

**2017 U.S. TEAM SELECTION
and
INDEPENDENT SKIER NOTIFICATION
QUALIFICATIONS AND PROCEDURES
World Championships
Rev. 7/5/17**

A. Team Description

A six-member team will be selected to compete at the 2017 World Championships. The tournament will be held September 3-10, 2017, in Paris France.

B. Eligibility – Team and Independent Skier “Notification of Interest” Requirements

1. Eligibility for selection to the U.S. Team shall be:

- a. U.S. citizen or otherwise qualified to ski as a member of the U.S. Team (see IWWF Rules of Eligibility for World and Confederation Titled Events);
- b. Member of USA Water Ski in good standing; and,
- c. **Notification of Interest to be selected as a *member* of the U.S. Team, or to be entered to ski as an *independent* U.S. athlete, must be sent by email to Larry Downes (larrydownes@miamioh.edu), Lisa Steiner (lisasteiner@cfl.rr.com) and Jeffry Armstrong (jeffryaski@aol.com) not later than July 1, 2017. All independent U.S. Athletes must be entered through this process.**

C. Selection Considerations

The AWSA International Activities Committee (IAC) is tasked with the responsibility of selecting athletes to participate on the Waterski Teams that will represent the United States in International Competitions. The committee’s primary goal in this process is to select teams that will have the greatest opportunity to win each of the international competitions. In this selection process there are numerous considerations that the committee will utilize in the effort to select the best combination of athletes for each tournament, with the ultimate goal to win the target event. These elements include, but are not limited to:

1. Numerical Division of Male / Female athletes to make up the team;
2. Numerical scores from selected tournaments that precede the target event and are close enough in time to the target competition to produce the most viable team (see Team Selection Score procedures below). These scores are compared to expected scores from other international teams to predict the anticipated scores that may be produced using the existing scores for comparison;
3. Each individual skier’s past performance in recent premier tournaments, to include any issues that may or could possibly affect anticipated scores in the target international competition;
4. The ability of any skier to function in a team atmosphere, contribute to a team effort, and other positive or negative factors that may exist.

The IAC reserves the right to rely on all of these factors in selecting this team. In the event of unforeseen circumstances which, in the judgment of the IAC, render these considerations and procedures clearly ineffective,

the IAC may (by a two-thirds vote of the full IAC committee) amend these considerations and procedures as necessary to accomplish the goals of the AWSA International Competition Program.

D. Procedures and Team Selection Score Calculation

1. The team will be selected on or before August 1, 2017. No team trials will be held.
2. Sex distribution for the team shall be 3/3 or 4/2.
3. Each Athlete's Team Selection Score shall be determined as follows:
 - ai) Each athlete's Team Selection Score shall be determined from the athlete's **three** best tournament scores in each event (the events being slalom, trick and jump) which shall be extracted from USA Water Ski and International Waterski and Wakeboard Federation scores (Class E, L and R tournaments) for tournament performances during the period of January 1, 2017 to July 23, 2017 (inclusive). Each score must be from a different site. To be considered, all U.S. tournament performances must be reported to USA Water Ski (through the tournament organizer or scorer) not later than July 24, 2017, at 11:59 PM; proof of all international tournament performances (IWWF Class L or R) not otherwise reported to USA Water Ski must be submitted by each athlete to the IAC (to the above IAC representatives) not later than July 24, 2017, at 11:59 PM. All tournament performances are subject to verification by the IAC. It is each athlete's responsibility to ensure that all eligible scores are submitted in a timely manner. No late-reported scores, or scores which cannot be verified, will be considered.
 - b) Each athlete's Team Selection Score will be determined by weighting the three tournament scores as follows:
 - i) 50% of the athlete's best score, plus
 - ii) 50% of the athlete's average score (average of the three scores).
 - c) Each athlete's Team Selection Score, as determined through this process, shall then be considered in selecting the team.
4. A foreign team pool will then be determined. **Three Foreign Teams** (those opposing teams expected to be most competitive at the World Championships) shall be the basis of the **Foreign Team** pool**. If the **Base Score** (see section 7 below) in any event is likely to be established by a **Foreign Team** member who is not on one of the first three **Foreign Teams**, then these scores shall be treated as **Wild Card Scores** for the purpose of establishing the **Base Scores** in three events.
5. Combinations of six U.S. skiers will be identified (Team 1, Team 2, etc.) and shall be hereafter referred to as **Team X**. Each **Team X** shall meet the gender requirements above, and shall have at least three skiers in each event (tricks, slalom, and jump).
6. Each **Team X** (and **Foreign Team Xs**) **Team Score** shall be calculated in a simulated World Championships tournament, using the Team Selection Score for each member.
7. Scoring shall be based on the 1,000 point system outlined in IWWF Technical Rule 5.01. The 1000 points in each event shall be awarded to the higher of:
 - a) The best **Team Selection Score** from the members of **Team X**; or,
 - b) The best **Team Selection Score** from the members of the **Foreign Team** pool; or,
 - c) The best **Wild Card Score**

