



Application Guidelines for Team USA Athletes 2015 IWAS World Junior Games



OVERVIEW

Wheelchair and Ambulatory Sports, USA (WASUSA) will be selecting a junior (ages 14-22) development team to attend the **2015 International Wheelchair and Amputee Sports Federation (IWAS) World Junior Games** being held in Stadskanaal, the Netherlands July 2-8, 2015. Sports slated to be offered include amputee football, athletics (track and field), archery, and swimming. *Note: Events are pending final approval from IWAS.

As the United States member to the International Wheelchair & Amputee Sports Federation (IWAS), it is the intent of WASUSA to field a team of exemplary junior athletes in archery, track and field, and swimming. Individual entries to the IWAS World Junior Games are not permitted. WASUSA will make all necessary arrangements for the team's travel from designated airports, accommodations, and registrations. Team travel dates pending final schedule from IWAS. The estimated cost to participate as a Team USA member is below:

Athlete - \$3200*

First payment of \$500 (non-refundable) is due Feb.13, 2015

*Subject to change until officially posted

Coaches (not a parent coach, if possible) are responsible for completing and submitting applications for an athlete by January 24, 2015. The applications have been emailed to each athlete that submitted their intent to apply form.

OBJECTIVES OF THE USA JUNIOR TEAM

The intent of forming this team is to identify, recruit, and select junior development level athletes who satisfy the selection criteria outlined in this document and provide them with a competitive experience at the international level. For the purposes of this competition, 'junior development level athlete' is interpreted to mean those young athletes who demonstrate a genuine interest in, and commitment to, making the transition from national level competition to international competition. These athletes also demonstrate potential to one day be selected to an Adult National Team and have met emerging elite standards.

ELIGIBILITY

To be eligible for selection to this Junior National Development Team, athletes must:

- Be in one of the following four age categories, as of December 31, 2015: Under 23, Under 20, Under 18 or Under 16. (Note: Athletes must be 14 years of age or older as of December 31, 2015 in order to be selected to the USA team.)
- Be an amputee, a dwarf, have cerebral palsy or be a wheelchair athlete who is classifiable under the IPC classification system.
- Achieve the required performance standards as outlined in Appendix A at least once during the designated qualification period, Jan 1 – Dec 31 2014.
- Have 2 years of experience at the National Junior Disability Championships™ (NJDC) and/or other approved sanctioned events by WASUSA.
- Be a current member in good standing of WASUSA.
- Have an IPC athlete license for 2015.
- Be a citizen of the United States, with a current passport that expires no earlier than January 2016.
- Agree to follow and sign the Code of Conduct set by WASUSA.

QUALIFICATION PERIOD

For the purpose of selection to the team, the qualifying period is January 1, 2014 through December 31, 2014. Once chosen to the team, athletes have until May 31, 2015 to submit their top results.



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PERFORMANCE STANDARDS

To be eligible for team selection consideration, all athletes must achieve the required performance standard(s) as outlined in Appendix A in their event(s). The standard must have been met or surpassed at:

- National Junior Disability Championship™
- Other approved sanctioned competitions.
 - A “sanctioned” meet means a competition approved by WASUSA, USA Track and Field, USA Swimming and/or IPC.

It is the responsibility of the athlete and/or coach to ensure that the results are on the application.

RANKING PROCEDURES

Athletes who have achieved the standard during the qualification period will be ranked for selection consideration. An athlete’s season best performance will be converted to a percentage of the selection standard. For track events and swimming events, each Score is calculated dividing the Standard by the Result and multiplying the quotient by 100. For field events, each Score is calculated by dividing the Result by the Standard and multiplying the quotient by 100. Each Score will be rounded to the nearest whole number (whole percent). Higher percentages are better than lower percentages (104% beats 100%).

Track and Swim Score = (Standard / Result) X 100

Field Score = (Result / Standard) X 100

DECISIONS ON ATHLETE SELECTION

The Team USA Selection Committee will evaluate and recommend athletes to be nominated to the team based upon their Score. Additionally, the Selection Committee may use discretionary criteria in order to field the strongest, most sound, and medal-capable team for IWAS 2015. The Team USA Selection Committee consists of:

- Tomie Zuchetto, Team Leader
- Cindy Housner, Assistant Team Leader
- Jennifer Brown, Medical
- Teresa Skinner, Track Coach
- Dave Bogenschutz, Track Coach
- Pam Carey, Archery, Field and Swim Coach
- Debra Armento, WASUSA Junior Committee Chairperson
- Denise Hutchins, WASUSA Board of Directors Vice-Chairperson
- Jessica Cloy, Athlete Representative

Selection Criteria includes:

- Meeting performance standards
- Athletic ability
- Sportsmanship
- Maturity
- Personal hygiene/transfer skills/dressing skills

Selected Team USA athletes will be announced no later than January 27, 2015.

CLASSIFICATION

All athletes are required to be internationally classified in order to compete. Athletes not yet internationally classed will be classified at IWAS prior to the start of competition. Note: Junior athletes may be subject to a classification review.



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CHANGES TO TRAVEL

Any changes made to travel plans once tickets have been purchased will be at the expense of the athlete.

IPC LICENSING

All swimming and track & field athletes must have an IPC License to compete. To obtain an IPC License visit:

- Swimming: <http://www.teamusa.org/US-Paralympics/Sports/Swimming/IPC-Licensing>
- Track and Field: <http://www.teamusa.org/US-Paralympics/Sports/Track-and-Field/IPC-Licensing>

NATIONAL TEAM UNIFORMS

WASUSA uniforms will be provided to each team member prior to the start of the event.