



**USA GYMNASTICS  
ATHLETE & COACH SELECTION PROCEDURES  
2018 WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS – Doha, Qatar  
Women’s Artistic Gymnastics**

**I. SELECTION SYSTEM**

- A. Provide the minimum eligibility requirements for an athlete to be considered for nomination to the Team:
1. Citizenship:  
Athlete must be a citizen of the United States at the start of the 2018 American Classic and at the time of selection and hold a current U.S. Passport valid through May, 2019.
  2. Minimum International Federation standards for participation (if any):
    - Athlete must be a minimum of 16 years of age by December 31, 2018.
    - Hold a valid FIG Athlete License at the time of 2018 World Championships accreditation.
  3. Other requirements (if any):  
Athlete must be a member in good standing of USA Gymnastics.
- B. Tryout Events:
1. Provide the event names, dates and location of all trials, events and camps to be used as part of the selection process.
    - 2018 U.S. Championships: August 16-19, 2018 Boston, MA
    - 2018 World Championships Team Selection Camp (World Team Selection Camp): October, 2018, (specific dates and site to be determined).
  2. Provide event names, dates, locations and description of how athletes qualify for any “preliminary or qualifying” events or procedures that are prerequisites to attend any of the trials, events or camps listed above in B. 1.
    - a. Qualification for the 2018 American Classic and 2018 U.S. Classic is by score as listed in the Elite Qualification Chart <https://usagym.org/PDFs/Women/ElitePre-Elite/18elitechart.pdf> from the 2017 P&G Gymnastics Championships, 2018 National Qualifiers, 2017 (fall)/2018 Selected National Team Verification Camps (full routines on competition surfaces)

- b. Qualification for the 2018 U.S. Gymnastics Championships is:
- By score as listed in the Elite Qualification <https://usagym.org/PDFs/Women/ElitePre-Elite/18elitechart.pdf> from the 2018 American Classic, 2018 U.S. Classic or National team assigned International competitions within the current competitive year (fall 2017 or 2018); or
  - By score (scores are listed in the Elite Qualification Chart <https://usagym.org/PDFs/Women/ElitePre-Elite/18elitechart.pdf> for a current National Team Member from a selected verification camp (full routines on competition surfaces) within the current competitive year (fall 2017-2018);
  - By being one of the four (4) members of the 2017 Worlds Team; or,
  - Accepted petitioned athletes (See Section I.D)
- c. Invitations for the World Team Selection Camp:  
A minimum of eight (8) athletes will be invited to the World Team Selection Camp as outlined in I.C.1. below.

- C. Provide a comprehensive, step-by-step description of the method that explains how athletes will go through the selection process to become team members (including maximum team size).

The 2018 World Championships Team will be comprised of six (6) athletes; five (5) of whom will be identified for the team qualifications (Comp I) line-up.

1. In addition to the top two (2) All-Around Senior athletes from the combined rank order of two days of competition at the 2018 U.S. Gymnastics Championships, a minimum of six (6) additional athletes from among the competitors at the 2018 U.S. Gymnastics Championships and petitioned athletes will be invited by the Selection Committee to the World Team Selection Camp, utilizing the discretionary selection criteria outlined in II.B..
2. The World Team Selection Camp will be used to select team members for the 2018 World Championships Team.
  - a. The Selection Camp will have two days of competition; the first day is an all-around competition. On day two, athletes will compete on two events as determined by the Selection Committee.
  - b. The highest scoring All-Around athlete from the first day of competition at the World Team Selection Camp will automatically qualify to the six (6) member World Championship team.
  - c. Using the discretionary selection criteria listed in II.B., the Selection Committee will name the remaining five (5) members of the 2018 World Championships Team at the conclusion of the World Team Selection Camp.
  - d. The Selection Committee may also name non-traveling replacement

athletes using the discretionary selection criteria listed in II.B.

3. The final line-up determination, including identification of the five team members who will compete, will be announced a minimum of 24 hours prior to Qualifications (Competition I). This determination will be made by the National Team Coordinator, in consultation with credentialed coaching staff. If there is not a National Team Director, a team manager will be named by the International Elite Committee and perform this function.

D. Petition Procedures

Notwithstanding the process identified in the preceding sections of these Selection Procedures, USA Gymnastics recognizes that extraordinary and unforeseen circumstances may occur which would cause an athlete otherwise deserving of a spot on the 2018 World Championships Team because of her previous competition results to be unable to participate in one or more steps in that process.

