

# **2021 U.S. JWOC Team Selection Criteria**

## **Introduction**

The JWOC Selection Committee will choose up to six young male and six young female athletes to represent the USA at the 2021 Junior World Orienteering Championships (JWOC) in Turkey. Using the same selection criteria, the Selection Committee may also choose alternates who will step in, should the need arise.

Once selected, National Junior Program (NJP) athletes must continue to adhere to the NJP Athlete Agreement. Any athlete selected to the JWOC team who is not a member of the NJP will sign and adhere to the JWOC Team Athlete Agreement, which includes having or obtaining a "SafeSport Trained" certificate that will last at least through the end of the JWOC competition. Failure to maintain physical standards or violation of the Athlete Agreement is grounds for removal from the team. Athletes who are removed from the JWOC Team for performance reasons may be moved to alternate status at the discretion of the Selection Committee. Additional athletes will not be added to the pool of alternates or JWOC Team members after the Selection Committee has announced the Team.

## **Selection Criteria**

### ***Declaration of Candidacy and Eligibility***

In order to be considered a candidate for 2021 JWOC Team Selection, a junior (born in 2001 or later) must meet the IOF eligibility requirements and also declare his/her intent to seek selection by petition.

Any junior who declares his/her intention to be a candidate for the 2021 JWOC Team must be a U.S. citizen and either hold a current U.S. passport that will remain valid through January 2022, or be able to obtain a valid U.S. passport at least one month prior to the JWOC competition. He/she must further be a member in good standing of the US orienteering Federation, aka Orienteering USA (OUSA), both currently and through the 2021 JWOC competition period (this may require membership renewal well in advance of expiration).

Because of the uncertainty pertaining to the international organization of and ability to travel to JWOC created by the Covid-19 pandemic, the inability to safely schedule fair JWOC Team Trials as well as the lack of orienteering competitions in 2020, the 2021 JWOC Team Selection will proceed by petition for all athletes who wish to be considered for the team. The petition shall be evaluated by the Selection Committee using the Team Selection Reviewing Rubrics. The completed petition should include as much of the requested information as possible, and be sent to [ousajuniorprogram@orienteeringusa.org](mailto:ousajuniorprogram@orienteeringusa.org) by June 5, 2021. The Selection Committee will announce the team on or before June 15, 2021.

## **Petition Requirements**

The petition must include the following:

- First Name, Last Name, Birthdate, Gender, OUSA membership number • Statement declaring that petitioner would like to be considered for selection to the team representing the USA at the 2021 Junior World Orienteering Championship. By signing the petition you will simultaneously confirm that you meet all IOF as well as OUSA eligibility requirements.
- Evidence that the petitioning athlete has run a 3k time trial. *The 3K time trial must be completed between September 1, 2020 and the date of submission of the petition. Results from an official school or other athletic race 3K or longer will be accepted, provided they are accompanied by a valid and accessible online link, or other form of verifiable record, for example, a race record in PDF or other form that a coach may have received post-race. When a result for a race longer than 3K is submitted, the time will be scaled to 3k based solely on the average running speed. If necessary, the athlete may submit an individual 3K time trial that they have recorded by GPS track and made available to the Selection Committee (e.g., by submitting a link to your Attackpoint log; a Strava entry with GPS track is acceptable for athletes who are not NJP members). In the absence of any of these, the 3K time trial may be witnessed by a parent or friend. The witness must submit the time, the location of the time test, and how the distance was verified.*
- Evidence of the petitioning athlete's training activity during the 3–12 months leading up to JWOC Selection. This should include links to training logs, GPS tracking, descriptions of training camps attended, and names of coaches, and/or other athletes, who could verify that the training submitted is accurate.
- Links to any results from any races, including COVID-19 related DIY orienteering events, over the past 12 months, preferably with documentation through GPS logging in the absence of splits recorded in the results. Highlight head-to-head competition, if available, against athletes on the Junior National Team.

## **Submission and Review Process**

### **Step 1 — Submission**

Submit completed petition, to [ousajuniorprogram@orienteeringusa.org](mailto:ousajuniorprogram@orienteeringusa.org) by **June 5, 2021**.

### **Step 2 — Review**

The Selection Committee will review all petitions for acceptability in terms of meeting the requirements listed above. Committee members may reach out further to athletes and coaches to learn more about a given situation. Selection Committee members will evaluate each petitioning athlete's ability, based on the...

- Circumstances of their situation;
- Head-to-head results with other athletes in contention for the JWOC Team, from past performances in national and international events;
- Physical ability;
- Clarity and relevance of the circumstance(s) of their petition; and
- Training over the past year.

### **Step 3 — Team Announcement**

The Selection Committee will notify the selected athlete(s), including alternates, prior to publication. The petitioning athletes and selected JWOC team will be announced no later than **June 15, 2021**.

**Team Selection Reviewing Rubrics**

The Selection Committee will use the same Reviewing Rubrics as used in recent years, however, given the Covid-19 related restrictions on travel and racing in the past 12 months, the committee may give a somewhat higher priority to the Physical Ability and Training criteria described below, in the long term period prior to the selection period as well as in the period between the time of publication of these selection criteria and the petition deadline.

