



USA ARCHERY CONFLICT OF INTEREST POLICY

Updated: September 2021

SECTION 1. POLICY STATEMENT

USA Archery (USAA) is committed to sustaining an ethical workplace free of conflicts of interest and perceived conflicts of interest. Each Decision Maker (as defined below) has the responsibility to administer the affairs of **USAA** honestly and prudently, and to exercise their best care, skill, and judgment for the sole benefit of **USAA**. Those persons shall exercise the utmost good faith in all transactions involved in their duties, and they shall not use their positions with **USAA** or knowledge gained therefrom for their personal benefit. The interests of the organization must be the first priority in all decisions and actions. **USAA** requires that any of its Decision Makers recognize, attempt to avoid activities or investments that involve, might appear to involve, or could result in a potential conflict of interest.

A “**Conflict of Interest**” or “**Conflict**” exists when a Decision Maker acts on behalf of **USAA** in connection with a transaction to which **USAA** is a party, where the Decision Maker’s actions or relationships present the potential for improper personal gain or advantage, or for an adverse effect on the interests of **USAA**, or where the Decision Maker’s actions or relationships create the appearance that the Decision Maker will not be able to put **USAA**’s interests first. A “**conflict of interest**” also exists in the context of athlete or team selection when a Decision Maker participates in a selection decision that involves or impacts an athlete with whom the Decision Maker has a direct or indirect relationship, or when a Decision Maker participates in a benefits or services allocation decision that directly impacts the Decision Maker.

This policy does not attempt to provide an exhaustive list of every possible circumstance that might give rise to a conflict of interest, but provides examples of situations that create conflicts of interest as a guide to the types of transactions (a “**transaction**” is any contract, transaction, agreement or relationship involving the sale or purchase of goods, services, or rights of any kind, the providing or receipt of a grant or loan, or the establishment of any other financial relationship with **USAA**) and/or relationships that can create conflicts of interest.

SECTION 2. PERSONS CONCERNED

This Conflict of Interest Policy is applicable to all **USAA** Decision Makers. “**Decision Makers**” include, but are not limited to, members of **USAA**’s Board of Directors (the Board of **USAA**), officers, committee members, task force members, hearing panel members, employees, volunteers, and independent contractors.

SECTION 3. AREAS IN WHICH CONFLICTS MAY ARISE

Conflicts of interest may arise in the relations of Decision Makers with any of the following third parties: (1) Persons and firms supplying goods and services to **USAA**; (2) Persons and firms from whom **USAA** leases property and equipment; (3) Persons and firms with whom **USAA** is dealing or planning to deal in connection with the gift, purchase or sale of real estate, securities or other property; (4) Competing or affinity organizations; (5) Donors and others supporting **USAA**; (6) Agencies, organizations, and associations which affect the operations of **USAA**; or (7) Family members, friends, and other employees. A “**Family Member**” is defined as a spouse, parent, child or a spouse of a child, brother, sister, or spouse of a brother or sister, of a Decision Maker.

A conflicting interest may be defined as an interest, direct or indirect, with any persons or firms mentioned above. The list below is not intended to be an all-inclusive list of every instance that may create a conflict of interest, but, rather, is simply a sample of the types of relationships and activities that could create a conflict of interest. If a Decision Maker or other disclosing individual has any question as to whether a relationship or activity may create a conflict of interest, a disclosure must be made. A potential conflict of interest might exist in the following circumstances:

1. Owning stock or holding debt or other proprietary interests in any third party dealing or potentially dealing with **USAA**.

EXAMPLE: When a **USAA** board member owns an interest in a company seeking to enter into a contract to provide consulting services to **USAA**.

2. Owning a business, maintaining a second job, or providing goods or services under a provider, contractor, or consulting agreement, whereby the outside business provides goods or services to **USAA**, the USOPC, or any other NGB.

EXAMPLE: When **USAA** is contemplating entering into an agreement for the provision of consulting services by a board member of **USAA**.

