

USA Gymnastics

Acrobatic Athlete Selection Procedures

2026 Acrobatic World Championships

- Publication Date: [June 2, 2026](#)

SECTION 1: OVERVIEW

These procedures outline the pathway for nomination to the 2026 World Championships (WCH) for USA Gymnastics.

The maximum Team size can be up to twenty (10) pair/groups (Women's Pair, Men's Pair, Mixed Pair, Women's Group, and Men's Group). The Selection Committee (SC) is not obligated to fill all available spots. A max of one (1) alternate pair/group may be named per event to the WCH team, but are non-travelling and are not considered WCH team members (Sec. 10, Sec 11)

SECTION 2: SELECTION PROCESS DIAGRAM

The following provides a high-level overview of how athletes will be nominated to the Team:



Note: This diagram is for informational purposes only. In the event of a conflict between the diagram and any written section herein, the written sections will take precedent.

SECTION 3: ATHLETE REQUIREMENTS

1. Nationality/Passports Requirements:
 - Athlete must be a national citizen of the United States at the start of 2026 USA Gymnastics Championships and at the time of nomination.
 - Have a valid United States passport at the time of the 2026 USA Gymnastics Championships that does not expire for six (6) months after the conclusion of the 2026 World Championships.
2. Local Organizing Committee (LOC) Requirements:
 - Comply with all rules and policies implemented by the LOC.
3. WGYM (IF) Requirements:
 - Comply with all IF eligibility requirements which will be posted here once available: [Technical Regulations](#)
 - Hold a valid WGYM License at the time of the 2026 World Championships Nominative Registration.
 - Athletes must at least 15 years of age by December 31, 2026.

USA Gymnastics

Acrobatic Athlete Selection Procedures

2026 Acrobatic World Championships

4. USA Gymnastics Requirements:

- Comply with the USA Gymnastics National Team Athlete Agreement.
https://static.usagym.org/PDFs/Pressbox/selection/2526_natlteam_agreement.pdf
- Comply with the USA Gymnastics Code of Conduct
https://static.usagym.org/PDFs/About%20USA%20Gymnastics/code_ethical_conduct.pdf
- Comply with the USA Gymnastics Safety and Response Policy
<https://static.usagym.org/PDFs/safesport/policy2025.pdf>
- Athlete must have an active USA Gymnastics membership.
- Athlete does not have an active suspension from the U.S. Center for SafeSport that would make the Athlete ineligible to participate in a sanctioned event.
- Athlete does not have an active sanction for an anti-doping rule/policy violation that would make the Athlete ineligible to participate in a sanctioned event.
- Athletes age 18 and over must complete a background screen and US Center for SafeSport education training as required by the USA Gymnastics Safety and Response Policy.
- An athlete may not be named to the World Championships (WCH) Team in multiple disciplines (i.e., men's pair and men's group).

5. Other minimum requirements to be eligible for the team

- Athletes trying out for the WCH Team must compete in the Senior Elite age category at the 2026 USA Gymnastics Championships in which they wish to be considered for team selection.
- Agree to be bound by and adhere to all IOC, WADA, IF, USADA and USOPC anti-doping protocols, policies and procedures, as applicable. This includes participation in Out-of-Competition Testing and an agreement to be bound to the results management authority of the IOC, WADA, IF, USADA, or other Anti-Doping Organization as applicable.
- Meet all health and safety protocols, to include vaccine requirements and/or testing requirements set forth by the government, local laws, USOPC, and/or IF.

SECTION 4: EVALUATIVE EVENTS

Event names, dates and locations of all trials, competitions, and camps to be used as part of the nomination process:

DATE(S)	DESCRIPTION/EVENT NAME
June 22 nd - 27 th	2026 USA Gymnastics Championships in Tulsa, Oklahoma

USA Gymnastics

Acrobatic Athlete Selection Procedures

2026 Acrobatic World Championships

SECTION 5: SELECTION PROCESS

Provide a step-by-step description of the selection process including an overview of the IF Qualification System.

