



## **Eligibility to Enter the National Qualifying Competition**

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To be eligible to enter the National Qualifying Competition an athlete must meet the following criteria:

- Entry forms for the Qualifying Competition are due with a \$100 entry fee to the USA Gymnastics Men's Program Director by Friday April 6, 2012. Any approved entries received at USA Gymnastics after April 6, will require a \$50 late fee to validate the entry. Approval for entries received after April 6 is not automatic.
- The entry form for the Qualifying Competition will also serve as the official entry form for the 2012 Visa Championships. (Athletes who are Pre-Qualified to the Visa Championships and **NOT** participating in the National Qualifier should refer to Visa Championships entry information.)
- Any USA Gymnastics athlete member 16 years of age or older (must be 16 in 2012) may enter the National Qualifier with the intent of qualifying to the Senior Division at the Visa Championships.

## **2012 National Qualifier Competition Format**

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- A. The 2012 National Qualifier is being held to determine qualifiers to the Visa Championships in the Senior Division only.
- B. There will be one session of competition unless the number of registered competitors warrants a second session. The competition times are to be determined.
- C. Make up of the competitive groups within the session
  - Athletes from the same program will be placed into the same competition group
  - Random draw of all programs/competitors for starting event and for the session if more than one session is used.

- D. This will be an FIG rules event with the exceptions noted here.

The following documents will be used:

- FIG *Code of Points* –the current V.6 version which can be found at <http://www.sportcentric.com/vsite/vnavsite/page/directory/0,10853,5187-188050-205272-nav-list,00.html>
- USA/NGJA Rules Interpretations #5 which can be found at <http://www.ngja.org/>

Note: The Pursuit of Perfection Document and USA Gymnastics Special Bonus will not be used at the National Qualifier, Visa Championships or Olympic Trials.

- E. A 30 second (50 seconds for PB) one-touch warm-up will be used. A one touch warm-up will be provided at the beginning of each rotation followed by competition on that event.
- F. Warm-ups will be open with the exception of Parallel Bars which will have assigned time blocks with the rotation based on starting event (i.e. – the group which starts on PB will have the last warm-up block time at PB)
- G. Matting -- for the National Qualifier the following mat exceptions will be allowed:
  - FIG matting at all events with the exception of Horizontal Bar
  - At HB, athletes will be allowed the use of up to 8 inches of additional matting for release moves only (not allowed for dismounts),

## 2012 Visa Championships Information

**Site:** Saint Louis, MO

**Date:** June 7 - 10

### **Qualification to the 2012 Visa Championships**

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#### **Senior Division (approximately 42 athletes)**

- Current Senior National Team Members
- Up to 12 athletes from the 2012 NCAA Championships. For details, see the Olympic Selection Procedures - [http://usagym.org/PDFs/Pressbox/Selection Procedures/selection\\_m\\_12olympics.pdf](http://usagym.org/PDFs/Pressbox/Selection%20Procedures/selection_m_12olympics.pdf) (Note: See entry deadline below)
- Minimum of 14 athletes from the National Qualifier using the Men's Program Committee approved 20 Point System (page 7). If all positions from the NCAA Championships are not used then any open positions to the Visa Championships will be added from the National Qualifier chosen by the points system.
- Approved petitions
- For complete details regarding the qualification process, please review the Olympic Selection Procedures - [http://usagym.org/PDFs/Pressbox/Selection%20Procedures/selection\\_m\\_12olympics.pdf](http://usagym.org/PDFs/Pressbox/Selection%20Procedures/selection_m_12olympics.pdf)

#### **Junior Division (approximately 42 athletes)**

Because 2012 is an Olympic year and due to the selection procedures for the Olympic Team, the junior men's sessions will be held on Thursday afternoon, June 7 and Saturday evening June 9. Qualification to the Junior Division of this year's Visa Championships will be primarily through the Junior Olympic National Championships that will take place May 7-13 in Cincinnati, OH.

At this year's Visa Championships, junior athletes cannot advance to the Senior Division Finals by score or points. Any junior athlete wishing to compete in the Senior Division must qualify as a senior athlete at this year's National Qualifier to be held in Colorado Springs on Saturday, May 5. However, junior age eligible athletes who do qualify and compete in the Senior Division at the Visa Championships will be ranked by score with all junior athletes in their age division using combined all around competition scores for the purposes of earning a position on the Junior Elite National Team. Because of the proximity of the qualifier to the JO National Championships, any such attempt by a junior to qualify as a senior athlete should be very carefully considered.

