

**U.S. SPEEDSKATING**  
**ATHLETE SELECTION PROCEDURES**  
**2022 WINTER OLYMPIC GAMES**  
**LONG TRACK SPEEDSKATING**  
~~April 12th, 2021~~  
**Amended December 1, 2021**  
**Amended January 4, 2022**

**1. SELECTION SYSTEM**

1.1. Provide the minimum eligibility requirements for an athlete to be considered for selection to the Team:

1.1.1. Nationality/Passport requirements:

Athlete must be a national of the United States at the time of selection (see all methods of selection in 1.2.1.).

Athlete must 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) standards for participation:

Any competitor in the 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).

1.1.3. Minimum International Federation (IF) standards for participation (if any):

A skater must have been born before July 1, 2006 to be eligible to compete.

See the International Skating Union (ISU) Speedskating Qualification System for the 2022 Olympics (<https://www.isu.org/speed-skating/events/olympic-winter-games/ssk-beijing-2022>) for the IF standards.

Athletes must meet the ISU Qualifying Times standard for the Olympic Games between July 1, 2021 and by the conclusion of the 2022 U.S. Olympic Team Trials (and/or post trials race-offs if needed) – Long Track Speedskating. There will be no exceptions. (Per the ISU Qualification System, the applicable qualifying time standards and conditions for approval of achieved qualifying times will be announced in an ISU Communication, not later than 1 July 2021.)

1.1.4. Other requirements (if any):

- Athlete must successfully complete all Games Registration requirements by stated deadline.
- Any athlete age 18 or older will be required to undergo a background screen in accordance with the current USOPC Background Check Policy.
- Any athlete age 18 or older as of the Closing Ceremony will be required to complete the U.S. Center for SafeSport’s online training.
- All athletes must be a member in good standing with U.S. Speedskating (USS) at the time of nomination.

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.

- A.** The 2021 Fall World Cup Trials which are scheduled to be held October 21-24, 2021 in Salt Lake City, Utah. These trials will account for 2 of the 3 mass start races used for selection to the Olympic mass start team. This competition will also select the 5000m Ladies and 10000m Men’s team for selection to the ISU World Cup Team, details in section “B” below.
- B.** ISU World Cup Competitions in the 2021-2022 season held between November and December 2021 (TBD) that are designated by the ISU as the Olympic Qualifying events (see Section D. of the [ISU Qualification System](#)) and hereafter referred to as the Special Olympic Qualification Classifications, “SOQC.” In particular, the SOQC events that qualify quotas for the Men’s 10,000m and Women’s 5000m events will determine selections to the 2022 U.S. Olympic Team (see 1.3. for details).
- C.** The 2022 U.S. Olympic Team Trials – Long Track Speedskating are scheduled to be held January 5-9, 2022 in Milwaukee, WI.
  - In the event that a tie occurs and the tie break system (1.3.C.1&2) is unable to determine a placement, a skate-off may be necessary and will be held following the trials and no later than January 17, 2022 (1.3.C.3).
- D.** Medal Contender status (defined in Sections 1.3. and 2.2.1) may be earned at either the 2021 World Single Distance Championships or the SOQC events, provided there is more than one NOC quota earned for that gender.

E. Team Pursuit Specialists and Mass Start Discretionary Selections may be determined based on the process and discretionary criteria defined in Sections 1.3. and 2.2.

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).

**A. 2021 Fall World Cup Trials**

Details regarding qualification to the 2021 Fall World Cup Trials can be found in the 2021-2022 Long Track Speedskating Rules and Regulations.

**B. SOQC events designated by the ISU for qualifying quotas**

Athletes are selected to participate in the SOQC events based on their results from the 2021 Fall World Cup Trials. Details can be found in the 2021-2022 Long Track Speedskating Rules and Regulations.

**C. 2022 U.S. Olympic Team Trials – Long Track Speedskating**

1. A skater must meet the requirements listed in Section 1.1. above to be eligible to compete for a spot on the 2022 U.S. Olympic Team.
2. Any skater who achieves one or more of the time standards listed below shall be eligible to compete in that distance plus the mass start event at the 2022 U.S. Olympic Team Trials. These times must have been met between ~~July 1, 2019~~ ~~January 1st, 2021~~ and prior to the entry deadline for the 2022 U.S. Olympic Team Trials (see USS 2021-22 Long Track Regulations at [www.usspeedskating.org](http://www.usspeedskating.org) for a list of USS sanctioned competitions):

<b>Distance</b>	<b>Ladies</b>	<b>Men</b>
<b>500m</b>	42.00	39.00
<b>1000m</b>	1:24.00	1:17.00
<b>1500m</b>	2:10.00	1:57.00
<b>3000m</b>	4:30.00	X
<b>5000m</b>	X	7:02.00

