

USATM
LACROSSE



USA LACROSSE
ATHLETE SELECTION PROCEDURES
2028 OLYMPIC GAMES
WOMEN'S AND MEN'S SIXES

June 2026

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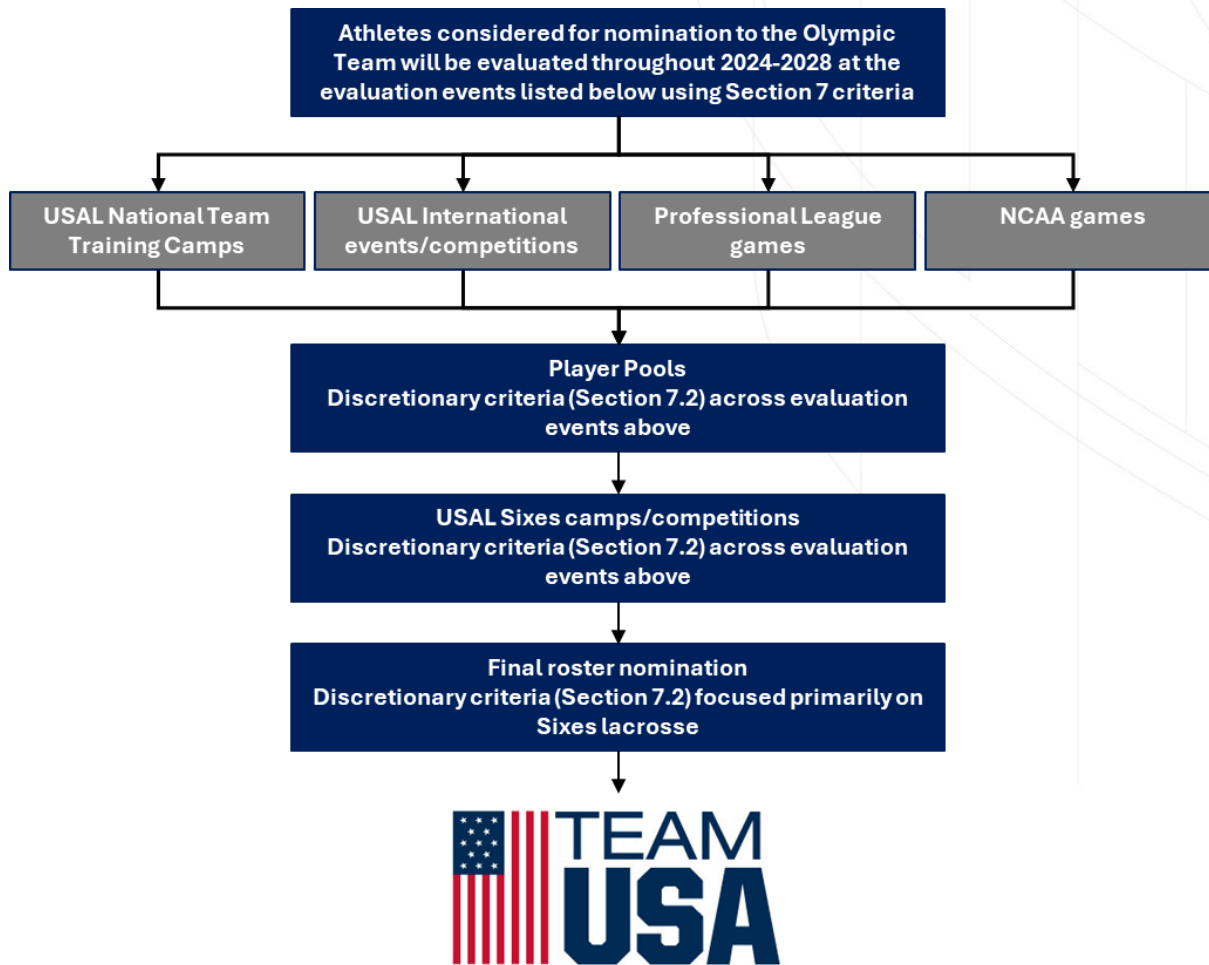
SECTION 1 - OVERVIEW

USA Lacrosse (USAL) was officially certified by the United States Olympic & Paralympic Committee (USOPC) as a National Governing Body (NGB) on 15 April 2026. A part of our responsibility as an NGB is to develop, oversee, and implement the evaluation and nomination procedures for the lacrosse Olympic Teams that will represent the United States in the 2028 Olympic Summer Games.

