

**USA Wrestling**  
**ATHLETE SELECTION PROCEDURES**  
**2012 OLYMPIC GAMES**  
**Men's Freestyle**  
**February 11, 2011**

**I. SELECTION SYSTEM**

A. Provide the minimum eligibility requirements for an athlete to be considered for nomination to the Team:

1. Citizenship:

Athlete must be a USA Citizen, or have proof of swearing in date to become a U.S. citizen prior to the nomination date and hold a valid U.S. passport that will not expire for six months after the conclusion of the Games.

2. Minimum International Federation (IF) and/or Continental Federation (CF) (PAG only) standards for participation (if any):

Athlete must turn a minimum of 18 years of age on or before December 31, 2012 and must carry a passport of the country of which they will be representing.

3. Other requirements (if any):

Athlete must be a current Athlete member of USA Wrestling in good standing.

B. Tryout Events:

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

- 2012 Olympic Trials Iowa City, IA April 22-23, 2012
- See Section I.C. for other possible selection mechanisms

2. Provide event names, dates, locations and description of how athletes qualify for any "preliminary or qualifying" events or procedures that are prerequisites to attend any of the trials, events or camps listed above in B. 1 (if any).

The athlete must first qualify for the 2012 Olympic Trials through the following process.



## **Past USA World and Olympic Team members**

Any past USA World and/or Olympic Team member is automatically qualified to enter the 2012 Olympic Trials; otherwise athletes must qualify through any of the following means.

### **2011 World Team Trials**

**June, 2011**

The Top 3 from each of the 7 weight classes at the 2011 World Team Trials will earn a spot in the 2012 Olympic Trials.

### **2011 Sunkist and NYAC competitions**

**TBD**

The highest placed athlete from each of the 7 weight classes at the 2011 Sunkist and NYAC competitions that hasn't already qualified for the 2012 Olympic Trials will earn a spot in the 2012 Olympic Trials. Athletes must place in the top 4 to qualify.

### **2011 Olympic Trials Qualifier**

**December, 2011**

The Top 3 highest placed athletes from each of the 7 weight classes at the 2011 Olympic Trials Qualifier that haven't already qualified for the 2012 Olympic Trials will earn a spot in the 2012 Olympic Trials.

### **2012 Dave Schultz**

**January, 2012**

The highest placed athlete from each of the 7 weight classes at the 2012 Dave Schultz that hasn't already qualified for the 2012 Olympic Trials will earn a spot in the 2012 Olympic Trials. Athletes must place in the top 6 to qualify.

### **Last Chance Olympic Trials Qualifier**

**TBD**

The Top 2 highest placed athletes from each of the 7 weight classes at the Last Chance Olympic Trials Qualifier that haven't already qualified for the 2012 Olympic Trials will earn a spot in the 2012 Olympic Trials.

### **Wild-Card Selection**

There will be a maximum of 10 total athletes allowed into the 2012 Olympic Trials through the Wild-Card process. The Freestyle



National Coach will take petitions for Wild-Cards up until four calendar days after the Last Chance Olympic Trials Qualifier. The Freestyle National Coach will recommend individuals based on competitive readiness for the 2012 Olympic Trials, injury or illness, and the ability to be competitive at the Olympic Games to a three person committee. The committee will then either approve or deny each Wild-Card petitioner individually. The three person committee will consist of the Chair of the Men's Freestyle Sport Committee, an Athlete Representative and a member appointed by USA Wrestling.

The final schedule of selection events will be finalized and published on or before May 1, 2011 and shall be available on USA Wrestling's website [www.themat.com](http://www.themat.com).

- C. Provide a comprehensive, step-by-step description of the method that explains how athletes will go through the selection process to become Team nominees (including maximum Team size).

### **2012 Olympic Trials**

**April 22-23, 2012**

The tournament procedures for the 2012 Olympic Trials may be found at <http://www.usawrestling.org/forms/08-12TrialsProcedure.pdf>.

The individuals that qualify from the events listed in Section I.B.2 will compete in the 2012 Olympic Team Trials to be held on April 22-23, 2012 in Iowa City, IA.

