

U.S. FIGURE SKATING (NGB)

Athlete Selection Procedures

2026 Olympic Winter Games

- Preliminary Notice: September 16, 2024 (see <https://www.usfigureskating.org/about/team-usa>)
- Publication Date: January 21, 2025

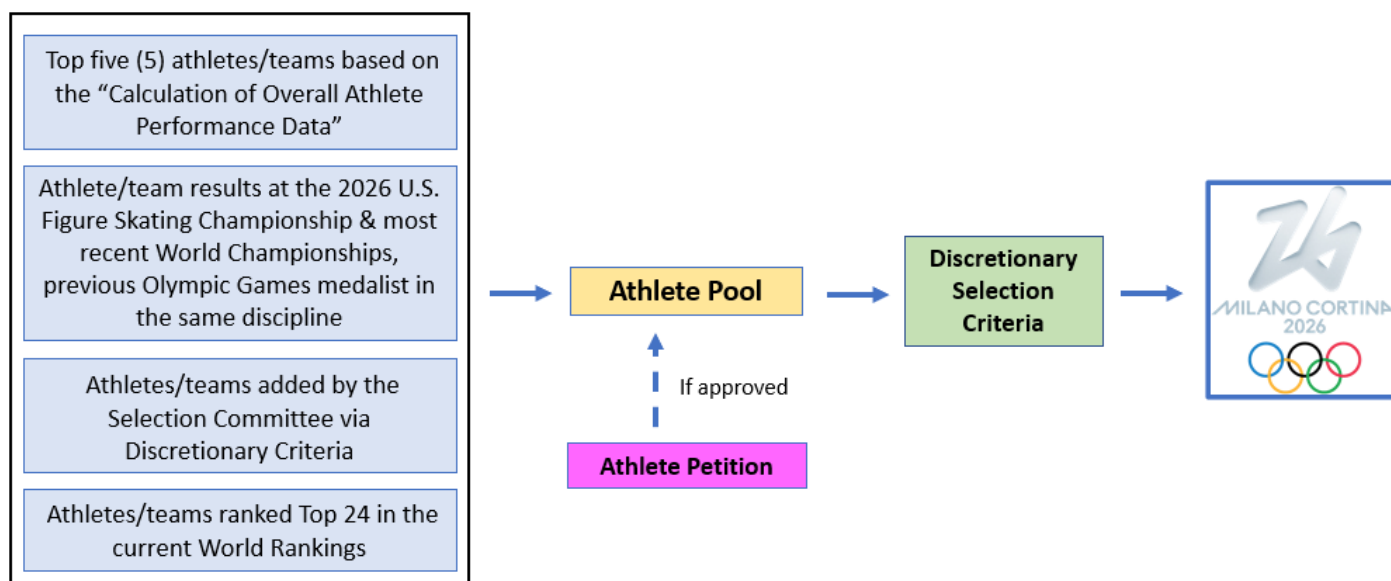
SECTION 1: OVERVIEW

These procedures outline the pathway for nomination to the Milano-Cortina 2026 Olympic Winter Games for U.S. Figure Skating (NGB).

The maximum Team size can be 18 athletes (a maximum of three (3) ladies, three (3) men, three (3) pairs teams and three (3) ice dance teams). However, final Team size will depend on earned International Skating Union (ISU) quota. ISU quotas are awarded to the National Olympic Committee (NOC).

SECTION 2: SELECTION PROCESS DIAGRAM

The following provides a high-level overview of how athletes will be nominated to the Team:



Note: This diagram is for informational purposes only. In the event of a conflict between the diagram and any written section herein, the written sections will take precedent.

SECTION 3: ATHLETE REQUIREMENTS

1. Nationality/Passports Requirements:
 - Have a valid United States passport at the time of nomination that does not expire for six months after the conclusion of the 2026 Olympic Winter Games (Games).
2. Minimum International Olympic Committee (IOC) Requirements:

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- Abide by the rules in the Olympic Charter, including nationality/citizenship requirements.
 - For additional information regarding an athlete who is a national of two or more countries, has changed his or her nationality or acquired a new nationality, refer to the Olympic Charter (Rule 41).
- Abide by the IOC Eligibility of Conditions Form/Conditions of Participation Form
- 3. Organizing Committee Olympic Games Requirements (OCOG) Requirements:
 - Comply with all rules and policies implemented by the OCOG for Milano-Cortina 2026.
- 4. International Skating Union (ISU) Requirements:
 - To be eligible to participate in the 2026 Olympic Games, athletes must be born on or before July 1, 2008.
 - As per Rule 400.A/B, paragraph 5 of the 2022 Special Regulations Single & Pair Skating/Ice Dance, to be entered into and participate in the individual events (Women Single Skating, Men Single Skating, Pair Skating, Ice Dance) of the Olympic Winter Games, a skater/couple must have reached on or before the final entry deadline of 26 January 2026 in an ISU Championships or ISU recognized International Competition (as per Article 39 paragraph 7 of the ISU Constitution and Rule 107, paragraph 1 to 9 of the ISU General Regulations) during the ongoing or immediately preceding season the applicable minimum Combined Total Elements Score (points) established for the ISU Championships (see ISU Special Regulations Single & Pair Skating/Ice Dance, Rule 378, paragraph 4). The applicable Minimum Combined Total Elements Scores shall be decided by the ISU Council and shall be published in an ISU Communication at the beginning of the Olympic season 2025/2026.
 - Comply with all ISU eligibility requirements found here (see Qualification):
<https://olympics.com/ioc/documents/olympic-games/milano-cortina-2026-olympic-winter-games>
- 5. USOPC Requirements:
 - Comply with all USOPC rules applicable to the Games (e.g., Demonstrations).
 - Complete all USOPC Games Registration requirements by the stated deadline.
 - Comply with the USOPC Delegation Terms, including the Conduct Requirements, which will be made available here: <https://www.usopc.org/games-and-qualification>
 - Comply with the [USOPC Athlete Safety Policy](#) and the [U.S. Center for SafeSport Code](#).
 - Undergo a background screen in accordance with the current [USOPC Background Check Policy](#) if you will be age 18 or older.
- 6. NGB Requirements:
 - Comply with the NGB Athlete Agreement.
 - Comply with the NGB [Code of Conduct](#)
 - Comply with the NGB [SkateSafe® Program](#).

