USA Ultimate Triple Crown Tour Event Bid Form

10/30/2006

Thank you for your interest in hosting a USA Ultimate Triple Crown Tour Event! The USA Ultimate Triple Crown Tour relies on local volunteers to help promote and facilitate tournaments across the country. Your tournament will be a milestone on the road to the USA Ultimate Postseason Championship Series, a great playing experience for teams, and an opportunity to promote the sport at its best.

Event Types

Teams in the Triple Crown Tour are divided into 4 flights (Pro, Elite, Select, and Classic), based on performance from the prior year's Postseason. See Appendix 1 for a breakdown of the different events that make up the Regular Season and Postseason. All events must meet the USA Ultimate Sanctioning Program event requirements. NOTE: *USA Ultimate-owned and sanctioned events are all governed by USA Ultimate's Gender Inclusion Policy and Code of Conduct.*

- **Pro and Elite Flight & Select Flight Invite Events** - Teams in the top two flights, Pro and Elite, represent the top 16 teams in the country, based on their finish at Nationals. These teams are required to attend specific regular season events, which are bid out to event organizers and selected by USA Ultimate (see Appendix 1). Top-Select Flight teams (the teams that lost their respective games to go to Nationals) will be required to attend the Select Flight Invite or the Elite-Select Challenge. This bid document is used for bidding on those events.

- **Other Regular Season Sanctioned Events** - Organizers interested in hosting other events that will be part of the Triple Crown Tour regular season must apply through the tournament sanctioning process (this bid document is not needed for those events). The Tour is largely composed of these independent events, which provide local, regional, and national playing opportunities to teams at all levels. There are no specific requirements for teams or formats for these events. Any event is eligible to apply to be part of the Triple Crown Tour Regular Season. Learn how to apply by contacting sanctioning@hq.usaultimate.org.

Pro and Elite Flight & Select Flight Invite Events Application
Bid process timeline is as follows:
- Complete the following form and return it to USA Ultimate Headquarters by **January 6, 2027** for 2027 events.
- Headquarters Staff will announce 2027 Pro, Elite, and Select Flight Invite events by the end of January, 2027.
- Complete the following form and return it to USA Ultimate Headquarters by **November 5, 2027** for 2028 events.
- Headquarters Staff will announce 2028 Pro, Elite, and Select Flight Invite events by the end of December, 2027.



Tournament Sanctioning Expectations
All Triple Crown Tour regular season events are also part of the USA Ultimate Sanctioned Event Program. As such, organizers that accept the responsibilities of hosting one of these Triple Crown Tour events should also expect the requirements of tournament sanctioning to be in place, including Provisions and Amenities and Health and Safety. There are additional requirements and benefits for major Triple Crown Tour regular season events, as outlined in this bid document. Please review this information before submitting your bid for the Triple Crown Tour. If your event is selected, then you will be expected to complete the tournament sanctioning application process accordingly. The significant changes to the tournament sanctioning process for the organizer of Triple Crown Tour Pro, Elite, and Select Flight Invite events will include the following:

1. The sanctioning fee is waived for major Triple Crown Tour events.
2. Team selection, registration, and rostering will be managed directly by USA Ultimate. USA Ultimate will assist the event organizer in communicating with the teams about the rostering process.

3. The schedule will be created and entered into the online event system by USA Ultimate staff. Organizers will not need to enter the schedule, but will be expected to assist with the process of scheduling and score reporting and ensure that all final results are posted.
4. USA Ultimate supports the inclusion of all marginalized communities in ultimate events and encourages intentional acts of support for underrepresented groups, including BIPOC attendees and the LGBTQ+ community. Possible examples include:
    a) Sharing inclusive language in event materials and encouraging use of gender-neutral language.
    b) Reminding participants of expectations outlined in the USA Ultimate Code of Conduct and providing a contact to report any concerning activity or behavior.
    c) Utilizing minority-owned businesses as your event's vendors.
    d) Ensuring access to gender-neutral restrooms.
    e) Displaying flags supportive of marginalized communities, such as Black Lives Matter, Pride, Pride Progress or Transgender inclusion flags.
    f) Partnering with a local community outreach organization, including for fundraisers or potentially offering them free space to table at your event.

