

2026 BEACH WRESTLING TEAMS PROCEDURES

2026 U17 BEACH WORLD TEAM SELECTION

The qualifying event for the 2026 U.S. Beach World Team competing in the U17 Beach World Championships will be as follows. There are up to three spots in each weight class for Team USA at the U17 Beach World Championships.

Between May 10 and June 30, the team selection priority will be the following for each event in rank order:

1. Finalists at the specific weight class at the 2026 Carolina Beach Nationals & World Team Qualifier, based upon finish.
2. Youth Olympic Games Representative at USOPC Allocated weights.
3. Past U17 Beach World medalists and past U17 Beach Pan American medalists; most recent medal gets priority
4. 3rd and 4th ranked athletes from 2026 Carolina Beach Nationals & World Team Qualifier
5. Finalists from 2025 U.S. Beach Nationals in California
6. Participation at the 2026 Carolina Beach Nationals & World Team Qualifier

If there are still spots open on the U17 World Team after June 30, the spots will be opened to others, with the final team set on July 20. These will be the criteria used for filling the open spots in rank order:

1. Results at the 2025 U17 Beach World Championships
2. Results at the 2026 U17 Beach Pan American Championships
3. Results at the 2025 or 2026 Carolina Beach National Championships & World Team Qualifier, most recent gets priority.
4. Results at the 2025 or 2026 California Beach Nationals most recent gets priority.
5. Open to the general public to athletes that meet age-group and eligibility requirements on a first-come, first-served basis.

2026 U20 BEACH WORLD TEAM SELECTION

The qualifying events for the 2026 U.S. Beach World Team competing in the U20 Beach World Championships will be as follows. There are up to three spots in each weight class for Team USA at the U20 Beach World Championships.

Between May 10 and June 30, the team selection priority will be the following for each event in rank order:

1. Finalists at the specific weight class at the 2026 Carolina Beach Nationals & World Team Qualifier, based upon finish.
2. Past U17 or U20 Beach World medalists and past U17 or U20 Beach Pan American medalists
3. Finalists from 2025 U.S. Beach Nationals in California
4. Participation at the 2026 Carolina Beach Nationals & World Team Qualifier

If there are still spots open on the U20 World Team after June 30, the spots will be opened to others, with the final team set on August 14. These will be the criteria used for filling the open spots in rank order:

1. Results at the 2025 U17/U20 Beach World Championships
2. Results at the 2025 or 2026 U17/U20 Beach Pan American Championships
3. Results at the 2024, 2025 or 2026 Beach Wrestling Championships held in Fargo, N.D.; priority given to most recent
4. Open to the general public to athletes that meet age-group and eligibility requirements on a first-come, first-served basis.

2026 SENIOR BEACH WORLD SERIES EVENTS

The United States can enter up to three athletes at each weight class at the 2026 UWW Senior Beach World Series events.

For the first four stops on the 2026 UWW Beach World Series, spots on the U.S. Beach World Series team will be available upon request, up to one month prior to the UWW registration deadline. If there are more than three athletes interested in a weight class prior to this date, the berths will be determined based upon the following criteria in rank order:

1. 2025 Senior Beach World medalist
2. Medalist at a 2025 or 2026 Beach World Series event (Gold>Silver>Bronze, most recent gets priority)
3. Placement in the top 10 of the weight class in the final standings of 2025 Beach World Series
4. Medalist at the 2025 or 2026 Senior Pan American Beach Championships most recent gets priority.
5. Placement in the 2025 U.S. Beach National Championships in California and 2026 Carolina Beach Nationals & World Team Qualifier in Carolina Beach, N.C.
6. Selection by USA Wrestling staff based upon other Beach Wrestling achievements

For the U.S. team at the fifth stop of the 2026 Beach World Series (currently set for Katerini, Greece, September 26-27, 2026), the qualification criteria will be the following:

1. Finalists in the specific weight class at the 2026 Carolina Beach Nationals & World Team Qualifier in Carolina Beach, N.C., May 9, 2026
2. 2025 Top 3 finisher in Final Beach Rankings
3. Medalist at a 2025 or 2026 Beach World Series event (Gold>Silver>Bronze, most recent gets priority)
4. Placement in the top 10 of the weight class in the final standings of 2025 Beach World Series
5. Medalist at the 2025 or 2026 Senior Pan American Beach Championships, most recent gets priority.
6. Placement in the 2025 U.S. Beach National Championships in California
7. Placement in the 2026 California Beach Nationals
8. Placement in the 2025 Carolina Beach National Championships
9. Athletes who have competed in two or more Beach World Series events.
10. Open to the general public to athletes that meet age-group and eligibility requirements on a first-come, first-served basis.

If there are two athletes with the same placement at one of the events listed in the criteria seeking the final berth on the team, a selection committee consisting of USA Wrestling staff member Jaimie McNab plus Gary Abbott and a Senior Athlete representative will select the team member, based upon past results in international and domestic Beach wrestling events.

The format of the U.S. Senior Beach National Championship events (in both North Carolina and California) will be a double elimination bracket, with placement of the top four athletes. The championship finals in each weight class will be a best-of-three series.