The Selection Committee will use the rubrics described below to evaluate each petition in consideration. Athletes whose petition criteria receive 3's and 4's in each of the categories will have made a strong argument for inclusion on the JWOC Team. It is unlikely that athletes whose petition criteria receive a score of 1 or 2 in each of the categories will be considered for the JWOC Team. The Selections Committee may assign fractions of points where deemed appropriate.

Criteria	1 Point	2 Points	3 Points	4 Points
Circumstance of situation	<p>Circumstances for petition are under the athlete's control; petitioning athlete took no action to affect the situation; petition does not connect lack of performance or poor performance to the circumstances; and there is no explanation of similar patterns in athlete's training and racing habits.</p>	<p>Circumstances for petition are under athlete's control; petitioning athlete took action to affect the situation; petition connects lack of performance or poor performance to the circumstances; and explanation of similar patterns in athlete's training and racing suggest athlete took no preemptive action to affect the habits that created the situation.</p>	<p>Circumstances for petition are out of athlete's control; petitioning athlete did not reach out for support before petitioning; petition does not connect lack of performance or poor performance to the circumstances; and explanation of circumstances suggests that reaching out would have positively affected the situation.</p>	<p>Circumstances for petition are out of athlete's control; petitioning athlete reached out for support before petitioning; petition connects lack of performance or poor performance with circumstances; and explanation of circumstances suggests that preemptively reaching out was impossible.</p>

## Head to head competition

Petitioning athlete has...	never beaten athletes in 1st – 8th place on the Scoring List.	beaten athletes in 7th – 8th place on the Scoring List 75% of the time, including 1-2 wins against athletes in the top 6 spots.	beaten athletes in 5th – 8th place on the Scoring List 75% of the time, including 1-2 wins against athletes in the top 4 spots.	beaten athletes in 4th – 8th place on the Scoring List 75% of the time, including 2+ wins against athletes in the top 3 spots.
Past performance at National and International competitions				
Petitioning athlete has...	attended fewer than 4 days of racing in the last 6-12 months; unexplainable finishes in the bottom 40% in national races; no international racing experience; and placed in the bottom 45% in championships and pressure situations.	attended 4-6 days of racing in the last 6-12 months; unexplainable finishes in the bottom 55% of competitions ; 1-3 days of international racing experience; and placed in the 45-70th percentile in championships and pressure situations.	attended 6-10 days of racing in the last 6-12 months; explainable races in the bottom 40% in national races; 3-6 days of international racing experience; and placed in the 70-85th percentile in championships and pressure situations.	10+ days of racing in the past 6-12 months; explainable races in the bottom 55% of competitions ; 7+ international racing day experiences; and placed in the 85-100th percentile in championships and pressure situations.

Physical ability				
Petitioning athlete's 3K time is...	slower than: Men: 10:30 Women: 12:30	equal to or faster than: Men: 10:20 Women: 12: 20	equal to or faster than: Men: 10:10 Women: 12:10	equal to or faster than: Men: 10:00 Women: 12:00
Training				

Petitioning athlete has...	trained less than 3 hours a week on average for the last 6 months; and attended no training camps in the past 12 months.	trained between 3 and 5 hours a week on average over the last 6 months; and attended 1 training camp in the last 12 months.	trained between 5 and 7 hours a week on average over the last 6 months; and attended 2 training camps in the last 12 months.	trained 7 or more hours a week on average over the last 6 months; and attended 3+ training camps in the last 12 months.
Petitioning athlete's training includes...	no evidence of physical conditioning; no hard running workouts; and no regular orienteering training.	core and strengthening 1-2 times a week; one hard running workout a week; and regular orienteering training once a month.	core 3-4 times a week and lifts 1 time per week; one hard running workout a week, and a long run; and regular orienteering training 2-3 times a month.	3-4 core workouts a week and 1-2 days of comprehensive lifting program; two hard running workouts a week and a long run; and regular orienteering training 4+ times a month.

NOTE: The Selections Committee may award 3's and 4's for lower competitive percentages in cases where a field is highly competitive.

## **Selection Committee**

As per Orienteering USA rules, the Selection Committee shall be composed of the:

- U.S. Junior Team Coach (JTC) or designee;
- U.S. Junior Team Administrator (JTA) or designee; and
- Orienteering USA Vice President of Competition (VP Comp) or designee.

All members of the Selection Committee shall be members of Orienteering USA. If the JTA or VP Comp believes that she/he is unable to fulfill her/his duties as a Selection Committee member, he/she may designate a replacement, aka “designee.”

Selection Committee members shall be familiar with and abide by the Orienteering USA [Conflict of Interest Policy](#) (PDF; opens in new window). If a Selection Committee member has an unavoidable conflict of interest — e.g., family relationship with one or more candidates — he/she must resign from the Selection Committee, and a replacement will be designated by the VP of Competition.

**2021 Selection Committee:** Jon Torrance, Erin Schirm, Anton Salmenkylä