

**U.S. SOCCER FEDERATION (USSF)
ATHLETE SELECTION PROCEDURES
2019 PARAPAN AMERICAN GAMES – Lima
7-A-SIDE SOCCER
January 1, 2019**

1. SELECTION SYSTEM

1.1. Provide the minimum eligibility requirements for an athlete to be considered for selection to the Team:

1.1.1. Nationality/Passport requirements:

Athlete must be a national of the United States at the time of nomination.

Athlete must hold a valid U.S. passport that will not expire for six months after the conclusion of the Games.

1.1.2. Minimum International Olympic Committee (IOC), International Paralympic Committee (IPC) standards for participation:

Any competitor in the Olympic, Paralympic, Pan American or Parapan American Games must be a national of the country of the National Olympic Committee (NOC) or National Paralympic Committee (NPC) which is entering such competitor. For additional information regarding an athlete who is a national of two or more countries, has changed his or her nationality or acquired a new nationality, refer to the Olympic Charter (Rule 41), the IPC Handbook (Section 2, Chapter 3.1), or the PASO Statutes (Article XXII, Sections 4 and 5).

1.1.3. Minimum International Federation (International Federation Of Cerebral Palsy Football, IFCPF) standards for participation (if any):

- Participants must be 15 years or older on the 1st day of January 2019.
- Have entered in at least one international, sanctioned IFCPF Football 7 competition between 1 September 2017 and 22 July 2019; and
- Be internationally classifiable according to the IFCPF Classification rules.

1.2. Tryout Events:

1.2.1. Provide the event names, dates and locations of all trials, events and camps to be used as part of the selection process.

Athletes are evaluated throughout the quadrennium by the Paralympic National Team Technical Staff at the events listed below. These events, which

include Youth National activities, are subject to change. The athletes will be notified approximately 21 days in advance of their selection to each individual event, with all athletes on notice that they can potentially be called into these events.

- Training Camp January 2019
- Training Camp February 2019
- Training Camp March 2019
- Foreign Training Camp March 2019
- TBD Training Camps 2019
- Various Scouted Events 2018-2019

- 1.2.2. Provide event names, dates, locations and description of how athletes qualify for the trials, events and camps listed above in 1.2.1. (if any).

Ongoing Scouting. One (1) or more members of the Paralympic National Team Technical Staff will consistently observe athletes. This scouting is an ongoing process and will continue until final nominations are made for the Parapan Team. General scouting will be conducted so that athletes can be identified who perform at a level which the Paralympic National Team Technical Staff believes is competitive in the current international field.

- 1.3. Provide a comprehensive, step-by-step description of the method that explains how athletes will go through the selection process (include maximum Team size).

Athlete Evaluation

Players are viewed at evaluative events described in Section 1.2.1 throughout the quadrennium by members of the Paralympic National Team Technical Staff. Players are evaluated based on the criteria outlined in Section 1.3 below. It is intended that the evaluation will be an ongoing process and that all evaluation at events listed in Section 1.2.1 which occur during the quadrennium will be considered in the selection decisions. It is possible that each athlete being considered in selection for the National Team will not have been evaluated at the exact same Evaluation Events as other athletes also being considered for that particular team.

Players invited to camps

The Paralympic Team Head Coach will review the eligible players and invite players in for each training camp based on the needs of the team and input from the Paralympic National Team Technical Staff, using criteria listed below. A player's inclusion in one event is no indication of future involvement with this team. The players will be notified approximately 21 days in advance of their selection to each individual camp.

Selection for the National Team

Players are selected to Paralympic National Team events based on their play in evaluative events. The selected players are then evaluated at opportunities listed in section 1.2 and may be called in to the Paralympic National Team for further training camps, matches and tournaments.

Evaluation of athletes at National Team Programs

This evaluation process is ongoing throughout the quadrennium and includes performance while with the National Team. The Paralympic Head Coach may call in a different combination of players for each training camp / match throughout the quadrennium. Players are evaluated based on the criteria outlined below.

Selection of the Parapan American Team

The Paralympic (Parapan American) Team Head Coach will make the final recommendation on the composition of the team and will receive input from his/her assistant coaches and scouts. The Paralympic Team Head Coach will then present this list of recommendations to the USSF President, CEO/Secretary General and Athlete Representative to review and approve. The Paralympic Team Head Coach will go through the process of recommending, for selection, the Parapan American Team (14 players will be nominated to the 7-A-Side Team) in a manner similar to how the team's roster is selected throughout the year. The Paralympic (Parapan American) Team Head Coach will use the Selection Criteria outlined below in his/her recommendations for the Parapan American Team.

