As USRowing prepares the final selection procedures for the 2020 Olympic Games (held in 2021) we would like to present the opportunity for feedback on potential selection dates. With the release of the FISA 2021 calendar, final Olympic Qualification and World Cup dates are now set for the Olympic and Paralympic process.

USRowing is proposing a potential of three (3) Olympic trials events:

- **Olympic Trials I** – M1x, W1x, LW2x and LM2x (possible inclusion of M2x)  
  February 21-25, 2021 in Sarasota, FL

- **Olympic Trials II** – W2x, M4x, M2-, PR1M1x, PR1W1x, PR2Mix2x (M2x if not included in Olympic Trials I)  
  April 12-16, 2021 in West Windsor, NJ

- **Olympic Trials III** - W2- if needed  
  June 4-6, 2021 in West Windsor, NJ

Because of the logistics and resources involved, it would be difficult for USRowing to add an additional trial date and location if Olympic Trials I is canceled. The current backup option would be to move all events to the Olympic Trials II date.

Below, for feedback, is a draft of the potential selection procedures.

Please feel free to provide your feedback on the selection dates, proposed events and any additional comments or questions on the proposed selection procedures to matt.imes@usrowing.org by July 10th, 2020.
USRowing
ATHLETE SELECTION PROCEDURES
Tokyo, Japan – 2020 Olympic Games (held in 2021)

CURRENTLY UNDER REVIEW FOR AMENDMENTS DUE TO POSTPONEMENT OF THE GAMES [June 26, 2020]

1. SELECTION SYSTEM

1.1. Provide the minimum eligibility requirements for an athlete to be considered for selection to the Team:

1.1.1. Nationality/Passport requirements:

   Athlete must be a national of the United States at the time of nomination to the team.

   Athlete must hold a valid U.S. passport that will not expire for six (6) months after the conclusion of the Games.

1.1.2. Minimum International Olympic Committee (IOC) standards for participation:

   Any competitor in the Olympic Games must be a national of the country of the National Olympic Committee (NOC) which is entering such competitor. For additional information regarding an athlete who is a national of two (2) or more countries, has changed his or her nationality or acquired a new nationality, refer to the Olympic Charter (Rule 41).

1.1.3. Minimum International Federation (IF) standards for participation (if any):

   Federation Internationale Des Societes D’Aviron (FISA) requires athletes to sign the Rowers’ Commitment Form which can be found at http://www.worldrowing.com/fisa/publications/.

   The complete Tokyo 2020 Qualification System for Rowing, defined by FISA and approved by the IOC, is made available at www.worldrowing.com/events/2020-olympic-games-regatta/eventinformation.
See Section C., ‘Athlete Eligibility’, of the qualification system linked above for eligibility criteria for participation in qualification events and the Olympic Games.

1.1.4. Other requirements (if any):

Athlete must be a member in good standing of USRowing at the time of nomination.

Athletes must abide by Selection Procedures and USRowing Rules of Rowing requirements and regulations. Current version can be found at: https://usrowing.org/sports/2016/6/19/911_132107067100117334.aspx

All athletes must adhere to the USRowing ECG & Pre-Competition Health Guidelines. Current version can be found at: https://usrowing.org/sports/2016/6/28/6225_132107073872030039.aspx?id =138

Any athlete age 18 or older will be required to undergo a background screen in accordance with the current USOC Background Check Policy.

Any athlete age 18 or older as of the Closing Ceremony will be required to complete the U.S. Center for SafeSport’s online training.

Athletes must have successfully completed all Games Registration requirements by stated deadline.

