

# NATIONAL EVENTS 2023-2025



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# ORGANIZATIONAL BACKGROUND

The Amateur Sports Act of 1978 specifically named the United States Olympic Committee (USOC) as the coordinating body for amateur athletic activity in the US directly relating to international Olympic athletic competition. The Act included provisions for recognizing National Governing Bodies (NGBs) for the sports on the programs of the Olympic and Pan American Games.

USA Fencing is the recognized NGB for the sport of fencing in the United States. USA Fencing 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.

USA Fencing is affiliated with the Fédération Internationale d'Escrime (FIE), the international federation for fencing founded in Paris in 1913.

Our NGB was incorporated as a non-profit corporation in Pennsylvania in 1964 and in Colorado in 1993 in compliance with the Amateur Sports Act and opened its national office at the Olympic Training Center in Colorado Springs, Colo. in August of 1982.

## **Mission Statement:**

The mission of USA Fencing is to serve and foster the growth, participation and development of domestic fencing at all levels and to achieve sustained international success.

## **Board and Staff Information:**

12 Board Members  
2-3 Board Meetings per year  
11 Committees  
19 Staff Members

**USA Fencing Individual Membership: 39,500 members**



# NATIONAL TOURNAMENTS AVAILABLE FOR BID | 2023-25

## 2023 – 2024 Season

2023 October North American Cup	October 25 - 30, 2023	OPEN	250,000 continuous sq. ft.
2023 November North American Cup	November 9 - 14, 2023	Awarded	250,000 continuous sq. ft.
2024 January North American Cup	January 3 - 8, 2024	Awarded	240,000 continuous sq. ft.
2024 Junior Olympic Fencing Championships	February 14 - 19, 2024	OPEN	240,000 continuous sq. ft.
2024 March North American Cup	February 28 – March 4, 2024	Potential Award	225,000 continuous sq. ft.
2024 April North American Cup	April 17 - 22, 2024	OPEN	240,000 continuous sq. ft.
2024 National Championships & July Challenge	Late June– July (dates flexible)	Awarded	300,000 continuous sq. ft.

## 2024 – 2025 Season

<i>Event</i>	<i>Dates</i>	<i>Status</i>	<i>Space Needed</i>
2024 October North American Cup	October 9-14, 2024	OPEN	250,000 continuous sq. ft.
2024 November North American Cup	November 6-11, 2024	Awarded	250,000 continuous sq. ft.
2025 January North American Cup	January 8-13, 2025	OPEN	240,000 continuous sq. ft.
2025 Junior Olympic Fencing Championships	February 12-17, 2025	OPEN	240,000 continuous sq. ft.
2025 March North American Cup	March 19-24, 2025	OPEN	225,000 continuous sq. ft.
2025 April North American Cup	April 23-28 , 2025	OPEN	240,000 continuous sq. ft.
2025 National Championships & July Challenge	Late June– July (dates flexible)	OPEN	300,000 continuous sq. ft.



# TOURNAMENT BID INFORMATION & TIMELINES

## Tournament Bid Information

USA Fencing is pleased to take this opportunity to introduce you to the Olympic sport of fencing and its national tournaments. USA Fencing hosts a series of national and international fencing tournaments beginning each fall and ending with the USA Fencing National Championships the following summer.

USA Fencing will accept bids from any city, CVB, sports commission or fencing division interested in hosting a national tournament. The bid must provide facilities, commit services, supply personnel and value-in-kind donations to make a tournament successful for the participants, the host and USA Fencing. The range of tournaments and the flexibility that USA Fencing offers in sharing responsibilities provides hosts with various levels of involvement.

### **Proposals are due to USA Fencing based on the following schedule:**

2023 – 2024 proposals are due by December 31, 2022

2024 – 2025 proposals are due by June 15, 2023

Proposals are accepted and evaluated on a rolling basis, and tournaments may be awarded to cities that have submitted excellent bids in advance of the deadline. Please see the checklist & sample hotel grid on page six as must be included with your proposal. As such, there is an advantage to early submissions, but all proposals must be received by the above deadlines. Only complete bids will be considered by USA Fencing.





