

## 2021 GENERAL WORLD TEAM TRIALS PROCEDURES

These procedures are based on United World Wrestling (UWW) rules and regulations as presently known and understood and are applicable to all competitors. Any change in the selection procedures caused by a change in UWW rules and regulations will be distributed to the affected athletes immediately.

### I. Eligibility

1. The World Team Trials are open to all U.S. citizens eligible to represent the United States of America at the World Championships as governed by UWW and USA Wrestling (USAW) rules.
  - a. Athletes must be United States citizens; and
  - b. Have completed USA sporting nationality with UWW at the athlete's World Team Trials qualifying event.
2. Each competitor must also adhere to their respective style specific qualifications to take part in the World Team Trials, which may be found at: <http://www.teamusa.org/USA-Wrestling/Team-USA/Team-Selection-Criteria>.
3. The competition will be contested by UWW rules except as modified by this document.

### II. World Team Trials Tournament

1. Seeding
  - a. Wrestlers will be seeded by a seeding committee. Seeding will be done via conference call/video call/virtual call the week of the event.
  - 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/RTC entered in the World Team Trials Challenge Tournament as well as one representative from each of the three National Clubs (Sunkist Wrestling Club, Titan Mercury Wrestling Club, New York Athletic Club).
    - i. Individuals who are 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 to break a tie.
  - e. Seeding criteria to be used in rank order:
    - i. Head-to-head matches from the April 2019 U.S. Open up to the event being seeded.
    - ii. Common opponents from the April 2019 U.S. Open up to the event being seeded.
    - iii. Medalists at a UWW calendar event from the April 2019 U.S. Open up to the event being seeded. (Majority vote will decide the higher seed if there are multiple medalists)
    - iv. Only United World Wrestling sanctioned events & USA Wrestling sanctioned events that follow UWW rules will be counted for seeding purposes.
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 with the accepted system in use by USA Wrestling at the time.
  - c. The finals will be a best-of-three format.
- 3. Schedule and Weigh-Ins
  - a. Weigh-ins for the World Team Trials Tournament will be held each day of 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 Tournament only. The contestant should notify USA Wrestling in advance of this intention, but a change in weight may be made only at day one weigh-ins.
  - c. A minimum of 30 minutes rest will occur between championship matches and a minimum of 20 minutes rest will elapse between consolation matches.

### **III. Replacement Due to Injury or Illness**

- 1. If a 2021 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 fourth-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.
- 2. For purposes of defining whether an athlete is a “World Team Member”, this individual can be either the Final World Team Trials Champion or the World Championships Participant. However, the designation doesn’t take hold until the World Championships commence.

### **IV. World Team Trials Officiating and Pairing**

- 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 field of play aspects of the bout shall be final and shall not be subject to protest.
  - a. Mat side video will be made available. Mat side review will be done in accordance with UWW rules. Upon review of action, the decision of the officiating team is final.
  - b. The mat side 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.

## **V. Protest Procedures**

1. Protests concerning eligibility of a contestant, adherence to the terms of this document, and other matters of procedure (not including field of play aspects of the bout) 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 as appointed by the Chairperson to the Protest Committee.
  - c. Athlete representation will consist of at least 33.33% of the Protest Committee (i.e., the number of athlete representatives is dependent on the number of other individuals on the committee).
  - d. 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.

## **VI. 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.

## **VII. 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)

## **VIII. 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.

## Attachment A

### Challenge Procedure

#### What it is:

The challenge is a process where the coach is allowed, on behalf of the wrestlers, to stop the match and request the jury and mat chairman to watch the video if they disagree with the call by the referee team. This process will be available at USA Wrestling events that are designated for video review.

#### Who is on the jury?

The jury will be comprised of 1 or 2 referees that are assigned to that bout or mat during the competition.

#### Who will conduct the video review?

This will be completed by the jury and the mat chairman for that designated bout.

#### What is the process?

1. The coach must issue a request for challenge when they disagree with the decision of the referee team. This should be made from the coaching area on the mat and the coach **CANNOT** walk into the wrestling area.
2. Challenges will be requested by throwing a colored object (challenge block) onto the mat to notify the referee team. The color of the object will correspond to the color of the athlete. The challenge block should not be thrown in an aggressive manner toward the referee or athletes. Failure to follow these guidelines could result in a yellow or red card for the coach.
3. The mat chairman will indicate to the referee to stop the match to review the challenge as soon as the situation becomes neutral or there is no longer imminent scoring.
4. If the wrestler disagrees with the challenge, they can reject the challenge and resume the match. If the coach requests a challenge after the athlete has rejected the challenge, the coach could receive a yellow card.
5. Only the mat chairman and/or jury can refuse the challenge during the following situations. Challenges will not be accepted for:
  - a. Confirmed falls and/or situations where a fall was not confirmed by the referee team. Challenges can be requested for fouls that occurred that led to the fall.
  - b. Confirmed passivity.
  - c. Challenges not made in a reasonable amount of time.
    - i. **Coaches must issue the challenge within a reasonable amount of time from when the scoring action occurred or when the points went onto the scoreboard. Wrestling is dynamic and this will be at the discretion of the mat chairman and jury. IF A NATURAL STOPPAGE OCCURS IN THE MATCH AND THE CHALLENGE IS NOT OFFERED PRIOR TO RE-STARTING THE MATCH, THE CHALLENGE WILL BE DENIED.**
  - d. Challenges made after the match has ended. The only exceptions will be for when points are added to the scoreboard after the time was out or when an action occurred just before the end of the bout.
6. The video will be displayed on a big screen monitor, projector or TV if one is available for the competition. If one is not available, the jury and mat chairman can watch the video directly on the mat side computer.

7. If there is a technical problem and video is not available, the original decision will stand, and the coach will be given back the challenge block.
8. Each wrestler will be entitled 1 challenge per match.
9. If after review, the original decision is changed by the jury and mat chairman to be in favor of the wrestler who requested the challenge, then they will be granted another challenge to be used during that match.
10. If after review, the decision is confirmed by the jury and mat chairman or is not in favor of the challenging wrestler, that wrestler will lose the challenge and their opponent will be granted 1-point.
11. There are two other situations that could result in time being added back on the clock following a challenge.
  - a. If a scoring action was determined to be a slip throw by the jury. The time will be set when the slip throw occurred. Any points scored after the slip occurred will be cancelled.
  - b. If a scoring action or confirmed fall was determined to be a direct result of an offensive foul by the jury, the time will be set when the foul occurred.
12. All decisions made by the jury and mat chairman will be final and will not be changed. Therefore, it is not possible to request a counter challenge.

### **Consultation**

Mat Chairman has ability to watch the video with referee team during a consultation without a challenge being issued. This would not include the jury. After the decision of the consultation of the referee team, the action could be challenged and be reviewed by the jury and mat chairman.

At no time can the coach request a consultation by the referee team to review the video. Using video during consultations will be at the sole discretion of the mat chairman. If the coaches want to use video review for a situation, they must use their challenge.

### **Fleeing the Hold and 3<sup>rd</sup> Caution**

For Fleeing the Hold at the end of the match or for a 3<sup>rd</sup> Caution to be granted, only the mat chairman must confirm with either the referee or judge for this to be valid. They will no longer require a unanimous agreement for these to be assessed. This will be consistent with all the other cautions given. Both situations ca