



**FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT®  
FOR HEALTHY LIVING  
FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY**

# **RULES THAT GOVERN YMCA COMPETITIVE SPORTS**

**YMCA OF THE USA**



**REVISED 10.2025**

# INTRODUCTION

The purpose of YMCA Competitive Sports is to promote the physical, cognitive, social, and emotional development of each athlete. Because YMCA Competitive Sports programs and competitions are team-centered, they provide a supportive community in which each athlete may strive toward his or her full potential.

Everyone deserves an opportunity to compete. The rules outlined in this document provide the foundation for fair competition between YMCA Member Associations and their athletes. The rules apply to all YMCA Competitive Sports events that are considered “Formal YMCA Competition” as defined herein.

The National Advisory Committees for each YMCA Competitive Sports program have the authority to establish additional requirements, as long as those requirements are consistent with these Rules That Govern YMCA Competitive Sports. Those additional requirements are contained in “Addendum” documents for each respective sport.

The YMCA Movement expects integrity and fidelity of each athlete, coach, volunteer, and YMCA administrator to adhere to both the letter and the spirit of the rules.

## GOVERNANCE OF YMCA COMPETITIVE SPORTS

As a federation, YMCA of the USA does not control the day-to-day operations of local Ys or set rules for local Y sporting events. Local Ys are responsible for complying with all applicable state and local laws when operating sporting events in their respective locations. YMCA of the USA does provide rules related to national programming, such as YMCA Competitive Sports programming. As defined below, YMCA Competitive Sports refers to sports programs that are structured to provide a coordinated competitive progression from local competitions to YMCA of the USA–sponsored national competitive events. The governance of YMCA Competitive Sports is coordinated through YMCA of the USA–authorized National Advisory Committees for each sport. Those committees are responsible for the oversight of a YMCA Competitive Sports program and the conduct of that program’s championship events.

## CHARACTER DEVELOPMENT IN YMCA SPORTS

Character development is the process of helping people cultivate ethical and values-based decision-making skills. Competition provides an excellent environment for this process. It

also promotes virtues such as resilience, dignity, and integrity, which influence behavior in everyday life.

The Y believes that character development—focusing on the values of caring, honesty, respect, and responsibility—is an essential element of its sports program.

**Caring:**                    **To love others and be sensitive to the well-being of others involved in the sports program**

**Honesty:**                **To have integrity, making sure that one's actions match one's values through participation in sports**

**Respect:**                **To value the worth of every person, including oneself, one's teammates, opponents, and officials**

**Responsibility:**    **To be accountable for one's behavior and obligations**

Ys have a responsibility to train staff, volunteers, and participants to model and promote appropriate values through sport, and to create an environment conducive to character development and safety.

## **COMMITMENT TO BUILDING AND STRENGTHENING COMMUNITY**

The Y is a community-serving organization committed to providing opportunities for growth and connection for all people. YMCA Competitive Sports programs and leagues are expected to embrace and reflect this commitment, both in policy and in practice. Y staff and volunteers work together to ensure that everyone has the same opportunity to participate and to reach their full potential with dignity.

Ys are also Places of Public Accommodation under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). All athletes, including those with disabilities, have equal opportunity to participate in YMCA Competitive Sports. Reasonable modifications will be made by Ys, Leagues, and State, Regional, and National Event Committees to ensure accommodation in compliance with the ADA.

The Y will not discriminate on the basis of disability with regard to the full and equal participation in YMCA Competitive Sports. Ys, Leagues, and State, Regional, and National Event Committees must comply with the ADA (including making reasonable modifications to its policies, practices, or procedures when necessary to support athletes with disabilities unless the Y can demonstrate that making the modifications would fundamentally alter the nature of its services or result in an undue burden).

## **POLITICAL CAMPAIGN ACTIVITY**

YMCA of the USA and YMCA Member Associations are tax-exempt organizations under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. To maintain its tax-exempt status, YMCA of the USA and YMCA Member Associations must comply with the IRS charitable organization requirements. Under the Internal Revenue Code, all section 501(c)(3) organizations are prohibited from directly or indirectly participating in, or intervening in, any political campaign on behalf of (or in opposition to) any candidate for elective public office and cannot engage in “political campaign activity” (defined as “supporting or opposing a candidate for public office”). Individuals, including athletes, coaches, and volunteers, may not use any organizational financial resources, facilities, or personnel to support or oppose a candidate for public office or political committee.

