

## 2019 GENERAL WORLD TEAM TRIALS PROCEDURES

### I. Eligibility

1. The World Team Trials are open to all U.S. citizens eligible to represent the USA at the World Championships as governed by United World Wrestling (UWW) and USA Wrestling (USAW) rules. Athlete must be a U.S. citizen prior to the qualifying event entered.
2. Each competitor must meet style specific qualifications to take part in the World Team Trials process. Style specific requirements may be found at: <http://www.teamusa.org/USA-Wrestling/Team-USA/Team-Selection-Criteria>
3. For purposes of defining the classification of a “World Team Member”, this individual can be either the Final World Team Trials Champion or the World Championships Participant.
4. The Competition will be contested by UWW rules except as modified by this document.

### II. Acceptance of Automatic Berth for 2018 Senior World Championships Medalists

1. A 2018 Senior World Championship medalist, competing at the same weight class (Men’s Freestyle, Women’s Freestyle, Greco-Roman), will be granted automatic berth into Final X.
2. In order to receive an automatic berth in Final X, the 2018 World medalists must declare, in writing, their intent to accept the automatic berth into by **6:00 PM Eastern Time on Wednesday, May 1<sup>st</sup>, 2019.**
  - a. Once a 2018 World Championship medalist has declared his or her acceptance of the automatic berth to Final X, that medalist is ineligible to compete at the World Team Trials Challenge Tournament at any weight. This restriction only pertains to not competing within the same style at the World Team Trials Challenge Tournament once they have declared their acceptance to Final X.

### III. World Team Trials Challenge Tournament

1. Seeding
  - a. Wrestlers will be seeded by a seeding committee.
  - b. Majority vote is classified as the majority of the total number of voting representatives present in the meeting.
    - i. If a majority vote can’t be reached on a motion, then there will be a second round of voting that only includes the top two athletes based on number of votes. All voting representatives will be required to vote as no abstentions will be allowed.
  - c. The seeding committee shall consist of one coach or representative of each of the USAW registered clubs entered in the World Team Trials Challenge Tournament.
    - i. Individuals not a member of a club will be represented by a member of the seeding committee designated by the President of USA Wrestling.
  - d. The National Head Coach will vote only in the case to break a tie.
  - e. Seeding criteria to be used in rank order:
    - i. Head to head matches from the April 2018 U.S. Open up to the event being seeded. (If there is an even split in matches, then the last win determines the higher seed)
    - ii. Common opponents from the April 2018 U.S. Open up to the event being seeded.

- iii. Medalists at a UWW calendar event from the April 2018 U.S. Open up to the event being seeded. (Majority vote will decide the higher seed if there are multiple medalists)
2. Bracketing
  - a. Format to be line bracket double elimination to third place.
  - b. Byes will be placed with seeded wrestlers first, in order of seed. If any byes are remaining they will be placed in the brackets in accordance to the accepted system in use by USA Wrestling.
  - c. In certain situations, athletes earn an automatic berth to the Final Wrestle-Off. Each style has its own set of criteria. Please see the style specific criteria for details.
  - d. The finals will be a best-of-three format.
  - e. True Third: if the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> place finishers from the World Team Trials Challenge Tournament did NOT meet each other in the challenge tournament, a wrestle-off will occur at the end of the World Team Trials Challenge Tournament.
3. Schedule and Weigh-Ins
  - a. Weigh-ins for the World Team Trials Challenge Tournament will be held the day of the competition and will be at scratch weight on day one and scratch weight on day two.
  - b. Any of the qualifiers may elect to change weight classes to compete at another weight at the World Team Trials Challenge Tournament only. The contestant should notify USA Wrestling in advance of this intention, but a change in weight may be made at weigh-in.
  - c. A minimum of 30 minutes rest will occur between championship matches and a minimum of 20 minutes rest will elapse between consolation matches.

#### **IV. Final Wrestle-Off**

1. The Final Wrestle-Off of all weight classes will be contested in a best-of-three format.
  - a. Weigh-ins for Final X will be held the day of the competition and will be at scratch weight.
  - b. In weight classes where an athlete has earned an automatic berth to the Final Wrestle-Off, the Trials Tournament champion will face the automatic finalist and the winner will be the World Team Member, except in the situation where an athlete earning automatic berth into the Final Wrestle-Off has been granted a delay under Article V.
  - c. If an athlete who earns an automatic berth into the Final Wrestle-Off is granted a delay in accordance with Article V or fails to make weight.
    - i. If the athlete earning the automatic berth is granted a delay in accordance with Article V, the winner of the Trials Tournament will face the athlete granted the delay at a date and in a format in accordance with Article V.
    - ii. If the athlete earning the automatic berth fails to make weight, the winner of the World Team Trials Tournament is the 2019 USA Wrestling World Team Member.
  - d. Automatic berths to the Final Wrestle-Offs are only applicable to athletes who (a) are a previous year Senior World Medalist as specified in the style specific procedures or (b) the 2019 U.S. Open champ in the case where there is not a previous year Senior World medalist. Please consult the style specific criteria for details on automatic berth to the Final Wrestle-Off.

