



**USA
CLIMBING**

National Routesetting Team Selection Process

To increase the level of transparency into USA Climbing's Routesetting Program, the following document outlines the process by which National Routesetting Teams are selected. This selection process applies to the North American Cup Series, Youth and Adult National Championships, Paraclimbing Nationals, Collegiate Nationals and Vail Citizens events. The selection process for IFSC events and all international exchanges is overseen by the Routesetting Committee, Routesetting Program Manager, and the Vice President of Sport.

Team selection for National Routesetting events is a complicated, competitive process. Many national routesetters hold friendships and working relationships outside the organization. This has often given the appearance of bias when National Routesetting crews are selected. USA Climbing Routesetting's mission is to continue to grow and train a diverse and inclusive pool of routesetters. Together, with oversight from the Routesetting Program Manager and Vice President of Sport, Head Routesetters (HRS) strive to select the best suited applicants for events. The following details are provided to shed light on the selection process for events.

National Head Routesetter Selection:

- Selection period is generally in summer prior to start of winter bouldering and in advance of National Team Trials (generally held in March)
- Certified setters are welcome to apply for all positions that they are certified to act as head routesetter for. Those include:
 - NACS Events
 - National Team Trials
 - Collegiate Nationals
 - Paraclimbing Nationals
 - Youth Festival
 - Youth Nationals
 - Adult Nationals
 - Any exchange opportunities
- The VP of Sport and Routesetting Program Manager select National Head Routesetters that will best provide the highest quality events. In general, the setter should have worked at that event recently to act as HRS. Once those selections are made, the list will be reviewed by the Routesetting Committee before final appointments are made.

National Routesetter Team Selection:

- Selection Period is an open application process that generally runs from November 1-November 15, during which qualified and interested routesetters must apply through the channel provided by USA Climbing.
- Announcements of the open application period are advertised through mass email, social media and on USA Climbing's website in the routesetting section.
- Once the application period closes, the HRS are provided with a list and folder of all applications to review and construct their teams.
 - The HRS (with guidance from the Routesetting Program Manager) will then build a balanced crew from the following attributes:
 - Some members of the crew having experience at that event
 - Some members of the crew having the ability to work the event but no experience at that event
 - Overall diversity goals of the program to build a more diverse routesetting program
 - Setters who haven't seen many opportunities in the past and have had consistently good reviews but for other reasons were passed over in past years selections
 - All members of the crew having the ability to climb and the necessary level
- Once the HRS has selected their team, the VP of Sport and Routesetting Program Manager have a final review and provide feedback to the HRS for changes to the team. Once that is finished the teams are finalized, barring injury or illness affecting a routesetters attendance.



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