

# United States Olympic Committee



## ATHLETE SELECTION PROCEDURE FORM

for the  
**OLYMPIC GAMES**



**UNITED STATES BOBSLED AND SKELETON FEDERATION  
ATHLETE SELECTION PROCEDURES  
2010 OLYMPIC WINTER GAMES  
SKELETON**

**Revised June 24, 2009**

**I. SELECTION SYSTEM**

A) Provide the minimum eligibility requirements for an athlete to be considered for nomination to the Team:

**1. Citizenship:**

Athletes must be a U.S. citizen prior to the 2009-2010 U.S. National Team Trials. In addition, athletes must hold a valid U.S. Passport that won't expire for six months after the conclusion of the Games.

**2. Minimum International Federation (IF) standards for participation (if any):**

Athletes must have taken part and were ranked in at least five international FIBT competitions on three different tracks during the 2008-2009 and/or 2009-2010 competition seasons, and must be ranked among the **top 60** men or **top 45** women on the FIBT Ranking List by January 17, 2010.

**3. Other requirements (if any):**

Must be a member in good standing with the USBSF

B) Tryout Events:

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

The 2009-2010 FIBT International Race Circuits up until January 17, 2010, Various locations, Various dates (See Attachment A)

**2. Provide event names, dates, locations and description of how athletes qualify for any "preliminary or qualifying" events or procedures that are prerequisites to attend any of the trials, events or camps listed above in B. 1 (if any).**

2009-2010 U.S. National Team Trials, October 2009, Lake Placid, NY and/or Park City, UT. The location(s) and date(s) will be published on USBSF's website, <http://bobsled.teamusa.org>, as soon as possible but at least 45 days prior to the events. To qualify to race in FIBT International Race Circuits (various locations, various dates), athletes must qualify for 2009-2010 U.S. National Team Trials. The only exceptions to this is by an approved waiver, see



## Section II. B. Waivers .

### 2008-2009 Club Races

Club Races will be held at Lake Placid, NY and Park City, UT during the 2008-2009 season.

The locations and dates will be published on USBSF's website, <http://bobsled.teamusa.org>, at least 45 days prior to the events. The top three non-national development team athletes per gender (ranked by a total of combined points from the best two out of three races) will qualify to compete in the 2009 Regional Championships.

### 2009 Regional Championship

A 2009 Regional Championship will be held at Lake Placid, NY and Park City, UT each as late in the 2008-2009 season as possible. All athletes with an FIBT ranking of 6<sup>th</sup> or below among US sliders are eligible to compete in the Regional Championships (must have at least one FIBT point). The locations and dates will be published on USBSF's website, <http://bobsled.teamusa.org>, at least 45 days prior to the events. The top three athletes per gender from each Regional Championship qualify for the 2009-2010 U.S. National Team Trials.

### 2009 National Push Championships

The 2009 National Push Championships will be held during the 2009 summer months (location and dates to be posted on USBSF's website, <http://bobsled.teamusa.org>, and announced at least 45 days in advance). Results can be used in discretionary selections in accordance with Section II of these criteria.

### 2009 USBSF Combine

The USBSF Combine will be offered at various dates and locations during the off-season/summer months (location and dates to be posted on USBSF's website, <http://bobsled.teamusa.org>, and announced at least 45 days in advance). Athletes must have official USBSF Combine test results dated no earlier than July 1, 2009 to compete in the US National Team Trials. The only exceptions to this is by an approved waiver, see Section II. B. Waivers. Results can be used for discretionary selection in accordance with Section II of these criteria. A document detailing the 2009 USBSF Combine is published on USBSF's website, <http://bobsled.teamusa.org>.

**3. Provide a comprehensive, step-by-step description of the method that explains how athletes will go through the selection process to become Team nominees (including maximum Team size).**

Per FIBT rules, athletes qualify quota spots for the Olympic Games by nation, based on the FIBT World Ranking List as of January 17, 2010. The method of qualification can be found at [www.bobsleigh.com](http://www.bobsleigh.com) (Rule 4.2). Athletes who qualify for international racing will earn FIBT points for each race and will be



ranked by the FIBT on the FIBT World Ranking List among all other national and international athletes competing in FIBT sanctioned races. The top US athletes on the FIBT World Ranking List per gender will qualify quota spots for the Olympic Games for the United States.

