

2005 Artistic World Championships Team Selection Procedures

I. SELECTION SYSTEM

A. Selection for the 2005 World Championships Team

Athletes may qualify for the 2005 World Championships team in one of three ways:

1. Be the highest ranking All-Around gymnast under the evaluation system identified in Section I.B.1.
2. Be the gymnast chosen by the World Championships Team Selection Committee as the second (2nd), third (3rd), fourth (4th), fifth (5th) and six (6th) member of the Team as defined in Section II.C.
3. Petition to the 2005 World Championships Team through the petition process identified in Section III.

B. Method for selecting members for the 2005 World Championships Team

One can become chosen to the World Championships Team by the process described above in Section I.A. This method is a combination of the 2005 Visa Championships All-Around Preliminary and All-Around Finals competitions results and discretionary selection criteria, which is described below.

1. The athlete selected for the World Championships Team as described in Section I.A.1 will be selected through the following method:

The top all-around gymnast using a combined total from the following formula:

- 100% of the score taken from the 2005 Visa Championships All-Around Preliminary,
- 100% of the score taken from the 2005 Visa Championships All-Around Finals,

will be selected to the 2005 World Championships Team.

In case of a tie for first place, ties will be broken in the following manner:

- a. Highest AA total from the All-Around Finals at the 2005 Visa Championships;
- b. Highest AA total using five events from the combined results of the All-Around Preliminary and All-Around Finals at the 2005 Visa Championships. If still tied, this process using four event totals, then three event totals and then two event totals will be repeated until the tie is broken.

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2. An athlete may qualify to participate in the 2005 Visa Championships by the various methods:
 - A. Qualification to the 2005 Visa Championships
 - i. An athlete may qualify to participate in the 2005 Visa Championships through USA Gymnastics approved qualifying competition(s).
 - ii. The 2005 Senior National Team Members from the 2005 Winter Cup Challenge will automatically qualify to participate in the 2005 Visa Championships.
 - iii. The top seven (7) all-around athletes (not including pre-qualified national team members who compete in the all-around) using the final all-around ranking from the combined results of all sessions ("Competition Results") at the 2005 U.S. Qualifying Competition on June 25, 2005 in Colorado Springs, Colorado will qualify to participate in the 2005 Visa Championships.
 - iv. Top 3 two-event, top 3 three-event, top 3 four-event and the top 3 five-event gymnasts who finish among the top 10 qualified all-around athletes (including pre-qualified National Team members who compete in the all-around) using two-event, three-event, four-event, or five-event totals from the "competition results" at the 2005 U.S. Qualifier will also qualify to participate in the 2005 Visa Championships.
 - v. Individual event specialists placing 1st, 2nd, or 3rd on their apparatus according to the "competition results" at the 2005 U.S. Qualifier will also qualify to participate in the 2005 Visa Championships.
 - vi. Athletes may also petition to the 2005 Visa Championships (see Section III).
 - vii. The Men's Program Committee reserves the right to invite any athlete on any event who scores a 9.5 or higher at the 2005 U.S. Qualifier to participate in the 2005 Visa Championships.
3. Up to five (5) athletes per event will be selected by the Men's Program Committee to participate in a 2005 World Championships Selection Competition that will take place October 5-9, 2005 in Colorado Springs, Colorado where the second (2nd), third (3rd), fourth (4th), fifth (5th) and six (6th) members of the team will be selected by the World Championships Team Selection Committee.

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II. DISCRETIONARY SELECTIONS

Discretionary selections for 2005 World Championships Team will be handled by the World Championships Selection Committee at the World Championships Team Selection Camp.

- A. World Championships Selection Committee composition:
 - 1. USA Gymnastics Senior Director for Men, Ron Galimore
 - 2. Chairman, Men's Program Committee¹, Yoichi Tomita
 - 3. Senior National Team Coordinator, Ron Brant
 - 4. Coach – This individual will be selected by the Men's Program Committee and may not have an athlete in contention for the 2005 World Championships Team
 - 5. Athlete Representative², John Roethlisberger

- B. World Championships Team Selection Committee Roles and Responsibilities:
 - 1. Selection of the second (2nd), third (3rd), fourth (4th), fifth (5th) and sixth (6th) team members for the World Team.
 - 2. Determine which events the members of the World Team will compete on at the World Championships.
 - 3. Selection of replacement athlete(s) for any World Team member that could not compete due to injury, illness, or other circumstances that would necessitate replacement.
 - 4. Accept or reject petitions onto the 2005 World Team (see Section III).

