



DATE: **March 3, 2010 (Updated)**

TO: Division/Section Chairs and Secretaries

FROM: Christine Strong Simmons, US Fencing

SUBJECT: **Summer National Championships**

**The forms for reporting the results of qualifying competitions for the 2010 Summer National Championships are attached.** These forms must be used to report the full results of each qualifying competition with all the details requested and returned to the National Office immediately after the qualifying competitions.

**Summer Nationals Qualifying Forms must be submitted to the National Office no later than May 17, 2010 for Division Qualifying Forms and Section Qualifying Forms.** The Day Schedule and Entry Forms will be posted on the USFA website.

By submitting the Qualifying forms promptly, we can process the entries from your Division/Section in a timely manner. **Entry forms cannot be processed without the qualifying report forms from the appropriate division/section.**

For Summer Nationals, a list of automatic qualifiers (based on the Point Standings and the Athlete/TEAM finish at the 2009 Summer Nationals) will be posted on the USFA Website. **If a fencer becomes an automatic qualifier after the qualifying competition, it does not affect the results of the qualifying competition.**

In this document you will find general tournament information and excerpts from the Athlete Handbook and the Operations Manual. Take a few moments to familiarize yourself with the enclosed information so you can answer questions from your members. Please contact the National Office if you need any further information or explanation of the qualifying procedures: [Christine.simmons@usfencing.org](mailto:Christine.simmons@usfencing.org); [t.brown@usfencing.org](mailto:t.brown@usfencing.org) or [courtneyw@usfencing.org](mailto:courtneyw@usfencing.org)

### **2010 Summer Nationals Qualifying Information:**

There are **NO alternates** for any competition at the USFA Summer National Championships tournament.

Classifications can be awarded at a Division/Section Summer National qualifying competitions and must be noted on the qualifying report form. Cadet and Y14 events must be C1 or greater for a classification to be awarded. (See the attached Classification Chart).

The last day classification changes can be submitted to the USFA National Office is June 21, 2010 to be reflected at the 2010 Summer National Championships.

The USFA office will verify eligibility, membership, and the accuracy in determining the number of qualifiers in each event.

Organizers for the Division/Section qualifying competition must arrange to have at least one referee with a rating of five or higher at the qualifying tournament. For more information on referee ratings, please visit the FOC website at: [www.fencingofficials.org](http://www.fencingofficials.org).

**An athlete is permitted to fence in the *qualifying competitions* of the Division/Section reflected in his/her current USFA membership only IF:**

- 1) The athlete is a U.S. citizen OR permanent resident of the United States and a current competitive member of the USFA **And**
- 2) The athlete's birth year falls in that age bracket **OR**
- 3) **The athlete is on the national rolling point standings in the next younger age bracket.**
  - a. Example: For a fencer, born 1997, to be eligible to fence in the Division's Cadet qualifying competition, the fencer must be listed on the current Youth 14 point standings. Current is defined as the point standings at the time of the qualifying competition.
  - b. Example: For a fencer, born 1997, to be eligible to fence in the Section Junior qualifying competition the fencer must be listed on the current Cadet point standings. Current is defined as the point standings at the time of the qualifying competitions.

Fencers must be U.S. citizens OR permanent residents of the United States and current competitive members of the USFA and MUST meet qualification standards specified for each category to enter the USFA Summer National Championships.

Any fencer who is not a citizen or is a permanent resident and has represented another country in the last three years and who has not yet been granted permission to represent the USA is not eligible for any USFA National Championships 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, individual or TEAM, or associated Division or Section qualifying competitions. On the USFA membership list and membership card a foreign fencer is designated with an asterisk after their first name (\*).

Fencers must have a USFA "Competitive Member" card with an expiration date of 7/31/10 or later. Automatic qualifiers will be posted on the USFA web site.

NRPS stands for National Rolling Point Standings, which can be viewed on the US Fencing website - [www.usfencing.org](http://www.usfencing.org).

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 determined to be automatic qualifiers) are skipped when determining those who have become qualifiers in 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 when determining the five qualifiers from that competition. Example: If the fencers who have already qualified are 1<sup>st</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, 6<sup>th</sup>, and 7<sup>th</sup>, then the qualifiers are those who have placed 2<sup>nd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup>.

