

Proposals for Appendix E
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Item 1: Prerequisites for All National Teams and National Elite Camp

Below are the minimum eligibility requirements for an athlete to be considered for selection to a National Team or National Elite Camp.

A. Nationality/Passport Requirements:

1. An Athlete must be a national of the United States at the time of phase 3 - Final Phase.
 - a. **Exception:** An Athlete who is not a citizen of the United States, but reasonably expects to be one no later than 30 days prior to the start of the of Phase 3 - Final Phase, event for which the Trials are being conducted, is eligible to compete in the Trials for the USA Artistic Swimming National Teams and/or the National Elite Camp.
 - b. An athlete who fails to become a citizen by 30 days prior to the start of Phase 3 - Final Phase event shall be replaced with the next highest ranked athlete.
 - c. An athlete who is not a citizen of the United States who qualifies through the Trials process for the National Elite Camp may participate in the National Elite Camp, at the discretion of the Education Director.
2. An Athlete must hold a valid U.S. passport that will not expire for 6 months after the conclusion of the competition event.
- ~~3. An Athlete who is not a citizen of the United States, but reasonably expects to be one no later than 30 days prior to the start of the competition event for which the Trials are being conducted, is eligible to compete in the Trials for the USA Artistic Swimming National Teams and/or the National Elite Camp. An athlete who fails to become a citizen by 30 days prior to the event shall be replaced with the next highest ranked athlete.~~

NOTE: Refer to the USA Artistic Swimming website (www.teamusa.org/USA-Artistic-Swimming) to find the most recent information concerning ongoing Trials procedures and/or the National Teams and National Elite Camp.

B. Other Requirements (if any):

1. Athletes must be a member in good standing with USAAS.
2. Athletes must meet the requirements of the USAAS National Team/Squad Agreement.

Rationale: To hopefully clarify and clear up some confusion for athletes in the process of obtaining citizenship. In addition, to allow non-citizens that qualify through the Trials process to participate in the Camps.

Item 2: Add PanAm Aquatic (PAQ) Judges to list of those that can judge trials. If approved, then the FINA Judges, PAQ Judges and FINA Evaluators would be included in App E.

Rationale: We have judges on the PanAm Aquatic List that are not on the FINA List that should be considered as well as possible judges for Trials.

Item 3: Inclusion of Article 1, Section 1.01 and 1.02 from Appendix N – Page 1

US Anti-Doping Agency (“USADA”), World Anti-Doping Agency (“WADA”) Athlete Selection Criteria:

This procedure outlines the athlete selection criteria to meet the requirements of USADA, WADA and Federation Internationale de Natation Amateur (“FINA”) for Out-Of-Competition (“OOC”) testing. USA Artistic Swimming (“USAAS”) will notify USADA, WADA and FINA of the athletes who meet the criteria. It is the responsibility of the athlete to maintain current documentation with USADA, WADA and FINA once the athlete is participating in the program. Severe sanctions can be imposed on the athlete, as well as the federation, if this requirement is not met. It is the responsibility of the athlete to become acquainted with the responsibilities in regards to compliance with these important requirements.

- A. United States Anti-Doping Obligations: It is the duty of members of USAAS to comply with all anti-doping rules of FINA, USADA, WADA, and the United States Olympic and Paralympic Committee (“USOPC”), including but not limited to the USADA Protocol for Olympic and Paralympic Movement Testing (“USADA Protocol”) and the USOPC National Anti-Doping Policy, and all other policies and rules adopted by FINA, USADA, and WADA. Members agree to submit to drug testing by FINA and/or USADA or their designees at any time and understand that the use of methods or substances prohibited by the applicable anti-doping rules make them subject to penalties including, but not limited to, disqualification and suspension. If it is determined that a member may have committed a doping violation, the member agrees to submit to the results management authority and processes of USADA, including arbitration under the USADA Protocol, or to the results management authority of FINA and/or USAAS, if applicable or referred by USADA.

