

USA Fencing
ATHLETE SELECTION PROCEDURES
Tokyo Paralympic Games, 2020
Wheelchair Fencing
11/1/2019

CURRENTLY UNDER REVIEW FOR AMENDMENTS DUE TO POSTPONEMENT OF THE GAMES: March 26th, 2020

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 national of the United States at the time of selection.

Athlete must hold a valid U.S. passport that will not expire for six months after the conclusion of the Games.

1.1.2. Minimum International Olympic Committee (IOC), International Paralympic Committee (IPC) standards for participation:

Any competitor in the Paralympic, or Parapan American Games must be a national of the country of the National Paralympic Committee (NPC) which is entering such competitor. 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), the IPC Handbook (Section 2, Chapter 3.1), or Panam Sports Constitution (Article 30.5-6).

1.1.3. Minimum International Wheelchair and Ambulatory Sports (IWAS) standards for participation:

- Athletes must have competed in at least three (3) international sanctioned IWAS Wheelchair Fencing competitions between 1 November 2018 and 31 May 2020; and
- Be internationally classified with a 'Confirmed' sport class status.

1.1.4. Other requirements (if any):

- Athletes must have successfully completed all Games Registration requirements by stated deadline.
- Must be a current member of USA Fencing

- Athletes age 18 or older will be required to undergo a background screen in accordance with the current USOPC Background Check Policy.
- Athletes age 18 or older as of the Closing Ceremony will be required to complete the U.S. Center for Safesport's online training.

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.

IWAS Events between 1 November 2018 and 31 May 2020. These events can be found at: <http://www.iwasf.com/iwasf/index.cfm/sports/iwas-wheelchair-fencing/competitions1/>.

- 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).

Any athlete can enter these events if the classification requirements are met.

- 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).
<https://www.paralympic.org/tokyo-2020/qualification-criteria>.

Allocation of Qualification Slots:

The qualification slot is allocated to the individual athlete, not to the NPC.

In case of a Bipartite Commission Invitation the qualification slot is also allocated to the individual athlete, not to the NPC.

Maximum Quota Allocation per NPC:

An NPC can be allocated no more than ten (10) male and ten (10) female qualification slots.

Maximum Entry per NPC

An NPC can enter a maximum of two (2) eligible athletes per Individual event of whom only one (1) athlete can have obtained their slot through each of the Combined Individual Paralympic Ranking Lists. Athletes who have obtained their slot through Individual Paralympic Ranking Lists will enter a second Individual event for which they have not obtained a qualification slot if they are ranked in position 25 or higher on the IWAS Wheelchair Fencing Paralympic Ranking List for that particular event closing 31 May 2020 (if the maximum number of entries is not exceeded).

An NPC can enter no more than three (3) eligible and qualified athletes in each of the Team medal events. Only the host country and Teams ranked top-12 (for the Men's and for the Women's) on the IWAS Wheelchair Fencing World Ranking List closing 31 May 2020 may be considered for entry into their respective Team medal event.

Combined Individual Paralympic Ranking List Allocation by Region Category - A

Method: The Combined Individual Paralympic Ranking Lists in 2 weapons (Foil + Epee, Foil + Sabre, Epee + Sabre) closing 31 May 2020 will be used to award qualification slots to athletes in Category A.

The top-ranked male and female athletes from each region (Europe, America/Africa, Asia/Oceania) in the Combined Individual Rankings each obtain one (1) qualification slot for their NPC. Athletes have to be ranked in the top-25. If a region has no athlete in the top-25 of a particular Ranking, this slot is given to the next highest ranked athlete (not yet qualified) regardless of region.

Total: 9 male athletes, 9 female athletes

Combined Individual Paralympic Ranking List Allocation – Category A

Method: The two (2) highest ranked male and female athletes (not yet qualified) in each Combined Individual Ranking List each obtain one (1) qualification slot for their NPC regardless of region.

