

# 2025 Springfield Invitational and Hat Trick Series Club and Team Selection Criteria

## Description

The “**Hat Trick**” series will consist of three Northeast Convention Center tournaments with an invitation-only “Power” division. For the 2024-25 season the three tournaments: The Springfield Invitational (which will only have invited clubs/teams), The Liberty Challenge (which includes additional lower levels that any team can enter) and the North Atlantic Championships (which includes additional lower levels that any team can enter).

## Additional tournament info

- A. The Power division at each of these events is limited to 16 teams in four age groups: 14’s, 15’s, 16’s, and 17’s.
- B. Formats for the Power Division for each Hat Trick event will guarantee 5 matches for each 2-day event.
- C. The 18’s at the Springfield event will be a region bid division. Additional info will be advertised by 9/1/24

## Registration/Acceptance

Tournament registration/application for the Power Division for each event will open on July 15<sup>th</sup> via private registration link sent to those clubs who are eligible to register teams based on the Early Selection Criteria below.

- A. Clubs/teams offered a spot by “invitation” based on their club and/or team’s final ranking from the previous year and final placement from major USAV convention center tournaments. The teams are ranked by the selection committee. Those teams will have until **September 15<sup>th</sup>** to register and pay the entry fee(s) to accept a spot in the “Power” division for each of the **Hat Trick** events. After September 15<sup>th</sup> the entry fee is non-refundable.
- B. Invited Clubs/Teams from the **Early Selection Criteria** below can enter one, two or all three **Hat Trick** events but spots are only “held” for these Clubs/Teams through September 15<sup>th</sup>.
- C. On September 15<sup>th</sup> registration will open to the public for teams to apply for acceptance for any remaining slots. Remaining slots in each division will be offered to teams beginning on October 1st to fill the remaining spots in each age group on a rolling basis by criteria agreed upon by the Selection Committee until each division is filled.
  - a. The Selection Committee will consist of the Club Directors of the top 5 Clubs in the Final 2024 New England Region Club Rankings and a New England Region Board member assigned by the Commissioner.
- D. If a division fills a maximum of 5 teams deemed strong enough may be ranked and placed on a waitlist for each division by the Selection Committee.

## Selection Priority

1. 1<sup>st</sup> Priority: Top 6 clubs from NERVA Region Club Rankings (6 spots). Each club can enter their top team in each age group for each of the three events.
2. 2<sup>nd</sup> Priority: Up to 6 “Out of Region Clubs” Clubs from: Canada, Garden Empire, Excelsior, Western Empire, Keystone, Chesapeake, or other regions as invited by the Selection Committee (6 Spots). Each club can enter their top team in each age group for each of the three events.
3. 3<sup>rd</sup> Priority: 4 teams from each of the previous season’s four younger age groups NOT invited already through the Club invites: 13’s teams from the 2024 Rankings for 14’s division, 14’s teams from the 2024 Rankings for 15’s division, 15’s teams from the 2024 Rankings for 16’s division, etc. (4 spots)
  - a. Examples of those teams who could be invited:
    - i. Club X has Team A Ranked 1<sup>st</sup> in the 2024 Rankings for 16’s Division that is already invited via their Club rank. Of the next ranked teams not already invited, Club X has an additional team(s) within that group. Club X would be invited to enter a team ONLY in the 17’s Division for any 2025 Hat Trick Series event.
    - ii. Club Y was not one of the clubs invited initially but has a Team in the next ranked teams (by the selection committee) in the 16’s division not already invited. Club Y would be invited to enter a team ONLY in the 17’s Division for any 2025 Hat Trick Series event.
4. 4<sup>th</sup> Priority: Teams invited by the Selection Committee criteria who register between September 15<sup>th</sup> and September 30<sup>th</sup>.