

2008-2009 USBSF MEN'S & WOMEN'S SKELETON
SELECTION CRITERIA:

The desire to field the most competitive teams for international competition is the guiding principle and will determine the administration of these selection criteria.

1. **EFFECTIVE DATES**

- 1.1. These selection criteria first take effect for the fall 2008 U.S. National Team Trials, and extends through the 2008/2009 season with tentative information on the fall 2009 U.S. National Team Trials.

2. **USBSF ATHLETE PARTICIPANT ELIGIBILITY**

In order to participate on the United States Bobsled and Skeleton Federation ("USBSF") National Team and selection races, an athlete:

- 2.1.1. Must be a member in good standing with the USBSF
2.1.2. Must abide by the USADA, FIBT, and WADA Anti-doping requirements;
2.1.3. Must meet all USOC, FIBT and USBSF eligibility requirements for representing the USA in international competition; and,
2.1.4. Must sign and return the USBSF Code of Conduct, which is subject to USOC approval, to the national office of the USBSF.
2.1.5. Must have current official USBSF Combine test results, held at various locations (announcements regarding test events and dates will be made via email). The only exceptions to testing include verified illness, injury (verified by the USBSF approved physician), or emergency (approved by the head coach and/or the CEO). All athletes who have qualified for the US National Team Trials must pass the USBSF combine test prior to the first team trials race in order to be eligible to receive USOC funding for the 2008-2009 season (unless a waiver is granted due to extreme extenuating circumstances). Funding may include OTC housing, USBSF/ORDA/UOP track fees, and any available USBSF funding for international races.

3. **USBSF JUDICIAL COMMITTEE**

- 3.1. There will be a Judicial Committee to oversee any grievances of these criteria. The USBSF Board of Directors will appoint members of the committee. Grievances must be sent via email to; the Judicial Committee chairperson () [Committee is to be determined].

4. **USBSF SKELETON QUALIFICATION & COMPETITION REQUIREMENTS**

Athlete team designations, permissions, and competition requirements are as follows:

- 4.1. **Team and Race Allocation** – Due to the FIBT World Ranking List, optimal in-season athlete ranking is essential to the success of the US Skeleton Program. Race opportunities will be available in accordance with Sections 4.2, 4.3 and 4.4 as well as the policies listed below. These policies have been made with the primary intent to maintain the maximum number of US sleds in the World Cup, Intercontinental Cup, World Championships, and Olympic Games competitions.
- 4.1.1. The USBSF Coaching staff, along with the CEO, may request that National Team and Emerging Elite athletes compete in additional international races (on lower circuits) as the FIBT calendar permits.
- 4.1.2. Competition schedules may change during the season due to calendar conflicts, available race entries, or unforeseen circumstances (i.e. FIBT scheduling).
- 4.1.3. The following criteria, not listed in any priority order, will be applied to determine how decisions will be made for team selections and race allocations, unless otherwise noted: race-off opportunities where logistically possible (as directed by the coaching staff and CEO), National Team Trials results, international results, 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, and the ability for the US to field the best possible team in international competition, World Championships and the Olympic Games.
- 4.1.4. Race allocation decisions will be made no later than:
October 28, 2008 (first-half)*,
December 24, 2008 (second-half)*,
March 8th, 2009 (Lake Placid America's Cup)*,
*These dates may change due to unforeseen FIBT schedule changes or other circumstances.

- 4.2. **2008-09 National Team** - The top 6 men/6 women at US National Team Trials (10/2008), to include those who have earned byes or waivers, will qualify to compete on the first-half or second-half World Cup or

Intercontinental Cup circuits, provided that the athlete has qualified to do so in accordance with FIBT rules. A waiver onto the 2008-2009 National Team may be granted as dictated by section XI of the 2007-2008 skeleton criteria, while a bye may be granted per Section VI.B of the 2007-2008 skeleton criteria. For the 2008-2009 season, byes have been earned by one male and one female based on the qualifications outlined in the 2007-2008 skeleton criteria. Waivers could be considered onto the Intercontinental Cup Team in accordance with section 6.3.

