

**USA KARATE-DO FEDERATION  
ATHLETE SELECTION PROCEDURES  
2023 Pan American Games  
September 15, 2022**

**1. SELECTION SYSTEM**

1.1. Provide the minimum eligibility requirements for an athlete to be considered for selection to the Team:

1.1.1. Nationality/Passport requirements:

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

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 Pan American or Parapan American Games must be a national of the country of the National Olympic Committee (NOC) which is entering such competitor. For additional information regarding an athlete who is a national of two or more countries, has changed his or her nationality or acquired a new nationality, refer to the Panam Sports Constitution (Article 34.4-7).

1.1.3. Minimum International Federation (IF) standards for participation (if any):

Athletes must be at least 18 years old for kumite and at least 16 years old for kata at the closing day of the first Qualifying Event.

1.1.4. Other requirements (if any):

- Athlete must be a member in good standing with USA Karate at the time of selection.
- Athlete must successfully complete all Games Registration requirements by stated deadline.
- Any athlete age 18 or older will be required to undergo a background screen in accordance with the current [USOPC Background Check Policy](#).
- Any athlete age 18 or older as of the Closing Ceremony will be required to remain current with the U.S. Center for SafeSport's

education and training requirements in accordance with the [USOPC Athlete Safety Policy](#).

1.2. Tryout Events:

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

Cali 2021 Jr. Pan Am Games, Mexico City, MX (November 25 – December 5, 2021).

*\*As was published in the 2023 Pan American Games Qualification guidelines, the gold medal winners from the Cali 2021 Jr. Pan American Games will qualify by name for the 2023 Pan American Games.*

2023 North American Cup – April 5, 2023 – Las Vegas, NV

2023 Pan American Championship– May 2023 – San Jose, Costa Rica

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

2023 Senior National Team Trials – Date TBD

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

Max Team size – 12 Athletes

Cali 2021 Quotas:

Athletes who were gold medal winners from at the Cali 2021 Jr. Pan American Games qualified by name for the Santiago 2023 Pan American Games. Those spots are in addition to slots that may be earned through the other qualifying events referenced in these procedures. Should one of those athletes choose not to participate in the 2023 Pan American Games, their quota will be lost and cannot be transferred to another athlete. Athletes who qualified by name for the 2023 Pan American Games through the Cali 2021 Junior Pan American Games will not be eligible to compete in the 2023 North American Cup or the 2023 Pan American Championships.

The top two athletes in each of the ten individual kumite weight categories (Male Kumite -60kg, -67kg, - 75kg, -84kg, & +84kg and Female Kumite -50kg, -55kg, - 61kg, -68kg, & +68kg) and each of the two individual kata categories (Male & Female) from the 2023 Senior National Team Trials will represent the United States at the 2023 North American Cup in Las Vegas, NV. If one or more of the top two athletes is unable to compete, then the slot is offered to 3<sup>rd</sup> place finisher and then 4<sup>th</sup> place

finisher until both slots are filled. If the slots are not filled by 1<sup>st</sup>– 4<sup>th</sup> place athletes, then the slot(s) will go unfilled. The gold medal winner in each category from the 2023 North American Cup will qualify a Country Quota for the 2023 Pan American Games. If the gold medal finisher is a US athlete, that athlete will qualify himself/herself to the Pan American Games. If the Athlete who qualified through the North American Cup cannot attend, the slot will be offered to the 2<sup>nd</sup> place finisher from the 2023 Senior Team Trials, then 3<sup>rd</sup> place finisher and then the 4<sup>th</sup> place finisher until the position is filled. If 1<sup>st</sup>– 4<sup>th</sup> seat athletes do not accept, then the slot(s) will go unfilled.

Any individual kumite or kata category in which the United States does not qualify an athlete through the 2023 North American Cup results, will have the opportunity to qualify through the 2023 Pan American Championship. For those individual categories not qualified, the 1<sup>st</sup> place finisher from the 2023 Senior National Team Trials will represent the United States at the 2023 Pan American Championship. If one or more of the top two athletes is unable to compete or has already qualified, the slot will be offered to the 2<sup>nd</sup> place finisher, then 3<sup>rd</sup> place finisher and then the 4<sup>th</sup> place finisher until the position is filled. If 1<sup>st</sup>– 4<sup>th</sup> seat athletes do not accept, then the slot(s) will go unfilled.

