

**USA WATER SKI & WAKE SPORTS  
ATHLETE SELECTION PROCEDURES  
2025 JUNIOR PAN AMERICAN GAMES  
WAKEBOARD  
May 28, 2025**

**1. ATHLETE REQUIREMENTS**

- 1.1. Provide the minimum eligibility requirements for an athlete to be considered for selection to the Team for the 2025 Junior Pan American Games (Games):

1.1.1. Nationality/Passport requirements:

The athlete must be a national of the United States at the time of nomination.

The athlete must hold a valid U.S. passport that will not expire for six months after the conclusion of the Games.

1.1.2. Minimum Pan American Sports Organization (Panam Sports) standards for participation:

Any competitor in the 2025 Junior Pan American Games must be a national of the country of the National Olympic Committee (NOC) which is entering such a competition. For additional information regarding an athlete who is a national of two or more countries, has changed their nationality or acquired a new nationality, refer to the [Pan Am Sports Constitution](#) (Article 34.4-7).

1.1.3. Minimum International Federation (IF) and/or [Continental Federation \(CF\)](#) standards for participation (if any):

All Team athletes must be born in 2004 or later (athletes must not be older than 21 years old in 2025).

All athletes must sign and submit the Athlete Eligibility Condition Form.

1.1.4. Other requirements:

- Athlete must be an active member of USA Water Ski & Wake Sports (USA-WSWS), whereas all membership dues have been paid to

USA-WSWS at the time of nomination and continuing through the Games.

- Athlete must not have an active suspension and/or sanction that would make the Athlete ineligible to participate in the Games.
- Athletes must successfully complete all Games Registration requirements by the stated deadline.
- Comply with the USA WSWS [SafeSport Policy](#)
- Comply with the USA WSWS [Code of Conduct](#)
- Any athlete that is a minor (under 18 years of age) must be accompanied by a parent or legal guardian.
- Partial funding may be available for Team members, but all athletes are responsible for all unfunded costs.

1.2. Evaluation Events:

- 1.2.1. Event names, dates and locations of all trials, competitions, and camps to be used as part of the selection process (Eligible Tournaments):

The 2025 Junior Pan American Games WakeBoard Team will be nominated by utilizing the top male and female finishers at the JPAG Team USA Selection Trials to be held May 28, 2025 at Champions lake in Auburndale Florida.

- 1.2.2. Describe how athletes qualify for the events listed in 1.2.1.:

The Trials Event will be open to all riders who meet the eligibility criteria specified in Section 1.1 of this document and USA WSWS [preliminary notice](#).

1.3. Step-by-step description of the selection process for these Games (include maximum Team size):

The maximum team size for the Wakeboard discipline at the 2025 Junior Pan American Games is two (2) athletes: one (1) male and one (1) female. Athletes will compete in their respective gender division.

Based on the current number of eligible and qualified junior male and female athletes, the Selection Trials will proceed as outlined below:

Junior Men / Junior Women

If fewer than six (6) athletes are entered in a division, the competition will consist of a seeding round followed by a final. In the final, athletes' riding order will be reversed based on the seeding round score . The athlete with

the highest seeding score will ride last, proceeding in descending order to the athlete with the lowest seeding score, who will ride first.

If there are seven (7) or more athletes entered, the competition will begin with two (2) heats. The top two (2) scoring athletes from each heat will advance directly to the final. Remaining athletes will proceed to a Last Chance Qualifier (LCQ) round. If the LCQ consists of two (2) heats, only the top-scoring athlete from each heat will advance to the final, resulting in a final of six (6) total athletes.

The athlete achieving the highest score in the final will be deemed the winner.

All competition rounds will be conducted in accordance with the 2025 IWWF Wakeboard Rules, which will also govern the wakeboard competition at the 2025 Junior Pan American Games.

The top scoring athletes will have 3 days after the USA Selection Trials to confirm their commitment to the 2025 Junior Pan American Games. If the designated primary athlete rider representative declines to participate, is unavailable, and/or becomes ineligible, the quota spot will be offered to the next highest placed athlete in that same gender, based on order of finish at the USA-WSWS JPAG Team USA Selection Trials. This process will continue until all available spots are filled (provided replacements are still permitted by the Pan American Sport Confederation).

## **2. DISCRETIONARY SELECTION (if applicable)**

2.1. Rationale for utilizing discretionary selection (if any): N/A

2.2. Define the discretionary criteria to be used (if any): N/A

2.3. Name of the committee that will be responsible for making discretionary selections, along with a complete list of the members' titles: N/A

2.3.1. Process that will be used to identify and handle any potential conflicts of interest involving a member of the committee:

All individuals involved in the development of these selection procedures must comply with USA-WSWS' conflict of interest policy, to include completing and [submitting a disclosure form](#) for review by the USA-WSWS Ethics Committee prior to convening the committee.

