

GAMMA

**GLOBAL ASSOCIATION OF
MIXED MARTIAL ARTS**

2022 U18 MMA INTERNATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP TOURNAMENT



COMPETITION HANDBOOK

Organised by

GAMMA
**GLOBAL ASSOCIATION OF
MIXED MARTIAL ARTS**
USA 

PAGES	TABLE OF CONTENTS
03	01 Organizing Information
04	02 About GAMMA / GAMMA USA
05	03 Schedule
06	04 Host Hotel & Competition Venue
06	05 Eligibility
06	06 VISA / USA Entry
07	07 GAMMA Membership
07	08 Age / Weight Classes
08	09 GAMMA Registration / Tournament Fee
09	10 Key Deadlines

PAGES	TABLE OF CONTENTS
10	11 Weigh in Policy
11	12 Competition Rules
11	13 Referees & Judges
13	14 Equipment
14	15 Lodging, Transport & Food
14	16 Medical Clearance
14	17 Media
15	18 Live Streaming
15	19 Shameless Plug

ORGANIZER
GAMMA USA



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REGISTRATION /
WEIGH-INS & VENUE



Host Hotel:
Millenium Maxwell House Hotel
2020 Rosa L Parks Blvd Nashville, TN 37228
Competition Venue: Located inside the Host Hotel

EMERGENCY CONTACT
NON-MEDICAL

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02/ About GAMMA

GAMMA is an international Non-Profit Organization working for the development of mixed martial arts. Our mission is to develop, promote, and lead mixed martial arts toward potential Olympic Recognition as the pinnacle of combat sports. With over 120+ National Federations recognized by GAMMA throughout the world, we are leading the effort to standardize programs for Youth, Novice and advanced competitive MMA.

GAMMA USA is a domestic Non-Profit Organization founded inside the USA to support the efforts of developing Olympic Recognition for the sport of MMA nationally. They are directly responsible for creating programs that support the US National team objectives as well as developmental programs to broaden the base of support for the sport of MMA nationally.



03/ Schedule

Attention: The schedule may be modified according to the total number of entries and circumstances of competition however, competition days will not increase. Maximum bouts per day will remain at 2 bouts per day/per athlete max (up to 3 days max).

Date	Time	Description
3-Nov (Thu)	Check-in/Weigh-ins & Officials Training	
	5 - 9pm	<p>All athletes to arrive, check-in at the official host hotel Millenium Maxwell House Hotel in Nashville, TN.</p> <p>Official Weigh-ins and Registration will take place from 5pm-9pm Thursday afternoon. You MUST be at registration between this time to weigh-in and do a gear fitting.</p> <p>All athletes must be on scratch weight with no allowance at this time. Brackets will be random draw and done the night of 3rd Nov after all final weigh-ins and registrations are completed.</p> <p><i>NOTE - As mentioned, all brackets are random draw. Should there be an odd number of participants in a weight bracket, a random 'Bye' will be awarded to 1 or more competitors as necessary to complete the bracket schedule.</i></p>
	Pre-Competition Physicals	
		<p>Pre-Competition Physicals will take place Thursday Nov 3rd after Registration.</p> <p>Mandatory Officials Training for all Referees and Judges will take place at 8pm at the host hotel Thursday Nov 3rd.</p>
4-Nov (Fri)	Day 1 of Competition	
		<p>No weigh in necessary Friday morning as the check-in weight is sufficient for day 1.</p> <p>Rules Briefing at 9 am inside the competition venue</p> <p><i>*All athletes will be present at this time or may be disqualified from competition</i></p>
	1030am	Start of Day 1 Competition (until Day 1 schedule is completed)
5-Nov (Sat)	Day 2 of Competition	
	630 - 9am	<p>Weigh in at the host hotel</p> <p><i>*Must make scratch weight with no allowance</i></p> <p>All competing athletes must be inside the athlete rooms at the competition venue by 9 a.m.</p>
	10am	Start of Day 2 of Competition (until Day 2 schedule is completed)
6-Nov (Sun)	Day 3 of Competition	
	630 - 9am	<p>Weigh in at the host hotel</p> <p><i>*Must make scratch weight with no allowance</i></p> <p>All competing athletes must be inside the athlete rooms at the competition venue by 9 a.m.</p>
	10am	Start of Day 3 of Competition (until Day 3 schedule is completed)
		<p><i>NOTE - Medals will be awarded upon the completion of each Finals match. Bronze Medalists should be present to also receive their awards. (2) Bronze medals will be awarded per weight class for all bracket with 4 or more athletes. Due to the amount of brackets and awards for youth, there will not be time to play any national anthems during medal ceremonies.</i></p>



04/ Host Hotel and Competition Venue

Official Host Hotel: Millenium Maxwell House Hotel, Nashville, TN (address listed above)

Competition Venue: Venue is located inside the Host Hotel

The host hotel and competition venue are combined in the same location. A lodging rate of \$159 per night/per room (can be shared) has been locked in for all GAMMA Participants if you book in advance using the name "GAMMA Tournament" at the host hotel.

