

**U.S. PARALYMPICS POWERLIFTING
ATHLETE SELECTION PROCEDURES
2023 PARAPAN AMERICAN GAMES – SANTIAGO, CHILE
AUGUST 15, 2023**

1. SELECTION SYSTEM

1.1. Provide the minimum eligibility requirements for an athlete to be considered for selection to the Team:

1.1.0. Nationality/Passport requirements:

Athlete must be a national of the United States at the time of nomination.

Athlete must hold a valid U.S. passport that will not expire for six months after the conclusion of the Games.

1.1.1. Minimum International Paralympic Committee (IPC) or Americas Paralympic Committee (APC) standards for participation:

Any competitor in the Paralympic or Parapan American Games must be a national of the country of the National Paralympic Committee (NPC) which is entering such competitor. 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 IPC Handbook (Section 2, Chapter 3.1) or the Americas Paralympic Committee bylaws (Chapter 2.4.12 of the IPC Handbook).

1.1.2. Minimum International Federation (IF) standards for participation (if any):

Santiago 2023 Parapan American Games Qualification Criteria:

<https://www.paralympic.org/sites/default/files/2022-06/Santiago%202023%20qualification%20regulations.pdf>

To be eligible for selection by an NPC, athletes must:

- Hold an active World Para Powerlifting Athletes License for the 2023 season;
- Be internationally classified in an eligible Sport Class with a Sport Class Status of (i) Confirmed, or (ii) Review with a Fixed Review Date of 2024 or later; and
- Be ranked in the World Para Powerlifting Parapan American Santiago 2023 Ranking List closing 5 August 2023 (inclusive).

A description of sport specific classification requirements and current athlete sport class status can be found at:

<https://www.paralympic.org/powerlifting/classification>

1.1.3. Other requirements:

- Athlete must successfully complete all Games Registration requirements by stated deadline.
- Any athlete age 18 or older will be required to undergo a background screen in accordance with the current [USOPC Background Check Policy](#).
- Any athlete age 18 or older as of the Closing Ceremony will be required to remain current with the U.S. Center for SafeSport's education and training requirements in accordance with the [USOPC Athlete Safety Policy](#).

1.2. Tryout Events:

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

The World Para Powerlifting Parapan American Santiago 2023 Ranking List for each respective event will be used to allocate slots. The Ranking List will be based on results achieved during the Parapan American Games qualification period of 1 March 2022 to 10 August 2023. The World Para Powerlifting calendar can be found at <https://www.paralympic.org/powerlifting/events>.

1.2.2. Describe how athletes qualify for the events listed in 1.2.1.:

https://www.paralympic.org/sites/default/files/2023-01/2022_World%20Para%20Powerlifting%20Qualification%20Pathway%20Road%20Map_v2_0.pdf

1.3. Step-by-step description of the selection process for these Games (include maximum Team size):

The qualification guide for the Santiago 2023 Parapan American Games can be found at <https://www.paralympic.org/sites/default/files/2022-06/Santiago%202023%20qualification%20regulations.pdf>.

The qualification slot is allocated to the individual athlete, not to the NPC.

The maximum team size for the U.S. for the 2023 Parapan American Games will be determined by World Para Powerlifting.

Maximum Quota Allocation Per NPC:

An NPC may be allocated no more than ten (10) eligible male and ten (10) eligible female qualification slots, with a maximum of two (2) slots per individual medal event.

Maximum Entry Per NPC:

An NPC may enter a maximum of two (2) eligible female and two (2) eligible male athletes per medal event.

An NPC may enter a maximum of three (3) teams in the Mixed Team event, team members are selected from the athletes participating in individual events.

Qualification System:

- A. The top six (6) ranked eligible male athletes and the top four (4) ranked eligible female athletes in each medal event on the World Para Powerlifting Parapan American Santiago 2023 Ranking List closing 5 August 2023 will obtain one (1) qualification slot.
- If an NPC achieves more slots than the maximum quota per NPC, the NPC will decide which athlete(s) should be offered the respective slot(s).
 - If U.S. slots exceed the maximum quota, athletes will be nominated to the Team based on the discretionary selection criteria listed in Section 2.