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# RULE I: DEFINITIONS

## AMATEUR

An Amateur is one who engages in sports solely for the pleasure of competition and the physical, mental, and social benefits derived from participation. For Y competition purposes, an amateur is also considered to be an individual who has not represented a post-high school institution in competition, including varsity and club-level competition, and who has not accepted pay or compensation for competing in his or her sport.

## ASSOCIATION NUMBER

An Association Number is a unique number assigned to each YMCA Member Association, branch, and/or center. It designates that the YMCA entity is recognized and certified by the YMCA of the USA. A YMCA Member Association with more than one branch will have one Association Number for the Association as a whole, as well as a separate Branch Number for each branch. A competitive sports team must use the name and corresponding Association Number of the YMCA Member Association or branch through which it is sponsored.

## COMPETITION CLASSES

- **Closed YMCA Competition** occurs exclusively among Y member athletes and is open only to Y members. Competition shall be conducted under the rules and auspices of the National Advisory Committee, and administered by Officials Certified or Recognized by the YMCA of the USA.
- **Open Competition** is a competitive event that is open to an athlete who meets the qualifications for participation. Competition sponsored by National Governing Bodies (NGBs) is considered open competition because teams or athletes representing multiple organizations may become NGB members and enter that competition.
- **Formal YMCA Competition** consists of events in which teams or individual athletes are officially designated by a YMCA Member Association to represent that Y in competition with other Ys. Formal YMCA competition is conducted with certified officials or judges and follow the minimum competition standards set forth by the sport's YMCA National Advisory Committee. Formal YMCA competition is closed YMCA competition.
- **Informal Competition** occurs when recreation, fellowship, or practice are the principal objectives. These events are typically characterized by no entry fees, no officials or judges, and no recording of individual or team scores.

- **League/District/State/Regional YMCA Competition** consists of formal YMCA competitions authorized by Ys within these groupings. These competitions may have their own specific eligibility requirements as long as they do not conflict with these “Rules That Govern.”
- **Championship Competition** is a form of formal competition for which athletes qualify through participation in previous competitions and/or by achieving performance-based qualification standards.
- **National YMCA Competition** consists of national championship activities authorized, supervised, and conducted under the authority of the National Advisory Committee for that sport, as authorized by YMCA of the USA.

## **COMPETING TEAMS**

Competing Teams are YMCA entities consisting of one or more individuals that can compete against one another in closed or open competition. Teams within the following organizations are examples of competing teams: YMCA, USA Swimming, USA Diving, USA Gymnastics, YWCA, AAU, and Boys & Girls Clubs.

## **CURRENT SEASON**

Current Season is the time frame defined by each sport’s National Advisory Committee for purposes of qualifying for that sport’s championship activities.

## **DISQUALIFIED/INELIGIBLE YMCA MEMBER ASSOCIATION**

A Disqualified/Ineligible YMCA Member Association is one that has been removed by the Championship Event Committee responsible for the competitive activity in which the Member Association was involved. The Member Association is ineligible to compete in a sports competition in one or more sports because of violations or negligence in sports administration or failure to comply with YMCA of the USA membership standards.

## **DUAL REPRESENTATION**

Dual Representation is when an athlete represents more than one team during the current season in a particular sport. Participation in interscholastic teams is not considered dual representation.

## **ELIGIBILITY OF A YMCA MEMBER ASSOCIATION**

Only certified YMCA Member Associations that are in good standing with YMCA of the USA are eligible to compete in events involving other YMCA Member Associations.

## **EVENT COMMITTEE**

An Event Committee is the body that organizes and conducts a competition in compliance with the Rules that Govern YMCA Competitive Sports and the rules of the sponsoring YMCA entity (YMCA of the USA, League, District, Region, etc.).



