

**United States Rowing Association
Athlete Selection Procedure
U.S. Para-Rowing Team**

*2018 World Rowing Championships
September 9- September 16, 2018
Plovdiv, Bulgaria*

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Eligibility Requirements

The USRowing National Team selection process is open to all athletes who meet all the following criteria:

- a) All athletes must be championship members of, and be in good financial standing with, USRowing.
- b) All athletes must abide by the Athlete Selection Procedures and the USRowing Rules of Rowing 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.
- d) All athletes must have read and signed a copy of the 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, IPC, 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, IPC, USOC, WADA, and FISA rules, policies, and procedures; any such additional requirements will be incorporated herein and published as soon as practicable.
- f) All athletes must meet eligibility rules to compete for the United States under IOC, IPC, USOC, and IF governance.
- g) All candidates must adhere to the [USRowing ECG & Pre-Competition Health Screening Policy](#).
- h) For Para rowers, a USA or FISA Classification and sport class status is needed prior to trials or selection camp date, depending on athlete's participation. To determine if you already have an official sport class, you can go to www.usrowing.org or www.worldrowing.com/para-rowing to find the Master Classification List for each. If an athlete has not been classified prior to trials or camp, they must have the FISA Medical Diagnostics Form completed by an MD or DO (PA and CRNP cannot sign the form). Athletes also must ensure that the doctor includes all additional required medical documentation as listed in the third column of page 2 on the form, with an asterisk (*). If an athlete has been



classified by a USA classification panel but has not provided medical documentation, he or she must do so prior to trials or the selection camp. This form must be completed at least 30 days prior to the first day of camp or at least 30 days prior to trials and must be sent to Liz Soutter at liz@usrowing.org. If this is not completed, athletes will not be allowed to participate in either trials or the camp.



Anti-Doping

All athletes participating in selection for the United States National Rowing Team are subject to the USADA, IOC, IPC, USOC, WADA, FISA, and USRowing rules, decisions, policies, and procedures relating to banned substances, including drug testing administered by representatives of USADA or FISA, and obtaining and maintaining current therapeutic use exemptions. Athletes who violate USADA, IOC, IPC, 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

NATIONAL SELECTION REGATTA II / SPRING SPEED ORDER II

NSR II (PR3 M2-, PR3 W2-)

Speed Order II (PR2 M1x, PR2 W1x)

May 17-20, 2018

West Windsor, NJ

SENIOR WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS TRIALS I

(PR2 Mix2x, PR1 M1x, PR1 W1x)

July 5-8, 2018

West Windsor, NJ

PR3 Mix4+ SELECTION CAMP NOMINATION DATE

July 27, 2018

SENIOR WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS TRIALS II

(PR3 Mix2x, PR3 M2-, PR3 W2-, PR2 M1x, PR2 W1x)

August 5-8, 2018

West Windsor, NJ

WORLD ROWING CHAMPIONSHIPS

September 9-16, 2018

Plovdiv, Bulgaria

Funding for 2018 Para-Rowing Boats

FUNDED BOAT CLASSES

The USRowing funded boat class for the 2018 World Rowing Championships is the PR3 Mix4+. Athletes who are selected for the PR3 Mix4+ for the United States will qualify for funding for travel to the world championships.

Funded para-rowing boat classes for 2019 will be re-evaluated after the 2018 World Rowing Championships. It is possible that boat classes may be added or removed based on performance.

OTHER BOAT CLASSES

Non-funded Paralympic boat classes for the 2018 World Rowing Championships are: PR2 Mix2x, PR1 M1x, and PR1 W1x.

The non-Paralympic boat classes for the 2018 World Rowing Championships are: PR3 Mix2x, PR3 M2-, PR3 W2-, PR2 M1x, and PR2 W1x.

Non-funded Paralympic boat classes and non-Paralympic boat classes are responsible for paying fees and expenses associated with athlete and coach travel to, and participation in, the 2018 World Rowing Championships, covering local travel, support, and room and board expenses (2018 Fees). The 2018 Fees will be posted as soon as possible but not later than July 1, 2018. Each boat that wins at trials and its respective named coach are required to pay the 2018 Fees at the trials site.

