2026-2027 USABS Skeleton Selection Criteria

Updates from 2025/26 season are highlighted in yellow
Released on 6/26/2026

Goal and guiding principles of the athlete selection criteria for skeleton

The goal of these criteria is to ensure USA Bobsled/Skeleton (USABS) fields the most competitive skeleton athletes in the pursuit of Olympic, World Championships, and World Cup medals. In keeping with this goal, USABS will work to select the most competitive athletes to represent the United States at the most imminent Olympics as well as prepare for future Olympics. Therefore, an emphasis will be placed on both optimizing the success of the current teams and development for future Olympic, World Championship, and World Cup success.

The Team Selection committee and the coaching staff will use these criteria and supporting documents for selecting athletes to represent USABS in International Bobsleigh and Skeleton Federation (IBSF) competitions.

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1. Athlete Participant Eligibility

To participate in a USABS program, an athlete must:

a) be a USABS Athlete Member in good standing.

b) abide by the U.S. Anti-Doping Agency (USADA), the World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA), and IBSF anti-doping requirements.

c) meet all United States Olympic and Paralympic Committee (USOPC), IBSF, and USABS eligibility requirements for representing USA in international competition.

d) complete and return the USABS physical/waiver, U.S. Center for SafeSport training, background check, and Athlete Code of Conduct prior to participation in any USABS event.

2. Qualifying for National Selection Races

The National Selection Races will be used to determine race entries for IBSF competitions on the different IBSF racing circuits; World Cup (WC), Europe Cup (EC), North America Cup (NAC), and Asia Cup (AC)

All athletes that are Development Phase 1 (DP1) or higher as defined by the Skeleton Athlete Progression Pathway (SAPP) (Appendix 2) prior to the start of official training for Selection Races will be invited to participate in the Selection Races.

Additional athletes, identified by the Skeleton Head Coach and the Director of Sport Performance, may be invited. These athletes must be eligible to race for the United States prior to the start of the first IBSF race of the 2026/2027 season and must be, at minimum, in Phase 1 of Development as described in the SAPP (Appendix 2).

3. National Selection Race

The 2026/2027 Skeleton National Selection Races will take place in Lake Placid, New York, Park City, Utah, or other track determined and announced at least 30 days prior to the race.

The proposed dates for the 2026/2027 Selection Races (2-6 races total):

~~Spring Selection Races~~

Location: TBD

TBD – Official Training

TBD - Selection Races (2 races)

Fall Selection Races

Location: Park City, UT

November, 2026 – Official Training

November, 2026 - Selection Races (1-2 races)

Race Protocol

a) USABS will strive to hold the maximum number of races. However, the total number of races will be dependent on track time, weather, and other external factors, and the official race protocols will be announced as soon as reasonably possible prior to the races.

b) The Selection Races will consist of a minimum of two races with a maximum of six races. If necessary, in attempt to meet the two-race minimum requirement, two 1-heat races may be held on the same day.

c) Up to 6 official training runs will be offered to each eligible athlete over 2-3 days on each track prior to the race(s).

d) A race jury will be comprised of IBSF certified officials and conduct the race as an IBSF sanctioned event.

e) Each race will consist of two heats, but in extreme cases, a race may be reduced to one heat as determined by the jury per IBSF rule 10.6.1.

> *Race Heats.* A reduction in the number of heats is possible in cases of force majeure. At least one race heat must be conducted for the race to be officially valid.

f) A third heat may be offered in a race to replace a heat in which an athlete pops a groove. There will be a maximum of one (1) third heat allowed per athlete, per track. If the Selection Races take place on only one track, then each athlete is allowed a maximum of one (1) third heat. The third heat, if taken, will replace the heat in which the athlete popped the groove, regardless of the third heat time. The race jury must verify that an athlete has popped a groove prior to awarding a third heat.

g) In extreme circumstances a rerun of a heat may be granted by the race jury per IBSF rule 10.6.11.

