



USA Climbing Elite Athlete Agreement

NOTABLE CHANGES / ADDITIONS

- 3.k. Update to EAHI
- 3.l.ii Operation Gold
- 3.l.iii USA Climbing Athlete Stipend Criteria
- 4.f Physical and Mental Health Screening and the Preparticipation Physical Exam
- 4.g. Amendment to REDs and Further Health Screening for Underweight Athletes
- 4.i Hazardous Activities
- 4.z.vi Team Policies

THIS ATHLETE AGREEMENT, effective upon Athlete signature (the "Effective Date"), is by and between USA Climbing, a Utah nonprofit corporation having its principal office at 440 W 800 S | Salt Lake City | UT, 84101 and the athlete signing below ("Athlete"), whose address is also set forth below. Athlete and USA Climbing may be collectively referred to herein as the "Parties" and each individually as a "Party."

Recitals

USA Climbing is the National Governing Body for the sport of competition climbing in the United States in accordance with The Ted Stevens Olympic and Amateur Sports Act, 36 U.S.C. § 220501 et seq. (the "Act"). As the national governing body, USA Climbing is (among many other things) responsible for developing elite athletes with the goal of winning medals in the Olympic Games and other international competitions. As part of that mission, USA Climbing has developed an Athlete Agreement program to support athletes who have demonstrated the capability to be elite international athletes with potential to win medals in international competition.

I, the Athlete, desire to participate in the Athlete Agreement and the terms and conditions set forth herein when accepting a start to an international competition, utilizing the National Team Training Center, or participating in USA Climbing organized events. This includes but is not limited to; training camps, media engagement, etc.

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the mutual promises and obligations, the sufficiency of which is hereby acknowledged, the Parties agree as follows:

Agreement

1. **Term.** This Agreement shall commence as of the Effective Date and shall continue through and including the conclusion of the National Team selection process unless earlier terminated as set forth in Section 6.

2. **Suspension or Dismissal.** Failure to comply with any of the contract provisions may lead to disciplinary action against Athlete as determined by the High Performance Staff, USAC CEO, USOPC AAC Member, and USAC AAC Member. This is not a system of progressive discipline. Nothing herein shall require USA Climbing to impose any one of the penalties prior to the institution of a more severe penalty. USA Climbing may recommend a penalty for the athlete to either accept or request a hearing. A hearing will be conducted in accordance with Article 15 of Bylaws of USA Climbing. Disciplinary action taken may include:
 - a. Verbal warning and written warning.
 - b. Athlete stipend reduction and/or forfeiture.
 - c. Dismissal from the team trip or training camp. All costs in returning a dismissed athlete home will be the sole responsibility of the athlete.
 - d. Suspension from team or competition.
 - e. Repayment of all funding provided by USAC associated with competition(s).
 - f. Elimination from future USA Climbing events.
3. **Obligations of USA Climbing.** USA Climbing agrees to perform the following duties and obligations:
 - a. **Respect for Athlete's Training.** In carrying out its duties and activities under this Agreement, USA Climbing shall be respectful of, and shall use reasonable efforts to avoid interfering with Athlete's training and competition schedules.
 - b. **NGB Support Staff.** USA Climbing, through its office and High Performance staff, shall be available to Athlete to coordinate all NGB/Athlete activities, including programs of the USOPC and its training centers.
 - c. **Funded Starts / Events**
 - i. USA Climbing will provide funding to select events. These events will be determined by High Performance Management in consultation with athletes and will be published on the National Team Resources page of the USA Climbing website once determined.
 - ii. USA Climbing will provide funding to qualified athletes as outlined in Addendum A.
 - iii. USA Climbing will make best efforts to identify additional funding sources that can be applied in order to reduce the cost of attendance at unfunded events. The application and distribution of these funds will be determined by High Performance Management.
 - iv. USA Climbing will make best efforts to aid Athlete in fundraising for event cost/attendance.
 - v. USA Climbing requires a staff member or contractor at every World Climbing sanctioned event where US athletes are in attendance. A coach and/or staff member will be provided at funded events.

