



2026 USATFSC Election Overview

Preamble

The USATF South Carolina Association Officer positions of 1st Vice President and of 2nd Vice President were filled by election during the 2025 USATF South Carolina Association Annual Meeting on September 13, 2025 in accordance with **Article 10.A** of the **BYLAWS OF THE SOUTH CAROLINA ASSOCIATION OF USA TRACK & FIELD, INC (USATFSC Bylaws)**. The positions having since become vacant were filled by Presidential appointment in accordance with **Article 10.B** of the USATFSC Bylaws. of the Association. Also in accordance with **Article 10.B** of the USATFSC Bylaws, a special election will be held at the next Annual Meeting to fill the unexpired terms.

Electronic Voting Platform

USATFSC will utilize the ElectionBuddy electronic platform for the 2026 Officer Elections. This is the same platform used for the 2021, 2023, and 2025 elections. ElectionBuddy (<https://electionbuddy.com>) is a secure platform that uses 256-bit encryption with single use personal voting keys to safeguard your vote and ensure only one vote per key. Voting is anonymous with confidential choices that cannot be seen by other voters or administrators. Voting is completed using a simple, user-friendly ballot that can be accessed via cellphone, computer, or tablet through an email invite. The platform also allows candidate pictures, profiles or written statements to be added to the ballot. **Each qualified voter will receive an election invite though email from ElectionBuddy Elections within 4 hours after adjournment.**

If you plan to vote at the 2026 Annual Meeting Elections, you must complete the Voter Credential information before 11:59 pm on Thursday, September 10, 2026. To register, go to: [USATFSC 2026 Annual Meeting Signup](#). The following voter information is required:

- **NAME**
 - **USATF membership #** (*membership numbers will serve as your voter ID.*)
 - **CONSTITUENCY you intend to vote in** (*Voters must declare only one constituency.*)
 - **EMAIL Address** (*You must provide a unique email address for each voter.*)
- (This information is necessary for the Credentials Committee verify voting eligibility.)**

USATFSC ELECTIONS:

USATFSC election rules, as contained in the USATFSC Bylaws shall apply. USATFSC uses a balanced meeting ballot with voting strength spread evenly between all constituencies - active athletes- 20%, coaches - 20%, officials - 20%, clubs - 20%, and other members - 20%. (**Art.9A.2b**)

Voting Criteria/Qualifications:

- 1) All members voting at the 2026 Officer Elections must be in attendance via Zoom or phone at the 2026 Annual Meeting to be held on September 12, 2026. (**Art.9A.1**)
- 2) All voters must be a minimum of 18 years of age on the day of elections. (**Art.9A.3.c**)
- 3) Clubs and other member organizations shall have a minimum of one vote and each vote must be cast by a different representative. (**Art.9A.3.d**)
- 4) All voters must be a current member of USATFSC and must have been a member for at least 30 days prior to the election (**8/12/26**), except for renewals from 2025. (**Art.9A.3.e & f**)
- 5) All voting members must declare one (1) constituency that they will vote in even if they are eligible in several. Constituencies- active athletes, coaches, officials, clubs, or other members. (**Art.9A.3.h**)

Constituency Credentials: Voters must meet the following criteria to be qualified in their declared constituency:

Athletes: USATFSC 10-Year Athletes; or USATFSC Active Athletes who have competed in a USATF sanctioned event in the past 24 months (since September 2024). *Active athletes must provide the name of a verifiable event or a link to the results where they competed.*

Coaches: USATFSC Coaches who are listed on the USATF Coaches Registry List @ <https://www.usatf.org/programs/coaches/coaches-registry>. Only coaches who have fulfilled the education standard, and have current SafeSport and Background Checks are eligible for this list. To be placed on this list, Coaches must upload their education Certificate of Completion to their USATF Connect profile under their "Coaches Certification" page.

Officials: USATFSC Officials who are listed on the USATF Certified Officials list @ <https://usatf.sport80.com/public/widget/4>. To appear on this list, officials must be certified for the 2025-2028 Olympiad and have current SafeSport and Background Screenings.

