

**USA VOLLEYBALL
ATHLETE SELECTION PROCEDURES
2023 Pan American Games
Women's and Men's BEACH Volleyball
August 18, 2022**

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 Olympic Committee (IOC), International Paralympic Committee (IPC), Pan American Sports Organization (Panam Sports) or Americas Paralympic Committee (APC) 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), the Panam Sports Constitution (Article 34.4-7), or the Americas Paralympic Committee bylaws (Chapter 2.4.12 of the IPC Handbook).

1.1.3. Minimum International Federation (IF) and/or Continental Federation (CF) (PAG and PPAG only) standards for participation (if any):

Athletes must have signed and submitted the Athlete Eligibility Condition Form.

All participating athletes must be at least 14 years old.

Only the NOCs recognized by Panam Sports whose National Volleyball Federations are affiliated to the Fédération Internationale de Volleyball (FIVB) and the Pan American Volleyball Union (PVU) may enter competitors to

participate in the volleyball competition of the Santiago 2023 Pan American Games.

1.1.4. Other requirements (if any):

- Athlete must be a member in good standing of USA Volleyball at the time of nomination.
- The USAVP National Ranking (<https://avpamerica.com/VA-Beach-Volleyball-Player-Rankings.aspx>) is comprised of events sanctioned by a variety of organizations, additional memberships to those organizations may be required to compete in events sanctioned by those organizations. Please check with the event organizer on membership requirements.
- Athlete must successfully complete all Games Registration requirements by stated deadline.
- Any athlete age 18 or older will be required to undergo a background screen in accordance with the current [USOPC Background Check Policy](#).
- Any athlete age 18 or older as of the Closing Ceremony will be required to remain current with the U.S. Center for SafeSport's education and training requirements in accordance with the [USOPC Athlete Safety Policy](#).

1.2. Tryout Events:

1.2.1. Event names, dates and locations of all trials, competitions, and camps to be used as part of the selection process:

2023 USAV Pan Am Trials ("Trials") exact date and location are TBD and will be posted on www.usavolleyball.org no later than 30 days prior to the event.

1.2.2. Describe how athletes qualify for the events listed in 1.2.1.:

The twelve (12) highest ranked registered teams per gender according to the USAVP National Ranking (<https://avpamerica.com/VA-Beach-Volleyball-Player-Rankings.aspx>) and up to four (4) registered teams per gender via wild card entry will be allowed to compete. Team rankings for the twelve (12) highest ranked registered teams will be the sum of the two individual athlete's USAVP National Ranking points.

Wild Card entries, if awarded by the committee listed in Section 2.3, will be based on the following criteria in no particular order of priority:

- a. Physical metrics (such as strength, speed, height, vertical jump).
- b. Evidence of a positive trajectory of performance that would indicate the likelihood of success at future Olympic Games.
- c. Past volleyball results at domestic and international beach events.
- d. USAVP National Ranking (<https://avpamerica.com/VA-Beach-Volleyball-Player-Rankings.aspx>)
- e. Volleyball Specific Skillset performance such as: attack, blocking, digging, setting, serving, passing.
- f. Teamwork: The willingness to accept a role that leads to team success.
- g. Positive Attitude: Exhibiting enthusiasm and support of teammates.
- h. Versatility: Exhibiting a balance between offensive and defensive skills as well as the ability to play multiple sides and with multiple partners.
- i. Coach Direction: Exhibiting the ability to process and incorporate input from the coaching staff.

1.3. Step-by-step description of the selection process for these Games (include maximum Team size):

- 1.3.1. Athletes that meet the minimum criteria as outlined in section 1.1 can register for the 2023 USAV Pan Am Trials via www.usavolleyball.org. The registration links will be posted no later than 30 days before the start of the Trials and athletes must register at least 10 days before the start of the Trials (at which time registration closes).
- 1.3.2. The twelve (12) highest ranked registered teams per gender according to the USAVP National Ranking (see link above) as of the registration deadline and up to four (4) registered teams per gender via wild card entries will be allowed to compete in the Trials. Team rankings will be the sum of the individual athlete's USAVP National Ranking points. Teams with a higher sum will be seeded higher. Any unused wild card entries will be awarded to the next highest ranked registered team in that respective gender.