4.2.1. Racing Opportunities –

4.2.1.1. **National Team Ranks 1 and 2:** The top two men and top two women from US National Team Trials (which include those athletes who have earned byes or waivers) will secure their positions on the World Cup Tour for the first half of the season. The top two athletes after the first half will secure their positions for the second half. The coaching staff may ask World Cup athletes to race in a non-world cup race(s) but the athlete(s) will not be required to compete outside of the scheduled FIBT WC calendar.

4.2.1.2. **National Team Rank 3:** The third position on the World Cup tour for the first half will be the third ranked athlete from US National Team Trials (which include those athletes who have earned byes or waivers). The third position on the World Cup tour for the second-half will be the third ranked US athlete on the FIBT World Ranking List. If the third ranked US athlete is ranked outside of the top 10 on the FIBT World Points List at any point during the season, then the coaching staff, along with the CEO and one athlete representative, has the option 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), and

Whose performance is negatively affected due to extreme extenuating circumstances

If it is logistically feasible and will not damage international rankings, replacement decisions will be based off of race-off opportunities, as directed by the coaching staff along with the CEO. If it is not feasible, decisions will be made in conjunction with section 4.3.3.

4.2.1.3. **National Team Ranks 4-6:** The next three ranked men and next three ranked women from US National Team Trials (which include those athletes who have earned byes or waivers) will secure their positions on the World Cup or Intercontinental Cup Tour. The coaching staff may ask National Team athletes to race in any international race(s) but the athlete(s) will not be required to compete outside of the scheduled FIBT IC calendar.

4.2.1.4. **World Championships:** Nominations onto the World Championship Team will be governed by the following:

Race Entry 1: The top ranked US athlete on the FIBT World Ranking list by the World Championship entry deadline will attend World Championships,

Race Entry 2: The coaching staff, along with the CEO and an athlete representative, will determine the second spot at World Championships. In extreme circumstances, a waiver into the 2nd spot on the World Championship Team could be granted as per section 6.3. Waivers could only be considered for athletes who:

Have medalled in World Championships or in at least one World Cup during this current quadrennial (2006-2010), and

Whose performance is negatively affected due to extreme extenuating circumstances

Race Entry 3: Providing the US has earned a third starting position, the third spot at World Championships will be awarded to the highest-ranking US athlete on the FIBT World Ranking list who had not yet received a nomination.

4.3. **2008-09 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 US National Team Trials ranked 7th or below) may 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:

4.3.1. Will have scored within the Emerging Elite category on the USBSF Combine and,

4.3.2. Must show considerable driving aptitude during team trials as evaluated by the coaching staff and,

4.3.3. Must have been competing internationally for three years or less.

4.4. **2008-09 National Development Team and remaining athletes -** The next four (4) ranked athletes from National Team Trials will be considered members of the National Development Team. These athletes along with the remaining competitors, will have the following opportunities:

4.4.1. **Race Selection –** After the fall US 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 per Section 4.3, 4.4 and 4.5. This race selection must be completed by October 28, 2008. 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 2nd half of the season will still be filled by rank from Team Trials (not including the Lake Placid America's Cup). This race selection will be conducted by Dec. 24, 2008. The coaching staff, along with the CEO, will determine the competitors for the Lake Placid America's Cup in April 2009, in accordance with section 4.1.

- 4.4.2. **Membership** –The USBSF may name other athletes to the National Development Team throughout the year (exceptional athletes from skeleton schools or exceptional returning athletes who did not have the ability to compete in team trials). However, ranked athletes on the National Development Team will have priority in matters that require it.
- 4.4.3. **Training Requirements** – All National Development Team athletes must commit to USBSF-designated training sessions. Sessions will be available at both Lake Placid and Park City (an athlete only needs to attend one) and will usually consist of one learning-intensive two-week or three-week session. Attendance is mandatory at all sessions. Lack of participation may result in loss of Olympic Training Center benefits and compensated track time at both Lake Placid and Park City.
- 4.4.4. **Regional Championships** – All athletes who have not medaled in international competition during the 2008-2009 season or placed in the top six (6) ranked US athletes (men and women) on the FIBT World Ranking List as of February 14th, 2009, must compete in a Regional Championship to qualify for 2009-2010 National Team / Olympic Trials.
- 4.5. **2007-08 Junior World Teams** - Any athlete who finishes the 2008-2009 US National Team Trials with a top eight finish or who is a member of the 2007-08 World Cup Team and who meets the FIBT Junior definition, will automatically be ranked for Junior World Team selection. All other juniors will be nominated by the waiver committee, on consultation with the USBSF Domestic Program and Coaching Staff. Discretion will consist of evaluating whether an athlete can be competitive and safe in the competition. All athletes must meet FIBT competition requirements to compete at Junior World Championships (www.fibt.com).

