

Lakeshore Foundation
ATHLETE SELECTION PROCEDURES
2017 AMERICAS CHAMPIONSHIP TEAM

1. SELECTION SYSTEM

1.1. Provide the minimum eligibility requirements for an athlete to be considered for nomination 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 Federation (IF) International Wheelchair Rugby Federation (IWRF) standards for participation (if any):

- Candidates must hold an IWRF International Classification or a U.S. Quad Rugby Association (USQRA) classification (0.5 – 3.5).

1.1.3. Other requirements (if any):

- Athletes must be legally rostered and actively participating on a legal USQRA club team (legal is defined as having participated in the required number of games to qualify for post season).
- The athletes nominated from the 2017 Selection Camp, must maintain a level of readiness, through training and competitions as verifiable by the National Team coach, which will prepare them to win a medal at the 2017 Americas Championship.

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.

- The 2017 Selection Camp will be held 4-8 January, 2017 at Lakeshore Foundation Olympic and Paralympic Training Site

The following mandatory events (unless absence approved by USAWR High Performance Manager at the time of nomination) will also serve as evaluation opportunities, but dates are subject to change pending approval and could be cancelled due to budgetary restrictions.

- High Performance Training Camps
 - Lakeshore Foundation Olympic and Paralympic Training Site, 5-9 April, 2017
 - Lakeshore Foundation Olympic and Paralympic Training Site, 3-7 May, 2017
 - Lakeshore Foundation Olympic and Paralympic Training Site, 6-11 June, 2017
 - Colorado Springs OTC, 19-23 July, 2017
 - Lakeshore Foundation Olympic and Paralympic Training Site, 9-20 August, 2017
 - Lakeshore Foundation Olympic and Paralympic Training Site, 7-10 September, 2017

- 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).

In order to ensure athletes are maintaining a level of fitness and readiness capable of producing a medal winning performance, Lakeshore Foundation/USA Wheelchair Rugby (USAWR) coaching staff and personnel may elect to observe/evaluate those athletes nominated from the Selection Camp as they train and compete in various domestic and international competitions. In addition, Lakeshore Foundation/USAWR may request video footage and/or statistical information as part of the ongoing evaluation of athletes prior to final team nomination.

An athlete must have been a member of one of the following teams in order to receive an invitation to 2017 Selection Camp:

- 2013 American Zone Team and alternates
- 2014 World Championship Team and alternates
- 2015 Parapan American Games Team and alternates
- 2016 Rio Paralympic Games Team and alternates

If not a member of one of the above teams, an athlete may be eligible for an invitation to the 2017 Selection Camp through the following:

- A special invitation from the Selection Committee (see Section 2.3)
- Athletes accepted through the petition procedures found at www.lakeshore.org and www.usawr.org

1.3. Provide a comprehensive, step-by-step description of the method that explains how athletes will go through the selection process to become Team nominees (include maximum Team size).

- Player Invitation
 - Invitations to participate in the 2017 Selection Camp will be sent, via email, to the athletes that qualify (See Section 1.2.2) by 5 December, 2016.
 - If an invited athlete chooses not to participate in the team selection camp, vacancies of up to a maximum of 40 athletes will be filled based on accepted petitions received by the stated deadline and at the head coach's discretion. Athletes must accept or decline the invitation by 16 December, 2016 by contacting the USAWR High Performance Manager via email at mandyg@lakeshore.org
 - The final list of team selection camp participants will be posted (www.lakeshore.org and www.usawr.org) by 23 December, 2016.
 - All athletes accepting the invitation must provide their own transportation to/from the team Selection Camp. Upon arrival to the Camp, athletes will be provided with ground transportation, lodging, meals, and on-site support.
- Team Selection Process
 - At the Selection Camp, candidates shall participate in all drills, tests, and scrimmages.
 - Each candidate will be tested and timed, as well as observed in drills and scrimmages. The Selection Committee (See Section 2.3) will evaluate each player using the skills sheet in (Attachment A).
 - The Selection Committee will use the skills sheet evaluations (Attachment A) to rank candidates with the same or similar sport classes while also considering positional play.
 - The Selection Committee will develop a roster of players that will enable the USA to field a legal variety of eight

points or fewer lineups in order to maximize the Team competitiveness in a variety of situations.

