

# United States *Luge* Association

## U.S. OLYMPIC COMMITTEE (USOC) ELITE ATHLETE HEALTH INSURANCE QUALIFICATION CRITERIA FOR THE 2008-2009 PROGRAM YEAR

This policy sets forth the manner in which an athlete earns an Elite Athlete Health Insurance (EAHI) slot for the 2008-2009 program year.

Based on the number of slots approved for our sport by the USOC (projected to be 12), the USLA will make these slots available to the following groups of athletes, in the priority order specified below, based upon the team selections completed during April of 2008:

- 1.) Senior National Team
- 2.) Senior Select National Team
- 3.) Junior National Team members selected to travel with the Senior Team for the season.

If there are more athletes in the group than slots remaining available, then the athletes will be ranked, with each next highest ranked athlete receiving a slot until all of the slots have been allocated. The ranking will be determined as follows:

Once athletes are divided into one of the above three groups, each athlete's overall Sr. World Cup ranking from the most recent season will be divided by the total number of athletes receiving overall World Cup points for the event in question, and that number will be compared to each athlete's World Championship / Olympic Games ranking from the most recent season, divided by the total number of entrants in the World Championship / Olympic Games for the event in question. The lower number from the two events will be assigned to each athlete, and then the athlete with the lowest number will be ranked highest, and so on, until the athlete with the highest score is ranked lowest. Within each group, athletes who have both sets of rankings will rank ahead of any athlete who only has one ranking (i.e. World Championship / Olympic Game participants will rank ahead of athletes who don't race in those events). Further, within each group, athletes who have only one ranking will rank ahead of any athlete who has no ranking. If one slot remains and a doubles team is ranked next, both athletes will be asked if they want the insurance. If both athletes want the insurance then the remaining slot would go unused.

It is possible for the situation to arise where the remaining number of slots is less than the number of people left in a particular group who also have no ranking. If this situation arises, then USLA's Start Competition, usually held in the summer, will be used to determine the final recipients of EAHI slots. For the purpose of this policy the ranking will be determined as described in the previous paragraph based solely on this one event.

Loss of team membership, for any reason, is grounds for immediate removal from this program. If additional athlete(s) are qualified to use the now available allocations, they will receive them. Should the athlete(s) that lost their team membership gain it back at a later date, they will only regain entry into this program if unused allocations remain available, otherwise they will have to wait until the team selections are completed the following spring (i.e. – the replacement athletes receiving the allocation will not be made to give them back).

Should any slots still remain after the three groups have been offered their allocations then the slots will remain unused.