Selection Criteria

In recommending athletes to be members of the Team, the Paralympic Team Head Coach will consider information, consisting of observation, video analysis and statistics of both objective and subjective of nature, which pertains to technical ability, tactical decisions, physical and psychological capabilities and other considerations.

Primary Criteria

- The potential to enable the Paralympic National Team to qualify for and advance to the medal round.
- Performance in events in section 1.2

Secondary Criteria

- Commitment to the overall U.S. Paralympic program
- Players sign and adhere to the Athlete Code of Conduct (see attachment II)
- Current level of physical fitness
- Current medical / injury status
- Suitability as team member
- Suitability across IFCPF classification requirements (i.e., having enough class 1 in the competition squad, etc.)

- Suitability within the team’s tactical requirements (i.e., number of players per position)
- Ability to react positively to game pressure

Paralympic National Team Technical Staff will oversee the selection process.

2. DISCRETIONARY SELECTION (if applicable)

2.1. Provide rationale for utilizing discretionary selection (if any):

The sport of soccer is not a measured or timed event. In the selection of athletes who will compete together as a team, it is impossible to make selection decisions based solely upon objective criteria. It is the belief of the U.SSF that selection criteria set out in Section 1.3, which includes subjective components in the evaluation of performance and ability, will result in the selection of the very best athletes to comprise our team.

2.2. List the discretionary criteria and explain how they will be used (if any):

In selecting athletes to be members of the Parapan American Games Team, the Paralympic National Team Technical Staff will consider the selection criteria in Section 1.3. However, the general philosophy that will prevail throughout the evaluation / selection process will be to identify the athletes what will make up the “best team.”

2.3. Provide the name of the committee that will be responsible for making discretionary selections, along with a complete list of the members’ titles currently serving on the committee:

The Paralympic Team Head Coach, with input from the Paralympic National Team Technical Staff (including the list below), will be responsible for all aspects of team selection and will make the ultimate recommendation on the team’s roster.

Paralympic Team Head Coach
 Paralympic Team Assistant Coach
 Paralympic Team Goalkeeper Coach
 Paralympic Team Fitness Coach
 Paralympic Team Medical Lead

The final approval will be made by USSF President, CEO/Secretary General and Athlete Representative.

2.3.1. Specify the process that will be used to identify and handle any potential conflicts of interest involving a member of the committee.

Any member of the selection committee that has a possible conflict of interest must disclose it. If such conflict exists, the selection committee

member must recuse him/herself from committee discussions and voting. Further, the committee member should not otherwise influence other members of the committee in the selection process. However, a committee member who recused him/herself, but who has relevant and necessary information with respect to athlete performance, for example a national team coach or high performance director, may, if requested by the selection committee, provide such information to the committee so long as such information is provided in a fair and unbiased manner and the committee member who declared the conflict of interest does not vote toward the final decision.

3. REMOVAL OF ATHLETES

- 3.1. Prior to entry by name to the Local Organizing Committee by the USOC, the NGB/HPMO has jurisdiction over potential nominees.

An athlete who is to be nominated to the Team by the NGB/HPMO may be removed for any of the following reasons, as determined by the NGB/HPMO:

- 3.1.1. Voluntary withdrawal. Athlete must submit a written letter to the NGB/HPMO CEO/Executive Director.
- 3.1.2. Injury or illness as certified by a physician (or medical staff) approved by the NGB/HPMO. If an athlete refuses verification of his/her illness or injury by a physician (or medical staff) approved by the NGB/HPMO, his/her injury will be assumed to be disabling and he/she may be removed.
- 3.1.3. Failure to participate in Mandatory Training and/or Competition as defined in Section 9 of these procedures.
- 3.1.4. Violation of the NGB's/HPMO's Code of Conduct (Attachment II).
- 3.1.5. Re-classification of the athlete by the IFCPF such that the athlete's qualifying performance would not have qualified him/her for the Team.
- 3.1.6. Removal by the IPC of the event in which the athlete qualified for the Team from the program of the 2019 Parapan American Games.

An athlete who is removed from the Team pursuant to this provision has the right to a hearing per the USSF Bylaw 703 and the USOC's Bylaws, Section 9.