The procedures in this document outline the pathway for nomination to the 2028 Olympic Summer Games for USA Lacrosse. The maximum Team size is eleven (11) athletes for Women’s Sixes and eleven (11) athletes for Men’s Sixes. Please note that USA Lacrosse posted a [Preliminary Notice](#) to these selection procedures on 1 December 2025.

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/Passport requirements:

- Athlete must be a national of the United States at the time of nomination.
- Athlete must hold a valid U.S. passport that will not expire for six months after the conclusion of the 2028 Olympic Summer Games (“Games”).

2. Minimum International Olympic Committee (IOC) requirements:

- Abide by the rules in the Olympic Charter, including nationality/citizenship requirements. For additional information regarding an athlete who is a national of two or more countries, has changed his or her nationality or acquired a new nationality, refer to the [Olympic Charter](#) (Rule 41).
- Abide by the IOC Eligibility of Conditions Form/Conditions of Participation Form
- Additionally, all female athletes must abide by the [IOC Policy on the Protection of the Female \(Women’s\) Category in Olympic Sport and Guiding Considerations for International Federations and Sports Governing Bodies](#), including SRY gene screening.

3. Organizing Committee Olympic Games Requirements (OCOG) Requirements:

- Comply with all rules and policies implemented by the OCOG for Los Angeles 2028.

4. World Lacrosse Requirements:

- Athlete must be eligible under applicable eligibility rules for participation as defined by the current Athlete Eligibility Criteria Policy within the [World Lacrosse Handbook](#).
- Comply with all World Lacrosse eligibility requirements which are posted here (see Qualification):<https://www.olympics.com/ioc/documents/olympic-games/los-angeles-2028-olympic-games>

5. USOPC Requirements:

- Comply with all USOPC rules applicable to the Games (e.g., Demonstrations).
- Complete all USOPC Games Registration requirements by the stated deadline.
- Comply with the USOPC Delegation Terms, including the Conduct Requirements, which will be made available here: <https://www.usopc.org/games-and-qualification>
- Comply with the [USOPC Athlete Safety Policy](#) and the [U.S. Center for SafeSport Code](#) including education and training requirements.
- Comply with the current [USOPC Background Check Policy](#).

6. USA Lacrosse (USAL) Requirements:

- Comply with the USA Lacrosse Athlete Agreement.
- Comply with the [USA Lacrosse Code of Conduct](#).
- Athlete must have an active USA Lacrosse membership.
- Athlete does not have an active suspension from the U.S. Center for SafeSport that would make the Athlete ineligible to participate in the Games.
- Athlete does not have an active sanction for an anti-doping rule/policy violation that would make the Athlete ineligible to participate in the Games.

SECTION 4 - OTHER MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS TO BE ELIGIBLE FOR THE TEAM

- Agree to be bound by and adhere to all IOC, World Lacrosse, USADA, WADA 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, World Lacrosse, USADA, WADA or other Anti-Doping Organization as applicable.
- Meet all health and safety protocols, to include vaccine and/or testing requirements set forth by the government, local laws, USOPC, World Lacrosse and/or the OCOG.

SECTION 5 - EVALUATION EVENTS

Athletes may be evaluated at USA Lacrosse and non-USA Lacrosse events. USA Lacrosse Evaluation Events can be from three (3) to fourteen (14) days in duration.

