

**USA SWIMMING**  
**ATHLETE SELECTION PROCEDURES**  
**2015 Billiton Aquatic Super Series CHAMPIONSHIPS**  
**January 30- 31, 2015**  
**Perth, Australia**

**I. SELECTION SYSTEM**

The 2015 Billiton Aquatic Super Series (the "Championships") will be conducted in Perth, Australia January 30-31, 2015.

**The following common definitions shall apply to this Team Selection Procedure.**

- A. Available Swimmer. "Available Swimmer" shall mean a swimmer who, at the time of selection and through the Championships: (i) is a registered athlete member of USA Swimming in good standing, (ii) is a citizen of the United States who is eligible to represent the United States at the Championships, (iii) qualifies for the Team in an Event according to these Procedures, (iv) satisfies all the FINA, World Anti- Doping Agency (WADA), United States Anti-Doping Agency (USADA) and USA Swimming applicable eligibility requirements, (v) accepts the invitation to become a member of the Team when that invitation is offered by USA Swimming, (vi) agrees to swim in the Event for which he/she qualifies, and (viii) continues to train for peak swimming performance through the Championships. If a swimmer does not satisfy these requirements, then he/she is not considered an Available Swimmer.
- B. Doubles. To "Double" shall mean the instance when one individual swimmer qualifies to compete in two or more different swimming Events at the Championships.
- C. Event. "Event" shall refer to competitions held in long course meters only at the Championships and long course meters based on World Ranking.
- D. Head Coach. Unless otherwise indicated, "Head Coach" shall refer to the head coach of the Team for each gender.
- E. World Ranking. "World Ranking" shall mean the long course world ranking according to the FINA.org World Rankings for January 1, 2014 to September 1, 2014. The World Ranking list will be printed at 8 am MST on September 2, 2014. Swim-offs, relay lead-offs, intermediate splits, and time trials shall NOT be considered for selection, but may be considered in making other determinations as described herein.
- F. National Team Director. "National Team Director" shall refer to the USA Swimming National Team Director, or his designee.
- G. Team. "Team" shall mean the 2015 BASS Team announced on or before November 1, 2014.

1. **Selection Eligibility.** To be eligible for selection to the Team, at the time of selection, a swimmer must then be eligible under all applicable rules of FINA, the U.S. Anti-Doping Agency (USADA), WADA, and USA Swimming. USA Swimming rules require an athlete to be a citizen of the United States who is eligible to represent the United States at the Championships, and a registered athlete member of USA Swimming in good standing.

2. **Additional Requirements for Selection.**

A. All swimmers selected to the Team must comply with all applicable rules and requirements of FINA, WADA, USADA, and USA Swimming.

B. Each swimmer selected to the Team must sign and abide by the USA Swimming 2015 Competition forms (See Attachment A) and conform to all USA Swimming policies and protocols regarding Team preparation and participation;

C. Each swimmer selected to the Team must agree to be filmed and photographed by the official photographer(s) and network(s) of USA Swimming under the conditions authorized by USA Swimming and give USA Swimming the right to use his or her name, picture, likeness, and biographical information to promote the sport of swimming.

3. **Team Selection- Making and Filling the Team.**

A. **Team Size.** The maximum allowable Team size is up to twelve (12) men and twelve (12) women. The actual Team size will be determined once the selection criteria have been implemented. For purposes of this Procedure, the men's and women's components of the Team shall be considered separately. USA Swimming is not required to take a full team.

B. **Performance Criteria for Team Selection.** Performances in the individual Olympic Events based on the World Rankings will be prioritized for each gender as follows to fill the Team up to a maximum of twelve (12) men and twelve (12) women. Only swimmers who qualify via one of the priorities set forth below are eligible for selection to the Team. Swimmers not qualifying via one of these priorities will not be eligible to be selected to the Team, unless they are subsequently selected to fill a vacant position according to Section I.4.

The Team for each gender shall be selected based on the following priorities:

- i. **Priority #1.** The first priority shall include both (i) ) the highest ranked (fastest) Available Swimmer based on the World Ranking in each of the individual Olympic Events, other than the men's 1500.
- ii. **Priority #2.** The remaining selection will be at the discretion of the National Team Director and the Head Coach (es) in order to fill the best team possible. Selection will be chosen from the 2014-2015 National Team and will be based on physical and mental preparation of athletes in conjunction with their International and National experience, strategy of the sport, and ability to score points and need to fill the team in order to

win the competition. A maximum of twelve (12) athletes in each gender will be selected.

