



Team Selection Procedures

ELITE | YOUTH | COLLEGIATE | PARACLIMBING

USA Climbing Team Selection Procedures

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This Team Selection Procedures document shall remain in effect until a subsequent version has been published.

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Any amendments to these rules will be published on the USA Climbing website www.usaclimbing.org and shall be read in conjunction with and shall take precedence over the original document.

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This Team Selection Procedures document is subject to approval by the Board of Directors of USA Climbing in consultation with the Chief Executive Officer. In the event of any conflict between USA Climbing's Bylaws and this document, USA Climbing's Bylaws will control.

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Team Selection Committee: The Team Selection Committee shall be responsible for maintaining and updating the Team Selection Procedure document(s) for the organization. The Team Selection Committee may be reached via e-mail: teamselection@usaclimbing.org.

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Introduction

This Introduction and Significant Changes sections are not binding rules. Only the rules themselves, beginning with the Order of Rule Precedence and Glossary sections, shall govern. USA Climbing strongly recommends that members, host facilities, and other interested parties review the actual text of the Team Selection Procedure rules themselves.

The USA Climbing Team Selection Procedures document was introduced in 2022 as part of an effort to align with other USOPC National Governing Bodies as well as other climbing National Federations by separating the Team Selection Procedures from the Rulebook. By decoupling Team Selection Procedures updates from the schedule of Rulebook updates, USA Climbing can provide clearer communication about the (Elite) National Championships and the National Team Trials, in addition to the pathways and qualifications for U.S. citizen athletes to represent the US in international competitions.

Significant Changes from 20221001 Version

The 2023 NCH Eligibility criteria are somewhat altered from those used for the 2022 NCH. The Collegiate National Team Ranking eligibility is extended to top-6 (from top-3) to match that of Youth National Team Ranking eligibility for NCH.

The Lead and Boulder “cross-eligibility” criteria (those achieving eligibility for Boulder being automatically eligible for Lead, and vice-versa) is going to be more limited than for the 2022 NCH eligibility. While 2023 NCH cross-eligibility remains as it was for 2022 NCH, the 2024 (and beyond) NCH cross-eligibility is limited to:

- Team Pre-select and Recent Team members (and Olympic)
- NCH Eligibility Ranking top-25 (not all top-100 eligible for individual Lead or Boulder)
- Youth and Collegiate top-3 (not all top-6 eligible for individual Lead or Boulder)

Elite Competition Starts are subject to having the first allocated competition start for each event being subject to Team Selection Discretion. This can result in an athlete who is not on the relevant National Team receiving a competition start ahead of an athlete who is on the National Team.

For the Elite series Speed Discipline, and if USA Climbing quota remains after all National Team and National Development Team athletes are given the opportunity for a competition start, US Citizen athletes who have achieved the Competition Start minimum benchmark time may be awarded a Competition Start.

For the 2024 World Cup season, Competition Start allocation will prioritize Olympic Team members, both before and after the Olympics. Athletes who have qualified for the Olympic Qualification Series (OQS) will have priority until the end of the OQS.

USA Climbing has established National Team Ranking Bonus points and NTT eligibility for athletes who qualify for the Continental Olympic Qualification Event (COQE) and/or the OQS, in lieu of such athletes competing at the NCH event. Such consideration is towards USA Climbing’s goal of maximizing the opportunity and probability of filling the US Olympic quota.

Criteria for a Paraclimbing being designated Team Preselected has been established.

The method and description of the registration of interest and Competition Start allocation process has been updated.

IFSC World Rankings

Portions of the USA Climbing Team Selection process utilize the IFSC’s Continuously Updated World Ranking (CUWR), which includes six rankings (three for each gender category: one for each of Lead, Boulder, and Speed) as published at <https://www.ifsc-climbing.org/index.php/world-competition/ranking>.

- Year-end CUWR top-10 athletes have had eligibility at World Cups the next year. (IFSC Name-Eligible)
- Year-end CUWR top-11 through top-40 athletes may contribute to their National Federation’s quota (e.g. USA Climbing’s quota) for the following year –the impact to NF quota is new for the 2022 IFSC end-of-season CUWR.

- Competition-time CUWR is used for the IFSC Boulder Qualification seeding / starting order.

International Event Eligibility & Registration Quotas

IFSC has historically granted World Cup eligibility directly to athletes ranked in the CUWR (Continuously Updated World Ranking) top-10 in the Discipline at the start of the Calendar year. These athletes considered “IFSC Name-Eligible” and are generally not considered as part of the Competition Start allocation process.

For each National Federation (NF) like USA Climbing, IFSC separately grants a number of quota to that NF. (Each NF determines the allocation of that quota to their athletes.)

For 2024, IFSC is expected to grant NFs quota as follows:

- For each WC, a base of 2 quota, plus an additional 1 quota for each NF competitors in the CUWR 11th to 40th range, up to 3 additional quota. (i.e. 2 to 5 quota before host quota.) There will be an additional 4 quota for WCs held within the NFs country.
- There is no 2024 WCH event.
- A 2024 PACH is not yet planned, with no known NF quota information.

Olympic Qualification Pathways

Late 2023 includes two Olympic Qualification events for US athletes: the IFSC World Championship and the Continental Olympic Qualification Event (COQE) that is part of the PanAm Games. In 2024, there will be a Olympic Qualification Series (OQS) as well – see the IFSC Qualification System documents at [IFSC's 2024 Paris Olympics page](#). USA Climbing does not have the discretion to allocate Competition Starts to the COQE or OQS; that is defined by the IOC and the IFSC.

National Team

After one Competition Start allocated to Team Selection Discretion, National Teams members receive first priority for Competition Starts, in order of rank within the team.

Athletes with exceptional CUWR ranking at the start of the 2023 calendar year will be preselected for the relevant National Team(s). Then, those ranked 1st through 5th in the relevant National Team Ranking will also be part of National Team, which could result in a National Team having more than 5 athletes. (The rank for Youth, Collegiate, and Paraclimbing teams are slightly different.)

National Development Team

National Development Team are those eligible for Competition Starts when quota is available. Typically, those athletes ranked 6th to 10th in the National Team Ranking are National Development Team.

The method and order of allocation of Competition starts is not strictly by highest ranked; Competition Starts to National Development Team may be distributed “round robin”, but the NF quota allocation method and which athletes are National Development Team are both subject to USA Climbing’s Team Selection Discretion.

Rankings

There are two types of Rankings, both of which are further described in this Introduction section:

- National Team Rankings – for use as selection/order criteria for National Teams and National Development Teams, which in turn affect international Competition Starts.
- NCH Eligibility Rankings – for use in determining eligibility for the (Elite) National Championships (and for seeding order at Boulder NCH)

Allocation of USA Climbing Registration Quota to Competition Starts

IFSC Name-eligible athletes (e.g., CUWR top-10) are not considered when determining Competition Start allocation to competitions, as IFSC grants them eligibility directly – they do not “count against” the NF’s registration quota.

Generally, the allocation of the 2023 US quota (Competition Starts) for Lead competitions and Boulder competitions will be to the Boulder & Lead National Team members, and for Speed competitions will be

to the Speed National Team members who have achieved the relevant benchmark time. The allocation of 2024 US quota for Lead, Boulder, and Speed competitions will generally first be athletes that are part of the Olympic Qualification process and then be to the National Team in the Discipline.

If quota remains or becomes available, remaining Competition Starts will be distributed to the USA Climbing National Development Team athletes in a manner that is designed to typically provide distributed opportunity to multiple such athletes, with USA Climbing having the ultimate discretion regarding such distribution, as well as which athletes are National Development Team.

2023: Allocation for Lead Competitions and Boulder Competitions to Boulder & Lead Athletes

The 2024 Olympic Games in Paris will include a Boulder & Lead (combined) competition and a separate Speed competition. As such, NF quota for Lead Discipline and Boulder Discipline events in 2023 will be granted to highly ranked Boulder & Lead athletes. This provides maximum opportunity and training for those athletes in preparation for the Olympic selection events in 2023 and 2024. World Cup events in 2024 are not part of the Olympic qualification process.

Team Selection Discretion

The USA Climbing High Performance staff or USA Climbing Athletes' Advisory Committee may submit a proposal to alter, for example, the list of athletes that are National Development Team and/or the order and priority of NF quota distribution to National Development Team athletes. This proposal requires approval by the Team Selection Committee and the USA Climbing CEO.

Team Selection Events

The selection for most National Team members and the National Development Team uses a National Team Ranking – a points-based system where athletes receive points at the National Championship and the National Team Trials. Some athletes may also receive bonus points.

Both the National Championship and the National Team Trials are invitation-only events.

National Championship eligibility is achieved by way of:

- NCH Eligibility Ranking points earned at WCs, WCH, PAC, the North American Cup Series, the prior year's National Championship and the prior year's National Team Trials
- Exceptional performance at Youth & Collegiate National Championships.

National Team Trials eligibility is by way of exceptional performance at the National Championship, being Team Preselected, or being awarded National Team Ranking Bonus points.

Team Selection Diagram for 2023 IFSC Season

National Team Ranking Points

For each of Lead, Boulder, and Speed, the National Team Ranking points are:

National Team Ranking points = National Championship points + NTT points + Bonus points

At the conclusion of each of the National Championship and the National Team Trials, each athlete is ranked against other US citizen athletes who are not Team Preselected, and this rank is used to award them National Team Ranking points. Team Preselected are not listed in the National Team Ranking.

National Team Ranking bonus points are awarded to those with high CUWR rank, or to select athletes who are involved in the Olympic qualification system.

NCH Eligibility Ranking

The (Elite) National Championship requires a competitor to meet at least one eligibility criterion, one of which is a high enough rank in the NCH Eligibility Ranking. This NCH Eligibility Ranking is a ranking that is calculated using a competitor's best two (2) of certain competitions in the prior year.