Total: 6 male athletes, 6 female athletes

Combined Individual Paralympic Ranking List Allocation by Region – Category B

Method: The Combined Individual Paralympic Ranking Lists in 2 weapons (Foil + Epee, Foil + Sabre, Epee + Sabre) closing 31 May 2020 will be used to award qualification slots to athletes in Category B.

The top-ranked male and female athletes from each region (Europe, America/Africa, Asia/Oceania) in the Combined Individual Rankings each obtain one qualification slot for their NPC. Athletes have to be ranked in the top-25. If a region has no athlete in the top-25 of a particular Ranking, this slot is given to the next highest ranked athlete (not yet qualified) regardless of region.

Total: 9 male athletes, 9 female athletes

Combined Individual Paralympic Ranking List Allocation – Category B

Method: The highest ranked male and female athlete (not yet qualified) in each Combined Individual Ranking List each obtains one (1) qualification slot for their NPC regardless of region.

Total: 3 male athletes, 3 female athletes

Individual Paralympic Ranking List Allocation Method:

The two (2) highest ranked athletes (not yet qualified) on each Individual Paralympic Ranking List each obtain one (1) qualification slot for their NPC.

Total: 12 male athletes, 12 female athletes

Team Athlete Allocation Method:

After allocation of all individual slots and in order to secure the viability of the Team Medal Events, five (5) eligible male and five (5) eligible female athletes will be allocated one (1) slot each. IWAS will first consider the number of athletes with individual slots already qualified per country and, in case two or more countries have the same number of qualified athletes per Team event, the IWAS Wheelchair Fencing Paralympic Team Ranking List closing 31 May 2020 will be considered to choose the higher ranked team for allocation of a slot. Team athletes selected through this method are also allowed to enter in their respective individual event(s) if they are ranked in position 25 or higher on the IWAS Wheelchair Fencing Paralympic Ranking List closing 31 May 2020 (if the 5 male athletes 5 female athletes Tokyo 2020 Paralympic Games – Qualification Regulations Wheelchair Fencing 5 maximum number of entries is not exceeded). Any unused Team Athlete Allocation slot(s) will be allocated by the Bipartite Commission.

Total: 5 male athletes, 5 female athletes

2. DISCRETIONARY SELECTION (if applicable)

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

One (1) male and one (1) female athlete will be considered by IPC and IWAS for Bipartite Commission Invitation slots. To be considered for a bipartite slot, NPCs must submit an official application in writing to IWAS by 20 June 2020.

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

USA Fencing may but is not required to submit for a bipartite application. The following will be considered in the case of submitting athletes for a bipartite slot application:

- The athlete(s) experienced an injury or illness or switched weapons that impeded maximal performance or prevented the athlete from maximizing on their IWAS Rankings.
- The athlete is capable of producing a medal-earning performance, based on results from the two qualification seasons.
- The athlete, despite age or competing a relatively short time in the sport, has shown improved results at international competitions.

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:

Discretionary Selection Committee:
USA Fencing Sports Performance Manager
USA Fencing Wheelchair Squad Manager
USA Fencing Wheelchair National Team Coach
USOPC AAC Athlete Representative

- 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.

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 selection 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 or high performance director, 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.

3. REMOVAL OF ATHLETES

- 3.1. Prior to entry by name to the Local Organizing Committee by the USOPC, USA Fencing has jurisdiction over potential nominees.

An athlete who is to be nominated to the Team by USA Fencing may be removed for any of the following reasons, as determined by USA Fencing:

- 3.1.1. Voluntary withdrawal. Athlete must submit a written letter to the USA Fencing Executive Director.
- 3.1.2. Injury or illness as certified by a physician (or medical staff) approved by USA Fencing. If an athlete refuses verification of his/her illness or injury by a physician (or medical staff) approved by USA Fencing, his/her injury will be assumed to be disabling and he/she may be removed.
- 3.1.3. Failure to participate in Mandatory Training and/or Competition as defined in Section 9 of these procedures.
- 3.1.4. Violation of USA Fencing's Code of Conduct (Appendix A)
- 3.1.5. Re-classification of the athlete by the IPC such that the athlete's qualifying performance would not have qualified him/her for the Team.
- 3.1.6. Removal by the IPC of the event in which the athlete qualified for the Team from the program of the 2020 Tokyo Paralympic Games.

