or questions that may arise in any region as well as a means of streamlining information to and from all regions.

Regional Youth Circuit – The Regional Youth Circuit is the group of youth tournaments within a given region. The rationale is to provide educationally valuable tournament experiences without the stress of extensive travel. The first youth competition is an important part of development in the sport of fencing, for athletes and their parents. Each region should have a minimum of three RYC events per season. Some regions may have a need for more, but none should have less than three. There are no points awarded for RYC events, but they do serve as a qualifying path for Y10 and Y12 fencers to get to a NAC and the Summer National Championships.

Super Youth Circuit – The Super Youth Circuit is a group of larger tournaments that draw participants from the regions together for larger competitions. SYC events are the next step for young fencers ready to test their skills in a more competitive environment. These events are more structured and more closely resemble NAC competitions. There will be a specified number of SYC events every season. They must be geographically diverse, encompassing the East coast, the central U.S., and the West coast to provide equal opportunity to fencers throughout the United States. In these events, national points are awarded for placement in the top 40% of the field to a maximum of 32nd place.

NAC/Summer National Championships- The spring NAC event and the Summer National Championships complete the competitive season for our young athletes, challenging them a bit more than a SYC and considerably more than a RYC. Fencers

must qualify to the NAC as well as to the Summer National Championships through the RYC/SYC system.

Timeline – given the approval of this program by the Executive Committee the YDC will operate under the following timeline.

- 5/6/05 Release SYC Bid Packet
- 5/9/05 Request Nominations for RYC Coordinators
- 6/9/05 Nomination Deadline for RYC Coordinators
- 6/15/05 Selection of RYC Coordinators
- 6/25/05 SYC Bid Deadline
- 7/15/05 SYC Selection
- 8/15/05 2005-06 RYC/SYC Schedule Complete and Published

Regions, for the purposes of the YDC, are defined as the geographic area for which a designated Regional Youth Circuit Coordinator will have responsibility. Fencers are not confined to their regions; they may compete in any region that they wish. The following regions are divided to account for numbers of youth members and travel distances. Some regions cover a rather large geographic area, but would not include a significant number of fencers if they did not.

1 Pacific North West

334 Fencers 26 Clubs

- Alaska
- Inland Empire
- Oregon
- Utah-South Idaho
- Western Washington

2 Northern California

404 Fencers 39 Clubs

- North Coast
- Mountain Valley
- Northern California
- Central California

3 Southern California

302 Fencers 35 Clubs

- Orange Coast
- San Bernardino
- San Diego
- Southern California
- Nevada
- Hawaii

4 Rocky Mountain

• 249 Fencers 30 Clubs

- Arizona
- Colorado
- New Mexico
- Plains Texas
- Wyoming
- Border Texas

5 Southwest

• 537 Fencers 39 Clubs

- Ark-La-Miss
- Gulf Coast Texas
- Louisiana
- North Texas
- South Texas

6 Midwest

309 Fencers 35 Clubs

- Illinois
- Iowa
- Minnesota
- St. Louis
- Wisconsin
- Nebraska-S. Dakota
- Kansas

- Oklahoma

7 Southeast

326 Fencers 45 Clubs

- Alabama
- Georgia
- South Carolina
- Gateway Florida
- Gold Coast Florida
- Central Florida

8 Mid Atlantic

324 Fencers 67 Clubs

- South Jersey
- Maryland
- Capitol
- Virginia
- North Carolina

9 Great Lakes

369 Fencers 45 Clubs

- Columbus
- Indiana
- Kentucky
- Michigan
- Northern Ohio
- South West Ohio
- Tennessee
- Western Pennsylvania

10 Pennsylvania

519 Fencers 56 Clubs

- Philadelphia
- Central Pennsylvania
- Harrisburg
- New Jersey
- Western NY
- Hudson-Berkshire

11 Metropolitan

• 567 Fencers 30 Clubs

- Metropolitan
- Westchester-Rockland
- Long Island

12 North Atlantic

803 Fencers 25 Clubs

- Northeast
- Green Mountain
- New England
- Connecticut

Regional Youth Circuit Coordinators (“Coordinators”) represent a volunteer position reporting to the USFA Youth Development Committee (“YDC”). The YDC is responsible for selecting one Coordinator for each Region. Coordinators will be selected from a pool of nominees provided by the member clubs that make up the region. The role of the Coordinator is outlined below. The YDC will consider a number of different criteria when selecting a Coordinator. Two of the most important include: knowledge of clubs in the Region and their capability to host a RYC tournament; and the ability to act in an unbiased and independent fashion with respect to selecting tournament hosts and administering the RYC program in the Region. The YDC reserves the right to replace a Coordinator who does not act in the best interests of youth fencers in their Region as determined by the YDC. There are only three requirements of a Coordinator.

1. The Coordinator must provide a schedule of RYC tournaments in their Region. That schedule must consider the USFA calendar and any Super Youth Circuit tournaments that have been previously scheduled.
2. The Coordinator must provide the YDC with the results of every RYC held in their Region, within two weeks of its completion. The YDC will provide report forms for RYC events.
3. The Coordinator and all clubs hosting a RYC tournament must be current members of the USFA.

The following guidelines are not intended to be firm rules or requirements. The YDC understands that the USFA and its Regions are comprised of clubs and Coordinators with different levels of resources and different numbers of fencers within their Region. These guidelines are intended to provide Coordinators with the flexibility to schedule and administer their Region in a way that best serves the needs of their youth fencers. These guidelines, however, are also intended to provide a minimum level of quality for RYC programs established in each Region, and the Coordinator is expected to carefully consider them. There should be three RYC tournaments in each Region. If a different number of RYC tournaments are needed for the Region, the Coordinator must request approval from the YDC before completing the RYC schedule for the Region. The YDC feels that more than three RYC tournaments in a Region might reduce the ability of individual host clubs to attract sufficient numbers of competitors. Fewer than three tournaments might not provide sufficient opportunities for fencers to gain competitive experience throughout the fencing season. The YDC will provide a checklist to assist the Coordinator in choosing host clubs.

As part of the process of establishing the regional RYC calendar, the Coordinator should identify other tournaments in the Region that might conflict with each RYC, if any. The Coordinator should consider soliciting bids from clubs asking to host a RYC tournament. This will depend upon the Coordinator’s familiarity with all the clubs in the Region, and the number of clubs interested in becoming a host. If there are many clubs interesting in hosting a RYC, it might be necessary to establish a rotating schedule of clubs so that all those interested and capable of hosting a RYC have an opportunity to do so. Clubs that

perform poorly as RYC tournament hosts should not be asked to host future events until the Coordinator feels they are ready to do so again.

In selecting clubs to host a RYC tournament, the quality of referees is an important consideration. The availability of qualified and/or rated referees varies greatly from one Region to another. A host club might need assistance from the Coordinator in locating qualified referees. In addition, the Coordinator and host club should consider contacting the Fencing Officials Commission (“FOC”) and arrange referee training and/or testing during the RYC tournament. While many youth fencers will be too young to take the referees test, adults and others can take the opportunity to do so, and the youth fencers can benefit from training by learning the correct rules as part of their development in the sport.

The facilities used to host a RYC tournament are important to their smooth conduct, and to the quality of experience provided to the competitors. While that is important in every tournament, it is especially important at a RYC tournament since a significant number of fencers are competing for the first time. An enjoyable experience for fencers and their parents plays a critical role in their continuation in the sport, and attendance in other RYC tournaments in the Region. Consideration should be given to the number of strips, but also to room for fencers’ equipment and families, adequate space between strips and at the end of strips. RYC Guidelines will be provided by the YDC.

The Coordinator should communicate with host clubs throughout the fencing season. It is suggested that Coordinators create a web site for their Regions with a calendar, regional point standings and other information that would likely be important to the youth fencers and their families.

The Coordinator should provide every RYC host club a copy of RYC Guidelines. The Coordinator should be available to discuss, and help resolve, any problems or conflicts that arise related to a RYC that is held in their Region. To the extent possible, the Coordinator should attend each RYC in their Region. If they cannot attend, arrangements should be made for another person to attend and provide a report or comments related to the organization and operation of the RYC.

The YDC values your comments and suggestions. Please do not hesitate to contact the YDC throughout the season. Contact information will be provided, or available on the RYC web site www.usfaryc.org. Regional Youth Circuit Organizing Committees (“Organizers”) represent volunteer positions reporting to the Regional Youth Circuit Coordinator (“Coordinator”) for their Region, and the USFA Youth Development Committee (“YDC”).

The role of the Organizer is outlined below. The Coordinator will consider a number of different criteria when selecting an Organizer. The primary selection criteria will relate to the knowledge and experience of the Organizer to host a youth tournament and their ability to host a RYC tournament. The Coordinator reserves the right to replace an Organizer that does not act in the best interests of youth fencers in their Region as determined by the Coordinator and the YDC.

The following are requirements related to hosting an RYC tournament:

1. The Organizer must provide a confirmed date for their RYC tournaments. That date must consider the USFA calendar, any Super Youth Circuit tournaments that have been previously scheduled, and Divisional or Sectional tournaments, and any important holidays.

The Organizer must also have a confirmed location for the RYC tournament. The Coordinator and the YDC will provide the Organizer information on other potential conflicts to the extent that this information is available at the time the schedule for the RYC season is established.

2. The Organizer must provide the Coordinator with the results of the RYC tournament within two weeks of their completion.

3. The Organizer must ensure that all RYC tournaments conform to tournament rules established by the USFA with respect to any USFA sanctioned event for a local tournament. In particular, the tournaments must have strips (whether grounded or not) that are of regulation size, that equipment used by fencers meets minimum required standards for safety, and that electronic scoring equipment for the fencers and the tournament are in compliance with current USFA standards.

4. Tournaments must be posted, and registration conducted, through AskFred.net. This will ensure that fencers and their families have access to information regarding the tournament and the other fencers entered in the tournament. Using AskFred.net also provides an important way for Organizers to plan their event based on pre-registrations.

5. RYC tournament details must be posted on AskFred.net at least 90 days prior to the date of the tournament. The national RYC schedule will be posted by the USFA at the start of each fencing season.

6. Tournament scoring must be recorded using the Fencing Time computer software program. While many clubs are capable of scoring tournaments manually, Fencing Time provides a way to upload results to AskFred.net immediately upon completion of the tournament, in a standardized format.

7. The events will be held in all three weapons for the age groups Y10, Y12, and Y14. Events may be held at separate locations for different weapons and different age groups.

8. All events may be mixed (girls and boys) if there are fewer than 6 entries of one gender. Regional points (where applicable) will only be awarded according to the final results of the competition.

9. Organizers must award separate prizes for the boys' and girls' results. Each event organizer must give awards to at least the top three boys' and girls' in each event. There will not be a fence off for the bronze medal.

10. Official USFA rules must be enforced at each tournament. Any Organizer hosting a RYC tournament that does not have a USFA rulebook, or that needs assistance in this area, should notify the RYC Coordinator prior to the tournament.

11. Weapons will be checked (weights, shims, etc.) during pools and direct eliminations for all events. Y10 fencers must use weapons with blades that are no longer than 32.5".

12. All fencers must be current USFA competitive members in good standing. USFA membership must be offered at the door to all athletes. If the athlete forgets their membership card they must fill out the form and pay for their membership for the

protection of all parties. Once their membership is verified the check may be destroyed or money sent back. Money collected for membership should be kept separate from all other funds collected.

13. The maximum cost for athletes will be \$20.00 for registration and \$15.00 per event. This is a maximum fee that cannot be exceeded unless the Coordinator pre-approves an exception to this rule.

14. Seeding must be based on the following factors in this order.

- National Rolling Point Standing
- Classification and year
- If athlete has neither National Points nor a weapon classification they will be seeded on a random basis with the other athletes in the same situation.

The YDC has identified a lack of oversight as one of the primary contributors to the inconsistency of RCY events held throughout the country. To address this issue we have put together a list of guidelines that each Organizer is expected to follow. The RYC Coordinator will be provided with posters that outline these guidelines to be displayed at each RYC held in their region. What follows is a list of responsibilities and rights that will make up this poster.

Parents/Coaches are encouraged to submit comments regarding RYC events they have attended in writing to the Coordinator and the YDC.

Responsibilities of Organizers

- Fencing Strips will be of regulation size and provide ample run-off room to allow for the safe running of the event.
- There must be ample space available for fencers, parents, coaches, and equipment so as not to interfere with the safe running of the event.
- Scoring equipment should comply with current USFA standards.
- Organizers are required to use knowledgeable referees.
- Coaches with athletes participating may not act as referees in the event in which their athletes are participants.
- Entry is open to age eligible youth fencers who are current competitive members of the USFA, members in good standing of another National Federation, or current FIE license holders.
- USFA membership will be available at the door.
- Seeding will be posted prior to the posting of the pools.
- Seeding must be based on the following factors in this order.
 - National Rolling Point Standing
 - Classification and year
 - If athlete has neither National Points nor a weapon classification they will be seeded on a random basis with the other athletes in the same situation.
- Pools will be posted for all athletes to see.
- Results of the pools will be posted listing indicators and victories at least 5 minutes before the Direct Elimination table is posted.

- Organizer will ensure that weapons are checked (weights, shims, etc.) on strip during the pools and DE's of all events and that Y10 fencers are using blades not longer than 32.5"
- Events may be mixed boys and girls if there are fewer than 6 of either gender entered.
- Points will be awarded only according to the final results of the competition
- Organizers must award separate prizes for boy's and girl's results.
- Minimum requirement is awards for the top 3 boys and girls in each event.
- Official USFA rules must be enforced at each tournament.

Responsibilities of Athletes

- It is the responsibility of the athlete to be prepared for the competition and to report to strip with all the necessary equipment in good repair.
- Athletes must be able to prove that they are competitive members of the USFA, members in good standing of another National Federation, or current FIE license holders.
- Athletes without proof of membership must fill out all appropriate forms and pay for membership. Payment will be returned if membership can be verified
- Athletes are responsible for checking posted seeding, pool sheets and posted results for accuracy. Any inaccuracies must be reported within 5 minutes of posting.
- Once the DE table has begun the posted results become final.
- Rights of Athletes/Parents/Coaches
- To expect that the event will be run in a safe and timely manner.
- To expect the use of knowledgeable and impartial referees.
- To have the use of ample space for participants, equipment and spectators, allowing for the running of a safe event.
- To compete without the interference of parents, coaches or other spectators.
- Comments regarding your experience at this event are welcome.
- Contact information is available on the YDC website –www.usfaryc.org

There will be a designated number of Super Youth Circuit Events per season. These events will be distributed evenly throughout the East, West and Central portions of the US. All SYC events will include Y10, Y12 & Y14 events for both girls and boys in all weapons. National points will be awarded to the top 40%, regardless of where the break occurs, to a maximum of 32nd place.