The 2021 Fall World Cup Trials and the 2022 U.S. Olympic Team Trials – Long Track Speedskating will follow the USS racing rules of competition as outlined in the USS rules and regulations. <http://www.teamusa.org/US-Speedskating/Athletes/Rules-and-Regulations/Long-Track>

- D. Athlete results from the 2021 World Single Distance Championships and/or the four (4) SOQC events are considered when determining selection of Medal Contenders as described in Section 2. Participation in these events is earned per the [2020-2021 Long Track Speedskating Rules and Regulations](#).
- E. Athlete's international results from the 2021-2022 season (including SOQC events) are considered when determining selection of Team Pursuit Specialists as described in Section 2. Participation in these events is earned per the [2020-2021 Long Track Speedskating Rules and Regulations](#).

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

Team size is determined by the number of quota places earned for individual events [500m (Men's & Women's), 1000m (M&W), 1500m (M&W), 3000m (W), 5000m (M&W) and 10000m (M)] as well as Mass Start (M&W)] and qualification in the Team Pursuit event for each gender. Quota places are allocated to the NOC by the ISU based on results from designated ISU World Cup Competitions during the 2021-2022 season (SOQC events referenced in 1.2.1.) as per the [ISU Qualification System](#).

If the U.S. qualifies a Team Pursuit Team as identified in the SOQC in one or both genders, U.S. Speedskating may consider adding up to two (2) additional athlete(s) as Team Pursuit Specialists (section 2.2.2 below) to the team (per gender). Should all Team Pursuit Members be qualified as individual distance skaters, then it will not be necessary to have Team Pursuit Specialists. U.S. Speedskating is not required to add a Team Pursuit Specialist.

The 2022 U.S. Olympic Team will be selected based on the following methods:

- A. 2021 Fall World Cup Trials (Mass Start #1 and #2)

The results of the Mass Start #1 and the Mass Start #2 events at the 2021 Fall World Cup Qualifier will be combined with the results of the 2022 U.S. Olympic Trials Mass Start Event #3 to complete the series and award the first start position per gender on 2022 Olympic Mass Start Team (pending qualification within the SOQC). The second start position (per gender pending qualification within the SOQC) will be determined by the Olympic Long Track Selection Task Force (referred to as OLTSTF moving forward) based on the selection criteria outlined in section 2.2.3. The points system and how overall results will be determined is detailed in the 2021-22 U.S. Long Track Rules and Regulations ([www.usspeedskating.org](http://www.usspeedskating.org))

- B. Athletes with the highest ranking (points ranking/SOQCP or time ranking/SOQCT) in the Ladies 5000m and Men’s 10000m after the SOQC events will earn a position on the 2022 U.S. Olympic Team unless the Medal Contender Clause is invoked as stipulated in Section 2.2.1, or the total team entry quota is met as explained in the Reduction or Addition Procedure below (1.3.1.3).
- C. 2022 U.S. Olympic Team Trials – Long Track Speedskating (Individual Distances, Mass Start #3)

The Final Rankings from the 2022 U.S. Olympic Team Trials – Long Track Speedskating will be used to fill SOQC earned quota spots in each event/gender and the first position in the Mass Start series (Mass Start #1 & #2 from the Fall World Cup Trials & Mass Start #3 from the U.S. Olympic Team Trials) unless the Medal Contender Clause is invoked as stipulated in Section 2.2.1, or the total team entry quota is met as explained in the Reduction or Addition Procedure below (1.3.1.3).

The second Mass Start nomination (pending qualification within the SOQC) will be determined by the OLTSFT with selection criteria outlined in section 2.2.3.

If there is a tie in a particular distance of the results at the 2022 U.S. Olympic Team Trials – Long Track Speedskating, the following results will be used to break the tie:

1. The skater with the higher ISU Special Olympic Qualification Classification in the distance in which the skater competed in at Trials will fill the quota spot.
2. If there is still a tie, the skater with the best single distance result from any of the SOQC events in the distance in which the skater competed at Trials will fill the quota spot.
3. If the tie is between two skaters who did not compete in the 2021-22 Fall World Cups, the skaters will compete in a skate-off at a time and date established by the USS LT Program Director (see 1.2.1.C.).

**D. Medal Contender Clause**

See Section 2.2.1

**E. Team Pursuit and Mass Start Discretionary Selection**

See Section 2.2.2-3

1.3.1 Following the completion of the 2022 U.S. Olympic Team Trials – Long Track Speedskating, the process below will commence to finalize the selection of the Olympic Team.

