

Appendix H - USRowing Policy on Service Dogs and Personal Care Attendants

USRowing recognizes that Para athletes on the National Rowing Team may require assistance from a service dog or personal care attendant (PCA) while traveling as part of the delegation. In order to effectively integrate this support service into the delegation, USRowing sets the following guidelines and expectations.

SERVICE DOGS:

- Athletes shall submit a written notification to USRowing staff within 7 days of being selected to the team in order for a service dog to be considered to accompany the athletes during a team trip.
- Service dogs shall be fully trained and comply with ADA guidelines for service animals. Service dogs must also meet veterinary and vaccination requirements for travel to their final destination.
- It is the responsibility of the athlete to research animal travel guidelines for foreign nations and ensure compliance with local regulations
- During practice and competition during the trip, service animals shall either be crated or held by USRowing staff, at the discretion of the athlete.
- All additional costs associated with bringing a service dog are the responsibility of the athlete.

PERSONAL CARE ATTENDANTS (PCA):

- Athletes requesting personal support in the form of a PCA shall submit a written request to USRowing staff within 7 days of being selected to the team. In such a request, the athletes should outline the specific reasons/needs for a PCA, nominate who they wish that PCA to be, and outline the qualifications of that individual (may include copies of any certifications and/or licenses).
- The USRowing Para Rowing Director shall review such requests with input from the team physician.
- The request for a PCA may be approved to facilitate the safe and successful participation of the athlete. PCAs should not interfere with the management or coaching of the team/athlete. Accordingly, a PCA may have access to the field of play, credentialed athlete preparation areas, and other competition-related locations at the discretion of the Para High Performance Director or their designee.
- All additional costs associated with bringing a PCA are the responsibility of the athletes.