## **LEAGUE**

A League is a group of YMCAs, usually within a specific geographic area, that form a structure for collaboration and organized competition in a given sport. Each Y in a league shares responsibility for governance, oversight, and operation of league activities. Professional staff representatives from each member YMCA Association are included in league decisions, policies, and rules. Leagues may establish their own rules as long as they are not contrary to these Rules That Govern YMCA Competitive Sports or to the policies of any member YMCA Association. Any funds collected in the name of the league are held in account by a member YMCA Association.

## **MEMBER ASSOCIATION**

A Member Association is a corporate Young Men's Christian Association (YMCA) that has been recognized for membership pursuant to Section 2 of Article II of the YMCA Constitution. More specifically, an Association is certified by the Board of Directors of the National Council of YMCAs ("National Board"), holds an Association Number, and is eligible for separate listing in the YMCA Directory.

## **NATIONAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

A YMCA of the USA–authorized committee that is responsible for the oversight of a YMCA Competitive Sports program and the conduct of that program's regional and national championship events.

## **TERMINATED MEMBER ASSOCIATION**

A Terminated Member Association is one that has failed to meet the standards established by the National Board and no longer meets the qualifications for membership as a YMCA.

## **YMCA**

Herein defined as an individual Member Association with a competitive sports program, unless otherwise stated.

## **YMCA ATHLETE**

An individual member of a YMCA Competitive Sports team.

## **YMCA COACH**

An individual hired or designated as a volunteer by a YMCA who is authorized by that YMCA to provide instruction and leadership for athletes in a YMCA Competitive Sports program.

## **YMCA COMPETITIVE SPORTS**

Sports programs that are structured to provide a fair, coordinated competitive progression from local competitions to YMCA of the USA–sponsored national competitive events. The governance of YMCA Competitive Sports is coordinated through YMCA of the USA–authorized National Advisory Committees for each sport. Those committees are responsible

for the oversight of a YMCA Competitive Sports program and the conduct of that program's championship events.

### **YMCA MEMBER**

A YMCA Member is a person who, after due application, is enrolled by a YMCA Association ("Association"), and is entitled to full privileges, activities, and services of that Association. In Metropolitan YMCAs where association-wide memberships entitle individuals to full privileges, activities, and services of more than one unit, individuals must compete for the unit in which they enroll for the membership or designates at the time of enrollment the unit for which they will be competing.

### **YMCA OF THE USA**

YMCA of the USA (Y-USA) is the informal name for the National Council of Young Men's Christian Associations of the United States of America.

## **RULE II: ELIGIBILITY OF ASSOCIATIONS**

A Member Association that fulfills the following conditions shall be deemed an eligible Member Association for formal competition:

- a. Meets the qualification for membership as outlined in the National Council of Young Men's Christian Associations of the United States of America Constitution and Bylaws and is in good standing as such.
- b. Is in good standing with its own League/State/District/Regional Committee administering the YMCA sports program.
- c. Confines its formal YMCA competition to Member Associations that are certified and comply with the provisions set forth in this document.
- d. States that the team is representing their Member Association in good standing with other required documentation for League/State/District/Regional/National competitions, including a current "Certificate of Insurance."
- e. The team representing that Member Association competes under the name and corresponding Association Number of that Member Association or one of its chartered branches in all competitions.

An Association that is a member not in good standing status but has been working cooperatively with Certification and Membership Qualifications (CMQ) on a strategic

engagement plan may be considered for formal competition after submitting an eligibility waiver to the VP of CMQ.

## **RULE III: CHILD PROTECTION AND AQUATIC SAFETY RESPONSIBILITY OF ASSOCIATIONS**

All Ys are required to follow minimum safety standards in the areas of child protection and aquatic safety as part of the membership qualifications set forth in the YMCA of the USA Constitution and the National Council on Membership Standards Manual for YMCAs. Additionally, the federal Safe Sport Act requires organizations that sponsor youth sports competitions to maintain sexual abuse reporting and prevention policies. Member Associations that sponsor competitive sports programs are responsible for ensuring that all staff and volunteers serving in those programs have completed background screenings, child/athlete protection trainings, safety certifications, and any other training or certification as required by their member Association, YMCA of the USA and the U.S. Center for SafeSport and, furthermore, are not on the banned, suspended, or disciplined list for the U.S. Center for SafeSport or any sport's National Governing Body. For more information, see the [U.S. Center for SafeSport](#) and [YMCA of the USA Child Abuse Prevention](#) resources.

