



SECTION 1: OVERVIEW

These procedures outline the qualification pathway for selection to the 2024 Paris Paralympic Games.

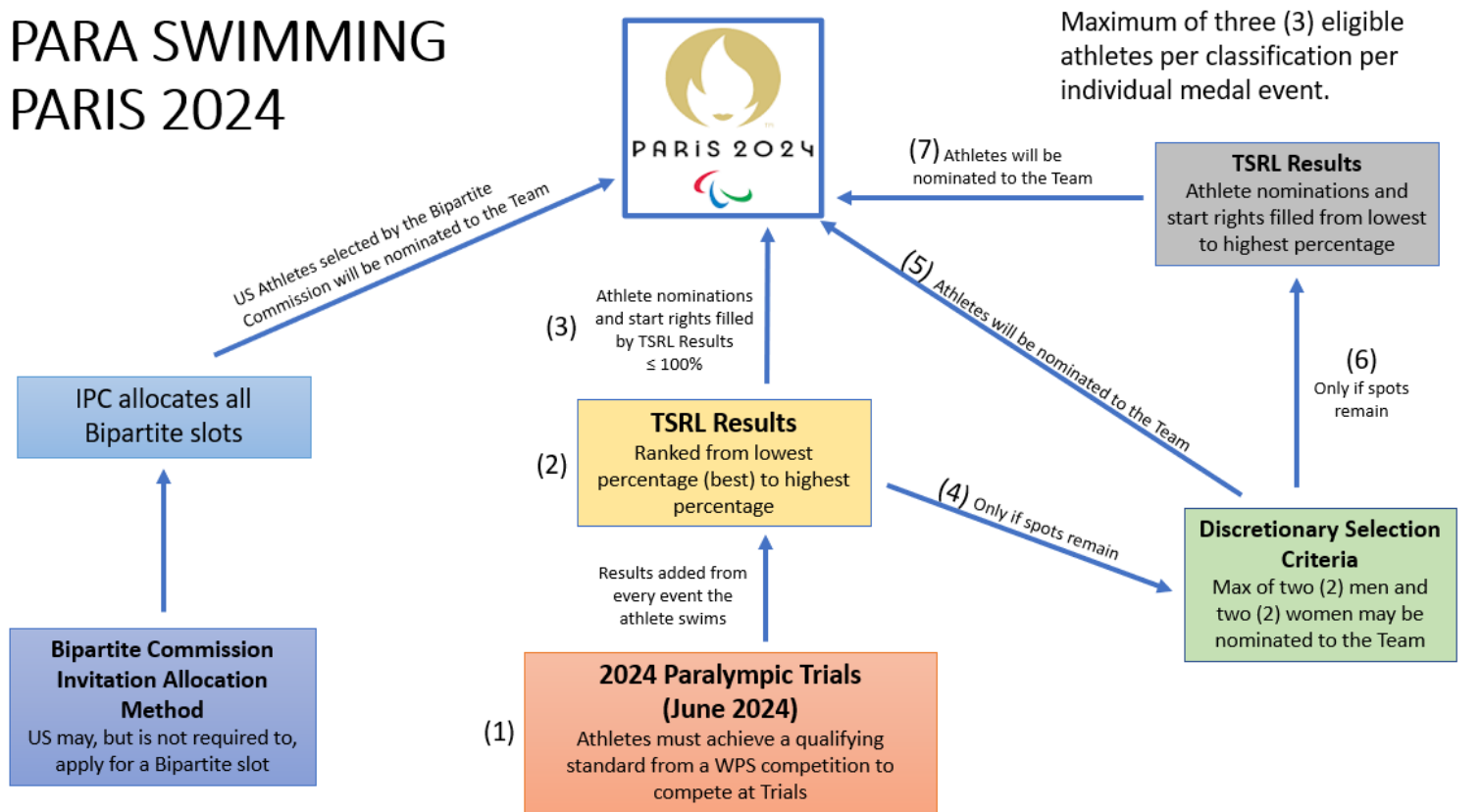
The maximum team size can be thirty-four (34) male and twenty-eight (28) female athletes for a maximum total of sixty-two (62) athletes per National Paralympic Committee (NPC). U.S. Paralympics Swimming (“NGB”) certifies that these procedures were posted within five (5) business days following the notice of approval from the USOPC and can be found here: <https://www.usparaswimming.org/selection-procedures>

- *Publication Date: September 29, 2023*
- *Amended Date: January 5, 2024*

SECTION 2: SELECTION PROCESS DIAGRAM

The following provides a high-level overview of how athletes will be selected:

PARA SWIMMING PARIS 2024



Note: This diagram is for informational purposes only. In the event of a conflict between the diagram and any written section herein, the written sections will take precedent.

