The USA Bobsled & Skeleton (“USABS”) athlete selection process encompasses a number of phases and events such as combine tests, National Push Championships and National Team Trials. Specific athlete selection is both quantitative and via discretionary selection by the Team Selection Committee.

These Selection Procedures are broken into six (6) headings that include:

1. **USABS Eligibility**;
2. **National Team Qualification**;
3. **Competition Entries**;
4. **Equipment Allocation**;
5. **Participation/Waivers/Committees**;
6. **Appendix**
   a. **Quota**
   b. **Season Dates**
   c. **Swiss Points**

It is the goal and guiding principles of USABS to field the most competitive teams for international competition leading to future Olympic Games, and these procedures are designed to meet that goal. Below is an overview of the entire selection process that is covered in detail through each of the six headings.
**USABS ELIGIBILITY** - In order to participate in a USABS program, all athletes must meet the following eligibility requirements.

1. **ALL USABS Teams and Programs**
   1.1. Must be a member in good standing with USABS;
   1.2. Must abide by the US Anti-Doping Association (USADA), World Anti-Doping Association (WADA) and Federation Internationale de Bobsleigh et de Tobogganing (IBSF) anti-doping requirements;
   1.3. Must meet all US Olympic Committee (USOC), IBSF and USABS eligibility requirements for representing the USA in international competition;

2. **US National Team Athlete Eligibility** - The US National Team is defined as athletes in bobsled that are named to the National Team and compete on an IBSF Tour. In addition to the eligibility requirements above, an athlete
   2.1. Must have a current official USABS tiered combine test results no earlier than May 1st but prior to team trials held at various locations (announcements regarding combine test events and dates will be published on the USABS website);
   2.2. All returning athletes (push athletes & pilots) from the previous season or earlier are required to compete in the National Push Championships. New athlete are waived form the is requirement (may be invited to participate) their first year in the sport;
   2.3. Waivers may be granted to returning athletes unable to compete due to extreme circumstances. For all waivers see Section 5.

In order to be **eligible** to receive USOC/USABS funding support prior to and after the National Team Trials races, athletes must meet the minimum combine requirements.

**Tier Chart**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Athlete Category</th>
<th>Tier 3 (no strength testing)</th>
<th>Tier 2 (full combine)</th>
<th>Tier 1</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Men's Bobsled Push Athlete</td>
<td>450</td>
<td>675</td>
<td>Monitored by head coach</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Women’s Bobsled Push Athlete</td>
<td>450</td>
<td>675</td>
<td>Monitored by head coach</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Men's Bobsled Pilots</td>
<td>450</td>
<td>625</td>
<td>Monitored by head coach</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Women's Bobsled Pilots</td>
<td>450</td>
<td>625</td>
<td>Monitored by head coach</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Tiers must be re-qualified the first year of each Olympic Quad.

**Tier 1**: This level of the combine is for push athletes that have proven training habits and have scored over 700 points and raced on the World Cup, North America’s Cup, Europa Cup or National Championships within the past two years. Tier 1 athletes must complete a 30m and back squat (women only), power clean (men only) at a selected event to be scheduled by the head coach.

**Tier 2**: Administered at USABS approved locations, coaches will test all eligible bobsled athletes during that season’s Preliminary Push Championships, National Push Championships
or the National Team Trials. For bobsled push athletes, a push track evaluation and interview with the coaching staff will also take place during Tier 2 testing.

**Tier 3:** Mandatory for all new athletes and administered all year long at various locations around the United States. Tier 3 testing is an initial screening administered throughout the country at any given time by certified USABS personnel.

**Bobsled pilots with a top 10 (men), top eight (women) IBSF Overall (2man or 4man) rank from the previous season** will qualify for Tier 1 and are not required to complete a full combine. Female pilots will complete the 30m and back squat and male pilots will complete the 30m and power clean. All other bobsled pilots must complete a full combine prior to National Team Trials.

2. **NATIONAL TEAM QUALIFICATION** – The US National Team is defined as athletes in bobsled who are named to the National Team and compete on an IBSF Tour. The US National Development Team is defined as athletes that compete on the IBSF America’s Cup, Europa Cup and other training and/or domestic programs. Qualification for the US National Team to compete in bobsled on the World Cup tour and Emerging Elite Program include completing a combine test. The National Push Championships are required for all returning athletes and will be used in discretionary selection. Below are the specific details for each event.