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- Athlete must have an active NGB membership.
- Athlete does not have an active suspension from the U.S. Center for SafeSport that would make the Athlete ineligible to participate in the Games.
- Athlete does not have an active sanction for an anti-doping rule/policy violation that would make the Athlete ineligible to participate in the Games.
- Athlete/team must possess the appropriate ISU Clearance Certificates and/or Releases if applicable.
- Athlete must adhere to the NGB Competition Readiness requirements as outlined in the Athlete Agreement.
- Athlete/team must adhere to any additional monitoring or feedback requests as defined by the U.S. Figure Skating High Performance department.
- Athlete must have completed all necessary ISU and NGB requirements for the competitive season; including but not limited to ISU Portal, Teamworks Smartabase/Hub, Music Clearance.

SECTION 4: OTHER MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS TO BE ELIGIBLE FOR THE TEAM

- Meet the U.S. Center for SafeSport's education and training requirements in accordance with the [USOPC Athlete Safety Policy](#) if you will be 18 or older on the day after the Closing Ceremony.
- Agree to be bound by and adhere to all IOC, WADA, ISU, USADA and USOPC anti-doping protocols, policies and procedures, as applicable. This includes participation in Out-of-Competition Testing and an agreement to be bound to the results management authority of the IOC, WADA, ISU, USADA, or other Anti-Doping Organization as applicable.
- Meet all health and safety protocols, to include vaccine requirements and/or testing requirements set forth by the government, local laws, USOPC, ISU and/or the OCOG.

SECTION 5: EVALUATIVE EVENTS

Event names, dates and locations of all trials, competitions, and camps to be used as part of the selection process:

Athletes being considered for nomination to the Games will be evaluated on their performance at any of the events on the calendar listed below starting with the 2025 U.S. Figure Skating Championships.

- U.S. Figure Skating's International Committee approved domestic and international calendar [HERE](#)

It is the responsibility of each athlete to regularly check the calendar of events to ensure they are aware of all schedule changes. Additionally, it is anticipated that the dates and locations of Challenger Series events will be added to the calendar in June 2025.

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SECTION 6: SELECTION PROCESS

Provide a step-by-step description of the selection process including an overview of the ISU Qualification System.

6.1 TOTAL QUOTA PLACES:

In accordance with the [ISU Qualification System for the 2026 Olympic Winter Games](#), U.S. Figure Skating can qualify up to a maximum of three (3) ladies, three (3) men, three (3) pairs teams and three (3) ice dance teams to the 2026 Olympic Winter Games for a maximum total Team size of 18 athletes.

Final Team size will depend on earned ISU quota and ISU quotas are awarded to the NOC. Nomination of athletes to the Games for all quota places earned is at the discretion of U.S. Figure Skating with approval by the USOPC.

In addition, U.S. Figure Skating may qualify to compete in the Team Event provided the U.S. qualifies as one (1) of the ten (10) best national teams from NOCs based on qualifying points as outlined in the [ISU Qualification System for the 2026 Olympic Winter Games](#). The process used for determining the athletes/teams to compete in the Team Event is described in detail below (see Section 6.4).

6.2 EVALUATION EVENT QUALIFICATION PATHWAY:

6.2.1 Athlete qualification pathway:

Athletes first qualify for the International Selection Pool (ISP) by achieving a score determined by the respective discipline group and communicated to athletes and coaches on [usfigureskating.org](#). Athletes/teams can be added to the ISP throughout the season upon meeting the minimum score.

Qualification to each of the events linked within the international calendar is dependent on the type of event.

- Grand Prix: Selection based on World Standing
 - Exception: Skate America athletes are selected by respective Discipline Groups as they are not based on World Standing
- Junior Grand Prix: Determined by respective discipline group
- Challenger Series: Determined by respective discipline group
- Other International: Determined by respective discipline group
- ISU [Championship Event](#): Selection based on selection procedures published on [usfigureskating.org](#).

In accordance with ISU published deadlines, athletes are assigned to events by the discipline group for each respective discipline as outlined in their Athlete Agreement.

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6.2.2 Athlete Pool:

To create a pool of athletes/teams to be considered for nomination for the Games, the following criteria will be used:

- A. The top five (5) athletes/teams based on the “Calculation of Overall Athlete Performance Data” will be added to the pool. This data will use a factoring calculation of the scores achieved at the events listed and outlined in Appendix B.

