

2017 Winter University Games

Selection Criteria

Overview

These selection criteria will be used to determine the athletes that will represent the United States in the 2017 World University Games in Almaty Kazakhstan January 29, 2017-February 8, 2017. The selection criteria are designed to provide eligible athletes the opportunity to continue their athletic development by demonstrating their abilities at the highest levels of international competition.

1.1 Event Location:

Almaty, Kazakhstan

January 29, 2017 – February 8, 2017

1.2 Important Dates and Team Member Travel Obligations

| Date | Event/Note | Location/Notes |
|--------------------|---|--|
| August 12, 2016 | Declaration of Intent to participate in Selection Due for skaters using the Short Track Desert Classic and events prior to October 1 st for qualification | Must be able to prove academic eligibility by the end of the application period (see requirements below); must hold a valid US Passport that is valid for 6 months past the competition date |
| September 30, 2016 | FINAL deadline for declaration of intent for both Short and Long Track athletes | |
| October 15, 2016 | Register with BTI | Academic Eligibility Form Code of Conduct Form Travel Documents Passport Scan US Ugames Team Code of Conduct Agreement Current Class Schedule/Transcript |
| November 14, 2016 | Notification of Acceptance for Short Track Athletes is sent | |
| November 18, 2016 | Short Track Athletes Invitation acceptance due | ST Athlete Deposit Due* |
| December 4, 2016 | Notification of Acceptance | Notification will be done |

| | | |
|------------------|---|------------------------------|
| | for Long Track Athletes is sent | at the conclusion of AmCup 1 |
| December 8, 2016 | Long Track Athletes Invitation acceptance due | LT Athlete Deposit Due |
| January 27, 2017 | Travel for all athletes and coaches | US → Kazakhstan |
| February 9, 2017 | Return Travel all athletes and coaches | Kazakhstan → US |

**athletes who are eligible to make a Junior World Team Short Track spot will need to be processed but will have until December 19th to accept and make their deposit as Junior Short Track World Championships are in the direct conflict with this event*

1.3 Eligibility

In order to qualify for the event athletes must:

- Have been born between January 1, 1989 and December 31, 1999
- Be a US Citizen and hold a valid US Passport with an expiration date at least 6 months after the event (valid through August 2017)
- Have, at a minimum, taken at least one 3-credit hour course towards a degree or diploma from an accredited institution of Higher Education within the last year before the Games. *(incoming freshman should be currently enrolled at the time of selection and anticipate successfully completing at least one 3-credit course by January 1, 2017)*
 - *Full time students – as defined as taking 12 or more credit hours or 3 or more classes - will be given a preference for eligible spots after the first 3 spots for each team (Short Track/Long Track)*
- Be a current member of USS in good standing. *Athletes with ISU or USS Code of Conduct violations within the past 12 months will be considered on a provisional basis.*
- Be able to demonstrate a level of fitness appropriate to compete at a high level
- Have submitted their intent to compete online by the appropriate deadline (August 12th for Desert Classic; **FINAL** Deadline October 1st for all other competitions) - Intent to compete forms can be found at: <http://bit.ly/29jhnoC>

1.4 Funding

This is a self-funded activity. There is no monetary support available. All athletes will share the costs to send up to 3 coaches *(coaching staff numbers will be determined based on the size and team composition).*

Air-fare Travel costs between the USA and Almaty

\$1200 (Estimated) *(athletes purchase their flights independently – not included in the Non-Airfare cost amount payable below)*

Non-Airfare costs for participation in this event are:

Event fees (includes entry fees, room, meals, local transportation in Almaty, team wear) – \$2025 (Firm)

Coach and Team Leader cost – \$700 (Max – may be lower if a full team is sent)

Officials Fees - \$125 (Firm)

Purchase of Team Skin - \$400 (Estimated)

Total **estimated** cost each athlete will be fully responsible for (pending any reduction due to sponsorship or fundraising):

- ****Estimated non-airfare costs are payable by 11/18/2016 for short track athletes (skaters competing for a Short Track Junior World spot will have until 12/19/2016) - \$3250**
- ****Estimated non-airfare costs are payable by 12/6/2016 for long track athletes- \$3250**

