

United States Rowing Association Athlete Selection Procedure

2017 WORLD ROWING CHAMPIONSHIPS
September 24-October 1, 2017
Sarasota, Florida, USA

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Eligibility Requirements

The USRowing National Team selection process is open to all athletes who meet all the following criteria. Athletes must comply with these criteria through the date of the completion of the World Championships:

- a) All athletes must be championship members of, and be in good financial and other standing with, USRowing.
- b) All athletes must abide by the Athlete Selection Procedures and the USRowing Bylaws, Rules of Rowing, and other USRowing rules, requirements and regulations.
- c) All athletes must hold United States citizenship and a current and valid United States passport by the date of selection to the team. *Please note: Many countries require a passport valid for 6 months past the date of return to the US.*
- d) All athletes must have read and signed a copy of the 2017 USRowing Athlete Agreement and Consent. (Appendix G)
- e) All athletes participating in selection for the National Team must be in compliance with United States Anti-Doping Agency (USADA), IOC, USOC, WADA, FISA and USRowing rules, decisions, policies, and procedures relating to banned substances, including but not limited to obtaining and maintaining current therapeutic use exemptions as needed. A complete guide to banned substances is available on USADA's website at <http://www.usantidoping.org/>. USRowing may implement additional eligibility requirements related to banned substances as necessary in order to maintain compliance with USADA, IOC, USOC, WADA, and FISA rules, policies, and procedures; any such additional requirements will be incorporated herein and published as soon as practicable.
- f) All candidates must adhere to the [USRowing ECG & Pre-Competition Health Screening Policy](#).
- g) All athletes must meet eligibility rules to compete for the United States under IOC, USOC and IF governance.

Anti-Doping

All athletes participating in selection for the United States National Rowing Team are subject to the USADA, IOC, USOC, WADA, FISA, and USRowing rules, decisions, policies, and procedures relating to banned substances, including drug testing administered by representatives of the USADA or FISA and obtaining and maintaining current therapeutic use exemptions. Athletes who violate USADA, IOC, USOC, WADA, FISA, or USRowing rules, decisions, policies, or procedures relating to banned substances will be subject to penalties as established by the respective organization. Athletes are responsible for calling the USADA drug hotline (800.233.0393) prior to taking any medications and making sure the medication they are taking is not on the banned list. A complete guide to banned substances is available by contacting USADA Drug Control and Education Program (800.233.0393) or USRowing (609.751.0714).

Important Dates

SPRING SPEED ORDER I

*M1x, W1x, LM1x, LW1x, W2-, M2- (Order of finish in M1x, W1x, LM1x, LW1x Will be used in World Cup Petition Process) **

April 18-21, 2017

West Windsor, NJ

WORLD ROWING CUP #1

May 5-7, 2017

Belgrade, Serbia

NATIONAL SELECTION REGATTA / SPRING SPEED ORDER II

NSR II (W2-, M2-)

*Speed Order II (M2x, W2x, LM2x, LW2x) (Order of finish in M2x, W2x, LM2x, LW2x will be used in World Cup Petition Process) **

May 20-23, 2017

West Windsor, NJ

WORLD ROWING CUP #2

June 16-18, 2017

Poznan, Poland

U23 AND U19 WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS TRIALS

June 26-30, 2017

West Windsor, NJ

WORLD ROWING CUP #3

July 7-9, 2017

Lucerne, Switzerland

SENIOR WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS TRIALS III

All boat classes with the exception of Selection Camp boat classes and potentially M2-, W2- depending on World Cup Qualification

August 6-9, 2017

West Windsor, NJ

SENIOR WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS CAMP NAMING DATE

(W8+, M8+, M4-, W4x, W4-)

August 28, 2017

WORLD ROWING SENIOR CHAMPIONSHIPS

September 24 - October 1, 2017

Sarasota, FL

*Refer to information on Funded Boat Classes on page 12

Selection Procedures

As outlined below, selection to the 2017 Senior World Championships Team (2017 Team) will be made in one of three methods:

I) TRIALS BOATS

- Spring Speed Orders: M1x, W1x, LM1x, LW1x, M2x, W2x, LM2x, LW2x
- NSR/World Cup: M2-, W2-
 - Speed Order I events: M1x, W1x, LM1x, LW1x, M2-, W2-
 - Speed Order II events: M2x, W2x, LM2x, LW2x
 - M2-, W2- run at Speed Order II as NSR/World Cup qualification
- Senior Trials: M1x, W1x, LM1x, LW1x, M2x, W2x, LM2x, LW2x, LM2-, M2+, LM4x, LW4x, LM4-, M4x and those Olympic class boats not already qualified for the 2017 Team (M2-, W2-)