**NOTE: You are not required to stay at the host hotel however you are required to be present for registration, weigh-in days and tournament days all on time without exception!*



05/ Eligibility

All participants (Athletes, Coaches & Officials) must be members of their respective GAMMA National Federations or have approval from GAMMA International Federation to participate. All Athletes, Coaches and Officials will need to be fully registered into the tournament to receive their credentials to enter the athlete space and ring areas. The Youth International Championship will have athletes represented in ages 8-17 only with their age on the day of Check-in/Registration (Nov 3rd 2022) to be set as their official age of competition.

This is the historic first GAMMA USA hosted U18 International Championship and it is understandably taking place during tough economic times, remnants of a global health crisis and fuel shortages. Although we have strong hopes, we don't expect heavy participation from all federations globally due to many restrictions still in place. Therefore, there will be no limit to registration for youth participants who wish to come. Teams may register as many athletes per age/weight as they wish.





06/ VISA/USA Entry

Any participants needing an invitation letter for VISA application will need to reach out to Diana Thomas (contact info listed above). If you need additional supporting documents, you may also request an invitation letter from GAMMA international Federation by reaching out to Alex Englehardt (contact info listed above). Your request for invitation letter must include your Passport #, Your DOB, Your nationality, Your official federation's legal name & Your official federation's legal address.



07/ Age/ Weight Classes

Female		Male	
			
Ages 8-9, Under 60 lbs	Ages 14-15, Under 85 lbs	Ages 8-9, Under 60 lbs	Ages 12-13, 141+ lbs
Ages 8-9, 61-70 lbs	Ages 14-15, 86-100 lbs	Ages 8-9, 61-70 lbs	Ages 14-15, Under 110 lbs
Ages 8-9, 71+ lbs	Ages 14-15, 101+ lbs	Ages 8-9, 71+ lbs	Ages 14-15, 111-125 lbs
Ages 10-11, Under 70 lbs	Ages 16-17, Under 100 lbs	Ages 10-11, Under 70 lbs	Ages 14-15, 126-140 lbs
Ages 10-11, 71+ lbs	Ages 16-17, 101-115 lbs	Ages 10-11, 71-80 lbs	Ages 14-15, 141-160 lbs
Ages 12-13, Under 75 lbs	Ages 16-17, 116-130 lbs	Ages 10-11, 81-95 lbs	Ages 14-15, 161+lbs
Ages 12-13, 76-90 lbs	Ages 16-17, 131+ lbs	Ages 10-11, 95+ lbs	Ages 16-17, Under 125 lbs
Ages 12-13, +91 lbs		Ages 12-13, Under 80 lbs	Ages 16-17, 126-140 lbs
		Ages 12-13, 81-95 lbs	Ages 16-17, 141-160 lbs
		Ages 12-13, 96-110 lbs	Ages 16-17, 161-180 lbs
		Ages 12-13, 111-125 lbs	Ages 16-17, 181+ lbs
		Ages 12-13, 126-140 lbs	

Note: Medals will not be awarded to anyone without at least 1 bout. Should there only be 1 athlete in the weight class, the class will be forfeited or the athlete will be given the option to compete in a weight class of GAMMA's choice.



08/ GAMMA Youth Registration/ Tournament Fee

All participants (Athletes & Coaches) are required to pay the registration/tournament fees. Deadline for Registration is Oct 21st 2022 at midnight. The registration fee schedules are as follows:

- **\$185 for Athlete Registration**
((\$100 Tournament, \$85 mandatory Blue/Red competition gear kit)
- **\$50 for 2nd division**
(Can also register for a heavier weight class or older in age by 1 bracket)
- **\$20 Coaches** which includes full access to restricted spaces *Includes Credential
- **\$5 per day for Spectators** for Competition Days only

An Athlete or Coaches registration is not secured into the tournament until after the tournament fee is fully paid. A link to registration and payment of the tournament fee can be found at: <https://myuventex.com/#info:id=238300>

NOTE: All proceeds/fees are solely meant to be used to help offset the expenses of the tournament only. We wish to provide a first-class engaging experience, full medical team support and a safe environment for all competitors. Thank you for your support and understanding of the fee structure as we work to develop Youth MMA globally.