1.2. Tryout Events:

1.2.1. Provide the event names, dates and locations of all trials, events and camps to be used as part of the selection process.

a. National Selection Regatta I (NSR I) - M2- as opportunity for automatic qualification Camp Boat selection camp (M2-)
   February 15-19, 2021 – Chula Vista, CA

b. Olympic Trials I (M1x, W1x, LM2x, LW2x) - Qualified or Non-Qualified. Opportunity for qualification to Camp Boat selection camp. (W1x)
   February 21-25, 2021 – Sarasota, FL
c. National Selection Regatta II (NSR II) – W2- as placement for World Cup qualification and opportunity for automatic qualification to Camp Boat selection Camp
   March 22-26, 2021 – Chula Vista, CA

d. Olympic Trials II (M2-, M2x, M4x, W2x) - Qualified or Non-Qualified. Opportunity for qualification to Camp Boat selection camp (W2x)
   April 12-16, 2021 – West Windsor, NJ

e. World Cup I (W2-) Opportunity for qualification
   April 30 – May 2, 2021 – Zagreb, CRO

f. FISA Final Olympic Qualification Regatta and World Cup II - Non-Qualified boat classes. World Cup II (W2-) Opportunity for qualification
   May 16-18 and May 21-23, 2021 – Lucerne, Switzerland

g. Olympic Trials III (W2-) if not filled through World Cup placement as described in 1.3.
   June 4-6, 2021 – West Windsor, NJ

h. Camp Boat Selection Camps (W8+, M8+, W4-, M4-, W4x)
   March 8 – June 3, 2021 (M8+, M4-)
   April 1 - June 3, 2021 – (W8+, W4-)
   Following Olympic Trials II – June 3, 2021 (W4x)
   Locations listed in 2.b in Camp Boat section

1.2.2. Provide event names, dates, locations and description of how athletes qualify for the trials, events and camps listed above in 1.2.1. (if any).

NSR and Trials events are open enrollment. Camp requirements are listed in 1.3 below.

1.3. Provide a comprehensive, step-by-step description of the method that explains how athletes will go through the selection process (include maximum Team size).

The 2019 FISA World Rowing Championships, August 25 – September 1, 2019, in Linz, Austria, will serve as the first opportunity for the U.S. to earn quotas for the 2020 Olympic Games (held in 2021). While this event is not an official part of USRowing’s selection process, it is important to note this is the first qualification
opportunity for all Olympic boat classes (NOCs/countries may qualify by event, not athlete).

U.S. boats that do not qualify a quota place through the 2019 FISA World Championships will have a final opportunity to qualify at the 2021 FISA Final Olympic Qualification Regatta, May 16-18, 2021 in Lucerne, Switzerland.

The maximum team size USRowing may qualify for the 2020 Olympic Games (in 2021) is forty eight (48) athletes, (24 women and 24 men) in fourteen (14) events.

Selection to the U.S. Olympic Team will be made in one of five methods:

• Trials Boats (W1x, M1x, W2x, M2x, LW2x, LM2x, M2-, M4x): Athletes will have the opportunity to be selected through racing at the Olympic Trials I or II.

• W2- Athletes will have the opportunity to be selected through racing for the team through NSR process and World Cup I or II results. If not qualified through World Cups, then at Olympic Trials III.

• Camp Boats (W8+, W4x, M8+, M4-, W4-): Athletes will be selected through a selection camp (1.2.1.h.). Automatic invitations to these camps may be achieved based on objective race results from NSR. Additional invitations may be extended to athletes based on the discretionary criteria outlined later in Section 1.3. under Camp Boats.

• Non-Qualified Boats (as determined by 2019 World Championship results): Athletes will have the opportunity to be selected at the Non-Qualified Trials or Selection Camp based on boat classes listed above. Athletes selected will race at the FISA Final Olympic Qualification Regatta to attempt qualifying the boat for the 2020 Olympic Games (in 2021).

U.S Olympic Team Selection for qualified boats via the 2019 FISA World Championships:

This section describes the process for boat classes that qualified for the 2020 Olympic Games through the 2019 FISA World Rowing Championships.

Trials Boats (W1x, W2x,)

Athletes for these boat classes (W1x, W2x – the “Trials Boat Events”) will be selected to the U.S Olympic Team via Olympic Trials I or II (February 21-25 and April 12-16, 2021).
The winners of Olympic Trials I, II or III will qualify by name for the U.S. Olympic Team. If a crew meets the eligibility requirements listed under 1.1, they must declare their intent to compete in the 2020 Olympic Games in that event and in writing to the USRowing High Performance Director, no later than two hours after the crew’s final race has been declared official.