1. If the Medal Contender Clause is invoked, as stipulated in Section 2.2.1, the OLTSTF will first consider any Medal Contender Petition and Consent for Medical Records Forms (Attachment A). The athlete must submit their petition within 1 hour of the completion of the event in which they are exercising their Medal Contender status.
2. Next, the OLTSTF will consider the Declaration of Intent Forms (Attachment B) submitted based on the following:
  - a. Following the completion of the 2022 U.S. Olympic Team Trials – Long Track Speedskating, skaters who earn a spot on the Olympic Team must declare their intent to compete at each distance in which they have qualified no later than 2 hours after the completion of the Olympic Trials Competition on January 9, 2022 (See Attachment B – Declaration of Intent Form).
  - b. If a skater declines a starting position for which they have qualified, a different skater will be selected for that starting position as follows:
    - i. If all U.S. team quota spots are filled, the starting position will be awarded to the athlete already qualified as a member of the U.S. Olympic Team who has achieved the next best results from the 2022 U.S. Olympic Trials in that distance.
    - ii. If all U.S. team quota spots are filled, and no member of the U.S. Olympic Team skated at the 2022 U.S. Olympic Trials in that distance, then the LT Program Director and U.S. Olympic Team Coaches will select an athlete for the start position from those athletes already qualified to the Olympic Team in accordance with Section 2.2.
    - iii. If there are open team quota spots and starting positions, the starting position will be awarded to a skater who achieved the next best results at the 2022 U.S. Olympic Trials in that distance.
    - iv. If there are open team quota spots, and the starting position was not filled by the results of the 2022 U.S. Olympic Trials, the best results in that event from the 2021-22 ISU Fall World Cups events as published in the ISU Special Olympic Qualification Classifications in that distance will determine the spot.
    - v. If a tie should occur in points i., iii. or iv, the following tiebreaker will be implemented:

- 1) The skater with the higher ISU Special Olympic Qualification Classification in the distance in which the skater competed in at Trials will fill the quota spot.
  - 2) If there is still a tie, the skater with the best single distance result from any of the SOQC events in the distance in which the skater competed at Trials will fill the quota spot.
  - 3) If the tie is between two skaters who did not compete in the SOQC events, the skaters will compete in a skate-off at a time and date established by the USS LT Program Director (see 1.2.1.C.).
3. Next, the OLTSTF will determine if the Reduction or Addition Procedure/Percentage Calculation must be used based on the following:
- a. U.S. Speedskating will rank skaters based on the ISU SOQC. Athletes earning a spot on the Olympic Team upon completion of the 2022 U.S. Olympic Trials will be ranked according to the position rank on the SOQC in their individual distances (500m, 1000m, 1500m, 3000m/5000m, 5000m/10000m, Mass Start). (Example: USS has 2 spots in the 500m and those are 5<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> on the SOQC. The skaters earning those spots will be given those rank numbers, 1<sup>st</sup> place being 5<sup>th</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> place being 19<sup>th</sup>.) Athletes named to the Team Pursuit Team may be given a position rank equal to the Team Pursuit rank on the SOQC. Likewise, both Mass Start positions may be assigned the highest SOQC rank between the two athletes.
  - b. In the case of a tie (same position rank per SOQC), the smallest percentage (%) off the current season best time from the SOQC events will determine who fills the quota spot. The skater with the highest percentage will be ranked lower. (Example: Men's 500m 1st place finish time is 33.61. The skater skates at 33.99. The percentage calculation is  $33.99/33.61 = 1.0113\%$ .)
  - c. At the completion of the 2022 U.S. Olympic Trials, all skaters will have a position rank based on points a and b above.
  - d. Consideration of all medical exemption waivers by the OLTSTF.
  - e. For reduction, the skater with the lowest rank (largest number), will be the first to be eliminated.
  - f. For additions, the next best rank (smallest number) will be used.
4. Finally, the OLTSTF may proceed with the Team Pursuit Specialist Discretionary Selections as stipulated in Section 2 below (if applicable). If there are open, unused quota spots allocated to U.S. Speedskating, U.S. Speedskating may enter up to two (2) athletes per gender to the team as Team Pursuit Specialist(s).

## 2. DISCRETIONARY SELECTION (if applicable)

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

There are ~~three~~ five situations in which discretionary selection may be used: (1) Olympic Team Medal Contender Clause, (2) Team Pursuit Specialist(s) selection, (3) the 2<sup>nd</sup> position in the Mass Start, (4) COVID-19 Implications, and (5) 2022 U.S. Olympic Team Trials – Long Track Speedskating event cancellation.

