

Binding Nature: The decision of the Tournament Committee shall be binding on all persons directly or indirectly involved and should be accepted in the spirit of good sportsmanship and fair play.

7. **Format/Scheduling** (*seeding, tie breakers*)

The order of events for each tournament is decided by the Tournament Director.

The order of competitors for each event is assigned by the official computer program. The randomly assigned order will not be changed to accommodate lateness, illness or special request.

Athletes must present themselves by the 3rd and final call for their event. The tournament will not be held up in order to wait for a tardy athlete or to remedy uniform or equipment issues (see note on Page 28 regarding Delay of Tournament policy).

8. **Entry Procedures** (*fee structure, How to register for event, registration, deadlines*)

- See Description of COMPETITION TYPES on Page 13 to see entry procedures for specific tournaments
- Registration papers and appropriate fees must be **received** 4 weeks prior to the tournament, unless otherwise noted. Current AAU Membership Numbers must be submitted before the competition for all athletes, coaches, judges and scorers. A \$10 late fee must be included for all late registrations for Qualifying Tournaments. An application without a confirmed membership number is insufficient

B. **Competition Rules** – (*Rules specific to participating in competition*)

Unless otherwise stated in this handbook the rules of competition shall be those of USA JUMP ROPE. Only those rules contained in this handbook shall supersede the general rules of the national governing body.

1. **Qualification Procedure** (*advancement procedures, participation requirements*)

- Athletes may compete in any number of AAU qualifying tournaments in order to attempt to qualify for the AAU Junior Olympic Games. Permission to compete will be granted providing space and time permit. In the case of excessive numbers, a District Qualifier will be closed to serve only athletes from that District.
- Previously qualified athletes will not be considered in the total number of athletes who qualify from that qualifying tournament. They will be designated as “Open” competitors in the database who do not take points away from athletes who have not previously qualified, NOTE: “Open” will also apply to any Non-US athletes. Open competitors will be eligible for awards. They will be awarded “Sports For All Forever” medals and place ribbons as earned.
- Non-US athletes may qualify through an AAU Open qualifier, providing scores fall within the range of scores of US athletes in that event, or may be nominated by their National Governing Body (NGB) up to a maximum of 10 athletes per age-group in each event
- Wild card applications will not be accepted. The National Jump Rope Chairman will address unique circumstances.
- In Individual Rope Pairs and Double Dutch one athlete, registered for that tournament, may be designated as a substitute for each event registered.
 - ❖ The substitute must be designated by the registration deadline of the tournament.
 - ❖ The substitute may compete in Individual Rope Pairs and Double Dutch events.
 - ❖ The substitute may serve in any age division for which he/she is eligible.

- ❖ The substitute may not compete on more than one Triple Crown, Pentathlon, or Group Routine Team,
- ❖ An event entry may not be composed of more substitutes than original jumpers (1 in pairs, 2 in Double Dutch).
- ❖ Tournament Directors must be notified ASAP before a substitution is made.
- ❖ An athlete substituting for an unavailable athlete who qualified for the AAU Junior Olympic Games must have registered or participated in an AAU qualifying tournament. Participation may include competing, being entered as a registered substitute, volunteering or officiating.
- ❖ A substitution after the beginning of the tournament may only be made after medical personnel have verified the nature of the injury and reported it to the Tournament Director.
- ❖ The injured athlete may not compete in any subsequent event at the competition.
- ❖ A substitution after the beginning of the tournament may only be made using a listed substitute from the injured athlete's team.
- ❖ A Pair or Double Dutch team using an approved substitute after the tournament has begun is eligible for All Around medals.

2. **Eligibility** (*age divisions, roster requirements, weight classes*)

- Age is determined by the date of September 1 of the competition year.
- Athletes who are over 18 must register as adult athletes.
- In all individual events the athlete must compete in his or her own age group.
- In Individual Rope Pairs, Double Dutch and Team competition, age is determined by the age of the oldest athlete.
- No athlete may compete in the same event more than once in any tournament e.g. on two separate Double Dutch teams.
- Athletes may not compete in any All Around or Group Routine event in which they are judging .

3. **Uniform & Equipment** (*head gear, helmets, jerseys, gee's, shoes*)

- Athletes may wear any type of athletic clothing normally worn in sport competition or exercise activity.
 - Example: Beaded and sequined items are inappropriate. Shorts, shirts, uni-tards and form-fitting Lycra separates are acceptable.
- Team uniforms must coordinate in color and may have the team name or logo displayed during competition. Styles may be modified for differences in gender. Females in a multi-person event must dress alike. Males in a multi-person event must dress alike. Males in the same multi-person event with females must wear either matching colors or the same color of the shirt or shorts worn by the females, or vice versa if there are more males in the event. Inverse matching of shirts and shorts between genders is acceptable. Group Routine uniforms may be coordinated for creativity, provided other uniform rules are observed.
- Regular underwear should not be visible during any of the moves.
- If spandex is worn under the uniform shorts, the spandex garments must all match in color. The spandex does not need to match the same color of the shorts.
- Short athletic skirts or shorts may be worn with proper matching under garments.
- Midriff and stomach should not be exposed when an athlete is in the normal standing position.
- Shorts must be of an appropriate, decent, length.
- Supportive athletic shoes must be worn, **and socks should be worn**, to protect the athlete's feet. Any injuries to an athlete's feet due to not wearing socks would be the fault of the athlete and the AAU would not be able to be held responsible.

