

## 2024 GENERAL WORLD TEAM TRIALS PROCEDURES

These procedures are based on United World Wrestling (UWW) rules and regulations as presently known and understood and are applicable to all competitors. Any change in the selection procedures caused by a change in UWW rules and regulations will be distributed to the affected athletes immediately.

### I. Eligibility

1. The World Team Trials are open to all U.S. citizens eligible to represent the United States of America at the World Championships as governed by UWW and USA Wrestling (USAW) rules.
  - a. Athletes must be eligible to represent the United States per UWW rules; and
  - b. Have completed USA sporting nationality transfer (if applicable) with UWW at the athlete's World Team Trials qualifying event.
  - c. Per UWW procedures, 2024 Olympic participants will NOT be allowed to participate in the 2024 Senior World Championships. THUS, 2024 Olympians will not be allowed to enter the 2024 U.S. Senior World Team Trials.
2. Each competitor must also adhere to their respective style specific qualifications to take part in the World Team Trials, which may be found at:
  - a. <https://www.themat.com/team-usa/team-selection-criteria>
3. The competition will be contested by UWW rules except as modified by this document.

### II. World Team Trials Tournament

1. Seeding will be done by the USA Wrestling National Staff
  - a. Data that will be used when determining World Team Trials seeding, in no specific order:
    - i. USA Wrestling Performance Index (PII)
    - ii. Head-to-head matches
    - iii. Common opponents
    - iv. National/International performances (i.e. tournament finishes)
  - b. Format to be line bracket double elimination to third place.
    - i. For purposes of National Team selection, the #1 ranked athlete will be the only athlete receiving National Team status.
  - c. Byes will be placed with seeded wrestlers first, in order of seed. If any byes are remaining, they will be placed in the brackets in accordance with the accepted system in use by USA Wrestling at the time.
  - d. The finals will be a best-of-three format and conducted on day two of the World Team Trials.
2. Schedule and Weigh-Ins
  - a. Weigh-ins for the World Team Trials Tournament will be held each day of competition and will be at scratch weight on day one and scratch weight on day two.
    - i. Athletes that are sitting out to day two of the competition will be required to weigh in on both days.
  - b. Any of the athletes may elect to change weight classes to compete at another weight at the World Team Trials Tournament. The contestant should notify USA Wrestling in advance of this intention, but a change in weight may be made only at day one weigh-ins.

- c. A minimum of 30 minutes rest will occur between championship matches and a minimum of 20 minutes rest will elapse between consolation matches.

### **III. Replacement Due to Injury or Illness**

1. If a 2024 World Team member at any weight is incapacitated after the World Team Trials and prior to the World Championships, the style-specific Sport Committee shall assign the position to the next-ranked alternate at the weight in question up to and including the fourth-ranked wrestler from the World Team Trials, provided the next-ranked wrestler is able to make weight and is substantially completing World Team training requirements as determined by the Sport Committee and approved by the Executive Committee of USA Wrestling.
  - a. For the purposes of this provision, the term 'incapacitated' shall mean an athlete has an injury or illness, as certified by USA Wrestling medical staff, which inhibits peak performance at the World Championships.
2. For purposes of defining whether an athlete is a "World Team Member", this individual can be either the Final World Team Trials Champion or the World Championships Participant. However, the designation doesn't take hold until the World Championships commence.

### **IV. World Team Trials Officiating and Pairing**

1. All bouts shall be officiated as prescribed by UWW rules, by an officiating team comprised of a referee, judge, and mat chairman. Their decision on all field of play aspects of the bout shall be final and shall not be subject to protest.
  - a. Mat side video will be made available. Mat side review will be done in accordance with UWW rules. Upon review of action, the decision of the officiating team is final.
  - b. The mat side computer and video shall be accepted as the official result of the bout, unless the officiating team determines that an error has been made.
2. Requests for information concerning the recording of results, pairing of contestants or scheduling of bouts may be directed to the chief mat official and/or chief pairing master without the filing of a written protest.