DATE(S)	DESCRIPTION/EVENT NAME
2024 – 2028	USAL National Team training camps (Sixes, Box, Field)
2024 – 2028	USAL Sixes National Team international events including friendly matches and official matches (e.g., World Lacrosse sanctioned events, Continental qualifiers, World Lacrosse World Championship).
2024 – 2028	USAL Field/Box National Team international events including friendly matches and official matches (e.g., World Lacrosse sanctioned events, Continental qualifiers, World Lacrosse World Championship).
2024 – 2028	Women’s and Men’s professional lacrosse league games (regular & post season)
2024 – 2028	Women’s and Men’s NCAA games (regular & post season)

The location and dates of USAL Evaluation Events (training camps and competitions) will be set by USAL or by non-USA Lacrosse entities (e.g., Continental/International Federations). Athletes will be notified at least thirty (30) days in advance of each USAL Evaluation Event.

SECTION 6 - SELECTION PROCESS

1. Total Quota Places

As the host country, Team USA is guaranteed a quota of one (1) team per gender, provided they participate in the Continental Qualifier and the World Lacrosse Sixes Championships.

The maximum Team size is eleven (11) athletes per gender.

2. Evaluation Event Pathway

a. Player Pool Inclusion

By June 30, 2026, the initial Player Pool recommendations will be submitted by the Sixes National Team Head/Assistant Coaches (which may include consultation with recognized lacrosse experts – e.g., former National Team coaches, National Team players, professional lacrosse coaches – collectively termed ‘advisors’) based on observations made during Evaluation Events (Section 5) since January 2024 and the discretionary criteria (Section 7.2). National Team Coaches may observe athletes at various Evaluation Events including events that are televised and/or videotaped. The Sixes National Team Coaches will not be individually evaluating each athlete competing at each event. Instead, general scouting will be conducted to identify athletes who perform at a level which USAL believes is competitive at the current international level for Sixes based on the international Evaluation Events listed in Section 5.

Following athlete inclusion into the initial Player Pool, additional athletes will continue to be identified through ongoing scouting for consideration of placement into the Player Pool. As a result, it is possible that each athlete being considered for the Player Pool may not be observed at the same event or at as many events as other athletes who are also being considered. Therefore, athletes may be added to the Player Pool in a progressive manner in advance of the final Olympic nomination deadline, meaning that all members of the Player Pool will not necessarily be added at one time.

The Sixes National Team Coaches will submit Player Pool athlete recommendations to the USA Lacrosse National Teams / High Performance Committee (Section 7.3) for review and approval. Approval of the National Team Coach recommendations for Player Pool inclusion will not be unreasonably withheld.

Please note that being in the Player Pool does not guarantee that an athlete will be invited to participate in any USAL events during this Olympic Competition Cycle (September 2024-May 2028), including the USAL Evaluation Events outlined in Section 5.

b. Player Pool Removal

Athletes may be removed from the Player Pool at any time with the respective Sixes National Team Head Coach making the recommendation on removal of an athlete from the Player Pool based on performance at the Evaluative Events (Section 5) and discretionary criteria (Section 7.2). Athletes may also be removed from the Player Pool for any of the reasons listed below:

- Voluntary withdrawal (in writing to Sixes Head Coach and VP, High Performance)
- [Code of Conduct Violation](#)
- Athlete Agreement Violation
- Violation of an IOC, World Lacrosse, USADA, WADA anti-doping protocol, policies and procedures
- Violation of the U.S. Center for SafeSport Code and/or USAL SafeSport policies

Athletes recommended for removal from the Player Pool are submitted to the USA Lacrosse National Teams / High Performance Committee (Section 7.3) for review and approval. Approval of the recommendation submitted to the National Teams / High Performance Committee will not be unreasonably withheld.

c. Invitation to USAL Evaluation Events

Athletes must be in the Player Pool to be invited to future USAL Evaluation Events (see Section 5).

The National Team Coaching Staff (which may include consultation with advisors – Section 2.a.) will evaluate each Player Pool athlete’s performance at Evaluation Events (Section 5) throughout the Olympic Competition Cycle against the criteria set forth in Section 7.2. Athlete observations may occur at various non-USA Lacrosse Evaluation Events (e.g., professional and collegiate matches) including events that are televised and/or videotaped. It is intended that athlete evaluation will be an ongoing process and that each athlete being considered for invitation to USAL Evaluation Events may not be evaluated at the exact same events as other athletes.