Exact competition rules and regulations will be posted on www.usavolleyball.org no later than 30 days before the event, but in general shall consist of a modified pool play phase followed by single elimination rounds culminating in bronze and gold medal matches.

The highest finishing team per gender at the Trials will be nominated to compete in the 2023 Pan American Games, to the USOPC on or before – September 10, 2023. The number of teams per gender that will be nominated will be based on the number

of 2023 Pan American Games team slots earned at qualifying competitions (up to 1 team per gender, unless modified by PASO).

2. DISCRETIONARY SELECTION (if applicable)

2.1. Rationale for utilizing discretionary selection (if any):

If USAV is unable to identify a replacement athlete or replacement team by the procedures described in Section 4, then the committee identified in Section 2.3 below will decide the eligible team or athlete to represent the U.S. at the 2023 Pan American Games based on the Wild Card criteria outlined in Section 1.2.2.

2.2. Define the discretionary criteria to be used (if any):

Refer to Section 1.2.2

2.3. Name of the committee that will be responsible for making discretionary selections, along with a complete list of the members' titles:

USAV Chief of Sport
USAV Beach National Team Director
USAV Beach National Team Development Coach
USAV Beach International Athlete (retired)
USAV Beach International Athlete (retired)

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

All members of the selection committee must comply with the NGB/PSO's conflict of interest policy, to include completing and submitting a disclosure form for review by the NGB/PSO's Ethics Committee prior to convening the committee.

Any member of the selection committee who has an actual, possible, or perceived conflict of interest must disclose it to the NGB/PSO's Ethics Committee prior to the start of the selection process and/or recuse him/herself from the review process and/or voting. A conflict of interest exists when a personal, family, financial, professional, club, team or business interest of the committee member poses a direct or indirect relationship, connection, or affiliation, past or present, with an athlete in contention for the applicable team selection that could compromise the

committee member's ability to participate in the selection process in an unbiased manner. If a conflict exists, the NGB/PSO's Ethics Committee shall review the conflict and determine the committee member's level of involvement (e.g., whether that committee member must recuse him/herself from participating in discussions and/or voting). For example, if it is determined that a committee member must recuse him/herself from voting, the Ethics Committee may still determine that a committee member 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 so long as the committee member with the conflict of interest does not vote toward the final decision. The committee member must not otherwise influence other members of the committee in the selection process.

Additionally, any person (including any potentially impacted athlete or coach of a potentially impacted athlete) with a good faith belief that a committee member has a conflict of interest may report the alleged conflict of interest to NGB/PSO's Ethics Committee. Reports may be made anonymously. No committee member shall retaliate in any way against a person who, in good faith, reports an alleged conflict of interest.

Any recused individual shall be replaced in accordance with the NGB/PSO selection committee appointment process.

3. REMOVAL OF ATHLETES

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

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

- 3.1.1. Voluntary withdrawal. Athlete must submit a written letter to the USA Volleyball CEO/Executive Director.
- 3.1.2. Injury or illness as certified by a physician (or medical staff) approved by USA Volleyball. If an athlete refuses verification of his/her illness or injury by a physician (or medical staff) approved by USA Volleyball, 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 USA Volleyball's Code of Conduct (See by example: [2022 USA Volleyball Code of Conduct](#). Code of Conduct Form will be updated by USA Volleyball for 2023-2024).

An athlete who is removed from the Team pursuant to this provision has the right to a hearing per USA Volleyball's Bylaws (Article XI and XIV) and the USOPC Bylaws, Section 9.

- 3.2. Once athlete entries have been submitted to the Local Organizing Committee by the USOPC, the USOPC has jurisdiction over the Team, at which time, in addition to any applicable NGB/PSO Code of Conduct, the USOPC's Code of Conduct and Grievance Procedures apply. The USOPC's Code of Conduct is included in the Games Forms made available prior to the respective Games; the USOPC's Grievance Procedures can be found at: 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, IPC, Panam Sports, APC, WADA, IF, USADA and/or USOPC anti-doping protocol, policies and procedures, as well as the U.S. Center for SafeSport Code, the USOPC Athlete Safety Policy and USA Volleyball's SafeSport policies, 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:

In the event a qualified and nominated Team loses one of its athletes due to those reasons identified in Section 3, then the remaining athlete of that Team may select an athlete to complete the Team from the Replacement Pool. The Replacement pool shall be those athletes of the same gender who are eligible to compete in the Pan AM Games and competed in the 2023 USAV Pan Am Trials.