**MAXIMUM TEAM SIZE**

NOC Quota: 6 athletes (3 men, 3 Women)
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**MEN'S SKELETON**

Participation in the Olympic Winter Games is limited to:
3 NOCs with 3 athletes
7 NOCs with 2 athletes
7 NOCs with 1 athlete

**WOMEN'S SKELETON**

Participation in the Olympic Winter Games is limited to:
2 NOCs with 3 athletes
4 NOCs with 2 athletes
6 NOCs with 1 athlete

**2010 Olympic Games Selection**

**2008-2009 Club Races**

Club Races will be held at each track during the 2008-2009 season. The locations and dates will be published on USBSF's website, <http://bobsled.teamusa.org>, at least 45 days prior to the events. The top three non-national development team athletes per gender (ranked by a total of combined points from the best two out of three races) will qualify to compete in the 2009 Regional Championships. A non-national development team athlete is an athlete who the coaching staff feels needs more training to show sliding potential.

**2009 Regional Championships**

A 2009 Regional Championships will be held at Lake Placid, NY and Park City, UT each as late in the 2008-2009 season as possible. The locations and dates will be published on USBSF's website, <http://bobsled.teamusa.org>, at least 45 days prior to the events. The top three athletes per gender from each Regional Championships qualify for the 2009-2010 U.S. National Team Trials. Once an athlete qualifies at one location they can not compete at a second location. Athletes who have finished below the top six (6) US sleds on the FIBT World Ranking List as of February 14, 2009 must compete in a 2009 Regional Championships to qualify for the 2009/2010 U.S. National Team Trials. In addition, athletes who have been named to the 2009 National Development Team, as well as those qualified from the 2009 Club Races must attend a 2009 Regional Championships if they wish to qualify for the 2009-2010 U.S.



National Team Trials. Athletes who have finished in the top six (6) on the FIBT World Ranking List as of February 14, 2009 as well as athletes who have medaled in an international competition (World Cup- WC, Intercontinental Cup - ICC, Europa Cup - EC, America's Cup - AC) during the 2008-2009 season automatically qualify for 2009-2010 U.S. National Team Trials and are exempt from 2009 Regional Championships.

#### 2009 USBSF Combine

The USBSF Combine will be offered at various dates and locations during the off-season/summer months (location and dates to be posted on USBSF's website, <http://bobsled.teamusa.org>, and announced at least 45 days in advance). Athletes must have official USBSF Combine test results dated no earlier than July 1, 2009 to compete in the US National Team Trials. The only exceptions to this is by an approved waiver, see Section II. B. Waivers. Results can be used for discretionary selection in accordance with Section II of these criteria. A document detailing the 2009 USBSF Combine will be published on USBSF's website, <http://bobsled.teamusa.org>.

#### 2009-2010 U.S. National Team Trials

2009-2010 U.S. National Team Trials will be held in October, 2009, Lake Placid, NY and/or Park City, UT. The location(s) and date(s) will be published on USBSF's website, <http://bobsled.teamusa.org>, as soon as possible but at least 45 days prior to the events. To qualify to race in FIBT International Race Circuits (various locations, various dates), athletes must qualify for 2009-2010 U.S. National Team Trials. The only exceptions to this is by an approved waiver, see Section II. B. Waivers.

