



U.S. NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

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2024 Team Selection Criteria

I. Purpose

The U.S. National Development Program (“USNDP” or “Program”) is a program developed by the United States Golf Association (“USGA”), the national governing body of golf, to provide resources and opportunities to promising U.S. junior golfers, including pathways for development and success to reach their full playing potential. One focus of the USNDP is to identify talented junior, amateur and young professional athletes who may compete on behalf of the United States as members of our National Development Teams.

The purpose of this USNDP Team Selection Criteria (“Selection Criteria”) is to outline the criteria by which the USGA will identify athletes to be selected for its National Development Teams as part of the Program. Through this Selection Criteria, the USGA aims to establish and provide clear, transparent and consistent eligibility criteria and selection processes, and outline the processes and timing for naming athletes to the National Development Teams.

This Selection Criteria will be reviewed and updated on an annual basis. The current Selection Criteria will be available on www.usga.org/usndp.

II. National Development Teams

Over time, the USNDP endeavors to build three tiers of National Development Teams – Junior, Amateur, and Young Professional. However, only the Junior National Development Team will be selected for the 2024 term.

Athletes selected to a National Development Team are provided the opportunity to participate for a one (1) year period. The term for the 2024 Junior National Development Team will be April 1, 2024 through March 31, 2025. However, the USGA may adjust an athlete’s term at any time, in its sole discretion, including early removal from a National Development Team for violation of Program policies. For any subsequent years, current members of a National Development Team will be re-evaluated for selection to a team for additional one (1) year periods. There is no guarantee that an athlete will be selected for a team in subsequent years.

The 2024 Junior National Development Team shall consist of a girls’ team and boys’ team, each consisting of at least six (6) team members but may include additional team members. The number of athletes selected for each team shall be determined by USGA, in its discretion, and may be adjusted throughout the year.

III. Team Selection Committee

Athletes for National Development Teams will be evaluated and selected by the Team Selection Committee, which will consist of USGA staff members who are part of the USNDP, including, but not limited to, the Managing Director of Player Relations and Development, the USNDP Head Coach and the USNDP Senior Player Development Advisor. The Committee will select and invite athletes to participate on a National Development Team in accordance with the eligibility criteria



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and evaluation processes set forth below, in its sole discretion. However, in limited circumstances, the Team Selection Committee may consider athletes outside the scope of the eligibility criteria, subject to the approval of the U.S. National Development Program Committee.

IV. Eligibility Criteria

Junior National Development Team

In order to be eligible for selection to the Junior National Development Team, an athlete must satisfy the following requirements:

- **Nationality:** An athlete must be a United States citizen. Athletes with dual citizenship must comply with the IGF Nationality Policy.
- **Age:** An athlete must be at least 14 years old as of April 1, 2024 and not older than 18 years old as of July 19, 2024.
- **Amateur Status:** An athlete must be an amateur under the current [Rules of Amateur Status](#) and there may be no current or pending matters that may impact their amateur status.
- **Conduct:** An athlete must not currently be under suspension or subject to other sanctions or disciplinary process from the USGA, an Allied Golf Association (“AGA”) or any other golf organization or event organizers.
- **Education and Graduation Year:** An athlete must be currently enrolled in high school, with an anticipated high school graduation date no earlier than December 31, 2024; provided, however, athletes who have graduated high school and meet all other eligibility requirements may be considered by the Team Selection Committee. An athlete may not be currently attending a college or university, however, consideration may be given to an athlete who is taking collegiate courses on a part-time basis.
- **Participation on Other National Teams:** An athlete cannot be a current member of a national team representing another country, region or territory (including U.S. territories).

V. Evaluation Process

The Team Selection Committee will evaluate eligible athletes who it may consider for selection to the Junior National Development Team based on the following factors:

- **Rankings** – The Committee will consider the current and previous rankings (within the last 12-24 months) of athletes from various publicly available rankings, which may include, but is not limited to, Junior Golf Scoreboard, Rolex American Junior Golf Association (AJGA) Rankings, World Amateur Golf Rankings (WAGR), and applicable state rankings and/or head-to-head rankings.



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- **Scoring** – The Committee will consider factors related to the athlete’s scoring ability and scoring history, which may include, but is not limited to, scoring average, scoring consistency, ability to post low scores, and hole-by-hole patterns.
- **Results** – The Committee will review the athlete’s competitive play results, including, but not limited to, finish positions, difficulty of schedule, golf course length, and head-to-head results in any high-level competitions or events, including any USGA Championships.
- **Statistics** – When available, the Committee will review the athlete’s round statistics and other play metrics, such as ball speed and clubhead speed.
- **Sportsmanship** – The Committee will consider various factors relating to the athlete’s sportsmanship, including, but not limited to, the athlete’s work ethic, attitude, desire to be part of the National Development Team, coachability, ability to represent the USGA and the United States and be a positive teammate.
- **Scouting** – The Committee will consider observations made by USNDP staff while watching athletes practice and compete at various junior and amateur golf tournaments. Such observations could include areas such as athleticism, speed, technique and overall attitude and conduct on the course.

To aid the Committee in these evaluations, information may be gathered from various sources, including, but not limited to AGAs, clubs, coaches and other similar entities or persons with knowledge of an athlete’s performance and capabilities.

VI. Selection Process

The USNDP will issue invitations to athletes selected for the 2024 Junior National Development Team. Invitations, along with an Athlete Agreement, will be sent via email to the athlete and/or athlete’s parent/guardian no later than April 1, 2024. Athletes and their parent/guardian will have two (2) weeks to accept the invitation and return the Athlete Agreement. Athletes may request additional time if needed.

Questions regarding the Selection Criteria and processes set forth herein can be addressed to the U.S. National Development Program via email at usndp@usga.org.