

Acrobatic Gymnastics Selection Procedures

2023-2024 International Club Team

I. Overview

The process for qualification/selection to the 2023-2024 Acrobatic Gymnastics International Club Team (ICT) is a combination of the results from 2023 USA Gymnastics Championships and selection criteria outlined (Section II).

A. QUALIFICATION

- i. Selected by using the selection criteria based on performances at the 2023 USA Gymnastics championships as defined in Section II.
- ii. Through a successfully approved petition onto ICT through the process set forth in Section III.
- iii. The Acrobatic Gymnastics Selection Committee (SC) reserves the right to select additional pair/groups for ICT at selection events during the 2023-2024 competitive season. The criteria for selection are outlined in Section II.A and Section II.B.

B. ELIGIBILITY

- i. Athletes must compete at the 2023 USA Gymnastics Championships and follow the selection process outlined, unless petitioning (see Sections II.A. and III).
 - i. USA Gymnastics Championships to be held from June 20-24, 2023 in Tulsa, Oklahoma.
 - ii. Athletes must be a member in good standing with USA Gymnastics.
- ii. Any athlete age 18 or older will be required to complete USA Gymnastics' U110: US Center for SafeSport Core Course online training available at <https://usagym.org/pages/education/courses/U110/>.
- iii. Athletes trying out for ICT must compete in the respective age group category (11-16, 12-18, 13-19, or Senior) at 2023 USA Gymnastics Championships to be considered.
- iv. An athlete may not be named to ICT in multiple disciplines (i.e., men's pairs and men's group).

C. SELECTION

- i. The selection of the pair/groups to ICT will be made by the Acrobatic Gymnastics Selection Committee (SC).
- ii. Selection will be made according to criteria outlined in Section II.
- iii. The selection process will be consistent with the standards outlined in USA Gymnastics Conflict of Interest Policy for Athlete Selection

D. TEAM COMPOSITION

The composition of ICT may include any/all age categories including 11-16, 12-18, 13-19, and Seniors. The SC is not obligated to fill available spots or events.

II. SELECTION CRITERIA

A. TARGET SCORE RANGE AND GUIDE FOR ICT:

Target scores provided below represent general caliber of routine performance pair/groups should target to achieve in all routines.

- i. Target Scores all routines:
 - a. Artistry 8.3 and above
 - b. Execution 16.5 and above
 - c. Difficulty Pair/ group should successfully complete a target of 90-100% of maximum difficulty in all routines.
 - o Seniors should compete at least 10% above 13-19 maximum difficulty values in

- all routines.
- ii. Achievement of target scores does not equate to automatic qualification to ICT.
 - iii. Target scores will be evaluated under the discretionary criteria (II.B)

B. DISCRETIONARY SELECTION CRITERIA:

All criteria is considered equivalent and will be evaluated

- **Target Score(s) (II.A.) and ranking from the 2023 USA Gymnastics Championships**
- **Elements performed:**
 - Bonus elements and other quality elements performed in competition showcasing high level of difficulty, creativity, or innovative entrance or exit successfully performed in competition.
 - Number of elements in each exercise to reach the total difficulty. Skills are combined when logical and possible to maximize flow of routine and minimize number of skill builds.
 - Total exercise difficulty will be compared against the target difficulty. Target difficulty is the difficulty score before CJP deductions.
 - Technical performance of elements including quality of body lines, exceptional amplitude and body shapes in balance and dynamic, and overall control and ease of elements. Individual elements are performed cleanly with limited technical deductions.
- **Artistry and Presentation**
 - Performance, Choreography, Musicality, Expression, and Partnership will be considered by the SC (per FIG Acrobatic Gymnastics Code of Points).
 - Intricacy, complexity, and creativity of choreography exhibited in exercises.
 - Effective use of music, entries/exits, or other artistry moments that create identity or memorability amongst large competitive divisions.
 - Overall sophistication and performance of artistry and choreography will be considered. Routines are expected to be performed with full amplitude, polished timing, smooth transitions with elements, and ease on the floor.
- **International caliber and Overall performance**
 - International Caliber defined as strength, endurance, flexibility, and grace. Standards commensurate with world-level competitors
 - Posture, presence, and poise entering and exiting the floor and during the performance of the exercise.
 - Athletes' competitive experience, pair/group professionalism, and consistency will be taken into consideration
 - Mental and physical competitive readiness that allows for maximum performance.
 - Demonstrated professional attitude and ability to positively contribute to the team dynamic and adhering to national team policies.