Any US athlete can qualify for the 2009-2010 U.S. National Team Trials in accordance with the following:

- The top six (6) ranked US athletes (men and women) on the FIBT World Ranking List as of February 14<sup>th</sup>, 2009
- Athletes who move into the top six (6) AFTER February 14<sup>th</sup>, 2009 (as a result of the Lake Placid America's Cup)
- The top three men/women from each 2009 Regional Championships
- Athletes who have medaled in an official FIBT international competition during the 2008-2009 calendar season (WC, ICC, EC, AC)
- Additional athletes that may be added through the Waiver process (see Section II. B. Waivers). The USBSF will only consider a waiver for those athletes who have shown a high degree of success in international competitions within the current quadrennial (2006-2009) or previous



## Olympic Games (2006).

### 2009-2010 USBSF National Team

Athletes will be selected to the 2009-2010 USBSF National Team via procedures in Attachment B. These athletes will compete on 2009-2010 FIBT International Race Circuit. Athletes will accumulate FIBT World Ranking Points based on their finishes at the FIBT International Race Circuit Events. The accumulation of those points will determine their ranking on the FIBT World Ranking Lists.

### 2010 Olympic Team

Nominations onto the Olympic Team will be selected according to the following:

**Race Entry 1:** The top ranked US athlete per gender on the FIBT World Ranking list as of January 17, 2010 will be selected.

**Race Entry 2:** The second spot for the Olympic Games per gender will be selected according to the discretionary selection criteria outlined in Section II.

**Race Entry 3:** Providing the US has earned a third starting position, the third spot for the Olympic Games will be awarded to the highest-ranking US athlete per gender on the FIBT World Ranking List as of January 17, 2010 who has not yet received a nomination.

D. Provide the names of all committees/groups who oversee the selection process, including the names and titles of the current members.

Darrin Steele, CEO

Scott Novack, High Performance Director

## II. DISCRETIONARY SELECTION (if applicable)

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

While the USBSF intends that objective rankings from races results will be the primary method of selecting athletes for USBSF races and team selections, it recognizes that the selection of the best teams requires discretionary selection.

B. List the discretionary criteria and explain how they will be used:

The following criteria, not listed in any priority order, will be applied to determine how decisions will be made for any discretionary team selections, unless otherwise noted:

- 2009-2010 U.S. National Team Trials results
- international results from the current quadrennium (2006-2010)



- USBSF Combine test scores
- on-ice push times
- sliding aptitude
- past success and potential to succeed on specific tracks
- performance trajectory
- contributions to a positive team atmosphere
- the ability for the US to field the best possible team in international competition and the Olympic Games.

**Waivers--**A Waiver Committee, consisting of the CEO, Head Coach, the High Performance Director, and one athlete representative will consider all waivers. In the event that one or more of the listed Waiver Committee members are not able to serve on the Committee, the CEO may assign appropriate substitutes. Waivers may be granted to athletes by the Waiver Committee in cases of extenuating circumstances. Extenuating circumstances may include emergencies, illness, or injury. All requests for waivers to participate in USBSF events must be presented to the waiver committee in writing as soon as practical. All waivers granted by the Waiver Committee must be in writing to be valid. Waiver requests must be submitted to the High Performance Director via hard copy or email. Following receipt, the Waiver Committee will review such request for approval or denial. The Waiver Committee will make a decision and provide a written copy of the waiver approval or denial to the athlete within 7 days. The Bobsled Chief Medical Officer (CMO), or his designee must examine injured/ill athletes wishing to receive a medical waiver for a USBSF sanctioned event.

C. Discretionary Selection Committee (Designation Committee)

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

Team Selection Committee

Darrin Steele, CEO

Sepp Plozza, Head Coach (USBSF Head Coach)

Greg Sand, Assistant Coach

Scott Novack, High Performance Director

Lea Ann Parsley, Athlete Representative

Chris Soule, Athlete Representative

In the event of a tie among the Team Selection Committee in the discretionary nomination process based on these procedures, the head coach will have the final decision.

Any members of the committee for whom a direct conflict of interest arises (to include, but not be limited to, a competing athlete, a personal coach or a family member of a competing athlete being considered for a nomination to the 2010



Olympic Team), will recuse him/herself from the committee, and will be replaced on the committee with another person and in the case of an athlete, an athlete named by the CEO.

### III. REMOVAL OF ATHLETES

- A. Prior to acceptance of nominations by the USOC, the USBSF has jurisdiction over potential nominees.