The best result of the SYC events will be added to the National Rolling Point Standings following the completion of the last SYC of the season.

The standard for hosting a Super Youth Circuit event is intentionally set high. These events have been a huge success - the first two this season had over 1200 entries, (662 in NY, 542 in CA).

We want to be sure that those requesting events of this size have the resources to run them well.

Host Requirements

- SYC events must have a minimum of 18 regulation size strips, of which at least 10 need to be grounded.
- There will be a trainer or medical personnel on site while the event is taking place.
- Fees may not exceed \$30.00 for registration and \$35.00 per event.
- Organizers must submit a tournament report to the Youth Development Committee no later than 30 days after the completion of the SYC. Tournament report form will be available on the YDC website.
- The Fencing Officials Commission (FOC) will designate, in advance, an FOC observer for each SYC.
- At least 70% of the referees must have a current USFA referee rating for the weapon they will be refereeing.
- Coaches with athletes participating may not act as referees in the event in which their athletes are participants.

Format

The format for the SYC events will be one round of pools with 100% promoted to a direct elimination table.

- Seeding will be posted prior to the posting of the pools.
- Seeding must be based on the following factors in this order.
- National Rolling Point Standing
- Classification and year
- If athlete has neither National Points nor a weapon classification they will be seeded on a random basis with the other athletes in the same situation.
- Pools will be posted for all athletes to see.
- All events must use pools of 6 & 7 whenever possible.
- Pools of equal size are preferable to those of unequal size. (i.e. with 20 entries, 4 pools of 5 would be better than 2 pools of 7 and one pool of 6.)
- Round results will be posted at least 5 minutes prior to the posting of the DE table.

Protocol

- There will be an awards ceremony for each event.
- Awards will be made to the top 8 (in events with starting fields of 8 or more) or the top 3 (in events with fewer than 8)
- All athletes will receive a certificate of participation.

Points

- Points will be awarded according to the Domestic Point Tables to the top 40% of the field, not to exceed 32.
- The points for the best result of all SYC events will be added to the National Point list.

- All SYC points will be added to the National Rolling Point Standings at the same time. As SYC events are still intended to be regional in nature, to add points as they occur for early events would penalize fencers from regions hosting events later in the season.
- The bid packet that was used for the 04-05 season is available on our website at www.usfaryc.org

There are minor changes that will be made to this packet before it is made available for the 2005-06 season.

The YDC has identified a season formula designed to optimize competitive experiences for young, learning fencers. The primary focus of events in the fall would be regional competition, building toward national competition in the winter and spring. The committee would encourage Regions to schedule RYC events primarily in the fall, but continuing through the season, generally beginning in September and winding up in May. Holding regional events throughout the year allows points of entry for new fencers whenever they feel prepared to begin competing.

The SYC events would be scheduled between January and early May. Organizers are encouraged to make every effort to avoid the events on the National Schedule and the Sectional and Divisional schedules in their section of the country. This progression allows young fencers ample opportunity to prepare adequately for (and to qualify for) the youth NAC, currently designated for April, and for Summer National Championships. The question that must be addressed is “How do we Regionalize competition and yet still have a balanced National Youth Program?” Based on the rate of growth of US Fencing in general, and Youth Fencing in particular, there is a tremendous need to regionalize competition. The problem lies in defining the value in regional competition. Our fencers and parents are goal oriented. The YDC believes that if regional competition meant more than just getting experience, then we could get better participation in these events. Right now, a child has to enter a regional competition in order to qualify to national competition, so they go to one, but rarely more than one - and in a lot of cases only because they have to.

It is apparent that the awarding of National points provides a significant incentive for athletes to participate in an event. While coaches have no trouble identifying the value of competition for young athletes, they have a more difficult time convincing the parents of the value of these events. Parents often equate points with value. No points –no value; therefore no need to participate. Some regions have a pretty well developed series of youth competitions (the Bay Cup in northern California, for example) throughout the year. Other regions are lucky to have one good, well-attended youth competition each year.

If we can develop a system of points for regional events that are attached to something tangible then we have a chance of encouraging participation at the regional level. One of the problems right now is that once a child is on the national point list their parents often

believe that they are beyond the need for regional competition. This is the perception that we have to change.

What follows are a few ideas that may help generate interest in Regional competition, and that we would like to explore for the future.

- Standardize Regional points.
- Use regional points to name an All Region Team.
- One per weapon, per age group. Based only on RYC results within their region and age group.
- Maybe a 1st Team and 2nd Team
- Have a team competition at the end of the season –
- National coaches involved in appointing coaches for regional team competition.
- 12 regions – 1 per age per weapon or,
- 4 Groups of 3 Regions
- Use points to qualify to Youth Development Camp
- Camps under the direction of the National Coaches
- Divide by ages or weapons
- Distribute camps across the country

If an athlete has something to gain by competing in regional events we believe we will begin to see better participation.

Youth Development Committee, Kelly Williams

Members of the Youth Development Committee are K. Williams, A. Lagan, D. Arias, J. Joseph, G. Platt, and R. Sobalvarro.

Having survived the process of getting this season under way the committee now turns its attention to the future. What follows is an outline of our recommendations. The Board is not being asked to vote on a proposal at this point. We ask the members of the Board to carefully consider the following recommendations, ask questions of the YDC, and submit any recommendations they may have in writing to the committee. A formal proposal will be prepared by the YDC within the next several months based on feedback from the Board.

Purpose for the program

The committee sees the RYC/SYC program as a stepped, developmental program designed to provide appropriate level bouts to young fencers at appropriate times to train them to compete effectively at national level tournaments. We can measure our success through the positive experiences of young fencers beginning their competitive careers, transitioning into a higher level of competition, and ultimately, for some young fencers, into elite fencing.

Structure for the program

Building on the strong base provided by the Youth Committee in the last quadrennial, the program is structured on a regional level. The rationale is to provide educationally valuable tournament experiences without the stress of extensive travel. The first youth

competition is an important part of development in the sport of fencing, for athletes and their parents. The YDC is currently creating guidelines (to be posted at all RYC events) to ensure an appropriate level of quality for RYC tournaments. These tournaments should be timed, though not restricted to, the fall and early winter season to provide the best developmental experience within the framework of the established competitive season. To this end, geographically based regions will be set. While fencers will not be restricted to competing in their home regions, having a geographic base for the regional system will help ensure that the scope of this program encompasses the entire country and provides similar opportunities for competition to all young fencers in the USFA.

Regional coordinators will be established, and once trained, will be responsible for ensuring that three to five Regional Youth Circuit (RYC) events take place within each set geographic region.

There will be in place a reporting structure, for which, the regional Coordinator will play an important part. This reporting structure will provide a logical path for any concerns or questions that may arise in any region as well as a means of streamlining information to and from all regions.

The YDC will provide a seeding system to the regional coordinators that may be used to run RYC competitions throughout the season. Regional Coordinators' duties will include reporting RYC participation to the YDC so that the committee may track the effectiveness of the program throughout the country.

Super Youth Circuit (SYC) events are the next logical step in this program. Designed to offer a higher level of competition than the RYC events, they will be required to parallel, structurally, the NAC system. Organizers must submit bids, and the competitions will follow strict guidelines guaranteed to provide a competitive experience similar to a national tournament. The FOC, the TC, and the Armorers' committee have all expressed interest in using these competitions as training for national staff.

There will be a specified number of SYC events every season. They must be geographically diverse, encompassing the East coast, the central U.S., and the West coast to provide equal opportunity to fencers throughout the United States.

At this time, the YDC is considering awarding National points to SYC competitors, following the system that is in place for this season. Since National points are currently being awarded, SYC events should be considered National events. The concern has been raised that awarding national points encourages athletes and parents to chase points. It is our opinion that the number of fencers traveling around the country to compete in the relatively small number of SYC tournaments is not considered a great enough concern to eliminate an important developmental competitive experience.

The culminating competitions for the Youth season, following this developmental path, are the Spring Youth NAC and Summer Nationals. Fencers must qualify to the NAC as well as to Nationals through the RYC/SYC system.

The youth development plan stated here is intended to include all youth fencers 14 and younger. While there are many Y14 fencers that are competing at a high level, the majority are not, and many are just beginning to participate in the sport. The YDC recognizes that Y14 fencers are different than Y12 or Y10 fencers, but also understands that Y14 fencers are still very young and need opportunities to compete in tournaments that do not have the same stress and expense of a national tournament. Although tournament hosts in the most populous areas of the country expressed concern about the size of SYC tournaments that include Y14 events, the risk of not including this age group exceeds the difficulty of determining the best way to include them.

Next steps

This outline is to be considered a working document only. The YDC continues to meet to develop the infrastructure necessary, and to establish the governance to provide a sound base for this system. The YDC plans to present the full structure to the Executive Committee before Summer Nationals. The system should be in place and working for the 2005-2006 season.

- (c) by placing fourth through sixth in an individual competition rated as Group A1;
OR
 - (d) by placing fifth through eighth in an individual competition rated as Group B4;
OR
 - (e) by placing second or third in an individual competition rated as Group B1; OR
 - (f) by placing first through fourth in an individual competition rated as Group C4;
OR
 - (g) by winning an individual competition rated as Group C1; OR
 - (h) by fencing in the final four as a member of a Team that places second or third in the US Division I National Championships. *BOD 10/2000*
- (4) A fencer is classified as Class “D”:
- (a) by placing twenty-fifth through thirty-sixth in an individual competition rated as Group A8; OR
 - (b) by placing seventeenth through twenty-fourth in an individual competition rated as Group A4; *BOD 2/1999* OR
 - (c) by placing seventh through ninth in an individual competition rated as Group A1;
OR
 - (d) by placing ninth through sixteenth in an individual competition rated as Group B4;
OR
 - (e) by placing fourth through sixth in an individual competition rated as Group B1;
OR
 - (f) by placing fifth through eighth in an individual competition rated as Group C4;
OR
 - (g) by placing second or third in an individual competition rated as Group C1; OR
 - (h) by winning an individual competition rated as Group D1
- (5) A fencer is classified as Class “E”:
- (a) by placing thirty-seventh through fifty-second in an individual competition rated as Group A8; OR
 - (b) by placing twenty-fifth through thirty-second in an individual competition rated as Group A4; *BOD 2/1999* OR
 - (c) by placing seventeenth through thirty-second in an individual competition rated as Group B4; OR
 - (d) by placing seventh through ninth in an individual competition rated as Group B1;
OR
 - (e) by placing ninth through sixteenth in an individual competition rated as Group C4;
OR
 - (f) by placing fourth through sixth in an individual competition rated as Group C1;
OR
 - (g) by placing second or third in an individual competition rated as Group D1;
OR
 - (h) by winning an individual competition rated as Group E1

- (6) If a competition qualifies as more than one group (i.e., Group A1 and Group B4), each fencer will earn the higher classification to which that fencer is entitled. For example, if a competition qualifies as Group A1 and as Group B4, the winner earns an “A”, as the Group A1 award is higher for that place; the fencer who finishes eighth earns a “C”, as the Group B4 award is higher for that place.

USFA CLASSIFICATION REFERENCE CHART

COMPETITION	MINIMUM COMPETITORS	CLASSIFIED FENCERS REQUIRED	CLASSIFIED FENCERS MUST FINISH	CLASSIFICATIONS AWARDED
GROUP E1	6	NONE	N/A	1 → E
GROUP D1	15	NONE	N/A	1 → D 2-4 → E
GROUP C1	15	2 C's & 2 D's & 2 E's (or higher)	2 C's & 2 D's (or higher) in top 8	1 → C 2-4 → D 5-8 → E
GROUP C2	25	4 D's & 4 E's (or higher)	4 D's (or higher) in top 8	1 → C 2-4 → D 5-8 → E
GROUP C3	64	24 D's & 12 E's (or higher)	4 D's in top 8 & 4 E's (or higher) in top 12	1-4 → C 5-8 → D 9-16 → E
GROUP B1	15	2 B's & 2 C's & 2 D's (or higher)	2 B's & 2 C's (or higher) in top 8	1 → B 2-4 → C 5-6 → D 7-8 → E
GROUP B2	25	2 B's & 2 C's & 2 D's (or higher)	2 B's & 2 C's (or higher) in top 8	1 → B 2-4 → C 5-8 → D 9-12 → E
GROUP B3	64	24 C's & 12 D's (or higher)	4 C's in top 8 & 4 D's (or higher) in top 12	1-4 → B 5-8 → C 9-16 → D 17-32 → E
GROUP A1	15	2 A's & 2 B's & 2 C's (or higher)	2 A's & 2 B's (or higher) in top 8	1 → A 2-4 → B 5-6 → C 7-8 → D
GROUP A2	25	2 A's & 2 B's & 2 C's (or higher)	2 A's & 2 B's (or higher) in top 8	1 → A 2-4 → B 5-8 → C 9-10 → D 11-12 → E
GROUP A3	64	24 B's & 12 C's (or higher)	4 B's in top 8 & 4 C's (or higher) in top 12	1-4 → A 5-8 → B 9-16 → C 17-24 → D 25-32 → E
GROUP A4	64	12 A's & 12 B's & 12 C's (or higher)	4 A's in top 8 & 4 B's (or higher) in top 12	1-8 → A 9-16 → B 17-24 → C 25-32 → D 33-48 → E

Division I NAC and National Championships are always Group A4 competitions.

Division I-A National Championships are always at least Group A3 competitions.

Division II NAC and National Championships are always at least Group B3 competitions.

Division III NAC and National Championships are always at least Group C3 competitions.

Classifications changes allowed at USFA sanctioned individual Veterans and Junior restricted competitions.

Youth and Cadet competitions must meet or exceed criteria for C1 to award changes in classification. (BOD, July '02, July 03).