### **V. Protest Procedures**

1. Protests concerning eligibility of a contestant, adherence to the terms of this document, and other matters of procedure (not including field of play aspects of the bout) shall be reviewed by a Protest Committee comprised by the following individuals:
  - a. President of USA Wrestling, or his designee, who shall act as chairperson.
  - b. One or more members of the USA Wrestling Board of Directors as appointed by the Chairperson to the Protest Committee.
  - c. Athlete representation will consist of at least 33.33% of the Protest Committee (i.e., the number of athlete representatives is dependent on the number of other individuals on the committee).
  - d. Sport Committee members of the style being protested are ineligible to serve on the Protest Committee.
    - i. Any member of the Protest Committee shall disqualify him or herself from a protest hearing if they have personal ties to any contestant in the same weight.

- ii. Any situation not specifically addressed in this document shall be resolved under standard procedures of USA Wrestling.

## **VI. Drug Testing**

Testing for the use of drugs or other substances prohibited by the United States Anti-Doping Agency (USADA), World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA), or UWW will be conducted as part of the World Team Trials process. Full cooperation of the athlete is mandatory.

## **VII. Athlete Ombudsman**

An athlete who has questions regarding their opportunity to compete that are not answered by USA Wrestling, may contact the USOPC Athlete Ombudsman by telephone at 719-866-5000, or by e-mail at [ombudsman@usathlete.org](mailto:ombudsman@usathlete.org)

## **VIII. World Team Training**

1. All members of the USA Wrestling World Team will be required to follow the training schedule as established by the National Coach as referenced in the National Team Wrestler Agreement, whether or not the athlete signs the agreement. Failure to do so can result in fines and sanctions, including removal from the National Team and World Team.
2. All members of the USA Wrestling World Team will be required to maintain a proper weight management plan that is developed with the USA Wrestling National Coach and USA Wrestling medical staff. Failure to maintain and follow the plan may result in the removal and replacement of the athlete up to the deadline of the athlete registration for the World Championships.

## Attachment A

### Challenge Procedure

What it is:

A “challenge” is a process where an athlete in a match or a coach representing that athlete is allowed to request that the match be stopped at the appropriate time and the jury and mat chairman review a replay of the action that they (athlete or coach) disagree with scoring made by the referee team. This process will be available at USAW events that are designated for video review.

Who is on the jury?

The jury will be comprised of 1 or 2 referees that are assigned to that bout or mat during the competition.

Who will conduct the video review?

This will be completed by the jury and the mat chairman for that designated bout.

What is the process?

1. The coach must issue a request for a challenge when they disagree with the decision of the referee team. This should be made from the coaching area on the mat. The coach is not allowed to walk into the wrestling area.
2. To request a challenge the coach must throw a colored object (challenge block) onto the mat to notify the referee team. The color of the object will correspond to the color of the athlete. The challenge block should not be thrown in an aggressive manner toward the referees or athletes. Failure to follow these guidelines could result in a yellow or red card for the coach.
3. A wrestler may also indicate his or her desire to challenge a scoring action once the athletes have come to a neutral position or there is a natural stoppage in the match by gesturing or asking the referee of their desire to challenge.
4. The mat chairman will indicate to the referee to stop the match to review the challenge as soon as the situation becomes neutral or there is no imminent scoring at that moment. Requesting a challenge does not require that a bout be immediately stopped.
5. If the wrestler disagrees with their coach’s challenge, he or she can reject the challenge by telling the referee or mat chairman they do not want to challenge, and the match will continue. If the coach requests a challenge after the athlete has rejected the challenge, the coach could receive a yellow card.
6. In the case of dispute between the referee team and coach or wrestler, the mat chairman is allowed to refuse the challenge only after the approval of the assigned jury member/s for that mat. If the size of an event is too large and not enough referees are available to act as jury members, the mat chairman will be allowed to deny a challenge as described below. The jury and/or mat chairman can refuse the challenge during the following situations:
  - a. Confirmed falls and/or situations where a fall was not confirmed by the referee team. Challenges can be requested for fouls that occurred that led to the fall.
  - b. Confirmed passivity.