If you have any additional questions about the tournament sanctioning requirements for your event, please contact sanctioning@usaultimate.org.

Please see the chart below for additional requirements.

Event Requirements

	Dates	Division(s) Men's, Mixed, Women's	Number of Teams	Number of Fields	Competition Format & Schedule	On-site Showcase Field
2027 Pro-Elite Challenge (2 events 1 East 1 West)	June 26-27 or July 10-11	Any but all 3 preferred	12 or 16 per division	6 per division	TBD by USA Ultimate	Preferred
2028 Pro-Elite Challenge (2 events 1 East 1 West)	June 24-25, July 1,2 July 8-9, or July 15-16 (exact dates available after USOCC is set)	Any but all 3 preferred	12 or 16 per division	6 per division	TBD by USA Ultimate	Preferred
2027 Select Flight Invite (2 events 1 East 1 West)	July 10-11 or July 24-25	Any but all 3 preferred	16 or 20 per division	6-8 per division	TBD by USA Ultimate	Preferred
2028 Select Flight Invite (2 events 1 East 1 West)	July 8-9, 15-16, 22-23, 29-30 (exact dates available after USOCC is set)	Any but all 3 preferred	16 or 20 per division	6-8 per division	TBD by USA Ultimate	Preferred
2027 Elite-Select Challenge	August 21-22	All 3	16 per division	6 per division	TBD by USA Ultimate	Preferred
2028 Elite-Select Challenge	Aug 19-20	All 3	16 per division	6 per division	TBD by USA Ultimate	Preferred
2027 Pro Championships	SEP 4-6	All 3	8 or 12 per division	12 total including showcase field	TBD by USA Ultimate	On site stadium preferred
2028 Pro Championships	SEP 2-4	All 3	8 or 12 per division	12 total including showcase field	TBD by USA Ultimate	On site stadium preferred

- Showcase Fields should accommodate 500+ spectators, sponsor signage and media access

Note 1: for all mTCT events the local organizers should plan on providing 30+ staff or volunteers, including a Tournament Director, a Volunteer Coordinator, 1 Head Scorekeeper, 1 scorekeeper per field, and 8+ observers. This should be reflected in the budget

Note 2: Strong consideration will be given to having PEC-East and West on different weekends and SFI-East and West on different weekends.

I. General Information

Please indicate below which event(s) you are bidding on, which date(s), and which division(s). Please note alternate available dates and preferences.

☐ Elite-Select Challenge
Date:
☐ Men's
☐ Mixed
☐ Women's

☐ Pro-Elite Challenge
Date:
☐ East
☐ West
☐ Men's
☐ Mixed
☐ Women's

☐ Select Flight Invite
Date:
☐ East
☐ West
☐ Men's
☐ Mixed
☐ Women's

☐ Pro Championships
Date:
All 3 divisions required.

Additional Divisions/Teams - Please include information on any other divisions or teams that might be competing during your event in the same location
Mixed **Open** **Women's**

Location (Name of site, address, and web address)

II. Statement of Purpose (required if you did not host a major TCT event in 2026)
What your group(s) want to bring a Triple Crown Tour Event to your area?

What are the group's goals regarding the event?

What about your site or Ultimate community will contribute to a successful event?

Have prior USA Ultimate events or other large Ultimate tournaments been held in your area? If so, have they been USA Ultimate sanctioned events?

What other comparable sporting events have been held at your site?

III. Tournament Location and Dates
What is the name and address of the field site?

What type of facility is this (soccer fields, intramural fields, polo fields, grass fields, artificial turf, etc.)?

Will all of the fields be at one site (preferred)? If the fields will be at multiple sites, how far away are those sites from one another?

What is your backup plan in case you can't use the original fields and date because of weather issues (backup fields, all-weather fields, reschedule, etc.)?

Is there a showcase field available on-site? If so, describe its ability to seat fans and accommodate media coverage.

IV. Local Organizing Committee (LOC)

Who will serve as tournament director? Please note that this person must not be participating as a player, coach, observer, etc. The tournament director must be USA Ultimate TDCP Level I certified or will become so within 30 days from the awarding of the tournament.