2.1. **Team & Race Allocation** - Based on the current IBSF world ranking list, the quota of teams eligible to participate for the US on the World Cup tour are in Appendix A.

2.2. **Combine tests** – All bobsled athletes who wish to be considered for the US National Team and eligible to receive USOC/USABS funding support must complete a combine test (at their tier level) prior to the competition season but no earlier than May 1st. Times, dates and locations of each combine test will be published on the USABS website.

2.3. **National Push Championships** – The top performers from the Preliminary Push Championships, all Tier 2 athletes meeting the minimum standards, all Tier 1 athletes and those athletes invited by the head coach are eligible to compete in National Push Championships. Data collected from the Push Championships will help determine funding support and will be considered for Discretionary Selection.

2.4. **National Team Trials Races for Bobsled** – National Team Trials will be held prior to the start of the IBSF World Cup season. These races will provide results for the pilot/athlete ranking for the National Team competing in the World Cup (WC) and for athletes competing on Europe Cup (EC), American Cup (AC) and/or Emerging Elite Program. Results will be based on the total time of the races. Pilots/athletes will be ranked in each discipline by combining points from all races in that discipline using the Swiss scoring system (see Attachment B). Specific race protocols, dates and times will be announced a minimum of 30 days before the start of the team trials.

If unforeseen circumstances occur (i.e. crash, runner damage, sled damage, push athlete falls) an extra run may be granted by the head coach with input from the jury (acting IBSF approved officials, track official) to substitute for a previous run. Ties will be broken with the single fastest heat. If there is still a tie, the fastest push time
will break the tie. The men’s bobsled pilots will be ranked by combining points earned in both two-man and four-man competitions.

2.5. Bobsled Pilot Ranking/Entry prior to the National Team Trials Races - U.S. pilots, men and women, will be ranked and entered into the start order for two-man and four-man for the National Team Trials in the following priority order from the previous season:

2.5.1. World Championship results;
2.5.2. IBSF ranking;
2.5.3. Athletes named to the “Emerging Elite Program” (per Section 3.9)
2.5.4. Results from National Championships
2.5.5. Current summer/fall testing results (verified by USABS bobsled head coach);
2.5.6. Head coach and medical personnel can limit an athlete’s participation due to safety concerns.

Rankings will be established for both two-man and four-man pilots in each discipline based on the criteria above in the listed priority for the respective event. Unranked pilots will be allowed to compete provided they are safely completing the course prior to official training, as determined by the head coach. The head coach will resolve any entry or ranking disputes prior to the National Team Trials races.

2.6. Pilot/Push Athlete Combinations at the National Team Trials

Before National Team Trials:
2.6.1. The head coach will select push athletes for the pilots with a bye that are pre-selected to the National Team prior to the National Team Trials races using the push athlete criteria (Section 3.7).
2.6.2. The remaining pilots will select their teams prior to the National Team Trials.
2.6.3. The pilots must declare their team to the head coach at the pilots meeting prior to the race. Failure to do so will result in not being entered into the race.

2.7. National Team Push Athlete Selection

The Team Selection Committee will nominate push athletes to the National Team for the first half of the World Cup tour. The push athletes will be selected to the National Team by the push athlete criteria. The team selection committee will identify one or more National Team alternates. Additional athletes may be added to the alternate pool if the situation warrants.

Push Athlete Criteria: The Team Selection Committee will use the following criteria, not listed in any priority order, when considering push athletes for the National Team:

2.7.1. Trending test results including Push Championships results (individual and combination pushes) and USABS Combine results;
2.7.2. Pilot results at current U.S. National Team Trials;
2.7.3. Pilot input;
2.7.4. Size and weight of the push athlete;
2.7.5. Proven international experience with history/results of team combinations pushing well together;
2.7.6. Trend of push times, start rank and velocity at the start in IBSF and USABS sanctioned events;
2.7.7. Attitude and dedication to the team.
2.7.8. Current season results.
2.7.9. Teamwork, commitment, integrity.