- vi. USA Climbing will identify a pool of qualified coaches via application process to be activated for event staffing.
- d. **Team Apparel and Equipment.** If and when Athlete is invited or assigned by USA Climbing to participate in national or international competitions or activities USA Climbing will provide Athlete with Team apparel/equipment as outlined in Addendum D. Athlete will wear required Team apparel at all USA Climbing sponsored events and competitions as defined by the High Performance Staff in addition to the specifications in Addendum C.
- e. **Logo Space on Team Uniform.** Athlete is permitted to add non-conflicting personal sponsor logos in designated location compliant with World Climbing rules and as outlined in Addendum C. These sponsors can be found on the USA Climbing website (usaclimbing.org). USA Climbing must approve the logo design and layout 30 days prior to an event the athlete is attending where the Team uniform will be required. This is not applicable to the Olympic Games Team Uniform. For the Olympic Games, US Olympic Team members must comply with IOC Rule 50 guidelines.
- f. **Personal Performance Gear.** USA Climbing will not prevent Athlete from using personal performance gear, as defined by USA Climbing in Addendum C, of their choice in competitions and training. Further, USA Climbing shall not require Athlete to cover up a manufacturer logo on Personal Performance Gear, so long as logo complies with the relevant World Climbing rules regarding size and placement. This is not applicable to the Olympic Games Team Uniform. For the Olympic Games, US Olympic Team members must comply with IOC Rule 50 guidelines.
- g. **Logo Space on Personal Performance Gear.** USA Climbing grants Athlete the use of logo space compliant with World Climbing rules and as outlined in Addendum C for use by Athlete for Athlete's personal sponsors. USA Climbing must approve the logo design and layout 30 days prior to an event the athlete is attending where Personal Performance Gear is applicable. This is not applicable to the Olympic Games Team Uniform. For the Olympic Games, US Olympic Team members must comply with IOC Rule 50 guidelines.
- h. **Athlete's Personal Endorsements.** USA Climbing shall not require Athlete to reveal the details of any personal sponsorship agreement other than the name of the company. Athlete shall not be required to give USA Climbing right of first refusal for any of USA Climbing's sponsors regarding a personal contract with individual Athlete.
- i. **Agents.** USA Climbing shall not prevent Athlete from hiring or retaining an agent.
- j. **Public Health.** In order to decrease the risks of communicable disease spread during trainings, events, and competitions as well as to prevent injury, USA Climbing will consult with Public Health officials and the USA Climbing Medical Committee to create procedures and protocols which protect the community health of athletes, staff, and officials.
- k. **EAHI Eligibility and Criteria Approved for this Term.** Eligibility Period: January 1, 2026 - December 31, 2026.
 - i. Olympic Team 2024
 - ii. Top 10 World Ranked 2025

- iii. In the current year, Discretionary Selection for EAH is possible at next enrollment date if the qualifying athlete should achieve a top 10 rank in 2026.

I. Athlete Support. Eligibility Period: January 1, 2026 - December 31, 2026

i. USOPC Athlete Stipend Criteria (DAS)

- 1. Olympic Team 2024
- 2. Top 10 World Ranked 2025
- 3. To receive the athlete stipend, those eligible must commit to compete in 2026 with the priority of earning a Top 40 quota for USA Climbing the following year.
- 4. Athlete stipends will be paid out quarterly in January, April, July, and October.
- 5. Any remaining funds will be distributed evenly to eligible athletes in the final payment period.

ii. Operation Gold. The Olympic Operation Gold qualifying event for USA Climbing is as follows:

- 1. Boulder and Lead - Innsbruck WC, June 17-21, 2026, Innsbruck, AUT.
- 2. Speed - Krakow WC, July 3-5, 2026, Krakow, POL.

Place	1st Year of Quad	2nd Year of Quad	3rd Year of Quad	Olympic/Paralympic Games Year
1 st	\$6,250	\$6,250	\$7,500	\$37,500
2 nd	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$6,250	\$22,500
3 rd	\$4,375	\$4,375	\$5,000	\$15,000
4 th	\$3,750	\$3,750	\$4,375	
5 th	\$3,125	\$3,125	\$3,750	
6 th	\$3,125	\$3,125	\$3,750	
7 th	\$2,500	\$2,500	\$2,500	
8 th	\$2,500	\$2,500	\$2,500	

iii. USA Climbing Athlete Stipend Criteria ([LINK](#))

- 1. Athletes officially named to the USA Climbing National Team in Boulder, Lead, or Speed disciplines.
- 2. Athletes who reside outside a 60-mile radius of Salt Lake City, Utah for nine (9) or more months per calendar year.

m. Removal of Event Support.

- i. USA Climbing may opt not to support any event based on current government travel advisories and/or guidance received from relevant authorities. This guidance may be taken from; government entities, consulates, Olympic Committees, Public Health officials, etc. Removal of event support may include but is not limited to; registration of athletes, funding, and staffing.
- ii. USA Climbing may opt not to support any event based on unforeseen and unplanned budget overrun situations including but not limited to; increased expenses associated with planned travel, reduced resources, etc. USA Climbing

will make best efforts to communicate such decisions to athletes a minimum of 30 days prior to the given competition.

4. **Obligations of Athlete.** Athlete agrees to perform the following duties and obligations:

- a. **Training.** Unless otherwise agreed by USA Climbing in writing, Athlete shall train for peak performances at key national and international events held during the Term. This includes participating in all organized activities and required agendas, including training camps, to which the Athlete is assigned. Athlete's training shall be in accordance with their Athlete Training Plan which will be evaluated and amended as necessary by the High Performance Staff with consideration to athlete input.
- b. **Competition.** Athlete shall perform to the best of their ability when participating in national and international competitions which Athlete is assigned by USA Climbing and shall participate for the full duration of the event, unless injured or otherwise excused in writing by High Performance staff.
- c. **Commitment to Train for and Participate in World Climbing Events.** Athlete commits to USA Climbing that it is their intention to train for the events they have accepted World Climbing competition starts to and/or been assigned to, and, barring injury or other unforeseen circumstances and provided that Athlete qualifies according to the applicable selection procedures, Athlete fully intends to compete in said event(s) with the intention of earning additional quota for USAC next season (i.e., ranking within the top 40 World Climbing CUWR)
- d. **Injuries.**
Athlete shall promptly notify USA Climbing in writing of any injury, illness, or medical condition that interferes, or could reasonably be expected to interfere, in any manner with Athlete's obligations hereunder, including and without limitation, notifying USAC of the receipt by Athlete of any medical attention given with respect thereto (including, without limitation, physician and emergency room visits). Such notification shall be within 48 hours of incurring such injury or receiving such medical attention, as applicable and such notification shall include the name and address of any provider from whom Athlete received medical attention and/or health care services. Upon such notice, and/or at USAC's request, Athlete shall execute and deliver to USA Climbing such forms as are required to evidence Athlete's condition and medical attention and/or health care services received by Athlete.
- e. **Medical Issues.** Athlete shall promptly notify USA Climbing in writing of any injury or medical condition that interferes, or could reasonably be expected to interfere, in any manner with Athlete's obligations hereunder, including, without limitation, notifying USAC of the receipt by Athlete of any medical attention given with respect thereto (including, without limitation, physician and emergency room visits). Such notification shall be within 48 hours of incurring such injury or receiving such medical attention, as applicable and such notification shall include the name and address of any provider from whom Athlete received medical attention and/or health care services. Upon notice of relevant medical care, and/or at USAC's request, Athlete shall execute and deliver to USA Climbing such forms as are required to evidence Athlete's condition and medical attention and/or health care services received by Athlete. The athlete may be required to report to the United States Olympic and Paralympic Training Center to undergo a thorough examination by a USOPC or USA Climbing medical doctor to determine if the athlete has medical reasons to forego any planned National Team event in which Athlete has been selected to

compete. Athlete shall comply with the full rehabilitation process as prescribed by USAC, USOPC or other agreed upon rehabilitation services.

- f. **Physical and Mental Health Screening and the Preparticipation Physical Exam.** Every USA Climbing Elite National Team and Developmental Team athlete shall undergo a required, standardized and confidential Preparticipation Physical Examination (PPE) with the USA Climbing Team physician in Salt Lake City, UT or, if unable to be examined in Salt Lake City, UT, with the athlete's local primary care physician (results must be submitted for further review by the USA Climbing Team physician). The required PPE includes a complete medical and mental health history, a comprehensive physical exam (including height, weight, body mass index, vital signs and musculoskeletal exam), and the International Olympic Committee Sports Mental Health Assessment Tool. All necessary PPE documents and instructions for confidential submission of these documents to the USA Climbing Team physician and Medical Manager will be provided to the athlete by USA Climbing. The PPE is intended to ensure that the athlete is physically and mentally fit and capable of training and competing at the highest level. In addition to the required PPE, the USA Climbing Team physician or USA Climbing High Performance staff may, at any point, request or require follow-up screening with the USA Climbing Team physician or with another appropriate medical or mental health care provider. After review of the PPE and any further requested or required medical or mental health evaluations, the USA Climbing Team physician, in consultation with a physician representative from the USA Climbing Medical Committee, the USA Climbing Medical Manager and the USA Climbing Chief of Sport, may choose to withhold an athlete from training or competition until the athlete is deemed medically and mentally fit for participation. No athlete will be allowed to participate in a World Climbing event until a complete PPE has been submitted and reviewed by the USA Climbing Team physician.

- g. **REDs and Further Health Screening for Underweight Athletes:**

The term REDs (Relative Energy Deficiency in Sport) describes a syndrome of poor health and declining athletic performance that can occur when an athlete does not get enough nutritional fuel to support the energy demands of daily life and training. REDs can cause impairments of reproductive health, bone health, immunity, metabolism, cardiovascular health, and psychological health.

One of the many functions of USA Climbing's required PPE program is to screen for possible REDs, disordered eating and eating disorders. To ensure the continued health and safety of USA Climbing National Team Athletes, any athlete whose BMI measures at or below the **USA Climbing BMI markers** (see below) will be required to undergo further assessment.

Females 18 years or older = at or below 18.5 kg/m²

Females 15-17 years old = at or below 18.0 kg/m²

Males 18 years or older = at or below 19.0 kg/m²

Males 15-17 years old = at or below 18.5 kg/m²

In addition to low BMI, abnormal heart rate, blood pressure and orthostatism have been identified as potential indicators for REDs. These basic measurements are included in the USA Climbing PPE. Athletes will also be required to complete two questionnaires around Low Energy Availability as part of their screening.

An *Athlete of Concern* is identified by any result falling outside the allowable ranges for REDs Questionnaire scores, BMI, Heart Rate and/or Blood Pressure.

Any identified *Athlete of Concern* will be required to undergo further assessment. This assessment may include laboratory evaluations, an ECG, a DEXA bone-mineral density scan, consultation with a dietitian, and consultation with a psychologist. Any necessary testing and consultations will be overseen and/or reviewed by the USA Climbing Team Physician.