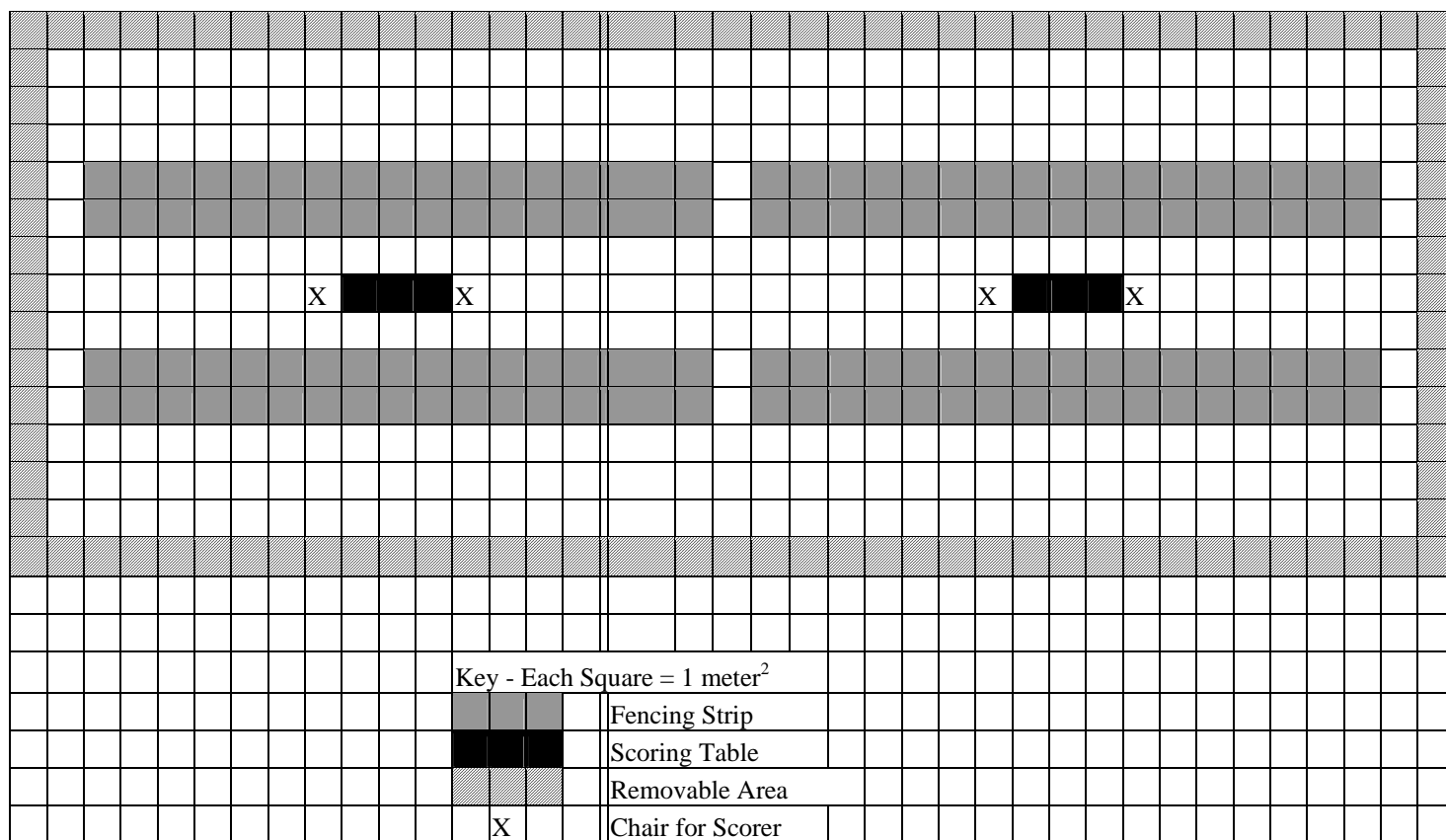
"B" classification earned by fencing in the final round of four as a member of a team that wins the US Div I Team Champs.

"C" classification earned by fencing in the final four as a member of a Team that places 2nd or 3rd in the Div I Team Champs.

(BOD, July 2000)

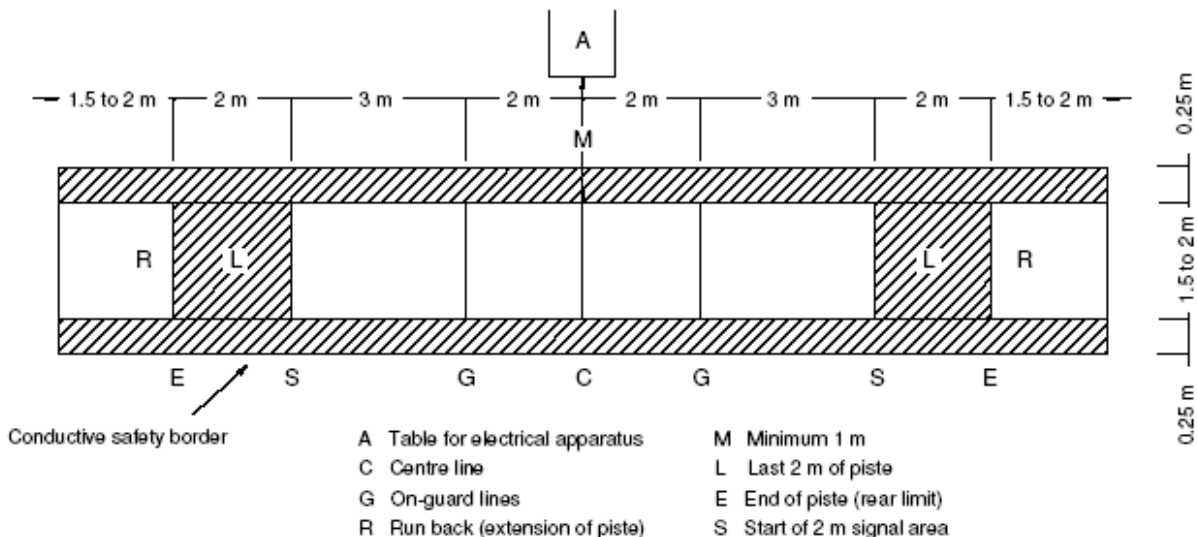
APPENDIX N: TOURNAMENT FORMS

Strip Layout for a Group of Four Strips (Total Area 120' x 40')



Taken from USFA Official Bid Packet

OFFICIAL STRIP CONFIGURATION FROM USFA/FIE RULES BOOK



APPENDIX N: TOURNAMENT FORMS

USFA: Classification Changes

Name of the tournament: _____

Location of the tournament: _____

Host USFA Organization: _____

Date of the tournament: _____ Date Submitted: _____

Submitted by: _____ Division: _____

Name of Fencer Club Division Weapon New (as it appears on USFA card) Classification

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

4. _____

5. _____

6. _____

7. _____

8. _____

9. _____

10. _____

I verify that all the above changes are correct:

(Signature of Bout Committee Chair or Division Officer)

Date: _ / _ / _

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APPENDIX N: TOURNAMENT FORMS

INCIDENT REPORT FORM

Incident Class: Injury Property Damage Other

Name of Injured Party: _____

Injured Party is: Participant Spectator Coach Official
 Other _____

Date of Injury: _____ Location: _____

Event: _____ Weapon/Tournament: _____

Body Part: _____

Care Given: On-Site Only Ambulance/Other Transport Fatality

Incident Summary: (Situation / Exact location / Time of occurrence – Be Specific)

Witness:
Name: _____ Phone: (____) _____
Address: _____

Name of Camp/Clinic on Policy: _____

Policy Number: _____

Respondent (Other than claimant or parent): _____

Organization: _____ Phone: (____) _____

Report By / Title: _____

Report Date: _____

APPENDIX N: TOURNAMENT FORMS

FENCER BIO

PLEASE PRINT!!!

Event: _____

Name: _____ **Age:** _____

Hometown: _____ **Years Fencing:** _____

Club: _____

Coaches: _____

Best 3 Fencing Results:

APPENDIX N: TOURNAMENT FORMS

TEAM LINE UP FORM

<i>TEAM:</i>	TEAM FORM						<i>COMPETITION:</i>					
OPONENT:	Round 1		Round 2		Round 3		Round 4		Round 5		Round 6	
Team Member Name	123	456	123	456	123	456	123	456	123	456	123	456
Captain's Name:												
THE ORDER OF BOUTS IS: 3-6 ♦ 1-5 ♦ 2-4 ♦ 1-6 ♦ 3-4 ♦ 2-5 ♦ 1-4 ♦ 2-6 ♦ 3-5												
<p>Instructions to Captains: Place the number (1, 2, or 3 if your team is to be on the left side of the scoresheet or 4, 5, or 6 if your team is to be on the right side of the scoresheet) in the appropriate column indicating the place each fencer is to have in your lineup; write "Sub" in that column for your substitute. Be sure to also write in the Captain's name.</p> <p>Important reminder: It is the team's responsibility to have the correct fencer on the strip for each bout. If the order is altered, intentionally or unintentionally, the team making the alteration loses the match (t.86).I</p>												
Initial Seed:						Final Place:						

APPENDIX N: TOURNAMENT FORMS

FORMAT FOR USFA TEAM COMPETITIONS

Team Composition

Each team consists of a minimum of three fencers, with the option of a fourth fencer designated as the substitute. The fencers on one team in a match are numbered 1-3; the opposing fencers are numbered 4-6. Each slot on a team competes against the three opposing slots (9 relays). Substitution of fencers is as specified for FIE team competitions (Article 562):

- If a member of a team is *obliged* to withdraw during a match, either as a result of an accident, or by reason of some cause beyond his control that has been duly recognized by the referee, his team captain may ask the permission of the bout committee to put in a substitute to continue the match at the point where the fencer who so obliged withdrew, even during a bout in progress. However, a fencer who is thus replaced cannot take back his place in the team during the same match.
- In the course of a match, the team captain may ask to replace a fencer with the substitute named before the start of the match. The substitution may only be made at the end of a bout. The fencer who has been replaced *may not fence again during that match*, even in the case of an accident or unavoidable circumstances in order to replace a fencer on the strip. The announcement that a fencer is to be substituted, which must be made by the referee to the opposing team captain, must be made at the latest before the beginning of the bout preceding the next bout of the fencer who is to be replaced.
- If an accident occurs in the bout that follows the request for a substitution, the team captain may annul that request. If the captain of the opposing team has also requested a substitution, this substitution may be implemented or canceled.

Order of bouts

The bouts of each team match are fenced in the following order: 3-6, 5-1, 2-4, 6-1, 3-4, 5-2, 1-4, 6-2, 3-5. The placing of each team on the score sheet (i.e. 1-3 or 4-6) is initially determined by lot, then the order of the fencers is specified by the team captains. (New Rule for 2006: A team no longer loses a match if a fencer competes out of order. If a fencer competes out of order, the match is started over from the point where the incorrect order occurred.)

Relay format

The relays are run to multiples of five touches (5-10-15-20, etc.); the maximum time for each relay is three minutes.

- The first two opponents fence until one has reached a score of five touches, within the maximum time of three minutes. The following two opponents fence until one has scored ten touches, within the maximum time of three minutes, and so forth with successive relays to multiples of five touches.
- If, at the end of three minutes, the appropriate score for a relay has not been reached, the next two fencers continue from the existing score and fence until the appropriate score for their relay is reached, within a maximum of three minutes. (Example: in the second relay, the score is 8-6 when time expires. The third relay begins with a score of 8-6, and continues until one of the teams has a total score of 15 touches, or four minutes elapses.)

Determining the victor

The winning team is the one that first scores 45 touches (9 x 5 touches), or that has scored more touches at the end of regulation time. In the case of a tied score at the end of regulation time for the final relay, an additional minute of fencing will be allowed, to a single decisive touch. This decisive touch will be fenced by the final two fencers. Before restarting the team match, the referee will flip a coin to determine the winner should the score remain tied at the end of the additional minute, and *will note this priority on the score sheet*. If a fencer and the possible substitute are forced to withdraw, or if a fencer is excluded, that team has lost the team match.

APPENDIX N: TOURNAMENT FORMS

SEEDING TEAM COMPETITIONS

Prior to 2007 National Team Championships the manner in which teams were seeded is described below. At the 2006 annual meeting of the Board of Directors the formula for seeding teams at the National Team Championships was approved on a provisional basis pending review by the Tournament Committee after its implementation at the 2007 National Championships. Therefore the formats in use prior to 2007 is described herein to ensure that the information is kept in case there is a need to return to this method. The new seeding formula is described in Chapter 7 of the 2006 Operations Manual.

DIVISION I NATIONAL TEAM CHAMPIONSHIPS

The bout committee may assign quality points, equal to a placement no higher than 17th, to an athlete who did not fence in the individual competition but whose past national and/or international record, demonstrates that the fencer could have had that performance if he or she had fenced.

Each team is given a seed value based on the sum of the three best results (i.e., placements) of its individual team members in the associated individual National Championships, e.g., Division I National Championships for Division I Team Championships. Teams are then ranked, assigning the highest seed to the team with the lowest seed value (or sum) and the team with the largest seed value ranked last. Teams with the same seed value are randomized by computer or neutral person for seeding rank

1. Division I & Under-19 Team Championships

For the Division I National Team Championships the seeding value is calculated as the sum of the three best results of members of the team in the Division I Individual National Championships. For the Under-19 National Team Championships the seeding value is based on the sum of the three best results of members of the team in Under-19 Individual National Championships.

SENIOR TEAM NATIONAL TEAM CHAMPIONSHIPS

For the Senior National Team Championships the seeding is based on the best placement value from one of three categories of the National Championships: Division IA, II and III, of members of the team registered for the competition.

For Division IA the value is the actual placement; for Division II the value is placement +10; and for Division III the value is placement plus 20. The fencer is given the lowest value of the three possible values (Division IA, II, III). The team value is the sum of the lowest values of each of three members of the team.

If a fencer on the team has not fenced in any of the individual competitions, the fencer is given the value equal to the number of fencers in the specific competition plus 1; e.g., for Division I Team Championships, non competitor is given the value equal to total field in that Division I competition; in Senior Team Championships, non competitor is given the value equal to the total field in Division III competition plus 21.

