

USA FENCING
ATHLETE SELECTION PROCEDURES
2023 PAN AMERICAN GAMES
November 30, 2022

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 nomination.

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), Pan American Sports Organization (Panam Sports) or Americas Paralympic Committee (APC) standards for participation:

Any competitor in the Olympic, Paralympic, Pan American or Parapan American Games must be a national of the country of the National Olympic Committee (NOC) or 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), the Panam Sports Constitution (Article 34.4-7), or the Americas Paralympic Committee bylaws (Chapter 2.4.12 of the IPC Handbook).

- 1.1.3. Minimum International Federation (IF) and/or Continental Federation (CF) (PAG and PPAG only) standards for participation (if any):

Athletes must be at least 13 years old as of January 1, 2023.

Athletes must have signed and submitted the Athlete Eligibility Condition Form.

- 1.1.4. Other requirements (if any):

Athlete must be a member in good standing of USA Fencing at the time of nomination.

- Athlete must successfully complete all Games Registration requirements by stated deadline.
- Any athlete age 18 or older will be required to undergo a background screen in accordance with the current [USOPC Background Check Policy](#).
- Any athlete age 18 or older as of the Closing Ceremony will be required to remain current with the U.S. Center for SafeSport's education and training requirements in accordance with the [USOPC Athlete Safety Policy](#).

1.2. Tryout Events:

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

The 2022 Senior Pan American Championship (June 1-8, 2022) was the qualification event for the 2023 Pan American Games. The United States qualified teams for all 6 weapons based on results at the 2022 Senior Pan American Championship.

USA Fencing's maximum team size for the 2023 Pan American Games is 18, comprised of 3 fencers for each of the weapons that qualify for the Team event, or up to 1 fencer in each of the weapons that qualify for the Individual event.

Any athlete interested in competing at the Pan American Games must earn USA Fencing points by competing at various domestic and international events. Athletes named to the 2023 World Championships Team will subsequently be named to the 2023 Pan American Games. The full selection process, to include how athletes earn points, and discipline-specific selection dates based on the timing of events, can be found at <https://www.usafencing.org/selection-criteria>.

The Senior National Team Point Standings can be found [HERE](#).

1.2.2. Describe how athletes qualify for the events listed in 1.2.1.:

The process to qualify for events where athletes may earn USA Fencing points can be found in the [USA Fencing Athlete Handbook](#). Please refer to Chapter 4, Section 4.2.1.

- 1.3. Step-by-step description of the selection process for these Games (include maximum Team size):

The top 3 ranked fencers, per weapon and gender, on the USA Fencing Senior National Team Point Standings as of the 2023 Senior World Team selection date(s) will be nominated to the 2023 Pan American Games Team. Please reference <https://www.usafencing.org/selection-criteria> for discipline-specific selection dates. Selection dates are TBD but will generally take place in the Spring of 2023. The Senior National Team Point Standings can be found [HERE](#).

Fencers ranked 1st and 2nd will be nominated to fence the Individual and Team events. The 3rd ranked fencer will only be nominated to compete in the Team event only.

Should a fencer nominated for the individual or team event wish to decline their nomination to the 2023 Pan American Games, USA Fencing will allocate their quota to the next highest ranked fencer on the Senior National Team Point Standings as of the original selection date(s), utilizing the same World Team Selection date(s) per discipline and gender.

2. DISCRETIONARY SELECTION (if applicable)

- 2.1. Rationale for utilizing discretionary selection (if any):

N/A

- 2.2. Define the discretionary criteria to be used (if any):

N/A

- 2.3. Name of the committee that will be responsible for making discretionary selections, along with a complete list of the members' titles:

N/A

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

N/A

3. REMOVAL OF ATHLETES

- 3.1. Prior to entry by name to the Local Organizing Committee by the USOPC, the NGB/PSO has jurisdiction over potential nominees.

An athlete who is 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 CEO/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 the USA Fencing Code of Conduct ([Athlete Handbook](#)).

An athlete who is removed from the Team pursuant to this provision has the right to a hearing per [USA Fencing's Bylaws](#) (Section 7.18) and the [USOPC 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 NGB/PSO Code of Conduct, the USOPC's Code of Conduct and Grievance Procedures apply. The USOPC's Code of Conduct is included in the Games Forms made available prior to the respective Games; the USOPC's Grievance Procedures can be found at:

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, IPC, Panam Sports, APC, 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 Fencing's 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:

Replacement athletes for weapons qualified in the Team Event will be identified using the USA Fencing Senior National Team Point Standings as of

the 2023 Senior World Team selection date, per the specific discipline and gender. The next highest ranked fencer in the relevant weapon and gender will be selected as the replacement athlete.

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

Up to and until the Local Organizing Committee does not allow for a replacement athlete not previously nominated, a replacement athlete will be identified using the same criteria as outlined in 4.1.1.

After the Local Organizing Committee does not allow for a replacement athlete not previously nominated, a replacement athlete will be identified collaboratively by the National Coaches from the athletes on the 2023 Pan American Games Team. The following criteria (not in priority order) will be taken into consideration when naming the replacement athlete:

- The experience of the fencer in the weapon for which a need has arisen
- The physical condition of the available fencers
- Scheduling of events

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 (include as attachments or provide links):

USA Fencing Athlete [Code of Conduct](#)

7. PUBLICITY/DISTRIBUTION OF PROCEDURES

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

7.1. NGB/PSO Web site: www.usafencing.org

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

8. DATE OF NOMINATION

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

Nominations will be announced 7 days after the selection date for the 2023 World Championship Team, or September 10, 2023, whichever comes first.

9. MANDATORY TRAINING AND/OR COMPETITION

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

At the time of development of these procedures no mandatory training or competition has been determined for the 2023 Pan American Games Team. In the event that such mandatory training or competition is required for the Team, USA Fencing will immediately notify each Team member and that athlete's coach at least 30 days in advance and will post the information on the USA Fencing website.

10. ANTI-DOPING REQUIREMENTS

Athletes must adhere to all IOC, IPC, Panam Sports, APC, 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, APC, 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:

Kate Reisinger, Chief of Sport Performance
Katharine Holmes USA Fencing's USOPC AAC Representative

12. NGB/PSO 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, APC, as applicable, and/or FIE rules and regulations as presently known and understood. Any change in the selection procedures caused by a change in IOC, IPC, Panam Sports, APC, as applicable, and/or FIE 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 may require revisions, pursuant to their resubmission to the USOPC.

14. ATHLETE OMBUDS OFFICE

The Athlete Ombuds Office provides cost-free, independent and confidential advice regarding athlete rights, grievance procedures and any other related guidance pertaining to selection procedures and can assist in mediating disputes between athletes and their NGB/PSO.

To contact the Athlete Ombuds Office:


PHONE: (719) 866-5000

EMAIL: ombudsman@usathlete.org

WEBSITE: www.usathlete.org

15. NGB/PSO 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	Phil Andrews		01/11/2023

Nat. Team Coach, Head Coach, or Nat. Program Director	Kate Reisinger	<i>Kathryn Reisinger</i>	01/11/2023
USOPC Athletes' Advisory Council Representative*	Katharine Holmes	<i>Katharine Holmes</i>	01/11/2023

* 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 the NGB/PSO, he/she may submit those reasons in writing to his/her USOPC Sport Performance Team.

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

Document History

SignNow E-Signature Audit Log

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CC:

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