The NCH Eligibility Ranking considers the prior year's National Championship, and these events since that National Championship: National Team Trials, World Cups, World Championships, Pan-American Championships, and North American Cup Series. Each of those events is weighted to account for both the status of the event and typical strength of competitive field. (Non-U.S. citizens are eligible to gain NCH Eligibility Ranking points by way of a minimum rank at a North American Cup Series event.)

There are additional eligibility criteria that may award a competitor eligibility to the National Championship, including: being Team Preselected, highly ranked performance in the prior IFSC season; or being highly ranked in the Youth or Collegiate National Championship.

National Team Trials Eligibility

Eligibility to the National Team Trials is achieved by meeting any of the following:

- Top ranked in Lead, Boulder, or Speed, as relevant, at the National Championship
- Having National Team Ranking Bonus points
- Being Team Preselected (for training purposes)

For Speed, the athlete must further have achieved a specified minimum benchmark time to be eligible for the National Team Trials.

Team Selection Event Formats

The National Championship will be a three Discipline event, as it has been in recent history.

The 2024 National Team Trials format will be a three Discipline event.

Competitors who are Team Preselected are also eligible to participate in the National Championship and National Team Trial events, as the events may provide valuable opportunities for them to train and prepare for the IFSC season. However, to minimize the impact their attendance may have on those not Team Preselected, the presence or absence of any Team Preselected competitor will have no effect on the number of those not Team Preselected who advance to the Semi-Final and Final rounds in Boulder or Lead, and no effect on the National Team Ranking Points awarded to those not Team Preselected. Speed Team Preselected competitors also do not advance to the Final knockout round at the NTT.

Youth, Collegiate, and Paraclimbing

Youth, Collegiate, and Paraclimbing National Team Rankings reflect the results of only one competition: their respective National Championship. As such, the process is much simpler than Elite.

Effective Date

This Team Selection Procedures document shall be effective upon publication.

Order of Rule Precedence

In the event and to the extent any rules contained in this USA Climbing Team Selection Procedures document address the same or substantially the same subject matter but do not actually conflict, the more recently added provisions or amendments shall be deemed to have superseded earlier provisions.

Any inconsistency between this USA Climbing Team Selection Procedures document and the USA Climbing Rulebook (and amendments) shall be resolved by giving precedence to this USA Climbing Team Selection Procedures document on matters of:

- a) The (Elite) National Championship and National Team Trials events; and
- b) Ranking Points, Rankings, National Teams; and
- c) International Competition Starts (priority, order, and process),

and otherwise giving precedence to the USA Climbing Rulebook.

Glossary

1. The following acronyms shall apply throughout this document:

CNCH is USA Climbing Collegiate National Championship;
NACS is North American Cup Series;
NCH is USA Climbing (Elite) National Championship;
NTR is National Team Ranking;
NTT is USA Climbing National Team Trials;
PACH is Pan-American Championship;
PNCH is Paraclimbing National Championship
WC is IFSC World Cup;
WCH is IFSC World Championship;
YNCH is USA Climbing Youth National Championship;
YWCH is IFSC Youth World Championship.

2. In addition to the terms & definitions in the USA Climbing Rulebook Glossary, the following definitions shall apply throughout this document:

Boulder & Lead means the ranking or designation corresponding to IFSC new Boulder & Lead format. (Equivalent to Boulder+Lead references in the USA Climbing Rulebook.)

Competition Start means a US Citizen athlete is (to be) registered by USA Climbing to compete in an international competition (Competition Start was previously referred to as an “invitation”);

Continental Olympic Qualification Event (COQE) means the Pan American IOC/IFSC Olympic Qualification System event;

Current Youth World Champion means a US athlete who achieved World Champion status at the most recent Youth World Championship;

CUWR means the IFSC Continuously Updated World Ranking (CUWR) at the start of the year (Jan 1st) in the year of US Team Selection;

IFSC Name-Eligible means a US citizen athlete that IFSC considers eligible, by athlete name, for World Cup (WC) competitions in the upcoming season, and who achieved such pre-qualification status representing the US -- eligibility that historically has been awarded to those in the CUWR top-10 at the start of the calendar year;

Olympic Qualification Series (OQS) means the IOC/IFSC series from which the majority of Olympic Eligibility quota will be determined;

Olympic Team or **US Olympic Team** means an athlete who has qualified as a US citizen for the Sport Climbing event at the immediate next, or current, Olympic Games;

Recent National Team Member means an athlete who in the prior twelve (12) months was a member of an (Elite) National Team;

Recent (US) Olympic Finalist means [reserved for future Olympic use];

Recent (US) Olympic Team means [reserved for future Olympic use];

Recent (US) Olympic Medalist means [reserved for future Olympic use];

Speed Trial means a USA Climbing sanctioned Speed event for the purpose of athletes running speed races on a Qualifying Standard wall in order to meet a benchmark time, the schedule and details for which should be published by USA Climbing at least 30 days prior to the Speed Trial.

1 General

1.1 General - USA Climbing

- 1.1.1 As a USA Climbing Team Selection Procedures document, all references herein to National Team, National Development Team, or National Team Ranking shall be read to refer to the relevant U.S. entity.
- 1.1.2 The procedures contained within this Team Selection Procedures document shall apply separately to each applicable Category. For example, the procedures for the Elite Series shall apply to both the female and male Categories separately.
- 1.1.3 At any given time, an athlete may be a member of more than one of the National Teams or National Development Team, but for a given Series, Category, and Discipline an athlete cannot not be on both the National Team and the National Development Team.

1.2 General – National Teams, National Development Team, and Competition Starts

Notes: the Introduction section of this document is a recommended reading, as it contains a list of Significant Changes as well as a detailed summary of this document.

- 1.2.1 Competition Start allocation procedures for a competition shall be understood as having a separate allocation of Competition Starts to those U.S. Citizen athletes that IFSC considers Name-Eligible for that competition; Competition Start allocation for U.S. quota shall not consider those Name-Eligible athletes.
- 1.2.2 If a National Team or National Development Team member is not eligible to register for the international competition's Category for which USA Climbing has determined them qualified for, they are ineligible for an international Competition Start.

For the avoidance of doubt and by way of example, an athlete electing to compete in USA Climbing competitions in a gender category that differs from the competitor's birth certificate gender (subject to the USA Climbing Rulebook) accepts the risk of not being eligible for an international Competition Start.
- 1.2.3 Some portion of the competition's U.S. quota may not be used in the event there are not sufficient competitors eligible to receive Competition Starts under these rules.

1.3 General - Athlete Requirements

- 1.3.1 A member of a USA Climbing National Team or National Development Team may be required to submit a signed Athlete Agreement in order to obtain support from USA Climbing with respect to an Elite, Youth, Collegiate, and/or Paraclimbing international competition and/or event, provided that the form of Athlete Agreement is on reasonable terms and has been reviewed by the USOPC Athlete Ombudsman, USA Climbing's athlete representative on the USOPC Athletes' Advisory Council, and the USA Climbing Athletes' Advisory Committee.

The Athlete Agreement must be signed by the athlete and must also be signed by a parent/guardian if the athlete is under the age of eighteen (18) years. The current Athlete Agreement document is located on the National Team page of the www.usaclimbing.org website.

For the avoidance of doubt, an Athlete Agreement term or condition may be reasonable even if other terms or conditions that could have been used would have likewise been reasonable.

- 1.3.2 All National Team members and National Development Team members:

- a) shall be required to have an active USA Climbing Competitor Membership (or in the case of a Collegiate athlete competing in the World University Games, a Collegiate Membership), and must timely reactivate their Membership in the event their Membership expires or otherwise becomes non-active, or are otherwise; and
- b) shall be able to provide evidence of U.S. citizenship accepted by IFSC upon request by USA Climbing; and
- c) should possess a valid (unexpired) U.S. passport that has an expiration date a least one year after the upcoming National Championship,

where those athletes not meeting these requirements are subject to being declared ineligible for an international Competition Start.

1.4 General - Rankings and Ranking Points

1.4.1 Rankings are determined using the corresponding Ranking Points.

Ranking	Points used
NCH Eligibility Ranking	NCH Eligibility Ranking Points
National Team Ranking	National Team Ranking Points
Youth National Team Ranking	Youth National Team Ranking Points
Collegiate National Team Ranking	Collegiate National Team Ranking Points
Paraclimbing National Team Ranking	Paraclimbing National Team Ranking Points

Table 1-1 General –Ranking Points used for each Ranking

Note: some National Team Rankings include multiple events (Elite National Team Ranking) and some include multiple rankings of the same competition (Speed in Elite, Youth, Collegiate using both competition rank and Time Rank), but for consistency all Teams are formed using National Team Rankings even if that ranking only reflects one competition, ranked among US citizens.

1.4.2 Each Ranking uses the relevant Ranking Points to determine relative rank between competitors; competitors are ranked in descending order of Ranking Points, and the following shall apply to competitors with an equal number of ranking points:

- a) In determining the ranking where any competitors have the same Ranking Points, the relative ranking of the competitors with equal Ranking Points shall be determined by comparing the head-to-head performance of such competitors at the competitions included in the Ranking Point system (i.e., competitor A shall be ranked higher (better) if competitor A has ranked higher than competitor B in more such competitions than competitor B ranked higher than competitor A, for such competitions where both competitor A and B competed).
The application of this rule shall be weighted by each competition's first (1st) place points as set forth in the table in Rule 2.1.4, such that a head-to-head win in a competition with greater first (1st) place points shall be considered more significant than a head-to-head win in a competition with fewer (1st) place points.
- b) Where the test in (a) does not determine a unique rank, the ranking will be determined by the best ranking in any of the competitions included in the Ranking Point system, and the number of competitions where that ranking was achieved. If that does not determine a unique rank, then the second (2nd) best ranking in any such competition, and the number of competitions with that ranking, and so on.

1.4.3 When awarding Ranking Points at a competition, the points awarded to tied competitors will be the average of the points for the tied rank positions, rounded down to whole numbers. (e.g., if three competitors are tied for second (2nd) place, each is awarded the sum of the 2nd, 3rd, and 4th place points, divided by 3, rounded down.)