II) SELECTION CAMP BOATS

- M8+, W8+, W4x, M4-, and W4-

Trials Boats Selection Process

A. TRIALS PROCESS: M1x, W1x, LM1x, LW1x, M2x, W2x, LM2x, LW2x, LM2-, M2+, LM4x, LW4x, LM4-, M4x

1. Selection Through Trials

- a. The winning boat at the Senior World Championship Trials in each event will represent the United States at the 2017 Senior World Championships.
- b. The athletes in that boat must satisfy the minimum eligibility criteria set forth on page 3 and declare their intent to compete in the 2017 Senior World Championships in writing to the USRowing High Performance Director, or their designee, no later than two hours after their final race at Senior Trials has been declared official.
- c. *Should the winning boats athletes decline, fail to declare their intent or fail to meet the minimum eligibility criteria set forth on page 3 the second-place finisher will be given the option to take the spot. If second place also declines or fails to meet the minimum eligibility criteria set forth on page 3 the Nominating Committee reserves the right to decline to send a boat to the Senior World Championships for the boat class in question.*
- d. Each winning boat at Senior Trials III is required to nominate a coach after the trials, who is required to travel with the crew for the length of the 2017 Senior World Championships. Exceptions to this rule may only be granted by the High Performance Director. Nominated coaches must meet the requirements in [Appendix D](#) – Nominated Coaches.

B. NSR/WORLD CUP PROCESS: M2-, W2-

1. Selection Through NSR & World Cup

- a. M2-, W2-: The winners of any of these events at the National Selection Regatta (NSR) may attend either 2017 FISA World Cup II or III. Declaration of intent to compete at a World Cup must be submitted, in writing, to the USRowing High Performance Director, or their designee, no later than 5pm EST May 26, 2017 for either World Cup II or III.

- i. M2-, W2-: In order to be named to the 2017 Team in these events, the boat must place in the top 4 at either 2017 FISA World Cup II or III, unless there are fewer than 8 entries in the event, in which case a finish in the top 50% of the field is required.
- b. Each athlete qualifying through a top 4 finish (or top 50%, as applicable), as described above, must declare his/her intent to compete in the 2017 Senior World Championships, in writing, to the USRowing High Performance Director by 5pm EST on Friday, July 17, 2017. Failure to declare intent by this deadline shall result in forfeiture of the nomination based on their respective NSR win. The athlete(s) will be named to the 2017 Team upon timely submission of their declaration of intent to compete, provided they meet the minimum athlete eligibility criteria set forth on page 3.
- c. Each boat that qualifies through the World Cups is required to nominate a coach with their declaration of intent to compete, who is required to travel with the crew for the length of the 2017 Senior World Championships. Exceptions to this rule may only be granted by the High Performance Director. Nominated coaches must meet the requirements in Appendix D – Nominated Coaches.
- d. Should the qualified NSR winner fail to declare his/her intent to compete at the 2017 Senior World Championships, or if the NSR winner does not qualify through the requisite placing at the FISA World Cup, a trial for that event will be held at the Senior World Championships Trials. USRowing will publish all submitted declarations to compete at the 2017 Senior World Championships and an updated list of Senior Trials III events by 5pm EST on Monday, July 19, 2017.

Selection Camp Boats Process

A. INVITATIONS TO SELECTION CAMPS: M8+, W8+, M4-, W4-, W4x

1. Invitations to 2017 Selection Camps will be sent out by National Team Coaches based on the following criteria (listed in no particular order):

- Performance in 2016-2017 Identification Camps and National Team Testing
- Coach's Recommendation
- 2017 Speed Order I & II and NSR results
- Past performance in international and domestic competition
- Competitive performance during training sessions
- Athlete's ability to match the style and technique of the crew as determined by the designated coach
- Video and audiotapes of performance in the case of coxswains
- Meets minimum eligibility criteria set forth on page 3

In addition, athletes currently competing in a collegiate program in 2017 may be invited to a Selection Camp upon completion of their competitive season in the spring/summer of 2017. The criteria listed above may pertain to their invitation.