Note: Events must meet the criteria for Eligible Events as defined by the ISU in Communication #1629, page 4, paragraphs C.1.4 and C.2.3 to be used as part of the nomination process

In addition to the Calculation of Overall Athlete Performance Data (Appendix B), the top five (5) athletes/teams at the 2026 U.S. Figure Skating Championships, top ten (10) at the immediately preceding World Championships, any athlete that has medaled at a previous Olympic Games in their discipline only, and any athlete/team in the current season’s Top 24 in World Rankings will be placed into the pool, if eligible based on age and skating level, regardless of whether they meet the requirements in Section 6.2.2 (A).

Additional athletes/teams may be added to the pool by the respective Selection Committee based on the discretionary selection criteria outlined in Section 7. An athlete/team will be added to the pool if approved by a 2/3 majority of the respective Selection Committee (see Section 7.3).

- B. Petition Athletes. Athletes/teams who qualified to compete but did not compete or complete both segments of the competition at any of the events listed in Section 5 due to injury or illness, verified by U.S. Figure Skating medical personnel, may still be considered for nomination to the Athlete Pool by submitting an athlete petition by the start of the selection meeting for each Discipline Group at the 2026 U.S. Championships. The meeting times will be determined and communicated a week prior to the start of the 2026 U.S. Championships.
- Athletes must submit petitions in writing to Justin Dillon (jdillon@usfigureskating.org). Instructions on how to petition can be found here: <https://www.usfigureskating.org/about/team-usa>
 - In the case of a petition based upon an injury or illness, the petition must be accompanied by a licensed physician’s statement, and the nature and extent of that injury or illness is subject to verification by a physician approved by U.S Figure Skating.
 - U.S. Figure Skating medical personnel must verify that the athlete(s) will be physically ready to compete at the Games.
 - To be considered for nomination by petition, the athlete/team must prove competitive

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- readiness by performing complete competition programs (SP/RD, FS/FD) with all planned program elements with timing determined by the International Committee, as approved and reviewed by a monitoring panel to be determined by the International Committee.
- Athlete petitions will be evaluated by the respective Selection Committee based on the discretionary selection criteria outlined in Section 7.
 - If the petition is accepted, the athlete/team will be added to the Athlete Pool.

6.3 NOMINATION TO THE TEAM:

From the pool of eligible athletes/teams, the respective Selection Committee (see Section 7.3) will nominate athletes/teams using the discretionary criteria outlined in Section 7. The Selection Committee may also nominate up to three (3) substitute athletes/teams in rank order.

If any of the athletes/teams nominated to the Team do not obtain the combined ISU minimum technical score requirements for the SP/RD, FS/FD 21 days before the first official practice day of the Games (same as entry deadline), the highest ranked substitute athlete/team who has achieved the combined ISU minimum technical score for the SP/RD, FS/FD will be nominated to the Team. The listed scores can be found in ISU Communication 2657 for the 2024/25 season and will be updated once published for the 2025/26 season.

In the event of a conflict between this overview and the ISU Qualification System, the ISU Qualification System will take precedent. For more details, please refer to the ISU Qualification System directly here: <https://olympics.com/ioc/documents/olympic-games/milano-cortina-2026-olympic-winter-games>

6.4 TEAM EVENT AT THE GAMES:

The athletes/teams competing in the Team Event at the Games must be nominated athletes/teams for the 2026 U.S. Olympic Team in the individual disciplines.

i. **Team Event Format at the Games**

After the short programs/rhythm dance of the Team Event are concluded at the Games, the top five (5) countries with the highest number of aggregate placement points will qualify athletes/teams to compete in the free skate program of the Team Event. The Team Event athletes/teams competing in the free skate/free dance segments will be the same athletes/teams who competed in the short programs. However, each country is allowed to substitute up to two (2) entries (men, ladies, pairs or ice dance) for the free skate/free dance segments from the other athletes on their Team.

ii. **Selection for Team Event**

One week prior to the 2026 U.S. Figure Skating Championships, five (5) members of the International Committee (the IC Chair, U.S. Figure Skating USOPC AAC Representative and

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International Committee Discipline Vice Chairs for singles, pairs, and ice dance), along with three non-voting attendees (Senior Director of Athlete High Performance, International Committee Past Chair and the ISU Representative) will meet to discuss strategy and review the disciplines using the international events listed in Section 5. The IC Discipline Subcommittees will determine a strategy to select the athletes/teams to compete in the Team Event during the selection meetings at the 2026 U.S. Figure Skating Championships.

The selection of athletes/teams for the Team Event will be based on the Discretionary Selection Criteria (Section 7) and discussions with the athletes/teams and coaches. The Calculation of Overall Athlete Performance Data (Appendix B) and body of work of the athletes/teams within the twelve month period will be used to determine which athletes/teams will have priority in competing in the Team Event. The selection of the participants in both the short program/rhythm dance and free skate/free dance will be made with the best strategy for podium placement in the Team Event. The selection decisions for the Team Event will be made by the Senior Director of Athlete High Performance and the respective discipline group.

The determination of which two (2) athletes/teams to substitute will be based on which disciplines have the best opportunity to medal and/or provide the strongest field in the individual events. The disciplines with the best opportunity to medal will have the first option of substitution in the Team Event if the U.S. qualifies for the free skate.

It will be the responsibility of the athlete/team to accept or decline participation in the Team Event.