1. The Olympic Team Medal Contender Clause may be invoked in order to select the most competitive Olympic Team if a Medal Contender has a verifiable illness, injury or exceptional circumstance as stipulated below in 2.2.
2. Team Pursuit event is a team event and discretion will be used to select the most competitive Olympic Team. Technique, teamwork, compatibility, race speeds, start speeds, finish speeds, and endurance all play a factor in who works best together. The Long Track High Performance Staff, Coaches and Task Force currently monitors and will continue to monitor the performance of eligible athletes during the Olympic season as well as years leading up.
3. USS would prefer to select the two mass start positions based on the results of the Mass Start series (Mass Start #1 & #2 from the Fall World Cup Trials & Mass Start #3 from the U.S. Olympic Team Trials), however, the Mass start race is an unpredictable event. With limited selection races available and unpredictable outcomes, discretionary criteria needs to be used in order to nominate the best possible Mass Start Team. Detailed criteria are listed in section 2.2.
4. COVID-19 medical waivers: The intent is that the 2022 U.S. Olympic Team Trials – Long Track Speedskating will provide the opportunity to qualify the best possible team to send to the 2022 Olympic Winter Games. However, the USS High Performance Director (or designee) under guidance from the Medical Commission will review any COVID-19 related health situations that may arise, while following the process outlined below. If warranted, medical waivers may be granted, permitting athletes to be named to the 2022 Olympic Team via the discretionary selection criteria included in Section 2.2.4.
5. Event Cancellation: If, due to unforeseen circumstances and as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, the 2022 U.S. Olympic Team Trials – Long Track Speedskating, or specific events at the Trials (e.g., Mass Start), are cancelled.



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

**1. Olympic Team Medal Contender Clause:**

Definition: A Medal Contender is defined as an athlete who has:

- a) Placed in the top five (5) positions in an individual distance and top five (5) on finish time in the mass start at the 2021 World Single Distance Championships conducted February 11-14, 2021 in Heerenveen, Netherlands.
- b) Placed in the top five (5) overall in SOQC event points in an individual distance after the completion of the ISU-designated 2021-22 Fall World Cups which are the 2022 Olympic Games qualifying events used for the SOQC.  
<https://www.isu.org/speed-skating>
- c) Place in the top three (3) in an individual distance at any of the SOQC events. Substitutes at the SOQC events will not be considered for Medal Contender Status, they must have competed in the qualifying race.
- d) Placed in the top three (3) in the team pursuit (not including substitutions) at any of the SOQC events.

Only two (2) Medal Contenders per gender from individual distance events will be considered. Should two (2) or more Medal Contenders be from a single event (per gender), the following tie breaker process will be used (in order):

- i. If Medal Contender status is earned according to point a, b, c, d above, the highest rank on the 2021-22 ISU Special Olympic Qualification Classifications in the specified distance will be the tie breaker.
- ii. If Medal Contender status is earned according to points a, b, c, d above, the highest overall placement at the 2021 World Single Distance Championships in the specified distance will be the second tie breaker.
- iii. If Medal Contender status is still tied, the third tie breaker will be placement at the 2021 Fall World Cup Trials in the specified distance.

In the event that a Medal Contender is unable to compete at, or complete the 2022 U.S. Olympic Team Trials – Long Track Speedskating due to a verifiable illness, injury, or exceptional circumstance, the Medal Contender must submit a Medal Contender Petition Form and Consent for Medical Records (Attachment A) to the Long Track Director to present to the Olympic Long Track Selection Task Force (OLTSTF) either 24 hours before the start of the coaches meeting the night before competition begins, or by midnight of the day of racing where they were injured,

ill or suffered an exceptional circumstance. They may be nominated to the Olympic Team upon the review of the OLTSTF.

- i. If the Medal Contender provision is in effect for illness or injury, the Medal Contender must complete and submit the Medal Contender Petition Form and Consent for Medical Records (Attachment A) to the OLTSTF to be considered for selection to the team. This form allows U.S. Speedskating, including a qualified physician selected by U.S. Speedskating, to review the medical records for purposes of verifying the illness or injury. The Medal Contender should also submit written evidence and other records from a qualified physician within the U.S. Speedskating Medical Commission. A list of physicians on the Medical Commission can be found at <http://www.teamusa.org/US-Speedskating/Goverance/USS-Workgroups>. The petition must be signed by the Medal Contender and his/her personal coach and if a minor, his/her parent or legal guardian.
  - a. The petition will be considered by the OLTSTF, and if the petition is submitted due to illness or injury, the OLTSTF reserves the right to request an independent medical examination of the Medal Contender by a qualified physician approved by U.S. Speedskating at the expense of U.S. Speedskating. U.S. Speedskating will review all submitted evidence which prevented the Medal Contender from competing or completing the 2022 U.S. Olympic Team Trials – Long Track Speedskating and if due to illness or injury, the prognosis for recovery. If, based on its review, the OLTSTF determines that special consideration is warranted, and if due to illness or injury, the Medal Contender receives a medical release to return to training and competition ~~at least 10 days~~ before departure to the Olympic Games from a qualified physician, acceptable to U.S. Speedskating in its sole and absolute discretion, the Medal Contender may be awarded a quota spot on the 2022 U.S. Olympic Team for which the Medal Contender status was earned, provided there is more than one NOC quota earned for that gender. The OLTSTF may request additional evidence of physical readiness by mandating a Time Trial for the distance in which the Medal Contender status was earned. Time standards will be the 2021 Fall World Cups Funding Times as outlined in the [USS Long Track Rules & Regulations](#) and shall be completed no later than 10 days before departure to the Olympic Games. If the athlete does not prove readiness USS will follow the removal and replacement process outlined in Sections 3 and 4.
- ii. If the Medal Contender provision is in effect for an exceptional circumstance, the Medal Contender should complete and submit the Medal Contender Petition Form to the OLTSTF, but the medical release and authorization section of the petition is not required. The petition must be signed by the Medal