5.1 TOTAL QUOTA PLACES:

- A Maximum of 26 athletes may be selected to the WCH Teams, with not more than two (2) pairs or groups per category.
- A Maximum of one (1) alternate per category (age group and event).
- Selection Committee is not obligated to fill all available spots on the WCH team.

5.2 EVALUATION EVENT QUALIFICATION PATHWAY:

The qualifying event for selection to the WCH team will be the 2026 USA Gymnastics Championships in Tulsa, Oklahoma June 22-27th.

- Pair/groups must meet age eligibility requirements listed in Section 3 and be registered to compete in the Senior Elite age category at the 2026 USA Gymnastics Championships to be considered.
- Qualification process to compete at the 2026 USA Gymnastics Championships is outlined in the [Acrobatic Rules & Policies](#)

5.3 NOMINATION TO THE TEAM:

- A pair/group will automatically qualify to the WCH team if all the requirements for the automatic qualification are met (see section 6.1)
- Additional pair/groups may be named to the WCH team by the Acrobatic Selection Committee based on discretionary selection criteria (see section 6.3).

SECTION 6: SELECTION CRITERIA TO NOMINATE ATHLETES

6.1 AUTOMATIC SELECTION CRITERIA

A pair/group will automatically qualify to the 2026 WCH Team at the 2026 USA Gymnastics Championships if *all* the following criteria is met:

- 6.1.1** The pair/ group must finish in first place in qualifications, semi-finals (if applicable), and finals in their respective event. This ranking is determined without the addition of bonus credits.
- 6.1.2** The pair/group must earn minimum scores in each routine in qualifications, semi-finals (if applicable), and finals as follows:

8.75 Artistry

17.5 Execution

USA Gymnastics

Acrobatic Athlete Selection Procedures

2026 Acrobatic World Championships

6.1.3 The pair/ group must achieve minimum difficulty value in each routine in qualifications, semi-finals (if-applicable), and finals, as follows:

BALANCE	DYNAMIC	COMBINED
150	140	170

6.2 RATIONALE FOR UTILIZING DISCRETIONARY SELECTION:

Acrobatic Gymnastics is a subjectively judged event, and a pair/group can be severely penalized for a single error in competition, which may not accurately reflect their complete readiness or proven ability to demonstrate readiness in world-level competition.

6.3 DEFINE THE DISCRETIONARY CRITERIA TO BE USED:

In addition to the automatic qualification to the WCH Team, pair/groups may be added to the WCH Team based on the following discretionary evaluation of performances from the 2026 USA Gymnastics Championships. Evaluation criteria for selection are outlined below. Note: Additions via the Petition process will use the discretionary criteria below as well. All criteria are considered equivalent and will be evaluated.

- **Score(s) and ranking(s) form the 2026 Gymnastic Championships.** Note that any received bonus credit(s) are removed prior to score and rank evaluations.
- **Elements Performed.** During the elements performed evaluation process, additional consideration will be given to those pair/groups that compete all routines at the 2026 USA Gymnastics Championships near, at, or above the respective minimum difficulty values listed below.

BALANCE	DYNAMIC	COMBINED
140	130	160

- Total exercise difficulty will be compared against the target difficulty. Target difficulty is the difficulty score before CJP deductions and prior to any Bonus credit additions.
- Bonus elements and other high-quality elements successfully performed in competition. High-quality elements defined as showcasing difficulty, creativity, or innovative entrance/exits 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.
- 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.

USA Gymnastics

Acrobatic Athlete Selection Procedures

2026 Acrobatic World Championships

- **Artistry and presentation**
 - Performance, choreography, musicality, Expression, and Partnership will be considered by the SC (per WGYM 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 as 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.
 - Previous competitive experience in current or past partnerships within the last two (2) years. Pair/group professionalism, and consistency will be taken into consideration.
 - Consistency - Percentage of hit routines at any official international assignment or selection event during the 2024-2026 competitive seasons.
 - A hit routine is defined as a routine that does not include a very large deduction (as defined in the [WGYM Code of Points](#)) on any single skill within the routine.
 - Mental and physical competitive readiness that allows for maximum performance.
 - Demonstrates confidence and consistency in all aspects of training and performance at 2026 USA Gymnastics Championships.
 - Readiness to compete – current health status and physical preparedness of the pair/group.
 - Demonstrated professional attitude and ability to positively contribute to the team dynamic and adhering to National Team policies.
- **Medal Potential** – Consistent ability through two (2) exercises, balance and dynamic to reach a total qualification score strong enough to qualify into WCH finals and additionally, the particular strength and international competitiveness of the combined exercise, which is used to determine the combined medalists per the WGYM World Championships competition rules.