Repetition of a Heat. "After a malfunction not caused by the athlete, the heat may be repeated for the athlete with the authorization of the jury. The run may be repeated as soon as the athlete is ready to start."

h) Athletes will be ranked in each discipline by combined points from all Selection Races utilizing the IBSF World Cup Point System in Appendix 1. If a tie in points exists at the end of Selection Races, ties will be broken by the single best finish at any of the Selection Races. If a tie remains after comparing all Selection Race finishes, the fastest heat of the most recent Selection Race will determine the winner.

i) Only IBSF runners will be allowed in all Selection Races. Runner check may be enforced by the race jury.

j) Athletes racing in the Selection Races should be prepared for all weather and track conditions. The IBSF skeleton rule book will be used in cases of damaged runners, timing issues, and any other issues that may arise. The Selection Races jury will be the deciding body for all issues and will abide by the IBSF rule book to manage their decisions.

k) Clause for extreme circumstances.
Every effort will be made to conduct a fair National Selection Race series of 4-6 races. If weather, track conditions, or other extreme unforeseen circumstances prohibit a complete National Selection Race series from taking place and the minimum number of 2 races is not possible, IBSF competition race entries will be determined based on the previous season's IBSF overall ranking.

4. IBSF Competition Race Entry Selection

In addition to meeting the requirements for eligibility from Section 1, athletes must also participate in the current season Push Championships to be eligible for World Cup race entry selection. Date, location, and format of the Push Championships will be announced at least 30 days prior to the competition. USABS will make every effort to host the Push Championships competition in the Ice House in Lake Placid. If, for any unforeseen reason, the competition is not able to be held prior to the start of the season, the requirement to participate in the event may be waived.

In alignment with the IBSF rules, if a female athlete misses one season due to maternity leave, this female athlete will keep her quota spot in the respective race series when coming back after one season. This quota place will be linked to the single female athlete's name, cannot be transferred to another athlete and will be in addition to the quota spot(s) assigned to the National Federation.

USABS is not obligated to fill all discretionary quota spots. Quota spots may remain vacant if adequate coaching, equipment maintenance, sports med, and/or other support cannot be provided. An individual athlete's spot may remain vacant if the athlete has not demonstrated the ability to safely navigate a particular track.

a) Each race entry selection for the World Cup (WC) series will be determined by the Team Selection Committee with input and consultation from other USABS skeleton coaches and relevant personnel.

b) A bye onto the World Cup team will be awarded to no more than one male athlete and one female athlete who meet any of the following criteria (in the following order). Note that Team Event results do not count toward a bye.

   i) Finished in the top four (4) at the 2026 Olympics. If more than one athlete finished in the top four, the bye goes to the highest finisher.
   ii) Finished the 2025/2026 season ranked in the top four (4) in the World Cup ranking (as published by the IBSF) result in their discipline. If more than one athlete finished in the top four, the bye goes to the highest finisher.
   iii) Finished the 2025/2026 season ranked in the top four (4) in the IBSF overall skeleton ranking (as published by the IBSF) in their discipline. If more than one athlete finished in the top four, the bye goes to the highest finisher.

c) Race Entries
   i) The first race entry position will be filled with an athlete that has earned a bye from section 4.b. If no bye has been awarded, the position will be filled with the top finisher from the 2026/2027 Selection Races.
   ii) If two or more race quota spots are available to the U.S., one race entry for each World Cup race will be reserved for a discretionary selection by the Team Selection Committee according to the criteria outlined in Section 5 and the development standards and requirements in the USABS Skeleton Athlete Progression Pathway (Appendix 2)
   iii) If available, all other race entries will be filled with the next highest ranked finisher(s) from the 2026/2027 Selection Races.

d) Mixed Team Event Race Entries
   i) Athletes selected to compete in the mixed team event must meet all IBSF mixed team event qualification standards. Athletes must be entered into and intend to race individually in the coinciding World Cup race.
   ii) All race pairings will be determined by the coaching staff using the following criteria (in no particular order):
      - Results from the coinciding individual race.
      - Results from previous mixed team results.
      - Current World Cup rank and current season results.
      - Strategic need for the USABS program.
   iii) If an athlete elects not to participate, is injured, or is unavailable for any reason, the coaches will reevaluate and reselect all race pairings for that race. USABS is not obligated to fill every quota spot.

