

**USA Gymnastics - Men's Artistic**  
**ATHLETE SELECTION PROCEDURES**  
**2014 Youth Olympic Games**  
**October 30, 2013**

**1. SELECTION SYSTEM**

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

1.1.1. Citizenship:

Athlete must be a national of the United States at the start of the first Selection Event and hold a valid U.S. passport valid through March, 2015.

1.1.2. Minimum International Federation (IF) standards for participation (if any):

- Athlete must be 16 or 17 years of age (born in 1997 or 1998).
- Athlete must hold a valid FIG Athlete license at the time of 2014 Youth Olympic Games nomination.

1.1.3. Other requirements (if any):

- Athlete must attend for the entire duration of the Games.
- Athlete must participate in the cultural and education program, and mixed team events as requested.
- Athlete must be a member in good standing of USA Gymnastics.

1.2. Tryout Events:

1.2.1. Provide the event names, dates and locations of all trials, events and camps to be used as part of the selection process.

Candidates for the 2014 Youth Olympic Games must participate in two Selection Events:

- 2014 Winter Cup Challenge - Las Vegas, NV, February 20 - 22
- 2014 Junior Olympic National Championships, Long Beach, CA, May 7 - 11

or Petition directly to the team

1.2.2. Provide event names, dates, locations and description of how athletes qualify for the trials, events and camps listed above in 1.2.1. (if any).

1. 2014 Winter Cup Challenge: Must have qualified and competed at the 2013 U.S. Championships.

2. 2014 Junior Olympic National Championships: Must qualify through the published state and regional qualifying process into the Junior Elite Division at the 2014 J.O. National Championships.

Athletes may petition to participate in either of the listed Selection Events according to the petition procedures for that specific event. Petition procedures will be published a minimum of 45 days prior to the event and will be posted at [www.usagym.org](http://www.usagym.org).

- 1.3. Provide a comprehensive, step-by-step description of the method that explains how athletes will go through the selection process to become Team nominees (include maximum Team size).

A maximum of one athlete will be nominated for the 2014 Youth Olympic Games provided the U.S. earns a quota place through the FIG-identified YOG qualification event (date and location TBD and will be communicated by USA Gymnastics once known).

The YOG Selection Committee will nominate one athlete and one replacement athlete using the selection method described in section 2 below following the conclusion of the 2014 Junior Olympic National Championships. The pool of athletes to be considered for nomination include athletes who participate in the Selection Events listed above and those who submit petitions to be named directly to the YOG Team .

## **2. DISCRETIONARY SELECTION (if applicable)**

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

The Youth Olympic Games present the opportunity to earn seven different medals from the combination of All Around and Individual Event competition. The sport of gymnastics is a subjectively judged event. In the selection of an athlete who will compete for both All Around and Individual Event awards it is difficult to make selection decisions based solely by the rank order in one category when the goal is to maximize medal potential. In addition, particularly for junior level athletes, consistency of performance over multiple events is an important success factor.

- 2.2. List the discretionary criteria and explain how they will be used (if any):

1. The YOG Selection Committee will consider the following factors when nominating Youth Olympic Games athlete and a potential replacement athlete:
  - i. The Final Results from the 2014 Winter Cup Challenge and the Junior Elite Optional results from the 2014 Junior Olympic

National Championships (one day optional competition session only) will be used to evaluate the following:

- ii. The percentage of hit routines by the gymnast in the Selection Events.
  - iii. Start values (D Score) on each apparatus from the 2014 Youth Olympic Games Selection Events.
  - iv. Execution (E Score) on each apparatus from the 2014 Youth Olympic Games Selection Events.
  - v. Medal potential when compared to the meet results of likely YOG participants from other countries.
  - vi. Past domestic and international performance and experience including type, frequency and level of domestic and international competitions and routine hit percentage in those events.
  - vii. Demonstrated professional attitude and ability to positively contribute to the event dynamic.
  - viii. Any physical, training or performance factor that might inhibit peak performance at the 2014 Youth Olympic Games.
2. The YOG Selection Committee will consider the information noted in 2.2.1 above in the following prioritized manner.
- i. Hit routine percentage over the two Selection Events.
  - ii. The start values (D Score) of the potential team member will be factored into the selection process
  - iii. The execution (E Score) of the potential team member will be factored into the selection process.
  - iv. Maximizing Medal potential
  - v. The remaining factors, 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 Youth Olympic Games athlete cannot be reached using the competition results, start values, execution factors and medal potential review.
3. The athlete nominated to the Youth Olympic Games and the replacement athlete must:
- i. Attend the Junior National Team Training Camp, USOTC, June 15 – 22, for the full duration of the camp.
    - a. The athlete must demonstrate readiness by performing routines on all six events at a level demonstrated in the Selection Events to the satisfaction of the National Team Coordinator (see 2.3.2.iii. below).
    - b. An athlete who is unable to demonstrate readiness could be removed from the team for failure to fulfill team responsibilities as outlined in the National Team Agreement:  
[http://usagym.org/pages/men/pages/selection\\_procedures.html](http://usagym.org/pages/men/pages/selection_procedures.html)

## 2.3. PETITIONS

1. Petition Rights: USA Gymnastics will allow athletes with a specific injury, illness or unusual circumstance, which prohibits the athlete from participating in the competitive process, to petition USA Gymnastics for the right to:
  - i. Enter the 2014 Winter Cup Challenge as determined by the Men's Program Committee (MPC).
  - ii. Enter the 2014 Junior Olympic National Championships as determined by the Junior Olympic Program Committee.
  - iii. Be nominated to the 2014 Youth Olympic Games, as determined by the YOG Selection Committee.
2. Petition Procedures and Requirements
  - i. Only athletes who meet the following criteria may submit a petition:
    - A petition to enter the 2014 Winter Cup Challenge or 2014 Junior Olympic National Championships may be submitted by any athlete who meets the age qualifications for those events. Qualification requirements will be posted a minimum of 45 days prior to the start of the event.
    - Only an athlete who can meet the qualification requirements listed in section 1.1 of this document may submit a petition directly to the 2014 Youth Olympic Games and *the petition must be submitted by the conclusion of the 2014 Junior Olympic National Championships*. The YOG Selection Committee will use the same criteria as outlined in 2.2., but will apply the criteria to the petitioner's recent competitive history.
  - ii. 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 highly competitive in the field with other athletes qualified for the respective event, either the 2014 Winter Cup Challenge, the 2014 Junior Olympic National Championships or athletes being considered for the Youth Olympic Games.
  - iii. Petitions to be named directly to the YOG Team will be resolved after the conclusion of the 2014 Junior Olympic National Championships, and the athlete nominated to the YOG Team and the replacement athlete will come from the pool of athletes who participated at the Selection Events and those who submitted petitions, if any.

- iv. An athlete who successfully petitions to the Youth Olympic Games Team will be required to demonstrate readiness at the 2014 Junior National Team Camp, June 15-22, as noted in 2.2.3 above. The criteria for demonstrating readiness by a petitioned athlete named to the Youth Olympic Games Team are:
  - The athlete must perform full routines on all six events at the preparation camp.
  - All of the athlete’s routines will be judged by a minimum of two FIG rated judges.
  - The YOG Selection Committee will use the scores from the routines the athlete performed at the preparation camp and apply the selection criteria described in 2.2. to evaluate the athlete’s readiness to compete at the Youth Olympic Games.
  - If the YOG Selection Committee determines that the athlete’s performance is not at the level necessary to remain on the Youth Olympic Games Team, then the athlete will not have shown readiness and will be removed from the Youth Olympic Games Team.
  - Replacement of the athlete will follow the guidelines described in Section 4.

