

USA Hockey

Paralympic Ice Hockey Athlete Selection Procedures

2026 Paralympic Winter Games

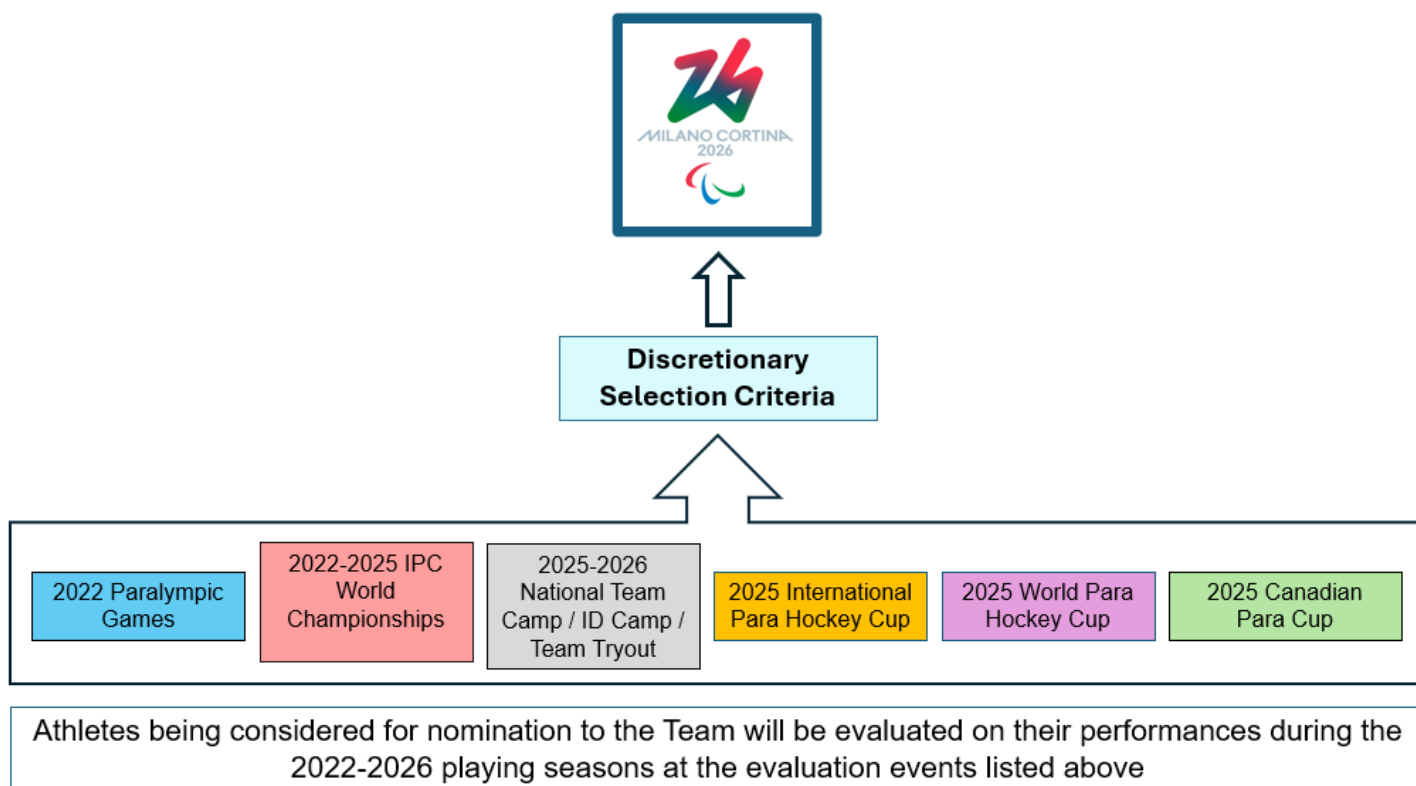
- Publication Date: July 30, 2025

SECTION 1: OVERVIEW

These procedures outline the pathway for nomination to the Milano-Cortina 2026 Paralympic Winter Games for USA Hockey (NGB). The maximum Team size can be 18 athletes, 17 male athletes and 1 female athlete. The final roster of 17 /18 athletes will be nominated by the NGB.

