

USA Swimming
ATHLETE SELECTION PROCEDURES
2024 World Aquatics Open Water Swimming Junior Championships

Alghero, Italy
September 6-8, 2024

DEFINITIONS

Available Swimmer. “Available Swimmer” means a swimmer who (i) qualifies to be Selected to the Team in an Event according to these Selection Procedures and has complied with all eligibility requirements set forth in Sections 1.1-1.2; (ii) as of December 31, 2024, is 14-15 years old for Selection to the 5K Event, 16-17 years old for Selection to the 7.5K Event, or 18-19 years old for Selection for the 10K Event; (iii) certifies to USA Swimming that they remain available to swim through the completion of the Championships; (iv) indicates in writing that they will accept the invitation to be Selected to the Team, within 48 hours of receiving the invitation and to swim in the Event(s) in which they qualify for at the Championship (except as otherwise provided herein); and (v) has not accepted a nomination to swim the 10K event at the 2024 Paris Olympic Games. If a swimmer does not satisfy these requirements, then they are not considered an Available Swimmer.

Championships. “Championships” refers to the 2024 World Aquatics Open Water Swimming Junior Championships, in Alghero, Italy from September 6-8, 2024.

Director, National Team Open Water. “Director, National Team Open Water” refers to the Director, USA Swimming National Team Open Water or designee.

Event. “Event” refers to those competition events contested at the Championships.

Head Coach. Unless otherwise indicated, “Head Coach” refers to the head coach of the Team.

Managing Director, National Team. “Managing Director, National Team” refers to the USA Swimming Managing Director, National Team, or designee.

Qualifying Competitions. “Qualifying Competitions” refers collectively to the 5K Qualifying Competition, 7K Qualifying Competition, and 10K Qualifying Competition, all defined below.

Select/Selected/Selection to the Team. “Select/Selected/Selection the Team” refers to the Team selected by USA Swimming on or before May 14, 2024, and announced on or before June 26, 2024, plus any replacements that may be added to the Team pursuant to Section 4.

Team. “Team” means the 2024 USA Swimming World Aquatics Open Water Swimming Junior Championship Team Selected by and announced on or before June 26, 2024, plus any changes or replacements made pursuant to these Selection Procedures. If there is a tie in any of the Qualifying Competitions, the Team will be Selected upon conclusion of any applicable tiebreaker(s) (in Section 1.3.5) on June 23, 2024 and announced on or before June 26, 2024. If there is a need for a tiebreaker, USA Swimming may informally announce some swimmers as having “made the team” prior to the announcement of the full Team, but for purposes of these Selection Procedures and the replacement procedures in Section 4, “announcement” does not occur until USA Swimming announces the full Team.

5K Qualifying Competition. “5K Qualifying Competition” means the 2024 USA Swimming Open Water 5K Junior National Championships, held Saturday, May 4, 2024, in Sarasota, Florida.

7.5K Qualifying Competition. “7.5K Qualifying Competition” means the 2024 USA Swimming Open Water 7.5K Junior National Championship, held Sunday, May 5, 2024, in Sarasota, Florida.

10K Qualifying Competition. “10K Qualifying Competition” means the 2024 USA Swimming Open Water 10K National Championships, held Friday, May 3, 2024, in Sarasota, Florida.

1. SELECTION SYSTEM

1.1. The minimum eligibility requirements for an athlete to be Selected to the Team:

1.1.1 To be considered for Selection to the Team, an athlete must, at the beginning of the applicable Qualifying Competition and at the time of Selection to the Team:

- (a) be a registered athlete member of USA Swimming in good standing;
- (b) be a citizen of the United States;
- (c) be eligible to represent the United States in international competition;
and
- (d) be an Available Swimmer.

1.1.2 Nationality/Passport requirements:

Athlete must hold a valid U.S. passport, as of August 1, 2024, that will not expire for six months after the conclusion of the Championships.

1.1.3 Minimum International Federation (IF) standards for participation:

All competitors Selected to the Team must meet the World Aquatics eligibility requirements. For additional information regarding World Aquatic’s athlete eligibility, refer to the World Aquatics General Rules (GR 3).

