

USA GYMNASTICS
WOMEN'S ARTISTIC ATHLETE AND COACH SELECTION PROCEDURES
2019 WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS
OCTOBER 4 - 14, STUTTGART, GERMANY
4/9/19

Amended June 3, 2019
Amended September 18, 2019¹

1. 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 citizen of the United States at the start of the 2019 American Classic and at the time of selection and 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):

- Athlete must be a minimum of 16 years of age by December 31, 2019.
- Hold a valid FIG Athlete License at the time of 2019 World Championships accreditation.

1.1.3. Other requirements (if any):

- Athlete must be a member in good standing with 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.

- 2019 Pan American **Games Championships**: July 27-31, 2019, Lima Peru
[Pan American Games Selection Procedures](#)
- 2019 U.S. Championships: August 8-11, 2019 Kansas City, MO
- 2019 World Championships Team Selection Camp (World Team Selection Camp): September ~~21-23~~ **25-27**, 2019

¹ Dates for the World Championships were finalized after the writing of these procedures, consequently once competition and training dates were finalized the World Team Selection Camp and Prep Camp dates were shifted to match.

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).

- Qualification for the 2019 American Classic and 2019 U.S. Classic is by score as listed in the Elite Qualification Chart <https://usagym.org/PDFs/Women/ElitePre-Elite/19elitechart.pdf>, from the 2018 U.S. Gymnastics Championships, 2019 National Qualifiers, and/or 2018 (fall)/2019 Selected National Team Verification Camps (full routines on competition surfaces).
- Qualification for the 2019 U.S. Gymnastics Championships is:
 - a. By score as listed in the Elite Qualification chart <https://usagym.org/PDFs/Women/ElitePre-Elite/19elitechart.pdf> from the 2019 American Classic, 2019 U.S. Classic or National team assigned International competitions within the current competitive year (fall 2018 or 2019); or
 - b. By score (scores are listed in the Elite Qualification Chart) <https://usagym.org/PDFs/Women/ElitePre-Elite/19elitechart.pdf> for a current National Team Member from a selected verification camp (full routines on competition surfaces) within the current competitive year (fall 2018-2019);
 - c. By being one of the six (6) members (includes the named replacement athlete) of the 2018 Worlds Team; or,
 - d. Accepted petitioned athletes (See Section 1.4).
- Invitations for the World Team Selection Camp:
 - a. A minimum of eight (8) athletes will be invited to the World Team Selection Camp as outlined in 1.3 below.

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

The 2019 World Championships Team will be comprised of six (6) athletes; five (5) of whom will be identified for the team qualifications (Comp I) line-up.

1.3.1. In addition to the top two (2) All Around Senior athletes from the combined rank order of two days of competition at the 2019 U.S. Gymnastics Championships, a minimum of six (6) additional athletes from among the competitors at the **2019 Pan American Games**, 2019 U.S. Gymnastics Championships and petitioned athletes will be invited by the Athlete Selection Committee to the World Team Selection Camp, utilizing the discretionary selection criteria outlined in 2.2.

- 1.3.2. The World Team Selection Camp will be used to select team members for the 2019 World Championships Team.
 - a. The Athlete Selection Camp will have two days of competition; the first day is an all-around competition. On day two, athletes will compete on two events as determined by the Athlete Selection Committee.
 - b. The highest scoring All Around athlete from the first day of competition at the World Team Selection Camp will automatically qualify to the six (6) member World Championship team.
 - c. Using the discretionary selection criteria listed in 2.2, the Athlete Selection Committee will name the remaining five (5) members of the 2019 World Championships Team at the conclusion of the World Team Selection Camp.
 - d. The Athlete Selection Committee may also name non-traveling replacement athletes using the discretionary selection criteria listed in 2.2.
- 1.3.3. The final line-up determination, including identification of the five (5) team members who will compete, will be announced a minimum of 24 hours prior to Qualifications (Competition I). This determination will be made by the High Performance Team Coordinator, in consultation with credentialed coaching staff. If there is not a High Performance Team Coordinator, a team manager will be named by the International Elite Committee and perform this function.

1.4. Petition Procedures

Notwithstanding the process identified in the preceding sections of these Selection Procedures, USA Gymnastics recognizes that extraordinary and unforeseen circumstances may occur which would cause an athlete otherwise deserving of a spot on the 2019 World Championships Team because of her previous competition results to be unable to participate in one or more steps in that process.

- 1.4.1. Procedures for petitioning into the 2019 U.S. Championships are listed in the 2018-2019 Women's Rules and Policies.
- 1.4.2. Petitions into the World Team Selection Camp will be considered by the Athlete Selection Committee and administered by the Vice President of Women's Program, for any member of a previous Olympic team or World Championships team, any athlete who has competed at the 2019 American Classic, the 2019 U.S. Classic, or any athlete who competed in a National team assigned international competition in the fall of 2018 or spring of 2019.