1.4.4 For some Speed competitions, points awarded to a competitor are the greater of those points based on their competition rank or those points based on their Resolved Time Rank.

- a) The Time Rank points are in Rule 2.1.3, 5.1.2, or 6.1.2, as relevant.
- b) Time Rank points are determined using a competitor's Resolved Time Rank in the competition, which is a ranking among only U.S. citizen competitors and is in order of increasing Time Rank time and, within a set of competitors having the same Time Rank time, is in order of increasing (worse) General Rank.

For the avoidance of doubt, Resolved Time Rank is the same as Time Rank except that any ties in Time Rank are broken using General Rank in the competition.

- c) Where competitor may be eligible for a selection of the greater value of either General Rank points or (Resolved) Time Rank points, such selection has no effect on other competitors; any "unused" General Rank points or "unused" Time Rank points do not pass to any other competitor.

1.5 General - Registration of Interest and Acceptance of Competition Start

This section addresses the overall process of Competition Start allocation, how an athlete's status as a National Team (NT) or National Development Team (NDT) member and their registration of interest may result in Competition Starts. (This section has been updated.)

In general:

- National Team members (in the Elite Series) have priority that includes: being initially considered "interested"; first consideration regardless of any Registered Interest Deadline; and consideration for a provisionally allocated Competition Start.
- National Development Team members that register interest before the Registered Interest Deadline have priority over those who register after; among those NDT members that register interest after the deadline, their priority is ordered by time of interest registration.

The rules in this section include:

- 1.5.1 – That US Competition Starts are only allocated as below
- 1.5.2 – How the timing of an athlete's registration of interest impacts their designation as a Registered Interest Athlete and their *consideration* for a Competition Start (note: the method for an athlete to register their interest is published outside this document)
- 1.5.3 – When the allocation of Competition Starts is initiated
- 1.5.4 – What the Competition Start allocation process includes
- 1.5.5 – How Competition Starts get returned to USA Climbing due to an athlete withdrawing
- 1.5.6 – Which documentation may be required by USA Climbing
- 1.5.7 – What is published by USA Climbing
- 1.5.8 – Team Section Discretion

1.5.1 Registration through USA Climbing is the sole means of a competitor to express interest for (acceptance of) an International Competition Start from USA Climbing.

1.5.2 Regarding designating an athlete to be a "Registered Interest Athlete", an athlete (National Team member or National Development Team member) may be designated as a Registered Interest Athlete as follows:

- a) An athlete who is a National Team (NT) member:
 - i) is initially designated a NT Registered Interest Athlete (requiring no explicit registering of interest on their part) and remains so until and unless they deregister their interest; and
 - ii) who deregisters their interest, is no longer designated a Registered Interest Athlete; and
 - iii) if they subsequently reregister their interest, they are (again) designated a NT Registered Interest Athlete, regardless of the time of such reregistration of interest.
- b) An athlete who is a National Development Team (NDT) member:
 - i) is not initially designated a Registered Interest Athlete; and
 - ii) must explicitly register their interest to be designated a Registered Interest Athlete; and
 - iii) if they explicitly register their interest (or reregister their interest after deregistering their interest):
 - A) before the Registered Interest Deadline of 11:59pm MT fourteen (14) days prior to the Competition's registration deadline, are considered an NDT (Normal) Registered Interest Athlete; or
 - B) after such deadline, are considered an NDT (Late) Registered Interest Athlete; and
 - iv) who deregisters their interest, is no longer designated an NDT Registered Interest Athlete.

- c) USA Climbing will publish the method(s) for registering interest, though the method for National Team members may be different than the method for National Development Team members.
- d) Athletes who have registered their interest in a Competition, but later become unavailable, ineligible, or otherwise unable to accept a Competition Start to the Competition must contact USA Climbing via info@usaclimbing.org immediately in order to deregister their interest. (See 1.5.5)

1.5.3 Regarding the timing of Competition Start allocation initiation,

Competition Starts are allocated (and the provisional period as set forth in Rule 1.5.4(b) begins) immediately after one of the following initiation events occur:

- a) the Registered Interest Deadline; and
- b) when an athlete granted a Competition Start deregisters their interest and there are Registered Interest Athletes not granted a Competition Start; and
- c) when an athlete (re)registers their interest in a competition with available quota,

where such allocation is subject to:

- d) IFSC deadlines for athlete competition registration and/or registration changes; and
- e) for allocation less than forty-eight (48) hours prior to the relevant IFSC deadline, USA Climbing reasonable effort expectations; and
- f) for allocation less than forty-eight (48) hours prior to the relevant IFSC deadline and for a competition with multiple disciplines, USA Climbing discretion to restrict the Competition Start grant to be to an athlete already having a Competition Start to another Discipline at that Competition, where the athlete must meet all of the requirements for that quota (Discipline and Competition); however, in the event there are no competitors eligible to receive such Competition Starts, the requirements rule may be relaxed such that ranking requirement is 50% more inclusive, rounded down. For example, any top five (5) requirement may be relaxed to top seven (7); any top ten (10) requirement may be relaxed to top fifteen (15); any top twenty (20) requirement may be relaxed to top thirty (30); etc.

For the avoidance of doubt:

Rule 1.5.4(b)(v) sets forth that only select (re)registrations of interest will be considered during a provisional period; and

If, during a provisional period (Rule 1.5.4(b)), a subsequent Competition Start allocation initiation event occurs (e.g., another athlete granted a Competition Start deregisters their interest), then a new Competition Start allocation process begins for the newly-available quota, but the quota allocated by the currently-provisional process is not affected.

1.5.4 Regarding the allocation procedure for Competition Starts,

when allocating available USA Climbing quota for an International Competition:

- a) USA Climbing shall publish provisional Competition Starts to eligible athletes who have registered interest in each Discipline at the Competition, in an order and number based on the quota available to USA Climbing and the relevant Competition Start order outlined in this Team Selection Procedures document,
 - i) first considering only NT Registered Interest Athletes and NDT (Normal) Registered Interest Athletes; and
 - ii) then (only if quota remains) considering NDT (Late) Registered Interest Athletes, prioritized strictly by the date/time order of their most recent (re)registration of interest (earliest date/time having highest priority); and
- b) during the forty-eight (48) hours after publication (“provisional period”), Competition Starts will be re-evaluated if:
 - i) any of the athletes granted a provisional Competition Start decline (i.e., deregister their interest); or
 - ii) for the Elite Series, any National Team member reregisters their interest; or

iii) any provisional Competition Start is found to be erroneous (including without limitation those published due to clerical errors),

in which case, the provisional Competition Starts will be newly determined by and published by USA Climbing, and:

- iv) no new provisional forty-eight (48) hour period begins; and
- v) no new Registered Interest Athlete, other than set forth in 1.5.4(b)(ii), is considered; and
- c) at a time forty-eight (48) hours after publishing provisional Competition Starts, said provisional Competition Starts (as updated and/or corrected, if applicable) shall become Competition Starts and USA Climbing will register the invited athletes for the International Competition; and
- d) if the provisional period begins less than forty-eight (48) hours prior to the Competition's relevant registration deadline, the provisional period shall be twelve (12) hours, unless provisional period begins less than twelve (12) hours prior to the Competition's relevant registration deadline, in which case the provisional period a nominally short time (e.g., 30 minutes) or may be eliminated.

For the avoidance of doubt, National Team members (in the Elite Series) have priority that includes consideration if they reregister interest during the provisional period. Once the provisional period ends, Competition Starts are not revoked without Team Selection Discretion.

1.5.5 Competition Starts extended by USA Climbing are considered accepted unless an athlete declines or deregisters their interest.

- a) Declining a Competition Start or withdrawing from the competition (including without limitation becoming no longer available, eligible, or interested in attending the Competition) is to be considered the same as deregistering interest.
- b) If an athlete who received a Competition Start to a given Competition deregisters their interest, the Competition Start is retracted, and USA Climbing will attempt to deregister the competitor from the International Competition.

1.5.6 For the purposes of facilitating expedient registration of an athlete for the international competition, USA climbing may require that an athlete have particular credentials and/or documentation (e.g., a valid U.S. passport) in order to register their interest in a Competition.

1.5.7 For each International Competition (Competition) for which USA Climbing has an allocated quota, USA Climbing shall publish, on the www.usaclimbing.org website,

- a) the date(s) and location(s) of the Competition; and
- b) the Discipline(s) that the Competition includes; and
- c) the list, for each Discipline at the Competition, of athletes eligible to register their interest for a Competition Start in that Discipline at the Competition; and
- d) the method(s) for registering interest; and
- e) the credentials and/or documentation required in order to register interest.
- f) the Registered Interest Deadline; and
- g) the Athlete Swap End Date; and

By way of example, USA Climbing may publish a table as follows:

Date Location	Discipline Eligible Athlete List	Registered Interest Deadline (11:59pm MT)	Athlete Swap End Date (11:59pm MT)	Required Credentials /Documentation	Current Interest Report
4/15 Meiringen	Boulder (eligibility list)	4/1	4/5	Valid US Passport	Link
5/21 SLC	Boulder (eligibility list)	4/22	5/4	None	Link

1.5.8 Subject to Team Selection Discretion, USA Climbing may alter the rules in Section 1.5, including deadlines and procedures.

