



USA TAEKWONDO
ATHLETE SELECTION PROCEDURES
2018 YOUTH OLYMPIC GAMES
November 12, 2017

1. SELECTION SYSTEM

1.1. Provide the minimum eligibility requirements to be considered for nomination to the Team:

1.1.1. Nationality/Passport requirements:

Athlete must be a national of the United States at the time of selection and hold a valid U.S. passport that will not expire for six months after the conclusion of the Games.

1.1.2. Minimum International Olympic Committee (IOC) and World Taekwondo (WT) standards for participation:

Any competitor in the Youth Olympic Games must be a national of the country of the National Olympic Committee (NOC) which is entering such competitor. For additional information regarding an athlete who is a national of two or more countries, has changed his or her nationality or acquired a new nationality, refer to the Olympic Charter (Rule 41), the IPC Handbook (Section 2, Chapter 3.1), or the PASO Statutes (Article XXII, Sections 4 and 5).

- An athlete must be born between January 1, 2001 and December 31, 2002
- Recommended by USA Taekwondo
- Holder of Taekwondo Dan on Poom certificate issued by the Kukkiwon or WT
- Holder of WT Global Athlete License

1.1.3. Other requirements (if any):

- Athletes must attend for the entire duration of the Youth Olympic Games (YOG).
- Athletes must participate in the cultural and educational program as requested.

- Athletes must have successfully completed all Games Registration requirements by stated deadline.
- An athlete must be a member in a good standing with USA Taekwondo (USAT).
- Athletes must compete in the Black Belt division.

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.

- USA Taekwondo – YOG Team Trial will be held in conjunction with the 2018 Senior Team Trials in March 2018 (Specific Time and Location TBD)
- World Taekwondo – YOG Qualification Tournament: April 6-12, 2018 – Hammamet, Tunisia

1.2.2. Provide event names, dates, locations and description of how athletes qualify for the trials, events and camps listed above in 1.2.1. (if any).

The following 6 weight categories (3 men, 3 women) will be contested at the USAT – YOG Team Trial. These divisions were chosen based on results from 2017 Junior Pan American Championships, 2017 US Open, 2017 Canada Open, and 2017 Pan Am Region President’s Cup, and were determined to be USAT’s six strongest weight divisions internationally. The winners of these six divisions at the USAT – YOG Team Trial will represent to US at the WT – YOG Qualification Tournament. From there, only two athletes can be selected to represent the US at the 2018 Youth Olympic Games (see Section 2.2 for this discretionary Process).

<u>Men’s Events</u>	<u>Women’s Events</u>
Not exceeding 48 kg	Not exceeding 44 kg
Over 48 kg & not exceeding 55 kg	Over 44 kg & not exceeding 49 kg
Over 55 kg & not exceeding 63 kg	Over 63 kg

Any athlete who meets the eligibility requirements listed in Section 1.1. of this document may register to participate in USAT’s YOG Team Trial. Each registered athlete must declare his/her weight category via the online registration system (<https://www.teamusa.org/usa-taekwondo/v2-membership/existing-members-login>) by the late registration deadline for the USAT – YOG Team Trial (TBD). No athlete will be allowed to register for the tournament or to change weight categories after the deadline.

Competition Format for the USAT – YOG Team Trial:

Each of these weight categories will be contested in a single elimination format until the competition reaches semifinals, where it will change to a double elimination competition format. Electronic scoring will be used at the USAT – YOG Team Trial.

Seeding for each weight category will be administered by the prioritized list below. When applying the criteria below, if an athlete is participating in the same weight category at the USAT – YOG Team Trial as the event(s) listed below, the athlete will receive the higher seed. If more than one athlete in the same weight category shares the same result for seeding according to the criteria below, the athlete who achieved the result in the weight category he/she will be competing in at the USAT – YOG Team Trial will receive the higher seed.