APPENDIX N: TOURNAMENT FORMS

TABLE 4: NATIONAL SENIOR TEAM SEEDING (not currently in effect)

CATEGORY	COMPUTATION	EXAMPLE
Division I A	Value = Placement	50
Division II	Value = Placement + 10	15
Division III	Value = Placement + 20	DNC
Non Competitor	Value = Max Div 3+1	100 (99 competitors)
Seed Value	Sum: 3 of min of above 4	165

APPENDIX O: POOL FORMATS - Individual Competitions

Place teammates so that they fence each other before they fence other competitors in the pool. Use the special bout orders in those cases where the normal bout order would not allow this to be done.

Pools of 4 (6 Bouts)

1-4 2-3 1-3 2-4 3-4 1-2

Pools of 5 (10 Bouts)

1-2 3-4 5-1 2-3 5-4 1-3 2-5 4-1 3-5 4-2

Pools of 6 (15 Bouts)

1-2 4-5 2-3 5-6 3-1 6-4 2-5 1-4 5-3 1-6 4-2 3-6 5-1 3-4 6-2

4 teammates, place them 1-2-3-4:

3-1 4-2 1-4 2-3 5-6 1-2 3-4 1-6 2-5 3-6 4-5 6-2 5-1 6-4 5-3

Three sets of 2 teammates, place them 1-4, 2-5, 3-6:

1-4 2-5 3-6 5-1 4-2 3-1 6-2 5-3 6-4 1-2 3-4 5-6 2-3 1-6 4-5

Pools of 7 (21 Bouts)

1-4 2-5 3-6 7-1 5-4 2-3 6-7 5-1 4-3 6-2 5-7 3-1 4-8 7-2 3-5 1-6
2-4 7-3 6-5 1-2 4-7

3 teammates, place them 1-2-3:

1-2 4-5 6-7 3-1 4-7 2-3 5-1 6-2 3-4 7-5 1-6 4-2 7-3 5-6 1-4 2-7
5-3 6-4 7-1 2-5 3-6

Pools of 8 (28 Bouts)

2-3 1-5 7-4 6-8 1-2 3-4 5-6 8-7 4-1 5-2 8-3 6-7 4-2 8-1 7-5 3-6
2-8 5-4 6-1 3-7 4-8 2-6 3-5 1-7 4-6 8-5 7-2 1-3

3 teammates, place them 1-2-3:

2-3 7-4 6-8 1-2 7-5 4-6 1-3 8-5 4-2 1-7 3-6 2-8 5-4 6-1 3-7 4-8
2-6 3-5 4-1 8-7 5-6 3-4 8-1 5-2 6-7 8-3 1-5 7-2

Two sets of 3 teammates, place them 1-2-3 and 4-5-6:

1-2 4-5 3-1 6-4 7-8 2-3 5-6 1-4 2-7 5-8 3-6 7-1 8-4 2-5 7-3 8-6
5-1 3-4 8-2 6-7 5-3 1-8 4-7 6-2 3-8 7-5 1-6 4-2

4 teammates, place them 1-2-3-5:

2-3 1-5 7-4 6-8 1-2 3-5 8-7 4-6 1-3 5-2 4-8 6-7 3-4 8-5 6-1 3-7
2-8 5-4 1-7 3-6 4-2 8-1 7-5 2-6 8-3 4-1 7-2 5-6

4 teammates and 3 teammates, place them 1-2-3-4 and 5-6-7:

5-6 1-2 3-4 7-5 3-1 4-2 6-7 5-8 1-4 8-6 2-3 7-8 5-1 6-4 2-7 3-8
1-6 2-5 8-4 7-3 6-2 1-8 5-3 4-7 8-2 3-6 7-1 4-5

Two sets of 4 teammates, place them 1-2-3-4 and 5-6-7-8:

5-8 6-7 1-4 2-3 7-5 8-6 3-1 4-2 7-8 5-6 3-4 1-2 3-8 6-4 7-1 2-5
3-6 1-8 4-5 2-7 1-6 5-3 8-2 4-7 5-1 6-2 7-3 8-4

Pools of 9 (36 Bouts)

1-9 2-8 3-7 4-6 1-5 2-9 8-3 7-4 6-5 1-2 9-3 8-4 7-5 6-1 3-2 9-4
5-8 7-6 3-1 2-4 5-9 8-6 7-1 4-3 5-2 6-9 8-7 4-1 5-3 6-2 9-7 1-8
4-5 3-6 2-7 9-8

3 teammates, place them 1-2-3:

2-3 6-7 4-5 3-1 8-9 1-2 7-3 5-8 6-2 4-9 7-1 3-6 9-5 8-4 2-7 1-6
9-3 8-2 5-1 4-7 6-9 3-8 2-5 1-4 9-7 8-6 5-3 4-2 9-1 7-8 5-6 3-4
2-9 1-8 7-5 6-4

Two sets of 3 teammates, place them 1-5-9 and 2-3-8:

1-9 2-8 4-6 1-5 8-3 7-4 5-9 3-2 7-6 8-4 9-3 7-1 6-2 5-8 4-3 1-2
7-5 6-9 3-1 5-2 9-4 6-1 8-7 4-5 3-6 9-7 1-8 5-3 2-7 9-8 4-1 6-5
2-9 3-7 8-6 2-4

Three sets of 3 teammates, place them 1-2-3, 4-5-6 and 7-8-9:

1-2 4-5 7-8 3-1 6-4 9-7 2-3 5-6 8-9 7-1 4-2 3-6 5-8 4-9 1-6 2-7
3-8 9-5 4-7 1-8 6-2 5-3 9-1 8-4 6-7 2-5 9-3 1-4 8-6 7-5 2-9 3-4
5-1 6-9 8-2 7-3

4 teammates, place them 1-2-8-9:

1-9 2-8 3-7 4-6 1-8 2-9 6-5 7-4 8-3 1-2 9-8 4-3 7-5 6-1 3-2 9-4
1-5 3-6 2-4 5-8 7-6 9-3 4-1 8-7 5-2 6-9 8-4 3-1 2-7 5-9 8-6 7-1
4-5 6-2 9-7 5-3

4 teammates and 3 teammates, place them 1-2-3-4 and 5-6-7:

5-6 3-1 4-2 7-5 2-3 1-4 8-9 6-7 1-2 3-4 5-8 6-9 7-1 2-5 3-6 7-8
4-9 1-6 8-2 9-5 7-3 8-4 5-1 6-2 9-7 3-8 4-5 9-1 2-7 8-6 9-3 4-7
1-8 5-3 2-9 6-4

Pools of 10 (45 Bouts)

1-4 6-9 2-5 7-10 3-1 8-6 4-5 9-10 2-3 7-8 5-1 10-6 4-2 9-7 5-3 10-8
1-2 6-7 3-4 8-9 5-10 1-6 2-7 3-8 4-9 6-5 10-2 8-1 7-4 9-3 2-6 5-8
4-10 1-9 3-7 8-2 6-4 9-5 10-3 7-1 4-8 2-9 3-6 5-7 1-10

Pools of 11 (55 Bouts)

1-2 7-8 4-5 10-11 2-3 8-9 5-6 3-1 9-7 6-4 2-5 8-11 1-4 7-10 5-3 11-9
1-6 4-2 10-8 3-6 5-1 11-7 3-4 9-10 6-2 1-7 3-9 10-4 8-2 5-11 1-8 9-2
3-10 4-11 6-7 9-1 2-10 11-3 7-5 6-8 10-1 11-2 4-7 8-5 6-9 11-1 7-3 4-8
9-5 6-10 2-7 8-3 4-9 10-5 6-11

Pools of 12 (66 Bouts)

1-2 7-8 4-5 10-11 2-3 8-9 5-6 11-12 3-1 9-7 6-4 12-10 2-5 8-11 1-4 7-10
5-3 11-9 1-6 7-12 4-2 10-8 3-6 9-12 5-1 11-7 3-4 9-10 6-2 12-8 1-7 3-9
10-4 8-2 5-11 12-6 1-8 9-2 3-10 4-11 12-5 6-7 9-1 2-10 11-3 4-12 7-5 6-8
10-1 11-2 12-3 4-7 8-5 6-9 11-1 2-12 7-3 4-8 9-5 6-10 12-1 2-7 8-3 4-9
10-5 6-11

POOL FORMATS								
Entries	Pools of 6 or less				Pools of 6, 7, or more			
	Max		Min		Max		Min	
2	1	1x2						
3	1	1x3						
4	1	1x4						
5	1	1x5						
6	1	1x6						
7							1	1x7
8	2	2x4					1	1x8
9	2	1x4 1x5					1	1x9
10	2	2x5						
11	2	1x5 1x6						
12	2	2x6						
13							2	1x6 1x7
14							2	2x7
15	3	3x5						
16	3	2x5 1x6						
17	3	1x5 2x6						
18	3	3x6						
19							3	2x6 1x7
20	4	4x5					3	1x6 2x7
21	4	3x5 1x6					3	3x7
22	4	2x5 2x6						
23	4	1x5 3x6						
24	4	4x6						
25	5	5x5					4	3x6 1x7
26	5	4x5 1x6					4	2x6 2x7
27	5	3x5 2x6					4	1x6 3x7
28	5	2x5 3x6					4	4x7
29	5	1x5 4x6						
30	6	6x5	5	5x6				
31	6	5x5 1x6					5	4x6 1x7
32	6	4x5 2x6					5	3x6 2x7
33	6	3x5 3x6					5	2x6 3x7
34	6	2x5 4x6					5	1x6 4x7
35	7	7x5	6	1x5 5x6			5	5x7
36	7	6x5 1x6	6	6x6			6	6x6
37	7	5x5 2x6					6	5x6 1x7
38	7	4x5 3x6					6	4x6 2x7
39	7	3x5 4x6					6	3x6 3x7
40	8	8x5	7	2x5 5x6			6	2x6 4x7
41	8	7x5 1x6	7	1x5 6x6			6	1x6 5x7
42	8	6x5 2x6	7	7x6	7	7x6	6	6x7
43	8	5x5 3x6					7	6x6 1x7
44	8	4x5 4x6					7	5x6 2x7
45	9	9x5	8	3x5 5x6			7	4x6 3x7
46	9	8x5 1x6	8	2x5 6x6			7	3x6 4x7
47	9	7x5 2x6	8	1x5 7x6			7	2x6 5x7
48	9	6x5 3x6	8	8x6	8	8x6	7	1x6 6x7
49	9	5x5 4x6			8	7x6 1x7	7	7x7
50	10	10x5	9	4x5 5x6			8	6x6 2x7

POOL FORMATS								
Entries	Pools of 6 or less				Pools of 6, 7, or more			
	Max		Min		Max		Min	
51	10	9x5 1x6	9	3x5 6x6			8	5x6 3x7
52	10	8x5 2x6	9	2x5 7x6			8	4x6 4x7
53	10	7x5 3x6	9	1x5 8x6			8	3x6 5x7
54	10	6x5 4x6	9	9x6	9	9x6	8	2x6 6x7
55	11	11x5	10	5x5 5x6	9	8x6 1x7	8	1x6 7x7
56	11	10x5 1x6	10	4x5 6x6	9	7x6 2x7	8	8x7
57	11	9x5 2x6	10	3x5 7x6			9	6x6 3x7
58	11	8x5 3x6	10	2x5 8x6			9	5x6 4x7
59	11	7x5 4x6	10	1x5 9x6			9	4x6 5x7
60	12	12x5	10	10x6	10	10x6	9	3x6 6x7
61	12	11x5 1x6	11	5x5 6x6	10	9x6 1x7	9	2x6 7x7
62	12	10x5 2x6	11	4x5 7x6	10	8x6 2x7	9	1x6 8x7
63	12	9x5 3x6	11	3x5 8x6	10	7x6 3x7	9	9x7
64	12	8x5 4x6	11	2x5 9x6			10	6x6 4x7
65	13	13x5	11	1x5 10x6			10	5x6 5x7
66	13	12x5 1x6	11	11x6	11	11x6	10	4x6 6x7
67	13	11x5 2x6	12	5x5 7x6	11	10x6 1x7	10	3x6 7x7
68	13	10x5 3x6	12	4x5 8x6	11	9x6 2x7	10	2x6 8x7
69	13	9x5 4x6	12	3x5 9x6	11	8x6 3x7	10	1x6 9x7
70	14	14x5	12	2x5 10x6	11	7x6 4x7	10	10x7
71	14	13x5 1x6	12	1x5 11x6			11	6x6 5x7
72	14	12x5 2x6	12	12x6	12	12x6	11	5x6 6x7
73	14	11x5 3x6	13	5x5 8x6	12	11x6 1x7	11	4x6 7x7
74	14	10x5 4x6	13	4x5 9x6	12	10x6 2x7	11	3x6 8x7
75	15	15x5	13	3x5 10x6	12	9x6 3x7	11	2x6 9x7
76	15	14x5 1x6	13	2x5 11x6	12	8x6 4x7	11	1x6 10x7
77	15	13x5 2x6	13	1x5 12x6	12	7x6 5x7	11	11x7
78	15	12x5 3x6	13	13x6	13	13x6	12	6x6 6x7
79	15	11x5 4x6	14	5x5 9x6	13	12x6 1x7	12	5x6 7x7
80	16	16x5	14	4x5 10x6	13	11x6 2x7	12	4x6 8x7
81	16	15x5 1x6	14	3x5 11x6	13	10x6 3x7	12	3x6 9x7
82	16	14x5 2x6	14	2x5 12x6	13	9x6 4x7	12	2x6 10x7
83	16	13x5 3x6	14	1x5 13x6	13	8x6 5x7	12	1x6 11x7
84	16	12x5 4x6	14	14x6	14	14x6	12	12x7
85	17	17x5	15	5x5 10x6	14	13x6 1x7	13	6x6 7x7
86	17	16x5 1x6	15	4x5 11x6	14	12x6 2x7	13	5x6 8x7
87	17	15x5 2x6	15	3x5 12x6	14	11x6 3x7	13	4x6 9x7
88	17	14x5 3x6	15	2x5 13x6	14	10x6 4x7	13	3x6 10x7
89	17	13x5 4x6	15	1x5 14x6	14	9x6 5x7	13	2x6 11x7
90	18	18x5	15	15x6	15	15x6	13	1x6 12x7
91	18	17x5 1x6	16	5x5 11x6	15	14x6 1x7	13	13x7
92	18	16x5 2x6	16	4x5 12x6	15	13x6 2x7	14	6x6 8x7
93	18	15x5 3x6	16	3x5 13x6	15	12x6 3x7	14	5x6 9x7
94	18	14x5 4x6	16	2x5 14x6	15	11x6 4x7	14	4x6 10x7
95	19	19x5	16	1x5 15x6	15	10x6 5x7	14	3x6 11x7
96	19	18x5 1x6	16	16x6	16	16x6	14	2x6 12x7
97	19	17x5 2x6	17	5x5 12x6	16	15x6 1x7	14	1x6 13x7
98	19	16x5 3x6	17	4x5 13x6	16	14x6 2x7	14	14x7
99	19	15x5 4x6	17	3x5 14x6	16	13x6 3x7	15	6x6 9x7
100	20	20x5	17	2x5 15x6	16	12x6 4x7	15	5x6 10x7

