



2013 USA Ultimate Triple Crown Tour Guidelines

Table of Contents

I.	USA Ultimate Series Guidelines Overview	2
II.	USA Ultimate Triple Crown Tour Overview.....	2
A.	Triple Crown Tour Definitions	2
B.	Flight Overview	3
C.	Regular Season Overview	3
D.	Post Season Championship Series Overview	4
III.	Events	5
A.	Regular Season Events	5
B.	Post Season Championship Series Events.....	7
C.	Prize Money	10
IV.	Registration Guidelines	10
A.	Regular Season Registration	10
B.	Post Season Championship Series Registration Guidelines.....	15
V.	Competition Guidelines.....	19
A.	Spirit of the Game	19
B.	Regular Season and Post Season Competition Guidelines	19
VI.	Violations and Sanctions	30



2013 USA Ultimate Triple Crown Tour Guidelines

I. USA Ultimate Series Guidelines Overview

This document defines the guidelines and regulations for the USA Ultimate Club Season. These guidelines cover the USA Ultimate Triple Crown Tour (TCT), including Regular Season and Post Season competition. In this document, you will find:

1. An overview of the USA Ultimate Triple Crown Tour
2. Definition of the different Competition Flights
3. Description of TCT Regular Season and Post Season events
4. Regulations for Registration, including times and requirements
5. Competition guidelines and requirements

The contents of this document are important for players, team organizers and tournaments directors. The dates, registration and tournament rules and definitions of the TCT in this document supersede any other information.

II. USA Ultimate Triple Crown Tour Overview

This year USA Ultimate launches the Triple Crown Tour, the new Regular Season and Post Season structure for its Club Men's (formerly known as Open), Mixed, and Women's divisions. Teams in the Tour are divided into 4 flights based on their performance in the previous year's Tour. Teams in each flight have different season requirements, but teams at all levels are encouraged to participate in the Tour's Regular Season and Post Season. While there are incentives to compete in the Regular Season, registration will be open to other teams who want to compete in the Post Season Championship Series.

For additional information about the Triple Crown Tour's development, structure, and goals, please [click here](#). The following guidelines outline rules and information relevant to players, teams, and event organizers wishing to take part in the 2013 Triple Crown Tour.

A. Triple Crown Tour Definitions

1. Triple Crown Tour – Formerly known unofficially as the Club Season, the Triple Crown Tour encompasses both the Regular Season and the Post Season for USA Ultimate club teams. Winning the Triple Crown refers to winning the US Open (first Regular Season Pro Flight event), the Regular Season, and the National Championships. Also referred to as the “TCT” or “Tour”.



2013 USA Ultimate Triple Crown Tour Guidelines

2. Regular Season – All official TCT events and games between June 1 and September 2, including both required flight-specific events and optional sanctioned competitive events or match-play games.
3. Regular Season Rankings – Regular season games will be factored into the USA Ultimate Regular Season Rankings algorithm. Rankings will be published weekly starting July 24, with final Regular Season Rankings posted at the end of the season.
4. Post Season Championship Series – The national tournament following the Regular Season, comprised of geographic based qualifying events (Sectionals, Regionals) and culminating in the National Championships. Primary means of promotion and relegation between Competition Flights. Also referred to as the “Post Season” or “Championship Series”.
5. National Championships – The third leg of the Triple Crown and the culminating event of the Post Season and the TCT where the USA Ultimate National Champion is crowned. Also referred to as “Nationals”.

B. Flight Overview

1. Pro Flight – Top 8 teams based on performance in prior year’s Triple Crown Tour.
2. Elite Flight – Next 8 teams below the Pro Flight, based on performance in prior year’s Triple Crown Tour.
3. Select Flight – 32 teams. Next highest finishing 4 teams in each geographic region, after Pro and Elite teams, based on performance in prior year’s Triple Crown Tour.
“Top Select Flight” teams are the highest finishing Select team from each region (8 total) from the prior year’s Triple Crown Tour. This team is the team that lost the ‘game-to-go’ at Regionals in 2012.
4. Classic Flight – All other teams participating in the Regular Season or Post Season of the Triple Crown Tour.

C. Regular Season Overview

1. Timeline – The Regular Season will run from June 1 through September 2, 2013.
2. Regular Season Games – All games at USA Ultimate sanctioned competitive events where a team’s official roster and players met the roster eligibility rules will count for the Regular Season.
3. Regular Season Registration – During the Regular Season, teams competing at USA Ultimate sanctioned competitive events will be



2013 USA Ultimate Triple Crown Tour Guidelines

required to register their team for that event through the USA Ultimate online rostering system by 5pm Wednesday before the event.

4. Minimum Requirements - Teams must participate in a minimum of 10 Regular Season games to be included in the Regular Season Rankings which will impact bid allocation to the Post Season. Participation in the Regular Season is not a prerequisite for participation in the Post Season Championship Series, except as follows:
 - a) Pro Flight Teams – Required to participate in the US Open and a minimum of 10 Regular Season games.
 - b) Elite Flight Teams - Required to participate in the Pro-Elite Challenge and a minimum of 10 Regular Season games.
 - c) Select Flight Teams – The “Top Select” team in each region, based on performance in the prior year’s Regionals, is eligible to participate in the Elite-Select Challenge.
 - d) Note: Other Select Flight teams and Classic teams are encouraged, but not required to participate in the Regular Season.

D. Post Season Championship Series Overview

1. The USA Ultimate Post Season Championship Series will run from September 7 through the end of October 2013.
 - a) Sectionals will be held on September 7-8 or 14-15. Bids to host are due by June 7, with dates and locations announced by July 26. Check the USA Ultimate website for dates and locations. Contact your sectional coordinator for additional information.
 - b) Regionals will be held on September 21-22 or 28-29. Bids to host are due by April 20, with dates and locations announced by May 20. Check the USA Ultimate website for dates and locations. Contact your regional coordinator for additional information.
 - c) The USA Ultimate National Championships will be held in TBD on TBD.
2. Team Registration –All teams that wish to participate in the Post Season Championship Series will need to use the online rostering system to create their Series Roster by Friday 5pm MDT on August 23. This applies to all teams, whether or not they participated in the Regular Season.
3. Roster Additions – A team must have a minimum of 10 players on its event roster in order to be considered registered for the Post Season. After the August 23 team registration deadline, a team may add eligible players to their roster, up to a maximum of 27 total players, before 5pm MDT on the Tuesday before its Sectionals.