1. 2017 Junior Pan Am Championship Medalist – per medal value
 1. Gold
 2. Silver
 3. Bronze
2. 2016 Junior World Championship Medalist – per medal value
 1. Gold
 2. Silver
 3. Bronze
3. 2017 Junior National Team Member (1st place finisher from 2017 Junior National Championships.
4. This is followed by the 2nd place finisher from the 2017 Junior National Championships.
5. This is followed by the 3rd place finisher from the 2017 Junior National Championships.
6. This is followed by the 4th place finisher from the 2017 Junior National Championships.
7. This is followed by a random draw of all remaining entries with the first draw being the higher of the remaining seeds and progressing until the final seed is set.

USAT's YOG Team Trials will name 6 winners, representing the six weight divisions who will compete in Hammamet, Tunisia in the World Taekwondo YOG Qualification Tournament.

U.S. Athletes who place in the top eight (8)* at the WT – YOG Qualification Tournament will qualify the country for the 2018 Youth Olympic Games, and should their weight category be one of up to a maximum of two (2) weight

categories selected by the USA Taekwondo Selection Council he/she may also qualify to the YOG Team by name (see Section 2.2.).

*For the weight categories in which the Host Country of the 2018 Youth Olympic Games (Argentina) elects to use its Host Country places, only athletes that place in the top seven (7) will qualify their country (and potentially themselves).

- 1.3 Provide a comprehensive, step-by-step description of the method that explains how athletes will go through the selection process to become Team nominees (include maximum Team size).

It is important to distinguish between references made in this document regarding team sizes of six (6) versus two (2). USA Taekwondo is allowed to send a team of six (6) athletes to the WT - YOG Qualification Tournament. These six athletes (three males and three females) will be determined based on the results of USAT - YOG Team Trial (see 1.2.2. above). On the other hand, USA Taekwondo has been allocated a maximum of two (2) slots for athletes who qualify to the 2018 YOG. These 2 slots may be comprised of any combination of male and/or female athletes up to a total of 2 and will be determined following the WT - YOG Qualification Tournament.

The USAT Selection Council will utilize discretionary criteria as listed in Section 2. to determine the two (2) weight classes that will compete at the 2018 Youth Olympic Games (if more than two weight classes qualify a quota spot).

If two (2) or less athletes qualify a spot at the WT - YOG Qualification Tournament, they will automatically receive a nomination to the 2018 YOG Team.

2. DISCRETIONARY SELECTION

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

Because each National Olympic Committee (NOC) can only enter six (6) weight categories out of the total ten (10) weight categories (equally divided between male and female weight categories for both scenarios), a discretionary process was used prior to the USAT YOG Team Trials to determine the weight categories to be contested at that event (as described in Section 1.2.2). The winners of the chosen weight categories will represent the USA at the WT - YOG Qualification Tournament in Hammamet, Tunisia. See 1.2.2 and 1.3 for a description of the process used to determine the six-member WT - YOG Qualification Tournament Team.

In addition, because USA Taekwondo has been allocated a maximum of two (2) slots for the YOG Games, a discretionary process will be used to identify the two-member team from a potential pool of six athletes (dependent on the number of athletes who qualified a slot for their country), following the WT – YOG Qualification Tournament. The discretionary process will be utilized to field the most competitive team with the highest likelihood of medaling at the 2018 Youth Olympic Games. Should the USA qualify two or fewer athletes at the WT – YOG Qualification Tournament, discretionary selection of the YOG Team will not be necessary.

2.2. List the discretionary criteria and explain how they will be used (if any):

To determine which weight categories will be contested by USA athletes at the 2018 YOGs, USAT will develop the YOG Selection Council. The YOG Selection Council will evaluate the following weight categories to be contested at the 2018 Youth Olympic Games (only those weight categories qualified for YOG will be evaluated by the Council):

Men’s Events	Women’s Events
Not exceeding 48 kg	Not exceeding 44 kg
Over 48 kg & not exceeding 55 kg	Over 44 kg & not exceeding 49 kg
Over 55 kg & not exceeding 63 kg	Over 63kg

The Youth Olympic Games Selection Council will determine which weight categories will be contested by evaluating domestic and international results of all USAT members who won a quota spot for the Youth Olympic Games. Specifically, results will be compiled and analyzed by weight category and performance at the competitions listed below, and are in no particular order. Additional consideration will be given towards quality of victory (knockout, point gap, widest point gap), greatest number of matches, and competitiveness of international weight class).

