

USA GYMNASTICS
ACROBATIC GYMNASTICS ATHLETE AND COACH SELECTION PROCEDURES
2022 WORLD GAMES
Birmingham, AL USA
April 12, 2022
Amended May 5, 2022

1. SELECTION SYSTEM

1.1. Provide the minimum eligibility requirements for an athlete to be considered for selection to the World Games (WG) 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 World Games.

1.1.2. Minimum International Gymnastics Federation (FIG) standards for participation (if any):

- Athletes must be at least 15 years of age by December 31, 2022.
- Hold a valid FIG Athlete License at the time of 2022 World Games nominative registration.

1.1.3. Other requirements (if any):

- Athlete must be a member in good standing with USA Gymnastics.
- Any athlete age 18 or older as of the conclusion of the World Games competition will be required to complete USA Gymnastics' U110: US Center for SafeSport Core Course online training, available at <https://usagym.org/pages/education/courses/U110/>.
- Pair/group must have, during the 2022 season, competed in at minimum one USA Gymnastics sanctioned competition at the Junior Elite (12-18 or 13-19) or Senior Elite level and/or competed at the December 2021 World Team Trials.
- An athlete may not be named to WG Team in multiple disciplines (i.e., men's pairs and men's group).

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.

Given the timing of notification of available World Games spots, selection will be based on video submissions, as well as prior competition experience.

- Video of competition exercises from a USA Gymnastics sanctioned Acrobatic Gymnastics **Regional Championships** competition in the 2022 season **or Maia World Cup 2022**. Videos must be submitted by May 23, 2022.

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).

Video Submission Requirements:

- Competition video must be filmed at **either** 2022 Regional Championships competition **or Maia World Cup 2022**. **An athlete must declare in writing to the Program Director which event he/she is using as their selection event prior to the start of Maia World Cup 2022.**
 - a. If a pair/group is unable to compete at a **Regional Championships or Maia World Cup 2022**, a formal request in writing to use a different USA Gymnastics sanctioned competition must be sent via email to the Acrobatics Program Director for consideration by the Selection Committee. The request must be submitted prior to the scheduled **Regional Championships** in the pair/group's home **Region**.
 - b. **Upload Tariff sheets on OTSM to World Games Folder prior to your Regional Championships or Maia World Cup 2022 for all routines**
- **Videos must** consist of full competition routines with all skills and choreography. All three routines (balance, dynamic, combined) must be submitted.
- Competition attire is required.
- All competition videos **should** be from the judge's viewpoint (e.g., front center of the floor), as close to a normal judge's position as possible.
- Recording device should be set up on table, or on tripod (preferred) slightly above height of table.
- Camera should be a reasonable distance from the floor and athletes, so all partners are visible, yet athletes do not appear too distant in the video.
- If possible, all four corners of floor should be visible in the video.
- The video **should** be HD quality; standard HD (720 or 1080).
- The video **should** be stable, without shaking or bumps. Use of a tripod is helpful.
- Video should be captured using landscape perspective.
- As much as possible, the camera should remain static. Camera should remain at a steady distance to see all athletes and skills and should only be moved from side-to-side if the entire floor is not visible. The camera should not be moved up and down to capture the routine.
- All partners must be visible at all times. This includes for high skills and tosses, as well as when the partners are spread around the floor.
- Video must include the athletes' **introduction** and walk on at the beginning of the exercise, the complete exercise, and walk off at the end of the exercise.
- Music **should** be clear and loud enough on the video.

- Scores from **Regional Competition or Maia World Cup are required (from declared event previously submitted to the Program Director)**
- Upload videos via a Dropbox link that will be shared with pair/groups who return signed selection procedures (indicating intent to be considered in this selection process).
- The deadline to upload videos for selection is 5:00pm eastern time on Monday, May 23, 2022.

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).

1.3.1. Pair/groups may be named to the WG team by the Selection Committee based on discretionary selection criteria (see section 2).

1.3.2. The WG team is comprised of a maximum of one (1) Women’s Pair, one (1) Men’s Pair, and one (1) Women’s Group.

1.3.3. Maximum of one (1) alternate pair/group per event listed above.

2. DISCRETIONARY SELECTION

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

The following five (5) criteria will be evaluated based on performances from the listed events in section 1.2.1. Criteria are equally weighted.

- Elements performed
 - a. ‘Bonus’ elements and other quality elements successfully performed in competition.
 - b. Number of elements performed to reach total difficulty.
 - c. Total exercise difficulty will be compared against minimum difficulty standards in the table below. Difficulty for the exercises is the difficulty score before CJP deductions.