2013 USA Ultimate Triple Crown Tour Guidelines

4. Series Progression - All teams that meet the Roster Deadline will begin the Post Season Championship Series at Sectionals. Based upon the results of Sectionals and the number of bids awarded to that section, qualifying teams will advance to Regionals. Pro and Elite flight teams will enter the Series at Regionals provided they participate in two named TCT events. The two events are comprised of the required event based on their prior year finish plus one of the two optional events for which they are eligible. Based upon the results of Regionals and the number of bids awarded to that region, qualifying teams will advance to the National Championships.
5. Bid Allocation - Bid allocation from Sectionals to Regionals includes a combination of automatic bids and strength bids (based on final Regular Season Rankings). Bid allocation from Regionals to Nationals includes a combination of automatic bids (minimum 1 per Region) and up to 8 strength bids (based on final Regular Season Rankings).

III. Events

A. Regular Season Events

1. Pro Flight Events

Event	Date	Location	Participants
US Open	July 4-7	Raleigh, NC	Top 4* Pro Flight Teams Four selected International Teams
Pro-Elite Challenge	July 20-21 July 20-21	Atlanta, GA (Men/Women) Philadelphia, PA (Mixed)	Bottom 4* Pro Flight Teams Eight Elite Teams
Pro Flight Finale**	August 31- September 1	Davis, CA	Eight Teams Bid priority to Pro Flight teams followed by Elite and then Select

* For the 2013 TCT, the Top 4 and Bottom 4 Pro Flight teams are defined by final standings at the 2012 USA Ultimate National Championships. The semi-finalists are the Top 4 Pro Flight Teams. The remaining quarter finalists are the Bottom 4 Pro Flight Teams.



2013 USA Ultimate Triple Crown Tour Guidelines

** The Pro Flight Finale is an optional TCT event, with bid priority to Pro Flight teams.

2. Elite Flight Events

Event	Date	Location	Participants
Pro-Elite Challenge	July 20-21	Atlanta, GA (Men/Women)	Bottom 4 Pro Flight Teams Eight Elite Teams
	July 20-21	Philadelphia, PA (Mixed)	
Elite-Select Challenge*	August 10-11	Boulder, CO (Men/Women) Seattle, WA (Mixed)	Sixteen teams Eight Bids – Priority to Elite Flight teams followed by Pro then Select Eight Bids – Priority to Top Select Teams (1 per region)

* The Elite-Select Challenge is an optional TCT event, with bid priority for Elite and Select flight teams.

3. Select Flight Events

Event	Date	Location	Participants
Elite-Select Challenge*	August 10-11	Boulder, CO (Men/Women) Seattle, WA (Mixed)	Sixteen teams Eight Bids – Priority to Elite Flight teams followed by Pro then Select Eight Bids – Priority to Top Select Teams (1 per region)
Select Events**	Various	Various	Preferred access to Select Flight teams

* The Elite-Select Challenge is an optional TCT event, with bid priority for Elite and Select flight teams.

** Select Events include multiple sanctioned events throughout the country that provide [preferred access](#) to Select Flight teams, but may also be attended by teams from other flights.

4. Sanctioned Competitive Events – Multiple sanctioned events throughout the country where teams from any flight can participate in the Regular



2013 USA Ultimate Triple Crown Tour Guidelines

Season and have their results count towards the Regular Season Rankings. [Click here](#) for more information on event sanctioning.

5. Sanctioned Match Play – Individual games may be sanctioned at the discretion of USA Ultimate in order to provide flexibility for teams in planning their seasons and scheduling playing opportunities. Match play sanctioning may require earlier sanctioning application deadlines, will be subject to the review of USA Ultimate staff, and may require additional oversight and/or structure to ensure the integrity of the competition. [Click here](#) for more information on event sanctioning.

B. Post Season Championship Series Events

1. Sectionals

- a) All teams, including any new teams, must start the Post Season at Sectionals. Pro and Elite flight teams will receive a bye to Regionals provided they participate in two named TCT events. The two events are comprised of the required event based on their prior year finish plus one of the two optional events for which they are eligible.. Teams participating in Sectionals must have met all team and player requirements. There is no additional qualifying process for Sectionals.
- b) Bids to Regionals - Bids will be allocated to sections as outlined below using a combination of automatic and strength bids.
 - i) Pro and Elite bids – The number of bids available to Regionals per the bid process below will be reduced by the number of Pro and Elite teams receiving a bye to Regionals. For example, if a region is scaled to be a 12 team event and there are 1 Pro and 2 Elite teams in that region that have received a bye, there will be 9 bids available for distribution to the sections in that region.)
 - ii) Auto bids - The number of auto bids per region is equal to 50% of the total bids available after regional scaling and Pro/Elite byes are accounted for. If there are an odd number of bids, there will be 1 more auto bid than strength bids. All sections must receive at least 1 bid to Regionals. Regional auto bids will be awarded first to the section with greatest team count based on the Team Registration Deadline. The next bid will be awarded to the section with the second highest team count and so on until all auto bids have been awarded.
 - iii) Strength bids – The number of strength bids per section is equal to 50% of the total bids available after regional scaling and Pro/Elite byes are accounted for. If there are an odd number of bids, there will be 1 more auto bid than strength bids.



2013 USA Ultimate Triple Crown Tour Guidelines

- Team Strength Bids - Team Strength bids will be awarded to the section with the "next" highest ranked team, based on final Regular Season Rankings, where "next" describes one more bid than the section has already been awarded up to that point. For example, a section with 4 bids and a section with 2 bids will compare their 5th and 3rd ranked teams, respectively, for a Team Strength Bid.
 - ⇒ Sections may earn more than one Team Strength Bid. All strength bids will be awarded as Team Strength Bids unless the region does not have enough ranked teams.
 - Sectional Strength Bids - If a Team Strength Bid cannot be awarded because not enough teams in a region's sections meet the Regular Season Rankings requirements, the average power rating of the ranked teams in each section will be calculated and compared. The un-awarded Team Strength Bids will be allocated to each section in order of average section strength (highest to lowest) until all bids have been awarded.
- iv) Wait List Bids – If, after all Sectionals have been completed, a team turns down its bid to Regionals, the bid will be offered to another team from the Region as follows:
- The next highest finishing, non-qualifying team from each section will be compared to one another. The team with the highest final Regular Season Ranking will be awarded the next bid. This process will be repeated until all bids have been awarded.
 - If the next highest finishing, non-qualifying team in a section is an unranked team, then that team will take on the ranking of the next highest finishing ranked team below it. If there are no ranked teams left in a section, wait list bids will be awarded to teams from other sections.
 - If bids are still available and there are only unranked teams in the section, bids will be awarded in order of average section strength (highest to lowest) until all bids have been awarded.
 - If a team drops out less than one week prior to the tournament, the Regional Coordinator may accelerate the above process by shortening response times and immediately contacting all potential replacement teams.
 - If the spot has not been filled 3 days prior to the tournament, the RC may award the bid at his/her discretion with the approval of the National Division Director.