- C. Process for selection of the second (2nd), third (3rd), fourth (4th), fifth (5th) and sixth (6th) gymnasts for the 2005 World Championships Team.
 - 1. Athletes will be chosen from among the 2005 Visa Championship competitors, participants of the World Championships Team Selection Competition or petitioned athletes as decided upon by the World Championships Team Selection Committee.
 - 2. The World Championships Team Selection Committee will also identify potential replacement(s) to the World Team who may or may not travel to the World Championships based on available funding for the event.
 - 3. These selections are subject to the approval of the President of USA Gymnastics who will certify that the Selection Procedures were followed.
 - 4. The World Championships Team Selection Committee will consider the following factors when selecting these five (5) additional World Team members and potential replacement athlete(s):
 - a. Results from the 2005 Visa Championships & performances at the 2005 World Championships Team Selection Competition.

¹ This individual will also serve as Chair of the World Championships Team Selection Committee

² This athlete meets the definition of active athlete

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- b. Start values on each apparatus.
- c. Past domestic and international performance and experience including information such as type, frequency and level of domestic and international competitions and routine hit percentage in those events.
- d. Execution
- e. Other applicable factors

III. PETITIONS

- A. Petition Rights: Accordingly, USA Gymnastics will allow athletes to petition USA Gymnastics for the right to:
 - 1. Enter the 2005 Visa Championships or the 2005 World Team Selection Competition (as considered by the Men's Program Committee).
 - 2. To be selected to the 2005 World Championships Team, as determined by the World Championships Team Selection Committee.

- B. Petition Procedures and Requirements
 - 1. A petition to enter the 2005 Visa Championships, 2005 World Championships Selection Competition or onto the 2005 World Championships Team may only be submitted by an athlete who is a 2004 Olympic Team member including the two alternates for the 2004 Olympic Team, or a Senior National Team member from the 2005 Winter Cup Challenge.
 - 2. If a petitioning athlete is selected to be one of the 2005 World Championships Team members, that athlete would occupy one of the positions selected by the World Championships Team Selection Committee. The World Championships Team Selection Committee may require a petitioned athlete to prove competitive readiness. This display of readiness may be executed at a location and time to be determined by the 2005 World Team Selection Committee. If the athlete is unable to demonstrate competitive readiness, the selected alternate would be placed on the 2005 World Championships Team. In addition to the display of readiness, the following criteria for selection would also include:
 - i. Start values on each apparatus.
 - ii. Past domestic and international performance and experience including information such as type, frequency and level of domestic and international competitions and routine hit percentage in those events.
 - 3. In order to be considered by the World Team Selection Committee, petitions must be submitted in writing to USA Gymnastics' national office as

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soon as practical after the athlete becomes aware of his inability to participate in the applicable competition and no later than the conclusion of the 2005 World Championships Team Selection Competition. The petition must state the specific injury, illness or unusual circumstance, which prohibited the athlete from participating in the competitive process. In the case of a petition based upon an injury or illness, the petition must be accompanied by a physician's statement, and the nature and extent of that injury or illness is subject to verification by one or more doctors selected by USA Gymnastics.

IV. REPLACEMENT PROCEDURES

An athlete or coach may be replaced on the 2005 World Championships Team for the following reasons:

- Violations of the USA Gymnastics Code of Ethics (attached)
- Injury or illness which inhibits performance at the World Championships. Verification of injury or illness will be by one or more doctors selected by USA Gymnastics.

A decision to remove an athlete is subject to USAG grievance procedures as prescribed in the USAG Bylaws.

V. TRYOUT SITES AND EVENTS

- 2005 U.S. Gymnastics National Qualifiers
 - The 2005 Winter Cup Challenge will be conducted February 4-5, 2005, in Las Vegas, Nevada.
 - The 2005 U.S. Qualifier will be conducted June 25, 2005, in Colorado Springs, Colorado.
- 2005 Visa Championships – August 10 -13, 2005, in Indianapolis, Indiana
- The 2005 World Championships Team Selection Competition will be conducted October 5 – 9, 2005, in Colorado Spring, Colorado.

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VI. PUBLICITY/DISTRIBUTION OF PROCEDURES

Publication of USAG Executive Committee approved procedures will take place via the following distribution channels:

- Website: <http://www.usa-gymnastics.org/>
- Publication: *USA Gymnastics* magazine
- Email: direct email to 2005 Junior and Senior National Team athletes

VII. Coaches Selection

The named personal coach for each of the Individual World Championships team members, including the alternate(s), will be invited to participate at the Individual World Championships. Every effort will be made to cover all of the expenses of the personal coaches. However, in the event that the Men's Program Individual World Championships event budget does not make it possible to cover the expenses of each personal coach, the Men's Program Committee will determine which coaches will have all of their expenses covered. The remaining personal coaches may be responsible for all expenses associated with participation at the Individual World Championships should they choose to attend.