An athlete who is removed from the Team pursuant to this provision has the right to a hearing USA Fencing's Bylaws, Section 16, and the USOPC's Bylaws, Section 9.

- 3.2. Once athlete entries have been submitted to the Local Organizing Committee by the USOPC, the USOPC has jurisdiction over the Team, at which time, in addition to any applicable USA Fencing Code of Conduct, the USOPC's Code of Conduct and Grievance Procedures apply. The USOPC's Code of Conduct and Grievance Procedures can be found at:

<https://www.teamusa.org/Athlete-Resources/Athlete-Ombudsman>

<http://www.teamusa.org/Footer/Legal/Governance-Documents>

- 3.3. An athlete may be removed as a nominee to the Team or from the Team for an adjudicated violation of IOC, Panam, IPC, WADA, IF, USADA and/or USOPC anti-doping protocol, policies and procedures, as well as the U.S. Center for SafeSport Code, the USOPC Athlete Safety Policy and USA Fencings SafeSport Policies, 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:

IWAS will confirm reallocation of unused qualification slots via the Bipartite Invitation Commission Allocation method.

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

same as 4.1.1

5. SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

USA Fencing 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 Closing Ceremony of the Games.

6. REQUIRED DOCUMENTS

In addition to the USOPC Code of Conduct, the following documents are required to be signed by an athlete as a condition of nomination to the Olympic, Paralympic, Pan American or Parapan American Games and are included as attachments:

7. PUBLICITY/DISTRIBUTION OF PROCEDURES

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

7.1. USA Fencing Web site: <https://www.usafencing.org/selection-criteria>.

These procedures will be posted as soon as possible, but not more than five business days following notice of approval by the USOPC.

7.2. Other:

8. DATE OF NOMINATION

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

July 10, 2020

9. MANDATORY TRAINING AND/OR COMPETITION

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

N/A

10. ANTI-DOPING REQUIREMENTS

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

11. DEVELOPMENT OF SELECTION PROCEDURES

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

Board Liaison: Cody Mattern

Parasquad Manager: Ginny Boydston

Para Committee Volunteers: Rockwell Herron, Sean Shumate, Les Stawicki

Athletes: Joey Brinson, Leo Curtis, Gerard Moreno

Staff Liaison: Brandon Dyett

<https://www.usafencing.org/committees>.

12. NGB/HPMO BYLAWS AND GRIEVANCE PROCEDURES

The USA Fencing Bylaws and Grievance Procedures can be found at:
<https://www.usafencing.org/by-laws>

13. INTERNATIONAL DISCLAIMER

These procedures are based on IOC, IPC, Panam Sports, as applicable, and/or IWAS rules and regulations as presently known and understood. Any change in the selection procedures caused by a change in IOC, IPC, Panam Sports, as applicable, and/or IWAS rules and regulations will be distributed to the affected athletes immediately. The selection criteria are based on the latest information available to USA Fencing. 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 USOPC.

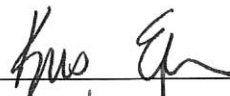

14. ATHLETE OMBUDSMAN

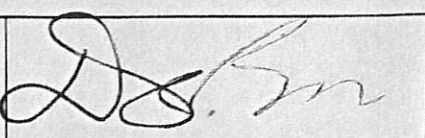
Athletes who have questions regarding their opportunity to compete that are not answered by USA Fencing may contact the USOPC Athlete Ombudsman, Kacie Wallace, by:

- Telephone at (719) 866-5000
- Email at Kacie.wallace@usopc.org
- <http://www.teamusa.org/Athlete-Resources/Athlete-Ombudsman>

15. USA Fencing SIGNATURES

I certify that I have read and understand the standards/criteria set by our IF and/or CF (PAG/PPAG only) 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 Fencing.