C. Decreasing Team Size. If the prioritization procedures described above result in a list of either more than twelve (12) male or more than twelve (12) female swimmers, then the swimmers of each gender shall be ranked and selected to the Team according to the following system:

- i. All swimmers from priority #1 shall be selected to the Team.
- ii. If selecting persons from Priority #1 would result in more than twelve (12) swimmers per gender on the Team, then the swimmers within priority #1 shall be invited to fill the Team based on the highest World Ranking until a maximum of twelve (12) swimmers are selected.
- iii. USA Swimming may or may not use Priority #2 to select the Team.

D. Breaking a Tie.

- i. Tie in Same Event. In the instance where there is tie between two swimmers in the same Event for first place, both swimmers will be considered to fall under Priority #1. In the instance where there is a tie between two or more swimmers in the same Event for second place or lower based on the World Rankings, the following will take place:
  - (a.) The fastest time swum by each swimmer in their next highest World Ranked Olympic Event will be ranked according to the World Rankings. The swimmer with the highest World Ranking will be added to the Team.
  - (b.) If Section I.3.D.i. (a) does not break the tie the swimmer who had the fastest time at the Pan Pacific Championships in the Event will be added to the Team. If only one swimmer swam the Event at the Pan Pacific Championships then they will be added to the Team.
  - (c.) If Section I.3.D.i. (a or b) does not break the tie, the tie will be broken by a coin toss.
- ii. Tie in Different Events. In the instance where, pursuant to the World Rankings, there is a tie between two or more swimmers in different Events for the final position(s) on the Team, the tie will be broken as follows:
  - (a) Each swimmer's fastest performance swum in their Event based on the World Rankings will be converted into a ratio, using the highest World Ranking time as the denominator, and the most recent FINA Approved World Record for that Event as of September 1, 2014 as the numerator, and the swimmer(s) with the highest ratio will be selected to the final position(s) on the Team.

- (b) If this does not break the tie, then each swimmer's highest World Ranking in the Event which they are selected to the Team will be ranked according to the FINA.org 2014 Long Course Points Ratings (published by FINA in February 2014) and the swimmer(s) with the highest ranking shall be selected to the final position(s) on the Team. Points Ratings can be found at fina.org.
- (c) If this fails to break the tie, the tie will be broken by a coin toss.

**4. Adjustments to the Team between Selection of Team and November 14, 2014.**

A. Filling Vacant Team Position. If, for any reason, a position on the Team shall become vacant between the selection of the Team and the date USA Swimming submits its entries for the Championships (10:00 am MT, November 14, 2014) such vacancy shall be filled as follows, provided, however, that nothing in this Section 1.4 shall have the effect of bumping off the Team a swimmer who has already been selected to the Team (and who has not otherwise been removed from the Team):

a. Filling Vacant Event Position With No Team Vacancy.

A Team member who for any reason determines, in consultation with the Head Coach and National Team Director, that it is in his/her best interest, either due to injury, the timing of Events at the Championships, or otherwise, not to compete in all of the individual Events for which he/she has qualified, but to remain on the Team and compete in some of the Events for which he/she qualified. In this case, he/she may decline the opportunity to compete in any individual Event, provided, however, that he/she is encouraged to notify the National Team Director of his/her decision as soon as possible.

If the Team is full (twelve [12] per gender) after the time of his/her decision, the vacancy in any Event(s) shall be filled by the swimmer already on the Team according to the following priorities. First priority will be given to the next highest World Ranked Available Swimmer. If the swimmer does not agree to swim in the additional Event, then the swimmer shall not be considered an Available Swimmer for that Event. This process shall repeat until the Event is filled.

b. Filling Vacant Event Positions with Team Vacancy.

