



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 team and affiliated 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 Championships ("WFFC") held 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.

Definitions

FFTUSA Affiliated Member(s) - A FFTUSA affiliated member is defined as those who pay dues to FFTUSA to participate in FFTUSA sanctioned events.

FFTUSA Team Member(s) - A FFTUSA team member is a person in the group of fifteen (15) anglers that are selected by and represent FFTUSA in competitions and as ambassadors for FFTUSA in the sport of fly fishing.

WFFC Team Member(s) - A WFFC team member is a person in the group of six (6) anglers selected from the group of fifteen (15) FFTUSA team members to represent FFTUSA at the WFFC.

Leadership Committee - The leadership committee is the decision and rule making body of FFTUSA.

Code Of Conduct

Item 1.1 Membership with FFTUSA is a privilege. A FFTUSA member is any FFTUSA Affiliated Member, FFTUSA Team Member, FFTUSA Team Captain, and any person on the FFTUSA

Leadership Committee. All FFTUSA members must agree to uphold the Team Mission Statement and the Code of Conduct.

Item 1.2 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:

- FFTUSA members will respect other competitors, competition officials, volunteers, and the fishing public.
- FFTUSA members will use courtesy and good manners and refrain from the use of profane or abusive language.
- 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.
- FFTUSA members will respect and care for the fish, rivers, lakes, and all facilities associated with a competition venue or event.
- FFTUSA members will abstain from illegal or immoderate use of alcohol and use of illegal or banned drugs.
- 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.
- No FFTUSA member shall commit a criminal act.
- 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.

Item 1.3 Failure to comply with the provisions in Item 1.2 may lead to disciplinary action by the FFTUSA Leadership Committee. Disciplinary actions might include:

- Suspension from Regional or National competition without refund of entry fee.
- Forfeiture of FFTUSA membership fee without refund.
- Suspension or banning from becoming a FFTUSA member.
- Removal from the the FFTUSA team or WFFC team.
- All rule violations must be reported to a member of the Leadership Committee as soon as possible on the day of the alleged violation.

Item 1.4 Infractions that are related to competitions will have a two (2) placing point penalty given at the end of any competition for the following:

- Fishing in the wrong beat/boat or with the wrong angler in a boat. This only affects the angler(s) causing the infraction, not the angler(s) affected by the offending angler(s).
- Angling in water closed to fishing prior to or during the competition.
- Angler allowing a controller to “pocket control” or cross the river when not allowed.
- Disrespecting a controller or official.
- An angler being assisted by another person who acts on their behalf while waters are closed or during a competition. Examples of this are, gaining information from another person that fishes closed or competition waters, getting information from a person that

watches other anglers during the competition, or any other assistance from an agent that gives an angler advantage.

Item 1.5 Infractions that occur during a competition will be reviewed by the competition jury. If verified, the appropriate disciplinary action and/or penalty(s) will be issued. Penalty points will be assessed prior to the final point totals and will count towards the anglers placing in the competition.

Item 1.6 Infractions that occur outside of a competition will be reviewed by the Team Captain and Leadership Committee. If verified, the appropriate disciplinary action will be issued.

Item 1.7 Persons that witness or have evidence of these infractions should report and provide documentation to the appropriate persons as outlined in Item 1.5 and 1.6. FFTUSA is committed to principles of fairness and all FFTUSA members are entitled to due process.

Competition Cycle

Item 2.1 Competitive cycles will last approximately two (2) years, culminating with the United States Fly Fishing Championship ("USFFC"), selection of the FFTUSA team members and selection of the WFFC team members. The start and end of the cycle will be published on the official website and Facebook page of FFTUSA.

Item 2.2 During a normal cycle, a total of ten (10) regional competitions will be organized. There should be five (5) competitions east of the Mississippi and five (5) competitions west of the Mississippi. Any variation to the total number or mix of East/West regional competitions will be approved by the FFTUSA Leadership Committee and published on the official website and Facebook page of FFTUSA. Additional non FFTUSA sanctioned events may be approved for inclusion in the competition cycle. All competitions should adhere to FIPS-Mouche rules.

Item 2.3 Only FFTUSA affiliated members and FFTUSA team members are able to participate in FFTUSA sponsored events. The FFTUSA Leadership Committee reserves the right to implement a system for prioritizing registration to ensure that anglers have comparable opportunities to register for events.

Point Accumulation

Item 3.1 Over the course of the competitive cycle, anglers will accumulate points by participating in sanctioned competitions. Anglers may compete in as many regional qualifiers as he or she chooses during the competitive cycle.

Item 3.2 The total points awarded to an angler during the cycle will be limited to the three (3) best point totals earned from any of the FFTUSA approved competitions. A single (1) river only and a single (1) lake only competition may count toward the three (3) qualifying competitions. Only one (1) competition that is not a FFTUSA regional competition, as defined in Item 4, may

be counted toward an angler's point total during the cycle. (WFFC, America Cup, North American Loch Championships, etc).