An athlete who is to be nominated to the Team by the USBSF may be removed as a nominee for any of the following reasons, as determined by the USBSF:

- Voluntary withdrawal. Athlete must submit a written letter to the USBSF CEO.
- Injury or illness as certified by an approved USBSF physician (or medical staff). If an athlete refuses verification of his/her illness or injury by an approved USBSF physician (or medical staff), his/her injury will be assumed to be disabling and he/she may be removed.
- Violation of the USBSF Code of Conduct. (Attachment C)

An athlete who is removed from the Team pursuant to this provision has the right to a hearing per the USBSF Bylaws (chapter XXI) or the USOC's Bylaws, Section 9.

- B. After acceptance of nominations by the USOC, the USOC has jurisdiction over the Team under the USOC Code of Conduct and Grievance Procedures. This occurs no earlier than 45 days and no later than 30 days prior to the Opening Ceremonies of the Games (unless expressly waived by the USOC).

A Team member who is accepted by the USOC is subject to the USOC Code of Conduct and Grievance Procedures.

- C. An athlete may be removed as a nominee to the Team or from the Team at any time for violation of IOC, PASO, IPC, WADA, IF, USADA and/or USOC anti-doping protocol, policies and procedures, as applicable. In such instances, the adjudication process will be managed through the United States Anti-Doping Agency.

### IV. REPLACEMENT OF ATHLETES

- A. Describe the process by which the replacement pool of athletes will be identified:



Replacement athletes will be the next ranked athlete(s) per gender on the FIBT World Ranking List as of January 17, 2010.

B. Describe how the replacement athlete(s) will be selected, should a vacancy occur:

i. prior to acceptance of nominations by the USOC:

See Section IV. A above.

ii. after acceptance of nominations by the USOC:

See Section IV. A above.

C. Identify the group or committee that will be responsible for making athlete replacement determinations:

i. Group or committee who determines the replacement pool:

N/A

ii. Group or committee who determines a replacement to the Team:

a. prior to acceptance of nominations by the USOC:

N/A

b. after acceptance of nominations by the USOC:

N/A

## **V. SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS**

The USBSF 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 Ceremonies of the Games.

## **VI. REQUIRED DOCUMENTS**

The following documents are required to be signed by an athlete as a condition of nomination to the Olympic Games and are included as attachments:

USBSF Athlete Code of Conduct (Attachment C)



USBSF Athlete Membership Application and Physical Exam Form (Attachment D)

## VII. PUBLICITY/DISTRIBUTION OF PROCEDURES

The USOC approved Selection Procedures (complete and unaltered) will be posted/published by the USBSF in the following locations and will include the USOC approval date:

- A. USBSF Web site: <http://bobsled.teamusa.org>  
These procedures will be posted as soon as possible, but not more than five business days following notice of approval by the USOC.
- B. NGB/PSO Official Publication (if any): The High Line  
A website link for these Selection Procedure will be published in all The High Line publications after these procedures are approved by the USOC.

## VIII. DATE OF NOMINATION

The Nomination of Athletes form, including replacements, will be announced to all athletes and submitted to the USOC on: **January 20, 2010**

## IX. MANDATORY TRAINING AND/OR COMPETITION

Specify the location, schedule and duration of mandatory training and/or competition:

The USBSF will mandate that the Olympic Team nominees participate in the remaining events of the FIBT World Cup scheduled by the coaching staff and in USBSF Training Camps up to the time of team processing at the Games (time and place to be determined), unless an athlete has been granted an excuse by the Head Coach and CEO. Information will be distributed to athletes as soon as dates and locations are determined, but no later than 30 days prior to the actual events.