In the event that a qualified crew at Olympic Trials I, II or III does not declare their intent to compete, or any of the athletes in the winner’s boat does not meet the eligibility requirements in 1.1, then the digression for selection will begin with the second place finisher in the final raced at the Olympic Trials for that Trials Boat.

**W2-**

The winners of the W2- at NSR (March 22 - 26, 2021) will be given the opportunity to race to qualify in that same event at FISA World Cups I and/or II (1.2.1.c., e. and f.). The winner of NSR must declare their intent to compete in World Cup I and/or II in that event and in writing to the USRowing High Performance Director, by 5pm EST March 29, 2021.

At World Cup I or II the qualified crew must finish top 2, or in the case of less than 6 entries, place in the top 50% of the field to qualify for the U.S. Olympic Team. If the winner of the NSR selection race does not meet these requirements at World Cup I or II then that event will be contested at Olympic Trials III to determine selections for the U.S. Olympic Team.

If a crew qualifies through 2021 FISA World Cup I or II and meets the eligibility requirements in 1.1., they must declare their intent to compete in the 2020 Olympic Games in that event and in writing to the USRowing High Performance Director, by 5pm EST, May 23, 2021.

Only the winners of the W2- at NSR may qualify to represent the U.S. at the 2020 Olympic Games in this manner.

Should the qualified crew from World Cup I or II not declare their intent to compete, or not qualify through placement, then that event will be run at Olympic Trials III to determine selections for the U.S. Olympic Team.

USRowing will publish and post on [www.usrowing.org](http://www.usrowing.org) all submitted declarations to compete and an updated list of Olympic Trials III events by 5pm EST, May 24, 2021.
Camp Boats (W8+, M8+, W4x, W4-, M4-)

The W8+, M8+, W4x, W4-, M4- boats (the “Camp Boat Events”) shall each be selected through a “Selection Camp” according to the following selection method:

a) **Qualification for the Selection Camp.**

1) **Automatic Qualification.** Athletes meeting the following criteria shall automatically qualify for the corresponding Selection Camp. If an athlete meeting these criteria chooses not to attend the Selection Camp, there will be NO automatic qualifying replacement, but a replacement MAY be selected according to # 2 (Invitations) directly below:

   - M8+ and M4-: finish in top 4 at the NSR in M2-;
   - W8+: finish in top 4 at the NSR in W2-;
   - W4-: finish in top 4 at the NSR in W2-;
   - W4x: finish in top 2 at the Olympic Trials in the W1x or W2x. For the second-place crews at the Olympic Trials to be automatically invited to the W4x camp, they must finish within 1% or less of the winner on the GMS standard for that event.

2) **Invitations.** The National Team Head Coaches, defined below, may recommend that additional athletes in the Camp Boat Events be invited to the Selection Camp. Recommendations of the National Team Head Coaches for invitations to the Selection Camp shall be subject to review and approved by the Nomination Committee defined below in section 2.3.

Athletes may petition for an invitation to the M8+ and M4- Selection Camp if they feel that they should be invited based on the below criteria. All requests must be sent to the USRowing High Performance Director, matt.imes@usrowing.org and received by 5pm EST March 5, 2021.

Athletes may petition for an invitation to the W8+ and W4- Selection Camp if they feel that they should be invited based on the below criteria. All requests must be sent to the USRowing High Performance Director, matt.imes@usrowing.org and received by 5pm EST March 28, 2021.

Athletes may petition for an invitation to the W4x Selection Camp if they feel that they should be invited based on the below criteria. All requests must be sent to the USRowing High Performance Director,
matt.imes@usrowing.org and received by 5pm EST following the conclusion of Olympic Trials II, 2021.

