2028 NSCA REGIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP CRITERIA

The following criteria establish the minimum requirements and expectations for clubs bidding to host a NSCA Regional Championship.

1. **Required events and facilities:** The Regional Championship will be awarded to a qualified club with the experience, events, and facilities needed to meet the following minimum requirements:
    a. 200-target Main Event conducted over a two- or three-day rotation. A two-day rotation must use at least two Sporting Clays courses with a minimum of 13 stations each. A three-day rotation must use at least three courses with a minimum of 10 stations each. Examples of daily target distribution are 100/100 for two courses and 66/66/68 for three courses.
    b. 100-target Preliminary Event.
    c. 100-target FITASC event. The bid must specify whether the event will use new-style or old-style FITASC. *(New style is strongly recommended and preferred to accommodate more participants.)*
    d. 100-target NSCA 5-Stand event conducted in 25-target increments, using at least two layouts and four distinctly different target menus.
    e. 100-target Super Sporting event.
    f. 50-target Small Gauge events for 20-gauge, 28-gauge, and .410 bore that must be conducted on a course.
    g. All events must comply with paragraph VI-D-6 of the NSCA Rule Book regarding multiple events on a single course.
    h. American Field Sporting may be offered as an optional side event.
    i. A practice Sporting Clays course with at least five stations and/or practice 5-Stand.
    j. The Main Event, Preliminary Event, FITASC, 5-Stand, and Super Sporting must use assigned squads and scheduled flight times.
    k. Shooting games are desirable but are not required.
    l. Adequate facilities, including a clubhouse, restrooms, catering, and vendor space. Clubs are encouraged to accommodate all vendors to enhance the competitor's experience.
    m. Acceptable hotels and restaurants nearby and camper facilities for at least 20 campers.
    n. Adequate parking at or very near the venue and shuttle transportation when required.
    o. Clubs may later bid on Major FITASC Championships to replace their proposed FITASC side event. Bidding for the National FITASC and FITASC World Cups will open after the Regional Championships have been selected.

2. **Proposed Dates and Registration**
    a. Clubs must submit three proposed Championship date options, ranked in order of preference. Each option must fall on the second or third weekend of a different month between February and September. Bids without three eligible options will not be considered.
    b. The NSCA Competition Committee will coordinate the schedule to space the five Regional Championships, U.S. Open, and National Championship as much as possible.
    c. Championship dates must be published at least 10 months before the event, or no later than January 1 of the Championship year. Online registration must be available six months before the event, or no later than January 1 of the Championship year.
    d. Host clubs must provide the NSCA Assistant Director with the scheduled date and time that online registration will open and the name of the scoring and registration platform. This information must be provided sufficiently in advance for NSCA to advertise the opening to its membership at least two weeks before registration goes live.
    e. 2028 US Open will be April 4-9 at Quail Creek Sporting Ranch in FL, 2028 World English Sporting Championship will be May 22-28 at Back Woods Quail Club in SC, and the 2028 FITASC World Sporting Championship will be September 11-17at Old Hudson Plantation in GA (date pending approval by FITASC).

3. **Practice Availability** - The host club must provide practice fields before the first day of registered events and open practice at least 30 minutes before event flight times. For example, if the Main Event begins at 8:00 a.m., practice must open by 7:30 a.m.

4. **Pro Class** - All 100-target, 12-gauge events must offer Pro Class. **Pro Class awards and payouts must, at a minimum, match those offered in Master Class.** Pro Class consists of individuals who qualify for the Pro Squad at the time of the Championship.

5. **Pro Squads** - The Main Event must include separate Men's and Ladies' Pro Squads. Both groups must be scheduled for the same rotation and finish on the final Sunday rotation. Men must be squadded with men, and women with women.
    a. Squad assignments within each group must be randomized. The host club may choose the method of randomization, with assistance from NSCA Headquarters as needed.