5. USBSF RACES

5.1. USBSF RACE PROTOCOLS

- 5.1.1. Each race will consist of two heats on a single day.
- 5.1.2. Race series' are not required to be run consecutively.
- 5.1.3. At the conclusion of each race series, athletes will be ranked by US point scoring system (see Appendix A) and USBSF Combine bonus points, as described in section 5.2.3.3, with ties being broken by positive or negative speed points
- 5.1.4. All athletes competing in any USBSF races must use FIBT runners and equipment that meet the FIBT requirements for use on the World Cup, Intercontinental Cup, Europa Cup, and America's Cup.

5.2. 2008 U.S. NATIONAL TEAM TRIALS (October/November 2008, Lake Placid/Park City)

- 5.2.1. **Purpose** - The 2008 U.S. National Team Trials will be used to determine membership of the 2008-2009 National Team (6 men/6 women), emerging elite (2 men/2 women) and the 2008-2009 National Development Team (4 men/4 women).
- 5.2.2. **Participants** - The following athletes will be selected to participate in the 2008 U.S. National Team Trials based on the 2007-2008 selection criteria, provided they meet all requirements in section 2:
 - 5.2.2.1. 2007 -2008 World Cup Team members
 - One male and one female athlete will receive a “bye” onto the 2008-2009 National Team, provided they meet all of the following criteria:
 - place third or better in overall FIBT rank for the 2007-2008 World Cup season and,
 - place in the top six at 2008 World Championships and,
 - is the top US finisher at the 2008 World Championships
 - If no “byes” are accepted by the above criteria, then a “bye” onto the 2008-2009 World Cup Team will be issued to a World Cup athlete (one male and one female) who earns the status of overall World Cup Champion as determined by the FIBT World Ranking List.
 - 5.2.2.2. The top eight (8) ranked US athletes (men and women) on the FIBT World Ranking List from the 2007-2008 season