B. Mixed Team Event

Athletes participating in individual events may be nominated for the Mixed Team Event based on the discretionary selection criteria listed in Section 2.

2. DISCRETIONARY SELECTION (if applicable)

2.1. Rationale for utilizing discretionary selection (if any):

Discretionary Selection may be utilized to: (1) nominate athletes if U.S. slots exceed the maximum quota per NPC; and (2) nominate athletes for the Mixed Team Event.

2.2. Define the discretionary criteria to be used (if any):

A. Individual Events:

The U.S. Paralympics Powerlifting Discretionary Selection Committee will consider the following performance-related factors (in no particular order):

- The athlete's performances during the Parapan American Games qualification period.
- The athlete's current ranking in the World Para Powerlifting Rankings.
- The athlete's performance trajectory is favorable to future international success.

- Whether the athlete experienced an injury or illness that prohibited them from competing in multiple events during the qualification period.
- The availability of an open start right for the athlete's medal event.

B. Mixed Team Event

The U.S. Paralympics Powerlifting Discretionary Selection Committee will consider the following performance-related factors (in no particular order):

- The athlete's performances during the Parapan American Games qualification period.
- Whether the athlete's results during the qualification period have a performance trajectory to support a medal capable team, while complying with the World Para Powerlifting Mixed Team Event composition rules.
- The athlete's current ranking in the World Para Powerlifting rankings.
- The individual competition schedule for the athlete at the Games.
- The results for the Team and Mixed Team Events will be calculated using the Coefficient Formula (CF). This formula allows for the comparison of Athlete results from different Bodyweight Categories. To determine the CF score, the Athlete's best lift is multiplied by a co-efficient based on their bodyweight. The CF score for each Athlete will be added together to obtain the highest CF score. The highest Team and Mixed Team Event score is obtained by adding together the CF scores for each Athlete. (WPPO Rules & Regulations 28.2.1 [https://www.paralympic.org/sites/default/files/2023-07/WPPO%20Rules%20and%20Regulations 2022 v1.4 0.pdf](https://www.paralympic.org/sites/default/files/2023-07/WPPO%20Rules%20and%20Regulations%202022%20v1.4%200.pdf)).

If the minimum required team size cannot be met, the team selection process will be deemed ineligible and will not proceed.

- 2.3. 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:

U.S. Paralympics Powerlifting Discretionary Selection Committee:

Director, Internally Managed Sports

Manager, Internally Managed Sports

Athlete Representative

- 2.3.1. Process that will be used to identify and handle any potential conflicts of interest involving a member of the committee:

All members of the selection committee must comply with the USOPC Conflict of Interest Policy, to include completing and submitting a disclosure

form consistent with the USOPC's Conflict of Interest Policy before convening the committee.

Any member of the selection committee who has an actual, potential, or perceived conflict of interest must disclose it consistent with the [USOPC's Conflict of Interest Policy](#) prior to the start of the selection process. A conflict of interest exists when a personal, family, financial, professional, club, team or business interest of the committee member poses a direct or indirect relationship, connection, or affiliation, past or present, with an athlete in contention for the applicable team selection that could compromise or could be perceived to compromise the committee member's ability to participate in the selection process in a fair and impartial manner. If an actual, potential, or perceived conflict exists, the internally managed sport team should send the disclosure to the Chief Ethics & Compliance Officer and the Sr. Director, Compliance Investigations and Ethics (collectively, the Ethics team) to share with the Ethics & Compliance Committee for review and disposition. For example, if a Selection Committee member may be required to recuse him/herself from voting, but that individual may still be able to provide relevant or necessary information concerning athlete performance in a fair and impartial manner. The Selection Committee member must not otherwise influence other members of the committee during the selection process.

Additionally, any person (including any potentially impacted athlete or coach of a potentially impacted athlete) with a good faith belief that a committee member has a conflict of interest may report the alleged conflict of interest to the USOPC's Ethics team. Reports may also be made anonymously 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.

Any recused individual shall be replaced in accordance with the USOPC's internally managed sport selection committee appointment process.

