

UNITED STATES ASSOCIATION OF BLIND ATHLETES (USABA)
ATHLETE SELECTION PROCEDURES
2019 PARAPAN AMERICAN GAMES
GOALBALL
JULY 12, 2017

1. SELECTION SYSTEM

1.1. Provide the minimum eligibility requirements for an athlete to be considered for selection to the Team:

1.1.1. Nationality/Passport requirements:

Athlete must be a national of the United States at the time of nomination.

Athlete must hold a valid U.S. passport that will not expire for six months after the conclusion of the Games.

1.1.2. Minimum International Paralympic Committee (IPC) standards for participation:

Any competitor in the Olympic, Paralympic, Pan American or Parapan American Games must be a national of the country of the National Olympic Committee (NOC) or National Paralympic Committee (NPC) which is entering such competitor. For additional information regarding an athlete who is a national of two or more countries, has changed his or her nationality or acquired a new nationality, refer to the Olympic Charter (Rule 41), the IPC Handbook (Section 2, Chapter 3.1), or the PASO Statutes (Article XXII, Sections 4 and 5).

1.1.3. Minimum International Federation (IF) standards for participation (if any):

Any athlete must meet IPC nationality requirements and must be able to meet International Blind Sports Federation (IBSA) standards to classify as a B1, B2 or B3 athlete. Selected athletes must be registered and licensed in the IBSA Sports Administration System (ISAS).

1.1.4. Other requirements (if any):

Athletes must be a USABA member in good standing. Additionally, athletes must have successfully completed all Games registration requirements by stated deadline.

1.2. Tryout Events:

- 1.2.1. Provide the event names, dates and locations of all trials, events and camps to be used as part of the selection process.

USABA Northwest Regional Goalball Tournament (Cascade Classic Goalball Tournament (Men and Women)

February 2019 (specific dates to be announced late 2018)
Vancouver, Washington

USABA Midwest Regional Goalball Tournament (Men and Women)

March 2019 (specific dates to be announced late 2018)
Warren, Michigan

USABA Midwest Northeast Regional Goalball Tournament (Men and Women)

April 2019 (specific dates to be announced late 2018)
Westmont, New Jersey

USABA Southeast Regional Goalball Tournament (Men and Women)

May 2019 (specific dates to be announced late 2018)
Smyrna, Georgia

- 1.2.2. Provide event names, dates, locations and description of how athletes qualify for the trials, events and camps listed above in 1.2.1. (if any).

All events listed in 1.2.1 are open to all athletes who are USABA members and in good standing.

- 1.3. Provide a comprehensive, step-by-step description of the method that explains how athletes will go through the selection process (include maximum Team size).

The Men's and Women's 2019 Parapan American Team nominations (6 primaries and 2 replacements for both men's and women's team) will be recommended from among those athletes who have competed in one or more of the events listed in 1.2.1. All events listed in 1.2.1 are open to every goalball athlete who is a USABA member in good standing which affords them full opportunity to be considered for 2019 Parapan American Games Team nomination.

The coaching staff for each gender will make recommendations for nominations to the 2019 Parapan American Games Team based on the criteria listed below:

- ball speed
- accuracy

- defensive effectiveness
- offensive effectiveness
- the best ability and depth to cover both offense and defense
- execution and adaptation to the game to play independently of coach guidance at times when the coach cannot communicate with the team (periods of game play)
- team chemistry
- leadership
- communication and trust

The following individuals will comprise the group to nominate athletes for the 2019 Parapan American Games Team to the U.S. Olympic Committee:

- Head Coach, USA Men's Goalball Team (Men's Team)
- Head Coach, USA Women's Goalball Team (Women's Team)
- Paralympic Goalball High Performance Director
- USABA Executive Director
- Athlete Representative

2. DISCRETIONARY SELECTION

2.1. Provide rationale for utilizing discretionary selection (if any):

The sport of Goalball is not a measured or timed event. In the event of selection of athletes who will compete together as a Team, it is impossible to make selection decisions based solely on objective criteria. USABA believes the selection criteria outlined above, which includes subjective components in the evaluation of performance and ability, will result in the selection of athletes to comprise the best Team.

2.2. List the discretionary criteria and explain how they will be used (if any):

The Discretionary Selection Committee will consider the criteria outlined in Sections 1.2, 1.3 and 2.1, using the general philosophy of identifying athletes who comprise the best team.