SECTION 7: DISCRETIONARY CRITERIA TO NOMINATE ATHLETES RATIONALE FOR UTILIZING

7.1 DISCRETIONARY SELECTION

It has been the experience of U.S. Figure Skating that the athletes who have had the most success at the international level are those who have demonstrated consistent performances as opposed to the athletes who only have a single great performance. Therefore, by using discretionary selection criteria, U.S. Figure Skating can nominate the athletes who have the best chance to win the maximum number of medals at the Games.

7.2 DEFINE THE DISCRETIONARY CRITERIA TO BE USED:

To field the most competitive Team, the Selection Committee will take into consideration the criteria set forth below, which includes scores and placements in events, difficulty of the field, performance impact, and head-to-head match ups, to determine the athletes/teams who will have the best chance to win the maximum number of medals at the Games.

- Calculation of performance data of athletes/teams in the athlete pool as listed in Appendix B.
 - This data will include competition results and other reports/data relating to detailed results

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sheets of the competitions listed in Section 5.

- The data will provide a body of work within a twelve-month period that demonstrates the athlete's/team's consistency and ability to achieve medal potential scores at the Games.
- The technical elements, program components and total score data derived from protocols after the conclusion of each segment of competition specifically looking at consistency, competitiveness, and trending scores, will be a primary focus on discussing the ranking of the athletes/teams and determining the athletes that will have the most performance impact at the Games
- All athletes in the Athlete Pool will be evaluated on the selection criteria outlined above.

The Selection Committee will formally meet as soon as practical, after the conclusion of the competition at the 2026 U.S. Figure Skating Championships for each respective discipline (women, men, ice dance, pairs) or at the conclusion of all of the Championships disciplines to determine the respective nominees to the Team and substitute athletes in ranked order. A quorum of the Selection Committee must be present for the nominated athletes to the Team to be official. A quorum is defined as a two-thirds majority of the Selection Committee present either in person or via ZOOM and/or telephone conference call. A two-thirds majority vote of the Selection Committee actually voting is needed to approve the nominations and substitute athletes/teams.

7.3 SELECTION COMMITTEE

The committee that will be responsible for making discretionary selections or other decisions and recommendations directly impacting athletes in the selection process.

Committee Name: U.S. Figure Skating's International Committee (Singles, Pairs, Ice Dance Discipline Group)

- Chair of the International Committee
- Immediate Past Chair of the International Committee
- One discipline specific National Vice Chair
- Three discipline-specific athlete representatives
- One discipline-specific ISU official
- Two discipline-specific representatives
- ISU Representative (non-voting)

For more information, please see ICR 2.03 on page 89 of the Official U.S. Figure Skating Rulebook located [here](#).

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SECTION 8: MANDATORY TRAINING AND/OR COMPETITION

NGB does not plan to hold any mandatory training for the Team in advance of the Games. Should this change, NGB will provide the location and training schedule to all nominated athletes a minimum of thirty (30) days in advance of the mandatory training.

SECTION 9: DATE OF TEAM NOMINATION

NGB will nominate the Team, including any replacements/alternates to the USOPC on or before January 12, 2026.

The nomination of athletes and substitutes in rank order will be announced to all athletes in the Athlete Pool via email. A press release on U.S. Figure Skating's website will also be posted immediately following the respective nominations meeting. Additionally, nominated athletes will receive an assignment letter in the days following the nominations.

SECTION 10: REMOVAL OF ATHLETES FROM THE TEAM

10.1 NGB JURISDICTION

NGB has jurisdiction over athlete nominees until athlete entries have been submitted by the USOPC to the Organizing Committee of the Olympic Games.

- a. An athlete who is nominated to the Team by NGB may be removed for any of the following reasons, as determined by NGB:
 - i. Voluntary withdrawal. Athlete submits a written letter to the NGB Executive Director requesting to voluntarily withdraw from the Team.
 - ii. Injury or illness. A physician (or medical staff) approved by NGB provides certification that the Athlete has a debilitating condition. If Athlete refuses to provide verification of their illness or injury by a physician (or medical staff), their injury will be assumed to be debilitating, and they may be removed from the Team.
 - iii. Failure to participate. Athlete does not participate in all Mandatory Training and/or Competition as defined in these procedures.
 - iv. Code of Conduct Violation. Athlete violates the [NGB Code of Conduct](#)
 - v. Violation of U.S. Figure Skating's Competition Compliance Agreement: Appendix A
 - vi. Athlete Agreement. Athlete fails to sign, or athlete violates a term in their signed NGB Athlete Agreement and/or Competition Readiness Agreement.
 - vii. Non-compliance. Athlete does not meet the athlete eligibility requirements listed in Section 3 and Section 4 of these selection procedures.
 - viii. Athlete/team fails to obtain the minimum technical score requirements for the Games in both segments (SP/RD, FS/FD) at an ISU recognized international competition.
- b. An Athlete may be removed as a nominee to the Team or from the Team if found to have violated

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IOC, WADA, ISU, USADA and/or USOPC anti-doping protocol, policies and procedures, the U.S. Center for SafeSport Code, the USOPC Athlete Safety Policy and NGB SafeSport policies, as applicable.