- 5.2.2.3. The top five (5) men and top five (5) women from each Regional Championship.
- 5.2.2.4. Additional athletes that may be added through the waiver process (section 6.3).
- 5.2.3. **Race Protocol** – There will be one US National Team Trials race series:
- 5.2.3.1. **National Team Trials – Semi-Finals:** Prior to the finals in Lake Placid, one semi-final race will be held. The top four (4) men and top four (4) women will qualify to compete in the National Team Trials Finals at each track. Semi-Finals are required for athletes who are ranked 9th or below as well as those who have not passed the USBSF Combine. In addition, any National Team athlete who does not attend the Push Championships must race in the semi-final to qualify for the finals. If possible, the USBSF will try to add more athletes (by rank) from the Eastern and Western regional ranking. Additional athletes may be added through the waiver process (section 6.3).
- 5.2.3.2. **National Team Trials - Finals:** Two races will be held in Lake Placid (Dates TBD) and two races will be held in Park City (dates TBD). Both races will be open to athletes who are ranked in the top eight (8) in the US and who meet all of the requirements in section 2. Additional athletes may be added through the waiver process (section 6.3). In addition, the races will be open to at least the top four (4) men and four (4) women from the semi-finals. Athletes will be ranked by a total of the combined points in the best three out of four races using the US point scoring system (see Appendix A) and the USBSF Combine bonus points (see below), if earned.
- 5.2.3.3. **USBSF Combine Bonus Points-** An athlete who finishes team trials ranked 7th or lower will be able to earn additional points toward his/her total team trials points by doing the following: An athlete can earn 25 bonus points by scoring in the National Team category on the USBSF Combine, conducted at various locations throughout the summer and at National Team Trials in the fall. An athlete who earns bonus points cannot outrank any other athlete who finishes in the top six. Bonus points will only be applied to athletes who race in all four team trials races.
- 5.3. **2008-2009 NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP (JANUARY 2009, LAKE PLACID)**
- 5.3.1. **Purpose** – The 2008-2009 Skeleton National Championship will be used to determine:
- 5.3.1.1. The US National Champion;
- 5.3.1.2. An athletes’ National Championship rank;
- 5.3.2. **Participants** – Invitation to the National Championship will be determined by:
- 5.3.2.1. Athletes who have finished in the top eight (8) at US National Team Trials,
- 5.3.2.2. Additional athletes may be added depending on ice time availability. Any additions will be based on US National Team Trials rank,
- 5.3.2.3. Additional athletes that may be added through the waiver process (section XI).
- 5.3.3. **Race Protocol** – The 2008-2009 National Championship will consist of one race to be held in Lake Placid.
- 5.3.4. **Ranking/Results** – All athletes who participate at the National Championship shall receive a “National Championship Rank”. This rank:
- 5.3.4.1. Has no bearing on end of season rankings, other than to break ties between Eastern and Western Region athletes
- 5.4. **OFFICIAL CLUB RACES**
- 5.4.1. **Purpose** - A series of Club races shall be held at both tracks to determine athlete eligibility for participation in the Regional Championship races. These races can be in addition to regularly scheduled club races.
- 5.4.2. **Participants** - The Club races shall be open to all non-national team and non-junior national team USBSF athletes. National Development Team athletes are encouraged to participate but will receive no points.
- 5.4.3. **Race Protocol** - The Official Club Races shall consist of at least three races. Athletes will be ranked by a total of the combined points in the best two out of three races using the FIBT point scoring system (*see* Appendix A).
- 5.4.4. **Ranking/results** - All athletes who compete in the Official Club Races shall receive a “Club Ranking.” At least the top three “non-national development team” men and women will qualify for the Regional Championship. Athletes may use only the results from one track to qualify for the Regional Championship and must race at the same track, unless a waiver is granted as per section XI.
- 5.5. **REGIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS**
- 5.5.1. **Purpose** - There shall be separate Regional Championships in Park City and Lake Placid as late in the season as practical. These races provide an opportunity for athletes who qualified out of the Official Club Races (non-national development team athletes), and the athletes from the Emerging

Elite/National Development Team who must enter the Regional Championships for an opportunity to qualify for the 2009 US National Team Trials.

5.5.2. **Participants –**

5.5.2.1. Athletes qualified from Official Club Races (at least 3 men and 3 women)

5.5.2.2. Athletes named to the National Development Team

5.5.2.3. All athletes who are ranked below the top six (6) US sleds on the FIBT World Ranking List

5.5.2.4. USBSF Domestic Program and Coaching Staff and or their designees, may, at their discretion, add additional racers to the field of the Regional Championships. They will consider new athletes who exhibit superior athleticism, but who, in the judgment of USBSF staff, need more sliding time to be competitive. The number of sliders added will be limited by the available track time at both Park City and Lake Placid for both training and competition.

5.5.3. **Race Protocol –** Athletes may only enter Regional Championships at one track. There shall be two or **three** regional championship races at each track, depending on scheduling. Athletes will be ranked by a total of the combined points in the best two out of three races using the USBSF point scoring system (*see* Appendix A).

5.5.4. **Ranking/Results –** All athletes competing at the Regional Championships shall receive a “Regional Ranking”. In order to create national rankings, ties in regional rankings between athletes in eastern regional championships and western regional championships will be broken by athlete rankings from the 2008-2009 FIBT World Ranking List and 2008 National Team Trials, in that order.

5.6. **2009-2010 U.S. NATIONAL TEAM TRIALS**

5.6.1. **Purpose -** The 2009 U.S. National Team Trials will be used to determine the membership of the 2009-10 National Team, emerging elite and national development team spots.

5.6.2. **Participants -** The following athletes will be selected to participate in the 2009 U.S. National Team Trials:

5.6.2.1. 2008 -2009 National Team members

One male and one female athlete can receive a “bye” onto the 2009-2010 National Team, provided they meet 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 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 of overall World Cup Champion as determined by the FIBT World Ranking List. If a bye is accepted for the 2009-2010 season, no waivers onto the National Team will be considered.