In determining its recommendations for invitation to a Selection Camp, the National Team Head Coaches shall use the following criteria, which are listed in no particular order of importance:

• 2021 NSR or Trials results;
• 2k and 6k erg performance done between 12/1/20 and 2/28/21 for Men and between 12/1/20 and 4/16/21 for Women (including, but not limited to, submission of erg score for both distances)
• Coaches recommendation
• Competitive performance during training sessions;
• Athlete’s compatibility with other members of a crew;
• Technique and racing ability;
• Past performance in domestic and international competitions;
• Video and audiotapes of performance in the case of coxswains

b) Dates and Locations of Selection Camps. The default location of the Selection Camps will be:

Oakland, CA and Princeton, NJ

The location may be subject to change based on a two-thirds agreement within each selection camp group listed below. The voting group is defined as i.) the athletes invited to attend that camp through both automatic and discretionary invitation, ii.) the relevant coach(es), and iii.) the chair of the High Performance Committee. Dates for the Selection Camps are as follows:

• Women’s Camp Boats: W8+, W4- will be held from April 1 to June 3, 2021.
• W4x will be held following Olympic Trials II to June 3, 2021.
• Men’s Camp Boats: M8+, M4- will be held from March 8 to June 3, 2021.

The start date of the Selection camp may be pushed back later and the end date of the Selection Camps may be earlier than the dates listed above. Should the dates change, athletes will be given notice by announcement through email to athletes and coaches, as well as posted on the USRowing website.

c) Selection Camp (See Section 2 [Discretionary Selection] for further details).
At the conclusion of each Selection Camp, each National Team Head Coach for each boat class will recommend crews for the boat(s) he/she will coach based on the following factors, which are listed in no particular order:

- 2021 NSR or Trials results
- 2019-2021 National Team Testing
- 2021 FISA World Cup Regatta results
- Competitive performance during training sessions
- Overall performance at the Selection Camp
- Athlete’s compatibility with rest of crew

1) Results of measurable competitive processes at the Selection Camps, e.g. time trials and seat racing, will be posted in a public location for athletes to review, in most instances within 24 hours of the end of practice. USRowing will keep records of the data used to evaluate athletes in the selection process for a period of six months after the 2020 Olympic Games.

2) All recommendations shall be made by the National Team Head Coaches by June 3, 2021.

3) The recommendations of the National Team Head Coaches shall be subject to review of the Nomination Committee and must be approved by the Nomination Committee to be effective.

4) If a crew nominated by the National Team Head Coaches and approved by the Nomination Committee satisfies all eligibility requirements (see Section 1.1.), then that crew will be nominated to represent the United States at the 2020 Olympic Games.

Non-Qualified Boats:

This section applies to all events that the U.S. did not qualify for the 2020 Olympic Games through the 2019 FISA World Rowing Championships and must attempt to qualify through the FISA Final Olympic Qualification Regatta held May 16-18, 2021 depending on boat class.

a) Non-Qualified Trials Boats (LW2x, LM2x, M1x, M2x, M2+, M4x)
1) The winner of each Non-Qualified Trials Boat event as determined through Olympic Trials I or II (February 21-25 and April 12-16) will qualify to represent the United States in the FISA Final Olympic Qualification Regatta, provided that the crew declares their intent to compete in the FISA Final Olympic Qualification Regatta in writing to the USRowing High Performance Director no later than two hours after the crew’s final race has been declared official and all athletes have satisfied the eligibility requirements (1.1.).

The logistical arrangements, excepting travel and boat rental, associated with competing in the FISA Final Olympic Qualification Regatta will be made by USRowing. All costs associated with this competition are the responsibility of the competing boats unless the boat class has been identified as a Funded boat class for 2021. USRowing will publish the anticipated fee for the housing and meal costs for the competing crews not later than March 1, 2021. In no case do these arrangements extend to include World Rowing Cup III.

2) Should the winner of Olympic Trials in each Non-Qualified Trials Boat event not declare his/her/their intent to compete in the FISA Final Olympic Qualification Regatta, or if the winner of the Non-Qualified Trials Boat event does not satisfy the eligibility requirements in 1.1, then the digression for selection will begin with the second-place finisher in the final raced at the Olympic Trials for that Non-Qualified Trials Boat.

3) Should the winner of Olympic Trials in any Non-Qualified Trials Boat event qualify at the FISA Final Olympic Qualification Regatta, the athlete/crew will be nominated to the 2020 U.S. Olympic Team, provided the athlete/crew declares their intent to compete in the 2020 Olympic Games in writing to the USRowing High Performance Director by 5pm EST on June 1, 2021.