Indicate the number of total staff (not participating at the event) who will be available for tournament duties including score reporting, field lining, field setup/breakdown, and keeping water and food stations stocked.

Please list two primary contacts (primary and secondary) with physical address, phone number, and email address.

Primary Contact
Name:
Address:
Phone:
Email Address:
Event Sanctioning is a benefit of USA Ultimate membership.
USA Ultimate Member #:

Secondary Contact
Name:
Address:
Phone:
Email Address:

V. Playing Facilities

How many full-sized fields are available at the site that meets the spacing requirements outlined in the Provisions and Amenities guidelines?

Lined fields are required for all Triple Crown Tour Event games. What are your plans for field lining?

Are there any lit fields?
☐ Yes ☐ No

Is adequate parking close by?
☐ Yes ☐ No

VI. Support Facilities

Please review the Provisions and Amenities section of the tournament sanctioning guidelines before completing this section.

Tournament Headquarters

Where will the main tent or similar support facility be located in relation to the fields?

There needs to be a place for scores to be posted at tournament headquarters. Are you able to accommodate this?
☐ Yes ☐ No

Are power and internet available?

Concessions/Exhibitors

Can concessions be sold by vendors on site?
☐ Yes ☐ No

Are non-food exhibitors allowed to advertise and/or sell merchandise on site?
☐ Yes ☐ No

Does the field provider have a contract for exclusive concession rights, or can bids be solicited?
☐ Yes ☐ No

Are permits required for food or non-food vendors?
☐ Yes ☐ No

Social/Alcohol

USA Ultimate alcohol policies listed below must be followed.

- *USA Ultimate does not condone the unlawful or unauthorized use, possession, distribution, consumption, promotion, marketing, or sale of alcoholic beverages at USA Ultimate official, sponsored, sanctioned or affiliated events.*
- *I agree that, as a USA Ultimate member, player, organizer, or representative of the organization, I will not compete at USA Ultimate official, sponsored, sanctioned or affiliated events, or carry out responsibilities related to official organization and event business, while under the influence of alcohol or illegal/banned drugs. Additionally, I will not engage in the unlawful or unauthorized use, possession, distribution or consumption of alcoholic beverages or illegal/banned drugs at said events or while representing USA Ultimate in an official capacity.*
- *Alcohol shall not be marketed, provided, served or sold at USA Ultimate official, sponsored, sanctioned or affiliated youth events (events where all of the participants are under 21).*
- *NOTE: USA Ultimate liability insurance for your event does not include alcohol liability.*

Do you plan on hosting a social function as part of the event (e.g. using entry fees, advertised to participants as part of event, etc.)?
☐ Yes ☐ No

Do you plan on having alcohol available in any way at or in conjunction with the event?
☐ Yes ☐ No

If the answer to either of the above questions is “yes”, what measures will be taken to ensure the safety of participants and compliance with all applicable laws, site rules, and USA Ultimate policies?

VII. Travel Information

Please review the Provisions and Amenities section (#5) of the tournament sanctioning guidelines before completing this section.

Accommodations

What accommodations are available on or near the site? Please include price range and availability for hotels including rates for complimentary rooms (for staff) and meeting space.

VIII. Benefits

Please review the tournament sanctioning guidelines for a list of general sanctioning benefits. In addition, USA Ultimate will be providing the following support for major Triple Crown Tour events.

- At least one staff member or senior volunteer on site to assist with field support and online score reporting.
- Game scorekeeping/stat-keeping/SOTG materials and instructions
- One game disc per team
- Signage as needed.
- May publish, at its discretion, editorial coverage of the Event supplied to USA Ultimate in a timely fashion by the local organizing committee or its media coordinator.

USA Ultimate maintains a $2 million liability policy that covers USA Ultimate sanctioned events. The insurance will cover the tournament director, volunteer staff, the field provider, and other groups as requested.
NOTE: USA Ultimate liability insurance for your event does not include alcohol liability.