5.6.2.2. The top six (6) ranked US athletes (men and women) on the FIBT World Ranking List as of February 14th, 2009,

5.6.2.3. Athletes who move into the top six (6) AFTER February 14th, 2009 (as a result of the Lake Placid America’s Cup),

5.6.2.4. The top man/woman from each regional championship,

5.6.2.5. Athletes who have medaled in an official FIBT international competition during the 2008-2009 calendar season (WC, ICC, EC, AC)

5.6.2.6. The USBSF will make every effort to include more athletes in the 2009 Team Trials process. Factors that affect Team Trials are; the ability for tracks to open early, the FIBT schedule, the logistics of hosting a large number of athletes, and the ability to maintain quality ice conditions for an optimal team trials process. A decision of the format of the race series as well as the maximum number of competitors allowed will be posted on or before September 1st, 2009.

5.6.2.7. Additional athletes that may be added through the waiver process (section 6.3). 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).

6. **MANDATORY PARTICIPATION/SUBJECTIVENESS/ WAIVERS**

6.1. Athletes are required to participate in events for which they are qualified or named to. When an athlete does not attend a race and/or leaves a position vacant, they can negatively affect the chances for the US to qualify the maximum number of spots in an FIBT competition. Thus, any athlete who does not attend a race that they have selected will be assessed a \$1000 fine which must be paid before attending the next competition. The CEO, along with the coaching staff will determine, on a case-by-case basis, if that athlete’s circumstances merit re-instatement to their race opportunities or if some or all of their races are to be re-

allocated to other athletes.

- 6.2. Failure to participate in a mandatory event and/or to follow the waiver procedures may result in a hearing regarding the athlete's participation in further events during the calendar year or to the benefits the athlete receives from the USBSF and/or the USOC, but in no way excludes rights guaranteed by the USBSF and the USOC.

6.3. **Waivers/Injuries**

- 6.3.1. A Waiver Committee, consisting of the CEO, Head Coach, the High Performance Director, and one athlete representative will consider all waivers as outlined in these criteria. 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.
- 6.3.2. Performance-based waivers may be granted to athletes by the waiver committee in cases of extreme extenuating circumstances. Extreme extenuating circumstances may include (but are not limited to), emergency, 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. This position is currently occupied by (?). Following receipt, the waiver committee will review such request for approval or denial.
- 6.3.3. All waivers granted into the National Championship and U.S. National Team Trials will be based solely on results attained within the past 24 months. The waiver committee will make a decision and provide a written copy of the waiver or denial to the athlete as soon as possible.
- 6.3.4. Injured/ill athletes wishing to receive a medical waiver for a USBSF sanctioned event must be examined by the Bobsled Chief Medical Officer (CMO), or his designee. This position is currently occupied by Dr. Eugene Byrne.
- 6.3.5. In addition, waivers onto the National Team for the current season will be governed by the following policies:
- 6.3.5.1. A waiver onto the National Team may only be granted for athletes:
Whose performance has been negatively affected due to extreme extenuating circumstances, and have medalled in at least one World Cup or Intercontinental Cup during the current quadrennial (2006-2010).
- 6.3.5.2. A waiver on to the World Cup Team may only be granted at most for one male and one female per year,
- 6.3.5.3. A waiver onto the Intercontinental Cup Team may only be granted at most for one male and one female per year,
- 6.3.5.4. A waiver on to the World Cup Team will only be granted if no "byes" were accepted by qualified athletes,
- 6.3.6. Athletes are expected to compete in any part of the U.S. National Team Trials they are able to compete in,
- 6.3.7. Decisions to grant a waiver directly onto the National Team will be based on section 4.1.3.
- 6.3.8. The waiver committee will make a decision and provide a written copy of the waiver granted onto the National Team as soon after the U.S. National Team Trials as possible,

6.4. **Removal of Athletes**

An athlete may be removed from any team for any of the following reasons:

- 6.4.1. Voluntary withdrawal. Athlete must submit a written letter to the coach or CEO (dsteele@usbsf.com).
- 6.4.2. In the event of a disabling illness or injury to an athlete, the athlete must be examined by a physician (required for all non-World Cup athletes) or a USOC care-giver (required for World Cup athletes only). Should an athlete refuse injury/illness verification by a physician or a USOC approved care-giver, then their injury or illness will be assumed to be disabling and they will be replaced. While on the World Cup Tour if an athlete misses two World Cup events in succession that athlete must be seen by a medical doctor designated by Dr. Byrne, which could be facilitated by the USOC athletic trainers (ATCs)
- 6.4.3. Medical staff at any track at which an athlete is competing can, in the interest of safety, prevent an injured athlete from competing at that event, should they deem that athlete unsafe.
- 6.4.4. In the event of an excessive or serious violation of the athlete Code of Conduct, an athlete could be removed from a race series or otherwise sanctioned by the Judicial Committee.
- 6.4.5. An athlete who may be removed from the Team pursuant to this provision has the right to a hearing per USBSF Bylaws, or USOC Bylaws, Article 9.
- 6.4.6. An athlete may be removed from any team at any time for violation of IOC, WADA, FIBT, USADA and/or USOC anti-doping protocol, policies and procedures. In such instances, the adjudication process will be managed through the United States Anti-Doping Agency.

6.5. Replacement of Athletes

- 6.5.1. The Head Coach and the CEO will select replacement athletes from the National Team.
- 6.5.2. An athlete who replaces another athlete does not automatically assume the rank of the replaced athlete.
- 6.5.3. In addition to the above policies, replacements on World Cup will be dictated as follows:
 - 6.5.3.1. The next ranked athlete will substitute for the ill/injured athlete, until the ill/injured athlete is cleared to compete again.
 - 6.5.3.2. The ill/injured athlete will replace the lowest performing athlete at the time of replacement in the judgment of the Head Coach.

7. SAVING CLAUSE

- 7.1. The procedures above are based on IOC, FIBT and USOC rules and regulations as presently published. Any change in the selection procedures caused by a change in IOC, FIBT or USOC rules and regulations will be distributed to all athletes as soon as possible. Fairness, equal opportunity and the desire to field the most competitive teams for international competition are the guiding principles and will determine the administration of the selection criteria. The National Team Selection Criteria are based on the latest information available to the USBSF. However, these criteria are always subject to unforeseen, intervening circumstances (weather, budget, war, etc.) and no doubt have not accounted for every possible contingency. In which case, the USBSF staff will administer changes with the utmost reverence for fairness, respect of athletes and for honor of the sport. If a scheduled event cannot be held or must be interrupted, USBSF will first try to re-schedule the event. Second, USBSF will try to change the venue but will not guarantee funding for travel to the new venue. Finally, if a venue change is not feasible, ranking will be based first on the portion of that event completed (at least one race) or if no portion has been completed, then ranking will be based on the most recent USBSF national rankings.
- 7.2. These Selection Criteria come into force as of the date of their approval by the USBSF Coaching Staff and Chief Executive Officer, and supersede all previous criteria.
- 7.3. The USBSF reserves the right to change the selection criteria prior to the start of each competition season based on schedules, coaching, logistics, finances, and other limiting factors.

8. ATHLETE’S RIGHT TO COMPETE

- 8.1. An athlete’s right to compete is defined and protected the USOC’s Bylaws. Should an athlete feel his/her right to compete has been withheld, the USBSF bylaws provides for a grievance procedure for him/her to seek a fair hearing and relief.
- 8.2. If you have any questions regarding your opportunity to compete that are not answered by the USBSF, you may contact the USOC Athlete Ombudsman by telephone at (888) ATHLETE, or by e-mail. This position is currently filled by John W. Ruger (john.ruger@usoc.org).

