

USA GYMNASTICS /USAG
ATHLETE SELECTION PROCEDURES
2007 PAN AMERICAN GAMES - RIO DE JANEIRO, BRAZIL
Men's Artistic
May 24, 2006

I. SELECTION SYSTEM

A. Provide the minimum eligibility requirements for an athlete to be considered for nomination to the Team:

1. Citizenship: Athletes must be U.S. Citizens and hold a current U.S. Passport at the start of the 2007 Pan American Games Selection Event. Eligibility rules may be found in the Men's Rules and Policies at <http://www.usa-gymnastics.org/men/rules-policies/>.
2. Minimum Federation Internationale de Gymnastique standards for participation (if any): The minimum age requirement will follow PASO statutes which for artistic men's gymnastics are 15 years old in the calendar year.
3. Other requirements (if any): Must be an USA Gymnastics Athlete member.

B. Provide a brief summary outlining how an athlete is selected as a nominee to the Team.

Athletes may qualify for the 2007 Pan American Games Team in one of two ways:

1. Be a gymnast chosen by the Pan American Games Team Selection Committee as one of the six athlete members of the 2007 Pan American Games Team. To be eligible, a Team Member must be a participant in the 2007 Pan American Games Selection Event as defined in Section I(D).
2. Petition to the 2007 Pan American Games Team through the petition process.

C. Tryout Events:

1. Provide the event names, dates and location of all trials, events and/or camps to be used as part of the selection process.

The 2007 Pan American Games Selection Event will be conducted on or about June 2, 2007, at a site to be determined (and posted on the USA Gymnastics web site a minimum of 45 days prior to the event).

2. Provide event names, dates, locations and description of how athletes qualify for any "preliminary or qualifying" events or procedures that are prerequisites to attend any of the events listed above in Section I(C)(1) (if any).

Athletes may qualify to compete in the 2007 Pan American Games Selection Event through the following methods:

- 2007 Senior National Team members at the conclusion of the 2007 Winter Cup Challenge.
- Athletes who submit personal scores from an FIG or USA Gymnastics Sanctioned Event using current FIG Rules. The scores must meet a minimum scoring criteria as set by the Men's Program Committee.
- Video tape submission to the USA Gymnastics Men's Program Director. Video tape

submissions will be evaluated by an expert panel as assigned by the Men's Program Committee and the athlete's performance must meet the minimum scoring criteria.

- The established minimum scoring criteria will be published no less than 60 days prior to the Pan American Championships Games Selection Event.
- Meet results must be from a 2007 FIG or USA Gymnastics sanctioned event using current FIG rules and must be received at USA Gymnastics a minimum of 30 days prior to the start of the Pan American Games Selection Event.
- Video tape submissions must meet the criteria listed on the Video Tape requirements form. (Attachment B)

3. Provide the event name, dates and locations of additional trials that will be used to determine "start positions" (if any).

none

D. Provide a comprehensive, step-by-step description of the method that explains how athletes will go through the selection process to become team nominees.

Process for selection of the six team member gymnasts for the 2007 Pan American Games Team.

1. Athletes will be chosen from among the 2007 Pan American Games Selection Event competitors or from petitions to the 2007 Pan American Games Team.
2. The Pan American Games Team Selection Committee will also identify a minimum of one potential replacement to the 2007 Pan American Team who may or may not travel to the 2007 Pan American Games.
3. The Pan American Games Team Selection Committee will consider the following factors when selecting the six Pan American Team members and potential replacement athlete(s):
 - a. All results from the 2007 Pan American Games Selection Event.
 - b. The percentage of hit routines by the gymnast in the selection competition.
 - c. Start values (A Score) on each apparatus from the 2007 Pan American Games Selection Event.
 - d. Execution (B Score) on each apparatus from the 2007 Pan American Games Selection Event.
 - e. Points ranking system derived from the 2007 Pan American Games Selection Event competitive results. The points ranking system will be published no less than 30 days prior to the 2007 Pan American Games Selection Event.
 - f. Past domestic and international performance and experience including type, frequency and level of domestic and international competitions and routine hit percentage in those events.
 - g. Demonstrated professional attitude and ability to positively contribute to the team dynamic.
 - h. Any physical, training or performance factor which might inhibit peak performance at the 2007 Pan American Games.
4. The Pan American Games Team Selection Committee will consider the information noted in number 3 above in the following prioritized manner.
 - a. The results from the 2007 Pan American Games Selection Event will be used to identify the teams which would produce the highest team score for the six man team, five athletes compete, four scores count team competition.
 - b. The start values of all potential team members will be factored into the process of selecting the final team.
 - c. The execution (B Score) of all potential team members will be factored into the process of selecting the final team.

