

APPENDIX E

NATIONAL TEAM AND OLYMPIC DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM SELECTION PROCEDURES

Amendments to this Appendix E are the responsibility of the High Performance Director or Designee. The High Performance Director or Designee, in consultation with the National Team Program Committee, can modify this Appendix by recommending changes to the Board of Directors for approval.

The High Performance Director or Designee, with notification to the Vice President Olympic International and the International Relations Committee Chair of USSS, selects appropriate international events for each of the National Teams. Participation in the designated competitions shall be limited to the National Team(s), unless otherwise approved by the International Relations Review Subcommittee. Clubs must petition the International Relations Review Subcommittee for a Club Option. See Appendix F. Private invitations are the only exception to the Club Option procedure and require notification to the International Relations Committee Chair.

PREREQUISITES FOR ALL NATIONAL TEAMS AND OLYMPIC DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS

The Trials are open to athletes who are citizens of the United States at the time of nomination and eligible under the eligibility rules for participation in a "protected competition" as defined by the By-Laws of the United States Olympic Committee ("USOC").

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 event for which the Trials are being conducted, is eligible to compete in the Trials for the U.S. Synchronized Swimming National Teams and/or the Olympic Development programs. An athlete who fails to become a citizen by 30 days prior to the event shall be replaced by another eligible athlete according to the following procedures.

Please refer to the USA Synchro website (www.usasynchro.org) to find the most recent information concerning ongoing Trials procedures and/or the National Team and Olympic Development programs.

ARTICLE 1

2019 12&UNDER AND 13-15 NATIONAL TEAMS AND OLYMPIC DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM ATHLETE SELECTION PROCEDURES

1.01 ELIGIBILITY

Phase 1: To be eligible for Phase 1 of the 2019 12 & under and 13-15 National Team and Olympic Development Program Trials, a registered U.S. Synchronized Swimming athlete must:

- A. Be eligible to compete in the selected competition(s).
- B.** Have been born in the years 2007 or later for 12 & under and 2004 to 2006 for 13-15.
- C. Have passed Grade Levels 1, 2 and 3 for 12 & under and Grade Levels 1, 2, 3 and 4 for 13-15.

1.02 2019 12 & UNDER AND 13-15 NATIONAL TEAMS AND OLYMPIC DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM SELECTION PROCEDURES

The 2019 12 & under and 13-15 National Teams and Olympic Development Program shall be selected in accordance with the following procedures:

- A. Phase 1A – Figure Competition:** This competition shall be held January 19-21, 2019, at a time and location to be announced.

A group of 3-7 FINA Judges, selected by the High Performance Director or Designee, shall evaluate the athletes during Phase 1A.

1. **Figure Competition:** Eligible athletes will compete in a Figure competition, which will consist of 4 figures, including the 2 Compulsory and 2 Optional Figures, selected by the High Performance Director or Designee, from the appropriate age division figure list. The figures will be announced at least 72 hours prior to the trials and posted on the USA Synchro 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:** This competition shall be held following Phase 1A, January 19-21, 2019, at a time and location to be announced.

A group of Evaluators, selected by the High Performance Director or Designee, shall evaluate the athletes during Phase 1B. The Evaluators may consist of the National Skill Assessors, the High Performance Director or Designee, the National Team Coaches and/or any additional qualified evaluators, as needed. A list of the current National Skill Assessors is available on the USA Synchro website.

1. **National Skills Testing Competition:** Eligible athletes will compete in a National Skills Testing competition, which will consist of a total of 4 land and/or water tests. A full description of the tests can be found in the National Skills Testing Protocols which is posted on the USA Synchro website.
2. The National Skills Test Scoring criteria is included in the National Skills Testing Protocols which is posted on the USA Synchro website.
3. The Figure competition score from Phase 1A will be added to the score from Phase 1B and will be used to calculate the Final score for Phase 1, using the following percentages:

Phase 1 Final Score:

- Phase 1A – Figure Competition 80%
- Phase 1B – National Skills Testing Competition 20%

4. **Number of athletes to advance to Phase 2A:**

- **12 & under:** up to a maximum of 50 athletes, in rank order, shall advance to Phase 2A.
- **13-15:** 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.

- C. Phase 2A – Figure Competition:** This competition shall be held following Phase 1B, January 19-21, 2019, at a time and location to be announced.

A group of 3-7 FINA Judges, selected by the High Performance Director or Designee, shall evaluate the athletes during Phase 2A.

1. **Figure Competition:** Eligible athletes will compete in a Figure competition, which will consist of 2 Optional Figures, selected by the High Performance Director or Designee, from the appropriate age division figure list. The figures will be announced at least 72 hours prior to the trials and posted on the USA Synchro website.

2. Scores from Phase 2A will be calculated according to FINA rules.
3. All athletes from Phase 2A shall advance to Phase 2B.