10.2 USOPC JURISDICTION

- a. Once Athlete entries have been submitted by the USOPC to the Organizing Committee of the Olympic Games, the USOPC has jurisdiction over the Team.
- b. USOPC's Delegation Conduct Requirements apply in addition to the NGB Code of Conduct. The Delegation Conduct Requirements in the USOPC Games Delegation Terms are specific to each Games and are made available during the Games registration process.
- c. The USOPC's Grievance Procedures and Hearing Process are found within the USOPC Dispute Resolution Policy and Hearing Procedures.
 - i. See www.usopc.org/governance/dispute-resolution for more information.

SECTION 11: SELECTION PROCESS IF ATHLETE VACANCY OCCURS PRIOR TO SUBMISSION OF ENTRIES BY NAME TO THE ORGANIZING COMMITTEE OF THE OLYMPIC GAMES

- 11.1 Should a vacancy occur prior to submission of Entries by Name by the USOPC to the OCOG, NGB will nominate the next highest ranked substitute athlete/team.
- 11.2 All replacement athletes must meet all requirements listed in Sections 3-4.

SECTION 12: SELECTION PROCESS IF ATHLETE VACANCY OCCURS AFTER SUBMISSION OF ENTRIES BY NAME TO THE ORGANIZING COMMITTEE OF THE OLYMPIC GAMES

- 12.1 Should a vacancy occur after submission of Entries by Name by the USOPC to the OCOG, if allowed, NGB will nominate the next highest ranked substitute athlete/team.
- 12.2 All replacement athletes must meet all requirements listed in Sections 3-4.

SECTION 13: RIGHT TO A HEARING

An athlete who is removed from the Team has the right to a hearing per the [NGB's complaint procedures](#) The U.S. Figure Skating Bylaws and Grievance and Disciplinary Procedures (Article XXV) starting at GCR 1.00 and the USOPC Bylaws, Section 9 (<https://www.usopc.org/governance/dispute-resolution>).

SECTION 14: REQUIRED DOCUMENTS

In addition to the USOPC Delegation Conduct Requirements, the following documents are required to be signed by an athlete as a condition of nomination to the Olympic Games:

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- [NGB Code of Conduct](#)
- NGB Athlete Agreement

SECTION 15: DISCLAIMERS

These procedures are based on IOC and ISU rules and regulations as presently known and understood. Any change in the selection procedures caused by a change in IOC and/or ISU rules and regulations will be distributed to the affected athletes immediately. The selection criteria are based on the latest information available to NGB.

However, the selection criteria are always subject to unforeseen, intervening circumstances, and realistically may not have accounted for every possible contingency. If any force of nature, pandemic, or force majeure, should cause the alteration or cancellation of any of the selection events listed in this document, these selection procedures may require revisions, pursuant to their resubmission to the USOPC.

SECTION 16: CONFLICT OF INTEREST

All members of the Selection Committee (Section 7.3) and all individuals who developed these selection procedures (Section 21) must comply with the NGB's Conflict of Interest Policy, to include completing and submitting a disclosure form consistent with the [NGB's Conflict of Interest Policy](#) before convening the committee.

A conflict of interest exists when a personal, family, financial, professional, club, team or business relationship interferes with, or may be perceived to interfere with a committee member's ability to be impartial and participate in the selection process in a fair and impartial manner. Any member of the Selection Committee who has an actual, possible, or perceived conflict of interest must disclose it to the NGB's Grievance and Ethics Committee prior to the start of the selection process and may be required to recuse themselves from the Selection Committee discussions and/or voting.

If a conflict exists, the NGB's Grievance and Ethics Committee shall review the conflict and determine the committee member's level of involvement (e.g., whether that committee member must recuse themselves from participating in discussions and/or voting).

During its review, the NGB Grievance and Ethics Committee may ask a Selection Committee member or an affected person for more information at its discretion. For example, if a Selection Committee member is required to recuse themselves from voting, the NGB Grievance and Ethics Committee may still determine that a Selection Committee member who has relevant and necessary information related to athlete performance, such as a national team coach or high performance director, may, if requested by the Selection Committee, provide that information to the Selection Committee if the information is provided in a fair and unbiased

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manner and if the Selection Committee member with the conflict of interest does not vote toward the final decision.

Additionally, any person with a good faith belief that a committee member has a conflict of interest may report the alleged conflict of interest to the NGB's Grievance and Ethics Committee at grievance@usfigureskating.org. Reports may also be made anonymously through the [USOPC's Integrity Portal](#). No committee member shall retaliate in any way against a person who, in good faith, reports an alleged conflict of interest. In addition, the USOPC maintains a strict no retaliation policy that prohibits any employee, contractor, agent, volunteer, or member of the USOPC to take or threaten to take any action against an athlete for reporting information to or seeking assistance from the Office of the Athlete Ombuds.

Any recused individual shall be replaced in accordance with the NGB Selection Committee appointment process.

SECTION 17: QUESTIONS REGARDING ATHLETE SELECTION PROCEDURES

Athletes may contact the individuals listed below for information about these selection procedures.

Name: Justin Dillon
Position: Senior Director of Athlete High Performance
Email: jdillon@usfigureskating.org

Name: Amanda Will
Position: Team USA Athletes' Commission Representative
Email: acevora84@gmail.com

ATHLETE OMBUDS

The Team USA Athlete Ombuds serves as a safe, independent, confidential place for Team USA Athletes to seek advice about any sport-related rule, policy, or process; how to navigate raising or responding to concerns; or access legal and mental health resources.