2.3. The 2017 IBSA Parapan Goalball Athlete Selection Committee will be responsible for making discretionary selections, along with a complete list of the members' titles currently serving on the committee:

- Head Coach, USA Men's Goalball Team (for Men's Team only)
- Head Coach, USA Women's Goalball Team (for Women's Team only)
- Paralympic Goalball High Performance Manager

- USABA Executive Director
- Athlete Representative

- 2.3.1. Specify the process that will be used to identify and handle any potential conflicts of interest involving a member of the committee.

Any member of the selection committee that has a possible conflict of interest must disclose it. If such conflict exists, the selection committee member must recuse him/herself from committee discussions and voting. Further, the committee member should not otherwise influence other members of the committee in the selection process. However, a committee member who recused him/herself, but who has relevant and necessary information with respect to athlete performance, for example a national team coach or high performance director, may, if requested by the selection committee, provide such information to the committee so long as such information is provided in a fair and unbiased manner and the committee member who declared the conflict of interest does not vote toward the final decision.

3. REMOVAL OF ATHLETES

- 3.1. Prior to entry by name to the Local Organizing Committee by the USOC, the NGB/HPMO has jurisdiction over potential nominees.

An athlete who is to be nominated to the Team by the USABA may be removed for any of the following reasons, as determined by the USABA:

- 3.1.1. Voluntary withdrawal. Athlete must submit a written letter to the USABA Executive Director.
- 3.1.2. Injury or illness as certified by a physician (or medical staff) approved by USABA. If an athlete refuses verification of his/her illness or injury by a physician (or medical staff) approved by the USABA, his/her injury will be assumed to be disabling and he/she may be removed.
- 3.1.3. Failure to participate in Mandatory Training and/or Competition as defined in Section 9 of these procedures.
- 3.1.4. Violation of the USABA's Code of Conduct and Program Participant Agreement (Attachment 1).
- 3.1.5. Re-classification of the athlete by the IPC/IBSA, such that the athlete's qualifying performance would not have qualified him/her for the Team.
- 3.1.6. Removal by the IPC of the event which the athlete qualified for the Team, from the program of the 2019 Parapan American Games.

An athlete who is removed from the Team pursuant to this provision has the right to a hearing per the USABA's Grievance and Complaint Procedures and the USOC's Bylaws, Section 9.

- 3.2. Once athlete entries have been submitted to the Local Organizing Committee by the USOC, the USOC has jurisdiction over the Team, at which time, in addition to any applicable NGB/HPMO Code of Conduct, the USOC's Code of Conduct and Grievance Procedures apply. The USOC's Code of Conduct and Grievance Procedures can be found at:

<http://www.teamusa.org/Footer/Legal/Governance-Documents>

- 3.3. An athlete may be removed as a nominee to the Team or from the Team for an adjudicated violation of IOC, PASO, IPC, WADA, IF, USADA and/or USOC anti-doping protocol, policies and procedures, as applicable.

4. REPLACEMENT OF ATHLETES

- 4.1. Describe the selection and approval process for determining replacement athlete(s) should a vacancy occur:

- 4.1.1. prior to submission of Entries by Name to the Local Organizing Committee, including any applicable group or committee:

See Section 1.3

- 4.1.2. after submission of Entries by Name to the Local Organizing Committee, including any applicable group or committee:

See Section 1.3

5. SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

USABA will retain the approved Selection Procedures and all supporting documents, including scouting or evaluation forms, etc., and data from the selection process for six months past the date of the Closing Ceremony of the Games.

6. REQUIRED DOCUMENTS

In addition to the USOC Code of Conduct, the following documents are required to be signed by an athlete as a condition of nomination to the Parapan American Games and are included as attachments:

USABA Code of Conduct and Program Participant Agreement (Attachment 1)

7. PUBLICITY/DISTRIBUTION OF PROCEDURES

The USOC approved Selection Procedures (complete and unaltered) will be posted/published by USABA in the following locations:

7.1. USABA Web site: www.usaba.org

These procedures will be posted as soon as possible, but not more than five business days following notice of approval by the USOC.

7.2. Other: Not applicable.

8. DATE OF NOMINATION

The Nomination of Athletes form, including replacements, will be announced to all athletes and submitted to the USOC on or before:

June 1, 2019.