EXCEPTIONS FOR NON-FUNDED PARALYMPIC BOAT CLASSES:

The athlete(s) and named coach of any non-funded Paralympic boat class that places in the top four (4) at the 2018 World Rowing Championships will be reimbursed 2018 Fees paid for the athletes and their named coach. If there are less than eight (8) entries in the field, a top 50% finish will be required to qualify for reimbursement. If there is an odd number of entries in the event (i.e. seven entries), then a top three (3) finish would be needed to finish inside the top 50% margin.

Selection Procedures

As outlined below, selection to the 2018 World Rowing Championship Team (2018 Team) will be made in one of two methods:

Selection Through Trials

TRIALS BOATS: PR2 Mix2x, PR1 M1x, PR1 W1x, PR3 Mix2x, PR3 M2-, PR3 W2-, PR2 M1x, PR2 W1x

SENIOR & PARA WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP TRIALS I

PR2 Mix2x, PR1 M1x, PR1 W1x

July 5-8, 2018

West Windsor, N.J.

SENIOR & PARA WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP TRIALS II

PR3 Mix2x, PR3 M2-, PR3 W2-, PR2 M1x, PR2 W1x

August 5-8, 2018

West Windsor, N.J.

The winning boat at the World Rowing Championship Trials in each event will be eligible to represent the United States at the 2018 World Rowing Championships.

The athletes in that boat must satisfy the minimum eligibility criteria set forth on page three and declare their intent to compete in the 2018 World Rowing Championships in writing to the USRowing Para High Performance Director, or designee, no later than two hours after their final race at trials has been declared official.

Each winning boat at trials is required to nominate a coach at the trials, who is required to travel with the crew for the length of the 2018 World Rowing Championships. Exceptions to this rule may only be granted by the Para High Performance Director. Nominated coaches must meet the requirements in Appendix D – Nominated Coaches.

Selection Camp Process

SELECTION CAMP BOATS: PR3 Mix4+

The members of the PR3 Mix4+ shall be selected through a National Team Selection Camp according to the following selection method:

QUALIFICATION FOR SELECTION CAMP

1. Automatic Qualification: Athletes who place in the top two of the PR3 M2- and PR3 W2- events at National Selection Regatta II will receive an automatic invitation to the PR3 Mix4+ Selection Camp.
2. Qualifications: Ideal candidates should have two years of competitive racing experience and meet the following erg standards.
 - Women: 2,000m erg score of 7:30 minutes with a rating between 28 and 34 spm, witnessed by a coach.
 - Men: 2,000m erg score of 6:35 minutes with a rating between 28 and 34 spm, witnessed by a coach.

The erg score submission should be accompanied by a letter of recommendation by the coach confirming both the score and the athlete's minimum two years of competitive rowing experience. Athletes who do not meet the above standards may still apply to selection camp, and may be invited at the head coach's discretion. All submissions must be sent to Tom Darling at tdarling@usrowing.org by May 15, 2018.

3. Invitation: Recommendations for invitations shall be subject to review and approval of the Nomination Committee. In determining recommendations for invitations, the National Team Coach shall consider any or all of the following factors, which are listed in no particular order:
 - Athlete's compatibility with other potential members of the crew;
 - Past performance in international competition;
 - Past performance in domestic competition;
 - In the case of a coxswain, the athlete's weight, and
 - In the case of a coxswain, video and audio recording of his/her on-the-water skills.
4. Classification: Athletes must possess a current USA or FISA Classification prior to the mandatory period of selection camp (prior to July 21, 2018). Interested athletes



should follow the classification guidelines and deadlines listed on page 3 to ensure their eligibility. Please note that coxswain candidates do not need to be classified.

DATES AND LOCATIONS OF SELECTION CAMP

The PR3 Mix4+ camp will be held in Boston, MA, at Community Rowing, Inc. (CRI) from July 9-27, 2018.

The National Team PR3 Mix4+ Coach may elect, at their sole discretion, after consulting with the Nominating Committee, to set an end date for the Selection Camp that is earlier than the dates listed above. Any start date and/or location changes will be posted on www.usrowing.org at least 30 days prior to the start of camp. The National Team PR3 Mix4+ Coach may coordinate participation in outside competitions for camp athletes (including, but not limited to, the 2018 USRowing Club National Championships on July 11-15, 2018, in Camden, N.J.)

