



**USA Team Handball
Athlete Selection Procedures
2022 NACHC Men’s Indoor Handball Qualifier**

1. SELECTION SYSTEM

- a. The minimum eligibility requirements for an athlete to be considered for nomination to the Team are as follows:
1. Nationality and Passport requirements:
Athletes must be a national of the United States at the time of nomination and hold documentation of nationality (eg US passport, US ID card, Certificate of Naturalization, Social Security Card) that will not expire for six months after the conclusion of the competition.
 2. Minimum International Federation (IF) and/or NACHC standards for national team eligibility:
Any competitor in the NACHC competition must be a national of the country of the National Federation and member of USATH.
 3. Minimum International Handball Federation (IHF) and/or North American and Caribbean Handball Confederation (NACHC) standards for participation:
Upon notification by the Governing Bodies, USA Team Handball (“USATH”) will immediately post the standards on the USATH web page at <https://www.teamusa.org/USA-Team-Handball>.
Athletes must be at least 16 years old at the time they take part in the 2022 NACHC Men’s World Championships Qualifier Tournament
 4. Other requirements (if any):
 - Athletes must be members of the USATH and in good standing (as of February 13, 2022).
 - Athletes ages 18 or older as of the end of competition will be required to complete the U.S. Center for SafeSport’s online training.
- b. Tryout Events:
USATH’s selection criteria is a dynamic process whereby all available and eligible athletes are continuously assessed in all below listed activities, including upcoming activities as posted on the USATH website. The tryout for the Men’s Indoor Handball National Teams program for the 2022 NACHC World Championships Qualifier Tournament, will be based on international competition and/or video submission. The final date for submissions is February 12th, 2022. However, all athletes will be continuously encouraged to try out for the USATH Men’s Indoor Handball National Teams program.



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From time to time, one (1) or more members of the Men’s Indoor Handball National Team Selection Committee (“MINTSC”) will observe athletes at various events including but not limited to all levels of handball competitions and events, interscholastic and collegiate handball competitions and events, club or league handball events, and events coordinated/sanctioned by USATH. Observation by members of the selection committee at such events is solely for the purpose of general scouting.

Athletes identified through the ongoing screening process, who perform at the level competitive in the current international field, will be considered for placement in the USATH Men’s Indoor Handball National Team program. The selection member present at an “Ongoing Screening Event” may submit a written report of their observations to the remaining members of the selection committee or participate in a discussion of the athlete’s performance with other members of the selection committee.

Athletes who merit invitation to the National Team Pool may be invited to participate as a member of the Indoor Handball National Team Program by the MNT Head Coach for Indoor Handball.

In the past, a few dual citizens and exceptional athletes (exceptional by virtue of their current competition level, participation in a European League, or by virtue of a physical/skill evaluation and referral), including some athletes who may be currently unknown to USATH, will surface and be contacted regarding their desire to be considered for the USA Team Handball National Team Pool and Program. In these circumstances, the athletes will be directed to participate in one of the events where they can be evaluated. If this is not possible, a special tryout might be arranged at a time and place mutually agreed upon.



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National Team evaluations will be performed by one of two methods or a combination of the methods listed.

Method 1: Assessment by the selection committee based on national and international performances

Method 2: Assessment via video submission 60 days before the NACHC World Championship Qualifier. The video submissions will require the following: physical efficiency tests and handball skills.

1. Physical Efficiency
 - a. 20m sprint time
 - b. 30-15 IFT (test of anaerobic endurance)
 - c. Vertical Jump
 - d. Broad Jump
2. Handball
 - a. Jump shots
 - b. Fastbreaks
 - c. Highlights of best performances
 - d. Footage of an entire game

Should an athlete be selected for the National Team Pool based on video submission, they must make themselves available for the following: in-person evaluation, whether this be a national team camp, friendly or tournament.

1. The following explains how athletes will proceed through the selection process to become Team nominees (including maximum Team size).

The members of the USATH Men's 2022 NACHC World Championships' Qualifier Team will be selected using the selection criteria contained in these procedures. The maximum allowable number of players, 28, will be selected to the Men's 2022 NACHC World Championships' Qualifier Team with 16 athletes attending the event to represent USATH.

