



2026 Malaysia Open Diving Championships Selection Procedures

Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia | October 30–November 1, 2026

(Dependent upon available funding and event participation requirements)

INTRODUCTION

Nature of the Selection Procedures

The following procedures will be used to select the team that will represent the United States at the 2026 Malaysia Open Diving Championships (the "Selection Procedures" or "Procedures").

USA Diving intends to use the Malaysia Open Diving Championships as an opportunity to provide international competition experience for eligible USA Diving National Team members following the 2026 USA Diving National Championships.

Selection priorities will be based on:

- 2026 USA Diving National Championships results;
- National Team status;
- previous international competition experience in the applicable event; and
- available funding.

Malaysia Open Diving Championships Team Size

The maximum team size for the Malaysia Open Diving Championships has not yet been determined. The final team composition will be based on available competition entries, available funding, athlete acceptance of an invitation to participate, and operational considerations.

USA Diving will determine the number of athletes receiving USA Diving-supported participation opportunities and will allocate those positions according to the selection priorities outlined in these procedures.

1. ELIGIBILITY FOR SELECTION TO THE MALAYSIA OPEN DIVING CHAMPIONSHIPS TEAM

1.1 General Eligibility

Every candidate for the Malaysia Open Diving Championships team must, by the time determined by the High Performance Director:

- a) Be a citizen of the United States;
- b) Be eligible to represent the United States per World Aquatics sport nationality regulations;
- c) Be a member in good standing with USA Diving and the USA Diving National Team;
- d) Comply with the USA Diving Athlete Agreement;
- e) Comply with the USA Diving Code of Conduct;
- f) Comply with the USA Diving SafeSport Policy;
- g) Have a current passport that does not expire for a minimum of six months (or other reasonable time, as determined by the High Performance Director) after the conclusion of the event;
- h) Not have an active suspension from the U.S. Center for SafeSport that would make the Athlete ineligible to participate in World Aquatics Recognized Events;
- i) Not have an active sanction for an anti-doping rule/policy violation that would make the Athlete ineligible to participate in World Aquatics Recognized Events;
- j) Agree to be bound by and adhere to all WADA, World Aquatics, and USADA anti-doping protocols, policies, and procedures, as applicable; and
- k) Meet all health and safety protocols, including vaccine requirements and/or testing requirements set forth by the government, local laws, World Aquatics, and/or the Local Organizing Committee.

1.2 Selection Events

USA Diving will select athletes for the Malaysia Open Diving Championships from among members of the USA Diving National Team.

The USA Diving National Team was named based on results from the 2025 USA Diving Winter National Championships and the 2026 USA Diving National Championships.

1.3 Determination of Team Member Participation

Final team composition will be determined by the High Performance Director in consultation with the CCE and approval of the President/CEO and AAC Representative.

Athlete invitations will be issued according to the selection priorities outlined in these procedures.

An invitation to participate will contain a specific reply date by which the invitation must be accepted or declined. Failure of an athlete to accept the invitation by the reply date will be considered a decline of the invitation.

2. OLYMPIC INDIVIDUAL EVENTS – 3-METER & 10-METER

2.1 Individual Events

USA Diving will invite a limited number of National Team athletes in individual Olympic events based on available funding and entry numbers.

For purposes of these selection procedures, new National Team members are considered those athletes who were added to the National Team following the 2026 USA Diving National Championships. Current National Team members are those who were named to the National Team following the 2025 USA Diving Winter National Championships. An athlete who is already a current National Team member will remain classified as a current National Team member for purposes of the priority order below, even if the athlete meets the National Team criteria in a new event at the 2026 USA Diving National Championships.

These positions will be allocated according to the following priority order:

Priority 1

New National Team members who finish in the top four at the 2026 USA Diving National Championships

Priority 2

New National Team members who were named to the National Team by placing fifth through seventh at the 2026 USA Diving National Championships and have not yet had an international competition opportunity in that event in 2026

Priority 3

Current National Team members who place in the top four at the 2026 USA Diving National Championships

Priority 4

New National Team members who were named to the National Team by placing fifth through seventh at the 2026 USA Diving National Championships and have already had an international competition opportunity in that event in 2026

*Placing fifth through seventh alone does not guarantee National Team status. It is one component for selection. The full National Team criteria may be found in the Members Only section by logging into your USA Diving membership account on the USA Diving website.