****Payable amounts referenced above do not include the cost of round trip airfare.**

1.5 Events

Both Long and Short Track Disciplines will be contested. Athletes may submit their intent to try out for either or both teams. Athletes may compete for both teams if selected for both teams. *If you are selected for both teams you will be responsible for purchase of two skin suits, a second \$125 Officials Fee and an additional \$75 coach/team leader share (total approx. \$600 more), otherwise your costs will remain the same.*

| LONG TRACK | |
|-------------------------|---|
| 500 Meters | 4 Ladies/ 4 Men |
| 1000 Meters | 4 Ladies/ 4 Men |
| 1500 Meters | 4 Ladies/ 4 Men |
| 3,000 Ladies/5,000 Men | 3 ladies/ 3 Men |
| 5,000 Ladies/10,000 Men | 3 ladies/ 3 Men |
| Team Pursuit | Teams of 3 – only 8 National teams may compete (teams will be ranked on the 2 nd best time for either the 3000/ladies or the 5000/men) |
| Mass Start | 2 ladies/ 2 Men |

| SHORT TRACK | |
|------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 500 Meters | 3 Ladies/ 3 Men |
| 1000 Meters | 3 Ladies/ 3 Men |
| 1500 Meters | 3 Ladies/ 3 Men |
| Relay (3000 Ladies/5000 Men) | Team of 4 (with one alternate) |

1.6 Team Size

The USA team will be limited to teams of:

- 6 Ladies and 6 Men for **Long Track**
- 5 Ladies and 5 Men for **Short Track**

1.7 Selection

All times submitted must be from USS or ISU sanctioned events with a published protocol.

Long Track Selection Criteria

The team will be selected based on the pool of eligible athletes (based on the selection criteria outlined in 1.3 above).

There will be a single qualifying event for the Long Track Team. The event will be the American Cup Long Track 1, December 2-4, 2016.

If for any reason, American Cup Long Track 1 is canceled, rescheduled, moved or changed, in part or whole in any way, or, otherwise cannot fulfill the purpose of being the qualifying event, an attempt will be made to designate an alternative event as close as possible to the original date and location of AmCup LT 1. In any event, the qualifying event must be completed by December 4th, 2016. *If a single event cannot be completed, the provisional plan for team selection will be to rank the skaters on the basis of personal best times from any metric style event held in accordance with ISU rules (coaches time trials do not count). Skaters will be ranked in each distance skated between the dates of August 15, 2016 and December 4, 2016, and follow the selection process using these times as if they were skated in a single competition.*

1.7.1 The 1st ranked skater in each distance will be ranked at the top of the order of eligibility in ascending order of their time as a percentage of the senior world record. Then the 2nd ranked skater in each distance will be added in the same fashion, in ascending order of their time as a percentage of the world record. Once a skater has been ranked in the order of eligibility for their best placement (highest finish) in a distance they will be skipped in subsequent finishes. This process will continue until all skaters are ranked in the order of eligibility. The team will be selected from this overall ranking. The top 3 spots will be chosen first, regardless of part-time or full-time student status. Remaining eligible athletes will be ranked based on their performance and their current student status. Priority for filling the additional 3 spots will go to students enrolled full time (defined as 12 or more credit hours or 3 or more classes).

Once the team is selected, the distance order of eligibility will be created and used to determine the skaters entered into the individual events. This order of eligibility will be based on the following:

- Placement in the event at American Cup I

- Season Best Time since July 1, 2016
- Personal Best since July 1, 2015
- Career Personal Best

Skaters will have the chance to accept or decline their start position in the individual events. As skaters are placed into individual distances, all skaters will skate in two distances before anyone can skate 3. Then, all skaters will skate in 3 distances before anyone can skate 4. Then, all will skate in 4 before anyone can skate 5. The Team Pursuit event does not count in this number. A skater is not obligated to skate more events than they wish and can choose to opt out of events they are eligible for.

Team pursuit teams will be determined by the samalog of the 1500m and 3000m times for women and the samalog of the 1500m and 5000m times for men, skated at the qualifying event. In the event the provisional process is used, the times used will be the personal best times for these distances skated between August 15, 2016 and December 4, 2016.

- 1.7.2 In the event that an eligible athlete declines the invite, the next athlete on the list by order of ranking will be invited. The process will be repeated until a full team of athletes is chosen or until the pool of additional eligible athletes is exhausted, whichever comes first.
- 1.7.3 Two additional athletes will be identified from the order of eligibility as alternates. Alternates will have to meet all the selection criteria and will be officially registered with BTI (organizing committee). Should an athlete have to withdraw after December 18th for any reason they will only receive their deposit if another athlete from the alternate list is available to take their place.

Short Track Selection Criteria

The team will be selected based on the pool of eligible athletes (based on the selection criteria outlined in 1.3 above).