### **Weight category is qualified for the Olympic Games prior to the 2012 Olympic Trials and has a 2011 World Championship medalist**

#### **1. Part One (Olympic Team Trials Tournament)**

Part One will determine who will wrestle the 2011 World Championship medalist (the 2011 World Championship medalist earns a bye-out of Part One, provided he is competing in the same weight class in which he won his World Championship medal). The finals of Part One will be a single match unless there is a delay then it will be the best of three matches.

#### **2. Part Two (best of 3 match final wrestle-off)**

The winner of part one will face the 2011 World Championships medalist in a best of three matches. If the winner of Part Two is the 2011 World Championship medalist he will be USA Wrestling's



designee for the 2012 Olympic Games.

Both Parts One and Two of the 2012 Olympic Trials will be held on the same day, except when a request for delay is granted for Part Two. The 2011 World Championship medalist can request a delay in Part Two for medical reasons prior to the weigh-in (no request for delay will be allowed, or granted, after weigh-in). The request for a delay shall be considered and ruled upon by the Freestyle Sport Committee. If a delay is granted, the Freestyle National Coach with the two athletes involved shall determine the date for conducting Part Two of the Trials. If an agreement cannot be reached by the two individuals above then the Freestyle Sport Committee will determine the date and place. The wrestle-off must be held prior to the sport entry deadline June 18, 2012.

However, if for any reason the 2011 World Championships medalist does not compete, or is not able to compete, in Part Two prior to the sport entry date of June 18, 2012 of the Olympic Games Team, the winner of Part One shall be declared the winner of Part Two and will be USA Wrestling's designee for the 2012 Olympic Games.

If the winner of Part 1 does not compete, or is not able to compete, in Part Two prior to the sport entry date of June 18, 2012 the 2011 World Championships medalist shall be declared the winner of Part Two and will be USA Wrestling's designee for the 2012 Olympic Games.

If the 2011 World medalist does not win 2012 Olympic Trials the 2011 World Medalist and the 2012 Olympic Trials winner will compete in a post-Olympic Trials international competition at a place and date TBD by the Freestyle National Coach. The highest medaling athlete will be USA Wrestling's designee to the Olympic Team. If both athletes earn a bronze medal or both athletes medal and the only loss for each is from the same athlete or neither athlete earns a medal then the winner of the 2012 Olympic Team Trials will be USA Wrestling's designee to the Olympic Team.

In the case of a delay in the best of three final wrestle-off; if the final best of three wrestle-off for the Olympic Team is delayed and takes place after a deadline to be able to compete in an international tournament then the best of three wrestle-off will determine USA Wrestling's designee to the Olympic Team.



**Weight category is qualified for the Olympic Games prior to the 2012 Olympic Trials but doesn't have a 2011 World Championship medalist**

**Part One (Olympic Team Trials Tournament)**

The finals will be a best of three matches. Part Two will not take place.

Any champion from the Winter Tours listed below that finish second at the 2012 Olympic Trials will compete in a post-Olympic Trials international competition with the 2012 Olympic Trials champion and, if necessary, the athlete receiving a World Team Member Medical Petition at a place and date TBD by the Freestyle National Coach. The highest medaling athlete will be USA Wrestling's designee to the Olympic Team. If the two highest medaling athletes both earn a bronze medal or athletes medal and the only loss for them is from the same athlete or none of the athletes earns a medal then the winner of the 2012 Olympic Trials will be USA Wrestling's designee to the Olympic Team.

Exception: If both finalists in the 2012 Olympic Trials are Winter Tour Champions then the winner of the 2012 Olympic Trials will be USA Wrestling's designee to the Olympic Team.

**2012 Qualifying Winter Tours**

Yariguin	Russia
Yasar Dogu	Turkey
Takhti	Iran
Medved	Belarus
Kolov	Bulgaria

**World Team Member Medical Petition**

An athlete that doesn't compete at the 2012 Olympic Trials due to medical reasons may petition to compete in an international competition. If a petition is accepted the athlete would be sent to an international competition TBD by the Freestyle National Coach. If the wrestler places in the top 5 and places higher than the 2012 Olympic Trials Champion at the competition or a Winter Tour champion that finished second at the 2012 Olympic Trials he would be eligible to wrestle-off with the 2012 Olympic Trials Champion. The wrestle-off will be at scratch weight with the site and date for the competition determined as currently provided by USAW rules.