**TABLE 2-2: NUMBER OF QUALIFIERS FOR SUMMER NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS**

# Competitors	1	2	3-12	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

(BOD, 10/03)

**How to determine qualifiers if there is a Medical Withdrawal vs. a Black Card**

Medical Withdrawal

If the fencer needs to medically withdraw due to injury or illness it must be certified by a certified medical professional or athletic trainer, if available, otherwise by the Bout Committee.

If medical withdrawal occurs during pool round (fencer does not complete pool), then fencer has no results to report and cannot be used towards competitive field total to determine classification or qualification to championships.

If medical withdrawal occurs after completion of the pool or during DE round – fencer keeps place in table to determine results AND may be used towards competitive field total to determine classification AND/OR qualification to championships. Medical withdrawal should be indicated in results submitted to National Office.

Black Card

If fencer receives a black card (failure to appear at strip or in accordance with penalty chart in the rule book) at any point during tournament the fencer appears in results as “Place - fencer excluded”; black carded fencer(s) cannot be used towards competitive field total to determine classification AND/OR qualification to championships.

**An athlete is permitted to fence in their Division or Section Qualifying competitions for Summer National IF:**

- The athlete’s birth year falls within the corresponding age bracket and/or classification **OR**
- The athlete is on the national rolling point standings in the next younger age bracket

**DIVISION I-A CHAMPIONSHIPS**

Fencers must be born no later than **1996\* AND**

- Place in the top 25% (with a minimum of 8) at the 2010 Senior Section Championships **OR**
- Placed in top 8 at the 2009 Division I-A National Championships **OR**
- Placed in top 4 at the 2009 Division II National Championships **OR**
- Be the current 2010 Under – 19 Section Champion **OR**
- Place in the top 10% (with a minimum of 4) of any current season Regional Open Circuit (ROC) event  
(BOD 9/08)

\* If a fencer is listed in a National age group rolling point standing at the entry deadline, the fencer may enter the next older age category of competition, even if that fencer is younger than allowed by the age bracket.

## UNDER-19 CHAMPIONSHIPS

Fencers must be born between **1991 and 1997\*** **AND**

- Place in the top 25% at the 2010 Under-19 Section Championships **OR**
- Be on the Junior (Under –19) rolling point standings at the Section's qualifying competition **OR**
- Be in the top 16 of the Cadet (Under – 16) rolling point standings as of May 1, 2010 **OR**
- Be in the top 16 of the Cadet (Under 16) point standings at the time of the Section's qualifying competition

\* If a fencer is listed in a National age group rolling point standing at the entry deadline, the fencer may enter the next older age category of competition, even if that fencer is younger than allowed by the age bracket.

## DIVISION II CHAMPIONSHIPS

Fencers must have a classification in the weapon of "C", "D", "E", or Unclassified at the time of the qualifying competition **AND** born no later than **1996\*** **AND**

- Place in the top 25% of the 2010 Division Qualifying competition
- Qualified for D1A and meet the classification criteria for Division II (C or below)  
(BOD, 9/06)

\* If a fencer is listed in a National age group rolling point standing at the entry deadline, the fencer may enter the next older age category of competition, even if that fencer is younger than allowed by the age bracket.

## DIVISION III CHAMPIONSHIPS

- Fencers must have a classification in the weapon of "D", "E", or Unclassified at the time of the qualifying competition **AND** have been born no later than **1996\*** **AND**
- Place in the top 25% of the total number of "D", "E" or "U" fencers competing in the 2010 Division's Division II Qualifying competition (when Division II and Division III qualifying competition held together) **OR**
- If separate Division III qualifying competition is held by the Division, then the top 25% of the field will qualify for Division III National Championships
- Qualified for Division II and meet the classification criteria for Division III (D, E, or U)  
(BOD 9/08)

\* If a fencer is listed in a National age rolling group point standing at the entry deadline, the fencer may enter the next older age category of competition, even if that fencer is younger than allowed by the age bracket.

### **Combined Division II/Division III Qualifiers**

Below is an example of how to determine qualifiers for Division III when the Division holds only one competition to determine qualifiers for both Division II and Division III.

A Division II/III qualifying competition has the following entries:

Number of C fencers = 8

Number of D fencers = 12

Number of E fencers = 11

Number of U fencers = 15

Total Number of Fencers = 46

List the fencers in order of their finish.

The first 12 who have not already qualified to Division II by other paths are qualifiers from the Division's competition.

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

The first Division III qualifier is the D, E, or U fencer who placed highest; the second Division III qualifier is the D, E, or U fencer who placed next highest, on to the 10<sup>th</sup> highest D, E, or U fencer, who has not already qualified by other paths.