9. MANDATORY TRAINING AND/OR COMPETITION

Specify the location, schedule and duration of mandatory training and/or competition:

The dates and locations for any mandatory training and/or competitions for the nominated 2019 Parapan American Games Team athletes will be announced at least 30 days prior to the event. Information will be posted on the USABA website: www.usaba.org.

10. ANTI-DOPING REQUIREMENTS

Athletes must adhere to all IOC, IPC, PASO, WADA, IF, USADA and USOC anti-doping protocols, policies and procedures, as applicable. This includes participation in Out-of-Competition Testing as required by the IOC, IPC, PASO, WADA, IF, USADA and USOC Rules, as applicable.

11. DEVELOPMENT OF SELECTION PROCEDURES

The following committee was responsible for creating these Selection Procedures:

Jake Czechowski, Head Coach, USA Women's Goalball Team
Matthew Boyle, Head Coach, USA Men's Goalball Team
John Potts, Paralympic Goalball High Performance Director
Mark Lucas, USABA Executive Director
Matthew Simpson, Athlete Representative

12. NGB/HPMO BYLAWS AND GRIEVANCE PROCEDURES

The USABA Grievance and Complaint Procedures Bylaws and Grievance Procedures can be found at: www.usaba.org

13. INTERNATIONAL DISCLAIMER

These procedures are based on IOC, IPC, PASO, as applicable, and/or IBSA rules and regulations as presently known and understood. Any change in the selection procedures caused by a change in IOC, IPC, PASO, as applicable, and/or IBSA rules and regulations will be distributed to the affected athletes immediately. The selection criteria are based on the latest information available to USABA. However, the selections are always subject to unforeseen, intervening circumstances, and realistically may not have accounted for every possible contingency.

If any force of nature, or force majeure, should cause the alteration or cancellation of any of the selection events listed in this document, these selection procedures will be revised, pursuant to their resubmission to the USOC.



14. ATHLETE OMBUDSMAN

Athletes who have questions regarding their opportunity to compete that are not answered by USABA may contact the USOC Athlete Ombudsman, Kacie Wallace, by:

- Telephone at (719) 866-5000
- Email at Kacie.wallace@usoc.org
- <http://www.teamusa.org/Athlete-Resources/Athlete-Ombudsman>

15. NGB/HPMO SIGNATURES

I certify that I have read and understand the standards/criteria set by our IF and/or CF (PAG/PPAG only) and incorporated those standards/criteria into our Selection Procedures. I further certify that the information provided herein regarding Athlete Selection Procedures represents the method approved by USABA.

Position	Print Name	Signature	Date
NGB/HPMO President or CEO/Executive Director	Mark A. Lucas		July 12, 2017
Nat. Team Coach, Head Coach, or Nat. Program Director	John E. Potts		12 Jul 17
USOC Athletes' Advisory Council Representative*	Matthew Simpson		

* If the USOC AAC Representative has delegated authority to the Alternate AAC Representative to sign the Selection Procedures, attach a letter from the AAC Representative indicating the reason he/she has delegated authority.

From: Simpson, Matthew <simpsonm12@mail.wlu.edu>

Sent: Friday, June 30, 2017 8:05 AM

To: John Potts

Cc: Mark Lucas

Subject: Re: Selection Criteria

Hi John, I have seen them and they look just fine to me. Do you need anything else from me besides my acknowledgement? Thanks. Good luck to the teams!

Sent from my iPhone

On Jun 28, 2017, at 9:32 AM, John Potts <jpotts@usaba.org> wrote:

Hi Matt,

Great seeing you this weekend. I wanted to see where you are with reviewing the Lima selection criteria documents. As you know I, we need to get them to USOC by the 1st and I am taking youth teams to Hungary tomorrow which limits my ability to communicate. If you can get those turned prior to the 1st it would be appreciated.

Thanks!

John

John Potts

U.S. Association of Blind Athletes (USABA)

Empowering | Inspiring | Life-changing

1 Olympic Plaza

Colorado Springs, CO 80909

719-534-3805

jpotts@usaba.org

This email has been scanned for spam and viruses

* Signature by the Athlete Representative constitutes that he/she has read and understands the Selection Procedures. If the Athlete Representative reads and does not agree with the Athlete Selection Procedures being submitted by the NGB/HPMO, he/she may submit those reasons in writing to his/her Sport Performance Team.

* If, for some reason, a sport does not have an elected USOC AAC Representative, the NGB/HPMO must designate an athlete from that sport to review and sign the Selection Procedures.