6. **Awards**
    a. NSCA will design, pay for, and provide 2-inch NSCA medallions for the following Main Event awards:
        i. Event Champion, Runner-Up, and Third Place.
        ii. Concurrent Champion, Runner-Up, and Third Place for Sub-Junior, Junior, Lady, Veteran, Lady Veteran, Super Veteran, Senior Super Veteran, and Legacy.
        iii. First through Third Place in Pro, Master, AA, A, B, C, and D classes.
        iv. The host club is responsible for all side event awards. At a minimum, the Preliminary Event, FITASC, 5-Stand, Super Sporting, and Small Gauge events must provide First through Third Place awards in Master through D classes and in each applicable concurrent. Pro Class must also receive First through Third Place awards in all 100-target, 12-gauge side events.
        v. The Main Event, Preliminary Event, FITASC, 5-Stand, and Super Sporting must offer Lady Veteran awards following the same award schedule as the Veteran concurrent. Lady Veteran eligibility is limited to female competitors age 55 or older.

7. **Deposits and Refunds**
    a. Competitors may register in advance for the Main Event with a $100 deposit. FITASC registration requires payment of the full entry fee. FITASC entry fees are nonrefundable except at the host club's discretion in extenuating circumstances, such as a medical emergency or death. The host club will determine deposit requirements for all other events. A standard $35 clerical fee applies to all eligible refunds.
    b. The host club must publish its cancellation and refund policy before registration opens, including the treatment of the Main Event deposit and other event deposits.

8. **FITASC Referees and Shoot Officials**
    a. FITASC events must use certified FITASC referees.
    b. Other Championship events must use experienced referees and shoot officials. Officials should preferably be at least 18 years old and ideally should not be competing in the Main Event.
    c. It is recommended that course managers be NSCA Certified Sporting Clays Referees or Level 1 Certified Instructors.

9. **Options and Payout Reporting**
    a. The host club will determine the options offered. All payouts and awards must be mailed within 10 days after completion of the Championship unless already distributed at the event.
    b. The NSCA Assistant Director and all participants must receive a mailer or email showing winnings and payout information. This information may instead be posted digitally in an approved electronic shoot program.

10. **Shoot-Offs** - Shoot-offs must be held on the day the applicable event concludes or at the conclusion of all shooting on the final day of the Championship. All shoot-offs must take place near the clubhouse using traps reserved exclusively for shoot-offs. The host club must publish shoot-off procedures before competition begins. Adequate lighting is required.

11. **Social Function** - The host club must host a social function on Friday or Saturday evening.

12. **Ammunition** - Only factory ammunition is allowed. Reloaded ammunition is prohibited.

13. **Registration and Membership**
    a. All Regional Championship events must be registered, and NSCA daily fees must be charged. State daily fees must also be collected if required by an approved state association at the time the shoot is approved.
    b. Any fees added to the published entry fee, including state sales taxes, must be disclosed in the bid application, all programs and shooter forms, and any advertisements quoting entry fees.
    c. All participants must be current NSCA members or crossfire NSSA members. Complimentary Limited Memberships may be issued to eligible nonmembers.

14. **USA Sporting Clays Team Honorary Team Captain Parking** - Host clubs are asked to provide a VIP parking space for each USA Sporting Clays Team Honorary Team Captain attending the Championship. The team manager will coordinate arrangements with the host club.

15. **USA Sporting Clays Team Qualifying Events** - The Main Event and FITASC event will be USA Sporting Clays Team qualifying events.

16. **Regional boundaries** - Each of the following five geographical regions will host one Regional Championship annually:
    - Northeast: Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, New York, Connecticut, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, West Virginia, and Ohio.
    - Southeast: Tennessee, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Alabama, Florida, Puerto Rico, and Jamaica.
    - North Central: North Dakota, South Dakota, Nebraska, Kansas, Minnesota, Iowa, Missouri, Illinois, Wisconsin, Michigan, Indiana, and Kentucky.
    - South Central: New Mexico, Texas, Oklahoma, Arkansas, Mississippi, and Louisiana.
    - West: Washington, Oregon, Montana, Idaho, Wyoming, Colorado, Utah, Nevada, California, Arizona, Alaska, and Hawaii.