d. 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.

PETITIONS

1. Petition Rights: Accordingly, USA Gymnastics will allow athletes to petition USA Gymnastics for the right to:

- a. Enter the 2007 Pan American Games Selection Event as determined by the Men’s Program Committee.
- b. To be selected to the 2007 Pan American Games Team, as determined by the Pan American Games Team Selection Committee.

2. Petition Procedures and Requirements

- a. A petition to enter the 2007 Pan American Games Selection Event or to be placed on the 2007 Pan American Games Team may be submitted by any athlete.
- b. Petitions to the 2007 Pan American Games Selection Event will be considered for approval by the Men’s Program Committee and must be received by the Men’s Program Director no later than May 25, 2007.
- c. Petitions directly to the 2007 Pan American Games Team will be considered for approval by the Pan American Games Selection Committee. In order to be considered by the Pan American Games Selection Committee, petitions onto the 2007 Pan American Games 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 the 2007 Pan American Games Selection Event.
- d. 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, and 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 competitive in the field with other athletes qualified for the 2007 Pan American Selection Event.

E. Provide the names of all committees/groups who oversee the selection process, including the name(s) and title(s) of their members.

Pan American Games Selection Committee

Committee	Name	Title
Pan American Games Selection Committee	Yoichi Tomita	Chairman, Men’s Program Committee
Pan American Games Selection Committee	Dennis McIntyre	USA Gymnastics Men’s Program Director
Pan American Games Selection Committee	Ron Brant	Senior National Team Coordinator
Pan American Games Selection Committee	TBD	Athlete Representative
Pan American Games Selection Committee	TBD	Coach

II. DISCRETIONARY SELECTION (if applicable)

A. Provide rationale for utilizing discretionary selection (if any):

The sport of gymnastics is not a measured or timed event. In the selection of athletes who will compete together as a team, it is difficult to make selection decisions based solely by the rank order to be competitive for both team and individual event medals. The current rules do not require athletes to compete on all events, which necessitates evaluating relative event strength and contribution to total team or event scores.

B. List the discretionary criteria and explain how it will be used:

Refer to Section I(D).

C. Discretionary Selection Committee

Pan American Games Selection Committee composition:

1. Chairman, Men's Program Committee - Yoichi Tomita
2. USA Gymnastics Men's Program Director - Dennis McIntyre
3. Senior National Team Coordinator - Ron Brant
4. Athlete Representative - TBD
5. Coach - TBD

The Men's Program Committee will name a replacement committee member in the event that a Pan American Games Selection Committee member is currently affiliated with any athlete in consideration for the 2007 Pan American Team or is unable to fulfill the obligations of the Pan American Games Selection Committee or continue for any reason.

III. REMOVAL OF ATHLETES

A. Prior to acceptance of nomination by the USOC, USA Gymnastics has jurisdiction over potential nominees.

An athlete who is to be nominated to the Team by USA Gymnastics may be removed from the Nominations for any of the following reasons, as determined by USA Gymnastics.

- Voluntary withdrawal. Athlete must submit a written letter to the USA Gymnastics President/CEO.
- Injury or illness is certified by an USA Gymnastics physician (or medical staff). If an athlete refuses verification of their illness or injury by an 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 Conduct, (Attachment A).
- Lack of performance in training which inhibits peak performance at the Pan American Games.