Regional Competitions

Item 4.1 Regional competitions are organized by submitting an application to the FFTUSA Leadership Committee following directions found on the FFTUSA website. These applications must be submitted to the Leadership Committee a minimum of seventy five (75) days in advance of the competition. If approved, registration must open a minimum of sixty (60) days before the event. The cost for regional competitions are \$125 maximum fee for competitor controlled regionals and \$150 maximum fee for volunteer control regionals.

Item 4.2 During the cycle (as defined in Item 2.1) no venue may be used in more than one regional. This includes any portion of a lake or river. Waters that may be used in the competition should be closed to fishing by anglers and their agents at least thirty (30) days in advance of the event. Lake venues may have limited practice session(s) within three (3) days of the start of competition but should have a minimum of one (1) day rest before the event. If open to practice, all anglers must have equal access to boats for each venue or bank fishing for each venue during the practice time.

Item 4.3 All regional competitions shall have four (4) sessions. Regional competitions may be any combination of volunteer or competitor controlled sessions. Competitions can be held over two (2) or three (3) days. In the case of competitor controlled river sessions, two (2) hour sessions on rivers will be allowed. Three day schedule allows for three (3) hour competitor controlled sessions on rivers, but they must be combined with two (2) lake sessions or two (2) two (2) hour river sessions. Loch and bank lake sessions shall be three (3) hours in all cases. Bank lake venues should have a set beat rotation that allows for anglers to rotate every one (1) hour during the session.

Item 4.4 All anglers will be organized into teams of four (4). Anglers are encouraged to organize themselves into teams. At least four (4) current or former FFTUSA team members should attend each approved regional competition. This requirement should be met prior to the start of registration. The FFTUSA Team Captain will select the FFTUSA team(s) if more than four (4) current FFTUSA team members attend an event. Regional competitions should have a minimum of 24 anglers and may not have more than 32 anglers. Regionals that count toward the current cycle should not be held within less than 90 days of the start of the USFFC.

Item 4.5 Any deviation from the requirements set out in Item 4.1 through 4.4 requires FFTUSA Leadership Committee approval.

Item 4.6 All regional competitions are worth a maximum of twenty four (24) points. Points for the regional competitions are based on individual finish and will be awarded based on the table below.

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

A regional that planned for twenty four (24) anglers, but has fewer anglers attend will still be counted as a twenty four (24) points as long as twenty one (21) or more anglers participate. If a regional competition has twenty (20) or fewer anglers in attendance the maximum number of points available will be reduced to twenty (20) points, but will follow the same point format as the table above.

Other FFTUSA Sanctioned Competitions

Item 5.1 The FFTUSA Leadership Committee can approve non FFTUSA and other FFTUSA organized competitions for accumulation in point totals. Approval should be based on factors such as FFTUSA team member participation, and adherence to FIPS-Mouche rules.

Item 5.2 Total points available at events approved in Item 5.1 will be based on the following: Total number of persons at the competition multiplied by 0.6 (if not a whole number, round up to the next whole number) with a one point per place reduction in points until one (1) point is reached. Each subsequent finisher will receive one (1) point. A minimum of twenty four (24) and the maximum of thirty two (32) points will be awarded.

United States Fly Fishing Championship

Item 6.1 The final event of a cycle will be the USFFC and shall be five (5) three (3) hour sessions. It may be any combination of volunteer or competitor controlled sessions.

Item 6.2 A maximum of sixty (60) anglers will be invited to participate. The current fifteen (15) FFTUSA team members will be automatically invited. The top forty five (45) non FFTUSA team members will be invited to participate. In the case that there are still spots available at the USFFC, it will be opened up to any angler who wants to participate, including anglers not eligible to become a FFTUSA team member.

Item 6.3 All anglers will be organized into teams of five (5). The FFTUSA Team Captain will select the three (3) teams representing FFTUSA. If there is a missing team member, the affected team selects an angler or the Team Captain selects angler to fill the spot. All other

teams will be organized by common consent among anglers or will be assigned by the organizer or the Team Captain to ensure that all anglers are on a team.

Item 6.4 Points for the USFFC will be based on a sixty (60) person, twelve (12) team format. In the case that there are fewer participants, the points available will not change. They will be based on individual finish and will be awarded based on the table below.

Individual Placing	Points Awarded		Individual Placing	Points Awarded		Individual Placing	Points Awarded
1	60		21	40		41	20
2	59		22	39		42	19
3	58		23	38		43	18
4	57		24	37		44	17
5	56		25	36		45	16
6	55		26	35		46	15
7	54		27	34		47	14
8	53		28	33		48	13
9	52		29	32		49	12
10	51		30	31		50	11
11	50		31	30		51	10
12	49		32	29		52	9
13	48		33	28		53	8
14	47		34	27		54	7
15	46		35	26		55	6
16	45		36	25		56	5
17	44		37	24		57	4
18	43		38	23		58	3
19	42		39	22		59	2
20	41		40	21		60	1

World Fly Fishing Championship Points

Item 7.1 The team selected to represent FFTUSA at the WFFC will be eligible to receive points based on the team finish. All six (6) members of the team will receive the same number of points. The points awarded will be based on the table below.