POOL FORMATS										
Entries	Pools of 6 or less					Pools of 6, 7, or more				
	Max			Min		Max			Min	
101	20	19x5	1x6	17	1x5 16x6	16	11x6	5x7	15	4x6 11x7
102	20	18x5	2x6	17	17x6	17	17x6		15	3x6 12x7
103	20	17x5	3x6	18	5x5 13x6	17	16x6	1x7	15	2x6 13x7
104	20	16x5	4x6	18	4x5 14x6	17	15x6	2x7	15	1x6 14x7
105	21	21x5		18	3x5 15x6	17	14x6	3x7	15	15x7
106	21	20x5	1x6	18	2x5 16x6	17	13x6	4x7	16	6x6 10x7
107	21	19x5	2x6	18	1x5 17x6	17	12x6	5x7	16	5x6 11x7
108	21	18x5	3x6	18	18x6	18	18x6		16	4x6 12x7
109	21	17x5	4x6	19	5x5 14x6	18	17x6	1x7	16	3x6 13x7
110	22	22x5		19	4x5 15x6	18	16x6	2x7	16	2x6 14x7
111	22	21x5	1x6	19	3x5 16x6	18	15x6	3x7	16	1x6 15x7
112	22	20x5	2x6	19	2x5 17x6	18	14x6	4x7	16	16x7
113	22	19x5	3x6	19	1x5 18x6	18	13x6	5x7	17	6x6 11x7
114	22	18x5	4x6	19	19x6	19	19x6		17	5x6 12x7
115	23	23x5		20	5x5 15x6	19	18x6	1x7	17	4x6 13x7
116	23	22x5	1x6	20	4x5 16x6	19	17x6	2x7	17	3x6 14x7
117	23	21x5	2x6	20	3x5 17x6	19	16x6	3x7	17	2x6 15x7
118	23	20x5	3x6	20	2x5 18x6	19	15x6	4x7	17	1x6 16x7
119	23	19x5	4x6	20	1x5 19x6	19	14x6	5x7	17	17x7
120	24	24x5		20	20x6	20	20x6		18	6x6 12x7
121	24	23x5	1x6	21	5x5 16x6	20	19x6	1x7	18	5x6 13x7
122	24	22x5	2x6	21	4x5 17x6	20	18x6	2x7	18	4x6 14x7
123	24	21x5	3x6	21	3x5 18x6	20	17x6	3x7	18	3x6 15x7
124	24	20x5	4x6	21	2x5 19x6	20	16x6	4x7	18	2x6 16x7
125	25	25x5		21	1x5 20x6	20	15x6	5x7	18	1x6 17x7
126	25	24x5	1x6	21	21x6	21	21x6		18	18x7
127	25	23x5	2x6	22	5x5 17x6	21	20x6	1x7	19	6x6 13x7
128	25	22x5	3x6	22	4x5 18x6	21	19x6	2x7	19	5x6 14x7
129	25	21x5	4x6	22	3x5 19x6	21	18x6	3x7	19	4x6 15x7
130	26	26x5		22	2x5 20x6	21	17x6	4x7	19	3x6 16x7
131	26	25x5	1x6	22	1x5 21x6	21	16x6	5x7	19	2x6 17x7
132	26	24x5	2x6	22	22x6	22	22x6		19	1x6 18x7
133	26	23x5	3x6	23	5x5 18x6	22	21x6	1x7	19	19x7
134	26	22x5	4x6	23	4x5 19x6	22	20x6	2x7	20	6x6 14x7
135	27	27x5		23	3x5 20x6	22	19x6	3x7	20	5x6 15x7
136	27	26x5	1x6	23	2x5 21x6	22	18x6	4x7	20	4x6 16x7
137	27	25x5	2x6	23	1x5 22x6	22	17x6	5x7	20	3x6 17x7
138	27	24x5	3x6	23	23x6	23	23x6		20	2x6 18x7
139	27	23x5	4x6	24	5x5 19x6	23	22x6	1x7	20	1x6 19x7
140	28	28x5		24	4x5 20x6	23	21x6	2x7	20	20x7
141	28	27x5	1x6	24	3x5 21x6	23	20x6	3x7	21	6x6 15x7
142	28	26x5	2x6	24	2x5 22x6	23	19x6	4x7	21	5x6 16x7
143	28	25x5	3x6	24	1x5 23x6	23	18x6	5x7	21	4x6 17x7
144	28	24x5	4x6	24	24x6	24	24x6		21	3x6 18x7
145	29	29x5		25	5x5 20x6	24	23x6	1x7	21	2x6 19x7
146	29	28x5	1x6	25	4x5 21x6	24	22x6	2x7	21	1x6 20x7
147	29	27x5	2x6	25	3x5 22x6	24	21x6	3x7	21	21x7
148	29	26x5	3x6	25	2x5 23x6	24	20x6	4x7	22	6x6 16x7
149	29	25x5	4x6	25	1x5 24x6	24	19x6	5x7	22	5x6 17x7
150	30	30x5		25	25x6	25	25x6		22	4x6 18x7

POOL FORMATS														
Entries	Pools of 6 or less					Pools of 6, 7, or more								
	Max			Min		Max			Min					
151	30	29x5	1x6	...	26	5x5	21x6	25	24x6	1x7	...	22	3x6	19x7
152	30	28x5	2x6	...	26	4x5	22x6	25	23x6	2x7	...	22	2x6	20x7
153	30	27x5	3x6	...	26	3x5	23x6	25	22x6	3x7	...	22	1x6	21x7
154	30	26x5	4x6	...	26	2x5	24x6	25	21x6	4x7	...	22		22x7
155	31		31x5	...	26	1x5	25x6	25	20x6	5x7	...	23	6x6	17x7
156	31	30x5	1x6	...	26		26x6	26		26x6	...	23	5x6	18x7
157	31	29x5	2x6	...	27	5x5	22x6	26	25x6	1x7	...	23	4x6	19x7
158	31	28x5	3x6	...	27	4x5	23x6	26	24x6	2x7	...	23	3x6	20x7
159	31	27x5	4x6	...	27	3x5	24x6	26	23x6	3x7	...	23	2x6	21x7
160	32		32x5	...	27	2x5	25x6	26	22x6	4x7	...	23	1x6	22x7
161	32	31x5	1x6	...	27	1x5	26x6	26	21x6	5x7	...	23		23x7
162	32	30x5	2x6	...	27		27x6	27		27x6	...	24	6x6	18x7
163	32	29x5	3x6	...	28	5x5	23x6	27	26x6	1x7	...	24	5x6	19x7
164	32	28x5	4x6	...	28	4x5	24x6	27	25x6	2x7	...	24	4x6	20x7
165	33		33x5	...	28	3x5	25x6	27	24x6	3x7	...	24	3x6	21x7
166	33	32x5	1x6	...	28	2x5	26x6	27	23x6	4x7	...	24	2x6	22x7
167	33	31x5	2x6	...	28	1x5	27x6	27	22x6	5x7	...	24	1x6	23x7
168	33	30x5	3x6	...	28		28x6	28		28x6	...	24		24x7
169	33	29x5	4x6	...	29	5x5	24x6	28	27x6	1x7	...	25	6x6	19x7
170	34		34x5	...	29	4x5	25x6	28	26x6	2x7	...	25	5x6	20x7
171	34	33x5	1x6	...	29	3x5	26x6	28	25x6	3x7	...	25	4x6	21x7
172	34	32x5	2x6	...	29	2x5	27x6	28	24x6	4x7	...	25	3x6	22x7
173	34	31x5	3x6	...	29	1x5	28x6	28	23x6	5x7	...	25	2x6	23x7
174	34	30x5	4x6	...	29		29x6	29		29x6	...	25	1x6	24x7
175	35		35x5	...	30	5x5	25x6	29	28x6	1x7	...	25		25x7
176	35	34x5	1x6	...	30	4x5	26x6	29	27x6	2x7	...	26	6x6	20x7
177	35	33x5	2x6	...	30	3x5	27x6	29	26x6	3x7	...	26	5x6	21x7
178	35	32x5	3x6	...	30	2x5	28x6	29	25x6	4x7	...	26	4x6	22x7
179	35	31x5	4x6	...	30	1x5	29x6	29	24x6	5x7	...	26	3x6	23x7
180	36		36x5	...	30		30x6	30		30x6	...	26	2x6	24x7
181	36	35x5	1x6	...	31	5x5	26x6	30	29x6	1x7	...	26	1x6	25x7
182	36	34x5	2x6	...	31	4x5	27x6	30	28x6	2x7	...	26		26x7
183	36	33x5	3x6	...	31	3x5	28x6	30	27x6	3x7	...	27	6x6	21x7
184	36	32x5	4x6	...	31	2x5	29x6	30	26x6	4x7	...	27	5x6	22x7
185	37		37x5	...	31	1x5	30x6	30	25x6	5x7	...	27	4x6	23x7
186	37	36x5	1x6	...	31		31x6	31		31x6	...	27	3x6	24x7
187	37	35x5	2x6	...	32	5x5	27x6	31	30x6	1x7	...	27	2x6	25x7
188	37	34x5	3x6	...	32	4x5	28x6	31	29x6	2x7	...	27	1x6	26x7
189	37	33x5	4x6	...	32	3x5	29x6	31	28x6	3x7	...	27		27x7
190	38		38x5	...	32	2x5	30x6	31	27x6	4x7	...	28	6x6	22x7
191	38	37x5	1x6	...	32	1x5	31x6	31	26x6	5x7	...	28	5x6	23x7
192	38	36x5	2x6	...	32		32x6	32		32x6	...	28	4x6	24x7
193	38	35x5	3x6	...	33	5x5	28x6	32	31x6	1x7	...	28	3x6	25x7
194	38	34x5	4x6	...	33	4x5	29x6	32	30x6	2x7	...	28	2x6	26x7
195	39		39x5	...	33	3x5	30x6	32	29x6	3x7	...	28	1x6	27x7
196	39	38x5	1x6	...	33	2x5	31x6	32	28x6	4x7	...	28		28x7
197	39	37x5	2x6	...	33	1x5	32x6	32	27x6	5x7	...	29	6x6	23x7
198	39	36x5	3x6	...	33		33x6	33		33x6	...	29	5x6	24x7
199	39	35x5	4x6	...	34	5x5	29x6	33	32x6	1x7	...	29	4x6	25x7
200	40		40x5	...	34	4x5	30x6	33	31x6	2x7	...	29	3x6	26x7

POOL FORMATS													
Entries	Pools of 6 or less					Pools of 6, 7, or more							
	Max			Min		Max			Min				
201	40	39x5	1x6	...	34	3x5	31x6	33	30x6	3x7	29	2x6	27x7
202	40	38x5	2x6	...	34	2x5	32x6	33	29x6	4x7	29	1x6	28x7
203	40	37x5	3x6	...	34	1x5	33x6	33	28x6	5x7	29		29x7
204	40	36x5	4x6	...	34		34x6	34		34x6	30	6x6	24x7
205	41		41x5	...	35	5x5	30x6	34	33x6	1x7	30	5x6	25x7
206	41	40x5	1x6	...	35	4x5	31x6	34	32x6	2x7	30	4x6	26x7
207	41	39x5	2x6	...	35	3x5	32x6	34	31x6	3x7	30	3x6	27x7
208	41	38x5	3x6	...	35	2x5	33x6	34	30x6	4x7	30	2x6	28x7
209	41	37x5	4x6	...	35	1x5	34x6	34	29x6	5x7	30	1x6	29x7
210	42		42x5	...	35		35x6	35		35x6	30		30x7
211	42	41x5	1x6	...	36	5x5	31x6	35	34x6	1x7	31	6x6	25x7
212	42	40x5	2x6	...	36	4x5	32x6	35	33x6	2x7	31	5x6	26x7
213	42	39x5	3x6	...	36	3x5	33x6	35	32x6	3x7	31	4x6	27x7
214	42	38x5	4x6	...	36	2x5	34x6	35	31x6	4x7	31	3x6	28x7
215	43		43x5	...	36	1x5	35x6	35	30x6	5x7	31	2x6	29x7
216	43	42x5	1x6	...	36		36x6	36		36x6	31	1x6	30x7
217	43	41x5	2x6	...	37	5x5	32x6	36	35x6	1x7	31		31x7
218	43	40x5	3x6	...	37	4x5	33x6	36	34x6	2x7	32	6x6	26x7
219	43	39x5	4x6	...	37	3x5	34x6	36	33x6	3x7	32	5x6	27x7
220	44		44x5	...	37	2x5	35x6	36	32x6	4x7	32	4x6	28x7
221	44	43x5	1x6	...	37	1x5	36x6	36	31x6	5x7	32	3x6	29x7
222	44	42x5	2x6	...	37		37x6	37		37x6	32	2x6	30x7
223	44	41x5	3x6	...	38	5x5	33x6	37	36x6	1x7	32	1x6	31x7
224	44	40x5	4x6	...	38	4x5	34x6	37	35x6	2x7	32		32x7
225	45		45x5	...	38	3x5	35x6	37	34x6	3x7	33	6x6	27x7
226	45	44x5	1x6	...	38	2x5	36x6	37	33x6	4x7	33	5x6	28x7
227	45	43x5	2x6	...	38	1x5	37x6	37	32x6	5x7	33	4x6	29x7
228	45	42x5	3x6	...	38		38x6	38		38x6	33	3x6	30x7
229	45	41x5	4x6	...	39	5x5	34x6	38	37x6	1x7	33	2x6	31x7
230	46		46x5	...	39	4x5	35x6	38	36x6	2x7	33	1x6	32x7
231	46	45x5	1x6	...	39	3x5	36x6	38	35x6	3x7	33		33x7
232	46	44x5	2x6	...	39	2x5	37x6	38	34x6	4x7	34	6x6	28x7
233	46	43x5	3x6	...	39	1x5	38x6	38	33x6	5x7	34	5x6	29x7
234	46	42x5	4x6	...	39		39x6	39		39x6	34	4x6	30x7
235	47		47x5	...	40	5x5	35x6	39	38x6	1x7	34	3x6	31x7
236	47	46x5	1x6	...	40	4x5	36x6	39	37x6	2x7	34	2x6	32x7
237	47	45x5	2x6	...	40	3x5	37x6	39	36x6	3x7	34	1x6	33x7
238	47	44x5	3x6	...	40	2x5	38x6	39	35x6	4x7	34		34x7
239	47	43x5	4x6	...	40	1x5	39x6	39	34x6	5x7	35	6x6	29x7
240	48		48x5	...	40		40x6	40		40x6	35	5x6	30x7
241	48	47x5	1x6	...	41	5x5	36x6	40	39x6	1x7	35	4x6	31x7
242	48	46x5	2x6	...	41	4x5	37x6	40	38x6	2x7	35	3x6	32x7
243	48	45x5	3x6	...	41	3x5	38x6	40	37x6	3x7	35	2x6	33x7
244	48	44x5	4x6	...	41	2x5	39x6	40	36x6	4x7	35	1x6	34x7
245	49		49x5	...	41	1x5	40x6	40	35x6	5x7			35x7
246	49	48x5	1x6	...	41		41x6	41		41x6		6x6	30x7
247	49	47x5	2x6	...	42	5x5	37x6	41	40x6	1x7		5x6	31x7
248	49	46x5	3x6	...	42	4x5	38x6	41	39x6	2x7		4x6	32x7
249	49	45x5	4x6	...	42	3x5	39x6	41	38x6	3x7		3x6	33x7

