



OFFICIAL U.S.T.A. PETITION FORM

- To petition to:**
- 1. To move back a competition level**
 - 2. Another State's Championships**
 - 3. USTA National Championships**

1. Petitions to allow an athlete to move down a competition level **will only be allowed under very unusual circumstances.**
2. Petitions to allow an athlete to compete in and qualify for Nationals in a state (region) other than their own under the following circumstances.
 - a. If an athlete cannot participate in their own state competition on the grounds of conflict of schedule for events such as a prom, track meet dance recital, clinic, attendance at a family member's activities such as First Communion of a sibling, family reunion, etc., they may petition to attend another state competition to qualify for nationals.
 - b. In a circumstance where no State (Regional) Competition is held, a competitor or team may petition to compete and qualify in another state (region) championship.

*If an athlete is granted a petition to enter another state's championship, their score on any event will have their scores compared to those athletes in their own state competition before being considered for qualification to Nationals. The Technical Vice President will evaluate these petitions on a case by case basis. Their score cannot bump out any athlete from the host state from attending Nationals. Their score is to remain separate from the host state athletes' scores.

A club may not petition their entire team into another state meet, exceptions must be granted by the Technical Vice President.

3. Petitions to compete at the U.S.T.A. National Championships without qualifying through a state championship will only be approved for the following reasons: 1. Medical (injury or serious illness); 2. School (educational) schedule conflict which will result in loss of scholarship; or 3. Death in the immediate family.

To be eligible to file a petition to compete in the USTA National Championships, an athlete must have competed in at least two sanctioned competitions during the current competition season and the athlete's team must have competed at the previous year's National Championships. In order to petition an athlete to Nationals, the coach must furnish the information required on this Petition Form and submit it to the U.S.T.A. Technical Vice President with all pertinent information under the following guide-lines and time frames.

Petition to U.S.T.A. National Championship Requirements:

- A).** Petitions regarding emergencies must be submitted within 10 working days prior to the athlete's state championships to be considered (unless unforeseen circumstances which are to be approved by the Technical Vice President) and provide and supply detailed information confirming the reason he/she is unable to attend their state championship.
- B).** Athletes can only be petitioned into Nationals on injury or religious grounds. Petitions will not be granted on conflict of schedule for events such as a prom, track meet, dance recital, clinics, etc., on the same day as athlete's state competition.

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- C). To expediate a petition, send: 1) this form; 2) a letter detailing type of petition, all pertinent information (including date of injury, nature of injury, length of time out of practice, etc.), 3) proof of reason for petition such as: a doctor's letter, any prescriptions written by the doctor, a clergyman's letter, dated certificate of First Communion, etc., 4) placement at last year's nationals, and 5) score sheets from at least two sanctioned USTA competitions competed in during the current year showing this year's performance. Do NOT send a list of meets that the athlete has attended and the athlete's placings. Copies of meet score sheets are required to prove actual participation and performance in competitions (available from meet directors, state chair or the USTA National Office).
- D). Petitions must be postmarked prior to the athlete's state championships. NO petitions will be granted after the state championships unless an injury or illness occurs during the state championships. Petitions must be applied for in a timely and professional manner. If an injury or illness occurs just prior to or at the state championships, call the Technical Vice President with notification of the situation and your intention to petition *in a timely manner*.
- E). Do not send originals of any document - only copies. For your protection, make and keep copies of all materials sent. Send petition by certified mail with a return receipt card.
- F). Include a self-addressed, stamped envelope with the petition.

DATE OF ATHLETE'S STATE CHAMPIONSHIP: _____ DATE FILING PETITION: _____

ATHLETE'S NAME: _____

ATHLETE'S USTA# _____ ATHLETE'S AAU# _____

COACH NAME/TEAM NAME: _____

COACH'S TELEPHONE #'s () () _____

COACH E-MAIL ADDRESS: _____

All petitions will be evaluated on a case by case basis by the Technical Vice President.

