USAC 2026 National Team Trials Technical Meeting
March 4-8, 2026 - Portland Rock Gym, Beaverton OR

Logistics

A virtual Technical Meeting will be on **Tuesday, March 3th at 5:00pm PT**
National Team Trials Technical Meeting Recording
Passcode: @NyD76UI

Technical Meeting Outline
USA Climbing 2026 National Team Trials

March 4-8, Portland Rock Gym - Beaverton
10860 SW Barnes Rd, Portland, OR 97225

Disclaimer: This document is an outline for the Technical Meeting and it will be linked on the Event Page following the online Technical Meeting. While some rules may be discussed and/or summarized here, the USAC Rulebook and Team Selection Procedures document govern this event.

Going forward, all official communications, including the publication of Start Lists and Results, will go through the Athletes/Coaches WhatsApp group and USA Climbing Results Service

Introductions:

- **Event Organizer:** Trevor Clay
- **Jury President:** Karalyn Aronow
- **USAC Judges** - Tonia Kovtunovich, Josh Calfy ,Ruchir Sehra (Speed), Megan Strahota (Aspirant USAC Judge)
- **Results Service Manager -** Tami Pellicane
- **Head Belayer** - Ty Hardaway
- **Head Routesetter - Lead**: Mike Bockino
- **Head Routesetter - Boulder**: Jeremy Ho

General Info:

- **Athlete/Coach WhatsApp: 2026 NTT Athletes/Coaches (link)**
- **Team Selection Procedures (link)**
- **USA Climbing Rulebook (link)**
- **Final Schedule (link)**
- Competitors and coaches are responsible for knowing information provided in this Technical Document, the "2026 NTT Info Sheet," the 2026 NTT Final Schedule, the Current USAC Rulebook, and the Team Selection Policy
- All athletes will compete through all rounds of competition
    - Athletes who DNS in a round will be advanced to the next round, however they will not receive any NTR points for the round.
- Rounds being Live-streamed on Outside TV:
    - Speed - Round 3
    - Lead and Boulder
        - Round 2 - The 15th ranked competitor through the 1st ranked

        - Round 3 - The 10th ranked competitor through the 1st ranked
- Start Lists for each discipline will be published no later than 90 minutes prior to the start of Round 1 on the USAC website under the Event Page, and a notice will be sent out to all competitors.
- All competitors advancing to the next round will check-in according to the schedule.
- Competitors in another discipline who are coming to spectate any round they are not competing in will be allowed entry into the venue when it opens to the public. A competitor list will be provided to the front desk for those wishing to spectate.
- All Competitors must check-in during their respective check-in times as outlined in the schedule.
    - USAC may be taking headshots for broadcast graphics as a part of the check-in process.
- Coach Check In:
    - Coaches will be required to register for the event in advance and are required to scan their electronic or PDF membership card and show ID upon check in at the event.
- Bibs
    - There is a specific bib for each discipline
    - Climbers will need to keep their assigned bib through all rounds for that discipline
    - Bibs must be visibly worn on the back of the shirt (and not under harness), and not be folded or modified in any manner.
- Start Lists
    - Start Lists will be found on the USAC Startlist/Results website linked on the Event Page
    - Start Lists will be posted as PDF files to the Athletes/Coaches WhatsApp group
    - Official Start Lists will be produced:
        - A) for Round 1: after the confirmation of participation, either at or shortly after the Technical Meeting for the relevant event, and not later than 90 minutes prior to the round.
        - B) for Rounds 2 and 3: Ranking points will have to be calculated and checked prior to generating the Start Lists. Once those are verified, Athletes and Coaches will be notified via the WhatsApp group. Thank you for your patience.
- Results
    - Provisional and Official results will be posted on USA Climbing's Results Service and posted to the Athletes/Coaches WhatsApp. If there are any technical difficulties, they will be posted at the gym.
- Podium
    - There will be no traditional podium for this event. Instead, the National Team will be announced and recognized.
- Appeals
    - Appeals must be made in person
    - Appeals may be made by a competitor or on a competitor's behalf by someone with Appeal Eligibility
    - Appeal Fee ($100) must be submitted through the USA Climbing Membership Portal before an appeal will be accepted.
    - Only official video and official broadcast will be considered in appeals; will not consider spectator video
    - The appeal deadline in all disciplines and rounds is 5 minutes after the publication of the Official Results.