- 2017 WT – YOG Qualification Tournament
- 2017 USAT – YOG Team Trials
- 2017 Junior Pan American Championships
- 2017 Junior National Championships
- 2016 Junior World Championships

Several additional factors will be considered toward establishing a historical performance trend within specific weight categories at the recent top-quality Taekwondo competitions listed above, to include:

- The international field of competitiveness within each category for the relevant age group to identify weight categories likely to yield the highest results for USAT;
- A comparison of the overall number of medals to a point value system (3 points for gold; 2 for silver; 1 for bronze) applied to the medals earned at the international events listed above; and

2.3.1. Conflict of Interest

Any member of the selection council that has a possible conflict of interest must disclose it. If such conflict exists, the selection council member must recuse him/herself from council discussions and voting. Further, the council member should not otherwise influence other members of the council in the nomination process. However, a council member who recused him/herself, but who has relevant and necessary information with respect to athlete performance, for example a national team coach or high performance director, may, if requested by the selection council, provide such information to the council so long as such information is provided in a fair and unbiased manner and the council member who declared the conflict of interest does not vote toward the final decision.

- 2.3 Provide the name of the committee that will be responsible for making discretionary selections, along with a complete list of the members' titles currently serving on the committee:

Youth Olympic Games Selection Council

- Executive Director, USA Taekwondo
- High Performance Director, USA Taekwondo
- AAC Rep, USA Taekwondo
- National Team Coach
- National Team Coach
- National Team Coach
- Athlete Rep
- Athlete Rep

3. REMOVAL OF ATHLETES

- 3.1. Prior to acceptance of nominations by the USOC, USA Taekwondo has jurisdiction over potential nominees.

An athlete who is to be nominated to the Team by USA Taekwondo may be removed as a nominee for any of the following reasons, as determined by USA Taekwondo:

- 3.1.1. Voluntary withdrawal. Athlete must submit a written letter to the USA Taekwondo's Executive Director.
- 3.1.2. Injury or illness as certified by a physician (or medical staff) as approved by USA Taekwondo. If an athlete refuses verification of his/her illness or injury by a physician (or medical staff) as approved by USA Taekwondo, his/her injury will be assumed to be disabling and he/she may be removed.
- 3.1.3. Violation of USA Taekwondo's Code of Conduct (Attachment A).

An athlete who is removed from the Team pursuant to this provision has the right to a hearing per USA Taekwondo's Constitution and Bylaws (refer to USAT Bylaws, Section 15, Compliant Procedures found at the following link: <http://www2.teamusa.org/USA-Taekwondo/Resources>) and the USOC's Bylaws, Section 9.

- 3.2. Once an athlete nomination is accepted by the USOC, the USOC has jurisdiction over the Team, at which time, in addition to USA Taekwondo's Code of Conduct, the USOC's Code of Conduct and Grievance Procedures apply.
The USOC's Code of Conduct and Grievance Procedures can be found at: <http://www.teamusa.org/Footer/Legal/Governance-Documents>
- 3.3. An athlete may be removed as a nominee to the Team or from the Team for an adjudicated violation of IOC, PASO, IPC, WADA, IF, USADA and/or USOC anti-doping protocol, policies and procedures, as applicable.

4. REPLACEMENT OF ATHLETES

- 4.1. Describe the selection and approval process for determining replacement athlete(s) should a vacancy occur:
 - 4.1.1. Prior to submission of Entries by Name to the Local Organizing Committee, including any applicable group or committee:

The process below will be used for both the WT – YOG Qualification Tournament and the Youth Olympic Games, if necessary.

The athlete who finishes in second place at the USAT – YOG Team Trial from the same weight category of the athlete to be replaced is

the replacement athlete. If the replacement athlete is not available, then the third place finisher becomes the next eligible athlete. If the third place finisher is not available, then the fourth place finisher becomes the next eligible athlete. This continues until there are no eligible athletes in the same weight category at the USAT - YOG Team Trial. If by then, no athlete is available, the spot remains vacant.