Please consult the USA Climbing Protocol for Health Screening and Underweight Athletes 2024 ([hyperlink to PDF here](#)), which was developed by members of the USA Climbing Medical Committee and the USA Climbing Team Physician, for further information and details. Please be aware that changes to World Climbing protocol may prompt changes to the USA Climbing protocol.

World Climbing REDs Health Screening Rules: Guidance for National Federations:
([LINK](#))

For the 2025 season and foreseeable future, World Climbing requires National Federations to follow specific steps to protect athletes against the health consequences of Low Energy Availability (LEA) and REDs.

Per their policy, World Climbing requires all athletes who are requesting a World Climbing International Athlete License to undergo a health screening process that obtains basic measurements (heart rate, blood pressure, height, weight and BMI), which will be covered during an athlete's USAC PPE. These measures along with the scores of the REDs Questionnaires for each athlete must be submitted to World Climbing for review in order for the athlete to be "approved to participate". If any of these measures or scores are abnormal, World Climbing will require USAC to have the athlete undergo further assessment per their policy. The athlete's ability to participate in a World Climbing event will be paused until medical evidence is provided proving the athlete is well enough to compete.

If there are severe concerns regarding the health and safety of an athlete, the USAC Team Physician, a physician member of the USAC Medical Committee, the USAC Medical Manager and the USAC Chief of Sport will review the athlete's case and issue a decision about the need for further assessment and the continued ability of the athlete to train and compete as a member of the USA Climbing National Team.

USA Climbing will cover the cost of the advised assessment for National Team Athletes through an arrangement with our local medical and healthcare partners. National Team athletes will be offered consultations with a dietitian and a psychologist at no cost through an arrangement with the United States Olympic Committee or local medical partners.

- h. **Public Health.** Before and during participation in training, events, competitions, etc. organized by USA Climbing, Athletes will be required to adhere to all applicable Public Health orders and USA Climbing protocols in order to decrease the risks of communicable disease spread.
- i. **Hazardous Activities.** Athlete acknowledges and agrees that Athlete's participation in other sports or hazardous activities may impair or destroy Athlete's physical capacity as a climbing athlete. Accordingly, Athlete agrees that Athlete will not engage in sports or activities which could endanger Athlete's health or safety (ex. Free soloing, highball bouldering of unreasonably risky height, skydiving, skiing, mountain biking, whitewater rafting, etc.), except with the prior written consent of High Performance Management. However, nothing contained herein shall be intended to require Athlete to obtain the written consent of USAC in order to enable Athlete to participate in, as an amateur, "recreational" activities (golf, volleyball, softball, tennis, etc.) or relevant/approved cross-training. Should an athlete engage in a non-approved hazardous activity, the athlete may be required to reimburse USA Climbing for funds provided if the athlete becomes injured and is unable to fulfill their obligations under this agreement or compete for the remainder of the World Climbing season.
- j. **Team Apparel and Equipment.** Athlete must wear designated USA Climbing apparel as outlined in Addendum D and defined by High Performance management at all official Team functions and events and will not conceal or cover-up any USA Climbing sponsor, supplier or licensee brand or other identification appearing on USA Climbing apparel. Team apparel issued by USA Climbing may not be sold or traded until after new apparel is issued or the Athlete's Term with USA Climbing has expired and will not be renewed.
- k. **Use of USA Climbing Logo on Apparel.** Athlete must have approval from High Performance Management prior to adding USA Climbing logo to any apparel.
- l. **Logo Space on Team Uniform.** Athlete is permitted to add non-conflicting personal sponsor logos in designated location compliant with World Climbing rules and as outlined in Addendum C. USA Climbing must approve the logo design and layout 30 days prior to an event the athlete is attending where the Team Uniform will be required. This is not applicable to the Olympic Games Team Uniform. For the Olympic Games, US Olympic Team members must comply with IOC Rule 50 guidelines.
- m. **Logo presence on Team Uniform.** Athlete can have non-conflicting sponsor logo(s), no larger than 100 square centimeters total on their pants/shorts. Note: Any advertising name or logo placed directly on an athlete's body, i.e. a tattoo, shall be counted within the size limits specified for the respective part of the body above. USA Climbing must approve the logo design and layout 30 days prior to an event the athlete is attending where Team apparel will be required. This is not applicable to the Olympic Games Team Uniform. For the Olympic Games, US Olympic Team members must comply with IOC Rule 50 guidelines.