If the Team is not full (less than twelve [12] per gender) after a swimmer declines the position on the Team for any reason, or Event positions otherwise become vacant, then the vacancy in any such Event(s) shall be filled by the next fastest Available Swimmer based on World Rankings. If the next fastest Available Swimmer is already on the Team, and he/she agrees after consulting with the Head Coach and National Team Director to swim in the additional Event, then he/she shall serve as the replacement in that Event, and no swimmer from that Event will be added to the Team. If he/she declines to swim in the additional Event, then

he/she shall not be considered an Available Swimmer for that Event, and the next fastest Available Swimmer will be considered. If the next Available Swimmer is not already on the Team then the swimmer will be selected according to section 3.B. If adding the next Available Swimmer from each Event left vacant would cause the Team to exceed the maximum number (twelve [12] per gender) then those who qualify as the next fastest Available Swimmer in the Events left vacant shall be ranked according to the procedure described in Section I.3.C., and those ranked highest according to that procedure shall be added to the Team until the Team reaches its maximum number of twelve (12) per gender.

**5. Selection of Swimmers for Events.**

The first place finishers in each of the Olympic Events will swim the Event at the Championships (unless the swimmer chooses not to swim in that Event or is replaced pursuant to these Procedures), in which case the next fastest Available Swimmer in that Event on the Team will swim the event at the Championships.

Swimmers in the relays will be determined according to Section III.A below.

Additional swimmers in events will be selected based on highest World Ranking in events that need to be filled.

**II. ENTRY ADJUSTMENTS**

**Adjustments to the Team after November 14, 2014.** If, for any reason, an additional Team position or an additional Event position shall become vacant after 10:00am MT, on November 14, 2014, no additional members shall be added to the Team. In the Event that USA Swimming is permitted to fill a vacant Event position, such vacant Event position shall be filled by a swimmer already on the Team. First priority will be given to the next highest place finisher Available Swimmer from the World Rankings. However, the replacement swimmer must agree, after consulting with the Head Coach and National Team Director, to compete in the additional Event. If the replacement swimmer does not agree to swim in the additional Event, then the replacement swimmer shall not be considered an Available Swimmer for that Event. This process shall repeat until the Event is filled.

**III. DISCRETIONARY SELECTION**

Discretionary selection will not be used for any swimmers in equivalent individual Olympic Events from the World Rankings. However, all swimmers who are on the Team shall be eligible for selection as provided in this Section III to any and all relays to be held at the Championships.

- A. **Selection of Relays.** The Head Coach, in consultation with the assistant coaches and National Team Director, shall select the swimmers for each relay conducted at the Championships. In selecting the relay teams, the Head Coach, in consultation with the assistant coaches and National Team Director, shall consider all available and relevant information, including but not limited to each Team Member's World Ranking past relay performances, past relay reaction times, relay exchange

experience, 2015 Championship performances, personal best performances, 2015 Championships schedules, individual workload, other recent results and performances, consistency of performances, fatigue, health, fitness levels, training preparation, participation in relay training camps, scientific evaluation, attitude and team chemistry. Selection of swimmers for relays shall not be subject to challenge.

#### **IV. DISMISSAL FROM TEAM**

Any swimmer may be dismissed from the Team at any time following an appropriate hearing if (i) the swimmer violates any of the applicable FINA, WADA, USADA, USA Swimming or other rules and regulations applicable to the Team or its members, including without limitation applicable Codes of Conduct; or (ii) the National Team Director, in consultation with the Head Coach, the USA Swimming Olympic International Operations Committee (OIOC) Coordinator and the USA Swimming Athletes' Executive Vice President, determines that the swimmer is unable or unwilling to maintain a training regimen that is necessary for peak performance in the Championships.

If a violation is during a team competition or camp and is deemed detrimental to the team, the National Team Director or his designee and the Head Coach reserve the right to dismiss an athlete from the team during the competition or camp, following an appropriate hearing, which may be conducted according to an expedited procedure.

If a swimmer is alleged to have committed an anti-doping rule violation, that swimmer shall remain on the Team (or remain eligible to be named to the Team) until: 1) the swimmer is provisionally suspended or declared ineligible after a hearing conducted pursuant to the U.S. Anti-Doping Agency Protocol for Olympic Movement Testing or by FINA; 2) the swimmer voluntarily accepts a provisional suspension or sanction of ineligibility; or 3) the swimmer voluntarily withdraws from the Team or relinquishes eligibility to be named to the Team.

Confidentiality regarding alleged anti-doping rule violations shall be maintained as provided in the U.S. Anti-Doping Agency Protocol for Olympic Movement Testing.

