



Acrobatic Gymnastics Selection Procedures Junior Olympic National Team

I. Overview

- A. Athletes may qualify for the Junior Olympic National Team (JONT) in one of three ways:
 - i. Finish with the highest total score at the Junior Olympic National Championships under the evaluation system identified in Section III. A below;
 - ii. Be selected by the Acrobatic Gymnastics Program Committee from the Junior Olympic National Championships to be on the JONT as defined in Section III. B below;
- B. The selection of the athletes to the JONT will be made by the Acrobatic Gymnastics Program Committee from those pair/groups participating in Levels 8, 9, or 10 at the Acrobatic Gymnastics Junior Olympic National Championships.
- C. The maximum age for members of the JONT is 19. This age is determined by the athlete's competitive age in the year the JONT is selected.
- D. A minimum competition age of 10. This age is determined by the athlete's competitive age in the year the JONT is selected.
- E. The composition of the JONT is determined to be a maximum of three pair/groups per event (Women's Pair, Men's Pair, Mixed Pair, Women's Group, and Men's Group) per level (Level 8, 9, or 10) plus five wild card positions. There will be no age group divisions within a level. The Program Committee is not obligated to select pair/groups for all available positions.
 - i. Wild card placement - after the prescribed places in each event have been selected (maximum three), the Program Committee has the right to select a maximum of five additional pair/groups among all levels and events to fill available wild card positions on the JONT. These pair/groups are members of JONT with all the rights and obligations of that membership.
 - ii. A maximum of two alternate pair/groups may be identified per level per event. Alternates are not members of the JONT. Alternates will be invited to become members of the team in the event of openings in the available team positions. Openings may occur if a pair/group named to the team becomes inactive by any one or multiple partners' retirement or otherwise leaving the pair/group or if the pair/group does not maintain a competitive level of 8 or above.
- F. An athlete may be named to the JONT in multiple events (i.e. Men's Pair and Men's Group). However, this athlete will not receive duplicate benefits. (Note: the FIG imposes restrictions in international competition regarding participation in multiple events).
- G. Only athletes who are United States citizens may be named to the JONT. USA Gymnastics will verify citizenship before naming the team.
- H. Positions on the JONT do not carry ranking.

II. Qualification Process

- A. Qualification to participate in the Acrobatic Gymnastics Junior Olympic National Championships
 - i. A pair/group that meets the requirements to participate at Levels 8, 9, or 10 and has qualified to participate in the Junior Olympic National Championships, according to the rules published in *Specifications*, may compete at the Junior Olympic National Championships.

III. The JONT will be selected as follows:

- A. Scores and performances from Junior Olympic National Championships will be reviewed.
 - i. The total score is the sum of scores from the preliminary balance exercise and preliminary dynamic exercise.
 - ii. Total score from the Junior Olympic National Championships will be reviewed by level and event. Scores and pair/groups will not be divided into age categories.
 - iii. The highest scoring pair/group at each level and event, determined by the total score, will automatically be placed on the JONT, provided they have met the target score and target difficulty requirements listed in Section III B. If target score and/or target difficulty requirements are not met, the pair/group is not eligible for automatic placement on the JONT, but may still be considered by the Program Committee for selection to the team.
- B. Selection for those places not filled automatically will be done according to the listed criteria:
 - i. Scores and placement from competition
 - 1. Scores and placement from the Junior Olympic National Championships will be considered. Scores will be compared across all age groups within a given level and event.
 - 2. Target Score – The target score is calculated using the sum of the execution average plus the artistry average less performance related CJP deductions (i.e. time faults, special requirements, minimum difficulty) for two preliminary exercises, balance and dynamic. The target scores are:
 - a. Level 8 – 32.0
 - b. Level 9 – 33.0
 - c. Level 10 – 34.0
 - ii. Difficulty of elements performed in competition
 - 1. The types of elements and difficulty of elements performed at the Junior Olympic National Championships will be considered.
 - 2. Total exercise difficulty will also be considered and compared against the target difficulty. Target difficulty is the difficulty score before CJP deductions. The target difficulty per exercise is:
 - a. Level 8 – V30
 - b. Level 9 – V50
 - c. Level 10 – Balance Exercise V90, Dynamic Exercise V60
 - iii. Artistry and presentation in exercises performed during competition
 - 1. Presentation ranking by Program Committee members for the Junior Olympic National Championships will be considered.
 - 2. Presentation ranking criteria will include but are not limited to the artistic judging criteria listed in Section 16.5 of *Specifications*.

IV. Team Obligations

- A. JONT athletes are required to attend the JONT Meeting to be held during the Junior Olympic National Championships. JONT athletes are also requested to attend the presentation of the JONT to be held during the Awards Gala for Junior Olympic National Championships.
- B. Athletes selected to the JONT will remain on the team until the selection of the JONT.
- C. Athletes must read and sign the USA Gymnastics Acrobatic Gymnastics JONT Agreement before they are officially members of the team.

V. Petitions

Petitions to enter the Junior Olympic National Championships if injury, illness, or unforeseen circumstances keep athletes from fully participating in the qualification process must follow the rules outlined in Section 3.5 of *Specifications*.

The Program Committee will not accept petitions directly onto the JONT for any reason.

VI. Removal

A pair/group may be removed from the JONT if any of the members of the pair/group violate the USA Gymnastics Code of Ethics or the JONT Agreement. Any decision to remove an athlete is subject to review through the USA Gymnastics Grievance Procedures.

VII. Approval of the Selection procedures

These Selection Procedures have been reviewed and approved by the Acrobatic Gymnastics Program Committee and the USA Gymnastics President.

VIII. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Each athlete and coach participating in the selection process for the JONT as outlined in these Selection Procedures has carefully reviewed and understands the terms of these Selection Procedures. That understanding is reflected by the signatures of the athlete and coach on a copy of these Selection Procedures.

Signed Selected Procedures, one per pair/group, along with a copy of a birth certificate or passport for each athlete, to prove citizenship and age, must be returned to the Acrobatic Gymnastics Program Director by the designated deadline on the National Championships webpage. Pair/groups will not be considered for selection to the JONT without signed Selection Procedures and birth certificate/passport.

Coach Signature

Date

Athlete Signature

Date

Parent Signature (if athlete is under 18 years of age)

Date

Athlete Signature

Date

Parent Signature (if athlete is under 18 years of age)

Date

Athlete Signature

Date

Parent Signature (if athlete is under 18 years of age)

Date

Athlete Signature

Date

Parent Signature (if athlete is under 18 years of age)

Date
