

USA Field Hockey

Athlete Selection Procedures (Women)

2028 Summer Olympic Games

- Publication Date: July 22, 2026
- USA Field Hockey posted a [Preliminary Notice](#) to these selection procedures on November 25, 2025 and April 20, 2026.

SECTION 1: OVERVIEW

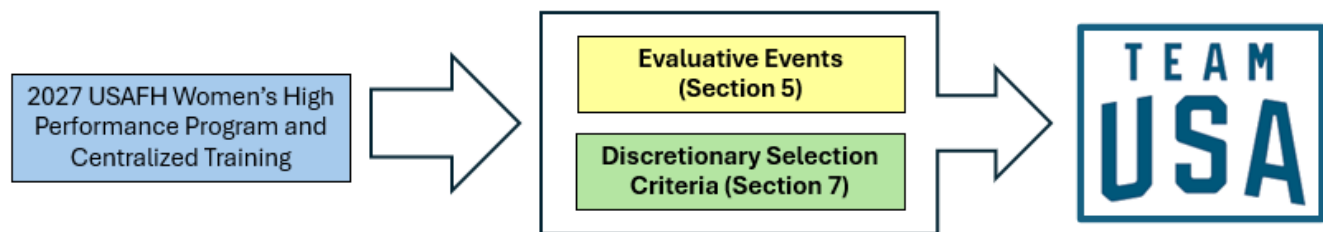
These procedures outline the pathway for nomination to the 2028 Los Angeles Summer Olympic Games in Women's Field Hockey.

The maximum Team size is up to sixteen (16) athletes plus the number of Ap accredited alternate athletes/reserve goalkeepers allowed by the International Hockey Federation (FIH). Final Team size will depend on earned FIH quota which is awarded to the National Olympic Committee (NOC). Reference to the 2028 Olympic Games Qualification Guide for Field Hockey can be found at the link below (see Qualification):

- <https://www.olympics.com/ioc/documents/olympic-games/los-angeles-2028-olympic-games>

SECTION 2: SELECTION PROCESS DIAGRAM

The following provides a high-level overview of how athletes will be nominated to the 2028 USA Field Hockey Women's Olympic Games Team (USAFHWOGT).



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/Passports Requirements:
 - Have a valid United States passport at the time of nomination that does not expire for six (6) months after the conclusion of the 2028 Olympic Summer Games (Games).
2. Minimum International Olympic Committee (IOC) Requirements:
 - Abide by the rules in the Olympic Charter including nationality/citizenship requirements.
 - For additional information regarding an athlete who is (1) a national of two or

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more countries, (2) has changed his or her nationality or (3) acquired a new nationality, refer to the [Olympic Charter](#) (Rule 41) for eligibility requirements.

- Abide by the [IOC Policy on the Protection of the Female \(Women's\) Category in Olympic Sport and Guiding Considerations for International Federations and Sports Governing Bodies](#), including SRY gene screening.
- Abide by the IOC Eligibility of Conditions Form/Conditions of Participation Form
- 3. Organizing Committee of the Olympic Games (OCOG) Requirements:
 - Comply with all rules and policies implemented by the OCOG for Los Angeles 2028.
- 4. International Federation (IF) Requirements:
 - Comply with all International Hockey Federation (FIH) eligibility requirements which are posted here (see Qualification): <https://www.olympics.com/ioc/documents/olympic-games/los-angeles-2028-olympic-games>
- 5. USOPC Requirements:
 - Comply with all USOPC rules applicable to the Games (e.g., Demonstrations).
 - Complete all USOPC Games Registration requirements by the stated deadline.
 - Comply with the USOPC Delegation Terms, including the Conduct Requirements, which will be made available here: <https://www.usopc.org/games-and-qualification>
 - Comply with the [USOPC Athlete Safety Policy](#), [USOPC Minor Athlete Abuse Prevention Policies](#), [USOPC Supporting Athletes with an Intellectual Impairment Policy](#), and the U.S. Center for SafeSport's [SafeSport Code](#).
 - Comply with the current [USOPC Background Check Policy](#).
- 6. USA Field Hockey (NGB) Requirements:
 - Athlete must be an active member of USA Field Hockey and must satisfy the eligibility requirements of the USOPC and FIH.
 - Comply with the USA Field Hockey Athlete Agreement.
 - Comply with the [USA Field Hockey Code of Conduct](#)
 - Comply with the [USA Field Hockey Athlete Safety Policy](#)
 - Athletes must commit to a full-time Centralized Training Program based in Charlotte, NC starting in February 2027 to be considered for Team nomination (see Section 6.3).
 - As of the day before the Los Angeles 2028 Sport Entries deadline (June 25, 2028):
 - Athlete does not have an active suspension from the U.S. Center for SafeSport that would make the Athlete ineligible to participate in the Los Angeles 2028 Olympic Games.
 - Athlete does not have an active sanction for an anti-doping rule/policy violation that would make the Athlete ineligible to participate in the Los Angeles 2028 Olympic Games.

