

# **Acrobatic Gymnastics Selection Procedures**

**Dated Dec. 21, 2011**

|                       | <b>Page #</b> |
|-----------------------|---------------|
| 11-16 Age Group Team: | 2-4           |
| Junior National Team: | 5-7           |
| Senior National Team: | 8-10          |



## **Acrobatic Gymnastics Selection Procedures 11-16 Age Group Team**

### **I. Overview**

- A. These are the selection procedures for the 11-16 AGE GROUP TEAM
- B. Athletes may qualify for the 11-16 AGE GROUP TEAM in one of the following ways:
  - i. Rank first at the Acro Cup as defined in Section III below;
  - ii. Be selected from competition at the Acro Cup according to criteria defined in Section IV below;
  - iii. Successfully petition onto the 11-16 AGE GROUP TEAM through the process set forth in Section IV.
  - iv. The Acrobatic Gymnastics Program Committee reserves the right to select additional pair/groups for the 11-16 AGE GROUP TEAM at designated events throughout the season. The criteria for selection will be based on the same criteria as listed in section IV.
- C. The selection of the athletes to the 11-16 AGE GROUP TEAM will be made by the Acrobatic Gymnastics Athlete Selection Committee with final approval from the USA Gymnastics President.
- D. Pair/Groups must meet FIG 11-16 Age Criteria.
- E. The composition of the 11-16 AGE GROUP TEAM may include pair/groups from each event (Women's Pair, Men's Pair, Mixed Pair, Women's Group, and Men's Group). Athlete Selection Committee is not obligated to select pair/groups in all events or age categories.
- F. An athlete may be named to the 11-16 AGE GROUP TEAM in multiple events (i.e. Men's Pair and Men's Group). However, this athlete will not receive duplicate benefits. (Note: the FIG imposes restrictions in international competition regarding participation in multiple events.)
- G. Only athletes who are United States citizens may be named to the 11-16 AGE GROUP TEAM. USA Gymnastics will verify citizenship before naming the team.
- H. Positions on the 11-16 AGE GROUP TEAM do not carry ranking.
- I. They must compete at the Acro Cup and follow the selection process outlined in Section IV.

### **II. Qualification to participate at the Acro Cup Championships.**

- A. The pair/group must meet the requirements to participate as Level 8, according to the rules published in *Acrobatic Gymnastics Rules and Policies*.

### **III. Selection criteria for the 11-16 AGE GROUP TEAM will be as follows:**

- A. The pair/group with the highest score per event (i.e. Women's Pairs, Men's Pair, Mixed Pairs, Women's Group, Men's Group), determined by the cumulative score from the Acro Cup Championships, will automatically be placed on the 11-16 AGE GROUP TEAM, provided they have met the target difficulty requirements defined in below. If target difficulty is not met, the pair/group is not eligible for automatic placement on the 11-16 AGE GROUP TEAM, but may still be considered by the Athlete Selection Committee for selection to the team.
- B. Scores and performances from the Acro Cup or other designated event:
  - i. Scores and ranking will be considered:
  - ii. Elements performed will be considered:
    - 1. The types of elements and difficulty of elements performed;
    - 2. Total exercise difficulty will be compared against the target difficulty. Target difficulty is the difficulty score before CJP deductions.
      - a. 11-16 AGE GROUP TEAM 11-16: Target difficulty is set at full difficulty value 10.00 for balance and dynamic exercises.
  - iii. Artistry and presentation will be considered:
    - 1. Presentation ranking by the Acrobatic Gymnastics Athlete Selection Committee members;
    - 2. Presentation ranking criteria will include but is not limited to the artistic judging criteria listed in Section 10.0 of the *FIG Acrobatic Gymnastics Code of Points*.
  - iv. Overall performance and international caliber.

### **IV. Petitions**

- A. Petitions to enter the Acro Cup if injury, illness, or unforeseen circumstances keep athletes from fully participating in the qualification process must follow the rules outlined in *Acrobatic Gymnastics Rules and Policies*, Section 8.
- B. For a petition onto the 11-16 AGE GROUP TEAM to be considered by the Acrobatic Gymnastics Program Committee, it must be submitted in writing to the Acrobatic Gymnastics Program Director and meet the following requirements:
  - i. A pair/group who fully participates in the process described above is not eligible to submit a petition;
  - ii. A petition must be submitted to the Acrobatic Gymnastics Program Director as soon as possible after the pair/group becomes aware of the inability to participate in the process described above, but no later than the conclusion of the Acro Cup Championships competition;
  - iii. Petitions will be considered for injury, illness, or unforeseen circumstances:
    - 1. The petition must state the date and nature of the injury, illness or unforeseen circumstance that prohibited the pair/group from participating in the competitive selection process;
    - 2. In the case of a petition based upon 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 a physician selected by USA Gymnastics.