An athlete removed from the Team pursuant to this provision has the right to a hearing per the USA Gymnastics Constitution and Bylaws (Article 10) or by USOC Bylaws, Article 9.

B. After acceptance of nomination by the USOC, the USOC has jurisdiction over the Team and an athlete may be removed for any of the following reasons.

After acceptance of nomination by the USOC, the USOC has jurisdiction over the Team under the USOC Code of Conduct and Grievance Procedures. This occurs no earlier than 45 days and no later than 30 days prior to the Opening Ceremonies of the Games (unless expressly waived by the USOC).

An athlete may be removed from the team because of an injury or illness which prohibits peak performance as defined by the USOC Code of Conduct.

A USOC approved team member is subject to the USOC Code of Conduct and Grievance Procedures.

C. Anti-Doping Removal.

An athlete may be removed from Nomination or from the Team at any time for violation of PASO, WADA, FIG, USADA and/or USOC anti-doping protocol, policies and procedures. In such instances, the adjudication process will be managed through the United States Anti-Doping Agency.

IV. REPLACEMENT OF ATHLETES

A. Describe the process by which the replacement pool of athletes will be identified:

The Pan American Games Team Selection Committee will also identify a minimum of one potential replacement to the 2007 Pan American Team who may or may not travel to the 2007 Pan American Games using the criteria described in Section I.

B. Describe how the replacement athlete(s) will be selected to replace a previously nominated athlete, should a vacancy occur.

1. Prior to acceptance of nominations by the USOC:

The Pan American Games Team Selection Committee will identify which replacement athlete (if more than one replacement athlete is named) will be selected to replace a previously nominated athlete using the Discretionary Selection criteria described in Section I(D).

2. After acceptance of nominations by the USOC:

The Pan American Games Team Selection Committee will identify which replacement athlete (if more than one replacement athlete is named) will be selected to replace a previously nominated athlete using the Discretionary Selection criteria described in Section I(D).

C. Identify the group or committee that will be responsible for making athlete replacement determinations:

1. Group or committee who determines the replacement pool:
See Section I(E).

2. Group or committee who determines a replacement to the team:
See Section I(E).

V. SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

USA Gymnastics will retain all supporting documents, including scouting or evaluation forms, etc., and data from the selection process for six months past the date of the Closing Ceremonies of the 2007 Pan American Games.

VI. REQUIRED DOCUMENTS

The following documents are required to be signed by an athlete as a condition of participation in the Olympic or Pan American Games and are included as attachments:

USA Gymnastics Code of Conduct (Attachment A)
National Team Agreement

VII. PUBLICITY/DISTRIBUTION OF PROCEDURES

The USOC approved Selection Procedures (complete and unaltered) will be posted/published by USA Gymnastics in the following locations:

A. NGB Website: www.usa-gymnastics.org

The website information will be posted as soon as possible, but not more than 5 business days following notice of approval by the USOC and will include the USOC approval date.

B. USA Gymnastics Official Publication(s) (if any):

Technique Magazine

C. Other

VIII. DATE OF NOMINATION

Nomination of Athletes form, including replacements, will be submitted to the USOC on:

June 15, 2007

IX. MANDATORY TRAINING AND/OR COMPETITION

Specify the location, schedule and duration of mandatory training and/or competition:

none required

X. ANTI-DOPING REQUIREMENTS

Athlete must adhere to all PASO, WADA, FIG, USADA and USOC anti-doping protocols, policies and procedures. This includes participation in out of competition testing as required by the PASO, WADA, FIG, USADA and USOC Rules.