- n. **Suspension of Activities.** USA Climbing acknowledges that, from time to time and with concern to Athlete wellbeing, Athlete may desire to take an extended break from training. If Athlete desires to suspend training for a period of longer than one (1) week (excluding breaks as determined within the Athlete's Training Plan), Athlete acknowledges and agrees that USA Climbing may suspend the delivery of benefits to Athlete under this Agreement unless Athlete has first obtained the prior written approval of USA Climbing High Performance Management to continue the benefits while Athlete is not training.
- o. **Travel.**
- i. Team Travel
1. All athletes accepting World Climbing competition starts to World Climbing international events will agree to meet the travel schedule and travel arrangements as set out by USA Climbing High Performance Staff within the Team Travel document.
 2. Athlete shall have a current USA passport which is valid until 6 months after scheduled travel arrival dates
 3. Athlete is financially responsible for any additional expenses resulting from changes made by Athlete to travel arrangements.
 4. Funding is available to Athletes as defined in Addendum A.
- p. **Use of Image.** Athlete agrees to be filmed, videotaped and photographed, and to have their name, image, picture, likeness, voice and biographical information otherwise recorded, in any media, by the USA Climbing's official photographer(s), film crew(s) and video crew(s), and by any other entity authorized by the USA Climbing, under the conditions specified by USA Climbing (the "Footage").
- Athlete grants to USA Climbing the irrevocable, perpetual, fully paid-up, worldwide right and license to use, and to authorize third parties to use, in all media, the Footage for: (1) news and information purposes, (2) promotion of the specific competition(s) in which Athlete competes, (3) promotion of the National Team, and (4) promotion the sport of competition climbing, provided that, in no event may USA Climbing use or authorize the commercial use of the Footage in any manner that would imply Athlete's endorsement of any company, product, or service, without Athlete's express written permission.
- Athlete also grants to USA Climbing the right to use Athlete's image by a company that is an official sponsor of USA Climbing in advertising and promotions approved by USA Climbing. Such advertising or promotion must incorporate a minimum of three (3) athletes in an advertisement or promotion that is clearly Team-themed and a reasonable person may infer that the Team (rather than any particular athlete) endorses USA Climbing's official sponsor.
- q. **Athlete Personal Sponsors.** Athlete may not use or authorize the use of USA Climbing's intellectual property, including use of photographs, films or videos of Athlete in USA Climbing apparel or equipment, or the marks and logos of USA Climbing, or terms containing National Team without the express written permission of USA Climbing.
- r. **Participation in Media Sessions.** Athlete agrees to participate in media sessions including photo and video shoots, as reasonably requested by USA Climbing, to promote the National Team and/or a competition in which Athlete is participating.

- s. **Promotional Efforts.** Athlete shall, on their personal website and on social media channels , promote USA Climbing collaboratively and in good faith. Athlete will not disparage USA Climbing or its partners. Athlete to promptly provide written bio for usaclimbing.org upon request.
 - i. Athlete is required to tag or mention USA Climbing in one post per competition start.
 - ii. Athlete is strongly encouraged to share photos and videos provided by USA Climbing. Athlete must credit both USA Climbing and any identified photographers, and may not share photos with personal sponsors without the express written permission of USA Climbing
- t. **Training Center Media Guidelines.** Athlete is strongly encouraged to share their time at the Training Center and when traveling with the National Team.
 - i. Athlete is required to tag or mention USA Climbing when posting content created inside the Training Center.
 - ii. Athlete cannot create long-form content, video blogs, documentaries etc. (longer than Instagram stories) without advance 30 day permission from USA Climbing Marketing.
- u. **NCAA Eligibility.** If Athlete wishes to remain eligible under National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) rules, it is the Athlete's responsibility to know the rules and take the necessary steps to remain eligible, including compensation, endorsement, and agent responsibilities.
- v. **NGB Membership and Eligibility.** Athlete is and shall remain a member in good standing with USA Climbing throughout the term. Athlete shall remain eligible to compete in international competition for the USA.
- w. **Administrative Deadlines.** Athlete shall comply with any and all applicable deadlines established by the USA Climbing High Performance Staff. These deadlines will be published on the National Team Resources page of the USA Climbing website.
- x. **Anti-Doping.** Athlete shall comply with all anti-doping policies, procedures, and protocols of World Climbing, World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA), United States Anti-Doping Agency (USADA), and the United States Olympic and Paralympic Committee (USOPC).
- y. **Code of Conduct.** Athlete shall sign and abide by USA Climbing Code of Conduct attached as Addendum B. The Code of Conduct is incorporated into this Athlete Agreement.
- z. **Team Policies.** The following guidelines are to be strictly observed by Athlete during all competitions, training camps, USAC Training Center programs, seminars, or other USA Climbing designated activities and functions:
 - i. Athlete is subject to a curfew of 11:00 p.m. unless otherwise directed by High Performance Staff.
 - ii. Legal use of alcohol is permitted according to the laws of the United States.