If after evaluation of the above discretionary criteria two (2) or more pair/groups are considered equal, the Selection Committee will then evaluate national and international competition history from the previous two (2) seasons based on the competition history form submitted upon registration for 2026 Gym Champs (see Attachment A). The Selection Committee will use the criteria below to compare and select the pair/group.

- Number and type of competitions
- Performance and scores from those events
- Consistency from those events

USA Gymnastics

Acrobatic Athlete Selection Procedures

2026 Acrobatic World Championships

6.4 DEFINE THE PETITION PROCESS

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 2026 WCH Team, because of their previous competition results, to be unable to participate in one or more steps in that process. For a petition onto the WCH Team to be considered, it must be submitted in writing to the Director of Acrobatics Program and High-Performance Manager and meet the following requirements:

- A. Petitioning athletes must have:
 - i. Qualified to compete at the 2026 USA Gymnastics Championships.
 - ii. Registered to compete at the 2026 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. The video should follow the 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 (6.3).
- 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 the 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.

USA Gymnastics

Acrobatic Athlete Selection Procedures

2026 Acrobatic World Championships

- 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 must be of the most 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 2026 USA Gymnastics Championships in the event a petition would be required.

Petition form: [R&P Appendix A-12](#)

6.5 SELECTION COMMITTEE

The committee that will be responsible for making discretionary selections or other decisions and recommendations directly impacting athletes in the selection process.

Committee Name: Acrobatic Selection Committee

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| ○ Elite Committee Chair | (voting) |
| ○ Elite Coach Representative | (voting) |
| ○ Athlete Representative | (voting) |
| ○ International Expert | (non-voting) |
| ○ Acrobatic High Performance Manager | (non-voting) |
| ○ Director of Acrobatics Program | (non-voting) |
| ○ Independent Observer | (process voice, no vote) |

Note: In the event a selection committee member cannot attend the event due to extenuating circumstances, the selection committee will follow guidelines outlined in the selection committee charter.

USA Gymnastics

Acrobatic Athlete Selection Procedures

2026 Acrobatic World Championships

SECTION 7: MANDATORY TRAINING AND/OR COMPETITION

Specify the location, schedule, and duration of all mandatory training and/or competition for athletes who are nominated to the Team.

- Pair/groups named to the WCH team are expected to continue their training at the same level of intensity, hours of training, and number of days/week to maintain their level of preparation.
- Pair/groups named to the WCH are required to attend the WCH preparatory training camp August 14-16th, location TBA.
- Per the competition directives, provisional WCH training and competition dates are as follows: Sept. 24th – Sept. 27th
 - Travel days may be outside of these dates. Early training opportunities may be scheduled for the WCH Team. All selected pair/groups will be expected to participate in this training.

While waivers for mandatory training will not be unreasonably withheld, all athletes nominated to the Team should arrange for appropriate time off from school, work or other obligations in advance. Waivers will primarily be granted for injury or other similar incapacity or for a personal/family emergency. Requests for a waiver must be submitted in writing to the Director of Acrobatics Program as far in advance as possible.

SECTION 8: DATE OF TEAM NOMINATION

The Nomination of athletes, including replacements, will be announced to all athletes on or before June 28th, 2026.

