USATKD Selection Process for World Taekwondo Grand Prix Series

The World Taekwondo Grand Prix Series is an invitation only event series, with invitations determined by an athlete’s position in the Olympic Ranking, the top 32 ranked athletes who accept the invitation making up the competition field.

Each country is only allowed to send two athletes to a Grand Prix event, meaning that if one country has three or more athletes inside the ranking qualification range, it must select two athletes who will attend. This decision is at the discretion of each National Federation and places are not automatically handed to the highest ranked athlete in the Olympic rankings.

As the Olympic Ranking in each of the eight Olympic weight categories can include points earned in multiple weight divisions (the actual weight division and the weights immediately above and below – for example, Olympic male -68kg division ranking can include points earned in World divisions -63kg, -68kg and -74kg) it is necessary to consider many factors, including in which division an athlete’s points were earned, along with strength of competition in order to make this decision in the fairest possible way.

Starting spots in World Taekwondo Grand Prix events will be awarded to the individual athletes who have the highest predicted finish at the Grand Prix event for which selection is being made as determined by the two U.S. National Team Coaches and one athlete representative who is no longer actively competing (to be agreed between the USATKD CEO and USATKD Athlete Advisory Committee).

The ‘highest predicted finish’ shall be determined in the discretion of the selection committee, taking into account the following data, not necessarily ranked by importance and no single point of which shall be controlling:

1. World and Olympic athlete rankings at the time that the selection decision must be made.
2. The weight category in which the athlete earned his/her ranking points, and in particular whether the athlete will be fighting up a weight due to consolidation of weight categories for Grand Prix events;
3. The competitions in which the individual earned points, where accumulating points with modest finishes over several competitions may not be as strong a predictor of future finishes as earning points in fewer competitions but with higher finishes;
4. Performances in international versus national competitions;
5. The strength of field in international competitions in which each athlete has competed;
6. Performances in head-to-head matches with other candidates or, where appropriate in the judgment of the committee, performances against common opponents;
7. The general trend of performances, in which a trend toward improved performances in recent history may be more an indicator of future success than flat or declining performances.

In cases in which the selection committee determines that the predicted finishes of two or more athletes, taking into consideration the criteria above are not materially different, the selection
committee may elect to allocate available starting spots to different athletes in different Grand Prix competitions.

SIGNATURES

I certify that I have read, understand and have incorporated our IF standards/criteria into our Selection Procedures and that the information provided herein regarding Athlete Selection Procedures represents the method approved by USA Taekwondo.

_________________________  ______________
Steve McNally, USATKD CEO   Date
July 25, 2022

_________________________  ______________
Carissa Fu, AAC Chair    Date
July 25, 2022

_________________________  ______________
May Spence, USATKD Senior Director of High Performance
July 25, 2022
Date