In order to accommodate athletes that have family or work commitments outside of rowing, athletes will only be required to participate in the selection camp from July 21-27, 2018. Prospective members of the PR3 Mix4+ must be present at camp for these seven days. Athletes who have the ability to participate in the full camp (July 6 -27, 2018) are highly encouraged to do so in order to maximize the benefit of participating in the camp setting. This part of the camp is mandatory for all athletes nominated to the PR3 Mix4+.

There will be a preparation camp for selected athletes held at Community Rowing, Inc., beginning after the conclusion of selection camp and through to the departure for the world championships (exact travel dates to be determined). Selected athletes are highly encouraged to participate in the preparation camp.

SELECTION

1. At the Selection Camp, the National Team Coach will evaluate potential crews for the boat he/she will coach based on the following factors, which are listed in no particular order:
 - Competitive performance during training sessions;
 - Overall performance at the Selection Camp;
 - Athlete's sport class (PD, VI) and how it fits within the rest of the crew;
 - Athlete's compatibility with rest of the crew;
 - Erg Performance;
 - Recommendations of other relevant coaches; and
 - In the case of coxswain, the athlete's weight and steering ability.
2. The criteria outlined above and the Selection Camp processes 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 as compared with each other 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.

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 2018 World Rowing Championships.

3. Selection Recommendations

- i. The National Team PR3 Mix4+ Coach shall make all recommendations for the Selection Camp boats by 5 pm EST on July 27, 2018.
- ii. The recommendations of the National Team PR3 Mix4+ Coach shall be subject to review of the Nomination Committee and must be approved by the Nomination Committee to be effective.
- iii. The athletes in the nominated boat must declare their intent to compete in the 2018 World Rowing Championships in writing to the USRowing Para High Performance Director, or designee, no later than three days after approval by the Nomination Committee.
- iv. This Selection Camp boat recommended by the National Team PR3 Mix4+ Coach and approved by the Nomination Committee will be named to the 2018 Team, provided the athletes in each such boat timely submit their declaration of intent to compete and satisfy the minimum eligibility criteria set forth on page 3.
- v. USRowing will announce the 2018 Para National Team no later than July 31, 2018.

Identity and Role of National Team Coaches and Staff

The National Team PR3 Mix4+ Coach is appointed by the High Performance Director or Para High Performance Director. This coach is responsible for making recommendations to the Nomination Committee for the PR3 Mix4+. In making recommendations called for under these Procedures, the National Team Coach may seek input and information from other coaches he/she deems appropriate.

SELECTION OF COACHES

Trials Boats must propose one coach for their boat to attend the 2018 World Rowing Championships subject to meeting the criteria outlined in Appendix D – Nominated Coaches. The Nomination Committee will select coaches to the 2018 Team based on the following criteria no later than three days after the last day of Trials, as applicable. All proposed candidates will be evaluated according to the following criteria (listed in order of priority):

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

SELECTION OF OTHER STAFF

USRowing programs staff will select the team manager, doctors, trainers, and other staff. Some Para athletes may qualify to bring one Personal Care Assistant/Service Dog to the world championships. This will be a need-based determination at the discretion of the Para Rowing Director with input from the team physician. Please see Appendix H for more information.

COMPOSITION AND ROLE OF THE NOMINATION COMMITTEE

The Nomination Committee shall review and approve or amend the recommendation of the Para-Rowing National Team Coach. The Nominating Committee shall be comprised of the High Performance Director or Para-Rowing High Performance Director, the Adaptive Committee and an athlete representative.

Additional Information

PROCESS FOR ISSUES AND CONFLICTS

An athlete or coach who has issues related to selection and 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 Para High Performance Director
- c) An Adaptive Committee member

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.

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 2018 World Rowing Championships. Records pertaining to a specific selection process under these Selection Procedures will be made available for review to an athlete involved in such selection, upon written request to the Para High Performance Director.

QUESTIONS

If you have any questions regarding these procedures, you may contact the USRowing Para High Performance Director, Tom Darling, at tdarling@usrowing.org or the



USRowing Para National Team Manager, Liz Soutter, at liz@usrowing.org.

REPLACEMENT OF AN ATHLETE

In the event of a vacancy in one or more boats on the 2018 Team, that vacancy will be filled according to [Appendix I – Removal and Replacement of an Athlete, Coach, or Staff Member](#).