



2016 Southern California Association Championships and Grand Prix Rules

Association Championship Rules

- 1) All current USATF Members over the age of 14 for women and 16 for men may compete in the Championship. All athletes, regardless of association, are eligible for prize money awarded for the Individual Grand Prix prize money. However, only Southern California Association Clubs are eligible for the Team Grand Prix Stipend. NEW THIS YEAR: All prize money will be awarded for the Grand Prix only. There is no separate prize purse for the Championship.
- 2) At the Championship 3 races will be conducted: (1) Men's Open 10k; (2) Men's Masters 8k; and (3) Women's Open and Masters Combined 6k. In the Men's Open race awards will be presented to places 1-10. In the Men's Master's race awards will be presented to places 1-5 in Masters 40-49, 1-5 in Masters 50-59, 1-3 in Masters 60-69 and 1-3 in Masters 70+. In the Women's race Open awards will be presented to places 1-10 regardless of age and to places 1-5 in Masters 40-49, 1-5 in Masters 50-59, 1-3 in Masters 60-69 and 1-3 in Masters 70+.
- 3) In both Men's races no individual declaration is required. Men's Masters athletes may compete as individuals in both the Men's Open and the Men's Master's race. In the Women's race, no individual declaration is required. Women's Masters athletes may receive awards both based upon their overall (Open) place and the place in their particular age group.
- 4) In the Men's Open race a Men's Open team competition will be contested. In the Men's Masters race Masters 40+ and Masters 50+ team competitions will be contested. In the Women's race a Women's Open, Masters 40+ and Masters 50+ competitions will be contested.

- 5) In all team events there is no maximum number of runners that may be declared for the team. Within each team division (Open, Masters 40+, Masters 50+) teams with members sufficient for 2 or more separate scoring teams are free to either run as one team or run separate A and B teams within the same division.
- 6) In the Men's Open, Masters 40+ and Masters 50+ team competitions 5 runners will score with the next 4 displacing.
- 7) In the Women's Open team competition 5 runners will score with the next 4 displacing. In the Women's Masters 40+ and Masters 50+ team competitions 3 runners will score with the next 2 displacing.
- 8) All runners may score for only one team and will be scored on the team corresponding to their individual age unless a separate declaration is made at least 30 minutes prior to the race start.
- 9) All masters runners in both the Men's Masters race and the Women's race will wear back tags signifying their individual age group. Any masters runner competing on a "lower age group" team will wear a second back tag denoting their team.

Individual Grand Prix Rules

- 1) Runners must be current members of USA Track & Field at the time of participation for scoring. To score in the Grand Prix as an Open runner a runner must be a minimum of 16 years of age for men and 14 years of age for women. The minimum age for a Masters runner is 40 years of age. Individual runners from any participating USATF association may participate in all events and may earn points in the Grand Prix.
- 2) For individuals the final Grand Prix score is based on the highest score from two preliminary races, plus the score from the Championship race. If a runner competes in more than two preliminary races, the two highest preliminary scores will be used for final scoring. To qualify for the Grand Prix or receive prize money a runner must complete at least two preliminary races and the Championship race.
- 3) In the preliminary races points are awarded to the first 25 runners. The first place finisher receives 25 points, the second finisher 24 points, and the 25th finisher receives 1 point. No points are awarded to any other runner.
- 4) In the Championship double points are awarded to the first 25 runners. The first place finisher receives 50 points, the second finisher 48 points, and the 25th finisher receives 2 points. No points are awarded to any other runner.
- 5) All eligible runners will be scored in every race. No adjustments to scoring will be made simply because scoring runners do not compete in enough events to qualify for the Grand Prix.
- 6) In the event of a tie, the individual winner will be determined by the highest position at the Championship.
- 7) Individual athletes 40-49 years of age may participate in the Open and Masters 40-49 categories and may earn money in the Open and the Masters 40-49 Grand Prix. Individual athletes 50 years of age or older may participate in the Open and Masters 50+ categories and may earn money in the Open and the Masters 50+ Grand Prix, but are not eligible to win money in the Masters 40-49 division. For an individual Masters runner to qualify for the Open Grand Prix prize money, they must run in the Open race at the Championship.
- 8) In the case of preliminary race #2, the UC Riverside Invitational (and, if applicable preliminary race #1, the UC Irvine Invitational if the

competition is split into two men's and/or women's races), a runner may earn points in either the Invitational or Open race, but not both. Each race will be scored independently of the other and not cumulatively. In the case of any athlete choosing to compete in both races, such athlete will only receive the higher points earned and will only receive credit for having run in one of the required preliminary races to qualify for the Grand Prix.