1.6 General - USA Climbing Team Selection Discretion

- 1.6.1 USA Climbing Team Selection Discretion provides the authority to waive or amend rules in this document, subject to the following:
- a) The USA Climbing High Performance team (or equivalent) or USA Climbing Athletes' Advisory Committee must submit a written proposal to the USA Climbing Team Selection Committee outlining:
 - i) the requested discretion; and
 - ii) the justification for the discretion, based, in part, on performance at recent USA Climbing, IFSC, or NACS competitions; and
 - iii) any precedents relevant to the discretion; and
 - iv) the anticipated impact of such discretion.
 - b) The proposal should be communicated to all affected athletes in a timely manner.
 - c) The USA Climbing Team Selection Committee and the USA Climbing CEO must both approve the proposal for the discretion to be granted.
 - d) The USA Climbing Board of Directors must be informed within fourteen (14) days of any exercise of discretion, by way of submission of the proposal and the Team Selection Committee recommendation/approval to the board.
- 1.6.2 For each position set forth in the Team Selection Committee charter that is either not filled or where the individual has recused themselves due to a conflict of interest, that Team Selection Committee voting position for Rule 1.6.1 purposes is filled in the following order, as such individuals are available:
- a) For an athlete position on the Team Selection Committee:
 - i) USOPC AAC Representative alternate.
 - ii) USA Climbing AAC Chair.
 - iii) A member of the USA Climbing AAC.
 - b) For a non-athlete position on the Team Selection Committee:
 - i) A member of the USA Climbing Board of Directors.

Positions should be filled with attention paid to avoid conflicts of interest.

2 Elite: Rankings, Teams, and Competition Starts

2.1 Elite: National Team Ranking Points

2.1.1 National Team Ranking Points, for each of the Lead, Boulder, and Speed Disciplines shall be the sum of:

- a) The National Championship National Team Ranking points; and
- b) The National Team Trials National Team Ranking points; and
- c) National Team Ranking Bonus points,

where all National Team Ranking points shall expire upon the commencement of the following National Championship.

Lead National Team Ranking points		
Lead National Championship Ranking points	Rule 3.4	using table in 2.1.4
+ Lead National Team Trials Ranking points	Rule 4.4	using table in 2.1.4
+ Bonus points	Rule 2.1.5	
= TOTAL points		

Table 2-1 National Team Ranking Points – Lead

Boulder National Team Ranking points		
Boulder National Championship Ranking points	Rule 3.4	using table in 2.1.4
+ Boulder National Team Trials Ranking Points	Rule 4.4	using table in 2.1.4
+ Bonus points	Rule 2.1.5	
= TOTAL points		

Table 2-2 National Team Ranking Points – Boulder

Speed National Team Ranking points		
Speed National Championship Ranking points	Rule 3.4	using table in 2.1.4 or 2.1.3
+ Speed National Team Trials Ranking points	Rule 4.4	using table in 2.1.4 or 2.1.3
+ Bonus points	Rule 2.1.5	
= TOTAL points		

Table 2-3 National Team Ranking Points – Speed

2.1.2 The tables in Rules 2.1.3, 2.1.4, and 2.1.5 are for National Team Ranking points; the tables are NOT used for NCH Eligibility Rankings points. For the NCH Eligibility Ranking points table, see Rule 3.2.2.

2.1.3 For the Speed Discipline, National Team Time Rank points, as set forth in 1.4.4, are:

National Team Time Rank Points			
Resolved Time Rank	NCH	NTT	Note: where these points fall as compared to the table in Rule 2.1.4
1 st	820	990	(between 1 st and 2 nd in competition rank)
2 nd	810	980	(between 1 st and 2 nd in competition rank)
3 rd	700	850	(between 2 nd and 3 rd in competition rank)
4 th or lower	0	0	

Table 2-4 National Team Ranking Points – Time Rank Points

2.1.4 The following table is used to determine National Team Ranking points.

National Team Ranking Points											
Rank	NCH	NTT	Rank	NCH	NTT	Rank	NCH	NTT	Rank	NCH	NTT
1	1000	1200	21	145	174	41	14	16	61	4	4
2	805	966	22	130	156	42	13	15	62	4	4
3	690	828	23	120	144	43	12	14	63	4	4
4	610	732	24	105	126	44	11	13	64	3	3
5	545	654	25	95	114	45	11	13	65	3	3
6	495	594	26	84	100	46	10	12	66	3	3
7	455	546	27	73	87	47	9	10	67	3	3
8	415	498	28	63	75	48	9	10	68	3	3
9	380	456	29	56	67	49	8	9	69	2	2
10	350	420	30	48	57	50	8	9	70	2	2
11	325	390	31	42	50	51	7	8	71	2	2
12	300	360	32	37	44	52	7	8	72	2	2
13	280	336	33	33	39	53	7	8	73	2	2
14	260	312	34	30	36	54	6	7	74	2	2
15	240	288	35	27	32	55	6	7	75	1	1
16	220	264	36	24	28	56	6	7	76	1	1
17	205	246	37	21	25	57	5	6	77	1	1
18	185	222	38	19	22	58	5	6	78	1	1
19	170	204	39	17	20	59	5	6	79	1	1
20	155	186	40	15	18	60	4	4	80	1	1

Table 2-5 National Team Ranking Points – Rank Points

2.1.5 National Team Ranking Bonus points are as follows:

- a) At the conclusion of the National Championship, IFSC CUWR Top-40 National Team Ranking Bonus points are awarded in each of the Lead, Boulder, and Speed Disciplines, where their points are determined from their CUWR top-40 rank in the Discipline using the table below:

National Team Ranking Bonus – CUWR Top-40							
CUWR	Bonus Pts	CUWR	Bonus Pts	CUWR	Bonus Pts	CUWR	Bonus Pts
1	1000	11	392	21	230	31	137
2	824	12	370	22	217	32	133
3	721	13	352	23	208	33	129
4	649	14	334	24	194	34	127
5	590	15	316	25	185	35	124
6	545	16	298	26	175	36	121
7	509	17	284	27	165	37	118
8	473	18	266	28	156	38	117
9	442	19	253	29	150	39	115
10	415	20	239	30	143	40	113

Table 2-6 National Team Ranking Points – Bonus Points – CUWR Top-40

- b) Olympic Qualification Process National Team Ranking Bonus points are awarded to select athletes who do not compete at the 2023 NCH, as follows.

Note: the reader may find the following 2023 competition timeline to be helpful

Aug 1-12	IFSC WCH (Bern)	Oct 11-25	USAC NCH (Idaho)
Sept 8-9	IFSC WC (Koper)	Oct 21-24	IFSC COQE (Santiago)
Sept 22-24	IFSC WC (Wujiang)		

- i) Lead, Boulder, and Speed Ranking Bonus points are awarded based on criteria in the Discipline, except where noted for Boulder & Lead.
- ii) Unless the calendar year is otherwise specified, the rules in this section refer to 2023 WCH, 2023 NCH, 2023 COQE, 2024 OQS, 2024 NTT, and 2024 Olympics.
- iii) Each type of such Bonus points may award a base amount plus a percentage of the points in the follow table (*equivalent to the points in the NCH column of the table in 2.1.4*) using the specified ranking:

National Team Ranking Bonus – Olympic Qual Process									
Rank	Points	Rank	Points	Rank	Points	Rank	Points	Rank	Points
1	1000	11	325	21	145	31	42	41	14
2	805	12	300	22	130	32	37	42	13
3	690	13	280	23	120	33	33	43	12
4	610	14	260	24	105	34	30	44	11
5	545	15	240	25	95	35	27	45	11
6	495	16	220	26	84	36	24	46	10
7	455	17	205	27	73	37	21	47	9
8	415	18	185	28	63	38	19	48	9
9	380	19	170	29	56	39	17	49	8
10	350	20	155	30	48	40	15	50	8

Table 2-7 National Team Ranking Points – Bonus Points – Olympic Qual Process

- iv) At the conclusion of the COQE, athletes who competed at COQE and did not compete at NCH

are awarded Ranking Bonus points that are the sum of four-hundred (400) points plus sixty percent (60%) of the points in Table 2-7 above using their COQE rank.

A) Speed Ranking Bonus points use the Speed COQE rank.

B) Lead and Boulder Ranking Bonus points use the Boulder & Lead COQE rank.

For the avoidance of doubt, the purpose of these bonus points is to incentivize focus on the COQE by the athletes eligible to compete there. That event is part of the Olympic qualification pathway; even if the US Olympic quota of two (2) is filled at WCH, representation at the PanAm Games by top athletes is of high importance to USA Climbing.

In 2023, the NCH is less than two (2) weeks before the COQE, and USA Climbing desires to incentivize the relevant athletes to prepare for the COQE without the distraction of the NCH's place in the pathway to 2024 World Cup Competition Starts. In effect, these bonus points provide a means for relevant athletes to treat the COQE as a substitute for NCH – depending on the results of the remainder of 2023, such athletes would still be able to attend the NTT with some measure of NTR points.

- v) At the conclusion of the COQE, and only if US Olympic NF quota was not filled upon the conclusion of the WCH, athletes who did not compete at COQE and did not compete at NCH,

if they are among one of the top four (4) ranked US athletes within the set of:

- A) for Lead and Boulder, the top forty-eight (48) ranked world athletes in the Boulder & Lead CUWR not (yet) qualified for the Olympics; or
- B) for Speed, the top thirty-two (32) ranked world athletes in the Speed CUWR not (yet) qualified for the Olympics,

are awarded four-hundred fifty (450) Ranking Bonus points.

For the avoidance of doubt, the purpose of these points is to incentivize an athlete who, after NCH, is a reasonable likely candidate for OQS but is not eligible for COQE, to focus on the remaining WCs during the four weeks before NCH. This incentive:

- Recognizes that COQE NF quota is 3 while OQS quota is 4.
- Is not present in the case of the US filling Olympic quota at WCH (if the US does fill Olympic quota at WCH, an athlete has time to prepare for the NCH).
- Is only available to those within the nominal range of CUWR ranking that are assured of OQS eligibility, subject to NF eligibility.
- Is only available to up to one athlete per Discipline.

2.2 Elite: National Team & National Development Team Selection

Notes: Because the IFSC quota allocated to the US may be fewer than the number of National Team members, not all National Team members are guaranteed a Competition Start.

The National Team may include Preselected plus the top “N” from National Team Rankings (NTR).

During the 2023 IFSC Season, Lead and Boulder National Team and National Development Team members will only receive a Competition Start if they are either IFSC Name Eligible for that Discipline (i.e., have a “bye” by being CUWR top-10) or receive the start via the Boulder & Lead National Team or National Development Team.