	Women’s Pairs	Men’s Pairs	Women’s Group
Balance	v150	v150	v180
Dynamic	v130	v140	v140
Combined	v180	v180	v180

- d. Technical performance of elements including quality of body lines, exceptional amplitude and body shapes in balance and dynamic, and overall control and ease of elements.
- Artistry and presentation

- a. Partnership, Expression, Performance, Creativity, and Musicality will be considered (criteria are defined per FIG Acrobatic Gymnastics Code of Points).
- b. Intricacy, complexity, and creativity of choreography exhibited in exercises.
- c. Effective use of music, entries/exits, or other artistry moments that create identity or memorability amongst large competitive divisions.
- d. Overall sophistication and execution of artistry and choreography will be considered. Routines are expected to be performed with intricacy of choreography including full amplitude, polished timing, smooth transitions with elements, and ease on the floor.
- International Caliber and Overall Performance
 - a. International caliber, defined as strength, endurance, flexibility, grace, technical execution, and artistry standard commensurate with World-level competitors.
 - b. Posture, presence, and poise entering and exiting the floor and during the performance of the exercise.
 - c. Athletes' competitive experience, pair/group professionalism, and consistency, including number of World Championships attended, will be taken into consideration.
 - d. Mental and physical competitive readiness that allows for maximum performance.
 - e. Demonstrated professional attitude and ability to positively contribute to the team dynamic and adhering to national team policies.
- Medal Potential - Consistent ability through three exercises, balance, dynamic and combined, with particular strength and international competitiveness of the combined exercise, which is used to determine the WG medalists per the FIG Technical Regulation. International medals earned during the 2021 and 2022 seasons will be considered.
- Competitive history - Length and competitive history of a partnership, especially at the senior elite level. Performances (score and placement) from the 2021 World Championships in Geneva, SUI, 2021 (Dec) World Team Trials in Indianapolis, USA, and 2022 World Championships in Baku, AZE will be considered.

3.2. 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:

Selection Committee:

- Elite Committee Representative, Ronda Francis
- Elite Coach, Alayna Davis
- Athlete Representative, Jessica Renteria
- International Expert, Nicole Barrilleaux (non-voting)
- Acrobatics Program Director, Kyla Knights (non-voting)

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

USA Gymnastics Conflict of Interest Guide for Athlete Selection defines the process that is used to handle any potential conflicts of interest.

<https://usagym.org/PDFs/Pressbox/Selection-Procedures/conflictinterest.pdf>

4. REMOVAL OF ATHLETES

4.1 An athlete who is selected to the team by USA Gymnastics may be removed for any of the following reasons, as determined by USA Gymnastics:

- 4.1.1. Voluntary withdrawal. Athlete must submit a written letter to USA Gymnastics Chief of Programs.
- 4.1.2. Injury or illness **which inhibits peak performance** as certified by a physician (or medical staff) approved by USA Gymnastics. If an athlete refuses verification of his/her illness or injury by a physician (or medical staff) approved by USA Gymnastics, his/her injury will be assumed to be disabling and he/she may be removed.
- 4.1.3. Failure to participate in Mandatory Training and/or Competition as defined in Section 11 of these procedures.
- 4.1.4. Violation of USA Gymnastics Safe Sport Policy, Code of Ethical Conduct, or National Team Agreement, which may be found online at https://usagym.org/pages/acro/pages/acro_selection_procedures.html

4.2. Removal may only occur by action of the President of USA Gymnastics after consultation with the Chief Programs Officer and the selection committee Athlete Representative, and an interview with the athlete and his/her coach. An athlete who is removed from the team pursuant to this provision has the right to a hearing per USA Gymnastics Grievance Policy found at: <https://usagym.org/PDFs/About%20USA%20Gymnastics/Governance/grievance.pdf>

4.3. An athlete may be removed from the Team for an adjudicated violation of WADA, IF, USADA, IWGA, and/or USOPC anti-doping protocol, policies and procedures, as applicable. In such instances, the adjudication process will be managed by the United States Anti-Doping Agency.

5. REPLACEMENT OF ATHLETES

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

Alternate pair/groups are selected according to the criteria and events listed in this document, a maximum of one (1) alternate pair/group per event.

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

In the case of a vacancy, the alternate in the respective event will be requested to show full out routines in competitive attire via live zoom. The performance will be evaluated for proof of readiness based on the Discretionary Selection Criteria (Section 2).

5.3. Identify the group or committee that will be responsible for making replacement determinations:

Selection Committee (see Section 3.2)