1.1.4 Other requirements (if any):

- (a) Qualify for one of the Qualifying Competitions and compete in that Qualifying Competition. Qualification for the Qualifying Competitions can be found here: www.usaswimming.org.
- (b) Sign and return to USA Swimming by June 26, 2024 at 11:59 p.m. MST, and abide by the USA Swimming 2024 applicable competition forms (available prior to Selection).
- (c) Comply with all applicable rules and requirements of World Aquatics, U.S. Olympic & Paralympic Committee (USOPC), International Olympic Committee (IOC), World-Anti Doping Agency (WADA), U.S. Anti-Doping Agency (USADA), U.S. Center for SafeSport, and USA Swimming, including without limitation USA

Swimming policies and protocols regarding Team preparation and participation, through the Championships.

1.2 Tryout Events:

1.2.1 Provide the event names, dates and locations of all trials, events, and camps to be used as part of the selection process:

5K Qualifying Competition
7.5K Qualifying Competition
10K Qualifying Competition

1.2.2 Provide event names, dates, locations, and description of how athletes qualify for the trials, events, and camps listed in 1.2.1:

- (a) To qualify for the Qualifying Competitions, an athlete must achieve an applicable time standard during the qualification period of January 1, 2023, and the entry deadline for the respective competition. The applicable time standards can be found at: www.usaswimming.org; or
- (b) Meet the qualification standards in the 2024 Open Water Domestic Selection Procedures, found here: <https://www.usaswimming.org/docs/default-source/open-water-resources/open-water-selection/2024-usa-swimming-domestic-selections.pdf>.

1.3 Comprehensive Selection Process:

This Section sets forth the steps by which Available Swimmers will be Selected to the Team. Although USA Swimming may announce during the Qualifying Competitions that athletes have “made the Team” or “qualified for the Team,” any such announcement is informal and subject to change. The process of determining eligibility to be Selected to the Team will take place on May 3-5, 2024, after completion of the Qualifying Competitions, and USA Swimming will announce the Team on or before June 26, 2024. USA Swimming retains the right to make changes to the results to address withdrawals, vacancies, and applicable World Aquatics invitations through the entry deadline (time and date TBD).

1.3.1 Team Size. The maximum allowable Team size is 2 men and 2 women in each of the following Events and age categories:

5K Event: 14-15 years old as of December 31, 2024
7.5K Event: 16-17 years old as of December 31, 2024
10K Event: 18-19 years old as of December 31, 2024

Note: Age is determined by the age of the athlete on December 31, 2024, regardless of age during a Qualifying Competition.

The actual Team size will be determined once these Selection Procedures have been implemented. For purposes of these Selection Procedures, the men's and women's components of the Team will be considered separately. USA Swimming is under no obligation to Select to the Team a full team of 6 athletes in each, or either, gender.

1.3.2 Qualifying Competitions. Performances at the Qualifying Competitions, from among those eligible to compete in the Qualifying Competitions, will be used to determine the Team. Performances at the Qualifying Competitions will be prioritized using the priority system described below.

1.3.3 Voluntary Withdrawal. Any athlete may choose to voluntarily withdraw from the Team. An athlete choosing to voluntarily withdraw from the Team, or from consideration for the Team, must do so in writing and is strongly encouraged to submit a written letter to the Director, National Team Open Water and the Managing Director, National Team by June 26, 2024.

1.3.4 Application of Priorities for Team Selection. Performances at the Qualifying Competitions will be prioritized for each gender as described in this Section. These Priorities will be applied on May 3-5, 2024, after completion of the Qualifying Competitions. However, if there is a tie in any of the Qualifying Competitions, these Priorities will be applied upon conclusion of any applicable tiebreaker(s) (described in Section 1.3.5) on June 26, 2024. Athletes not qualifying via one of these Priorities will not be eligible to be Selected to the Team unless they are subsequently added to the Team as a replacement according to the process in Section 4. If, after applying the Priorities, as well as the procedures in Sections 1.3.5 and 1.3.6, there are fewer than 6 men or 6 women, or both, on the Team, then USA Swimming will not field a full Team, unless the Team is filled as a result of adding one or more replacements as provided in Section 4.