III. PETITIONS

Petition Procedures - Notwithstanding the process identified in the preceding sections of these Selection Procedures, USA Gymnastics recognizes that extraordinary circumstances may occur which would cause a pair/group otherwise deserving of a spot on the 2023-2024 ICT, because of their previous competition results, to be unable to participate in one or more steps in that process. For a petition onto the ICT to be considered, it must be submitted in writing to the Acrobatic Gymnastics Program Director and meet the following requirements:

- A. Petitioning athletes must have:
 - i. Qualified to compete at the 2023 USA Gymnastics Championships.

- ii. Registered to compete at the 2023 USA Gymnastics Championships.
 - iii. Signed and submitted selection procedures by the deadline.
- B. Petitions must be submitted immediately following the pair/group's inability to participate in the selection event and before the conclusion of the selection event.
- C. Petitioning athletes MUST submit a video for review following guidelines listed below.
- D. Petitions will be considered in the event of an injury, illness, family death, or other extenuating circumstances.
 - i. The petition must include the date and nature of the injury and/or illness, family death, or other extenuating circumstance.
 - ii. Petitions based upon injury or illness must be accompanied by a physician's statement. The injury or illness is subject to verification by a physician approved by USA Gymnastics. Additional documentation may be requested to validate unforeseen circumstances.
- E. Due to the interdependent nature of partnerships, a petition must be jointly submitted by all members of the pair/group.
- F. Petitions will be considered by the Acrobatic Gymnastics Selection Committee (SC) based on discretionary criteria listed (II.B).
- G. Petition Video Guidelines
 - i. All competition videos should be from the judge's viewpoint, as close to a normal judge's position as possible.
 - ii. Perspective should be from the front center of the floor.
 - iii. Recording device set up on table, or on tripod (preferred) slightly above height of table.
 - iv. Camera should be a reasonable distance from the floor and athletes, so all partners are visible, yet athletes do not appear too distant in the video.
 - v. If possible, all four corners of floor should be visible in the video.
 - vi. The video should be HD quality; standard HD (720 or 1080).
 - vii. The video should be stable, without shaking or bumps. Use of a tripod is helpful.
 - viii. Video should be captured using landscape perspective.
 - ix. As much as possible, the camera should remain static. Camera should remain at a steady distance to see all athletes and skills and should only be moved from side-to-side if the entire floor is not visible. The camera should not be moved up and down to capture the routine.
 - x. All partners must be visible at all times. This includes for high skills and tosses, as well as when the partners are spread around the floor.
 - xi. Video must include the athletes' walk on at the beginning of the exercise, the complete exercise, and the walk off at the end of the exercise.
 - xii. Music should be clear and loud enough on the video. Video must consist of all competition routines with all skills, full amount of difficulty, and artistry. Performances should be of recent competition or event, ideally within 4 weeks or less of USA Gymnastics Championships. Competition attire is required. Note: Coaches are encouraged to precautionarily take videos of performances leading up to USA Gymnastics Championships in the event a petition would be required.
- H. Covid petitions: Covid petitions will be considered in the event that an athlete cannot compete due to inability to pass Covid requirement protocols designated by the event. Athletes submitting the covid petition would need to follow all requirements as outlined above. (Section III).

Petition Form: Appendix A-12 <https://usagym.org/acrobatic/rules/>

IV. TEAM OBLIGATIONS

A. Pair/ groups selected to ICT remain on the team until the 2024 USA Gymnastics Championships

B. The International competition calendar will be evaluated by the PC and SC with the goal to provide Fall or Spring ICT delegation competition. These determinations will be subject to

the international calendar and therefore international assignment(s) cannot be guaranteed.

