



2023 World University Games Selection Procedures

April 2023

1.0 Introduction

The purpose of this document is to outline the process that will be used by the Men's Artistic Gymnastics (MAG) Program of USA Gymnastics to nominate athletes to the 2023 FISU World University Games in Chengdu, China.

***At the time of creation of this document, there are no official directives for this event. Information in this document is subject to change. All affected parties will be notified of any changes to these procedures.**

1.1 Objectives

The objective of these processes and procedures is to nominate the best possible delegation for this event who will be capable of achieving the following target:

- Provide international experience in a team competition for Senior National Team and Senior Development Team athletes.

1.2 Delegation Size and Financial Considerations

The maximum number of athletes in the delegation is five. The competition format is 5-4-3 for the Team Competition.

The U.S. MAG delegation will be composed of:

- Minimum of 3 athletes and a maximum of 5 athletes
- Maximum of 2 coaches (1 coach will be designated as team leader)
- 1 medical staff

The LOC must approve additional staff. If approved, they may be required to stay outside the Village. Personal coaches will not be included in the team delegation for this event.

Participation in this event is fully funded by USA Gymnastics for the team delegation.

1.3 Key Dates

April 27-30	FIG World Cup - Cairo
May 3-7	Senior NT Training Camp – Pan Am Championships & World University Games Selection Event

July 22	Games Village Opens
July 26/27	Estimated arrival date
August 2	Team Finals
August 4	AA Finals
August 5	Individual Event Finals

2.0 Eligibility

Athletes are eligible for selection to the Team provided that:

- they are a national of the United States at the time of selection and hold a valid U.S. passport that will not expire for six months after the conclusion of the Games
- be at least 18 and no older than 27 years of age on December 31 of the year of the event (born between January 1, 1996 and December 31, 2005)
- they are a current National Team athlete competing in the Senior category in 2023 and have signed the NT Agreement
- they have not participated in any international events as a junior athlete in the year 2023
- they hold a valid FIG License that does not expire before the end of the 2023 World University Games
- they are a member in good standing with USA Gymnastics
- they are students who are currently officially registered as proceeding towards a degree or diploma at the university or similar institute, the status of which is recognized by the appropriate national/regional academic authority of their country/region; or
- they are former students of the institutions mentioned in a) who have obtained their academic degree or diploma in the three calendar years preceding the event (i.e. 2020, 2021 and 2022).

3.0 Process

Athletes wishing to be considered for nomination to the 2023 World University Games will participate in a 1-day selection competition during the Senior National Team Camp taking place May 3-7, 2023. Results from the competition, **which will not include D score bonus**, will be used to create team scoring scenarios as has been done for previous team selections. The top scoring team utilizing a 5-4-3 team format will be named to the World University Games.

Athletes who compete at the FIG World Cup in Cairo may choose to use their score(s) from the Cairo Qualification session(s) for the World University Games scoring scenarios but must inform the High Performance Director (HPD) prior to competing in Cairo if they will be utilizing scores from that event for selection. Those athletes may also add event scores from the World University Games Selection competition for events that they did not compete in Cairo as long as they have one counting score per event. For example, an athlete may count their FX and SR scores from the Cairo Qualifications and their PH, VT, PB and HB from the World University Games Selection competition, for a total of six event scores which will count towards the team scoring scenarios.

An athlete will not be permitted to compete the same event at both Cairo and the Selection competition for a counting score to the team scenarios. If an athlete elects to use their score(s) from Cairo Qualifications on Pommel Horse, then they will not be permitted to compete on Pommel Horse for a counting score at the Selection competition. This ensures all athletes get one attempt on each event to contribute a score for the team scenarios.

It is possible that athletes may be named to both the 2023 Pan Am Championships and 2023 World University Games teams based on an athlete's desire to attend both events. Athletes wishing to be considered for both events should notify the HPD prior to the Selection competition. The Pan Am Championship team will be selected before the team is named to the World University Games.

The next two (2) athletes who appear in the team scoring scenario rankings will be named as replacement athletes for the World University Games.

As the selection for this event is more than two months prior to the competition, all named team members will be expected to provide a show of readiness to the High Performance Director and Senior Selection Committee via full routine video submission across one day of competition between two and three weeks prior to team departure for the Games. The estimated timeline for video submission will be **July 5-12, 2023**. Athletes must perform their routines at a level that is competitive with the other team members, shows consistency and supports their selection to the Team. Failure to meet this requirement may result in removal from the team.

4.0 Coach Selection

To be named as a coach for the 2023 World University Games, coaches must meet the following criteria:

- Be a current member in good standing with USA Gymnastics
- Must meet the Qualifications for Service outlined in the [USA Gymnastics Leadership Eligibility and Service Policy](#)
- Be in good health and able to withstand the physical rigors of traveling with and working with the team
- Be available for the entire duration of the competition, including any mandatory trainings
- Have thorough knowledge of FIG rules

The coaches for the 2023 World University Games Team will be selected from among the personal coaches of the team members, after the final Team Selection based upon the following criteria:

- Number of athletes on the team
- Proven team leadership ability
- Proven ability to communicate effectively to athletes, coaches and judges

- Ability to work with all team athletes and coaches throughout trainings and team meetings, creating team cohesion and trust
- International experience
- Attendance at required trainings and meetings

5.0 Determination of Athletes' Competitive Apparatus and Start Order

The competitive order and strategy for this competition will be determined by the team coaches, in consultation with team athletes. As per FIG regulations, the order of competition on each event shall be submitted no later than 24 hours prior to the competition.