The highest score (from 7a-c) shall form the **Base Score** for men and women in each event. Each competitor (U.S. & Foreign) will be awarded **Individual Overall Points** according to the relationship of his/her **Team Selection Score** to the **Base Score** for that event, as follows:

Men's Slalom: $(\text{Skier's Team Selection Score} + 12) \times 1000 / (\text{Base Score} + 12)^*$

Women's Slalom: $(\text{Skier's Team Selection Score} + 12) \times 1000 / (\text{Base Score} + 12)^*$

* Per IWWF Rules: score from 55/18.25 for women, 58/18.25 for men

Men's Tricks: $(\text{Skier's Team Selection Score} \times 1000) / (\text{Base Score})$

Women's Tricks: $(\text{Skier's Team Selection Score} \times 1000) / (\text{Base Score})$

Men's Jump: $((\text{Skier's Team Selection Score}(m) - 25) \times 1000) / (\text{Base Score} - 25)$

Women's Jump: $((\text{Skier's Team Selection Score}(m) - 17) \times 1000) / (\text{Base Score} - 17)$

8. The **Team Score** for **Team X** and each **Foreign Team** will be calculated (as per IWSF Technical Rule 5.05) by summing the best three **Individual Overall Points** scores, from either gender, in each event (3 slalom, 3 tricks, & 3 Jump).

9. **Team X** having the highest **Team Score** with at least four team members in each event will be named the U.S Team unless:

a) Its **Team Score** does not produce a winning team; or,

b) The **Team Score** is not considered to produce a large enough win margin; in which case, the IAC may consider other **Team X's** with fewer than 4 scores per event, according to the following Prioritized event combinations: (Slalom, Trick, Jump) (4,4,3 - 3,4,4 - 4,3,4 - 3,4,3 - 4,3,3 - 3,3,4 - 3,3,3)***.

c) Other Selection Criteria (see above) are determined by the IAC to substantially outweigh this numerical analysis.

E. Other Information

1. The IAC may designate alternates to the U.S. Team. The method of selecting these alternates will be at the discretion of the IAC and will not necessarily be based on any fixed formula.

2. Excellence in competition is the sole determining factor in making any U.S. Team. The policy of the IAC is always to send the best possible team.

** **Foreign Team Selection Score**: The current formula for calculating the Raw Score Value for foreign team members is based on the original methodology developed with the introduction of this team selection program.

The formula is Foreign Skier Team selection Score = Top-2 Avg/2 + Median/2.

*** **Risk Factor**: "Risk Factor" is a formula used to quantify the Team Selection Score that would result in a case where the fourth (4th) highest Individual Overall Points value (in each event) was substituted in place of one of the top 3 Individual Overall Points values used to calculate the original Team Selection Score.