D. Phase 2B – National Skills Testing Competition: This competition shall be held following Phase 2A, January 19-21, 2019, at a time and location to be announced.

A group of Evaluators, selected by the High Performance Director or Designee, shall evaluate the athletes during Phase 2B. The Evaluators may consist of the National Skill Assessors, the High Performance Director or Designee, the National Team Coaches and/or any additional qualified evaluators, as needed. A list of the current National Skill Assessors is posted on the USA Synchro website.

1. **National Skills Testing Competition:** Eligible athletes will compete in a National Skills Testing competition, which will consist of 2 land and/or water tests. A full description of the tests can be found in the National Skills Testing Protocols which is posted on the USA Synchro website.
2. The National Skills Test Scoring criteria is included in the National Skills Testing Protocols which is posted on the USA Synchro website.
3. The Figure competition score from Phase 2A will be added to the score from Phase 2B and will be used to calculate the Final score for Phase 2, using the following percentages:

Phase 2 Final Score:

- Phase 2A – Figure Competition 80%
- Phase 2B – National Skills Testing Competition 20%

4. The Final score from Phase 1 will be added to the Final score from Phase 2 to calculate the Final score for Phases 1 & 2, using the following percentages:

Phase 1 & 2 Final Score:

- Phase 1 100%
(80% Figure Competition from Phase 1A, 20% National Skills Testing Competition from Phase 1B)
- Phase 2 100%
(80% Figure Competition from Phase 2A, 20% National Skills Testing Competition from Phase 2B)

5. **Number of athletes to advance to Phase 3:**
 - 12 & under: up to a maximum of 30 athletes, in rank order, shall advance to Phase 3.
 - 13-15: up to a maximum of 30 athletes, in rank order, shall advance 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.

E. Phase 3 – Routine Competition: This competition shall be held following Phase 2B, January 19-21, 2019, at a time and location to be announced.

A group of 3-7 FINA Judges, selected by the High Performance Director or Designee, shall evaluate the athletes during Phase 3.

1. **Routine Competition:** 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 Director 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 Director or Designee.

2. The Final routine score from Phase 3 will be added to the Final scores from Phases 1 & 2 and will be used to calculate the Final score for Phase 3, using the following percentages:

Phase 3 Final Score:

- Phase 1A + 2A – Figure Competition 50%
- Phase 1B + 2B – National Skills Testing Competition 20%
- Phase 3 – Routine Competition 30%

3. All athletes from Phase 3 shall advance to Phase 4.

E. Phase 4A – Figure Competition: This competition shall be held on the following dates in Riverside, CA, at a time to be announced.

- 12 & under National Team Trials: April 10, 2019
- 13-15 National Team and Olympic Development Program Trials: April 11, 2019

A group of 3-7 FINA Judges, selected by the High Performance Director or Designee, shall evaluate the athletes during Phase 4A.

1. **Figure Competition:** Eligible athletes will compete in a Figure competition.
 - **12 & under Figure Competition:** The competition will consist of 4 figures, including the 2 Compulsory and 2 Optional Figures, selected by the High Performance Director or Designee, from the 12 & under age division figure list. The figures will be announced at least 72 hours prior to the trials and posted on the USA Synchro website.
 - **13-15 Figure Competition:** All eligible athletes will compete in the Figure competition at the U.S. 13-15 Championships, to be held in Riverside, CA on April 11, 2019, at a time to be announced.

2. Scores from Phase 4A will be calculated according to FINA rules.

3. All athletes from Phase 4A shall advance to Phase 4B.

G. Phase 4B – Routine Competition: This competition shall be held on the following dates in Riverside, CA, at a time to be announced.

- 12 & under National Team Trials: April 10, 2019
- 13-15 National Team and Olympic Development Program Trials: April 14, 2019

A group of 3-7 FINA Judges, selected by the High Performance Director or Designee, shall evaluate the athletes during Phase 4B.

1. **Routine Competition:** 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 Director 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 Director or Designee.
2. The score from the Figure competition in Phase 4A and the score for the Routine competition in Phase 4B will be added to the Final score from Phase 3 to calculate the Final score for Phase 4 using the following percentages:

Phase 4 Final Score:

- Phase 3 100%
 - Phase 4 100%
(40% Figure Competition from Phase 4A and 60% Routine Competition from Phase 4B).
3. The Phase 4 Final Score will be used to select up to 10 athletes for the 12 & under National Team, up to 12 athletes each for the 13-15 National Teams 1 & 2 and up to 16 athletes for the 13-15 Olympic Development Program.