Position	Print Name	Signature	Date
USA Fencing President or CEO/Executive Director	Kris Ekeren		12/3/19
Nat. Team Coach, Head Coach, or Nat. Program Director	Kathryn Reister		11/5/19

USOPC Athletes' Advisory Council Representative*	DARLA SCHNEIDER		11/25/19
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* If the USOPC 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 USA Fencing, 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 USOPC AAC Representative, USA Fencing must designate an athlete from that sport to review and sign the Selection Procedures.

Appendix A

USA Fencing Code of Conduct

ATHLETE PLEDGE

I will uphold the spirit of this Pledge, which governs my conduct as an athlete member of USA Fencing.

By signing these terms, I agree to abide by the Pledge.

As an athlete member of USA Fencing, I hereby promise and agree that I:

- will act in a sportsmanlike manner consistent with the spirit of fair play and responsible conduct;
- will maintain a level of fitness and competitive readiness that will permit me to perform at the maximum of my abilities;
- will notify USA Fencing if I have a physical injury or illness that might compromise my ability to compete; if requested will submit to a physical/medical examination by medical personnel approved by USA Fencing and/or the USOPC and authorize the submission of the physical examination/medical information to USA Fencing and the USOPC; and understand that such injury or illness may be cause for my not being selected to a Team, being removed from a Team, or not being allowed to participate if I remain on a Team;
- will not commit a doping violation as defined by the World Anti-Doping Agency (“WADA”), United States Anti-Doping Agency (“USADA”), Federation Internationale d’Escrime (“FIE”), the International Olympic Committee (“IOC”), or USOPC rules;
- understand that an anti-doping suspension, or pending or unresolved anti-doping rule violation may be cause for my not being selected to a Team; and if I have an anti-doping suspension, or pending or unresolved anti-doping rule violation as of the date of my signing these terms I will immediately notify USA Fencing;
- will not engage in any conduct that is criminal under any laws applicable to me, including but not limited to laws governing the possession and use of drugs and alcohol and providing of drugs to any person and of alcohol to minors;

- have never been convicted of violating a criminal law and have no pending indictments or pending charges (except for misdemeanors, which, if known, would not be a factor in my selection as a Team member or convictions as a minor which have been legally sealed); I understand that such conviction, indictment or criminal charge may be cause for my not being selected to a Team; and if I have a past conviction, indictment or criminal charge as of the date of my signing these terms, I will immediately notify USA Fencing;
- will not participate or assist in any gambling or betting activities associated with fencing or any event related to fencing;
- am eligible to compete under the rules of the IOC, FIE and USA Fencing;
- am in possession of a valid U.S. passport;
- will refrain from conduct detracting from my ability or that of my teammates to attain peak performance;
- will respect the property of others whether personal or public;
- will abide by all laws of the country in which events are held; will abide by the laws of the United States with regard to alcohol and drugs no matter where the event is held;
- will abide by the USA Fencing and USOPC SafeSport policy (available at usafencing.org and TeamUSA.org);
- will respect members of my Team, other teams, spectators and officials, and will not engage in any form of discriminatory behavior or verbal, physical or sexual harassment or abuse;
- will follow all USA Fencing Team rules;
- will abide by the rules governing my sport, including the technical and other rules of the FIE,
- will wear designated USA Fencing apparel at all official functions and events, including Medal Ceremonies and at media events (including press conferences);
- will not conceal or cover-up any USA Fencing sponsor, supplier or licensee brand or other identification appearing on my delegation apparel;
- will act in a way that will bring respect and honor to me, my teammates, USA Fencing, and the United States;

- will remember that at all times, I am an ambassador for USA Fencing, my sport and my country.

ATHLETE OMBUDSMAN

I may contact the USOPC Athlete Ombudsman,
at 719.866.5000
for further information regarding my rights under this Code
that are not answered by USA Fencing.

PARTICIPANTS' AFFIRMATION

I have read and accept this Code of Conduct. I agree to the rules, guidelines, jurisdiction and procedures stated in these documents as a condition of being selected to participate as a member of the Team.

Participant's Signature

Participants Printed Name

Date