2.2.1 The National Teams and National Development Teams shall be composed at the conclusion of the National Team Trials, in the order of criteria listed in each table, and within each criterion, athletes within that set are ordered by the ranking used in the criterion (e.g., CUWR or NTR), unless otherwise specified.

a) 2023: In **Boulder & Lead**:

Type		2023 Criterion
National Team	Preselected	[reserved for future Olympic use]
		Athletes in the top-16 of BOTH the Boulder CUWR and the Lead CUWR, where such athletes are further ranked by the sum of their Boulder CUWR and Lead CUWR ranking points, up to a maximum of two athletes.
	NTR Selected	Athletes ranked first (1 st) through fifth (5 th) in the Boulder & Lead National Team Ranking among only those not Preselected at the conclusion of the National Team Trials.
National Development Team	NTR Selected	Athletes ranked sixth (6 th) through tenth (10 th) in the Boulder & Lead National Team Ranking among only those not Preselected at the conclusion of the National Team Trials.

Table 2-8 2023 National Team and National Development Team – Boulder & Lead

b) 2023: In each of the **Lead, Boulder, and Speed** Disciplines:

Type		2023 Criterion
National Team	Preselected	Athletes that are IFSC Name-Eligible (i.e., have a “bye” by being CUWR top-10) in the Discipline.
		[reserved for future Olympic use]
		If the number of IFSC Name-Eligible athletes in the Discipline is one (1) or fewer, then the one (1) highest ranked athlete in the top-16 of the CUWR for the Discipline.
	NTR Selected	Athletes ranked first (1 st) through fifth (5 th) in the Discipline’s National Team Ranking among only those not Preselected at the conclusion of the National Team Trials.
National Development Team	NTR Selected	Athletes ranked sixth (6 th) through tenth (10 th) in the Discipline’s National Team Ranking among only those not Preselected at the conclusion of the National Team Trials.

Table 2-9 2023 National Team and National Development Team – Lead, Boulder, and Speed

c) 2024: In each of the **Lead** and **Boulder** Disciplines:

Type		Criterion
National Team	Preselected	Athletes that are IFSC Name-Eligible (i.e., have a “bye” by being CUWR top-10) in the Discipline.
		Olympic Team members in Boulder & Lead
	OQS-selected	Prior to the conclusion of the OQS: those qualified and eligible for the OQS in Boulder & Lead
	NTR Selected	The top two (2) ranked athletes in the Discipline National Team Ranking, among those not Preselected at the time that the OQS eligibility is finalized.
National Development Team	OQS-selected	After the conclusion of the OQS: those who were qualified and eligible for the OQS in Boulder & Lead and no longer meeting the requirements of National Team.
	NTR Selected	Athletes ranked third (3 rd) through tenth (10 th) in the Discipline National Team Ranking and not on the National Team.

Table 2-10 2024 National Team and National Development Team – Lead and Boulder

d) 2024: In the **Speed** Discipline:

Type		Criterion
National Team	Preselected	Athletes that are IFSC Name-Eligible (i.e., have a “bye” by being CUWR top-10) in the Speed Discipline.
		Olympic Team members in Speed
	OQS-selected	Prior to the conclusion of the OQS: those qualified and eligible for the OQS in Speed
	NTR Selected	The top two (2) ranked athletes in the Speed National Team Ranking who have achieved the NT Benchmark time (see Rule 2.4), among those not Preselected at the time that the OQS eligibility is finalized.
National Development Team	OQS-selected	After the conclusion of the OQS: those who were qualified and eligible for the OQS in Speed and no longer meeting the requirements of National Team.
	NTR Selected	Athletes ranked third (3 rd) through tenth (10 th) in the Speed National Team Ranking and not on the National Team.

Table 2-11 2024 National Team and National Development Team – Speed

e) 2024: In the **Boulder & Lead** Disciplines:

Type		Criterion
National Team	Preselected	[reserved]
		[reserved]
		[reserved]
	NTR Selected	[reserved]
National Development Team	NTR Selected	[reserved]

Table 2-12 2024 National Team and National Development Team – Boulder & Lead

- 2.2.2 Only for World Cups where IFSC awards the US additional host quota (typically a US-hosted World Cup), the National Development Teams in Rule 2.2.1 shall be athletes ranked through sixteenth (16th) instead of tenth (10th).
- 2.2.3 Subject to Team Selection Discretion, USA Climbing may declare additional athletes to be members of the National Development Team.

2.3 Elite: Competition Starts

- 2.3.1 For the purposes of this document, Elite Competition Starts are those for Elite Competitions which consist of:
- IFSC World Cups and IFSC World Championship; and
 - Pan American Games and associated direct qualification competitions for the Pan American Games; and
 - the yet-unnamed “Olympic qualification series”.
- 2.3.2 In order to receive a Competition Start in the Speed Discipline, an athlete:
- must be IFSC Name-Eligible in Speed; or
 - [reserved for future Olympic use]; or
 - must have achieved a CS Benchmark time (see Rule 2.4).
- 2.3.3 For each competition, the first one (1) Competition Start is subject to Team Selection Discretion. For the avoidance of doubt, Team Selection Discretion may extend the Competition Start to a member of the relevant National Development Team or National Team.
- 2.3.4 Elite Competition Starts in the Speed Discipline shall be extended, up to the US quota and subject to Rules 2.3.2 and 2.3.3, to those not IFSC Name-Eligible in Speed as follows:
- to members of the Speed National Team, in order of their rank within that team; then
 - to the extent that any quota remains, to the Speed National Development Team, in an order and manner as set forth in Rule 2.3.6; then
 - to the extent that any quota remains, to US Citizen athletes who have achieved the Competition Start minimum benchmark time, where such athletes are ordered:
 - first, those with a National Team Ranking in Speed, ordered by such ranking; and
 - second, the remaining athletes, ordered by their fastest achieved benchmark time (see Rule 2.4) (fastest ordered first).
- 2.3.5 Elite Competition Starts in Lead and Boulder shall be extended, up to the US quota and subject to Rule 2.3.3, as follows:
- to members of the National Team in the Discipline, in order of their rank within that team; then
 - to the extent that any quota remains, to the National Development Team in the Discipline, in an order and manner as set forth in Rule 2.3.6.
- 2.3.6 Where Competition Starts are to be allocated to National Development Team, such Competition Starts shall be allocated as follows:
- Only for World Cups where IFSC awards the US additional host quota (e.g., a US-hosted World Cup):
 - Competition Starts shall be allocated in order of National Team Ranking in the Discipline subject to registered interest and competition registration timeline considerations,
 - And for other IFSC events:
 - upon becoming a National Development Team member, an athlete shall initially be eligible for one (1) Competition Start among Rule 2.3.6(b) events during the IFSC season.
 - among National Development Team athletes with remaining eligibility for a Competition Start, Competition Starts shall be allocated in order of National Team Ranking in the Discipline subject to registered interest and competition registration timeline considerations.
- For the avoidance of doubt, Competition Starts granted by way of Rule 2.3.6(a) have no impact on the granting of Competition Starts by way of Rule 2.3.6(b), and vice-versa.
- Subject to Team Selection Discretion, USA Climbing:

- i) may award eligibility for an additional Competition Start during that IFSC season to a National Development Team athlete based on exceptional performance; and
 - ii) may award eligibility to a National Development Team athlete for a Competition Start at a specific event in the case where otherwise US quota would go unused; and
 - iii) may alter the allocation order of Competition Starts to National Development Team athletes.
- d) Competition Start eligibility expires at the end of the IFSC season.

2.4 Elite: Speed Benchmarks

2.4.1 USA Climbing Team Selection Speed Benchmark times are established at the conclusion of the calendar year, using the times achieved that year in the Speed Qualification rounds of IFSC World Cups and, if held that year, the IFSC World Championship.

2.4.2 The Speed Benchmark times to be established as follows:

- a) The National Team Benchmark (NT Benchmark) is determined at the conclusion of the calendar year by:
 - i) for each World Cup (and where relevant, the World Championship) in that calendar year:
 - A) for each competitor with a valid Qualification round time (without a False Start), determining that competitor's fastest valid Qualification round time; and
 - B) determining the competition median value of those fastest Qualification round times in the competition; and then
 - ii) determining the median value among those competition median values.
- b) The Competition Start Benchmark (CS Benchmark) is determined by multiplying the National Team Benchmark by 1.07 (an increase of 7%).
- c) The NTT Eligibility Benchmark (NTT Benchmark) is determined by multiplying the National Team Benchmark by 1.40 (an increase of 40%).
- d) Each Speed Benchmark calculation (median of Qualification times, NT benchmark, CS benchmark, NTT benchmark) is rounded up to two (2) decimal digits (1/100th of a second) before being presented or used further. (e.g., 8.251 rounds up to 8.26)

For the avoidance of doubt, an athlete must achieve benchmark times using their timing-system-displayed time without rounding. (e.g., a race time of 6.201 does not meet a 6.20 benchmark time.)

- e) Subject the above, the 2024 Speed Benchmark times are (estimated to be):

Benchmark	2024 Women	2024 Men
NT Benchmark	7.87s (est.)	5.63s (est.)
CS Benchmark	8.42s (est.)	6.02s (est.)
NTT Benchmark	11.02s (est.)	7.88s (est.)

Table 2-13 2024 (estimated) Speed Eligibility Benchmark Times

- f) Notwithstanding the above, for the 2023 NTT and 2023 Competition Starts the Speed Benchmark times are as follows:

Benchmark	2023 Women	2023 Men
NT Benchmark	- (11.00)	- (8.00)
CS Benchmark	9.00	6.20
NTT Benchmark	11.00	8.00

Table 2-14 2023 Speed Eligibility Benchmark Times

For the avoidance of doubt, while there is no specifically defined 2023 NT Benchmark, it is effectively the same as the NTT Benchmark; only Preselected or NTT competitors are eligible for 2023 Competition Starts, and anyone Preselected has met the NTT benchmark.

