



Team Mission Statement

The mission of Fly Fishing Team USA (“FFTUSA”) is to educate and train men and women in the sport of competitive fly fishing on both national and international levels and to promote, and educate its members in the conservation of our fisheries, lakes, rivers and streams. The FFTUSA will select a team of qualified anglers to represent the United States of America at national and international fly fishing competitions, including the world fly fishing competition held each year by the International Sport Flyfishing Federation (“FIPS-Mouche”) which is an arm of the International Angling Confederation (“CIPS”). The team selected by the FFTUSA will represent the USA with honor and dignity and will display sportsmanship to Olympic standards with respect for their fellow members and competitors from around the world.

Competition Cycle 2016-18 Highlights

- 2017 North American Loch-Style Fly Fishing Championships held September 19 – 22 will count for points per Item 2.5.
- Regional registration will be done through FlyComps.com. Youth 16 years old or younger may sign up for regionals but will be prohibited from signing up until 24 hours after registration opens to allow time for adults competitors to register. Regionals are adult points events and priority will be given to those eligible to compete for the adult team. Youth Anglers 17+ may register as they will be 18+ by cycles end and may qualify for adult team.
- Amendment to Item 1.3: Due to limitations at the 2018 National Championships in Bend (June), we will only be able to take the top 45 point earners rather than top 50.
- The current Regional Competition Cycle will end February 2018 and culminate with Nationals in June of 2018. The World Team selected as a result of this cycle will represent FFTUSA in Wales 2018 and Tasmania 2019.

National Team of 15 Selection Process

Item 1.1 A To become a member of the FFTUSA, a competitor must compete in at least one of the several sanctioned FFTUSA regional qualifiers throughout the country within a current regional/national cycle. A cycle is from the day after one USFFC to the end of the following USFFC. A competitor may compete in as many regional qualifiers as he or she chooses during the regional cycle; however, the total points awarded for a competitor will be limited to the three (3) best point totals earned from any of the regional qualifying events or other FFTUSA approved events. A competitor who participates in more than one (1) WFFC during a cycle may only count one (1) WFFC

result among his or her best three (3) point totals. FFTUSA reserves the right to lower the total number of counted qualifying events if circumstances require it.

Item 1.1B FFTUSA will sanction up to three (3) regional qualifiers per region (East/West) per year; six (6) in a one year cycle and potentially twelve (12) in a two year cycle. Note on rationale: Ultimately the market and the availability of organizers will determine how many regional events FFTUSA will have, but FFTUSA does not want to over stress the resources (volunteers/rivers). Please refer to the FFTUSA website for a schedule of events.

Item 1.1C A team element will be added to sanctioned FFTUSA Regional events. Individual competitors are encouraged to form four (4) member teams. As long as there are three (3) declared four (4) member teams before the competition begins, these Teams will be recognized at the USFFC. Also, during the draw for regional events, teammates will not be in the same group.

Item 1.2 Furthermore, in addition to attending at least one sanctioned regional qualifier, a competitor must qualify for (see Item 1.3) and compete in the USFFC.

Item 1.3 To qualify for the USFFC, a competitor must finish in the top 50 point earners after the regional cycle is complete. The top 50 point earner list will be updated after each qualifying event and posted on the official team website. The final top 50 does not include the current FFTUSA members who automatically qualify to compete in the USFFC. FFTUSA reserves the right to expand or contract the number of qualifying competitors to suit the venue. The cutoff date for determining top 50 point earners will be approximately four (4) months before the starting date of the USFFC. If an individual competitor qualifies in the top 50, but is unable to attend the USFFC, alternates will be notified starting with the 51st point earner and moving down the list of point earners until the position is filled.

Item 1.4 Teams for the USFFC will be formed from the list of 50 qualifiers based on club affiliation first. All remaining qualifying competitors will be placed on teams based on regions.

Item 1.5 The top 15 competitors in point totals after the regional qualifiers, other FFTUSA sanctioned events, and the USFFC will earn an invitation to membership on FFTUSA. This list will be announced at the closing ceremonies for the USFFC. For an explanation of how points will be awarded, see Items 2.1-7.

Item 1.6 If a FFTUSA team member does not meet the standard of conduct, he or she will be subject to removal by the majority vote of the non-fishing members of the FFTUSA Leadership Committee (see Code of Conduct Items 5.1-4).

Point System for Regional Qualifiers, USFFC, and Other Competitions

Item 2.1 A point system has been established by the placing at a regional qualifying event, FFTUSA approved event, and the USFFC.

Item 2.2 Regional qualifying events will be scored based on a minimum participation of 24 competitors and a maximum participation of 32.