SECTION 9: REMOVAL OF ATHLETES FROM THE TEAM

9.1 NGB JURISDICTION

- a. An athlete who is nominated to the Team by USA Gymnastics may be removed for any of the following reasons, as determined by USA Gymnastics:
 - i. Voluntary withdrawal. Athlete submits a written letter to the USA Gymnastics Chief Programs Officer and the Acrobatic Program Director requesting to voluntarily withdraw from the Team.
 - ii. Injury or illness. Injury or illness that inhibits peak performance, which shall be determined by an examining physician, with medical documentation, verified by USA Gymnastics Medical Staff.
 - iii. Failure to participate. Athlete does not participate in all Mandatory Training and/or Competition as defined in these procedures.
 - iv. Code of Conduct Violation. Athlete violates the [USA Gymnastics Code of Conduct](#).

USA Gymnastics

Acrobatic Athlete Selection Procedures

2026 Acrobatic World Championships

- v. Athlete Agreement. Athlete violates a term in their signed [USA Gymnastics National Team Agreement](#).
- vi. Non-compliance. Athlete does not meet the athlete eligibility requirements listed in Section 3 of these selection procedures.
- b. An Athlete may be removed as a nominee to the Team or from the Team if found to have violated IOC, WADA, IF, USADA and/or USOPC anti-doping protocol, policies and procedures, the U.S. Center for SafeSport Code, the USOPC Athlete Safety Policy and USA Gymnastics Safety and Response policies, as applicable.
- c. Removal may only occur by action of the President of USA Gymnastics and the Acrobatic Athlete Selection Representative (or another Athlete Representative appointed by the USA Gymnastics Athletes' Council in the case of a conflict of interest) after consultation with the Selection Committee, and an interview with the athlete and his coach. An athlete who is removed from the 2026 World Championships Team pursuant to this provision has the right to a hearing per [USA Gymnastics Grievance policy](#) and the [USOPC Bylaws](#) (Section 9).

SECTION 10: SELECTION PROCESS IF ATHLETE VACANCY OCCURS PRIOR TO SUBMISSION OF ENTRIES BY NAME TO THE ORGANIZING COMMITTEE

Alternate pair/groups may be selected according to the criteria and events listed in this document. A maximum of one (1) alternate pair/group per event.

- 10.1 Should a vacancy occur prior to submission of Entries by Name to the LOC, the alternate in the respective event will be requested to show full out routine in competitive attire via live zoom for the Selection Committee. The performance will be evaluated for proof-of-readiness based on the discretionary criteria outlined in Section 6. The Selection committee may/may not name the alternates as replacements.
- 10.2 All replacement athletes must meet all requirements listed in Section 3.

SECTION 11: SELECTION PROCESS IF ATHLETE VACANCY OCCURS AFTER SUBMISSION OF ENTRIES BY NAME TO THE ORGANIZING COMMITTEE

Alternate pair/groups may be selected according to the criteria and events listed in this document. A maximum of one (1) alternate pair/group per event.

- 11.1 Should a vacancy occur after submission of Entries by Name to the LOC, if allowed, the alternate in the respective event will be requested to show full out routine in competitive attire via live zoom for the Selection Committee. The performance will be evaluated for proof-of-readiness based on the discretionary criteria outlined in Section 6. The Selection committee may/may not name the alternates as replacements.

USA Gymnastics

Acrobatic Athlete Selection Procedures

2026 Acrobatic World Championships

11.2 Any replacement of athletes must comply with these selection procedures in addition to WGYM regulations including applicable Late Athlete Replacement (LAR) policies.

11.3 All replacement athletes must meet all requirements listed in Section 3.

SECTION 12: RIGHT TO A HEARING

An athlete who is removed from the Team has the right to a hearing per the USA Gymnastics' complaint procedures

<https://static.usagym.org/PDFs/About%20USA%20Gymnastics/Governance/grievance.pdf> and the USOPC Bylaws, Section 9 (<https://www.usopc.org/governance/dispute-resolution>).

SECTION 13: REQUIRED DOCUMENTS

The following documents are required to be signed by an athlete as a condition of nomination to the Team:

- USA Gymnastics National Team Agreement

SECTION 14: DISCLAIMERS

These procedures are based on IF rules and regulations as presently known and understood. Any change in the selection procedures caused by a change in IF 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 selection criteria are always subject to unforeseen, intervening circumstances, and realistically may not have accounted for every possible contingency. If any force of nature, pandemic, or force majeure, should cause the alteration or cancellation of any of the selection events listed in this document, these selection procedures may require revisions.

