

G.1.7 Selection Rules for the World Orienteering Championships (WOC)

G.1.7.1 The makeup of the U.S. Team to the World Orienteering Championships (the WOC Team) is based primarily on the results of a team selection competition (the Team Trials). Each year the Senior ESC will determine time and place for the selection of the WOC team. The ESC will announce the date at least 4 months prior to the selection race. This competition can be held as part of an A-meet, or it can be a separate event, subject to the regulations of a normal A-meet, except that only the M-21+ and F-21+ categories are required.

G.1.7.2 Designation of a meet as the Team Trials shall be made jointly by the Team ESC and the Orienteering USA Sanctioning Committee. The meet must be, at a minimum, open to all persons eligible to represent the USA at the WOC. The Team Trials shall have at least two races.

G.1.7.3 Team Selection method. The Team ESC shall announce the WOC selection method for the following year no later than Dec 31 of the previous year.

G.1.7.4 The scoring method shall be based on the results (times, points, and/or place numbers) of the Team Trials, and, optionally, may also be based in part on Orienteering USA rankings (not including the results of any night-O in the rankings), other Orienteering USA A-event results, Regional Championships, or IOF World Rankings.

G.1.7.5 Team Trials Review Panel: A Review Panel consisting of a minimum of three persons and a maximum of five persons shall be named by the ESC and approved by the Orienteering USA Board Member assigned for teams. The members of the Review Panel shall be listed in the meet registration information. The majority of the members of the Review Panel shall have no direct affiliation with the US Standing Team (ESC members, Team members or coaching staff). The Review Panel members need not be in attendance at the Team Trials if suitable arrangements (e.g. telephone, internet) can be arranged for discussion.

G.1.7.6 Team Candidacy Declarations and Eligibility: On the entry form for the Team Trials, each competitor shall declare his/her candidacy. A competitor is a candidate for the WOC team if he/she is:

- a. A current Orienteering USA regular member and holds a United States Passport at least 48 hours before the first start on the first day of the Team Trials.
- b. Intending to participate in the WOC if he/she earns a slot on the WOC Team. Competitors may revise their candidate status up until 48 hours before the first start on the first day of the Team Trials.
- c. In compliance with the athlete agreement set forth by the ESC and approved by the Board Member in charge of teams. A 30 day grace period shall be allowed to come into compliance with said policies.

G.1.7.7 Competitors who are not candidates may, at the discretion of the meet organizers, be started in a separate start window from the WOC team candidates.

G.1.7.8 Number of Selections and Team Trial scoring: The WOC Team (for women, and similarly for men) shall consist, at a minimum, of the number of competitors required to make up a WOC

relay team, plus one. At the current time, this number is four (four men and four women). The maximum size will be announced by the ESC in the annual selection criteria.

G.1.7.9 A candidate who is unable to attend the Team Trials or who feels that his or her performance at the Trials was not indicative of their true ability may in some cases submit a petition to the Review Panel for their consideration.

- a. For a candidate who competes at the Team Trials, this petition must be submitted within one hour of the competitor's reporting to the finish on the final day of the Team Trials, and explain the circumstances why he/she was not able to produce a representative result (e.g. illness, organizers error resulting in an unfair situation, etc.).
- b. For candidates who do not compete at the Team Trials, the petition must be submitted before the first start on the final day of the Team Trials, and explain why he/she was unable to attend.

G.1.7.10 A candidate for a scoring exception must meet one of the following criteria:

- a. Be ranked in the top 3 WOC-eligible people in M/F-21+ for the most recent 12-month Orienteering USA Rankings. (Rankings for the period from 0 to 12 months before the Team Trials)
- b. Have won one (or more) of:
 - i. the last 2 day Classic Champs preceding the Team Trials (combined result),
 - ii. the last Sprint, Middle, or Long Champs preceding the Team Trials,
 - iii. any race of the Team Trials itself
- c. Be unranked or have no US Champs result due to living outside of North America for at least 6 of the previous 12 months preceding the team trials, and submit along with the petition a summary of his/her (foreign) competition results and world ranking (if available) for the preceding year.

G.1.7.11 WOC and Exception Eligibility Determination: The Team ESC has the responsibility of determining who is eligible for the U.S. WOC Team, based on citizenship requirements, and who is eligible to submit petitions, based on U.S. Team eligibility, rankings, and championship results. Any questions about who is or is not eligible to submit a petition shall be answered by the ESC. The ESC shall forward all eligible petitions to the Review Panel.

G.1.7.12 Grievance Process: The evaluation of petitions and the circumstances described therein shall be the sole decision of the Review Panel. In cases where malfeasance or corruption on the part of the Review Panel is alleged, a grievance may be filed with the Orienteering USA Grievance Committee, which may call for a new Review Panel to be convened.