- Jewelry may not be worn during competition, with the exception of earring studs or wedding bands. If left in place, these must be taped over.
Example: Watches, cloth bracelets and necklaces, body-piercing items, protruding hair-clamps and other potential safety hazards are unacceptable.
- Long hair must be worn back off the athlete's face during competition.
- Soft costume accessories may only be worn in freestyle and will only be permitted if properly secured to the uniform and if worn throughout the routine.
- Eye-glasses must be secured using a sport-strap or ear-wedge.
- Head Coverings may not be worn unless previously approved for religious or medical reasons.
- Exceptions will be permitted to the uniform rule for religious requirements with prior notification to the tournament director.
- Exceptions will only be made for special needs and with prior approval from the Tournament Director and submitted at registration for that tournament .
Example: Medic-Alert bracelet or religious attire exception.

NOTE: Competing while injured is not encouraged. Casts and splints may only be worn with a written doctor's permission on file with the Tournament Director.

NOTE: Items that fall from an athlete's clothing during competition, including from pockets, and create an unsafe environment for any competitor will cause the athlete(s) at fault to be stopped immediately. The performance will be judged up to that point.

- Items that fall and go out of bounds will be counted as a space violation.
- Items that fall into an adjacent competition area and disrupt the routine of another competitor will result in a zero score for the athlete causing the issue and the option of a re-jump for the athlete affected.

For penalties resulting from these rules, please see page 27

4. **Competition Types** (*Different Disciplines, Division I or Division II, National Championships, Super Regional, Regional*)

NON-QUALIFYING INVITATIONAL TOURNAMENTS MAY BE OFFERED BASED ON INTEREST. AAU MEMBERSHIP AND SANCTION REQUIREMENTS MUST BE OBSERVED.

AAU QUALIFYING TOURNAMENTS

Any AAU athlete who meets age restrictions may compete at any Open Qualifying Tournament, providing space is available and no other restrictions apply.

- Qualifying tournaments will be announced by October 31 preceding each competition year. A minimum of 60 competitors and 3 teams are required for a tournament to be considered "an official Qualifier". Only official tournaments will be eligible to qualify the top 10 finishers in each event.
- Bids to host a qualifying tournament should be sent to the AAU Jump Rope Secretary General by September 15 of the preceding year. Bid-forms are posted on the web-site www.aausports.org. Acceptance will be announced after the Fall Executive Committee Meeting. Late bids may be considered at the discretion of the AAU Jump Rope Committee.

- Tournament Directors must request official sanctioning for their event through the AAU at www.aausports.org. Tournaments having events for the over 18 adult athletes must be sanctioned for a combined youth/adult event. Athletes 18 and over must register as adult athletes.
 - Up to a maximum of 10 US athletes and 10 non-US athletes (plus 3 Group Routines) will qualify through each AAU Qualifying Tournament for the AAU Junior Olympic Games in Houston, Texas in each age-group and in each event.
 - Athletes may attend any number of qualifying tournaments in an attempt to qualify, or for practice, providing space is available. Previously qualified athletes will not be considered in the total number of athletes qualifying from that tournament (although they will still be eligible for awards). They will be designated as “Open” competitors in the database who do not take points away from athletes who have not previously qualified, NOTE: “Open” will also apply to any Non-US athletes. Open competitors will be eligible for “Sports For All Forever” medals and place ribbons as earned.
 - Unlimited entries per team are allowed in each event or at the discretion of the tournament director.
 - Maximum manageable numbers are encouraged for inclusion as per the AAU policy.
 - One entry per team in each age group is allowed for Group Routine.
 - When confronted with registration numbers exceeding 150 athletes for a Qualifying Tournament, the Tournament Director:
 1. Should first explore the option of expanding the competition space or adding a day.
 2. May declare the tournament “closed” to athletes from outside the hosting AAU District if additional space or time are not available.
 3. May limit the number of out-of-District athletes by event and age-group in a consistent manner by team.
- NOTE:** Music for freestyle will remain mandatory.
- **FEES** Tournament fees: \$40 per individual (\$5 of this amount is a capitation fee to AAU Jump Rope). Spectator Admission Fees are discouraged. Under no circumstances may admission fees be charged to AAU members. If spectator fees are to be charged, this must be announced with the tournament information announcement. They may not exceed \$5.

2012 AAU JUNIOR OLYMPIC GAMES

Athletes may qualify for the 2012 AAU Junior Olympic Games in Houston, Texas in the following ways:

US ATHLETES

1. **By qualifying in the top 10 US athletes in the overall ranking in a singles, pairs or Double Dutch event at any 2012 AAU qualifying tournament unless previously qualified.**
2. **By qualifying in one of the top 3 teams in a Group Routine competition at any 2012 AAU qualifying tournament unless previously qualified.**

NON US ATHLETES

1. **By qualifying in the top 10 Non-US athletes in the overall ranking in a singles, pairs or Double Dutch event at any 2012 AAU qualifying tournament, providing their scores fall within the range of the qualified US athletes in that event. Tournament fee \$40.**
2. **By qualifying in one of the top 3 teams in a qualifying Group Routine competition.**