SECTION 15: CONFLICT OF INTEREST

All members of the Selection Committee (Section 6.4) and all individuals who developed these selection procedures (Section 20) must comply with the USA Gymnastics' Conflict of Interest Policy https://static.usagym.org/PDFs/About%20USA%20Gymnastics/Governance/coi_policy.pdf to include completing and submitting a disclosure form consistent with the USA Gymnastics' Conflict of Interest Policy before convening the committee.

USA Gymnastics

Acrobatic Athlete Selection Procedures

2026 Acrobatic World Championships

SECTION 16: QUESTIONS REGARDING ATHLETE SELECTION PROCEDURES

Athletes may contact the individuals listed below for information about these selection procedures.

Name: Lanie Sherrick

Position: Acro High Performance and Program Manager

Email: ldavis@usagym.org

Name: Mo Arthur

Position: USA Gymnastics Athletes' Representative

Email: acromojohotmail.com

ATHLETE OMBUDS

The Team USA Athlete Ombuds serves as a safe, independent, confidential place for Team USA Athletes to seek advice about any sport-related rule, policy, or process; how to navigate raising or responding to concerns; or access legal and mental health resources.

Team USA Athletes may contact the Athlete Ombuds:

PHONE: (719) 866-5000

EMAIL: ombudsman@usathlete.org

WEBSITE: usathlete.org

SECTION 17: GRIEVANCES

The USA Gymnastics Grievance Procedures can be found here <https://usagym.org/about/governance/>

Section 9 of the USOPC Bylaws provides a process for an athlete to file a complaint with the USOPC against an NGB alleging that they have been denied, or threatened to be denied, with the opportunity to participate in a Protected Competition, as defined in the USOPC Bylaws. Additional information on how to file a complaint can be found here: <https://www.usopc.org/governance/dispute-resolution>

SECTION 18: NON-RETALIATION

The USOPC and USA Gymnastics have zero tolerance for retaliation against people who make good faith reports of potential ethical, policy, or legal violations, or who cooperate with investigations of those reports. That means no USOPC or USA Gymnastics staff, Board or Committee member, or volunteer may threaten, harass, discriminate against, or take any negative employment or related action (e.g., discharge, demotion, suspension, negative review) on that basis.

USA Gymnastics

Acrobatic Athlete Selection Procedures

2026 Acrobatic World Championships

- Individuals may report concerns to the USA Gymnastics by following USA Gymnastics' Speak Up Policy
<https://static.usagym.org/PDFs/About%20USA%20Gymnastics/Governance/speakup.pdf>
- Individuals may report concerns to the USOPC confidentially, or anonymously, online using the [USOPC Integrity Portal](#) or individuals may call the USOPC Integrity Hotline at 1-877-404-9935.
- Additional information can be found in the USOPC's [Speak Up Policy](#).

SECTION 19: SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

USA Gymnastics will retain the approved Selection Procedures and all supporting documents from the selection process.

A Selection Committee report signed by the Independent Observer, outlining the work and decisions of the Committee, will be made available for distribution to all athletes and coaches who participated in the Selection Events at least 14 days before the nominative deadline for the event for which the team is being selected, unless the Selection Committee meeting occurs less than 30 days before the nominative deadline for the event for which the team is being selected, in which case the minutes will be published within a reasonable timeframe after the Selection Committee meeting under the circumstances. The report will be made public on the USA Gymnastics website. USA Gymnastics retains the sole discretion to determine the contents and timing of the report.

SECTION 20: DEVELOPMENT, APPROVAL & CERTIFICATION OF SELECTION PROCEDURES

The following committee of individuals developed these selection procedures.