2.4.3 For a given NTT and IFSC competition year, an athlete may achieve a benchmark time as follows:

- a) in any of the following Speed competitions in that year or in the immediately prior year:
 - i) USA Climbing National competitions.
 - ii) North American Cup Series competitions.
 - iii) IFSC-sanctioned world-level competitions (e.g., World Cups, World Championship (any Series), Olympics and Olympic qualification competitions).

- iv) An event (competition or speed trial) designated prior to the event by USA Climbing by way of Team Selection Discretion for NT, CS, and/or NTT Benchmark purposes. Note that a given competition or speed trial may be designated only for NTT, and not CS or NT, Benchmark purposes.

For the avoidance of doubt, race times that do not meet the timeframe or event requirements above are not considered when evaluating benchmark times for any purpose defined in this document.

- b) for NTT Benchmark only, in a manner defined in an NTT Benchmark exception policy published by and at the discretion of USA Climbing.

2.4.4 Notwithstanding the above, for 2023 Competition Starts, the CS Speed Benchmark time must have been achieved at:

- a) the National Championship or National Team Trials competitions; or
- b) a North American Cup Series or USA Climbing National competition; or
- c) a Speed Trial arranged at the discretion of USA Climbing, held no earlier than the start of the most recent National Championship.

3 Elite: National Championship: Eligibility, Format, and Ranking Points

3.1 Elite: NCH Age Requirement

3.1.1 To be age-eligible for the National Championship, a competitor must be sixteen (16) years of age or older on December 31st of the year of the first World Cup immediately following the National Championship.

For the avoidance of doubt, if the National Championship is late in the calendar year, a competitor who is fifteen (15) years of age on December 31st of the year of the National Championship will not have been eligible for other Elite Series events that year (e.g., North American Cup Series), though is age-eligible and may still achieve eligibility for the National Championship via exceptional performance at the Youth National Championship that year.

3.2 Elite: NCH Eligibility

3.2.1 NCH Eligibility Ranking Points (in each Category and for each of the Lead, Boulder, and Speed Disciplines) for a competitor shall be the sum of the points from the best two (2) eligible competitions since the day before the preceding National Championship, where:

- a) the best two (2) competitions are those that provide the competitor with the greatest number of points; and
- b) eligible competitions are listed in the table below, indicating which citizens are eligible for ranking points and the method used to rank the competitors in the Discipline for purposes of determining their NCH Eligibility Ranking points using the table in Rule 3.2.2; and
- c) non-US citizens are awarded NCH Eligibility Ranking points only where they achieve a General Rank in the top-20 at a North American Cup Series competition; and
- d) 2023 NTT Boulder & Lead rank is used for 2024 NCH Eligibility Ranking Points in both the Lead and Boulder Disciplines.

Competition	Citizen	Rank used for Determination of Ranking Points Determined using Rank relative to:
USA Climbing National Championship (prior year)	US only	all competitors
USA Climbing National Team Trials (prior year)	US only	all competitors
IFSC World Cup	US only	all competitors
IFSC World Championship	US only	all competitors
Pan-American Championships	US only	all competitors
North American Cup Series	any (see (c))	all competitors

Table 3-1 NCH Eligibility – Competitions Where Ranking Points Are Awarded

For example, a competitor’s NCH Eligibility Ranking Points total could be from:

- the NCH and a NACS, or
- the NTT and a WC; or
- two WCs; etc.

3.2.2 The following table used to determine NCH Eligibility Ranking points using the following Elite competitions; the table is NOT used for National Team Ranking points. For the National Team Ranking points table, see Rule 2.1.4.

NCH Eligibility Ranking Points (not for National Team Ranking use)							
Rank	NCH	NTT	WC	WCH	NACS	PACH	Rank
1	1000	1200	2500	3500	500	500	1
2	805	966	2012	2817	402	402	2
3	690	828	1725	2415	345	345	3
4	610	732	1525	2135	305	305	4
5	545	654	1362	1907	272	272	5
6	495	594	1237	1732	247	247	6
7	455	546	1137	1592	227	227	7
8	415	498	1037	1452	207	207	8
9	380	456	950	1330	190	190	9
10	350	420	875	1225	175	175	10
11	325	390	812	1137	162	162	11
12	300	360	750	1050	150	150	12
13	280	336	700	980	140	140	13
14	260	312	650	910	130	130	14
15	240	288	600	840	120	120	15
16	220	264	550	770	110	110	16
17	205	246	512	717	102	102	17
18	185	222	462	647	92	92	18
19	170	204	425	595	85	85	19
20	155	186	387	542	77	77	20
21	145	174	362	507	72	72	21
22	130	156	325	455	65	65	22
23	120	144	300	420	60	60	23
24	105	126	262	367	52	52	24
25	95	114	237	332	47	47	25
26	84	100	210	294	42	42	26
27	73	87	182	255	36	36	27
28	63	75	157	220	31	31	28
29	56	67	140	196	28	28	29
30	48	57	120	168	24	24	30
31	42	50	105	147	21	21	31
32	37	44	92	129	18	18	32

NCH Eligibility Ranking Points (not for National Team Ranking use)							
Rank	NCH	NTT	WC	WCH	NACS	PACH	Rank
33	33	39	82	115	16	16	33
34	30	36	75	105	15	15	34
35	27	32	67	94	13	13	35
36	24	28	60	84	12	12	36
37	21	25	52	73	10	10	37
38	19	22	47	66	9	9	38
39	17	20	42	59	8	8	39
40	15	18	37	52	7	7	40
41	14	16	35	49	7	7	41
42	13	15	32	45	6	6	42
43	12	14	30	42	6	6	43
44	11	13	27	38	5	5	44
45	11	13	27	38	5	5	45
46	10	12	25	35	5	5	46
47	9	10	22	31	4	4	47
48	9	10	22	31	4	4	48
49	8	9	20	28	4	4	49
50	8	9	20	28	4	4	50
51	7	8	17	24	3	3	51
52	7	8	17	24	3	3	52
53	7	8	17	24	3	3	53
54	6	7	15	21	3	3	54
55	6	7	15	21	3	3	55
56	6	7	15	21	3	3	56
57	5	6	12	17	2	2	57
58	5	6	12	17	2	2	58
59	5	6	12	17	2	2	59
60	4	4	10	14	2	2	60
61	4	4	10	14	2	2	61
62	4	4	10	14	2	2	62
63	4	4	10	14	2	2	63
64	3	3	7	10	1	1	64
65	3	3	7	10	1	1	65
66	3	3	7	10	1	1	66

NCH Eligibility Ranking Points <i>(not for National Team Ranking use)</i>							
Rank	NCH	NTT	WC	WCH	NACS	PACH	Rank
67	3	3	7	10	1	1	67
68	3	3	7	10	1	1	68
69	2	2	5	7	1	1	69
70	2	2	5	7	1	1	70
71	2	2	5	7	1	1	71
72	2	2	5	7	1	1	72
73	2	2	5	7	1	1	73
74	2	2	5	7	1	1	74
75	1	1	2	3	0	0	75
76	1	1	2	3	0	0	76
77	1	1	2	3	0	0	77
78	1	1	2	3	0	0	78
79	1	1	2	3	0	0	79
80	1	1	2	3	0	0	80

Table 3-2 NCH Eligibility – Ranking Points

3.2.3 The competitor Qualification criteria for NCH eligibility for US citizens for each of the Lead, Boulder, and Speed Disciplines are as follows, where all Discipline criteria apply:

- first, as a Discipline criterion only to that Discipline’s NCH eligibility; and
- then, as a Boulder & Lead criterion to both Lead NCH and Boulder NCH eligibility,

and the Seeding Order (i.e., used for starting lists in Boulder Qualification Round) is by the order of the criteria below:

Set of Eligible Athletes (Order Within the Set)	NCH Discipline Eligible	NCH B&L Cross Eligible	Notes
[reserved for future Olympic use]	All	All	(a)
Team Preselected (Rank within Team)	All	All	(a)
NCH Eligibility Ranking (NCH Eligibility Rank)	Top-100	Top-25 (2023 NCH: Top-100)	(b)(c)
Recent National Team Member (Prior National Team Rank)	All	All	(a)
Youth National Team Ranking (Youth National Team Rank)	Top-6	Top-3	(a) (d)
Collegiate National Team Ranking (Collegiate National Team Rank)	Top-6	Top-3	(a) (d)

Table 3-3 NCH Eligibility – Criteria

Notes, where listed above:

- a) Only applicable to U.S. citizens.
- b) USA Climbing has the discretion to increase (relax) the required eligibility rank within the NCH Eligibility Ranking (to include more than what is specified in the above table) by publishing that new requirement at least ten (10) days prior to the National Championship competition.
- c) An athlete who qualified for the National Team or National Development Team the prior year will have enough NCH Eligibility Ranking points to qualify for the next year’s NCH even if they do not accumulate any additional points between the NTT and the following season’s NCH.
- d) Eligibility is based on Youth (or as relevant, Collegiate) National Team Ranking points solely from the Youth (or as relevant, Collegiate) National Championships in the last 15 months, based on ranking among *all* U.S. citizen competitors in the category. Note, this ranking includes those otherwise qualified for NCH and those not age-eligible for upcoming NCH, and top-N eligibility does not pass to any other competitor.

3.2.4 The competitor Qualification requirements for NCH eligibility in this document are in addition to further requirements (e.g., USA Climbing membership) set forth in the USA Climbing Rulebook.

3.2.5 For the National Championship, any competitor:

- a) granted NCH B&L Cross Eligibility for Lead by Rule 3.2.3 and not granted eligibility for Boulder that Rule is nonetheless granted eligibility for Boulder and such a competitor is seeded last in Boulder; and
- b) granted NCH B&L Cross Eligibility for Boulder by Rule 3.2.3 and not granted eligibility for Lead by that Rule is nonetheless granted eligibility for Lead and such a competitor is seeded last in Lead.