2. DISCRETIONARY SELECTION (if applicable)

2.1. Provide rationale for utilizing discretionary selection (if any):

In the case of the Camp Boats (W8+, M8+, W4x, W4-, M4-), selection camps are used to determine the fastest combination of top athletes. This process allows the fastest individual athletes to come together in one location to
assemble the best combination of talent in the Camp Boats. At camp, individual athletes will be selected and compared to each other to form the best combination of talent for each boat.

Camp selection ensures that every athlete has an opportunity for selection to the team boat. The camp selection process for team boats, while based on objective racing and performance markers during the camp, also must include subjective team-related performance assessment. The dynamic of teamwork and movement in a team boat requires development and assessment over time.

2.2. List the discretionary criteria and explain how they will be used (if any):

See section 1.3 under “Camp Boats.”

2.3. Provide the name of the committee that will be responsible for making discretionary selections, along with a complete list of the members’ titles currently serving on the committee:

USRowing Men’s and Women’s Head coaches will make discretionary selection recommendations to the Nomination Committee.

Each coach shall be responsible for making recommendations to the Nomination Committee relating to a boat that he/she is responsible for as coach. In making recommendations called for under these Selection Procedures, each National Team Head Coach may seek input and information from other coaches, as he/she deems appropriate.

The Nomination Committee shall be comprised of the High Performance Director of USRowing, a High Performance Committee Chair and an Athlete Representative of the High Performance Committee.

2.3.1. Specify the process that will be used to identify and handle any potential conflicts of interest involving a member of the committee.

Any member of the selection committee that has a possible conflict of interest must disclose it. If such conflict exists, the selection committee member must recuse him/herself from committee discussions and voting. Further, the committee member should not otherwise influence other members of the committee in the nomination process. However, a committee member who recused him/herself, but 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 the committee member who declared the conflict of interest does not vote toward the final decision. The recused member of the Nomination Committee will be replaced with another member of the High Performance Committee or another USRowing Athlete Rep if necessary.

3. **REMOVAL OF ATHLETES**

3.1. Prior to entry by name to the Local Organizing Committee by the USOPC, USRowing has jurisdiction over potential nominees.

An athlete who is to be nominated to the Team by USRowing may be removed as a nominee for any of the following reasons, as determined by USRowing:

3.1.1. Voluntary withdrawal. Athlete must submit a written letter to USRowing’s CEO/Executive Director.

3.1.2. Injury or illness as certified by a physician (or medical staff) approved by USRowing. If an athlete refuses verification of his/her illness or injury by a physician (or medical staff) approved by USRowing, his/her injury will be assumed to be disabling and he/she may be removed.

3.1.3. Failure to participate in Mandatory Training and/or Competition as defined in Section 9 of these procedures.

3.1.4. Violation of USRowing’s Code of Conduct

An athlete who is removed from the Team pursuant to this provision has the right to a hearing per the USRowing Bylaws (Article IX, section 70) and the USOPC’s Bylaws, Section 9.

An athlete who is removed from the Team pursuant to this provision has the right to a hearing per the USRowing Bylaws (Article IX, section 70) and the USOPC’s Bylaws, Section 9.

Once athlete entries have been submitted to the Local Organizing Committee by the USOPC, the USOPC has jurisdiction over the Team, at which time, in addition to any applicable NGB Code of Conduct, the USOPC’s Code of Conduct and Grievance Procedures apply. The USOPC’s Code of Conduct and Grievance Procedures can be found at: [https://www.teamusa.org/team-usa-athlete-services/athlete-ombudsman](https://www.teamusa.org/team-usa-athlete-services/athlete-ombudsman)

3.2. An athlete may be removed as a nominee to the Team or from the Team for an adjudicated violation of IOC, WADA, IF, USADA and/or USOPC anti-doping
4. REPLACEMENT OF ATHLETES

4.1. Describe the selection and approval process for determining replacement athlete(s) should a vacancy occur:

4.1.1. Prior to submission of Entries by Name to the Local Organizing Committee, including any applicable group or committee:

The replacement pool for all boat classes will come from the criteria below. The respective USRowing Head Coach or designated coach for the boat will propose a list of "alternate athletes" to the Nomination Committee based on the following criteria, which are listed in no particular order. The maximum number of athletes will be nominated as allowed by FISA rules.