- iii. Athletes should be aware of applicable National/area laws, including but not limited to, substance use.
 - iv. An athlete, of legal age according to the laws of the United States, shall refrain from the consumption of alcohol within 48 hours in advance of and the duration of a training camp or Athlete's individual competition. A request to refrain from alcohol may be enacted preceding or during other USA Climbing designated activities and functions at the discretion of the High Performance Staff. During the consumption of alcohol, Athlete shall uphold the USA Climbing Code of Conduct as defined in Addendum B.
 - v. Family, friends, personal coaches, or other visitors are not permitted to be in Team members' rooms or the competition areas except in cases that have been approved by USA Climbing High Performance Staff.
 - vi. Beginning on the day of the Technical Meeting and continuing through the final round of an athlete's discipline, only team members registered for the specific competition are permitted to stay overnight in the athlete's accommodation unless an exception is approved by High Performance Staff. This restriction includes to, but is not limited to, family members, partners, and friends. Any request for an exception must be sent to HP Staff at least two (2) weeks prior to the respective competition.
 - vii. Only National Team coaches, staff, and athletes are permitted at team meetings, team meals, training sessions and competitions except in cases that have been approved by USA Climbing High Performance Staff. Visitors are welcome to attend competitions and support the National Team from designated spectator areas.
 - viii. Only National Team coaches, staff, or other National Team members shall be permitted to warm up athletes during competitions except in cases that have been approved by USA Climbing High Performance Staff.
5. **Dispute Resolution.** The Parties agree that any dispute under this Agreement shall first be addressed by good-faith negotiation of the Parties. If a dispute involving a breach, act, omission, or interpretation of this Agreement is not resolved by good-faith negotiation, the dispute shall be resolved by a hearing under the grievance procedures in the Bylaws of USA Climbing, or if applicable Section 9 of the USOPC bylaws. In the event that the Parties cannot resolve a dispute under 6 above, either Party may bring any controversy or claim arising out of or relating to this contract, or breach thereof, for final settlement by arbitration administered by the American Arbitration Association under their Commercial Rules.
6. **Miscellaneous.**
- a. **Nature of the Parties Relationship.** It is expressly understood and agreed that, in the performance of this Agreement, USA Climbing and Athlete shall be independent contractors, free from control of each other except as specified in this Agreement.
 - b. **Intellectual Property and Ownership.** Nothing contained herein will be construed as an assignment or grant to Athlete of any right, title or interest in or to USA Climbing's trademarks, or in or to any copyright or other right in and to USA Climbing's materials. Likewise, nothing contained herein will be construed as an assignment or grant to USA Climbing of any right, title or interest in or to Athlete's image and personality rights.

- c. **Notices.** Any notice required or permitted to be delivered under this Agreement shall be in writing and shall be deemed properly delivered on the earlier of the actual receipt, one day after being sent via electronic mail, or three days after the date deposited in the U.S. Mail, by first class mail, addressed to the recipient at the Athlete's address set forth below.
- d. **Force Majeure.** If for any reason outside a Party's reasonable control, including without limitation acts of nature, war, disasters, fire, tornado, hurricane, blizzard, earthquake, or other such weather-related events, acts of terrorism or threats of terrorism, civil disorder, strikes, labor disputes or stoppages, government acts, regulations or orders, national, regional, state or local emergencies, epidemics, pandemics or outbreak of disease, quarantines, shelter-in-place orders, curtailment of travel or transportation or for any other reason, similar or dissimilar, beyond either Party's control, a Party is unable to perform its duties and obligations hereunder, such failure to perform will not be considered a default under this Agreement, and such Party will not be liable for the failure to deliver the corresponding benefits and privileges.
- e. **Entire Agreement.** This Agreement, together with any attachments hereto, contains the entire agreement and understanding of the parties and supersedes all prior agreements and understandings, whether verbal or written, with respect to the subject matter hereof and any such other agreements or understandings are hereby revoked.
- f. **Waiver.** A failure on the part of either Party to exercise any right, remedy, power, or privilege under this Agreement will operate as a waiver thereof. No waiver will be effective unless it is in writing and signed by the Party granting such waiver.
- g. **Severability.** If any provision of this Agreement is determined to be invalid by a court of competent jurisdiction, that determination will in no way affect the validity or enforceability of any other provision herein.
- h. **Governing Law.** The terms of this Agreement and any dispute between the Parties shall be governed by and interpreted in accordance with the laws of the State of Utah.

If the Athlete has any questions about their rights and responsibilities under this agreement, feel free to contact the USOPC Athlete Ombuds at 719-866-5000 or ombudsman@usathlete.org. You may also refer to the USOPC Policy Regarding NGB Athlete Agreements at <https://www.teamusa.org/Footer/Legal/Other-Documents>.

USA CLIMBING:

By: _____

John Muse, Chief of Sport

Date: _____

ATHLETE:

Athlete Signature

Date

Print Name

City, State, Zip

PARENT/GUARDIAN CERTIFICATION (For Participants Under the Age of 18 as of Effective Date):

Signature

Date

Print Name & Relationship (Parent or Guardian)

ADDENDUM A

Funding Distribution

- USA Climbing will allocate funding up to six (6) total competition starts per discipline to members of National Teams in order of their rank within the respective team. Funding distribution will apply to designated funded international competitions according to competition start distribution as outlined in the Team Selection Procedures Document.
- If funded starts are declined or additional funding becomes available, USA Climbing High Performance Staff may choose to distribute funded starts to additional National Team or Development Team athletes based on current and/or past performance history in addition to meeting the goals of High Performance.
- Athletes who decline competition starts or who miss an acceptance deadline will also be declining any funding offered for that competition start.
- USA Climbing may deny funding to any National Team Member who displays a lack of commitment to the goals of the High Performance Program, is non-receptive to individual improvement plans or exhibits a lack of performance across multiple competition starts..