- 3.2. Once athlete entries have been submitted to the Local Organizing Committee by the USOC, the USOC has jurisdiction over the Team, at which time, in addition to any applicable NGB/HPMO Code of Conduct, the USOC's Code of Conduct and Grievance Procedures apply. The USOC's Code of Conduct and Grievance Procedures can be found at:

<http://www.teamusa.org/Footer/Legal/Governance-Documents>

- 3.3. An athlete may be removed as a nominee to the Team or from the Team for an adjudicated violation of IOC, PASO, IPC, WADA, IF, USADA and/or USOC anti-doping protocol, policies and procedures, as applicable.

4. REPLACEMENT OF ATHLETES

- 4.1. Describe the selection and approval process for determining replacement athlete(s) should a vacancy occur:

Replacement players will come from the list of up to 30 athletes, referenced in Section 8, who weren't selected to the final roster of 14 athletes initially. Paralympic National Team Technical Staff, led by the Paralympic Team Head Coach, will use the same evaluative events as used to select the Parapan American Team. These replacement players will be identified as the replacements to replace team members in the event of injury or other need for replacement as listed in Section 3.

- 4.1.1. Prior to submission of Entries by Name to the Local Organizing Committee, including any applicable group or committee:

If a vacancy on the roster occurs, the Paralympic National Team Technical Staff will recommend a player to replace the vacant position. In recommending the replacement player that will join the Parapan American Team, the staff will consider the selection criteria per the process listed in sections 1.3 and 2, and may also consider the position(s) that the replacement player is filling and attempt to fill with a similar player.

- 4.1.2. After submission of Entries by Name to the Local Organizing Committee, including any applicable group or committee:

Due to the late nature of the replacement, the Paralympic National Team Technical Staff will select a player following the process outlined in Sections 1.3 and 2.

5. SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

USSF will retain the approved Selection Procedures and all supporting documents, including scouting or evaluation forms, etc., and data from the selection process for six months past the date of the Closing Ceremony of the Games.

6. REQUIRED DOCUMENTS

In addition to the USOC Code of Conduct, the following documents are required to be signed by an athlete as a condition of nomination to the Parapan American Games and are included as attachments:

7. PUBLICITY/DISTRIBUTION OF PROCEDURES

The USOC approved Selection Procedures (complete and unaltered) will be posted/published by the US Soccer in the following locations:

7.1. NGB Web site: www.ussoccer.com

These procedures will be posted as soon as possible, but not more than five business days following notice of approval by the USOC.

7.2. Other: N/A

8. DATE OF NOMINATION

The Nomination of Athletes form, including replacements, will be announced to all athletes and submitted to the USOC on or before:

Roster of up to 28 athletes and replacements on July 1, 2019. From the initial roster of 28 athletes, a Final Roster of 14 athletes and replacements will be announced on **July 23, 2019** (unless the IFCPF/LOC roster submission date is established as a later date, at which time we would abide by the IFCPF/LOC date).

The removal and replacement procedures, per this document, Sections 3. and 4. apply to both the Roster of 28 and Final Roster of 14.

9. MANDATORY TRAINING AND/OR COMPETITION

The Paralympic National Team Technical Staff will develop a training and competition program for athletes nominated to the Parapan American Team. Each member of the team is required to participate in this training, unless excused by the Paralympic Head Coach for injury or other justifiable reason. Players will be notified approximately 21 days before training. An athlete needs a waiver in writing from the Paralympic Team Head Coach if he is not able to participate in mandatory training and/or competition. Such a waiver will only be granted in extreme circumstances.

All training camps for the Parapan American Team have not been determined at this time but will be announced to the team at least 30 days prior to the event.

10. ANTI-DOPING REQUIREMENTS

Athletes must adhere to all IOC, IPC, PASO, WADA, IF, USADA and USOC anti-doping protocols, policies and procedures, as applicable. This includes participation in Out-of-Competition Testing as required by the IOC, IPC, PASO, WADA, IF, USADA and USOC Rules, as applicable.

