

USA Softball

Women's Fast Pitch Athlete Selection Procedures

2027 Pan American Games

- Publication Date: August 21, 2026
- A [Preliminary Notice](#) to these selection procedures was posted on December 15, 2025.

SECTION 1: OVERVIEW

These procedures outline the pathway for nomination to the 2027 Pan American Games for USA Softball. The maximum Team size can be fifteen (15) female athletes.

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 at the time of nomination that does not expire for six months after the conclusion of the 2027 Pan American Games (Games).
2. Minimum Panam Sport Requirements:
 - Abide by the rules in the Panam Sports Constitution, including nationality/citizenship

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requirements.

- 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 [Panam Sports Constitution](#) (Article 34.4-7).
- Abide by the Panam Sports Eligibility of Conditions Form/Conditions of Participation Form
- 3. Local Organizing Committee (LOC) Requirements:
 - Comply with all rules and policies implemented by the LOC.
- 4. World Baseball Softball Confederation (CF) Requirements:
 - Comply with all CF eligibility requirements which will be posted here once available: https://www.panamsports.org/en/documents/?doc_category=games
- 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](#), [USOPC Minor Athlete Abuse Prevention Policies](#), [USOPC Supporting Athletes with an Intellectual Impairment Policy](#), and the U.S. Center for SafeSport's [SafeSport Code](#).
 - Comply with the current [USOPC Background Check Policy](#).
- 6. USA Softball (NGB) Requirements:
 - Comply with the USA Softball Athlete Agreement.
 - Comply with the USA Softball [Code of Conduct](#)
 - Comply with the USA Softball [Safe Softball Handbook](#) and the USA Softball [Safe Softball Policy](#)
 - Athlete must have an active USA Softball membership or a membership from one of USA Softball's Allied Member groups. To find a list of Allied member groups please look at <https://www.usasoftball.com/play-usa-softball/memberships/>.
 - 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 Panam Sports, CF, USADA, WADA and USOPC anti-doping protocols, policies and procedures, as applicable. This includes participation in Out-of-Competition Testing and an agreement to be bound to the results management authority of the Panam Sports, CF, USADA, WADA, or other Anti-Doping Organization as applicable.

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- Meet all health and safety protocols, to include vaccine requirements and/or testing requirements set forth by the government, local laws, USOPC, CF and/or the LOC.

SECTION 5: EVALUATIVE EVENTS

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

DATE(S)	DESCRIPTION/EVENT NAME
2021 – 2027	USA Softball Women's National Team Training Camps
2021 – 2027	USA Softball Women's National Team exhibition games
2021 – 2027	WBSC Sanctioned Events – World Cup, World Cup Stage, Pan American Championship, other WBSC sanctioned international competitions or games
2021 – 2027	NCAA Softball Regular Season and Post-Season games
2021 – 2027	Professional Fast Pitch games (domestic and international)

* In the event of inclement weather, unplayable field conditions, or an athlete safety issue that may affect a Training Camp, USA Softball may adjust the time and duration of the Camp or cancel the Camp, depending on the severity of the playing and field conditions.

** All dates and locations for future USA Softball Training Camps and National Team activities will be made available to athletes at least 30 days in advance.

SECTION 6: SELECTION PROCESS

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

6.1 TOTAL QUOTA PLACES:

The maximum Team size is fifteen (15) athletes. Final Team size will depend on earned CF quota which is awarded to the NOC.

6.2 EVALUATION EVENT QUALIFICATION PATHWAY:

Information on how athletes will be considered for selection to WBSC-sanctioned events listed in Section 5 will be posted [here](#).

Ongoing Screening for Membership in the 2027 Women's National Player Pool.

The Women's coaching staff and/or one (1) or more members of the Women's National Team Selection Committee (WNTSC) will observe athletes at various Evaluative Events (Section 5) including

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events that are televised, videotaped, or events that provide data collected in another manner. The coaching staff and WNTSC members will not be individually evaluating each athlete competing at each event. Instead, general scouting will be conducted to identify athletes who perform at a level which the coaching staff and WNTSC believes is competitive in the current international field based on the WBSC Sanctioned Events listed in Section 5.