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

- Agree to be bound by and adhere to all IOC, FIH, USADA, WADA, 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 IOC, FIH, USADA, WADA, or other Anti-Doping Organization as applicable.
- Meet all health and safety protocols, to include vaccine requirements and/or testing requirements set forth by the government, local laws, USOPC, FIH and/or the OCOG.

SECTION 5: EVALUATIVE EVENTS

Event names, dates and locations of all trials, competitions, and camps to be used as part of the nomination process:

DATE(S)*	DESCRIPTION/EVENT NAME
January 2027	USA Field Hockey U21 and Development Camps
January 2027 – May 31, 2027	Global Club Outdoor Competitions (<i>as applicable**</i>)
January 2027 – May 2028	International Series Events*
February 2027 – July 2028	2027 USA Field Hockey Women's High Performance Program (USAFHWHPP) & Centralized Training Program – Charlotte, NC <i>Note: This is required to be considered for Team nomination</i>
2027 – 2028	Nations Cup (<i>if qualified</i>)
2027 – 2028	FIH Hockey Pro League (<i>if qualified</i>)
July 23, 2027 – August 8, 2027	2027 Pan American Games – Lima, Peru
August 2027 – November 2027	NCAA Regular and Post Season Games
December 2027	Women's Junior World Cup

*Please note that the location, schedule, and duration of the above USA Field Hockey events, USAFHWHPP events and International Series Events will be announced at least thirty (30) days prior to the start of training or competition.

**Please note that overseas athletes who are playing at the highest Global Club competitions (*with prior approval and agreement of the Women's National Team Head Coach by August 8, 2026*) may be evaluated on their performance in those competitions.

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SECTION 6: SELECTION PROCESS

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

6.1 TOTAL QUOTA PLACES:

The maximum Team size for the 2028 USAFHWOGT is up to sixteen (16) athletes with up to three (3) Ap accredited alternate athletes as allowed by the FIH. In order for the Team to be eligible to select three (3) accredited alternate athletes, one (1) of these Ap quotas must be reserved for a goalkeeper. Final Team size will depend on earned FIH quota which is awarded to the NOC.

6.2 EVALUATIVE EVENTS:

Selection procedures to represent USA Field Hockey at the Evaluative Events listed in Section 5 are posted [here](#) or will be posted [here](#) once complete. Athletes will be evaluated based on their performance at all Evaluative Events from February 2027 through the final nomination date for the 2028 USAFHWOGT.

USAFHWHPP & Centralized Training Program: February 2027 – July 2028

- Athletes selected to the 2027 USAFHWHPP (*up to 36 athletes maximum*) must participate in the 2027-2028 Centralized Training Program as outlined in the [2027 USAFHWHPP Selection Procedures](#) to be considered for nomination to the 2028 USAFHWOGT.

6.3 CENTRALIZED TRAINING PROGRAM REQUIREMENT:

Athletes selected to the 2027 USAFHWHPP must participate in a full-time Centralized Training Program based in Charlotte, NC starting in February 2027 through the final nomination of the 2028 USAFHWOGT on or before June 1, 2028. Only athletes who fulfill all requirements of the full-time Centralized Training Program will be evaluated for nomination to the 2028 USAFHWOGT.

Additional information can be found in the [2027 USAFHWHPP Selection Procedures](#) including:

- Limited exceptions to the required 2027-2028 Centralized Training Program
- Injury, Illness and Exceptional Circumstance Waivers

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6.4 NOMINATION TO THE 2028 USAFHWOGT:

2027 USAFHWHP athletes being considered for nomination to the Team will be evaluated on their performance in the Evaluative Events listed in Section 5. After a comprehensive evaluation of their participation in these Events, and the 2027 USAFHWHP Centralized Training Program, the Selection Committee will nominate 16 athletes (and up to 3 Ap accredited alternate athletes permitted by FIH) based on the discretionary criteria outlined in Section 7. These athletes will be nominated to the 2028 USAFHWOGT and submitted to the USOPC for approval.

