

# USOPC IMS - Badminton

## Athlete Selection Procedures

### 2026 Youth Olympic Games

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- Publication Date: May 11, 2026
- A preliminary notice to these athlete selection procedures was posted [here](#) on January 20, 2026.
- An amended preliminary notice to these athlete selection procedures can be found [here](#).

## SECTION 1: OVERVIEW

These procedures outline the pathway for nomination to the 2026 Youth Olympic Games (Games) for USOPC Internally Managed Sports - Badminton (IMS). The maximum Team size can be two (2) athletes (one (1) male and one (1) female). Badminton World Federation quotas are awarded by quota places.

## SECTION 2: ATHLETE REQUIREMENTS

1. Nationality/Passports 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. 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 a national of two or more countries, has changed his or her nationality or acquired a new nationality, refer to the [Olympic Charter](#) (Rule 41).
  - Abide by the IOC Eligibility of Conditions Form/Conditions of Participation Form.
3. Organizing Committee Olympic Games (OCOG) Requirements:
  - Comply with all rules and policies implemented by the OCOG for Dakar 2026.
4. Badminton World Federation (BWF) Requirements:
  - Comply with all BWF eligibility requirements which will be posted here once available: <https://www.olympics.com/ioc/documents/olympic-games/yog-dakar-2026>
  - Athletes cannot be older than 17 years old at the time of the closing ceremony of the 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](#) and the [U.S. Center for SafeSport Code](#) including education and training requirements.
  - Comply with the current [USOPC Background Check Policy](#).
6. IMS Requirements:
  - Comply with the [Code of Conduct for Internally Managed Sport](#)
  - Athlete does not have an active suspension from the U.S. Center for SafeSport that would make

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the Athlete ineligible to participate in the 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 Games.

### SECTION 3: OTHER MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS TO BE ELIGIBLE FOR THE TEAM

- Agree to be bound by and adhere to all IOC, BWF, 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, BWF, 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, BWF and/or the OCOG.

### SECTION 4: EVALUATIVE EVENTS

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

EVENT NAME/LOCATION	DATE(S)
BWF World Junior Sanctioned Tournaments	September 24, 2025 – August 31, 2026
BWF Sanctioned Tournaments	September 24, 2025 – August 31, 2026
Continental Junior Championships	July 19-26, 2026
BWF World Championships	August 17-23, 2026

Participation in these events is not a requirement, however, ranking points from BWF-sanctioned tournaments and placement on the BWF World Junior Rankings will be the basis for nomination to the Games. Ranking points will start accumulating on September 24, 2025 and can be found [here](#).

### SECTION 5: SELECTION PROCESS

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

#### 5.1 TOTAL QUOTA PLACES:

The maximum Team size can be two (2) athletes (one (1) male and (1) female). Badminton World Federation quotas are awarded by quota places.

#### 5.2 EVALUATION EVENT QUALIFICATION PATHWAY:

Any eligible member of USA Badminton is eligible to enter BWF-sanctioned events listed in Section 4 to earn ranking points during the qualification period.

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Please note that entries and selection criteria for BWF-sanctioned events will be managed by USA Badminton staff.

If two (2) athletes have an equal total of ranking points on the BWF World Junior Ranking List, the athlete who has completed in a greater number of BWF-sanctioned tournaments between September 25, 2025 - September 1, 2026, period shall be ranked higher.

#### **5.3 NOMINATION TO THE TEAM:**

IMS will nominate one (1) male and one (1) female athlete to the Team based on the highest-ranked eligible athlete in each gender on the BWF Junior Ranking List as of September 1, 2026.

**In the event of a conflict between this overview and the BWF Qualification System, the BWF Qualification System will take precedent.**

For more details, please refer to the BWF Qualification System which will be posted here once available:  
<https://www.olympics.com/ioc/documents/olympic-games/yog-dakar-2026>

## **SECTION 6: DISCRETIONARY CRITERIA TO NOMINATE ATHLETES**

### **6.1 RATIONALE FOR UTILIZING DISCRETIONARY SELECTION:**

Not applicable

### **6.2 DEFINE THE DISCRETIONARY CRITERIA TO BE USED:**

Not applicable

### **6.3 SELECTION COMMITTEE**

Not applicable

## **SECTION 7: MANDATORY TRAINING AND/OR COMPETITION**

Not applicable

## **SECTION 8: DATE OF TEAM NOMINATION**

Nomination of athletes, including any replacements/alternates will be announced to all athletes and submitted to the USOPC on or before September 1, 2026.

## **SECTION 9: REMOVAL OF ATHLETES FROM THE TEAM**

### **9.1 IMS JURISDICTION**

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

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- a. An athlete who is nominated to the Team may be removed for any of the following reasons, as determined by IMS:
  - i. Voluntary withdrawal. Athlete submits a written letter to the IMS Senior Director requesting to voluntarily withdraw from the Team.
  - ii. Injury or illness. A physician (or medical staff) approved by IMS 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 [Code of Conduct for Internally Managed Sport](#)
  - v. Athlete Agreement. Athlete violates a term in their signed IMS Athlete Agreement.
  - vi. Non-compliance. Athlete does not meet the athlete eligibility requirements listed in Section 2 and Section 3 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, BWF, USADA, WADA, and/or USOPC anti-doping protocol, policies and procedures, the U.S. Center for SafeSport Code, the USOPC Athlete Safety Policy, as applicable.

## 9.2 USOPC JURISDICTION

- a. Once Athlete entries have been submitted by the USOPC to the OCOG, the USOPC has jurisdiction over the Team.
- b. USOPC's Delegation Conduct Requirements apply in addition to the IMS 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 USOPC Dispute Resolution Policy and Hearing Procedures.
  - i. See [www.usopc.org/governance/dispute-resolution](http://www.usopc.org/governance/dispute-resolution) for more information.

