

SECTION IV: NATIONAL TEAM AND INTERNATIONAL DELEGATION

New additions are highlighted

I. National Team Policies

RESPONSIBILITIES OF GYMNASTS SELECTED FOR THE USA GYMNASTICS NATIONAL TEAM

The following list of responsibilities of gymnasts selected for the National Team is provided to (1) better promote the sport of gymnastics and the performances of National Team members, (2) ensure that all members of the National Team are subject to the same responsibilities, and (3) provide National Team members with notice of those requirements in advance of their participation on the National Team.

For the reasons stated above, all gymnasts selected to USA Gymnastics' National Team are expected to:

- A. Participate in required training camps for the duration of the camp and adhere to training schedules and other details related to training as determined by USA Gymnastics, Men's Program Director, Senior National Team Coordinator, the Team Head Coach and/or manager. Any exceptions to this rule require the advance approval of USA Gymnastics.
- B. Meet all prescribed guidelines of appearance for any USA Gymnastics sponsored trip or competition, including competitive apparel, travel apparel, personal appearance (including clothing and hair), the wearing of emblems and the carrying of gymnasium type bags. Variations in training apparel and shoes, competitive apparel, warm-up suits, shirts, or emblems, are not allowed. Team members should not bring along non-uniform items **for training or competition** unless instructed to do so by the Head Coach and Team Manager. Violation of team uniform or travel dress code will be cause for dismissal from such a team.
- C. Have in their possession a valid and current passport and be prepared to notify the team head coach, manager and Men's Program Director of their passport number, place of issue as well as the place and date of issue. Gymnasts must have in their possession current passport style photos, for use in visa applications, when required.
- D. Meet all travel schedules. An athlete may only change travel arrangements with USA Gymnastics' National Office approval. The athlete will assume any additional costs resulting from changes made from scheduled travel itineraries.
- E. Behave at all times in a manner consistent with their status as representatives of the United States and USA Gymnastics. Gymnasts are expected to make every effort to cooperate with fellow gymnasts and team officials, international officials, foreigners, **Local Organizing Committees**, and other persons (i.e., hotel clerks, etc.). Complaints, of any type, must be made initially to the Head Coach and/or Team Manager. In no case, will a gymnast speak directly (other than socially) to a judge, official or FIG official unless so requested by that individual.

II. Duties and Responsibilities of Coaches, Delegation Leaders and Judges for International Competitions

All assignments for gymnasts, coaches, delegation leaders and judges, as recommended by the MPC, must have final approval of the USA Gymnastics' president.

A. **GENERAL DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF COACHES** – Specific duties are outlined in the MPC approved Men's Program International Procedures Manual (D. below).

1. The Head Coach shall be responsible for the performance, training, health, uniforms and appearance (including travel clothing) of all gymnasts.
2. The Head Coach shall be responsible for the personal conduct of all team members and shall rigorously enforce the National Team Policies. "Conduct," in this sense, is not limited to conduct during travel, training, formal and informal gatherings, and competition. It also includes dress and personal appearance at all times.
3. The Head Coach shall instruct the gymnasts about the requirements of the National Team policies, including appearance, conduct and adherence to schedules.
4. The Head Coach and Senior National Team Coordinator shall recommend any disciplinary action they deem appropriate, including dismissing a gymnast from the team, to the Delegation Leader. In the absence of a Delegation Leader, the Head Coach shall be responsible for disciplinary action.
5. The Head Coach shall submit a written report to USA Gymnastics' National Office no later than ten (10) days after the conclusion of the trip or event. The report shall include the complete results of the event, input on new skills and techniques, pertinent details regarding travel, housing, training and competition arrangements, personal conduct, and any problems encountered. The report shall also include any recommendations for future events and personal observations the coach may have.
6. In the absence of a designated Team Manager, the Head Coach is also responsible for the following duties:
 - a. All athletes reaching their assigned destinations regardless of the coach's personal travel itinerary.
 - b. Financial responsibility for any emergency situations that may arise in route to and from competitions and exhibitions.
 - c. Accountability for all emergency funds provided to him by the USA Gymnastics' National Office.

B. **DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE DELEGATION LEADER**

The Delegation Leader selected for any team tour, competition or exhibition in this nation or abroad shall perform the following duties:

1. USA Gymnastics' National Office shall initiate all arrangements for all passports, visas, shot records, and other necessary travel documents. The Delegation Leader shall be responsible for follow-up and completion of such documents.
2. Travel arrangements are made only through USA Gymnastics' National Office. This includes tickets, departure dates, flights, etc. Through coordination with the National Office, the Delegation Leader shall be aware of all travel arrangements and assure himself that all gymnasts involved are aware of the schedules, have the proper tickets, passports, visas, shot cards and other necessary travel documents in their possession at all times.
3. In accordance with USA Gymnastics National Office direction, the Delegation Leader shall assume responsibility for per diem, meals and any incidental costs.
4. The Delegation Leader shall, from USA Gymnastics' National Office, secure the pins, decals, or uniform emblems necessary for the trip. He shall request such items well in advance of the departure date.
5. The Delegation Leader shall submit a final written report to USA Gymnastics' National Office no later than ten (10) days following the conclusion of the tour or event. The report will evaluate travel, housing, cooperation in preparation by gymnasts, coaches, finances, etc. This report should also include any general or personal observations the Delegation Leader may have.

6. The Delegation Leader shall obtain all schedules, competition results and other information provided by the organizing committee and submit this information in the final report.

C. DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF JUDGES

The judges selected for any team tour, competition or exhibition in this nation or abroad shall perform the following duties:

1. If assigned by the USA Gymnastics' National Office Act as Delegation Leader, assume all the listed duties of Delegation Leader in addition to his duties as a judge.
2. Be present at all workouts to score and critique any exercises that the Head Coach requests. The information provided by the judge should be that which is requested by the Head Coach.
3. Be present at all technical meetings, take all required courses, and protect the team's interest at all such meetings. Impart all decisions of these meetings to the Head Coach and the team.
4. The Judge will not act independently of the team. He must work closely with the coach and attend all team meetings and briefings.
5. All International, National, and Junior Olympic certified judges must hold a safety certification, background check and be professional members of the USA Gymnastics' Men's Program.
6. The judge(s) shall submit a final written report to USA Gymnastics' National Office no later than ten (10) days following the conclusion of the tour or event.

D. National Team Procedures Manual

The National Team Procedures manual explains policies regarding international event preparation, team schedules, lineup determination and the duties of all delegation members in greater detail. National Team members and their coaches will receive a procedures manual and should review the material carefully.