Team Placing	Points Awarded		Team Placing	Points Awarded
1	36		11	18
2	35		12	16
3	34		13	14
4	32		14	12
5	30		15	10
6	28		16	8
7	26		17	6
8	24		18	4
9	22		19	2
10	20		≥20	1

Fly Fishing Team USA Team Member Selection

Item 8.1 At the close of each USFFC, a team of fifteen (15) anglers will be selected to represent FFTUSA during the next cycle. This selection will happen before the closing ceremony at the USFFC and will be announced at the closing ceremony.

Item 8.2 In order to be selected, an angler must be eighteen (18) or older before the end of the competition cycle, a citizen the United States of America, and not be an agent for any foreign fly fishing team. Furthermore, to be eligible an angler must compete in at least two (2) FFTUSA regional competitions during the cycle as defined by Item 2.1, compete in the current cycle's USFFC, and agree to follow the FFTUSA code of conduct. The top fifteen (15) anglers that meet these criteria and have the highest number of points at the end of the cycle will be selected to represent FFTUSA as FFTUSA team members. If there are multiple anglers that finish with the same point total after the USFFC, the tie breaker will be the anglers individual placing at the USFFC.

Item 8.3 Anglers finishing in the sixteenth (16th) through twentieth (20th) places that meet the same standards set out above shall be given formal alternate standing at the end of the cycle. These alternates will be recognized at the USFFC closing ceremony and may be invited to participate in FFTUSA team member functions or benefits during the cycle.

Item 8.4 To maintain eligibility as a FFTUSA team member each angler must adhere to the following requirements:

- Follow the FFTUSA code of conduct
- Fish in at least one (1) regional competition per year (minimum of two (2) total during the cycle).

- Materially participate in the organization of one (1) regional during each cycle. If not the primary organizer of a competition, a FFTUSA member should be the main consultant for the organizer and should assist by setting beats, recruiting volunteers or boats, obtaining permits, training volunteers, or other activities as needed for competition organization and execution.

Item 8.5 If during the course of the cycle a FFTUSA team member does not meet the minimum requirements stated in Item 8.4 or is no longer willing or able to commit to participate on the team, that angler's position on the team will be evaluated by the FFTUSA Leadership Committee, and that angler may be dismissed from the team following a vote by the non-competing members of the Leadership Committee.

Item 8.6 The following criteria will be used to select a replacement if a team member is dismissed from the team: From the five (5) alternates named at the close of the previous cycle, the angler with the highest point total, as calculated by adding the points from the previous cycle and the points accumulated during the current cycle, will be selected to be a FFTUSA team member.

World Fly Fishing Championship Team Selection

Item 9.1 At the close of each USFFC, a team of six (6) representatives will be selected to attend the WFFC from the group of fifteen (15) FFTUSA team members that will represent FFTUSA during the next cycle. This selection will happen before the closing ceremony at the USFFC and will be announced at the closing ceremony. In addition, two (2) alternates will be selected in the case that one or more of the WFFC team members are not able to participate.

Item 9.2 The top three (3) FFTUSA team members in total points at the end of the competition cycle will automatically be selected for the WFFC team. The remaining three (3) positions and the two (2) alternates will be selected by vote of FFTUSA team members in attendance from the previous cycle and current cycle (defined by Item 2.1), and the Team Captain, by confidential vote. The method of voting will be prescribed by the FFTUSA Leadership Committee and shall adhere to the following protocol:

- Voting will not be anonymous.
- A person may not vote for him or herself.
- A designated Leadership Committee member will tally the votes.
 - Any Leadership Committee member being considered for the WFFC team will not take part in this process.
- The FFTUSA Team Captain will break any ties.

Item 9.3 The WFFC Team Captain will choose which of the six (6) competitors will be fishing and who will be the alternate at the WFFC. The five (5) fishing members of the WFFC team and the alternate will be named by the Team Captain before the WFFC team leaves for the WFFC.

Item 9.4 During a cycle in which two (2) WFFCs occur before a USFFC, the WFFC team will remain the same unless the Team Captain and non-competing members of the Leadership Committee believe a change should be made.

Item 9.5 The (2) alternates will be based on the persons with highest sequential number of votes after the team of six (6) representatives are selected. In the event an angler on the WFFC team and the alternates cannot attend the WFFC, for any reason, the open spot will be filled by the FFTUSA member who received the next highest vote total as provided in Item 9.2.

Item 9.6 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-competing members of the FFTUSA Leadership Committee (see Code of Conduct Item 5.1-4).

Team Captain Selection

Item 10.1 A vote for a FFTUSA Team Captain will only occur if the current Team Captain resigns or if the FFTUSA Leadership Committee determines a vote for Team Captain needs to occur. The Team Captain can be nominated by any FFTUSA team member or the FFTUSA Leadership Committee. The Team Captain should have competition experience, but will not be currently competing to make the FFTUSA team or the WFFC team.

Item 10.2 The FFTUSA Team Captain will then be selected from the list of nominees by a confidential vote of the fifteen (15) FFTUSA team members and the non-competing members of the FFTUSA Leadership Committee. All nominated individuals will not be allowed to vote. The Team Captain will never see who voted for whom. The vote for the Team Captain will be done before the USFFC, unless extenuating circumstances prevent this from happening.