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 as of January 1, 2026 that does not expire for six months after the conclusion of the 2026 Paralympic Winter Games (Games).
2. Minimum International Paralympic Committee (IPC) Requirements:
 - Abide by the rules in the Paralympic Handbook, including nationality/citizenship requirements.
 - For additional information regarding an athlete who is a national of two or more

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countries, has changed his or her nationality or acquired a new nationality, refer to the [IPC Handbook](#) (see Nationality Regulations).

- Abide by the IPC 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 Federation (IF) Requirements:
- Comply with all World Para Ice Hockey and the International Paralympic Committee eligibility requirements found [here](#) (see Milano Cortina 2026 qualification regulations)
 - At the time of nomination, an athlete must have a WPIH International Classification with an international sport class status of R-Review, FRD-Fixed Review Date or C-Confirmed, or if there has been no opportunity for the athlete to undergo international classification evaluation, the athlete must be evaluated by the NGB's medical and/or Paralympic staff and determined likely to classify in the sport class in which they would be qualified for the Team; provided that USOPC may submit athletes without an international sport class status on the official team entry into this competition by the WPIH. A description of sport-specific classification requirements and current athlete sport class status can be found at <https://www.paralympic.org/ice-hockey/classification>.
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](#) including education and training requirements.
 - Comply with the current [USOPC Background Check Policy](#).
6. USA Hockey (NGB) Requirements:
- Comply with the USA Hockey 2025-26 National Team Participation Agreement (to be completed prior to Team nomination).
 - Comply with the [USA Hockey Code of Conduct](#)
 - Comply with the USA Hockey [SafeSport Handbook](#)
 - Athlete must have an active USA Hockey 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.

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

- Agree to be bound by and adhere to all IPC, WADA, WPIH, USADA and USOPC anti-doping protocols, policies and procedures, as applicable. This includes participation in Out-of-Competition Testing and an

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agreement to be bound to the results management authority of the IPC, WADA, WPIH, 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, WPIH 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 nomination process:

- 2022 Paralympic Winter Games
- 2022 – 2025 IPC World Championships
- 2025 National Para Hockey ID Camp Men and Women – Columbus, OH (July 20-25, 2025)
- 2025 National Paralympic Team / Practice Team Try Out – Minot, ND (September 10-14, 2025)
- International Para Hockey Cup – Ostrava, Czechia (October 2025)
- National Team Camp (November 2025)
- 2025 Canadian Para Cup – Dawson Creek, BC (November 30 - December 6, 2025)

SECTION 6: SELECTION PROCESS

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

6.1 TOTAL QUOTA PLACES:

USA Hockey earned WPIH quota at the 2025 IPC World Championships. WPIH quota is awarded to the National Paralympic Committee (NPC).

The maximum Team size can be 17 male athletes and 1 female athlete. An additional 9 athletes on the practice team (including the 2 nominated alternate athletes) will train with the Team before the Games (see Section 8).

6.2 EVALUATION EVENT QUALIFICATION PATHWAY:

Selection procedures for the 2022 Paralympic Winter Games are posted [here](#).

IPC World Championships

Players were selected for the 2021, 2023, 2024, and 2025 World Championship teams through National Para Hockey ID Camps and the National Paralympic Team / Practice Team Try Out for the applicable year. The pathway for the ID camps and Try Out is similar to the pathway described below for the 2025 National Para Hockey ID Camp and the 2025 National Paralympic Team / Practice Team Try Out.

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2025 National Para Hockey ID Camp: Men and Women – Columbus, OH (July 20-25, 2025)

- The 2025 National ID Camp will include male and female athletes.
- Athletes will be identified for this camp through the following methods:
 - At the local league level by their coaches
 - Through previous National ID camps
 - Through scouted competitions (e.g., NHL Sled Classic)
- All athletes who participate in this ID Camp will be ranked by the National Team staff using the USA Hockey Individual Player Report (see Appendix A).
- National Team staff will invite the highest ranked athletes from this ID Camp to participate in the 2025 National Paralympic Team / Practice Team Try Out as allowed per the maximum number of invitations noted below.