NAME	ROLE
Ronda Francis	Elite Committee Chair
Jennifer Banowsky	Elite Coach Representative
Mo Arthur	Athlete Representative
Nicole Barrilleaux	International Expert (non-voting)
Lanie Sherrick	High-Performance and Program Manager (non-voting)

USA Gymnastics

Acrobatic Athlete Selection Procedures

2026 Acrobatic World Championships

The following individuals approved these selection procedures and through their signatures, certify that the procedures comply with the standards and criteria set by the IF. The following individuals further certify that the information provided herein regarding Athlete Selection Procedures represents the method approved by USA Gymnastics and that these selection procedures will be posted on the USA Gymnastics website.

POSITION	NAME	SIGNATURE	DATE
USA Gymnastics President/CEO	Kyle Albrecht	 Kyle Albrecht (Jun 2, 2026 15:05:41 EDT)	06/02/26
USA Gymnastics Chief Programs Officer	Stefanie Korepin		06/02/26
USA Gymnastics Acro Program High Performance and Program Manager	Lanie Sherrick	 Lanie Sherrick (Jun 2, 2026 13:23:16 EDT)	06/02/26
Athlete Representative	Mo Arthur	 Mo Arthur (Jun 2, 2026 11:13:19 MDT)	06/02/26

Revision History

Date	Revisions
Month Date, Year	Original document published

Coach Name: _____ Coach Signature: _____

Club Name: _____

Top's Name: _____

Athlete Signature: _____ Parent Signature: _____

Middle's Name: _____

Athlete Signature: _____ Parent Signature: _____

Base's Name: _____

Athlete Signature: _____ Parent Signature: _____

Base's Name: _____

Athlete Signature: _____ Parent Signature: _____

USA Gymnastics

Acrobatic Athlete Selection Procedures

2026 Acrobatic World Championships

APPENDIX A – COMMONLY USED ACRONYMS

AAC – Athletes’ Advisory Council

AC – Athletes’ Commission

Act or TSOASA – Ted Stevens Olympic and Amateur Sports Act

APC – Americas Paralympic Committee

CAS – Court of Arbitration for Sport

Center or CSS – U.S. Center for SafeSport

CF – Continental Federation

IMS – Internally Managed Sport (sport managed by the USOPC)

IOC – International Olympic Committee

IPC – International Paralympic Committee

IF – International Federation

LOC – Local Organizing Committee

NGB – National Governing Body

NOC – National Olympic Committee

NPC – National Paralympic Committee

OCOG – Organizing Committee of the Olympic Games. The OCOG refers to the Organizing Committee of the Paralympic Games as well.

PAG – Pan American Games

Panam Sports or PASO – Pan American Sports Organization

PPAG – Parapan American Games

PSO – Paralympic Sport Organization

TEAM USA AC – Team USA Athletes’ Commission (formerly USOPC AAC)

USADA – United States Anti-Doping Agency

WADA – World Anti-Doping Agency

WCH – World Championships

USA Gymnastics
Acrobatic Athlete Selection Procedures
2026 Acrobatic World Championships

USA Gymnastics

Acrobatic Athlete Selection Procedures

2026 Acrobatic World Championships

APPENDIX B – GLOSSARY

Contingency means a future event or circumstance which is possible but cannot be predicted with certainty.

Delegation Event means the Olympic Games, the Paralympic Games, the Pan American Games, and the Parapan American Games.

Force Majeure means an event or effect that cannot be reasonably anticipated or controlled (e.g., hurricane, tornado, etc.).

Grievance Procedures means the process that enables an athlete to file a complaint with the NGB or USOPC.

Jurisdiction means the power or authority to make decisions and judgments.

Nominated means an athlete, coach or staff member whose name has been submitted to the USOPC by an NGB for participation in a Delegation Event.

Protected Competition means a Delegation Event or a Qualifying Competition.

Qualifying Competition means either of the following:

- i. **NGB Qualifying Competition:** Any competition or activity organized or approved by the NGB where the athlete's performance or results are considered in the published selection criteria to represent the United States in a Delegation Event.
- ii. **International Qualifying Competition:** Any international sport competition where (i) athletes represent the United States against athletes representing other nations, (ii) the NGB officially designates entrants, as required by the competition organizers, and (iii) athlete results or performance are included in the published criteria to qualify, or be selected, to represent the United States in a Delegation Event.