2. In addition to invitations sent out by National Team Coaches under the criteria listed above, automatic qualification will be awarded to any athlete that meets the minimum eligibility criteria set forth on page 3 and one of the following criteria for the corresponding Selection Camp(s):

- M4-/M8+: finish in the top 5 at NSR in M2-
- W8+/W4x/W4-: finish in the top 5 in the W2- at NSR or top 2 in the W2x at Spring Speed Order II or top 2 in the W1x at Spring Speed Order I

B. DATES AND LOCATIONS OF SELECTION CAMPS

The default location of the Selection Camps shall be Princeton, NJ, unless otherwise decided by the High Performance Director. If this occurs, affected athletes will be notified as soon as possible. This may also be changed based on agreement of two-thirds of the invitees, the relevant coach(es) and the High Performance Director. The dates of the 2017 Selection Camps are as follows.

- M4-/M8+: May 29 to August 28, 2017
- W8+/W4x/W4-: May 29 to August 28, 2017

The Selection Camps may conclude earlier than the dates listed above.

C. SELECTION PROCESS AT SELECTION CAMPS

1. Each National Team Head Coach will recommend crews for the boat(s) he/she will coach based on the following factors (listed in no particular order):
 - Athlete's compatibility with the rest of the crew
 - Competitive performance during training sessions
 - Overall performance at Selection Camp
 - In the case of coxed events, the cox's weight
 - 2k and 6k erg performance
 - 2017 NSR/Spring Speed Order I & II results
 - 2017 FISA World Cup Results
 - Recommendations of other relevant coaches
 - Meets minimum eligibility criteria set forth on page 3
2. The criteria outlined above and the Selection Camp process are subject to discretionary selection. This means that Selection Camp is used to determine the fastest combination of top athletes, allowing the fastest individual athletes to come together in one location to assemble the best combination of talent in the team boats. In order to do so, at Selection Camp, individual athletes will be selected to form the best combination of talent for each boat. The Selection Camp process ensures that every athlete in attendance has an opportunity to be selected for the team boat. However, the Selection Camp process, while based on objective racing and performance markers during the camp, also must include subjective team-related performance assessment. The dynamic of teamwork, leadership, and movement in a team boat requires development and assessment over time.
3. Results of measurable competitive processes at the Selection Camps, including, but not limited to time trials and seat racing, will be posted in a public location for athletes participating in the respective Selection Camp to review within 24 hours of the end of practice. USRowing will keep written records of the underlying data used to evaluate athletes in the Selection Camp process for a period of six months after the 2017 Senior World Championships.

D. SELECTION RECOMMENDATIONS

1. The National Team Head Coach shall make all recommendations to the High Performance Director (HPD) for the Selection Camp boats by 5pm EST on Monday, August 28, 2017.
2. The HPD will present the recommendations to the Nomination Committee for review and recommendations and must be approved by the Nomination Committee to be effective.
3. The athletes in the recommended boats must declare their intent to compete in the 2017 Senior World Championships in writing to the USRowing High Performance Director, or their designee, no later than three days after approval by the Nomination Committee.
4. Each Selection Camp boat recommended by the HPD and approved by the Nomination Committee will be named to the 2017 Team, provided the athletes in each such boat submit their declaration of intent to compete on time and satisfy the minimum eligibility criteria set forth on page 3.
5. USRowing will announce the 2017 National Team no later than 5pm Friday, September 1, 2017.

Funding For 2017 Senior World Championships

A. FUNDED BOAT CLASSES

The funded Boat Classes for the 2017 Senior World Championships are: W4x, W8+, W2-, M4-, W4-, M8+, W2x, LM2x, LW2x (Funded Boat Classes).

2. Senior World Championships

USRowing will fully fund Funded Boat Class expenses for the 2017 Senior World Championships.

3. World Cup

Funded Boat Classes will be funded for a minimum of one World Cup competition in 2017; the maximum funding amount is not to exceed \$3,500 per person for NSR or Spring Speed Order winners.

- If the winning M2- from NSR chooses to attend a World Cup, it will be funded for that event.

4. Reevaluation

Funded Boat Classes for 2018 will be reevaluated after the 2017 Senior World Championships. It is possible that boat classes may be added or removed based on performance.

B. OTHER BOAT CLASSES

The Non-funded Olympic Boat Classes for the 2017 Senior World Championships are: M4x, LM4-, M2x, M1x, M2-, and W1x (Non-funded Olympic Boat Classes).

The Non-Olympic Boat Classes for the Senior World Championships are: LM2-M2+, LM1x, LW1x, LM4x, LW4x (Non-Olympic Boat Classes).