17. **Bid Submission and Selection**
    a. Clubs must submit a complete bid form to the NSCA Assistant Director by the deadline listed in Section 25.
    b. The Assistant Director will forward complete bids to the National Delegates in the applicable region.
    c. National Delegates within that region will select the proposed host through an electronic ballot.
    d. Selection is subject to approval by the Competition Committee and Executive Council.

18. **Contingency Plan**
    a. The host club must maintain a written contingency plan for tragedies, natural disasters, and other circumstances that may disrupt the Championship. At a minimum, the plan must address course layout, parking, facility management, scoring, registration, and procedures for determining Championship winners if competition cannot be completed as scheduled.
    b. Before the Championship, the plan must be on file with the NSCA Assistant Director and the National Delegates in the host region. It must also be published on the event website and in the event program.

19. **Changes to the Approved Bid**
    a. The host club must conduct the Championship in accordance with its approved bid and these criteria. Any proposed deviation must be submitted in writing to the NSCA Assistant Director and Competition Committee for review. They will provide a recommendation to the Executive Council for final decision. No deviation may be implemented without prior written approval from the Executive Council.
    b. If target costs increase after the bid is approved and before the event, the host club may submit a written request for an entry fee adjustment through this same review process. No fee increase may be implemented without prior written approval.

20. Host Club Qualifications

a. Shoot management must be in good standing with NSCA when applying and must retain that standing through the year of the Championship.
b. Management must have managed a State, Regional, or Major Shoot with at least 150 NSCA registered shooters in the Main Event in at least one of the three years preceding the bid application deadline.

21. Publishing Event Information

a. The host club must promptly publish, at a minimum, the following information in a publicly accessible digital format, preferably on its website and online registration site:
    i. the schedule of event
    ii. rules and regulations
    iii. protest committee information
    iv. payouts and options
    v. refund schedule and regulations
    vi. awards for each event
    vii. a facility map clearly identifying all shooting venues and essential locations
    viii. nearby hotel information
    ix. target setter information

22. Hosting Agreement - The selected host club must sign a formal Regional Championship Hosting Agreement with NSCA. The agreement must identify the approved bid commitments, responsibilities, and timelines for hosting the Championship.

23. Readiness assessment

a. The host club must be willing to host a visit by the NSCA Assistant Director or an appointee from the Competition Committee for a grounds inspection and readiness assessment before the Championship.
b. NSCA will provide a checklist covering the required aspects of event preparation.

24. NSA Executive Council Involvement - Executive Council members will be assigned to each Regional Championship to represent NSCA and work with shoot management to ensure that the event follows the approved bid, Championship Criteria, and event plan. Assigned members will participate in decisions and may assist with registration, scoring, shoot-offs, and awards presentations as needed. Significant compliance concerns must be reported to NSCA Headquarters.

25. <u>Bid Deadlines and Voting Schedule</u>

a. Bid submission deadline: **<u>November 23, 2026,</u>** 5:00 p.m. Central Time.
b. Bids must be submitted to nbowers@nssa-nsca.com.
c. NSCA National Delegates within each region will vote on their region's Championship location.
d. Electronic ballots will be distributed to NSCA National Delegates in the region by December 4, 2026.
e. Ballot return deadline: December 18, 2026, 5:00 p.m. Central Time.
f. Schedule coordinated and finalized by the NSCA Assistant Director and Competition Committee Chairman by January 6, 2027.
g. 2028 NSCA Championship Tour schedule announced by January 11, 2027.

Questions should be directed to Nichole Bowers, NSCA Assistant Director, at nbowers@nssa-nsca.com or 210-688-3371 ext. 255.

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