3.3 Elite: NCH Competition Format

3.3.1 Where the USA Climbing Rulebook uses:

- a) competition seeding for the Qualification round Start Order, the seeding is by way of Section 3.2 above; and
- b) a ranking for Start Order in the case of ties in rounds after the Qualification round, the competition seeding shall be used; and
- c) a random order for Start Order in the case of ties in rounds after the Qualification round where competitors have the same competition seeding, the relative order of the relevant competitors from the immediately prior round shall be used.

For the avoidance of doubt, together (b) and (c) effectively set forth that the relative order of the relevant competitors from the immediately prior round shall be used in the case of ties for any round after the Qualification round.

- 3.3.2 In the Speed Discipline, non-US citizens are not eligible to advance to the Final round. (for Lead and Boulder non-US citizen advancement is outlined in the USA Climbing Rulebook.)

3.4 Elite: NCH National Team Ranking Points

3.4.1 For each of the Lead, Boulder, and Speed Disciplines, National Team Ranking points awarded to a US citizen competitor at the National Championship shall be the greater of:

- i) the points in Rule 2.1.4 using the competitor's National Championship rank in the relevant Discipline (*) among only U.S. citizen competitors not Team Preselected in the Discipline; or
- ii) for the Speed Discipline, the points in Rule 2.1.3 using the competitor's Speed National Championship Resolved Time Rank as set out in Rule 1.4.4, (*) among only U.S. citizen competitors not Team Preselected in Speed.

Greater of either	Points from Rule 2.1.4, using rank (*)
or, for Speed	Points from Rule 2.1.3, using Resolved Time Rank (*)
Is the competitor's	Discipline National Team Ranking points at NCH

Table 3-4 National Team Ranking points at NCH – Lead, Boulder, and Speed

4 Elite: National Team Trials: Eligibility, Format, and Ranking Points

4.1 Elite: NTT Age Requirement

- 4.1.1 To be age-eligible for the National Team Trials, a competitor must have been age-eligible for the immediately prior National Championship.

4.2 Elite: NTT Eligibility

- 4.2.1 To be eligible for the National Team Trials in the Lead and Boulder Disciplines, a competitor must be a US citizen and:

- a) be designated USA Climbing Team Preselected in the Discipline; or
- b) be eligible for Bonus Points, in the Discipline, as set forth in Rule 2.1.5; or
- c) at the National Championship, have achieved a top-40 NCH ranking in the Discipline among US citizens excluding athletes granted eligibility by (a) or (b) above.

Summary:

NTT Lead or Boulder eligible if, in the Discipline:	
	USA Climbing Team Preselected in
or	Bonus Points eligible
or	NCH top-40

Table 4-1 NTT Eligibility – Lead and Boulder

- 4.2.2 To be eligible for the National Team Trials in Speed, a competitor must be a US citizen and:

- a) be designated USA Climbing Team Preselected in the Discipline; or
- b) be eligible for Bonus Points, in Speed, as set forth in Rule 2.1.5; or
- c) have achieved:
 - i) a top-60 competition rank in Speed at the National Championship among U.S. citizen competitors not Team Preselected in the Discipline and not eligible for National Team Ranking Bonus; and
 - ii) a NTT Benchmark time (see Rule 2.4).

Summary:

NTT Speed eligible if, in Speed:	
	USA Climbing Team Preselected
or	Bonus Points eligible
or	NCH top-60 and achieved National Team Trials Speed Eligibility Benchmark Time

Table 4-2 NTT Eligibility – Speed Summary

4.3 Elite: NTT Competition Format

- 4.3.1 The competitor seeding order for the Boulder National Team Trials competition shall be:
- first seeded are Boulder Team Preselected in order of rank in the team; and
 - next seeded are all others in order of Boulder ranking at the National Championship.
- 4.3.2 For the Lead and Boulder Disciplines, for each of the Semi-Final and Final Rounds, the Rulebook quota for the round shall be filled with the top ranked competitors who are not Team Preselected in the Discipline, and where advancement shall also be granted to Team Preselected competitors who are ranked the same or better than the competitors not Team Preselected who are advancing.

Consider the following example or results from the Lead Semi-Final round, where the nominal Rulebook quota is 8:

Semi-Final Ranking	Competitor	Advance to Finals
1	Athlete A	Yes
2	Athlete B	Yes
3	Athlete C	Yes
4	Athlete D	Yes
5	Athlete E (*Team Preselected)	Yes
6	Athlete F	Yes
7	Athlete G	Yes
8	Athlete H	Yes
9 (tie)	Athlete I	Yes
9 (tie)	Athlete J (*Team Preselected)	Yes
11	Athlete K	No

Table 4-3 NTT Advancement – Example

- 4.3.3 For the Speed Discipline, only competitors not Team Preselected in the Discipline shall advance to the Final Round.

USA Climbing may conduct an exhibition competition after the National Team Trials Speed competition. This exhibition competition should include top ranked competitors from the National Team Trials Speed competition Knockout round and competitors who are Team Preselected. Results from this exhibition shall not be eligible for Time Rank purposes but shall be eligible for National Record recognition.

4.4 Elite: NTT National Team Ranking Points

- 4.4.1 For the Speed Discipline, National Team Ranking points awarded to a US citizen competitor at the National Team Trial shall be the greater of:
- the points in Rule 2.1.4 using the competitor’s National Team Trial rank in the relevant Discipline (*) among only U.S. citizen competitors not Speed Team Preselected; or
 - the points in Rule 2.1.3 using the competitor’s Speed National Team Trial Resolved Time Rank as set out in Rule 1.4.4, (*) among only U.S. citizen competitors not Team Preselected in Speed.

Greater of either	Points from Rule 2.1.4, using rank (*)
or, for Speed	Points from Rule 2.1.3, using Resolved Time Rank (*)
Is the competitor’s	Speed National Team Ranking points at NTT

Table 4-4 National Team Ranking points at NTT – Speed

- 4.4.2 For the Lead and Boulder Disciplines, the National Team Ranking points awarded to a US citizen competitor at the National Team Trial shall be the points in Rule 2.1.4 using the competitor’s National Team Trials rank in the Discipline among only those not Team Preselected in the Discipline.

	Points from Rule 2.1.4 , using rank(*)
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Is the competitor's	Lead or Boulder National Team Ranking points at NTT
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Table 4-5 National Team Ranking points at NTT – Lead and Boulder

5 Youth: Rankings, Teams, and Competition Starts

5.1 Youth: National Team Ranking Points

5.1.1 For each Youth National Team, the relevant Youth National Team Ranking (YNTR) points shall be awarded only to US citizens and the number of points shall be the greater of:

- i) the points in Rule 5.1.3 using the competitor's Youth National Championship rank in the relevant Discipline (*) among only U.S. citizen competitors not Team Preselected in the Discipline; or
- ii) for the Speed Discipline where the Category's Youth National Championship Final round used the Knockout format, the points in Rule 5.1.2 using the competitor's Speed Youth National Championship Resolved Time Rank as set out in Rule 1.4.4, (*) among only U.S. citizen competitors not Team Preselected in the Discipline.

Greater of either	Points from Rule 5.1.3, using rank (*)
or, for Speed	Points from Rule 5.1.2, using Resolved Time Rank (*)
Is the competitor's	Discipline Youth National Team Ranking points

Table 5-1 Youth National Team Ranking Points – Lead, Boulder, and Speed

Note: for the Lead and Boulder Disciplines, the Youth National Team Ranking is the same as the Youth National Championship competition rank among only US citizens.

5.1.2 For the Speed Discipline, Youth National Team Time Rank points, as set forth in 1.4.4, are:

Youth National Team Time Rank Points		
Resolved Time Rank	Pts	Note: where these points fall as compared to the table in Rule 5.1.3
1 st	820	(between 1 st and 2 nd in competition rank)
2 nd	810	(between 1 st and 2 nd in competition rank)
3 rd	700	(between 2 nd and 3 rd in competition rank)
4 th or lower	0	

Table 5-2 Youth National Team Ranking Points – Time Rank Points

5.1.3 The following table is used to determine Youth National Team Ranking points from rank (Rk).

Youth National Team Ranking Points															
Rk	Pts	Rk	Pts	Rk	Pts	Rk	Pts	Rk	Pts	Rk	Pts	Rk	Pts	Rk	Pts
1	1000	11	325	21	Pts	31	Pts	41	14	51	7	61	4	71	2
2	805	12	300	22	130	32	37	42	13	52	7	62	4	72	2
3	690	13	280	23	120	33	33	43	12	53	7	63	4	73	2
4	610	14	260	24	105	34	30	44	11	54	6	64	3	74	2
5	545	15	240	25	95	35	27	45	11	55	6	65	3	75	1
6	495	16	220	26	84	36	24	46	10	56	6	66	3	76	1
7	455	17	205	27	73	37	21	47	9	57	5	67	3	77	1
8	415	18	185	28	63	38	19	48	9	58	5	68	3	78	1
9	380	19	170	29	56	39	17	49	8	59	5	69	2	79	1
10	350	20	155	30	48	40	15	50	8	60	4	70	2	80	1

Table 5-3 Youth National Team Ranking Points – Rank Points

5.2 Youth: National Teams & National Development Team Selection

5.2.1 The Youth National Team and National Development Team in each of the Lead, Boulder, and Speed Disciplines shall be composed at the conclusion of the Youth National Championship as set forth by the following tables, in the order of criteria listed. (Within each criterion, athletes are ordered by YNTR.)

	Type	Criterion
Youth National Team	Preselected	Athletes that are IFSC Name-Eligible (i.e., typically Youth World Champion) in the Discipline.
	YNTR Selected	Athletes ranked first (1 st) through fifth (5 th) in the Discipline's Youth National Team Ranking among only those not Preselected at the conclusion of the Youth National Championship.
Youth National Development Team	YNTR Selected	Athletes ranked sixth (6 th) through tenth (10 th) in the Discipline's Youth National Team Ranking among only those not Preselected at the conclusion of the Youth National Championship.