### **UNDER-16 CHAMPIONSHIPS**

Fencers must be born between 1994 and 1997\* **AND**

- Be on the Cadet (Under-16) point standings as of May 1, 2010 **OR**
- Be on the Cadet (Under 16) point standings at the time of the Division's qualifying competition **OR**
- Place in the top 25% of the Division's U16 qualifying competition **OR**
- By Board action, any fencer who has qualified for the Under-19 National Championships becomes an automatic qualifier for the Under-16 Championships (BOD, 10/04) **OR**
- Be in the Top 8 of the Youth 14 rolling point standings after the April NAC

\* If a fencer is listed in a National age group rolling point standing at the entry deadline, the fencer may enter the next older age category of competition, even if that fencer is younger than allowed by the age bracket.

## YOUTH 14 CHAMPIONSHIPS

Fencers must have been born between 1995 and 1998\* **AND**

- Earn Youth 14 points at a current season Super Youth Circuit Competition **OR**
- Earn points at a current season Youth 14 NAC, Cadet NAC or 2009 Cadet Summer National Championships **OR**
- Earn points at the previous season's Youth 14 Summer National Championships **OR**
- Be on the Youth 14 point standings at the time of the Division's qualifying competition **OR**
- Place in the top 25% of the Division Youth 14 Qualifying competition **OR**
- By Board action, any fencer who has qualified for the Under-19 National Championships becomes an automatic qualifier for the Under-14 Championships (BOD, 10/04)

\* If a fencer is listed in a National age group rolling point standing at the entry deadline, the fencer may enter the next older age category of competition, even if that fencer is younger than allowed by the age bracket.

## YOUTH 12 OPEN Fencers born between 1997 and 2000\* **AND**

- Fenced in one Regional Youth Circuit or one Super Youth Circuit in the 2009-2010 season in the age and weapon category (categories) in which the athlete requests entry acceptance **OR**
- Be on the Youth 12 rolling point standings after the April NAC **OR**
- Qualify for U19 event
- Fencer must state on the Summer National Entry Form the competition(s) at which he or she fulfilled the requirement. Failure to do so will be basis for rejection of the entry. \*

\* If a fencer is listed in a National age group rolling point standing at the entry deadline, the fencer may enter the next older age category of competition, even if that fencer is younger than allowed by the age bracket.

## YOUTH 10 OPEN Fencers born between 1999 and 2002 **AND**

- Fenced in one Regional Youth Circuit or one Super Youth Circuit in the 2009 -2010 season in the age and weapon category (categories) in which the athlete requests entry acceptance **OR**
- Be on the Youth 10 rolling point standings after the April NAC **OR**
- Qualify for U19 event
- Fencer must state on the Summer National Entry Form the competition(s) at which he or she fulfilled the requirement. Failure to do so will be basis for rejection of the entry. \*

**WHEELCHAIR:** Open Event for Wheelchair Athletes who are competitive members of the USFA.

## VETERAN

- Any current competitive member born 1969 or earlier who has competed in
- 2010 Section Championships **OR**
  - 2010 Division qualifying competition for Division II and/or Division III Championships {only those with a “C” classification or lower (D, E, or U) may compete} **OR**
  - Any Regional Open Circuit (ROC) event during the 2009-2010 season **OR**
  - Any NAC during the 2009-2010 season

\*Fencer must state on the entry the competition by which he or she complied with qualification criteria and which Veteran Event/Age Group they are entering. \*

## SENIOR AND JUNIOR TEAM CHAMPIONSHIPS

<b># Clubs</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4 to 5</b>	<b>6 to 10</b>	<b>More than 10</b>
<b>#of Qualifiers</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>

- Based on the number of different USFA Member Clubs represented at the 2009 Division’s Senior and U19 TEAM qualifying competitions.
- No more than 3 teams per club per event will be allowed to enter
- Members of the Senior TEAM must be born no later than 1996 and the athlete must have represented the Club at a competition during the 2009-2010 Season. Club Team members must be U.S. citizens or Permanent Residents who have not represented another country in the past three years, and have represented the club in USFA competitions this season. All Club Teams and team members must be current club and competitive USFA members respectively.
- For Senior Teams: **Composite Teams are only allowed at the Summer National Championships if no club from that geographic division registers. Fencers on the composite team must be from the same geographic USFA division.**
- Members of the U19 TEAM must be born between 1991 and 1997
- For Veteran Teams: The Veteran team event will be an open event at the 2010 Summer Nationals. There will be no qualifying competition for this event. Any three or four athletes who are age-eligible may comprise a Veteran team without regard for club representation or division membership.