#### **V. WITHDRAWAL FROM TEAM**

Any swimmer may withdraw from the Team at any time due to injury or illness, as certified by a USA Swimming Medical Staff member in consultation with USA Swimming (National Team Director, Head Coach and USOC Athlete Advisory Committee Representative), which prevents the swimmer from full participation in and/or preparation for the Championships.

USA Swimming may remove an athlete who has an injury or illness, as certified by the approved Team physician that is likely to keep him or her from competing at peak levels in the Championships. If an athlete refuses verification of his/her illness or injury by the approved Team physician, his/her injury will be assumed to keep him or her from competing at peak levels in the Championships, and he/she may be removed

#### **VI. CHALLENGE**

Subject to an athlete's rights under Section 9 of the USOC Bylaws, any challenge to these Procedures or any decision made pursuant to or in connection with these Procedures shall be handled as follows: 1) if such challenge relates to an alleged violation of a technical rule, it shall be handled according to the procedure set forth in Part One of the USA Swimming Rules and Regulations (which can be found at [www.usa-swimming.org](http://www.usa-swimming.org)); 2) if such challenge relates to an alleged violation of the National Team Honor Code, it shall be handled according to the procedure set forth in the USA Swimming Olympic International Operations Procedures Manual ("OIO Procedures Manual," can be obtained from the National Team Division); and 3) if such challenge does not relate to an alleged violation of a technical rule or an alleged violation of the National Team Honor Code, it shall be handled according to USA Swimming's Hearing Procedure set forth in Part Four of the USA Swimming Rules and Regulations. Any hearing required in order to resolve a challenge shall take place on an expedited basis if necessary in order to resolve the challenge in sufficient time for Team selection or to determine eligibility for a competition, camp or other training event.

**VII. DATE OF ENTRY SUBMISSION**

USA Swimming will submit all entries for the Championships at 10:00 am MT, on November 14, 2014.

**VIII. ASSEMBLY, TRAINING AND COMPETITION**

Athletes nominated to the Team will be required to participate in assembly, training and competition, and remain with the Team throughout the Championships. Assembly will take place on December 9. Specific dates/locations of mandatory training and competition are:

<u>Site</u>	<u>Dates</u>	<u>Event</u>
Los Angeles, CA	January 23	Assembly and Travel to Australia
Perth, Australia	January 25-29	Training in Australia
Perth, Australia	January 30- 31	BASS Competition
	February 1	Return home

**IX. PUBLICITY/DISTRIBUTION OF PROCEDURES**

These Procedures will be published on the USA Swimming Website, [usaswimming.org](http://usaswimming.org).

**X. INTERNATIONAL DISCLAIMER**

These selection criteria are based on the latest information available to USA Swimming and are based on FINA and USA Swimming rules and regulations as presently known and understood. Any change in the selection procedures caused by a change in FINA or USA Swimming rules and regulations or other unforeseen circumstances will be distributed to the affected athletes immediately.

**ATTACHMENT A**  
***USA Swimming National Team***  
**PARTICIPATION and COMMITMENT AGREEMENT**  
***2015 BASS Team***

I have read the participation and selection requirements for the 2015 BASS and I agree to abide by these as outlined. I agree to abide by the team selection criteria, camp and competition requirements, competition protocols, and the National Team honor code.

If for any reason I become unable to fulfill this commitment, I will immediately notify the National Team Director/National Team Managing Director.

- If selected, I accept a position on the 2015 BASS Team:      yes \_\_\_\_ no \_\_\_\_.

I give USA Swimming National Team Division permission to give out my contact information for internal USA Swimming Staff use (i.e. Media, Foundation, etc.) and for Trip Head Manager and Physician use:    yes \_\_\_\_\_ no \_\_\_\_\_.

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

(please print)

**Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Best # to reach me:** \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

**TEAM DECLINE FORM**

- I decline a position on the 2015 BASS Team:  
yes \_\_\_\_ no \_\_\_\_.

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

(please print)

**Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Coach Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

(please print)

**Coach Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date:** \_\_\_\_\_



# USA SWIMMING

## NATIONAL TEAM HONOR CODE

As a participant for the \_\_\_\_\_ conducted by USA Swimming for which I am selected by USA Swimming to attend I understand and will comply with the following guidelines as set forth by USA Swimming and the Olympic International Operations Committee regulations at all times during each Event.