SECTION 3: ATHLETE REQUIREMENTS

1. Nationality/Passport Requirements:

- Have a valid United States passport at the time of nomination that does not expire for six months after the conclusion of the Games.



2. International Paralympic Committee (IPC) and World Para Swimming (WPS) Requirements:

- Abide by the rules outlined in the IPC Handbook, including nationality/citizenship requirements.
 - 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 IPC Nationality Regulations (<https://www.paralympic.org/ipc-handbook>)
- Abide by the IPC Eligibility of Conditions Form

3. Organizing Committee of Paralympic Games (OCOG) Requirements:

- Comply with all rules and policies implemented by the Paris 2024 OCOG.

4. International Federation (IF) Requirements:

- Comply with all WPS eligibility requirements (also found here: <https://www.paralympic.org/paris-2024/qualification-regulations>):

1. Hold a World Para Swimming Athlete License for the 2024 season;
2. be internationally classified before 30 June 2024; in an eligible Sport Class with a Sport Class Status of (i) Confirmed or (ii) Review with a Fixed Review Date of 2025 or later;
3. have achieved a Minimum Qualification Standard (“MQS”) at a 50m World Para Swimming Recognised Competition (as defined in the World Para Swimming Rules & Regulations) for the respective event (including relay events) between 1 October 2022 and 28th July 2024 (inclusive);
4. have achieved an MQS in accordance with the World Para Swimming Athlete Registration and Licensing Regulations valid for the 2022-2024 seasons;
5. have competed in: (i) at least one (1) Para Swimming World Series between 1 October 2022 and 30 June 2024 (inclusive); and (ii) one (1) of the following competitions between 1 October 2022 and 30 June 2024 (inclusive):
 - any World Para Swimming World Championships;
 - any World Para Swimming Regional or Regional Open Championships;
 - 2022 Asian Para Games; or
 - 2023 Parapan American Games.

*Exceptions may be granted to criteria 3, 4 and 5 (shown above) through the Bipartite Commission Invitation Allocation method.

5. USOPC Requirements:

- Comply with all USOPC rules applicable to the Games (e.g., Demonstrations).
 - Review and sign a copy of the publicly posted rules of the Games by the stated deadline.
- Complete all USOPC Games Registration requirements by the stated deadline.
- Comply with the USOPC Delegation Terms, including the Behavior Requirements.
- Comply with the [USOPC Athlete Safety Policy](#) and the [U.S. Center for SafeSport Code](#).

6. NGB Requirements:

- Comply with the U.S. Paralympics Swimming Athlete Agreement.
- Comply with the USOPC Code of Conduct and USOPC Athlete Safety Policy.
- Must be a member in good standing.
 - Athlete does not have an active suspension from the U.S. Center for SafeSport.
 - Athlete does not have an active sanction for an anti-doping rule/policy violation.



SECTION 4: OTHER MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS TO BE ELIGIBLE FOR THE TEAM

- Meet the U.S. Center for SafeSport’s education and training requirements in accordance with the [USOPC Athlete Safety Policy](#) if you will be 18 or older as of the Closing Ceremony.
- Agree to be bound by and adhere to all IPC, WADA, WPS, USADA and USOPC anti-doping protocols, policies and procedures, as applicable. This includes participation in Out-of-Competition Testing and an agreement to be bound to the results management authority of the IPC, WADA, WPS, or USADA as applicable.
- Undergo a background screen in accordance with the current [USOPC Background Check Policy](#)

SECTION 5: SELECTION EVENTS

Timeline of key dates and the corresponding description of the event occurring on that date.

DATE(S)	DESCRIPTION
June 27 – 29, 2024	2024 U.S. Paralympic Team Trials (2024 Trials) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● All information including but not limited to requirements and deadlines pertaining to the 2024 Trials will be posted on the U.S. Paralympics website once finalized.

SECTION 6: SELECTION PROCESS OUTLINE

Provide a step-by-step description of the selection process including an overview of the IF Qualification System.

