

WFS Sport Call

11/20/2025, 6:00 pm MT

Quorum was reached at 6:04 pm.

Cody read the conflict-of-interest statement.

Ashley Flavin/Lori Ayres/Robby Smith – have active athlete(s) that these procedures could potentially impact. They will all believe they can be unbiased on the call.

Procedures: Cody shared his screen with the committee to go through the age-group procedures.

U15 Pan Am Championships (PAC): Ashley noted a concern with the 3-month gap between the ladies making the team and potential growth that happens at this age. The athletes needed to be reminded at the PAC's that UWW does not allow the use of plastics and there is concern with the amount of weight cutting that is happening. Discussion about the possibility to move the U15 selection closer to the date of the event followed. There are considerations (i.e. athletes needing passports) that need to be remembered when looking at changing the date.

It was noted that the growth of the Women's Nationals is a very good thing and it is also concerning that there is too much happening in one weekend for those ladies and USAW is not getting the best teams to send to our World Championship events due to the growth and the gauntlet these athletes have to run to make teams.

In 2027, USAW is looking to move the U20 World Team Qualification to a 2-step process to help alleviate this concern.

In 2026, Events is adjusting the schedule to help athletes not have to weigh-in for a different event on the same day they are trying to make a World Team in another age-group.

It was noted that USAW can not require participants to hold a passport prior to the event, but they will look to hold the Pan Am Qualifications closer to the U15 PAC in the future.

U17 Pan Am Championships (PAC):

This procedure is a change from previous years. UWW has scheduled the U17 PAC for early April, the week prior to the Women's Nationals. Therefore, USAW is looking to select the U17 PAC teams, all styles, at the Women's Collegiate event scheduled for North Liberty, Iowa in early March.

Joan noted that there are 4 states who are hosting their Girls State Championships that same weekend. This will likely impact participation, however, elite athletes make the decision on where to compete and what will be best for them throughout their careers.

USAW appealed to UWW to move the date of the U17 PAC, however the event is a qualifier for an international event for other Pan Am countries and the early April weekend is the latest it can possibly be held. Committee members are asked to keep these facts in mind if or when they are approached with questions on the timing and why this event was moved.

U17 World Championships:

There are no major changes to these procedures. The team will be selected at the Women's Nationals that are scheduled for Spokane in early April. We will follow rank order, same as in previous years.

U20 Pan Am Championships / World Championships

There are no major changes to these procedures. The team will be selected at the Women's Nationals that are scheduled for Spokane in early April. The Champion will be selected to the World Team and the runner-up will be selected to the PAC team, same as in previous years.

U23 PAC / World Championships

There are no major changes to these procedures. The team will be selected the same as in previous years as laid out in the procedures.

New Business:

1. In other news, USAW is hearing that UWW will be moving the U20 & Senior World Championships to October 2026. That will put the U20, U23 & Senior Worlds all in October. The reason being, U20's & Senior's are both scheduled for Bahrain.
 - a. The heat index is extremely high in Bahrain in the summer months. Therefore, in order to get away from the heat, they are looking to move both events into Oct. We are still waiting for the UWW calendar to be finalized so this is not set, it is what we are being told by people inside of UWW.
 - b. Robby mentioned that UWW has not hosted events in the part of the World historically and questioned why it's happening now. This is because countries like Bahrain do not have entry restrictions on RUS/BLR/Iran, etc. USAW is well aware of the challenges that we are facing to ensure these countries will be able to enter the US for U23 Worlds and we know that it will not be well-received by UWW if athletes are kept out because they can not get entry visas approved. We are working a company to help with that specifically for the UWW events we are hosting.
2. Coach Steiner gave an updated on what's happening with-in the women's program.
 - a. MGL is currently in COS at the OPTC training with our residents and National Team members.
 - b. UKR is headed to Iowa for a 2-week training camp in Dec. We will bring out National Team ladies there to train with UKR and the IA women's team.
 - c. TUR – We are taking a group in January to that event and staying for joint training after the event.
 - d. Development – There is a camp in early Dec at OPTC with about 40 ladies attending.
 - e. Development – There is a tour headed to CHN in late Dec/early Jan for our younger ladies to engage in joint training with the Chinese team.

These international training opportunities are key to the growth and development of our ladies, and it is especially important early in the quad.

3. Cody noted that the 2026 Volunteer Coach opportunities went out to the pool. They are being reminded every Friday to get their responses submitted. This will close on 28 Nov. We will have a WM Sport Call to discuss 2026 Coach assignments in December, so be looking for that in the coming weeks.

4. Cody noted that we are still working with the USOPC on our General Selection Procedures.
5. Coach Steiner noted that he has a Women's College Coach call the last Tuesday of every month and a WFS National Team call the first Tuesday of every month. Committee members are welcome to be on those calls and if they have something they would like to present, please let him know a few days ahead so he can get it on the agenda.

Motion to put the presented procedures in the portal for voting by the committee.

Motion: Robby Smith

2nd: Ashley Flavin

The committee was reminded that they will need to vote for each procedure individually, not just vote once.

Randall Balch informed the committee that he will be inducted into the TX HOF.

Congratulations Randall!

Call ends at 7:12pm.