11. DEVELOPMENT OF SELECTION PROCEDURES

The following group was responsible for creating these Selection Procedures:

President (Carlos Cordeiro), CEO/Secretary General (Dan Flynn), Chief Soccer Officer (Ryan Mooney), Chief Sport Development Officer (Nico Romeijn) – with the review of its USOC Athletic Council Representative (Aly Wagner)

12. NGB/HPMO BYLAWS AND GRIEVANCE PROCEDURES

The US Soccer Bylaws and Grievance Procedures can be found at: www.ussoccer.com

13. INTERNATIONAL DISCLAIMER

These procedures are based on IOC, IPC, PASO, as applicable, and/or IFCPF rules and regulations as presently known and understood. Any change in the selection procedures caused by a change in IOC, IPC, PASO, as applicable, and/or IFCPF rules and regulations will be distributed to the affected athletes immediately. The selection criteria are based on the latest information available to US Soccer. However, the selections are always subject to unforeseen, intervening circumstances, and realistically may not have accounted for every possible contingency.

If any force of nature, or force majeure, should cause the alteration or cancellation of any of the selection events listed in this document, these selection procedures will be revised, pursuant to their resubmission to the USOC.

14. ATHLETE OMBUDSMAN

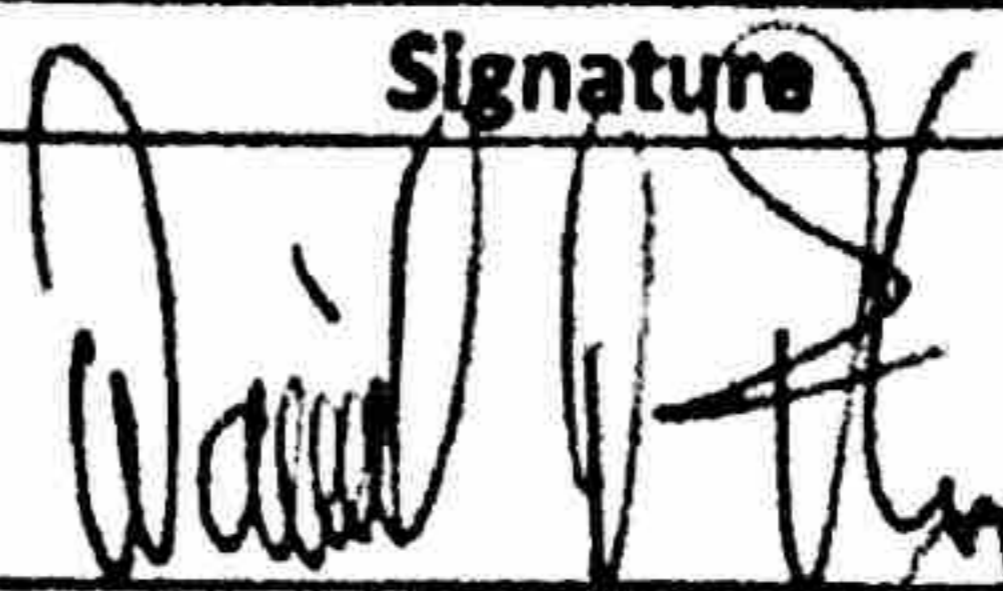


Athletes who have questions regarding their opportunity to compete that are not answered by U.S. Soccer may contact the USOC Athlete Ombudsman, Kacie Wallace, by:

- Telephone at (719) 866-5000
- Email at Kacie.wallace@usoc.org
- <http://www.teamusa.org/Athlete-Resources/Athlete-Ombudsman>

15. NGB/HPMO SIGNATURES

I certify that I have read and understand the standards/criteria set by our IF and/or CF (PAG/PPAG only) and incorporated those standards/criteria into our Selection Procedures. I further certify that the information provided herein regarding Athlete Selection Procedures represents the method approved by U.S. Soccer.

Link

Position	Print Name	Signature	Date
NGB/HPMO President or CEO/Executive Director	Danuel T. Flynn		01-09-19
Nat. Team Coach, Head Coach, or Nat. Program Director	Jim Moorhouse, Director		1 - 29 - 2019
USOC Athletes' Advisory Council Representative*	Aly Wagner		1-29-19

* If the USOC AAC Representative has delegated authority to the Alternate AAC Representative to sign the Selection Procedures, attach a letter from the AAC Representative indicating the reason he/she has delegated authority.

* Signature by the Athlete Representative constitutes that he/she has read and understands the Selection Procedures. If the Athlete Representative reads and does not agree with the Athlete Selection Procedures being submitted by the NGB/HPMO, he/she may submit those reasons in writing to his/her Sport Performance Team.