6. COACH SELECTION

- 6.1. The coaches for the 2022 World Games Team must meet the following minimum criteria:
- Be a current professional member of USA Gymnastics in good standing.
 - Possess a valid passport that does not expire until at least six (6) months after the conclusion of the event.
 - Be in good health and able to withstand the physical rigors of traveling with and working with the team
 - Be available for the entire duration of the competition, including any mandatory training specified in section 11.
 - Have thorough knowledge of FIG rules and regulations.
- 6.2. Coaches will be selected according to the total number of coaching and team manager credentials available, as per the FIG Technical Regulations, World Games rules, and Rules for Accreditation, and limited to a total of two (2) coaches for the acrobatics discipline. The following criteria for selecting coaches is equally weighted:
- Personal Coach of a pair/group named to the 2022 World Games team.
 - Demonstrated ability to establish harmonious working relationships with all athletes and team personnel.
 - Ability to work with other Team USA groupings if/when required.
 - International coaching experience and history of traveling internationally with athlete(s).
 - Ability to work as part of Team USA in terms of respectful and professional communication to athletes, coaches, judges, and other officials.
 - Ability to attend all required meetings, training and competition sessions.
 - Medal potential of competing pair/groups(s) of personal coaches.
- 6.3. Removal of Coach
- 6.3.1. A coach who is selected to the team by the selection committee may be removed for any of the following reasons, as determined by USA Gymnastics:
- Voluntary withdrawal. Coach must submit a written letter to the USA Gymnastics Chief Programs Officer.
 - Injury or illness which inhibits peak performance as certified by a physician and verified by USA Gymnastics medical staff. If a coach refuses verification of his/her illness or injury by a physician, his/her injury will be assumed to be disabling and he/she may be removed.
 - Violation of the USA Gymnastics' Safe Sport Policy, Code of Ethical Conduct or Program Manual, which can be found here https://usagym.org/pages/acro/pages/acro_selection_procedures.html
 - The Coach no longer meets the criteria in 6.1. or 6.2. (i.e., may no longer be a personal coach of a pair/group named to the team due to pair/group's removal from the team).
- 6.3.2. A coach who is removed from the team pursuant to this provision has the right to a hearing per USA Gymnastics Grievance Policy found at <https://usagym.org/PDFs/About%20USA%20Gymnastics/Governance/grievance.pdf>

6.4. Identify the group or committee that will be responsible for making selection determinations:

Selection Committee (see Section 3.2)

7. SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

USA Gymnastics will retain the approved Selection Procedures and all supporting documents, including scouting or evaluation forms, etc., and data from the selection process for six (6) months past the date of the conclusion of the World Games.

8. REQUIRED DOCUMENTS

The following documents are required to be adhered to by athletes and coaches as a condition of being named to the 2022 World Games Team and can be found online at

https://usagym.org/pages/acro/pages/acro_selection_procedures.html

USA Gymnastics Safe Sport Policy

USA Gymnastics Code of Ethical Conduct

National Team Agreement

Program Manual

9. PUBLICITY/DISTRIBUTION OF PROCEDURES

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

9.1. USA Gymnastics Website: www.usagym.org

9.2. Directly distributed to eligible National Team members and their personal coaches.

10. DATE OF NOMINATION

The 2022 World Games team will be announced by May 27, 2022.

11. MANDATORY TRAINING AND/OR COMPETITION

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

- Pair/groups named to the World Games Team are expected to continue their training (at the same level of intensity, number of days/week) and participate in competitions through the remainder of the 2022 season in order to maintain the level of preparation for the World Games.
- Pair/groups named to the World Games Team are expected to compete at the 2022 USA Gymnastics Championships in the senior elite category. The 2022 USA Gymnastics Championships will be held June 21-26, 2022 in Des Moines, IA.
- Per the World Games competition directives, provisional training and competition dates are July 13-17, 2022. Travel days may be outside of these dates.

12. ANTI-DOPING REQUIREMENTS

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

13. DEVELOPMENT OF SELECTION PROCEDURES

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

Elite Committee Chair	Ronda Francis
Elite Coach Representative	Alayna Davis
Athlete Representative	Jessica Renteria
International Expert (Non-Voting)	Nicole Barrilleaux
Program Director (Non-Voting)	Kyla Knights

14. NGB/HPMO BYLAWS AND GRIEVANCE PROCEDURES

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

15. INTERNATIONAL DISCLAIMER

These procedures are based on FIG rules and regulations as presently known and understood. Any change in the selection procedures caused by a change in FIG rules and regulations will be distributed to the affected athletes immediately. The selection criteria are based on the latest information available to USA Gymnastics. However, the selections are always subject to unforeseen, intervening circumstances, and realistically may not have accounted for every possible contingency.

If any force of nature, or force majeure, should cause the alteration or cancellation of any of the selection events listed in this document, these selection procedures will be revised, pursuant to their resubmission to the USA Gymnastics President/CEO.

16. USA GYMNASTICS SIGNATURES

I certify that I have read and approved the Athlete Selection Procedures for the 2022 World Games Team.

Position	Print Name	Signature	Date
USA Gymnastics President/CEO	Li Li Leung		
USA Gymnastics Chief Programs Officer	Stefanie Korepin		
Athlete Representative	Jessica Renteria		

Each athlete and coach participating in the process for selecting the 2022 World Games Team as outlined in these selection procedures has carefully reviewed, understands and agrees to the terms of the selection procedures. That understanding and agreement is reflected by the signature of the athlete and coach below.

Athlete

Date

Parent (if athlete is under 18 years of age)

Date

Coach

Date