Please note that only 2027 USAFHWHP athletes who meet the eligibility requirements in these procedures (including the Centralized Training Program requirements) may be nominated to the 2028 USAFHWOGT.

In the event of a conflict between these USAFH Athlete Selection Procedures and the FIH Qualification System, the FIH Qualification System will take precedent.

For more details, please refer to the FIH Qualification System posted here (see *Qualification*):
<https://www.olympics.com/ioc/documents/olympic-games/los-angeles-2028-olympic-games>

SECTION 7: DISCRETIONARY CRITERIA TO NOMINATE ATHLETES

7.1 RATIONALE FOR UTILIZING DISCRETIONARY SELECTION:

Athlete nomination for a multi-faceted team sport is most effectively achieved through the combination of expert decision making, the triangulation of multiple opinions from subject matter experts, objective and subjective information, and longitudinal performance information. It is the combination of these factors that contributes to effective and impactful individual and squad selection.

The criteria below should be measured against the level expected of athletes who compete for the top six ranked teams in the world. This should not be used as a nationwide comparison.

7.2 DEFINE THE DISCRETIONARY CRITERIA TO BE USED:

The criteria below are intended to provide transparency as to the factors which contribute to athlete nomination to the 2028 USAFHWOGT over the course of the Evaluative Events in Section 5. The criteria which will be evaluated are those identified by the Selection Committee (see Section 7.3) as fundamental to nomination for Team USA.

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- 1) The Selection Committee may consider the following factors (which are not listed in priority order):

Hockey Ability

- Proven ability to understand the game and apply highly skilled actions under the intensity / pressure and speed of the game.
- Proven ability to apply highly skilled actions when in possession (e.g., receiving, passing, carrying, leading and goalscoring), in transition (e.g., reading of the game, positioning and movement) and when out of possession (e.g., marking, intercepting, closing down space and tackling).
- A high-level proficiency in one playing line, and an ability to effectively play more than one position across and through playing lines (defense, midfield and attack) at points in matches and between matches.
- Demonstrates a high level of technical skill relevant to their primary playing position.
- The ability to contribute to, score and defend 'set-pieces.'
- Proven ability in an attacking set piece skill (e.g., inject, trap, score off the top, deflect, rebound).
- Proven ability in a defensive set piece skill (e.g., post player, blocker, runner, second phase).
- If / where relevant, ability in penalty strokes and 1v1 shootouts.
- For Goalkeepers: Proven ability to apply highly skilled actions (e.g., shot stopping, blocking, clearances, stick skills, second phase play and 1v1, shootouts and penalty corners).

Tactical

- Understands and implements tactical instructions.
- Ability to learn, understand and implement options within identified systems of play and tactical principles while also demonstrating the ability / potential to execute good options effectively and consistently under competition pressure.
- Learns, understands and is aware of tactical options within a system of play.
- Understands and commits to the playing philosophy.

Physical Abilities and Tournament Fitness

- Must be able to perform all chosen USAFHWHP physical performance and diagnostic tests and achieve the minimum baseline standards for their primary playing position. See tables below for baseline 40m Sprint Test minimums by position and the Bronco physical standards outlined by performance tier.

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40m Sprint Test	
Position	40m Sprint Minimum
Goalkeeper	n/a
Center Defense	<6 secs
Half Back	<5.8 secs
Midfield	<5.8 secs
Forward	5.7 secs

Bronco Physical Standards	
Gold	<4:45
Silver	4:45-4:54
Bronze	4:55-5:05
Eligible	5:06-5:44
Minimum	>5:45

- Physically robust in tournament scenarios including those with challenging climatic conditions.
- Demonstrates the ability to perform with the same physical intensity from beginning to end of a match throughout the tournament.

Mental Skills

- Has a high level of self-awareness that includes possessing mental skills that aid progression (e.g., ambition, commitment, and desire/ability to learn) in addition to mental skills that aid performance (e.g., confidence, emotional regulation, and ability to focus/re-focus).
- Open minded to new ideas and concepts.
- Selfless and supportive attitude towards team members and staff both on and off pitch.