3. Additional documentation may also be requested to verify unforeseen circumstances.
- v. Pair/groups submitting petitions are considered by the Program Committee after selection decisions regarding pair/groups that have fully competed in the selection process.

**V. Team Obligations**

- A. Athletes must attend the presentation of the 11-16 AGE GROUP TEAM and the 11-16 AGE GROUP TEAM Meeting. Failure to attend both may interrupt placement on the team;
- B. Athletes selected to the 11-16 AGE GROUP TEAM will remain on the team until the following Acro Cup 11-16 AGE GROUP TEAM or until a partnership change or retirement occurs. Coaches are requested to promptly notify the Acrobatic Gymnastics Program Director of changes in partnership status which may affect the pair/groups standing on the 11-16 AGE GROUP TEAM and/or ability to compete. This may include, but is not limited to, the retirement of athletes, changes in partnerships, injuries, etc.

**VI. Removal** - A pair/group may be removed from the 11-16 AGE GROUP TEAM if any of the members of the pair/group violate the USA Gymnastics Code of Ethics, the USA Gymnastics Participant Welfare Policy, or the 11-16 AGE GROUP TEAM Funding and Support Agreement. Any decision to remove an athlete is subject to review through the USA Gymnastics Grievance Procedures.

**VII. Alternates have priority to attend training camp over athletes named to the team that are in new partnerships.**

**VIII. Athletes named to the National Team that are place in new partnerships may attend training camps as the National Team Training Plan allows. They will not be guaranteed a spot.**

**IX. Approval of the Selection Procedures** - These Selection Procedures have been reviewed and approved by the Acrobatic Gymnastics Program Committee.



## **Acrobatic Gymnastics Selection Procedures Junior National Team**

### **I. Overview**

- A. These are the selection procedures for the Junior National Team (12-19)
- B. Athletes may qualify for the JNT in one of the following ways:
  - i. Rank first at the Acro Cup Championships as defined in Section III below;
  - ii. Successfully petition onto the JNT through the process set forth in Section IV.
  - iii. The Acrobatic Gymnastics Program Committee reserves the right to select additional pair/groups for the JNT at designated events throughout the season. The criteria for selection will be based on the same criteria as listed in section III.
- C. The selection of the athletes to the JNT will be made by the Acrobatic Gymnastics Athlete Selection Committee with final approval from the USA Gymnastics President.
- D. Pair/Groups must meet FIG 12-19 Age Criteria.
- E. The composition of the JNT may include pair/groups from each event (Women's Pair, Men's Pair, Mixed Pair, Women's Group, and Men's Group) . The Athlete Selection Committee is not obligated to select pair/groups in all events or age categories.
- F. An athlete may be named to the JNT in multiple events (i.e. Men's Pair and Men's Group). However, this athlete will not receive duplicate benefits. (Note: the FIG imposes restrictions in international competition regarding participation in multiple events.)
- G. Only athletes who are United States citizens may be named to the JNT. USA Gymnastics will verify citizenship before naming the team.
- H. Positions on the JNT do not carry ranking.

### **I. Qualification to participate at the Acro Cup Championships.**

- A. The pair/group must meet the requirements to participate as Junior Elite, according to the rules published in *Acrobatic Gymnastics Rules and Policies*.

### **II. Selection criteria for the JNT will be as follows:**

- A. The pair/group with the highest score per event (i.e. Women's Pairs, Men's Pair, Mixed Pairs, Women's Group, Men's Group), determined by the cumulative score from the Acrobatics Gymnastics National Championships, will automatically be placed on the JNT, provided they have met the target difficulty requirements defined in below. If target difficulty is not met, the pair/group is not eligible for automatic placement on the JNT, but may still be considered by the Athlete Selection Committee for selection to the team.
- B. Scores and performances from the Acro Cup or other designated event:

- i. Scores and ranking will be considered:
- ii. Elements performed will be considered:
  - 1. The types of elements and difficulty of elements performed;
  - 2. Total exercise difficulty will be compared against the target difficulty. Target difficulty is the difficulty score before CJP deductions.
    - a. JNT 12-19: Target difficulty is set at V110 for balance, V80 for dynamic, and V110 for combined exercises.
- iii. Artistry and presentation will be considered:
  - 1. Presentation ranking by the Acrobatic Gymnastics Athlete Selection Committee members;
  - 2. Presentation ranking criteria will include but is not limited to the artistic judging criteria listed in Section 10.0 of the FIG Acrobatic Gymnastics Code of Points.
- iv. Overall performance and international caliber.