Within any given priority order, if there are more athletes who meet the criteria for selection than there are spots available on the team, athletes will be selected in order of place finish in the applicable event at the 2026 USA Diving National Championships. Invitations will be offered only to the extent permitted by the event entry limits and available funding.

3. OLYMPIC SYNCHRONIZED EVENTS – 3-METER & 10-METER**3.1 Synchronized Events**

USA Diving will invite synchronized teams according to the following priority order and based on available funding and event entry limits:

Priority 1

The highest-ranked eligible USA Diving National Team synchronized team from the 2026 USA Diving National Championships

Priority 2

If additional funding and entry spots remain available, a second-ranked team that was within three percent of the highest-ranked team at the 2026 USA Diving National Championships may be considered.

Priority 3

If additional funding and entry spots remain available, a second-ranked team that was not invited via Priority 2 may be considered if at least one member of the synchro team is a National Team member in the corresponding individual event.

3.2 If a Partner is Unavailable

USA Diving does not yet know the available entry numbers. The process for selecting teams and partners if one team member is unavailable may vary based on the number of available entries.

If Only One Entry Spot Is Available and Only One Partner Is Available

Both partners must be available to compete. If only one partner from a team invited under Priority 1 is available and only one event entry spot is available, USA Diving will determine whether to move to the next-ranked team or identify a replacement partner for the available diver, based on score proximity and team availability.

If a Team is Identified under Priority Two

- a) If the next-ranked team is within three percent of the first-invited team's score at the 2026 USA Diving National Championships, that team will be invited. Both divers must accept the invitation.

If the Next-Ranked Team Is Not Within Three Percent

- b) If the next-ranked team is not within the three percent threshold or if only one diver from a team invited in 3.2(a) is available, USA Diving may identify a suitable partner for the available diver on the team identified under Priority One. If a suitable partner cannot be found and a team can be identified under Priority Three, that team will be invited.

If Two Entry Spots are Available and a Partner is Unavailable

If only one partner from either of the two invited teams is available, USA Diving may identify a suitable partner for an available diver. If a suitable replacement cannot be found, USA Diving may leave the entry unfilled.

Identifying a Replacement Partner

The following will be considered when identifying a new partner:

- Prior competition history together
- Evaluations from Synchro Assessment Camps
- Compatibility of dive lists

- Results in the corresponding synchronized or individual event at the 2026 USA Diving National Championships
- Finalist status in the corresponding event at recent USA Diving National Championship events
- Current training partnership status, if applicable
- Demonstrated readiness for international competition in the selected event

4. REMOVAL OF ATHLETES

- 4.1** Prior to each of the World Aquatics Recognized Event technical meetings, USA Diving has jurisdiction over potential nominees.

An athlete member who is nominated to the Team by USA Diving may be removed for any of the following reasons, as determined by USA Diving:

- 4.1.1. Voluntary withdrawal. Athlete member must submit a written letter to the USA Diving CEO/President and USA Diving's High Performance Director.
- 4.1.2. Injury, illness, or mental health concern as certified by a physician (or medical staff member) approved by USA Diving. If an athlete member refuses verification of his/her illness, injury, or mental health concern by a physician (or medical staff member) approved by USA Diving, his/her illness, injury, or mental health concern will be assumed to be debilitating, and he/she may be removed.
- 4.1.3. Violation of USA Diving's Code of Conduct
(<https://www.usadiving.org/resources/bylaws-and-policies>)
- 4.1.4. Non-compliance with the eligibility requirements listed in Section 1 of these selection procedures.
- 4.1.5. An athlete loses an adjudicated violation of WADA, ITA, and/or USADA anti-doping protocol, policies, and procedures, as applicable.