- The Selection Committee will create the roster based on the above process, as well as the objective and discretionary criteria listed in Attachment A and Section 2.2.
- At the conclusion of the Selection Camp, the Selection Committee will select up to 16 (sixteen) athletes who will train as a group, hereby known as the Training Squad, prior to nominating the 2017 Americas Championship Team.
- Candidates invited to participate in the Selection Camp who cannot attend or fully participate in the camp due to illness, injury, or family emergency may be selected to the Training Squad of up to 16 (sixteen) if:
 - Athlete has demonstrated significant potential, based on the Selection Committee's opinion, in the judged qualities from previous domestic and/or international events. The Selection Committee has the right to request video footage from the previous six months to help aid in the above mentioned decision.
 - The athlete(s) must provide adequate documentation that will support their reason for absence. This must be sent to the High Performance Manager, mandyg@lakeshore.org, before the beginning of the Selection Camp (no later than 4 January, 2017).
- Final Selection
 - Based on the above criteria, listed in Section 2.2., health, and performance during the spring/summer training sessions and the level of expected competition, 12 (twelve) athletes will be selected by the Selection Committee, on or before 11 June, 2017 for nomination to the 2017 Americas Championship Team.

2. DISCRETIONARY SELECTION (if applicable)

2.1. Provide rationale for utilizing discretionary selection (if any):

The sport of wheelchair rugby is not a measured or timed event. In the selection of athletes who will compete together as a Team, it is impossible to make

selection decisions based solely upon objective criteria. It is the belief of Lakeshore Foundation that the selection criteria set out above, which includes subjective components in the evaluation of performance and ability, will result in the selection of the very best athletes to comprise the most competitive Team.

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

Wheelchair Rugby is a team sport requiring effective combinations and individual skills. Thus, the following discretionary criteria are considered in the selection of players.

2.2.1 The following criteria will be used to select the 2017 Americas Championship Team:

Physical

- Speed:
 - Full Court Sprint
- Aerobic/Anaerobic Fitness:
 - Lakeshore Mile
 - Endurance Sprint
- Agility/Quickness:
 - Slalom
 - Up and backs
- Passing:
 - Passing Skill Test
 - Inbounding drill

Technical

- Athletes will be evaluated on the following technical core skills (positioning/transition, key offense/defense, catch-pass, defense) based on performance in one or more of the events listed in Section 1.2.1
- Athletes will be evaluated on experience, knowledge of the game, size for role, and ability to play role
- Athletes will be evaluated on his/her specialist skills (bump/long pass, inbounding, agility, chair skills, hands, communication, speed) but those specific to classifications below
 - Class 2.5-3.5 – ball handling, passing, one on one defense, game management
 - Class 1.5-2.5 – picking and rolling, playing all offensive roles
 - Class .5-1.5 – inbounding to free throw line, holding a pick for 4-5 seconds, consistently winning one on ones, both offensively and defensively

- Athlete’s projected ability to advance to the 2017 Americas Championship Team and ability to contribute to the Team’s success in 2017 and beyond will be taken into consideration for selection to the 2017 Americas Championship Team. An athlete’s future Paralympic Team potential will be judged based on the coaching staff’s assessment using the criteria contained in these procedures.

Tactical

- Athletes will be evaluated on tactical awareness in game situations in one or more of the events listed in Section 1.2.1 by national coaching staff which will be taken into consideration for selection.