1.3.4.1 Qualification for the 5K Event

Priority #1. The best placing Available Swimmer from the 5K Qualifying Competition will be Selected to the Team to compete in the 5K Event at the Championships. If an Available Swimmer declines to swim the 5K, they will not be Selected to the Team under Priority #1 and they are no longer an Available Swimmer.

Priority #2. The best placing Available Swimmer from the 10K Qualifying Competition, who is 14-15 years old as of December 31, 2024 and thus not eligible for the 10K Event at the Championships, will be Selected to the Team to compete in the 5K Event at the Championships provided that they finish within the top 6 U.S.¹ finishers (not limited to Available Swimmers) within the 10K Qualifying Competition, regardless of age. If no Available Swimmers meets these criteria, then Priority #2 will not be used.

Priority #3. Remaining positions, if applicable, will be Selected from the next best placing Available Swimmer from the 5K Qualifying Competition not already Selected to the Team.

1.3.4.2 Qualification for the 7.5K Event

Priority #1. The best placing Available Swimmer from the 7.5K Qualifying Competition will be Selected to the Team to compete in the 7.5K Event at the Championships. If an Available Swimmer declines to swim the 7.5K, they will not be Selected to the Team under Priority #1 and they are no longer an Available Swimmer.

¹ For purposes of these Selection Procedures, "U.S athletes" means athletes who are eligible to represent the U.S. in international competition as May 3, 2024 and at the time of Selection).

Priority #2. The best placing Available Swimmer from the 10K Qualifying Competition, who is 16-17 years old as of December 31, 2024 and thus not eligible for the 10K Event at the Championships, will be Selected to the Team to compete in the 7.5K Event at the Championships, provided that they finish within the top 6 U.S.¹² finishers (not limited to Available Swimmers) within the 10K Qualifying Competition, regardless of age. If no Available Swimmer meets these criteria, then Priority #2 will not be used.

Priority #3. Remaining positions, if applicable, will be Selected from the best Available Swimmer from the 7.5K Qualifying Competition not already Selected to the Team.

1.3.4.3 Qualification to the 10K Event

The two best placing Available Swimmers from the 10K Qualifying Competition will be Selected to the Team to compete in the 10K Event at the Championships.

1.3.5 Breaking a Tie.

- (a) Tie in 5K Qualifying Competition. If there is a tie between two Available Swimmers in the 5K Qualifying Competition for first place, both athletes will be Selected to the Team. If there is a tie between three or more Available Swimmers for first place in the 5K Qualifying Competition or where there is a tie between two or more Available Swimmers in the 5K Qualifying Competition affecting the Available Swimmer Selected under Priority #3, the Available Swimmer with the fastest 1500 Long Course Meter Freestyle time recorded on www.usaswimming.org/times between the time period of January 1, 2023 through June 23, 2024 as of 11:59PM MT will be considered the winner of the tiebreaker. If this does not break a tie, the tie will be broken by random draw. If Priority #2 is utilized and there is an event in the 10K Qualifying Competition, Section 1.3.5(c) will be used to break the tie.
- (b) Tie in 7.5K Qualifying Competition. If there is a tie between two Available Swimmers in the 7.5K Qualifying Competition for first place, both athletes will be Selected to the Team. If there is a tie between three or more Available Swimmers for first place in the 7.5K Qualifying Competition or where there is a tie between two or more Available Swimmers in the 7.5K Qualifying Competition affecting the Available Swimmer Selected under Priority #3, the Available Swimmer with the fastest 1500 Long Course Meter Freestyle time recorded on www.usaswimming.org/times between the time period of January 1, 2023 through June 23, 2024 as of 11:59PM MT will be considered the winner of the tiebreaker. If this does not break a tie, the tie will be broken by random draw. If Priority #2 is utilized and there is an event in the 10K Qualifying Competition, Section 1.3.5(c) will be used to break the tie.
- (c) Tie in 10K Qualifying Competition. If there is a tie between two Available Swimmers in the 10K Qualifying Competition for first place, both athletes will be Selected to the Team. If there is a tie between three or more Available Swimmers for first place in the 10K Qualifying Competition, or where there is a tie between two or more Available Swimmers in the 10K Qualifying Competition for second place, or where the 10K Qualifying Competition is used to Select an Available Swimmer for the 5K

² For purposes of these Selection Procedures, “U.S athletes” means athletes who are eligible to represent the U.S. in international competition as May 3, 2024 and at the time of Selection).

or 7K Event at the Championship and there is a tie between two or more Available Swimmers, the Available Swimmer with the fastest 1500 Long Course Meter Freestyle time recorded on www.usaswimming.org/times between the time period of January 1, 2023 through June 23, 2024 as of 11:59PM MT will be considered the winner of the tiebreaker. If this does not break a tie, the tie will be broken by random draw.