6.1 TEAM SIZE AND GENERAL PROVISIONS

Team size will be determined based upon the IPC/WPS slot allocation. An NPC can be allocated a maximum of thirty-four (34) male qualification slots and twenty-eight (28) female qualification slots for a maximum total of sixty-two (62) qualification slots per NPC. Exceptions may be granted through the Bipartite Commission Invitation Allocation method.

Men’s and women’s slots will be allocated separately by IPC/WPS. Therefore, for purposes of these selection procedures, the men’s and women’s components of the team shall be considered separately.

Final slot allocation will be distributed to NPCs on February 16, 2024. Slot allocation numbers may be posted at: <https://www.paralympic.org/swimming> when available

Maximum entry per NPC as outlined in the 2024 Paris Qualification Guide:

- An NPC may enter a maximum of three (3) eligible athletes per individual medal event.
- NPCs may enter their eligible athletes who have met at least one (1) MQS in an unlimited number of medal events, subject to the athlete having met the Minimum Entry Time (MET) for each event entered.
- NPCs may enter a maximum of one (1) team in each relay event, subject to the MQS for that relay event



having been met. All team members must have entered at least one (1) individual medal event to be selected as part of the relay team.

Team Selection Steps:

Only athletes who compete at the 2024 Trials will be considered for selection to the 2024 Paris Paralympic Games team (the Team), with the exception of Discretionary Selection and Bipartite Commission Invitation.

- To qualify for 2024 Trials, athletes must achieve a qualifying standard from a WPS recognized competition (per WPS rule 3.2.1.) between October 1, 2022 and the entry deadline for the 2024 Trials (as listed in the meet information packet) to compete at the event.

Results from the 2024 Trials will be considered for nomination to the Team and start rights in events at the 2024 Paris Paralympic Games.

6.2 BIPARTITE COMMISSION INVITATION ALLOCATION METHOD

The IPC/WPS may award Bipartite slots for the 2024 Paris Paralympic Games using the Bipartite Commission Invitation Allocation Method. Each Bipartite Commission invitation is granted to an individual athlete, not to the respective NPC. Bipartite slots are allocated by the IPC/WPS at their sole discretion and typically consider the following factors:

- allowing the participation of top athletes who may not have had the opportunity to qualify through other methods due to extraordinary circumstances;
- ensuring the representation of athletes with high support needs;
- enabling greater representation by gender;
- ensuring medal events will have sufficient representation for event viability purposes; and/or
- optimizing the presentation of a particular contest within its competition format and schedule.

Prior to awarding Bipartite slots, the IPC may invite each NPC to submit an application requesting that an athlete or athletes be considered for a Bipartite slot. U.S. Paralympics Swimming may, but is not required to, submit an application for a Bipartite slot depending on whether there are athlete candidates who meet the above principles and eligibility criteria for Bipartite Commission Invitations as outlined in the Paris 2024 Paralympic Games Qualification Regulations (<https://www.paralympic.org/paris-2024/qualification-regulations>) and who are capable of a top three (podium) result, can positively impact team performance, or are considered to be on track to produce a top three (podium) result in the near future.

The selection of a particular athlete for submission to the IPC/WPS for a Bipartite slot will be based on the above and on the discretionary selection criteria set forth in Section 7 below. The Discretionary Selection Committee shall be responsible for making any such selection. U.S. Paralympics will disclose the submission of a particular athlete to the IPC for a Bipartite slot on its website (<https://www.usparaswimming.org>).



6.3 TEAM SELECTION RANKING LIST (TSRL)

The TSRL will be created from the results, prelims and finals times only, of the 2024 Trials. Results will be added into the TSRL based on the events each athlete swims.

Times will be converted to a “Result” by expressing them as a percentage of the third (3rd) place ranking in the Paris MQS ranking list, which can be found at <https://www.paralympic.org/swimming/rankings>.

The Paris MQS ranking list will include results from October 1, 2022 through June 26, 2024 at 12:00pm CDT for the respective event(s).

- An event refers to the competition within a Paralympic sport class that is on the program for the 2024 Paris Paralympic Games (e.g., the Women’s S10 50m Freestyle).
- Each Result will be rounded to the nearest one hundredth of a percent. Lower percentages are better than higher percentages (97.01% beats 99.08% beats 104.6%).
 - $\text{Result} = (\text{finish time}/\text{3rd place on World Ranking List}) \times 100$

All Results, by gender, will be ranked in order from lowest percentage (best) to highest percentage.

