



2025/2026 Junior National Teams Selection Criteria
Amendment 2
January 19, 2026

USA Surfing is dedicated to providing the talent pipeline with optimal resources that build youth development, elite performance and pathways for the rising surfers' professional career. The USA Surfing Junior Prime Series and annual USA Junior Championships at Lower Trestles, California are paramount to the competitive drive and development of American surfers.

USA Surfing has established a 2-tier Junior Team system which values competition results and athletic talent identification. Because the West Coast has a significantly larger base of competitive surfers than the East Coast, USA Surfing ensures a minimum of 25% East Coast representation on Junior Teams—reflecting our commitment to balanced opportunity and nationwide talent development. The follow teams criteria are as follows:

TEAMS

- 1. USA Junior National Team**
- 2. USA Junior Development Team**

DATE OF TEAM NOMINATION

USA Surfing will nominate surfers to either the Junior National team or Junior Development Team per gender and division in two nomination cycles.

In the first cycle, USA Surfing will nominate the USA Junior National Team and USA Junior Development Team no later than August 15, 2025.

USA Surfing will nominate team quota spots per division in the second cycle for a MID-SEASON nomination no later than February 15, 2026.

FOUNDATIONAL ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

- Athlete must be member in good standing with USA Surfing (USAS)
- Athlete must be a national of the United States
- Athlete must sign the USA Surfing Code of Conduct
- Athlete must sign the USA Surfing Team Commitment Agreement
- Parent(s)/Guardian(s)/Support Personnel must sign the USA Surfing Parent, Guardian and Athlete Support Personnel Code of Conduct
- Athlete and Parent(s)/Guardian(s) must take SafeSport training



1. USA Junior National Team

The following team divisions will be nominated with age of surfer determined on January 1, 2026. Each division will include the two birth years associated with that age division and maximum quota allocation per division are listed.

- U18 Boys: 12 athletes
 - U18 Girls: 12 athletes
 - U16 Boys: 12 athletes
 - U16 Girls: 12 athletes
 - U14 Boys: 10 athletes
 - U14 Girls: 10 athletes
- Athlete will be nominated in hierarchical rank order based upon the total sum of their top 3^{*1} 2024-2025 Prime results and 2025 USA Junior National Championships.
 - Current rankings can be viewed at: [USA Surfing Junior Rankings](#)
 - See Appendix A: Competition points awarded by result
 - 2024-2025 Junior Prime Series Event Schedule: [2024-2025 Prime Schedule](#)
 - East Coast Prime Series
 1. November 16-17, 2024, Atlantic City, NJ
 2. February 22-23, 2025, Ponce Inlet, FL
 3. March 1-2, 2025, Jacksonville Beach, FL
 4. May 17-18, 2025, Nags Head NC
 - West Coast Prime Series
 1. October 26-27, 2024 Oceanside Harbor, CA
 2. November 23-24, 2024, Pismo Beach, CA
 3. February 1-2, 2025, Oceanside Pier, CA
 4. March 8-9, 2025, Santa Cruz, CA
 5. May 10-11, 2025, Huntington Beach, CA
 - USA Junior National Championships, Lower Trestles, CA, June 22-26, 2025

¹ USA Surfing reserves the right to amend total number of top results to reflect current Regional Prime Series Schedule for each season or in the circumstance of competition cancelation due to force majeure.



- If maximum team size per division is not fulfilled, athletes will be nominated to the team after the completion of the 2025-2026 season's top two (2) Prime Series events as of February 15, 2026 for the MID-SEASON nomination.
 - 2025-2026 Prime Series Event Calendar Schedule [2025-2026 Prime Schedule](#)
 - East Coast Prime Series
 1. October 18-19, 2025, Jenette's Pier, Nags Head, NC
 2. January 31-February 1, 2026, Ponce Inlet, FL
 - West Coast Prime Series
 1. October 25-26, 2025, Morro Bay, CA
 2. November 22-23, 2025, Pismo Beach, CA
 3. February 7-8, 2026- Huntington Beach, CA
 - 2025-2026 current rankings <https://www.usasurfing.org/rankings/current>
- Maximum team quota per division is not required to be fulfilled upon the completion of the MID-SEASON nomination.

2. USA Junior Development Team

The following team divisions will be nominated with age of surfer determined on January 1, 2026. Each division will include the two birth years associated with that age division and maximum quota allocation per division are listed.

- U18 Boys: 6 athletes
- U18 Girls: 6 athletes
- U16 Boys: 6 athletes
- U16 Girls: 6 athletes
- U14 Boys: 4 athletes
- U14 Girls: 4 athletes
- Athletes will be nominated following the National team nominations in hierarchical rank order based upon the total sum of their top 3² 2024-2025 Prime results and USA Junior National Championships.
 - Current rankings can be viewed at: [USA Surfing Junior Rankings](#)
 - See Appendix A: Competition points awarded by result

² USA Surfing reserves the right to amend total number of top results to reflect current Regional Prime Series Schedule for each season or in the circumstance of force majeure.