250	50	50x5	...	42	2x5 40x6	41	37x6 4x7			2x6 34x7
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POOL FORMATS														
Entries	Pools of 6 or less					Pools of 6, 7, or more								
	Max			Min		Max			Min					
251	50	49x5	1x6	...	42	1x5	41x6	41	36x6	5x7	...	36	1x6	35x7
252	50	48x5	2x6	...	42	42x6	42	42x6	...	36	36x7	36	36x7	
253	50	47x5	3x6	...	43	5x5	38x6	42	41x6	1x7	...	37	6x6	31x7
254	50	46x5	4x6	...	43	4x5	39x6	42	40x6	2x7	...	37	5x6	32x7
255	51	51x5	...	...	43	3x5	40x6	42	39x6	3x7	...	37	4x6	33x7
256	51	50x5	1x6	...	43	2x5	41x6	42	38x6	4x7	...	37	3x6	34x7
257	51	49x5	2x6	...	43	1x5	42x6	42	37x6	5x7	...	37	2x6	35x7
258	51	48x5	3x6	...	43	43x6	43	43x6	...	37	1x6	36x7		
259	51	47x5	4x6	...	44	5x5	39x6	43	42x6	1x7	...	37	37x7	
260	52	52x5	...	...	44	4x5	40x6	43	41x6	2x7	...	38	6x6	32x7
261	52	51x5	1x6	...	44	3x5	41x6	43	40x6	3x7	...	38	5x6	33x7
262	52	50x5	2x6	...	44	2x5	42x6	43	39x6	4x7	...	38	4x6	34x7
263	52	49x5	3x6	...	44	1x5	43x6	43	38x6	5x7	...	38	3x6	35x7
264	52	48x5	4x6	...	44	44x6	44	44x6	...	38	2x6	36x7		
265	53	53x5	...	...	45	5x5	40x6	44	43x6	1x7	...	38	1x6	37x7
266	53	52x5	1x6	...	45	4x5	41x6	44	42x6	2x7	...	38	38x7	
267	53	51x5	2x6	...	45	3x5	42x6	44	41x6	3x7	...	39	6x6	33x7
268	53	50x5	3x6	...	45	2x5	43x6	44	40x6	4x7	...	39	5x6	34x7
269	53	49x5	4x6	...	45	1x5	44x6	44	39x6	5x7	...	39	4x6	35x7
270	54	54x5	...	...	45	45x6	45	45x6	...	39	3x6	36x7		
271	54	53x5	1x6	...	46	5x5	41x6	45	44x6	1x7	...	39	2x6	37x7
272	54	52x5	2x6	...	46	4x5	42x6	45	43x6	2x7	...	39	1x6	38x7
273	54	51x5	3x6	...	46	3x5	43x6	45	42x6	3x7	...	39	39x7	
274	54	50x5	4x6	...	46	2x5	44x6	45	41x6	4x7	...	40	6x6	34x7
275	55	55x5	...	...	46	1x5	45x6	45	40x6	5x7	...	40	5x6	35x7
276	55	54x5	1x6	...	46	46x6	46	46x6	...	40	4x6	36x7		
277	55	53x5	2x6	...	47	5x5	42x6	46	45x6	1x7	...	40	3x6	37x7
278	55	52x5	3x6	...	47	4x5	43x6	46	44x6	2x7	...	40	2x6	38x7
279	55	51x5	4x6	...	47	3x5	44x6	46	43x6	3x7	...	40	1x6	39x7
280	56	56x5	...	...	47	2x5	45x6	46	42x6	4x7	...	40	40x7	
281	56	55x5	1x6	...	47	1x5	46x6	46	41x6	5x7	...	41	6x6	35x7
282	56	54x5	2x6	...	47	47x6	47	47x6	...	41	5x6	36x7		
283	56	53x5	3x6	...	48	5x5	43x6	47	46x6	1x7	...	41	4x6	37x7
284	56	52x5	4x6	...	48	4x5	44x6	47	45x6	2x7	...	41	3x6	38x7
285	57	57x5	...	...	48	3x5	45x6	47	44x6	3x7	...	41	2x6	39x7
286	57	56x5	1x6	...	48	2x5	46x6	47	43x6	4x7	...	41	1x6	40x7
287	57	55x5	2x6	...	48	1x5	47x6	47	42x6	5x7	...	41	41x7	
288	57	54x5	3x6	...	48	48x6	48	48x6	...	42	6x6	36x7		
289	57	53x5	4x6	...	49	5x5	44x6	48	47x6	1x7	...	42	5x6	37x7
290	58	58x5	...	...	49	4x5	45x6	48	46x6	2x7	...	42	4x6	38x7
291	58	57x5	1x6	...	49	3x5	46x6	48	45x6	3x7	...	42	3x6	39x7
292	58	56x5	2x6	...	49	2x5	47x6	48	44x6	4x7	...	42	2x6	40x7
293	58	55x5	3x6	...	49	1x5	48x6	48	43x6	5x7	...	42	1x6	41x7
294	58	54x5	4x6	...	49	49x6	49	49x6	...	42	42x7			
295	59	59x5	...	...	50	5x5	45x6	49	48x6	1x7	...	43	6x6	37x7
296	59	58x5	1x6	...	50	4x5	46x6	49	47x6	2x7	...	43	5x6	38x7
297	59	57x5	2x6	...	50	3x5	47x6	49	46x6	3x7	...	43	4x6	39x7
298	59	56x5	3x6	...	50	2x5	48x6	49	45x6	4x7	...	43	3x6	40x7
299	59	55x5	4x6	...	50	1x5	49x6	49	44x6	5x7	...	43	2x6	41x7
300	60	60x5	...	...	50	50x6	50	50x6	...	43	1x6	42x7		

APPENDIX P: USFA POLICIES

A: 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 athletes, 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

APPENDIX P: USFA POLICIES

- 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

CONSENTUAL 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:

- Athletes, 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 personal decisions with respect to an individual with whom they are having a romantic relationship
- The perception that employees, volunteers, coaches or athletes 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 athletes 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.

APPENDIX P: USFA POLICIES

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 - Attached listing and information will be updated on an annual basis or more frequently as warranted.

A person wishing to file a complaint may do so by contacting any of the following:

Executive Director
Any USFA Officer
USFA Counsel or Associate Counsel
Fencing Officials Commission (FOC) Chair
Tournament Committee (TC) Chair
Division or Section Chair, see USFA Web site, www.usfencing.org
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

DIRECTORY OF CONTACT PERSONS: Fall 2006

Executive Director: Michael Massik, 719-866-4511, Michael.massik@usfencing.org
President: Nancy Anderson, 609-921-8396, nanderson1@nj.rr.com
Vice President: Samuel D. Chervis, 303-632-7212, sam.chervis2@relera.com
Vice President: Ro Sobalvarro, 651-698-1407, sobal001@umn.edu
Vice President: Ed Wright, 703-243-3951, ensenada@erols.com
Secretary: Linda Merritt, 978-667-1100, merritt8@comcast.net
Treasurer: Derek Cotton, (818) 545-3330, foilcoach@yahoo.com
Counsel: Donald Alperstein, 303-894-8191, dalp@aol.com
Associate Counsel: Steve Sobel, 973-239-7606, ssobel4@optonline.net
FOC Chair: Bill Oliver, 303-772-3004, boliver@fencingofficials.org
TC Chair: Kalle Weeks, 973-292-9655, kgerritz@glenview.org

APPENDIX P: USFA POLICIES

UNITED STATES FENCING ASSOCIATION COACHES CODE OF ETHICS, STANDARDS AND CONDUCT

MISSION STATEMENT: To provide a standardized guideline of ethics, standards and conduct to ensure the quality, integrity and moral environment of the United States Fencing Association.

PURPOSE: This information is intended to provide both the general principles and the decision rules to cover most situations encountered by coaches and instructors. It has, as its primary goal, the welfare and protections of the individuals and groups with whom coaches work. This is also designed to provide a common set of values. It is the individual responsibility of each coach to aspire to the highest possible standards of conduct. Coaches should respect and protect human civil rights, and should not knowingly participate in or condone unfair discriminatory practices. Above all, coaches of young people can have great influence on developing athletes who are reliant on these coaches for the basic instruction and guidance necessary to reach the top levels. Coaches can have tremendous power over these athletes in their quest to the top. This power must not be abused. Therefore, we have set forth these codes of ethics and conduct to guide our coaches and protect our athletes for the mutual benefit of all concerned.

GENERAL PRINCIPLES:

- **Competence:** Coaches strive to maintain high standards of excellence in their work. They recognize the boundaries of their particular competencies and the limitations of their expertise. They provide only those services and use only those techniques for which they are qualified by education, training and/or experience. In those areas, where recognized professional standards, do not yet exist, coaches exercise careful judgment and take appropriate precautions to protect the welfare of those with whom they work. They maintain knowledge or relevant scientific and professional information related to the services they render, and they recognize the need for ongoing education. Coaches make appropriate use of scientific, professional, technical and administrative resources.
- **Integrity:** Coaches seek to promote integrity in the practice of coaches. Coaches are honest, fair and respectful of others. In describing or reporting their qualifications, services, products, or fees, they do not make statements that are false, misleading or deceptive. Coaches strive to be aware of their own belief systems, values, needs and limitations and the effect of these on their work. To the extent feasible, they attempt to clarify for relevant parties, the roles they are performing and to function appropriately in accordance with those roles. Coaches avoid improper and potentially harmful dual relationships.
- **Professional Responsibility:** Coaches uphold professional standards of conduct, clarify their professional roles and obligations, accept appropriate responsibility for their behavior, and adapt their methods to the needs of different athletes. Coaches consult with, refer to, or cooperate with other professionals and institutions to the extent needed to serve the best interest of their athletes, or other recipients of their services. Coaches' moral standards and conduct are personal matters to the same conduct may compromise their responsibilities or reduce the public's trust in coaching. Coaches are concerned

APPENDIX P: USFA POLICIES

about the ethical compliance of their colleagues' conduct. When appropriate, they consult with their colleagues in order to prevent or avoid unethical conduct.

- ***Respect for Participants and Dignity:*** Coaches respect the fundamental rights, dignity and worth of all participants. Coaches are aware of cultural, individual and role differences, including those due to age, gender, race, ethnicity, national origin, religion, sexual orientation, disability, language and socioeconomic status. Coaches try to eliminate the effect on their work of biases based on those factors, and they do not knowingly participate in or condone unfair discriminatory practices.
- ***Concern for Others Welfare:*** Coaches seek to contribute to the welfare of those with whom they interact. In their actions, coaches consider the welfare and rights of their athletes and other participants. When conflicts occur among coaches obligations or concerns, they attempt to resolve these conflicts and to perform their roles in a responsible fashion that avoids or minimizes harm. Coaches are sensitive to differences in power between themselves and others, and they do not exploit nor mislead other people during or after their relationship.
- ***Responsible Coaching:*** Coaches are aware of their ethical responsibility to the community and the society in which they work and live. They apply and make public their knowledge of sport in order to contribute to human welfare. Coaches try to avoid misuse of their work. Coaches comply with the law and encourage the development of law and policies that serve the interest of sport or activity. The coach shall strive to serve as a leader and model in the development of appropriate conduct for the athlete both within and beyond the United States Fencing Association setting. The coach shall strive to use strategies in practice and competition and that are designed to encourage play within the letter and spirit of the rules. The coach shall strive to keep the concepts of winning and losing in proper perspective. The coach shall strive to enforce policies and rules with fairness, consistency and an appreciation for individual differences.