6.4 NOMINATION OF ATHLETES

Athletes will be nominated to the Team in the order listed below.

6.4.1 Bipartite

If the IPC awards a Bipartite slot to an athlete by name, U.S. Paralympics will accept such athlete to the Team. U.S. Paralympics will disclose on its website (<https://www.usparaswimming.org>) the name of any athlete named to the Team through the Bipartite Commission Invitation Allocation Method per Section 6.2.

6.4.2 TSRL

Athletes will be nominated to the Team in rank order from lowest percentage to highest percentage. Team slots and start rights will be filled concurrently in order of the TSRL (lowest to highest percentage) for the events on the 2024 Paris Paralympic Games Program (<https://www.paralympic.org/swimming/paris-2024-info>). Team slots and start rights will be filled from all results with percentages less than or equal to 100.00% on the TSRL.

6.4.3 Discretion

If slots remain following implementation of Section 6.4.2, a maximum of two (2) men and two (2) women may, but are not required to, be nominated to the Team per the discretionary selection criteria (Section 7). Start rights for athletes selected via this step will be filled concurrently at the time of nomination.

6.4.4 TSRL

If slots remain following Section 6.4.3, slots will be filled by utilizing the TSRL. Athletes will be nominated



to the Team in rank order from lowest percentage to highest percentage. Team slots and start rights will be filled concurrently in order of the TSRL (lowest to highest percentage) until all remaining team slots are filled.

6.5 TIE-BREAKING PROCEDURES

If a tie exists for the final team slot or for a final event start right at any point during the implementation of these procedures, the TSRL percentages will be calculated to three decimal points (rounded to the one-thousandth of a percent).

If a tie persists for the final team slot or for a final event start right following the above percentage re-calculation to the one-thousandth, the relevant swims will be ranked in order of each swim's percent comparison ("P") to the WPS World Record in that event as of June 1, 2024.

- $P = (\text{swim time}/\text{World Record}) \times 100$

All comparisons will be rounded to the nearest one-thousandth of a percent. A lower comparison ($P=101.401\%$) is better than a higher comparison ($P=102.789\%$). The swimmer with the lowest comparison will be nominated to the Team.

6.6 ADDITIONAL START RIGHTS

Start rights that remain open after all Team slots have been filled may be assigned by the Director, U.S. Paralympics Swimming and Paris Head Coach to eligible athletes already nominated to the Team.

The following factors may be considered when assigning additional start rights:

- The athlete's ranking in the event on the WPS World Ranking list.
- The likelihood of the athlete winning a medal in the event.
- The desire of the athlete to start the event.
- The athlete's number and schedule of events.
- Other historical performances in the event.

6.7 RELAYS

Team Relays shall be determined by the Director, U.S. Paralympics Swimming, in consult with all members of the team staff. U.S. Paralympics Swimming will select athletes eligible for relays based on results from 2024 Trials up to the deadline to submit the relay forms at 2024 Paris Paralympic Games. Athletes must have a result in the distance and stroke to be eligible for relay consideration. In the case of the 20-point Mixed Medley and Freestyle relays, 50m splits may be used if the athlete does not have that event offered for their sport class.

The following factors may be considered in no particular order:

- Building a team that is likely to medal in the event, while complying with the WPS relay composition rules.



- Individual athletes' performances in the respective event(s) that comprise the relay.
- The number and schedule of individual events for athletes at the 2024 Paris Paralympic Games.

In the event of a conflict between this overview and the IF Qualification System, the IF Qualification System will take precedent. For more details, please refer to the IF Qualification System directly: <https://www.paralympic.org/paris-2024/qualification-regulations>

SECTION 7: DISCRETIONARY CRITERIA TO SELECT ATHLETES FOR THE TEAM

7.1 RATIONALE FOR UTILIZING DISCRETIONARY SELECTION:

If available quota positions remain after nominating athletes with percentages less than or equal to 100% on the TSRL, U.S. Paralympics Swimming may utilize discretionary selection criteria to fill the slots listed in section 6.4.3 above.