1. Procedures for petitioning into the 2018 U.S. Championships are listed in the 2017-2018 Women's Rules and Policies.
2. Petitions into the World Team Selection Camp will be considered by the Selection Committee, in consultation with the Sr. Vice President of Women's Program, for any member of a previous Olympic team or World Championships team, any athlete who has competed at the 2018 American Classic, the 2018 U.S. Classic, or any athlete who competed in a National team assigned international competition in the fall of 2017 or spring of 2018.
3. In order to be considered by the Selection Committee, petitions must be submitted in writing to the Sr. Vice President of Women's Program as soon as practical after the athlete becomes aware of her inability to participate in the process described above, but no later than the conclusion of the 2018 U.S. Championships.
4. The petition must state the specific injury, illness or unusual circumstance which prohibited the athlete from participating in the competitive process. In the case of a petition based upon injury or illness, the petition must be accompanied by a physician's statement. The nature and extent of that injury or illness is subject to verification by a doctor selected by USA Gymnastics.
5. Athletes may not petition directly to the 2018 World Championships Team.

E. Selection Committee Members

1. Names of Selection Committee Members and Titles

Chairman of the IEC, Steve Rybacki

\*\*Representative named by IEC, TBD

Women's Program Athlete Representative, Terin Humphrey

\*\*If National Team Director is named before World Team Selection camp, the Selection Committee will consist of the National Team Director, IEC Chairman and Women's Program athlete representative.

## 2. Conflict of Interest

In the event that a Selection Committee member is currently affiliated with any athlete in consideration for the 2018 World Championships Team or is unable to fulfill the obligations of the Selection Committee or continue for any reason, a replacement will be named by the International Elite Committee.

## II. DISCRETIONARY SELECTION

A. Provide rationale for utilizing discretionary selection (if any):  
The sport of gymnastics is a subjectively judged event. In the selection of athletes who will compete together as a team, it is difficult to make selection solely by the all-around rank order and be competitive for both team and individual event medals. The current rules do not require athletes to compete in the all-around competition, which necessitates evaluating Individual Event strength and contribution to total team score in order to maximize medal potential.

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

The Selection Committee will use the following criteria when selecting members for the 2018 World Championships Team:

- Results from the 2018 American Classic, 2018 U.S. Classic, 2018 U.S. Gymnastics Championships, International competitions, and World Team Selection Camp.
- D – scores (Difficulty)
- E - scores (Execution)
- Consistency – percentage of hit routines
- Composite Strength of all the World Team Members with consideration of potential for AA and individual event medals
- World Class presentation
- Readiness to compete
- Physical capability to fulfill the training plan as outlined in the Women's Responsibility Manual

## III. REMOVAL OF ATHLETES

- A. 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:
- Voluntary withdrawal. Athlete must submit a written letter to the President of USA Gymnastics.
  - Injury or illness **which inhibits peak performance** as certified by an approved USA Gymnastics physician (or medical staff). If an athlete refuses verification of her illness or injury by an approved USA Gymnastics physician (or medical staff), her injury will be assumed to be disabling and she may be removed.
  - Violation of the USA Gymnastics' Safe Sport Policy, Code of Ethical Conduct, National Team Agreement or the Women's Responsibility Manual, which can be found online at [https://usagym.org/pages/women/pages/selection\\_procedures.html](https://usagym.org/pages/women/pages/selection_procedures.html)
  - Inability to follow the training plan as directed by the National Team Director/Team Manager.
  - Removal may only occur by action of the President of USA Gymnastics after consultation with the Sr. Vice President of Women's Program and the Athlete Representative, and an interview with the athlete and her coach. Any decision to remove an athlete or coach may be reviewed through the USA Gymnastics Grievance Procedures. An athlete who may be removed from the team pursuant to this provision has the right to a hearing per USA Gymnastics Bylaws (Article 10).
- B. An athlete may be removed from the team at any time for violation of WADA, IF, USADA and/or USOC anti-doping protocol, policies and procedures, as applicable. In such instances, the adjudication process will be managed through the United States Anti-Doping Agency.

#### IV. REPLACEMENT OF ATHLETES

- A. Describe the process by which the replacement pool of athletes will be identified: The Selection Committee may identify non-traveling replacement athletes for the 2018 World Championship Team, using the same criteria described in Section II.B.
- B. Describe how the replacement athlete(s) will be selected, should a vacancy occur: Should a team member be removed or withdrawn, the replacement athlete will be selected from among the pool of replacement athletes based upon the needs of the team and utilizing the same criteria described in Section II.B.
- C. Identify the group or committee that will be responsible for making athlete replacement determinations:

Chairman of the IEC, Steve Rybacki

\*\*Representative named by IEC, TBD

Women's Program Athlete Representative, Terin Humphrey

\*\*If National Team Director is named before World Team Selection camp, the Selection Committee will consist of the National Team Director, IEC Chairman and Women's Program athlete representative.

