



# Athlete Representation Review Working Group

## Review Report

<b>NGB</b>	<b>USA Karate</b>
<i>Working Group Personnel</i>	
USOPC AAC Designee	Mark Ladwig
NGBC Designee	Staciellen Mischel
NGB Representative to USOPC AAC	Brian Ramrup
<i>Support Personnel</i>	
Executive Director, AAC	Meryl Fishler (Designee)
NGB Services Liaison	David Patterson
<i>Session Information</i>	
Date of NGB Submission	13 August 2021
Date of Report	3 September 2021

<b>Reviewed Competitions</b>	
<b>Competition</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>World Championship (Starting in 2008)</b></li> <li>• <b>Pan American Karate Federation Championships (Starting in 2007)</b></li> <li>• <b>Senior National Team Selection Competition – 2<sup>nd</sup> Stage</b></li> </ul>
NGB Recommendation	Approve
NGB AAC Recommendation	Approve
Working Group Finding	<b>Approve</b>
<i>Finding Notes</i>	
<p>The two international championships are premiere international events wherein Team USA Athletes qualify via an NGB selection process. The effective date for these events reflects the availability of reliable records as well as the participation of women in comparable amounts of weight classes at these events. The NGB and athlete leadership were encouraged to return to the Working Group to extend the effective date further into the past should they get more reliable records and wish to further expand the pool of 10+ athletes.</p> <p>The senior national team selection competition is the highest domestic competition in relation to qualification for Team USA. To qualify for the 2<sup>nd</sup> stage, athletes must qualify via the national championships and then qualify through the first stage of the event.</p>	
<b>Competition</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>USAKNF National Championships</b></li> </ul>
NGB Recommendation	Approve (Actively Engaged)
NGB AAC Recommendation	Approve (Actively Engaged)
Working Group Finding	<b>Approve (Actively Engaged)</b>
<i>Finding Notes</i>	
<p>The national championship event is a high-level domestic competition requiring extensive training and preparation. As noted above the event is also a qualifier for the national team selection competition.</p>	

While it was clear that athletes competing at this event are competing at a high level, the open nature of the competition indicated that it was best fit as “actively engaged” rather than another athlete status.

## Reviewed Committees

Committee	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Audit</b></li> <li>• <b>Nominating and Governance</b></li> <li>• <b>Ethics</b></li> <li>• <b>Judicial</b></li> </ul>
NGB Recommendation	Designated
NGB AAC Recommendation	Designated
Working Group Finding	<b>Designated</b>
<i>Finding Notes</i>	
These committees were based on the NGB Bylaws and met the definition of Designated.	
Committee	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Referee Education</b></li> <li>• <b>Referee Certification</b></li> <li>• <b>Coaches</b></li> </ul>
NGB Recommendation	Other
NGB AAC Recommendation	Other
Working Group Finding	<b>Other</b>
<i>Finding Notes</i>	
As these committees do not work directly with NGB resources nor with national team selection issues, the panel agreed with the NGB and it's AAC that they are “Other” committees.	

Committee	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Technical</b></li> <li>• <b>Referee Operations</b></li> <li>• <b>Medical</b></li> </ul>
NGB Recommendation	Other, With Exemptions
NGB AAC Recommendation	Other, With Exemptions
Working Group Finding	<b>Other, With Exemptions</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>20% athlete representation on these committees will be required</b></li> </ul>
<i>Finding Notes</i>	
The NGB and AAC outlined that these committees deal with highly specific areas of the sport in which an athlete voice was necessary (thus the retention of 20% representation) but that the 33% threshold was not necessary for their work. The NGB should be careful to ensure that the scope of work never come to include governance, resource allocation or national team matters and that if it does, that the NGB return to the panel for updated guidance.	