A duly qualified and entered team for the National Championships need not limit the composition of its team to those team members who competed at the qualifying competition.

In September 2006, the USFA Board of Directors approved that there be only one Senior National Team Championships at the Summer National Championships.

For the Junior Club Team Event, there is no classification requirement but Team members must have a birth year of 1991–1997.

\* If a fencer is listed in a National age group point standing at the entry deadline, the fencer may enter the next older age category of competition, even if that fencer is younger than allowed by the age bracket.

#### VETERAN TEAMS IS OPEN TO THOSE BORN 1969 OR BEFORE

Only Veteran Teams are open and can be composite for Summer Nationals. Members must have a birth year of 1969 or before. Veteran Teams do not qualify at the Division but must submit their Team Entry form by the May 10, 2010 deadline. This is an Open event and not a Team Championship.

#### **United States Fencing Association National Championships Appeal Procedure (For Summer Nationals only)**

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 – a fencer who has fenced in the competition without withdrawing due to valid medical reasons cannot then petition to disregard or override those results.

The following criteria and procedures are applicable to filing an appeal.

- An appeal may be filed by a fencer who qualified (by means of competition or appeal) to that same competition in the prior season or whose competitive record during the current fencing season indicates a strong possibility that the athlete would have qualified had they been able to compete in the qualifying competition **but:**
  1. Was unable to compete in the qualifying competitions this season, **OR**
  2. Did compete and had to withdraw because of a disabling injury or illness.

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

All appeals must be made in writing to the Director of National Events, USFA National Office, 1 Olympic Plaza, Colorado Springs, CO 80909-5774 by the May 17, 2010 entry deadline.

The appeal must be accompanied by:

1. A non-refundable fee of \$100.00, payable to the USFA
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 Cup (NAC) competitions should be noted.
4. Evidence that a copy of the petition has been submitted to the Chair or Secretary of the Division or Section that hosted the qualifying competition. If the basis for the petition does not correspond with information available to the Division or Section officer, then the USFA expects the officer to so notify the national office in writing.
5. A completed entry form for the National Championships with the correct registration and entry fees. If the petition is not approved, these fees associated with the entry will be refunded.
6. Responses to the appeal will be made by e-mail.

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

Decisions on petitions will be based upon the validity of reasons given for absence or withdrawal and the probability that the fencer would have qualified had they competed in the qualifying competition to its conclusion, based on results achieved in other competitions.

If a fencer is permitted to enter a National Championships competition by this appeal procedure, the fencer's entry will in no way affect the number of qualifiers from the Division or Section involved.

**Appeal Checklist**

**(Additional documentation may be requested by the USFA)**

- ❑ **A non-refundable fee of \$100.00 payable to the USFA**
- ❑ **Letter from the athlete outlining the reason for the appeal with a summary of significant competition results during the last year**
- ❑ **Copy of the 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 the Bout Committee Chair if a medical withdrawal occurred during the qualifier (*if requested by the USFA*)**
- ❑ **Email address or fax back sheet for reply to the appeal**
- ❑ **Appeal submitted within five business days of the qualifier**
- ❑ **Championships Entry form and payment**

**If your petition is received without the information requested above and payment, it will be returned to you unprocessed.**

**Summer National Petitions are processed in 4-6 weeks.**

**To check the status of your Petition, please email:**

**[Christine.simmons@usfencing.org](mailto:Christine.simmons@usfencing.org)**

**United States Fencing Association**  
**Summer National Championships**  
**Athlete Information Packet**



- HOTEL:** For All USFA Hotel Reservations:  
Contact Tournament Housing Services (THS)  
The Official Housing Company of US Fencing  
Reservations by Phone: 888-536-TEAM (8326)  
Reservations Online: [www.thsweb.com](http://www.thsweb.com)
- VENUE:** The Georgia World Congress Center in Atlanta, GA
- RENTAL CAR:** Avis Car Rental  
(AWD) B740999
- AIRLINE RESERVATIONS:** United Olympic Desk - (800) 841-0460  
Polk Majestic Travel- (866) 481-2209