Athletes identified through the ongoing screening process will be considered for placement in the 2027 Women's National Player Pool ("Pool") by the WNTSC. As a result, it is possible that each athlete being considered for the Pool may not have been observed at the same Evaluative Event or at as many events as other athletes also being considered for the Pool.

Membership in the 2027 Women's National Player Pool

- Athletes must meet the eligibility requirements in Sections 3-4 to be selected to the Pool, however, meeting the eligibility requirements does not automatically guarantee placement in the Pool.
- Athletes are recommended to the Pool by the Head Coach based on their performance at the Evaluative Events (Section 5) and the discretionary criteria (Section 7).
- The Head Coach's recommendations will be submitted to the WNTSC for review and approval.
- The WNTSC will maintain an athlete pool of up to 36 athletes for 2027.
- Once a member of the Pool, athletes are eligible for selection for the 2027 events listed in Section 5. However, selection to the Pool does not guarantee that an athlete will be selected to participate in any USA Softball Evaluative Events during the year, including those listed in these selection procedures.
- Selection to the 2027 Pool does not guarantee selection to the Pool in future years.
- The Pool will be reviewed on a quarterly basis. Addition of new athletes to the Pool and retention of current Pool athletes will be based on Evaluative Event performance using the discretionary criteria (Section 7). Athletes may be added to the Pool or removed from the Pool on an ongoing basis throughout the year.
 - Removal of an athlete from the Pool must be reviewed and approved by the WNTSC.
- Athletes may also be removed from the Pool based on the following:
 - Athlete submits a written letter to the USA Softball CSDPO requesting to voluntarily withdraw from the Pool.
 - Athlete violates the USA Softball Code of Conduct.
 - Athlete violates a term in their signed USA Softball Athlete Agreement.
 - Athlete is found to have violated IOC, CF, USADA, and/or WADA anti-doping protocol, policies and procedures, the U.S. Center for SafeSport Code, or USA Softball SafeSport policies.

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6.3 NOMINATION TO THE TEAM:

Fifteen (15) athletes will be nominated from the Pool to the Women's National Team for the 2027 Pan American Games.

Utilizing the events in Section 5 and the criteria in Section 7, fifteen (15) athletes will be recommended by the Head Coach. The Head Coach's recommendation will be submitted to the WNTSC for review and approval. Once approved, the WNTSC will submit nominations for the 2027 Pan American Games Team to the USOPC for final approval.

In the event of a conflict between this overview and the CF Qualification System, the CF Qualification System will take precedent. For more details, please refer to the CF Qualification System which will be posted [here](#) once available (see Qualification System Manual Lima 2027).

SECTION 7: DISCRETIONARY CRITERIA TO NOMINATE ATHLETES

7.1 RATIONALE FOR UTILIZING DISCRETIONARY SELECTION:

The sport of softball is not a measured or timed event. In the selection of athletes who will compete together as a team, it is difficult to make a selection decision based solely upon objective criteria. For the selection of the 2027 Pan American Games Team, it is the belief of USA Softball and the Women's coaching staff that considering a mix of Selection Criteria set forth below, which includes subjective components and objective statistical measures to evaluate performance ability, will result in selection of the best athletes who will work together as an effective team and contribute to Team success.

This section will be used for the nomination of athletes for the following:

- Addition to the 2027 Pool or removal from the 2027 Pool
- Nomination to the Pan American Games Team
- Nomination as a replacement athlete on the Pan American Games Team

7.2 DEFINE THE DISCRETIONARY CRITERIA TO BE USED:

The Coaching staff and WNTSC will use a standard evaluation document to evaluate athletes at Training Camps and at Evaluative Events listed in Section 5. This document will ensure that evaluations will be consistent with the Selection Criteria listed below and that the same data is collected from the Evaluative Events. The evaluation document will be posted [here](#) once available.