7.2 DISCRETIONARY INFORMATION PETITION

Athletes may, but are not required to, submit documentation to the Discretionary Selection Committee to provide additional information for the committee to consider. Information submitted should address how the athlete meets the discretionary criteria in Section 7.3. All petitions must be submitted within one (1) hour following the conclusion of the last session of the U.S. Paralympic Team Trials on June 29, 2024. The petition will be available for athletes to complete starting on June 23, 2024 at <https://www.usparaswimming.org/selection-procedures>

7.3 DEFINE THE DISCRETIONARY CRITERIA TO BE USED:

The Selection Committee will nominate the best physically, psychologically, and technically prepared athletes to the Team.

The Selection Committee will consider, in no particular order, whether there are athlete candidates who:

- Experienced an injury or illness that impeded maximal performance or attendance during the 2024 Trials.
- Obtained a minimum of one top three World Ranking in an event on the program of the 2024 Paris Paralympic Games during the period from 30 June 2023 through 29 June 2024.
- Have a performance trajectory that is favorable to future international success.
- Have a result from 2024 Trials that could fill a position in a medal capable relay, while complying with the WPS relay composition rules. In the case of the 20-point relays, 50m splits may be considered. Athletes must have at least one (1) MQS in an individual medal event to be considered via this criteria.

7.4 SELECTION COMMITTEE

The committee listed below will be responsible for making discretionary selections or other decisions and recommendations directly impacting athletes in the selection process.

Committee Name: Paralympic Games Selection Committee

- Director, U.S. Paralympics Swimming
- Manager, U.S. Paralympics Swimming
- Head Coach, 2024 U.S. Paralympics Paris Paralympic Games Team
- Team USA Athletes' Commission Representative (2)



SECTION 8: MANDATORY TRAINING AND/OR COMPETITION

The location, schedule and duration of any mandatory training will be announced and posted on the website at least 30 days prior to the start of the mandatory training and/or competitions. Mandatory training will be published at this link: <https://www.usparaswimming.org/selection-procedures>.

While waivers for any mandatory training will not be unreasonably withheld, waivers will primarily be granted only for illness, injury or other incapacity, or for personal/family emergency. All athletes selected to the Team should arrange for appropriate time off from school, work or other obligations well in advance of team activities. Requests for a waiver may be submitted in writing to the Director, U.S. Paralympics Swimming for review. A written response to all requests will be issued to the athlete within 72 hours of the request.

SECTION 9: DATE OF TEAM SELECTION AND NOMINATION

NGB will nominate the Team, including any replacements/alternates to the USOPC on **June 30, 2024**.

SECTION 10: REMOVAL OF ATHLETES FROM THE TEAM

10.1 U.S. PARALYMPICS SWIMMING JURISDICTION

- a. NGB has jurisdiction over athlete nominees prior to submitting athlete entries by name to the USOPC.
- b. An athlete who is nominated to the Team by NGB may be removed for any of the following reasons, as determined by NGB:
 - i. Voluntary withdrawal. Athlete submits a written letter to the Director, U.S. Paralympics Swimming requesting to voluntarily withdraw from the Team.
 - ii. Injury or illness. A physician (or medical staff) approved by NGB provides certification that the Athlete has a debilitating condition. If Athlete refuses to provide verification of their illness or injury by a physician (or medical staff), their injury will be assumed to be debilitating and they may be removed from the Team.
 - iii. Failure to participate. Athlete does not participate in all Mandatory Training and/or Competition as defined in these procedures.
 - iv. Code of Conduct Violation. Athlete violates the [USOPC Code of Conduct](#).
 - v. Athlete Agreement. Athlete violates a term in their signed U.S. Paralympics Swimming Athlete Agreement.
 - vi. Non-compliance. Athlete does not meet the athlete eligibility requirements listed in Section 3 and Section 4 of these selection procedures.
- c. An Athlete may be removed as a nominee to the Team or from the Team if found to have violated IPC, WADA, WPS, USADA and/or USOPC anti-doping protocol, policies and procedures, the U.S. Center for SafeSport Code, and the USOPC Athlete Safety Policy, as applicable.
- d. Paralympic Only:
 - i. Removal by the IPC/WPS of the event in which the athlete qualified for the Team from the program of the 2024 Paralympic Games.



- ii. Change in the athlete's sport class(es) following team selection such that:
 - The athlete's qualifying performance would not have qualified them for the Team; and/or
 - The athlete is deemed Not Eligible (NE) by the IPC/WPS.