2013 USA Ultimate Triple Crown Tour Guidelines

- c) USA Ultimate reserves the right, based on the number of teams registered in a section, to combine sections or migrate teams to another section.

2. Regionals

- a) Pro and Elite flight teams will receive a bye to Regionals provided they participate in two named TCT events. The two events are comprised of the required event based on their prior year finish plus one of the two optional events for which they are eligible. All other teams, including new teams must qualify for Regionals through Sectionals.
- b) Regional Event Scaling - The size of Regional events will be based on the number of teams in a region that meet the Post Season team registration deadline.

Size of Regionals	Number of Registered Teams
8 teams	16 or fewer teams
10 teams	17-20 teams
12 teams	21-24 teams
16 teams	25 or more teams

- c) Bids to Nationals - 16 bids will be available in each of the Men's, Mixed, and Women's divisions. Bids will be allocated to regions as outlined below using a combination of automatic and strength bids.
- i) Auto Bids
- Each region will receive at least 1 automatic bid.
 - Each region with more than one team in the Pro Flight will receive an additional automatic bid for each team above and beyond the first.
- ii) Strength Bids – After Auto Bids are awarded remaining bids will be based on the ranking of teams in each region in the final Regular Season Rankings, as outlined below.
- Team Strength - All Strength Bids will be awarded to regions with the "next" highest ranked team, where "next" describes one more bid than the region has already been awarded up to that point. For example, a region with 2 bids and a region with 3 bids will compare their 3rd and 4th ranked teams, respectively, for a Team Strength Bid.
 - A region may earn multiple Team Strength Bids.

3. Nationals



2013 USA Ultimate Triple Crown Tour Guidelines

- a) Sixteen teams representing 8 regions will compete for the USA Ultimate National Championship in the Men's, Mixed, and Women's divisions.
- b) Nationals is the third leg of the Triple Crown. A team that wins Nationals that also won the US Open and the Regular Season will have won the Triple Crown.
- c) Placement at Nationals determines [promotion and relegation](#) between the Pro and Elite flights, as well as qualification for the following year's US Open.
- d) In 2013, placement at Nationals will determine qualification for the 2014 WFDF World Ultimate Club Championships.

C. Prize Money

1. Prize money will be awarded in recognition of competitive excellence and in order to help offset some costs for teams that are invested in and committed to the Triple Crown Tour season.
2. For each division, prize money will be awarded, at a minimum, to the winner of each of the following:
 - a) US Open
 - b) Pro-Elite Challenge
 - c) Elite-Select Challenge
 - d) Pro Flight Finale
 - e) Regular Season
 - f) National Championship
 - g) Triple Crown (wins US Open, Regular Season, and Nationals)
3. Prize money amounts and ability to distribute beyond winning teams will be dependent on the ability to generate additional revenue through new revenue streams and sponsorships associated with the Triple Crown Tour.

IV. Registration Guidelines

A. Regular Season Registration

1. Timeline – The Regular Season will take place from June 1, 2013 through September 2, 2013.
2. Regular Season Events – Any USA Ultimate sanctioned competitive tier event during this time period will automatically be considered part of the Regular Season unless otherwise pre-approved.



2013 USA Ultimate Triple Crown Tour Guidelines

- a) USA Ultimate sanctioned competitive events will be denoted and listed in the online USA Ultimate event calendar.
 - b) All attending teams will be considered Regular Season teams unless otherwise pre-approved.
 Note: This rule is different than in 2012. Contact sanctioning@usultimate.org with any questions.
 - c) The results of games between registered, eligible teams at USA Ultimate sanctioned competitive events will count for the Regular Season Rankings.
3. Sanctioned Event Requirements –USA Ultimate will be progressively increasing the minimum standards which tournaments/events will be required to meet to receive sanctioning approval. USA Ultimate will not sanction an event if it believes that the event or event organizer is not aligned with the best interests of the sport, the Triple Crown Tour, other USA Ultimate programs, or the mission and policies of USA Ultimate. USA Ultimate-sanctioned event organizers will be required to:
- a) Submit or verify the results of games through the USA Ultimate’s online score reporting system.
 - b) Comply with all requirements for USA Ultimate-sanctioned event organizers outlined in the USA Ultimate [sanctioned event agreement](#).
4. Team Registration Requirements – All teams wishing to compete in the Regular Season must submit an online roster by the event-specific, rolling deadlines outlined below. Teams are required to:
- a) Notify the event organizer of their wish to attend the event, acknowledge understanding that they will be considered a Regular Season team, and receive confirmation that they have received a bid to the event.
 - b) Once confirmed, use the online rostering system to submit their event roster for the event.
 - c) Complete their team registration by 5pm MDT on the Wednesday before the event. For example, for events the first Regular Season weekend (June 1), rosters must be submitted and/or updated by May 29 at 5 pm MDT.
 - d) USA Ultimate membership dues and individual waivers must be submitted prior to participating in the event.
5. Flight-specific Registration Requirements

Flight/Teams/Event	Deadline	Requirement
Pro/Elite/Top Select	February 18	Commit to required and



2013 USA Ultimate Triple Crown Tour Guidelines

		optional TCT Regular Season events
Select	March 30	Accept or decline Select Flight status for Regular Season
Pro/Elite/Top Select	May 31	Minimum (14) players on team roster in online system
US Open	June 17	Final event roster due in online system
Pro-Elite Challenge	July 12	Final event roster due in online system
Elite-Select Challenge	August 2	Final event roster due in online system
Pro Flight Finale	August 23	Final event roster due in online system
Select/Classic (also Pro/Elite attending non-required Regular Season events)	Wednesday (5pm MT) prior to specific event	Team registration and final roster due for event

- a) Pro and Elite Flights
 - i) Teams in the Pro or Elite flights are required to compete in one flight-specific Regular Season event (US Open or Pro-Elite Challenge) as well as 10 regular season games in order to be eligible for the Post Season Championship Series.
 - ii) Teams in the Pro or Elite flights are not required to attend the Elite-Select Challenge or Pro Finale, but once committed to either event are required to compete in that event in order to be eligible for the Post Season Championship Series.
- b) Select Flight
 - i) Top Select teams that commit to the Elite-Select Challenge event are required to compete in that event in order to be eligible for the Post Season Championship Series.
 - ii) Teams that have earned Top Select status may opt out of that position before committing to the Elite-Select Challenge. These teams may also choose whether or not to remain in the Select Flight.