2.8. **National Team (World Cup Team) Selection Bye.**

An athlete can earn a bye and will be funded for team trials. In all cases a bye does not exclude an athlete from team trials, unless agreed upon by the Head Coach. The athletes must maintain their preparation and training commitment. A bye can be earned by achieving the following results.

A top-four finish at the previous World Championships/Olympic Games with a maximum of two byes per discipline.

Byes are only granted for the discipline in which they were earned.

2.9. **Emerging Elite Program (EEP) –** The Emerging Elite Program is a development program designed to fast track new bobsled pilots with world class pushing ability so they are prepared to compete and be competitive on the IBSF World Cup tour leading into the upcoming Olympic Games. Selection into the EEP is based upon the criteria below and are ultimately selected by the USABS coaching staff. The EEP is budget dependent and funding may not be available each year. It is a three-year program and athletes must be 30 years of age or younger. Once an athlete is selected into the Emerging Elite Program, they will be ranked based upon the criteria below and may be eligible for specific opportunities that include, but are not limited to equipment allocation, race opportunities (as approved by selection committee), training opportunities and funding support. The Emerging Elite Team will be slated and announced at the completion of Team Trials.

*“Emerging Elite Pilot/Pilot”* - To be considered for the Emerging Elite Program an athlete must meet a minimum of 3 of the following criteria:

2.9.1. Previous World Cup push athlete or completed a full year in an ORDA or UOP driving program
2.9.2. Must be a Tier 1 athlete or score a minimum of 700 on the combine (space will be limited to the top scorers with driving ability);
2.9.3. Push Times on Lake Placid Push Track during Preliminary Push Championships or Push Championships, Pilot’s Bar push 3.85 (men), 4.25 (women);
2.9.4. Brake Push 4.40 (men), women 4.80 (women);
2.9.5. 30m times 3.65 (men), 4.0 (women) or less;

Team Selection Committee will make final decisions on EE Team based on above criteria and head coaches’ recommendations on driving competency, embodying USABS values, commitment to and investment in themselves.

Selected pilots in the Emerging Elite Program may have priority over higher ranked pilots for international competitions, as determined by the respective head coaches.

3. **COMPETITION ENTRIES**
3.1. **World Cup Pilot Selection** – Up to two (2) male and two (2) female pilots can receive a “bye” onto the National Team, regardless of overall finish at National Team Trials, provided they maintain their preparation and training commitment as required by the head coach (to be evaluated by the head coach) and meet the following criteria:

3.1.1. Top-four finish in World Championship/Olympic Games from the previous season;

3.2. **Race Entry One** - Male & female pilots receiving the bye if applicable.
3.2.1. If race entry 1 is not filled by an athlete with a bye then Race Entry 1 will be based upon the highest-ranked pilot from the U.S. National Team Trials. The highest combined two-man (men) and four-man (men) pilot (by the Swiss point scoring system) will be named to the Men’s National Team at the completion of the National Team Trials. The highest-ranked female pilot (by the Swiss point scoring system) will be named to the Women’s National Team. If a female pilot is the top-ranked four-man pilot after team trials they will earn four-man race entry 1 provided they have also qualified for the women’s (two-man) team.

3.3. **Race Entry Two** – Male and Female Pilots receiving a bye (if applicable). If race entry two is not filled by an athlete with a bye then race entry two will be selected by the Team Selection Committee according to the discretionary selection criteria as detailed below (not in priority order):

3.3.1. Current IBSF world ranking;
3.3.2. Successful international competition results from the previous two seasons;
3.3.3. Current U.S. National Team Trials results;
3.3.4. Current USABS Combine results;
3.3.5. “Emerging Elite Pilot/Pilot” eligible athletes (Section 3.9) for the 2018 Olympic Games;
3.3.6. Waiver granted.

3.4. **Race Entry Three** - Providing the US has earned a third starting position, race entry three will be awarded to the next highest-ranking pilot at the completion of US National Team Trials. The next highest combined two-man (men) and four-man (men) pilot (by the Swiss point scoring system) will be named to the Men’s National Team at the completion of the National Team Trials. The next highest-ranked female pilot (by the Swiss point scoring system) will be named to the Women’s National Team. If a female pilot is the next highest-ranked four-man pilot (after race entry one and two are filled) they will earn four-man race entry three provided they have also qualified for the women’s (two-man) team.