If a selected Replacement Pool athlete declines to participate with the remaining athlete, the procedure will be repeated until the Team is complete. Should an athlete in the Replacement Pool decline to play with the remaining athlete, then the Replacement Pool athlete shall forfeit the right to compete in the 2023 Pan Am Games.

Should the remaining athlete decline to play with any of the Replacement Pool athletes, then the remaining athlete shall forfeit the right to compete in the 2023 Pan Am Games, and a replacement team shall be identified as the next highest placing team in the 2023 USAV Pan Am Trials. Any ties in placement will be broken by 2023 Pan Am Trials entry seeding (see section 1.3.2).

In the event that a qualified and nominated team (both athletes) is entirely removed pursuant to Section 3, then a replacement team shall be identified as the next highest placing team in the 2023 USAV Pan Am Trials.

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

Same as 4.1.1.

5. SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

USA Volleyball 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 USOPC Code of Conduct, the following documents are required to be signed by an athlete as a condition of nomination to the Pan American Games:

USAV's Registration Form (Region Specific – See by example: [Membership - USA Volleyball](#)) and Code of Conduct (See by example, [2022 USA Volleyball Code of Conduct](#). USA Volleyball approved forms will be updated and posted for the 2023-2024).

Signed Medical Release for participants under 18 years of age (See by example link above. Form will be updated by USA Volleyball for 2023-2024).

7. PUBLICITY/DISTRIBUTION OF PROCEDURES

The USOPC approved Selection Procedures (complete and unaltered) will be posted/published by USA Volleyball in the following public location(s):

- 7.1. NGB/PSO Web site: www.usavolleyball.org

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

- 7.2. Other: N/A

8. DATE OF NOMINATION

Nomination of athletes, including replacements, will be announced to all athletes and submitted to the USOPC on or before:

September 10, 2023

9. MANDATORY TRAINING AND/OR COMPETITION

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

N/A

10. ANTI-DOPING REQUIREMENTS

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

11. DEVELOPMENT OF SELECTION PROCEDURES

The following committee/group (include names and titles) was responsible for creating these Selection Procedures:

These selection procedures were developed by Sean Scott, USA Volleyball’s Director Beach National Teams and reviewed by Peter Vint, USA Volleyball Chief of Sport and Eric Duda, AAC Representative. For questions please contact: sean.scott@usav.org or call 310-975-3939.

12. NGB/PSO BYLAWS AND GRIEVANCE PROCEDURES

USA Volleyball Bylaws and Grievance Procedures can be found at:

<https://usavolleyball.org/about/governance/>

13. INTERNATIONAL DISCLAIMER

These procedures are based on IOC, IPC, Panam Sports, APC, as applicable, and/or FIVB rules and regulations as presently known and understood. Any change in the selection procedures caused by a change in IOC, IPC, Panam Sports, APC, as applicable, and/or FIVB rules and regulations will be

distributed to the affected athletes immediately. The selection criteria are based on the latest information available to USA Volleyball. 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 may require revisions, pursuant to their resubmission to the USOPC.

14. ATHLETE OMBUDS OFFICE

The Athlete Ombuds Office provides cost-free, independent and confidential advice regarding athlete rights, grievance procedures and any other related guidance pertaining to selection procedures and can assist in mediating disputes between athletes and their NGB/PSO.

To contact the Athlete Ombuds Office:

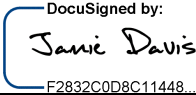
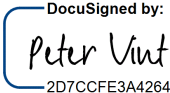
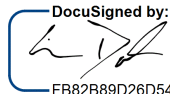
PHONE: (719) 866-5000

EMAIL: ombudsman@usathlete.org

WEBSITE: www.usathlete.org

15. NGB/PSO 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 USA Volleyball.

Position	Print Name	Signature	Date
USA Volleyball CEO	Jamie Davis	 <small>F2832C0D8C11448...</small>	9/1/2022
Chief of Sport	Peter Vint	 <small>2D7CCFE3A42649E...</small>	9/1/2022
USOPC Athletes' Advisory Council Representative*	Eric Duda	 <small>FB82B89D26D5487...</small>	9/2/2022

* If the USOPC 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.

* 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/PSO, he/she may submit those reasons in writing to his/her USOPC Sport Performance Team.

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