The qualification process to the Junior Division at the 2012 Visa Championships for Men is outlined below:

- Top 19, rank order finish, from the 14 to 15 age division from the All-Around Finals at the 2012 Junior Olympic National Championships.
- Top 19, rank order finish, from the age eligible athletes (cannot turn 19 years of age anytime in 2012) in the 16 to 18 age division from the All Around Finals at the 2012 Junior Olympic National Championships.
- Junior athletes who compete at the National Qualifier, but do not compete at the Junior National Championships, may petition the MPC to be allowed to compete in their appropriate age division in the Junior Division at the 2012 Visa Championships. The petition will not be considered (approved or disapproved) prior to the conclusion of the 2012 Junior Olympic National Championships and no athlete who participates in the Junior Olympic Nationals will be allowed to petition to the Junior Division of the Visa Championships based on his competitive results at the National Qualifier.
- All petitions to the Visa Championships will be based on the petition process as outlined in the Olympic Selection Procedures and applied to the Junior Division at the 2012 Visa Championships. Refer to the document at the following link for more information regarding petitions: [http://usagym.org/PDFs/Pressbox/Selection%20Procedures/selection\\_m\\_12olympics.pdf](http://usagym.org/PDFs/Pressbox/Selection%20Procedures/selection_m_12olympics.pdf)

- Petitioned athletes will be in addition to any athlete who qualifies to the Visa Championships based on competitive results noted above.

## 2012 Visa Championships Entry Deadline

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### Senior Division

- All Senior National Team athletes must submit the [official entry form](#) no later than Friday, April 6. Any approved entries received at USA Gymnastics after April 6 will require a \$50 late fee to validate the entry. Approval for entries received after April 6 is not automatic.
- NCAA athletes attempting to qualify to the Visa Championships must submit their NCAA video. The video must be received by the Men's Program Director by close of business (5:00 pm Eastern time) on April 27, 2012. NCAA athletes who qualify via video will be sent registration links and information on or after May 5, 2012.
- For Visa Championships Qualifiers from the National Qualifier – the entry form for the National Qualifier also serves as the Visa Championships entry.

### Junior Division

- Junior Division Qualifiers from the 2012 Junior Olympic National Championships must submit the [official entry form](#) via email or fax no later than Tuesday, May 15. Any approved entries received at USA Gymnastics after May 15 will require a \$50 late fee to validate the entry. Approval for entries received after May 15 is not automatic.

## 2012 Visa Championships Competition Format

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- A. Junior Division and Senior Division athletes will compete in two days of competition
- B. Preliminary Competition – Thursday, June 7
  - a. Session I: Junior Elite Division
  - b. Session II: Senior Division
- C. Finals Competition: Saturday, June 9
  - a. Session I: Senior Division
  - b. Session II: Junior Elite Division
- D. This will be an FIG rules event with the exceptions noted here. The following documents will be used:
  - a. FIG *Code of Points* –the current V.6 version which can be found at <http://www.sportcentric.com/vsite/vnavsite/page/directory/0,10853,5187-188050-205272-nav-list,00.html> Note: All age divisions will follow Senior rules
  - b. USA/NGJA Rules Interpretations #5 which can be found at <http://www.ngja.org/>
  - c. Note: The Pursuit of Perfection Document and USA Gymnastics Special Bonus will not be used at the National Qualifier, Visa Championships or Olympic Trials.
- E. Makeup of the competitive groups within the session
  - a. Athletes from the same program will be placed into the same competition group
  - b. Random draw of all program/competitors for starting event
- F. There will be a 30 second (50 seconds for PB) one-touch warm-up will be used. A one touch warm-up will be provided at the beginning of each rotation followed by competition on that event.
- G. Warm-ups will be open with the exception of Parallel Bars which will have assigned time blocks with the rotation based on starting event (i.e. – the group which starts on PB will have the last warm-up block time at PB)
- H. Matting -- for the Visa Championships the following mat exceptions will be allowed:
  - a. FIG matting at all events with the exception of Horizontal Bar
  - b. At HB, athletes will be allowed the use of up to 8 inches of additional matting for release moves only (not allowed for dismounts)

## National Team Selection at the 2012 Visa Championships

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### Senior Division:

The Senior National Team will be made up of 15 athletes selected in the following manner from the Visa Championships:

- The top 6 All Around athletes using the combined all around results from two days of competition.
- The top 4 National Team Points Program athletes (not included in the top 6 All Around). The National Team Points Program is detailed on page 7.
- Four (4) athletes will be selected by the Men's Program Committee from among the competitors at the 2012 Visa Championships or from qualified petitioned athletes.
- One (1) athlete will be selected by the Men's National Team Coordinator from among the competitors at the 2012 Visa Championships or from qualified petitioned athletes.

