

**2017 U.S. TEAM SELECTION
and
INDEPENDENT SKIER NOTIFICATION
QUALIFICATIONS AND PROCEDURES
Under 21 World Championships**

A. Team Description

A six-member team will be selected to compete at the 2017 Under 21 World Championships. The tournament will be held July 13-16, 2017, in Dnepropetrovsk, Ukraine.

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. Active member of USA Water Ski in good standing, born in 1996 or later (see IWWF Under 21 Division qualification rules);
- 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), and Jerry Bautsch (jwbautsch@gmail.com) not later than May 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 June 4, 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 then be determined. The Team Selection Score be the average of the each skier's **two** best tournament scores in each event (the "events" being slalom, trick, and jump) which shall be extracted from USA Water Ski ranking list performances during the period beginning with the opening of the 2016 U.S. National Championships and ending on May 29, 2017 (inclusive). Each round score must be from a different site. To be considered, all must be reported (through each tournament's local organizing committee or scorer) to USA Water Ski not later than Tuesday, **May 30, 2017** at 11:59 PM (PDT). It is each athlete's responsibility to ensure that all eligible scores are submitted in a timely manner.

4. Team Selection Scores shall be based on the 1,000 point system where 1,000 points is the **greater of the average of the top two** Ranking Values on the most recent "officially posted as final" IWWF Rankings List and the highest score among US scores posted for this selection process, excluding those who have aged out. The Team Selection Scores shall be computed in accordance with IWWF Rule 5.01 as follows:

Men's Tricks: $(\text{Skier's Score Average}) / (\text{Average of Top Two Scores of IWWF Ranking Values or highest US skier score}) \times 1000$

Women's Tricks: $(\text{Skier's Score Average}) / (\text{Average of Top Two Scores of IWWF Ranking Values or highest US skier score}) \times 1000$

Men's Slalom: $(\text{Skier's Score Average} - 24) / ((\text{Average of Top Two Scores of IWWF Ranking Values or highest US skier score}) - 24) \times 1000$

Women's Slalom: $(\text{Skier's Score Average} - 24) / ((\text{Average of Top Two Scores of IWWF Ranking Values or highest US skier score}) - 24) \times 1000$

Men's Jump: $(\text{Skier's Score Average} - 25) / ((\text{Average of Top Two Scores of IWWF Ranking Values or highest US skier score}) - 25) \times 1000$

Women's Jump: $(\text{Skier's Score Average} - 17) / ((\text{Average of Top Two Scores of IWWF Ranking Values or highest US skier score}) - 17) \times 1000$

The scores resulting from these calculations (including an overall score computed based on the sum of these Team Selection Scores (from each event), in accordance with IWWF Rule 5.03) shall be used in the numerical score evaluation process.

5. The top male and female skiers based on "overall score" will be selected first provided that the skier contributes to the team score in at least one event. "Overall score" is computed as the sum of three event scores.
6. The next skier will be the male or female skier with the next highest "overall score" provided that the skier contributes to the team score in at least one event.
7. The fourth and fifth skiers will be the male and/or female skiers with the highest "two event score" not already selected on the team, provided that the skier contributes to the team score. "Two event score" is defined as the sum of the two highest "event scores" for a skier.

8. The sixth skier will be the male or female skier with the highest "one event score" not already selected on the team, provided that the skier contributes to the team score.
9. The six skiers chosen following the above criteria will be Team 1. Then other combinations of six U.S. skiers will be identified and shall be hereafter referred to as TeamX. Each TeamX shall meet the gender requirements above, and shall have at least three skiers in each event (slalom, tricks and jump). The Team Score for Team X will be calculated (as per IWWF Technical Rule 5.05) by summing the best three individual Team Selection Scores from each gender, in each division (3 slalom, 3 tricks, and 3 jump). Team X having the highest Team Score with at least four team members in each event will be named the U.S. Under 21 World Championships team. Consideration will be given to the number of scores per event, with the preference of at least four scores in each event (4 slalom, 4 tricks, and 4 jump).
10. If there are no qualifying overall scores meeting some or all of the criteria (male and/or female) set forth in any of the above steps (steps E)(5-8), the IAC will consider alternative criteria and procedures as necessary to accomplish the goals of the AWSA International Competition Program.
11. The IAC reserves the right to choose another combination of athletes who create a higher team overall score than chosen using the above steps.
12. The team selected through this process will be designated as the official 2017 Under 21 World Championships team.

E. Other Information

1. The IAC may (but may not) 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. Skiers are responsible for all costs.
3. 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.