e) Mid-Season Review

Athletes must maintain an overall top 12 ranking in the IBSF World Cup standings (per current IBSF results) to guarantee their position on the World Cup team. If an athlete is ranked below the top 12 in the IBSF World Cup standings at the time of the mid-season break, the Team Selection Committee *may* replace the lowest ranked athlete from the World Cup team with the highest ranked athlete from the Europe Cup (EC), North America Cup (NAC), or Asia Cup (AC) racing circuit provided that the athlete is ranked in the top 6 of the IBSF EC, NAC, or AC standings and must be in, at minimum, Phase 2 of the Development level in the Skeleton Athlete Progression Pathway (Appendix 2) at the time of the mid-season break. Note that the number of World Cup races at the time of the mid-season break will determine the number of races used for ranking comparison in alignment with the posted IBSF rankings. The Selection Committee will use the discretionary criteria outlined in Section 5.

f) Due to safety concerns, USABS requires a coach, approved by the Director of Sport Performance and the Skeleton Head Coach, to be present anytime an athlete is training or racing on a track for a World Cup event. The coach has the authority to deny race entry if he or she feels an athlete has failed to demonstrate the ability to safely navigate the track.

g) World Championships Selection
   i) All race entries to the World Championships will be according to the IBSF World Cup ranking list after the last World Cup race prior to the beginning of the World Championships.
   ii) If a waiver is in consideration, exceptions to Section 4.g.i. may require the Selection Committee to use the discretion criteria outlined in Section 5 to select an athlete that has been granted a waiver by the Waiver Committee in place of the lowest ranked athlete(s).
   iii) Mixed Team Event Race Entries
      (1) Athletes selected to compete in the mixed team event must meet all IBSF mixed team event qualification standards. Athletes must be entered into and intend to race in the World Championships individual race.
      (2) Race pairings for the World Championships will be determined by the coaching staff using the following tiered criteria:
         - First, the decision will consider the following tier with the highest priority (in no particular order within the tier):
            - Results from the World Championships individual race including start time and velocity.
            - Predicted down time of the Mixed Team race using start and down times and velocities data from the individual World Championships race.
         - Second, if extenuating circumstances influenced the highest priority tier, the following will be considered (in no particular order):
            - Results from the current season's WC, EC, or NAC Mixed Team and individual races including start time and velocity emphasizing head-to-head results.
            - The most recent results from any Mixed Team races and individual races on the World Championships/Olympic track.

(3) If an athlete elects not to participate, is injured, or is unavailable for any reason, the coaches will reevaluate and reselect all race pairings for that race. USABS is not obligated to fill every quota spot.

IBSF Development Race Entry Selection

Athletes will be named to racing circuits appropriate for their skill level with the intention of growth and development. Athletes will not be allowed to race on multiple circuits or in more races than the number of World Cup races with the intention of maximizing IBSF points. In situations in which an athlete is unable to compete solely on a single racing circuit due to significant injury (verified by the USABS CMO) or other extreme circumstance justified to the coaches and Director of Sport Performance, an athlete may be allowed to race on multiple circuits within a season half as long as no advantage in IBSF points is unfairly gained by the athlete. If additional IBSF points are not a consideration or a benefit to an athlete, or if racing on multiple circuits or in additional races will benefit the *entire* USABS program (e.g. additional World Cup quota spots for next season), an athlete *may* be allowed to compete on multiple circuits or additional races.

