

USA Climbing Policy – Event Registration

USA Climbing does not tolerate discrimination on the basis of race, color, religion, age, gender, sexual orientation, or national origin.

USA Climbing believes that every athlete should be allowed to compete in a respectful, safe and harassment-free environment. USA Climbing also believes that every athlete should be allowed to participate in fair competition in accordance with USA Climbing's rules, policies, and mission.



Purpose & Scope:

The USA Climbing Event Registration Policy ("this Policy") sets forth the requirements and timelines for a USA Climbing member to register for USA Climbing Elite, Youth, Collegiate, and Paraclimbing Series events.

Policy:

USA Climbing provides transparent and fair registration for USA Climbing events to competitors, coaches, aides, and others.

It is the potential registrant's individual responsibility to verify their eligibility status and registration status for a USA Climbing event. Individuals (e.g., competitors, coaches, aides, etc.) may review their eligibility status and registration status on the www.usaclimbing.org website. If a competitor discovers an error, they must immediately contact USA Climbing at the appropriate email address below.

Youth Series	youthseries@usaclimbing.org
Elite Series	eliteseries@usaclimbing.org
Paraclimbing Series	paraseries@usaclimbing.org
Collegiate Series	collegiateseries@usaclimbing.org

Any questions regarding this Policy may be directed to the USA Climbing email address above.

1 Registration

- 1.1 To register for a USA Climbing event, an individual (including competitors, coaches, aides, etc.) must meet the following requirements:
 - a) Have an active USA Climbing membership of the required type at the time of registration. (see USA Climbing Membership Policy)
 - b) Provide accurate information during registration and ensure that their information on the USA Climbing membership platform is up to date, including:
 - i) Name
 - ii) Date of Birth
 - iii) Gender (see the USA Climbing Transgender Participation Policy)
 - iv) Citizenship, residency status, and IFSC participation history (see the USA Climbing National Team Eligibility Policy)
 - v) Contact information: phone, email, mailing address
 - c) Agree to USA Climbing policies, Codes of Conduct, rules, waivers, and attestations.
If the individual is a minor, a legal guardian must agree to these.
 - d) Complete registration before the event's registration deadline(s).
 - i) It is the individual's responsibility to meet the published event registration deadlines.
 - ii) Registration after the deadlines, other than provided for in this Policy, is not subject to appeal.
 - e) Complete registration before the event registration capacity, if any, is met or exceeded.

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- f) Ensure that they meet any event eligibility and qualification requirements, as set forth in this Policy. For example:
 - i) Select events (e.g. Youth Qualification Events, Regionals, Divisionals) are open only to those competitors with memberships in the corresponding Region/Division.
 - ii) Select events (e.g. Championship events) are open only to competitors who are qualified, pre-qualified, or extra-qualified for the event.
- g) Contact USA Climbing at the appropriate email address above if a confirmation of registration email is not received in 30 minutes after registering and the individual does not appear in the list of registrants published by USA Climbing.

2 Membership Type

2.1 To register as a competitor in an event, the following table sets forth the required active membership type.

Series	Event Type	Required Membership Type
Elite	North American Cup Series National Championships National Team Trials	Competitor or International
Youth	Qualification Series Regional Championships Divisional Championships National Championships	Competitor
Collegiate	Qualification Series	Collegiate or Collegiate Recreational
Collegiate	Nationals Qualification Events National Championships	Collegiate
Youth, Collegiate or Elite	Qualification Speed Trial	Competitor or Collegiate or Collegiate Recreational
Paraclimbing	National Championships	Paraclimbing

2.2 To register as a coach at an event, the individual must have an active USA Climbing Certified Coach membership. While an L1 Certified Coach may register as a coach for an event, only L2 Certified Coaches are allowed entry to Isolation.

2.3 To register as an aide (e.g., Paraclimbing “caller”) for a USA Climbing event, the individual must have an active Covered Volunteer Membership.

3 Accurate Member Information

3.1 Fair and transparent USA Climbing events require participants to provide accurate information that affect categorization, advancement, eligibility, etc.

3.2 Providing inaccurate information, especially that which affects other participants, may result in the participant’s eligibility being denied, their USA Climbing membership being suspended, and/or the participant being removed or disqualified from an event and/or competition.

4 Policies, Codes of Conduct, Rules, Waivers, Attestations

4.1 For any USA Climbing event, the host facility may require additional agreements, certifications, or attestations, subject to agreement by USA Climbing and inclusion in the Host Agreement between the host facility and USA Climbing.

These additional requirements may include, but are not limited to, liability waiver agreements and certifications or attestations of lead climbing capability.

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5 Registration Deadlines and Refunds

5.1 All deadlines for registration shall be:

- a) in US Mountain Time (unless another time zone is specified)
- b) at 12:00pm (noon) Mountain Time on the day of the deadline (unless another time is specified)
- c) subject to the official daylight-saving time schedule for the relevant geographical time zone, even if there is a typographical error (e.g., MST vs MDT) published or communicated by USA Climbing.