C. ICT warm-ups and leotard should be purchased by members for use during ICT delegation travel.

D. In the event that National Team Training Camps have additional openings, the ICT pair/groups may request the opportunity to participate. Spots will be considered and filled according to the following hierarchy. Requests should be sent to Program Director and High Performance Coordinator.

- i. Seniors in same partnership
- ii. Seniors in new partnership
- iii. 13-19 in same partnership
- iv. 12-18 in same partnership
- v. 13-19 in new partnership
- vi. 12-18 in new partnership
- vii. 11-16 in same partnership
- viii. 11-16 in new partnership

E. The following documents are required to be adhered to by athletes and coaches as a condition of being named to the 2023-24 ICT and can be found online at https://usagym.org/pages/acro/pages/acro_selection_procedures.html

- i. USA Gymnastics Safe Sport Policy
- ii. USA Gymnastics Code of Ethical Conduct
- iii. Program Manual

V. RESIGNATION and RETIREMENT

- i. Coaches must promptly notify the High Performance Coordinator and/or Program Director of changes in partnership status or level which may affect the pair/group's standing on ICT and/or ability to compete. This may include, but is not limited to, the retirement of athletes, changes in partnerships, changes in competition level, injuries, etc.
- ii. Coaches should make all attempts to notify the High Performance Coordinator and/or Program Director before the information is made public. This includes social media.
- iii. Due to the interdependent nature of partnerships, removal, retirement or resignation of any single athlete will be effective for the entire pair/group.

VI. ACROBATICS SELECTION COMMITTEE

The following individuals serve on the Acrobatics Gymnastics Selection Committee, which is responsible for making discretionary selections:

- Elite Committee Representative, Ronda Francis
- Elite Coach, Jennifer Banowsky
- International Expert (non-voting), Nicole Barrilleaux
- Athlete Representative, Jessica Renteria

- Acrobatics Program Director (non-voting), Kyla Knights
- Acrobatics High- Performance Coordinator (non-voting), Lanie Davis

Note: In the event a selection committee member cannot attend the event due to extenuating circumstances, remaining members of the Selection Committee will be responsible. If a voting member must recuse themselves due to a conflict of interest, the International Expert may fill their absence and cast a vote.

USA Gymnastics Conflict of Interest Policy for Athlete Selection defines the process that is used to handle any potential conflicts of interest.

<https://static.usagym.org/PDFs/Pressbox/Selection%20Procedures/conflictinterest.pdf>

2023-2024 International Club Team Selection Procedures Agreement

By signing this form, each coach, athlete, and (if athlete is under the age of 18) parent/legal guardian participating in the selection process is acknowledging and agreeing that you have carefully reviewed and understand the terms of the applicable Acrobatic Gymnastics Selection Procedures for the respective team. Please note, the parent's signature is required if the athlete is under 18 years of age.

Pair/groups submitting selection procedures for 11-16 PAGU Team, JNT, or SNT will automatically be evaluated for ICT and do not need to additionally submit ICT selection procedures.

A copy of birth certificate or passport (color copy, jpeg format) for each athlete must be submitted with the Selection Procedures by **June 16th, 2023** to the Acrobatics Program Director, Kyla Knights @ kknights@usagym.org

International Club Team Selection: 2023 USA Gymnastics Championships

Coach Name: _____ Coach Signature: _____

Club Name: _____ Club Abbr: _____

Coach Email: _____ Coach Phone: _____

P/G ID: _____ Event: _____ Level: _____

Top's Name: _____

Athlete Signature: _____ Parent Signature: _____

Middle's Name: _____

Athlete Signature: _____ Parent Signature: _____

Middle's Name: _____

Athlete Signature: _____ Parent Signature: _____

Base's Name: _____

Athlete Signature: _____ Parent Signature: _____