The following athletes are eligible for selection to the Men's 2022 NACHC World Championships' Qualifier Team:

- Athletes must be eligible for nomination to the USA Indoor Team Handball Men's 2022 NACHC World Championships' Qualifier Team per Section 1.1;
- Athletes who have been selected as a member of a USA Indoor Team Handball Men's National Team, during the period commencing in January 1, 2019 through the day of selection;
- Athletes invited to a USA Team Indoor Handball Training Camps during the 2019, 2020, 2021 or 2022 period;
- Athletes identified through the ongoing screening process described and selected for inclusion in the Indoor MNT program.
- Members of the National Team Pool.



Participation in any USA Men's Indoor National Team activities does not guarantee selection to the USA Men's Indoor Handball National Team, the 2022 NACHC World Championships' Qualifier Team.



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Observations and Evaluations of Athletes.

In addition to the evaluative activities described above, one (1) or more members of the MINTSC may observe and evaluate athletes during training and/or competition. Observation and evaluation duties may be divided among the members of the MINTSC and each member's observations will be reported to the other members of the committee. Athletes will be observed and evaluated in accordance with procedures outlined herein using the Selection Criteria. It is intended that the observation and evaluation of athletes will be an ongoing process.

As indicated in these Selection Procedures, it is possible that each athlete being considered in selection to the 2022 NACHC World Championships' Qualifier Teams may not have been observed at the same evaluative events or as many evaluative events as other athletes also being considered for the 2022 NACHC World Championships' Qualifier Team.

Selection Criteria:

In selecting athletes to be members of the Men's National Team for Indoor Handball, the Selection Committee will consider information, specifically observations and statistical evaluations, both objective and discretionary information will be utilized. Additionally competencies in the categories of international success and team chemistry will be taken into consideration

Anyone interested in being considered for selection to the national team should indicate their interest to the high performance manager, Krista Austin, at krista.austin@usateamhandball.org no later than February 12th, 2022.

2. DISCRETIONARY SELECTION (if applicable)

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

The sport of team handball is not a measured or timed event. In the selection of athletes who will compete together as a team, it is difficult to make selection decisions based solely upon objective criteria. The fact that various positions on the team (offense, goalkeeper, defense) require different physical and mental attributes has to be considered. It is the belief of the MINTSC that considering the mix of SelectionCriteria, which includes discretionary components in evaluation of performance ability and other listed considerations, will result in selection of the best athletes, who will work together as an effective team, to continue the success of this program.

2.2. The following is the committee that will be responsible for making discretionary selections, along with a complete list of the members currently serving on the committee and their titles:

The USA Team Handball Selection Committees, which includes the requisite minimum of 33 percent of athlete representation, is responsible for making all athlete selections for the National Teams.



Men's National Team Selection Committee:

Men's Indoor Handball National Team Selection Committee	
1. Robert Hedin	Men's Indoor Head National Team Coach
2. Julio Sainz	Men's Head of Technical Coaching
3. Julia Taylor	Athlete Representative
4. Ebiye Udo-Udoma	Athlete Representative
5. Krista Austin	USATH High Performance Manager (non-voting)



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2.4. Potential Conflict of Interests:

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



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3. REMOVAL OF ATHLETES

- 3.1. Prior to entry by name to the Local Organizing Committee, the NGB/HPMO has jurisdiction over potential nominees.

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

- 3.1.1. Voluntary withdrawal. Athlete must submit a written statement to the USA Team Handball CEO
- 3.1.2. Injury or illness as certified by an approved USA Team Handball physician (or medical staff). If an athlete refuses verification of his/her illness or injury by an approved USA Team Handball physician (or medical staff), his/her injury will be assumed to be disabling and he/she may be removed. Failure to participate in Mandatory Training and/or Competition as defined in Section 9 of these procedures.
- 3.1.3. Violation of the USA Team Handball’s Code of Conduct (Appendix A).
- 3.1.4. An athlete selected as a member of the 2022 NACHC Indoor Handball World Championships’ Qualifier Team, may be recommended for removal from the Team by the MINTSC for any action determined by the selection committee to be detrimental to a Team, USA Team Handball or any USA Team Handball athlete, coach or staff member. If an athlete is recommended for removal from the Team, he/shewill receive written notification of such removal recommendation from the selection committee in advance of the USATH CEO’s approval of his or her removal.

An athlete who is removed from the Team pursuant to this provision has the right to a hearing per USA Team Handball’s Bylaws, Article 14 or the USOPC’s Bylaws, Section 9.

- 3.2. Once athlete entries have been submitted to the Local Organizing Committee by the USATH, USATH will retain jurisdiction.