XI. DEVELOPMENT OF SELECTION PROCEDURES

The following committee/group (include names and titles) was responsible for creating these Selection Procedures:

Men's Program Committee

Committee	Name	Title
Men's Program Committee	Yoichi Tomita	Chairman
Men's Program Committee	Miles Avery	Senior Representative
Men's Program Committee	Kurt Golder	Senior Representative
Men's Program Committee	Steve Butcher	Junior Representative
Men's Program Committee	Bill Foster	Junior Representative
Men's Program Committee	John Roethlisberger	Athlete Representative
Men's Program Committee	Jay Thornton	Athlete Representative

XII. USA GYMNASTICS BYLAWS AND GRIEVANCE PROCEDURES

The USA Gymnastics Bylaws and Grievance Procedures can be found at:

<http://www.usa-gymnastics.org/organization/usag-02bylaws.pdf>

XIII. INTERNATIONAL DISCLAIMER

The procedures are based on PASO and/or the FIG rules and regulations are presently known and understood. Any changes in the selection procedures caused by a change in PASO and/or the 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 may not have accounted for every possible contingency.

XIV. ATHLETE OMBUDSMAN

Athletes who have questions regarding their opportunity to compete that are not answered by USA Gymnastics may contact the USOC Athlete Ombudsman: John W. Ruger by:

- Toll free telephone at (888) ATHLETE
- E-Mail at john.ruger@usoc.org
- www.888athlete.org

XV. USA GYMNASTICS SIGNATURES

I certify that I have read, understand and incorporated our Federation Internationale de Gymnastique standards/criteria into our Selection Procedures and that the information provided herein regarding Athlete Selection Procedures represents the method approved by USA Gymnastics.

Position	Print Name	Signature	Date
President	Steve Penny	_____	_____
National Program Director	Dennis McIntyre	_____	_____
NGBs USOC AAC	Larissa Fontaine	_____	_____

*If USOC AAC Representative has delegated authority to the Alternate AAC Representative to sign the Selection Procedures, attach a letter from the AAC Representative indicating the reason he/she has delegated authority.

USOC USE ONLY

Date Original Procedures
Rec'd _____
Date Revision Submitted

Date of USOC Approval _____

Attachment B

Men's Program Video Tape Submission Guidelines for 2007 Pan American Games Selection Event

Video Tapes:

- VHS, Mini – DV or DVD Formats Only - No streaming video formats will be accepted
- Full Routines
- Routines should be performed on regulation equipment and matting. Regulation matting can be placed over a pit surface; however this could effect the evaluation of the athletes' performance.
- Entry form and entry fee must accompany each video tape and Routine Analysis form. **All video tapes, entry forms and fees must be received at USA Gymnastics no less than 30 days prior to the start of the Pan American Games Selection Event.**

Coaches should be aware of the following additional requirements when submitting a video tape:

1. A typed Routine Analysis form for each performance should accompany the video tape. Please include the value of each skill, connection bonus, which element group is being met and the routine's start value on the accompanying Routine Analysis form. The routine information submitted should be what the gymnast is doing on the tape, not what the gymnast plans to do in the near future.
2. Only video tapes with routines that have been taped **within 60 days** of the due date will be accepted.
3. All routines should be video taped from as close as possible, with no obstructions and using the best lighting possible in order for the performance to be clearly seen on the video tape.
4. One (1) video tape per gymnast is encouraged. However, if a coach chooses to place more than one gymnast on the same video tape, he must clearly communicate in writing who the gymnasts are and the order of their performances.
5. No spliced routines - routines should show an exercise start to finish without editing.
6. USA Gymnastics cannot be responsible for lost, damaged or the submission of non-working video tapes or DVD's. To be evaluated, a functioning petition tape (with support materials) must be received at USA Gymnastics by the petition due date. Coaches should check all video tapes, DVD's etc., prior to them being sent to the office to insure they are working properly and should attempt to submit tapes in a timely manner prior to the deadline in the event there are problems with the video.
7. The coach's signature is required on the Routine Analysis form indicating that all information being submitted has been reviewed by him prior to being submitted to USA Gymnastics.

Note: Not following the Men's Program Committee's approved guidelines listed above could be cause for denial of your video tape submission.