



Acrobatic Gymnastics Selection Procedures 2009-10 Junior National Team

I. Overview

- A. Athletes may qualify for the Junior National Team 11-16 and Junior National Team 12-19 (JNT) in one of four ways:
 - i. Rank first under the evaluation system identified in Section III below;
 - ii. Be selected by the Acrobatic Gymnastics Athlete Selection Committee to be on the JNT as defined in Section III below;
 - iii. If positions on the team are available, be selected by the Acrobatic Gymnastics Athlete Selection Committee from the National Team Open Slot Selection, held in conjunction with the Acro Development Camp, as defined in Section IV;
 - iv. Successfully petition onto the JNT through the process set forth in Section V.
- B. The selection of the athletes to the JNT will be made by the Acrobatic Gymnastics Athlete Selection Committee with final approval from the USA Gymnastics President.
- C. JNT selection consideration will be given to athletes competing at the Junior 11-16, Junior Elite level at Visa Championships. Athletes must qualify to compete at the Visa Championships per the Participation Requirements of Competitions according to Section 8 in the *Acrobatic Gymnastics Rules and Policies* or National Team Open Slot Selection, held in conjunction with the Acro Development Camp.
- D. Pair-groups who meet age requirements receive first priority for placement on the respective team.
 - i. Age requirements for the Junior National Team 11-16:
 1. Minimum age is 9;
 2. Maximum age is 16.
 - ii. Age requirements for the Junior National Team 12-19:
 1. Minimum age is 10;
 2. Maximum age is 19;
 3. Maximum 6 year age difference.
 - iii. If positions are available, out-of-age pair-groups will vie for a spot on the Junior National Team.
- E. The composition of the JNT is determined to be a maximum of three pair/groups per event and age group (Women's Pair, Men's Pair, Mixed Pair, Women's Group, and Men's Group). The Athlete Selection Committee is not obligated to select pair/groups for all available positions.
- F. An athlete may be named to the JNT in multiple events (i.e. Men's Pair and Men's Group). However, this athlete will not receive duplicate benefits. (Note: the FIG imposes restrictions in international competition regarding participation in multiple events.)
- G. No alternates are named.
- H. Only athletes who are United States citizens may be named to the JNT. USA Gymnastics will verify citizenship before naming the team.
- I. Positions on the JNT do not carry ranking.

II. Qualification Process

- A. Qualification to participate in the Visa Championships:
 - i. A pair/group that meets the requirements to participate as Junior 11-16 or Junior Elite 12-19, according to the rules published in *Acrobatic Gymnastics Rules and Policies* level may compete at the Visa Championships.

III. The Junior National Team will be selected as follows:

- A. Scores and performances from the Visa Championships;
- B. The pair/group with the highest score per event, determined by the cumulative score from Visa Championships, will automatically be placed on the JNT, provided they have met the target score and target difficulty requirements defined in Section III D. If target score and/or target difficulty are not met, the pair/group is not eligible for automatic placement on the JNT, but may still be considered by the Athlete Selection Committee for selection to the team;
- C. Selection for those places not filled automatically will be done according to the listed criteria:
 - i. Scores and placement from competition:
 - 1. Scores and placement from Visa Championships or National Team Open Slot Selection;
 - 2. Target Score – The target score is calculated using the sum of the execution average plus the artistry average less performance related CJP deductions (i.e. time faults, special requirements, minimum difficulty).
 - a. JNT 11-16:
 - i. The target score for two exercises is 33.0 and three exercises is 49.50
 - b. JNT 12-19:
 - i. The target score for three exercises is 51.0 and for five exercises, the target score is 85.0
 - ii. Difficulty of elements performed in competition:
 - 1. The types of elements and difficulty of elements performed in competition at Visa Championships or National Team Open Slot Selection will be considered;
 - 2. Total exercise difficulty will also be considered and compared against the target difficulty. Target difficulty is the difficulty score before CJP deductions.
 - a. JNT 11-16:
 - i. The target difficulty is V.5 for balance exercise and dynamic exercise.
 - b. JNT 12-19:
 - i. The target difficulty is V110 for the balance exercise, V80 for the dynamic exercise and V110 for the combined exercise.
 - iii. Artistry and presentation in exercises performed during competition:
 - 1. Presentation ranking by the Acrobatic Gymnastics Athlete Selection Committee members for the Visa Championships or National Team Open Slot Selection;
 - 2. Presentation ranking criteria will include but is not limited to the artistic judging criteria listed in Section 10.0 of the *Acrobatic Gymnastics Specifications*.

