

# NGB ATHLETE SELECTION PROCEDURES

## 2004 Olympic Procedures

### *Soccer – Women*

#### I. Selection System

- A. Prerequisites: Athletes who are citizens of the United States at the time of nomination, and who are eligible under all applicable eligibility rules for participation as defined by the Federation International de Football Association (FIFA), are eligible to be selected as a member of the US Soccer Federation's (USSF) Women's National Team (Olympic) Player Pool (Pool). Nominated athletes for the 2004 Olympic Games Team will come from among those athletes who are members of the Pool at the time of selections.
- B. US Soccer Women's National Team Player Pool: Athletes who are members of the Pool shall include the following:
- Athletes selected as a member of US Soccer's Women's National Team or Women's Youth National Teams (U-21, U-19) during the 2001-04 quadrennium.
  - Athletes identified through US Soccer's Olympic Development Program (ODP).
  - Athletes identified through US Soccer's professional club/league system (WUSA)
  - Athletes identified through collegiate soccer programs.

Selection as a member of the Pool at any time during the quadrennium does not guarantee selection to the Pool for the entire quadrennium, nor does it guarantee selection to participate in any future US Soccer Federation programs. The selection procedure for the Olympic Games roster is such that the Head Coach submits a recommended list of athletes to the USSF

President , Secretary General and Athlete Representative who meets the USOC definition of an athlete for review and approval.

- C. Ongoing Scouting (Identification / Evaluation): Members of the Women's National Coaching Staff will observe athletes on a regular basis at various events throughout the quadrennium. Some of these events include, but are not limited to: club/league matches and competitions; USSF Youth National Team events; ODP State and Regional tournaments; inter-collegiate competition; and club tournaments. General scouting will be conducted so that athletes can be identified who perform at a level consistent with the current international field. Players identified and evaluated through the scouting process will be considered for placement in the Pool, and potentially invited to participate in an Evaluative Event (training camp, foreign tour, etc.).
- D. Selection Criteria: In selecting athletes to be members of the Women's National Team, the USSF coaching staff will consider the information below. However, the general philosophy that will prevail throughout our evaluation / selection process will be to identify the athletes that will make up the "best team". In addition, the coaching staff is required to submit individual player evaluations after each event. These evaluations are utilized when making final selections and will be kept 6 months after the Closing Ceremonies of the 2004 Olympic Games and will be made available to the USOC upon request.
- Current and Past Performance technical, tactical, physical, psychological
  - Other considerations potential to perform under pressure and contributions on/off the field, such as; teamwork, enthusiasm, versatility, maturity, aggressiveness, leadership, competitive spirit, communication

## II. Discretionary Selection

- A. Subjectivity: The sport of soccer is not a measured or timed event. In the selection of athletes who will compete together as a team, it is impossible to make selection decisions based solely upon objective criteria. It is the belief of the USSF that selection criteria set out above, which includes subjective

components in the evaluation of performance and ability, will result in the selection of the very best athletes to comprise our team.

- B. Who Selects: For the Olympic Games Team, the Head Coach, with advice from and consultation with his/her coaching staff submits a recommended list of athletes (18 athletes plus 3 replacement athletes) to the USSF President, General Secretary and Athlete Representative to review and approve for nomination.

### III. Evaluative Events

Athletes are evaluated at all Women's National Team events during the quadrennium. Please find a list of upcoming events for 2003/04. These events are subject to change. The team will be notified at least 30 days in advance.

|                                  |                 |                    |
|----------------------------------|-----------------|--------------------|
| ▪ International Match vs England | May 17, 2003    | Birmingham, AL     |
| ▪ International Match vs Ireland | June 14, 2003   | Salt Lake City, UT |
| ▪ International Match vs Brazil  | July 13, 2003   | New Orleans, LA    |
| ▪ Nike US Women's Cup            | Sept. 2003      | LA / San Jose      |
| ▪ FIFA Women's World Cup         | Sept./Oct. 2003 | USA                |
| ▪ Training Camp                  | Jan. 2004       | TBD                |
| ▪ Concacaf Qualifying            | Feb. 2004       | Mexico             |

### IV. Publicity/Distribution of Procedures

These selection procedures will be posted on the USSF web-site, *www.ussoccer.com*, and USSF's Media Guide within thirty (30) days of approval from the USOC.

### V. Date of Nomination

The US Soccer Federation will submit our final nominated athletes (18 plus 3 replacements) to the USOC for the 2004 Olympic Games by no later than **July 11, 2004**.

## **VI. Mandatory Training**

The only US Soccer mandated training will be a mini-camp (3-4 days) immediately prior to departing for the Olympic Games. In addition, US Soccer will make concessions for athletes who are unable to attend due to extreme circumstances (e.g. death in the family).

## **VII. Replacement Players**

Should an athlete who is called into an event be unable to participate due to illness, injury or other availability issues (e.g. professional club commitments) that player would be replaced with another athlete within the current National Team Pool. All consideration will be given to the absent athlete so that he/she may resume training with the team as soon as possible. Should it be necessary to replace an athlete who has been nominated to the Olympic Games Team due to injury or illness, that athlete's injury would first need to be certified by a USSF prior to team nomination approval by the USOC or by USOC medical doctor after team nomination approval by the USOC. The athlete would then be replaced by one of the three (3) replacement athletes. The Head Coach submits the recommended athlete(s) to the USSF President, General Secretary and Athlete Representative who meets the USOC definition of an athlete for review and approval.