Contender and his/her personal coach and if a minor, his/her parent or legal guardian.

- a. If the petition is submitted due to exceptional circumstance, the petition will be considered by the OLTSTF. U.S. Speedskating will review the petition, explanation and all submitted evidence which prevented the Medal Contender from competing or completing the 2022 U.S. Olympic Team Trials – Long Track Speedskating. If, based on its review, the OLTSTF determines that special consideration is warranted, the Medal Contender may be named to the Olympic Team, provided there is more than one NOC quota earned for that gender. The Medal Contender may be awarded the final starting position on the 2022 U.S. Olympic Team for which the Medal Contender status was earned.
- b. The OLTSTF will take the evidence provided from point a, and consideration of the following, in no priority order:
  - Placement and competitive field at the 2021 World Single Distance Championships
  - Placement and competitive field at 2020-21 and 2021-22 ISU World Cup Events
  - Performances (results, times, standings from the 2020-21 and 2021-22 seasons at an ISU, USS sanctioned competition), or an approved long track metric time trial event that has the proper officials (ISU Rule 210 (1) (a-e)) and must be printed in a published protocol.
  - Consideration if the athlete is a candidate for the Team Pursuit event. If Team Pursuit is being discussed, the discussion criteria would be as listed in section 2.2.2 Team Pursuit Selection.
  - Placement and competitive field at the 2020 World Single Distance Championships.

## **2. Team Pursuit Selection:**

Team Pursuit Members are skaters that are considered for the Team Pursuit and selected based upon the process below.

Team Pursuit Specialists are skaters who have not qualified to race an individual distance but may be named as Team Pursuit Specialists and selected to the 2022 U.S. Olympic Team. All Team Pursuit Specialists must have skated the ISU Qualifying Time for at least one of the individual distances.

2022 U.S. Olympic Team Pursuit Selection:

- a) The pool of up to 4 Team Pursuit skaters may consist of a maximum of two (2) Team Pursuit Specialists per gender.
- b) A Team Pursuit Specialist may be required to be entered as either a reserve athlete or a starter in an individual distance in order to be added to the Olympic Team. This will be determined by the ISU.
- c) The pool of eligible athletes for the 2022 U.S. Olympic Team Pursuit includes (subject to meeting all eligibility requirements as presented in section 1.1 above):
  - 1) Athletes qualified to the 2021-22 ISU Fall World Cup Teams (see [www.usspeedskating.org](http://www.usspeedskating.org) for World Cup team selection)
  - 2) Athletes qualified to the 2021 World Single Distance Championships; see [www.usspeedskating.org](http://www.usspeedskating.org) for Championship team selections)
  - 3) Additional skaters may be invited to be a part of the pool at the discretion of the (OLTSTF) based on performances at the 2022 U.S. Olympic Trials.
    - i. The USS High Performance Staff and the Long Track Coaching Staff will evaluate and recommend the Team Pursuit Members, subject to approval by the OLTSTF.
    - ii. The USS High Performance Staff may consider the following when recommending Team Pursuit Members (not in order of priority): past experience in elite level team pursuit competitions; combined and/or individual 1000m, 1500m, 3000m Ladies and 5000m Men times; stroke frequency; matching of compatible skating techniques; compatible body types; attendance at camps and tryouts; team attitude; coachability; team chemistry and cohesion; history of strong teamwork; dedication to preparation camps and competitions.
    - iii. Any Team Pursuit Member(s) selected will be announced no later than January 10, 2022.
    - iv. The USS LT Program Director and the USS Long Track Olympic Team Coaches will determine which three (3) skaters compete in each round of competition from the Team Pursuit Members named on the official Olympic entry. All U.S. Olympic Team members will be considered (subject to achieving the ISU Qualifying Standard) as alternates for the Team Pursuit event until the official Olympic entry deadline for Team Pursuit unless the

skater has signed a declaration rejecting their intent to be on the reserve list.

