

**USA SWIMMING
ATHLETE SELECTION PROCEDURES
2015 OPEN WATER WORLD UNIVERSITY GAMES
July 3-12 (Open Water July 11)
Gwangju, Korea**

I. SELECTION SYSTEM

The 2015 World University Games (the "Championships") will be conducted in Gwangju, Korea, July 3-12, 2015, with the open water swimming competition to be held July 11, 2015.

1. 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 FISU, 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 (vii) 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. Qualifying Competition. "Qualifying Competition" shall mean the 2015 USA Swimming Open Water National Championships to be conducted April 24 & 26, 2015 in Miromar Lakes, Florida.
- C. Championships. "Championships" shall refer to the 2015 World University Games. For purposes of these Selection Procedures, the beginning of the Championships will be July 3, 2015.
- D. Event. "Event" shall refer to the 10K event at the Championships.
- E. Head Coach. Unless otherwise indicated, "Head Coach" shall refer to the head coach of the Team.
- F. National Team Director. "National Team Director" shall refer to the USA Swimming National Team Director, or his designee.
- G. Selection to the Team. Selection of swimmers to the Team shall take place from April 24 & 26, 2015 at the Qualifying Competition.
- H. Team. "Team" shall mean the 2015 Open Water World University Games Team announced on or before June 1, 2015.
- I. Pan American Games. "Pan American Games" shall refer to the 2015 Pan American Games to be held in Toronto, Canada. The beginning of the Pan American Games will be July 10, 2015.

- J. World Championships. "World Championships" shall refer to the 2015 FINA World Championships to be held in Kazan, Russia. The beginning of the World Championships will be July 24, 2015.

2. **Eligibility Requirements for Selection .**

- A. To ensure that USA Swimming selects the best possible team for the most important FINA event of the year (the World Championships) and which is the 2016 Olympic Games Qualifier, a swimmer who has qualified to swim in the World Championships in the 10K, as described in Section II.B.1 of the World Championships Selection Procedures, and who has accepted the invitation to swim in the World Championships must swim in the 10K event at the World Championships and may not swim at the Pan American Games (pool and open water competitions), and likewise may not swim at the World University Games (pool and open water competitions).
- i. Anyone who has qualified for the World Championships team in the 5K event (as described in Section II.B.2 of the World Championships Selection Procedures) but not in the 10K event at the World Championships, and who has accepted the invitation to swim in the World Championships, must compete at the World Championships in the 5K. Such a swimmer may compete in the World University Games (Pool or Open Water) or the Pan American Games (Open Water only), provided that he or she (i) duly qualifies for the World University Games or the Pan American Games under the applicable selection procedures, and (ii) competes at the World Championships. Because the World University Games and the Pan American Games will be held at approximately the same time, a swimmer may not compete in both of these competitions.
- ii. Additionally, anyone who has qualified for the World Championships team in the 25K event only (as described in Section II.B.1 of the World Championships Selection Procedures) and not in the 10K event or the 5K event at the World Championships, may choose to compete in the World Championships in the 25K. Such a swimmer may also compete in the World University Games (Pool or Open Water) or the Pan American Games (Open Water only), provided the he or she duly qualifies for the World University Games or the Pan American Games under the applicable selection procedures. Because the World University Games and the Pan American Games will be held at approximately the same time, a swimmer may not compete in both of these competitions.
- B. 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, WADA, USADA, FISU, the USOC and USA Swimming.
- C. All athletes selected must be at least 17 years of age, and no greater than 23 years of age, at the beginning of the Championships.
- D. To be eligible to compete at the Championships, a swimmer must, at the beginning of the Championships, be officially registered as proceeding towards a degree or diploma at a university or similar institution whose status is recognized by the appropriate national academic authority of the United States.

- E. Former students of the institutions mentioned above, who have obtained their academic degree or diploma in the year preceding the Championships (2014-2015 school year), will be considered for the team, subject to FISU and other eligibility requirements.