XI. INTERNATIONAL DISCLAIMER

These procedures are based on IOC and/or FIG rules and regulations as presently known and understood. Any change in the selection procedures caused by a change in IOC and/or FIG rules and regulations will be distributed to the affected athletes immediately. The selection criteria are based on the latest information available to USAG. However, the selections are always subject to unforeseen, intervening circumstances, and realistically have not accounted for every possible contingency.

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ATHLETE ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

These Selection Procedures have been reviewed and approved by USA Gymnastics. Each athlete and coach participating in the process for selecting the team as outlined in these Selection Procedures has carefully reviewed and understands the terms of these Procedures. That understanding is reflected by the signature of the athlete and coach on a copy of these Selection Procedures.

Coach name

Date

Athlete name

Date

Parent signature if athlete is 18 years or
younger

Date

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USA GYMNASTICS CODE OF ETHICS

I.

Introduction

The mission of USA Gymnastics is to encourage participation and the pursuit of excellence in all aspects of gymnastics. USA Gymnastics grants the privilege of membership to individuals and organizations committed to that mission. The privilege of membership may, therefore, be withdrawn by USA Gymnastics at any time where USA Gymnastics determines that a member's conduct is inconsistent with the mission of the organization or the best interest of the sport and those who participate in it.

In order to assist all members to better serve the interests of those who participate in gymnastics, USA Gymnastics has adopted the Ethical Code which follows. This Code is not intended to establish a set of rules that will, by inclusion or exclusion, prescribe the appropriate behavior for USA Gymnastics' members in every aspect of their participation in the sport. Rather, the Code offers general principles to guide the conduct and the judicious appraisal of conduct of all USA Gymnastics' members (including employees and agents of USA Gymnastics) in situations that have ethical implications.

This Code cannot further ethical conduct in the sport of gymnastics; that can only come from the personal commitment of the participants in the sport to behave ethically. This Code is offered instead to guide and to affirm the will of all of USA Gymnastics' members to safeguard the best interests of the sport by acting ethically at all times.

II.

Elements of the Code

A. Participant Relationships.

Members of USA Gymnastics are charged with the responsibility for contributing to an environment, which makes participation in the sport a positive and rewarding experience. In order to achieve that result, each professional member has a special obligation to make decisions based on the best interest of the athlete. It is inconsistent with this obligation for any member to:

1. Fail to follow the safety guidelines established by USA Gymnastics or otherwise knowingly subject a participant to unreasonable physical or emotional risk.

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2. Engage in conduct, which is unfair including, in particular, attempting to injure, disable or intentionally interfere with the preparation of a competitor.
3. Engage in conduct toward another participant in the sport, which is abusive. USA Gymnastics recognizes that the process for training and motivating athletes will vary with each coach and each athlete, but it is nevertheless incumbent on everyone involved in the sport to support the development and use of motivational and training methods which avoid conduct which is, or is likely to be perceived as being, abusive.
4. Discriminate in the provision of resources or opportunities to any member or prospective member on the basis of race, sex, creed, sexual orientation, age, national origin or mental or physical disability.
5. Attempt to intimidate, embarrass or improperly influence any individual responsible for judging or administering a competition.
6. Engage in business practices directed toward another member, which are determined by a court or other similar adjudicatory body to be unethical, illegal or a breach of contract.

B. Participation.

Any USA Gymnastics' activity or event should be open to any member properly qualified under the rules of that activity or event, and every member participating in a USA Gymnastics' activity or event has an obligation to participate to the best of their abilities. It is inconsistent with this obligation for any member to:

1. Restrict the ability of a member to qualify for or participate in competition because of the member's association with a particular organization or individual or because of that member's race, sex, creed, sexual orientation, age, national origin or mental or physical disability.
2. Participate as a judge, coach, athlete or administrator in any activity where that judge, coach or athlete is inadequately prepared, unable to participate or fails to participate to the best of his or her ability.
3. Engage in behavior, which is so disorderly or inappropriate as to interfere with the orderly conduct of the activity or other members' participation in, or enjoyment of, the activity.

C. Responsibility.

A member of USA Gymnastics has a responsibility to the sport of gymnastics and the rules and regulations, which govern it. It is inconsistent with this obligation for any member to:

1. Knowingly misrepresent the policies or actions of USA Gymnastics or its authorized representatives.

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2. Fail to resort in the first instance to the established procedures for challenging a competitive result, contesting a team selection decision, complaining about the conduct of another member, or attempting to reverse a policy adopted by USA Gymnastics.
3. Breach the duty to maintain appropriately established confidences of USA Gymnastics or its members.