Table 5-4 Youth National Team and National Development Team

5.3 Youth: Competition Starts: IFSC Youth World Championships and Youth Pan American Championships

5.3.1 For IFSC Youth World Championships or Youth Pan American Championships, Competition Starts in each of the Lead, Boulder, and Speed Disciplines shall be extended, up to the US quota, to those not IFSC Name-Eligible in the Discipline as follows:

- a) first, to the relevant Youth National Team, in order of their team rank; then
- b) to the extent that any quota remains, to the relevant Youth National Development Team, in order of their National Development Team rank.

6 Collegiate: Rankings, Teams, and Competition Starts

6.1 Collegiate: National Team Ranking Points

6.1.1 For each Collegiate National Team, the relevant Collegiate National Team Ranking (CNTR) points shall be awarded only to US citizens and the number of points shall be the greater of:

- i) the points in Rule 6.1.3 using the competitor's Collegiate National Championship rank in the relevant Discipline (*) among only U.S. citizen competitors not Team Preselected in the Discipline; or
- ii) for the Speed Discipline, the points in Rule 6.1.2 using the competitor's Speed Collegiate National Championship Resolved Time Rank as set out in Rule 1.4.4, (*) among only U.S. citizen competitors not Team Preselected in the Discipline.

Greater of either	Points from Rule 6.1.3, using rank (*)
or, for Speed	Points from Rule 6.1.2, using Resolved Time Rank (*)
Is the competitor's	Discipline Collegiate National Team Ranking points

Table 6-1 Collegiate National Team Ranking Points – Lead, Boulder, and Speed

Note: for the Lead and Boulder Disciplines, the Collegiate National Team Ranking is the same as the Collegiate National Championship competition rank among only US citizens.

6.1.2 For the Speed Discipline, Collegiate National Team Time Rank points, as set forth in 1.4.4, are:

Collegiate National Team Time Rank Points		
Resolved Time Rank	Pts	Note: where these points fall as compared to the table in Rule 5.1.3
1 st	820	(between 1 st and 2 nd in competition rank)
2 nd	810	(between 1 st and 2 nd in competition rank)
3 rd	700	(between 2 nd and 3 rd in competition rank)
4 th or lower	0	

Table 6-2 Collegiate National Team Ranking Points – Time Rank Points

6.1.3 The following table is used to determine Collegiate National Team Ranking points.

Collegiate National Team Ranking Points															
Rk	Pts	Rk	Pts	Rk	Pts	Rk	Pts	Rk	Pts	Rk	Pts	Rk	Pts	Rk	Pts
1	1000	11	325	21	Pts	31	Pts	41	14	51	7	61	4	71	2
2	805	12	300	22	130	32	37	42	13	52	7	62	4	72	2
3	690	13	280	23	120	33	33	43	12	53	7	63	4	73	2
4	610	14	260	24	105	34	30	44	11	54	6	64	3	74	2
5	545	15	240	25	95	35	27	45	11	55	6	65	3	75	1
6	495	16	220	26	84	36	24	46	10	56	6	66	3	76	1
7	455	17	205	27	73	37	21	47	9	57	5	67	3	77	1
8	415	18	185	28	63	38	19	48	9	58	5	68	3	78	1
9	380	19	170	29	56	39	17	49	8	59	5	69	2	79	1
10	350	20	155	30	48	40	15	50	8	60	4	70	2	80	1

Table 6-3 Collegiate National Team Ranking Points – Rank Points

6.2 Collegiate: National Teams & National Development Team Selection

6.2.1 The Collegiate National Team and National Development Team in each of the Lead, Boulder, and Speed Disciplines shall be composed at the conclusion of the Collegiate National Championship as set forth by the following tables, in the order of criteria listed. (Within each criterion, athletes are ordered by CNTR.)

Type		Criterion
Collegiate National Team	Preselected	Athletes that are IFSC Name-Eligible (i.e., typically Collegiate World Champion) in the Discipline.
	CNTR Selected	Athletes ranked first (1 st) through third (3 rd) in the Discipline's Collegiate National Team Ranking among only those not Preselected at the conclusion of the Collegiate National Championship.
Collegiate National Development Team	CNTR Selected	Athletes ranked fourth (4 th) through tenth (10 th) in the Discipline's Collegiate National Team Ranking among only those not Preselected at the conclusion of the Collegiate National Championship.

Table 6-4 Collegiate National Team and National Development Team

6.3 Collegiate: Competition Starts: World University Championships

6.3.1 For World University Championships, Competition Starts in each of the Lead, Boulder, and Speed Disciplines shall be extended, up to the US quota, to those not IFSC Name-Eligible in the Discipline as follows:

- a) first, to the relevant Collegiate National Team, in order of their team rank; then
- b) to the extent that any quota remains, to the relevant Collegiate National Development Team, in order of their National Development Team rank.

7 Paraclimbing: Teams and Competition Starts

7.1 Paraclimbing: National Team Ranking Points

7.1.1 For each Paraclimbing National Team, the relevant Paraclimbing National Team Ranking points shall be awarded only to US citizens and the number of points shall be the points in Rule 7.1.2 using the competitor's Paraclimbing National Championship rank among only U.S. citizen competitors.

Note: the Paraclimbing National Team Ranking is the same as the Paraclimbing National Championship competition rank among only US citizens.

7.1.2 The following table is used to determine Paraclimbing National Team Ranking points.

Paraclimbing National Team Ranking Points															
Rk	Pts	Rk	Pts	Rk	Pts	Rk	Pts	Rk	Pts	Rk	Pts	Rk	Pts	Rk	Pts
1	1000	11	325	21	Pts	31	Pts	41	14	51	7	61	4	71	2
2	805	12	300	22	130	32	37	42	13	52	7	62	4	72	2
3	690	13	280	23	120	33	33	43	12	53	7	63	4	73	2
4	610	14	260	24	105	34	30	44	11	54	6	64	3	74	2
5	545	15	240	25	95	35	27	45	11	55	6	65	3	75	1
6	495	16	220	26	84	36	24	46	10	56	6	66	3	76	1
7	455	17	205	27	73	37	21	47	9	57	5	67	3	77	1
8	415	18	185	28	63	38	19	48	9	58	5	68	3	78	1
9	380	19	170	29	56	39	17	49	8	59	5	69	2	79	1
10	350	20	155	30	48	40	15	50	8	60	4	70	2	80	1

Table 7-1 Collegiate National Team Ranking Points – Rank Points

7.2 Paraclimbing: National Teams & National Development Team

7.2.1 The U.S. Paraclimbing National Team, in each IFSC category, shall be composed at the conclusion of the Paraclimbing National Championship as set forth by the following tables, in the order of criteria listed. (Within each criterion, athletes are ordered by PNTR.)

	Type	Criterion
Paraclimbing National Team	Preselected	Athletes that are IFSC Name-Eligible in the Category that they still qualify for.
		If IFSC does not designate Name-Eligible athletes in Paraclimbing, the highest one (1) ranked competitor in the IFSC Paraclimbing World Ranking in the Category (see 7.2.1(b)) among those US citizen athletes who were ranked 1 st in a Paraclimbing World Cup or ranked 1 st through 3 rd in the Paraclimbing World Championships, that Category and still qualify in that Category.
	PNTR Selected	Athletes ranked first (1 st) through third (3 rd) in the Category's Paraclimbing National Team Ranking among only those not Preselected at the conclusion of the Paraclimbing National Championship.
Paraclimbing National	PNTR Selected	Athletes ranked fourth (4 th) through tenth (10 th) in the Category's Paraclimbing National Team Ranking among only those not

Development Team		Preselected at the conclusion of the Paraclimbing National Championship.
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Table 7-2 Paraclimbing National Team and National Development Team

- a) In the event of Category changes and/or Category merging, Team Selection Discretion may provide Preselected status based on achievement in a different Category.
- b) In the event that the IFSC does not maintain a Paraclimbing World Ranking in the Category, USA Climbing shall rank Preselected-eligible US citizen athletes in the Category in a manner that follows the construction and points of the IFSC CUWR for a Discipline, using each athlete’s IFSC World Championship result and their best one (1) IFSC World Cup result.

For the avoidance of doubt, the U.S. Paraclimbing National Team composition shall be based on the IFSC categories should they differ from those used at USA Climbing competitions.

7.3 Paraclimbing: Competition Starts: Paraclimbing World Cups and Paraclimbing World Championships

- 7.3.1 While categories for Paraclimbing athletes in USA Climbing competitions may be different from IFSC categories (see the USA Climbing Rulebook for information on USA Climbing Paraclimbing categories), the IFSC Paraclimbing World Championship Competition Starts shall be based on the IFSC categories.
- 7.3.2 Competition Starts to compete at the IFSC Paraclimbing World Championships may be extended to:
- a) members of the U.S. Paraclimbing National Team, then U.S. Paraclimbing National Development Team, up to the maximum number of USA Climbing competitors eligible to compete based on the competition quota; and
 - b) in addition to (a), where the IFSC grants byes to Champion status competitors to compete in the Paraclimbing World Championships, U.S. citizens that hold such status may also be extended a Competition Start.
- 7.3.3 All categories of visually impaired (B1/B2/B3) competitors are allowed to have a caller, who may call out the route for them in accordance to IFSC Rules. For IFSC World Cup or World Championship competitions, each U.S. Paraclimbing National Team visually impaired competitor is required to provide their own personal caller who is not competitor, is not shared with another competitor, and is not a team official. The competitor's caller must be identified as such in the visually impaired competitor's signed Athlete Agreement with USA Climbing, and the caller must also submit a signed Athlete Agreement. Such a competitor's caller shall then be considered a member of the U.S. Paraclimbing National Team and shall then have access to all competitor-only areas, subject to the rules and/or policies of the competition. In the event either a visually impaired competitor does not provide a named caller or a visually impaired competitor's named caller is not at an IFSC competition, USA Climbing has Sport Discretion (see USA Climbing Rulebook) to make a reasonable attempt to provide a caller, or to not provide a caller.