

2009 WOMEN'S WORLD CHAMPIONSHPS TEAM

SELECTION PROCEDURES

London, England

I. OVERVIEW

The Women's Delegation for the 2009 World Championships will be per the FIG Technical Regalement comprised of four female athletes. Only those athletes who will be 16 years of age in the calendar year 2009 are eligible for Selection to the World Team.

- A. The Senior National Team in the All Around combined rank order after two days of competition from Visa Championships results will be directly qualified to the first Selection Camp to be held at the Women's National Team Training Center.
- B. The top two athletes from the combined rank order on each apparatus may also be invited to the first Selection Camp, even if they do not qualify for the national team.
- C. In addition to the slots as defined in I A&B, the Selection Committee may, at its discretion, select any number of athletes who competed in Visa Championships to attend the first Selection Camp.
- D. The Selection Committee will select a minimum of 8 athletes from the first Selection Camp to be held September 8th to 12th 2009 to move forward to the Final Selection Competition.
- E. The Selection Committee, with final approval from USA Gymnastics' President, will determine the World Team who will represent the USA at the 2009 World Championships from those athletes in attendance at the Final Selection Competition conducted September 30 – October 4th, 2009.

II. SELECTION CAMP & FINAL COMPETITION

- A. The first Selection Camp September 8th to 12th 2009 will serve as the final opportunity for athletes to be invited to attend the Final Selection competition September 30 - October 4th 2009.
- B. The Final selection competition will be conducted at the Women's National Team Training Center.
- C. The Final Selection Competition will be judged by the USA World Championships judges.
- D. Competition Rules
FIG Competition III rules will be used for all competitions and training camp verifications except on Vault for the All Around score, which will use FIG Competition I.

III. 2009 VISA CHAMPIONSHIPS

- A. Qualification to participate in the 2009 Visa Championships:
 - 1. An athlete may qualify to participate in the 2009 Visa Championships through the American Classic or the U.S. Classic according to the rules as described in the 2009 Elite Qualification Chart on the USA Gymnastics web-site.
 - 2. The 2008 Olympic Team Members, the three replacement athletes, and the members of the Olympic Training Squad are directly qualified to the 2009 Visa Championships.
- B. Time and Place: The 2009 Visa Championships will be conducted August 9th - 15th in Dallas, Texas.

IV. SELECTION COMMITTEE

- A. The Selection Committee will consist of the National Team Coordinator, the Chairman of the International Elite Committee, and the athlete representative.
 - 1. In the event the Chairman of the International Elite Committee is affiliated or unavailable for the entire process, the International Elite Committee will select an expert advisor who is unaffiliated to serve on the Selection Committee.
 - 2. In the event the Athlete Representative is affiliated or unavailable for the entire process, the International Elite Committee will request the Athlete's Council assign another duly elected Women's Program Athlete Representative. If no other Women's Program Athlete Representative is able for the entire process, the International Elite Committee will then select an expert advisor who is unaffiliated to serve on the Selection Committee.
- B. If the athlete representative is replaced by an expert advisor, an athlete representative will be included in the Final Selection Camp with voice no vote to ensure that the Selection Procedures were followed.
- C. The Selection Committee will consider the following areas when selecting members for the 2009 World Championships Team:
 - 1. Results from the Selection Camp/competition and the qualifying events.
 - 2. Start values
 - 3. Hit consistency and results from past national and international competitions
 - 4. Composition of strength among the team members
 - 5. Execution
 - 6. Medal potential
- D. Two or three (non- traveling) alternate athletes will be selected from among those competitors at the Final Selection Camp/competition based upon the needs of the team.
- E. In the case of an injury or other circumstance which would necessitate the replacement of a 2009 World Championships Team Member prior to the 2009 World Championships competition, the National Team Coordinator after consultation with the personal coaches of the World Team will activate one of the designated alternates.

V. PETITIONS

- A. Petitioning procedures into the 2009 Visa Championships are listed in the 2009 Women's Rules and Policies, Part 7, Section I, page 81, IX. A.
- B. Petitions into the 1st Selection Camp will be considered by the Selection Committee for any member of the 2008 Olympic Team.
- C. Any other athlete who was either injured or ill and unable to participate because of unforeseen circumstances at the 2009 Visa Championships and provided that she has competed at either the 2009 U.S. or American Classic, or on an international assignment in the fall of 2008 or in the year 2009.
- D. In order to be considered by the Selection Committee, petitions must be submitted in writing to the USA Gymnastics' national office as soon as practical after the athlete becomes aware of her inability to participate in the process described above.
- E. The petition must state the specific injury, illness or unusual circumstance, which prohibited the athlete from participating in the competitive process. In the case of a petition based upon an 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 doctor selected by USA Gymnastics.

VI. SELECTION OF THE 2009 WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS TEAM COACHES

All Personal Coaches of the athletes selected as 2009 World Team Members will be assigned to the 2009 World Championships (one coach per athlete). Should a second coach for the same athlete wish to attend the 2009 World Championships, it will be at their own expense.

VII. REMOVAL

An athlete or coach may be removed from the 2009 World Championships Team or from any step of the process for selecting the team if he/she violates the USA Gymnastics Code of Ethics or USA Gymnastics National Team Funding and Support Agreement (in case of the national team athletes). An athlete may also be removed from the 2009 World Championships Team in the event of injury or illness which inhibits peak performance at the above said competitions. According to the National Team Funding and Support Agreement, athletes must submit to any medical diagnosis that is requested by USA Gymnastics to assure that the athlete is able to compete and is not at risk for further injury. Verification of injury or illness will be by two doctors selected by USA Gymnastics.

Removal may only occur by action of the President of USA Gymnastics after consultation with the National Team Coordinator and an interview with the athlete and her coach. Any decision to remove an athlete or coach is subject to review through USA Gymnastics Grievance Procedures.

VIII. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

These Selection Procedures have been reviewed and approved by USA Gymnastics.

Each athlete and coach participating in the process for selecting the 2009 World Championships Team as outlined in these Selection Procedures has carefully reviewed, understands and agrees to the terms of these Selection Procedures. That understanding and agreement is reflected by the signature of the athlete and coach on a copy of these Selection Procedures.

Athlete member

Date

Parent if athlete is under 18 years of age

Date

Coach

Date