### **III. Petitions**

- A. Petitions to enter the Acro Cup if injury, illness, or unforeseen circumstances keep athletes from fully participating in the qualification process must follow the rules outlined in *Acrobatic Gymnastics Rules and Policies*, Section 8.
- B. For a petition onto the JNT to be considered by the Acrobatic Gymnastics Program Committee, it must be submitted in writing to the Acrobatic Gymnastics Program Director and meet the following requirements:
  - i. A pair/group who fully participates in the process described above is not eligible to submit a petition;
  - ii. A petition must be submitted to the Acrobatic Gymnastics Program Director as soon as possible after the pair/group becomes aware of the inability to participate in the process described above, but no later than the conclusion of the National Championships competition;
  - iii. Petitions will be considered for injury, illness, or unforeseen circumstances:
    - 1. The petition must state the date and nature of the injury, illness or unforeseen circumstance that prohibited the pair/group from participating in the competitive selection process;
    - 2. In the case of a petition based upon 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 a physician selected by USA Gymnastics.
    - 3. Additional documentation may also be requested to verify unforeseen circumstances.
  - iv. Pair/groups submitting petitions are considered by the Program Committee after selection decisions regarding pair/groups that have fully competed in the selection process.

### **IV. Team Obligations**

- A. Athletes must attend the presentation of the JNT and the JNT Meeting. Failure to attend both may interrupt placement on the team;

- B. Athletes must read and sign the USA Gymnastics Acrobatic Gymnastics JNT Funding and Support Agreement before they are officially members of the team;
  - C. Athletes selected to the JNT will remain on the team until the following Acro Cup selection of the JNT or until a partnership change or retirement occurs. Coaches are requested to promptly notify the Acrobatic Gymnastics Program Director of changes in partnership status which may affect the pair/groups standing on the JNT and/or ability to compete. This may include, but is not limited to, the retirement of athletes, changes in partnerships, injuries, etc.
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- X. **Removal** - A pair/group may be removed from the JNT if any of the members of the pair/group violate the USA Gymnastics Code of Ethics, the USA Gymnastics Participant Welfare Policy, or the JNT Funding and Support Agreement. Any decision to remove an athlete is subject to review through the USA Gymnastics Grievance Procedures.
  - XI. **Alternates have priority to attend training camp over athletes named to the team that are in new partnerships.**
  - XII. **Athletes named to the National Team that are place in new partnerships may attend training camps as the National Team Training Plan allows. They will not be guaranteed a spot.**
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- V. **Approval of the Selection Procedures** - These Selection Procedures have been reviewed and approved by the Acrobatic Gymnastics Program Committee.



## **Acrobatic Gymnastics Selection Procedures Senior National Team**

### **I. Overview**

- A. Athletes may qualify for the Senior National Team (SNT) in one of the following ways:
  - i. Rank first at the Acro Cup as defined in Section IV below;
  - ii. Be selected from competition at the Acro Cup according to criteria defined in Section III below;
  - v. Successfully petition onto the SNT through the process set forth in Section IV.
  - vi. The Acrobatic Gymnastics Program Committee reserves the right to select additional pair/groups for the SNT at designated events throughout the season. The criteria for selection will be based on the same criteria as listed in section III.
- B. The selection of the athletes to the SNT will be made by the Acrobatic Gymnastics Athlete Selection Committee with final approval from the USA Gymnastics President.
- C. Pair Groups must meet Senior Elite FIG Age Criteria.
- D. The composition of the SNT may include pair/groups from each event (Women's Pair, Men's Pair, Mixed Pair, Women's Group, and Men's Group). The Athlete Selection Committee is not obligated to select pair/groups in all events.
- E. An athlete may be named to the SNT in multiple events (i.e. Men's Pair and Men's Group). However, this athlete will not receive duplicate benefits. (Note: the FIG imposes restrictions in international competition regarding participation in multiple events.)
- F. Only athletes who are United States citizens may be named to the SNT. USA Gymnastics will verify citizenship before naming the team.
- G. Positions on the SNT do not carry ranking.

