

# USAC Athlete Candidate Questionnaire

For the **USAC Athlete Director** and USOPC AAC Alternate Election, **March 2022**

**Please complete this questionnaire and send with your Letter of Interest.**

NOTE: This questionnaire will be used to verify an athlete's eligibility to stand for election and it will be used to present an athlete candidate to the voting athletes during the election.

Full Name: **Danny Popowski**

USAC Member #: **29243188**

Place of Residence: **Salt Lake City, Utah**

Years as a USA Climbing competitor: **14 years (began 2008)**

Athlete Category (Competitor, Collegiate, Adaptive): **Youth (2008 – 2012)**  
**Collegiate (2014 – 2020)**  
**Open Competitor (2014 – Current)**

Disciplines in which you participate (indicate all that apply): **Bouldering**

USA Climbing competition history (listing of USAC-sanctioned national and international competitions with dates and finishing place):

- **2016 World University Championships (Shanghai, China) – 22<sup>nd</sup>**
- **2017 USA Climbing Bouldering Open National Championships – 15<sup>th</sup>**
- **2018 USAC Collegiate Climbing Championships – Bouldering – 5<sup>th</sup>**
- **2017 USAC Collegiate Climbing Championships – Bouldering – 4<sup>th</sup>**
- **2016 USAC Collegiate Climbing Championships – Bouldering – 6<sup>th</sup>**
- **2015 USAC Collegiate Climbing Championships – Bouldering – 4<sup>th</sup>**
- **Competed in numerous other USAC national competitions.**

Other experience that may be relevant:

## **Climbing Related**

- **Committee Chair – USA Climbing Athletes' Advisory Committee (2021 – Current)**
- **Athlete Member – USA Climbing Audit Committee (2019 – Current)**
- **Founder and President – University of Utah Climbing Team (2015 – 2020)**
  - **During time active, the team took 1<sup>st</sup> place in a minimum of at least one discipline each year at nationals.**
  - **501(c)(3) Nonprofit status**

Other experience that may be relevant (continued):

**Climbing Related - Continued**

- Advisor – University of Utah Climbing Team (2021 – Current)
- Setting / Forerunning Aid – USA Climbing Training Center
- Routesetter – The Front Climbing Club – Salt Lake City, UT (2013 – 2020)
- Welder / Climbing Wall Fabricator – Vertical Solutions (Summer 2015 & 2016)

**Education**

- Master of Finance – University of Utah
- Master of Real Estate Development – University of Utah
- Bachelor of Science – Business Management – University of Utah

**Other**

- Director – Utah Real Estate Challenge – Ivory-Boyer Real Estate Center
- Winning Team – 2019/20 Utah Real Estate Challenge
- American Alpine Club – Partner Level Member
- Access Fund – Member
- Salt Lake Climbers Alliance – Member

**Personal Statement:**

*Why do you want to serve as an Athlete Director on the USAC Board of Directors?*

Climbing has shaped who I am as a human being since I was four years old. Every problem I've encountered and every doubt I've had in myself, I've overcome with the same approach I take to climbing.

It has been in my interest to help others not only achieve their goals in climbing, but to help relate climbing to their real-life pursuits to help better shape them into who they want to be by approaching each problem one step (or hold) at a time. By serving as an Athlete Director, I want to help athletes like myself become the best people, and athletes, they can be through USA Climbing, just like USA Climbing has done for me.