

**USA SWIMMING
ATHLETE SELECTION PROCEDURES
2009 FINA WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS**

I. SELECTION SYSTEM

The 2009 FINA World Championships (the "Championships") will be conducted in Rome, Italy July 26- August 2, 2009.

The following common definitions shall apply to this Team Selection Procedure.

- a. Available Swimmer. "Available Swimmer" shall mean a swimmer who, at the time of selection and through the Championships: (i) is a registered athlete member of USA Swimming in good standing, (ii) is a citizen of the United States who is eligible to represent the United States at the Championships, (iii) qualifies for the Team in an Event according to this Procedure, (iv) satisfies all the FINA, World Anti Doping Agency (WADA), United States Anti-Doping Agency (USADA) and USA Swimming applicable eligibility requirements, (v) was not a member of the 2009 World University Games Team, (vi) accepts the invitation to become a member of the Team when that invitation is offered by USA Swimming, (vii) agrees to swim in the Event for which he/she qualifies, and (viii) continues to train for peak swimming performance. If a swimmer does not satisfy these requirements, then he/she is not considered an Available Swimmer.
- b. Doubles. "Doubles" shall refer to the instance when one individual swimmer qualifies to compete in two or more different swimming Events at the Championships.
- c. Finals. "Finals" shall mean the heat that is conducted in each Qualifying Competition event from which the top finishers are determined.
- d. Event. "Event" shall refer to competitions held in long course meters only at the Championships and Qualifying Competition.
- e. Head Coach. Unless otherwise indicated, "Head Coach" shall refer to the head coach of the Team for each gender.
- f. World Ranking. "World Ranking" shall mean the ranking of the time swum by a swimmer in the Finals of the Qualifying Competition integrated into the combined Swimnews.com world ranking lists for 2008 and 2009 through June 30, 2009.
- g. National Team Head Coach. "National Team Head Coach" shall refer to the USA Swimming National Team Head Coach, or his designee.
- h. Qualifying Competition. "Qualifying Competition" shall mean the 2009 USA Swimming World Championship Trials. To be conducted July 7-11, 2009 in Indianapolis, IN. For the World Championship Trials, only swims from the A finals will be considered for the Team. In the 100 and 200 freestyle if there is no Available Swimmer is the A final the highest place finishers in the B final may be considered. Preliminary heats, relay lead-offs and time trials shall

NOT be considered for selection, but may be considered in making other determinations as described herein.

- i. Swim Offs. "Swim Offs" may be held at the Qualifying Competition for the sole purpose of determining priority selection order. They are put in place to determine ties between athletes in the same qualifying event and is a one time opportunity to resolve the tie for placement on the team. The time from the swim off will NOT count towards selection to the Initial Team.
- j. Selection to the Team. Selection of swimmers to the Team shall happen from July 7-11, 2009 at the Qualifying Competition.
- k. Team. "Team" shall mean the 2009 World Championship Team announced July 12, 2009, 10:00am EDT

A. **Selection Eligibility**. To be eligible for selection to the Team, the swimmer must be an Available Swimmer at the time of selection.

B. **Additional Requirements for Selection**.

All swimmers selected to the Team will be required to comply with all applicable rules and requirements of FINA, WADA, USADA, and USA Swimming. Specifically, and without limitation, each swimmer selected to the Team shall:

- 1. Sign and abide by the USA Swimming Honor Code, Waiver and Release, and Commitment Declaration (See Attachments A, B and C) and conform to all USA Swimming policies and protocol regarding Team preparation and participation;
- 2. Agree to be filmed and photographed by the official photographer(s) and network(s) of USA Swimming under the conditions authorized by USA Swimming and give USA Swimming the right to use his or her name, picture, likeness, and biographical information to promote the sport of swimming.

C. **Team Selection—Making and Filling the Team**.

1. Team Size. The maximum allowable Team size is up to twenty-six (26) men and twenty-six (26) women. The actual Team size will be determined once the selection criteria have been implemented. For purposes of this Procedure, the men's and women's components of the Team shall be considered separately.

2. Performance Criteria for Team Selection. Performances in the individual Olympic Events at the Qualifying Competition will be prioritized for each gender as follows to fill the Team up to a maximum of twenty-six (26) men and twenty-six (26) women. Only swimmers who qualify via one of the four-priorities set forth below are eligible for selection to the Team. Swimmers not qualifying via one of these priorities will not be eligible to be selected to the Team, unless they are subsequently selected to fill a vacant position according to Section I.4. If, after applying the four priorities set forth below, there are less than twenty-six (26) men or twenty-six (26) women, or both, on the Team, then USA Swimming will not field a full Team unless the Team is filled as a result of filling vacant positions as provided in Section I.D.