## X. 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.

## **XI. DEVELOPMENT OF SELECTION PROCEDURES**

The following committee/group (include names and titles) was responsible for creating these Selection Procedures:

Darrin Steele, CEO  
Sepp Plozza, Head Coach (USBSF Bobsled)  
Orvie Garrett, Head Coach (Skeleton)  
Lorenzo Smith, Athlete Representative

## **XII. NGB/PSO BYLAWS AND GRIEVANCE PROCEDURES**

The USBSF Bylaws and Grievance Procedures can be found at:  
<http://bobsled.teamusa.org>

## **XIII. INTERNATIONAL DISCLAIMER**

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

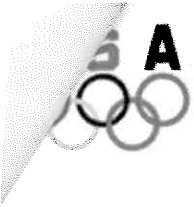
## **XIV. ATHLETE OMBUDSMAN**

Athletes who have questions regarding their opportunity to compete that are not answered by the USBSF may contact the USOC Athlete Ombudsman: John W. Ruger by:

- Toll free telephone at (888) ATHLETE (1-888-284-5383)
- E-mail at [john.ruger@usoc.org](mailto:john.ruger@usoc.org)
- [www.888athlete.org](http://www.888athlete.org)

## **XV. NGB/PSO/PSO SIGNATURES**

**I certify that I have read, understand and incorporated our IF and/or CF (PAG only), if applicable, standards/criteria into our Selection Procedures and that the information provided herein regarding Athlete Selection Procedures represents the method approved by the USBSF.**



Position	Print Name	Signature	Date
NGB/PSO President or Executive Director	Darrin Steele	<i>Darrin Steele</i>	6-28-09
Nat. Team Coach, Head Coach, or Nat. Program Director	Sepp Plozza	<i>Sepp Plozza</i>	6.28.09
USOC Athletes' Advisory Council Representative*	Curt Tomasevicz	<i>Curt Tomasevicz</i>	6/27/09

\*If 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 AAC Representative constitutes that he/she has read and understands the Selection Procedures and certifies that the Selection Procedures submitted represent the method approved by the NGB/PSO. If the AAC Representative reads and does not agree with the Athlete Selection Procedures being submitted by the NGB/PSO, he/she may submit those reasons in writing to his/her Sport Partnerships Team or U.S. Paralympics representative.



Attachment A

FIBT schedule

F.I.B.T. CALENDAR SAISON 2009-10

2/21/2008

8 WorldCup  
8 Races

6 ICC SN  
8 Races

6 EC  
8 Races

4 AC  
8 Races

G.W.

	November 2009		December 2009		January 2010		February 2010
CW 45 02. - 07.11.	Int. Training Bob/Skeleton Vancouver	CW 49 30. - 06.12.	WC Bob/Skeleton Igls (AUT) ICC Winterberg	CW 1 28. - 03.01.		CW 6 01. - 07. 02.	WC Bob/Skeleton Calgary (CAN)
CW 46 09. - 14.11.	Bob School Igls WC Bob/Skeleton Park City (USA)	CW 50 07. - 13.12.	WC Bob/Skeleton Königssee (GER) ICC Igls EC Altenberg	CW 2 04. - 10.01.	WC Bob/Skeleton Cesana (ITA) ICC Park City	CW 7 08. - 14.02.	11.- 28. 02 OWG
CW 47 16. - 22.11.	Sled transport EC Igls	CW 51 14. - 20.12.	WC Bob/Skeleton Cortina (ITA) EC Winterberg	CW 3 11. - 17.01.	WC Bob/Skeleton St Moritz (SUI) ICC Calgary EC Cesana	CW 8 15. - 21.02.	Vancouver OWG
CW 48 24. - 29.11.	22-23 Training A.berg WC Bob/Skeleton Altenberg (GER) ICC Cesana EC Königssee	CW 52 21. - 27.12.		CW 4 18. - 24.01.	ICC Lake Placid EC St Moritz	CW 9 22. - 28.02.	Vancouver OWG
				CW 5 25. - 31.01.	Sled transport	CW 10 01. - 07.02.	

