

USA Climbing Policy

Anti-Doping



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

USA Climbing believes that every eligible athlete has the right to compete in a respectful, safe and harassment-free environment and has the right to participate in fair competition in accordance with USA Climbing's rules, policies, and mission.

Purpose & Scope

This Anti-Doping Policy ("Policy") affirms USA Climbing's strong and ongoing commitment to clean sport. It provides members with clear information about anti-doping rules, expectations, and procedures as governed by the United States Anti-Doping Agency (USADA), the World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA), the International Federation of Sport Climbing (IFSC), and other relevant organizations. By setting these standards, the Policy promotes fairness in competition, protects the health and well-being of athletes, and upholds the integrity of climbing as a sport.

This Policy applies to all USA Climbing members, including but not limited to athletes, coaches, medical staff, team officials, and athlete support personnel. It applies to anyone who participates in competitions, training, or programs under the jurisdiction of USA Climbing or the IFSC. This broad application ensures that all individuals involved in athlete preparation and support understand their obligations under anti-doping rules and contribute to a culture of accountability and fairness.

USA Climbing fully adopts the World Anti-Doping Code and recognizes USADA as the official anti-doping authority within the United States Olympic and Paralympic Movement. By aligning with the World Anti-Doping Code, USA Climbing ensures that its athletes compete under the same global standards as their peers worldwide, and that international consistency is maintained across competitions. Recognizing USADA as the designated authority emphasizes independence in testing and enforcement, while ensuring athletes have access to due process and education resources.

Questions regarding this Policy, including clarification of rules or requests for further resources, should be directed to medicalreview@usacimbing.org.

Policy

As a member National Governing Body of the United States Olympic & Paralympic Committee (USOPC), and as a National Federation of the IFSC, USA Climbing adheres to the anti-doping rules of the USOPC, IFSC, WADA, and USADA.

USOPC Bylaw Chapter XXIII, Section 2(G) requires each NGB to comply with the procedures of the USADA, the independent anti-doping organization designated by the USOPC.

The current anti-doping rules are available at:

- [International Federation of Sport Climbing](#)
- [United States Olympic & Paralympic Committee](#)
- [United States Anti-Doping Agency](#)
- [World Anti-Doping Agency](#)

All USA Climbing members must comply with these rules, including, but is not limited to:

- The USADA Protocol for Olympic and Paralympic Movement Testing
- The USOPC National Anti-Doping Policy
- IFSC Anti-Doping Regulations

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Prohibited Conduct includes, but is not limited to:

- Use or attempted use of a prohibited substance or method
- Possession or trafficking of prohibited substances
- Evading, refusing, or failing to submit to sample collection
- Violating whereabouts requirements (if applicable)
- Tampering with the doping control process
- Associating with sanctioned individuals
- Any other violations as defined by WADA or USADA

Therapeutic Use Exemptions (TUEs)

All athletes must comply with TUE requirements. Athletes should:

- Consult USADA for TUE application guidance
- Confirm whether a TUE is needed before using a medication
- Secure approval before using any prohibited substance

TUE documentation may be requested from the USA Climbing Medical Review Panel.

Relevant resources include:

- [USADA TUE Information](#)
- [WADA TUE Guidelines](#)

Medical Review Panel

The USA Climbing Medical Review Panel (medicalreview@usaclimbing.org) provides guidance to athletes seeking clarification or assistance with this Policy, including TUE documentation. Submissions are treated confidentially in accordance with the USA Climbing Privacy Policy and will typically receive a response within 10 calendar days.

Testing and Results Management

Athletes must submit to in-competition and out-of-competition doping controls conducted by USADA or IFSC. Testing may occur at camps, events, or at random without notice.

Violations may result in:

- Suspension or ineligibility
- Disqualification and loss of results
- Forfeiture of funding or team status

Athletes agree to the jurisdiction and results management processes of USADA, including arbitration under the USADA Protocol, or those of IFSC where applicable.

Reporting Violations

Suspected anti-doping violations should be reported to USADA via:

- [Play Clean Tip Line](#)

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Grievance Process

Individuals who believe that an action or decision was inconsistent with USA Climbing bylaws, rules, regulations, codes, or policies may submit a grievance by way of the [USA Climbing Grievance Policy](#). That policy is administered by the USA Climbing Judicial Committee and outlines the grievance submission process as well as how a grievance is processed. Grievances and/or questions may be sent to the Judicial Committee at judicial@usaclimbing.org.

External References

- [USA Climbing Rulebook](#)
- [USA Climbing Policies](#)
- [USA Climbing Grievance Policy](#)
- [USADA TUE Information](#)
- [USADA TUE Application](#)
- [WADA Transgender and Gender Diverse Athletes and Anti-Doping](#)
- [WADA International Standards](#)
- [WADA TUE Physician Guidelines](#)
- [IFSC Anti-Doping Rules and Regulations](#)

Terminology

See the USA Climbing rules and regulations.

Approvals / Dates

Approved	USA Climbing CEO 2025-11-14
Effective	2025-11-14
Review	Yearly

Revision History

Date/Version	Changes
20231114	Initial version (replacing prior policy statement)