2.4 Provide the name of the committee that will be responsible for making discretionary selections, along with a complete list of the members currently serving on the committee and their titles:

2014 Youth Olympic Games Selection Committee

<b>Name</b>	<b>Title</b>
TBD	Coach Representative
TBD	Coach Representative
TBD	Athlete Representative
TBD	At large Representative (coach, athlete or administrator)
Kevin Mazeika	Senior National Team Coordinator

Staff Liaison

Dennis McIntyre	USA Gymnastics Men’s Program Director
-----------------	---------------------------------------

In the event that a YOG Selection Committee member is unable to fulfill his duties for any reason, the Men’s Program Committee will select a replacement committee member.

2.4.1. Conflict of Interest

Any member of the selection committee that has a possible conflict of interest must disclose it. If such conflict exists, the selection committee member must recuse him/herself from committee discussions and voting. Further, the committee member should not otherwise influence other members of the committee in the nomination process. However, a committee member who recused him/herself, but who has relevant and necessary information with respect to athlete performance, for example a national team coach, may, if requested by the selection committee, provide such information to the committee so long as such information is provided in a fair and unbiased manner and the committee member who declared the conflict of interest does not vote toward the final decision.

In the event a YOG Selection Committee member has a conflict, the Men's Program Committee will select an individual who does not have a conflict of interest to serve on the YOG Selection Committee.

### 3. REMOVAL OF ATHLETES

- 3.1. Prior to acceptance of nominations 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 as a nominee for any of the following reasons, as determined by USA Gymnastics:

- 3.1.1. Voluntary withdrawal. Athlete must submit a written letter to the President of USA Gymnastics.
- 3.1.2. Injury or illness that inhibits peak performance as certified by an approved USA Gymnastics physician (or medical staff). Athletes must submit 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. If an athlete refuses verification of his/her illness or injury by an approved USA Gymnastics physician (or medical staff), his injury will be assumed to be disabling and he/she may be removed.
- 3.1.3. Violation of the USA Gymnastics Code of Ethical Conduct, Men's International Procedures Document or USA Gymnastics National Team Agreement:  
[http://usagym.org/pages/men/pages/selection\\_procedures.html](http://usagym.org/pages/men/pages/selection_procedures.html)
- 3.1.4. Removal may only occur by action of the President of USA Gymnastics after consultation with the National Team Coordinator/Program Director and an interview with the athlete and his/her coach.

An athlete who is removed from the Team pursuant to this provision has the right to review per USA Gymnastics Grievance Procedures. An athlete who may be removed from the team pursuant to this provision has the right to a hearing per USA Gymnastics Bylaws Article 10 and the USOC's Bylaws, Section 9.

- 3.2. Once an athlete nomination is accepted by the USOC, the USOC has jurisdiction over the Team, at which time, in addition to USA Gymnastics' Men's International Procedures Manual, the USOC's Code of Conduct and Grievance Procedures apply.

The USOC's Code of Conduct and Grievance Procedures can be found at: <http://www2.teamusa.org/For-Athletes/Athlete-Ombudsman/Games-Information.aspx>.

- 3.3. An athlete may be removed as a nominee to the Team or from the Team for an adjudicated violation of IOC, PASO, IPC, WADA, FIG, USADA and/or USOC anti-doping protocol, policies and procedures, as applicable.

#### **4. REPLACEMENT OF ATHLETES**

- 4.1. Describe the selection and approval process for determining replacement athlete(s) should a vacancy occur:

- 4.1.1. Prior to submission of Entries by Name to the Local Organizing Committee, including any applicable group or committee:

The YOG Selection Committee will identify a replacement athlete as specified in Section 2 above.

- 4.1.2. After submission of Entries by Name to the Local Organizing Committee, including any applicable group or committee:

The YOG Selection Committee will identify a replacement athlete as permitted by FIG and/or IOC Youth Olympic Games policy.

#### **5. SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS**

USA Gymnastics will retain the approved Selection Procedures and all supporting documents, including scouting or evaluation forms, etc., and data from the selection process for six months past the date of conclusion of the 2014 Youth Olympic Games.

