

Junior Selection Committee Minutes
U.S. Championships
August 20, 2022

Meeting called to order by Chair, Amanda Stroud at 3:58pm EST

Members Present

Glenn Morris – Coaches Rep
Bob Lundy – Coaches Rep
Amanda Stroud – Athlete Rep & Chair
Levi Anderson – Athlete Rep (via Zoom)
Raj Bhavsar – Jr High Performance Coordinator
Brett McClure – High Performance Director (voice, no vote)
Jason Woodnick – VP Men's Program (voice, no vote)

I. Selection of the Level 10 Junior National Team

The top five all-around athletes in both JE Level 10 age groups (16 and 17) will be named to the Junior National Team based on their combined 2-day results at U.S. Championships:

16 years

Kai Uemura
Kiran Mandava
Preston Ngai
Cooper Kim
Jonah Soltz

17 years

David Shamah
Alexandru Nitache
Chase Davenport-Mills
Solen Chiodi
Zach Green

Three open selection spots remain via either all-around rank order or from approved petitions. A maximum of two athletes from either age group may be selected.

Petitions were submitted by four current Junior National Team athletes. All petitions contained the required documentation to be reviewed by the Selection Committee.

- Alex Deubler (16 years)
- Xander Hong (16 years)
- Vahe Petrosyan (17 years)
- Caden Clinton (17 years)

The next two ranked athletes in the all-around in each age group were:

- Sasha Bogonosiuik & Hasan Aydogdu (16 years)
- Maxwell Odden & Toma Murakawa (17 years)

The Committee chose to look at D scores from the athletes listed above as difficulty has been emphasized throughout the Junior National Team strategy. Looking at international results, we know that top D scores internationally are approaching close to 28.0, which is where our athletes need to be. With Junior World Championships coming up in early 2023, the push to close the D score gap with the top countries will continue to be emphasized.

Vahe Petrosyan stands out as having one of the highest D scores in the country. Vahe has also achieved success internationally over the past year, winning the 2021 Jr Pan Am Games and earning multiple medals at the 2022 DTB Pokal Cup in Germany. He is at the level required for the Junior World Championships.

Motion: To approve Vahe Petrosyan's petition and name him to the Junior National Team

Motion: Amanda Stroud

Second: Bob Lundy

Passed 5-0

By naming Vahe to the National Team, the Committee could only take one more 17 year old athlete from either petition or all-around rank order. Since Maxwell ranked higher than Toma in the all-around, Toma was eliminated from contention to the National Team.

The Committee felt that Alex Deubler was in a similar situation to Vahe. Alex has proven to have a top D score in his age group and earned a silver medal in the all-around at the International Junior Team Cup in Berlin. No other athletes remaining had any international experience.

Motion: To approve Alex Deubler's petition and name him to the Junior National Team

Motion: Amanda Stroud

Second: Glenn Morris

Passed 5-0

Xander, Caden and Maxwell all had similar D scores throughout the year, though Caden's D score was the highest of the three athletes. There are multiple athletes already named to the Junior National Team who have higher D scores than all three of them. The Committee felt that Maxwell showed consistency throughout the year and agreed that competing at U.S. Championships should hold merit when the data shows minimal difference between athletes' D scores.

Motion: To name Maxwell Odden to the Junior National Team

Motion: Bob Lundy

Second: Amanda Stroud

Passed 5-0

The final spot on the Junior National Team will come from the highest ranked 18 year old athlete from the senior all-around results, who has not already been named to the Senior National Team or the Senior Development Team. That athlete will be identified following the senior competition.

Motion to adjourn at 4:41pm EST

A Stroud

August 26, 2022

Junior Selection Committee Chair

Date