2013 USA Ultimate Triple Crown Tour Guidelines

- iii) Other Select teams will receive bid preference to designated Select Flight events. Select Flight teams must register for Regular Season events, both Select and other competitive sanctioned events, by deadlines outlined in the [Team Registration Requirements](#) section above.
- iv) Teams that opt out of the Select Flight remain eligible for the Post Season.
- c) Classic Flight
 - i) All teams who did not qualify for the Pro, Elite or Select flights are eligible to participate in the Classic Flight. This includes teams that did not finish highly enough during the Post Season Championship Series in 2012 or teams that are new.
 - ii) Classic Flight teams must register for Regular Season events, both Select and other competitive sanctioned events, by deadlines outlined in the [Team Registration Requirements](#) section above.
 - iii) Classic or new teams that do not participate in the Regular Season remain eligible for the Post Season.
- d) Flight Adjustments
 - i) If vacancies occur in the Pro, Elite, or Top Select flights after the February 18 deadline, USA Ultimate will fill those vacancies by February 28.
 - ii) If vacancies occur in the Select Flight after the March 30 deadline, those spots will be filled by April 30.
- 6. Regular Season Eligibility
 - a) Teams participating in Regular Season games must do so only with players who are on their official event roster and must comply with both the player and team roster guidelines as outlined below.
 - b) Roster Changes - To allow teams some leeway in determining their final roster, while preserving the integrity of the Regular Season Rankings by preventing artificial manipulation of rosters, the following rules will apply to roster changes. Players may be added to or deleted from any roster during the Regular Season, with the following limitations:
 - i) No player may be on more than one Regular Season (or series) roster at the same time, either within the same division or across divisions.
 - ii) No player who has been removed from a Regular Season roster may be added back to that same roster after playing with another team in the Men's, Mixed, or Women's divisions during the Regular Season (or series).
 - c) Geographic Guidelines



2013 USA Ultimate Triple Crown Tour Guidelines

- i) At least 50% of the players on a team's roster must reside in the section in which that team will compete. Pro and Elite teams receiving byes to Regionals must meet this standard for the section in which they would normally compete.
 - ii) At least 75% of the players on a team's roster must reside in the region in which that team will compete.
 - iii) No more than 5 players may reside outside the region in which the team will be competing.
 - iv) "Residence" is defined as meeting both of the below criteria:
 - Location where the person is living for the majority of September and October, *and*
 - Location where the person is living for the majority of either the 3 months prior to September 1 or immediately following October 31
 - v) If the above definition means that a player does not have a region as their "residence", then the player is considered to be an out-of-region player and counts towards a team's out-of-region limits (maximum of 5 out-of-region players and no more than 25% of the roster).
 - vi) Sectional and Regional boundaries are available on the USA Ultimate [website](#).
- d) Roster Maximums and Minimums
- i) Maximums – Teams may have a maximum of 27 players on any Regular Season or Post Season event roster.
 - ii) Minimums
 - By May 31, Pro, Elite, and Top Select flight teams must have a minimum of (14) players on their team roster in the USA Ultimate online system.
 - Pro, Elite, and Top Select flight teams must roster and dress (on site) a minimum of (14) players at their required Triple Crown Tour events.
 - ⇒ Mixed teams must roster and dress (on site) at least (6) women and (6) men.
 - All other teams must have a minimum of 10 players on their event roster for Regular Season and Post Season Championship Series events.
 - ⇒ For Mixed teams, the roster must include at least 4 women and 4 men.
- e) Gender Division Eligibility
- i) Males are eligible to compete in the Men's and Mixed divisions.
 - ii) Females are eligible to compete in the Men's, Mixed, and Women's divisions.



2013 USA Ultimate Triple Crown Tour Guidelines

- iii) On-field gender ratio rules for the Mixed Division are described in the [Mixed Division Gender Ratio](#) section of the Competition Guidelines.
- iv) The eligibility of transgender athletes will be governed by the USA Ultimate Policy on Transgender Athletes. Contact USA Ultimate HQ for more information.
- f) Teams that are found to have violated the letter or spirit of these rules or whose behavior undermines the competition structure (e.g. misrepresenting the composition of a team at a specific event, misrepresenting the composition of a team over the course of the season, intentionally playing with ineligible players) will be subject to ramifications as outlined in the USA Ultimate Triple Crown Tour Guidelines section, Violations and Sanctions. Roster violations should be reported to the Manager of Competition at byron@hq.usultimate.org.

B. Post Season Championship Series Registration Guidelines

- 1. Team Registration Requirements
 - a) Team Registration Deadline
 - i) Teams must register a valid roster via the online rostering system by August 23, 2013 (by 5pm MDT/7pm EDT). This date is the same for all teams.
 - Select and Classic flight teams must register for their appropriate sectional event.
 - Pro and Elite flight teams must register for their appropriate regional event.
 - ii) All teams should contact their sectional or regional coordinator before the Team Registration Deadline to confirm their participation in Sectionals. [Coordinator contact info](#) can be found on the USA Ultimate website.
 - iii) For the purposes of tournament logistics, tournament directors may work with USA Ultimate coordinators to impose a deadline by which teams must decide whether they will attend the tournament. This deadline may be associated with submission of a tournament entry fee. Tournament Directors may keep entry fees from teams that pull out of the tournament beyond a certain date, provided that date (it cannot be before the Team Registration Deadline, for instance) and the fee are reasonable, were approved by the National Division Director, and were communicated to the teams ahead of time. Early tournament registration dates will be documented on the event listing on the USA Ultimate website.



2013 USA Ultimate Triple Crown Tour Guidelines

Any deadline imposed by a coordinator or tournament director that would restrict access to the tournament for teams that would otherwise be considered eligible must be announced well in advance and must be approved by the National Division Director.

b) Final Roster Deadline

- i) Rosters must be finalized, via the online rostering system, by the Tuesday prior to that team's Sectionals. For example, if a team's sectional tournament is September 7-8, rosters must be completed by Tuesday, September 4 (by 5pm MDT/7pm EDT).
 - Pro and Elite flight teams' rosters must be finalized by the Tuesday before the final weekend of Sectionals (by 5pm MDT/7pm EDT).
- ii) A team may add eligible players, up to a maximum of 27 total, to the roster in between the August 23 Team Registration Deadline and the Final Roster Deadline.
- iii) Roster Omissions - If a player has been accidentally omitted from a team roster or requires additional clarification after the roster deadline, please contact byron@hq.usultimate.org for the Player Appeal Form. Please note that this process is not for *teams* that miss the Roster Deadline.