D. Communication.

Members of USA Gymnastics have a duty to communicate honestly and openly with the organization and its members. It is inconsistent with this obligation for any member to:

1. Misrepresent competitive achievements, professional qualifications, education, experience, eligibility, criminal record or affiliations.
2. Knowingly disseminate false or misleading information about another member.
3. Withhold from athlete members information or resources likely to enhance the athletes' enjoyment of the sport or reduce their risk of injury or illness.
4. Fail to consult with or inform fully the athlete or the athlete's parents about opportunities made available to the athlete involving competitions, commercial activities or recognition.
5. Misrepresent the nature or extent of an injury in order to decline an invitation to participate in or withdraw from a competition assignment, training camp or other similar activity.
6. Misrepresent the nature or extent of an injury in order to participate in (or cause an athlete to participate in) a competition, training camp or other similar activity when such participation is inconsistent with the appropriate medical response to the injury.

E. Alcohol and Drug Abuse.

Members of USA Gymnastics must ensure that the sport is conducted in an environment free of drug or alcohol abuse. It is inconsistent with this obligation for any member to:

1. Use or provide to a third party any drug proscribed by applicable federal, state or municipal law.
2. Assist or condone any competing athlete's use of a drug banned by the International Olympic Committee, United States Olympic Committee, Federation Internationale de Gymnastique, USA Gymnastics, or National Collegiate Athletic Association, or, in the case of athlete members, to use such drugs or refuse to submit to properly conducted drug tests administered by one of those organizations.

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3. Provide alcohol to, or condone the use of alcohol by, minors, abuse alcohol in the presence of athlete members or at USA Gymnastics' activities or, in the case of athlete members, consume alcoholic beverages while a minor.

F. Criminal Conduct.

Members of USA Gymnastics are expected to comply with all applicable criminal codes. This obligation is violated by any member who has been convicted of or has entered a plea of guilty or no contest to a criminal charge or indictment involving sexual misconduct, child abuse, or conduct that is a violation of a law specifically designed to protect minors, and, depending on the nature of the crime, may be violated by any member who has been convicted of or has entered a plea of guilty or no contest to any felony charge or indictment involving conduct other than that specifically described above.

G. Sexual Misconduct.

Professional Members of USA Gymnastics must protect the integrity of the sport and the interests of the athletes they serve by avoiding sexual relationships with athletes except where the capacity and quality of the athlete's consent to enter that relationship is beyond question. It is inconsistent with this obligation for any member to:

1. Solicit or engage in sexual relations with any minor.
2. Engage in any behavior that utilizes the influence of a professional member's position as coach, judge or administrator to encourage sexual relations with an athlete.
3. Engage in sexual harassment by making unwelcome advances, requests for sexual favors or other verbal or physical conduct of a sexual nature where such conduct creates an intimidating, hostile or offensive environment.

H. Professional and Athletic Development.

Members of USA Gymnastics should strive to increase their level of proficiency and skill. To fulfill this obligation professional members should:

1. Participate in continuing education programs like the safety certification and professional development programs made available by USA Gymnastics.
2. Remain current on safety, health and training developments relevant to the sport and seek advice and counsel of colleagues and experts whenever such consultation is in the best interests of the athlete.

I. Conflict of Interest.

Members of USA Gymnastics are responsible for avoiding both actual and perceived conflicts of interest in the conduct of business on behalf of the organization. It is inconsistent with this obligation for any member to:

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1. Use, or be perceived as using, USA Gymnastics' properties, services, opportunities, authority or influence to gain private benefit.
2. Fail, as an employee, director, officer or committee member of USA Gymnastics, to complete an annual conflict of interest of form, or fail to complete that form accurately.
3. Incur expenses in furtherance of USA Gymnastics' business, which are unreasonable, unnecessary, or unsubstantiated.
4. Participate in the deliberation or decision making process about any issue for which the member has a direct financial interest.

III. Enforcement of Code

Compliance with this Code depends primarily upon understanding and voluntary compliance, secondarily upon reinforcement by peers, and, when necessary, upon enforcement through disciplinary action.

Any individual who believes that a member of USA Gymnastics has failed to meet his or her obligations under this Code is, under all but the most egregious circumstances, encouraged to first address that concern directly to that member. If that action does not result in a satisfactory resolution, the individual may file a written complaint with the President, program director or other appropriate staff member of USA Gymnastics. That complaint must be signed and must state specifically the nature of the alleged misconduct. Upon review of the complaint and, where appropriate, additional discussions with the complainant and/or member who is the subject of the complaint, the President may:

1. Determine that the complaint does not merit further action,
2. Counsel the member who is the subject of the complaint and record both the complaint and the nature of the counseling in the member's permanent record,
3. Refer the complaint, as appropriate, to the state or regional chairs/committees or affiliated organization, or
4. Process the complaint under the member misconduct or grievance procedures of USA Gymnastics' Bylaws.