



Qualification Criteria for Members of the AAA® National Sports Panel

The American Arbitration Association® (AAA) is the nation's leading provider of alternative dispute resolution services. Openings on our Regional Roster of Arbitrators and Mediators are extremely limited, based primarily on caseload needs and user preferences. Consequently, even candidates with strong credentials may not be added to our roster. Members on the AAA National Sports Panel must meet or exceed the following qualification criteria:

1. Qualifications

- Sports Participation: Minimum of 10 years of experience representing or providing alternative dispute resolution services for sports governing bodies and entities (*i.e.*, teams, conferences, organizations, or associations), athletes or coaches involving eligibility or participation issues.
- Sports Business Executive: Minimum of 10 years business executive experience with at least 7 years in one or more senior-level positions of a sports industry-related company, firm, association or organization.
- Legal Professional: Attorney with a minimum of 10 years in legal practice with at least 30% of practice for the past 10 years devoted to the practice of Sports Law.
- Educational degree(s) and/or professional license(s) appropriate to the candidates field of expertise.
- Honors, awards and citations demonstrating leadership in the sports industry or field.
- Training in dispute resolution and experience in arbitrations and other forms of dispute resolution.
- Membership in relevant business, trade or professional associations.
- Other relevant experience or accomplishments (*e.g.* published articles).

2. Neutrality

- Freedom from bias and prejudice.
- Ability to evaluate and apply legal, business or trade principles.

3. Judicial Capacity

- Ability to manage the hearing process.
- Thorough and impartial evaluation of testimony and other evidence.



4. Reputation

- Held in the highest regard by peers for integrity, fairness and good judgment.
- Dedicated to upholding the *AAA Code of Ethics for Arbitrators in Commercial Disputes* and/or *Model Standards of Conduct for Mediators*.

5. Commitment to ADR Process

- Willingness to devote time and effort when selected to serve.
- Willingness to support efforts of the AAA.
- Willingness to successfully complete annual training under the guidelines of the *Commercial Arbitration Development Program* and as necessary, AAA sports-related educational programs.