The medical petition process is governed by the following rules:



- The individual must be a potential Olympic medal candidate
- The individual must have been a World Team member during 2009-2011
- The Freestyle National Coach will make a recommendation regarding the petition
- The petition must be approved by a three person committee appointed by USA Wrestling
- A maximum of two petitions will be granted in total
- Medical reasons must be certified by an approved USA Wrestling physician
- The deadline for submitting a petition will prior to the weigh-ins of the 2012 Olympic Trials.

**Weight categories are not qualified into the Olympic Games prior to the 2012 Olympic Trials**

USA Wrestling would have to qualify the weight category at one of the following World Olympic Games qualifying tournaments.

**World Olympic Games qualifying tournament – 3<sup>rd</sup> phase**

**Apr. 25-29, 2012**

**Taiyuan, CHN**

**World Olympic Games qualifying tournament – 4<sup>th</sup> phase**

**May 2-6, 2012**

**Helsinki, FIN**

Since the World Olympic Games qualifying tournaments are close to the 2012 Olympic Trials, USA Wrestling will select two athletes to participate at the World Olympic Games qualifying tournament. These athletes will not compete at the 2012 Olympic Trials. These individuals will be selected by the Freestyle National Coach based on his evaluation of which athletes have the best possibility of qualifying the weight category at the World Olympic qualifying tournament.

If the weight category is qualified at these World Olympic Games qualifying tournament the individual that qualifies the weight division into the Olympic Games will be the number one seed at a Secondary 2012 Olympic Trials. All remaining individuals (the other individual held out to compete in the World Olympic Games qualifying tournament, the winner of the 2012 Olympic Trials, and if necessary, the athlete(s) receiving a medical petition will wrestle in a single match format and the winner will compete in a best of three matches against the individual that qualified the weight division. The winner will be USA Wrestling's designee to the Olympic Team.

**World Team Member Medical Petition**



An athlete that doesn't compete at the 2012 Olympic Trials due to medical reasons may petition to compete in the Secondary 2012 Olympic Trials. If a petition is accepted the athlete would be able to compete in the Secondary 2012 Olympic Trials.

The medical petition process is governed by the following rules:

- The individual must be a potential Olympic medal candidate
- The individual must have been a World Team member during 2009-2011
- The Freestyle National Coach will make a recommendation regarding the petition
- The petition must be approved by a three person committee
- A maximum of two petitions will be granted in total.
- Medical reasons must be certified by an approved USA Wrestling physician
- The deadline for submitting a petition will prior to the weigh-ins of the 2012 Olympic Trials.

For more information on the 2012 Olympic Games Team Trials format go to [www.themat.com](http://www.themat.com) homepage and under National Teams go to Team Selection Criteria and open Team Trials Procedures.

- D. Provide the names of all committees/groups who oversee the selection process, including the names and titles of the current members.

The National Staff at USA Wrestling is responsible for making sure the Trials procedures are followed. The National Teams Director is the main person on staff that oversees the process.

## II. DISCRETIONARY SELECTION (if applicable)

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

Discretion may be needed in the case of a replacement athlete. USA Wrestling needs to make sure that athlete is prepared to compete at the highest level.

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

If the Olympic Games Team member from any weight class is removed for injury, illness or extenuating circumstances before the sport entry



deadline June 18, 2012, the Freestyle Sport Committee shall assign the position to the next ranked athlete at the weight class in question up to and including the sixth ranked wrestler from the 2012 Olympic Games Trials. This is provided the next-ranked wrestler is present and substantially completing the requirements of the 2012 Team Training camp as determined by the Freestyle Sport Committee of USA Wrestling.

Should the Freestyle Sport Committee be unable to fill the Olympic Games Team position based on the above criteria, the Freestyle Sport Committee shall invite wrestlers that placed in the top eight in the 2012 Olympic Games Team Trials to a challenge tournament to determine the 2012 Olympic Games replacement athlete. The winner of the challenge tournament will become the replacement athlete.