# TOURNAMENT HOUSING

## **Tournament Housing:**

Housing Service (HS): A successful bid must meet the hotel contract requirements for each event. The official housing partner of USA fencing is Group Housing and it will manage the hotel contracts and review the city/venue proposals in concert with USA Fencing. The hotel room rates shall include a minimum \$19 rebate for USA Fencing and a 10 percent commission for Group Housing.

There will be two cut-off dates. The first release of inventory from USA Fencing's housing partner to the hotel will occur 30 days prior to the first day of the event. The second cut-off date will occur 14 days prior to the first day of the event. The second cut-off date will consist of a small percentage of the overall unreserved inventory left; these rooms are to accommodate the late qualification events leading into the different championships. Only after the release of unreserved rooms can individual hotels issue these rooms to the general public.

An earned complimentary room policy of a 1/30 for full service hotels and a 1/25 for limited service hotels is the norm.

## **Headquarters Hotel:**

The headquarters hotel must include staff/officials' rooms. The headquarters hotel will offer a combination for the staff block to contain both complimentary rooms and rooms at a reduced rate. These staff rates will be proposed at a room rate not to exceed \$159/night, 'net' of any rebate, and will include the 10 percent commission for Group Housing. Combination ratios will vary by event. The headquarters hotel shall be in close proximity (ideally walking distance or connected) to the venue.

*Required for the Host Hotel:* Complimentary breakfast for any official (staff) staying at a headquarters hotel from the day after check-in through day of checkout (example: 100 staff staying for five nights should receive 500 breakfasts). USA Fencing prefers a dedicated room starting the day of competition and remaining in use through the last day of competition (typically Friday-Monday). Breakfast must begin by 6 a.m. and be served until at least 9 a.m. each day. Breakfast must contain typical breakfast buffet options: eggs, breakfast meat, hot and cold cereals, yogurt, fresh fruit, breakfast breads and coffee/tea.

A minimum of ten (10) free parking passes should be provided for each event. In addition, USA Fencing requests parking passes at a reduced rate for staff and officials that may be driving. A comprehensive list of these individuals will be supplied seven days from arrival.



# ADDITIONAL INFO

## **Board Meetings:**

There is a Board of Directors meeting held prior to the Junior Olympics competition and another during the National Championships in June/July. Both require F & B, AV, hollow-square seating for 20 and spectator seating for 30-40.

## **Host Organization:**

Cities, city organizations, sports commissions or fencing divisions interested in hosting a national tournament should include information on venue rental and hotel grids outlining the rates and distance from the venue, along with any other information that will enhance the bid. Organizations interested in hosting an event should be prepared to arrange a hotel, airfare and ground transportation to accommodate a site visit for (1) USA Fencing representative and one (1) Group Housing representative to inspect the proposed facilities. After the proposal has been received, USA Fencing representatives will schedule a site inspection to review bid specifications: venue, hotel, location, services, and transportation.

An LOC (local organizing committee) that is comprised of both representatives of a local fencing club and CVB/sports commission members provides the most attractive combination for a successful event. The following information is offered to assist your organization in assessing the feasibility of hosting a USA Fencing tournament.

## **Community Outreach:**

Community outreach is a program that USA Fencing supports in various cities that host a national tournament. This important endeavor provides an opportunity for USA Fencing to introduce this sport to inner city youth by inviting them to attend our competitions to learn about fencing as well as participate in a demonstration. We have collaborated with school districts, the Boys & Girls Club and a variety of other organizations on community outreach programs and look forward to creating this opportunity in your city.