**ENTRY FORM / Information:**      [www.usfencing.org](http://www.usfencing.org)

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Division/Section of Fencer/TEAM: \_\_\_\_\_

Congratulations, you have qualified for the USFA Summer National Championships in Atlanta, GA for the following events:

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In order to participate in the Summer National Championships, you must fill out and send the separate Summer National Entry Form to the USFA National Events office. If the entry form is not available at this tournament, you may obtain an entry form through the U.S. Fencing office: by phone at (719) 866-4511, by email [t.brown@usfencing.org](mailto:t.brown@usfencing.org) or [courtneyw@usfencing.org](mailto:courtneyw@usfencing.org), or download from the U.S. Fencing website: [www.usfencing.org](http://www.usfencing.org). You can also register online via the website listed above.

**This form does not constitute notification to the USFA of your qualification status; that can only be done by the official report from the Division and/or Section. Send in your Entry Form.**

Congratulations and good luck.

Verified By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Bout Committee

NOTE: All qualifying forms are checked for accuracy in determining the number of qualifiers and who are the qualifiers. If a discrepancy is discovered the Division/Section will be notified by the USFA Office. The Division/Section must then notify the fencers involved.

**The Summer National entry regular fee deadline is May 17, 2010.** Late entries will be accepted from May 18-24, 2010 **with a payment of triple the regular fees.** No entries accepted after May 24, 2010, under any circumstances.

The final date to submit classification changes that will be reflected at the Summer National is June 21, 2010. Classification changes received after that day will be documented but will not be in effect at the Summer National.

The 2010 USFA Summer National Championships will be held July 4 - 13, 2010 at the Georgia World Congress Center in Atlanta, GZ

You must be a US citizen or permanent resident who is eligible to represent the United States at international competitions. If you have represented another country in international competitions and have not received approval from the FIE to represent the United States, you are NOT eligible to fence in any USFA National Championships.

**2010 USFA SUMMER NATIONALS SCHEDULE – REVISED 4 MARCH 2010**  
**CHANGE WAS MADE TO SRWE TEAM ONLY – NO OTHER CHANGES WILL BE MADE**

DATE\WEAPON	MEN'S EPÉE	MEN'S FOIL	MEN'S SABRE	WOMEN'S EPÉE	WOMEN'S FOIL	WOMEN'S SABRE
SUNDAY JULY 4		Under 16	Under 19	Youth 14	Under 19	Under 16
	Wheelchair	Youth 10		Wheelchair		Youth 10
				Under 19 Team		
MONDAY JULY 5	Division I	Under 19	Youth 14	Under 16	Youth 14	Division I
	Youth 12	Wheelchair			Wheelchair	Youth 12
					Under 19 Team	
TUESDAY JULY 6	Under 16	Youth 14	Division I	Division I	Under 16	Youth 14
			Youth 12	Youth 12		
		Under 19 Team	Wheelchair			Wheelchair
WEDNESDAY JULY 7	Youth 14	Division I	Division IA	Youth 10	Youth 12	Under 19
		Youth 12	Youth 10			
	Senior Team		Under 19 Team	Senior Team		
THURSDAY JULY 8	Under 19	Division III	Under 16	Under 19	Division I	Division IA
	Youth 10				Youth 10	Under 19 Team
FRIDAY JULY 9	Division IA	Division II	Division III	Division IA	Division II	Division III
		Senior Team				Senior Team
SATURDAY JULY 10 MEMBERSHIP & CONGRESS	Veteran 40-49	Division IA		Division III	Veteran 40-49	Division II
	Veteran 50-59				Veteran 50-59	
	Veteran 60-69				Veteran 60-69	
	Veteran 70+				Veteran 70+	
	Under 19 Team		Senior Team			Veteran Team
SUNDAY JULY 11 BOARD OF DIRECTORS	Division III	Veteran 40-49	Division II	Division II	Division IA	Veteran 40-49
		Veteran 50-59				Veteran 50-59
		Veteran 60-69				Veteran 60-69
	Veteran Team	Veteran 70+			Senior Team	Veteran 70+
MONDAY JULY 12	Division II		Veteran 40-49		Division III	
			Veteran 50-59			
			Veteran 60-69			
		Veteran Team	Veteran 70+	Veteran Team		
TUESDAY JULY 13			Veteran Team	Veteran 40-49	Veteran Team	
				Veteran 50-59		
				Veteran 60-69		
				Veteran 70+		

*Fencers may fence in one individual and one team event per day.*