3.5. **Waivers (Pilots):** A waiver on to the National Team may be granted if there is a pilot who has medalled in a World Championships or the Olympic Games in the current quadrennial or has achieved one of the following from the previous season: top-three World Cup result, top-six Overall World Cup ranking or top-six Olympic Games/World Championship (whichever is most recent) result in a discipline. Waivers will be reviewed for athletes whom extreme extenuating circumstances occur, and he/she may be considered for discretionary placement.
on the National Team provided he/she has demonstrated readiness to compete in top form.

3.6. **After National Team Trials/During the Season** - The head coach and Director of Sport will make all decisions regarding pilot/push athlete combinations for World Cup competitions.

3.7. **World Cup Team Review** – To ensure that the US National Team has the strongest team possible in International competition, there will be a review of both pilots and push athletes on the WC tour between the first and second half of the season to determine if changes are necessary.

3.7.1. **Pilots**

3.7.1.1. Must maintain an overall top-six (6) men’s ranking or top-four (4) ranking for women in the IBSF World Cup standings (per current IBSF results) to guarantee their position on the team;

3.7.1.2. If a pilot is ranked below the top-six (6) in men's or top-four (4) in women's in the IBSF standings and a change is necessary, the Team Selection Committee may select the replacement pilot via Discretionary Selection Criteria in Section 3.3.

3.7.2. **Push athletes**

3.7.2.1. The Team Selection Committee will seek a recommendation from the Head Coach and Director of Sport;

3.7.2.2. Push athletes not previously named to the National Team may be selected.

3.7.2.3. If a change is deemed necessary, the Team Selection Committee may select the replacement push athletes via the Discretionary Selection Criteria in Section 3.3.

If a change of a bobsled pilot and/or push athlete is deemed appropriate, based on the discretion of the Head Coach and Director of Sport and the above performance standards, the head coach may submit his request to the Team Selection Committee for consideration. The Team Selection Committee will review the application and ratify the final decision. Logistical considerations will commence immediately upon approval.

3.8. **World Championship Pilot Selection** - Per IBSF rules, World Championship pilots qualify quota spots at the World Championships by nation based on the IBSF discipline-ranking list prior to the World Championships. The method of qualification can be found at www.IBSF.com (IBSF Rules 4.2). World Championship pilot entries will be picked from the National Team and Emerging Elite pool.

3.8.1. **Race Entry 1**: The top-ranked US pilot on the IBSF combined world ranking list (combined 2 & four-man points only men) after completion of the final World Cup prior to the World Championships will be selected.

3.8.2. **Race Entry 2**: The second spot for the World Championships will be selected by the Team Selection Committee according to the discretionary selection criteria as detailed below (not in priority order):
3.8.2.1. Current IBSF world ranking;
3.8.2.2. Successful international competition results from the past two seasons;
3.8.2.3. Current U.S. National Team Trials results;
3.8.2.4. Current USABS Combine results;
3.8.2.5. “Emerging Elite Pilot/Pilot” eligible athletes (Section 3.9) for the 2018 Olympic Games;
3.8.2.6. Waiver granted

3.8.3. **Race Entry 3 (two-man (men’s), two-man (women’s)):** Providing the US has earned a third starting position, the third spot at the World Championships will be awarded to the next highest-ranking US pilot based on two-man IBSF ranking.

3.8.4. **Race Entry 3 (four-man):** Providing the US has earned a third starting position, the third spot at the World Championships will be awarded to the next highest-ranking US four-man pilot on the IBSF four-man world ranking list who has not yet received a nomination in the four-man discipline.

**Note:** Race Entry 3 for two-man and four-man may be the same pilot if they meet the requirement for both disciplines as stated above.

*In extreme extenuating circumstances, a waiver into Race Entry 3 may be granted over the above criteria. Waivers could only be considered for athletes who:*

3.8.5. Have medalled in World Championships/Olympic Games in the past two seasons.

**AND**
3.8.6. Whose ability to meet the World Championship requirements is negatively affected due to extreme extenuating circumstances.