### **II. Qualification to participate at the Acro Cup Championships.**

- A. The pair/group must meet the requirements to participate as Senior Elite, according to the rules published in *Acrobatic Gymnastics Rules and Policies*.

### **III. Selection criteria for the SNT will be as follows:**

- A. The pair/group with the highest score per event (i.e. Women's Pairs, Men's Pair, Mixed Pairs, Women's Group, Men's Group), determined by the cumulative score from the balance, dynamic, and combined exercises as performed at the Acrobatics Gymnastics National Championships, will automatically be placed on the SNT, provided they have met the target difficulty requirements defined below. If target difficulty is not met, the pair/group is not eligible for automatic placement on the SNT, but may still be considered by the Athlete Selection Committee for selection to the team.
- B. Scores and performances from the Acro Cup or other designated event:
  - i. Scores and ranking will be considered:
  - ii. Elements performed will be considered:
    - 1. The types of elements and difficulty of elements performed;
    - 2. Target difficulty is set at V130 = 9.70 for balance, V115 = 9.50 for dynamic, and V175 = 9.95 Preliminary for combined exercises. Total exercise difficulty will be compared against the target difficulty. Target difficulty is the difficulty score before CJP deductions.
  - iii. Artistry and presentation will be considered:
    - 1. Presentation ranking by the Acrobatic Gymnastics Athlete Selection Committee members;
    - 2. Presentation ranking criteria will include but is not limited to the artistic judging criteria listed in Section 10.0 of the *FIG Acrobatic Gymnastics Specifications*.
  - iv. Overall performance and international caliber.

### **IV. Petitions**

- A. Petitions to enter the Acro Cup if injury, illness, or unforeseen circumstances keep athletes from fully participating in the qualification process must follow the rules outlined in *Acrobatic Gymnastics Rules and Policies*, Section 8.
- B. For a petition onto the SNT to be considered by the Acrobatic Gymnastics Program Committee, it must be submitted in writing to the Acrobatic Gymnastics Program Director and meet the following requirements:
  - i. A pair/group who fully participates in the process described above is not eligible to submit a petition;
  - ii. A petition must be submitted to the Acrobatic Gymnastics Program Director as soon as possible after the pair/group becomes aware of the inability to participate in the process described above, but no later than the conclusion of the Acro Cup competition;
  - iii. Petitions will be considered for injury, illness, or unforeseen circumstances:

1. The petition must state the date and nature of the injury, illness or unforeseen circumstance that prohibited the pair/group from participating in the competitive selection process;
  2. In the case of a petition based upon 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 a physician selected by USA Gymnastics.
  3. Additional documentation may also be requested to verify unforeseen circumstances.
- iv. Pair/groups submitting petitions are considered by the Program Committee after selection decisions regarding pair/groups that have fully competed in the selection process.

**V. Team Obligations**

- A. Athletes must attend the presentation of the SNT and the SNT Meeting. Failure to attend both may interrupt placement on the team;
- B. Athletes must read and sign the USA Gymnastics Acrobatic Gymnastics SNT Funding and Support Agreement before they are officially members of the team;
- C. Athletes selected to the SNT will remain on the team until the selection of the SNT or until a partnership change or retirement occurs. Coaches are requested to promptly notify the Acrobatic Gymnastics Program Director of changes in partnership status which may affect the pair/groups standing on the SNT and/or ability to compete. This may include, but is not limited to, the retirement of athletes, changes in partnerships, injuries, etc.

**XIII. Removal - A pair/group may be removed from the SNT if any of the members of the pair/group violate the USA Gymnastics Code of Ethics, the USA Gymnastics Participant Welfare Policy, or the SNT Funding and Support Agreement. Any decision to remove an athlete is subject to review through the USA Gymnastics Grievance Procedures.**

**XIV. Alternates have priority to attend training camp over athletes named to the team that are in new partnerships.**

**XV. Athletes named to the National Team that are place in new partnerships may attend training camps as the National Team Training Plan allows. They will not be guaranteed a spot.**

**VI. Approval of the Selection Procedures - These Selection Procedures have been reviewed and approved by the Acrobatic Gymnastics Program Committee.**