Any individual who has an actual, possible, or perceived conflict of interest must disclose it to USA-WSWS' Ethics Committee prior to the start of the selection process and/or recuse him/herself from the review process and/or voting.

A conflict of interest exists when a personal, family, financial, professional, club, team or business interest of the committee member poses a direct or indirect relationship, connection, or affiliation, past or present, with an athlete in contention for the applicable team selection that could compromise the committee member's ability to participate in the selection process in an unbiased manner. If a conflict exists, USA-WSWS' Ethics Committee shall review the conflict and determine the committee member's level of involvement (e.g., whether that committee member must recuse him/herself from participating in discussions and/or voting).

If it is determined that a committee member must recuse him/herself from voting, the Ethics Committee may still determine that a committee member who has relevant and necessary information with respect to athlete performance, such as a coach, may, if requested by the USA Wakeboard board of directors provide such information to the Selection Committee so long as such information is provided in a fair and unbiased manner and so long as the Selection Committee member with the conflict of interest does not vote toward the final decision. The committee member must not otherwise influence other members of the Committee in the selection process.

Additionally, any person (including any potentially impacted athlete or coach of a potentially impacted athlete) with a good faith belief that a committee member has a conflict of interest may report the alleged conflict of interest to USA-WSWS' Ethics Committee. Reports may be made anonymously through the [USOPC's Integrity Portal](#). No committee member shall retaliate in any way against a person who, in good faith, reports an alleged conflict of interest.

### **3. REMOVAL OF ATHLETES**

3.1. Prior to submission of athlete entries by name by the USOPC to the LOC, USA-WSWS has jurisdiction over potential nominees.



An athlete who is nominated to the Team by USA-WSWS may be removed for any of the following reasons, as determined by USA-WSWS:

- 3.1.1. Voluntary withdrawal. An athlete must submit a written communication to USA-WSWS' Executive Director Kevin Michaels.
- 3.1.2. Injury or illness as certified by a physician (or medical staff) approved by USA-WSWS. If Athlete refuses verification of their illness or injury by a physician (or medical staff) approved by USA-WSWS, their injury will be assumed to be debilitating and they may be removed from the Team
- 3.1.3. Failure to participate in Mandatory Training and/or Competition as defined in Section 8 of these procedures.
- 3.1.4. Violation of USA-WSWS' U.S. Team Agreement and Code of Conduct. See Team Documents at <https://www.teamusa.org/usa-water-ski/for-athletes>.

An athlete who is removed from the Team pursuant to this provision has the right to a hearing per USA-WSWS' Bylaws. See [USA-WSWS Bylaws](#), Article IX, and the [USOPC Bylaws](#), Section 9.

Once athlete entries have been submitted to the Local Organizing Committee by the USOPC, the USOPC has jurisdiction over the Team, at which time, in addition to any applicable USA-WSWS Code of Conduct, the USOPC's Code of Conduct and Grievance Procedures apply. The USOPC's Code of Conduct is included in the Games Forms made available prior to the respective Games; the USOPC's Grievance Procedures can be found at: <https://www.usopc.org/grievance-and-dispute-resolution>.

3.2. An athlete may be removed as a nominee to the Team or from the Team for an adjudicated violation of Panam Sports, WADA, IWWF, USADA and/or USOPC anti-doping protocol, policies, and procedures, as well as the U.S. Center for SafeSport Code, the USOPC Athlete Safety Policy and USA-WSWS' SafeSport policies, as applicable.

#### **4. REPLACEMENT OF ATHLETES**

4.1. Selection and approval process for determining replacement athlete(s) should a vacancy occur:

- 4.1.1. Prior to submission of Entries by Name to the Local Organizing Committee, including any applicable group or committee:  
Replacements will be nominated according to the order of placement at the JPAG Team USA Selection Trials (See Section 1.3).

- 4.1.2. After submission of Entries by Name to the Local Organizing Committee, including any applicable group or committee:  
If allowed, replacements will be nominated using the same process as described above in 4.1.1.

- 4.1.3. All replacement athletes must meet all requirements listed in Section 1.

## **5. SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS**

USA-WSWS will retain the approved Selection Procedures and all supporting documents, including scouting or evaluation forms, etc., and data from the selection process per the USA-WSWS Records Retention Policy or for six months past the date of the Closing Ceremony of the 2025 Junior Pan American Games, whichever is later.