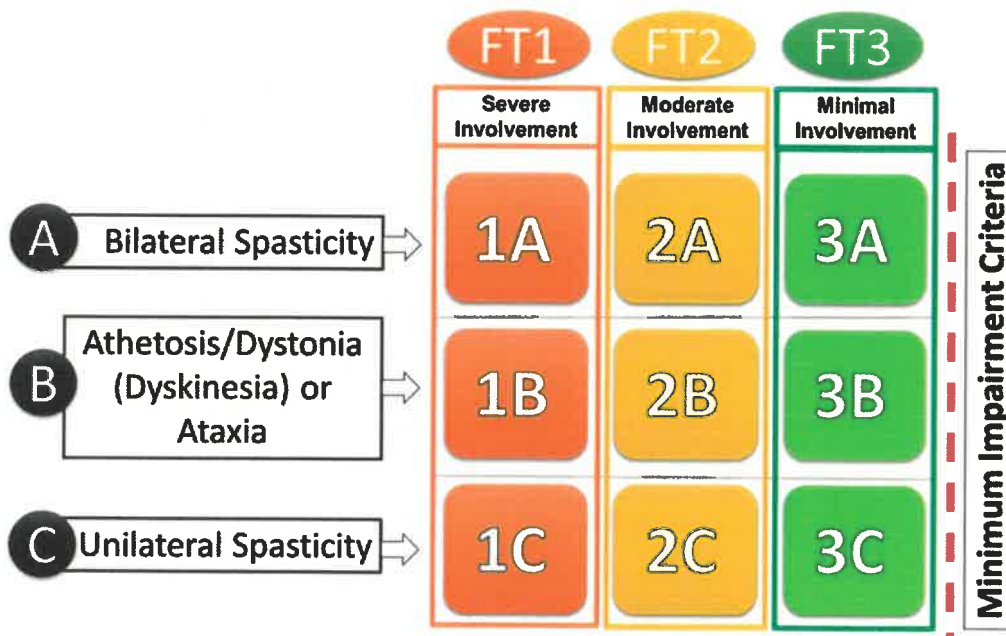
* If, for some reason, a sport does not have an elected USOC AAC Representative, the NGB/HPMO must designate an athlete from that sport to review and sign the Selection Procedures.

ATTACHMENT I

Football 7-a-side (Soccer) Classification

Limited to classes FT1, FT2 and FT3. Each team must field at least one (1) class FT1 player on the field of play at all times during a game, or the team will play with one less player. Each team may have a maximum of one (1) class FT3 player on the field of play at all times during a game.

The classification system for CP-Football is a functional system organized by the Level of Impairment / Activity Limitation for the performance of fundamental football skills: Severe Involvement; Moderate Involvement; or Minimal Involvement. This includes assessment of the Eligible Impairment and/or affected limbs: A = Bilateral Spasticity (also called, spastic diplegia); B = Athetosis/Dystonia (Dyskinesia) or Ataxia; or C = Unilateral Spasticity (also called spastic hemiplegia). See diagram below.





ATTACHMENT II
U.S. Paralympic National Team Program
Code of Conduct

- We represent ourselves, Paralympic athletes, families, US Soccer, and the United States of America.
- We respect our teammates, the staff, U.S. Soccer, equipment and the venue.
- We are responsible for coming into camp and events match fit and healthy.
- We are responsible for ensuring we maintain the same level of fitness and nutrition when we are not in camp.
- We are aware that the team roster is evolving and that we are not guaranteed an invitation at the next event.
- We are on time for departures, team meals, team meetings, training sessions and games.
- We are responsible for requesting permission from the general manager or head coach should we ever need to leave the camp environment.
- We recognize that we are representing US Soccer, the team and ourselves, therefore our public and social media image must be polite and professional at all times.
- We are accountable for ourselves and teammates-we look after each other.
- We go out of our way to be good role models and promote our sport.
- We are responsible for being professional and presentable in our appearance.
- We wear NIKE with respect and pride and return it promptly after training and games.
- We are responsible for the team gear in addition to our issued gear and equipment.
- We proactively communicate and respond promptly to emails and calls from the general manager and coaches.
- We will communicate to our family and friends that they may attend games but may not come to training or our hotel/dorm rooms.
- We keep our passports, medical and personal information updated.
- We do NOT use illegal or banned drugs, abuse alcohol, or gamble on sports.
- We recognize that we are role models to others across the country and across the world.
- We will commit today and every day to winning a Paralympic Gold Medal, as evidenced by our individual actions, collective team work and American spirit!

Signed: _____

Name: _____

Date: _____