6.0 Petition Procedures and Requirements

USA Gymnastics will allow athletes with a specific injury, illness or unusual circumstance, which prohibits the athlete from participating in the competitive process, to petition directly on to the 2023 World University Games Team.

Only athletes who meet the following criteria may submit a petition:

- They must be a current member of the Senior National Team at the time of selection (includes Senior Development National Team) and must meet all eligibility criteria (Section 2.0) for selection.

6.1 Petition Process

Petitions to be selected to the 2023 World University Games must be submitted to the Senior Selection Committee Chair via email prior to the conclusion of the selection competition at the May Senior National Team camp (May 6th).

To be considered, all petitions must include the following:

- Petition form to be completed: <https://usagym.org/pages/home/pages/forms.html?#mens>
- Medical report/letter by an examining physician subject to verification by USAG medical staff
- Athlete's return to play plan/timeline
- Proof of medical clearance to participate subject to verification by USAG medical staff
- Estimated date for show of readiness (minimum of two weeks prior to departure for the World University Games. The estimated timeline to show readiness to the High Performance Director and members of the Selection Committee must be between **July 5-12, 2023**.

For petitions directly on to the 2023 World University Games Team, the SSC will consider the Discretionary Criteria listed below using results from domestic Championship events and FIG international events within the calendar year 2022 and 2023. The athlete will be required to show readiness between two and three weeks prior to team departure for the Games. The

estimated timeline to show readiness is July 5-12, 2023. If time permits, this will include evaluation from the U.S. Championship judging panels.

A show of readiness will require the athlete to perform their required routines with full difficulty across one or two competition days. They must perform their routines at a level that is competitive with the other team members, shows consistency and supports their selection to the Team. Failure to meet this requirement may result in removal from the team.

7.0 Discretionary Criteria

Athletes submitting a petition will be considered for selection to the team by the Senior Selection Committee using all of the factors outlined below:

- Contributions to the team score – ability to increase team score through contributions on multiple events and/or by strengthening the team’s weaker events.
- Ability to make an individual final – the athlete has internationally competitive D, E and final scores that compare with finalists from previous FIG international events, including but not limited to the following:
 - World Championships
 - FIG World Cups and Challenge Cups
 - DTB Pokal
 - Continental Championships
 - Major Games (Olympic Games, Asian Games, Pan Am Games, World University Games, Commonwealth Games, etc.)
- International experience– the athlete has demonstrated performance in international competition that would prepare them for the World University Games or the athlete requires more international experience to better prepare them for future international opportunities.

8.0 Athlete Substitution

Following the athlete selection, the following conditions must be met up until the deadline for official submission of the World University Games starting order:

- the athlete is still eligible; and
- the athlete is healthy and able to compete as verified by a member of the USAG medical team, and
- the athlete is performing at the level that warranted their nomination to the team as determined by the team athletes and coaches

If based on the above, an athlete cannot participate in a competition due to injury or other unforeseen circumstance then the High Performance Director, in consultation with the athletes, team coach(es), the personal coaches, the USAG medical staff, and the Men’s Program Vice President, will determine a reserve athlete should replace that athlete. If time permits, and it is

deemed to be beneficial for the team a change will be made to the official coaching staff for the team.

9.0 Removal of Athletes

An athlete who is to be selected to the Team by USA Gymnastics may be removed from the Team for any of the following reasons, as determined by USA Gymnastics:

- Voluntary withdrawal. Athlete must submit a written letter to the Vice President of Men's Program of USA Gymnastics.
- Injury or illness as certified by an examining physician and verified by a member of the USAG medical staff.
- Violation of Men's Program National Team Agreement.
- Missing required deadlines for eligibility and/or confirmation of team selection

An athlete who is removed from the Team pursuant to this provision has the right to a hearing per USA Gymnastics' Opportunity to Participate grievance process.

An athlete may be removed as a nominee to the Team or from the Team for an adjudicated violation of IOC, FISU, PASO, IPC, WADA, FIG, USADA and/or USOPC anti-doping protocol, policies and procedures, as applicable.

10.0 Anti-Doping Requirements

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

11.0 Announcement of Selection of Athletes and Coaches

The official announcement of team selection is the responsibility of USA Gymnastics. All internal verbal or written communication to athletes, coaches, or member associations regarding team selection is considered an "*unofficial notice*" and is NOT for public distribution. Official notice of team selection occurs when USAG provides a formal public "release" announcing the team selection, or when USAG partners with a multi-sport organization to formally announce a team.

12.0 Grievance Procedures

USA Gymnastics Bylaws and Grievance Procedures can be found at:

<https://usagym.org/PDFs/About%20USA%20Gymnastics/Governance/usag-bylaws.pdf>

<https://usagym.org/PDFs/About%20USA%20Gymnastics/Governance/grievance.pdf>

13.0 International Disclaimer

These procedures are based on IOC, FISU, PASO, as applicable, and/or FIG rules and regulations as presently known and understood. Any change in the selection procedures caused by a change in IOC, FISU, PASO, as applicable, and/or FIG rules and regulations will be distributed to the affected athletes immediately. The selection criteria are based on the latest information available to USA Gymnastics. 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 by the Men's Program Committee.

14.0 Athlete Ombudsman

Athletes who have questions regarding their opportunity to compete that are not answered by USA Gymnastics may contact the USOPC Athlete Ombudsman's office by:

- Telephone at 719-866-5000
- Email at athlete.ombudsman@usoc.org
- <http://www.teamusa.org/For-Athletes/Athlete-Ombudsman.aspx>