    - Whenever rules allow appeals to be initiated verbally, the deadline for submission of the written appeal is 5 minutes after the appeal has been verbally initiated with a Head Judging Official.
- Warm-Up Area
    - For On-Sight rounds, please don't bring anything with wifi/cellular/Bluetooth connectivity into the warm-up area. We will collect devices upon entry and they can be picked up at the designated location provided at check-in
    - Climbers must carry all belongings with them. Personal belongings are not permitted to be left in Warm-Up areas.
    - Please clean up after yourself. Dispose of any trash before you leave Isolation. No food or drink on the facility pads please.
    - **If you are late to the Warm-Up area check-in, you will not be allowed to check-in or start the round.** If there is an extenuating circumstance (i.e traffic accident, flat tire, etc.), you **must** notify the JP at jp@usaclimbing.org before isolation closes. Accommodations may be provided at the discretion of the judging team.
    - The Warm-Up area is partially outdoors. There will be heaters available, however, please bring and dress in layers to stay warm. Available equipment in the Warm Up area:
        - Boulder terrain
        - A training board at a fixed overhanging angle
        - Rowing Machine
        - Pull up bars
        - Fingerboards
        - Ping pong table
        - Porta potties
    - Important Time Change:
        - Daylight Savings will occur early Sunday morning March 8th, prior to the start of Bouldering Rounds 2 & 3. Competitors are responsible for knowing this change and reporting to warm-up check-in accordingly.
- Advancement Quotas
    - All competing athletes are eligible for all rounds of competition within that discipline.
    - Please clear the venue promptly after each round, to ensure the route setters can begin setting for the next round
    - Starting orders for Rounds 2 and 3 will be based on NTR for lead and boulder and on time rank for speed.

Lead

- Ropes will be provided by USA Climbing. Competitors are not allowed to use their own ropes for this event
- Round 1: Flash Format; 2 routes per category; Climb time format with max time of 6 minutes
    - Clock will visible to climber
    - Climbers are responsible to report to their climb in order of the Start List. If a competitor is unable to start at the relevant time, no rescheduling shall be permitted.
    - Climbers are encouraged to allow for sufficient time to warm up. Pay attention to the climb order on the Start list for both routes.
    - Starting order will indicate which route the climber climbs first

        - Some climbers will be starting with Route 1 and others will be starting with Route 2.
    - "No Earlier Than" (NET) times will **NOT** be implemented for this event.
        - Climbers are responsible for being ready to go when the previous climber comes down.
        - The Head Judging Officials team will be tracking to ensure all athletes have 50 minutes mandatory rest between climbs.
    - Demonstration video will be linked on the Event Page. Competitors will be notified via WhatsApp. Competitors will be allowed to use their phone or other device while in the gym.
        - Route Demonstration Videos available no later than 7:00 AM on 3/04
    - Climbers will be able to warm up only in the designated warm-up area within the gym.
- Round 2 & Round 3: On-Sight Format
    - All competitors from Round 1 are eligible for Round 2;
        - The starting order for the 2nd Round is: first, the National Team Ranking top 15 in Rank Descending order; and then, the remaining competitors in NTR Rank Ascending order
    - All competitors from Round 2 are eligible for Round 3
        - The starting order for the 3rd Round is: first, the National Team Ranking top 10 in Rank Descending order; and then, the remaining competitors in NTR Rank Ascending order
    - On-Sight; Climb time format, 6 minutes, One Route per Round
    - There will be a 6 minute collective observation period for both Rounds 2 & 3 Routes
        - Athlete briefing and Observation will begin immediately at the close of Warm-Up check-in
        - Do not leave the mats during Observation
    - Official clock will be visible to climbers; no audible beeps
    - Both categories will climb simultaneously.
- Cleaning: One brush break halfway through the round
- An Appeal relating to the termination of a competitor's attempt must be made prior to the next competitor starting their attempt.
    - Notice of an intention to appeal under this paragraph may be made verbally and the appellant will be allowed up to 5 minutes to submit a written appeal
- An appeal relating to the scoring or ranking of any competitor must be made in writing and:
    - Round 1 and Round 2 – must be made within 5 minutes of the publication of the Official Results
    - Round 3 – 5 minutes, but any remaining time can be waived by all competitors from that round
- Lead climbers must tie in with a figure-8 follow-through knot with a "safety knot"
- Topo viewing for coaches/appeals
    - Round 1: Will be made available soon after the demonstration videos are published.
    - Round 2 & Round 3: Available after the completion of the collective observation period.
    - All Rounds: Un-labeled images of each route will be displayed in the warm-up area at opening; those images or duplicates will show the Last Clipping position for each quickdraw
- Ties will not be broken in any round.