3.9. **World Championship Push Athlete Selection**

The Team Selection Committee for bobsled will nominate the push athletes to compete in World Championships. The push athletes will be selected to the World Championship Team by the push athlete criteria. The team Selection Committee will identify one or more alternate athletes. Additional athletes may be added to the alternate pool if the situation warrants.

3.10. **Push Athletes Criteria:** The following criteria, **not listed in any priority order**, will be used and applied equally to each push athlete in consideration. When determining the Team Selection Committee makes discretionary selections based on the following.

3.10.1. Trending test results including Push Championships results (individual and combination pushes) and USABS Combine results;
3.10.2. Pilot results at current U.S. National Team Trials;
3.10.3. Pilot input;
3.10.4. Size and weight of the push athlete;
3.10.5. Proven international experience with history/results of team combinations pushing well together;
3.10.6. Trend of push times, start rank and velocity at the start in IBSF and USABS sanctioned events;
3.10.7. Current season results.

3.11. **Europa Cup (EC), America’s Cup (AC) Pilot & Push Athlete Selection**
The USA National Development Team is the team that will be competing on the AC and EC tours. Opportunities to compete in EC and AC events will be based on the USABS coaching staff’s discretion with preference from athletes that are in the “Emerging Elite Program” and/or in UOP or ORDA’s Development Programs. The coaching staff may alternate opportunities between EC and AC based on continuing performances over the season. If a team/athlete declines a spot in an event that spot can be offered to the next available team/athlete.

3.12. **Pilot Race Entries:** For EC and AC races, the USABS coaching staff will use discretionary selection based upon the criteria below (not in any priority order):

3.13. Current IBSF world ranking;
3.13.1. Successful international competition results from the past two seasons;
3.13.2. Current U.S. National Team Trials results;
3.13.3. Current USABS Combine results;
3.13.4. Pilots that need to qualify 5-3-2;
3.13.5. Emerging Elite athletes (Section 3.9) for the 2018 Olympic Games.
3.13.6. Future Potential

3.14. **Push Athlete** - The USABS coaching staff will nominate push athletes to compete in EC and AC races. Additional athletes may be added to the alternate pool if the situation warrants.

4. **EQUIPMENT RENTAL & ALLOCATION**
USABS owned equipment (bobsleds & runners) that can be allocated consists of IBSF steel runners and bobsleds.

4.1. **USABS Sled/Runners & Allocations/Rentals**
The USABS equipment will be allocated on head coaches’ discretion based upon:

4.1.1. Tier 1 pilots and those that have scored above a minimum of 625 on current combine;
4.1.2. Current International Ranking;
4.1.3. Past season’s results;
4.1.4. Current combine test results;
4.1.5. Push Championships results;
4.1.6. Future potential;
4.1.7. Responsibility to care for equipment;
4.1.8. Athletes in the Emerging Elite Program;
4.1.9. Current national rank;
4.1.10. Driving experience;
4.1.11. Olympic athletes from the previous Olympic Games.

4.2. **IBSF Steel Runners**
4.2.1. IBSF runners must be used in all National Team Selection races.
4.2.2. USABS owned runners will not be allocated or rented for Team Trials except for pilots who have earned a bye.
4.2.3. Teams choosing not to use IBSF runners will be entered into a guest class or as a pilot sled for the race and **will not** be considered for the National Team.
4.2.4. National Titles and National Ranking can only be achieved by using IBSF runners.

USABS owned equipment will not be allocated to pilots who fail to possess the requisite skills to use the equipment, which will be evaluated by the head coaches. All USABS owned equipment must be accompanied by an official USABS or USABS technician or coach. The head coach is not required to allocate all available sleds. USABS owned sleds will only be allocated for WC, AC and for EC if coaching is available.

At any given time, other allocations may occur if the head coach decides it will improve one or all of the following: international results, sled testing, runner testing. If a sled is irreparably damaged, the head coaches will reallocate sleds guided by the system above unless the coaches determines a better solution that will avoid or cause the least disruption to the teams and also provide the best opportunity for international success.