## **RULE IV: ELIGIBILITY OF INDIVIDUALS**

### **SECTION 1: ELIGIBILITY CONDITIONS FOR COACHES**

It is the responsibility of a Member Association to select and authorize coaches to represent that Member Association and hold them to the same standards of screening, training, conduct, and review as other staff and volunteers. In order for individuals to serve as a designated coach representing a Member Association in a particular sport, they must complete all background screenings, child/athlete protection trainings, safety certifications, and any other training and certification as required by their Association, YMCA of the USA,

and the U.S. Center for SafeSport and must not be on the banned, suspended, or disciplined list of the U.S. Center for SafeSport or any sport's National Governing Body.

## **SECTION 2: ELIGIBILITY CONDITIONS FOR ATHLETES**

In order for an athlete to participate, the athlete must be a full privilege member of a Member Association that is in good standing for at least 30 days prior to the competition (90 days for League, State, District, Regional, and National Championships as outlined in Rule IV, Section 4) and is considered eligible. A Y athlete must represent the YMCA at which he or she holds a membership; YMCA Competitive Sports do not recognize unattached athletes. Individuals who fulfill the following conditions shall be eligible to represent their Member Association in formal closed competition:

- a. An amateur athlete in the competitive season in the sport in which the individual desires to represent the Y
- b. Meets all the qualifying requirements for a specific event
- c. Meets all child/athlete protection requirements as set forth by the U.S. Center for SafeSport and the YMCA of the USA
- d. Eligible under the Dual Representation Rule as outlined in Rule IV, Section 4 of this document
- e. Certified by the CEO or the Branch Executive Director of the Member Association as meeting the above conditions

Should a protest of eligibility arise in any competition, the Event Committee shall rule on the athlete's eligibility, and that decision shall be final.

In YMCA national competition, an athlete must compete according to his or her biological sex assigned at birth.

## **SECTION 3: TRANSFER BY CONSENT**

An athlete wishing to transfer from one YMCA unit to another is eligible to represent the new Y immediately upon the written consent of the YMCA unit the athlete previously represented, using the form at the end of this document. This includes transfer from one metropolitan branch to another. The membership transfer must be completed before the athlete competes for the new Association. (See form at the end of this document.)

## SECTION 4: DUAL REPRESENTATION

Dual representation is a violation of the purpose and spirit of YMCA Competitive Sports. It occurs when an athlete represents more than one team in competition in a given sport.

- a. Interscholastic competition and closed summer league competition are the exceptions to dual representation. Athletes who represent their school in closed interscholastic competition or who represent a summer club in closed summer league competition are not in violation of the dual representation rule, including the 90-day representation clause.
- b. 90 Day Representation: An athlete shall represent only one competitive team in a given sport for a period of 90 days prior to participating in a YMCA championship competition. In the case of exceptional circumstances, an athlete may seek a waiver of this rule. The championship Event Committee will make a final determination on the eligibility of the athlete in this case.
- c. National Governing Body (NGB) Participation: A YMCA athlete may participate in open competition sponsored by the sport's NGB in one of two ways.
  - i. The athlete and their YMCA team are also members of the NGB.
  - ii. The athlete is registered as, and competes as, an unattached athlete in open competition. The athlete may not register and compete as a member of another team. (Note: Not all NGBs offer "unattached" membership or participation.)
- d. Permissible Dual Representation: A Y athlete may represent a non-YMCA team in the same sport, provided that the non-YMCA team could not compete against the athlete's YMCA team in open competition. An example is a closed summer recreational league in which YMCA and NGB teams may not participate.

Examples of situations contrary to the spirit of this rule would be athletes who join a YMCA team from another team in the same sport in order to participate in a championship meet or to garner individual or team recognition. YMCA coaches are expected to demonstrate the integrity and ethics to recognize such potential situations and avoid them.

## RULE V: CHAMPIONSHIPS

The following rules apply to all Formal Championship Competitions, including League, State, District, Regional, and National.