The deadline for submitting a Player Appeal Form (including materials or any other requested documentation) is 5 PM MDT August 30, 2013 (received at headquarters, not postmarked, by 5pm MT August 30).

Appeals for late or incorrect registration of players may or may not be granted. Fees and/or fines may be associated with certain appeals.

c) School Based Extensions

- i) School based teams who start their fall academic term on August 12 or later are eligible for a roster deadline extension.
- ii) To receive the School Based Extension, by August 23 the team must complete the following two steps:
 - Use the online rostering system to submit a partial roster for their sectional event. A partial roster can include as few as one name, and can be a player or team manager; *and*
 - Email byron@hq.usultimate.org (and copy their sectional coordinator) to request an extension and include information about the official start of the academic term.
- iii) By the Final Roster Deadline, the full team must be entered into the online rostering system. The school based extension teams are



2013 USA Ultimate Triple Crown Tour Guidelines

exempt from the 10 player minimum required for initial Team Registration. However, they must meet the 10 player minimum by the Final Roster Deadline. If a team is not registered and valid by that deadline, it will be dropped from the event.

- d) Due to processing time and to ensure time to correct errors, it is advisable to submit membership dues and waivers prior to the August 23 Team Registration Deadline to ensure that players are listed as paid and waived in time for Sectionals. Dues and waivers are required to be submitted before participation in any Post Season event.
- e) If prior to any Post Season Championship Series event, a team knows it will be unable to complete the event, the team will be considered ineligible to participate in the event. Appeals may be made to the National Division Director through the Sectional Coordinator. Decisions on appeals will be based on the potential impact to the tournament (e.g. integrity of the competition, game schedule, quality of the event, etc.).
- f) Teams should make a copy of its roster for its records and bring a copy to all Post Season events in case it needs to be referenced.

2. Post Season Eligibility

- a) Teams participating in Post Season games must do so only with players who are on their official roster.
- b) No player may be on more than one Post Season roster, either within the same division or across divisions.
- c) Geographic Guidelines
 - i) At least 50% of the players on a team's roster must reside in the section in which that team will compete. Pro and Elite teams must meet this standard for the section in which they would normally compete.
 - ii) At least 75% of the players on a team's roster must reside in the region in which that team will compete.
 - iii) No more than 5 players may reside outside the region in which the team will be competing.
 - iv) "Residence" is defined as meeting both of the below criteria:
 - Location where the person is living for the majority of September and October, *and*
 - Location where the person is living for the majority of either the 3 months prior to September 1 or immediately following October 31
 - v) If the above definition means that a player does not have a region as their "residence", then the player is considered to be an out-of-region player and counts towards a team's out-of-region limits



2013 USA Ultimate Triple Crown Tour Guidelines

- (maximum of 5 out-of-region players and no more than 25% of the roster).
- vi) Sectional and Regional boundaries are available on the USA Ultimate [website](#).
 - d) Roster Maximums and Minimums
 - i) Maximums – Teams may have a maximum of 27 players on their Post Season event roster.
 - ii) Minimums – Teams must have a minimum of 10 players on their event roster for Post Season events.
 - For Mixed teams, the roster must include at least 4 women and 4 men.
 - e) Gender Division Eligibility
 - i) Males are eligible to compete in the Men's and Mixed divisions.
 - ii) Females are eligible to compete in the Men's, Mixed, and Women's divisions.
 - iii) On-field gender ratio rules for the Mixed Division are described in the [Mixed Division Gender Ratio](#) section of the Competition Guidelines.
 - iv) The eligibility of transgender athletes will be governed by the USA Ultimate Policy on Transgender Athletes. Contact USA Ultimate HQ for more information.
 - f) Minor (Under 18) Player Info -
 - i) Minors participating in the Series must have the appropriate forms completed prior to participation (waiver, medical release) and meet the chaperone requirement. A chaperone must be named on the roster. The medical release form is the responsibility of the chaperone; it must be brought to each Post Season event and kept on hand by the chaperone. This form will allow medical personnel to treat an injured minor without a parent/guardian having to be present. Without this form a doctor might not treat an injured minor. [Click here](#) for access to the required forms for minors.
 - g) Teams that are found to have violated the letter or spirit of these rules or whose behavior undermines the competition structure (e.g. misrepresenting the composition of a team at a specific event, misrepresenting the composition of a team over the course of the season, intentionally playing with ineligible players) will be subject to ramifications as outlined in the USA Ultimate Triple Crown Tour Guidelines section, Violations and Sanctions. Roster violations should be reported to the Manager of Competition at byron@hq.usultimate.org.



2013 USA Ultimate Triple Crown Tour Guidelines

V. Competition Guidelines

A. Spirit of the Game

1. Ultimate has traditionally relied upon a spirit of sportsmanship which places the responsibility for fair play on the player. Highly competitive play is encouraged, but never at the expense of the bond of mutual respect between players, adherence to the agreed-upon rules of the game, or the basic joy of play. Protection of these vital elements serves to eliminate adverse conduct from the Ultimate field. Such actions as taunting of opposing players, dangerous aggression, intentional fouling, or other 'win at all costs' behavior are contrary to the Spirit of the Game and must be avoided by all players.
2. For more information on Spirit of the Game, [click here](#).

B. Regular Season and Post Season Competition Guidelines

1. Competition Authority
 - a) Regular Season
 - i) Pro and Elite Events (including Elite-Select Challenge) – Event formats, game rules, seeding, and use of Observers will be determined by USA Ultimate.
 - ii) Select and Regular Season Competitive Sanctioned Events –
 - Event formats, game rules, seeding, and use of Observers are all at the discretion of the Regular Season event organizers, provided they meet event guidelines outlined in the USA Ultimate sanctioned-event agreement.
 - Select Flight event formats are also subject to review by USA Ultimate and may be modified to ensure fair playing opportunities in line with the goals of the Regular Season.
 - b) Post Season – All aspect of competition will be determined by USA Ultimate, including but not limited to registration, eligibility, event formats, game rules, seeding, and use of Observers.
2. Team Selection Requirements for Events
 - a) Regular Season
 - i) Pro and Elite Events (including Elite-Select Challenge) – USA Ultimate will determine the field of teams.
 - ii) Select Events – Event organizers seek Select Event status in order to identify as a competitive event targeting primarily Select Flight teams. This will help Select teams find quality events with a high level of competition. Teams from other flights may also participate



2013 USA Ultimate Triple Crown Tour Guidelines

in Select events. Bids to Select events must adhere to the following guidelines:

- 75% of spots in each Select competition division must be reserved for Select teams.
- 25% of spots in each Select competition division are available for the event organizer to award as they see fit (may include Pro, Elite, Select, or Classic).
- Unfilled spots after bid deadline may be awarded at the event organizer's discretion.

iii) Competitive Sanctioned Events – Organizers may invite teams from any flight.