The head coach may withhold equipment from a pilot if, in their judgment, that pilot has a history of poorly maintaining equipment or does not yet have the requisite driving skills to preserve the equipment in a reasonable manner.

Runners which are property of the USABS will be allocated by the head coach; however, the head coach may re-allocate runners if international results differ among the team. The goal is to give the best runners to the pilot best able to produce top results with those runners at a given competition. Equipment will only be provided to athletes that support USABS sponsors with sponsor marks on the sleds and equipment / apparel used at the competition venue, and/or as directed by the USABS. In addition:

4.2.5. USABS owned bobsleds and USABS runners may not be altered by an athlete without written permission from the USABS Head Coach.

4.2.6. Only the USABS authorized staff may authorize inspections of the equipment by others.

4.2.7. Athletes directly or indirectly sharing USABS owned equipment or technology with anyone or making negative statements in public will lose privileges to use USABS owned equipment.

4.2.8. Allocated equipment can only be re-allocated by the head coach.

4.2.9. Athletes wishing to use USABS owned equipment must sign the USABS non-disclosure Agreement and equipment rental agreement.

5. PARTICIPATION/WAIVERS/COMMITTEES

Athletes are required to participate in events for which they are qualified, are named to, and to which they commit. When an athlete does not attend a race and/or leaves a position vacant, they can negatively affect the chances for the US to qualify the maximum number of spots in an IBSF competition. Thus, any athlete who does not attend a race that they have selected will be assessed a fine which must be paid before the next competition. The CEO, along with the Head Coach, will determine, on a case by-case basis, if that athlete’s circumstances merit re-instatement to their race opportunities, or if some or all of their races are to be re-allocated to other athletes.

Failure to participate in a mandatory event and/or to follow the waiver procedures may result in a hearing regarding the athlete's participation in further events during the calendar year, or to the benefits the athlete receives from the USABS and/or the USOC, but in no way excludes rights guaranteed by the USABS and the USOC.
**Waivers**
A Waiver Committee, consisting of the CEO, head coach, Director of Internal Operations, and one athlete representative will consider all waivers. In the event that one or more of the listed Waiver Committee members are not able to serve on the Committee, the CEO will assign appropriate substitutes.

Waivers that are in this criteria:
1) **Injury/Illness waiver** - Injury/Illness waivers may be given to athletes that have suffered an injury or illness and said injury/illness has been verified by USOC Sports Medicine Clinic Manager.
2) **Extreme Circumstances waiver** – Constitute unforeseen circumstances that include, but not limited to a crash, runner or sled damage, personal situations, etc. The waiver will only be used for an extreme circumstance that will be determined by the Bobsled Waiver Committee.

All waiver requests for USABS events must be submitted to the Director of Internal Operations via hard copy or email as soon as practical. **The non-refundable waiver fee of $50.00 has to be paid and received prior to when the committee meets.** Following receipt, the Waiver Committee will review such request for approval or denial. The Waiver Committee will make a decision and provide a written copy of the approval or denial of the waiver to the athlete within seven (7) days.

The Bobsled Chief Medical Officer (CMO), or his designee, must examine injured/ill athletes wishing to receive a medical waiver for medical reasons. The Head Coach along with the CMO will make all decisions regarding the rehabilitation program. The injured athlete has to follow the guidelines to be able to receive and keep the waiver. Athletes are expected to compete in any part of the U.S. National Team Trials they are able to compete in. The Waiver Committee will make a decision and provide a written copy of the waiver granted onto the National Team as soon after the U.S. National Team Trials as possible (this will allow all portions of the U.S. National Team Trials to be factored into consideration of the waiver).

