



May 21, 2020

Dear Athletes, Coaches and members of the USAPM family;

On behalf of USAPM, I hope that you and your families are safe and healthy. As our nation approaches what may become the “new normal” for our daily lives, we are aware that some areas of the country are beginning to open back up for training, which is fantastic news for those who now have access.

In an effort to update everyone on USAPM's most recent meetings pertaining to the 2021 World Cup Selection discussions, UIPM Olympic Selection status and COVID19, we wanted to send this brief email consistent with our goal of having frequent and relevant communications.

To provide context, the COVID-19 continues to affect not only our nation, but the entire world and has created many unknowns. All of our discussions to date have included acknowledging this unknown element - as the health and welfare of our athletes, staff and volunteers is of the utmost importance to our organization.

One of the ‘knowns’ at this point is that the 2020 Tokyo Olympic Games are to be held in the summer of 2021. The UIPM and IOC have agreed on the qualification process, including the dates of the 2021 World Cups, World Cup Final and World Championships which are posted at www.usapentathlon.org.

On Monday the 18th, the USAPM Committee responsible for the Selection Procedures in 2020 and 2021 met with staff and several Board members via a Zoom call to continue to identify and implement the process by which USAPM would move forward. This will ultimately result in the submission of our recommended USAPM 2021 World Cup Team Selection Procedures to the USOPC Sport Performance Team and USOPC Selection Procedures Working Group. The intent of this meeting was to establish a process which is transparent, inclusive and equitable, and one that fulfills our obligation to the Ted Stevens Act, USOPC and USAPM bylaws and missions.

Due to the postponement of the 2020 Tokyo Olympic and Paralympic Games, the USOPC Selection Procedures Working Group provided to all NGBs several guiding principles for NGBs which takes into consideration if/when amendments to their selection procedures are considered. A key guiding principle is that USAPM must fulfill its obligation under the Ted Stevens Act along with the USOPC and USAPM bylaws *to protect the opportunities of every athlete to participate while balancing the need to select the most competent representation for the ‘2020’ Tokyo Olympic Games.* We continue to speak with other NGB's, UIPM, USOPC, the USAPM Board, and our athletes through your athlete representatives. We value this input and are listening intently to all perspectives regarding this important conversation.

The USAPM Committee previously responsible for the Selection Procedures to the World Cups in 2020, as required by the USOPC, will again be responsible for finalizing and signing the 2021 documents. They are:

- USAPM CEO - Rob Stull
- USAPM Deputy Director - Kevin Montford
- USAPM AAC Rep - Will Brady

Per the procedure utilized in previous years, USAPM will draft new or amended selection documents using the USOPC's Sport Performance template. The recommendation will be drafted with consideration to the input provided from various groups (our athletes, NGB's, UIPM), members of USAPM and the USOPC.

Once a working draft has been reviewed by all of the above, it will be submitted to the USOPC's Sport Performance team and USOPC's Selection Procedures Working Group for approval. The USAPM Board of Directors will be kept informed throughout this process. The final Selection Procedures for the 2021 World Cup team document once approved by the USOPC will be signed and posted on the USAPM website and disseminated through all our communications channels.

It is our intent to have a document suitable to be submitted to the USOPC by the end of May. Once submitted, it generally takes several weeks to complete the exchanges necessary for final approval and signatures between the USOPC and USAPM.

Again, USAPM's guiding principle is and will remain to fulfill our obligation under the Ted Stevens Act along with the USOPC and USAPM bylaws to protect the opportunities of every athlete to participate while balancing the need to select the most competent representation for the 2020 Tokyo Olympic Games in 2021. We encourage you to reach out to the USAPM Committee responsible for the Selection Procedures, especially your AAC rep, Will Brady, with any questions, concerns, or comments.

Thank you in advance for both your input and understanding as we navigate through this new territory. To quote the overused phrase, 'We are all in this together' and are truly seeking the best solution for everyone involved.

Best to all of you. Please stay safe and healthy and you will hear from us soon.

Go Team USA!

Kevin Montford
USAPM Deputy Director