

Junior Selection Committee Minutes  
U.S. Championships  
August 26, 2023

Meeting called to order by Chair, Amanda Stroud at 1:11pm PST

Members Present

Glenn Morris – Coaches Rep  
Bob Lundy – Coaches Rep  
Amanda Stroud – Athlete Rep & Chair  
Steven Lukasik – Athlete Rep  
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

A. Confirmation of Automatic Spots

The top four 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

Nathan Roman  
Danila Leykin  
Ty Rodriques  
Grant Bowers

17 years

Kai Uemura  
Kiran Mandava  
Xander Hong  
Adam Lakomy

B. D-Score Based Spot

Five open selection spots remain via either all-around rank order, or from approved petitions, or by D-score based selection. A maximum of three athletes from either age group may be selected.

First the combined field was evaluated and ranked by D-score. The two athletes with the highest combined D-score, who were not already named through automatic qualification, were tied (54.4): Alex Deubler and Michael Scheiner. Both athletes failed to finish in the top 12 of the combined all-around results. Therefore, the criteria for an automatic D-score selection were unfulfilled and no athletes were named through this path.

C. Remaining Open Selection Spots

The committee chose to review each of the submitted injury petitions against the remaining participating athletes at U.S. Championships.

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

- Jesse Haney (16 years)
- Ethan Cox (16 years)
- Preston Ngai (17 years)

Because the D-score selection was unfulfilled, the selection process states that 5 open selection spots must come from the combined remaining field of 16- and 17-year-old athletes via rank order, or from petitions, with no more than three athletes coming from one age group.

The petitions included score sheets from previous championship level events in 2022 or 2023. These petitions were compared to the combines results from the field at 2023 U.S. Championships. D-scores and final scores were the main criteria used in the comparison, along with a review of all discretionary criteria included in the selection procedures. As international experience is limited within the junior program, those athletes with results that are competitive with other top competitors from international events will separate themselves from the field.

In looking at the combined Day 1 and Day 2 results and the score data in the petitions, 17-year-old Sasha Bogonosiuik was the next athlete via rank order and had scoring data stronger than the petitioned athletes.

**Motion: To add Sasha Bogonosiuik to the Junior National Team in the first open selection spot**

Motion: Amanda Stroud  
Second: Steven Lukasik  
Vote: Unanimous 5-0

The committee continued to review the combined results along with remaining petitions. The next athlete according to scoring data was 17-year-old Preston Ngai. Preston's 2022 U.S. Championships final scores showed a 155.095 and a 27.9 D-score. This final score would have ranked him in sixth place all-around for the 17-year-olds. The committee discussed his current return-to-play timeline, ensuring that if added to the Junior National Team, he would be able to fulfil obligations required for the position.

**Motion: To add Preston Ngai to the Junior National Team in the second open selection spot**

Motion: Bob Lundy  
Second: Steven Lukasik  
Vote: Unanimous 5-0

With three more open selection spots remaining, the combined results were compared with the remaining petitions. The next two athletes via combined rank order were Hasan Aydogdu and Tristen Nye. Only one more 17-year-old could be added as the selection procedures require a maximum of 3 athletes per age group. Hasan Aydogdu finished above Tristen in the final results and the D-score results. His scores demonstrate that he is competitive within the field and at the level required for the Junior National Team.

**Motion: To add Hasan Aydogdu to the Junior National Team in the third open selection spot**

Motion: Bob Lundy  
Second: Glenn Morris

Vote: Unanimous 5-0

Two more open selection spots remained, and those spots must be filled by athletes in the 16-year-old division, as three 17-year-old athletes had already been named to the team. The petitions of Jesse Hanny and Ethan Cox were reviewed with the scores of the next two rank order athletes in the 16-year-old division, Justin Park and Oleksandr Shybitov.

The two remaining petitions each submitted scores from a meet that was a one-day event, this made it difficult to accurately compare them to the final rankings of the athletes who competed two days at 2023 U.S. Championships.

The committee was careful to discuss each of these four athletes including their D-scores, final scores, and, for the petitions, their return-to-play timelines. The committee felt that all four athletes had a case for being on the Junior National Team, but without much separation amongst the criteria, the JSC chose to give more weight to the two-day scores achieved at 2023 U.S. Championships.

**Motion: To add Justin Park to the Junior National Team in the fourth open selection spot**

Motion: Raj Bhavsar

Second: Amanda Stroud

Vote: Unanimous 5-0

**Motion: To add Oleksandr Shybitov to the Junior National Team in the final open selection spot**

Motion: Bob Lundy

Second: Steven Lukasik

Vote: Unanimous 5-0

Meeting adjourned by Chair, Amanda Stroud at 2:06pm PST

*A Stroud*

---

Junior Selection Committee Chair

9/5/2023

Date