Schedule subject to change/Mögliche Änderungen

- Worldcups
- Intercontinentalcups
- Olympic Winter Games
- Europacups
- Americacups
- Bobschool



Attachment B  
2009-2010 National Team Selection

One male and one female athlete can receive a “bye” onto the 2009-2010 National Team, provided they meet all of the following criteria:

- Place third or better in overall rank for the 2008-2009 on the FIBT World Ranking List
- and
- Place in the top six at the 2009 World Championships
- and
- Is the top US finisher at the 2009 World Championships

If no “byes” are accepted by the above criteria, then a “bye” onto the 2009-2010 National Team will be issued to an athlete (one male and one female) who earns the status World Champion at the 2009 World Championships. If a bye is accepted for the 2009-2010 season, no waivers onto the National Team for World Cup circuit positions will be considered. Additional waivers maybe considered for positions on the Intercontinental Cup, Europa Cup and America’s Cup circuits.

Six men and six women will qualify to compete on the World Cup or Intercontinental Cup circuits, provided that the athlete has qualified to do so in accordance with FIBT rules.

The first half of the 2009/2010 World Cup and 2009/2010 Intercontinental Cup circuits is from Nov. 9, 2009 until Dec. 20, 2009. The second half of the 2009/2010 World Cup and 2009/2010 Intercontinental Cup circuits is from January 4, 2010 until February 7, 2010. 2010 Olympic Team nominations will conclude on January 20, 2010.

First Half of the 2009/2010 Season:

- Two men and two women will secure their positions on the World Cup circuit for the first half of the season. The athletes that secure their positions will be those that receive a bye and then those in rank order from the 2009/2010 U.S. National Team Trials.
- If the USBSF qualifies a third position on the World Cup circuit per gender then for the first half of the season this position will be filled by athletes who either receive an approved waiver, if no byes were accepted, or those in rank order from the 2009/2010 U.S. National Team Trials. If an athlete maintains a top 10 FIBT World Ranking during the first half of the season then they retain their third position for the first half of the season. If the athlete doesn’t maintain a top 10 FIBT World Ranking at anytime during the first half of the season then the coaching staff, along with the CEO and an athlete representative(s) (athlete representation must equal 20% of the group) has the ability based on the discretionary criteria listed below and maximizing USBSF’s potential for obtaining maximum Olympic quota spots to replace the third ranked athlete with another athlete who has medalled in a World Championships or a World Cup in this current quadrennial (2006-2010).

If it is practical and will not damage international rankings, replacement decisions will be based off of race-off results, as determined by the coaching staff along and approved by the CEO. If it is not practical, decisions will be made in conjunction with the discretionary criteria outlined below.



The coaching staff in consultation with a World Cup athlete(s) may request for him/her to race in a non-World Cup race(s) (i.e., Intercontinental Cup, Europa Cup, America's Cup) but the athlete(s) will not be required to compete outside of the scheduled FIBT World Cup calendar unless they chose to do so.

- The fourth, fifth and sixth positions per gender for the first half of the season will be filled by athletes who receive an approved waiver and then by those in rank order from the 2009/2010 U.S. National Team Trials.

The coaching staff in consultation with these athletes may request for him/her to race in any international race(s) (i.e., World Cup, Intercontinental Cup, Europa Cup, America's Cup) but the athlete(s) will not be required to compete outside of the scheduled FIBT Intercontinental Cup calendar.

Second Half of the 2009/2010 Season:

- The top two ranked U.S. athletes per gender on the FIBT World Ranking List after the first half will secure their positions for the second half of the World Cup season.
- If the U.S. qualifies a third position on the World Cup circuit per gender then the athlete who is ranked third on the FIBT World Ranking List after the first half of the season will secure the third position for the second half of the World Cup season. If an athlete maintains a top 10 FIBT World Ranking during the second half of the season then they retain their third position for the second half of the season. If the athlete doesn't maintain a top 10 FIBT World Ranking at anytime during the second half of the season then the coaching staff, along with the CEO and an athlete representative(s) (athlete representation must equal 20% of the group) has the ability based on the discretionary criteria listed below and maximizing USBSF's potential for obtaining maximum Olympic quota spots to replace the third ranked athlete with another athlete who has medalled in a World Championships or a World Cup in this current quadrennial (2006-2010).