The top two finishers at the 2023 Pan American Championship will qualify a Country Quota for the 2023 Pan American Games. If the Athlete who qualified for the Country Quota at the 2023 Pan American Championship cannot attend the Pan American Games, the slot will be offered to the 2<sup>nd</sup> place finisher from the 2023 Senior Team Trials, then 3<sup>rd</sup> place finisher and then the 4<sup>th</sup> place finisher until the position is filled. If 1<sup>st</sup>– 4<sup>th</sup> seat athletes do not accept, then the slot(s) will go unfilled.

## 2. DISCRETIONARY SELECTION (if applicable)

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

Not applicable

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

Not applicable

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

Not applicable

### 3. REMOVAL OF ATHLETES

- 3.1. Prior to entry by name to the Local Organizing Committee by the USOPC, USA Karate has jurisdiction over potential nominees.

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

- 3.1.1. Voluntary withdrawal. Athlete must submit a written letter to the USA Karate Board Chair.
- 3.1.2. Injury or illness as certified by a physician (or medical staff) approved by USA Karate. If an athlete refuses verification of his/her illness or injury by a physician (or medical staff) approved by USA Karate, his/her injury will be assumed to be disabling and he/she may be removed.
- 3.1.3. Failure to participate in Mandatory Training and/or Competition as defined in Section 9 of these procedures.
- 3.1.4. Violation of the USA Karate's Athlete Agreement and Code of Conduct (<https://www.teamusa.org/usa-karate/athlete-resources/documents-andresources>).
- 3.1.5. Violation of USA Karate's SafeSport policies and procedures.

An athlete who is removed from the Team pursuant to this provision has the right to a hearing per USA Karate Bylaws Article 14 and the USOPC Bylaws, Section 9.

- 3.2. 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 Karate 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:

[www.teamusa.org/Footer/Legal/Governance-Documents](http://www.teamusa.org/Footer/Legal/Governance-Documents)

- 3.3. An athlete may be removed as a nominee to the Team or from the Team for an adjudicated violation of Panam Sports, WADA, World Karate Federation, 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 Karate's SafeSport policies, as applicable.

### 1. REPLACEMENT OF ATHLETES

- a. Describe the selection and approval process for determining replacement athlete(s) should a vacancy occur:

- i. Prior to submission of Entries to the Local Organizing Committee, including any applicable group or committee:

If the Athlete cannot attend the Pan American Games and qualified via the 2023 North American Cup or the 2023 Pan American Championships, the slot will be offered to the 2<sup>nd</sup> place finisher from the 2023 Senior Team Trials, then 3<sup>rd</sup> place finisher and then the 4<sup>th</sup> place finisher until the position is filled. If 1<sup>st</sup> – 4<sup>th</sup> seat athletes do not accept, then the slot(s) will go unfilled.

If the Athlete cannot attend the Pan American Games and qualified via the 2021 Jr. Pan American Games, since those quotes are By Name, the quota spot will be lost and cannot be transferred.

- i. After submission of Entries to the Local Organizing Committee, including any applicable group or committee:

If the Athlete cannot attend the Pan American Games and qualified via the 2023 North American Cup or the 2023 Pan American Championships, the slot will be offered to the 2<sup>nd</sup> place finisher from the 2023 Senior Team Trials, then 3<sup>rd</sup> place finisher and then the 4<sup>th</sup> place finisher until the position is filled. If 1<sup>st</sup> – 4<sup>th</sup> seat athletes do not accept, then the slot(s) will go unfilled.

If the Athlete cannot attend the Pan American Games and qualified via the 2021 Jr. Pan American Games, since those quotes are By Name, the quota spot will be lost and cannot be transferred.

#### **4. SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS**

USA Karate will retain the approved Selection Procedures and all supporting documents, including scouting or evaluation forms, etc., and data from the selection process for six months past the date of the Closing Ceremony of the Games.