**Removal of Athletes**
An athlete may be removed from any team for any of the following reasons:
- **Voluntary withdrawal.** Athlete must submit a written letter to the Head coach. In the event of a disabling illness or injury to an athlete, the athlete must be examined by a USABS-approved physician or a USOC/USABS care-giver. Should an athlete refuse injury/illness verification by a physician or a USOC/USABS approved care-giver, then their injury or illness will be assumed to be disabling and they will be replaced. If an athlete misses two World Cup events in succession, that athlete must be seen by a medical doctor designated by the CMO, which could be facilitated by the USOC/USABS athletic trainers (ATCs). Medical staff at any track at which an athlete is competing can, in the interest of safety, prevent an injured athlete from competing at that event, should they deem that athlete unsafe.
- **Code of Conduct.** In the event of an excessive or serious violation of the athlete Code of Conduct, an athlete could be removed from a race series or otherwise sanctioned by the Judicial Committee. An athlete who may be removed from the Team pursuant to this provision has the right to a hearing per USABS Bylaws, or USOC Bylaws, Section 9.1.
- **Anti-Doping.** An athlete may be removed from any team at any time for violation of IOC, WADA, IBSF, USADA and/or USOC anti-doping protocol, policies and
procedures. In such instances, the adjudication process will be managed through the United States Anti-Doping Agency.

Replacement of Athletes
The Team Selection Committee will select replacement athletes from the National Team per the Athlete Selection Criteria. An athlete who replaces another athlete does not automatically assume the rank of the replaced athlete.

SAVING CLAUSE
The procedures above are based on IOC, IBSF and USOC rules and regulations as presently published. Any change in the selection procedures caused by a change in IOC, IBSF or USOC rules and regulations will be distributed to all athletes as soon as possible. The desire to field the most competitive teams for international competition are the guiding principles and will determine the administration of the selection criteria. The National Team Selection Criteria are based on the latest information available to the USABS. However, these criteria are always subject to unforeseen, intervening circumstances (weather, budget, war, etc.) and no doubt have not accounted for every possible contingency. In which case, the USABS staff will administer changes with the utmost reverence for fairness, respect of athletes and for honor of the sport. If a scheduled event cannot be held or must be interrupted, USABS will first try to re-schedule the event. Second, USABS will try to change the venue but will not guarantee funding for travel to the new venue. Finally, if a venue change is not feasible, ranking will be based first on the portion of that event completed (at least one race) or if no portion has been completed, then ranking will be based on the most recent USABS national rankings. These Selection Criteria come into force as of the date of their approval by the USABS coaching staff and Chief Executive Officer, and supersede all previous criteria.

The USABS reserves the right to change the selection criteria prior to the start of each competition season based on schedules, coaching, logistics, finances, and other limiting factors. The rules in these criteria will be interpreted by the coaching staff along with the CEO in the way in which they were intended.

ATHLETE’S RIGHT TO COMPETE
An athlete’s right to compete is defined and protected by USOC Bylaws. Should an athlete feel his/her right to compete has been withheld, the USABS bylaws provides for a grievance procedure for him/her to seek a fair hearing and relief.

If you have any questions regarding your opportunity to compete that are not answered by the USABS, you may contact the USOC Athlete Ombudsman by telephone at (888) ATHLETE, or by e-mail. This position is currently filled by Kacie Wallace kacie.wallace@usoc.org.

USABS JUDICIAL COMMITTEE
There will be a Judicial Committee to oversee any grievances of these criteria. The USABS Board of Directors will appoint members of the committee. Grievances must be sent via email to the Judicial Committee Chairperson, judicialcommitteechair@usbsf.com.

CRITERIA DISTRIBUTION
This document shall be available to all athletes at:
- Will be made available for viewing on the USABS website http://bobsled.teamusa.org/.
- Will be e-mailed to the athletes who competed in the prior season.
U.S. BOBSLED WAIVER COMMITTEE
- Darrin Steele, CEO
- Ashley Walden, Director of Internal Operations
- Brian Shimer, Men’s Bobsled Head Coach
- Kimber Gabryszak, Athlete Representative

U.S. BOBSLED TEAM SELECTION COMMITTEE
- Darrin Steele, CEO
- Ashley Walden, Director of Internal Operations
- Brian Shimer, Bobsled Head Coach
- Tuffy Latour, Director of Sport
- Curt Tomasevich, Athlete Representative
- Mickie Knous, Athlete Representative

Bobsled Skeleton Chief Medical Officer (CMO)
Dr. Eugene Byrne (adkbone@mac.com)

USOC Athlete Ombudsman
Kacie Wallace (kacie.Wallace@usoc.org)