#### **6. REQUIRED DOCUMENTS**

The following documents are required to be signed by an athlete as a condition of nomination to the Youth Olympic Games and are included as links:

USA Gymnastics Code of Ethical Conduct, Men's International Procedures Manual, and National Team Agreement:

[http://usagym.org/pages/men/pages/selection\\_procedures.html](http://usagym.org/pages/men/pages/selection_procedures.html)

USOC Code of Conduct:

<http://www.teamusa.org/For-Athletes/Athlete-Ombudsman/Code-of-Conduct>

## **7. PUBLICITY/DISTRIBUTION OF PROCEDURES**

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

7.1. Website: [www.usagym.org](http://www.usagym.org)

These procedures will be posted as soon as possible, but not more than five business days following notice of approval by the USOC, at [www.usagym.org](http://www.usagym.org).

7.2. Other: N/A

## **8. DATE OF NOMINATION**

The Nomination of Athletes form, including replacements, will be announced to all athletes and submitted to the USOC on or before:

June 19, 2014

## **9. MANDATORY TRAINING AND/OR COMPETITION**

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

Junior National Team Training Camp, USOTC, June 15 - 22.

## **10. ANTI-DOPING REQUIREMENTS**

Athletes must adhere to all IOC, IPC, PASO, WADA, FIG, USADA and USOC anti-doping protocols, policies and procedures, as applicable. This includes participation in Out-of-Competition Testing as required by the IOC, IPC, PASO, WADA, FIG, USADA and USOC Rules, as applicable.

## **11. DEVELOPMENT OF SELECTION PROCEDURES**

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



## Men's Program Committee

<b>Name</b>	<b>Title</b>
Yoichi Tomita	Chairman
Russ Fystrom	Senior Representative
Kip Simons	Senior Representative
Kelly Crumley	Junior Representative
Hideo Mizoguchi	Junior Representative
John Roethlisberger	Athlete Representative
Kevin Tan	Athlete Representative
Steve Butcher	FIG Representative
Dennis McIntyre	Men's Program Director, voice - no vote
Kevin Mazeika	Natl. Team Coordinator, voice - no vote
Dan Bachman	NGJA Representative, voice - no vote

### 12. NGB BYLAWS AND GRIEVANCE PROCEDURES

USA Gymnastics' Bylaws and Grievance Procedures can be found at:  
[www.usagym.org](http://www.usagym.org)

### 13. INTERNATIONAL DISCLAIMER

These procedures are based on IOC and FIG rules and regulations as presently known and understood. Any change in the selection procedures caused by a change in IOC and 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.

If any force of nature, or force majeure, should cause the alteration or cancellation of any of the selection events listed in this document, these selection procedures will be revised, pursuant to their resubmission to the USOC.




### 14. 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:

- Telephone at (719) 866-5000
- Toll-free telephone at (888) ATHLETE (1-888-284-5383)
- E-mail at [john.ruger@usoc.org](mailto:john.ruger@usoc.org)
- <http://www2.teamusa.org/For-Athletes/Athlete-Ombudsman.aspx>

### 15. NGB SIGNATURES

**I certify that I have read and understand the standards/criteria set by our IF and incorporated those standards/criteria into our Selection Procedures. I further certify that the information provided herein regarding Athlete Selection Procedures represents the method approved by USA Gymnastics.**

<b>Position</b>	<b>Print Name</b>	<b>Signature</b>	<b>Date</b>
NGB President /CEO	Steve Penny		11/1/13
<b>Men's Program Director</b>	Dennis McIntyre		11/1/13
USOC Athletes' Advisory Council Representative*	David Durante		11/1/13

\* If the 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.

\* Signature by the Athlete Representative constitutes that he/she has read and understands the Selection Procedures. If the Athlete Representative reads and does not agree with the Athlete Selection Procedures being submitted by the NGB, he/she may submit those reasons in writing to his/her Sport Performance Team.

\* If, for some reason, a sport does not have an elected USOC AAC Representative, the NGB must designate an athlete from that sport to review and sign the Selection Procedures.