Also, please visit [www.usafencing.org](http://www.usafencing.org) for additional information about USA Fencing. As you are reviewing the information, please feel free to direct any questions to:

*Glen Hollingsworth  
Senior Events Manager  
210 USA Cycling Point, Suite 120  
Colorado Springs, CO 80919  
[g.hollingsworth@usafencing.org](mailto:g.hollingsworth@usafencing.org)*



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# VENUE REQUIREMENTS

The fencing venue is the single most important element in hosting a successful tournament. The venue must be available from approximately 6 a.m. - 11:59 p.m. each day of the tournament and for at least two (2) days in advance for set up. It must be clean, well maintained and possess the following characteristics:

1. Minimum ceiling height of 16 feet
2. Venue flooring should be smooth with a wood, concrete, composition or carpet surface on which fencing strips can be positioned.
3. The facility must be able to accommodate a minimum of twelve (14+) competition areas and one (1) finals area (the National Championships and July Challenge requires more competition areas). Each competition area requires a space of 120' x 45' which is enclosed by three feet tall pipe or stanchions. Sufficient space between each competition area must be provided for movement of participants and attendees on the competition floor. See below for sample competition area set up. Each finals area requires 80' x 60' of space.
4. There should be adequate space in the venue for all fencers and coaches to leave their extra equipment, bags and personal items during the competition each day.
5. Even lighting throughout, with a minimum of 30 candlepower
6. Air conditioning available throughout the entire venue
7. Complimentary lobby/venue wireless internet
8. A public address system that reaches all areas of the venue, including the designated official's lounge, with a microphone located at the Bout Committee stage at no charge to USA Fencing
9. Twenty (20) parking passes for sponsors/officials for the duration of the event. Discounted parking for all attendees.
10. Ten (10) dock passes for USA Fencing and sponsor trucks





# VENUE REQUIREMENTS CONT'D

11. Venue food/drink concessions are open throughout the competition. Concessions 7 a.m. – 9 p.m.
12. Include a variety of “athlete-friendly” foods (fresh fruit, energy bars, fruit, yogurt, bagels, water, sports drinks, salads, wraps and hot food selections).
13. Four - ten meeting rooms (depending on the size of the tournament) must be included with the exhibit hall rental for officials and committee meetings.
14. The ability for USA Fencing to sell event tickets for its events prior to the competition and at the door without incurring additional costs from the venue

## **Bids will be given special consideration when they include the following:**

- A stage for the tournament administration (Bout Committee), minimum 36' L x 24' W x 24" H at no charge to USA Fencing
- A stage for awards ceremonies, minimum 24' L x 12' W x 24" H, a photographer riser of 8' x 6' x 24" at no charge to USA Fencing and one 8' x 4' x 24" riser for finals
- Bleachers or risers with seating for at least 500 spectators at the finals area and for 250 at each replay area (2 pods) at no charge to USA Fencing for all national tournaments
- Two (2) complimentary (large capacity) officials tap water stations and water in the Bout Committee and Satellite Bout Committee areas
- Ninety (90) complimentary classroom tables
- Ninety (90) complimentary 8' x 24" tables for tournament administrators
- Complimentary staffed concierge desk from 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. during competition days
- 250 hours of in house security
- Waived/discounted EMT costs
- (1400) complimentary chairs provided



# BID PROPOSAL CHECKLIST

Please fill out the checklist below submit with your Bid Proposal to:

[g.hollingsworth@usafencing.org](mailto:g.hollingsworth@usafencing.org).

REQUIRED MATERIALS	STATUS
Host venue proposal with exhibit halls, rental costs and venue concessions (chairs, tables, risers, etc. included in rent)	
Hotel grid for attendee room blocks including rates and distance from venue	
Hotel grid for staff room block including rate, breakfast and distance from venue	
CVB/Sports Commission proposed incentives	
Local restaurant/attractions options	
Proposed community outreach and partners	
Information on closest major airport including number of flights in and out each day, cities with direct flights and average costs	





# HOTEL GRIDS | TOURNAMENT PROFILES

## October North American Cup

Block	Room Type	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon
STAFF	Doubles	5	10	80	80	80	80	45
	Single	5	5	30	30	30	30	30
ATTENDEES	Doubles	-	25	250	425	425	425	45
	Single	-	15	105	150	150	150	30

\*Approximately: 2060 Attendee Room Nights and 526 Staff Room Nights

## November North American Cup

Block	Room Type	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon
STAFF	Doubles	5	10	80	80	80	80	45
	Single	5	5	30	30	30	30	30
ATTENDEES	Doubles	-	25	250	425	425	425	45
	Single	-	15	105	105	105	105	30