## SECTION 10: SELECTION PROCESS IF ATHLETE VACANCY OCCURS PRIOR TO SUBMISSION OF ENTRIES BY NAME TO THE ORGANIZING COMMITTEE OF THE OLYMPIC GAMES

10.1 Should a vacancy occur prior to submission of Entries by Name to the OCOG, the next highest-ranked eligible athlete, according to Section 5.3 will be nominated to the Team. Replacement will not extend beyond the third highest ranked eligible athlete on the BWF World Junior Ranking List.

10.2 All replacement athletes must meet all requirements listed in Sections 2-3.

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

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

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

11.3 All replacement athletes must meet all requirements listed in Sections 2-3.

## **SECTION 12: RIGHT TO A HEARING**

An athlete who is removed from the Team pursuant to this provision has the right to a hearing per the [IMS Complaint Procedures](#).

## **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 Games:

- [USOPC IMS - Code of Conduct](#)

## **SECTION 14: DISCLAIMERS**

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

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.

## **SECTION 15: CONFLICT OF INTEREST**

All individuals who developed these selection procedures (Section 20) must comply with the USOPC [Conflict of Interest Policy](#), to include completing and submitting a disclosure form consistent with the Conflict of Interest Policy before convening the committee.

A conflict of interest exists when a personal, family, financial, professional, club, team or business relationship or interferes with, or may be perceived to interfere with an individual's ability to be impartial and participate in

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the selection process in a fair and impartial manner. Any individual who has an actual, possible, or perceived conflict of interest must disclose it prior to the start of the selection process and may be required to recuse him/herself from discussions and/or voting.

If a conflict exists, the USOPC Ethics & Compliance Committee shall review the conflict and determine the committee member's level of involvement (e.g., whether that committee member must recuse him/herself from participating in discussions and/or voting) by following the [USOPC Ethics Procedures](#).

The AAG representative will not participate in the Ethics & Compliance Committee's deliberations or decision. Once a decision has been made, the Ethics & Compliance Committee will provide a written decision, including directions to mitigate the conflict, to the affected parties and to USOPC IMS staff. The Ethics & Compliance Committee's decision is final and is not subject to further review.

Additionally, any person with a good faith belief that a committee member has a conflict of interest may report the alleged conflict of interest 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. 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 16: QUESTIONS REGARDING ATHLETE SELECTION PROCEDURES

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

Name: Matt Cramer

Position: Sr. Director USOPC IMS

Email: [matt.r.cramer@usopc.org](mailto:matt.r.cramer@usopc.org)

Name: Eva Lee

Position: Team USA Athletes' Commission Representative

Email: [eva.lee@olympian.org](mailto:eva.lee@olympian.org)

## SECTION 17: GRIEVANCES

An IMS athlete who alleges that he or she has been denied, or threatened denial, by an IMS the opportunity to participate in a competition or activity (as specified in Section 2.1(D) of the USOPC Dispute Resolution Procedures) may file an "Opportunity to Participate" complaint pursuant to the USOPC Dispute Resolution Procedures, which can be found here: <https://www.usopc.org/governance/dispute-resolution>. The [Internally Managed Sport - Form to file an Opportunity to Participate Complaint](#) must be submitted to initiate an Opportunity to Participate grievance.

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#### SECTION 18: NON-RETALIATION

The USOPC and IMS 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 IMS 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 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's [Speak Up Policy](#).

#### SECTION 19: SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS


IMS 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 IMS Records Retention Policy or for six months past the date of the Closing Ceremony of the 2026 Youth Olympic Games, whichever is longer.

#### SECTION 20: DEVELOPMENT, APPROVAL & CERTIFICATION OF SELECTION PROCEDURES

The following committee of individuals developed these selection procedures.

NAME	ROLE
Matt Cramer	USOPC IMS Senior Director
Jenny Ryan	USOPC Manager IMS Operations
Eva Lee	10 Year Athlete Representative

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

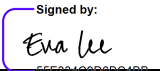
POSITION	NAME	SIGNATURE	DATE
USOPC IMS Senior Director	Matt Cramer	Signed by:  <small>73079EF9G65ED49B...</small>	May 12, 2026   11:26:16 AM MDT

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

POSITION	NAME	SIGNATURE	DATE
Team USA Athletes Commission Representative*	Eva Lee	 Signed by: Eva Lee	May 14, 2026   1:40:13 PM 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.

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

#### Revision History

Date	Revisions
May 11, 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

**APC** – Americas Paralympic Committee

**CAS** – Court of Arbitration for Sport

**Center or CSS** – U.S. Center for SafeSport

**CF** – Continental Federation

**IMS** – Internally Managed Sport (sport managed by the USOPC)

**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 the Olympic Games. The OCOG refers to the Organizing Committee of the Paralympic Games as well.

**PAG** – Pan American Games

**Panam Sports or PASO** – Pan American Sports Organization

**PPAG** – Parapan American Games

**PSO** – Paralympic Sport 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 the Games.

**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

##### **RAINN HOTLINE** (Formerly SAFESPORT HELPLINE)

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)** (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: [www.usopc.org/teamusa-athletes-commission](http://www.usopc.org/teamusa-athletes-commission)

##### **TEAM USA MENTAL HEALTH RESOURCES**

For those in need of mental health support, USOPC Psychological Services is available at [psychservices@usopc.org](mailto: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](http://www.usopc.org/mental-health) for information about all available resources or complete our [referral link](#) 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.

##### **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.