Announcement. Those officially Selected to the Team will be announced on or before on or before June 26, 2024.

1.3.6 Selection of Swimmers for Events.

- (a) Swimmers Selected to the Team will swim the Event for which they were Selected.
- (b) If there is a vacancy in an Event that arises on or after the Team is Selected, the replacement process set forth in Section 4 will be used to fill the vacancy in that Event.

2 DISCRETIONARY SELECTION

2.1 Provide rationale for utilizing discretionary selection (if any):

All swimmers who are Selected to the Team shall be eligible for selection to relays to be held at the Championships consistent with the established age divisions. The Director, National Team Open Water shall select the athletes for each relay conducted at the Championships, with the advice and consent of the Head Coach. In selecting the relay teams, the Director, National Team Open Water, shall consider all available relevant information, including but not limited to, and in no particular order, each Team member's respective Qualifying Competition performances, past relay performances, Championships performances, personal best performances, Championships Event schedules, individual workload, other recent results and performances, consistency of performances, fatigue, health, fitness levels, training preparation, scientific evaluation, attitude, and team chemistry.

2.2 Specify the process that will be used to identify and handle any potential conflicts of interest involving a member of the committee.

The Director, National Team Open Water (or their designee) will be responsible for relay selection, with the advice and consent of the Head Coaches and Assistant Coaches. Should the Director, National Team Open Water have a conflict of interest, as determined by USA Swimming's Ethics Committee, his/her designee will be responsible for relay selection, with the advice and consent of the Head Coaches and Assistant Coaches. All involved in relay selection must comply with USA Swimming's Statement of Ethics and Conflict of Interest Policy, to include completing and submitting a disclosure form for review by the Ethics Committee.

Anyone involved in relay selection who has an actual, possible, or perceived conflict of interest must disclose to the Ethics Committee, prior to the start of the relay selection process. The Ethics Committee may determine that this individual must disclose the conflict to the others involved in relay selection and/or recuse him/herself from selection and/or voting. A conflict of interest exists when a personal,

family, financial, professional, club, team, or business interest of the person poses a direct or indirect relationship, connection, or affiliation, past or present, with an athlete in contention for relay selection that could compromise the individual's ability to participate in selection in an unbiased manner.

For example, if it is determined that an individual must recuse him/herself from voting, the Ethics Committee may still find that if he/she has relevant and necessary information with respect to athlete performance, for example a national team coach or high performance director, he/she may, if requested by the others involved in relay selection, still provide such information, so long as it is provided in a fair and unbiased manner and the individual with the conflict does not vote. The individual must not otherwise influence others in selection.