Athlete Retirement Notification to USADA, WADA and FINA:

All athletes on the current OOC list must submit an official Retirement Letter to each of the above agencies once a decision to retire from the sport has been reached. This can only be done by the actual individual retiring from competition. Athletes will remain on the list, and therefore subject to OOC testing and to technical and financial sanctions, if a Retirement Letter is not received by the above organizations.

Rationale: In July 19th it was approved by the IRC to remove the items above of the Appendix N and replaced in the Appendix E. It makes sense to be added here as it deals with Anti-doping and athlete retirement notification.

Item 4: Modify Article 2, 2.02 - 2023 13-15 NATIONAL TEAM AND NATIONAL ELITE CAMP SELECTION PROCEDURES for all in person meets. Modify percentage for figures competition to be more consistent with the new rules.

Phases 1 and 2 shall be held ~~as separate virtual competitions~~ at a location TBD, at dates and times to be announced.

Phase 3 shall be held during the U.S. 13-15 Championship, ~~April 28 May 1, 2022, in Irvine, CA, at a date, time and location to be announced.~~

~~Figures in Phase 1A and routines in Phase 2 and 3B will be judged by a panel of 3-5 FINA Judges and/or FINA Evaluators, selected by the High Performance Manager (or Designee). Figures in Phase 3 will be judged by a panel of FINA Judges, FINA Evaluators and/or National Judges at the U.S. 13-15 National Championship. In addition, all routines in Phases 2 and 3B will also include members of the National Team Coaching Staff to evaluate synchronization. National Skills Testing will be evaluated by a group of Assessors. All Assessors are selected by the High Performance Manager (or Designee). A list of the current National Skill Assessors is posted on the USA Artistic Swimming website. For Phase 3, the Vice President Olympic International (or Designee) and the USOPC AAC Representative (or Designee) will be present at the Trials to ensure compliance, though will not serve as official evaluators.~~

Figures in Phase 1A and routines in Phases **2C** and 3B will be judged by a panel of 3-5 **FINA Judges, PAQ Judges and FINA Evaluators**, selected by the High Performance Manager (or Designee). Figures in Phase 3 will be judged by a panel of **FINA Judges, FINA Evaluators and/or** National Judges at the U.S. 13-15 National Championship. In addition, all routines in **Phases 2C and Phase 3B** will also include members of the National Team Coaching Staff to evaluate synchronization. National Skills Testing will be evaluated by a group of Assessors. All Assessors are selected by the High Performance Manager (or Designee). A list of the current National Skill Assessors is posted on the USA Artistic Swimming website. For Phase 3, the Vice President Olympic International (or Designee) and the USOPC-AAC Representative (or Designee) will be present **at the Trials** to ensure compliance, but will not be serve as official evaluators.

The 2022 13-15 National Team and National Elite Camp shall be selected in accordance with the following procedures:

A. Phase 1A – Figure Competition:

1. Eligible athletes will compete in a Figure competition, which will consist of 4 figures, ~~the 2 Compulsory and 2 Optional Figures~~, selected by the High Performance Manager (or Designee), **from the 13-15 age division figure list**. The figures will be announced at least 72 hours prior to the trials and posted on the USA Artistic Swimming website.
2. Scores from Phase 1A will be calculated according to FINA rules.
3. All athletes from Phase 1A shall advance to Phase 1B.

B. Phase 1B – National Skills Testing Competition:

1. Eligible athletes will compete in a National Skills Testing competition, which will consist of a total of **2 land tests** and **1 swimming test**. A full description of the tests and scoring criteria can be found in the National Skills Testing Protocols which is posted on the USA Artistic Swimming website.

C. Phase 1 - Final Score:

1. The Final score for Phase 1 will be calculated using the following percentages:
 - Phase 1A – Figure Competition 65%
 - Phase 1B – National Skills Testing Competition 35%

Number of athletes to advance to Phase 2A:

- Up to a maximum of 50 athletes, in rank order, shall advance to Phase 2A.

TIED ATHLETES: If one or more athlete(s) attain a score of 0.1 or less below the score of the last qualified athlete for Phase 2A, it will be considered a tie. All tied athletes shall advance to Phase 2A.