If it is practical and will not damage international rankings, replacement decisions will be based off of race-off results, as determined by the coaching staff and approved by the CEO. If it is not practical, decisions will be made in conjunction with the discretionary criteria outlined below.

The coaching staff in consultation with a World Cup athlete(s) may request for him/her to race in a non-World Cup race(s) (i.e., Intercontinental Cup, Europa Cup, America's Cup) but the athlete(s) will not be required to compete outside of the scheduled FIBT World Cup calendar unless they chose to do so.

- The fourth, fifth and sixth ranked US athletes on the FIBT World Ranking List after the first half of the season will secure their positions for the second half of the season.

The coaching staff in consultation with these athletes may request for him/her to race in any international race(s) (i.e., World Cup, Intercontinental Cup, Europa Cup, America' Cup) but the athlete(s) will not be required to compete outside of the scheduled FIBT Intercontinental Cup calendar.

#### **2009-10 Emerging Elite –**

The coaching staff, along with the CEO, can select (but are not obligated to select) up to two men and two women to be considered "Emerging Elite". These athletes (who have



finished the 2009/ 2010 U.S. National Team Trials ranked below those selected via rank order from 2009/2010 U.S. National Team Trials above) will be placed in races that will best benefit their development as elite level sliders on a trajectory for optimal performance at the 2014 Olympic Games.

Athletes to be considered for emerging elite:

Will have scored within the Elite Development category on the USBSF Combine and,  
Must show considerable driving aptitude during team trials as evaluated by the coaching staff and, must have been competing internationally for three years or less.

**2009-10 National Development Team and remaining athletes –**

After all of the above selections have been made then the next four (4) ranked athletes per gender from the 2009 – 2010 U.S. National Team Trials will be considered members of the National Development Team. These athletes along with the remaining competitors will have the following opportunities:

**Race Selection** – After the fall 2009 – 2010 U.S. National Team Trials, athletes will be offered available first-half Intercontinental Cup, Europa Cup and America’s Cup races based on their rank, provided the slots for any particular race are not already filled. This race selection must be completed by October 28, 2009. However, in the interest of athlete safety, sliders may not select any races at Altenberg, Cesana, Cortina, Koenigssee, LaPlagne, or Sigulda unless they have safely competed internationally in five races on three tracks within the previous 24 months or receive a waiver from the coaching staff. Races held during the 2<sup>nd</sup> half of the season will still be filled by rank from the 2009/2010 U.S. National Team Trials (not including the Lake Placid America’s Cup). This race selection will be conducted by Dec. 24, 2009.

**Waivers--**A Waiver Committee, consisting of the CEO, Head Coach, the High Performance Director, and one athlete representative will consider all waivers. In the event that one or more of the listed Waiver Committee members are not able to serve on the Committee, the CEO may assign appropriate substitutes. Waivers may be granted to athletes by the Waiver Committee in cases of extenuating circumstances. Extenuating circumstances may include emergencies, illness, or injury. All requests for waivers for the 2009-2010 National Team must be presented to the waiver committee in writing as soon as practical. All waivers granted by the Waiver Committee must be in writing to be valid. Waiver requests must be submitted to the High Performance Director via hard copy or email. Following receipt, the Waiver Committee will review such request for approval or denial. The Waiver Committee will make a decision and provide a written copy of the waiver approval or denial to the athlete within 7 days. The Bobsled Chief Medical Officer (CMO), or his designee must examine injured/ill athletes wishing to receive a medical waiver for a USBSF sanctioned event. If a waiver for the 2009-2010 U.S National Team is granted then the athlete receiving the waiver will replace the lowest ranked athlete on the 2009 -2010 National Team.

**Discretionary Criteria**

The following criteria, not listed in any priority order, will be applied to determine how decisions will be made for any discretionary team selections, unless otherwise noted:

- 2009-2010 U.S. National Team Trials results
- international results from the current quadrennium (2006-2010)
- USBSF Combine test scores
- on-ice push times
- sliding aptitude
- past success and potential to succeed on specific tracks
- performance trajectory
- contributions to a positive team atmosphere
- the ability for the US to field the best possible team in international competition and the Olympic Games.