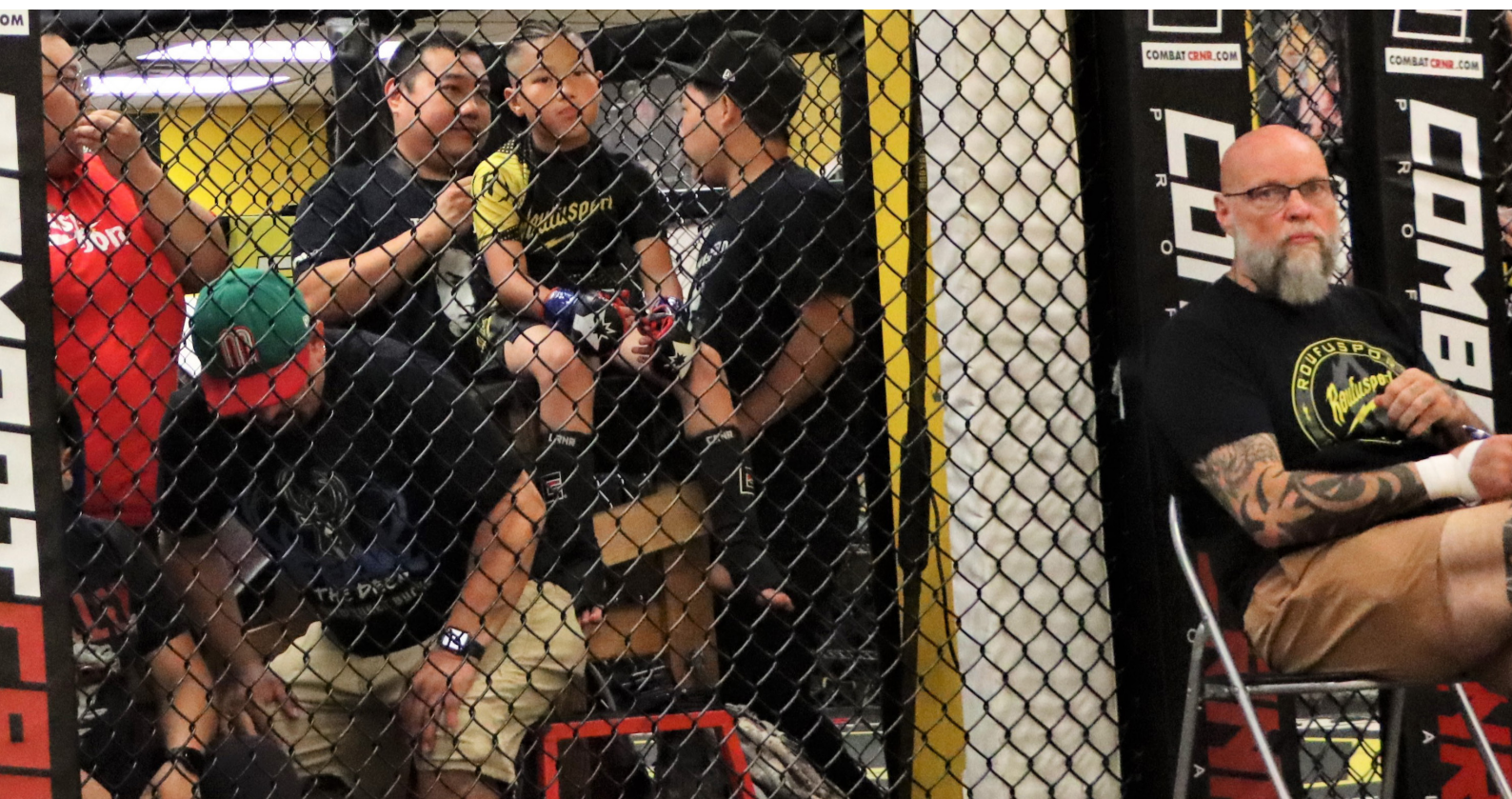
09/ Key Deadlines

Registration Deadline – October 28th 2022 at midnight. No further registrations will be allowed after this time due to planning needed for staff, venue layout, tournament gear, etc. Unless requested early with pending issues under review by the GAMMA Leadership.

Although we are not required to verify, it is highly suggested that you have your lodging booked by Mid Oct 2022 to ensure there are no issues with a shortage of lodging prior to competition.

Refund of Tournament fees 100%	If requested by Oct 10th 2022 before midnight
Refund of Tournament fees 50%	Oct 11th – Oct 28th (No refunds of Tournament fees after Oct 28th without medical verification of injury or VISA approval issue)

Registration, Check in and Pre-Bout Physicals will be done onsite at the host hotel on Thursday Nov 3rd 2022 5pm-9pm. All participants (Athletes, Coaches and Officials) are required to make this time and date to receive credentials to enter.





