



USRowing

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YOUTH SERIES AGE CATEGORIES & DEFINITIONS



Agenda

How We Got Here & Timeline

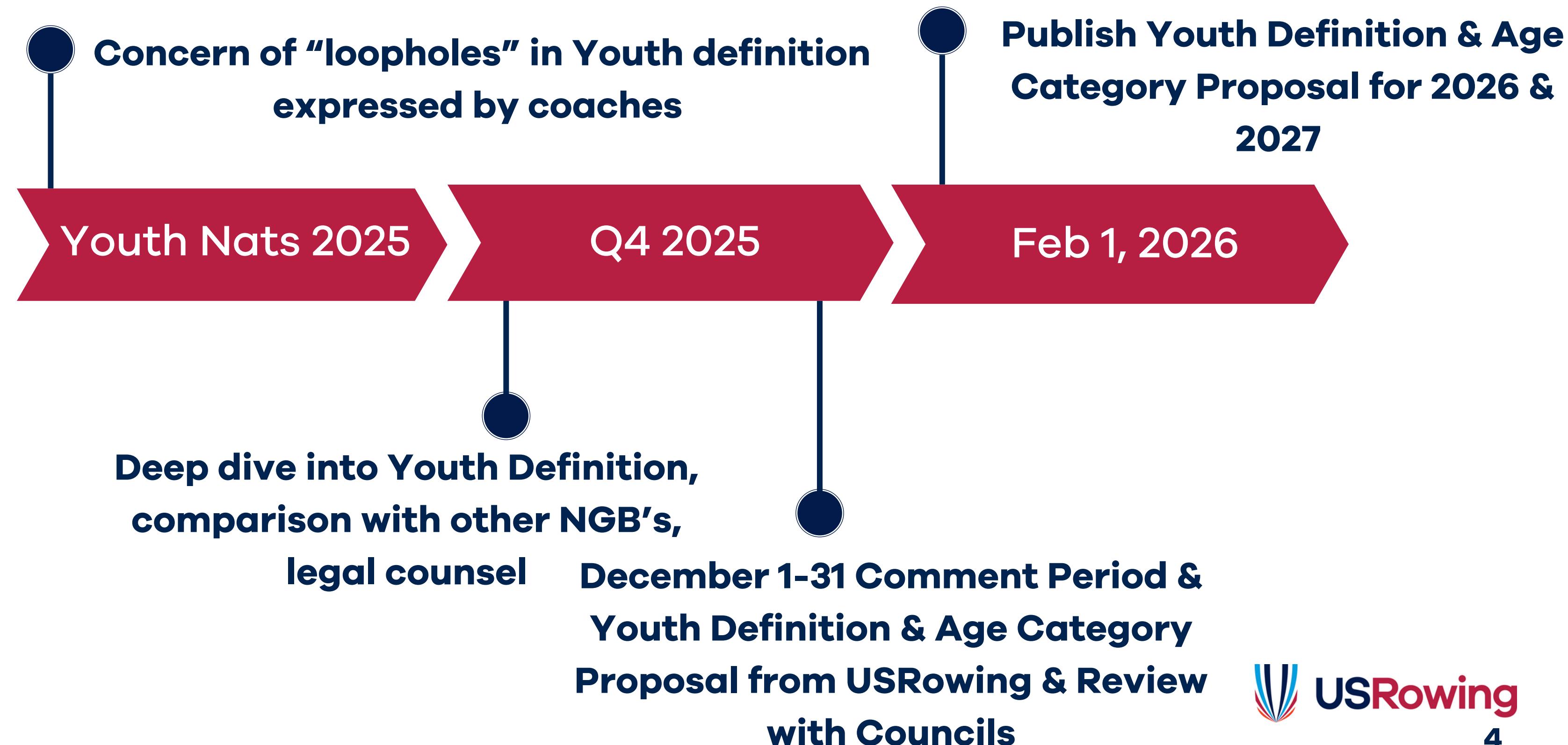
2026 & 2027 Youth Series Definitions

Next Steps

FAQ's from Members

How We Got Here & Timeline

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2026 & 2027 Youth Series Definitions

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The 2026 & 2027 USRowing Youth Series will continue to adopt the Youth Definition & subsequent age categories that were in place in 2025.