Europe Cup

h) All athletes must be, at minimum, Development Phase 1 (DP1) as defined by the SAPP (Appendix 2) to be eligible to compete in any Europe Cup (EC) event.

i) Two race entries will be filled with the highest ranked finishers from the 2026/27 Selection Races not selected to the World Cup racing circuit.

j) All remaining race entries will be filled with athletes selected by the development coaching staff according to Section 5 and the development standards and requirements in the USABS Skeleton Athlete Progression Pathway (Appendix 2).

k) Mixed Team Event Race Entries
   i) Athletes selected to compete in the mixed team event must meet all IBSF mixed team event qualification standards. Athletes must be entered into and intend to race individually in the coinciding Europe Cup race.
   ii) All race pairings will be determined by the coaching staff using the following criteria (in no particular order):
      - Results from the coinciding individual race.
      - Results from previous mixed team results.
      - Current IBSF rank and current season results.
      - Strategic need for the USABS program.
   iii) If an athlete elects not to participate, is injured, or is unavailable for any reason, the coaches will reevaluate and reselect all race pairings for that race. USABS is not obligated to fill every quota spot.

l) All athletes must be, at minimum, Recruitment Phase 2 (RP2) as defined by the SAPP (Appendix 2) to be eligible to compete in any North America Cup (NAC) event.

m) Two race entries will be filled with the highest ranked finishers from the 2026/27 Selection Races not selected to the World Cup or Europe Cup racing circuits.

n) All remaining race entries will be filled with athletes selected by the development coaching staff according to Section 5 and the development standards and requirements in the USABS Skeleton Athlete Progression Pathway (Appendix 2).

o) Mixed Team Event Race Entries
   i) Athletes selected to compete in the mixed team event must meet all IBSF mixed team event qualification standards. Athletes must be entered into and intend to race individually in the coinciding North America Cup race.
   ii) All race pairings will be determined by the coaching staff using the following criteria (in no particular order):
      - Results from the coinciding individual race.
      - Results from previous mixed team results.
      - Current IBSF rank and current season results.
      - Strategic need for the USABS program.
   iii) If an athlete elects not to participate, is injured, or is unavailable for any reason, the coaches will reevaluate and reselect all race pairings for that race. USABS is not obligated to fill every quota spot.

Asian Cup

p) All athletes must be, at minimum, Recruitment Phase 2 (RP2) as defined by the SAPP (Appendix 2) to be eligible to compete in any Asia Cup (AC) event.

q) All race entries will be filled with athletes selected by the development coaching staff according to Section 5 and the development standards and requirements in the USABS Skeleton Athlete Progression Pathway (Appendix 2).

r) Mixed Team Event Race Entries
   i) Athletes selected to compete in the mixed team event must meet all IBSF mixed team event qualification standards. Athletes must be entered into and intend to race individually in the coinciding North America Cup race.
   ii) All race pairings will be determined by the coaching staff using the following criteria (in no particular order):
      - Results from the coinciding individual race.
      - Results from previous mixed team results.
      - Current IBSF rank and current season results.
      - Strategic need for the USABS program.
   iii) If an athlete elects not to participate, is injured, or is unavailable for any reason, the coaches will reevaluate and reselect all race pairings for that race. USABS is not

obligated to fill every quota spot.

5. Discretionary Selection

Specified racing entries on the WC, EC, NAC, and AC circuits will be filled on the discretion of the Team Selection Committee (WC) or the development coaching staff (EC, NAC, and AC). The committee and staff will consider the following factors for the discretionary selections (in no particular order).

a) Final rank from the Selection Races.

b) Development needs of USABS – In alignment with the Goals and Guiding Principles of these criteria, the coaches and selection committee will select athletes appropriate for each race corresponding to the level of competition of the racing circuit. Veteran or experienced athletes may not have priority over developing athletes for NAC, AC, and EC selection. Exceptions may be made for athletes following a return-to-play protocol agreed upon by the coaches and sports med personnel after an injury or maternity absence.

   i. For WC races, athletes must be in, at minimum, Phase 2 of Development (DP2) in the USABS Skeleton Athlete Progression Pathway.

   ii. For EC races, athletes must be in, at minimum, Phase 1 of Development (DP1) in the USABS Skeleton Athlete Progression Pathway.

   iii. For NAC and AC races, athletes must be in, at minimum, Phase 2 of Recruitment (RP2) in the USABS Skeleton Athlete Progression Pathway, or be of *Junior* status as defined by IBSF rule 4.3.1.

c) Extraordinary circumstances of athletes in Phase 1 or Phase 2 of the National Team (NT1, NT2) of the USABS Skeleton Athlete Progression Pathway.

d) Athletes who have been granted a Medical Waiver or Extreme Circumstances Waiver.