1.03 NAMING OF THE 2019 12 & UNDER AND 13-15 NATIONAL TEAMS AND THE OLYMPIC DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM:

A. **Number of Athletes:** The 2019 12 & under and 13-15 National Teams and Olympic Development Program will be comprised of up to:

- 10 athletes (not including petitioners) for the 12 & under National Team.
- 12 athletes (not including petitioners) for the 13-15 National Team 1.
- 12 athletes (not including petitioners) for the 13-15 National Team 2.
- 16 13-15 athletes (not including petitioners) for the Olympic Development Program.

The number of Teams for each age group and the exact number of athletes per Team will be determined by the High Performance Director or Designee. The High Performance Director or Designee, will make the final decision based on the results from Phase 4 and in consultation with the National Team Coaching Staffs and select FINA Judges.

B. **Training and Competition Requirements:** All selected athletes after Phase 4 must attend the National Team training camps and National Team competition(s) or the Olympic Development Program camp per their selection, unless otherwise agreed in writing with the High Performance Director or Designee.

If a selected athlete decides to decline her National Team or Olympic Development Program selection, she must notify the High Performance Director or Designee, in writing no later than at April 25, 2019.

If a selected athlete is not present at the start of National Team or Olympic Development Program training (unless otherwise agreed in writing with the High Performance Director or Designee), this athlete may no longer be considered a member of the National Team or Olympic Development Program, and a replacement athlete will be selected instead.

If an insufficient number of athletes accept their selection to the 2019 National Teams or Olympic Development Program, the High Performance Director or Designee, has the right to revise the overall plan for the 2019 National Teams or Olympic Development Program.

C. **Routine Assignments:** Solo, Duet, Team and Free Combination assignments for each competition will be determined at a later date by the National Team Coaching Staff for final approval by the High Performance Director or Designee. All athletes named to the 2019 12 & under and the 13-15 National Teams will be considered for each routine.

D. **Replacements:** Replacement athletes for the National Teams and Olympic Development Program shall be selected in rank order from Phase 4, then Phase 2 of the 2019 National Team and Olympic Development Program Trials. Replacement athletes must be able to demonstrate competitive readiness as determined by the High Performance Director or Designee, and the National Team Coaching Staff.

1.04 PETITIONS

A. Any 12 & under or 13-15 athlete who has successfully petitioned the National Team Review Subcommittee, pursuant to the Exception noted below, may also be considered for placement on the 2019 12 & under or 13-15 National Teams, or the Olympic Development Program, or advancement to the next Phase of Trials. Consideration is

regardless of their prior participation or ranking in any of the Selection Process that has taken place. Petitions must be submitted prior to the end of the Trials event.

- B.** The National Team Review Subcommittee approves or denies the petition. However, the High Performance Director or Designee, in consultation with the National Team Coaching Staff, may replace the last ranked athlete(s), with one or more petitioners added from Section 1.04 A. above to finalize the 2019 12 & under and 13-15 National Teams or the Olympic Development Program or advancement to the next Phase of Trials.

EXCEPTION: In the event of an athlete injury or illness as certified by a Physician approved by U.S. Synchronized Swimming, or an extreme personal or family emergency or any other extenuating circumstances prior to or during the National Team and Olympic Development Program Trials, which precludes the athlete from participating in the Trials, the athlete may petition the National Team Review Subcommittee. If the petition is approved, the successful petitioner shall be reinserted into the Selection Process at the appropriate Phase as an additional athlete.

ARTICLE 2

2019-2020 JUNIOR NATIONAL TRAINING SQUAD **ATHLETE SELECTION PROCEDURES** **(All new)**

Refer to the Athlete Selection Procedures for the 2019-2020 Junior National Training Squad which are available on the USA Synchro website at <http://www.teamusa.org/USA-Synchronized-Swimming/Team-USA/National-Team-Trials>.

There will be a Trials for the 2019-2020 Junior National Training Squad December 8-9, 2018 in Las Vegas, Nevada. Information can be found on the USA Synchro website at <http://www.teamusa.org/USA-Synchronized-Swimming/Team-USA/National-Team-Trials>.

ARTICLE 3

2018-2020 SENIOR NATIONAL TRAINING SQUAD **ATHLETE SELECTION PROCEDURES** **(All new)**

The 2018-2020 Senior National Training Squad has already been selected.

However, there will be a Trials for the 2019-2020 Senior National Mixed Duet on December 8, 2018 in Las Vegas, Nevada. Information can be found on the USA Synchro website at <http://www.teamusa.org/USA-Synchronized-Swimming/Team-USA/National-Team-Trials>.

The following athletes are the current members of the 2018-2020 Senior National Training Squad:

Anita Alvarez
Paige Areizaga
Leane Capdeville
Nicole Goot
Hannah Heffernan
Bill May
Maya Polnitskaya
Daniella Ramirez
Ruby Remati
Abbygayle Remmers
Lindi Schroeder
Kanakano Spendlove
Emmanuella Tchakmakjian