- Performance at National Team Training Centers and the Selection Camp(s) during the 2021 season.
- 2021 NSR results
- 2021 National Team Testing results
- 2021 Selection results
- 2020 Olympic trials results (Held in 2021)
- 2021 FISA World Cup Regatta results
- Ability to row port and/or starboard
- Athlete’s compatibility with rest of crew

The National Team Head Coach for that discipline, the High Performance Director and an Athlete Representative from the High Performance Committee will determine if the vacant seat will be replaced by a current nominated Rowing Olympic Team Member to make the boat the most competitive without taking away a medal opportunity from another boat that has shown medal potential. The newly nominated athlete must be in agreement with such a nomination.

If the replacement of an athlete has created a vacancy in an existing boat, a new team member(s) from the pool of "alternate athletes" will be identified from the replacement pool. The National Team Head Coach for that discipline, the High Performance Director, and an Athlete Representative
from the High Performance Committee, using the criteria for selection of replacement athletes listed above, will nominate the replacement.

4.1.2. After submission of Entries by Name to the Local Organizing Committee, including any applicable group or committee:

Same as 4.1.1.

5. SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

USRowing will retain the approved Selection Procedures and all supporting documents, including scouting or evaluation forms, etc., and data from the selection process for six months past the date of the Closing Ceremony of the Games.

6. REQUIRED DOCUMENTS

In addition to the USOPC Code of Conduct, the following documents are required to be signed by an athlete as a condition of nomination to the Olympic Games and are included as attachments:

FISA – Rowers’ Commitment Form
USRowing Athlete Agreement and Code of Conduct

7. PUBLICITY/DISTRIBUTION OF PROCEDURES

The USOPC approved Selection Procedures (complete and unaltered) will be posted/published by USRowing in the following location(s):

7.1. USRowing Web site: www.usrowing.org

These procedures will be posted as soon as possible, but not more than five business days following notice of approval by the USOPC.

7.2. Other: USRowing will publish notice of the selection procedures with a link to the web page where they can be found in the first monthly e-newsletter sent after final notice of approval by the USOPC.

8. DATE OF NOMINATION
Nomination of athletes, including replacements, will be announced to all athletes and submitted to the USOPC on or before: **June 5th, 2021**

9. **MANDATORY TRAINING AND/OR COMPETITION**

Specify the location, schedule and duration of mandatory training and/or competition:

For Camp Boats, participation for the full duration of the selection camp dates from date of entry, and through the conclusion of competition at the Olympic Games once named, for that boat class, are required unless the absence is approved by the respective Head Coach.

10. **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.

11. **DEVELOPMENT OF SELECTION PROCEDURES**

The following committee/group (include names and titles) was responsible for creating these Selection Procedures:

Matt Imes, High Performance Director

USRowing High Performance Committee:
Rob Milam, Chair
Yasmin Farooq, member
Robert Ernst, member
Charles Butt, member
Kateline Guregian, Athlete Representative
Tom Peszek, Athlete Representative

12. **NGB BYLAWS AND GRIEVANCE PROCEDURES**

The USRowing Bylaws and Grievance Procedures can be found at:


13. **INTERNATIONAL DISCLAIMER**
These procedures are based on IOC and/or FISA rules and regulations as presently known and understood. Any change in the selection procedures caused by a change in IOC and/or FISA rules and regulations will be distributed to the affected athletes immediately. The selection criteria are based on the latest information available to USRowing. However, the selections are always subject to unforeseen, intervening circumstances, and realistically may not have accounted for every possible contingency.

If any force of nature, or force majeure, should cause the alteration or cancellation of any of the selection events listed in this document, these selection procedures will be revised, pursuant to their resubmission to the USOPC.