3 REMOVAL OF ATHLETES

- 3.1.1 USA Swimming has jurisdiction over potential selectees. An athlete who is to be Selected to the Team by USA Swimming may be removed as a selectee for any of the following reasons, as determined by the Director, National Team Open Water, the Managing Director, National Team, and the USA Swimming Athletes' Advisory Council Chair. An athlete who is to be removed from the Team or an Event or from eligibility to be Selected to the Team, pursuant to these provisions, has the right to a hearing per the USA Swimming Bylaws (usaswimming.org), the USOPC's Bylaws, Section 9, the applicable anti-doping code/protocol, or the SafeSport Code before such removal or declaration of ineligibility.
- 3.1.2 Voluntary withdrawal. An athlete may choose to voluntarily withdraw from the Team. An athlete choosing to voluntarily withdraw from the Team, or from consideration for the Team must do so in writing and is strongly encouraged to submit a written letter to the Director, National Team Open Water and the Managing Director, National Team by July 15, 2024.
- 3.1.3 Injury or illness as certified by a physician (or medical staff) approved by USA Swimming. USA Swimming may remove an athlete who has an injury or illness, as certified by the approved the approved physician, that is likely to keep the athlete from competing at peak levels in the Championships. If an athlete refuses verification of their illness or injury by the approved Team physician assigned to the sport of swimming (or medical staff), their injury will be assumed to keep them from competing at peak levels at the Championships, and may be removed.
- 3.1.4 Failure to maintain necessary training regimen. An athlete may be removed if it is determined that the swimmer is unable or unwilling to maintain a training regimen that is necessary for peak performance at the Championships. (forms available prior to selection.)
- 3.1.5 Any swimmer may be dismissed from the Team at any time if the swimmer violates any of the applicable USA Swimming, or other rules and regulations applicable to the Team or its members, including without limitation applicable Codes of Conduct or Team Rules. If there is a violation and the swimmer is to be dismissed from the Team, upon request of the swimmer, there will be an emergency hearing held before USA Swimming's National Board of Review within 24 hours of the violation (or as

soon as possible thereafter) to determine whether the proposed dismissal or other discipline is warranted.

- 3.1.6 If a swimmer is alleged to have committed an anti-doping rule violation, that swimmer shall remain on the Team (or remain eligible to be Selected to the Team) until: (i) the swimmer is provisionally suspended; (ii) the swimmer is declared ineligible after a hearing conducted pursuant to the U.S. Anti-Doping Agency Protocol for Olympic Movement Testing or by AQUA; (iii) the swimmer voluntarily accepts a provisional suspension or sanction of ineligibility; or (iv) the swimmer voluntarily withdraws from the Team or relinquishes eligibility to be Selected to the Team.
- 3.1.7 If a swimmer is alleged to have committed a violation of the SafeSport Code for the Olympic and Paralympic Movement (the "SafeSport Code"), that swimmer shall remain on the Team (or remain eligible to be Selected to the Team) until: (i) the swimmer is temporarily suspended; (ii) the swimmer is declared ineligible ; (iii) the swimmer voluntarily accepts a temporary suspension or sanction of ineligibility; or (iv) the swimmer voluntarily withdraws from the Team or relinquishes eligibility to be Selected to the Team.

4 REPLACEMENT OF ATHLETES

- 4.1 Describe the selection and approval process for determining replacement athlete(s) should a vacancy occur:

The pool of potential replacement athletes includes those individuals who meet the criteria set forth in this Section 4.

- 4.1.1. After Announcement of the entire Team on or before June 26, 2024, and prior to submission of Entries by Name to the Local Organizing Committee (Time and Date TBD).

If the Team is not full (fewer than two athletes in each Event) after a swimmer declines a position in an Event for any reason, or Event positions otherwise become vacant, then USA Swimming will fill the vacancy in any such Event(s) as follows:

- (a) USA Swimming will apply the Priorities described in Section 1.3.4.1, beginning with the Priority in which the vacancy arose, e.g., if a swimmer Selected under Priority #1 is no longer on the Team, USA Swimming will use Priority #1 to determine the replacement swimmer; if a swimmer Selected under Priority #2 is no longer on the Team, USA Swimming will use Priority #2 instead of Priority #1 to determine the replacement swimmer. If USA Swimming exhausts a Priority without filling the vacancy (i.e., there are no more Available Swimmers eligible under that Priority, subject to the limitations in Section 1.3.4.1), it will use the next Priority in Section 1.3.4.1 for that Event (e.g., if there are no more Available Swimmers under Priority #2, USA Swimming will use Priority #3 to determine the replacement swimmer).

4.1.2. After submission of Entries by Name to the Organizing Committee:

After Entries by Name have been submitted to the Local Organizing Committee (Time and Date TBD), USA Swimming will attempt to fill any vacancy using the process outlined in 4.1.1(a), but there are no guarantees that USA Swimming will be successful in doing so. If the Local Organizing Committee does not accept the late entry, then the Selected entry will remain vacant.

5. SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

USA Swimming will retain the approved Selection Procedures and all supporting documents, including scouting or evaluation forms, etc., and data from the selection process for six months past the date of the Championships.