The Team for each gender shall be selected based on the following priorities:

- a. Priority #1. The first priority shall include both (i) the four highest-place finishers Available Swimmers at the Qualifying Competition in each of the 100-meter and 200-meter freestyle Events, (The first and second place finisher in each the 100 and 200 meter freestyle Events will swim the Event at the Championships) and (ii) the first Available Swimmer at the Qualifying Competition in each of the individual Olympic Events other than the 100-meter and 200-meter freestyle Events.
- b. Priority #2. The second priority shall be the second highest place finisher Available Swimmer in each of the individual Olympic Events other than the 100-meter and 200-meter freestyle Events.
- c. Priority #3. The third priority shall be the fifth highest place finisher Available Swimmer during the Qualifying Competition in each of the 100-meter and 200-meter freestyle Events.
- d. Priority #4. The fourth priority shall be the sixth highest place finisher Available Swimmer during the Qualifying Competition in each of the 100-meter and 200-meter freestyle Events.

3. Decreasing Team Size. If the prioritization procedures described above result in a list of either more than twenty-six (26) male or more than twenty-six (26) female swimmers, then the swimmers of each gender shall be ranked and selected to the Team according to the following system:

- a. All swimmers from priority #1 shall be selected to the Team.
- b. If selecting persons from Priority #1 and priority #2 would result in more than twenty-six (26) swimmers per gender on the Team, then the swimmers within priority #2 shall be invited to fill the Team based on the highest World Ranking until a maximum of twenty-six (26) swimmers are selected.
- c. If all Priority #2 swimmers are named to the Team and the maximum Team size of twenty-six (26) swimmers per gender has not been attained, then the same procedure of using the highest World Rankings will be used to rank the swimmers in Priority #3 and then Priority #4, respectively, until the Team has been filled, or until the list of Available Swimmers from Priority #1 through Priority #4 has been exhausted.

3. Breaking a Tie.

- a. Tie in Same Event. In the instance where there is tie between two or more swimmers in the same Event based on the times from the Qualifying Competition, the following will take place:

A swim off will be conducted in that Event on the day the tie occurred at a time determined by the National Team Head Coach.

- b. Tie in Different Events. In the instance where there is a tie between two or more swimmers in different Events for the final position(s) on the Team pursuant to the World Ranking the tie will be broken as follows:
- (i) Each swimmer's performance swum in their Event at the Finals of the Qualifying Competition will be converted into a ratio, using the Qualifying Competition time as the denominator, and the World Record for that Event as of July 6, 2009 as the numerator, and the swimmer(s) with the highest percentage shall be selected to the final position(s) on the Initial Team.
 - (ii) If this does not break the tie, then each swimmer's performance swum in their Event in the Finals of the Qualifying Competition will be rated according to the Final swimnews.com 2008 Long Course Performance Ratings and the swimmer(s) with the highest rating shall be selected to the final position(s) on the Team. Performance Ratings can be found at swimnews.com.
 - (iii) If this does not break the tie, the fastest time swum by each swimmer in their Event during the period from January 1, 2008 through and including June 30, 2009 will be ranked according to the combined Swimnews.com World Ranking lists for 2008 and 2009 through June 30, 2009, and the swimmer with the highest ranking will be added to the Team.
 - (iv) If this fails to break the tie, the tie will be broken by random draw.

D. **Adjustments to the Team between Naming to the Team and Entry Submission.**

1. Filling Vacant Team Position. If, for any reason, a position on the Team shall become vacant between the selection to the Team (July 7 – 11, 2009) and the date and time (July 12, 2009 10:00am EDT) USA Swimming submits its entries for the Championships such vacancy shall be filled as follows, provided, however, that nothing in this Section I.4 shall have the effect of bumping off the Team a swimmer who has already been selected to the Team:

a. Filling Vacant Event Position With No Team Vacancy.

A Team member who for any reason determines, in consultation with the Head Coach and National Team Head Coach, that it is in his/her best interest, either due to injury, the timing of Events at the Championships, or otherwise, not to compete in all of the individual Events for which he/she has qualified, but to remain on the Team and compete in some of the Events for which he/she qualified. In this case, he/she may decline the opportunity to compete in any individual Event, provided, however, that he/she is encouraged to notify the National Team Head Coach of his/her decision as soon as possible.