6. Participation, Removal, and Replacement

a) Participation

Athletes are required to participate in events for which they are qualified, are named, and to which they have committed. When an athlete does not attend a race and/or leaves a position vacant, they can negatively affect the efforts of USABS to qualify the maximum number of spots in an IBSF competition or gain an unfair advantage in IBSF points. Thus, any athlete who does not attend a race for which they have been selected may be assessed a fine of $100.00. The fine must be paid before the next competition. The CEO, Director of Sport Performance, along with the Head Coach, will determine, on a case-by-case basis, if that athlete's circumstances merit reinstatement to their race opportunities, or if some or all of their races are to be reallocated to other athletes.

Failure to participate in a mandatory event and/or to follow the waiver procedures may result in limitation of the athlete's participation in further events during the calendar year or to the benefits the athlete receives from USABS and/or the USOPC, but in no way excludes rights guaranteed by USABS and the USOPC.

b) Removal of Athletes
An athlete may be removed from any team for any of the following reasons:

i) Voluntary withdrawal. Athletes must submit a written letter or email to the Director of Sport Performance, or appropriate lead coach at least one week prior to the event Team Captain's Meeting. In the event of a disabling illness or injury to an athlete, the athlete must be examined by a USABS-approved physician or a USOPC/USABS medical care-giver. Should an athlete refuse injury/illness verification by a physician or a USOPC/USABS approved care- giver, then their injury or illness will be assumed to be disabling and they will be replaced. If an athlete misses two World Cup events in succession related to the same condition, that athlete must be seen by a medical doctor designated by the CMO, which could be facilitated by the USOPC/USABS athletic trainers (ATCs). Medical staff at any track at which an athlete is competing can, in the interest of safety, prevent an injured athlete from competing at that event, should they deem that athlete unsafe.

ii) Code of Conduct violation. In the event of an excessive or serious violation of the Athlete Code of Conduct, an athlete could be removed from a race series. An athlete who may be removed from the team pursuant to this provision has the right to a hearing per USABS Bylaws, or USOPC Bylaws, Section 9.1. The athlete also has the right to appeal to the USABS Judicial Committee.

iii) Anti-Doping violation. An athlete may be removed from any team at any time for violation of IOC, WADA, IBSF, USADA, and/or USOPC anti-doping protocol, policies, and procedures. In such instances, the adjudication process will be managed through the United States Anti-Doping Agency.

c) Replacement of Athletes
If an athlete is removed from a World Cup race circuit due to any of the reasons outlined in Section 8.b., the Team Selection Committee will determine a replacement athlete considering the discretionary selection criteria described in Section 6. If a replacement athlete is not selected prior to the IBSF Event Entry deadline, then the vacated spot will remain empty. This deadline is typically 5 days prior to the Team Captain's Meeting and is declared in the Event Invitation found on the IBSF website (https://www.ibsf.org/en/inside-ibsf/downloads).

7. Waivers

A Waiver Committee will consider all waivers and seek input from *relevant personnel*. For medical waivers, *relevant personnel* includes the USABS Chief Medical Officer (CMO) and all medical personnel involved with the athlete's injury, rehab/recovery, diagnosis, etc.

Waivers may only be *granted* by the waiver committee. A granted waiver does not ensure selection. If a waiver is granted, the Team Selection Committee will then proceed with

selection considering the granted waiver.

