Report of the Parkour World Championships Athlete Selection Committee Meeting

Attendees
Parkour Expert: Steve DiGirolama
Coach Representative: Christian Anderson
Athlete Representative: Thomas Stillings
Program Representative (non-voting): Mary McDaniel
Chief Programs Officer (non-voting): Stefanie Korepin
Independent Observer (non-voting): Blake Padget

Parkour National Team Selection Criteria

A. Selection System

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

1.1.1. Nationality/Passport requirements:

Athlete must be a national citizen of the United States on March 2, 2020.

Athlete must hold a valid U.S. passport that will not expire for six (6) months after the conclusion of the World Championships.

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

- Athletes must be at least 17 years of age by December 31, 2020.

- Hold a valid FIG Athlete License at the time of 2020 World Championships accreditation.

1.1.3. Other requirements (if any):

- Athlete must be a member in good standing with USA Gymnastics at the time of the 2020 World Championships.

1.2. Tryout Events:

1.2.1. Athletes must submit a video of their speed and/or freestyle run to parkour@usagym.org.

- The video must be taken within six (6) months of submission.
Competition video is preferred, but not required.

Videos should show full runs. Short clips of skills will not be considered.

Videos must be submitted before February 24, 2020.

1.2.2. Athletes must submit competition results to parkour@usagym.org.

At least one (1) set of competition results is required.

Only results from 2018-2020 will be accepted.

Results must state if they are from preliminary competition or finals, if applicable.

Results should include:

a. Speed: Time, final placement; including total number of participants

b. Freestyle: Score, final placement; including total number of participants

Results must state date, location and name of competition. Video of competition is preferred but not required.

Results must be verifiable.

Results must be submitted before February 24, 2020.

B. Discretionary Selection

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

2.1.1. The following three (3) criteria will be evaluated based on performance in submitted video. Criteria are equally weighted.

- Difficulty and variation of Parkour moves highlighted by the use of obstacles during the run commensurate with World-level competitors.

- Difficulty and variation of Acrobatic moves throughout the run to show flow and mastery commensurate with World-level competitors.

- Connections between Parkour and acrobatic moves.
2.1.2. The following three (3) criteria will be evaluated based on previous competition results. Criteria are equally weighted.

- Experience: Number and type of competitions.
- Performance and ranking from those events.
- Quality of the competitive field.
- Consistency: ranking at multiple events.

**Summary of the Meeting**

The World Team Selection Committee connected with the Independent Observer, Stefanie and Mary by teleconference and reviewed the selection criteria. Video submissions and competition results were reviewed and discussed for all applicants.

First, Women’s Freestyle entries were reviewed. It was decided that no applicants met the criteria of Acrobatic or Parkour moves commensurate with World-level competitors and consequently that position will not be filled.

Second, Women’s Speed entries were reviewed. Taylor Carpenter was the only entrant and it was determined that her speed, experience, performance and competition rankings were commensurate with World-level competitors. She is named to compete for the USA in the Women’s Speed division at the 2020 FIG World Championships.

Next, Men’s Freestyle submissions were reviewed. There were several strong entries. It was determined that based on international competition experience and mastery of skills and connections, Calen Chan would be named to compete for the USA in the Men’s Freestyle division at the 2020 FIG Parkour World Championships. The committee named Jarrod Luty as alternate given his competition experience and his ability to perform Parkour skills and connections.

Next, Men’s Speed submissions were reviewed. Again, there were several strong entries. It was determined that based on competition experience, past results, and mastery of skills and connections, Seth Wang would be named to compete for the USA in the Men’s Speed division at the 2020 FIG Parkour World Championships. The committee named Michael Sliger as alternate given his competition results and Parkour ability. Seth Wang declined the invitation to participate in the FIG Parkour World Championships. Therefore, Michael Sliger was named to compete for the USA in the Men’s Speed division at the 2020 FIG Parkour World Championships.

Finally, it was discussed with such a strong field in both men’s divisions, the selection committee would like to see if we can increase the number of male participants to two in each division. A request would be submitted to the FIG and, if granted, the US will name both alternate competitors in their respective divisions. It was later determined that this would be a violation of the selection procedures to have more than two (2) males on the World Championship team. Therefore, the additional roster spots were not accepted.
Each Committee member and the Independent Observer were asked for further comments or questions. None were voiced. The meeting was closed.

Upon request from a committee member, the committee reconvened by phone on March 3, 2020 to discuss the Women’s Freestyle position on the World Championship team. Upon further thought and discussion from the committee, it was determined that Reagan Chan possessed the skills to perform Acrobatic and Parkour moves commensurate with World-level competitors. The committee unanimously voted to approve Reagan Chan to compete for the USA in the Women’s Freestyle division at the 2020 FIG World Championships.

Each Committee member and the Independent Observer were asked for further comments or questions. None were voiced. The meeting was closed.

I confirm that, to the best of my knowledge, information, and belief, this report accurately reflects the March 1, 2020 and March 3, 2020 meetings of the Athlete Selection Committee for the 2020 Parkour World Championships.

Mary McDaniel
USA Gymnastics
Program Representative

Blake Padget
Independent Observer