- 2024-2025 Junior Prime Series Event Schedule: [2024-2025 Prime Schedule](#)
 - East Coast Prime Series
 1. November 16-17, 2024, Atlantic City, NJ
 2. February 22-23, 2025, Ponce Inlet, FL
 3. March 1-2, 2025, Jacksonville Beach, FL
 4. May 17-18, 2025, Nags Head NC
 - West Coast Prime Series
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 2. November 23-24, 2024, Pismo Beach, CA
 3. February 1-2, 2025, Oceanside Pier, CA
 4. March 8-9, 2025, Santa Cruz, CA
 5. May 10-11, 2025, Huntington Beach, CA
 - USA Junior National Championships, Lower Trestles, CA, June 22-26, 2025
- If maximum team size per division is not fulfilled, athletes will be nominated to the team after the completion of the 2025-2026 season's top two (2) Prime Series events as of February 15, 2026 for the MID-SEASON nomination.
- A surfer competing in the next age division under the *three-win exemption* from their 2024/2025 Prime season is eligible for mid-season nomination to the Development Team for that age division.
 - 2025-2026 Prime Series Event Schedule [2025-2026 Prime Schedule](#)
 - East Coast Prime Series
 1. October 18-19, 2025, Jenette's Pier, Nags Head, NC
 2. January 31-February 1, 2026, Ponce Inlet, FL
 - West Coast Prime Series
 1. October 25-26, 2025, Morro Bay, CA
 2. November 22-23, 2025, Pismo Beach, CA
 3. February 7-8, 2026- Huntington Beach, CA
 - 2025-2026 current rankings <https://www.usasurfing.org/rankings/current>
- Maximum team quota per division is not required to be fulfilled upon the completion of the MID-SEASON nomination.



TIE BREAKS IN RESULT RANKINGS

In the event there is a tie in points at the conclusion of 2025 USA Junior Championships, the following scenarios will be used in this order to break the ranking tie:

1. The next highest result from surfer's Prime Series event will break the tie.
2. In the event there is still a tie in the surfers Prime Series result, the surfer with the highest result at USA Junior Championships will break the tie.
3. In the event there is still a tie, the highest total heat score of the surfer's last heat at USA Junior Championships will break the tie.
4. In the event there is still a tie, the highest single wave score of the surfer's last heat at USA Junior Championships will break the tie.
5. In the event there is still a tie, then the third highest wave score, then best four waves and so on until the tie is broken.
6. Only completely unbreakable ties will be re surfed in a 15 minute heat.

In the event there is a tie in points for the MID-SEASON nomination, the following scenarios will be used in this order to break the ranking tie from the surfer's 2025-2026 Prime Season:

1. The surfer's best finishing result from the top two (2) Prime events from the 2025-2026 Prime Season will break the tie.
2. If there is still a tie, the surfer's highest heat total score from their best 2025-2026 Prime event finish, will break the tie.
3. If there is still a tie, the surfers single highest wave from their best heat total score, will break the tie.
4. In the event there is still a tie, the third best wave, followed by fourth best, fifth best, etc until the tie is broken.
5. Only completely unbreakable ties will be re surfed in a 15 minute heat.

DISCRETIONARY CRITERIA

There is no discretionary criteria for nominations.

ANTI-DOPING REQUIREMENTS



Athletes must adhere to all IOC, PASO, WADA, ISA, USADA and USOPC anti-doping rules, protocols, policies and procedures as applicable. This includes participation in Out-of-Competition Testing as required by the IOC, PASO, WADA, ISA, USADA and USOPC rules, as applicable

JUNIOR TEAMS SELECTION CRITERIA ADVISORY COMMITTEE

The following committee members will review and confirm the selection criteria has been applied to the selection process fairly and accurately.

- Athlete Advisory Chair
 - Athlete Advisory Representative
 - Head Coach
 - High Performance Director
 - Competition Committee Member
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- Any member of the Committee that has a possible conflict of interest must disclose it. If such conflict is deemed problematic, the Committee member must recuse him/herself from Committee discussions and voting. Further, the Committee member should not otherwise influence other members of the Committee in the verification process. However, a Committee member who recused him/herself, but who has relevant and necessary information with respect to athlete performance, for example team medical personnel or trainer, may, if requested by the selection Committee, provide such information to the Committee so long as such information is provided in a fair and unbiased manner and the Committee member who declared the conflict of interest does not vote toward the final confirmation decision.

REPLACEMENTS

An athlete who has qualified for a Team(s) may be removed for any of the following reasons, as determined by USA Surfing:

- i. Voluntary withdrawal. Athlete must submit a written letter to the USAS CEO signed by the athlete and a parent/guardian
- ii. Injury or illness as certified by a physician (or medical staff) approved by USA Surfing. If an athlete refuses verification of his/her illness or injury by a physician (or medical staff) approved by USA Surfing, his/her injury or illness will be assumed to be disabling and he/she may be removed from the Team.
- iii. Violation of the USA Surfing Athlete Agreement / Code of Conduct:
<https://www.usasurfing.org/uploads/1/1/3/5/113568407/athletes-codeofconduct09.22.11.pdf>



An athlete who is recommended to be removed from the Team(s) pursuant to this provision has the right to a hearing per the USA Surfing Bylaws, Section 13. They may also have further rights under the US Olympic and Paralympic Committee Bylaws, Section 9.

The replacement athlete will be the next highest-ranked athlete according to the nomination criteria.

USAS BYLAWS AND GRIEVANCE PROCEDURES

USA Surfing Bylaws and Grievance Procedures can be found at:

https://www.usasurfing.org/uploads/1/1/3/5/113568407/_usas_complaint_resolution___timeline_final_nodates.pdf

Appendix A

COMPETITION POINTS AWARDED BY RESULT

Result Finish	Points Awarded
1	3000
2	2580
3	2190
4	2010
5	1830
7	1665
9	1500
10	1464
13	1350
17	1200
25	1080

Rebecca Fleischauer

01 / 20 / 2026

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01 / 20 / 2026

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