Is this insurance adequate for the field provider and all other organizations who will be involved in the event?
☐ Yes ☐ No

IX. Media

Any event guide and travel information needs to be made available electronically (online or via email.) Are you able to meet this requirement?
☐ Yes ☐ No

Does the LOC have a volunteer who can post scores on the USA Ultimate website throughout the event? Scores must be posted promptly.
☐ Yes ☐ No

I have read and understand the following Media rights and responsibilities:
☐ Yes ☐ No

- USA Ultimate, as the owner of the Triple Crown Tour, owns all media rights to the events that comprise the Triple Crown Tour. USA Ultimate has the exclusive right to control photography and video and audio recordings of the events and the exclusive right to the publication, reproduction and distribution, live or otherwise, of such recordings. USA Ultimate may grant exclusive or non-exclusive licenses to individuals or entities that may allow the individuals or entities to record the Events and/or publish, reproduce and/or distribute such recordings upon terms negotiated between the parties. USA Ultimate has the right to prohibit unauthorized commercial photography, video and audio recordings at Events, as well as the right to prohibit the unauthorized publication, reproduction or distribution of such recordings.

- All still photographers attending any Triple Crown Tour event must sign and adhere to USA Ultimate's Recording Partnership Agreement. USA Ultimate may maintain an online media accreditation system to ensure all media sign the required paperwork and read the appropriate guidelines related to all media related activity.

- All individual event web pages maintained by the event organizers must include the USA Ultimate and the Triple Crown Tour logos.

X. Sponsorship and Merchandising

I have read and understand the following Sponsorship and Merchandising rights and responsibilities:

☐ Yes ☐ No

· Any and all contractual agreements relating to sponsorship and merchandising of the Event must be coordinated and approved by USA Ultimate. As such, the organizer is not required to secure sponsors for the Event, but is encouraged to provide information to USA Ultimate about relationships which organizers may already have with companies with a strong history of supporting ultimate or athletic events in their community.

· Event organizers are not required to secure an official merchandise partner for the event. However, all event organizers must communicate their intent on securing a merchandise partner for the event as part of the bid process. In the event that the organizer does not intend on engaging a merchandiser, USA Ultimate shall retain the right to do so and shall retain all of the revenues associated with said merchandise. If an organizer chooses to engage a merchandise provider for the event, all merchandise must be approved by USA Ultimate and should include Triple Crown Tour branding and the official Event name in order to maintain a level of consistency across all events. If the event successfully engages a merchandise partner, USA Ultimate is entitled to 10% of all revenues associated with non-disc related merchandise sales.

· USA Ultimate may provide Triple Crown Tour, Flight-specific or USA Ultimate branded discs for sale at the event. The local organizer and/or merchandiser will be required to offer these for sale, at a price determined by the local organizer, and remit $8/disc sold back to USA Ultimate. Organizers may design and purchase event-specific discs at the USA Ultimate discounted rate (if applicable) and keep all revenue associated with the sale of those discs.

Speak to your ability to secure sponsorships (local or otherwise) for the tournament. Please indicate your understanding that sponsorships may not conflict with USA Ultimate sponsors/commitments.

XI. Observers

USA Ultimate would like to have USA Ultimate Certified Observers officiating Triple Crown Tour Event games. While it may not be possible to cover all of these games, USA Ultimate would like at least 8 observers to work a three-division Triple Crown Tour Event and would hope that crews of 12 or more could be provided.

At a minimum, observers should have their travel & lodging expenses (if needed) paid as well as receive meals while working games. Other benefits may be provided at your discretion. Please factor in your anticipated costs for observers into your budget projections.

Tournaments selected as Triple Crown Tour Events will receive organizational and recruiting assistance from the USA Ultimate Observer Program, including assignment of a head observer for the event. Tournament organizers will work with Byron Hicks, Manager - Events, Byron@hq.usaultimate.org.

Please speak to how many certified observers you anticipate being able to incorporate for your Event.