USA Gymnastics

Acrobatic Athlete Selection Procedures

2026 Acrobatic World Championships

APPENDIX C – ATHLETE RESOURCES

ATHLETE LEGAL AID

The purpose of the Athlete Legal Aid Program is to assist elite athletes without sufficient financial means to seek aid for fees and costs associated with legal representation or the proceeding itself with respect to claims before an anti-doping organization, NGB, IF, the U.S. Center for SafeSport, USOPC, IOC/IPC, Court of Arbitration for Sport (CAS), or other sport-related tribunal within the Olympic and Paralympic Movement.

WEBSITE: www.usopc.org/ombuds/athlete-legal-aid-program

ATHLETE OMBUDS

The Team USA Athlete Ombuds serves as a safe, independent, confidential place for Team USA Athletes to seek advice about any sport-related rule, policy, or process; how to navigate raising or responding to concerns; or access legal and mental health resources.

Team USA Athletes may contact the Athlete Ombuds:

PHONE: (719) 866-5000

EMAIL: ombudsman@usathlete.org

WEBSITE: usathlete.org

SAFESPORT HELPLINE

The SafeSport Helpline provides crisis intervention, referrals, and emotional support specifically designed for athletes, staff, and other SafeSport participants affected by sexual violence. Through this service, support specialists provide live, confidential, one-on-one support that is available 24/7. Individuals can call the Helpline at 866-200-0796 or visit www.safesporthelpline.org.

TEAM USA ATHLETES' COMMISSION (Team USA AC) *(Formerly Athletes' Advisory Council)*

The Team USA AC is responsible for broadening communication between the USOPC and active athletes and serves as a source of input and advice to the USOPC Board of Directors.

WEBSITE: www.usopc.org/teamusa-athletes-commission

TEAM USA ATHLETE SERVICES

The USOPC helps support Team USA athletes from the start of their career to their retirement and beyond through direct funds, programs and services that help athletes excel in their day-to-day lives, on and off the field of play.

WEBSITE: www.usopc.org/athlete-benefits-and-resources

USA Gymnastics

Acrobatic Athlete Selection Procedures

2026 Acrobatic World Championships

TEAM USA MENTAL HEALTH RESOURCES

For those in need of mental health support, USOPC Psychological Services is available at psychservices@usopc.org, or you can connect with a licensed mental health provider 24/7 through the USOPC Psychological Services Support Line at 719-866-2255. You can also visit www.usopc.org/mental-health for information about all available resources or complete our referral link at: go.teamusa.org/referrals to get connected.

USOPC DISPUTE RESOLUTION UNIT (DRU)

For Protected Competitions, USOPC's DRU oversees the administration of dispute resolution services to athletes and other members of NGBs for grievances under the USOPC's jurisdiction to ensure the complaints are heard in a timely and fair manner. For more information about this process, please visit the [dispute resolution website](#).

USOPC ETHICS AND COMPLIANCE

USOPC's Ethics and Compliance team is responsible for ensuring the USOPC and NGBs comply with the Ted Stevens Olympic and Amateur Sports Act, their own bylaws and policies, and any other applicable laws or regulations. Any individual may report concerns confidentially, or anonymously, online using the [USOPC Integrity Portal](#) or individuals may call the USOPC Integrity Hotline at 1-877-404-9935 to report their concern over the phone.

USOPC SECURITY AND ATHLETE SAFETY REPORTING PORTAL

Athletes can report an incident of emotional, physical, or sexual misconduct, a violation of the Minor Athlete Abuse Prevention Policies (MAAPP) or a general security incident or concern through the [Safety Reporting Portal](#). Athletes may also report to the USOPC over the phone at 719-866-3869.

2026 Acro WCH SP final

Final Audit Report

2026-06-02

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By:	Mary McDaniel (mmcdaniel@usagym.org)
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-  Document created by Mary McDaniel (mmcdaniel@usagym.org)
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