3. Olympic Team Nomination

Athletes must be in the Player Pool to be nominated to the 2028 Olympic Team.

The respective USAL Women’s and Men’s Sixes Head Coach will recommend the final eleven (11) athletes (plus the number of alternates per Team if permitted by World Lacrosse) to be nominated to the Olympic Team from the Player Pool. The Head Coach recommendations will be based on the discretionary criteria (Section 7.2) using the list of Evaluation Events (Section 5), with priority given to Sixes Evaluation Events. The Coaches evaluations will be inclusive of cumulative statistical, videotape, written and observational evaluations from the USAL Women’s and Men’s Sixes coaching staffs and advisors.

Each Sixes Head Coach’s recommendation will be submitted to the National Teams / High Performance Committee for review and approval. Once approved, the National Teams / High Performance Committee will submit nominations for the 2028 Olympic Games Team to the USOPC for final approval.

In the event of a conflict between this overview and the World Lacrosse Qualification System, the World Lacrosse Qualification System will take precedent. For more details, please refer to the World Lacrosse Qualification System which is posted [here](#) (see Qualification).

SECTION 7 - DISCRETIONARY CRITERIA TO NOMINATE ATHLETES

1. Rationale for utilizing discretionary selection:

The sport of lacrosse is not a measured or timed event, therefore incorporating subjective and objective criteria will be used when assembling a competitive, international level lacrosse team. The general philosophy that will prevail during evaluation and nomination is to assemble

a Team that consists of the players that compose the best team, not necessarily the best (most talented) individual athletes, who are willing to make the commitment to participate to the fullest extent required by USA Lacrosse. It is the belief of USA Lacrosse that incorporating criteria related to technical, tactical, physical, and psychological capabilities will result in the selection of the best combination of athletes with the best chance of winning a gold medal under international rules.

Discretionary criteria will be used for the following:

- Addition to or removal from the Sixes Player Pool
- Nomination to the 2028 Olympic Team
- Nomination as a replacement athlete to the 2028 Olympic Team (if applicable)

Please note that since Sixes is the discipline of lacrosse included at the 2028 Olympic Games, Olympic Team roster nominations will be based on the discretionary criteria below with priority given to Sixes Evaluation Events. The Coaches evaluations will be inclusive of cumulative statistical, videotape, written and observational evaluations from the USAL Women's and Men's Sixes coaching staffs and advisors.

2. Define the discretionary criteria to be used:

The discretionary criteria (listed in no particular order) will be considered by the Sixes Coaches during Evaluation Events (Section 5).

- a. Statistical, videotape, written and observational evaluations of the following:
 - Offensive performance – for example: goals, shots on goal, assists, passing, turnovers
 - Defensive performance – for example: goals against, shots on goal, turnovers
 - Goaltending performance – for example: save percentage, field mapping saves/goals, goal face mapping saves/goals
- b. Other considerations shall include the following:
 - Willingness to participate – Player willingness and commitment to participate in the 2028 Olympic Games, Evaluation Events, and any mandatory pre-Olympic activities (see Section 8).
 - Availability to participate – Player availability and physical health permit the player to participate in Evaluation Events, mandatory events (if scheduled) as well as the 2028 Olympic Games.
 - Playing ability/proficiency – Player technical, situational, decision-making capability to participate at an elite/international level in Sixes lacrosse as compared to other Player Pool athletes, inclusive of demonstrated balance between offensive and defensive skills.
 - Coachability – Player exhibits ability to process and incorporate input from the coaching staff. Player also has an open mind to embrace new ideas/concepts as well as constructive criticism.

- Attitude/Leadership – Player demonstrates respectfulness to other players, coaches, staff, and officials as well as support and have positive influence on teammates.
- Adaptability to team concept – Player willingness to fulfill a role that leads the Team to success. Player is committed to putting the Team first and understands the Team’s best interests come before their own.
- Physical capacities – Player has the physical abilities to compete at the highest level of international competition as compared to other Player Pool athletes.