5.2 Event Registration includes one or more of the following Registration Periods:

- a) Normal
- b) Extended (optional)
- c) Late (optional)

The Extended and Late Registration Periods, if they exist for an event, shall carry an additional fee. USA Climbing respectfully requests that individuals register prior to any Late Registration Period to reduce the impact on the planning and preparation work of USA Climbing’s volunteer event officials.

5.3 The registration deadlines and any additional fees for USA Climbing events are as set forth in the following table:

Event Type	Registration Period End / Deadline(s) and Additional Fee		
	Normal	Extended	Late
Elite National Championship Elite National Team Trials	15 days prior	10 days prior \$50 additional fee	Noon MT, the day of the Technical Meeting \$250 additional fee
Youth National Championship Youth Divisional Championship Youth Regional Championship Collegiate National Championship Collegiate Nationals Qualification Event Paraclimbing National Championship	15 days prior	10 days prior \$50 additional fee	Noon MT, 5 days prior \$250 additional fee
Youth Qualification Event Collegiate Qualification Event Qualification Speed Trial Event	Noon MT on Wednesday prior	n/a	n/a
Youth Festival	Noon MT the day prior	n/a	n/a

- a) The word “prior” in the table above means “prior to the start of the event”.
- b) “n/a” indicates no such Registration Period for that event type.
- c) A final deadline that is “5 days prior” to an event that starts on Saturday is the immediately prior Monday at 12:00pm (noon) MT.
- d) The transition from one Registration Period to the next (e.g. from Normal to Extended) happens at 12:00am (midnight) MT at the end of the day noted. For example, the end of the Normal Period (and start of the Extended Period) for Elite events will be at midnight at the end of the day 15 days prior to the start of the event.
- e) The “additional fee” is not cumulative; that is, the Late Period registration fee is \$250, not \$250 plus \$50 additional.

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- f) If a single-day event is scheduled for a Sunday, the registration deadlines may be relative to Saturday, the day prior to the event.
For example, Youth Regional Championships events may be held Saturday in some Regions and held Sunday in other Regions, though the registration deadlines may be the same for all such events.
- g) USA Climbing may set deadlines different than shown in the table above in some circumstances.

5.4 The registration refund schedules for USA Climbing events are as set forth in the following table:

Event Type	Refund Deadline	Refund
Elite National Championship Elite National Team Trials	Noon MT Three (3) days prior to the first day of the competition	100% (b)
Youth National Championship Youth Divisional Championship Youth Regional Championship Collegiate National Championship Collegiate Nationals Qualification Event Paraclimbing National Championship	Noon MT Three (3) days prior to the first day of the competition	100% (b)
Collegiate Qualification Event Qualification Speed Trials (Youth, Elite, Collegiate)	Noon MT Friday prior to registration deadline	100% (b)
Youth Qualification Event (Lead/Top Rope & Boulder)	Noon MT Friday prior to registration deadline	50% (b)
Youth Festival (and all other events where USA Climbing handles registration)	Prior to the start of the event	100% (b)

For example, if a National competition begins on a Saturday, the refund deadline will be Wednesday at 12pm (noon) MT.

- Refund requests must be submitted as described in Section 12.
- All refunds are less processing fees.
- Refunds requested after the stated deadline will not be granted.

6 Registration Capacity

6.1 Registrations may be offered with no capacity limit or may be limited by category and/or overall registration count for the event. In cases where there is a registration capacity limit, a waiting list feature may be activated once the limit has been met; in such a case, USA Climbing will attempt to reallocate forfeited spots to those next in the waiting list queue.

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7 Event Eligibility

- 7.1 To be eligible for a competition, competitors must meet the Series requirements set forth in the Rulebook and be eligible to compete in a Category in the competition.
- 7.2 The following table sets forth Membership Youth Region eligibility requirements for select Youth competitions.

Competition or Series	Membership Region or Division Requirement
Youth Qualification Series	Competitor’s Membership Youth Division must be the same as competition’s Youth Division.
Youth Regional Championship	Competitor’s Membership Youth Region must be the same as the Youth Regional Championship’s Youth Region.
Youth Divisional Championship	Competitor must have achieved eligibility, if required, at a Youth Regional Championship of the same Youth Division; or otherwise, must have a Membership Youth Region that is in the same Youth Division as the Youth Divisional Championship’s Youth Division.
All other competitions	none

Note: Competitors are eligible to register for a Qualification Speed Trial competition in any Youth Region or Collegiate Division and any number of Qualification Speed Trial competitions.

8 Event Qualified, Pre-Qualified, and Extra-Qualified

- 8.1 Eligibility for select USA Climbing events is based on competitors’ rankings in the immediately prior stage in the Championship pathway (series or competition) and on individuals who are “pre-qualified” for the event. For example, those highly ranked at Youth Regionals are eligible to advance to Youth Divisionals along with those that the Rulebook defines as “pre-qualified” for Youth Divisionals.

See the Competition/Round Advancement rules in USA Climbing Rulebook Section 12 – Event Rules.

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8.2 The following table sets forth the criteria for a US Citizen (ICE) competitor to be pre-qualified for a competition in a Discipline, where meeting a criterion in a “combined” Discipline fulfills the requirement in all constituent Disciplines. Only US Citizen (ICE) competitors are able to be pre-qualified.

