

2009 Artistic Individual Event and All Around World Championships Men's Team Selection Procedures

I. SELECTION SYSTEM

A. Selection for the 2009 Individual Event and All Around World Championships Team

Athletes may qualify for the 2009 World Championships team in one of two ways:

1. Be one of the six gymnasts chosen by the World Championships Team Selection Committee as defined in Section II (C) from among the competitors at the 2009 Visa Championships.
2. Petition to the 2009 World Championships Team through the petition process identified in Section III.

B. An athlete may qualify to participate in the 2009 Visa Championships by the following methods:

1. An athlete may qualify to participate in the 2009 Visa Championships through USA Gymnastics approved qualifying competition(s).
2. The 2009 Senior National Team Members from the 2009 Winter Cup Challenge will automatically qualify to participate in the 2009 Visa Championships.
3. The top 3 all-around athletes and top ranked athlete on each event that are U.S. citizens from the 2009 NCAA Championships will automatically qualify to participate in the 2009 Visa Championships.
4. A specified number of athletes participating in 2009 U.S. Qualifier, using the MPC approved Points System will also qualify to participate in the 2009 Visa Championships. The number of athletes and the Point System will be published a minimum of 45 days prior to the start of the 2009 U.S. Qualifier.
5. The top 2 two gymnasts on each event in the individual event final rankings at the 2009 U.S. Qualifier will also qualify to participate in the 2009 Visa Championships.
6. Athletes may also petition to the 2009 Visa Championships (see Section III).
7. The Men's Program Committee reserves the right to invite any athlete on any event competing at the 2009 U.S. Qualifier to participate in the 2009 Visa Championships.

II. DISCRETIONARY SELECTIONS

Discretionary selections for 2009 World Championships Team will be handled by the World Championships Selection Committee at the World Championships Team Selection Camp.

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- A. World Championships Selection Committee composition:
 1. USA Gymnastics Men's Program Director, Dennis McIntyre
 2. Chairman, Men's Program Committee¹, Yoichi Tomita
 3. 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 2009 World Championships Team
 5. Athlete Representative², TBD.

- B. World Championships Team Selection Committee Roles and Responsibilities:
 1. Selection of the six 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 can not compete due to injury, illness, or other circumstances that would necessitate replacement.
 4. Accept or reject petitions onto the 2009 World Team (see Section III).

- C. Process for selection of the six 2009 World Championships Team members.
 1. Athletes will be chosen from among the 2009 Visa Championship competitors 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 2009 World Championships Team Selection Committee will consider the following factors when selecting the six World Team members and potential replacement athletes:
 - a. The Final Results will be determined using all results from the 2009 Visa Championships. The results from Day 1 will be added to the results of Day 2 to determine the final results from the 2009 Visa Championships. An athlete who is not able to complete the 2009 Visa Championships must submit a petition to be considered for the 2009 World Team.
 - b. An evaluation of how competitive an athlete would be for an individual event medal at the World Championships, based on a review of international competition in 2009, in order to maximize the medal potential for the US team. This comparison will take into account:
 - i. The percentage of hit routines by the gymnast at the 2009 Visa Championships.

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

² This athlete meets the definition of active athlete representative

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- ii. Start values (D Score) on each apparatus from the 2009 Visa Championships.
 - iii. Execution (E Score) on each apparatus from the 2009 Visa Championships
 - c. Points ranking system derived from the 2009 Visa Championships competitive results. The points ranking system will be published no less than 45 days prior to the 2009 National Qualifier.
 - d. Past domestic and international performance and experience including type, frequency and level of domestic and international competitions and routine hit percentage in those events.
 - e. Demonstrated professional attitude and ability to positively contribute to the team dynamic.
 - f. Any physical, training or performance factor which might inhibit peak performance at the 2009 World Championships.
5. The 2009 World Championships Team Selection Committee will consider the information noted in number 4 above in the following prioritized manner.
 - a. The results from the 2009 Visa Championships.
 - b. The evaluation of how competitive an athlete would be for an individual event medal in order to maximize the medal potential for the US team with six athletes within the potential for fourteen competitive positions.
 - c. The remaining factors, the points ranking system, past domestic and international experience and other factors as listed above will be considered by the committee only in the event that a final decision identifying the team members cannot be reached using the competition results, start values and execution factors.