C. Discretionary Selection Committee

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

Freestyle Sport Committee:

Jared Frayer-Athlete Rep	Nate Gallick-Athlete Rep
Greg Strobel-1 <sup>st</sup> VP/Chair	Mark Reiland-Jr Olympic Comm Rep
Archie Randall-At Large	Rick Tucci-At Large
Chris Bono-At large	Sonny Greenhalgh-At Large

### III. REMOVAL OF ATHLETES

- A. Prior to acceptance of nominations by the USOC, USA Wrestling has jurisdiction over potential nominees.

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

- Voluntary withdrawal. Athlete must submit a written letter to the USA Wrestling Executive Director.
- Injury or illness as certified by an approved USA Wrestling physician (or medical staff). If an athlete refuses verification of his illness or injury by an approved USA Wrestling physician (or medical staff), his injury will be assumed to be disabling and he may be removed.
- Violation of the USA Wrestling's Code of Conduct. (Attachment A)
- Not following the mandated weight control plan. In an effort to



maximize performance, all Olympic team members will have a mandated weight control plan. Each wrestler will meet with the Freestyle National Coaching and Medical Staff to lay out his particular plan. Failure to follow the plan may be grounds for removal from the team.

An athlete who is removed from the Team pursuant to this provision has the right to a hearing per the USA Wrestling's Constitution and Bylaws per Article XI-XIV or the USOC's Bylaws, Section 9.

- B. After acceptance of nominations by the USOC, the USOC has jurisdiction over the Team under the USOC Code of Conduct and Grievance Procedures. This occurs no earlier than 45 days and no later than 30 days prior to the Opening Ceremonies of the Games (unless expressly waived by the USOC).

A Team member who is accepted by the USOC is subject to the USOC Code of Conduct and Grievance Procedures.

- C. An athlete may be removed as a nominee to the Team or from the Team at any time for violation of IOC, PASO, IPC, WADA, IF, USADA and/or USOC anti-doping protocol, policies and procedures, as applicable. In such instances, the adjudication process will be managed through the United States Anti-Doping Agency.

#### **IV. REPLACEMENT OF ATHLETES**

- A. Describe the process by which the replacement pool of athletes will be identified:

The Freestyle Sport Committee will be notified upon the need to replace an athlete. The Freestyle Sport Committee will nominate the next ranked athlete at the weight class in question up to and including the sixth-ranked athlete from the 2012 Olympic Games Team Trials provided they are substantially completing the requirements of the Team Training Camp as determined by the National Coach. See Section II.

- B. Describe how the replacement athlete(s) will be selected, should a vacancy occur:
  - i. prior to acceptance of nominations by the USOC:

See Section II and IV.A.



- ii. after acceptance of nominations by the USOC:

See Section II and IV.A

- C. Identify the group or committee that will be responsible for making athlete replacement determinations:

- i. Group or committee who determines the replacement pool:

The Freestyle Sport Committee, see Section II. C.

- ii. Group or committee who determines a replacement to the Team:

- a. prior to acceptance of nominations by the USOC:

The Freestyle Sport Committee, see Section II. C.

- b. after acceptance of nominations by the USOC:

The Freestyle Sport Committee, see Section II. C.

## V. SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

USA Wrestling 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 Ceremonies of the Games.

## VI. REQUIRED DOCUMENTS

The following documents are required to be signed by an athlete as a condition of nomination to the Pan American Games and are included as attachments:

USA Wrestling Code of Conduct (Attachment A)

## VII. PUBLICITY/DISTRIBUTION OF PROCEDURES

The USOC approved Selection Procedures (complete and unaltered) will be posted/published by the USA Wrestling in the following locations and will include the USOC approval date:

- A. NGB/PSO Web site: [www.themat.com](http://www.themat.com)



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

- B. NGB/PSO Official Publication (if any): USA Wrestler magazine
- C. Other: USA Wrestling will send an e-mail to the National Coaching Pool and the athlete data base. A copy of the selection procedures will also be mailed to the top 8 ranked athletes at the Senior level of each weight class, the NCAA Div. I coaches and USA Wrestling registered senior clubs.