3. REMOVAL OF ATHLETES

- 3.1. Prior to submitting athlete entries by name to the USOPC, U.S. Paralympics Powerlifting has jurisdiction over potential nominees.

An athlete who is nominated to the Team by U.S. Paralympics Powerlifting may be removed for any of the following reasons, as determined by U.S. Paralympics Powerlifting:

- 3.1.1. Voluntary withdrawal. Athlete must submit a written letter to the Chief of U.S. Paralympic Sport, U.S. Paralympics.
- 3.1.2. Injury or illness as certified by a physician (or medical staff) approved by U.S. Paralympics Powerlifting. If an athlete refuses verification of his/her illness or injury by a physician (or medical staff) approved by U.S. Paralympics Powerlifting, his/her injury will be assumed to be debilitating and he/she may be removed.
- 3.1.3. Failure to participate in Mandatory Training and/or Competition as defined in Section 9 of these procedures.
- 3.1.4. Violation of the U.S. Paralympics Code of Conduct:
<https://www.usparapowerlifting.org/athlete-information>
- 3.1.5. Non-compliance with the eligibility requirements listed in Section 1.1. of these selection procedures.
- 3.1.6. Removal by the IPC/IF of the event in which the athlete qualified for the team from the medal event program of the Santiago 2023 Parapan American Games.
- 3.1.7. Change in the athlete's sport class(es) following team selection, such that:
 - 3.1.7.1. the athlete's qualifying performance would not have qualified him/her for the team; and/or
 - 3.1.7.2. the athlete is deemed Not Eligible (NE) by the IPC/World Para Powerlifting.

An athlete who is removed from the Team pursuant to this provision has the right to a hearing per the USOPC Bylaws, Section 9.

- 3.2. Once athlete entries have been submitted by the USOPC to the Local Organizing Committee, the USOPC has jurisdiction over the Team, at which time, in addition to any applicable U.S. Paralympics Powerlifting Code of Conduct, the USOPC's Delegation Conduct Requirements apply, contained in the USOPC Games Delegation Terms. The USOPC Games Delegation Terms are specific to each Games and made available during the Games registration process; the USOPC's Grievance Procedures and Hearing Process are found within the Delegation Terms. See "Delegation Events" at <https://www.usopc.org/governance/dispute-resolution> for more information.
- 3.3. An athlete may be removed as a nominee to the Team or from the Team for an adjudicated violation of IPC, APC, WADA, IF, USADA and/or USOPC anti-doping protocol, policies and procedures, as well as the U.S. Center for SafeSport Code, the USOPC Athlete Safety Policy, as applicable.

4. REPLACEMENT OF ATHLETES

- 4.1. Describe the selection and approval process for determining replacement athlete(s) should a vacancy occur:

- 4.1.1. prior to submission of Entries by Name to the Local Organizing Committee, including any applicable group or committee:

Any qualification slots allocated and not used by the respective NPC will be reallocated to the highest ranked athlete (not yet qualified) in the same body weight category on the Parapan American Santiago 2023 Ranking List.

- 4.1.2. after submission of Entries by Name to the Local Organizing Committee, including any applicable group or committee:

see 4.1.1

5. SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

U.S. Paralympics Powerlifting will retain the approved Selection Procedures and all supporting documents, including scouting or evaluation forms, etc., and data from the selection process for six months past the date of the Closing Ceremony of the Games.

6. 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 Parapan American Games (include as attachments or provide links):

- U.S. Paralympics Powerlifting Athlete Agreement
- USOPC Code of Conduct for U.S. Paralympics National Teams and U.S. Paralympics Programs
- USOPC Complaint Procedures for U.S. Paralympics National Teams and Paralympic Programs

All documents are posted here: <https://www.usparapowerlifting.org/athlete-information>

7. PUBLICITY/DISTRIBUTION OF PROCEDURES

The USOPC approved Selection Procedures (complete and unaltered) will be posted/published by U.S. Paralympics Powerlifting in the following public location(s):

- 7.1. U.S. Paralympics Powerlifting Web site:
<https://www.usparapowerlifting.org/selection-procedures>

These procedures will be posted as soon as possible, but not more than five business days following notice of approval by the USOPC.