Item 2.3 The competitor that finishes in first place will receive 24 points. Each subsequent finisher will have their point accrual reduced by a single point. At the point where a competitor receives one point, all remaining competitors will receive one point. An example of points awarded:

Placing	Points
1	24
2	23
3	22
4	21
5	20
6	19
7	18
8	17
9	16
10	15
11	14
12	13
13	12
14	11
15	10
16	9
17	8
18	7
19	6
20	5
21	4
22	3
23	2
24	1

Item 2.4 A The World Team will be awarded team points rather than individual points. Individual points will be calculated (see Item 2.4 B) and then an average will be determined for the whole team. If there is a substitution, a hypothetical placing will be determined using the combined score of the subbed anglers. Here is how this will work using WFFC 2014 as a sample:

Point totals from WFFC 2014:

Devin Olsen	37
Norm Maktima	36
Pat Weiss	17
Lance Egan	24
Josh Graffam	28

Team points: $142/5=28$ points per competitor

Item 2.4 B • Individual points at the World Fly Fishing Championships (“WFFC”) will be scored based on the total number of competitors multiplied by 0.4. If not a whole

number, round up to the next whole number. The minimum awarded for first place shall be 48 points. For example, if there are 128 competitors, the number of points available would be 52 (128 X 0.4). The person taking first place would receive the maximum total points available. Each subsequent finisher will have their point accrual reduced by a single point. At the point where a competitor receives one point, all remaining competitors will also receive one point. Points are awarded based on actual finish placing. For the example above, points awarded looks just like the regional points with the exception that it starts at 52 instead of 24.

Item 2.5 Non FFTUSA events that are sanctioned by FFTUSA (for example, The America Cup) will be scored based on the total number of competitors multiplied by 0.4. If not a whole number, round up to the next whole number. Minimum participation is 40 persons. The minimum awarded for first place shall be 24 points. The maximum awarded for first place shall be 32 points. For example, if there are 80 competitors, the number of points available would be 32 (80 X 0.4). The person taking first place would receive the maximum total points available. Each subsequent finisher will have their point accrual reduced by a single point. At the point where a competitor receives one point, all remaining competitors will also receive one point. Points are awarded based on actual finish placing. For the example above, points awarded looks just like the regional with the exception that it starts at 32 instead of 24.

Item 2.5.1 In order for a non FFTUSA event to receive sanctioning from FFTUSA, it must have at least five (5) current or former competitive team members present and/or be approved by the Leadership Committee of FFTUSA.

Item 2.6 The USFFC will be scored based on the total number of regional qualifying event points available for first place finishers during the competition cycle. For example, if there are three qualifying events that can be used during the cycle, this would result in a total of 72 points available at the USFFC (3 x 24 = 72). Points available at WFFC and any other sanctioned event would not count towards the total points available at USFFC. This has no effect on whether or not a competitor uses points from one of these events in determining their total points for the cycle. The person taking first place would receive the maximum total points available. Calculation of remaining place finishers is based on the following:

- Each subsequent finisher will have their point accrual reduced by a single point until "Placing 1" is reached in the formula below.
- "Factor 1" (F_1) = Total number of available points (A_p) minus total number of competitors (C), ($F_1 = A_p - C$)
- "Placing 1" (P_1) = Total number of competitors (C) minus Factor1 (F_1), ($P_1 = C - F_1$)

- For example, if there are 72 points available and there are 65 persons competing in the USFFC.
 $F_1 = 72 - 65, F_1 = 7$
 $P_1 = 65 - 7, P_1 = 58$
- For the example above, competitors finishing in places 2-58 would have their point accrual reduced by a single point between each finisher.
- At the point where placing point accrual has been reduced by one point through the person that finishes with “Placing 1”, each subsequent finisher will have their point accrual reduced by two points.
- For the example above, competitors finishing in places 59-65 would have their point accrual reduced by two points between each person.
- At the point where a competitor receives one point, all remaining competitors will also receive one point.

Item 2.7 If there are multiple competitors that finish with the same point total after the USFFC, the tie breaker would be the competitors individual placing at the USFFC.

Item 2.8 All sanctioned FFTUSA events follow the latest FIPS rules for competition, and competitors may be penalized if these rules are broken (see Code of Conduct Item 5.1-4).

WFFC Team Selection Process

Item 3.1 The WFFC team will have six (6) competing members which include five (5) fishing members and one (1) alternate. The members of the WFFC Team will be selected from the 15 man roster after the USFFC.

Item 3.2 FFTUSA members receiving the top three (3) individual point totals after the FFTUSA regional qualifiers, the sanctioned FFTUSA events, and the USFFC cycle will automatically be on the WFFC team. Any FFTUSA members who finish in the top 25 at the most recent WFFC will be automatically on the next WFFC team provided that (a) the number of such finishers shall be limited to the top three (3) finishers at a WFFC, (b) such finisher competes in at least one sanctioned FFTUSA regional qualifier and the USFFC prior to the next WFFC and (c) such finisher qualifies for the team of 15 in accordance with Item 1.5. If three (3) of the WFFC team members so qualify for the next WFFC team, there will be no open spots on the WFFC team to fill.