10.2 USOPC JURISDICTION

- a. Once Athlete entries have been submitted to the USOPC, the USOPC has jurisdiction over the Team.
- b. USOPC's Delegation Conduct Requirements apply in addition to the USOPC Code of Conduct. The Delegation Conduct Requirements in the USOPC Games Delegation Terms are specific to each Games and are made available during the Games registration process.
- c. The USOPC's Grievance Procedures and Hearing Process are found within the Games Delegation Terms.
 - i. See "Delegation Events" at <https://www.usopc.org/governance/dispute-resolution> for more information.

SECTION 11: SELECTION PROCESS IF ATHLETE VACANCY OCCURS PRIOR TO USOPC NOMINATION TO OCOG

Prior to USOPC submission of Entries by Name to the OCOG, U.S. Paralympics Swimming will use the procedures described in Section 6.4 and the next highest ranked athlete as per the TSRL will be nominated to the Team. Replacement athletes must meet all the requirements listed in Section 3.

SECTION 12: SELECTION PROCESS IF ATHLETE VACANCY OCCURS AFTER USOPC NOMINATION TO OCOG

Should a vacancy occur after USOPC submission of Entries by Name to the OCOG, **provided replacements are allowed**, U.S. Paralympics Swimming will use the procedures described in Section 6.4 and the next highest ranked athlete as per the TSRL will be nominated to the Team. Replacement athletes must meet all the requirements listed in Section 3.

SECTION 13: REQUIRED DOCUMENTS

In addition to the USOPC Delegation Conduct Requirements, the following documents are required to be signed by an athlete as a condition of nomination to the Paralympic Games:

- USOPC Code of Conduct (<https://www.usopc.org/ethics-and-compliance>)
- U.S. Paralympics Swimming Athlete Agreement <https://www.usparaswimming.org/athlete-information>

SECTION 14: DISCLAIMERS

These procedures are based on IPC and WPS rules and regulations as presently known and understood. Any change in the selection procedures caused by a change in IPC and/or WPS rules and regulations will be distributed to the affected athletes immediately. The selection criteria are based on the latest information available to U.S. Paralympics Swimming.

However, the selection criteria are always subject to unforeseen, intervening circumstances, and realistically may



not have accounted for every possible contingency. If any force of nature, pandemic, 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.

SECTION 15: CONFLICT OF INTEREST

All members of the Selection Committee must comply with the [USOPC Conflict of Interest Policy](#), to include completing and submitting a disclosure form consistent with the USOPC's Conflict of Interest Policy before convening the committee.

Any member of the Selection Committee who has an actual, potential, or perceived conflict of interest must disclose it consistent with the USOPC's Conflict of Interest Policy prior to the start of the selection process. A conflict of interest exists when a personal, family, financial, professional, club, team or business interest of the committee member poses a direct or indirect relationship, connection, or affiliation, past or present, with an athlete in contention for the applicable team selection that could compromise the committee member's ability to participate in the selection process in a fair and impartial manner.

If an actual, potential, or perceived conflict exists, the internally managed sport team should send the disclosure to the Chief Ethics & Compliance Officer and the Sr. Director, Compliance Investigations and Ethics (collectively, the Ethics team) to share with the Ethics & Compliance Committee for review and disposition. For example, if a Selection Committee member may be required to recuse him/herself from voting, that individual may still be able to provide relevant or necessary information concerning athlete performance in a fair and impartial manner. The Selection Committee member must not otherwise influence other members of the committee during the selection process.

Additionally, any person (including any potentially impacted athlete or coach of a potentially impacted athlete) with a good faith belief that a committee member has a conflict of interest may report the alleged conflict of interest to the USOPC's Ethics team. Reports may also be made anonymously through the [USOPC's Integrity Portal](#). No committee member shall retaliate in any way against a person who, in good faith, reports an alleged conflict of interest.

Any recused individual shall be replaced in accordance with the USOPC's internally managed sport selection committee appointment process.

SECTION 16: QUESTIONS REGARDING ATHLETE SELECTION PROCEDURES

U.S. PARALYMPIC SWIMMING

Athletes may contact the individuals listed below for information about these selection procedures.