2025 National Paralympic Team / Practice Team Try Out – Minot, ND (September 10-14, 2025)

- This Try Out may include male and female athletes.
- A maximum of 35 athletes will be invited to participate in this invite-only Try Out.
- The pool of athletes will include all current National Team and Practice Team players in addition to athletes invited to the Try Out at the 2025 National Para Hockey ID Camp.
- Athletes who participate in this Try Out will be ranked by the National Team staff using the USA Hockey Individual Player Report (see Appendix A).
- Athletes from this Try Out will be selected to join the National Paralympic Team and Practice Team using the Discretionary Criteria outlined in Section 7.
- Athletes who are not selected to join the National Paralympic Team and Practice Team will be invited to future National ID Camps.

2025 International Para Hockey Cup – Ostrava, Czechia (October 2025)

- 24 athletes from the 2025 National Paralympic Team / Practice Team Try Out will be nominated to the 2025 International Para Hockey Cup.
- A selection committee of 7 individuals including National Team Coaches and 3 Paralympians will select 24 athletes for the 2025 International Para Hockey Cup. The selection committee will select athletes based on the discretionary criteria outlined in Section 7.2.

2025 Canadian Para Cup – Dawson Creek, BC (November 30 - December 6, 2025)

- 17 athletes from the 2025 International Para Hockey Cup team will be nominated to the 2025 Canadian Para Cup.
- A selection committee of 7 individuals including National Team Coaches and 3 Paralympians will select athletes for this team. The selection committee will select athletes based on the discretionary criteria outlined in Section 7.2.

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- Please note that USA Hockey may not send a Team to this competition due to travel and budget constraints. If USA Hockey decides to send a team to compete in the 2025 Canadian Para Cup, the athletes nominated for this competition will be provided additional details a minimum of thirty (30) days in advance of the competition.

6.3 NOMINATION TO THE TEAM:

Based on athlete performance at the Evaluation Events (Section 5), the Paralympic Games Selection Committee (Section 7.3) will nominate athletes to the Team based on the selection criteria outlined in Section 7. The maximum Team size can be 17 male athletes and 1 female athlete plus 2 alternate athletes.

The Paralympic Team will be nominated after the 2025 International Para Hockey Cup (see Section 9).

Additionally, 9 players (including the 2 nominated alternate athletes) will be named to the practice team based on the selection criteria outlined in Section 7. These 9 players will train with the Paralympic Team and can be considered as potential replacement players if needed (see Section 8).

In the event of a conflict between this overview and the WPIH Qualification System, the WPIH Qualification System will take precedent.

For more details, please refer to the WPIH Qualification System directly [here](#) (see Milano Cortina 2026 qualification regulations).

SECTION 7: DISCRETIONARY CRITERIA TO NOMINATE ATHLETES

7.1 RATIONALE FOR UTILIZING DISCRETIONARY SELECTION:

The sport of Para Ice hockey is not a measured or timed event. In the nomination of athletes who will compete together as a team, it is difficult to make selections based solely upon objective criteria. It is the belief of USA Hockey that considering a mix of Selection Criteria which includes subjective components as well as objective statistical measures in evaluation of performance ability, will result in nomination of athletes who will work best together as an effective team and contribute to team success.

7.2 DEFINE THE DISCRETIONARY CRITERIA TO BE USED:

The Selection Committee will consider the following criteria in no particular order when determining athlete nominations for the Team:

- USA Hockey Individual Player Reports (see Appendix A)
 - Must be able to skate pass and shoot at an elite level.
 - Defensive player who can shut down an opponent and kill penalties.
 - Offensive player who creates scoring opportunities and can complement the power play.
 - Complimentary role player who can kill penalties and adapt to any situation on the ice.

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- Must be able to work independently during off ice training sessions to stay in the best athletic shape possible.
- Leadership in the locker room, on the ice and off the ice.
- Attitude - Exhibiting enthusiasm and support of teammates and the Team.
- Character - Committed to placing the Team's needs above their own and is respected by fellow teammates and staff.