If the Team is full (twenty-six (26) per gender) at the time of his/her decision, the vacancy in any Event(s) shall be filled by the swimmer already on the Team who has recorded the fastest time in that Event during the period beginning January 1, 2008 and continuing through and including July 11, 2009; provided, however, that the replacement swimmer must agree, after consulting with the Head Coach and National Team Head Coach, to compete in the additional Event. If the replacement swimmer does not agree to swim in the additional Event, then the replacement swimmer shall not be considered an Available Swimmer for that Event. This process shall repeat until the Event is filled.

b. Filling Vacant Event Positions with Team Vacancy.

If the Team is not full (less than twenty-six (26) per gender) after a swimmer declines the position on the Team due to any reason, or Event positions otherwise become vacant, then the vacancy in any such Event(s) shall be filled by the next fastest Available Swimmer based on the order of finish in the Finals of the Qualifying Competition for each Event left vacant. In the 100 and 200- meter Freestyle Events, the seventh (7th) place finisher and other events the third (3rd) place finisher will be considered. If the next fastest Available Swimmer is already on the Team, and he/she agrees after consulting with the Head Coach and National Team Head Coach to swim in the additional Event, then he/she shall serve as the replacement in that Event, and no swimmer from that Event at the Qualifying Competition will be added to the Team. If he/she declines to swim in the additional Event, then he/she shall not be considered an Available Swimmer for that Event, and the next fastest Available Swimmer will be considered. If the next Available Swimmer is not already on the Team then the team will be selected according to section I.C.2. If adding the next Available Swimmer from each Event left vacant would cause the Team to exceed the maximum number (twenty-six (26) per gender) then those who qualify as the next fastest Available Swimmer in the Events left vacant shall be ranked according to the procedure described in Section I(C)(3) and I(C)(4), and those ranked highest according to that procedure shall be added to the Team until the Team reaches its maximum number of twenty-six (26) per gender.

II. ENTRY ADJUSTMENTS

Adjustments to the Team after July 12, 2009. If, for any reason, an Event position shall become vacant after July 12, 2009, 10:00 am EDT, no additional members shall be added to the Team. In the event that USA Swimming is permitted to fill a vacant Event position, such vacant Event position shall be filled with the swimmer already on the Team who has recorded the fastest long course time in such vacant Event during the period beginning January 1, 2008 through July 11, 2009, provided, however, that the replacement swimmer must agree, after consulting with the Head Coach and National Team Head Coach, to compete in the additional Event. If the replacement swimmer does not agree to swim in the additional Event, then the replacement swimmer shall not be considered an Available Swimmer for that Event. This process shall repeat until the Event is filled.

III. DISCRETIONARY SELECTION

Discretionary selection will not be used for any swimmers in individual Olympic Events from the Qualifying Competition. However, all swimmers who are on the Team shall be eligible for selection to any and all relays to be held at the Championships.

The Head Coach, in consultation with the assistant coaches and National Team Head Coach, shall select the swimmers for each relay conducted at the Championships. In selecting the relay teams, the Head Coach, in consultation with the assistant coaches and National Team Head Coach, shall consider all available information, including but not limited to each Team Member's Qualifying Competition performances (including preliminary times, time trials, and relay lead-off times), past relay performances, past relay reaction times, relay exchange experience, 2009 World Championship performances, personal best performances, 2009 Championships schedules, individual workload, other recent results and performances, consistency of performances, fatigue, health, fitness levels, training preparation, participation in relay training camps, scientific evaluation, attitude and team chemistry. Selection of swimmers for relays shall not be subject to challenge.

For non-Olympic individual Events at the Championships (M/W 50 Butterfly, M/W 50 Backstroke, M/W 50 Breaststroke, Men's 800 Freestyle and Women's 1500 Freestyle), athletes who are already on the Team will be named in these Events according to two priorities:

(i) Priority #1 - The first opportunity will be given to those athletes who have qualified for the Team in the Events listed below:

<u>First Offer to Those on Team In:</u>		<u>Non-Olympic Event</u>
Men's/Women's 100 Butterfly	for	Men's/Women's 50 Butterfly
Men's/Women's 100 Backstroke	for	Men's/Women's 50 Backstroke
Men's/Women's 100 Breaststroke	for	Men's/Women's 50 Breaststroke
Women's 800 Freestyle	for	Women's 1500 Freestyle
*Men's 400 and 1500 Freestyle	for	Men's 800 Freestyle

(ii) Priority #2 - Should a swimmer in one of these Events decline the opportunity to swim the non-Olympic Events, unfilled position(s) for such Event(s) shall, after consultation between the swimmer and Head Coach and National Team Head Coach, be filled by the Team member(s) who has swum the fastest time (or second-fastest time if two positions in the Event are to be filled) in such Event from January 1, 2008 – July 11, 2009. If vacant non-Olympic Event positions are still not filled, those positions shall be filled from among other swimmers already

on the Team at the discretion of the Head Coach, in consultation with the Assistant Coaches and the National Team Head Coach.