Clubs: USATFSC Club or other member organization may designate individuals to vote as a Club/Organizations representative. Club/Organizational representatives must be listed on the organization's USATF Connect profile or appear on a list of eligible representatives submitted by the Club/Organization President or Head Coach for this purpose. *The USATF Connect profile for such representatives must confirm their club/organization affiliation.*

Other Members: All current USATFSC Members who appear in the South Carolina USATF Connect database.

(If you are eligible to vote but fail to indicate a constituency for which you are qualified, you will automatically be included into the "other members" category to protect your ability to vote. If multiple constituencies are provided, you will be placed in the 1st listed constituency for which you qualify.)

Conduct of Voting:

- A. **Voter Verification:** The Credentials Committee will use the USATF Connect system to verify that each voting member complies with the voting criteria (items 1-5 above). Membership numbers and email addresses for each verified voter will be uploaded to the USATFSC file on the ElectionBuddy platform to create personal and secure ballots. Please make sure that your USATF Connect profile is up to date.
- B. **The Credentials Committee** will report to the membership before the start of nominations. Credential disputes must be resolved before the election process is started. **(Art.9A.2.c)**
NOTE: Prior to the Annual Meeting, the Credentials Committee will attempt to contact any member who has submitted their request to attend on or before 11:59 pm, Sept 10, 2026, and who's membership is in question. If a member is unable to correct the disputed issue before the Credential Committee report presentation, they will be disallowed from voting. In order to respect individual privacy, the Credentials Committee will not resolve credential issues from the floor during the Annual Meeting. It is the responsibility of each member to submit their voter information in a timely manner and to keep their USATF Connect profile up to date.
- C. **Formal Nominations** will begin following the Credentials Committee report and will proceed from 1st Vice President to 2nd Vice President. No person may run for more than one officer position during an election. **(Art.11A & B)**
- D. **Candidate Requirements:** A candidate must be a current member of USATFSC, be at least 18 years of age, must be present at the meeting, and must be USATF 3-Step Compliant or capable of

compliance within 30-days of the election. Each candidate must have one nominator and one seconder who are both USATFSC members and present at the meeting. (**Art.9A.1**)

- E. **Candidate Ballot Information:** Anyone intending to run for office is encouraged to submit a headshot and short written statement, which will be posted on the ballot. Please send your statement and headshot before noon 9/11/26 to office@southcarolina.usatf.org. Failure to submit pictures and documents in a timely manner may result in these candidate details not being displayed on the ballot.
- F. **Candidate Presentations:** Following nominations for all offices, nominations will be closed and each candidate will be allowed to speak. Members on Zoom who wish to ask questions of the candidate should use the “raise hand” function. Questions will be taken in order and should be limited to relevant topics. After all candidates have been given the opportunity to speak the voting process will start.
- G. **Uncontested Elections:** The voting members will first address any elections that are uncontested, in the order of precedence. These positions may be voted by acclamation, by a voice vote from the floor, and do not require a ballot. (**Art.9A.4b**)
- H. **Contested Elections:** All contested elections must be by secret ballot. Election ballots will be emailed through the ElectionBuddy system after the close of the meeting. (**Art.9A.4c**)
- I. **Election Ballots:** The Credentials Committee will prepare ballots for contested elections and election invitations will be emailed to all verified voters from ElectionBuddy Elections. Ballots will be emailed within 4 hours after meeting adjournment and voters will be given until 3 pm, Sunday September 13th to complete their ballots. A reminder email will be sent at 8am, Sunday the 13th. Note: Voting access will close once the election window has expired. Please email office@southcarolina.usatf.org if you have not received a ballot invite before 4 hours after adjournment.
- J. **Voting Panel:** The tally for each constituency will be forwarded to the vote counting panel, who shall meet on Sunday September 13th to compile the results and certify the vote. (**Art.9A.4.d**)
- K. **Majority Requirement:** If there are more than two candidates for an office and no candidate receives more than 50% of the vote, a run-off election will be held between the top two candidates. In this case, a run-off election ballot will be sent to qualified voters as soon as possible and no later than 24 hours from the completion of the first vote. Notice of the run-off ballot will be emailed to all qualified voters. (**Art.10C**)
- L. **Results** will be emailed to all voters within 24 hours of Voting Panel certification. Results will also be posted on the [USATFSC website](https://www.usatfsc.org), and forwarded in a blast to all current members.

Questions about this process? Attn: Credentials Committee at office@southcarolina.usatf.org