D. Phase 2A – Figure Competition:

1. Eligible athletes will compete in a Figure competition, which will consist of 2 figures, selected by the High Performance Manager (or Designee), **from the 13-15 age division figure list section A, B or C, accordingly to the new rules.** The figures will be announced at least 72 hours prior to the trials and posted on the USA Artistic Swimming website.
2. Scores from Phase 2A will be calculated according to FINA rules.
3. All athletes from Phase 2A shall advance to Phase 2B and 2C.

E. Phase 2B – National Skills Testing Competition:

1. Eligible athletes will compete in a National Skills Testing competition, which will consist of 2 land tests. A full description of the tests and scoring criteria can be found in the National Skills Testing Protocols which is posted on the USA Artistic Swimming website.

F. Phase 2C – Individual Routine Swim:

1. Eligible athletes will compete in a Routine competition, which will consist of 1 individual routine swim. The draw for the individual routine swim will be a random draw. The routine will be selected by the High Performance Manager (or Designee), in consultation with the National Team Coaching Staff.

G. Phase 2 – Final Score:

1. The Final score for Phase 2 will be calculated using the following percentages:
 - **Phase 2A – Figure Competition 35%**
 - **Phase 2B – National Skills Testing Competition 20%**
 - **Phase 2C – Individual Routine Swim 45%**

H. Phases 1 and 2 Final Score:

1. The Final score for Phases 1 and 2 will be calculated using the following percentages:
 - Phase 1 100% (65% Figure Competition from Phase 1A, 35% National Skills Testing Competition from Phase 1B)
 - **Phase 2 100% (35% Figure Competition from Phase 2A, 20% National Skills Testing Competition from Phase 2B, 45% Individual Routine Swim from Phase 2C)**

Number of athletes to advance to Phase 3:

- Up to a maximum of 30 athletes, in rank order, shall advance to Phase 3.
- All scores from Phases 1 and 2 will be dropped prior to Phase 3.

TIED ATHLETES: If one or more athlete(s) attain a score of 0.1 or less below the score of the last qualified athlete for Phase 3, it will be considered a tie. All tied athletes shall advance to Phase 3.

I. Phase 3A – Figure Competition:

1. Eligible athletes will compete in the Figure competition during the U.S. 13-15 Championships, to be held at a location TBD.
2. Scores from Phase 3A will be calculated according to FINA rules.
3. All athletes from Phase 3A shall advance to Phase 3B.

J. Phase 3B – Routine Competition:

Phase 3B shall be held at a location TBD, at a **date and** time to be announced.

1. Eligible athletes will compete in a Routine competition, which will consist of 1 individual routine swim and 1 group routine swim. The draw for the individual routine swim will be a random draw and the draw for the group routine swim will be decided by the High Performance Manager (or Designee), in consultation with the National Team Coaching Staff. The scores of the 2 routine swims (1 individual and 1 group swim) will be averaged to calculate the Final routine score. The routine will be selected by the High Performance Manager (or Designee), in consultation with the National Team Coaching Staff.

K. Phase 3 – Final Score:

1. The Final score for Phase 3 will be calculated using the following percentages:
• Phase 3 100% (35% Figure Competition from Phase 3A, 65% Routine Competition from Phase 3B)

The Phase 3 Final Score will be used to select, **up to 16 athletes** for the 13-15 National Team and up to 16 athletes for the National Elite Camp.

TIED ATHLETES: If one or more athlete(s) attain a score of 0.1 or less below the score of the last athlete being considered for the 13-15 National Team, it will be considered a tie. A tiebreaker shall be used to rank the tied athletes.

TIEBREAKER: To separate the scores in the preceding paragraph, the results of the Figure Competition from Phase 3A will be used to break the tie

Rationale: Season 2021-22 had to be modified for virtual trial. Season 2022-23 we should be back to normal. Plus, in the new scoring system the figure weighting will be no more than 35% of the total score.

Item 5: Article 3, 4 & 5 for JR/SR Trials propose updated on names, date and location of trials.