\*Approximately: 2060 Attendee Room Nights and 540 Staff Room Nights



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# HOTEL GRIDS | TOURNAMENT PROFILES CONT'D

## January North American Cup

Block	Room Type	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon
STAFF	Doubles	5	10	80	80	80	80	45
	Single	5	5	30	30	30	30	30
ATTENDEES	Doubles	-	15	275	300	300	300	45
	Single	-	10	105	105	105	105	30

\*Approximately: 1695 Attendee Room Nights and 540 Staff Room Nights

## Junior Olympic Fencing Championships

Block	Room Type	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon
STAFF	Doubles	5	10	80	80	80	80	45
	Single	5	5	30	30	30	30	30
ATTENDEES	Doubles	-	10	500	500	500	500	45
	Single	-	10	75	75	75	75	30

\*Approximately: 2970 Attendee Room Nights and 540 Staff Room Nights



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# HOTEL GRIDS | TOURNAMENT PROFILES CONT'D

## March North American Cup

Block	Room Type	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon
STAFF	Doubles	5	10	80	80	80	80	45
	Single	5	5	30	30	30	30	30
ATTENDEES	Doubles	-	10	300	300	300	300	45
	Single	-	10	100	100	100	100	30

\*Approximately: 1695 Attendee Room Nights and 540 Staff Room Nights

## April North American Cup

Block	Room Type	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon
STAFF	Doubles	5	10	80	80	80	80	45
	Single	5	5	30	30	30	30	30
ATTENDEES	Doubles	-	25	350	350	350	350	65
	Single	-	10	75	75	75	75	30

\*Approximately: 1830 Attendee Room Nights and 540 Staff Room Nights



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# HOTEL GRIDS | TOURNAMENT PROFILES CONT'D

## National Championships and July Challenge

Block	Room Type	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue
STAFF	Doubles	10	20	130	130	130	130	130
	Single	5	10	40	40	40	40	40
	Suites	-	1	3	3	3	3	3
ATTENDEES	Doubles	-	200	425	505	525	575	675
	Single	-	100	125	125	125	125	125
Block	Room Type	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon	
STAFF	Doubles	130	130	130	130	130	60	
	Single	40	40	40	40	40	30	
	Suites	3	3	3	3	3	-	
ATTENDEES	Doubles	675	675	675	675	550	200	
	Single	125	125	125	125	125	100	

\*Approximately 7,805 Attendee Room Nights and 1,835 Staff Room Nights (Summer Nationals is a 10-day competition)



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# EVENT ENRICHMENT

As with any event, there are ideal scenarios USA Fencing looks for in the selection of a host city. The following elements are examples of how details can truly make a difference:

- City located within close proximity to a hub airport
- Securing a minimal facility rental fee with free move-in days and no fee for meeting space
- Hosting an event during a city's off-season and using a business hotel on a weekend, to minimize the cost of the hotel room block not to exceed \$119 - \$169 per night.
- Support from the CVB/sports commission with marketing prior to the event (banners, welcome signage in hotels/airport/restaurants/venue/street, reaching out to local media, graphic designing services of tournament logo)
- Assistance with the local hospitality community (restaurants/local attractions) to secure discounts for the Stay & Save program to create incentives for our members for staying in the hotel block
- Having the host hotel(s) within walking distance of the venue for convenience and to alleviate USA Fencing of having to use cabs/rental cars/shuttles
- In addition to the venue concessions, restaurants within walking distance to the competition venue are a plus for the attendees.
- Local activities in conjunction with the tournament can provide participants with entertainment options in addition to the fencing competition.
- Securing of city/local grants to aid local grassroots/developmental fencing programs
- Commitment of local media to promote the event
- Taking additional steps to relieve USA Fencing of tournament expenses. Bids that cover the cost of water service, internet, tables/chairs/staging, shuttle transportation (if required) and facility rental are viewed favorably.
- Additional complimentary parking for vendors
- Bids must meet the contract requirement of USA Fencing's housing service