* The swimmers in the men's 400 and 1500 freestyle who have the highest World Ranking will be offered the first opportunity to swim the men's 800 Freestyle. If this results in a tie, the swimmer among the tied swimmers with the highest World Ranking in the 800 freestyle in the final 2008 long course swimnews.com world ranking shall be offered the opportunity.

IV. DISMISSAL FROM TEAM

Any swimmer may be dismissed from the Team at any time following an appropriate hearing if (i) the swimmer violates any of the applicable FINA, USA Swimming or other rules and regulations applicable to the Team or its members, including without limitation applicable Codes of Conduct; or (ii) the National Team Head Coach, in consultation with the Head Coach, the USA Swimming Olympic International Operations Committee (OIOC) Chairman and the USA Swimming Athletes' Executive Vice President, determines that the swimmer is unable or unwilling to maintain a training regimen that is necessary for peak performance in the Championships.

If a swimmer is alleged to have committed an anti-doping rule violation, that swimmer shall remain on the Team (or remain eligible to be named to the Team) until: 1) the swimmer 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 FINA; 2) the swimmer voluntarily accepts a provisional suspension or sanction of ineligibility; or 3) the swimmer voluntarily withdraws from the Team or relinquishes eligibility to be named to the Team.

Confidentiality regarding alleged anti-doping rule violations shall be maintained as provided in the U.S. Anti-Doping Agency Protocol for Olympic Movement Testing.

V. WITHDRAWAL FROM TEAM

Any swimmer may withdraw from the Team at any time due to injury or illness, as certified by a USA Swimming Medical Staff member in consultation with USA Swimming (National Team Head Coach, Head Coach and Athlete Advisory Representative), which prevents the swimmer from full participation in and/or preparation for the Championships.

VI. CHALLENGE

Any challenge to these Procedures or any decision made pursuant to or in connection with these Procedures shall be handled as follows: 1) if such challenge relates to an alleged violation of a technical rule, it shall be handled according to the procedure set forth in Part One of the USA Swimming Rules and Regulations (can be found at www.usaswimming.org); 2) if such challenge relates to an alleged violation of the National Team Honor Code, it shall be handled according to the procedure set forth in Section 8 of the USA Swimming Olympic International Operations Procedures Manual ("OIO Procedures Manual," can be obtained from the National Team Division); and 3) if such challenge does not relate to an alleged violation of a technical rule or an alleged violation of the National Team Honor Code, it shall be handled according to USA Swimming's Hearing Procedure set forth in Part Four of the USA Swimming Rules and

Regulations. Any hearing required in order to resolve a challenge shall take place on an expedited basis if necessary in order to resolve the challenge in sufficient time for Team selection to be finalized by a relevant deadline.

VII. TRYOUT SITES AND EVENTS FOR NAMING OF TEAM

The Qualifying Competition for the Team for the Championships:

2009 USA Swimming World Championship Trials July 7-11, 2009 in Indianapolis, IN

VIII. DATE OF ENTRY SUBMISSION

USA Swimming will submit all entries for the Championships on July 12, 2009 10:00am EDT.

IX. ASSEMBLY, TRAINING AND COMPETITION

Athletes nominated to the Team will be required to participate in assembly, training and competition, and remain with the Team throughout the Championships. Assembly, Training and Competition will take place on July 12, 2009- August, 3, 2009. Specific dates/locations of mandatory training and competition are:

<u>Site</u>	<u>Dates</u>	<u>Event</u>
Indianapolis	July 12-14, 2009	Assembly
Italy	July 14-24	Training camp
Rome, Italy	July 26- Aug. 2	Competition
Return to U.S.	Aug. 3	

X. PUBLICITY/DISTRIBUTION OF PROCEDURES

These Procedures, when approved, will be published on the USA Swimming Web site, usaswimming.org. Additionally, the Procedures will be distributed at the 2009 USA Swimming World Championships Trials general meeting.

XI. INTERNATIONAL DISCLAIMER

These selection criteria are based on the latest information available to USA Swimming and are based on FINA and USA Swimming rules and regulations as presently known and understood. Any change in the selection procedures caused by a change in FINA or USA Swimming rules and regulations or other unforeseen circumstances will be distributed to the affected athletes immediately.