- a. In order to be considered by the Athlete Selection Committee, petitions must be submitted in writing to the Vice President of Women's Program as soon as practical after the athlete becomes aware of her inability to participate in the process described above, but no later than the conclusion of the 2019 U.S. Championships.
- b. The 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 injury or illness, the petition must be accompanied by a physician's statement. The nature and extent of that injury or illness is subject to verification by a doctor approved by USA Gymnastics.

1.4.3. Athletes may not petition directly to the 2019 World Championships Team.

2. DISCRETIONARY SELECTION

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

The sport of gymnastics is a subjectively judged event. In the selection of athletes who will compete together as a team, it is difficult to make selection solely by the All Around rank order and be competitive for both team and individual event medals. The current rules do not require athletes to compete in the All Around competition, which necessitates evaluating Individual Event strength and contribution to total team score in order to maximize medal potential.

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

The Athlete Selection Committee will use the following criteria when selecting members for the 2019 World Championships Team:

- Results from the 2019 American Classic, 2019 U.S. Classic, 2019 U.S. Gymnastics Championships, international competitions, and World Team Selection Camp.
- D - scores (Difficulty) - achieved at any official international assignment or national event during the competitive season and/or qualification events listed in 1.2.1 and 1.2.2.
- E - scores (Execution) - achieved at any official international assignment or national event during the competitive season and/or qualification events listed in 1.2.1 and 1.2.2.
- Consistency - percentage of made routines at any official international assignment or national event during the competitive season and/or qualification events listed in 1.2.1 and 1.2.2.
 - A hit routine is defined as a routine that does not include a large deduction or greater (as defined in the FIG Code of Points) on any single skill within the routine.

- Composite Strength of all the World Team members with consideration of potential for Team, All Around and Individual Event medals.
- World Class presentation - the strength, endurance, technical execution standard and artistic components commensurate with World and Olympic presentation.
- Readiness to compete - current health status and physical preparedness of each gymnast.
- Physical capability to fulfill the training plan as outlined in the Women's Responsibility Manual.

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

Athlete Selection Committee

- High Performance Team Coordinator, Tom Forster
- Representative named by IEC, Tatiana Perskaia
- Women's Program Athlete Representative, ~~Terin Humphrey~~ **Kayla Williams**
- Vice President of Women's Program, Annie Heffernon, Voice, no vote

Note: An Independent Observer of Procedure appointed by a sub-committee of the USA Gymnastics Board of Directors will be present at the final selection meeting (No voice, no vote).

2.3.1. Specify the process that will be used to identify and handle any potential conflicts of interest involving a member of the committee.

In the event that an Athlete Selection Committee member is currently affiliated with any athlete in consideration for the 2019 World Championships Team or is unable to fulfill the obligations of the Athlete Selection Committee or continue for any reason, a replacement will be named by the International Elite Committee.

3. REMOVAL OF ATHLETES

- 3.1. An athlete who is selected to the 2019 World Championships team by USA Gymnastics may be removed for any of the following reasons, as determined by USA Gymnastics:
- 3.1.1. Voluntary withdrawal. Athlete must submit a written letter to USA Gymnastics' President/CEO.
 - 3.1.2. Injury or illness **which inhibits peak performance** as certified by a physician (or medical staff) approved by USA Gymnastics. If an athlete refuses verification of her illness or injury by a physician (or medical staff) approved

by USA Gymnastics, her injury will be assumed to be disabling and she may be removed.

- 3.1.3. Failure to participate in Mandatory Training and/or Competition as defined in Section 10 of these procedures.
 - 3.1.4. Violation of USA Gymnastics' Safe Sport Policy, Code of Ethical Conduct, National Team Agreement, or Women's Responsibility Manual, which may be found online at https://usagym.org/pages/women/pages/selection_procedures.html.
 - 3.1.5. Inability to follow the training plan as directed by the High Performance Coordinator.
- 3.2. Removal may only occur by action of the President of USA Gymnastics after consultation with the Vice President of Women's Program, the High Performance Coordinator, the Athlete Representative, and an interview with the athlete and her coach. An athlete who is removed from the team pursuant to this provision has the right to a hearing per USA Gymnastics Bylaws (Article 10).
 - 3.3. An athlete may be removed from the Team for an adjudicated violation of WADA, IF, USADA and/or USOC anti-doping protocol, policies and procedures, as applicable. In such instances, the adjudication process will be managed by the United States Anti-Doping Agency.

4. REPLACEMENT OF ATHLETES

- 4.1. Describe the process by which the replacement pool of athlete(s) will be identified:

The Athlete Selection Committee may identify non-traveling replacement athletes for the 2019 World Championship Team, using the same criteria described in Section 2.2.