- b) Post Season – Eligible teams register for the Post Season in their appropriate section (Select, Classic) or region (Pro, Elite). Advancement to Regionals and Nationals follows the rules laid out in the [Events section](#) of these guidelines.

3. Regular Season Rankings

- a) The Regular Season Rankings are used to determine the Regular Season winner as well as bid allocations for the Post Season Championship Series. The rankings will be based on games played between eligible teams at Regular Season sanctioned competitive events.
- b) The Regular Season Rankings algorithm will be run and published weekly starting July 24.
- c) Teams will need to have participated in a minimum of 10 Regular Season games to be included in the final Regular Season Rankings which impact bid allocation.
- d) USA Ultimate plans to weight the results from the following TCT events in the rankings relative to other TCT Regular Season Select and sanctioned events: US Open, Pro-Elite Challenge, Elite-Select Challenge, Pro Finale.
- e) Rankings Eligibility
- i) Regular Season Rankings are tentative pending eligibility verification. At the end of the Regular Season, any eligibility-based adjustments will be made and the final Regular Season Rankings will be published.
- ii) USA Ultimate-sanctioned events will not have their results count for the USA Ultimate Regular Season if:
- The event does not meet the USA Ultimate definition of Ultimate.



2013 USA Ultimate Triple Crown Tour Guidelines

- The competition rules of the event designate the number of players on the field for a team to be any number other than seven.
 - iii) If a team plays during the Regular Season with an eligible roster against another team that is determined after the fact to have not had an eligible roster at that event, the game will count towards the eligible team's 10 game minimum, although the game result will not impact the Regular Season Rankings algorithm.
 - iv) USA Ultimate reserves the right to disallow Regular Season results for reasons not outlined in these guidelines, if they are determined not to be in line with the goals of the USA Ultimate Club Season or the mission and policies of USA Ultimate.
 - v) X/Y teams / split squads - Teams that split into more than one team at or across one or more Regular Season events or teams playing with a subset of their full roster will have their results attributed to the "parent" team. If the split squads face each other at an event that result will not count.
 - vi) Deliberate misrepresentation of a team registered for the Regular Season in order to influence Regular Season Rankings will be considered a roster violation and may be subject to ramifications as outlined in the section, Violations and Sanctions. In addition to those Sanctions, if such deliberate misrepresentation of a team is discovered, USA Ultimate reserves the right to assign a game result to whichever team it deems appropriate.
4. Regular Season Placement
- a) Final placement for the Regular Season will be determined by the final Regular Season Rankings.
 - b) The top-ranked team in the final Regular Season Rankings will be declared the winner of the Regular Season and the second leg of the Triple Crown.
 - c) Teams from any flight are eligible to win the Regular Season title, provided they play the minimum 10 regular season games required to be included in the rankings.
 - d) The winner of the Regular Season will receive an automatic place in the following season's Pro Flight, regardless of their performance in the Post Season.
5. Promotion and Relegation
- a) Teams are promoted or relegated to flights based on their performance in the prior year's Triple Crown Tour. The primary mechanism for promotion/relegation is a team's finish in the Post Season Championship Series



2013 USA Ultimate Triple Crown Tour Guidelines

- b) Pro Flight
 - i) The top 8 teams based on final standings at the National Championships receive bids to the Pro Flight, with the following exception.
 - The top team in the Regular Season Rankings receives an automatic bid into the following year's Pro Flight.
 - If the Regular Season winner does not finish in the top 8 at Nationals, only the top 7 Nationals finishers are given bids to the Pro Flight.
 - ii) If a Pro Flight vacancy exists, the vacant spot will be awarded to the highest finishing Elite Flight team from the prior year's Nationals.
 - c) Elite Flight
 - i) After Pro Flight bids have been awarded, the next highest finishing 8 teams at Nationals are awarded bids to the Elite Flight.
 - ii) If the Regular Season winner does not qualify for Nationals, the last finishing team at Nationals will not qualify for the following year's Elite Flight.
 - iii) If an Elite Flight vacancy exists, the vacant spot will be awarded to the Top Select team with the highest Regular Season Ranking from the prior year. If the Top Select team does not have a Regular Season Ranking, it will be assigned the same ranking as the next highest finishing ranked team below it at Regionals.
 - d) Select Flight
 - i) After Pro and Elite flight bids have been awarded, the next 4 highest finishers in each region, based on final standings from Regionals, will be awarded bids to the Select Flight.
 - ii) The top finishing Select Flight team in each region will be referred to as a "Top Select" team.
 - iii) If a Select Flight vacancy exists, the vacant sport will be awarded to the next highest finishing team at Regionals.
 - e) Classic Flight - All other teams that do not qualify for the Pro, Elite or Select flights.
6. Definition of a Team
- a) The following rules will define a team from year to year, for the purpose of determining its flight status and eligibility for competing in the Triple Crown Tour and Championship Series. Note that the purpose of the promotion/relegation system is to not only reward teams based on their performance and create meaningful playing opportunities for those teams, but to incentivize consistency in team organization, branding, location, and participation from year to year.



2013 USA Ultimate Triple Crown Tour Guidelines

- b) A team will be defined primarily by its name and home location (city, state). In order to change either a team's name or its home location, and still retain the team's place in the Triple Crown Tour, the team must present an appeal to USA Ultimate describing its rationale. Appeals must be submitted by February 18 to byron@hq.usultimate.org.
 - c) A Pro or Elite team must retain a minimum of 7 players from the prior season in order to retain the team's identity and flight status.
 - d) If a Pro or Elite team is **returning** the next year, a "new" team in the same division may not have more than 7 players from that team's roster the prior year, in order to be eligible for the Post Season Championship Series. An exception may be granted if the new team plays at least 10 Regular Season games.
 - e) If a Pro or Elite team is **not returning** the next year, a "new" team in the same division may not have more than 7 players from that team's roster the prior year, in order to be eligible for the Post Season Championship Series.
 - f) If a Pro, Elite, or Select team splits into two teams and both wish to retain the team's flight status earned the prior year, the team with the most returning players will be recognized as the returning team. The returning players used in the analysis will be required to be on the roster for that team for the season.
7. Name/Logo/Uniform Guidelines
- a) USA Ultimate reserves the right, at any time, to alter, or require a team to alter, a team name, player or coach nickname, team logo, jersey graphic, or uniform and/or suggest alternatives at or in conjunction with a USA Ultimate program or event should USA Ultimate personnel determine that the existing name, logo, graphic, or uniform might hinder the mission of the organization or the goals of a specific USA Ultimate program or event. This includes, but is not limited to, sexual references, profanity, drug references, and any discriminatory language or graphics. Alterations must meet with the approval of USA Ultimate personnel.
 - b) [Frequently Asked Questions](#) on Name/Logo/Uniform Guidelines
8. Uniform Requirements
- a) Player Uniform Requirements
 - i) All USA Ultimate Regular Season and Post Season Events - Names, logos, and graphics on jerseys must comply with the Name/Logo/Uniform Guidelines above.