IV. Selection from National Team Open Slot Selection

- A. The Acrobatic Gymnastics National Team Open Slot Selection may add pair/groups to the JNT from the Acro Development Camp, December 18, 2009, only if positions are available on the team;
- B. Total scores and performances from the Selection will be reviewed by event. Total scores will be compared against target scores listed in Section III-C;
- C. The difficulty of elements performed will be considered and compared against target difficulty defined in Section III-C;
- D. Artistry and presentation of exercises performed will be considered.

V. Petitions

Petitions to enter the Visa Championships if injury, illness, or unforeseen circumstances keep athletes from fully participating in the qualification process must follow the rules outlined in *Acrobatic Gymnastics Rules and Policies*, Section 8.

For a petition onto the JNT to be considered by the Acrobatic Gymnastics Program Committee, it must be submitted in writing to the Acrobatic Gymnastics Program Director and meet the following requirements:

1. A pair/group who fully participates in the process described above is not eligible to submit a petition;
2. A petition must be submitted to the Acrobatic Gymnastics Program Director as soon as possible after the pair/group becomes aware of the inability to participate in the process described above, but no later than the conclusion of the National Championships competition;
3. Petitions will be considered for injury, illness, or unforeseen circumstances:
 - a. The petition must state the date and nature of the injury, illness or unforeseen circumstance that prohibited the pair/group from participating in the competitive selection process;
 - b. In the case of a petition based upon injury or illness, the petition must be accompanied by a physician's statement, and the nature and extent of that injury or illness is subject to verification by a physician selected by USA Gymnastics.

Petitioning onto the JNT is subject to available slots. Pair/groups submitting petitions are considered by the Program Committee after selection decisions regarding pair/groups that have fully competed in both selection events.

VI. Team obligations

- A. Athletes who do not attend both the presentation of JNT and the USA Gymnastics JNT Meeting will not be placed on the JNT;
- B. Athletes selected to the JNT will remain on the team until the selection of the 2010 JNT or until a partnership change occurs.
- C. Athletes must read and sign the USA Gymnastics Acrobatic Gymnastics JNT Funding and Support Agreement before they are officially members of the team.

VII. Removal

A pair/group may be removed from the JNT if any of the members of the pair/group violate the USA Gymnastics Code of Ethics or the JNT Funding and Support Agreement. Any decision to remove an athlete is subject to review through the USA Gymnastics Grievance Procedures.

VIII. Approval of the Selection procedures

These Selection Procedures have been reviewed and approved by the Acrobatic Gymnastics Program Committee and the USA Gymnastics President.

IX. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Each athlete and coach participating in the selection process for the JNT as outlined in these Selection Procedures has carefully reviewed and understands the terms of these Selection Procedures. That understanding is reflected by the signatures of the athlete and coach on a copy of these Selection Procedures.

Signed Selected Procedures, one per pair/group, along with a copy of a birth certificate or passport for each athlete, to prove citizenship and age, must be submitted to the Program Director, in-hand, by November 20, 2009. Pair/groups will not be considered for selection to the JNT without signed Selection Procedures and birth certificate/passport.

_____ Coach Signature	_____ Date
_____ Athlete Signature	_____ Date
_____ Parent Signature (if athlete is under 18 years of age)	_____ Date
_____ Athlete Signature	_____ Date
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