Team USA Athletes may contact the Athlete Ombuds:

PHONE: (719) 866-5000
EMAIL: ombudsman@usathlete.org
WEBSITE: usathlete.org

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SECTION 18: GRIEVANCES

The U.S. Figure Skating Bylaws and Grievance and Disciplinary Procedures (Article XXV, Page 31 in the 2024-25 Rulebook) can be found on the U.S. Figure Skating website [HERE](#).

Section 9 of the USOPC Bylaws provides a process for an athlete to file a complaint with the USOPC against an NGB alleging that they have been denied, or threatened to be denied, with the opportunity to participate in a Protected Competition, as defined in the USOPC bylaws. Additional information on how to file a complaint can be found here: <https://www.usopc.org/governance/dispute-resolution>

SECTION 19: NON-RETALIATION

The USOPC and NGB have zero tolerance for retaliation against people who make good faith reports of potential ethical, policy, or legal violations, or who cooperate with investigations of those reports. That means no USOPC or NGB staff, Board or Committee member, or volunteer may threaten, harass, discriminate against, or take any negative employment or related action (e.g., discharge, demotion, suspension, negative review) on that basis.

- Individuals may report concerns to the NGB by following the NGB Whistleblower Policy or by emailing skatesafe@usfigureskating.org.
- Individuals may report concerns to the USOPC confidentially, or anonymously, online using the [USOPC Integrity Portal](#) or individuals may call the USOPC Integrity Hotline at 1-877-404-9935.
- Additional information can be found in the USOPC's [Speak Up Policy](#).

SECTION 20: SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

NGB will retain the approved Selection Procedures and all supporting documents, including scouting or evaluation forms, etc., and data from the selection process as required by the NGB Record Retention Policy or for six months past the date of the Closing Ceremony of the Games, whichever is longer.

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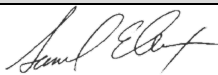
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SECTION 21: DEVELOPMENT, APPROVAL & CERTIFICATION OF SELECTION PROCEDURES

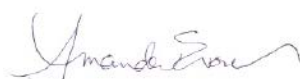
The following committee of individuals developed these selection procedures.

NAME	ROLE
Justin Dillon	Senior Director of Athlete High Performance
Julia Rey	International Committee Chair
Peggy Graham	International Committee Vice Chair, singles
Whitney Gaynor	International Committee Vice Chair, pairs
Janis Engel	International Committee Vice Chair, ice dance
Amanda Evora Will	USOPC Athletes Advisory Committee Chair, pairs
Colin McManus	U.S. Figure Skating Advisory Committee Chair, ice dance
Douglas Razzano– 10 yr	Athlete Representative, men
Christina Gao – 10 yr	Athlete Representative, women
Felicia Zhang – 10 yr	Athlete Representative, pairs
Alexandra Aldridge – 10 yr	Athlete Representative, ice dance
Troy Goldstein	ISU Representative (non-voting)

The following individuals approved these selection procedures and through their signature, certify that the procedures comply with the standards and criteria set by the ISU. The following individual further certifies that the information provided herein regarding Athlete Selection Procedures represents the method approved by the NGB and that these selection procedures will be posted on the NGB's website.

POSITION	NAME	SIGNATURE	DATE
U.S. Figure Skating Chief Executive Officer	Sam Auxier		January 21, 2025

The following individual affirms that they read and understand the selection procedures.

POSITION	NAME	SIGNATURE	DATE
Team USA Athletes Commission Representative*	Amanda Evora Will		January 21, 2025

* If the Team USA Athletes' Commission Representative has delegated authority to the Alternate Representative to sign the Selection Procedures, attach a letter from the Team USA AC Representative indicating the reason they have delegated authority.

* Signature by the Athlete Representative constitutes that they have read and understand the Selection Procedures. If the Athlete Representative reads and does not agree with the Athlete Selection Procedures being submitted by the NGB, they may submit those reasons in writing to their USOPC Sport Performance Team.

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

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Revision History

Date	Revisions
January 21, 2025	Original document published

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APPENDIX A – U.S. FIGURE SKATING’S COMPETITION COMPLIANCE AGREEMENT

Per U.S. Figure Skating’s Competition Compliance Agreement, any athlete injured and/or ill to the extent that requires surgery and/or ongoing medical treatment and/or is otherwise unable to train consistently, effectively, and according to their seasonal plan, and which may therefore jeopardize the athlete’s ability to compete for Team USA, the athlete agrees to communicate the situation to U.S. Figure Skating Senior Director, Athlete High Performance, with a copy to U.S. Figure Skating Director, High Performance Medical and Performance Services and U.S. Figure Skating Manager, Team USA. Under such circumstances, the athlete authorizes U.S. Figure Skating to request a Return to Play Plan & Status Report. Upon receiving the Return to Play Plan & Status Report, U.S. Figure Skating may share the information with the International Committee Chair and the Chair of the Sports Science and Medicine Committee and/or the Vice Chair of Medical Services for the Sports Science and Medicine Committee. This information will be handled with the utmost discretion and will be used to enable U.S. Figure Skating to help facilitate access to services that may support the athlete’s effort to recover.