## **6. REQUIRED DOCUMENTS**

In addition to the USOPC Code of Conduct, the following documents are required to be signed by an athlete as a condition of nomination to the 2025 Junior Pan American Games:

USA-WSWS' U.S. Team Agreement and Code of Conduct. (See U.S. Team Documents at <https://www.usawaterski.org/athletes-resources>).

## **7. DATE OF NOMINATION**

Nomination of athletes, including replacements, will be announced to all athletes and submitted to the USOPC on or before the deadline of June 7th, 2025." Nomination will be posted on the US-WSWS Website [here](#).

## **8. MANDATORY TRAINING AND/OR COMPETITION**

Athletes will be notified of any mandatory training programs and/or competition at least thirty (30) days prior to the start of any such training programs or competition. Information regarding any mandatory training and/or competition will be emailed to all participants and posted on [www.usawaterski.org](http://www.usawaterski.org).

While waivers for mandatory training or competition will not be unreasonably withheld, all athletes nominated to the Team should arrange for appropriate time off from school, work, or other obligations in advance. Waivers will primarily be granted for injury or other similar incapacity or for a personal/family emergency. Requests for a waiver must be submitted in writing to the Wakeboard Director as far in advance as possible.

## **9. ANTI-DOPING REQUIREMENTS**

Athletes must adhere to all Panam Sports, WADA, IWWF, USADA and USOPC anti-doping protocols, policies, and procedures, as applicable. This includes participation in Out-of-Competition Testing as required by the Panam Sports, WADA, IWWF, USADA and USOPC rules, as applicable.

## **10. DEVELOPMENT OF SELECTION PROCEDURES**

The following committee/group was responsible for creating these Selection Procedures:

- USA-Water Ski and Wake Sports, Executive Director, Kevin Michaels
- USA-Water Ski and Wake Sports, President, USA Wakeboard, Cathy Williams
- USA-Water Ski and Wake Sports ACC Rep Andrew Atkinson

## **11. USA-WSWS BYLAWS AND GRIEVANCE PROCEDURES**

The USA-WSWS Bylaws and Grievance Procedures can be found at [USA Water Ski & Wake Sports | USA-WSWS Governance](#).

## **12. INTERNATIONAL DISCLAIMER**

These procedures are based on Panam Sports, and IWWF Pan Am Confederation rules and regulations as presently known and understood. Any change in the selection procedures caused by a change in Panam Sports and IWWF Pan Am Confederation rules and regulations will be distributed to the affected athletes immediately. The selection criteria are based on the latest information available to USA-WSWS.

However, the selection criteria are always subject to unforeseen, intervening circumstances, and realistically may not have accounted for every possible contingency. If any force of nature, pandemic, or force majeure, should cause the alteration or cancellation of any of the selection events listed in this document, these selection procedures may require revisions.

## **13. ATHLETE OMBUDS OFFICE**

The Team USA Athlete Ombuds serves as a safe, independent, confidential place for Team USA Athletes to seek advice about any sport-related rule, policy, or process; how to navigate raising or responding to concerns; or access legal and mental health resources.



Team USA Athletes may contact the Athlete Ombuds:

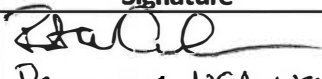

PHONE: (719) 866-5000

EMAIL: [ombudsman@usathlete.org](mailto:ombudsman@usathlete.org)

WEBSITE: [usathlete.org](http://usathlete.org)

#### 14. USA-WSWS SIGNATURES

I certify that I have read and understand the standards/criteria set by our IWWF Pan Am Confederation and incorporated those standards/criteria into our Selection Procedures. I further certify that the information provided herein regarding Athlete Selection Procedures represents the method approved by USA-WSWS and that these selection procedures will be posted on the USA-WSWS website.

Position	Print Name	Signature	Date
USA-WSWS Executive Director	Kevin Michaels	 PRESIDENT USA-WSWS	5/27/25
Team USA Athletes' Commission Representative*	Andrew Adkison		05/27/2025

\* If the Team USA Athletes' Commission Representatives have delegated authority to another 10 Year Athlete Representative to sign the Selection Procedures, attach a letter from the Team USA AC Representative indicating the reason they have delegated authority.

\* Signature by the Athlete Representative constitutes that they have read and understand the Selection Procedures. If the Athlete Representative reads and does not agree with the Athlete Selection Procedures being submitted by the NGB, they may submit those reasons in writing to their USOPC Sport Performance Team.

\* If, for some reason, a sport does not have an elected Team USA AC Representative, the NGB must designate a 10 Year Athlete from that sport to review and sign the Selection Procedures.