## **SECTION 1: CONDUCT OF CHAMPIONSHIP COMPETITIONS**

Championship competitions must be conducted as closed, formal competitions. All Inter-Association Championships should be hosted by a YMCA Member Association, or collaboratively by two or more YMCA Member Associations, and conducted with operational leadership from an Event Committee. Issues involving eligibility of athletes and YMCA Member Associations shall be resolved by the Event Committee responsible for the event in accordance with the Rules That Govern.

## **SECTION 2: AUTHORITY OF CHAMPIONSHIP EVENT COMMITTEES**

Championship Event Committees shall have the authority to establish administrative procedures and eligibility rules governing such sports competition so long as the rules do not conflict with these Rules That Govern YMCA Competitive Sports. With exception to Gymnastics, any changes to these rules and regulations that are initiated by an Event Committee shall be made known to the authorized National Advisory Committee for that sport at least 60 days prior to the start date of the competition subject to the application of the new rules. In the event of a conflict between the new rules and the Rules that Govern YMCA Competitive Sports, these Rules That Govern shall prevail.

## **SECTION 3: MANAGEMENT OF FUNDS**

All funds accumulated for the purpose of administering the championships must be maintained in custodial accounts of YMCA Member Associations or, in the case of the Advisory Committees, in custodial accounts of YMCA of the USA. Advisory Committees will be self-supporting.

## **SECTION 4: ELIGIBILITY OF COMPETITORS**

For Formal Championship Competition, competitors shall have represented their Member Association in formal competition during the current season in the same sport, and shall have been a Y member in good standing for a period of at least 90 days prior to the first date of the competition and may not have represented another team in that sport (inter-scholastic competition excepted) for a period of at least 90 days prior to the first date of the competition that the competitor is applying to enter.

Event Committees may establish additional eligibility requirements for championship competitions as long as they do not contradict these "Rules That Govern."

## **SECTION 5: NON-SPONSORED COMPETITORS**

For instances in which an Association does not sponsor representative teams in formal competition in a certain sport, an athlete representing that Association may be permitted to enter Formal Championship competition in that sport, provided the entry is approved by the Event Committee administering that Formal Championship competition and the CEO or the Branch Executive Director of the YMCA that the athlete is representing.

# **RULE VI: VIOLATIONS**

## **SECTION 1: VIOLATIONS THAT MAY LEAD TO DISQUALIFICATION AND INELIGIBILITY OF AN ASSOCIATION**

The Championship Event Committee responsible for any competitive activity in which an Association is participating may disqualify that Association for:

- a. Failure to enforce and maintain the Rules That Govern
- b. Being a party to or condoning violations that disqualify an amateur under the Rules That Govern
- c. Being suspended by the National Board for failure to meet requirements for recognition as a Member Association
- d. Significant misconduct or poor sportsmanship by athletes, coaches, or other YMCA Member Association officials
- e. Acknowledgement that the YMCA team is representing their Association, and is not in good standing as outlined in these Rules that Govern YMCA Competitive Sports and local Best Practices for program management
- f. Competing under a name different than that of the Member Association or chartered branch through which the team is sponsored

## **SECTION 2: VIOLATIONS THAT MAY DISQUALIFY AN ATHLETE FROM REPRESENTING A YMCA IN SPORTS COMPETITION**

- a. Exhibiting serious unsportsmanlike conduct
- b. Competing under an assumed name
- c. Misrepresenting facts regarding eligibility or performance
- d. Illegal Dual Representation, as defined herein

- e. Involvement in substance abuse, violence, vandalism, or other illegal activities
- f. Failing to meet the conditions stated in Rule III of the Rules That Govern YMCA Competitive Sports

## RULE VII: PROTESTS

### SECTION 1

Protests affecting the eligibility of any individual or Association must be made in writing and **must** be made within 30 days of the conclusion of the event. Whenever possible, issues that may lead to protests should be discussed and resolved prior to competition.

### SECTION 2

Protests shall be considered by the Event Committee in charge of the competition or designee(s).

### SECTION 3

A team or athlete against whom a protest is lodged shall be permitted to compete under protest. No results or scores shall be reported, or considered final, until the protest has been resolved by the Event Committee.