- v. The USS LT Program Director and the Long Track Olympic Coaching Staff will make an on-site assessment of the athlete's performance and potential for medal success to determine which skaters will skate the Team Pursuit at the 2022 Olympic Games. A different combination of skaters may be selected to skate each Team Pursuit event and each round of the Team Pursuit competition and may be determined the day of the race.

### **3. Mass Start Discretionary Selection:**

A Mass Start discretionary selection may be used to maximize the team's performance with a skater that is essential for the team-based events where the U.S. Speedskating Program Director and the Games Coaching Staff have devised a race strategy that may designate one athlete as a medal probable athlete, and another athlete's contribution may assist the medal probable athlete in achieving a top performance. For example, even though the Mass Start event is scored individually, athletes who sacrifice their own individual result to execute a team strategy for the purpose of aiding a medal potential athlete and having a profound impact on the ability of a medal potential athlete to achieve a top performance. This selection is also essential in assembling a team that will likely produce the best possible performance.

A Mass Start discretionary athlete may be selected to play a specific role within the race, based on their demonstrated physical capacities, skillset and experience fulfilling their roles. The coaches' judgement, supported as much as possible by objective data described below, will be used to differentiate between athletes being recommended for the Mass Start Team.

Criteria that will be reviewed for the Mass Start Discretionary Selection are as follows:

- i. ISU World Cup and World Championship Mass Start results from the last 3 seasons.
- ii. National Mass Start results from the last 3 seasons
- iii. Individual Distance results from the current season
- iv. A Subjective evaluation of willingness and a proven commitment to teamwork in the mass start

### **4. COVID-19 Medical Waivers:**

The USS High Performance Director will liaise with the Medical Commission to evaluate situations where skaters are prevented from competing or cannot

complete competition at the 2022 U.S. Olympic Team Trials due to COVID-19 related situations (e.g., a positive COVID-19 test result, or COVID-19 symptoms diagnosed by a physician/the USS Chief Medical Officer [or designee]).

**IMPORTANT: If at any time prior, during, or after the 2022 U.S. Olympic Team Trials – Long Track Speedskating an athlete receives a positive COVID-19 test result, believes they have COVID-19 symptoms, is required to self-quarantine, or had a close contact with someone who has COVID-19, the athlete must immediately inform the USS High Performance Director via email notification and a phone call to allow USS to initiate COVID-19 protocols and enact any medical precautions.**

If an athlete notifies the USS High Performance Director via email of a COVID-19 situation (pursuant to the requirement above), this is considered the start of a medical exemption waiver. Once all details are gathered and documented by the High Performance Director, they will convene with Medical Commission members to review the situation and any medical exemption requests. Only the USS High Performance Director under the guidance of Medical Commission members may issue a COVID-19 medical waiver. The following is applicable to medical exemption waivers:

- a. Competitors must have achieved an eligible ISU qualification time as per ISU Communication 2405 (published here: <https://www.isu.org/speed-skating/rules/ssk-communications/25952-isu-communication-2405/file>) between July 1, 2021 and through the conclusion of the Olympic Trials in order to be considered for a medical exemption waiver.
- b. Decisions on naming the 2022 Olympic Winter Games team may be delayed due to consideration of all COVID-19 medical exemption requests submitted.

USS will utilize the OLTSTF to potentially nominate an athlete who has been granted a medical exemption waiver directly to the 2022 Olympic Winter Games team. The OLTSTF will consider the following factors, in no particular order:

- a. Review of the quota spots earned by Team USA through the SOQC
- b. Medal contenders will be given first consideration
- c. 2021-22 Time Ranking in each respective event
- d. 2021-22 World Cup event Rankings
- e. 2021-22 World Cup individual event result(s)

5. Cancellation of the 2022 U.S. Olympic Team Trials – Long Track Speedskating due to COVID-19:

In the event the 2022 U.S. Olympic Team Trials – Long Track Speedskating, or specific events at the Trials (e.g., Mass Start), are cancelled due to COVID-19, USS will utilize a number of factors to have the OLTSTF (see Section 2.3) identify skaters to be directly nominated to represent Team USA at the 2022 Winter Olympic Games. The OLTSTF will consider the following factors, in no particular order:

- a. Review of the quota spots earned by Team USA through the SOQC
- b. Medal contenders will be given first consideration
- c. Skaters who earned an event quota spot at the SOQC World Cups may be considered for a start position in that event
- d. If further evaluation is needed:
  - a. 2021-22 Time Ranking in each respective event
  - b. 2021-22 World Cup event Ranking
  - c. 2021-22 World Cup individual event result(s)

- 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:

The Olympic Long Track Selection Task Force (OLTSTF) is comprised of the following members:

- (1) USS Executive Director
- (1) USS Long Track Program Director
- (1) USS High Performance Director
- (1) Athlete Representative for USS
- (1) Athlete Representative on the LT Task Force

Should the USS Executive Director, the Long Track Program Director or the High-Performance Director position be vacant at the time of assembly of the OLTSTF, the vacant position may be filled by the most senior ranking organizational person without a conflict of interest. If the Athlete rep is unable or unavailable to serve, his or her open seat on the committee will be filled by the AAC Alternate, a USS BOD Athlete representative or another USS Task Force Athlete representative approved by the USS Athletes' Advisory Council.