Speed

- 15 m speed wall; Deepron Timing System; National event standard wall; Volx barcoded holds
- Speed Wall will be inspected again Wednesday, 3/4 and checked for recertification for National Record (if it is not certified for National Record, we will send a message via WhatsApp)
- Claims for a Technical incident must be made by the competitor or certified coach before the start of the next race
- Clippers will clip and unclip each climber
- Routes will be cleaned between each Round.
- All competition will occur on Friday, March 6, 2026. Women compete first then Men/Open for each round.
- Speed Format - the format for this event will be in a time trial style format with one practice round and 3 scoring rounds
    - Open Practice Session (optional) - Thursday, March 5
        - Warm-up for the optional open practice session will be open from 2:30pm - 3:00pm. Check-in will be treated similar to that of an on-sight format where:
            - All Bluetooth capable devices must be checked in.
            - No late entry will be permitted
        - Races in the optional open practice session do not contribute to Time rank
        - At 3:00pm all speed athletes will be moved by an Official to the speed wall and designated speed area.
        - Open speed practice will be from 3:00pm - 4:00pm. During this time, athletes can do as many runs as they like during this time period. However, athletes will not be permitted to leave the designated speed area until 4:00pm.
        - At 4:00pm, and with confirmation that the Lead round 3 warm-up check-in has closed, speed athletes will be allowed to disperse and leave the designated speed area.
        - Wall will be available for an open practice session with competitors clipping themselves in and doing their own practice runs.
        - COACHES: If you leave the warm-up area for this open practice, you will not be able to check back in for the Lead Warm-Up for Round 3.
    - Practice Round (optional) - all competitors will have the option to run two practice attempts (one on each lane) and these races do not contribute to Time Rank. The Practice round will be run in the same starting order as Round 1.
    - Round 1 - Competitors will be randomly assigned start order positions. All competitors will have one attempt on each lane.
    - Round 2 - Start order - paired rank descending order (fastest time competitors go last) based upon fastest time rank from Round 1. All competitors will have one attempt on each lane.
    - Round 3 - Start order - paired rank descending order (fastest time competitors go last) based upon fastest time rank from Rounds 1 and 2. All competitors will have one attempt on each lane.
- Ranking of competitors will be based upon fastest Valid Time. If tied, the next fastest valid time for those competitors will be used. If there are no additional times to break ties or no valid times

recorded, competitors will be ranked in order of Fall, False Start, Not Started. Ties throughout all 6 race results will not be broken.

- False Start is based upon the rulebook definition of reaction time.

Boulder

- Boulder Scoring
  - The score for a boulder will be calculated as follows:
    - where the competitor has been awarded a Zone, as 10 points, with a deduction of 0.1 points for each attempt made before the Zone is awarded
    - where successfully completed, as 25 points, with a deduction of 0.1 points for each unsuccessful attempt
  - The final score for a boulder will be the greater of the value calculated under either 10 or 25 with attempt deductions (the score on a boulder cannot be negative)
  - The following boulder placards will be utilized: Start, 10, and 25
    - '10' represents the scored 'Zone' hold
    - '25' represents the scored 'Top' hold
- Cleaning
  - There will not be any volunteer brushers for this competition. Competitors are responsible for brushing and only allowed to use brushes provided.
  - For the 2nd and 3rd Round:
    - Cleaning breaks performed by the routesetting team evenly distributed throughout the starting order not to exceed 12 climbers.
    - No volunteer brushers for this event - athletes are responsible for brushing themselves using only event provided brushes.
- Round 1:
  - On-Sight Format; 5 Boulders; Continuous Rotation; 5 minute climb time, 20 sec interval after each rotation (during this time competitors are not allowed to look at the boulder)
  - Official Clock will be visible to climbers
- Round 2:
  - All competitors will from Round 1 are eligible for Round 2
    - The starting order for the 2nd Round is: first, the National Team Ranking top 15 in Rank Descending order; and then, the remaining competitors in NTR Rank Ascending order
  - On-Sight Format; 5 Boulders; Continuous Rotation; 5 minute climb time, 20 sec interval after each rotation (during this time competitors are not allowed to look at the boulder)
  - Official Clock will be visible to climbers
- Round 3
  - All competitors from Round 2 are eligible for Round 3
    - The starting order for the 3rd Round is: first, the National Team Ranking top 10 in Rank Descending order; and then, the remaining competitors in NTR Rank Ascending order
  - Athletes will be given 8 minutes of observation prior to the round starting.
    - During this time, competitors can move freely between their category's 4 boulders
  - For each competitor, there are 2 rest rotations between boulders

    - On-Sight Format; 4 Boulders; Continuous Rotation; 4 minute climb time, 20 sec interval after each rotation (during this time competitors are not allowed to look at the boulder)
    - Official Clock will be visible to climbers
- Boulder Ranking
    - Competitors who do not start the first boulder in a round will be unranked and marked DNS in the round. Climbers marked DNS are still eligible for the next rounds, but will not receive NTR points for any round they DNS.
    - Competitors starting a course of boulders will be ranked in descending order of the total number of points gained by them on the course.
    - Ties will not be broken in any round.
- An Appeal which may, if upheld, result in the the affected competitor being awarded extra time/attempts on the relevant boulder must be made:
    - In all rounds: before the end of the next rotation
    - Notice of an intention to appeal may be made verbally and the appellant will be allowed up to 5 minutes to submit a written appeal.
- An Appeal that a Top should have been given, for/against the scoring of a Zone, or for/against the number of attempts on the competitor's result, must be made in writing and by the deadline
    - Rounds 1 & 2 – must be made within 5 minutes of the publication of the Official Results
    - Round 3 – 5 minutes, but any remaining time can be waived by all competitors from that round

National Team Information (John Muse)

- National Team formed according to current National Team Selection Procedures
- National Team meeting March 12 @ 3:30p MT viz Zoom. Zoom link available on the National Team Resources page and NTT infosheet.
- National Team Coaches (Josh and Alvaro) will be available in the warm up area until climbing begins for each round. Matt is available during each round of Speed.