

The New Comp Cycle 2021-2023 & Beyond





Introduction

Bret Bishop
FFTUSA Team Captain
Former National team member
2005-2009



Glade Gunther
FFTUSA Leadership Team
Current National Team Member
2012-Current



Team Mission Statement



The mission of Fly Fishing Team USA (“FFTUSA”) is to educate and train men and women in the sport of competitive fly fishing on both national and international levels and to promote, and educate its members in the conservation of our fisheries, lakes, rivers and streams. The FFTUSA will select a team of qualified anglers to represent the United States of America at national and international fly fishing competitions, including the world fly fishing competition held each year by the International Sport Flyfishing Federation (“FIPS-Mouche”) which is an arm of the International Angling Confederation (“CIPS”). The team selected by the FFTUSA will represent the USA with honor and dignity and will display sportsmanship to Olympic standards with respect for their fellow members and competitors from around the world.



Current Competition Cycle Highlights (Bridge Cycle)

- The 2021-2022 cycle will be used to bridge a new competition format.
- 6 “old style” regionals
 - Point accumulation will be the same as the previous cycle
 - May restrict registration to anglers who have competed in the previous cycle
 - Bridge Cycle Regionals are in the works: VT, NY, NC, ID, CO
- The United States Fly Fishing Championships (“USFFC”) will be held in Basalt, Colorado and is slated for April of 2023.
- Events will be announced as soon as we have detailed information about dates and locations



New Competition Cycle

Overview

- **Starting in 2021 we are changing to a regional competition structure**
- **Anglers will be grouped by the region where they live and will compete with other anglers in their region**
- **Based on their regional rankings, anglers will be invited to compete nationally at inter-regional competitions.**
- **From a combination of rankings from regional and inter-regional events anglers will be invited to compete and the National Championships**



New Competition Cycle

Regions and Coordinators

- **Northeast Region: Ken Crane**
Connecticut, Delaware, Illinois, Indiana, Maine, Massachusetts, Maryland, Michigan, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Vermont, Wisconsin, Washington DC
- **West Region: Glade Gunther**
Alaska, Arizona, California, Hawaii, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, Oregon, Utah, Washington
- **Midwest Region: Madoka Myers**
Arkansas, Colorado, Iowa, Kansas, Louisiana, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, New Mexico, North Dakota, Oklahoma, South Dakota, Texas, Wyoming
- **Southeast Region: TBD**
Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, Virginia, West Virginia



New Competition Cycle

Regional Competitions

- **Two types of regional competitions**
- **Minis**
 - One day events
 - Minimum of 8 anglers
 - 8 points available for first place
 - No maximum on number events hosted or participated in
 - 3 Mini events scores will count toward your regional ranking
- **Regionals**
 - One day events
 - Minimum of 8 anglers
 - 8 points available for first place
 - No maximum on number events hosted or participated in
 - 3 Regional events scores will count toward your regional ranking
- **Regionals**
 - Two day events
 - Competition days must be within 16 days of each other
 - Minimum of 16 anglers
 - 16 points available for first place
 - No maximum on number events hosted or participated in
 - 3 Full events scores will count toward your regional ranking
- **Regional ranking**
 - At the end of the regional cycle anglers in each region will be ranked based on points
 - 10 regional ranking points will be given to the highest ranked angler with each subsequent angler earning one less point
 - Regional ranking will be used to determine who gets invited to Inter-Regional events



New Competition Cycle

Inter-Regional Competitions

- **Six Inter-regional competitions held in each cycle**
 - There will be one event in each region with an addition event in the east (Northeast and Southeast region) and one in the west (West and Midwest region).
- **Inter-regional format**
 - Invitation only with the highest ranked anglers in each region getting first choice of events
 - 2 day 4 session events
 - 24 anglers minimum
 - 24 points available for first place
- **Each angler can compete in only 4 events and count the best 2 scores**
- **Cost will be \$125 per event**



New Competition Cycle

USFFC (National Championship)

- **The National Championship will be held every other year with the next one in 2025**
- **USFFC Format**
 - Invitation only based on point totals from regional ranking points (1-10) and inter-regional events (max of 48 points)
 - 48 anglers
 - Minimum of 5 sessions
 - First place finish will be awarded 32 points
- **FFTUSA Selection**
 - Total of all points will be used to select the top 15 eligible anglers for selection to the Nation Team



New Competition Cycle Cycle Calendar

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027
Current cycle							
New Regionals							
Inter-Regionals (6)							
Nationals							

- Regional events will be ongoing, but prior to the beginning of Inter-regionals for a given cycle, rankings of each region's competitors will be established.
- For example, at the end of 2023, enough regional events will have occurred to rank the top local anglers and establish qualification for the 2023-24 Inter-regionals.
- At this point, a new round of regional events will begin. They will end in 2025 prior to the 2025-26 Inter-regionals, and so on.



Membership

- **Annually starting August 1 and ending July 31st of the following year.**
- **Any person may become a member of FFTUSA.**
 - Complete the registration form and waiver, and paying the fee.
 - Must adhere to the FFTUSA code of conduct and may be suspended or revoked without refund of membership fees if an angler is found to be in violation
 - Anglers must be eighteen (18) or older before the end of the year that Nationals will be held and citizens of the USA to make the FFTUSA National Team
 - Anglers that are not eligible to make the FFTUSA National Team are subject to a 24 hr registration delay for all events
- **FFTUSA membership cost is \$75**
 - May be offered in conjunction with other approved Fly Fishing organizations
- **No cost access to all regional events**
 - Any event specific costs will be announced by the organizers of events and any event fees will be paid directly to the organizers



New Competition Cycle: Loose Ends

- **Membership will open ASAP...watch this Facebook Page for an announcement and must be active in order to participate in any event**
- **We will work “Minis” that have been held this year into the new regional ranking system**
- **“Local” Regionals are being planned for this fall**
 - **October 23rd - Logan, UT**
 - **Tentative - October 24th - Syracuse, NY**
 - **Tentative - November 7th - Boulder, CO**



New Competition Cycle: Loose Ends cont...

- **Anglers can only accrue points in the region in which they reside**
 - Subject to a 24 hour delay in order to register in other region events
- **Anglers that compete in the World Fly Fishing Championship will be awarded 10 points in their region, but will be ranked according to their actual finish in the region**
- **Some events will follow no fish measurement protocols**
- **Measuring trays must be purchased by competitors, from the team website**
- **All events competitor/angler controlled**

The New Comp Cycle 2021-2023 & Beyond... Questions?