## V. COACH SELECTION

- A. The Coaches for the 2018 World Championships Team will be selected from among the personal coaches of the team members, after the final Team Selection based upon the following criteria:
- Proven team leadership ability
  - International experience
  - Professional membership in good standing
  - Attendance at required meetings
- B. Personal Coaches of the athletes selected as 2018 World Championships Team Members will be selected according to the number of credentials available to the team and limited to one coach per athlete.
- C. One Head Coach and one assistant coach will be named from among the personal coaches identified in A and B above. Per FIG technical regulations, either the Head Coach or Assistant Coach must be female.
- D. Removal of Coach
- Voluntary withdrawal. Coach must submit a written letter to the President of USA Gymnastics.
  - Injury or illness **which inhibits the ability to perform coaching duties** as certified by an approved USA Gymnastics physician (or medical staff). If a coach refuses verification of his or her illness or injury by an approved USA Gymnastics physician (or medical staff), the injury will be assumed to be disabling and the coach may be removed.
  - Violation of the USA Gymnastics' Safe Sport Policy, Code of Ethical Conduct or Women's Responsibilities Manual.
  - A coach shall automatically be deemed removed if the individual becomes ineligible for leadership pursuant to Section 2.4 of USA Gymnastics Bylaws or fails to meet the affirmative duty required by Section 2.4 of the Bylaws.
  - Should an athlete be removed from the team pursuant to section III, the personal coach of that athlete may also be removed. Factors that may be

taken into consideration when evaluating removal may include timing of the removal, availability of credentials, status of a replacement athlete, or the needs of the team.

- Any decision to remove a coach may be reviewed through USA Gymnastics Grievance Procedures per the USA Gymnastics Bylaws (Article 10).

## **VI. 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 months past the date of the conclusion of the 2018 World Championships.

## **VII. REQUIRED DOCUMENTS**

The following documents are required to be adhered to by an athlete as a condition of nomination to 2018 World Championships Team and can be found online at

[https://usagym.org/pages/women/pages/selection\\_procedures.html](https://usagym.org/pages/women/pages/selection_procedures.html)

- USA Gymnastics Safe Sport Policy
- USA Gymnastics Code of Ethical Conduct
- National Team Agreement
- Women's Responsibility Manual

## **VIII. PUBLICITY/DISTRIBUTION OF PROCEDURES**

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

- A. USA Gymnastics Web site: [www.usagym.org](http://www.usagym.org)  
These procedures will be posted as soon as possible, but not more than five business days following the approval by the USA Gymnastics Board of Directors.
- B. Directly distributed to the age eligible National Team Members.

## **IX. DATE OF NOMINATION**

The 2018 World Championships team will be announced at the conclusion of the World Team Selection Camp.

## **X. MANDATORY TRAINING AND/OR COMPETITION**

Athletes invited to the World Team Selection Camp must participate in the 2018 Pan American Championships prep camp/World Training Squad camp: September 2018 (specific dates and site to be determined)

The World Team Selection Camp will be held in October 2018 at a site to be determined. The exact dates will be determined later but the camp will be a maximum of 5 days. Immediately following the Selection Camp, the World Team Members will train together until departure to Doha.

**XI. ANTI-DOPING REQUIREMENTS**

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

**XII. OLYMPIC QUALIFICATION**

Per the FIG Olympic Qualification System, at the 2018 World Championships the three (3) best ranked NOC's based on the Team ranking results of the Team Final will qualify a team quota place (four (4) athletes) for the 2020 Olympic Games.

Athletes who participated (competed actively; receiving a score of zero or higher) on a team which qualified for the Olympic Games during the 2018 World Championships are not eligible to earn an individual qualification place to the Olympic Games at specified Qualification Events. See

<http://www.fig-gymnastics.com/site/rules/rules.php> for complete details.

**XIII. DEVELOPMENT OF SELECTION PROCEDURES**

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

The International Elite Committee drafted these Selection Procedures:

Committee Chairman	Steve Rybacki
Coach Representatives	Kim Zmeskal-Burdette Donna Strauss Jiani Wu
Athlete Representative	Terin Humphrey

**XIV. USA GYMNASTICS BYLAWS AND GRIEVANCE PROCEDURES**

The USA Gymnastics Bylaws and Grievance Procedures can be found at:  
[www.usagym.org](http://www.usagym.org)

**XV. INTERNATIONAL DISCLAIMER**

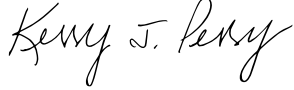



These procedures are based on IOC and/or FIG rules and regulations as presently known and understood. Any change in the selection procedures caused by a change in IOC and/or FIG rules and regulations will be distributed to the affected athletes immediately. The selection criteria are based on the latest 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 president of USA Gymnastics.

**XVI. SIGNATURES**

**I certify that I have read and approved the Athlete Selection Procedures for the 2018 World Championships Team.**

<b>Position</b>	<b>Print Name</b>	<b>Signature</b>	<b>Date</b>
USA Gymnastics President	Kerry Perry		4/2/18
Sr. Vice President of Women's Program	Rhonda Faehn		2/24/18
Athlete Representative	Terin Humphrey	Per email	2/24/18

**Each athlete and coach participating in the process for selecting the 2018 World Championships 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