

USAW TECHNICAL OFFICIALS SELECTION POLICY: LA'28 NOMINATIONS

1. Purpose & Scope

This policy establishes the explicit eligibility and endorsement criteria for USA Weightlifting Technical Officials seeking assignment or nomination for the upcoming Los Angeles 2028 Olympic Games.

- **ITOs:** Used to determine the primary nominations submitted to the International Weightlifting Federation, which will select one (1) official to serve at the Olympic Games.
- **NTOs:** Used to determine the pool of domestic National Technical Officials USAW will nominate to work the Olympic Games. The Organizing Committee (OC) dictates the final number of NTO slots requested; USAW does not control this quota, but this policy ensures we are ready to fill those slots with our absolute best officials.
 - Any USAW ITO nominee not selected by the IWF will automatically move into the NTO nomination and selection pool.

2. The Foundation: Current Ranking System

The official USAW Technical Official ranking list remains our baseline mechanism for selection. Officials accumulate points based only on sessions worked at USAW national events. Testing coordinators do not receive additional ranking points. Points are awarded only for sessions worked at a USAW National Event.. Points from the competition secretary and the international ITO appointments will not count toward Olympic Eligibility. However, they will accumulate as normal for the ITO appointment ranking. To maintain eligibility for an Olympic nomination or assignment, top-ranked officials must obtain an **Olympic Endorsement** by meeting all objective criteria detailed below.

3. Olympic Endorsement Criteria

The active evaluation window is defined as **August 5, 2026, through August 5, 2027**. Candidates must fulfill every benchmark within this timeframe to be eligible for selection from the ranking list:

A. Domestic Footprint, Tenure

- **Tenure:** Candidates must have held a valid Category 1 IWF Technical Official license since January 1, 2025.
- **National Event Presence:** Candidates must officiate at a minimum of two (2) USA Weightlifting National Events within the active evaluation window.

B. Practical Session & Role Diversity

Candidates must work a minimum of **21 total national sessions** within the active evaluation period. To guarantee complete operational mastery across the competition floor, those sessions must hit the following exact positional split:

Required Role	Minimum Sessions	Core Floor Focus & Operational Targets
Referee	10	Precise, consistent rule application across all attempts.
Weigh-in Official	5	Absolute management of ID verification, scales, and singlet compliance.
Marshal / Assistant	5	Direct oversight of cards, athlete bib orchestration, and competition flow.
Jury Member	1	Session oversight, dispute resolution, and collaborative rule interpretations.

C. Mandatory Educational Requirements

To ensure an elite understanding of rule execution and nuance, candidates must complete the following virtual benchmarks:

- **Rules Seminar & Written Test:** Mandatory virtual attendance at a technical rules seminar. Candidates must complete the standardized written test and achieve a

passing score of 90% or higher on TCRR updates. Tentatively May 2027.

- **Mandatory Technical Controller (TC) Seminar:** Recognizing that the TC role is exceptionally difficult and heavily scrutinized on the international stage, USAW will host a standalone virtual seminar. TC mechanics and platform protocols will be explained in detail. Virtual attendance is strictly mandatory for Olympic eligibility.
 - TC Seminar to tentatively happen before Senior Nationals

4. Governance & Final Selection Path

4.1 Verification

At the close of the evaluation window on August 5, 2027, USAW Staff will execute the formal verification of the checklist data.

4.2 Final Selection

Final selection will be based primarily on the official USAW ITO Ranking List for the period of August 5, 2026, through August 5, 2027, as well as the total number of sessions each candidate has worked at USAW National events. From the pool of candidates who have satisfied all three endorsement criteria, USAW staff will make the final nominations to ensure compliance with role diversity requirements and other organizational standards.

USAW is also committed to striving for gender parity in its nominations. If an insufficient number of qualified candidates of one gender meet the endorsement criteria, qualified candidates of the other gender may be selected to fill the remaining positions.

4.3 Tie-Breaker Protocol:

If two or more candidates who have met all eligibility and endorsement criteria remain tied, the following tie-breaking process will be applied in order:

- The candidate with the highest cumulative ITO ranking points earned during the 2025, 2026, and 2027 ranking periods, through the date the Organizing Committee (OC) requests nominations, will be selected.
- If a tie remains, the candidate who has held an IWF Category 1 ITO license for the longest continuous period will be selected.
- If the tie still cannot be broken, the final selection will be determined by a random drawing (drawing of lots).