3. Selection Committee:

The [USA Lacrosse National Teams / High Performance Committee](#) consists of up to seven (7) members and the VP, High Performance. The committee will include the required number of athlete representatives to meet USOPC guidelines for a designated committee.

SECTION 8 - MANDATORY TRAINING AND/OR COMPETITION

Mandatory training may be conducted in advance of the 2028 Olympic Games for all athletes (and alternate athletes permitted by World Lacrosse) who are nominated to the Team.

The locations and dates for any mandatory training and/or competitions have yet to be determined; however, athletes will be given at least thirty (30) days advance notice regarding any mandatory training and/or competition. This information will be shared generally on the USA Lacrosse website as well as directly to each invited athlete through the USA Lacrosse communication platform.

While waivers for mandatory training and/or competitions 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 VP, High Performance (and cc: the Head Coach and Manager of the respective Team) as far in advance as possible.

SECTION 9 - DATE OF TEAM NOMINATION

A total of eleven (11) athletes per gender will be nominated to the 2028 Men’s and Women’s Olympic Lacrosse Teams. Nomination of athletes, including any alternates (if permitted), will be announced to all athletes and submitted to the USOPC on or before 1 June 2028.

SECTION 10 - REMOVAL OF ATHLETES FROM THE TEAM

1. USA Lacrosse Jurisdiction

USA Lacrosse has jurisdiction over athlete nominees until athlete entries have been submitted by the USOPC to the OCOG.

- a. An athlete who is nominated to the Team by USA Lacrosse may be removed for any of the following reasons, as determined by USA Lacrosse:
 - i. Voluntary withdrawal. Athlete submits a written letter to the VP, High Performance and Head Coach requesting to voluntarily withdraw from the Team.
 - ii. Injury or illness. A physician (or medical staff) approved by USA Lacrosse provides certification that the Athlete has a debilitating condition. If Athlete refuses to provide verification of their illness or injury by a physician (or medical staff), their injury will be assumed to be debilitating, and they may be removed from the Team.
 - iii. Failure to participate. Athlete does not participate in all Mandatory Training and/or Competition (if scheduled) as defined in these procedures.
 - iv. Code of Conduct Violation. Athlete violates the [USA Lacrosse Code of Conduct](#).
 - v. Athlete Agreement. Athlete violates a term in their signed USA Lacrosse Athlete Agreement.
 - vi. Non-compliance. Athlete does not meet the athlete eligibility requirements listed in Section 3 and Section 4 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, World Lacrosse, USADA, WADA or USOPC anti-doping protocol, policies and procedures, the U.S. Center for SafeSport Code, the USOPC Athlete Safety Policy or USAL SafeSport policies, as applicable.

2. USOPC Jurisdiction

- a. Once athlete entries have been submitted by the USOPC to the OCOG, the USOPC has jurisdiction over the Team.
- b. The USOPC Delegation Conduct Requirements apply in addition to the USAL Code of Conduct. The Delegation Conduct Requirements in the USOPC Games Delegation Terms are specific to each Games and are made available during the Games registration process.
- c. The USOPC Grievance Procedures and Hearing Process are found within the USOPC Dispute Resolution Policy and Hearing Procedures.
 - See www.usopc.org/governance/dispute-resolution for more information.

SECTION 11 - SELECTION PROCESS IF ATHLETE VACANCY OCCURS PRIOR TO SUBMISSION OF ENTRIES BY NAME TO THE OCOG

1. Should a vacancy occur prior to submission of Entries by Name by the USOPC to the OCOG, the athletes within the Player Pool who were not nominated to the Olympic Team will comprise the potential replacement athletes. In recommending the replacement player, the coaches will follow the discretionary criteria listed above in Section 7 and may also consider the position(s) that the replacement player is filling in an attempt to fill the vacancy with a similar player. The recommended replacement player(s) shall be submitted to the National Teams / High Performance Committee (Section 7.3) for approval.
2. All replacement athletes must meet all requirements listed in Sections 3 and 4.