All waiver requests for USABS events must be submitted to the Director of Sport Performance via hard copy or email as soon as reasonable. The waiver fee of $100.00 must be paid and received prior to any meeting of the Waiver Committee. Following receipt, the Waiver Committee will review such request for approval or denial. The Waiver Committee will make a decision and provide a written copy of the approval or denial of the waiver to the athlete within seven (7) days. If granted, the waiver fee will be reimbursed to the athlete.

There are two types of waivers that may be considered:

Medical Waiver

Athletes may apply for medical waivers based on having suffered an injury or illness and said injury/illness has been verified by the Chief Medical Officer (CMO) or his/her designee. The USABS CMO, or his/her designee, must examine injured/ill athletes wishing to receive a medical waiver for medical reasons. The injured athlete must follow rehabilitation guidelines set by the CMO and the athlete's skeleton lead coach to be able to receive and keep the waiver. Additional details are laid out in the USABS Waiver Policy.

Extreme Circumstances waiver

An extreme circumstances waiver may be granted for any unforeseen circumstances that include but are not limited to personal or family situations, or race situations that may include but are not limited to a crash, runner or sled damage, etc. during a competition or training. Athletes should make every reasonable effort to avoid the extreme circumstance if possible. Additional details are laid out in the USABS Waiver Policy.

8. Committees

a) The Waiver Committee will seek input from the USABS Chief Medical Officer in addition to relevant medical personnel involved with the athlete's injury, rehab/recovery, diagnosis, etc.
   i) Curt Tomasevicz, Director of Sport Performance
   ii) Alex Gassner, Skeleton Head Coach
   iii) a) Alex Ivanov, Development Skeleton Coach for an Extreme Circumstance Waiver
   b) Ralph Reiff, Medical Professional for a Medical Waiver
   iv) Kimber Gabryszak, Athlete Representative
   v) Lake Kwaza, Athlete Representative
   vi) Dr. Eugene Byrne, Chief Medical Officer (non-voting member)

b) The Team Selection Committee will meet either in person or remotely prior to the National Team selection at the beginning of the season, the mid-season review, and prior to World Championships or Olympics to determine athlete selection. For each selection, the committee will seek input from all relevant USABS skeleton coaches and start coaches to ensure that these criteria are applied with fairness and transparency.

   Team Selection Committee:
   i) Curt Tomasevicz, Director of Sport Performance
   ii) Alex Gassner, Head Skeleton Coach

iii) Alex Ivanov, Development Skeleton Coach
iv) Annie O'Shea, Athlete Representative
v) Katie Demong, Athlete Representative

c) USABS Judicial Committee. There is a standing Judicial Committee to oversee any grievances of these criteria. The USABS Board of Directors will appoint members of the committee. If an athlete has a reasonable and articulable concern regarding any grievance with the criteria, an athlete is encouraged to notify the judicial committee. The contest must be made in writing and emailed to the Judicial Committee Chairperson at: judicialcommitteechair@usabs.com.

d) USABS Ethics Committee. There is a standing Ethics Committee to oversee any ethical violations of these criteria. The USABS Board of Directors will appoint members of the committee. If an athlete believes there is any impartiality or potential conflict of interest, an athlete is encouraged to notify the ethics committee. Concerns must be sent via email to the Ethics Committee Chairperson at: ethicscommitteechair@usabs.com.

e) Any individuals, including athlete representatives, who have a possible conflict of interest must disclose it to the USABS's Ethics Committee for review. Additionally, any person (including any potentially impacted athlete or coach of a potentially impacted athlete) with good faith, believe that an individual involved in the selection process has a conflict of interest may report the alleged conflict of interest to USABS's Ethics Committee for review. Reports may be made anonymously. The Ethics Committee may take any measures necessary to create a fair process for athletes, including restrictions or removal of the conflicted individual.

f) If an individual is recused and a vacancy on a committee exists, USABS shall use its best reasonable efforts to fill that vacancy as soon as possible. If an athlete representative is recused, another athlete representative who meets the qualifications for that committee shall be appointed by the USABS and approved by an unaffected representative group of athletes as soon as possible.