3. **Additional Requirements upon Selection.**

All swimmers selected to the Team must comply with all applicable rules and requirements of FINA, WADA, USADA, FISU, and USA Swimming. Specifically, and without limitation, each Available Swimmer selected to the Team shall:

- A. Sign and abide by the USA Swimming Competition Forms (See Attachment A) and conform to all USA Swimming policies and protocols regarding Team preparation and participation; and
- B. 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.

4. **Team Selection—Making and Filling the Team.**

- A. **Team Size.** The maximum allowable Team size is up to two (2) men and two (2) women (based on FISU rules). The actual Team size will be determined once these Selection Procedures have been implemented. If for any reason the Team size based on the Selection Procedures is fewer than two (2) men or two (2) women, no additional swimmers will be added to the Team. For purposes of these Selection Procedures, the men's and women's components of the Team shall be considered separately, unless otherwise stated.
- B. The following priorities have been established to select the competitor for the 10K Open Water Event at the Championships:
 - i. The parameters of Section I.2.A of these Selection Procedures will be applied, and anyone who is ineligible to swim in the Championships under the terms and conditions of Section I.2.A of these Selection Procedures will not be considered an Available Swimmer for purposes of applying the priorities set forth below/selection to the Team.
 - ii. **Priority #1.** The two highest finishing Available Swimmers at the Qualifying Competition will be selected to the Team.
 - iii. **Priority #2.** If one or more positions remain after applying Priority #1, the next highest finishing Available Swimmer at the Qualifying Competition will be selected to the Team. This process shall continue until two (2) men and two (2) women are selected to the Team.
 - iv. **Limitation.** Notwithstanding the priorities set forth above, under no circumstances will swimmers finishing more than 10 minutes behind the first place finisher at the Qualifying Competition be considered for selection to the Team, even if this results in the Team not being full.

- C. Breaking a Tie. In the instance where there is a tie between two Available Swimmers at the Qualifying Competition, the following prioritized methods will be used to break the tie:
- i. If there is a tie for first place, both swimmers will be selected to the Team.
 - ii. If there is a three-way (or more) tie for first place, or if a tie occurs for any place other than first place, then the Available Swimmer(s) with the best finish(es) at the 2015 USA Swimming Open Water National Championships in the 5K event will win the tie-breaker. If only one of the Available Swimmers in the tie attended the 2015 USA Swimming Open Water National Championships and competed in the 5K event, then that Available Swimmer will win the tie-breaker;
 - iii. If this does not break the tie, the swimmer with the highest world ranking in the 1500 meter freestyle for the men and the 800 meter freestyle for the women based on FINA.org World Rankings from January 1, 2014-April 1, 2015, will be considered the higher finisher and will win the tie-breaker;
 - iv. If this does not break the tie, the tie will be broken by random draw.

5. **Vacancies in Team**

- A. Adjustments to the Team between Time of Selection and June 3, 2015. If, for any reason, an event position becomes vacant between the Time of Selection and the date USA Swimming submits its entries and visa requirements for the Championships (June 3, 2015, 12 noon MT), the opportunity to fill the vacancy will be offered to the next Available Swimmer(s) from the Qualifying Competition based on the priorities set forth in Section 4.B, until the vacancy is filled; provided, however, that under no circumstances will any swimmers finishing 10 minutes behind the first place finisher at the Qualifying Competition be considered for selection to the Team.
- B. Adjustments to the Team after June 3, 2015. If, for any reason, an event position becomes vacant after June 3, 2015, 12 noon MT, no additional members will be added to the Team. In the event that USA Swimming is permitted to replace the vacant position using athletes from the pool team, this position will be chosen by the Head Coach and National Team Director based on the Qualifying Competition results, past open water experience, 1500 meter and 800 meter pool times, competition schedule, individual workload, other recent results and performances, consistency of performances, fatigue, health, fitness levels, training preparation, scientific evaluation, attitude and team chemistry. The replacement of this athlete is dependent on FISU's rules and regulations and whether or not they will allow for changes to be made with the final roster using athletes from the pool team.