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: Paralympic Games Selection Committee

- General Manager
- National Team Head Coach
- National Team Assistant Coach
- National Team Goaltending Coach
- 10-year athlete/Paralympian
- 10-year athlete/Paralympian
- 10-year athlete/Paralympian

SECTION 8: MANDATORY TRAINING AND/OR COMPETITION

Specify the location, schedule, and duration of all mandatory training and/or competition for athletes who are nominated to the Team.

The players nominated to the Team and the players named to the practice team will be required to participate in a residency program from January 7, 2026 through February 25, 2026 in Boulder, Colorado.

- The players nominated to the Team will train five days a week both on and off the ice using the arena and workout facility provided.
- The 9 players named to the practice team will train at least once during this time to provide working numbers to scrimmage and practice special teams.

While waivers for mandatory training will not be unreasonably withheld, all athletes nominated to the Team should arrange for appropriate time off from school, work or other obligations in advance. Waivers will primarily be granted for injury or other similar incapacity or for a personal/family emergency. Requests for a waiver must be submitted in writing to the Director of the Para National Hockey Team as far in advance as possible.

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SECTION 9: DATE OF TEAM NOMINATION

USA Hockey will nominate the Team, including any replacements/alternates to the USOPC on or before January 1, 2026.

SECTION 10: REMOVAL OF ATHLETES FROM THE TEAM

10.1 USA HOCKEY JURISDICTION

USA Hockey has jurisdiction over athlete nominees until athlete entries have been submitted by the USOPC to the OCOG.

- a. An athlete who is nominated to the Team by USA Hockey may be removed for any of the following reasons, as determined by USA Hockey:
 - i. Voluntary withdrawal. Athlete submits a written letter to the USA Hockey Director of the Para National Hockey Team 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 USA Hockey Code of Conduct located at www.usahockey.com/annualguide.
 - v. Athlete Agreement. Athlete violates a term in their signed USA Hockey Athlete Agreement.
 - vi. Non-compliance. Athlete does not meet the athlete eligibility requirements listed in Section 3 and Section 4 of these selection procedures.
- b. An Athlete may be removed as a nominee to the Team or from the Team if found to have violated IPC, WADA, WPIH, USADA and/or USOPC anti-doping protocol, policies and procedures, the U.S. Center for SafeSport Code, the USOPC Athlete Safety Policy and USA Hockey SafeSport policies, as applicable.
- c. Additional factors for Paralympic Athletes:
 - i. IPC removes the event in which the athlete qualified for the Team from the medal event program.
 - ii. A change in the athlete's sport class(es) following Team selection such that the athlete's qualifying performance would not have qualified them for the Team and/or the athlete is deemed Not Eligible (NE) by the IPC.

10.2 USOPC JURISDICTION

- a. Once Athlete entries have been submitted by the USOPC to the OCOG, the USOPC has jurisdiction over the Team.
- b. USOPC's Delegation Conduct Requirements apply in addition to the USA Hockey Code of

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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, one (1) of the nine (9) practice team players (which includes the two (2) nominated alternate athletes) will be nominated to fill the vacancy. The Paralympic Games Selection Committee will nominate the player to fill the vacancy based on the discretionary criteria in Section 7 as well as based on the position of the player who needs to be replaced.

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 by the Late Athlete Replacement Policy, USA Hockey will follow the procedure outlined in Section 11.1.

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 USA Hockey complaint procedures located in Bylaw 10 in the current USA Hockey Annual Guide located at <https://www.usahockey.com/annualguide> 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 Paralympic Games:

- USA Hockey Code of Conduct, a copy of which is located at: <https://www.usahockey.com/annualguide>
- 2025-26 USA Para Hockey Players Selection Agreement

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SECTION 15: DISCLAIMERS

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

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 USA Hockey'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 copy of USA Hockey's Conflict of Interest Policy may be found at <https://www.usahockey.com/annualguide>.

SECTION 17: QUESTIONS REGARDING ATHLETE SELECTION PROCEDURES

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

Name: Dan Brennan

Position: USA Hockey General Manager – Director, Para Hockey National Teams

Email: danb@usahockey.org

Phone: (719) 538-1177

Name: Taylor Lipsett

Position: Team USA Athletes' Commission Representative

Email: taylor.lipsett1987@gmail.com

Phone: (214) 549-1612

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.