## **V. Delays or Replacement Due to Injury or Illness**

1. Only a 2018 Senior World medalist who earned an automatic berth into the final wrestle-off can request a delay of the Final Wrestle-Off for medical reasons. **This request must be submitted to USA Wrestling at least 48 hours prior to the scheduled weigh-in time (no request for delay will be allowed, or granted, with less than 48 hours before weigh-in).**
  - a. The request must be submitted in writing to the respective Sport Committee Chair for review, to include a written certification of the injury or illness from a USA Wrestling approved medical doctor. USA Wrestling's approval of a medical doctor will not be unreasonably withheld.
  - b. If a certified medical doctor's note is provided within the appropriate timeframe to support a 2018 Senior World medalist's request for a delay, the request for a delay in competition will be granted. If a delay is granted, the National Coach and the two athletes involved shall determine the date for conducting the Final Wrestle-Off of the 2019 U.S. World Teams Trials. If an agreement cannot be reached, then the style-specific Sport Committee will determine the date and place for the Final Wrestle-Off.
2. If a 2019 World Team member at any weight is incapacitated after the World Team Trials and prior to the World Championships, the style-specific Sport Committee shall assign the position to the next-ranked alternate at the weight in question up to and including the fifth-ranked wrestler from the World Team Trials, provided the next-ranked wrestler is able to make weight and is substantially completing World Team training requirements as determined by the Sport Committee and approved by the Executive Committee of USA Wrestling.
  - a. For the purposes of this provision, the term 'incapacitated' shall mean an athlete has an injury or illness, as certified by USA Wrestling medical staff, which inhibits peak performance at the World Championships.

## **VI. World Team Trials Officiating, Pairing, and Protest Procedures**

1. All bouts shall be officiated as prescribed by UWW rules, by an officiating team comprised of a referee, judge, and mat chairman. Their decision on all technical aspects of the bout shall be final and shall not be subject to protest.
  - a. Matside video will be made available. Matside review will be done in accordance with UWW rules. Upon review of action, the decision of the officiating team is final.
  - b. The matside computer and video shall be accepted as the official result of the bout, unless the officiating team determines that an error has been made.
2. Requests for information concerning the recording of results, pairing of contestants or scheduling of bouts may be directed to the chief mat official and/or chief pairing master without the filing of a written protest.
3. Protests concerning eligibility of a contestant, adherence to the terms of this document, and other matters of procedure shall be reviewed by a Protest Committee comprised by the following individuals:
  - a. President of USA Wrestling, or his designee, who shall act as chairperson.
  - b. One or more members of the USA Wrestling Board of Directors appointed by the chairperson of the Protest Committee. Sport Committee members of the style being protested are ineligible to serve on the Protest Committee.

- i. Any member of the Protest Committee shall disqualify him or herself from a protest hearing if they have personal ties to any contestant in the same weight.
- ii. Any situation not specifically addressed in this document shall be resolved under standard procedures of USA Wrestling.

## **VII. Drug Testing**

Testing for the use of drugs or other substances prohibited by the United States Anti-Doping Agency (USADA), World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA), or UWW will be conducted as part of the World Team Trials process. Full cooperation of the athlete is mandatory.

## **VIII. Athlete Ombudsman**

An athlete who has questions regarding their opportunity to compete that are not answered by USA Wrestling, may contact the USOC Athlete Ombudsman by telephone at 719-866-5000, or by e-mail at [ombudsman@usathlete.org](mailto:ombudsman@usathlete.org)

## **IX. World Team Training**

1. All members of the USA Wrestling World Team will be required to follow the training schedule as established by the National Coach as referenced in the National Team Wrestler Agreement, whether or not the athlete signs the agreement. Failure to do so can result in fines and sanctions, including removal from the National Team and World Team.
2. All members of the USA Wrestling World Team will be required to maintain a proper weight management plan that is developed with the USA Wrestling National Coach and USA Wrestling medical staff. Failure to maintain and follow the plan may result in the removal and replacement of the athlete up to the deadline of the athlete registration for the World Championships.

- \* These procedures are based on UWW rules and regulations as presently known and understood. Any change in the selection procedures caused by a change in UWW rules and regulations will be distributed to the affected athletes immediately. The selection criteria are based on the latest information available to USA Wrestling. However, the selections are always subject to unforeseen, intervening circumstances, and realistically have not accounted for every possible contingency.