

USA SURFING
2025 ISA WORLD SURFING GAMES
SELECTION CRITERIA & PROCEDURES
JULY 2025

Selection

The minimum eligibility requirements for an athlete to be considered for selection to the 2025 ISA World Surfing Games “WSG” Team include:

Nationality/Passport requirements:

- Athlete must be a national of the United States at the time of selection.
- Athlete must hold a valid U.S. passport.

Minimum International Federation (IF) standards for participation:

- Be in good standing with his/her National Federation (“NF”) and the ISA in accordance with the updated ISA Rule Book.
- Meet any additional ISA standards as may be required by the ISA.
- Athlete must sign USA Surfing Athlete Agreement and any additional forms that may be required, such as a Waiver & Release, medical consent forms, etc.
- Athlete must successfully complete all Games Registration requirements by stated deadline.
- Any athlete age 18 or older will be required to undergo a background screen in accordance with the current USOPC Background Check Policy.
- Any athlete age 18 or older as of the scheduled end of the event will be required to remain current with the U.S. Center for SafeSport’s education and training

Team Size

Per the ISA Rule book, the maximum WSG team size is

- Shortboard: 3 Men
- Shortboard: 3 Women

Team Nomination Criteria and Process

Overview

Team USA 2025 ISA World Surfing Games athletes will be selected based on their performance and ranking in WSL and ISA competition categories. The nomination process follows a two-step order of outreach to eligible surfers.

Selection Process

Step 1: Priority Nomination Pool

ELIGIBLE SURFERS: USA and Hawaii surfers on the 2025 WSL Championship Tour (CT) and Challenger Series (CS).

PROCESS:

- Athletes in this pool will be notified of their eligibility via email by July 10, 2024.

- They must accept nomination in the 2025 ISA World Surfing Games by the stated deadline.
- The top ranked men and top ranked women (based on WSL rankings at the cutoff date) who accept nomination and complete all required paperwork will be named to the team.

Note: For CS surfers, rankings will be determined after the completion of the WSL Lexus US Open of Surfing (July 26–30, 2024).

Step 2: Secondary Nomination Pool (if open spots remain after step 1)

If any team spots remain unfilled after Step 1, outreach will move to the following pool of qualified competitors:

ELIGIBLE SURFERS

- USA and Hawaii surfers on the WSL Hawaii and North America Qualifying Series (QS)
- Surfers from the 2024 ISA World Junior Surfing Championship (WJSC) U-18 teams for USA and Hawaii.

PROCESS:

These athletes will receive an eligibility notification and must accept nomination by the specified deadline.

Selection will be based on:

- For QS surfers: the top ranked surfers from the 2024 Hawaii and North American competition series.
- For ISA WJSC surfers: results from the 2024 ISA World Junior Championship.
- The top ranked men and top ranked women required to fill any remaining quota spots (if any) who complete all required paperwork will fill the remaining team spots.

Tie-Breaking Procedure

- In the event of a tie in rankings, the athlete with the highest heat score in their final event heat will qualify.
- If still tied, the highest single wave score in that heat will determine selection.

LINKS TO QUALIFIED POOLS OF COMPETITORS

WSL [Championship Tour “CT”](#) (2025 season)

WSL [Challenger Series “CS”](#)* (2025 season)

WSL Regional Qualifying Series “QS” from [North America](#) & [Hawaii](#)**

ISA 2024 World Junior Surfing Championship “WJSC” teams – [USA](#) & [Hawaii](#)***

Date of Nomination

August 1 with first notifications emailed by July 10, 2024

Anti-Doping Requirements

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

Development of WSG Selection Procedures

All members of the selection committee listed below are responsible for approving the selection procedures and must comply with USA Surfing's conflict of interest policy, to include completing and submitting a disclosure form for review by USA Surfing's Ethics Committee.

If a conflict exists, USA Surfing's Ethics Committee shall review the conflict and determine the committee member's level of involvement (e.g., whether that committee member must recuse him/herself from participating in discussions and/or voting). For example, if it is determined that a committee member must recuse him/herself from voting, the Ethics Committee may still determine that a committee member 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 so long as the committee member with the conflict of interest does not vote toward the final decision. The committee member must not otherwise influence other members of the committee in the selection process.

Additionally, any person (including any potentially impacted athlete or coach of a potentially impacted athlete) with a good faith belief that a committee member has a conflict of interest may report the alleged conflict of interest to USA Surfing's Ethics Committee. Reports may be made anonymously. No committee member shall retaliate in any way against a person who, in good faith, reports an alleged conflict of interest.

ATHLETE ADVISORY COUNCIL

Candice Appleby - Chair
Kolohe Andino
Tyler Gunter
Liv Stone
Brett Simpson
Kaleigh Gilchrist
Sara Bettencourt
Rachael Tilly
Nat Young

COMPETITION ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Ryan Simmons
Rebecca Fleischauer
Robert Pendergist
Kayla Durden
Brett Simpson
Kolohe Andino

Required documents

The following documents are required to be signed by an athlete as a condition of nomination to the 2025 ISA World Surf Games:

- Signed team agreement, which includes USA Surfing's code of conduct
- Completed and cleared background check
- SafeSport compliance
- USA Surfing Membership

Publicity/distribution of procedures

The approved selection procedures will be published on USA Surfing's website and emailed to all athletes with eligibility.

Removal/replacement of athletes

An athlete who is nominated to the Team may be removed for any of the following reasons:

- Voluntary withdrawal. Athlete must submit a written letter to USA Surfing's CEO.
- Injury or illness as certified by a physician (or medical staff) approved by the USA Surfing.
- Violation of USA Surfing's Code of Conduct and Team Agreement.
- Non-compliance with the eligibility requirements listed in this document.
- Violations of IOC, WADA, IF, USADA and/or USOPC anti-doping protocol, policies and procedures, as well as the U.S. Center for SafeSport Code, the USOPC Athlete Safety Policy

REPLACEMENT OF ATHLETES

Replacement athletes will be chosen with the next available athlete from the qualification criteria listed in this document pending that time allows and that the replacement is allowed per the rules of the event and the International Surfing Association (ISA).

Bylaws and grievance procedures

USA Surfing's bylaws can be found [here](#)

USA Surfing's complaint resolution procedures can be found [here](#)