ETHICAL STANDARDS:

- ***Competence:*** Coaches should not undertake these duties until they have first obtained the proper training, study and advise that they are competent to do so.
- ***Maintaining Expertise:*** Coaches should maintain a level of experience through continued education and experience and shall strive to acquire additional education and experience through sources available to them.
- ***Respecting Others:*** Coaches shall respect the rights of others values, opinions and beliefs even if they differ from their own.
- ***Nondiscrimination:*** Coaches should not engage in discrimination based upon age, gender, race, ethnicity, national origin, religion, sexual orientation, disability, language, socioeconomic status, or any other basis as proscribed by law.
- ***Sexual Harassment:*** Coaches do not, under any circumstances, engage in sexual harassment which includes solicitation, physical advances, verbal or non-verbal conduct

APPENDIX P: USFA POLICIES

which is sexual in nature and will respond to complaints of such a nature to respondents with dignity and respect.

Personal Problems or Conflicts: Coaches have a responsibility to be aware if there are personal problems or conflicts, which may affect their ability to work with athletes. They should also be able to identify problems affecting their athletes, which could potentially create situations that place their athletes in harm or danger of injury, and take the appropriate steps to remove the athlete from this environment.

COACHES CODE OF CONDUCT:

Obey and abide by all United States Fencing Association published rules, regulations and procedures.

Maintain exemplary standards of personal conduct.

Obey all State, National and International Laws.

Do not use alcohol, illegal drugs or substances, which could impair your ability or judgment as a coach.

Refrain from using any profane or abusive language.

Accept no gratuities or gifts from Athlete members.

Refrain from fraternization with Athletes.

No sexual harassment or sexual misconduct with any Athlete

Teach and support the Athletes fairly and equitably.

Do not discriminate against any Athlete

I understand that as a United States Fencing Association coach, I have assumed certain responsibilities to prepare, develop and be an advocate and role model for United States Fencing Association. I agree to the "Coaches Code of Conduct", have read the "Coaches Code of Conduct" and understand what is expected of me.

Signature Printed Name Date

APPENDIX P: USFA POLICIES

USFA DISCIPLINARY PROCEDURES

1 SCOPE OF PROCEDURES

These procedures 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 7 or under procedures adopted by the USOC.

2 DEFINITIONS

The following terms shall have the following meanings:

"Athlete" 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 Athletes, provided, however, no Athlete shall be contending for a team in the same event as the person subject to potential discipline.

The Panel and its Chair shall be selected by the Executive Director, provided, however, that if the Executive Director is not Disinterested, they shall be selected by the President of the USFA.

APPENDIX P: USFA POLICIES

"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 the Executive Committee which is authorized to act on behalf of the Board of Directors between meetings).

3 PROCEDURES

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

APPENDIX P: USFA POLICIES

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.

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 Executive Committee or Board of Directors.
- (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.

J. 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 Executive Committee within one week after receiving it.

K. Any sanctions proposed or directed by the Panel shall be effective unless they are disapproved by the Executive Committee 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 Executive Committee may stay the imposition of any sanction until the Board can vote to approve, disapprove, or modify the sanction.

L. The Board of Directors, or the Executive Committee acting on the Board's behalf, 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.

M. Absent extraordinary circumstances, the failure to comply with any of time limitations set forth herein, shall not be grounds to overturn or prohibit the imposition of sanctions.

APPENDIX P: USFA POLICIES

REMOVAL FROM TEAM, LOSS OF POINTS AND/OR FUNDING

1. GENERAL PRINCIPLES

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

- (a) Doping based on a confirmed positive of a "B" sample in accordance with U.S. Anti-Doping Agency protocol; OR
- (b) Disciplinary reason, for serious misconduct detrimental to fencing; OR
- (c) Inability or unwillingness to participate fully in all significant team activities; OR
- (d) Injury or other incapacity which will significantly detract from the fencer's performance; OR
- (e) Failure to maintain a reasonable program of training, conditioning and/or competition; OR
- (f) 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 athlete is a U.S. citizen. The USOC will consider a waiver to those athletes who can demonstrate that they could become citizens before the final selection competition of the USFA.

2

ATHLETES' RIGHTS

Athletes 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. An excerpt from the USOC Constitution is set forth as Exhibit "A".

3

DEFINITIONS

The following terms shall have the following meanings:

- (a) **"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 athletes who might be affected by a panel hearing agree, the Disinterested requirements with respect to a club mate may be waived.
- (b) **"Executive Director"** shall mean the Executive Director of the USFA or his/her designee.
- (c) **"Other Affected Athlete"** shall mean any athlete who might be removed from a team or denied a place on a team if an athlete's grievance is upheld by a panel.
- (d) **"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.

APPENDIX P: USFA POLICIES

- (e) **"Team Panel"** shall mean all of the Disinterested cadre for the Team that are willing to serve and at least one disinterested athlete 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.
- (f) **"Panel"** shall mean a panel consisting of not less than three (3) Disinterested USFA members (who may, but need not be, members of the International Committee). 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 athlete initiating the grievance procedure or subject to potential discipline. The Panel shall be selected by the Chair of the International Committee, provided, however, that if the Chair is not Disinterested, the Panel shall be selected by the Executive Director.
- (g) **"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.
- (h) **"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.
- (i) **"USOC"** shall mean the United States Olympic Committee
- (j) **"USOC Athlete"** shall mean an athlete who has competed in fencing at the Olympic Games, Pan American Games, or World Championships within the previous ten (10) years.

4 REGULAR GRIEVANCE STEPS

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

4.0 SCOPE: These procedures are intended to be used when an athlete or cadre member:

- (a) contests being removed from a team;
- (b) contests an improper denial of a place on a team selected using criteria specified by the USFA;
- (c) 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 Section 5

4.1 APPEALS

Decisions of the International Committee may be appealed to the Board of Directors of the USFA (or the Executive Committee which is authorized to act on behalf of the Board of Directors between meetings.)

APPENDIX P: USFA POLICIES

4.2 REIMBURSEMENT OF ATHLETE'S EXPENSES

The reasonable travel expense (as arranged by the USFA) of the athlete to the Panel hearing and the review by the International Committee shall be reimbursed if the place of the meeting is more than 50 miles from the athlete's residence. Travel expense shall not be reimbursed:

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

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

4.3 PROCEDURES

- (a) The Panel shall be selected by the Chair of the International Committee, provided, however, that if the Chair is not disinterested, the Panel shall be selected by the Executive Director.
- (b) The Executive Director shall inform the athlete and any Other Affected Athletes of the issues or allegations which have been referred to the Panel, and the names of the members of the Panel.
- (c) If the athlete, cadre member, or any Other Affected Athlete objects to any member of the Panel being a member, the athlete or Other Affected Athlete shall inform the person that named the Panel (Chair of the International Committee or the Executive Director), who shall have the discretion to replace the Panel member.
- (d) The Executive Director shall inform the athlete 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.
- (e) 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 athlete 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.
- (f) 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.
- (g) The athlete or any Other Affected Athlete shall have the following rights:

APPENDIX P: USFA POLICIES

- (1) to appear personally and be represented by counsel at the Hearing and at the review by the International Committee.
 - (2) to cross-examine all witnesses and present any additional relevant evidence.
 - (3) to testify on his own behalf, or remain silent.
- (h) 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 athlete, any Other Affected Athlete, and each member of the International Committee within one week after receiving it.
- (i) The recommendation(s) of the Panel shall not be effective or implemented unless approved by the International Committee.
- (j) 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.
- (k) Nothing herein shall preclude any athlete 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 Executive Director of the USOC or to submit any dispute to arbitration.

5

EXPEDITED GRIEVANCE STEPS

- 5.0 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 an athlete or cadre member:
- (a) contests being removed from a team;
 - (b) contests an improper denial of a place on a team selected using criteria specified by the USFA;
 - (c) contests an improper preclusion by the USFA of his/her opportunity to compete at any competition ;
 - (d) 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.
- 5.1 REIMBURSEMENT OF ATHLETE'S EXPENSES: All expenses, including counsel, shall be the responsibility of the athlete or cadre member.
- 5.2 APPEALS: An athlete or cadre member may request that the International Committee overrule any decision made by the Team Panel. An athlete or cadre member may request that the Executive Committee of the Board of Directors of the USFA overrule any decision made by the Team Panel or by the International Committee. Such rights to appeal are subject to there being time available for the body to accept and or act on any request.

APPENDIX P: USFA POLICIES

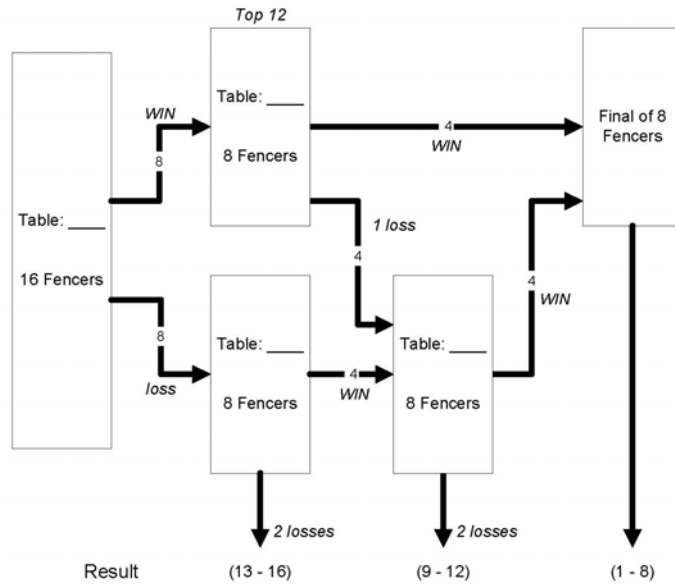
In the absence of any action by such an appellate body, the decision of the Team Panel or the lower body that has acted shall be the decision of the USFA.

5.3 PROCEDURES:

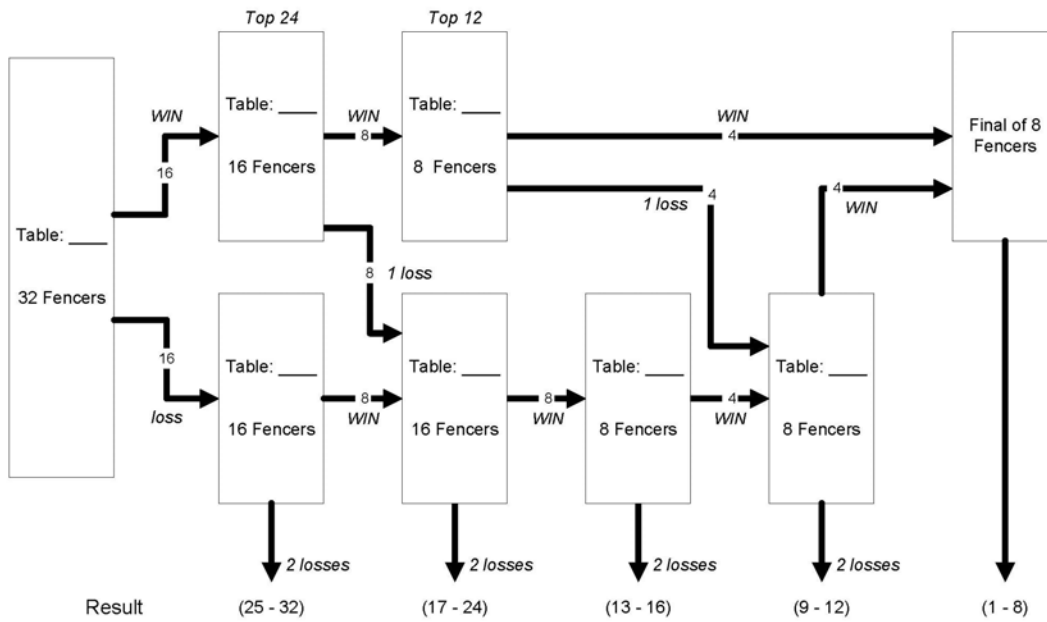
- (a) The Team Leader shall inform the athlete and any Other Affected Athletes of:
 - (1) the issues or allegations which have been referred to the Team Panel.
 - (2) the date, time and place of Hearing, and the manner in which the Hearing shall take place. The Hearing may be held in person, by teleconference, or as may otherwise be directed by the Team Leader.
- (b) 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 athlete 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.
- (c) 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.
- (d) The athlete and any Other Affected Athlete shall have the rights:
 - (1) to appear personally and be represented by counsel at the Hearing.
 - (2) to cross-examine all witnesses and present any additional relevant evidence.
 - (3) to testify on his/her own behalf, or remain silent.
 - (4) to address the Panel or otherwise make a statement of position personally or through his/her counsel or representative.
- (e) 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 athlete, any Other Affected Athlete, and each member of the International Committee within one week after receiving it.
- (f) The recommendation(s) of the Panel shall be effective and implemented unless stayed by the International Committee or the Executive Committee.
- (g) 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.
- (h) Nothing herein shall preclude any athlete or Other Affected Athlete, during the procedures set forth above or at its conclusion, from seeking to enforce or protect this/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 Executive Director of the USOC or to submit any dispute to arbitration.

APPENDIX Q: USE OF REPECHAGE

Repêchage from a Complete Table of 16



Repêchage from a Complete Table of 32



REPÊCHAGE

WHAT ROUND AM I IN NOW?

Once you have made the Top 32 fencers in the tournament, then

- If you win one more time, you are in the top 24
- If you win two more times, you are in the top 12
- If you win three more times, you are in the top 8 –

CONGRATULATIONS

If you *lose* your first bout in the 32:

- If you the next bout – you are in the 24

Once you are in the top 24 with one loss, then

- If you win again, you are in the top 16
- If you win two more times, you are in the top 12
- If you win three more times, you are in the top 8 –

CONGRATULATIONS

FIE Rules of Competition ~1990's edition

NOTE: Whatever format is used and the rules for qualifying to the direct elimination tableau round, that information must be posted and announced prior to the start of the competition.

DIRECT ELIMINATION FORMAT

If the competition will include direct elimination table format, it must be determined if there will be repêchage or not. Repêchage refers to the format whereby although a fencer has lost a bout in direct elimination, that fencer has not been eliminated from the competition; but rather the fencer has a second chance to remain in the competition by fencing others who have lost a bout in direct elimination. As long as that fencer continues to win his or her bouts, the fencer remains in the competition. As soon as the fencer loses a second bout in the direct elimination table, the fencer is then eliminated. So one can say that repêchage means a second chance to reach the final direct elimination round of 8 fencers. There is no repêchage at that point – winners continue, losers have finished the competition with a final result in the top 8.