In addition, any injury/illness occurring after nomination of the Team must be reported to medical@usfigureskating.org within 24 hours of occurrence and/or knowledge (whichever occurs first) of the injury/illness by the athlete and/or coach. The Senior Director, Athlete High Performance and the International Chair will be notified by the Director, High Performance Medical and Performance Services regarding the injury/illness. Depending on the severity of the injury or illness, the athlete authorizes U.S. Figure Skating to request a Return to Play Plan & Status Report from the Director, High Performance Medical and Performance Services. After the review of the Return to Play & Status Report, U.S. Figure Skating reserves the right to assemble an injury/illness evaluation group and meet via conference call.

The evaluation group shall include:

- U.S. Figure Skating, Senior Director of Athlete High Performance
- Director, High Performance Medical and Performance Services
- Medical representative for U.S. Figure Skating
- U.S. Figure Skating International Committee Chair
- Athlete’s physician diagnosing the injury or illness
- Primary coach of the athlete

The athlete or the parents of the athlete, if a minor, may also participate in the meeting to discuss the injury or illness. The athlete will also be provided with the option to have an athlete representative as part of the evaluation group; however, this is not mandatory as such evaluations concern protected health information.

The purpose of the evaluation group is to provide the athlete, in a confidential manner, a support mechanism to communicate factual information to aid in the recovery and allow the athlete to compete at

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the highest level at the Games.

The athlete's support staff (medical team, coach, etc.) will develop a plan to provide:

- A timeline for recovery and training that will achieve the performance goal agreed upon by the evaluation group.
- A timeline for communication on the progress of the athlete.

The primary coach of the next replacement (alternate) athlete and / or the replacement athlete may be notified by the International Committee Chair that a replacement may be needed depending on the severity of the injury or illness with a timeline to be determined.

If the athlete is unable to progress in the timeline approved by the evaluation group, the coach and athlete must notify the Senior Director, Athlete High Performance and a follow-up conference call will be arranged to discuss the options for the athlete. The Team USA AC representative for U.S. Figure Skating will be included in this meeting.

At this point the athlete will decide whether to withdraw, or if the athlete decides that he/she is not ready to withdraw from the event, then the following will occur:

1. The evaluation group will work with the athlete and support staff to adjust the timeline, or
2. If it is determined by the evaluation group, in its sole discretion, that it is not in the best interest of the athlete and/or U.S. Figure Skating for the athlete to attend the Olympic Games, the evaluation group will recommend to the International Committee Chair that the athlete is replaced by the next (substitute) athlete. The Chair of the International Committee will take the recommendation of the evaluation group to a vote by the appropriate Discipline Group to replace the athlete.

An athlete who is removed from the Team pursuant to this provision has the right to a hearing per U.S. Figure Skating's Constitution and Bylaws. The U.S. Figure Skating Bylaws and Grievance and Disciplinary Procedures (Article XXV in the 2024-25 Rulebook) can be found on the U.S. Figure Skating website [HERE](#).

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APPENDIX B – Calculation of Overall Athlete Performance Data

Appendix: Calculation of Overall Athlete Performance Data 2025-2026 Competition Season	
2026 U.S. Championships	Athlete/Team score with a factor of 4
2025-2026 Season JGP/GP Final	Athlete/Team score with a factor of 3
JGP/GP Highest Score	Highest score with a factor of 1.25
JGP/GP Average Score	Average score with a factor of 1.25 (if athlete/team has only one event in this category 80% of their first event score will be added to the second event column to determine an average)
Challenger Series/Senior B/Junior International Highest	Highest score with a factor of 1
Challenger Series/Senior B/Junior International Average	Average score with a factor of .75 (if athlete/team has only one event in this category 80% of their first event score will be added to the second event column to determine an average)
Sectional Finals (NOV/JR/SR)	Score with a factor of 0.5
NQS Standings Score (NOV/JR/SR)	Score with a factor of 0.25
Previous Year Final Calculation Number: the events below are given points as outlined that are multiplied by a factor of 15	
Previous Olympics/ World Championships	Champion receives 12 points, 2-3 placements receive 10 points, 4-8 placements receive 5 points (better placement of the two)
2025 Four Continents Championships	Top 3 receives 6 points, 4-5 receives 3 points
2025 World Junior Championships	Top 3 receives 8 points
2025 U.S. Championships	Champion receives 4 points, 2-3 receives 2 points
Previous Partner- Pairs/Ice Dance	Most recent partner within the current quad, only the listed competitions above with previous partner receive .25 points of their awarded points

If an athlete/team does not have a score for a JGP/GP/Challenger Series/Senior B/Junior International, 80% of an average score will be added to the column without data. Example:

- If an athlete/team competes at a JGP/GP, but not at a Challenger Series/Senior B/Junior International, 80% of the average score of the JGP/GP will be entered into the highest and average score for the Challenger Series/Senior B/Junior International columns.

If an athlete/team did not compete at a JGP/GP/Challenger Series/Senior B/Junior International, no scores will be added to those columns.