- 4.2. Describe how the replacement athlete(s) will be selected, should a vacancy occur:

Should a team member be removed or withdrawn, the replacement athlete will be selected from among the pool of replacement athletes based upon the needs of the team and utilizing the same criteria described in Section 2.2.

- 4.3. Identify the group or committee that will be responsible for making replacement determinations.

Athlete Selection Committee

- High Performance Team Coordinator, Tom Forster
- Representative named by IEC, Tatiana Perskaia
- Women's Program Athlete Representative, ~~Terin Humphrey~~ Kayla Williams
- Vice President of Women's Program, Annie Heffernon, Voice, no vote

5. COACH SELECTION

5.1. The coaches for the 2019 World Championships Team must meet the following minimum criteria:

- Be a current professional member in good standing with USA Gymnastics.
- Must meet the Qualifications for Service outlined in Article 2.4 of USA Gymnastics Bylaws.
- Be in good health and able to withstand the physical rigors of traveling with and working with the team.
- Be available for the entire duration of the competition, including any mandatory training specified in section 10.
- Have thorough knowledge of FIG rules.

5.2. Coaches will be selected according to the number of credentials available to the team, and limited to one coach per athlete based on the following criteria:

- The coaches for the 2019 World Championships Team will be selected from among the personal coaches of the team members, after the final Team Selection based upon the following criteria:
 - Proven team leadership ability
 - International experience
 - Professional membership in good standing
 - Attendance at required meetings
- One (1) Head Coach and one (1) Assistant Coach will be named from among the personal coaches identified above. Per FIG technical regulations, either the Head Coach or Assistant Coach must be female.

5.3. Removal of Coach

5.3.1. A coach who is selected to the team by USA Gymnastics may be removed for any of the following reasons, as determined by USA Gymnastics:

- Voluntary withdrawal. Coach must submit a written letter to the President of USA Gymnastics.
- Injury or illness **which inhibits the ability to perform coaching duties** as certified by a physician (or medical staff) approved by USA Gymnastics. If the individual refuses verification of his/her illness or injury by a physician (or medical staff) approved by USA Gymnastics, his/her injury will be assumed to be disabling and he/she may be removed.
- Violation of the USA Gymnastics' Safe Sport Policy, Code of Ethical Conduct or Women's Responsibilities Manual, which can be found here https://usagym.org/pages/women/pages/selection_procedures.html.

- The coach no longer meets the criteria in 5.1 or 5.2. (i.e., may no longer be a personal coach of an athlete named to the team due to an athlete's removal from the team).
- A coach shall automatically be deemed removed if the individual becomes ineligible for leadership pursuant to Section 2.4 of USA Gymnastics Bylaws or fails to meet the affirmative duty required by Section 2.4 of the Bylaws.
- Should an athlete be removed from the team pursuant to Section 3, the personal coach of that athlete may also be removed. Factors that may be taken into consideration when evaluating removal may include timing of the removal, availability of credentials, status of a replacement athlete, or the needs of the team.

5.3.2. A coach who is removed from the team pursuant to this provision has the right to a hearing per USA Gymnastics Bylaws (Article 10).

6. SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

A **2019** World Team Selection Committee Report, outlining the work and decisions of the selection committee, will be **made available** for distribution to all athletes and coaches who participated in the selection events within **a reasonable amount of time after** the conclusion of the 2019 World Team Selection Camp. **The report will be made public on the USA Gymnastics website. USA Gymnastics retains the sole discretion to determine the contents and timing of the report.**

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 the conclusion of the 2019 World Championships.

7. REQUIRED DOCUMENTS

The following documents are required to be adhered to by athletes and coaches as a condition of being named to the 2019 World Championships Team and can be found online at https://usagym.org/pages/women/pages/selection_procedures.html.

- USA Gymnastics Safe Sport Policy
- USA Gymnastics Code of Ethical Conduct
- National Team Agreement
- Women's **Responsibility Program** Manual

8. PUBLICITY/DISTRIBUTION OF PROCEDURES

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

- 8.1. USA Gymnastics Web site:
https://usagym.org/pages/women/pages/selection_procedures.html

These procedures will be posted as soon as possible, but not more than five (5) business days following notice of approval by the USA Gymnastics Board of Directors.

- 8.2. Procedures will be directly distributed to age-eligible national team members and their personal coaches.

9. DATE OF NOMINATION

The 2019 World Championships team will be announced at the conclusion of the 2019 World Championships Team Selection Camp.

10. MANDATORY TRAINING AND/OR COMPETITION

Athletes invited to the World Team Selection Camp must participate in the 2019 World Training Squad camp: September ~~24-27~~ ~~28-29~~, 2019 at Evo Athletics.

The World Team Selection Camp will be held September ~~21-23~~ ~~25-27~~, 2019 at Evo Athletics in Sarasota, FL. Immediately following the Selection Camp, the World Team Members will train together until departure to Stuttgart.

