
**USA Deaf Men's & Women's National Volleyball Teams
Athlete Selection Criteria**

Title: National Volleyball Athlete Selection Criteria.

Time Frame:

Selection for the US Men's and Women's National Teams shall be based on performances at volleyball competitions and training camps during a three-year period (2014-2017):

- ✓ Women's Volleyball Tryout – June 5-7, 2015
- ✓ Men's Volleyball Tryout – June 5-7, 2015
- ✓ 2016/2017 USA Volleyball Open Championships – TBA
- ✓ Training Camp for 2015 Pan American Deaf Games
- ✓ 2015 Pan American Deaf Games – TBA
- ✓ Training Camp for 2016 World Volleyball Championships – TBA
- ✓ 2016 World Volleyball Championships – TBA
- ✓ Training Camp for 2017 Summer Deaflympics – Samsun, Turkey – July 2017
- ✓ 2017 Summer Deaflympics – Samsun, Turkey – July 18-30, 2017

Intent of Criteria:

The criteria for selection of National and Development Team members of the Men's and Women's Volleyball program are intended to be used as a guideline only. Such criteria are a general basis in which athletes interested in becoming part of the National Teams can expect to adhere by. The criteria shall be used in conjunction with the judgment and selection by the Men's and Women's Head Coaches in making personnel decisions.

Press Releases:

Information regarding the National Volleyball Athlete Tryouts shall be distributed through, but not limited to, e-mail, e-list, affiliated volleyball organizations (USA Volleyball and USA Deaf Sports Federation), American Volleyball Coaches Association (AVCA), deaf publications and clubs, high school associations, and universities. Such information shall include a reference to the entire criteria herein.

Athlete Selection Committee:

The Athlete Selection Committee shall consist of the following three individuals:

1. Head Coach
2. Former Deaflympic volleyball athlete
3. At least one CAP-certified coach

The Head Coach shall reserve the right to recruit and appoint competent individuals to assist in evaluations and recommendations. These evaluations and recommendations would be provided at the conclusion of each tryout or skills evaluation session.

Performance Criteria:

Evaluation of athletes shall be based on your skills/position, knowledge in both defense and offense, and Attitude & Character.

A National/Development Team Member shall:

1. Be selected at either:
 - a. national open tryouts, or
 - b. Individual recruiting tryouts.
2. Show a proficiency in the skills of volleyball to warrant his/her participation at an international level, generally to be considered as an A-rated USA Volleyball Indoor level.

3. Adhere to continuous physical workout regimens supporting the physical demands of consecutive match play as well as participation in individual practice, club, college, or other organized volleyball competitions.
4. Attend mandatory practices and/or competitions during his/her National/Development Volleyball Teams participation and through 2017 Summer Deaflympics.
5. Maintain contact with the coaching staff and keep staff informed about training regimens and other pertinent information from time of selection until 2017 Summer Deaflympics.
6. Submit himself/herself without any hesitation and reservation to all doping control policies and procedures of USADSF, International Committee of Sports for the Deaf (ICSD) and World AntiDoping Agency (WADA).
7. Exhibit good sportsmanship and character.
8. Be recognized as a member of the National Team Pool (maximum 15) and the Development Team Pool (maximum 12) until final selection by Head Coach prior to submittal of the top 12 athletes to USADSF by the deadline set by USADSF.

Mandatory Eligibility Requirements:

1. Have a hearing loss of at least 55 dB (3-tone frequency average at 500, 1000, and 2000 Hz, ISO 1964) in the better ear, as documented on a recent audiologist-certified audiogram.
2. Possession of United States citizenship.
3. Possession of a valid identity card (e.g. driver's license).
4. Possession of a valid passport for international competitions (valid at least 6 months past conclusion of an international event (Pan Am Games/World Championship/Summer Deaflympics)).
5. Member of USA Deaf Sports Federation in good standing.
6. Sign and abide by USADSF's *Code of Conduct* and any other applicable forms.
7. Knowledge of USADSF's *Due Process* procedures.
8. Be at least 16 years of age or junior in high school at time of evaluation.

Removal and Replacement Procedures:

The Head Coaches, USA Deaf Volleyball, and USADSF Board shall reserve the right to remove any athlete from the National and Development Team Pool if the athlete is unable to meet or abide by any requirement in these selection criteria. Examples include, but not limited to, injury, illness, unexcused absence, misconduct, unsatisfactory training regimen, poor competition performance, and inability to meet fundraising deadlines.

Recommendations to USA Deaf Sports Federation:

After having the US Men's and Women's National Team rosters finalized by Head Coaches, the USA Deaf Volleyball shall then recommend the rosters to the Vice-President of NSO Affairs. Per ICSD regulations, each roster list shall be limited to twelve (12) athletes.

Due Process:

All National and Development Team candidates and members shall have the right to obtain due process in accordance with the provisions of the USA Deaf Sports Federation bylaws if they feel any part of the evaluation, selection, and removal processes is biased or unjust.

USA Deaf Volleyball's Statement

We encourage all types of athletes to try out for the Men's and Women's National and Development Volleyball Teams. We reward athleticism and dedication with training and coaching that will allow each athlete to maximize his/her potential and enjoyment in the program. We want volleyball athletes to experience the team spirit and unity that make our volleyball organization successful.