- 7.2. Other: N/A

8. DATE OF NOMINATION

Nomination of athletes, including replacements, will be announced to all athletes and submitted to the USOPC on or before:

October 2, 2023

9. MANDATORY TRAINING AND/OR COMPETITION

Specify the location, schedule and duration of mandatory training and/or competition:

The location, schedule and duration of any mandatory training will be announced and posted on the U.S. Paralympics Powerlifting website at least 30 days prior to the start of the mandatory training and/or competitions. Mandatory training will be published [HERE](#).

While waivers for any mandatory training will not be unreasonably withheld, waivers will primarily be granted only for illness, injury or other incapacity, or for personal/family emergency. All athletes nominated to the Team should arrange for appropriate time off from school, work or other obligations well in advance of team activities. Requests for a waiver may be submitted in writing to the Director, U.S. Paralympics Powerlifting for review. A written response to all requests will be issued to the athlete within 72 hours of the request.

10. ANTI-DOPING REQUIREMENTS

Athletes must adhere to all IPC, APC, WADA, IF, USADA and USOPC anti-doping protocols, policies and procedures, as applicable. This includes participation in Out-of-Competition Testing as required by the IPC, APC, WADA, IF, USADA and USOPC rules, as applicable.

11. DEVELOPMENT OF SELECTION PROCEDURES

The following committee/group (include names and titles) was responsible for creating these Selection Procedures:

Whitney Carter, Director, Internally Managed Sports
Olivia Barker, Manager, Internally Managed Sports
Blaze Foster, AAG Chair and AAC representative

12. U.S. PARALYMPICS POWERLIFTING BYLAWS AND GRIEVANCE PROCEDURES

The USOPC Bylaws and Grievance Procedures can be found at:
<https://www.usopc.org/governance-documents>

13. INTERNATIONAL DISCLAIMER

These procedures are based on IPC, APC, as applicable, and/or World Para Powerlifting rules and regulations as presently known and understood. Any change in the selection procedures caused by a change in IPC, APC, as applicable, and/or World Para Powerlifting rules and regulations will be distributed to the affected athletes immediately. The selection criteria are based on the latest information available to U.S. Paralympics Powerlifting. 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, 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.

14. ATHLETE OMBUDS OFFICE

The Athlete Ombuds Office provides cost-free, independent and confidential advice regarding athlete rights, grievance procedures and any other related guidance pertaining to selection procedures and can assist in mediating disputes between athletes and their NGB/PSO.

To contact the Athlete Ombuds Office:




PHONE: (719) 866-5000

EMAIL: ombudsman@usathlete.org

<https://www.usopc.org/athlete-ombuds>

15. U.S. PARALYMPICS POWERLIFTING SIGNATURES

I certify that I have read and understand the standards/criteria set by our IF and/or CF and incorporated those standards/criteria into our Selection Procedures. I further certify that the information provided herein regarding Athlete Selection Procedures represents the method approved by U.S. Paralympics Powerlifting.

Position	Print Name	Signature	Date
Chief of Paralympics & IMS	Julie Dusliere		9/12/2023
Nat. Team Coach, Head Coach, or Nat. Program Director	Whitney Carter		9/12/2023
USOPC Athletes' Advisory Council Representative*	Blaze Foster	DocuSigned by:  7B967011E2404E5	September 12, 2023

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* If the USOPC AAC Representative has delegated authority to the Alternate AAC Representative to sign the Selection Procedures, attach a letter from the AAC Representative indicating the reason he/she has delegated authority.

* Signature by the Athlete Representative constitutes that he/she has read and understands the Selection Procedures. If the Athlete Representative reads and does not agree with the Athlete Selection Procedures being submitted by the NGB/PSO, he/she may submit those reasons in writing to his/her USOPC Sport Performance Team.

* If, for some reason, a sport does not have an elected USOPC AAC Representative, the NGB/PSO must designate an athlete from that sport to review and sign the Selection Procedures.