3. Holding office, serving on the board, participating in management, or being otherwise employed (or formerly employed) with any third party dealing with **USAA**.

EXAMPLE: When a **USAA** board member is the CEO of a company negotiating a contract to provide services to **USAA**.

4. Receiving remuneration for services with respect to individual transactions involving **USAA**.

EXAMPLE: When a **USAA** board member gets paid a commission if **USAA** enters into a particular contract with a third party.

5. Using **USAA**'s time, personnel, equipment, supplies, information or data (including member data), assets, resources or goodwill for anything other than **USAA**-approved activities, programs, and purposes.

EXAMPLE: When a **USAA** employee uses a **USAA** vehicle for a personal road trip.

6. Soliciting or receiving personal gifts, loans, gratuities, or discounts from third parties in violation of **USAA**'s Gift & Entertainment Policy. No personal gift of money should ever be accepted.

EXAMPLE: When a company trying to obtain a contract to provide services to **USAA** provides a \$100 gift certificate to a **USAA** board member who would be voting on whether **USAA** should execute the contract in question.

EXAMPLE: Asking for box seats or field of play access to a sporting event because of your position on **USAA**'s board of directors.

EXAMPLE: Accepting tickets to an NFL game worth \$250 from a business seeking to obtain a contract to provide landscaping services for **USAA** headquarters.

7. Acting (or having a family member act) as an agent, representative, or consultant to a business whose interests may conflict with the interests of **USAA**.
EXAMPLE: when a **USAA** board member agrees to promote another NGB in negotiations with potential sponsors of licensees.
EXAMPLE: when the spouse of a **USAA** board member works for or is an investor in a company that competes with USAA or that provides services to a company that competes with **USAA**.
8. Having (or having a family member with) a business relationship with a sponsor, supplier, licensee, or vendor of **USAA**.
EXAMPLE: when a family member provides legal services to one of **USAA's** sponsors.
9. Awarding **USAA** business to, or provide favorable treatment to, a business owned or controlled by a volunteer, family member, or personal friend.
EXAMPLE: Awarding a contract to provide landscaping services for **USAA** headquarters to a family member's landscaping business.
10. Having activities or interests, whether direct or indirect, that interfere with or influence, or have the potential to interfere with or influence, a Decision Maker's responsibilities on behalf of **USAA** or to undermine the interests of **USAA**.
EXAMPLE: A **USAA** board member has a significant client who owns or operates a facility being considered as the host of a **USAA** event.
EXAMPLE: A Decision Maker serves on a hearing panel or appeal panel involving discipline against a member of the Decision Maker's club / team / family.
EXAMPLE: An athlete is the potential recipient of benefits or services that are being allocated by **USAA** and participates in the allocation decision.
11. Being a **USAA** officer and also an officer of another NGB.

SECTION 4. INTERPRETATION OF THIS CONFLICT OF INTEREST POLICY

The areas of conflicting interest and relations in those areas which may give rise to a conflict, as listed in Section 3, are not exhaustive. Decision Makers should, in the first instance, attempt to avoid all relationships and activities which may give rise to a potential conflict of interest, whether or not listed expressly in Section 3.

However, the fact that one of the interests described in Section 3 exists does not necessarily mean that a conflict exists, or that the conflict, if it exists, is material enough to be of practical importance, or if material, that upon full disclosure of all relevant facts and circumstances it is necessarily adverse to the interests of **USAA**. However, it is **USAA's** policy that the existence of any of the interests described or similar in nature to those described in Section 3 shall be disclosed before any transaction is consummated or any vote taken on an action, contract, relationship, or decision that would give rise to the potential conflict of interest. It shall be the continuing responsibility of each Decision Maker to scrutinize his/her transactions and outside business interests and relationships for potential conflicts and to immediately make such disclosures.

