

USA Fencing is seeking nominations for athletes interested in becoming USA Fencing's next Representatives and Alternates to the Team USA Athletes' Commission. Athletes can read more about Team USA AC, including its governance documents, [here](#).

Below is important information for athletes to consider:

- An athlete must have represented the United States in the Olympic Games, Paralympic Games, or Pan American Games ("Delegation Events") OR have competed in an International Qualifying Event in which an athlete could directly earn points towards qualification for a Delegation Event. Participation in the above events within the preceding ten years (January 1, 2014) qualify you to run for Team USA AC.
- An athlete may only represent USA Fencing as the primary representative for two full terms.
- Athletes cannot be paid employees of the USOPC or USA Fencing and simultaneously serve on Team USA AC.
- Only athletes eligible to run for the Team USA AC position are eligible to vote in the election.
- The Team USA Representatives will automatically serve as Athlete Representatives to the USA Fencing Board of Directors for the duration of their Team USA AC term.
- USA Fencing will

The following shall apply to individuals seeking nomination:

- An individual running for election must disclose any prior felony conviction, or any period of ineligibility served in sport (e.g., for discipline, SafeSport violation). The disclosure shall be made to all eligible voters prior to the vote so that the disclosure may be considered in the voting process. Failure to disclose in advance of the election can be cause for removal of the member once elected.
- An individual running for election must disclose any possible conflict of interest to the Team USA AC Ethics Committee, which shall determine whether the individual is eligible to run for election. (See Conflicts of Interest Policy below).

USA Fencing Representation on Team USA AC

New for the 2024 election cycle; for National Governing Bodies that govern two sports (such as fencing and para-fencing) in which each sport has a separate international federation, each sport represented by its own international federation will elect one Athlete Representative and one alternate. Because USA Fencing is governed by both the FIE (able-bodied fencing) and WAS (para-fencing), we will be electing two (2) Athlete Representatives; one each from able-bodied and para-fencing and two (2) Alternates; one each from able-bodied and para-fencing.

Team USA Athletes' Commission Conflicts of Interest Policy

Each Member and Alternate of the Team USA AC has a duty to be free from influence of any conflicting interest and shall understand that a potential for conflict of interest needs to be recognized and disclosed. In addition to a member's duty to recognize and disclose, potential

conflicts of interests may be brought forward by any individual. Such conflicts may include, but are not limited to:

- A familial or personal relationship with a staff/member of the USOPC, NGB, member organization, IOC, OCOG, bid committee, or other key stakeholders.
- A paid position within the USOPC, NGB, member organization, IOC, OCOG, bid committee, or other key stakeholders.
- An affiliation with a sponsor, organization or other entity that could call into question the actions of the AAC. (i.e., USADA, SafeSport, the IOC/IPC, etc.)

Disclosure Prior to Election. Prior to nominating him or herself to serve on the Team USA AC one must disclose any potential conflict to the Ethics Committee of the Team USA AC, which shall determine whether the individual is eligible to run for election.

Disclosure During One's Tenure on the Team USA AC. Each Member or Alternate must promptly disclose any potential conflict to the Ethics Committee of the AAC, which may take appropriate steps to prevent influence, either on the general affairs of the Team USA AC or on a particular deliberation or vote. If the proposed action includes a recommendation for removal of a Member of the Team USA AC, the matter shall be presented to all Members, according to the Removal Section of the Team USA AC Bylaws.

2024 Team USA Athletes' Commission Election Timeline

- **July 1.** USA Fencing shall distribute the Process and Timeline Guidelines to its 10- year rule athletes, along with the Team USA AC Bylaws and Policies.
- **Sep. 25** – USA Fencing will distribute Process and Timeline Guidelines for the upcoming elections and will solicit self-nominations for the Team USA AC.
- **Oct. 2** – Self nominations due for those interested in running for the Team USA Athletes' Commission. Nominations should minimally include a written statement of intent and may include a resume or any other information pertaining to an athlete's ability to serve the Mission of Team USA AC. Disclosures shall be made according to the Eligibility requirements of the USOPC Bylaws. Please submit nominations to Christina Pachuta at c.pachuta@usafencing.org
- **Oct. 11** - Individuals nominated for Team USA Athletes' Commission must submit a written statement or video (no more than 2 minutes long) expressing why they are interested in the position and why they would be an effective representative.
- **Oct. 15** - USA Fencing will distribute the list of nominees and their statements and/or videos to all eligible voters along with voting instructions.
- **Oct. 17** – Team USA AC Election begins.
- **Oct. 24** – Voting closes.
- **Oct. 25** – USA Fencing will announce 4 winners:
 - Team USA AC Olympic Representative
 - Team USA AC Paralympic Representative
 - Team USA AC Olympic Alternate
 - Team USA AC Paralympic Alternate

USA Fencing Board of Directors Athlete Representatives

Pursuant to Section 7.4 of the USA Fencing Bylaws, there shall be four (4) Athlete Directors named as voting members of the Board of Directors. The two elected Team USA Athletes' Commission representatives will be automatically named to a Board of Directors position. The remaining two (2) seats are to be voted upon by the USA Fencing Athlete Council (of those who meet the definition of a 10-year athlete). Should the Team USA Athletes' Commission alternates not be voted into Board of Directors voting seats by the USA Fencing Athlete Council, they will be provided a non-voting seat on the Board.