Competition	Pre-qualified competitors are those who:
Elite National Championships National Team Trials	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> meet the requirements as set forth in the Team Selection Procedures document
Youth Regional Championships	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> are pre-qualified for the Discipline's Youth Divisional Championship were ranked in the top three (3) in the National Team Rankings in the Discipline in the Youth or Elite Series in any category at the end of the prior season competed representing the U.S. in the Discipline at the most recent Youth World Championships are a resident of the state of Alaska or Hawaii
Youth Divisional Championships	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> are pre-qualified for the Discipline's Youth National Championship are a resident of the state of Hawaii
Youth National Championships	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> are a member of the U.S. Olympic Team or Elite National Team, each in the Discipline, or were a member of such at any time in the twelve (12) months prior to the competition are a current World Champion, Pan American Champion, or National Champion in the Discipline in the Youth, Collegiate, or Elite Series
Collegiate Nationals Qualification Events	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> are pre-qualified for the Discipline's Collegiate National Championship were ranked in the top three (3) in the National Team Rankings in the Discipline in the Collegiate or Elite Series at the end of the prior season
Collegiate National Championships	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> are a member of the U.S. Olympic Team or Elite National Team, each in the Discipline, or were a member of such at any time in the twelve (12) months prior to the competition are a current World Champion, Pan American Champion, or National Champion in the discipline in the Youth, Collegiate, or Elite Series competed representing the U.S. in the Discipline at the most recent World University Games <p>Note: pre-qualification for Boulder applies to Lead/Top Rope and vice versa.</p>
Paralimbing National Championships	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> are Team Preselected in the Category
All other competitions	none

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- 8.3 If a change to a Youth Series competitor's Membership Youth Region during the season meets the USA Climbing Membership Policy requirement to have their Qualification Series results in their prior Region available for consideration for being extra-qualified in their new Region, and the competitor:
- a) is not pre-qualified (Section 8.2 in this Policy); and
 - b) is not qualified (Section 8.1 in this Policy) using only results and Ranking Points earned in their current Region; and
 - c) has Ranking Points calculated using the best two (2) of their Qualification Series competition results from their previous Region and their current Region that are greater than or equal to the total Ranking Points of the last ranked eligible competitor in their current Region's Youth Qualification Rankings,
- then the competitor shall be extra-qualified for the Youth Regional Championships in the Discipline.

9 Refunds

[moved to section 5.4]

Procedures:

10 Publication of Deadlines and Status

- 10.1 USA Climbing will publish the following on the www.usaclimbing.org website:
- a) Event registration periods, deadlines, and fees. (typically in the event Info Sheet.)
 - b) Event eligibility status. (may be implied by individual competition results and the Rulebook)
 - c) Event registration status

11 Event Registration

- 11.1 Registration for all USA Climbing Elite, Youth, Collegiate, or Paraclimbing Series events is conducted directly with USA Climbing through a competitor's account in the USA Climbing membership platform accessed online via the www.usaclimbing.org website.
- 11.2 Registration for a USA Climbing event shall be available to all eligible individuals simultaneously, regardless of team, gym, or host facility affiliations.
- 11.3 Upon registering for any event on the USA Climbing membership platform accessed online via the www.usaclimbing.org website, a confirmation email will be sent to the email address provided by the competitor. A competitor who does not receive such a confirmation email within fifteen (15) minutes of submitting their registration should contact USA Climbing immediately at the appropriate email listed on the first page of this Policy.

12 Refund Requests

- 12.1 An event registration refund request must be submitted via the [Withdrawal/Refund Request Form](#) prior to the refund deadline set forth in Section 5.4.

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Review/Complaint Processes:

Note: the term “appeal” used in this Policy is distinct from the term Appeal defined in the USA Climbing Rulebook for challenges to field-of-play decisions.

13 Grievances/Appeals - General

- 13.1 The [USA Climbing Grievance Policy](#), as administered by the USA Climbing Judicial Committee, sets forth several kinds of grievances/appeals that may be filed with USA Climbing. A USA Climbing member may submit a grievance/appeal by way of the Grievance Policy if, for example, they believe USA Climbing has not adhered to USA Climbing Bylaws, Rules, and Policies.

External References:

- [USA Climbing Rulebook](#)
- [USA Climbing Policies](#)
 - [USA Climbing Judicial Complaint Policy](#)

Terminology:

See the USA Climbing Rulebook Glossary.

Approvals / Dates:

Approved	USA Climbing CEO 2025-03-17
Effective	2025-03-17
Review	yearly

Revision History:

Date/Version	Changes
20230923	Initial version
20240907	Updated refund schedule in section 5.4 (moved from section 9). Youth Lead/Tope Rope and Boulder Qualification Events refund updated to 50% and deadline updated.
20240921	Updated registration and refund tables in Sections 5.3 and 5.4. Updated refund request method in Section 12.
20250213	Clarified that pre-qualification status as set forth in Section 8.2 is only available for US Citizen (ICE) competitors. Updated per-Series USA Climbing email addresses
20250317	Updated pre-qualification in Section 8.2 to reflect the multi-discipline eligibility of Collegiate Nationals.