Name: Erin Popovich

Position: Director, U.S. Paralympics Swimming

Email: erin.popovich@usopc.org

U.S. Paralympic Swimming Athlete Selection Procedures 2024 Paris Paralympic Games



Phone: 1-719-866-2084

Name: Joe Wise

Position: Team USA Athletes' Commission Representative

Email: joebwise@gmail.com

ATHLETE OMBUDS

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. The Athlete Ombuds Office can also assist in mediating disputes between athletes and NGB.

To contact the Athlete Ombuds Office:

PHONE: (719) 866-5000

EMAIL: ombudsman@usathlete.org

WEBSITE: <https://www.usopc.org/athlete-ombuds>

SECTION 17: GRIEVANCES

The USOPC Grievance Procedures can be found here: <https://www.usopc.org/governance/dispute-resolution>

Section 9 of the USOPC Bylaws provides a process for an athlete to file a complaint with the USOPC against an NGB alleging that he/she has been denied, or threatened to be denied, with the opportunity to participate in a Protected Competition, as defined in the USOPC bylaws. Additional information on how to file a complaint can be found here: <https://www.usopc.org/legal/section-9-complaint-form>

SECTION 18: NON-RETAILATION

The USOPC and NGB have zero tolerance for retaliation against people who make good faith reports of potential ethical, policy, or legal violations, or who cooperate with investigations of those reports. That means no USOPC or NGB staff, Board/Committee member, or volunteer may threaten, harass, discriminate against, or take any negative employment or related action (e.g., discharge, demotion, suspension, negative review) on that basis. In addition, the USOPC maintains a strict no retaliation policy that prohibits any employee, contractor, agent, volunteer, or member of the USOPC to take or threaten to take any action against an athlete for reporting information to or seeking assistance from the Office of the Athlete Ombuds.

SECTION 19: DEVELOPMENT, APPROVAL & CERTIFICATION OF SELECTION PROCEDURES

The following committee of individuals developed these selection procedures.

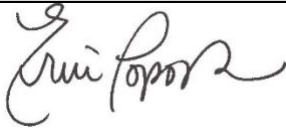

NAME	ROLE
Erin Popovich	Director, U.S. Paralympics Swimming
Matt Cramer	Senior Director, USOPC Internally Managed Sports

U.S. Paralympic Swimming Athlete Selection Procedures 2024 Paris Paralympic Games



Joe Wise	Team USA Athletes' Commission Representative
----------	--

The following individuals approved these selection procedures and through their signature, certify that the procedures comply with the USOPC's Selection Procedures minimum standards:

POSITION	NAME	SIGNATURE	DATE
[Nat. Team Coach, Head Coach, or Nat. Program Director]	Erin Popovich		1/5/2024
USOPC Athletes' Advisory Council Representative*	Joe Wise		1/5/2024

* 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 NGB/PSO, 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, the NGB/PSO must designate an athlete from that sport to review and sign the Selection Procedures.

Revision History

Date	Revisions
September 29, 2023	Original document published
January 5, 2024	Section 7.2 updated



APPENDIX A – COMMONLY USED ACRONYMS

AAC – Athletes’ Advisory Council

Act or TSOASA – Ted Stevens Olympic and Amateur Sports Act

APC – Americas Paralympic Committee

CAS – Court of Arbitration for Sport

Center or CSS – U.S. Center for SafeSport

CF – Continental Federation

IOC – International Olympic Committee

IPC – International Paralympic Committee

IF – International Federation

LOC – Local Organizing Committee

NGB – National Governing Body

NOC – National Olympic Committee

NPC – National Paralympic Committee

OCOG – Organizing Committee of Olympic Games

PAG – Pan American Games

Panam Sports or PASO – Pan American Sports Organization

PPAG – Parapan American Games

PSO – Paralympic Sport Organization

USADA – United States Anti-Doping Agency

WADA – World Anti-Doping Agency



APPENDIX B – GLOSSARY

Contingency means a future event or circumstance which is possible but cannot be predicted with certainty.

Delegation Event means the Olympic Games, the Olympic Winter Games, the Paralympic Games, the Paralympic Winter Games, the Pan American Games, and the Parapan American Games.

Force Majeure means an event or effect that cannot be reasonably anticipated or controlled (e.g., hurricane, tornado, etc.).

Grievance Procedures means the process that enables an athlete to file a complaint with the NGB or USOPC.

Jurisdiction means the power or authority to make decisions and judgments.

Nominated means an athlete, coach or staff member whose name has been submitted to the USOPC by an NGB for participation in a Delegation Event.