Cultural and Values

- Embraces team culture and consistently demonstrates the values, behaviors and standards.
- Takes individual responsibility for physical and mental preparations and is accountable for their actions.
- Consistently has a positive impact on the outcome of matches played.
- Positively contributes to the balance of strengths and capabilities in the squad.

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- Fully commits to the program and embraces team nature of the centralized program.
- Consistently demonstrates and delivers high performance behaviors and standards
- Possesses the psychological and interpersonal skills that help themselves *and* the team excel in a team sport environment.

7.3 SELECTION COMMITTEE:

Name of the committee that will be responsible for making discretionary selections, or other decisions/recommendations directly impacting athletes in the selection process, along with a complete list of the members' titles:

2028 USAFHWOGT Selection Committee:

- USA Field Hockey Head Coach
- USA Field Hockey High Performance Director
- USA Field Hockey 10 Year Athlete Representative

SECTION 8: MANDATORY TRAINING AND/OR COMPETITION

Athletes who are nominated to the Team (including Ap accredited alternate athletes) are required to participate in a full-time Centralized Training Program based in Charlotte, NC from the time of nomination until the Team departs for the 2028 Summer Olympic Games.

Athletes who are nominated to the Team may also be required to participate in competitions in advance of the Games. USA Field Hockey will share additional information with the Team for all required competitions at least thirty (30) days prior to each competition.

While waivers for mandatory training and competition will not be unreasonably withheld, all athletes nominated to the Team should arrange for appropriate time off from school, work, or other obligations in advance. Requests for a waiver to be excused from mandatory training and/or competition due to an injury, illness, or extenuating circumstance must be submitted in writing to the USA Field Hockey High Performance Director via email (cparnham@usafieldhockey.com) for review and approval.

SECTION 9: DATE OF TEAM NOMINATION

The nomination of athletes, including any replacements/alternates will be announced to all athletes and submitted to the USOPC on or before **June 1, 2028**.

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SECTION 10: REMOVAL OF ATHLETES FROM THE TEAM

10.1 NGB JURISDICTION

NGB has jurisdiction over athlete nominees until athlete entries have been submitted by the USOPC to the OCOG.

- a. 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 USA Field Hockey High Performance Director 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 [USA Field Hockey Code of Conduct](#)
 - v. Athlete Agreement. Athlete violates a term in their signed NGB Athlete Agreement.
 - vi. Non-compliance. Athlete does not meet the athlete eligibility requirements listed in Section 3 and Section 4 of these selection procedures.
- b. An Athlete may be removed as a nominee to the Team or from the Team if found to have violated IOC, FIH, USADA, WADA and/or USOPC anti-doping protocol, policies and procedures, the U.S. Center for SafeSport Code, the USOPC Athlete Safety Policy and NGB SafeSport policies, as applicable.

10.2 USOPC JURISDICTION

- a. Once Athlete entries have been submitted by the USOPC to the OCOG, the USOPC has jurisdiction over the Team.
- b. The USOPC Delegation Conduct Requirements apply in addition to the NGB 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 Grievance Procedures and Hearing Process are found within the USOPC Dispute Resolution Policy and Hearing Procedures.
 - i. See www.usopc.org/governance/dispute-resolution for more information.

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SECTION 11: SELECTION PROCESS IF ATHLETE VACANCY OCCURS PRIOR TO SUBMISSION OF ENTRIES BY NAME TO THE ORGANIZING COMMITTEE OF THE OLYMPIC GAMES

11.1 Should a vacancy occur prior to submission of Entries by Name by the USOPC to the OCOG, the Selection Committee will nominate a replacement athlete from the pool of nominated Ap accredited alternate athletes. Should the Ap athlete replacement pool be exhausted, the Selection Committee will nominate a replacement athlete in accordance with the requirements of the Team, the Selection Process outlined in Section 6, and the Selection Criteria outlined in Section 7. The replacement athlete will be nominated from the 2027 USAFHWHP described in Section 6.3 and Section 6.4.