Repêchage is normally used when the direct elimination table has 32 fencers, if the initial table was one of 64 or greater. If the initial table starts with 32 or less fencers, repêchage will be used from the 32 if there are 32 fencers in the table, a complete table, otherwise the repêchage will be used from a complete table of 16 fencers.

The direct elimination bouts are for 15 touches, maximum 9 minutes, divided into three periods of three minutes, with a one minute rest between each period. As an exception, in saber, the first period ends either at the expiration of the three minutes or when one of the fencers has scored eight touches. During this rest the coach of the fencer may have access to the fencer.

METHOD OF SEEDING THE INITIAL DIRECT ELIMINATION TABLE

In most cases there will be one round of pools prior to direct elimination. The outcome of the pool round will determine how fencers are seeded into the direct elimination tableau. Normally as many, if not all, pools have the same number of fencers, between 6 and 7. From that round approximately 70%-80% of the fencers will advance to the direct elimination tableau.

If there is more than one round of pools preceding the direct elimination round, the bout committee must determine and announce if only the final pool round will count for seeding the direct elimination table or the sum of the results of more than one round of pools will count for seeding into the table.

DETERMINING THE QUALIFIERS

First one tabulates the results of all fencers in the pool round and orders the fencers from best performance to lowest performance. These results are determined first by the number of bouts won and then by the number of touches scored less touches received.

a) The first indicator, the bout indicator, is determined by dividing the number of victories by the number of bouts fenced (formula V/B).

b) The fencer or fencers with the highest bout indicator (maximum 1.00) will be seeded first or be among the top fencers.

d) If several fencers have the same bout indicator, a second indicator, the touch indicator is calculated by subtracting the number of touches received from the number of touches scored, $TS-TR$. The fencer with the highest positive value of $TS-TR$ has the highest seed among those with the same bout indicator.

e) In case the bout indicator and the touch indicator is the same, the fencer having scored the most touches will be given the highest seed.

f) In case two or more fencers have the same bout indicator, touch indicator and touches scored, their seeding classification will be decided. Although these fencers will be given a separate seed number for placement in the direct elimination tableau, it must be noted that they were tied originally.

g) The bout committee will then place the fencers in order of their final seeding value in the initial direct elimination tableau. No other changes will be considered for placement of the fencers in the tableau.

i) In the case of a withdrawal before the direct elimination table has been established, the last place in the table (e.g. the 64th, the 32nd, the 16th, etc.) is left blank.

j) In the case of a withdrawal after the direct elimination table has been established and before the fencing has commenced the position of the fencer withdrawn will be left blank.

Organization of the bouts – format

a) All the bouts of the direct elimination table will be fenced in the order of the table, beginning at the top and finishing at the bottom, and continuing to the right – where the winners are placed. Once there remains four fencers who are promoted to the direct elimination final of 8, then the bouts to the left of the original table are fenced, the fencers who have lost a bout fence each other to remain in contention for the final four places in the final of 8.

b) After the first set of bouts in the repêchage side of the direct elimination tableau are fenced, the winners are numbered 9-16 according to their original

seed value into the direct elimination round and the losers from Table B, are numbered 1-8, for the repêchage table of 16. The 8 winners of these bouts fence each other as they advance in the table. The four winners are then paired with the four losers from Table C, fencers who won two bouts from the 32 tableau and then lost their third bout. The four winners are numbered 5-8 and the four losers are numbered 1-4 and paired accordingly in the repêchage direct elimination table of 8. The four winners from this table are promoted to the final round of 8 and will be seeded 5-8 according to their original seed value from the pool round.

If the complete table started at 16, there will be four fencers who won their second bout, having lost their first bout, and four fencers who lost their next bout, after winning their first bout. The four winners are numbered 5-8 and the four losers are numbered 1-4, based on their original seed value into the original tableau. The four winners will advance to the final of 8 fencers.

Whenever winners and losers are paired during repêchage, the only consideration is whether or not a pair of fencers have already fenced each other during the direct elimination round. If they have then the fencer with the lower seed number is swapped with the fencer with the next lower number. If that swap is not possible, i.e., fencers will have fenced each other, no swap is done.

e) In the case of a withdrawal before the repêchage table has been established, it will be the lowest place in the table that must remain empty. Once the repêchage table is established the place in the table where the withdrawn fencer would have been positioned is left blank.

The direct elimination final of eight fencers

The pairing of fencers in the final 8 direct elimination table is determined as follows: those fencers who did not lose any bouts, i.e., went directly into the final 8 without a loss, are numbered 1-4, based on their original direct elimination seed value. The fencers who lost one bout and then won all their remaining bouts are numbered 5-8 based on their original seed value into the direct elimination table. No changes are made in the resulting pairings, even if fencers have fenced each other earlier in the direct elimination round.

If at the end of regulation time the scores are equal, the fencers fence for a deciding touch, with a maximum time limit of one minute. Before the fencing recommences the Referee will flip a coin to decide who will be the winner if scores are still equal at the end of the extra minute.

In this case the score recorded on the score-sheet is the real score achieved in the bout.

Classification of fencers

555 (B) At official FIE competitions, all fencers must be ranked and all necessary bouts contested:

- first and second places are determined by the final bout
- fencers defeated in the second round of the finals place 3rd
- fencers defeated in the first round of the finals place 5th through 8th
- fencers defeated in Tables D, E, F and G are classified as follows:
- the four fencers defeated in Table G place 9th through 12th
- *in a tableau of 16*, the four fencers defeated in Table D place 13th through 16th
- *in a tableau of 32*, the four fencers defeated in Table F place 13th through 16th
- the eight fencers defeated in Table E place 17th through 24th
- the eight fencers defeated in Table D place 25th through 32nd

Each group of fencers eliminated in the first round of the finals (5th – 8th) and in Tables D, E, F and G is classified within itself according to the original seed classification, before ties were resolved, of the fencers prior to placement into the direct elimination tableau. If fencers eliminated within a group were tied in their original seed value their share the same final placement, i.e., they are tied for the place. If a fencer has a legitimate withdrawal, e.g., medical, during the course of the direct elimination round, the fencer retains his place as set forth above, as if he had lost his remaining bouts). If a fencer receives a black card during the course of the direct elimination round, the fencer has no result and the place he would have earned if he had lost the bout is left vacant. The classification of fencers eliminated in the elimination rounds prior to the direct elimination round will be determined, round by round, according to their indicators (V/B, TS-TR, TS). In the case of ties in indicators, the fencers will be classified as tied.

- direct elimination without repêchage to 32 fencers;
- direct elimination with repêchage from 32 to 8;
- final of 8 by direct elimination, consisting of 4 fencers from the direct elimination and 4 fencers from the repêchage.

2) Elimination round

Pools will have six or seven fencers.

These pools will be seeded based on fencer's ranking.

– Bouts are fenced for 5 touches, 3 minutes.

A fencer who withdraws or is excluded is deleted from the pool, and his results are annulled as if he had not competed.

3) Classification – qualification

– A single general classification is established for all of the participants in all of the pools (V/B, TS-TR, TS).

– Before the beginning of the competition, the bout committee will determine and announce the number of fencers to qualify for the direct elimination table. This number must be at least 2/3 and at most 4/5 of the participants (from 20% to 33 1/3% eliminated).

– In the case of an absolute tie between the last qualifiers, there will not be a barrage, and those who are tied will all qualify, even if they are in excess of the anticipated number

4) Direct elimination table – composition

– The table of 32, 64, 128 or 256 may be incomplete.

– The classification of the fencers will be based on the single preliminary round of pools.

– The application of the principle of protection of fencers of the same club/team cannot place a fencer in a position lower than the total number of qualified fencers.

However, in an incomplete table, a fencer who has earned a bye based on his or her classification may not be moved to a position in the table wherein he or she will face an opponent.

5) Progression of bouts in the direct elimination phase

The direct elimination bouts are for 15 touches, maximum 9 minutes, divided into three periods of three minutes, with a one minute rest between each period. As an exception, in saber, the first period ends either at the expiry of the three minutes or when one of the fencers has scored eight touches. During this rest a person, named before the bout, may have access to the fencer.

If at the end of regulation time the scores are equal, the fencers fence for a deciding touch, with a maximum time limit of one minute. Before the fencing recommences the Referee draws lots to decide who will be the winner if scores are still equal at the end of the extra minute. In this case the score recorded on the score-sheet is the real score achieved in the bout.



Official Scoresheet
Direct Elimination of 32
with repechage
 (page 1 of 2)

Tournament:	_____
Competition:	_____
Date:	_____





Official Scoresheet
Direct Elimination of 32
with repechage
 (page 2 of 2)

Tournament:	_____
Competition:	_____
Date:	_____

Losers of B

1.
2.
3.
4.
5.
6.
7.
8.

Winners of D

9.
10.
11.
12.
13.
14.
15.
16.



Losers of C

1.
2.
3.
4.

Winners of F

5.
6.
7.
8.



Winners of C

1.
2.
3.
4.

Winners of G

5.
6.
7.
8.



Rev 2004.07.02

<http://www.USFencing.org/Forms/Score/DE32REPp2.pdf>

Direct Elimination Table of 32 Fencers with Repechage

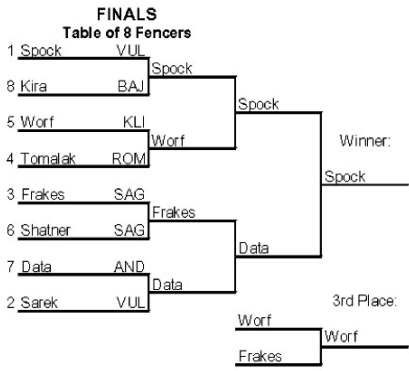
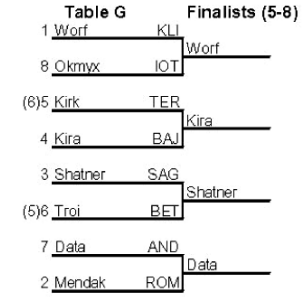
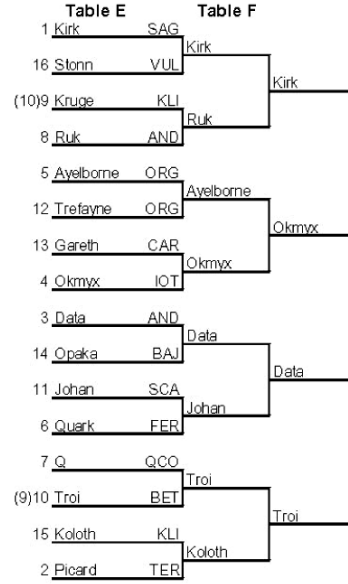
32 Fencers Qualified:		
Initial Seeding		
1	Spock	VUL
2	Sarek	VUL
3	McCoy	TER
4	Sabin	BET
5	Troi	BET
6	Worf	KLI
7	Kirk	TER
8	Mendak	ROM
9	Kruge	KLI
10	Shatner	SAG
11	Frakes	SAG
12	Picard	TER
13	Riker	TER
14	Data	AND
15	Okmyx	IOT
16	Ayelborne	ORG
17	Quark	FER
18	Johan	SCA
19	Trefayne	ORG
20	Gareth	CAR
21	Opaka	BAJ
22	Odan	TRI
23	Hugh	BOR
24	Koloth	KLI
25	Q	QCO
26	Krako	IOT
27	Nimoy	SAG
28	Ruk	AND
29	Tomalak	ROM
30	Kira	BAJ
31	Nog	FER
32	Stonn	VUL



Seeding into Table E		
Losers of B (1-8)		
1	Kirk	(7)
2	Picard	(12)
3	Data	(14)
4	Okmyx	(15)
5	Ayelborne	(16)
6	Quark	(17)
7	Q	(25)
8	Ruk	(28)
Winners of D (9-16)		
9	Troi	(5)
10	Kruge	(9)
11	Johan	(18)
12	Trefayne	(19)
13	Gareth	(20)
14	Opaka	(21)
15	Koloth	(24)
16	Stonn	(32)

Seeding into Table G		
Losers of C (1-4)		
1	Worf	(6)
2	Mendak	(8)
3	Shatner	(10)
4	Kira	(30)
Winners of F (5-8)		
5	Troi	(5)
6	Kirk	(7)
7	Data	(14)
8	Okmyx	(15)

Final Placings		
1	Spock	VUL
2	Data	AND
3	Worf	KLI
4	Frakes	SAG
5	Sarek	VUL
6	Shatner	SAG
7	Tomalak	ROM
8	Kira	BAJ



Explanations of sample DE Table:

Table A

To avoid placing two fencers of the same nationality in the same quarter of the table, the rule in article 552h is applied.

Examples:

TROI (#5) is moved to #6 because there is already a fencer of her nationality (SABIN) in the second quarter of the table; WORF (#6) takes the place of TROI.

RIKER (#13) is moved several places (finally he is placed in #16 in the first quarter of the table) as he cannot occupy places 13, 14 or 15 because of the fencers PICARD (second quarter of the table), MCCOY (third quarter of the table) and KIRK (fourth quarter of the table), who are all of his nationality.

Similarly, KOLOTH (#24) is moved to #26 in the fourth quarter of the table because of the presence of his countryman KRUGE in the first quarter. Q (#25) and KRAKO (#26) are each moved up one place.

NIMOY (#27) is moved to #28 to avoid being in the same quarter as his countryman FRAKES. RUK moves up to #27. The bout between countrymen SPOCK and STONN is unavoidable because STONN is the last in the table and cannot be moved.

Table E

For establishing Table E no account is taken of the fencers' nationalities, but rather the repetition of bouts (Cf. 554b).

This is why TREFAYNE and AYELBORNE (ORG) must meet each other. On the other hand, TROI (#9) must be placed in the adjacent number (#10) in the corresponding table because she has already fenced against RUK (see Table A). KRUGE (#10) takes place #9.

Table G

As in Table E, repetition of bouts must again be avoided. Because of this KIRK (#6), who has already met SHATNER (see Table B) is moved to the adjacent number (#5) in the corresponding quarter of the table.

Finals

In establishing the final table, no account is taken of either the fencers' nationalities (FRAKES/3 – SHATNER/6) or bouts that are repeated (WORF/5 – TOMALAK/4).

NOTE: For USFA competitions replace countrymen with club mates.