Item 3.3 If there are any spot or spots on the WFFC team which are not filled in accordance with Item 3.2, the FFTUSA members to fill the open spot or spots will be selected based on input from the current 15 FFTUSA members (after the USFFC) and the Captain. The selection or selections will be made as provided in Items 3.4-6.

Item 3.4 After the final points are tallied from the regional sanctioned FFTUSA qualifiers, other sanctioned FFTUSA events, and the USFFC, FFTUSA (after the USFFC) will conduct a confidential vote from the 15 team members and the Captain for the open WFFC roster spots.

Item 3.5 The vote will be conducted by a secret ballot. A designated FFTUSA Leadership Committee member will tally the votes. The FFTUSA team member or members receiving the highest votes will receive the open roster spot or spots. Any Leadership Committee member being considered for the WFFC team will not take part in this process. The FFTUSA Leadership Committee members, excluding any member being considered for the WFFC team, will also be responsible for breaking a tie vote if one occurs.

Item 3.6 The WFFC team will be announced at the USFFC closing ceremonies.

Item 3.7 The WFFC team Captain will choose which of the six competitors will be fishing and who will be the alternate at the WFFC. The five fishing members of the WFFC team and the alternate will be named by the Captain before the WFFC team leaves for the WFFC.

Item 3.8 During a cycle in which two WFFCs occur before a USFFC, the WFFC team will remain the same unless the Captain and Leadership Committee believe a change should be made.

Item 3.9 In the event a selected competitor on the WFFC team cannot attend the WFFC, for any reason, the open spot will be filled by the FFTUSA member who received the next highest vote total in the balloting conducted as provided in Item 3.5.

Item 3.10 If a WWFC team member does not meet the standard of conduct he or she will be subject to removal by the majority vote of the non-fishing members of the FFTUSA Leadership Committee (see Code of Conduct Item 5.1-4).

Team Captain Selection

Item 4.1 A vote for a Team Captain will only occur if the current Team Captain resigns or if the Leadership Committee determines a vote for Captain needs to occur.

Item 4.2 The Team Captain can be nominated by any member of the FFTUSA, the FFTUSA Advisory Committee and/or the FFTUSA Leadership Committee.

Item 4.3 The Team Captain will then be selected from the list of nominees by a confidential vote of the 15 FFTUSA members and the non- competing members of the FFTUSA Leadership Committee. All nominated individuals will not be allowed to vote. The Captain will never see who voted for whom.

Item 4.4 The vote for the Team Captain will be done before the USFFC, unless extenuating circumstances prevent this from happening.

Item 4.5 The Captain should have competition experience, but will not be currently competing to make the FFTUSA team or the WFFC team.

Code of Conduct

Item 5.1 Membership with Fly Fishing Team USA (“FFTUSA”) is a privilege. A FFTUSA member is defined as those who pay dues to FFTUSA to participate in FFTUSA sanctioned events, the qualified fifteen team members, and those on the Leadership Committee. All members must agree to represent FFTUSA with honor and dignity while exhibiting sportsmanship to Olympic standards.

Item 5.2 While participating in any FFTUSA sanctioned activity or in those events where one is representing or could be perceived as representing FFTUSA, FFTUSA members shall observe the following provisions:

- A. FFTUSA members will respect other competitors, competition officials, volunteers, and the fishing public.
- B. FFTUSA members will use courtesy and good manners and refrain from the use of profane or abusive language.
- C. FFTUSA members will always conduct themselves as worthy representatives of the United States of America and shall maintain high standards of moral and ethical conduct.
- D. FFTUSA members will respect and care for the fish, rivers, lakes, and all facilities associated with a competition venue or event.
- E. FFTUSA members are responsible for knowledge of and adherence to competition rules and procedures as outlined by FFTUSA, an agent of FFTUSA, and FIPS-Mouche.
- F. FFTUSA members will abstain from illegal or immoderate use of alcohol and use of illegal or banned drugs.
- G. FFTUSA members agree to abide by anti-doping rules and procedures outlined by FIPS-Mouche in Article 40 of the official FIPS-Mouche Competition Rules.
- H. No FFTUSA member shall commit a criminal act.

Item 5.3 Failure to comply with any of the above provisions may lead to disciplinary action by the Rules Committee. The Rules Committee consists of designated members of the Leadership Committee and the competition organizer(s).

Disciplinary actions might include:

- A. Reduction of competition hours.
- B. Loss of one or more fish caught in potential violation of rules or regulations.
- C. Loss of catch for the session of the violation.
- D. Suspension from Regional or National competition without refund of entry fee.

- E. Forfeiture of FFTUSA membership without refund.
- F. Suspension or banning from becoming a FFTUSA member.
- G. Removal from the team of 15 or WFFC Team.

Item 5.4 All rule violations must be reported to the competition officials ASAP on the day of the alleged violation. FFTUSA is committed to principles of fairness and FFTUSA members are entitled to due process.