1. Senior World Championships

Subject to the exceptions below in Section II(B)(2), the Non-funded Olympic Boat Classes and Non-Olympic Boat Classes are responsible for paying fees and expenses associated with athlete and coach travel to and participation in the 2017 Senior World Championships, covering local travel, support, and room and board expenses (2017 Fees).

- a. The 2017 Fees exclude athlete(s) and named coach airfare, boat rental, and boat transportation costs; these costs and associated logistics are the responsibility of the athlete(s) and coach.
- b. The cost per athlete and per coach for the 2017 Senior World Championships will be posted no later than July 1, 2017.
- c. Each boat that wins an event at Senior Trials and their respective named coach are required to pay, at the trials site, the 2017 Fees.

2. Exceptions for Non-funded Olympic Boat Classes

- a. The athlete(s) and named coach of any Non-funded Olympic Boat Class that places in the top 3 at FISA World Cup II or top 4 at FISA World Cup III and subsequently makes the 2017 Senior World Championships Team, in that event, will be fully funded by USRowing to attend the 2017 World Championships; and
- b. The athlete(s) and named coach of any Non-Funded Olympic Boat Class that places in the top 6 at the 2017 Senior World Championships will be reimbursed 2017 Fees paid for the athletes and their named coach.

National Team Coaches and Staff

NATIONAL TEAM HEAD COACHES

The Senior National Team Head Coaches shall be comprised of the Senior National Women's Head Coach and the Senior National Men's Head Coach, or their delegate(s) (Senior National Team Head Coach(es)). Each Senior National Team Head Coach shall be responsible for making recommendations relating to the boat that he/she will coach. In making recommendations called for under these Selection Procedures, each National Team Head Coach may seek input and information from other coaches as he/she deems appropriate.

SELECTION OF COACHES

Trials Boats must propose one coach (National Team Coach) for their boat to the 2017 Senior World Championships subject to meeting the criteria outlined in Appendix D – Nominated Coaches. The Nominating Committee will select coaches to the Senior National Team based on the following criteria no later than three days after the day of nomination of Trials as applicable. All proposed coach candidates will be evaluated according to the following criteria (listed in order of priority):

- a) Choice of and compatibility with the selected crews
- b) The number of available coaching positions on the team
- c) Demonstrated commitment to the crew throughout the year
- d) Demonstrated commitment to the National Team throughout the year
- e) Number of athletes on the team trained by a particular coach
- f) International coaching experience
- g) Domestic coaching experience

SELECTION OF OTHER STAFF

USRowing programs staff will select the team manager, doctors, trainers, and other related staff.

Nomination Committee

2017 TEAM NOMINATION COMMITTEE

The Nomination Committee shall be comprised of each of USRowing's National Team Head Coaches or their delegate; USRowing High Performance Director; High Performance Committee Chair, and a USRowing HPC Athlete Representative.

RESPONSIBILITIES

- Recommendations of the National Team Head Coaches for invitations to Selection Camps shall be subject to review and approval of the Nomination Committee
- Nomination of Selection Camp boats as outlined in Selection Camp Boats Process, Section II
- Nomination of National Team coaches as outlined in National Team Coaches and Staff/Selection of Coaches
- Other duties related to athlete or coach selection or eligibility to compete, as necessary

Removal and Replacement of an Athlete, Coach, or Staff Member from the 2017 Team

In the event of a vacancy in one or more boats on the 2017 Team, that vacancy will be filled according to these procedures:

1. The National Team Coach for the impacted boat will nominate replacement athletes for the 2017 Senior World Championships. The National Team Coach will evaluate possible replacements according to the following criteria, which are listed in no particular order:
 - Past performance in international, domestic competition and availability
 - Athlete's compatibility with the rest of the crew
 - Competitive performance during training sessions
 - Overall performance at Selection Camp
 - In the case of coxed events, the cox's weight
 - In the case of lightweight events, the athlete's weight
 - 2k and 6k erg performance
 - 2017 NSR/Trials I, II, III results
 - 2017 FISA World Cup results
 - Discretionary Selection
 - Recommendation of the High Performance Director
 - Meeting eligibility requirements set forth on page 3
2. The named National Team Coach of the boat shall recommend a replacement athlete(s) which will be subject to review of the Nomination Committee and must be approved by the Nomination Committee to be effective; provided, however, that if a vacancy occurs after the 2017 Team has left for the World Championships, and convening the Nomination Committee is not feasible, then the National Team Coach shall select the replacement in conjunction with the High Performance Director.
3. If replacement of an athlete creates a greater than 50% substitution of the original qualifying crew, prior to departure for the World Championships, the Nomination Committee will assess the viability of the event and subsequent selection, participation or substitutions. Included in this could be the possible withdrawal of this event from the World Championships.
4. Replacements will be funded to the same extent (Team Fees) as the competitors in the events for which they are the replacements if the change is made before departure of the 2017 Team. This will not include DAS payments.