U.S. Bobsled and Skeleton Federation  
Code of Conduct

ATHLETE PLEDGE

I pledge to uphold the spirit of the USBSF Code of Conduct (the “Code”), which offers a guide to my conduct as a member of the Team (the “Team”). 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 abide by all rules related to the Team selection procedures as approved by USBSF;
- have acted and will act in a sportsmanlike manner consistent with the spirit of fair play and responsible conduct;
- will maintain a level of fitness and competitive readiness that will permit me to compete satisfactorily in USBSF training camps and National and International competitions designated by USBSF. Accordingly, I agree to train and compete as a member of the National Team and to fulfill the National Team training and competition program as mutually agreed upon with the respective National Team Coach. I will also provide monthly training and competition reports to my respective National Team Coach.
- will not commit a doping violation as defined by the International Olympic Committee (IOC), World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA), the United States Anti-Doping Agency (USADA), the United States Olympic Committee (USOC) or the International Bobsleigh and Skeleton Federation (FIBT) rules;
- am not currently serving a suspension because of an anti-doping rule violation and have no pending or unresolved anti-doping rule violation, except as I have informed USBSF in writing, and I understand that such suspension, or pending or unresolved anti-doping rule violation may be cause for my not being selected to the Team;
- 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;



- 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 FIBT;
- will refrain from conduct detracting from my ability or that of my teammates to attain peak performance;
- will respect the property of others whether personal or public;
- 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 follow my Team's rules, including by way of example, rules regarding curfew and required attendance at team meetings;
- am aware that USBSF sponsors, suppliers and licensees provide critical support for the Team and, in recognition of this fact, I will wear designated USBSF apparel at all official Team functions and events;
- will not conceal or cover-up any USBSF sponsor, supplier or licensee brand or other identification appearing on my USBSF apparel;
- agree to be filmed and photographed by the official photographer(s) and network(s) of USBSF under conditions authorized by USBSF and give event organizers and USBSF the right to use my name, picture, likeness, voice and biographical information before, during and after the period of my participation in these activities to promote the activity in which I participate or to promote the success of the team on which I compete; in no event may USBSF or the event organizers use or authorize the use of my name, picture, likeness, voice and biographical information for the purpose of trade, including any use in a manner that would imply an endorsement of any company, product, or service, without my written permission;
- will not use or authorize the use of photographs, films or videos of myself in my USBSF apparel or equipment or the use of the USBSF logo for the purpose of trade, without the prior written consent of the USBSF;
- understand that if I require legal representation because I am accused of a doping violation or am accused of criminal misconduct, 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 act in a way that will bring respect and honor to myself, my teammates, USBSF and the United States; and
- will remember that at all times I am an ambassador for my sport, my country and the



Olympic Movement.

- Disciplinary action for violation of any provision in this Code of Conduct may include any or all of the following: (i) a reprimand; (ii) suspension from the Team; (iii) withholding of stipend payments; (iv) imposition of fines (including with respect to reimbursement of expenses incurred by USBSF); (v) removal from the appropriate Team; or (vii) any combination of the foregoing. The Athlete has a right to a hearing per Article 9 of the USOC Bylaws prior to USBSF denying the right to compete of any Athlete.

<b>ATHLETE OMBUDSMAN</b>
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I may contact the USOC Athlete Ombudsman,  
toll free at 888.ATHLETE (888.284.5383) or [John.Ruger@usoc.org](mailto:John.Ruger@usoc.org)  
for further information regarding my rights under this Code  
that are not answered by USBSF.

**PARTICIPANTS' AFFIRMATION**

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.

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Signature Date

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**NGB Name** **Sport**

<b>PARENT/GUARDIAN CERTIFICATION</b> <b>(For Participants Under the Age of 18 as of Date of Signature)</b>
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Signature Date

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Relationship (Parent or Guardian)