- 4.1.2. After submission of Entries by Name to the Local Organizing Committee, including any applicable group or committee:

Same as 4.1.1. above, if permitted by the WT and/or IOC Youth Olympic Games policy.

5. SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

USA Taekwondo 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 conclusion of the Games.

6. REQUIRED DOCUMENTS

The following documents are required to be signed by an athlete as a condition of nomination to the Youth Olympic Games and are included as attachments:

USA Taekwondo Code of Conduct (Attachment A)

7. PUBLICITY/DISTRIBUTION OF PROCEDURES

The USOC approved Selection Procedures (complete and unaltered) will be posted/published by USA Taekwondo in the following locations:

- 7.1. NGB's Website: <http://www.usa-taekwondo.us/>

These procedures will be posted as soon as possible, but not more than five business days following notice of approval by the USOC.

8. DATE OF NOMINATION

The Nomination of Athletes form, including replacements, will be announced to all athletes and submitted to the USOC on or before:

May 4, 2018

9. MANDATORY TRAINING AND/OR COMPETITION

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

The selected athletes will be notified of any mandatory training and/or competition at least 30 days in advance. Specific dates and locations of any scheduled training camps and/or competitions will be posted on <http://www.teamusa.org/USATaekwondo.aspx> as soon as possible.

10. ANTI-DOPING REQUIREMENTS

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

11. DEVELOPMENT OF SELECTION PROCEDURES

The following committee/group (include names and titles) was responsible for creating these Selection Procedures:

- Steve McNally, Executive Director, USA Taekwondo
- May Spence, High Performance Director, USA Taekwondo
- Stephen Lambdin, USOC AAC Representative, USA Taekwondo

12. NGB BYLAWS AND GRIEVANCE PROCEDURES

The USA Taekwondo Bylaws and Grievance Procedures can be found at:

<http://www2.teamusa.org/USA-Taekwondo/Resources>

13. INTERNATIONAL DISCLAIMER

These procedures are based on IOC and World Taekwondo (WT) rules and regulations as presently known and understood. Any change in the selection procedures caused by a change in IOC and WT rules and regulations will be distributed to the affected athletes immediately. The selection criteria are based on the latest information available to USA Taekwondo. However, the selections are always subject to unforeseen, intervening circumstances, and realistically may not have accounted for every possible contingency.

If any force of nature, or force majeure, should cause the alteration or cancellation of any of the selection events listed in this document, these selection procedures will be revised, pursuant to their resubmission to the USOC.

14. ATHLETE OMBUDSMAN

Athletes who have questions regarding their opportunity to compete that are not answered by USA Taekwondo may contact the USOC Athlete Ombudsman, Kacie Wallace, by:

- Telephone at (719) 866-5000
- Email at Kacie.wallace@usoc.org
- <http://www.teamusa.org/Athlete-Resources/Athlete-Ombudsman>

15. NGB SIGNATURES

I certify that I have read and understand the standards/criteria set by our IF 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 Taekwondo.

Position	Print Name	Signature	Date
USA Taekwondo Executive Director	Steve McNally		11/14/17
Director of High Performance	May Spence	<i>May Spence</i>	11/12/17
USOC Athletes' Advisory Council Representative*	Stephen Lambdin	<i>Stephen Lambdin</i>	11/14/17

* If the USOC AAC Representative has delegated authority to the Alternate AAC Representative to sign the Selection Procedures, attach a letter from the AAC Representative indicating the reason he/she has delegated authority.

* Signature by the Athlete Representative constitutes that he/she has read and understands the Selection Procedures. If the Athlete Representative reads and does not agree with the Athlete Selection Procedures being submitted by the NGB, he/she may submit those reasons in writing to his/her Sport Performance Team.

* If, for some reason, a sport does not have an elected USOC AAC Representative, the NGB must designate an athlete from that sport to review and sign the Selection Procedures.

USA Taekwondo Code of Conduct

ATHLETE PLEDGE

I pledge to uphold the spirit of the USA Taekwondo Code of Conduct (the “Code”), which offers a guide to my conduct as a member of the USA Youth Olympic Games Team (the “Team”). I acknowledge that I have a right to a hearing if my opportunity to compete is denied or if I am charged with a violation of this Code.