For Athletes With Questions Regarding This Conflict of Interest Policy:

The Athlete Ombudsman provides cost-free, independent and confidential advice regarding athlete rights; resolving disputes or grievances; and any sport rule, policy, or process, including NGB-athlete agreements, codes of conduct

or team selection procedures. The Athlete Ombudsman can also help athletes connect with legal counsel or mental health resources if needed. Athletes may contact the Athlete Ombudsman at:

PHONE: (719) 866-5000

EMAIL: ombudsman@usathlete.org

WEBSITE: www.usathlete.org

SECTION 5. DISCLOSURE POLICY AND PROCEDURE

In addition to the mandatory disclosures required from each Decision Maker under USAA's Bylaws (requiring Board of Directors' disclosure and applicable meeting minute documentation) and Section 10 and Section 11 of this policy, any individual with a good faith belief that a Decision Maker has a conflict of interest may notify **USAA** of such perceived conflict pursuant to the procedures set forth below. Such notice may be provided anonymously. Furthermore, should any Decision Maker become aware of any undisclosed conflict of interest, or any conflict of interest not fully disclosed, such person should make full disclosure of their knowledge of the conflict of interest involved to **USAA's** Ethics Committee.

Disclosure should be made to the Ethics Committee, which shall bring the matter to the attention of any other relevant party as necessary.

There shall be no retaliation against an individual for reporting alleged conflict of interest or for participating in an investigation of the allegation. Retaliation is a serious violation of this policy and will be subject to disciplinary action. Acts of retaliation should be reported immediately and will be promptly investigated and addressed.

After disclosure of the conflict or potential conflict of interest and all material facts, and after any discussion with the interested person, the Ethics Committee shall decide if a conflict of interest exists pursuant to the procedures set forth in Section 6 below, as applicable, and if there are mitigating measures that could be implemented to permit **USAA** to move forward with the transaction or activity.

Transactions with parties with whom a conflicting interest exists may be undertaken only if all of the following, at a minimum, are observed:

1. The conflicting interest is fully disclosed;
2. The person with the conflict of interest is excluded from the discussion and approval of such transaction;
3. A competitive bid or comparable valuation exists; and
4. The Ethics Committee has determined that the transaction is in the best interest of the organization pursuant to Section 6 below.

SECTION 6. PROCEDURES FOR ADDRESSING POSSIBLE CONFLICTS OF INTEREST WITH RESPECT TO TRANSACTIONS OR BUSINESS OF USAA

In the event a possible conflict of interest exists with respect to a proposed transaction, promptly and before any decision is made regarding the proposed transaction, the proposed transaction shall be addressed as follows:

1. The interested person may make a presentation to the Ethics Committee, which may be convened telephonically, regarding the transaction or arrangement involving the possible conflict of interest.

2. The Ethics Committee shall review alternatives to the proposed transaction or arrangement as presented to the Ethics Committee by the board, staff, or relevant committee.
3. After exercising due diligence, the Ethics Committee shall determine whether **USAA** can obtain with reasonable efforts a more advantageous transaction or arrangement from a person or entity that would not give rise to a conflict of interest.
4. If a more advantageous transaction or arrangement is not reasonably possible under circumstances not producing a conflict of interest, the Ethics Committee shall determine by a majority vote whether the transaction or arrangement is in **USAA's** best interest, for its own benefit, and whether it is fair and reasonable. In conformity with the above determination, the Ethics Committee shall inform the board or committee whether there is a conflict of interest precluding **USAA** from entering into the transaction or arrangement, or if there are mitigating measures that may be implemented to alleviate concerns regarding the potential conflict of interest.

SECTION 7. VIOLATIONS OF THE CONFLICTS OF INTEREST POLICY

1. Anyone who has knowledge of a potential conflict of interest (whether an interested person or not) is welcome to report it to the Ethics Committee .
2. If a majority of the disinterested members of the Ethics Committee have reasonable cause to believe a Decision Maker has failed to disclose actual or possible conflicts of interest, it shall promptly inform the Decision Maker of the basis for such belief and afford the member an opportunity to explain the alleged failure to disclose.
3. If, after hearing the member's response and after making further investigation as warranted by the circumstances, the Ethics Committee determines the Decision Maker has failed to disclose an actual or possible conflict of interest, it shall take appropriate disciplinary and corrective action. The Ethics Committee's decision shall be final.
4. While any such failure to disclose an actual or possible conflict of interest is under investigation, the Decision Maker shall be precluded from engaging in further decisions of **USAA** that bear any relation whatsoever to the matter that is the subject of the actual or possible conflict of interest.