### Junior Elite Division:

- The top 7 athletes in the 14 to 15 age division and the top 7 athletes in the 16 to 18 age division will be selected rank order to the Junior Elite National Team using the combined all around results from two days of competition. (note: age eligible juniors may be competing in either the junior or senior division sessions)

**Note: There will be a mandatory meeting for all Junior Elite and Senior National Team members and their coaches held on Sunday morning June 10. The meeting will conclude by 12:00 noon on Sunday.**

## 2012 Olympic Team Trials Information

**Site:** San Jose, CA

**Date:** June 28 - 31

### Qualification to the 2012 Olympic Trials

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- All Senior National Team Members from the 2012 Visa Championships will be invited to compete at the Olympic Team Trials
- Men's Program Committee approved petitions
- For complete details regarding the qualification process please review the Olympic Selection Procedures - [http://usagym.org/PDFs/Pressbox/Selection%20Procedures/selection\\_m\\_12olympics.pdf](http://usagym.org/PDFs/Pressbox/Selection%20Procedures/selection_m_12olympics.pdf)

### 2012 Olympic Trials Competition Format

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- Athletes will compete in two days of competition
  - Day 1 Competition: Thursday, June 28
  - Day 2 Competition: Saturday, June 30
- Make up of the competitive groups within the session
  - Random draw of all competitors for starting event
- A 30 second (50 seconds for PB) one-touch warm-up will be used. A one touch warm-up will be provided at the beginning of each rotation followed by competition on that event.
- Warm-ups will be open
- Matting -- for the Olympic Team Trials the following mat exceptions will be allowed:
  - FIG matting at all events with the exception of Horizontal Bar
  - At HB, athletes will be allowed the use of up to 8 inches of additional matting for release moves only (not allowed for dismounts)

### 2012 Olympic Team Selection

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- For complete details regarding the selection process please review the Olympic Selection Procedures - [http://usagym.org/PDFs/Pressbox/Selection%20Procedures/selection\\_m\\_12olympics.pdf](http://usagym.org/PDFs/Pressbox/Selection%20Procedures/selection_m_12olympics.pdf)
- Scoring: The scores from two days of competition at the Visa Championships will be added to the competitive results from two days of competition at the Olympic Team Trials to produce the final results. All sessions will count equally (no weighting of scores) to determine the final results.
- Points System – The MPC National Team Points is detailed on page 7.

### 2012 Olympic Games Team Selection Committee

The Olympic Games Team Selection Committee noted in the Olympic Selection Procedures will be made up of the following members:

Mike Burns – coach representative  
Steve Butcher – at large representative  
Kevin Mazeika – National Team Coordinator  
Dennis McIntyre – Voice, no vote ex-officio  
Kevin Tan – athlete representative  
Yoichi Tomita – coach representative

## Points System for the 2012 Visa Championships

### 20 Point System

The Men's Program Committee Approved 20 Points System will be used to determine the athletes who will qualify from the 2012 National Qualifier to the Senior Division at the 2012 Visa Championships.

#### Details

- Points will be awarded to the top 20 rank order athletes on each event in descending order (Example, 1<sup>st</sup> place earns 20 points, 20<sup>th</sup> place earns 1 point)
- No points will be given for All Around placement
- Athletes who tie for individual events will be awarded duplicate points with the next point total being skipped. (example: tie for first – both athletes awarded 20 points, the next highest ranking athlete receives third place points and is awarded 18 points)
- The points awarded for the six events will be totaled for a final point total for each athlete.
- In the case of a tie for the last position, ties will be broken by:
  1. The athletes highest single event points total, if still tied then,
  2. The athletes two highest events points total and so on until all six event totals are considered, if still tied then,
  3. All tied athletes advance.

### National Team Points Program

**MPC approved points system for Senior Team selection from the Visa Championships using combined results from Visa Championships Preliminary and Finals sessions and for the Olympic Selection Consideration**

- Top 10 athletes on each event will receive points from the Preliminary Competition and again from the Finals Competition at the Visa Championships. The points from each day of competition will be added together to create the athletes Final National Team Points Total.
- Points will be awarded on each event according to the following:

First place	= 11 points	Sixth place	= 5 points
Second place	= 10 points	Seventh place	= 4 points
Third place	= 9 points	Eighth place	= 3 points
Fourth place	= 7 points	Ninth place	= 2 points
Fifth place	= 6 points	Tenth place	= 1 point
- Points will be awarded to the all around using the same formula as the individual events with the exception that all around points will only be awarded for the combined two day all around total (prelims + finals = two day total). Therefore the all around points will only be awarded once following the second day of competition.
- Athletes who tie for individual events or all around will be awarded duplicate points with the next point total being skipped. (Example: tie for individual event third – both athletes awarded 9 points, the next highest ranking athlete receives fifth place points and is awarded 6 points)
- The points awarded for the six events will be totaled for each athlete each day. All around points are based on the two-day all around total and will be added once to the athlete's day two total. An athlete's day one and day two competitive points will be totaled for that athlete's Final National Team Points results.
- In the case of a tie for the last National Team position by the Final National Team Points, ties will be broken by:
  1. The athletes highest all around two day points total, if still tied then,
  2. The athletes highest single event two day points total, if still tied then,
  3. The athletes two highest events two day points total and so on until all six event totals are considered, if still tied then,
  4. The same process as in #1, #2 and #3 using the second day of competition point totals only, if still tied,
  5. The same process will be used as in #1, #2, #3 and #4 using the lowest single E (presentation) score (deductions) from the competitive results.