Offensive Performance– Visual, Statistical, and Technological Observation

- Batting
- Batting statistics
- Batting average

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- On-base percentage
- Hard hit average
- Slugging percentage
- Bat Speed
- Exit Velocity

Batting Observation

- Ability to make appropriate decisions based on specific situations (for example, bunting, hitting to advance runners, etc.)

Running

- Speed (timed)
- Base running
- Decision making
- Efficiency

Defensive Performance

- Fielding Statistics
- Fielding percentage
- Fielding Observation (subjective)
 - Glove work per position
 - Foot work per position
 - Arm strength per position
 - Throwing accuracy per position
 - Depth judgement on balls hit to fielder (spacing ability)
 - Communication with other players
 - Instincts for necessary adjustments / positioning on the field.

Pitching Performance - Visual, Statistical, and Technological Observation

- Pitching Statistics
- WHIP
- ERA
- Batting average against (RH vs LH)
- Pitches per inning

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- Strike-out to Walk ratio
- Velocity by Radar Gun

Pitching Observation - Visual, Statistical, and Technological Observation

- Pitch movement and control
- Situational Pitching
- Mound Presence and instincts
- Ability to adjust
- Pitcher/Catcher Relationships

Judgment

- Communication with other players
- Instincts for necessary adjustments/positioning

Other Considerations

- Teamwork – willingness to accept a role that leads to Team success
- Enthusiasm – energy and support of teammates
- Versatility – balance between offense and defense as well as the ability to play other positions to fulfill multiple roles
- Maturity – ability to adjust to situations dealing with adversity, accepting things that don't go well and reacting appropriately
- Team Composition - The intended direction for the particular team (for example, if the team is intended to be primarily a power hitting team)

Please note that Technological Observation will include data from Trackman and Rapsodo in addition to data from other sports technology providers that USA Softball may utilize in advance of the Games nomination date.

7.3 SELECTION COMMITTEE

Utilizing the Evaluative Events (Section 5) and the discretionary criteria in Section 7, fifteen (15) athletes from the Pool will be recommended by the Head Coach. The Head Coach's recommendation will be submitted to the WNTSC for review and approval. Once approved, the WNTSC will submit nominations for the 2027 Pan American Games Team to the USOPC for final approval.

Committee Name: Women's National Team Selection Committee (WNTSC)

- At-Large – John Rittman

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- At-Large – Taria Flowers
- Athlete Representative – Lovie Jung (10 Year+ Athlete)
- Athlete Representative – Nick Mullins (10 Year Athlete)
- USA Softball Chief Executive Officer - Craig Cress

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.

All athletes and replacement athletes nominated to the Team must participate in all required Team events unless an absence is otherwise approved per the waiver request instructions below.

- If a training program (e.g., strength, conditioning, nutrition, etc.) is created for the Team, the affected athletes will be informed no later than thirty (30) days prior to the implementation date of the training program. Each member of the Team is required to participate in the training program.
- If a training camp and/or a competition is created for the Team, the affected athletes will be informed no later than sixty days (60) prior to each event. Each member of the Team is required to participate in these events.

Waiver Request Process:

While waivers for mandatory training and competition 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 illness, injury or other similar incapacity or for a personal/family emergency. Missing a mandatory event(s) may result in removal of the athlete from the Team (please see Section 10).

All requests for a waiver must be presented to the Chief Sport Development/Performance Officer (CSDPO) in writing as early as possible prior to the mandatory training or competition.

- It is the sole responsibility of the athlete to provide the written verification of any emergency, illness, or injury (illness or injury to be verified by USA Softball approved physician (or medical staff) selected by the athlete). Should verification of athlete injury or illness signed by the approved physician (or medical staff) not be received within five (5) business days of the initial written waiver request, the waiver request shall become null and void.

The CSDPO and Head Coach will review the request. If the waiver request is for injury or illness, a certified physician (or medical staff) approved by USA Softball will be consulted before a waiver decision is made.

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All waiver requests will be granted or denied by the CSDPO in writing.

- The CSDPO will provide the athlete with written approval or denial of the waiver request within five (5) business days of receiving written verification, unless it is a time sensitive issue, in which case the decision will be made immediately.