## **VIII. DATE OF NOMINATION**

The Nomination of Athletes form, including replacements, will be announced to all athletes and submitted to the USOC on or before June 18, 2012.

## **IX. MANDATORY TRAINING AND/OR COMPETITION**

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

The date of the 2012 Team Training camp has yet to be determined. The Team will be required to participate. The training camp schedule will be set at least six months prior to the Team selection. The schedule will be worked out through the Freestyle National Coach.

In an effort to maximize performance, all Olympic team members will have a mandated weight control plan. Each wrestler will meet with the Freestyle National Coaching and Medical Staff to lay out his particular plan. Failure to follow the plan may be grounds for removal from the team.

## **X. ANTI-DOPING REQUIREMENTS**

Athletes must adhere to all IOC, IPC, PASO, WADA, IF, USADA and USOC anti-doping protocols, policies and procedures, as applicable. This includes participation in Out-of-Competition Testing as required by the IOC, IPC, PASO, WADA, IF, USADA and USOC Rules, as applicable.

## **XI. DEVELOPMENT OF SELECTION PROCEDURES**

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

Freestyle Sport Committee                      Section II (C)



## XII. NGB/PSO BYLAWS AND GRIEVANCE PROCEDURES

The USA Wrestling Bylaws and Grievance Procedures can be found at: [themat.com](http://themat.com). There is a link to the Bylaws on the Homepage. Copies of the Bylaws are also available upon request from the USA Wrestling office. Articles XI through XIV deal with the grievance procedures.

## XIII. INTERNATIONAL DISCLAIMER

These procedures are based on IOC, IPC, PASO, as applicable, and/or FILA rules and regulations as presently known and understood. Any change in the selection procedures caused by a change in IOC, IPC, PASO, as applicable, and/or FILA rules and regulations will be distributed to the affected athletes immediately. The selection criteria are based on the latest information available to USA Wrestling. 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 USOC.

## XIV. ATHLETE OMBUDSMAN

Athletes who have questions regarding their opportunity to compete that are not answered by USA Wrestling may contact the USOC Athlete Ombudsman, John W. Ruger, by:

- Toll free telephone at (888) ATHLETE (1-888-284-5383)
- E-mail at [john.ruger@usoc.org](mailto:john.ruger@usoc.org)
- [www.888athlete.org](http://www.888athlete.org)

## XV. NGB/PSO SIGNATURES

**I certify that I have read, understand and incorporated our IF and/or CF (PAG only), if applicable, standards/criteria into our Selection Procedures and that the information provided herein regarding Athlete Selection Procedures represents the method approved by USA Wrestling.**

Position	Print Name	Signature	Date
NGB/PSO President or CEO/Executive Director	Rich Bender		


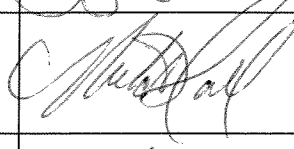
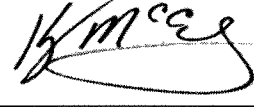


Nat. Team Coach, Head Coach, or Nat. Program Director	Mitch Hull		
USOC Athletes' Advisory Council Representative*	Kerry McCoy		

\*If USOC AAC Representative has delegated authority to the Alternate AAC Representative to sign the Selection Procedures, attach a letter from the AAC Representative indicating the reason he/she has delegated authority.

\*Signature by the AAC Representative constitutes that he/she has read and understands the Selection Procedures and certifies that the Selection Procedures submitted represent the method approved by the NGB/PSO. If the AAC Representative reads and does not agree with the Athlete Selection Procedures being submitted by the NGB/PSO, he/she may submit those reasons in writing to his/her Sport Performance representative.



NGB/PSO President or CEO/Executive Director	Rich Bender		March 8, 2011
Nat. Team Coach, Head Coach, or Nat. Program Director	Mitch Hull		March 9, 2011
USOC Athletes' Advisory Council Representative*	Kerry McCoy		3/3/11

\*If USOC AAC Representative has delegated authority to the Alternate AAC Representative to sign the Selection Procedures, attach a letter from the AAC Representative indicating the reason he/she has delegated authority.