XII. Budget

Income:

Bid Fee Notes:

1. List whether the bid fee is per team or per player.
2. In order to help support the growth of the Women's Division, please create a budget so that Women's Division's fees are 50-75% of the Men's and Mixed Divisions' fees.
3. **Include the USAU team fee in your budget. The fee, which equates to approximately $3/player, defrays USA Ultimate costs associated with supporting this event with staff and supplies. Please build this into the team/player fee, and plan on remitting this to USA Ultimate within 30 days following the event. The team fee is $70/team for Mixed and Men's Division teams and $40/team for Women's Division teams. Please let us know if you have any questions. *Note: The USAU team fee for 2027 and will be set during the annual budgeting process and may change. Tentative amounts are listed below.***

Sponsorships:

Admissions/Parking (*if admissions are charged for any event USA Ultimate will receive 50% and the LOC 50% of admissions revenue*)

Other

Expenses

Facility Rental	**$**
Rental Equipment (golf carts, tables, chairs, chairs, tents, Port-a-potties, dumpsters, coolers, etc.)	**$**
Labor (medical, observers, security, field lining, website Transportation, entertainment, etc.)	**$**
Food & Beverages (participants, staff)	**$**
Supplies (ice, medical, trash, field set-up, shipping, postage, etc.)	**$**
Travel &Lodging (event staff, including coordinators and observers)	**$**
Additional Game discs (see VIII. Benefits section)	**$**
USAU Team Fee ($70/M and X team, $40/W team in 2027, $75/$45 in 2028)	**$**
Other	**$**
Other	**$**
Other	**$**

Appendix 1

USA Ultimate Triple Crown Tour – Event Summary

(Note that all events will be expected to meet USA Ultimate's event quality standards (#5 & 6), in addition to any flight-specific event requirements.)

Regular Season – Triple Crown Tour

Tour Event	Dates	Division(s) – Men's, Mixed, Women's	# of Teams	# of Fields	Preferred Location/Notes**
Pro-Elite Challenge (2 events 1 East 1 West)	Last weekend in June and first weekend in July that is not the 4th	Any or all 3	16 per division	6 per division*	Travel for teams across TCT events will be strongly considered, along with the presence of quality facilities, strong local community, and local participating teams.
Select Flight Invite (2 events 1 East 1 West)	Two weekends in July, generally before and After Masters Nationals	Any or all 3	16-20 per division	6-8 per division*	Travel for teams across TCT events will be strongly considered, along with the presence of quality facilities, strong local community, and local participating teams.
US Open Club Championships (ICC/Adults)	First weekend in August	All 3	12 per division (ICC)	12 (ICC) total*	Announced for Aurora, CO
Elite-Select Challenge	One week before the postseason roster deadline	Any or all 3	16 per division	6 per division*	Travel for teams across TCT events will be strongly considered, along with the presence of quality facilities, strong local community, and local participating teams.
Pro Championships***	Labor Day Weekend	All 3	8 per division	12 total including showcase field*	Travel for teams across TCT events will be strongly considered, along with the presence of quality facilities, strong local community, and local participating teams.
Other Regular Season Sanctioned Events	First weekend in June to Last weekend in August	Any or all of the 3	Flexible (open to teams from any flight)	Variable based on # of teams and format	Preference for a wide geographic distribution

*These events will have competition formats set by USA Ultimate.

**Goals for location decisions of required Tour events will include consideration of the location of teams with respect to travel over the course of the season, in addition to facility quality, weather, community support, and other factors.
***Pro Championships results are included in the regular season results

Post-Season - Championships Series*

Series Event	Preferred Date	Division(s) – Men's, Mixed, Women's	# of Teams	# of Fields	Preferred Location Notes
2027 Sectionals	Sept 11-12, Sept 18-19**	Any or all of the 3	Flexible	Variable based on # of teams and format*	Section-specific
2028 Sectionals	Sept 9-10, Sept 16-17**	Any or all of the 3	Flexible	Variable based on # of teams and format*	Section-specific
2027Regionals	Sep 25-26, Oct 2-3**	Any or all of the 3	8-16 per division	Variable based on # of teams and format*	Region-specific
2028 Regionals	Sep 23-24, Sept 30 - Oct 1**	Any or all of the 3	8-16 per division	Variable based on # of teams and format*	Region-specific

*These events will have competition formats set by USA Ultimate.
** The first weekend is strongly preferred, **the second weekend is for postponed events only**.