Psychological/Social

- Attitude: This applies both on and off the court, respecting those athletes he/she plays with and against, staff, coaches and officials. To act in a sportsmanlike manner consistent with the spirit of fair play and responsible conduct. Respecting the property of others whether personal or public
- Leadership: Leading by example with a positive influence on all those around him/her.
- Teamwork: Cooperative effort to be the best he/she can be, working with their teammates to fulfill one common goal, success.
- Coachable: Always open to constructive feedback, embracing new ideas and putting the Team’s needs before his/her own.
- Ambassador: Acting in a manner that would be pleasing to the program, sport, country, and else affiliated. Doing what is right, even when no one is watching. Refraining from conduct that would detract from their ability or that of their teammates to attain peak performance.

2.3. 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:

Mandy Goff, High Performance Manager, USA National Team

TBD, Head Coach, USA National Team

Sue Tucker, Assistant Coach, USA National Team

TBD, Coach, USA Development

TBD, Athlete Representative

TBD, USQRA, Ex Officio

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

Any member of the selection committee that has a possible conflict of interest must disclose it. If such conflict exists, the selection committee member must recuse him/herself from committee discussions and voting. Further, the committee member should not otherwise influence other members of the committee in the nomination process. However, a committee member who recused him/herself, but who has relevant and necessary information with respect to athlete performance, for example a national team coach or high performance director, may, if requested by the selection committee, provide such information to the committee so long as such information is provided in a fair and unbiased manner and the committee member who declared the conflict of interest does not vote toward the final decision.

3. REMOVAL OF ATHLETES

- 3.1. Prior to acceptance of nominations by the USOC, Lakeshore Foundation/USAWR has jurisdiction over potential nominees.

An athlete who is to be nominated to the Team by Lakeshore Foundation/USAWR may be removed as a nominee for any of the following reasons, as determined by the Lakeshore Foundation/USAWR:

- 3.1.1. Voluntary withdrawal. Athlete must submit a written letter to the Lakeshore Foundation Executive Director.
- 3.1.2. Injury or illness as certified by an approved USAWR physician (or medical staff) approved by Lakeshore Foundation/USAWR. If an athlete refuses verification of his/her illness or injury by an approved USAWR physician (or medical staff) approved by the NGB/HPMO, his/her injury will be assumed to be disabling and he/she may be removed.
- 3.1.3. Violation of the Lakeshore Foundation/USAWR Code of Conduct (Attachment B&C).
- 3.1.4. Re-classification by the IF such that the athlete's qualifying performance would not have qualified him or her for the Team.
- 3.1.5. Removal by the IF of the event in which the athlete qualified for the Team from the program.

An athlete who is removed from the Team pursuant to this provision has the right to a hearing per the Lakeshore Foundation/USAWR Complaint Procedures (Attachment D) and the USOC's Bylaws, Section 9.

- 3.2. Once an athlete nomination is accepted by the USOC, the USOC has jurisdiction over the Team, at which time, in addition to any applicable Lakeshore Foundation/USAWR Code of Conduct, the USOC's Code of Conduct and Grievance Procedures apply. The USOC's Code of Conduct and Grievance Procedures can be found at:
<http://www.teamusa.org/Athlete-Resources/Athlete-Ombudsman>
- 3.3. An athlete may be removed as a nominee to the Team or from the Team for an adjudicated violation of IOC, PASO, IPC, WADA, IF, USADA and/or USOC anti-doping protocol, policies and procedures, 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:

The Selection Committee listed in Section 2.3 will determine the replacement athlete based on the criteria in Section 1.3 and 2.2, Team need, and sport class from among the pool of athletes eligible who participated (long list) at the 2017 Selection Camp.

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

The Selection Committee listed in Section 2.3 will determine the replacement athlete based on the criteria in Section 1.3 and 2.2, Team need, and sport class from among the pool of athletes eligible who participated (long list) at the 2017 Selection Camp.

5. SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

Lakeshore Foundation/USAWR 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 Americas Championship.