III. PETITIONS

- A. Petition Rights: USA Gymnastics will allow athletes to petition USA Gymnastics for the right to:
 1. Enter the 2009 Visa Championships (as considered by the Men's Program Committee).
 2. To be selected to the 2009 World Championships Team, as determined by the World Championships Team Selection Committee.
- B. Petition Procedures and Requirements
 1. Only athletes who meet the following criteria may submit a petition:
 - A petition to enter the 2009 Visa Championships may be submitted by any athlete.
 - A petition directly to the 2009 World Championships Team may only be submitted by an athlete who was an Olympic or World Team member in the years 2007 or 2008 or by an athlete who has

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participated in and qualified to the finals in a least one FIG World Cup Event in 2008 or 2009.

2. Petitions to the 2009 Visa Championships will be considered for approval by the Men's Program Committee and must be received by the Men's Program Director no later than July 14, 2009.
3. Petitions directly to the 2009 World Team will be considered for approval by the 2009 World Championships Selection Committee. In order to be considered by the 2009 World Team Selection Committee, petitions onto the 2009 World Team must be submitted in writing to USA Gymnastics' national office as soon as practical after the athlete becomes aware of his inability to participate in the applicable competition and no later than the conclusion of competition at the 2009 Visa Championships.
4. A 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 detailing the extent of the injury or illness as well as the prognosis for recovery. The nature and extent of that injury or illness is subject to verification by one or more doctors selected by USA Gymnastics. Athletes must also be able to demonstrate through past competitive results from USA Gymnastics or FIG sanctioned events that they are highly competitive in the field with other athletes qualified for the 2009 Visa Championships.
5. An athlete who successfully petitions to the 2009 World Team will be required to demonstrate readiness a minimum of 21 days prior to the start of competition at the World Championships. The criteria for demonstrating readiness are:
 - The Selection Committee will inform the athlete on which events he must show readiness and the athlete must perform full routines on the specified events.
 - All of the athlete's routines will be evaluated, at a minimum, by the National Team Coordinator and one judge who participated as a judge at the 2009 Visa Championships.
 - The Selection Committee will use the scores and evaluations from the routines the athlete performed in his show of readiness and apply the selection criteria described in 2 (C) to assess whether the athlete would have been named to the World Team.
 - If the Selection Committee determines that the athlete's performance is not at the level necessary to remain on the World Team, then the athlete will not have shown readiness and will be removed from the World Team.
 - Replacement of the athlete will follow the guidelines described in Section IV.

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IV. REPLACEMENT PROCEDURES

An athlete or coach may be replaced on the 2009 World Championships Team for the following reasons:

- Voluntary withdrawal. Athlete must submit a written letter to the USA Gymnastics CEO/Executive Director.
- Injury or illness as certified by a USA Gymnastics physician (or medical staff). If an athlete refuses verification of their illness or injury by a USA Gymnastics physician (or medical staff), their injury will be assumed to be disabling and they may be removed.
- Violation of the USA Gymnastics Code of Ethics.
- Lack of performance in training which inhibits peak performance at the 2009 World Championships.
- Failure to show readiness in the case of a petitioned athlete as described in III (B).
- Removal may only occur by action of the President of USA Gymnastics. In the case of an athlete removal may only occur after consultation with the Men's Program Director and an MPC Athlete Representative, and an interview with the athlete and his coach. Any decision to remove an athlete or coach is subject to review through USA Gymnastics Grievance Procedures.

V. TRYOUT SITES AND EVENTS

2009 U.S. Gymnastics National Qualifiers

- The 2009 NCAA Championships will be conducted April 16-18, Minneapolis, MN.
- The 2009 U.S. Qualifier will be conducted on or about July 11, 2009, at the United States Olympic Training Center in Colorado Springs, CO.
- 2009 Visa Championships – August 12 - 15, 2009, in Dallas, Texas

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/>
- Email: direct email to 2009 Junior and Senior National Team athletes

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VII. Coaches Selection

The named personal coach for each of the Individual World Championships team members, including any traveling alternate(s), will be invited to attend 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 World Championships Selection Committee will determine which coaches will have all of their expenses covered. The remaining personal coaches may be responsible for all expenses associated with attending the Individual World Championships should they choose to attend.

In addition, coaches who attend are not guaranteed that they will be a part of the officially accredited delegation for the World Championships. The number of credentials available for the World Team delegation is limited and controlled by the FIG. Decisions regarding credentials will be made by the World Team Selection Committee.

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 USA Gymnastics. 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