1. The possession or use of alcohol, tobacco products or controlled substances by any athlete or staff member participating in the Event is prohibited throughout the duration of the trip (until the team has officially disbanded).
2. Curfews established by the staff will be adhered to each day of the training camp and at the competition.
3. Team members and staff will attend all team functions including meetings, practices, exhibitions, press conferences, competitions, etc., unless otherwise excused or instructed by the head coach or National Team Director or other person designated by USA Swimming, provided that, in no event shall any such team function be commercial in nature or related to the advertising or promotion of any third party, organization, products or services, including, without limitation, any Event sponsor (including, without limitation any USA Swimming sponsor), partner and/or exhibitor.
4. To ensure the propriety of the athletes and to protect the staff, there will be no male athletes in female athlete's rooms, and no female athletes in male athlete's rooms. There will be a team room provided for relaxation and recreation whenever possible.
5. Team members and staff will comply with USA Swimming and United States Olympic Committee uniform requirements. Details of this policy will be further explained at the beginning of the training camp or competition.
6. Team members and staff will refrain from any illegal or inappropriate behavior that would detract from a positive image of USA Swimming and its Event participants or be detrimental to its performance objectives.
7. Team members including staff will display proper respect and sportsmanship toward teammates, coaches, officials, administrators, fellow competitors and the public.
8. Each swimmer must agree to be filmed and photographed by the official photographer(s) and network(s) of USA Swimming, and must agree to the non-commercial use of his or her name, picture, likeness, voice, and biographical information as filmed, videotaped and photographed at the Event ("Likeness") by USA Swimming, in any and all non-commercial media, related to (owned by) USA Swimming. The foregoing authorization specifically includes the use of the Likeness for the non-commercial purpose of advertising and promoting the Event prior to and during, the Event, but specifically excludes the use of the Likeness in connection with the advertising or promotion of any third party, organization, products or services, including, without limitation, any Event sponsor

(including, without limitation any USA Swimming sponsor), partner and/or exhibitor. In no event may USA Swimming use or authorize any commercial use of the Likeness. Any proposed use of the Likeness shall be submitted to the swimmer for his or her review and approval prior to any such use.

9. Any additional guidelines for the participants in the Event will be established as needed by the National Team Director or other person designated by USA Swimming.

**IMPLEMENTATION:**

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1. All team and staff shall be apprised in writing of this policy. Signature of this document constitutes unconditional agreement to comply with Honor Code and Code of Conduct of USA Swimming.
2. USA Swimming shall have the right to establish and use one or more systems to determine if all aspects of the policy have been followed by team and staff members.
3. Failure to comply with the Honor Code as set forth in this document may result in disciplinary action under the provisions of the OIOC Policy Manual.

**Any appeal following any disciplinary action shall be in accordance with Part Four of USA Swimming Rules and Regulations.** Such discipline may include, but is not limited to: 1) Dismissal from the team and immediate return home at the athlete's expense; 2) Disqualification from one or more events, or all events of competition; 3) Disqualification from future USA Swimming and international competition.4) Financial penalties.

\_\_\_\_\_ Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Printed  
Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date

# *USA Swimming National Team*

## **NATIONAL TEAM PROTOCOL**

1. Swimmers are expected to stay focused on swimming fast and minimize walking, sunbathing, sightseeing, etc. until they have finished their last event.
2. All swimmers are required to attend each finals session through the last awards ceremony, unless excused by the Head Coach or National Team Director/National Team Managing Director.
3. When not preparing for their own events, swimmers are expected to remain in the team area to support their teammates.
4. Team Uniform Caps as prescribed by the National Team Director must be worn during competition, which must be approved by FINA and USA Swimming. All technical gear must be approved by FINA and USA Swimming.
5. When applicable, USOC issued dress sweats must be worn when receiving an award or during USOC organized press conferences. **ARENA sweats and/or USA Swimming issued apparel must be worn at all other times on deck or during official team functions.** (Athletes may wear the apparel of their choice during their personal time.)
6. No hats or head coverings should be worn when receiving awards.
7. All team members will be expected to demonstrate proper respect for the American flag and the national anthem.
8. After a swimmer has swum his/her last event, attendance at all remaining sessions (including preliminaries) is required.
9. All USAS National Team, National Junior Team, or "Event" team members will be required to maintain the desired level of conditioning for optimum performances, as determined by USAS.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_