- 1.7.4 There will be no specific selection event for this team. Instead eligible athletes will be ranked based on their performances at any 2 of the following 4 opportunities to compete. Athletes must compete in at least 2 events from these 4 opportunities to qualify:
 - Desert Classic Short Track
 - American Cup Short Track 1

- Any Heartland Racing Series Events after October 1, 2016 and prior to November 14, 2016
- Any Northeast Racing Series Events after October 1, 2016 and prior to November 14, 2016

Athletes may compete in more than 2 of the above selection events. In the event they compete in more than 2, they can designate which 2 events they wish to count toward their selection ranking.

- 1.7.5 Skaters will be chosen from an overall order of eligibility created based on 1) the combined ranking by place as a percentage of the field for each of their two best finishes; and, 2) the ranking by samalog points of their fastest times for each of the three distances. The combined ranking is achieved by adding the rankings of 1) and 2) together and putting the sums in descending order.
- 1.7.6 Percentage of the field is defined as final rank in the standings as determined by total points divided by the number of athletes who competed who declared their intent to participate in the selection process.
- 1.7.7 Samalog will be comprised of the fastest time of each of the three distances 500, 1000, 1500 converted to points $500m + (1000m / 2) + (1500m/3)$ Times can be from any of the 4 events listed above in 1.7.4.
- 1.7.8 Top 3 ranked athletes from the overall order of eligibility will earn an automatic qualifying position
- 1.7.9 Remaining athletes from the overall order of eligibility will be ranked based on their performance and their student status. Preference for filling the additional 2 spots will go to students enrolled in full time programs (defined as 12 or more credit hours or 3 or more classes).
- 1.7.10 In the event that an eligible athlete declines the invite, the next athlete on the list by order of ranking will be invited. The process will be repeated until a full team of athletes is chosen or until the pool of additional eligible athletes is exhausted, whichever comes first.
- 1.7.11 A distance order of eligibility will be created for each distance to determine the skaters entered into the events. This order of eligibility will be based on the following:
 - Season Best Time since July 1, 2016
 - Personal Best since July 1, 2015
 - Career Personal Best
- 1.7.12 Relay team selection – the relay team will be determined by the ranking based on the overall order of eligibility.

- 1.7.13 Skaters will be notified of their selection to the team on November 14th
- 1.7.14 Two additional athletes will be identified from the order of eligibility as alternates. Alternates will have to meet all the selection criteria and will be officially registered with BTI (organizing committee). Should an athlete have to withdraw for any reason they will only receive their deposit if another athlete from the alternate list is available to take their place.

1.8 REMOVAL OF ATHLETES

Prior to acceptance of selections to Team USA by the United States International University Sports Federation (US-IUSF), US Speedskating has jurisdiction over potential nominees.

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

- 1.8.1 Voluntary withdrawal. Athlete must submit a written letter to US Speedskating's Executive Director.
- 1.8.2 Injury or illness as certified by a physician (or medical staff) approved by US Speedskating. If an athlete refuses verification of his/her illness or injury by a physician (or medical staff) approved by US Speedskating, his/her injury will be assumed to be disabling and he/she may be removed.
- 1.8.3 Violation of US Speedskating's Code of Conduct (http://www.teamusa.org/~media/US_Speedskating/About-USS/Safe-Sport/Code-of-Conduct.pdf?la=en) or any other codes or regulations governing the athlete's participation.
- 1.8.4 Failure to attend the mandatory training and/or competitions outlined in the regulations or stipulated by the coaches or team leaders.
- 1.8.5 An athlete who is removed from the Team pursuant to this provision has the right to a hearing per US Speedskating's Bylaws (Article XVIII) and the USOC's Bylaws, Section 9. Once an athlete selection is accepted by the US-IUSF, the US-IUSF has jurisdiction over the Team, at which time, in addition to any applicable US Speedskating Code of Conduct, the US-IUSF's and 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/Athlete-Resources/Athlete-Ombudsman>
- 1.8.6 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, US-IUSF, and/or USOC anti-doping protocol, policies and procedures, as

applicable.

- 1.8.7 An athlete will not receive their deposit back for any involuntary withdrawal per Sections 1.8.3, 1.8.4, 1.8.5, and 1.8.6 under any conditions. If an athlete voluntarily withdraws per 1.8.1 or due to injury per 1.8.2, a deposit may be refunded if an alternate is able and willing to take the place of the withdrawn athlete. If not, then no refund will be made under these circumstances either. The deposit is defined as the entirety of the Non-Airfare Costs outlined in Sections 1.4 and 1.5, due on the dates outlined in Section 1.2.