- c. Challenges not made in a reasonable amount of time. Coaches must issue the challenge within a reasonable amount of time from when the scoring action occurred or when the points went onto the scoreboard. Wrestling is dynamic and this will be at the discretion of the mat chairman and jury. IF A NATURAL STOPPAGE OCCURS IN THE MATCH AND THE CHALLENGE IS NOT OFFERED PRIOR TO RE-STARTING THE MATCH, THE CHALLENGE WILL BE DENIED.
  - d. Challenges made after the match has ended. The only exception is when points are added to the scoreboard after the time was out or when an action occurred just before the end of the bout.
7. The video will be displayed on a big screen monitor, projector, or TV if one is available for the competition. If one is not available, the jury and mat chairman can watch the video directly on the mat side computer. Only the official video from the replay system available at the event will be utilized for review; no personal video (cell phone, tablet, etc.) or alternate video angles from any streaming service not available to the jury and mat chairman will be used during the replay process and is strictly prohibited.
  8. If there is a technical problem and video is not available, the original decision will stand, and the coach will be given back the challenge block.
  9. Each wrestler will be entitled 1 challenge per match.
  10. If after reviewing the original decision is changed by the jury and mat chairman, whether it favors the challenging athlete or not, the athlete who challenged will be granted another challenge to be used during that match.
  11. If after review, the original decision made by the referee team is confirmed by the jury and mat chairman, that wrestler will lose the challenge and their opponent will be granted 1 point.
  12. Two challenge situations that could result in time being added back on the clock:
    - a. If a scoring action was determined to be a slip throw (“risk”) by the jury. The time will be reset to when the slip throw occurred. Any points scored after the slip occurred will be cancelled.
    - b. If a scoring action or confirmed fall was determined to be a direct result of an offensive foul by the jury, the time will be set when the foul occurred. Time will not be added back on the clock for any action determined to be a defensive foul.
  13. All decisions made by the jury and mat chairman will be final and will not be changed. Therefore, it is not possible to request a counter challenge.

#### Consultation Procedure

The mat chairman has ability to watch the video with referee team during a consultation without a challenge being issued. This would not include the jury. After the decision of the consultation of the referee team, the action could be challenged and be reviewed by the jury and mat chairman.

At no time can the coach request a consultation by the referee team to review the video. Using video during consultations will be at the sole discretion of the mat chairman. If the coaches want to use video review for a situation, they must use their challenge.

In the case of a serious technical mistake not seen by the referee team (examples: timekeeper mistakes, wrong points or caution published on the scoreboard, mistake in resuming the bout in parterre or in standing position, declaration of incorrect winner, etc.), the jury member/s may interfere to correct the situation by consultation with match chairman or by video review. In no case may the jury member/s interfere with the refereeing team in regard to judgement situations such as how points were scored, passivity calls or negative wrestling calls.

#### Protest Procedure

Protests can only be made if a clerical error was made during the bout. For example, points were added or removed, and the score was not correct. In this situation, if a mistake has been made that affected the results of the match, the bout will be re-wrestled from the beginning of the period when the score was incorrectly posted. This is the only situation that can be protested at events that operate the video review process. If the clerical error was made in the first period of a match, the entire bout will be re-wrestled.

#### Fleeing the Hold and 3rd Caution Procedure

For Fleeing the Hold at the end of the match that would change the potential winner or for a 3rd Caution to an individual wrestler that would lead to disqualification from the match to be granted, only the mat chairman must confirm with either the referee or judge for this to be valid. They will no longer require a unanimous agreement for these to be assessed. This will be consistent with all the other cautions given. Both situations can be reviewed if a challenge is issued.