- 9) Grand Prix prize money is awarded to individuals in three divisions: Open runners, Masters runners age 40-49, and Masters runners age 50+. Age group is based on the runner's age at the first race of participation.
- Open Prize Money: 1st place: \$750, 2nd place: \$350, 3rd place: \$200, Fourth Place: \$100, Fifth Place: \$50
 - Masters 40-49 Prize Money: 1st place: \$250, 2nd place: \$150, 3rd place: \$100.
 - Masters 50+ Prize Money: 1st place: \$250, 2nd place: \$150, 3rd place: \$100.
- 10) Prize money will be distributed in the form of a check mailed from USATF Southern California Association. Winners must complete a signed W9 form to collect prize money.

Team Grand Prix Rules

- 1) All team members must meet all of the requirements set forth in paragraph 1 of the Individual Grand Prix Rules above, except that only Southern California Association Clubs are eligible and only individual members of the Southern California Association will count toward the Team Grand Prix.
- 2) Each team may score up to 5 runners per race, including the Championship. The team score for each race, including the Championship, will be the aggregate of each team's 5 best individual scores for each race, except that all Masters athletes will be counted together as 40+ only. Runners scoring as both an Open athlete and a Master's athlete may only be scored once; except that an individual male athlete competing separately in both the Open and Masters race in the Championship may count both individual scores toward the team score.

Example: Runner A is 52 years old. In a preliminary race, Runner A finishes in 11th place overall and 1st in the 50+ division, but behind 2 runners in the 40-49 division. Runner A will score 15 points in the Individual Open Grand Prix, 25 points in the Individual 50+ Grand Prix and 23 points (3rd among all athletes 40+) in the Team Grand Prix.

- 3) Runners who were counted toward the team grand prix are highlighted in ***bold and italics*** on the standings page. Each 40-49 and 50+ athlete's team score will be shown in parenthesis following their individual score to reflect the amount of points earned for the team as a 40+ athlete.
- 4) A team's final Grand Prix score is based on the total points scored in the Championship plus the team's three highest scores in preliminary races.
- 5) In the event of a tie, the team winner will be determined according to the following tiebreaking procedures:
 - a. First, highest team score at the Championship;
 - b. Second, highest individual score of last (5th) scoring member of team in the Championship;
 - c. Third, total team score for each team's lowest team score of all preliminary races;
 - d. Fourth, total team score for each team's second lowest team score of all preliminary races;
 - e. Fifth, total team score for each team's third lowest team score of all preliminary races;

- f. Sixth, total team score for each team's fourth lowest team score of all preliminary races;
 - g. Seventh, highest aggregate number of finishers, whether one of the 5 scoring members or not, across all races in the Championship; and
 - h. Eighth, drawing of lots.
- 6) The top team that competes in either the Club Nationals in December, 2016 or the Nationals in February, 2017 will receive a reimbursement stipend of \$1,000. To qualify for the reimbursement stipend the team must (1) have at least one scoring team compete in and finish at Club Nationals or Nationals, and (2) have a total of at least 5 team members compete in and finish at Club Nationals or Nationals, otherwise the reimbursement stipend will fall to the highest placing team in the team Grand Prix that meets the preceding requirements, provided that such team placed in the top 3 in the team Grand Prix standings.
 - 7) Prize money will be distributed in the form of a check mailed from USATF Southern California Association following confirmation of qualification for the stipend as set forth in #5 above. The winning team must complete a signed W9 form to collect prize money.

For additional information contact Mike Mahurin at openxc@scausatf.org.

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