6. REQUIRED DOCUMENTS

In addition to the USOC Code of Conduct, the following documents are required to be signed by an athlete as a condition of nomination to the Americas Championships and are included as attachments:

- **Lakeshore Foundation/USAWR Code of Conduct (Attachment ‘B’)**
- **Lakeshore Foundation/USAWR Team Rules, Addendum to the Code of Conduct (Attachment ‘C’)**
- **Team training and competition schedule (Attachment ‘E’)**

7. PUBLICITY/DISTRIBUTION OF PROCEDURES

The USOC approved Selection Procedures (complete and unaltered) will be posted/published by Lakeshore Foundation/USAWR in the following locations:

7.1. NGB/HPMO Web site:

- www.lakeshore.org
- www.usawr.org

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

7.2. Other:

8. DATE OF NOMINATION

The Nomination of Athletes form, including replacements, will be announced to all athletes and posted:

A pool of up to 16 athletes in consideration for the 2017 Americas Championship Team will be named on or before **8 January, 2017**.

From the pool of up to 16 athletes named on 8 January, 2017 the final 12 athletes will be named on or before **11 June, 2017 to the 2017 Americas Championship Team**.

*Removal and replacement procedures, per this document, Sections 3. and 4. apply, to both the Roster of 16 and Final Roster of 12.

9. MANDATORY TRAINING AND/OR COMPETITION

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

- 6-11 June, 2017 - Lakeshore Foundation Olympic and Paralympic Training Site.
- 19-23 July, 2017 - Colorado Springs Olympic Training Center.

Any changes to the location, schedule and/or duration of mandatory training will be announced at least 30 days in advance over email to the athletes selected.

10. ANTI-DOPING REQUIREMENTS

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

11. DEVELOPMENT OF SELECTION PROCEDURES

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

- Mandy Goff - High Performance Manager
- James Gumbert - Head Coach, National Team 2016
- Sue Tucker - Assistant Coach, National Team 2016
- Seth McBride - USAWR Athlete Representative, National Team 2016
- Katie Holloway - AAC Representative
- Katie Baker - USOC, Assoc. Dir. Paralympic Sport Performance

12. NGB/HPMO BYLAWS AND GRIEVANCE PROCEDURES

The **Lakeshore Foundation** Bylaws and Grievance Procedures can be found at:

- www.lakeshore.org
- www.usawr.org

13. INTERNATIONAL DISCLAIMER

These procedures are based on IOC, IPC, PASO, as applicable, and/or **International Wheelchair Rugby Federation (IWRF)** rules and regulations as presently known and understood. Any change in the selection procedures caused by a change in IOC, IPC, PASO, as applicable, and/or **IWRF** rules and regulations will be distributed to the affected athletes immediately. The selection criteria are based on the latest information available to **Lakeshore Foundation/USAWR**. 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 USOC.

14. ATHLETE OMBUDSMAN

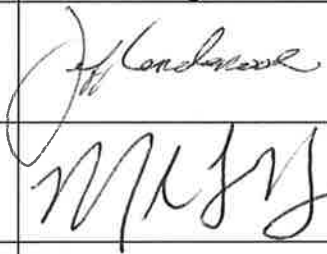

Athletes who have questions regarding their opportunity to compete that are not answered by NGB/HPMO may contact the USOC Athlete Ombudsman, Kacie Wallace, by:

- Telephone at (719) 866-5000
- Email at Kacie.wallace@usoc.org

<http://www.teamusa.org/Athlete-Resources/Athlete-Ombudsman>

15. NGB/HPMO SIGNATURES


I certify that I have read and understand the standards/criteria set by our IF 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 Lakeshore Foundation/USAWR.

Position	Print Name	Signature	Date
NGB/HPMO President or CEO/Executive Director	<i>Jeff Anderson</i>		11-29-16
Nat. Team Coach, Head Coach, or Nat. Program Director	Mandy Goff		11-29-16
USOC Athletes' Advisory Council Representative*			

* If the USOC 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/HPMO, he/she may submit those reasons in writing to his/her Sport Performance Team.

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

Nat. Team Coach, Head Coach, or Nat. Program Director			
USOC Athletes' Advisory Council Representative*	Katie Holloway		11/28/2016

* If the USOC 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/HPMO, he/she may submit those reasons in writing to his/her Sport Performance Team.

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