11.2 All replacement athletes must meet all requirements listed in Sections 3-4.

SECTION 12: SELECTION PROCESS IF ATHLETE VACANCY OCCURS AFTER SUBMISSION OF ENTRIES BY NAME TO THE ORGANIZING COMMITTEE OF THE OLYMPIC GAMES

12.1 Should a vacancy occur after submission of Entries by Name by the USOPC to the OCOG, if allowed, USA Field Hockey will follow the process outlined in Section 11.1.

12.2 Any replacement of athletes must comply with these selection procedures in addition to IOC, USOPC, and FIH regulations including applicable Late Athlete Replacement (LAR) policies.

12.3 All replacement athletes must meet all requirements listed in Sections 3-4.

SECTION 13: RIGHT TO A HEARING

An athlete who is removed from the Team has the right to a hearing per the NGB's complaint procedures [USA Field Hockey Grievance Policy](#) and the USOPC Bylaws, Section 9 (www.usopc.org/governance/dispute-resolution).

SECTION 14: 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 Olympic Games:

- [USA Field Hockey Code of Conduct](#)
- USA Field Hockey Athlete Agreement

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SECTION 15: DISCLAIMERS

These procedures are based on IOC and FIH rules and regulations as presently known and understood. Any change in the selection procedures caused by a change in IOC and/or FIH rules and regulations will be distributed to the affected athletes immediately. The selection criteria are based on the latest information available to NGB.

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 16: CONFLICT OF INTEREST

The USA Field Hockey Selection Committee (Section 7.3) and all individuals who developed these selection procedures (Section 21) must comply with [USA Field Hockey's Conflict of Interest Policy](#), to include completing and submitting a disclosure form consistent with USA Field Hockey's Conflict of Interest Policy before convening the committee. The COI Forms must be submitted and reviewed in advance of any meetings to determine which athletes will be nominated to the 2028 USAFHWOGT.

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

Any recused individual shall be replaced in accordance with the NGB Selection Committee appointment process.

SECTION 17: QUESTIONS REGARDING ATHLETE SELECTION PROCEDURES

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

Name: Craig Parnham

Position: USA Field Hockey High Performance Director

Email: cparnham@usafieldhockey.com

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Name: Katelyn Ginolfi

Position: Team USA Athletes' Commission Representative

Email: Katefalgo23@gmail.com

ATHLETE OMBUDS

The Team USA Athlete Ombuds serves as a safe, independent, confidential place for Team USA Athletes to seek advice about any sport-related rule, policy, or process; how to navigate raising or responding to concerns; or access legal and mental health resources.

Team USA Athletes may contact the Athlete Ombuds:

PHONE: (719) 866-5000

EMAIL: ombudsman@usathlete.org

WEBSITE: usathlete.org

SECTION 18: GRIEVANCES

The NGB Grievance Procedures can be found here: [USA Field Hockey Grievance Procedures](#)

Section 9 of the USOPC Bylaws provides a process for an athlete to file a complaint with the USOPC against an NGB alleging that they have 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/governance/dispute-resolution>

SECTION 19: NON-RETALIATION

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 or 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.

- Individuals may report concerns to the NGB by following the [USA Field Hockey Whistleblower Policy](#).
- Individuals may report concerns to the USOPC confidentially, or anonymously, online using the [USOPC Integrity Portal](#) or individuals may call the USOPC Integrity Hotline at 1-877-404-9935.
- Additional information can be found in the USOPC [Speak Up Policy](#).

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SECTION 20: SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

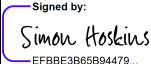
NGB will retain the approved Selection Procedures and all supporting documents, including scouting or evaluation forms, etc., and data from the selection process as required by the NGB's Records Retention Policy or for six months past the date of the Closing Ceremony of the 2028 Summer Olympic Games, whichever is longer.

SECTION 21: DEVELOPMENT, APPROVAL & CERTIFICATION OF SELECTION PROCEDURES

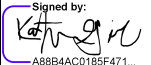
The following committee of individuals developed these selection procedures.

NAME	ROLE
David Passmore	USA Field Hockey WNT Head Coach
Craig Parnham	USA Field Hockey High Performance Director
Katelyn Ginolfi	USA Field Hockey Team USA AC Representative

The following individual approved these selection procedures and through their signature, certifies that the procedures comply with the standards and criteria set by FIH. The following individual further certifies that the information provided herein regarding Athlete Selection Procedures represents the method approved by USA Field Hockey and that these selection procedures will be posted on the USA Field Hockey website.

