

**2009 TRAMPOLINE & TUMBLING
WORLD AGE-GROUP TEAM
SELECTION PROCEDURES
St. Petersburg, Russia**

I. OVERVIEW

- A. Per the FIG Technical Regulations, the Trampoline & Tumbling Delegation for the 2009 World Age-Group Competition will be comprised of a maximum of four women and four men for each age-group (11-12, 13-14, 15-16 and 17-18) in individual trampoline, power tumbling and double-mini trampoline and two women's pairs and two men's pairs for synchronized trampoline.
- B. For all disciplines, the athletes selected to the 2009 World Age-Group Team must be 11 – 18 years of age in 2009.
- C. Three coaches will be named for each discipline, a head coach, an assistant head coach and an assistant coach for individual trampoline/synchronized trampoline, power tumbling and double-mini trampoline. One of the nine coaches will be named as the Coaching Coordinator for the event.
- D. International Gymnastics Federation rules limit the total team size for each country to 80 athletes. Consequently, if these selection procedures cause 81 or more athletes to be named to the team, the Selection Committee will narrow the field to 80 athletes.

II. 2009 WORLD AGE-GROUP TEAM

- A. The U.S.A. World Age-Group Team is the team that will officially represent the United States at the 2009 World Age-Group Competition in St. Petersburg, Russia in November, 2009. The following sets forth the procedures for the selection of the team:
 - 1. Eligibility
 - a. Must be a United States citizen.
 - b. Must be 11 – 18 years of age in 2009.
 - c. Must be a USA Gymnastics member in good standing.
 - d. Must be currently competing as Level 10, Junior Elite or Senior Elite.
 - 2. Selection
 - a. Members of the 2009 Senior National Team, who are 17 – 18 years of age and were not named to the World Championships Team, automatically qualify by rank order to the World Age-Group Team.
 - b. The athletes ranked 1st and 2nd from the Final Selection Event in September, 2009 automatically qualify to the World Age-Group Team. Exception: The number of 17 – 18 year old age-group team members selected is dependent upon the number of athletes from 2.(a).
 - c. Following the completion of the Final Selection Event, the Selection Committee may add two athletes for each age-group, discipline and gender to the World Age-Group Team. The committee may only select athletes who competed at the Final Selection Event.
 - 3. To be eligible to compete at the Final Selection Event, athletes must qualify to and compete at J. O. or Visa Championships and must qualify to the Final Selection Event using one of the following methods.
 - a. Be a current member of the 2009-10 Junior National Team named at the 2009 Visa Championships
- OR
- b. Qualify at the Winter Classic, U. S. Elite Challenge or the Visa / J. O. Championships in the Level 10 or Junior Elite competition.
 - 1) For all competitions, Junior Elite scores will be separated into the appropriate age-groups. (e.g. The top two 13-14 year old Junior Elite boys in each discipline will qualify to the Final Selection Event.)
 - 2) For the Winter Classic and the U. S. Elite Challenge, Level 10 scores will be separated into the appropriate age-groups. (e.g. The top two 13-14 year old Level 10 boys in each discipline will qualify to the Final Selection Event.)
 - 3) Since the Level 10 athletes at the J. O. Championships are competing in the appropriate age-groups, the only exception will be in the 17 & over age-group as only 17-18 year old athletes are eligible to qualify to the Final Selection Event.

- c. Only athletes meeting the qualification criteria will qualify to the Final Selection Event. e.g. If the same athlete finishes second in their age group at the Winter Classic and the U. S. Elite Challenge, the third place athlete at the U S. Elite Challenge will not qualify to the Final Selection Event.
 - d. Petition, using the procedures in VI. Petitions.
4. Qualifiers to the Final Selection Event:

Place (per age-group & level)	Winter Classic	U.S. Elite Challenge	J. O. Championships	Visa Championships
1	Q	Q	Q	Q
2	Q	Q	Q	Q
3			Q	Q
4			Q	Q

- 5. If a member of the World Age-Group Team is unable to travel to Russia for any reason, the Selection Committee will determine if an additional athlete will be invited. The athlete must have competed at the Final Selection Event.

III. FINAL SELECTION EVENT COMPETITION RULES

- A. FIG World Age-Group rules will be used with the following exceptions:
 - 1. Finals will not start from 0. The total score will be determined by adding the preliminary and finals scores together.
 - 2. All athletes will advance to finals, regardless of ranking or score.

IV. SELECTION OF THE 2009 WORLD AGE-GROUP COACHES

- A. Three coaches will be named for each discipline, a head coach, an assistant head coach and an assistant coach for individual trampoline/synchronized trampoline, power tumbling and double mini-trampoline. One of the nine coaches will be named as the Coaching Coordinator for the event.
- B. The Program Committee will select the coaches immediately following the Final Selection Event.
- C. Criteria:
 - 1. International Experience
 - 2. Technical knowledge
 - 3. Rapport with athletes
 - 4. Proven leadership ability
 - 5. Professional member in compliance with the USA Gymnastics Code of Ethics and the Responsibilities Manual.

V. SELECTION COMMITTEE

- A. Sr. Program Director – Will chair the committee and vote in case of a tie.
- B. One member appointed by the National Coaching Staff.
 - 1. If necessary, the National Coaching Staff may appoint one per discipline to vote only for that discipline.
 - 2. The member chosen may not have an athlete considered for the 3rd, 4th or alternate positions.
 - 3. The member must be a USA Gymnastics professional member in good standing.
- C. Elite Program Committee Chair
- D. Technical Committee Chair
- E. Athlete Representative
 - 1. Trampoline/Double-Mini Representative voting only for trampoline and double-mini
 - 2. Tumbling Representative voting on for tumbling

VI. PETITIONS

- A. Athletes may petition to compete at the Final Selection Event. Athletes may not petition directly onto the team.
 - 1. Athletes must have competed at either the Winter Classic or U.S. Elite Challenge.
 - 2. Only athletes who qualified to, but did not compete, at Level 10 National Championships or at Visa Championships due to injury, illness or unusual circumstances will be eligible to petition to the Final Selection Event.

- B. The petition must state the specific injury, illness or unusual circumstance, which prohibited the athlete from participating in the Level10 National Championships or Visa Championships. 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 a doctor selected by USA Gymnastics.
- C. Petitions will be decided by the Sr. Program Director and J. O. Program Committee Chair. Petitions must be submitted in writing to the Sr. Program Director as soon as practical after the athlete becomes aware of his/her inability to complete the process, but no later than August 21, 2009.
 - 1. Performance and degree of difficulty at prior competitions will be used as criteria when deciding petitions.

VII. REMOVAL

- A. An athlete or coach may be removed from the 2009 World Age-Group Team or from any step of the process for selecting the 2009 World Age-Group Team if he/she violates the USA Gymnastics Code of Ethics. An athlete may also be removed from the 2009 World Age-Group Team in the event of injury or illness which inhibits peak performance at the 2009 World Age-Group Games. Athletes must submit to any medical diagnosis that is requested by USA Gymnastics to assure that the athlete is able to compete and is not at risk for further injury. Verification of injury or illness will be by two doctors selected by USA Gymnastics.
- B. Removal may only occur by action of the President of USA Gymnastics after consultation with the Program Committee and an interview with the athlete and his/her coach. Any decision to remove an athlete or coach is subject to review through USA Gymnastics Grievance Procedures.