#### **5. 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 Pan American Games (include as attachments or provide links):

USA Karate's Athlete Agreement and Code of Conduct ([https://www.teamusa.org/-/media/USA\\_Karate/Documents/Rules-Regulations/2020-USA-Karate-Athlete-Agreement-and-Code-of-Conduct.pdf](https://www.teamusa.org/-/media/USA_Karate/Documents/Rules-Regulations/2020-USA-Karate-Athlete-Agreement-and-Code-of-Conduct.pdf))

**6. PUBLICITY/DISTRIBUTION OF PROCEDURES**

The USOPC approved Selection Procedures (complete and unaltered) will be posted/published by the USA Karate in the following public location(s):

6.1. NGB/PSO Web site: [www.usankf.org](http://www.usankf.org)

These procedures will be posted as soon as possible, but not more than five business days following notice of approval by the USOPC.

**7. DATE OF NOMINATION**

Nomination of athletes, including replacements, will be announced to all athletes, and submitted to the USOPC on or before:

September 10, 2023

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

Specify the location, schedule and duration of mandatory training and/or competition:

No mandatory training is scheduled at this time. If mandatory training is added, athletes will be notified at least 30 days prior to the scheduled training.

**9. ANTI-DOPING REQUIREMENTS**

Athletes must adhere to all Panam Sports, WADA, WKF, 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, WKF, USADA and USOPC rules, as applicable.

**10. DEVELOPMENT OF SELECTION PROCEDURES**

The following committee/group (include names and titles) was responsible for creating these Selection Procedures:

Elizabeth Poloni – Manager, Member and Event Services

Rahul Bawa – Board Chair

Brian Ramup – AAC Athlete Representative and USA Karate Board Member

Will Gatch – AAC Committee Chair

**11. NGB/PSO BYLAWS AND GRIEVANCE PROCEDURES**

The USA Karate Bylaws and Grievance Procedures can be found at:

<https://www.teamusa.org/usa-karate/about-us/governance-documents>

**12. INTERNATIONAL DISCLAIMER**

These procedures are based on Panam Sports, and/or WKF rules and regulations as presently known and understood. Any change in the selection procedures caused by a change in Panam Sports, and/or WKF rules and regulations will be distributed to the affected athletes immediately. The selection criteria are based on the latest information available to USA Karate. However, the selections are always subject to unforeseen, intervening circumstances, and realistically may not have accounted for every possible contingency.

If any force of nature, 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, pursuant to their resubmission to the USOPC.

**13. ATHLETE OMBUDS OFFICE**

The Athlete Ombuds Office provides cost-free, independent and confidential advice regarding athlete rights, grievance procedures and any other related guidance pertaining to selection procedures and can assist in mediating disputes between athletes and their NGB/PSO.

To contact the Athlete Ombuds Office:

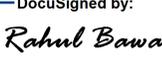
PHONE: (719) 866-5000

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

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

**14. NGB/PSO SIGNATURES**

I certify that I have read and understand the standards/criteria set by our IF and CF 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 Karate.

Position	Print Name	Signature	Date
USA Karate Board Chair	Rahul Bawa	DocuSigned by:  <small>F6EF65EBAD99443...</small>	10/25/2022

USOPC Athletes' Advisory Council Representative*	Brian Ramrup	 <p>DocuSigned by:  <i>Brian Ramrup</i>  EDE14C593A644D8...</p>	10/20/2022
Head Administrative Coach	Brody Burns	 <p>DocuSigned by:  <i>Brody Burns</i>  4441A094880F4AD...</p>	10/17/2022

\* If the USOPC AAC Representative has delegated authority to the Alternate AAC Representative to sign the Selection Procedures, attach a letter from the AAC Representative indicating the reason he/she has delegated authority.

\* Signature by the Athlete Representative constitutes that he/she has read and understands the Selection Procedures. If the Athlete Representative reads and does not agree with the Athlete Selection Procedures being submitted by the USA Karate, he/she may submit those reasons in writing to his/her USOPC Sport Performance Team.

\* If, for some reason, a sport does not have an elected USOPC AAC Representative, USA Karate must designate an athlete from that sport to review and sign the Selection Procedures.