SECTION 12 - SELECTION PROCESS IF ATHLETE VACANCY OCCURS AFTER SUBMISSION OF ENTRIES BY NAME TO THE OCOG

1. Should a vacancy occur after submission of Entries by Name by the USOPC to the OCOG, if allowed, the same process outlined in Section 11 will be followed to nominate replacement athletes.
2. Any replacement of athletes must comply with these selection procedures in addition to IOC, USOPC, and World Lacrosse regulations including applicable Late Athlete Replacement (LAR) policies.
3. All replacement athletes must meet all requirements listed in Sections 3 and 4.

SECTION 13 - RIGHT TO A HEARING

An athlete who is removed from the Team has the right to a hearing per [USA Lacrosse's Grievance procedures](#) and the USOPC Bylaws, Section 9 (<https://www.usopc.org/governance/dispute-resolution>).

SECTION 14 - REQUIRED DOCUMENTS

In addition to the USOPC Delegation Conduct Requirements, the following documents are required to be signed by an athlete as a condition of nomination to the Olympic Games:

- [USA Lacrosse Code of Conduct](#)
- USA Lacrosse Athlete Agreement

SECTION 15 - DISCLAIMERS

These procedures are based on IOC and World Lacrosse rules and regulations as presently known and understood. Any change in the selection procedures caused by a change in IOC and/or World Lacrosse rules and regulations will be distributed to the affected athletes immediately. The selection criteria are based on the latest information available to USA Lacrosse. 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 Evaluation Events listed in this document, these selection procedures may require revisions, pursuant to their resubmission to the USOPC.

SECTION 16 - CONFLICT OF INTEREST

The Sixes National Team coaching staff, all members of the Selection Committee (Section 7.3) and all individuals who developed these selection procedures (Section 21) must comply with [USA Lacrosse's Conflict of Interest Policy](#), to include completing and submitting a disclosure form consistent with USA Lacrosse's Conflict of Interest Policy before convening the committee.

A conflict of interest exists when a personal, family, financial, professional, club, team or business relationship or interferes with, or may be perceived to interfere with a committee member's ability to be impartial and participate in the selection process in a fair and impartial



manner. Any member of the National Teams / High Performance Committee who has an actual, possible, or perceived conflict of interest must disclose it to the USA Lacrosse Judicial Committee prior to the start of the selection process and may be required to recuse themselves from the Selection Committee discussions and/or voting.

If a conflict exists, the USA Lacrosse Judicial Committee shall review the conflict and determine the committee member's level of involvement (e.g., whether that committee member must recuse themselves from participating in discussions and/or voting).

During its review, the USA Lacrosse Judicial Committee may ask a Selection Committee member or an affected person for more information at its discretion. For example, if a Selection Committee member is required to recuse themselves from voting, the USA Lacrosse Judicial Committee may still determine that a Selection Committee member who has relevant and necessary information related to athlete performance, such as a national team coach or high performance director, may, if requested by the Selection Committee, provide that information to the Selection Committee if the information is provided in a fair and unbiased manner and if the Selection Committee member with the conflict of interest does not vote toward the final decision.

Additionally, any person with a good faith belief that a committee member has a conflict of interest may report the alleged conflict of interest to the USA Lacrosse Judicial Committee. Reports may also be made anonymously through the [USOPC's Integrity Portal](#). No committee member shall retaliate in any way against a person who, in good faith, reports an alleged conflict of interest. In addition, the USOPC maintains a strict no retaliation policy that prohibits any employee, contractor, agent, volunteer, or member of the USOPC to take or threaten to take any action against an athlete for reporting information to or seeking assistance from the Office of the Athlete Ombuds.

SECTION 17 - QUESTIONS REGARDING ATHLETE SELECTION PROCEDURES

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

Name: Dr. Jason Vescovi
Position: VP, High Performance
Email: jvescovi@usalacrosse.com

Name: Sarah Bullard-McDaniel
Position: USAL 10 Year Athlete Representative
Email: sarah.b.bullard@gmail.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 18 - GRIEVANCES

The USA Lacrosse Grievance Procedures can be found [here](#).