6. PUBLICITY/DISTRIBUTION OF PROCEDURES

The Selection Procedures (complete and unaltered) will be posted/published by USA Swimming on its website.

7. DATE OF SELECTION

The Selection of Athletes will take place on May 3-5, 2024. However, in the event of a tie, the Selection of Athletes will take place upon the conclusion of any applicable tiebreaker(s) (pursuant to Section 1.3.5) on June 23, 2024.

8. MANDATORY TRAINING AND/OR COMPETITION

Specify the location, schedule, and duration of mandatory training and/or competition:

<u>Event</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Site</u>
Depart U.S.A.	September 2	Various Airports
Training	September 3-5	Alghero, Italy
Competition	September 6-8	Alghero, Italy
Return Home	September 9	Alghero, Italy

*Dates and locations are subject to change

9. ANTI-DOPING REQUIREMENTS

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

10. USA SWIMMING BYLAWS AND GRIEVANCE PROCEDURES

USA Swimming Bylaws and Grievance Procedures can be found at: usaswimming.org.

11. DISCLAIMER

These procedures are based on World Aquatics rules and regulations, as applicable and as presently known and understood. Any change in the Selection Procedures caused by a change in World Aquatics rules and regulations will be distributed to the affected athletes immediately. The Selection Procedures are based on the latest information available to USA Swimming. However, the Selection Procedures are always subject to unforeseen, intervening circumstances, and realistically may not have accounted for every possible contingency.

If circumstances cause the alteration or cancellation of any of the Qualifying Competitions listed in this document, these Selection Procedures will be revised.

The terms and conditions of these written Selection Procedures shall take priority over any verbal explanation, clarification, or interpretation of the Selection Procedures, and an athlete relies on a verbal explanation, clarification, or interpretation of these Selection Procedures at his/her sole risk. Any request or question that would involve a formal clarification or interpretation of these Selection Procedures, or that would address an issue not otherwise covered in these Selection Procedures, should be submitted to the Director, National Team Open Water at USA Swimming in writing by no later than March 31, 2024, and the response to such request by USA Swimming must be provided in writing and, where appropriate, must be published promptly on the USA Swimming website.

An athlete who is Selected to the Team by virtue of an error or oversight by USA Swimming may be removed from the Team at any time.

12. SELECTION PROCEDURE APPROVAL COMMITTEE

12.1 Conflicts of Interest

Individuals involved in the creation and enforcement of these Selection Procedures are subject to USA Swimming's Statement of Ethics and Conflict of Interest Policy (the "Conflict of Interest Policy"). Pursuant to the Conflict of Interest Policy, these individuals must submit annual Disclosure Statements to USA Swimming's Ethics Committee for review and direction on avoidance and mitigation of any conflicts. Any actual, potential, or perceived conflicts of interest identified in the creation or enforcement of these Selection Procedures should be reported to USA Swimming's Ethics Committee, pursuant to the Conflict of Interest Policy.

12.2 Retaliation

No individual who raises concerns or asks questions about these Selection Procedures or files a grievance and/or reports a conflict of interest regarding these Selection Procedures shall suffer retaliation, as prohibited by USA Swimming's Whistleblower and Anti-Retaliation Policy (the "Anti-Retaliation Policy"). Any claims of retaliation should be reported to USA Swimming's Ethics Committee, pursuant to the Anti-Retaliation Policy. This protection against retaliation includes protection for seeking advice from the Athlete Ombuds Office.

Athlete Ombuds Office Contact Information
Phone: 719-866-5000
Email: ombudsman@usathlete.org Website: usathlete.org

12.3 Signatures

I certify that I have read and understand the standards/criteria set by our IF and/or CF (PAG/PPAG only) and incorporated those standards/criteria into our Selection Procedures. I further certify that the information provided herein regarding Athlete Selection Procedures represents the method approved by USA Swimming.

Position	Print Name	Signature	Date
President & CEO	Tim Hinchey		3/19/24
Managing Director, USA Swimming National Team	Lindsay Mintenko		3/19/24
USA Swimming Athletes' Advisory Council Chair	Caitlin L. Smith		3/18/24