## **VIII. Due Process (USSF and USOC)**

Any athlete may file a grievance with US Soccer regarding her opportunity to participate in, or attempt to qualify for the Olympic Games. The grievance must be in writing and signed under oath by the athlete making it. The grievance must state the names and addresses of the parties against whom it is made, and must include a complete statement of the facts which constitute the grievance, as well as the relief requested. Grievances are resolved by a hearing committee appointed by the President of the US Soccer Federation, which includes 20% athlete representation

who meets the USOC definition of an athlete. A full description of the grievance process can be found in USSF Bylaw 703.

In addition, there is an athlete grievance process through the USOC which is set out in the USOC Constitution & Bylaws (Article IX & Chapter IX) and in the Ted Stevens Olympic and Amateur Sports Act.

## **IX. USOC Ombudsman**

If an athlete has questions regarding his opportunity to compete that are not answered in these procedures, the athlete may contact the USOC Athlete Ombudsman, Mr. John W. Ruger, by telephone at **888-ATHLETE** or by e-mail at *john.ruger@usoc.org*.

## **X. Disclaimer**

These procedures are based on IOC, USOC and/or FIFA rules and regulations as presently known and understood. Any change in the selection procedures caused by a change in IOC, USOC and/or FIFA rules will be distributed to the affected athletes as soon as practical. The selection criteria are based on the latest information available to the USSF. However, the selections are always subject to unforeseen, intervening circumstances, and realistically have not accounted for every possible contingency.

## **XI. Athlete Representation**

These procedures were developed with the cooperation of US Soccer's duly elected athlete representatives who meet the USOC definition of an athlete. An athlete representative, along with the Secretary General (Executive Director) and the Head Coach, reviews selection procedures, provides input and makes revisions as appropriate.

**Attachment "A"**

**US SOCCER FEDERATION  
Scouting Report Form**

(PRINT USING BLOCK LETTERS ONLY)

|  |   |   |
|--|---|---|
| <input type="text"/>                     | <input type="text"/>                              | <input type="text"/>                      |
| <i>First Name</i>                        | <i>Last Name</i>                                  | <i>MI</i>                                 |
| <input type="text"/>                     |   |   |
| <i>Street Address</i>                    |   |   |
| <input type="text"/>                     | <input type="text"/>                              | <input type="text"/>                      |
| <i>City</i>                              | <i>State</i>                                      | <i>Zip Code</i>                           |
| <input type="text"/>                     | <input type="text"/>                              | <input type="text"/>                      |
| <i>Home Phone – (Area Code) Number</i>   | <i>Parent / Guardian Names</i>                    |   |
| <input type="text"/>                     | <input type="text"/>                              | <input type="text"/>                      |
| <i>Date of Birth (Month-Day-Year)</i>    | <i>Nationality</i>                                | <i>US Citizen: YES NO TBD</i>             |
| <input type="text"/>                     | <input type="text"/>                              | <input type="text"/>                      |
| <i>Club / Team Name</i>                  | <i>Coaches Name</i>                               |   |
| <input type="text"/>                     | <input type="text"/>                              | <input type="text"/>                      |
| <i>Name of Club Director of Coaching</i> | <i>Team Coach Home Phone – (Area Code) Number</i> |   |
| <input type="text"/>                     | <input type="text"/>                              | <input type="text"/>                      |
| <i>Position 1<sup>st</sup></i>           | <i>Position 2<sup>nd</sup></i>                    | <i>Quality of Game Observed</i>           |
| <input type="text"/>                     | <input type="text"/>                              | <input type="text"/>                      |
|  |   | <i>Name of Competition/Event Observed</i> |
|  |   | <input type="text"/>                      |

| <b>EVALUATION</b>      | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | <b>COMMENTS</b> |
|------------------------|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|-----------------|
| Technical Ability      |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |                 |
| Tactical Decisions     |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |                 |
| Physical Qualities     |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |                 |
| Speed                  |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |                 |
| Personality            |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |                 |
| Leadership             |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |                 |
| Game Mentality         |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |                 |
| Communication          |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |                 |
| Dominate Foot          |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |                 |
| <b>OVERALL RANKING</b> |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |                 |

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|  |                                     |                      |                      |                      |
|--|-------------------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| <input type="text"/>                       | <input type="text"/>                | <input type="text"/> | <input type="text"/> | <input type="text"/> |
| <b>Date of Evaluation (Month-Day-Year)</b> | <b>Name of Scout Filling Report</b> | <b>Evaluation No</b> |                      |                      |
| <input type="text"/>                       | <input type="text"/>                | <input type="text"/> | <input type="text"/> | <input type="text"/> |
| <b>Office Use Only / Head Scout</b>        | <b>Office Use Only / Head Scout</b> | <b>Scouting Area</b> |                      |                      |