\*Signature by the AAC Representative constitutes that he/she has read and understands the Selection Procedures and certifies that the Selection Procedures submitted represent the method approved by the NGB/PSO. If the AAC Representative reads and does not agree with the Athlete Selection Procedures being submitted by the NGB/PSO, he/she may submit those reasons in writing to his/her Sport Performance representative.



## USA Wrestling Code of Conduct

### ATHLETE PLEDGE

I pledge to uphold the spirit of the USA Wrestling Code of Conduct (the “Code”), which offers a guide to my conduct as a member of the National Team. I acknowledge that I have a right to a hearing if my opportunity to compete is denied or if I am charged with a violation of this Code.

I have familiarized myself with the Code and understand that acceptance of its provisions is a condition of my selection to the National Team.

**As a Member of the Team, I hereby promise and agree that I:**

- will abide by all rules related to the Team selection procedures as approved by USA Wrestling;
- have acted and will act in a sportsmanlike manner consistent with the spirit of fair play and responsible conduct;
- will maintain a level of fitness and competitive readiness that will permit my performance to be at the maximum of my abilities;
- will not commit a doping violation as defined by the International Olympic Committee (IOC), World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA), the United States Anti-Doping Agency (USADA), the United States Olympic Committee (USOC) or the FILA rules;
- am not currently serving a doping violation and/or do not have a pending or unresolved doping charge;
- will not engage in any conduct that is criminal under any laws applicable to me, including, but not limited to laws governing the possession and use of drugs and alcohol and providing of drugs to any person and of alcohol to minors;
- am eligible to compete under the rules of FILA;
- will refrain from conduct detracting from my ability or that of my teammates to attain peak performance;



- will respect the property of others whether personal or public;
- will respect members of my Team, other teams, spectators and officials, and engage in no form of discriminatory behavior or verbal, physical or sexual harassment or abuse;
- will follow my Team's rules, including by way of example, rules regarding curfew and required attendance at team meetings;
- am aware that USA Wrestling sponsors, suppliers and licensees provide critical support for the Team and, in recognition of this fact, I will wear designated USA Wrestling apparel at all official Team functions and events;
- will not conceal or cover-up any USA Wrestling sponsor, supplier or licensee brand or other identification appearing on my USA Wrestling apparel;
- agree to be filmed and photographed by the official photographer(s) and network(s) of USA Wrestling under conditions authorized by USA Wrestling and give event organizers and USA Wrestling the right to use my name, picture, likeness, and biographical information before, during and after the period of my participation in these activities to promote the activity in which I participate or to promote the success of the team on which I compete; in no event may USA Wrestling or the event organizers use or authorize the use of my name, picture, likeness, voice and biographical information for the purpose of trade, including any use in a manner that would imply an endorsement of any company, product, or service, without my written permission;
- will not use or authorize the use of photographs, films or videos of myself in my USA Wrestling apparel or equipment or the use of the USA Wrestling logo for the purpose of trade, without the prior written consent of the USA Wrestling (which consent shall not be unreasonably withheld);
- will act in a way that will bring respect and honor to myself, my teammates, USA Wrestling and the United States; and
- will remember that at all times I am an ambassador for my sport, my country and the Olympic Movement.

ATHLETE OMBUDSMAN
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I may contact the USOC Athlete Ombudsman,  
toll free at 888.ATHLETE (888.284.5383) or [John.Ruger@usoc.org](mailto:John.Ruger@usoc.org)  
for further information regarding my rights under this Code  
that are not answered by USA Wrestling.



**PARTICIPANTS' AFFIRMATION**

I have read and accept this Code of Conduct. I agree to the rules, guidelines, jurisdiction and procedures stated in these documents as a condition of being selected to participate as a member of the Team.

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Signature

Date

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NGB Name

Sport

<p><b>PARENT/GUARDIAN CERTIFICATION</b> <b>(For Participants Under the Age of 18 as of Date of Signature)</b></p>
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Signature

Date

Relationship (Parent or Guardian)