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Team USA Athletes may contact the Athlete Ombuds:

PHONE: (719) 866-5000

EMAIL: ombudsman@usathlete.org

WEBSITE: usathlete.org

SECTION 18: GRIEVANCES

The USA Hockey Grievance Procedures can be found in Bylaw 10 of the USA Hockey Bylaws, which can be found in the current USA Hockey Annual Guide here: <https://www.usahockey.com/annualguide>

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 USA Hockey 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 USA Hockey 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 USA Hockey by emailing the USA Hockey Ethics Committee Chair at: EthicsChair@usahockey.org and/or the USA Hockey General Counsel at: CJorgensen@usahockey.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.

SECTION 20: SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

USA Hockey 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 USA Hockey Records Retention Policy or for six months past the date of the Closing Ceremony of the Games, whichever is longer.

SECTION 21: DEVELOPMENT, APPROVAL & CERTIFICATION OF SELECTION PROCEDURES

The following committee of individuals developed these selection procedures.

NAME	ROLE
Dan Brennan	USA Hockey Director, National Para Hockey Teams


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Pat Kelleher	USA Hockey Executive Director
John Vanbiesbrouck	USA Hockey Asst Executive Director Hockey Operations
Kris Knauss	USA Hockey Vice President, International Council
Andy Yohe	10 year athlete / Paralympian
Taylor Lipsett	10 year athlete / Paralympian

The following individual approved these selection procedures and through their signature, certifies that the procedures comply with the standards and criteria set by World Para Ice Hockey. The following individual further certifies that the information provided herein regarding Athlete Selection Procedures represents the method approved by USA Hockey and that these selection procedures will be posted on the USA Hockey website.

POSITION	NAME	SIGNATURE	DATE
USA Hockey Executive Director	Pat Kelleher		8.20.25

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

POSITION	NAME	SIGNATURE	DATE
Team USA Athletes Commission Representative*	Taylor Lipsett		08/18/2025

* If the Team USA Athletes' Commission Representatives have delegated authority to another 10 Year Athlete 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 a 10 Year Athlete from that sport to review and sign the Selection Procedures.

Revision History

Date	Revisions
July 30, 2025	Original document published

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APPENDIX A – USA HOCKEY INDIVIDUAL PLAYER REPORT

USA HOCKEY INDIVIDUAL PLAYER REPORT



Player's Name: _____ Date of Birth: _____
 Position: _____ Height: _____ Weight: _____ Shot: L R
 Evaluator's Name: _____ Where Evaluated: _____
 Name of Event: _____ Positional Ranking: _____

Check the following characteristics
 Excellent, Very Good, Good, Fair, Poor, NR-Not Rated

Forwards & Defensemen	Excel.	Very Good	Good	Fair	Poor
1. Skating Ability					
2. Puck Handling Ability					
3. Puck Movement					
4. Playmaking Ability					
5. Hockey Sense					
6. Positional Play					
7. Scoring Ability					
8. Shot					
9. Defensive Ability					
10. Blocking Shots					
11. Aggressiveness					
12. Toughness					
13. Leadership, Attitude & Character					
14. Speed/Quickness					
15. Strength					
16. Conditioning					

Goalies	Excel.	Very Good	Good	Fair	Poor
1. Skating					
2. Playing Angles					
3. Glove Hand					
4. Use of Stick & Blocker					
5. Use of Skates & Legs					
6. Agility & Reflexes					
7. Lateral Movement					
8. Rebounds					
9. Leadership, Attitude & Character					
10. Speed/Quickness					
11. Strength					
12. Conditioning					

General Remarks: _____

Did this player execute the skill, attitude and dedication to represent Team USA at this Competition?
 Yes _____ Needs Direction _____ No _____
 Date: _____

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APPENDIX B – COMMONLY USED ACRONYMS

AAC – Athletes’ Advisory Council

AC – Athlete’s 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. The OCOG refers to the Organizing Committee of the Paralympic Games as well.

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 C – 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:

- i. **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.
- ii. **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 D – 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.