Event Resources

- Transportation (if applicable) between competition venue and accommodations for athletes staying at the team hotel or in the designated area.
- Designated Team meals
- USA Climbing event staff/coaching

Funded Competition Starts

- High Performance Staff will provide a reimbursable amount (flight stipend) specific to each funded event at a minimum of 30 days prior to said event. Once the athlete has purchased their flight, they must send the receipt to the designated High Performance Staff member at which point they will be reimbursed up to the allowable amount. Athletes will have the option to set up a Bill account with USA Climbing so that reimbursements may be processed more quickly than a secondary option of sending the athlete a check to the address they have on file. All reimbursements are considered 1099 income for the athlete. If an athlete is unable to purchase their own flight, they may request assistance from the High Performance Staff.
- High Performance Staff will designate a team hotel, where accommodations must be secured unless otherwise approved by the High Performance Staff. For funded starts, High Performance Staff will provide a reimbursable amount (accommodation stipend) specific to each funded event at a minimum of 30 days prior to said event. To be eligible for the accommodation stipend, the athlete must stay in the team hotel unless an exception is granted by the High Performance Staff. Beginning on the day of the Technical Meeting and continuing through the final round of an athlete's discipline, only team members registered for the specific competition are permitted to stay overnight in the athlete's accommodation unless an exception is approved by High Performance Staff. This restriction includes to, but is not limited to, family members, partners, and friends. **Any request for an exception must be sent to HP Staff at least two (2) weeks prior to the respective competition.** Once the athlete has purchased their lodging, they must send the receipt to the designated High Performance Staff member at which point they will be

reimbursed up to the allowable amount. Athletes will have the option to set up a Bill account with USA Climbing so that reimbursements may be processed more quickly than a secondary option of sending the athlete a check to the address they have on file. All reimbursements are considered 1099 income for the athlete.

Unfunded Competition Starts

- Athletes are generally responsible for arranging travel and accommodation when accepting unfunded competition starts.
- Athletes accepting unfunded competition starts will be required to align travel with the team and stay at the team hotel or designated area unless otherwise approved by the High Performance Staff.
- If USA Climbing arranges travel and/or accommodation for athletes who accept unfunded competition starts, they may be responsible for a travel fee assigned to an event. If applicable, this travel fee must be paid prior to the event.
 - A travel fee may include but is not limited to; accommodation, designated team meals, transportation, coaching fees, etc.
 - The Travel fee will NOT include airfare, baggage fees and any other transportation outside of what is arranged/provided by USA Climbing
 - If assigned to an event, travel fees are *estimated* to range from \$500-\$1500 pending the location and what is included.

Event Funding Designation:

Funded Competition Starts:

- Keqiao, CHN (B) May 1-3
- Wujiang, CHN (L,S) May 8-10
- Bern, SUI (B) May 22-24
- Madrid, ESP (B,S) May 28-31
- Prague, CZE (B,L) June 3-7
- Innsbruck, AUT (B,L) June 17-21
- Krakow, POL (S4) July 3-5
- Chamonix, FRA (L,S) July 10-12
- Koper, SLO (L) September 4-5
- Guiyang, CHN (S4) September 11-13
- Chongqing, CHN (S4) September 18-20

Unfunded Competition Starts:

- SLC, USA (B) October 16-18
- Santiago, CHI (L,S) October 23-25

Note: Funded Competition Starts are subject to change, however, USA Climbing will make best efforts to make any such decision no later than 30 days of proximity to a competition.

ADDENDUM B

USA Climbing Code of Conduct

ATHLETE PLEDGE

I pledge to uphold the spirit of the USA Climbing Code of Conduct (the "Code"), which offers a guide to my conduct as anyone receiving USA Climbing High Performance resources. This includes but is not limited to; a member of the USA National Climbing Team, alternate (the "Team"), or athlete training in pursuit of World Climbing competition starts. I acknowledge that I have a right to a hearing if my opportunity to compete is denied or if I am charged with a violation of this Code.

I have familiarized myself with the Code and understand that acceptance of its provisions is a condition of my selection to the Team.

As a Member of the Team, I hereby promise and agree that I:

- will obey applicable Public Health orders and USA Climbing Community Health policies, as well as conduct myself in a manner which does not unreasonably elevate others' risk of contracting communicable diseases;
- will abide by all published rules related to the Team selection procedures as approved by USA Climbing;
- will maintain a level of fitness and competitive readiness that will permit my performance to be at the maximum of my abilities;
- have acted and will act in a sportsmanlike manner consistent with the spirit of fair play and responsible conduct;
- will refrain from conduct detracting from my ability or that of my teammates to attain peak performance;
- will respect members of my Team, other teams, spectators and officials, and engage in no form of discriminatory behavior or verbal, physical or sexual harassment or abuse;
- will submit to a physical examination by USA Climbing medical personnel if my ability to compete is compromised due to physical injury and I understand that such injury may be cause for my not being selected to the Team, being removed from the Team, or not being allowed to participate if I remain on the Team.
- will not commit an anti-doping violation as defined by the World Climbing, the World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA), and the United States Anti-Doping Agency (USADA);
- am not currently serving a doping violation and/or do not have a pending or unresolved doping charge;
- will not engage in any conduct that is criminal under any laws applicable to me, including, but not limited to laws governing the possession and use of drugs and alcohol and providing of drugs to any person and of alcohol to minors. This may include substances which do not carry WADA/USADA sanctions;