- 3.3. An athlete may be removed as a nominee to the Team or from the Team for an adjudicated violation of USATH, NACHC, IHF, WADA, USADA and/orUSOPC 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:

When the MINTSC makes their final selection for the Team(s), they will name a number of athletes as replacement athletes, from which replacement players will be selected.

1. Prior to submission of Entries by Name to the Local Organizing Committee, including



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any applicable group or committee:

When the MINTSC makes their final selection for the Team(s), they will name a number of athletes as replacement athletes, from which replacement players will be selected. Replacement athletes will be selected in a manner consistent with the process and criteria in Sections 1.3 and 2, based on the overall needs of the team.

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

When the MINTSC makes their final selection for the Team(s), they will name a number of athletes as replacement athletes, from which replacement players will be selected.

Replacement athletes will be selected in a manner consistent with the process and criteria in Sections 1.3 and 2, based on the overall needs of the team.

5. SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

USA Team Handball 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 end date of the competition.

6. REQUIRED DOCUMENTS:

In addition to the USATH Code of Conduct, the following documents are required to be signed by an athlete as a condition of nomination to the USA Team Handball NACHC World Championships' Qualifier Team and are listed in Appendix A:

USATH athletes, as a condition of participation, must abide by USATH's Policies. (Appendix A).

7. PUBLICITY/DISTRIBUTION OF PROCEDURES:

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

7.1. NGB Website: <https://www.teamusa.org/USA-Team-Handball>.

7.2. NGB Official Publication (if any): Not Applicable

8. DATE OF NOMINATION:

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

February 13th, 2022



9. MANDATORY TRAINING AND/OR COMPETITION

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

A specific training program may be developed for athletes selected to the 2022 NACHC Men's World Championship Qualifier Team. Once the program is developed, affected athletes will be informed as soon as possible, but no later than 30 days prior, regarding mandatory training, competition and event. Each member of the selected Team is expected to participate in the developed program of training.

All requests for waivers from participation in mandatory events must be presented to the MINTSC in writing prior to the event. As soon as practical after receipt of the request, the MINTSC will review the request and approve or deny it. All waivers must be granted by the MINTSC in writing.

10. ANTI-DOPING REQUIREMENTS

Athletes must adhere to all WADA, IF, USADA and USOPC/USATH anti-doping protocols, policies and procedures, as applicable. This includes participation in Out-of-Competition Testing as required by WADA, IF, USADA and USOPC Rules, as applicable.

11. NGB/PSO BYLAWS AND GRIEVANCE PROCEDURES

The USA Team Handball Bylaws and Grievance Procedures can be found in the USA Team Handball Bylaws, Article 14 at the following link

<https://www.teamusa.org/usa-team-handball/about/governance/corporate-documents>

12. INTERNATIONAL DISCLAIMER

These procedures are based on USATH and NACHC as applicable, and/or International Handball Federation rules and regulations as presently known and understood. Any change in the selection procedures caused by a change in International Handball Federation rules and regulations will be distributed to the affected athletes immediately. The selection criteria are based on the latest information available to USA Team Handball. 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.

13. DEVELOPMENT OF SELECTION PROCEDURES

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

- a. Robert Hedin, Men's Indoor Handball National Team Head Coach
- b. Krista Austin, High Performance Manager
- c. Gabe Goodreau, Athlete Representative



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NACHC Men’s World Championship Qualifier**


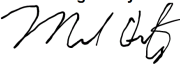
14. ATHLETE OMBUDSMAN

Athletes who have questions regarding their opportunity to compete that are not answered by NGB/ HPMO may contact the USOPC Athlete Ombudsman at <https://www.teamusa.org/Athlete-Ombuds>:

Contact Kacie Wallace at: Telephone: 719-866-2299, or Email: kacie@usathlete.org

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 NGB.

Position	Print Name	Signature	Date
USA Team Handball CEO	Ryan Johnson	DocuSigned by:  C54F9D3F36D8450...	1/24/2022
USOPC Athletes' Advisory Council Representative*	Mark Ortega	DocuSigned by:  6154DB42639F434...	1/25/2022

Appendix A

Policies of USATH that athletes must adhere to can be found here:

[Corporate Documents \(teamusa.org\)](http://teamusa.org)

These policies include the following:

Code of Conduct

Anti-Discrimination Policy

Whistle Blower Policy

Conflict of Interest Policy