2013 USA Ultimate Triple Crown Tour Guidelines

- ii) Sectionals, Select, and Sanctioned Competitive Events - Teams and players are encouraged to follow the uniform requirements for the National Championships.
- iii) Regionals - Teams participating in the finals of Regionals are required to have players on their team wear matching jerseys while playing. Teams and players are encouraged to follow the uniform requirements for the National Championships.
- iv) National Championships, US Open, Pro and Elite Events
 - All participating players for a given team must wear jerseys of identical color and design.
 - Teams must have two jerseys of distinctly different color, one predominantly white and one predominantly dark.
 - Jerseys must have numbers on the back. The numbers must be at least 6 inches high, be one or two digit Arabic numerals, and be in clear contrast with the jersey. No two players on a given team may use the same number or numbers with the same value (e.g. 00 and 0, 01 and 1, etc.).
 - Teams must wear shorts of identical color and design. Teams must have numbers on either the front of their jerseys or the front left or right leg of their shorts, although teams may opt to do both. The placement must be the same for the whole team. The numbers must be at least 2 inches high, match the number on the back of their jersey, and be in visible contrast with the jersey. Pants and skirts are not allowed as part of the on-field uniform without the pre-approval of USA Ultimate.
 - Uniform accessories including tights, undershirts, hats, and socks must be either solid black, solid white, or coordinated with the team's uniform colors.
 - USA Ultimate reserves the right to suspend players or fine teams who fail to meet the uniform requirements.
 - For broadcast games, USA Ultimate reserves the right to increase requirements to comply with broadcast partner standards and requirements. In light of this potential, it is recommended that teams and players prepare for the possibility of additional requirements such as matching hats, socks, and under-layers.
- b) Coach Attire Requirements
 - i) All USA Ultimate Regular Season and Post Season Events - Names, logos, and graphics on coaching attire must comply with the Name/Logo/Uniform Guidelines above.



2013 USA Ultimate Triple Crown Tour Guidelines

- ii) Sectionals, Select, and Sanctioned Competitive Events - Coaches are encouraged to follow the coaching attire requirements for the National Championships.
- iii) Regionals - Coaches are encouraged to follow the coaching attire requirements for the National Championships.
- iv) National Championships, US Open, Pro and Elite Events
 - All coaches must wear either a uniform of identical color and design as the team, or professional coaching attire as defined below.
 - Professional coaching attire is defined as any combination of the following
 - ⇒ The team jersey or a sleeved shirt/polo matching the team uniform colors.
 - ⇒ Team shorts/skirt or hemmed slacks/shorts/skirt of an appropriate solid color
 - ⇒ Business casual attire
 - ⇒ Closed toe shoes such as cleats, flats or athletic shoes. Flip flops, open toed sandals and bare feet are not considered professional coaching attire.
 - Coach jerseys and shorts are not subject to the number requirements for players.
 - It is recommended that uniform accessories including weather related gear, tights, undershirts, hats, and socks be of identical or coordinated style and color.
 - USA Ultimate reserves the right to remove from the sideline/field and/or fine coaches who fail to meet the uniform requirements.

9. Formats

a) Regular Season

- i) Pro and Elite Events (including Elite-Select Challenge) – Formats will be determined by USA Ultimate based on competitive, promotional, and logistical considerations.
- ii) Select and Sanctioned Competitive Events – Formats must be in line with sanctioned event requirements. Otherwise, they are left to the discretion of the event organizer,
 - Select Flight event formats are subject to review by USA Ultimate. Modifications may be suggested or required to ensure fair playing opportunities in line with the goals of the Select Flight and the Regular Season.

b) Post Season



2013 USA Ultimate Triple Crown Tour Guidelines

- i) Sectionals and Regionals - Formats will be determined by coordinators using USA Ultimate guidelines in the USA Ultimate [Formats Manual](#). Any variations must be approved through the National Division Director. Contact your Sectional or Regional Coordinator for information.
- ii) Nationals - Format will be determined by USA Ultimate based on competitive, promotional, and logistical considerations.

10. Seeding

- a) Regular Season
 - i) Pro and Elite Events (including Elite-Select Challenge) – Seeding will be determined by USA Ultimate.
 - ii) Select and Sanctioned Competitive Events – Seeding must be in line with sanctioned event requirements. Otherwise, it is left to the discretion of the event organizer,
 - Select Flight event seeding is subject to review by USA Ultimate. Modifications may be suggested or required to ensure fair playing opportunities in line with the goals of the Select Flight and the Regular Season.
- b) Post Season
 - i) Seeding for Sectionals, Regionals, and Nationals will be done by the coordinator using the following information: results prior to the Series (e.g. head to head, common opponents, tournament finish) with an emphasis on official Regular Season results and Regular Season Rankings, input solicited from all the captains of participating teams, results of last year's season, and other applicable information.
 - ii) Seeding for Regionals will additionally be held to the following guideline: No team that finishes ahead of another team at Sectionals may be seeded behind that team at Regionals.
 - iii) Seeding for Nationals Championships will additionally be held to the following guideline: No team that finishes ahead of another team at Regionals may be seeded behind that team at Nationals.
 - iv) Seeding for any Post Season event must be approved by the next coordinator in the chain of command. If the USA Ultimate coordinators for the event and their immediate supervisor are affiliated with the same team (player, coach, alum, etc.) seeding must be approved by the next highest unaffiliated USA Ultimate coordinator or staff.