9. Other

Athletes' Right to Compete

An athlete's right to compete is defined and protected by USOPC Bylaws. Should an athlete feel his/her right to compete has been withheld, the USABS bylaws provides for a grievance procedure for him/her to seek a fair hearing and relief.

Due to the potential effect that a grievance process and/or decision may have on other athletes, any athlete wishing to initiate a grievance process must do so within 72 hours of a selection announcement.

All questions regarding an athlete's opportunity to compete that are not answered by the USABS, may be directed to the USOPC Athlete Ombudsman by telephone at (888) ATHLETE, or by email ombudsman@usathlete.org.

Saving Clause

The procedures above are based on IOC, IBSF and USOPC rules and regulations as presently published. Any change in the selection procedures caused by a change in IOC, IBSF or USOPC rules and regulations will be distributed to all athletes as soon as possible. The desire to field the most competitive teams for international competition presently and in the future are the guiding principles and will determine the administration of the selection criteria. The National Selection Race Criteria are based on the latest information available to the USABS. However, these criteria are always subject to unforeseen, intervening circumstances (weather, budget, war, etc.) and no doubt have not accounted for every possible contingency. In which case, the USABS staff will administer changes with the utmost reverence for fairness, respect of athletes, and for honor of the sport. If a scheduled event cannot be held or must be interrupted, USABS will first try to reschedule the event. Second, USABS will try to change the venue but will not guarantee funding for travel to the new venue. Finally, if a venue change is not feasible, ranking will be based first on the portion of that event completed (at least one race) or if no portion has been completed, then ranking will be based on the most recent IBSF ranking. These Selection Criteria come into force as of the date of their approval by the USABS coaching staff and Chief Executive Officer and supersede all previous criteria.

USABS reserves the right to change the selection criteria prior to the start of each competition season based on schedules, coaching, logistics, finances, and other limiting factors. The rules in these criteria will be interpreted by the USABS coaching staff along with the CEO, and Director of Sport Performance in the way in which they were intended.

Criteria Distribution

This document shall be distributed and made available via the USABS website at https://www.teamusa.org/USA-Bobsled-Skeleton-Federation/Resources/For-Athletes/Criteria and shall be e-mailed to all active USABS Athlete Members.

Appendix 1 – IBSF Point System

The IBSF World Cup point system.

Rank	Points
1	225
2	210
3	200
4	192
5	184
6	176
7	168
8	160
9	152
10	144
11	136
12	128
13	120
14	112
15	104
16	96
17	88
18	80
19	74
20	68
21	62
22	56
23	50
24	45
25	40
26	36
27	32
28	28
29	24
30	20

Appendix 2 – USABS Skeleton Athlete Progression Pathway

The USABS Skeleton Athlete Progression Pathway (Please see the SAPP document)

Appendix 3 – National Championships and Regional Races

National Championships Race

a) A National Championships race will be held, if possible, after the 2025/2026 IBSF season. The race is subject to weather, available track time, and unforeseen circumstances. Participation in the National Championships races will also serve as an opportunity for an athlete to be observed by the Skeleton Head Coach, Lead Development Coach, and Director of Sport Performance as part of regular assessment and evaluation regarding the Skeleton Athlete Progression Pathway.

b) Race location, schedule, and format will be announced at least 30 days prior to the event. The race will be conducted as a high-level competitive race. The National Championships race may be held simultaneous with a portion of the 2026/2027 Selection Races.

c) Athletes must be in, at minimum, Phase 2 of the Recruitment level of the SAPP (Appendix 2) and be able to start safely from the top of the track to be eligible to participate in the National Championships race.

d) USABS coaches and staff will have the authority to deny race entry to an athlete that has failed to demonstrate the ability to safely navigate the track.

Regional Races

Eastern (Lake Placid, NY) and Western (Park City, UT) Regional race(s) may be held and hosted by the local tracks throughout the season. The local track development coaches will work with the USABS coaches and Director of Sport Performance to identify up to 3 athletes not already in the SAPP to be invited to National Championships to be observed and evaluated to be inserted appropriately into the SAPP.