Protected Competition means a Delegation Event or a Qualifying Competition.

Qualifying Competition means either of the following:

- ii. **NGB Qualifying Competition:** Any competition or activity organized or approved by the NGB where the athlete's performance or results are considered in the published selection criteria to represent the United States in a Delegation Event.
- iii. **International Qualifying Competition:** Any international sport competition where (i) athletes represent the United States against athletes representing other nations, (ii) the NGB officially designates entrants, as required by the competition organizers, and (iii) athlete results or performance are included in the published criteria to qualify, or be selected, to represent the United States in a Delegation Event.

Selected means an athlete, coach or staff member whose name has been submitted by the USOPC to the OCOG at the final submission date, as determined by the OCOG.



APPENDIX C – ATHLETE RESOURCES

TEAM USA ATHLETES' COMMISSION (Team USA AC) *(Formerly Athletes' Advisory Council)*

The Team USA AC is responsible for broadening communication between the USOPC and active athletes and serves as a source of input and advice to the USOPC Board of Directors.

WEBSITE: <https://www.usopc.org/teamusa-athletes-commission>

ATHLETE LEGAL AID

The purpose of the Athlete Legal Aid Program is to assist elite athletes without sufficient financial means to seek aid for fees and costs associated with legal representation or the proceeding itself with respect to claims before an anti-doping organization, NGB, IF, the U.S. Center for SafeSport, USOPC, IOC/IPC, Court of Arbitration for Sport (CAS), or other sport-related tribunal within the Olympic and Paralympic Movement.

WEBSITE: <https://www.usopc.org/ombuds/athlete-legal-aid-program>

ATHLETE OMBUDS

The Office of 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 NGB.

To contact the Athlete Ombuds Office:

PHONE: (719) 866-5000

EMAIL: ombudsman@usathlete.org

WEBSITE: <https://www.usopc.org/athlete-ombuds>

USOPC DISPUTE RESOLUTION UNIT (DRU)

USOPC's DRU oversees the administration of dispute resolution services to athletes and other members of NGBs for grievances under the USOPC's jurisdiction to ensure the complaints are heard in a timely and fair manner.

To contact the DRU:

EMAIL: DRU@usopc.org

WEBSITE: <https://www.usopc.org/governance/dispute-resolution>

USOPC ETHICS AND COMPLIANCE

USOPC's Ethics and Compliance team is responsible for ensuring the USOPC and NGBs comply with the Ted Stevens Olympic and Amateur Sports Act, their own bylaws and policies, and any other applicable laws or regulations. Any individual may report concerns confidentially, or anonymously, online using the [USOPC Integrity Portal](#) or individuals may call the USOPC Integrity Hotline at 1-877-404-9935 to report their concern over the phone.



USOPC SECURITY AND ATHLETE SAFETY REPORTING PORTAL

Athletes can report an incident of emotional, physical, or sexual misconduct, a violation of the Minor Athlete Abuse Prevention Policies (MAAPP) or a general security incident or concern through the [Safety Reporting Portal](#). Athletes may also report to the USOPC over the phone at 719-866-3869.

SAFESPORT HELPLINE

The SafeSport Helpline provides crisis intervention, referrals, and emotional support specifically designed for athletes, staff, and other SafeSport participants affected by sexual violence. Through this service, support specialists provide live, confidential, one-on-one support that is available 24/7. Individuals can call the Helpline at 866-200-0796 or visit www.safesporthehelpline.org.

TEAM USA ATHLETE SERVICES

The USOPC supports Team USA athletes and hopefuls via a variety of programs for both athletes and their NGB. In addition to performance grants and rewards, additional support is provided in the form of training facilities, sports medicine and science, coaching education, health insurance, promotional opportunities, education and career services, outfitting and travel, and SafeSport and anti-doping programming.

WEBSITE: <https://www.usopc.org/athlete-benefits-and-resources>

TEAM USA MENTAL HEALTH RESOURCES

The USOPC is committed to promoting sustained well-being for Team USA athletes. More than ever, it is critical that the USOPC empower those who are in need to seek mental health assistance, while proactively delivering mental health resources and services. The USOPC Mental Health Services has five full-time licensed mental health providers to serve the mental health needs of Team USA athletes and staff.

WEBSITE: <https://www.usopc.org/mental-health>