SECTION 9: DATE OF TEAM NOMINATION

The Nomination of athletes, including replacements, will be announced to all athletes and submitted to the USOPC on or before June 18, 2027.

SECTION 10: REMOVAL OF ATHLETES FROM THE TEAM

10.1 USA SOFTBALL JURISDICTION

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

- a. An athlete who is nominated to the Team by USA Softball may be removed for any of the following reasons, as determined by USA Softball:
 - i. Voluntary withdrawal. Athlete submits a written letter to the USA Softball CEO or CSDPO requesting to voluntarily withdraw from the Team.
 - ii. Injury or illness. A physician (or medical staff) approved by USA Softball provides certification that the Athlete has a debilitating condition or that their condition will greatly reduce their performance standard during the Games. In such circumstances, the Athlete may be removed based on the data used in applying the discretionary selection criteria set forth in Section 7. 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 Softball [Code of Conduct](#).
 - v. Athlete Agreement. Athlete violates a term in their signed USA Softball 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 CF, USADA, WADA, and/or USOPC anti-doping protocol, policies and procedures, the U.S. Center for SafeSport Code, the USOPC Athlete Safety Policy and USA Softball SafeSport policies, as applicable.

10.2 USOPC JURISDICTION

- a. Once Athlete entries have been submitted by the USOPC to the LOC, the USOPC has jurisdiction over the Team.

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- b. USOPC's Delegation Conduct Requirements apply in addition to the USA Softball Code of 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 LOCAL ORGANIZING COMMITTEE

- 11.1 Should a vacancy occur prior to submission of Entries by Name by the USOPC to the LOC, replacement athletes will primarily be considered from the group of athletes in the Athlete Pool based on positional need and athlete availability.

Replacement athletes will be recommended by the Women's Coaching staff and submitted to the WNTSC for final review and approval. The nomination of a replacement athlete shall be made based on the needs of the Team using the Selection Process (Section 6) and Selection Criteria (Section 7) outlined in this document.

- 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 LOCAL ORGANIZING COMMITTEE

- 12.1 Should a vacancy occur after submission of Entries by Name by the USOPC to the LOC, if allowed, USA Softball will follow the process outlined in Section 11.1 to nominate a replacement athlete.
- 12.2 Any replacement of athletes must comply with these selection procedures in addition to Panam Sports, USOPC, and CF regulations including applicable Late Athlete Replacement (LAR) policies.
- 12.3 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 Softball Grievance Procedures. The USA Softball Grievance Procedures can be found [here](#) (See Section 16 of the USA Softball Bylaws) and the USOPC Bylaws, Section 9 (<https://www.usopc.org/governance/dispute-resolution>).

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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 Games:

- USA Softball [Code of Conduct](#)
- USA Softball Athlete Agreement
- Medical Treatment Consent
- Athlete Compensation (if applicable)
- Schedule of Events Commitment
- Travel Policies and Procedures

SECTION 15: DISCLAIMERS

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

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

The Women's Coaching staff, all members of the Selection Committee (Section 7.3) and all individuals who developed these selection procedures (Section 21) must comply with the USA Softball [Conflict of Interest Policy](#) to include completing and submitting a disclosure form consistent with USA Softball's Conflict of Interest Policy before convening the committee.

Additionally, any person with a good faith belief that a committee member has a conflict of interest may report the alleged conflict of interest to the USA Softball Ethics Committee. Reports may also be made anonymously through the [USOPC's Integrity Portal](#). No committee member shall retaliate in any way against a person who, in good faith, reports an alleged conflict of interest. In addition, the USOPC maintains a strict no retaliation policy that prohibits any employee, contractor, agent, volunteer, or member of the USOPC to take or threaten to take any action against an athlete for reporting information to or seeking assistance from the Office of the Athlete Ombuds.

Any recused individual shall be replaced in accordance with the USA Softball Selection Committee appointment process.