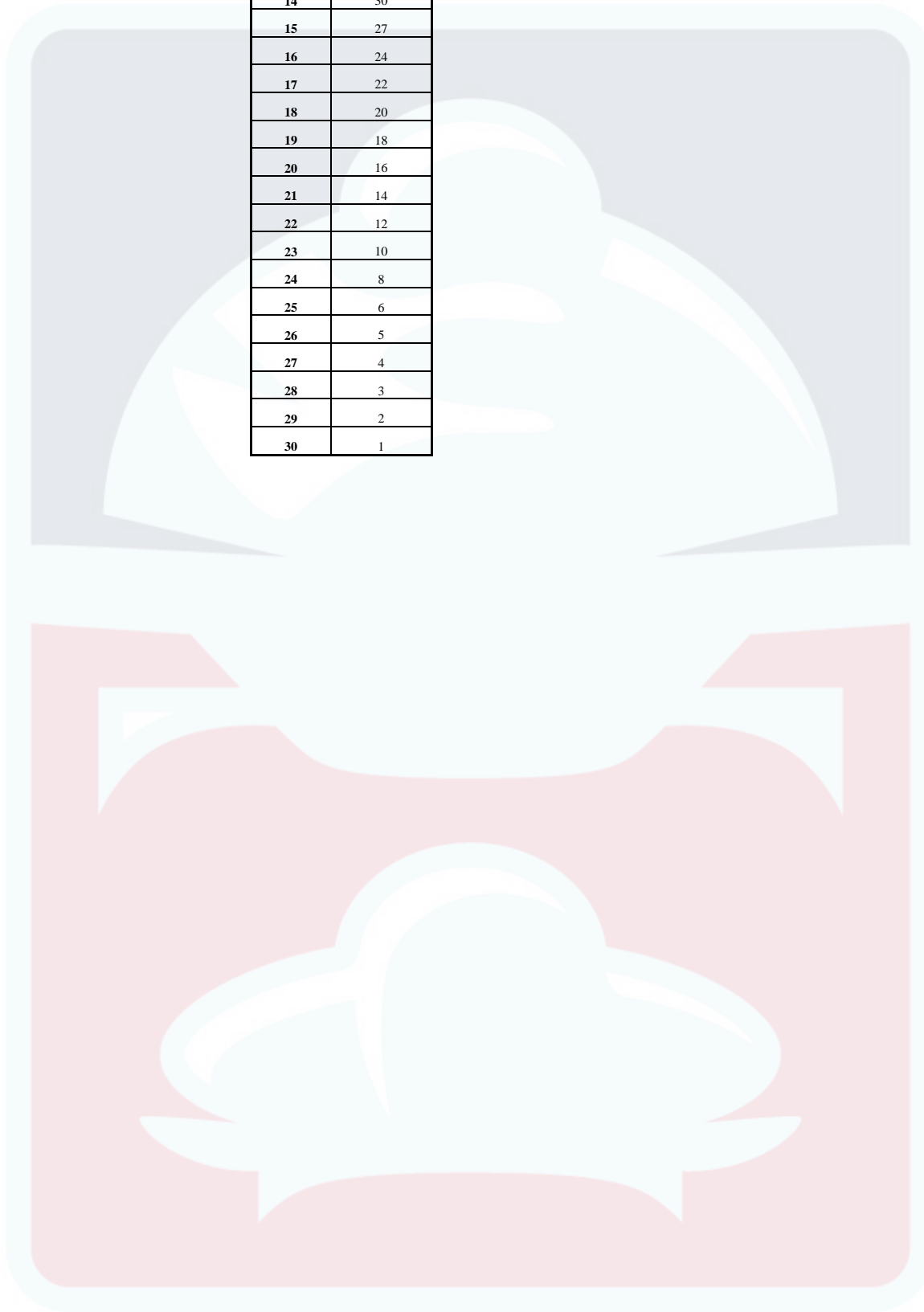
9. CRITERIA DISTRIBUTION

- 9.1. This document shall be available to all athletes at:
- 9.2. The USBSF main office.
- 9.3. Will be made available for viewing on the USBSF website.
- 9.4. Will be e-mailed to the current athletes.

APPENDIX A

USBSF Points Table		
Rank	Points	<i>Speed Point System</i>
1	100	Average finish times of top ten (10) finishers earn: One (1) time point for every 1/10th second faster than top ten (10) average. Points are added/subtracted to total points.
2	90	
3	80	
4	70	
5	65	
6	60	
7	55	
8	50	
9	45	

10	42
11	39
12	36
13	33
14	30
15	27
16	24
17	22
18	20
19	18
20	16
21	14
22	12
23	10
24	8
25	6
26	5
27	4
28	3
29	2
30	1



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