5. ADDITIONAL EVENTS

If additional entry spots are available in the individual events, they may be filled by divers in the synchronized events or they may remain unfilled if it is not in the best interest of the team.

6. REPLACEMENT ATHLETES

6.1 Individual Events

If an athlete needs to be replaced due to injury, illness or voluntarily withdrawal **prior to the Local Organizing Committee (LOC) deadline** of submission of entry names, the next-ranked athlete following the priority order outlined in Section Two will be selected.

If an athlete member voluntarily withdraws or is injured or due to illness and cannot compete **after the LOC** deadline for submission of names, it is to be handled on a case-by-case basis based on logistics, budget restraints and LOC approval.

Every effort will be made to replace a diver following the above procedures. If it is not possible, the High Performance Director, in consultation with the Committee for Competitive Excellence (CCE) and the respective World Aquatics Recognized Events Team coach members will make a selection decision that is in the best interest of Team USA based on divers who are *already* on the Malaysia Open Diving Championships Team.

6.2 Synchronized Events

If a synchronized team member needs to be replaced due to injury, illness or voluntary withdraw **prior to the LOC deadline** for submission of entry names, USA Diving will identify a new partner for the remaining synchronized team member following the criteria for identifying a partner outlined in section 3.

If a synchronized team member needs to be replaced due to injury, illness or voluntary withdrawal **after the LOC deadline** for submission of entry names it is to be handled on a case-by-case basis based on logistics, budget restraints and LOC approval. Every effort will be made to replace diver/team following the above procedures. If it is not possible, the High Performance Director and World Aquatics Recognized Event coach members will make a selection decision that is in the best interest of the team based on divers who are *already* on the Malaysia Open Diving Championships Team.

7. MALAYSIA OPEN DIVING CHAMPIONSHIPS COACH MEMBER SELECTIONS

****The coach member selection for the Malaysia Open Diving Championships is dependent on team size, available funding, and coaches' availability.***

Coach of Record:

A coach member may be considered for selection as a Malaysia Open Diving Championships coach member only if a diver in the selection events declares his or her "coach of record" prior to the start of the 2026 USA Diving National Championships. Once declared by the diver, the "coach of record" cannot be changed unless approved by the HPD. Coach members must be current members in good standing with USA Diving to be considered.

The Malaysia Open Diving Championships coach members will be selected in the following manner:

- 7.1 Select the coach member with the greatest number of spots.
(Olympic individual and synchronized events count as one spot per diver.)
 - a) If there is a tie –
Select the coach member with the greatest number of Olympic event athletes.
 - b) If a tie still exists –
Select the coach member with the highest point score based on athlete invitation order in the Olympic events. (First invited athlete = 4 points, second invited athlete = 3 points, third invited athlete = 2 points and fourth invited athlete = 1 point.)
 - c) If a tie still exists –
Select the coach member whose highest-placing athlete achieved the best finish in any Olympic event. *(For example, a coach with a 3rd-place finisher would rank higher than a coach whose athlete placed 4th.)*
 - d) If a tie still exists –
Prioritize a coach associated with a synchronized diving team that does not yet have a designated coach present at the event. If multiple coaches in the tie

have synchro athletes, select the coach whose synchro team had the largest point spread over the next-ranked team in their event.

- e) If a tie still exists -
 - 1. The coach whose highest-finishing Olympic event athlete had the largest margin of victory over 2nd place will be ranked higher.
 - 2. If an athlete finished 2nd, their margin from 1st place is used, and so on.
 - f) If a tie still exists –

The High Performance Director in consultation with the CCE and final approval from the President/CEO and AAC Rep will pick the coach member that best serves the needs of the team.
- 7.2 Selection of the team leader will be made by the High Performance Director in consultation with the CCE and approval of the CEO and AAC Rep. In the event that a team does not have a team leader, then the selected World Aquatics Recognized event head coach will also serve as team leader.
- 7.3 Team support members shall be selected by the HPD with final approval from the President.
- 7.4 An AQUA certified judge(s) will be selected by the Judges Commission.