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 FISU, FINA, WADA, USADA,

USOC, 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) Chairman 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 occurs 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 at the appropriate time, following an appropriate hearing.

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. REMOVAL FROM TEAM DUE TO INJURY OR ILLNESS

USA Swimming may remove an athlete from the Team 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 to be examined or certified for his/her illness or injury by the approved Team physician (or the physician's medical staff), the athlete's 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); 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 Section 8 of the USA Swimming Olympic International Operations Procedures Manual ("OIO Procedures Manual," which 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 to be finalized by a relevant deadline.

VII. DATE OF ENTRY SUBMISSION

USA Swimming will submit all entries for the Championships at 12:00 noon Mountain time on June 3, 2015.

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. Specific dates/locations of mandatory training and competition are:

San Francisco/ LA	July 5, 2015*	Assembly and Travel
Gwangju, KOR	July 6-10	Training
Gwangju, KOR	July 11	Open Water 10K
Gwangju, KOR	July 11/ 12	Return Home

*Dates are subject to change

IX. PUBLICITY/DISTRIBUTION OF PROCEDURES

These Procedures, when approved, will be published on the USA Swimming website, usa-swimming.org. Additionally, the Procedures will be emailed to National Team athletes and their personal coaches at the time of entry, and will be available to be distributed at the Qualifying Competition at the general meeting.

X. INTERNATIONAL DISCLAIMER

These selection criteria are based on the latest information available to USA Swimming and are based on FINA, USOC, FISU 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 as soon as possible.

XI. PRIORITY OF WRITTEN PROCEDURES

The terms and conditions of these written Selection Procedures shall take priority over any verbal explanation, clarification or interpretation of the Selection Procedures and an athlete or coach relies on a verbal explanation, clarification or interpretation of these Selection Procedures at his or her sole risk. Any request or question that would involve a formal clarification or interpretation of these Selection Procedures, or that would address an issue not otherwise covered in these Selection Procedures, should be submitted to the USA Swimming National Team Director in writing, and the response to such request by USA Swimming must be provided within five business days in writing to the requestor.

ATTACHMENT A



**2014 Pan Pacific Championship, 2015 FINA LC World Championships,
2015 Pan American Games and 2015 World University Games**

USA Swimming National Team PARTICIPATION and COMMITMENT AGREEMENT

I have read the participation and selection requirements for the 2014 Pan Pacific Championships, 2015 FINA LC World Championships, 2015 Pan American Games and/ or the 2015 World University Games 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.

I agree to fully commit to a comprehensive training program designed for peak performance for the international competition I am selected for. 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 Open Water World Champ Team (July 12-Aug 2):
yes ____ no ____.
- If selected, I accept a position on the 2015 Open Water Pan American Games Team (July 7-13):
yes ____ no ____.
- If selected, I accept a position on the 2015 Open Water World Univ. Games Team (July 3-14):
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 Camp/Trip Staff use:
yes _____ no _____.

Name: _____
(please print)

Signature: _____ **Date:** _____

Best # to reach you: ____/____ - ____ (cell) Can you receive text? Yes ____ No ____

Your E-mail address: _____

Mother's Maiden Name: _____ **Last 4 digits of SS#:** _____

Coach Name: _____ **Coach E-mail:** _____

TEAM DECLINE FORM

- I decline a position on the 2015 FINA Open Water World Championship Team: yes ____
no ____.
I understand by declining a position on this Team I will not be able to be selected to the
2015 Pan American Games or the 2015 World University Games
- I decline a position on the 2015 Open Water Pan American Games Team: yes ____
no ____.
- I decline a position on the 2015 Open Water World University Games Team: yes ____
no ____.

Name: _____
(please print)

Signature: _____ **Date:** _____

Coach Name: _____
(please print)

Coach Signature: _____ **Date:** _____

ATTACHMENT B

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:

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: _____