11. ANTI-DOPING REQUIREMENTS

Athletes must adhere to all 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, WADA, FIG, USADA and USOC Rules, as applicable.

12. 2020 OLYMPIC QUALIFICATION DISCLOSURE

As referenced below from Section D of the FIG document: *Qualification System – Games of the XXXII Olympiad – Tokyo 2020*:

An athlete may only obtain one (1) quota place for his/her NOC **except for an athlete who competed actively with a team which qualified for the Olympic Games during the 2018 or 2019 World Championships** who may also qualify an additional quota place for his/her NOC through the 2020 Individual All Around World Cup Series.

See

http://www.gymnastics.sport/publicdir/rules/files/en_FIG%20Olympic%20Qualification%202020%20GA%20GR%20GT.pdf for complete details.

13. DEVELOPMENT OF SELECTION PROCEDURES

The following committee/group was responsible for creating these Selection Procedures:

International Elite Committee

Committee Chair	Kelli Hill
Coach Representatives	Slava Glazounov Jess Graba Mary Lee Tracy
Athlete Representative	Terin Humphrey
VP of Women’s Program	Annie Heffernon, Voice, no vote

14. NGB/HPMO BYLAWS AND GRIEVANCE PROCEDURES

USA Gymnastics Bylaws and Grievance Procedures can be found at: www.usagym.org




15. INTERNATIONAL DISCLAIMER

These procedures are based on IOC and/or FIG rules and regulations as presently known and understood. Any change in the selection procedures caused by a change in IOC and/or 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 President of USA Gymnastics.

16. USA GYMNASTICS SIGNATURES

I certify that I have read and approved the Athlete Selection Procedures for the 2019 World Championships Team.

Position	Print Name	Signature	Date
President/CEO USA Gymnastics	Li Li Leung		9/20/19
Vice President of Women’s Program	Annie Heffernon		9/18/19
Athlete Representative	Ivana Hong		9/19/19

13. DEVELOPMENT OF SELECTION PROCEDURES

The following committee/group was responsible for creating these Selection Procedures:

International Elite Committee

Committee Chair Kelli Hill
Coach Representatives Slava Glazounov
 Jess Graba
 Mary Lee Tracy
Athlete Representative Terin Humphrey
VP of Women’s Program Annie Heffernon, Voice – no vote

14. NGB/HPMO BYLAWS AND GRIEVANCE PROCEDURES

USA Gymnastics Bylaws and Grievance Procedures can be found at: www.usagym.org




15. INTERNATIONAL DISCLAIMER

These procedures are based on IOC and/or FIG rules and regulations as presently known and understood. Any change in the selection procedures caused by a change in IOC and/or 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 President of USA Gymnastics.

16. USA GYMNASTICS SIGNATURES

I certify that I have read and approved the Athlete Selection Procedures for the 2019 World Championships Team.

Position	Print Name	Signature	Date
President/CEO USA Gymnastics	Li Li Leung		6/25/19
Vice President of Women’s Program	Annie Heffernon		6/3/2019
Athlete Representative	Ivana Hong		6/22/19

13. DEVELOPMENT OF SELECTION PROCEDURES

The following committee/group was responsible for creating these Selection Procedures:

International Elite Committee

Committee Chair Kelli Hill
Coach Representatives Slava Glazounov
 Jess Graba
 Mary Lee Tracy
Athlete Representative Terin Humphrey
VP of Women’s Program Annie Heffernon, Voice – no vote

14. NGB/HPMO BYLAWS AND GRIEVANCE PROCEDURES

USA Gymnastics Bylaws and Grievance Procedures can be found at: www.usagym.org

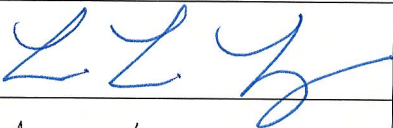


15. INTERNATIONAL DISCLAIMER

These procedures are based on IOC and/or FIG rules and regulations as presently known and understood. Any change in the selection procedures caused by a change in IOC and/or 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 President of USA Gymnastics.

16. USA GYMNASTICS SIGNATURES

I certify that I have read and approved the Athlete Selection Procedures for the 2019 World Championships Team.

Position	Print Name	Signature	Date
President/CEO USA Gymnastics	Li Li Leung		4/26/19
Vice President of Women’s Program	Annie Heffernon		4/15/2019
Athlete Representative	Ivana Hong		4/17/19

Each athlete and coach participating in the process for selecting the 2019 World Championships Team as outlined in these selection procedures has carefully reviewed, understands and agrees to the terms of the selection procedures. That understanding and agreement is reflected by the signature of the athlete and coach below.

Athlete

Date

Parent (if athlete is under 18 years of age)

Date

Coach

Date