### SECTION 4

The Event Committee shall have power to reject any entry if, within the sole discretion of the Event Committee, there are reasonable grounds to do so.

### SECTION 5

Upon receipt of protests alleging violations by an Association or an athlete representing that Association, the Event Committee responsible for the competition shall, as soon as practical, convene for the purpose of gathering factual evidence and consideration of the protest.



## **SECTION 6**

The Event Committee responsible for the competition in which the athlete or Association was participating shall render judgment regarding further eligibility at that competitive level in that sport. For example, a District Event Committee cannot render eligibility decisions that impact events at other competitive levels, such as at the Regional or National level.

However, when an athlete or Association is ruled ineligible, this decision shall be reported to Event Committees at other levels. It is within the sole discretion of the Event Committees as to whether they will recognize other eligibility rulings submitted to the Event Committee for consideration.

## **SECTION 7**

Awards or trophies acquired by athletes or Associations under conditions for which they are subsequently disqualified shall be returned to the awarding committee.

## **SECTION 8**

Results of the decisions of any Event Committee concerning any protest may be appealed to the National Advisory Committee of that particular sport. Appeals to the National Advisory Committee must be submitted in writing within 30 days following notification of an Event Committee's decision. The decision of an appeal submitted to a National Advisory Committee shall be final and binding on all parties.

# **RULE VIII: REINSTATEMENTS**

## **SECTION 1: REINSTATEMENT OF ASSOCIATIONS**

- a. Any Association that has been disqualified may apply for reinstatement by writing to the Event Committee issuing the disqualification, stating the reason for such application.
- b. Reinstatement of an Association that violates Rule V, Section 1c of the Rules That Govern may be made by the Event Committee issuing the disqualification when requirements for recognition as a member Association of the National Board of YMCA of the USA have been met.

## SECTION 2: REINSTATEMENT OF ATHLETES

- a. Applications for reinstatement must be approved and signed by the Chairperson of the Event Committee and the Executive Director of the Association of which the applicant is a member in good standing.
- b. The Event Committee or designee(s) shall process all applications for reinstatement of athletes.
- c. Athletes shall be ineligible to compete while their application for reinstatement is pending.
- d. An athlete whose application for reinstatement has been rejected initially may apply again for reinstatement, subject to the policy developed by the Event Committee.

## RULE IX: REQUESTS FOR WAIVERS/APPEALS

Requests for waivers or appeals for relief from specific provisions of the Rules That Govern in specific circumstances must be addressed to the appropriate committee or designee(s) as specified in the respective competitive sports addendum.

All requests must be made in writing by a person with standing (coach or YMCA director) and must set forth the relief requested and the reasons for such request. Each National Advisory Committee provides a waiver application form for its respective sport. Such requests must be received no less than one week in advance of the event, barring unusual circumstances. Failure of a particular coach or athlete to take the appropriate steps to qualify for and enter a competition shall not be grounds for an appeal.

The applicable Committee or their designee(s) shall consider each request for waiver in light of the nature and circumstances leading to such request. The applicable Committee or their designee(s) shall rule on such requests in an expeditious manner. Decisions of Event Committees or their designee(s) may be appealed to the National Advisory Committee. However, any decisions of a National Advisory Committee shall be final and binding.

# **RULE X: USE OF THE YMCA TRADEMARKS**

## **SECTION 1: YMCA NAME AND TRADEMARKS**

The name “Young Men’s Christian Association” and all names, marks, logos (e.g., THE Y YMCA), symbols, and other intellectual property, including copyrights (hereinafter “YMCA Name and Trademarks”) owned, used, or authorized by the National Council, are the property of the National Council and can be used only as authorized by the National Board, according to Article VIII (Names, Marks, and Symbols) of the Constitution and Bylaws of the National Council of Young Men’s Christian Associations of the United States of America.

## **SECTION 2: AUTHORIZED USE BY MEMBER ASSOCIATION**

An Association is authorized and licensed to use the YMCA Name and Trademarks upon attesting to YMCA of the USA’s trademark license.