Attachment 1
United States Association of Blind Athletes (USABA)
2019 Code of Conduct and Program Participant Agreement

This Code applies to athletes and staff members who participate in USOC or USABA funded national goalball program activities.

I pledge to uphold the spirit of the United States Association of Blind Athletes (USABA) Code of Conduct (the “Code”), which offers a guide to my conduct as a member of a United States National Goalball Team (the “Team”) or as a participant USABA or USOC goalball programs. I acknowledge that I have a right to a hearing if my opportunity to compete is denied or if I am charged with a violation of this Code.

I have familiarized myself with the Code and understand that acceptance of its provisions is a condition of my selection to the 2019 U.S. National/Paralympic Goalball Team and/or participation in 2019 USABA or USOC goalball programs

As a Member of the Team, I hereby promise and agree that:

- I will abide by all rules related to the Team selection procedures as approved by the USOC and/or USABA;
- I will act in a sportsmanlike manner consistent with the spirit of fair play and responsible conduct;
- if I am an athlete, I will maintain a level of fitness and competitive readiness that will permit my performance to be at the maximum of my abilities and, as required, will provide my coaching staff periodic reports of my training progress;
- if am an athlete, I will not commit doping violations as defined by the Olympic/Paralympic Movement Anti-Doping Code (OMADC), World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA), the United States Anti-Doping Agency (USADA), (USOC) or the International Blind Sports Federation (IBSA) rules;
- I will not use or condone the use of any substances placed on the current WADA or USADA banned substances list for in-competition testing or out-of-competition testing;
- I will not engage in any conduct that is criminal under any laws applicable to me, including, but not limited to laws governing the possession and use of drugs and alcohol and providing of drugs to any person and of alcohol to minors;
- I am eligible to participate under the rules of IBSA;
- I will refrain from conduct detracting from my ability or that of my teammates to attain peak performance;
- I will respect the property of others whether personal or public;
- I will respect members of my Team, other teams, spectators and officials, and engage in no form of discriminatory behavior or verbal, physical or sexual harassment or abuse;
- if I am a coach or staff member, I will complete United States Olympic Committee (USOC) Safe Sport Program training and will comply with the full spirit and intent of the program;
- if I am an athlete, I will follow my Team’s rules, including by way of example, rules regarding curfew and required on-time attendance at team meetings;

- if I travel on USOC or USABA procured travel, and traveling to a USABA or USOC funded training camp or competition, I will not voluntarily delay my travel for personal benefit (such as money or airline credit) if that delay results in missing any part of scheduled events or activities or results in any additional logistical expenses for USABA or the USOC
- I am aware that United States Olympic Committee (USOC) and USABA sponsors, suppliers and licensees provide critical support for the Team and, in recognition of this fact, I will wear designated USOC and USABA apparel at all official Team functions and events;
- I will not conceal or cover-up any USOC and/or USABA sponsor, supplier or licensee brand or other identification appearing on my USOC and/or USABA apparel;
- I agree to be filmed and photographed by the official photographer(s) and network(s) of USOC and/or USABA under conditions authorized by USOC and/or USABA and give event organizers and USOC and/or USABA the right to use my name, picture, likeness, and biographical information before, during and after the period of my participation in these activities to promote the activity in which I participate or to promote the success of the team on which I compete; in no event may USOC and/or USABA or the event organizers use or authorize the use of my name, picture, likeness, voice and biographical information for the purpose of trade, including any use in a manner that would imply an endorsement of any company, product, or service, without my written permission;
- I will not use or authorize the use of photographs, films or videos of myself in my USOC and/or USABA apparel or equipment or the use of the USOC and/or USABA logo for the purpose of trade, without the prior written consent of the USOC and/or USABA (which consent shall not be unreasonably withheld);
- I will act in a way that will bring respect and honor to myself, my teammates, USOC and/or USABA and the United States; and

AFFIRMATION

I have read and accept this Code of Conduct and Program Participant Agreement. I agree to the rules, guidelines, jurisdiction and procedures stated in these documents as a condition of being selected to participate as a member of the Team.

Signature	Date
United States Association of Blind Athletes	Goalball
NGB/HPMO Name	Sport

**PARENT/GUARDIAN CERTIFICATION
(For Participants Under the Age of 18 as of Date of Signature)**

Signature	Date
Relationship (Parent or Guardian)	