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SECTION 17: QUESTIONS REGARDING ATHLETE SELECTION PROCEDURES

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

Name: Chris Sebren

Position: Chief Sport Development/Performance Officer

Email: csebren@usasoftball.com

Name: Nick Mullins

Position: Team USA Athletes' Commission Representative

Email: mullinsnr@comcast.net

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

SECTION 18: GRIEVANCES

The USA Softball Grievance Procedures can be found [here](#) (See Section 16 of the USA Softball Bylaws).

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 Softball 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 Softball 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.

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- Individuals may report concerns to USA Softball by following USA Softball’s Whistleblower Protection and Anti-Retaliation Policy located [here](#) (see USA Softball Policies)
- 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.
- Additional information can be found in the USOPC [Speak Up Policy](#).

SECTION 20: SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

USA Softball 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 Softball Records Retention Policy or for six months past the date of the Closing Ceremony of the 2027 Pan American Games, whichever is longer.

SECTION 21: DEVELOPMENT, APPROVAL & CERTIFICATION OF SELECTION PROCEDURES

The following committee of individuals developed these selection procedures.

NAME	ROLE
John Rittman	At-Large
Tairia Flowers	At-Large
Nick Mullins	Athlete Representative (10 Year Athlete)
Lovie Jung	Athlete Representative (10 Year+ Athlete)
Patty Gasso	Head Coach
Chris Sebren	Chief Sport Development/Performance Officer

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

POSITION	NAME	SIGNATURE	DATE
USA Softball Chief Executive Officer	Craig Cress		8/21/2026 11:47 AM PDT

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

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POSITION	NAME	SIGNATURE	DATE
Team USA Athletes Commission Representative*	Nick Mullins	<i>Nick Mullins</i>	8/21/2026 12:48 PM

EDT

- * 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.
- * If, for some reason, a sport does not have an elected Team USA AC Representative, USA Softball must designate a 10 Year Athlete from that sport to review and sign the Selection Procedures.

Revision History

Date	Revisions
August 21, 2026	Original document published

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APPENDIX A – COMMONLY USED ACRONYMS

AAC – Athletes' Advisory Council

AC – Athletes' Commission

Act or TSOASA – Ted Stevens Olympic and Amateur Sports Act

CAS – Court of Arbitration for Sport

Center– U.S. Center for SafeSport

CF – Continental Federation

IOC – International Olympic Committee

IF – International Federation

LOC – Local Organizing Committee

NGB – National Governing Body

NOC – National Olympic Committee

OCOG – Organizing Committee of the Olympic Games.

PAG – Pan American Games

Panam Sports or PASO – Pan American Sports 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 B – GLOSSARY

Contingency means a future event or circumstance which is possible but cannot be predicted with certainty.

Delegation Event means the Olympic Games, the Paralympic 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 LOC at the final submission date, as determined by the LOC.

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APPENDIX C – ATHLETE RESOURCES

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

ATHLETE SAFETY REPORTING

Allegations of Sexual Misconduct and Child Abuse must be reported to the [U.S. Center for SafeSport](#). Allegations of Child Abuse must also be reported to [Law Enforcement](#).

Allegations of emotional abuse, physical abuse, a violation of the Minor Athlete Abuse Prevention Policies (MAAPP), or a violation of the Athlete Safety components (Section 4) of the Supporting Athletes with an Intellectual Impairment Policy can be reported online to the USOPC through the Athlete Safety Reporting Portal found on the USOPC [Athlete Safety Page](#). Individuals may also report to the USOPC by phone at 877-404-9935. Allegations that an Athlete with an Intellectual Impairment is or has been subjected to any criminal act, including abuse and/or neglect, must also be reported to Law Enforcement.

Additional information, to include links for reporting, can be found on the USOPC [Athlete Safety Page](#).

RAINN HOTLINE

RAINN, the National Sexual Assault Hotline, 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 Hotline at 1-800-656-4673 or visit <https://rainn.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

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TEAM USA ATHLETE LEGAL AID PROGRAM

The purpose of the Athlete Legal Aid Program is to assist eligible Team USA 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: [Athlete Resources & Tools](#)

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

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.