POSITION	NAME	SIGNATURE	DATE
USA Field Hockey Executive Director	Simon Hoskins	Signed by:  EFBBE3B65B94479...	July 22, 2026 4:18:56 PM MDT

The following individual affirms that they read and understand the selection procedures.

POSITION	NAME	SIGNATURE	DATE
Team USA Athletes Commission Representative*	Katelyn Ginolfi	Signed by:  A88B4AC01B5F471...	July 24, 2026 8:34:52 AM MDT

* If the Team USA Athletes' Commission Representatives have delegated authority to another 10 Year Athlete Representative to sign the Selection Procedures, attach a letter from the Team USA AC Representative indicating the reason they have delegated authority.

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* If, for some reason, a sport does not have an elected Team USA AC Representative, the NGB must designate a 10 Year Athlete from that sport to review and sign the Selection Procedures.

Revision History

Date	Revisions
July 22, 2026	Original document published

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APPENDIX A – COMMONLY USED ACRONYMS

AAC – Athletes' Advisory Council

AC – Athletes' Commission

Act or TSOASA – Ted Stevens Olympic and Amateur Sports Act

CAS – Court of Arbitration for Sport

Center – U.S. Center for SafeSport

CF – Continental Federation

IOC – International Olympic Committee

IF – International Federation

LOC – Local Organizing Committee

NGB – National Governing Body

NOC – National Olympic Committee

OCOG – Organizing Committee of the Olympic Games.

PAG – Pan American Games

Panam Sports or PASO – Pan American Sports Organization

TEAM USA AC – Team USA Athletes' Commission (formerly USOPC AAC)

USADA – United States Anti-Doping Agency

WADA – World Anti-Doping Agency

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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:

- i. **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.
- ii. **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.

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APPENDIX C – ATHLETE RESOURCES

ATHLETE OMBUDS

The Team USA Athlete Ombuds serves as a safe, independent, confidential place for Team USA Athletes to seek advice about any sport-related rule, policy, or process; how to navigate raising or responding to concerns; or access legal and mental health resources.

Team USA Athletes may contact the Athlete Ombuds:

PHONE: (719) 866-5000

EMAIL: ombudsman@usathlete.org

WEBSITE: usathlete.org

ATHLETE SAFETY REPORTING

Allegations of Sexual Misconduct and Child Abuse must be reported to the [U.S. Center for SafeSport](#). Allegations of Child Abuse must also be reported to [Law Enforcement](#).

Allegations of emotional abuse, physical abuse, a violation of the Minor Athlete Abuse Prevention Policies (MAAPP), or a violation of the Athlete Safety components (Section 4) of the Supporting Athletes with an Intellectual Impairment Policy can be reported online to the USOPC through the Athlete Safety Reporting Portal found on the USOPC [Athlete Safety Page](#). Individuals may also report to the USOPC by phone at 877-404-9935. Allegations that an Athlete with an Intellectual Impairment is or has been subjected to any criminal act, including abuse and/or neglect, must also be reported to Law Enforcement.

Additional information, to include links for reporting, can be found on the USOPC [Athlete Safety Page](#).

RAINN HOTLINE

RAINN, the National Sexual Assault Hotline, 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 Hotline at 1-800-656-4673 or visit <https://rainn.org/>.

TEAM USA ATHLETES' COMMISSION (Team USA AC)

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: www.usopc.org/teamusa-athletes-commission

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TEAM USA ATHLETE LEGAL AID PROGRAM

The purpose of the Athlete Legal Aid Program is to assist eligible Team USA 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: [Athlete Resources & Tools](#)

TEAM USA ATHLETE SERVICES

The USOPC helps support Team USA athletes from the start of their career to their retirement and beyond through direct funds, programs and services that help athletes excel in their day-to-day lives, on and off the field of play.

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

TEAM USA MENTAL HEALTH RESOURCES

For those in need of mental health support, USOPC Psychological Services is available at psychservices@usopc.org, or you can connect with a licensed mental health provider 24/7 through the USOPC Psychological Services Support Line at 719-866-2255. You can also visit www.usopc.org/mental-health for information about all available resources or complete our referral link at: go.teamusa.org/referrals to get connected.

USOPC DISPUTE RESOLUTION UNIT (DRU)

For Protected Competitions, 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. For more information about this process, please visit the [dispute resolution website](#).

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.