

USOPC IMS – Surfing
Men’s and Women’s Shortboard

PRELIMINARY NOTICE TO THE ATHLETE SELECTION PROCEDURES

2028 Olympic Games

March 26, 2026

To provide information in a timely manner, USOPC IMS – Surfing is releasing this Preliminary Notice to the Athlete Selection Procedures for the 2028 Olympic Games (Games). This document is being written as a complement, and not a substitute to the 2028 Olympic Games Athlete Selection Procedures. Additional communication will be released once the Athlete Selection Procedures have been approved by the USOPC.

A. Anticipated Athlete Eligibility Criteria:

- Athletes must comply with all International Surfing Association (ISA) eligibility requirements posted [here](#) (see Qualification).
- Athletes must be a national of the United States and hold a valid U.S. passport that will not expire for six months after the conclusion of the Games.
- Athletes must adhere to all USOPC, USADA, WADA, ISA, and International Olympic Committee (IOC) anti-doping protocols, policies, and procedures including participation in Out-of-Competition Testing, if applicable.
- Athletes must comply with the [USOPC Background Check Policy](#) and [USOPC Athlete Safety Policy](#).

B. International Surfing Association Qualification System Overview:

- The maximum Team size can be three (3) athletes per gender. Quotas may be awarded by quota places to Team USA or to the athletes by name.
- The 2028 Olympic Games Qualification Systems Manual for Surfing is published here (See Qualification): <https://www.olympics.com/ioc/documents/olympic-games/los-angeles-2028-olympic-games>

C. Anticipated Evaluation Events:

It is intended that athletes being considered for nomination to the 2028 Olympic Games Team may be evaluated on their performance at any of the below listed events.

EVENT NAME	DATE/LOCATION
2026 – 2028 World Surf League Championship Tour	April 1, 2026 – June 15, 2028
2026 ISA World Surfing Games	October/November 2026 (Date & Location TBD)
2027 ISA World Surfing Games	TBD (El Salvador)
2027 Pan American Games	July 23 – August 8, 2027 (Lima, Peru)
2028 ISA World Surfing Games	TBD (Location TBD)

D. Anticipated Evaluation Event Qualification Pathway:

World Surf League Championship Tour Events

- Athletes qualify for World Surf League Championship Tour Events based on World Surf League eligibility criteria which can be found here: <https://www.worldsurfleague.com/>

ISA World Surfing Games and Pan American Games

- Athletes will be nominated for these competitions based on the Athlete Selection Procedures for each event which will be posted once complete.
- A preliminary notice to the Athlete Selection Procedures for the 2026 ISA World Surfing Games is posted at <https://www.teamusa.com/surfing-selection-procedures>

E. 2028 Olympic Games Nomination Pathway:

Team USA can earn up to three (3) quotas per gender for the 2028 Olympic Games.

Athlete by Name Qualification Opportunities (listed in priority order)

1. 2028 WSL Championship Tour – Top 5 ranked athletes as of June 15, 2028.
 - Maximum of 1 athlete per gender per country
2. 2028 World Surfing Games – Top 10 finishers.
 - Maximum of 1 athlete per gender per country
3. 2027 Pan American Games – Top eligible finisher.
 - Maximum 1 total athlete per gender across all participating countries.

Country Qualification Opportunities – Maximum of 1 per gender per Country

If Team USA wins Team Gold at the 2026 or 2027 World Surfing Games, Team USA will earn one (1) Country quota in that gender. If Team USA wins Team Gold in either gender, the athlete in that gender with the highest finishing place on the winning WSG Team will be nominated to the 2028 Olympic Games*.

- If Team USA wins Team Gold at both the 2026 WSG and 2027 WSG in the same gender, a tiebreaker will be used to determine which athlete is nominated to the 2028 Olympic Games. The tiebreaker will be outlined in the full Athlete Selection Procedures.



**Please note if three (3) Team USA athletes in the same gender qualify by name for the 2028 Olympic Games, Team USA will lose the Country quota (if earned at the 2026 or 2027 World Surfing Games).*

F. Disclaimer:

This preliminary notice is based on the ISA rules and regulations as presently known and understood for the 2028 Olympic 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 Athlete Selection Procedures for the 2028 Olympic Games.

For questions about the 2028 Olympic Games selection process, please contact Matt Cramer, Senior Director, Internally Managed Sports (Matt.R.Cramer@usopc.org).

Position	Print Name	Signature	Date
USOPC Senior Director, Internally Managed Sports	Matt Cramer	Signed by:  <small>73879FF9C5EB4BB</small>	March 27, 2026 10:14:01 AM MDT
Team USA Athletes' Commission Representative	Candice Appleby	Signed by:  <small>4CDE300F8B2348B...</small>	March 27, 2026 10:02:22 PM MDT