- 2.3.1. Specify the process that will be used to identify and handle any potential conflicts of interest involving a member of the committee.

Any member of the selection committee that has a possible conflict of interest must either recuse him/herself or disclose it to USS's Ethics Committee prior to the start of the selection process. A conflict of interest exists when the committee member has a direct or indirect relationship,

connection, or affiliation, past or present, with an athlete in contention for the applicable team selection that could compromise the committee member's ability to participate in the selection process in an unbiased manner. If a conflict exists, USS's Ethics Committee shall vet the conflict and make the final determination of whether that committee member must recuse him/herself from participating in discussions and/or voting. The Ethics Committee may determine that a committee member 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 committee, provide such information to the committee so long as such information is provided in a fair and unbiased manner and the committee member with the conflict of interest does not vote toward the final decision. The committee member should not otherwise influence other members of the committee in the selection process.

Additionally, any person (including any potentially impacted athlete or coach of a potentially impacted athlete) with a good faith belief that a committee member has a conflict of interest may report the alleged conflict of interest to USS's Ethics Committee. Reports may be made anonymously.

A recused individual shall be replaced in accordance with the USS selection committee appointment process.

### **3. REMOVAL OF ATHLETES**

- 3.1. Prior to entry by name to the Local Organizing Committee by the USOPC, U.S. Speedskating has jurisdiction over potential nominees.

An athlete who is to be nominated to the Team by U.S. Speedskating may be removed for any of the following reasons, as determined by U.S. Speedskating:

- 3.1.1. Voluntary withdrawal. Athlete must submit a written letter to the U.S. Speedskating Executive Director.
- 3.1.2. Injury or illness as certified by a physician (or medical staff) approved by U.S. Speedskating. If an athlete refuses verification of his/her illness or injury by a physician (or medical staff) approved by U.S Speedskating, his/her injury will be assumed to be disabling and he/she may be removed.
- 3.1.3. Failure to participate in Mandatory Training and/or Competition as defined in Section 9 of these procedures.
- 3.1.4. Violation of U.S. Speedskating Code of Conduct:  
<http://www.teamusa.org/us-speedskating/members-and-clubs/membership/membership-registration>



- 3.1.5. Failure to abide by the Declaration of Intent (Attachment B, signed as a requirement to be nominated to the Olympic Team.

An athlete who is removed from the Team pursuant to this provision has the right to a hearing per U.S. Speedskating's bylaws: <https://www.teamusa.org/US-Speedskating/Members-and-Clubs/Membership/Member-Documents-and-Forms> (Article 14) and the USOPC's Bylaws, Section 9.

- 3.2. Once athlete entries have been submitted to the Local Organizing Committee by the USOPC, the USOPC has jurisdiction over the Team, at which time, in addition to any applicable U.S. Speedskating Code of Conduct, the USOPC's Code of Conduct and Grievance Procedures apply. The USOPC's Code of Conduct is included in the Games Forms made available prior to the respective Games; the USOPC's Grievance Procedures can be found at: [www.teamusa.org/Footer/Legal/Governance-Documents](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, WADA, ISU, USADA and/or USOPC anti-doping protocol, policies and procedures, as well as the U.S. Center for SafeSport Code, the USOPC Athlete Safety Policy and U.S. Speedskating's Safe Sport Policy, 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:

If the Medal Contender provision is in effect and the Medal Contender earns a spot on the team, the first replacement will be the skater who would have otherwise been named to the team had the Medal Contender clause not been invoked.

The next replacement considered will be a skater in the same individual distance who may have been reduced from the Olympic Team through the Reduction or Addition Procedure outlined in 1.3.1.3.

If no skater in that distance was reduced, the highest ranked skater not already named to the U.S. Olympic Team in that individual distance from the 2022 U.S. Olympic Team Trials will be selected.

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

The same process outlined in Section 4.1.1. will be used provided U.S. Speedskating is still authorized to add a replacement athlete to the Team, in accordance with the ISU Qualification System, and any applicable IOC and/or LOC rules.

Once U.S. Speedskating is no longer allowed to add a replacement athlete to the Olympic Team, if a skater is unable to compete in an individual distance, the starting position will be reassigned from within the team at the Games based on the Olympic Team Head Coach recommendation and approved by the Team Leader and Executive Director. Replacement skaters in this instance must come from within the skaters already qualified for the U.S. Long Track Olympic Team.