Example calculation for data sheet can be found here: [Championship Event Data Proposal.xlsx](#)

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APPENDIX C– COMMONLY USED ACRONYMS

AAC – Athletes' Advisory Council

AC – Athletes' Commission

Act or TSOASA – Ted Stevens Olympic and Amateur Sports Act

APC – Americas Paralympic Committee

CAS – Court of Arbitration for Sport

Center or CSS – U.S. Center for SafeSport

CF – Continental Federation

IMS – Internally Managed Sport (sport managed by the USOPC)

IOC – International Olympic Committee

IPC – International Paralympic Committee

IF – International Federation

LOC – Local Organizing Committee

NGB – National Governing Body

NOC – National Olympic Committee

NPC – National Paralympic Committee

OCOG – Organizing Committee of the Olympic Games

PAG – Pan American Games

Panam Sports or PASO – Pan American Sports Organization

PPAG – Parapan American Games

PSO – Paralympic Sport Organization

TEAM USA AC – Team USA Athletes' Commission (formerly USOPC AAC)

USADA – United States Anti-Doping Agency

WADA – World Anti-Doping Agency

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APPENDIX D – GLOSSARY

Contingency means a future event or circumstance which is possible but cannot be predicted with certainty.

Delegation Event means the Olympic Games, the Olympic Winter Games, the Paralympic Games, the Paralympic Winter Games, the Pan American Games, and the Parapan American Games.

Force Majeure means an event or effect that cannot be reasonably anticipated or controlled (e.g., hurricane, tornado, etc.).

Grievance Procedures means the process that enables an athlete to file a complaint with the NGB or USOPC.

Jurisdiction means the power or authority to make decisions and judgments.

Nominated means an athlete, coach or staff member whose name has been submitted to the USOPC by an NGB for participation in a Delegation Event.

Protected Competition means a Delegation Event or a Qualifying Competition.

Qualifying Competition means either of the following:

2. **NGB Qualifying Competition:** Any competition or activity organized or approved by the NGB where the athlete's performance or results are considered in the published selection criteria to represent the United States in a Delegation Event.
3. **International Qualifying Competition:** Any international sport competition where (i) athletes represent the United States against athletes representing other nations, (ii) the NGB officially designates entrants, as required by the competition organizers, and (iii) athlete results or performance are included in the published criteria to qualify, or be selected, to represent the United States in a Delegation Event.

Selected means an athlete, coach or staff member whose name has been submitted by the USOPC to the OCOG at the final submission date, as determined by the OCOG.

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APPENDIX E – ATHLETE RESOURCES

ATHLETE LEGAL AID

The purpose of the Athlete Legal Aid Program is to assist elite athletes without sufficient financial means to seek aid for fees and costs associated with legal representation or the proceeding itself with respect to claims before an anti-doping organization, NGB, IF, the U.S. Center for SafeSport, USOPC, IOC/IPC, Court of Arbitration for Sport (CAS), or other sport-related tribunal within the Olympic and Paralympic Movement.

WEBSITE: www.usopc.org/ombuds/athlete-legal-aid-program

ATHLETE OMBUDS

The Team USA Athlete Ombuds serves as a safe, independent, confidential place for Team USA Athletes to seek advice about any sport-related rule, policy, or process; how to navigate raising or responding to concerns; or access legal and mental health resources.

Team USA Athletes may contact the Athlete Ombuds:

PHONE: (719) 866-5000

EMAIL: ombudsman@usathlete.org

WEBSITE: usathlete.org

SAFESPORT HELPLINE

The SafeSport Helpline provides crisis intervention, referrals, and emotional support specifically designed for athletes, staff, and other SafeSport participants affected by sexual violence. Through this service, support specialists provide live, confidential, one-on-one support that is available 24/7. Individuals can call the Helpline at 866-200-0796 or visit www.safesporthelpline.org.

TEAM USA ATHLETES' COMMISSION (Team USA AC) *(Formerly Athletes' Advisory Council)*

The Team USA AC is responsible for broadening communication between the USOPC and active athletes and serves as a source of input and advice to the USOPC Board of Directors.

WEBSITE: www.usopc.org/teamusa-athletes-commission

TEAM USA ATHLETE SERVICES

The USOPC helps support Team USA athletes from the start of their career to their retirement and beyond through direct funds, programs and services that help athletes excel in their day-to-day lives, on and off the field of play.

WEBSITE: www.usopc.org/athlete-benefits-and-resources

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TEAM USA MENTAL HEALTH RESOURCES

For those in need of mental health support, USOPC Psychological Services is available at psychservices@usopc.org, or you can connect with a licensed mental health provider 24/7 through the USOPC Psychological Services Support Line at 719-866-2255. You can also visit www.usopc.org/mental-health for information about all available resources or complete our referral link at: go.teamusa.org/referrals to get connected.

USOPC DISPUTE RESOLUTION UNIT (DRU)

For Protected Competitions, USOPC's DRU oversees the administration of dispute resolution services to athletes and other members of NGBs for grievances under the USOPC's jurisdiction to ensure the complaints are heard in a timely and fair manner. For more information about this process, please visit the [dispute resolution website](#).

USOPC ETHICS AND COMPLIANCE

USOPC's Ethics and Compliance team is responsible for ensuring the USOPC and NGBs comply with the Ted Stevens Olympic and Amateur Sports Act, their own bylaws and policies, and any other applicable laws or regulations. Any individual may report concerns confidentially, or anonymously, online using the [USOPC Integrity Portal](#) or individuals may call the USOPC Integrity Hotline at 1-877-404-9935 to report their concern over the phone.

USOPC SECURITY AND ATHLETE SAFETY REPORTING PORTAL

Athletes can report an incident of emotional, physical, or sexual misconduct, a violation of the Minor Athlete Abuse Prevention Policies (MAAPP) or a general security incident or concern through the [Safety Reporting Portal](#). Athletes may also report to the USOPC over the phone at 719-866-3869.