Definitions

YOUTH: A Youth is a competitor who in the current calendar year does not attain the age of 19, or who in the current calendar year does not attain the age of 20 and has been continuously enrolled in secondary school as a full-time student seeking a diploma. A Competitor thus ceases to be a Youth after December 31 of the year of their 18th birthday (U19), or upon completion of the 12th grade of secondary school, having been a full-time student within the year of their 19th birthday (U20). Athletes older than U20 are never eligible to compete as Youth.

U17: A competitor may compete in the U17 category until December 31 of the year of his or her 16th birthday.

U16: A Competitor may compete in the U16 category until December 31 of the year of their 15th birthday.

2025

Regatta Season

Age Breakdown

Not Eligible				
Central Youth	U20 Not Eligible	U19 Not Eligible	U17 Not Eligible	U16 Not Eligible
Eligibility Date 12/31	0	45	353	523
Eligibility Date 10/31	0	25	323	497
Eligibility Date 9/31	0	13	310	475
Eligibility Date 8/31	0	6	288	467
Southwest Youth	U20 Not Eligible	U19 Not Eligible	U17 Not Eligible	U16 Not Eligible
Eligibility Date 12/31	0	87	804	1222
Eligibility Date 10/31	0	45	756	1166
Eligibility Date 9/31	0	30	714	1141
Eligibility Date 8/31	0	19	676	1102
Mid-Atlantic Youth	U20 Not Eligible	U19 Not Eligible	U17 Not Eligible	U16 Not Eligible
Eligibility Date 12/31	0	131	998	1533
Eligibility Date 10/31	0	69	908	1470
Eligibility Date 9/31	0	43	864	1428
Eligibility Date 8/31	0	30	837	1390
Southeast Youth	U20 Not Eligible	U19 Not Eligible	U17 Not Eligible	U16 Not Eligible
Eligibility Date 12/31	0	116	826	1218
Eligibility Date 10/31	0	67	761	1163
Eligibility Date 9/31	0	46	723	1144
Eligibility Date 8/31	0	26	696	1112
Northeast Youth	U20 Not Eligible	U19 Not Eligible	U17 Not Eligible	U16 Not Eligible
Eligibility Date 12/31	0	145	1026	1427
Eligibility Date 10/31	0	94	955	1367
Eligibility Date 9/31	0	69	921	1331
Eligibility Date 8/31	0	42	884	1305
Northwest Youth	U20 Not Eligible	U19 Not Eligible	U17 Not Eligible	U16 Not Eligible
Eligibility Date 12/31	0	79	685	1005
Eligibility Date 10/31	0	50	620	957
Eligibility Date 9/31	0	32	591	933
Eligibility Date 8/31	0	15	563	914
Youth Nationals	U20 Not Eligible	U19 Not Eligible	U17 Not Eligible	U16 Not Eligible
Eligibility Date 12/31	0	343	2183	3141
Eligibility Date 10/31	0	190	2079	3037
Eligibility Date 9/31	0	131	2004	2984
Eligibility Date 8/31	0	79	1939	2915

2025 Youth Nationals - Age Breakdown

		Not Eligible			
Youth Nationals	U20 Not Eligible	U19 Not Eligible	U17 Not Eligible	U16 Not Eligible	
Eligibility Date 12/31	0	343	2183	3141	
Eligibility Date 10/31	0	190	2079	3037	
Eligibility Date 9/31	0	131	2004	2984	
Eligibility Date 8/31	0	79	1939	2915	

Next Steps

Next Steps

- **2026 & 2027 Youth Definitions & Age Category definitions will be posted with the February 1 final entry packets and will reflect this decision**
- **The Youth Definitions & Age Category definitions will not be modified prior to 2028. This allows sufficient time to evaluate how participation trends evolve, with 2028 serving as the first opportunity for potential adjustments.**

FAQ's from Members

- 1. Can USRowing create an academic eligibility tracking method to determine if someones schooling system meets the Youth Definition?**
- 2. Can we go to an age-based system but have a waiver process for anyone that is “actually” in high school, but older than U19, or the selected age category?**
- 3. How many athletes have not followed what we believe is the intent of the rule in the past?**

FAQ's from Members

- 4. What will USRowing do if a concern of eligibility comes forward?**
- 5. What do other sports/NGB's do?**



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THANK YOU FOR YOUR FEEDBACK



Questions? Email Competition@usrowing.org