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 19 - NON-RETALIATION

The USOPC and USA Lacrosse 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 Lacrosse 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.

- Individuals may report concerns by following the [USA Lacrosse Whistleblower Policy](#).
- 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 [Speak Up Policy](#).

SECTION 20 - SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

USA Lacrosse will retain the approved Selection Procedures and all supporting documents, including scouting or evaluation forms, etc., and data from the selection process as required by the USA Lacrosse Records Retention Policy or for six months past the date of the Closing Ceremony of the Games, whichever is longer.



SECTION 21 - DEVELOPMENT, APPROVAL, & CERTIFICATION OF SELECTION PROCEDURES

The following individuals contributed to the development/review of these selection procedures.

NAME	ROLE
Jason Vescovi	VP, High Performance
Kristen Carr (10 Year Athlete)	Chair, National Teams / High Performance Committee
Shawn Nadelen (10+ Year Athlete)	Vice Chair, National Teams / High Performance Committee
Jimmy Butler	Member, National Teams / High Performance Committee
Michael Ehrhardt (10 Year Athlete)	Member, National Teams / High Performance Committee
Ingrid Boyum (10 Year Athlete)	Member, National Teams / High Performance Committee
Erin Misner	Sr. Manager, Women’s National Teams
Chris Drake	Sr. Manager, Men’s National Teams

The following individual approved these selection procedures and through their signature, certifies that the procedures comply with the standards and criteria set by World Lacrosse. The following individual further certifies that the information provided herein regarding Athlete Selection Procedures represents the method approved by USA Lacrosse and that these selection procedures will be posted on the USA Lacrosse website.

POSITION	NAME	SIGNATURE	DATE
USAL President & Chief Executive Officer	Marc Riccio		06 / 29 / 2026

The following individual affirms that they read and understand the selection procedures.

POSITION	NAME	SIGNATURE	DATE
USA Lacrosse 10 Year Athlete Representative	Sarah Bullard-McDaniel		06 / 29 / 2026

REVISION HISTORY

Date	Revisions
30 June 2026	Original document published

APPENDIX A - COMMONLY USED ACRONYMS

AAC – Athletes’ Advisory Council

AC – Athletes’ Commission

Act or TSOASA – Ted Stevens Olympic and Amateur Sports Act

CAS – Court of Arbitration for Sport

Center or CSS – U.S. Center for SafeSport

CF – Continental Federation

IOC – International Olympic Committee

IF – International Federation

LOC – Local Organizing Committee

NGB – National Governing Body

NOC – National Olympic Committee

OCOG – Organizing Committee of the Olympic Games.

PAG – Pan American Games

Panam Sports or PASO – Pan American Sports Organization

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

USADA – United States Anti-Doping Agency

WADA – World Anti-Doping Agency

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.

Selected means an athlete, coach or staff member whose name has been submitted by the USOPC to the OCOG at the final submission date, as determined by the OCOG.

APPENDIX C - ATHLETE RESOURCES

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

RAINN HOTLINE (*formerly SAFESPORT HELPLINE*)

RAINN, the National Sexual Assault Hotline, 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 Hotline at 1-800-656-4673 or visit <https://rainn.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: <https://www.usopc.org/teamusa-athletes-commission>

TEAM USA ATHLETE LEGAL AID PROGRAM

The purpose of the Athlete Legal Aid Program is to assist eligible Team USA 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: <https://www.usopc.org/ombuds/athlete-resources>

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



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 <http://www.usopc.org/mental-health> for information about all available resources or complete our [referral link](#) 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 JUDICIAL AND COMPLIANCE

USOPC's Judicial 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 ATHLETE SAFETY REPORTING FORM

Individuals can report an incident of emotional abuse, physical abuse, a violation of the Minor Athlete Abuse Prevention Policies (MAAPP), or a violation of the Athlete Safety components (see Section 4 of the Athlete Safety Policy) of the Supporting Athletes with an Intellectual Impairment Policy through the Athlete Safety Reporting Portal found on the [Athlete Safety Page](#). Individuals may also report to the USOPC over the phone at 877-404-9935.

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