5. All athletes nominated to the 2017 Team as a result of the Trials Boats and Selection Camps procedures detailed above shall race at the Senior World Championships in the same boat in which they were nominated to the team, except that the appropriate National Team Coach may alter lineups, with the affected athlete's consent, when one of the US National Team crews requires a substitute athlete. For example, if the Women's 4x needs a replacement, the coach may select a substitute from the Women's 2x or Women's 1x as long as the affected athlete consents to the change.
6. An athlete, coach, or staff member may be removed from the team for any of the following reasons:
 - a) They may remove himself/herself.
 - b) For behavior in violation of the 2017 USRowing Athlete Agreement (Appendix G), the USRowing Bylaws, Safe Sport, and/or any rules and regulations of USRowing. Such removal may only take place after a hearing conducted in accordance with the expedited Grievance Procedure outlined in Article IX, Section J of the USRowing By-Laws, except in cases where an athlete has been deemed ineligible to compete at the World Championships for a banned substances violation by USADA, WADA, IOC, USOC, or FISA. The USRowing Bylaws and Grievance Procedures can be found at: <http://www.usrowing.org/governance/>
 - c) A USRowing team doctor, after consultation with the athlete and the coach of that boat, may declare an athlete medically unable to compete because the athlete's physical condition would inhibit the performance of the boat per the doctor's diagnosis.
 - d) An athlete is deemed by USADA, WADA, IOC, USOC, FISA, or USRowing as not in compliance with their respective anti-doping policies.

Additional Information

PROCESS FOR ISSUES AND CONFLICTS

An athlete or coach who has issues related to selection, funding, or logistics is strongly encouraged to discuss his/her concern or issue first with:

- a) The appropriate National Team Coach directly or through a USRowing athlete representative
- b) The USRowing High Performance Director
- c) Chair of the High Performance Committee

For issues occurring during selection events the [USRowing National Team Selection Event Due Process Procedure](#) will be followed.

USOC ATHLETE OMBUDSMAN

If you have questions regarding your opportunity to compete that are not answered by your USRowing staff, you may contact the USOC Athlete Ombudsman: Sara Clark by telephone at (888) ATH-LETE, or by e-mail at sara.clark@usoc.org.

INTERNATIONAL DISCLAIMER

These Selection Procedures are based on FISA and/or USRowing rules and regulations as presently known and understood. Any change in the Selection Procedures caused by a change in FISA and/or USRowing rules and regulations will be incorporated herein and distributed to the affected athletes immediately. The selection criteria are based on the latest information available to USRowing. However, the selections are always subject to unforeseen, intervening circumstances, and realistically have not accounted for every possible contingency.

PRIORITY OF WRITTEN PROCEDURES

The terms and conditions of these written Selection Procedures shall take priority over any verbal explanation, clarification or interpretation of the Selection Procedures, and an athlete or coach relies on a verbal explanation, clarification or interpretation of these Selection Procedures at his or her sole risk. Any request or question that would involve a formal clarification or interpretation of these Selection Procedures, or that would address an issue not otherwise covered in these Selection Procedures, should be submitted to Matt Imes at USRowing in writing, and the response to such request by USRowing must be provided in writing and must be published promptly on the USRowing website.

ANTI-DOPING AND SAFE SPORT VIOLATIONS

If an athlete is alleged to have committed an anti-doping rule violation, that athlete shall remain on the Team (or remain eligible to be nominated to the Team) until: a) the athlete is provisionally suspended or declared ineligible after a hearing conducted pursuant to the U.S. Anti-Doping Agency Protocol for Olympic Movement Testing or by FISA; b) the athlete voluntarily accepts a provisional suspension or sanction of ineligibility; or c) the athlete voluntarily withdraws from the Team or relinquishes eligibility to be nominated to the Team.

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

USRowing will retain all supporting documents, including scouting or evaluation forms, etc., and data from the selection process for six months past the date of the 2017 Senior World Championships. Records pertaining to a specific selection process under these procedures will be made available for review to an athlete involved in such selection, upon written request to the High Performance Director.

QUESTIONS

For questions regarding these procedures, you may contact the USRowing High Performance Director, Matt Imes, matt@usrowing.org