Selection Process for the Elite and Developmental Teams

National Teams To be Selected

An Elite standing squad is selected for a period of one year, except for the year in which a World Cup takes place. A Developmental standing squad is selected for a period of one year, annually. A U-19 squad is selected once every four years. Touring teams, including the World Cup team, are selected at the direction the National Teams Committee following guidelines established based on the dates of competition. All standing squads (Elite, Developmental, and U19) are selected by open trial. All touring teams (World Cup, World Championships) are selected by the coaching staffs.

National Teams Selection Committee

The National Teams Selection Committee (TSC) is charged with the annual selection of the Elite and Developmental Teams. The committee is made up of a minimum of 7 and a maximum of 11 members and are required to participate in selections during the US Lacrosse Women's Division National Tournament (typically over Memorial Day Weekend) and at the U.S. Trials weekend (typically, the first weekend of August).

Selection of National Teams Selection Committee Composition

In the early spring (March-April), the NTC Chair solicits nominations from the NTC, as well as from college coaches for the position of Team Selection Committee Chair and for members to serve on the TSC. The NTC will vote on the positions and the Women's Division Board of Governor's will vote to approve the recommendations for this committee. The TSC Chair's term is three years and may be re-appointed to successive terms. Other at-large TSC members serve for 2-year terms and may also be re-appointed to successive terms.

Teams Selection Committee Members include representatives from the following pool:

- Chair of the Teams Selection Committee
- Elite Team Coach
- Developmental Team Coach
- (3) At-Large College Coaches
- An additional member of the Coaching staff from either the Elite or Developmental Team
- At the discretion of the NTSC Chair and in consultation with the NTC Chair, additional personnel, including former National Teams members or coaches, may serve on the NTSC, up to four.

Selection of Waiver Review Subcommittee Composition

In the early spring (March-April), the NTC Chair also selects 2 members from the NTC, to serve on the Waiver Review Subcommittee.

Waiver Review Sub Committee Members include the NTC Chair and 2 representatives from the following pool:

- Coaches Council Representative (HS or College)
- An additional member of the NTC selected at the discretion of the Chair

Purpose of the Selection Criteria

The U.S. Women's National Team Selection Criteria benefits the National Team Candidates as it ensures that all Candidates are given an equal opportunity to compete for a position on the National Team. The Selection Criteria adheres to the USOC Guidelines for Athlete Selection Procedures by using objective criteria for selecting the National Team. The Selection Criteria is written by the National Teams Selection Committee, reviewed by the National Teams Committee and approved by the Women's Division Board of Governor's.

National Team Candidate Eligibility

All U.S. National Team Candidates must be females, U.S. citizens, and current members of the US Lacrosse. Additionally they must be eligible to represent the U.S. in International competition. Anyone who fulfills the aforementioned requirements may become a Women's National Team Candidate by completing a U.S. Women's Team Member Contract. Each player must sign the Member Contract each season to remain in the National Team Program.

Candidates are required to comply with the Women' Team Member Contract and any NTC and US Lacrosse regulations and requirements to remain eligible. Players who fail to comply will be met with disciplinary measures (to be implemented by the Committee) up to and including removal from the National Team.

U.S. Trials - Timeline

U.S. Trials will consist of a minimum of two sessions, each lasting at least two days. The TSC reserves the right cut players at any point during the tryout process

How are Players Selected?

Players are selected on the basis of open tryouts. These tryouts are conducted by the National Teams Selection Committee coaches who are recognized for their ability to identify and train players with superior skills. Selection of these players is not an easy task. The Head coach will be assisted in the selection process by several other qualified coaches from the Collegiate and U.S Team level. Players are evaluated on the four components that make up a lacrosse player:

1. Technique
2. Tactics
3. Fitness and Athletic Ability
4. Psychological Component (attitude)

Process for Standing for Selection

- First evaluation occurs at the US Lacrosse Women's Division National Tournament. All players, including current members of the standing teams, must submit the INTENT TO STAND form to the National Office prior to the start of the event.

Players seeking an opportunity to stand for selection must participate in the US Lacrosse Women's Division National Tournament. Current IWLCA/ US Lacrosse All-Americans will also be invited to participate in trials. All players, including current members of the standing teams, must submit the INTENT TO STAND form to the National Office prior to the start of the event. If a player has a conflict due to a documented medical or personal reason, including participation in the NCAA Division I Final Four weekend, she may submit a waiver request form to the National Teams Waiver Review Committee, and if approved would allow her to advance to the August (Final) trials weekend without penalty.

Petitioning the NTC for Participation in a round of Tryouts

Any player may petition the National Teams Committee to participate in the next round of tryouts if extenuating circumstances did not permit the individual to stand for selection at the previous round. These cases are handled individually by the Waiver Review Subcommittee of the National Teams Committee, and can include, but are not guaranteed nor limited to, the graduation or other academic pursuits of the individual, continued participation in rehabilitation or other medical situations, or weddings or funerals. The decision of the National Teams Committee is not influenced by precedent but rather by the details of the petition as it stands. While there is a limit of one petition per individual per tryout process, there is no limit to the number of times an individual may petition the committee over multiple years.

All prospective players must actively participate in final tryouts and be evaluated by the NTC Selection Committee in order to be considered for a standing Elite or Developmental team. If a player indicates that she is unfortunately medically unable to actively participate in the final selections, but has participated in the first round of tryouts, she may ask to be considered, based on her first round of tryouts. Players will not be precluded from standing for selection at any future U.S. Team tryouts, which are conducted annually.

Selection Process for Elite/Developmental Standing Teams

Round one: (May)

All non-members of the Elite, Developmental or U-19 teams must be evaluated and stand for selection by playing in the Stars and Stripes Division at the US Lacrosse Women's Division National Tournament. A sub-committee of the National Teams Committee evaluates the standees and invites a select group to the next round of tryouts to take place in August.

Round two: (August)

All current members of national teams and those selected either via Round One or petition of the National Teams Committee will convene to participate in the National Teams Selection Weekend. The format of the selection weekend is up to the Chair of the TSC. The TSC reserves the right to make cuts at the conclusion of the first day of the trials. At the conclusion of the trials, a Developmental and Elite Team will be posted.

Round three (only in years prior to a World Cup): (October)

In years prior to a World Cup, a Round three will take place in October and will follow the same guidelines as established for Round two, except that only those selected either via Round Two or by petition of the National Teams Committee will convene to participate.

At the conclusion of the trials, the TSC will announce the members of the two squads.

Terms of Service

Members of the U.S. Standing teams serve from selection by the TSC until the TSC selects a new team, unless a player is removed from a team by the National Teams Committee. In years of a World Cup, the Elite Team that is selected in October will serve as the Elite team for a 23-month period, from October through USA team trials in August the calendar year following the World Cup
Any member of a standing team may select to remove herself from the team. She must submit in writing a letter of resignation from the team.

The National Teams Committee may remove a player from a team at any time for failure to comply with the National Teams Member Contract.

Candidate Grievances

All candidate grievances should be communicated to the Chair of the NTC and the Women's Division Director of US Lacrosse