10/ Weigh-in Policy

The first official weigh-in takes place during registration at the host hotel on Thursday Nov 3rd (5pm-9pm). All athletes must make proper weight with no allowance. If official weight is missed, an athlete will be notified and moved to the next appropriate bracket.

Registration weight on Wednesday will cover anyone competing on Day 1 of competition. Moving forward to Day 2 of competition, only athletes that are set to compete on that day must attend that competition day weigh-in. Competitors with 'a bye' on Saturday (Day 2) are not expected to weigh-in on Saturday but will need to weigh-in for Finals on Sunday morning per the schedule.

Any athlete who does not show up within the designated weigh-in times or fails to make weight will be excluded from competition. A set of test scales will be available for one hour before the official weigh-in. This is to facilitate athletes who wish to check their pre-bout weight before stepping onto the official weigh-in scales.

No athletes are permitted to use I.V. for rehydration. Youth athletes must be mindful of their weight cutting practices and are urged to register at a stable healthy weight they can sustain for multiple competition days. If at any point the medical team feels an athlete has gone into an unsafe level of weight cutting, the athlete will be removed from competition.

**NOTE - If an athlete makes weight on registration day and then misses weight on 2nd day or final weigh in, they will be disqualified from competition as they can no longer be moved to another bracket.*





11/ Competition Rules

The competition will be conducted in accordance with the latest GAMMA U18 International rules. The competition will be conducted with the latest GAMMA U18 International rules which can be found on GAMMA USA's website.

Each athlete will be allowed up to 2 registered coaches to be ring side. Coaches must have a GAMMA issued Tournament credential to be ring side. Only 2 coaches will be allowed to enter the ring between rounds however if the medical team is attending to your athlete, 1 coach must step back onto the black safety area within your corner. Water and Ice will be provided in athlete warm-up rooms.



12/ Referees & Judges

All Officials will be current GAMMA trained officials and work in a volunteer capacity for the duration of the Tournament.

All Officials are required to be at the GAMMA Official's training hosted on Thursday Nov 3rd at 8pm inside the official host hotel.

All Officials will be provided with a Guerra Polo Shirt for officiating but you must provide your own black pants. No latex gloves are needed as we have a no-blood rule for youth. Referees must clean their shoes before entering the mat surfaces.



GUERRA[®]

13/ Equipment

The official tournament competition kit will be purchased and provided by GAMMA through our sponsor Guerra for all athletes. The kit will include 2x Shorts (Red/Blue), 2x Rash Guard (Red/Blue), 1x Shin Guards and 1x Set Gloves. Mouthguards are mandatory for competition and must be provided by the athlete. Groin protection for male athletes is mandatory and must be provided by the athlete. Hand wraps of any kind are not allowed for international Youth Competition.

Example of the mandatory competition kit that will be provided to all athletes for the tournament:





14/

Lodging, Transport & Food

Athletes & coaches will be responsible for their own Lodging and Transportation for the 2022 U18 International Championship Tournament. Registered Officials (Refs and Judges only) will have accommodations covered in a shared capacity for Thursday, Fri, Sat & Sun night only. I would stress that accommodations and transportation be booked early as possible, as lodging space may become limited in the area. The host hotel and competition venue are combined in the same location. A lodging rate of \$159 per night/per room (can be shared) has been locked in for all GAMMA Participants if you book in advance using the name "GAMMA Tournament" at the host hotel.

Participants will be responsible for their own meals. The host hotel has several options for food on-site and we can provide discounted meal tickets for Lunch and Breakfast should anyone be interested but must be pre-paid.



15/

Medical Clearance

Competitors will be given a full pre-bout physical during registration day. No blood work is required for youth competition. All athletes may also be subject to post bout physicals at the discretion of the medical team or personal request. The medical team will be on-site during the duration of the competition days should anyone need any additional medical attention.



16/

Media

This tournament will be open to all Media forms however unapproved live streaming will not be allowed other than clips and images. All media staff must be pre-approved in advance by GAMMA and be issued a Media-Pass Credential for full access.



17/ **Live Streaming**

At this time no Live Streaming is planned but an option is in discussion. Updates will be maintained on our social media accounts.



18/ **Shameless Plug**

When you get an opportunity, please make sure to follow and like the GAMMA USA and GAMMA Worldwide social media pages. You'd be surprised how much that helps by simply showing our outreach to future sponsors, promotions, regulatory bodies, WADA (World Anti-Doping Agency), The I.O.C., etc. Plus we always have great information being posted up regularly! Stay up to date with MMA news, local events, regulatory/safety discussions, global changes, GAMMA partnerships, International GAMMA Tournaments, Anti-doping policies, etc.

<https://www.facebook.com/USFMMA.ORG>

<https://www.facebook.com/gammaworldwide>