- will not participate or assist in any gambling or betting activities associated with any event related to my sport or my participation;
- am eligible to compete under the rules of the World Climbing;
- am in possession of a valid USA passport, that will not expire prior to six months following the conclusion of the international competition, should I receive a start for an international team that requires a passport;
- will follow my Team's written policies, including by way of example, rules regarding curfew, required attendance at team meetings, consumption of alcoholic beverages and prohibitions on the release of confidential Team information;
- will abide by the rules of World Climbing concerning allowable trademark identification on clothing and equipment worn or used in competition or on visible body tattoos;
- understand that if I require legal representation because I am accused of criminal misconduct or an anti-doping violation, or if for any other reasons I require the services of an attorney, I will be personally responsible for payment of such legal fees and expenses;
- will respect the property of others whether personal or public;
- will act in a way that will bring respect and honor to myself, my teammates, USA Climbing and the United States;
- will remember that at all times I am an ambassador for my sport and my country;
- will adhere to USA Climbing's SafeSport policies and procedures, including USA Climbing's SafeSport Policy and the Minor Athlete Abuse Prevention Policy. These policies may be amended from time to time, in order to protect athletes from emotional, physical, and sexual abuse. All athletes 18+ are required to complete USA Climbing's annual SafeSport training.

I understand that I may contact the USOPC Athlete Ombuds at 719.866 5000 or ombudsman@usathlete.org for further information regarding my rights and responsibilities under this Code that are not answered by USA Climbing.

I have read and accept this Code of Conduct. I agree to the rules, guidelines, jurisdiction and procedures stated in these documents as a condition of being selected to participate as a member of the Team.

Signature & Date _____

Print Name _____

Signature & Date _____

Print Name and Relationship (Parent or Guardian) _____

ADDENDUM C

Personal Performance Gear

Definition of Personal Performance Gear:

Harness

Shoes

Chalk bag and/or bucket

Tape

Kneepad(s)

Logo presence on Personal Performance Gear:

Harness: Athlete to provide their own harness. Climbing harnesses may carry Manufacturer's Markings and Product Technology Identification as sold on the retail consumer market. No Sponsor Identification is permitted.

Shoes: Athlete to provide their own shoes. Shoes may carry Manufacturer's Markings and Product Technology Identification as sold on the retail consumer market. No Sponsor Identification is permitted.

Chalk bag or bucket: Athlete to provide their own chalk bag and/or chalk bucket. Chalk bags and buckets may carry Manufacturer Identifications and Product Technology Identification as sold on the retail consumer market. No Sponsor Identification is permitted.

Tape: Athlete to provide their own tape, unless medically necessary in which case USA Climbing will provide. Tape may carry Manufacturer Identifications and Product Technology Identification as sold on the retail consumer market. No Sponsor Identification is permitted.

Kneepad: Athlete to provide their own kneepad(s). Kneepad(s) may carry Manufacturer Identifications and Product Technology Identification as sold on the retail consumer market. No Sponsor Identification is permitted.

Logo presence on Accessories:

Any other accessories brought onto the Field of Play may carry non-conflicting manufacturer's name and/or logo and/or non-conflicting sponsor logos with a maximum total area for all items of 100cm², including but not limited to the following:

- **Supplemental bags** may carry non-conflicting manufacturer's name and/or logo and/or non-conflicting sponsor logos not to exceed 100cm² for all accessory items combined.
- **Hats** may carry non-conflicting manufacturer's name and/or logo and/or non-conflicting sponsor logos not to exceed 100cm² for all accessory items combined.
- **Towels** must remain unbranded.

ADDENDUM D

Team Apparel

Black pants/leggings without display of conflicting sponsor logos may be worn by athletes for designated Team events and competitions unless provided by USA Climbing.

Please note that additional items/equipment may be given to athletes during the season and USA Climbing may require use of items that do not conflict with the athletes' Personal Performance Gear during Team travel, events, and competitions.

Team Apparel:

U.S. National Team – Bouldering, Sport, and Speed

- Traveling U.S. National Team Members
 - Puffy
 - Jacket
 - Shorts
 - Jersey
 - Leggings
 - T-Shirt
 - YETI luggage, backpack, and packing cube (if available)

- Non-Traveling U.S. National Team Members
 - Jacket

- US National Development Team athletes who receive a World Climbing international competition start and elect to attend a World Climbing international competition
 - Jersey
 - Shorts, leggings or pants (if available)
 - T-Shirt (if available)
 - No team Jacket will be supplied to Development team members. Should the athlete make a podium, a team jacket will be provided on loan.

Athletes must travel with luggage and/or bags provided to them by USA Climbing but may also use supplemental bags per athletes travel requirements.