

# USA Bobsled-Skeleton

## Bobsled

### PRELIMINARY NOTICE TO THE ATHLETE SELECTION PROCEDURES

#### 2026 Olympic Winter Games

11/5/2024

Revised 12/23/2024

TO: Members of USA Bobsled-Skeleton

FROM: USA Bobsled-Skeleton

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

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

#### **A. Anticipated Athlete Eligibility Criteria:**

- Athletes must be a minimum of 15 years of age as of the date of the Opening Ceremony of the Olympic Games.
- Athletes must possess a valid International Bobsleigh and Skeleton Federation (IBSF) license.
- Selected pilots must have been participating and ranked in a minimum of eight (8) IBSF races on at least three (3) different tracks by event in the period between 1 October 2024 and 18 January 2026. In addition, the pilot 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 2025/26 season by event by 18 January 2026 (23:59 Lausanne time) and must have been ranked among the Top 50 in the Men's Bobsleigh IBSF Combined Ranking List or in the Top 40 in the Women's Bobsleigh IBSF Combined Ranking List of the season 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 Bobsled events will be determined using ranking placement of pilots from each country on the IBSF Combined Ranking List.
- The IBSF Combined Ranking List and allocated quota are gender specific.
- The Bobsleigh IBSF Combined Ranking List will be made by combining the best results of each pilot in both the 2-man and 4-man events for men, and 2-woman and Monobob events for women, during the 2025/2026 season.

- Pilot results during the 2025/2026 season until the deadline of January 18, 2026 (23:59 Lausanne time) in all races that he or she had participated in will be used, regardless of the race series below in which the results were scored:
  - World Cup
  - Europe Cup
  - North American Cup
  - Asian Cup
- Participation in 2-man competitions counts only for 2-man, while participation in 4-man competitions counts only for 4-man.
- Participation in women’s Monobob competition counts only for women’s Monobob, while participation in 2-woman competitions counts only for 2-woman.
- Quota place(s) are allocated to USABS.
- The IBSF Qualification System can be found [here](#) under qualification.

**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 Pilots for the Medal Contender Clause</i>	March 8-9 & March 15-16, 2025 / Lake Placid, NY
USABS National Selection Races	March 20-21, 2025 / Lake Placid, NY

Qualification criteria for **2025 IBSF World Championships** and the USABS National Selection Races can be found in the 2024-25 Bobsled Selection Criteria posted [here](#) (see Section **3a(v) and 4c**).

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**

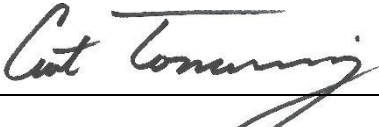

A pilot athlete who is a 2022 Olympic Games Medalist or achieves a top three (3) finish at the 2025 IBSF World Championships may submit a waiver requesting to be considered for discretionary selection by USABS under the Medal Contender Clause. Waivers will only be considered in the event that, due to 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 Bobsled 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 Bobsled Athlete Selection Procedures for the 2026 Olympic Winter Games. Once complete, the approved Bobsled 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](mailto:curt.tomasevicz@usabs.com).

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