## **5. SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS**

U.S. Speedskating 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 the Closing Ceremony of the Games.

## **6. REQUIRED DOCUMENTS**

In addition to the USOPC Code of Conduct, the following documents are required to be signed by an athlete as a condition of nomination to the Olympic Games and are included as attachments:

Attachment A– Medal Contender Petition Form and Consent for Medical Records Form (if applicable)

Attachment B – Declaration of Intent Form

## **7. PUBLICITY/DISTRIBUTION OF PROCEDURES**

The USOPC approved Selection Procedures (complete and unaltered) will be posted/published by U.S. Speedskating in the following locations:

- 7.1. U.S. Speedskating’s Web site: <http://www.teamusa.org/US-Speedskating>

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

- 7.2. Other: Reference to these procedures will also be included in the USS Member News emails.

## 8. DATE OF NOMINATION

The Nomination of Athletes, including replacements, will be announced to all athletes, and submitted to the USOPC on or before: January ~~10-17~~, 2022. ~~If a skate off is required after the 2022 U.S. Olympic Team Trials the final nomination will be submitted on or before January 17<sup>th</sup>, 2022 [see 1.2.1.C., 1.3.C.3. and 1.3.1.2.b.v.(3)].~~

## 9. MANDATORY TRAINING AND/OR COMPETITION

Training camps may be conducted prior to the 2022 Olympic Winter Games. Camp dates, times and locations will be communicated to the athletes at least 45 days prior to the start of the camp and will be posted on <http://www.teamusa.org/US-Speedskating>. These camps will be mandatory for all 2022 U.S. Olympic Team Members unless excused for illness, injury, or exceptional circumstance as determined by the USS High Performance Staff and OLTSTF athlete reps. Financial support will be provided to help with potential costs for those that may not reside in Salt Lake City. If an athlete does not participate in a mandatory training camp without prior approval, the OLTSTF will have the authority to dismiss that athlete from the team.

## 10. ANTI-DOPING REQUIREMENTS

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

## 11. DEVELOPMENT OF SELECTION PROCEDURES

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

USS Long Track Program Director – Matt Kooreman  
USS Long Track Head Coach – Ryan Shimabukuro  
USS Long Track Head Coach – Gabriel Girard  
Long Track Task Force (member Chair)- Nick Pearson  
Athlete Representative – Jonathan Garcia  
Athlete Representative – Alex Ochowicz  
USOPC AAC Athlete Representative – Brian Hansen  
USS High Performance Director – Shane Domer  
USS Sport Consultant – Bryce Holbech

## 12. U.S. SPEEDSKATING BYLAWS AND GRIEVANCE PROCEDURES

The U.S. Speedskating Bylaws and Grievance Procedures can be found at:  
<http://www.teamusa.org/us-speedskating/governance/governance-and-bylaws>

**13. INTERNATIONAL DISCLAIMER**

These procedures are based on IOC and/or ISU rules and regulations as presently known and understood. Any change in the selection procedures caused by a change in IOC and/or ISU rules and regulations will be distributed to the affected athletes immediately. The selection criteria are based on the latest information available to U.S. Speedskating. 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 USOPC.

**14. ATHLETE OMBUDSMAN**

The Athlete Ombudsman provides cost-free, independent, and confidential advice regarding athlete rights, grievance procedures and any other related guidance pertaining to selection procedures and can assist in mediating disputes between athletes and their NGB.

To contact the Athlete Ombudsman Office:


PHONE: (719) 866-5000

EMAIL: [ombudsman@usathlete.org](mailto:ombudsman@usathlete.org)

WEBSITE: [www.usathlete.org](http://www.usathlete.org)

**15. U.S. SPEEDSKATING SIGNATURES**

**I certify that I have read and understand the standards/criteria set by ISU 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 U.S. Speedskating.**

Position	Print Name	Signature	Date
USS Executive Director	Ted Morris	 <small>Ted Morris (Jan 4, 2022 15:14 MST)</small>	Jan 4, 2022

USS Long Track Program Director	Matt Kooreman	 Matt Kooreman (Jan 4, 2022 15:20 MST)	Jan 4, 2022
USOPC Athletes' Advisory Council Representative*	Brian Hansen	 Brian Hansen (Jan 4, 2022 16:30 CST)	Jan 4, 2022

\* If the USOPC 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 USS, 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 USOPC AAC Representative, USS must designate an athlete from that sport to review and sign the Selection Procedures.











# SSK Long Track WOG 2022 ATH amended 1.4.22

Final Audit Report

2022-01-04

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By:	Tom Anderson (tom.anderson@usopc.org)
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-  Document created by Tom Anderson (tom.anderson@usopc.org)  
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-  Document emailed to Ted Morris (tmorris@usspeedskating.org) for signature  
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✔ Agreement completed.

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