## **SECTION 3: AUTHORIZED USE BY THIRD PARTIES**

An Association may authorize a third party (including vendors, sponsors, and donors) the right to use the YMCA Name and Trademarks for the purpose of providing services, sponsorships, or publicizing the relationship between the Association or an event hosted by the Association, within its service area, using a sublicense agreement provided by YMCA of the USA.

If the third-party vendor is a recognized YMCA of the USA preferred vendor, then a sublicense agreement is not required. If unclear about the third-party preferred vendor status, contact YMCA of the USA General Counsel’s Office.

## **SECTION 4: USE REQUIREMENTS FOR THE Y YMCA LOGO**

When authorizing use of THE Y YMCA Logo (“Y Logo”) to a third party, the Association is required to include its Association name in conjunction with the Y Logo (according to brand standard requirements) so that it is clear the relationship is specifically with the Association. Using only the Y Logo by itself is prohibited, as it could imply a national endorsement, which would require authorization by, and an agreement with, YMCA of the USA.

## **SECTION 5: COMPLIANCE REQUIREMENTS**

The authority of an Association to grant a sublicense is predicated on it attesting to YMCA of the USA's trademark license and is restricted to a third party's use with the Association's service area. Associations cannot grant permission to use the YMCA Name and Trademarks that would reach outside of the granting Association's service area without permission from YMCA of the USA. When granting permission to use the YMCA Name and Trademarks within the service area, Associations are required to use a written sublicense agreement provided by YMCA of the USA and establish practices to ensure that third parties do not violate the terms of the YMCA of the USA brand standards and compliance policy.

# **RULE XI: AMENDMENTS AND REVISIONS**

## **SECTION 1: AMENDMENTS**

Any proposed amendment to these Rules That Govern YMCA Competitive Sports must be submitted to YMCA of the USA for consideration.

## **SECTION 2: REVISIONS**

YMCA of the USA authorizes the National Advisory Committees to review and submit recommendations regarding The Rules That Govern YMCA Competitive Sports during an Advisory Committee meeting. Approvals of the revisions are subject to approval by YMCA of the USA or an authorized committee of the National Board.

The National Advisory Committees may temporarily adjust or suspend some rules contained herein due to special circumstances. Any proposed temporary changes must be approved by YMCA of the USA.

# RULE XII: INTERNATIONAL COMPETITION

The Ted Stevens Olympic and Amateur Sports Act, approved by Congress in 1978, designates the United States Olympic Committee as the official coordinating body for amateur sports in the United States.

The Sports Act further provides that each sport included in the Pan American and Olympic Games be controlled by a National Sports Governing Body with authority to sanction international competition in that sport.

Ys sending teams abroad or hosting foreign teams in sports competition (whether involving YMCA or non-YMCA teams from abroad) shall comply with the sanction procedure of the appropriate National Governing Body for that particular sport.

Questions about sanction procedures should be addressed to the National Advisory Committee representing the specific sport on behalf of YMCA of the USA.



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## YMCA SPORTS TRANSFER REQUEST BY ATHLETE

I, \_\_\_\_\_ [name of athlete here],  
am \_\_\_\_\_ [position here]  
for the \_\_\_\_\_ [YMCA team name here] for the  
\_\_\_\_\_ [YMCA name here].

I request to release from \_\_\_\_\_ [current YMCA team  
name here] to \_\_\_\_\_ [new YMCA team name here]  
effective \_\_\_\_\_.

I acknowledge that I have no outstanding financial or other obligations to \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ [current YMCA team name here] that would  
prevent me from transferring to another YMCA and YMCA competitive team.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature (or guardian signature if a minor)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date



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## YMCA SPORTS TRANSFER CONSENT BY EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR/CEO

\_\_\_\_\_ [name of athlete here] has requested a transfer  
from \_\_\_\_\_ [current YMCA team  
name here] to \_\_\_\_\_ [new YMCA team  
name here].

I, \_\_\_\_\_, as the Executive Director or CEO, release \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ [name of athlete here] from membership in the \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ YMCA and its competitive \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ team, effective \_\_\_\_\_.

"There are no outstanding financial or other obligations to this YMCA that would prevent  
\_\_\_\_\_ [name of athlete here] from transferring to another YMCA and YMCA  
competitive team.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
YMCA Position

\_\_\_\_\_  
Phone or Email