

# **2025.08 Team Selection Discretion Execution**

## **Maya Madere: Koper, WCH, PanAm Lead Starts (via AAC)**

### **PROPOSAL/REQUEST**

- The AAC submitted a Team Selection Discretion (TSD) request that the Team Selection Committee (TSC) grant a Koper and a WCH Competition Start to Maya Madere with higher priority than that provided by the Team Selection Procedures (TSP) document. The request was originally submitted to AAC from Maya.

### **DECISION**

- The TSC voted to apply discretion granting Maya a Lead start at Koper
- The TSC voted to apply conditional discretion for WCH (Seoul) and PanAms. If Maya ranks in the top-30 at Koper, she will be granted a Lead start at WCH (Seoul) and PanAms as long as this does not displace an athlete with the possibility of gaining or losing a CUWR top-40 ranking, in which case the discretion would be further reviewed at that time.

### **APPROVAL**

- Approved by TSC on 2025.08.08 via email and WhatsApp

### **BACKGROUND**

- See the request submitted by AAC/Maya
- The request was evaluated against the priorities previously established by the TSC for evaluating Team Selection Discretion (TSD).
  - Maximizing number of Olympic qualified athletes
  - Maximizing OQS quota
  - Maximizing following season's WC quota
  - Distribution of development opportunity

### **DISCUSSION**

- The TSC believes that granting a discretionary lead start to Maya is sufficiently aligned with USA Climbing's interest in maximizing next year's NF quota so as to grant the Koper lead start.
  - Maya's semi-final ranking (21st) is in the top-30 range that TSC & TSP doc has historically used to grant an additional start. (Maya's second start this year was not due to her 21st rank, but the lack of interest from others.)
- The TSC believes that a top-30 finish at Koper by Maya should result in Maya being granted a discretionary start to both the WCH (Seoul) and PanAms. However, if the granting of such starts would displace an athlete who has the possibility of dropping out of the CUWR top-40 or entering into the CUWR top-40, TSC would review the granting of those starts.

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**Text of Submitted TSD request**

From AAC:

From: Danny Popowski <danny@wsmultifamily.com>  
Date: Thu, Jul 31, 2025 at 1:09 PM  
Subject: Sport Discretion Request - Maya Madere  
To: Team Selection Committee <teamselection@usacimbing.org>

Hello TSC,

I wanted to pass along a discretionary request from Cloe Coscoy. The Athletes' Commission did not have any opposition to the request.

See email text below. Her formal letter can be accessed [HERE](#)

Forward from Maya in email:

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Hi all,

I'm reaching out to ask if the Athlete Commission would be willing to submit a petition for discretionary starts on my behalf. Given the current World Ranking, I believe I stand the greatest chance of gaining enough points to move into the top 40 in women's lead.

I've attached a formal letter making said argument for your review, to hopefully be submitted to the Team Selection Committee in accordance with the discretionary selection procedure. Feel free to follow up if more info or edits are needed, or you can make changes/comments directly in the Google doc. If petitioning each start separately is preferred, I'm happy to separate that info into two letters, one for Koper and one for Seoul. Let me know.

Thanks for your consideration,

Maya Madere  
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Thanks,

Letter from Maya:

To whom it may concern,

I'm writing to petition for two discretionary competition starts: one at the upcoming Lead World Cup in Koper and one at the World Championships in Seoul (lead only).

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Of those athletes eligible for women's lead starts who are NOT currently ranked within the top 40, I stand the greatest statistical chance of breaking that threshold with these two additional starts. As of the writing of this letter, I am ranked 66th in the Lead World Ranking (52nd in this year's lead season ranking) with 148 points total from two comps so far. All other athletes whose starts would potentially be affected by this decision are currently unranked or ranked significantly lower. I have also already registered my interest for the Pan American Cup in November, and plan to attend if I am granted a start, which could contribute further points towards my world rank.

Although my performance in Innsbruck was poor, my P21 placement in Wujiang earlier this season demonstrates my potential to achieve better results. I believe that with good performances at Koper, Seoul, and potentially PanAms, I could plausibly gain enough points to end the season ranked within the top 40, thereby gaining an additional US quota for women's lead next year.

I hope you will consider this a convincing argument for assigning discretionary starts in this case.

Best regards,

Maya Madere