I have familiarized myself with the Code and understand that acceptance of its provisions is a condition of my selection to the Team.

As a Member of the Team, I hereby promise and agree that I:

- will abide by all published rules related to the Team selection procedures as approved by USA Taekwondo;
- have acted and will act in a sportsmanlike manner consistent with the spirit of fair play and responsible conduct;
- will maintain a level of fitness and competitive readiness that will permit my performance to be at the maximum of my abilities;
- will submit to a physical examination by USA Taekwondo medical personnel if my ability to compete is compromised due to physical injury and I understand that such injury may be cause for my not being selected to the Team, being removed from the Team, or not being allowed to participate if I remain on the Team.
- will not commit a doping violation as defined by the International Olympic Committee (IOC), World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA), the United States Anti-Doping Agency (USADA), the United States Olympic Committee (USOC) or the World Taekwondo (WT) rules;
- am not currently serving a doping violation and/or do not have a pending or unresolved doping charge;
- will not engage in any conduct that is criminal under any laws applicable to me, including, but not limited to laws governing the possession and use of drugs and alcohol and providing of drugs to any person and of alcohol to minors;
- am eligible to compete under the rules of World Taekwondo;

- am in possession of a valid USA passport, that will not expire prior to six months following the conclusion of the international competition, should I be chosen for an international team that requires a passport;
- will respect the property of others whether personal or public;
- will respect members of my Team, other teams, spectators and officials, and engage in no form of discriminatory behavior or verbal, physical or sexual harassment or abuse;
- will follow my Team's written rules, including by way of example, rules regarding curfew, required attendance at team meetings, consumption of alcoholic beverages and prohibitions on the release of confidential team information;
- am aware that USA Taekwondo sponsors, suppliers and licensees provide critical support for the Team and, in recognition of this fact, I will wear designated USA Taekwondo apparel at all official Team functions and events;
- will not conceal or cover-up any USA Taekwondo sponsor, supplier or licensee brand or other identification appearing on my USA Taekwondo apparel;
- agree to be filmed and photographed by the official photographer(s) and network(s) of USA Taekwondo under conditions authorized by USA Taekwondo and give event organizers and USA Taekwondo the right to use my name, picture, likeness, and biographical information before, during and after the period of my participation in these activities to promote the activity in which I participate or to promote the success of the team on which I compete; in no event may USA Taekwondo or the event organizers use or authorize the use of my name, picture, likeness, voice and biographical information for the purpose of trade, including any use in a manner that would imply an endorsement of any company, product, or service, without my written permission;
- will abide by the rules of the World Taekwondo concerning allowable trademark identification on clothing and equipment worn or used in competition or on visible body tattoos.
- will not use or authorize the use of photographs, films or videos of myself in my USA Taekwondo apparel or equipment or the use of the USA Taekwondo logo for the purpose of trade, without the prior written consent of USA Taekwondo (which consent shall not be unreasonable withheld);
- understand that if I require legal representation because I am accused of a doping violation or am accused of criminal misconduct, or if for any other reasons I require the services of an attorney, I will be personally responsible for payment of such legal fees and expenses;
- will act in a way that will bring respect and honor to myself, my teammates, USA Taekwondo and the United States; and

- will remember that at all times I am an ambassador for my sport, my country and the Olympic Movement.

ATHLETE OMBUDSMAN

I may contact the USOC Athlete Ombudsman, toll free at 888.ATHLETE (1.888.284.5383) or Sara.Clark@usoc.org for further information regarding my rights under this Code that are not answered by USA Taekwondo.

PARTICIPANTS' AFFIRMATION

I have read and accept this Code of Conduct. I agree to the rules, guidelines, jurisdiction and procedures stated in these documents as a condition of being selected to participate as a member of the Team.

Signature

Date

Print Name

**PARENT/GUARDIAN CERTIFICATION
(For Participants Under the Age of 18 as of Date of Signature)**

Signature

Date

Print Name and Relationship (Parent or Guardian)