SECTION 8. RECORDS OF PROCEEDINGS:

The minutes of the Ethics Committee meetings shall contain:

1. The names of the persons who disclosed or otherwise were found to have a connection with an actual or possible conflict of interest, the nature of the conflict of interest, any action taken to determine whether a conflict of interest was present, and the Ethics Committee's decision as to whether a conflict of interest in fact existed; and
2. The names of the persons who were present for discussions and votes relating to the transaction or arrangement, or selection process, the content of the discussion (including, but not limited to, an analysis of the fairness and reasonableness of the transaction or arrangement in question, or the fairness of having the individual participate in the selection process), including any alternatives to the proposed transaction or arrangement, and a record of any votes taken in connection with the proceedings.

SECTION 9. FALSE AND MALICIOUS ACCUSATIONS:

Any person who makes a false or malicious allegation of a violation of this policy (as opposed to allegations made in good faith, even if erroneous) will be subject to disciplinary action.

SECTION 10. ANNUAL STATEMENTS

Each Decision Maker shall annually sign and submit to the Ethics Committee and **USAA**'s CEO a statement, using the form attached hereto, which affirms such person:

1. Has received a copy of the conflicts of interest policy;
2. Has read and understands the policy;
3. Has agreed to comply with the policy, and
4. Understands that **USAA** is a charitable organization and in order to maintain its federal tax exemption it must engage primarily in activities which accomplish one or more of its tax-exempt purposes. Each annual disclosure shall be reviewed and addressed by the Ethics Committee.

Any actual, perceived, or potential conflict of interest should be disclosed in the annual statement.

Any new **USAA** employee shall submit a conflict of interest disclosure statement within 14 days of his or her hiring by **USAA**. Any other new Decision Maker shall submit a conflict of interest disclosure statement by the earlier of 14 days after his or her appointment or his or her first board, committee, or task force meeting. In no event shall a Decision Maker participate in any decisions to commit **USAA** to a proposed transaction or in athlete or team selection procedures prior to submission of his or her conflict of interest disclosure statement.

USAA shall maintain copies of all Annual Statements submitted under this Section 10.

SECTION 11. PERIODIC STATEMENTS / UPDATES

On an annual basis **USAA** shall send out and collect Conflict of Interest forms. Except as set forth below, all forms will be submitted to the Chair of the Ethics Committee. The Ethics Committee shall review all forms to determine if any conflict exists. If no conflict of interest exists, the Chair of the Ethics Committee will sign and date the forms. If there is a conflict, they will escalate the issue to the CEO and Board Chair. The Ethics Committee will keep minutes of the Conflict of Interest determination meeting(s) and return all completed forms to **USAA** for safekeeping. With regard to employees (except the CEO), athletes and independent contractors, conflict of interest forms may be reviewed by the appropriate direct supervisor. The direct supervisor will review the forms to determine if any conflict exists. If no conflict of interest, they will sign and date the form. If there is a conflict, they will escalate the issue to the Ethics Committee Chair. The supervisor will return all completed forms to **USAA** for safekeeping.

Each Decision Maker shall submit to **USAA** a signed statement as necessary describing: (a) any groups such person is affiliated with as staff members (even if appointed by **USAA**), and (b) any new potential conflicts of interest as and when such potential conflicts of interest arises. **USAA** shall maintain copies of all Periodic Statements or updates submitted under this Section 11 and refer applicable statement updates to the Chair of the Ethics Committee for review to determine if any conflict exists.

SECTION 12. FURTHER INFORMATION

For questions regarding or reporting under this Conflict of Interest Policy please contact the Chairman of the **USAA** Ethics Committee at ethics@usarchery.org the **USAA** CEO at ceo@usarchery.org