11. Forfeit Rule

- a) General



2013 USA Ultimate Triple Crown Tour Guidelines

- i) Any team that declines to finish a scheduled game or games or attempts to decide a match by any manner other than playing ultimate on the field will forfeit those games. Should both teams in a match choose not to play, then it will be considered a double forfeit.
 - ii) At the discretion of the event's USAU coordinator, consideration may be given to situations that might warrant an exception being made, provided it does not affect the fairness or integrity of the competition.
 - iii) Consideration should be given if a team misses the first game of the first day because of travel problems.
 - iv) If one team is not ready to play at game-time, points may be assessed, in accordance with the 11th Edition Rules of Ultimate (Section VIII.A.4). Under these conditions, if the score of the game reaches 8-0, the team that has failed to signal readiness will technically forfeit the game.
 - v) A team will be considered to have forfeited any game where the number of players that can safely participate falls below the minimum requirement set by the Event organizer for that specific event.
- b) Regular Season
- i) Teams are encouraged to play all of their scheduled games at an event, provided the schedule and format are in compliance with USA Ultimate sanctioned event standards and are communicated in a reasonable timeframe to teams.
 - ii) Forfeits are subject to review by event organizers and USA Ultimate. Forfeits that are determined to be disrespectful of the opponent or the event, or to be with the purpose of manipulating the Regular Season Rankings, may be subject to sanctions.
- c) Post Season
- i) A team must play all its games at a "qualifying" tournament in order to qualify for the next tournament in the Post Season.
 - ii) A team that forfeits a Post Season game, and every player on that team's roster, is disqualified for the remainder of the Post Season.
 - iii) Exceptions: In the following two cases, also outlined in the [Formats Manual](#), a scheduled game at a Post Season event may be left unplayed.
 - Case 1
 - ⇒ It is the last game of the tournament for both teams.
 - ⇒ Both teams are already guaranteed to advance to the next stage of the Championship Series (or both teams have already been eliminated from advancing).



2013 USA Ultimate Triple Crown Tour Guidelines

- ⇒ Neither of the teams wishes to play the game.
- ⇒ If ALL of the above conditions are met, then the game may be left un-played. The final placement of the teams will be determined based on their current standing in the format.

- Case 2

- ⇒ It is the last game of the tournament for both teams.
- ⇒ The teams have played twice already in the tournament and one team has a 2-0 record against the other team.
- ⇒ Either one of the teams does not wish to play the game.
- ⇒ The team with the 2-0 record will be placed above the other team in the final tournament rankings.

12. Rules

- a) By default, all games should be played using the current edition of the [USA Ultimate Official Rules of Ultimate](#).
 - i) The SOAR Committee has approved the use of 20 yard end zones and the “Contact Call” for the 2013 Series and in future USAU Championship Series Events.
- b) Regular Season
 - i) Pro and Elite Events (including Elite-Select Challenge) – Game rules will be determined by USA Ultimate.
 - ii) Select and Regular Season Competitive Sanctioned Events – Game rules may be modified at the discretion of the event organizer, provided they meet event guidelines outlined in the USA Ultimate sanctioned-event agreement.
- c) Post Season
 - i) All games will be played using the current edition of the USA Ultimate Official Rules of Ultimate. Any changes to these rules must be pre-approved by the USA Ultimate Competition Committee. Any experimental changes authorized by USA Ultimate for use during the Championship Series will be outlined in this section of the guidelines and communicated to team and event organizers prior to the start of the Regular Season.
 - ii) Teams participating in the National Championships will be required to have a representative from their team take and successfully pass a rules quiz. The quiz will cover basic rules questions, cap rules, and observer applications. Completion of this quiz is mandatory for all teams attending the 2013 National Championships.

13. Observers



2013 USA Ultimate Triple Crown Tour Guidelines

- a) All use of Observers will be subject to the guidelines and practices of the [USA Ultimate Observer Program](#).
- b) Regular Season
 - i) Only USA Ultimate Certified Observers are permitted to officiate at USA Ultimate sanctioned events, including Regular Season Events.
 - ii) Regular Season events must be played in accordance to the guidelines for USA Ultimate sanctioned events. Experimental changes in officiating responsibilities (i.e. those outside of the current edition of the USA Ultimate Observer Manual) may be permitted, but must be communicated in detail during the sanctioning application process and must be pre-approved by the USA Ultimate.
- c) Post Season Championship Series
 - i) Only USA Ultimate Certified Observers are permitted to officiate at USA Ultimate Post Season events.
 - ii) If officials are used during the Post Season, their duties must be in line with those described in the USA Ultimate Observer Manual. Any changes to these duties must be pre-approved by the Competition Committee. Any experimental changes authorized by USA Ultimate for use during the Post Season will be outlined in this section of the guidelines and communicated to team and event organizers prior to the start of the Regular Season.

14. Mixed Division Gender Ratio

- a) The gender ratio for the Mixed Division of the Triple Crown Tour Regular Season and Post Season will be 4/3 (4 men and 3 women or 4 women and 3 men).
- b) The receiving team will determine if the current point will be played with 4 men and 3 women or 4 women and 3 men. The pulling team must match the gender ratio of the receiving team.
- c) If the pulling team cannot match the gender of all 7 players, then it must play with fewer than 7 players, matching the gender of as many players as possible.
- d) Injury timeouts
 - i) In the event of an injury timeout where a player leaves the field, the replacing player must be the same gender as the injured player.
 - ii) If a team replaces players, the opposing team has the option of substituting a like number of, or fewer players.
 - The replacing player(s) must be the same gender as the player(s) they replace.



2013 USA Ultimate Triple Crown Tour Guidelines

- If a team calls an injury timeout but does not have a replacement player of the same gender as the injured player, it may not replace that player and must play fewer than 7 players.

VI. Violations and Sanctions

Failure to abide by any of the Triple Crown Tour Guidelines may result in sanctions through the USA Ultimate [conduct process](#). Such sanctions may be imposed on a team or individuals associated with a team deemed to be in violation of the guidelines, and may include, but are not limited to, suspension or disqualification from USA Ultimate competition.

In order to help teams follow Triple Crown Tour Guidelines and avoid violations, USA Ultimate will continue to work to improve registration procedures and communication of information pertaining to the USA Ultimate Triple Crown Tour. As these improvements are made by the organization, teams will continue to be held more fully responsible for following procedures and understanding information. Because consistency in holding all participants to the same administrative and competitive standards is vital to the integrity of the TCT, because many violations lead to unfair advantages in competition, and because it is often difficult to determine intent, guideline violations will result in serious repercussions. Such repercussions will provide an incentive for players and teams to understand the guidelines fully, follow the guidelines carefully, and avoid intended or unintended violations in the future.

NOTE: THE TRIPLE CROWN TOUR IS A NEW STRUCTURE WHICH WILL REQUIRE ONGOING REVIEW FOR THE 2013 SEASON. USA ULTIMATE RESERVES THE RIGHT TO EDIT THESE GUIDELINES IN ORDER TO MEET THE GOALS OF THE SEASON AND THE ORGANIZATION.