

USA Bobsled-Skeleton

Skeleton

PRELIMINARY NOTICE TO THE ATHLETE SELECTION PROCEDURES

2026 Olympic Winter Games

11/4/2024

Revised 12/23/2024

TO: Members of USA Bobsled-Skeleton

FROM: USA Bobsled-Skeleton

RE: Preliminary Notice to the Skeleton Athlete Selection Procedures for the 2026 Olympic Winter Games

To provide as much information in a timely manner, USA Bobsled-Skeleton (USABS) is releasing this Preliminary Notice to the Skeleton Athlete Selection Procedures for the 2026 Olympic Winter Games (Games). This document is being written as a complement, and not a substitute to the Skeleton Athlete Selection Procedures. Additional communication will be released by USABS once the Skeleton Athlete Selection Procedures have been approved by the USOPC.

A. Anticipated Athlete Eligibility Criteria:

- Athlete must be a minimum of 13 years of age as of the date of the Opening Ceremony of the Olympic Games.
- Athlete must possess a valid International Bobsleigh and Skeleton Federation (IBSF) license.
- Athlete must be ranked among the top 70 men or top 55 women on the IBSF ranking List of the 2025/2026 season by 18 January 2026 (23:59 Lausanne time).
- Athlete must have been participating and ranked in a minimum of eight (8) IBSF races on at least three (3) different tracks in the period between 1 October 2024 and 18 January 2026 (23:59 Lausanne time). In addition, the athlete must have been ranked in at least five (5) of the eight (8) above mentioned races on a minimum of two (2) different tracks during the ranking period 2025/26 by 18 January 2026 (23:59 Lausanne time).
- Additional athlete eligibility information can be found [here under Qualification](#).

B. Qualification System Overview:

- Quota allocation for all Skeleton events will be determined using ranking placement of athletes from each country on the IBSF Combined Ranking List.
- The IBSF Combined Ranking List and allocated quota are gender specific.
- During the 2025/2026 season until the deadline of January 18, 2026, the best results of each athlete in all races that he/she had participated in regardless of the race series below in which the results were scored are totaled to form the respective IBSF Combined Ranking List per event:
 - World Cup
 - Europe Cup
 - North American Cup

- Asian Cup
- Quota place(s) are allocated to USABS.
- The IBSF Qualification System can be found [here](#).

C. Anticipated Evaluation Events:

Due to uncertainty of the competition venue for the 2026 Olympic Winter Games, USABS is still determining which evaluation events may be used for Team nomination. At this time, it is intended that athletes being considered for nomination to the Games will, at a minimum, be evaluated on their performance at the USABS National Selection Races in March of 2025.

EVENT NAME	DATE/LOCATION
2025 IBSF World Championships: <i>*This event will only serve as an evaluation event for the Medal Contender Clause</i>	March 6-8, 2025 / Lake Placid, NY
USABS National Selection Races	March 20-21, 2025 / Lake Placid, NY

Qualification criteria for **the 2025 IBSF World Championships and USABS National Selection Races** can be found in the 2024-25 Skeleton Selection Criteria posted [here](#) (see Section 4c for **National Selection Races and 4g for the 2025 IBSF World Championships**).

Once the competition venue for the Games is confirmed, additional evaluation events will be added following the anticipated event in March 2025. As more information becomes available, this preliminary notice will be updated as needed.

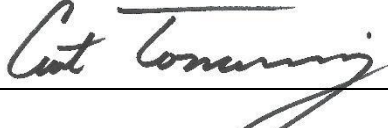
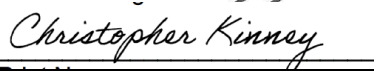
D. Medal Contender Clause

An athlete who is a 2022 Olympic Medalist or achieves a top three (3) finish at the 2025 IBSF World Championships may submit a waiver requesting to be considered for discretionary selection by USABS under the Medal Contender Clause. Waivers will only be considered in the event that, due to a verifiable illness, injury, or exceptional circumstance, the Medal Contender is unable to compete in one (or all) of the 2025/26 Selection Races or in one (or all) of the IBSF events (World Cup, Europe Cup, and North America Cup) during the qualification period thereby negatively impacting their position on the IBSF World Ranking List. Additional information regarding Medal Contender eligibility requirements and the waiver process will be included in the Athlete Selection Procedures for the 2026 Olympic Winter Games.

E. Disclaimer:

This preliminary notice is based on the IBSF rules and regulations as presently known and understood for the Games. The information in this notice is provided to assist athletes with their training and competition planning and is subject to change upon approval of the USABS Skeleton Athlete Selection Procedures for the 2026 Olympic Winter Games. Once complete, the approved Skeleton Athlete Selection Procedures will be posted at <https://www.usabs.com/criteria>.

For questions about the 2026 Olympic Winter Games selection process, please contact Curt Tomasevicz, USABS Director of Sport Performance, curt.tomasevicz@usabs.com.

Position	Print Name	Signature	Date
USA Bobsled-Skeleton Director of Sport Performance	Curt Tomasevicz		12/26/2024
Team USA Athletes Commission Representative	Chris Kinney		01/06/25