

United States *Luge* Association

TEAM RELAY SELECTION PROCEDURE

[The feasibility of a Reaction Time Start Test is targeted to be explored, discussed, and if possible, developed for incorporation into this policy for implementation for the 2012-2013 season.]

[This policy only applies to events in the General / Senior class until so changed at a later date by the National Team Committee. While the FIL has expressed the desire of seeing the Team Relay be contested at the junior level, and some tracks might even offer a Team Relay at a junior level event they are hosting (with the blessing of the International Luge Federation), the current IRO only describes a team event for juniors as a non-relay type of event. As such, the coaches will continue to make their selections for junior team event participants on a discretionary basis until such time that the National Team Committee decides otherwise; or a specific governing body (such as the US Olympic Committee) requires us to design a formal Team Selection Process document (such as the Youth Olympic Games) where we are required to address the Team event as part of the selection process document.]

PURPOSE – To provide the method of selecting athletes to participate in World Cup or World Championship Team Relay events.

ELIGIBILITY – Those U.S. athletes, participating in the men's singles, women's singles, and doubles disciplines at the World Cup or World Championship where the Team Relay event will be held, are eligible to be selected to compete in that Team Relay event.

The primary intent of this Team Relay Selection Policy is to select athletes with the fastest run in the World Cup or World Championship men's race, women's race and double's race.

However, taking into consideration the timing of races, and the fact that knowing when the deadline for submitting the US roster of Team Relay participants is not always known at the beginning of the race week, selecting athletes through World Cup or World Championship races is not always possible. Therefore, a race-off in Official Training in all disciplines will occur should the World Cup or World Championship races not be available to use to select athletes to the Team Relay Competition. In the event that the availability of using the World Cup or World Championship races is not known at the time of the race-off, but becomes available after the race-off, then the actual World Cup or World Championship races will be used (and the race-off results not counted). In a World Cup race week or in the World Championship race week, this race off will be held in the last known Official Training session that meets these two conditions:

- A. The session may be used for the race off if, within a discipline, all U.S. athletes/doubles teams (Seeded and non-seeded) are allowed to participate.
- B. The session may be used for the race off if, within a discipline, each athlete/doubles team can take two runs.

In this race off, the U.S. athlete or doubles team with the single fastest run time in their respective disciplines will be selected to participate in the Team Relay event.

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SITUATION #1 - If the deadline for submitting the US roster of Team Relay competitors takes place after the World Cup / World Championships men's singles, women's singles, and doubles disciplines are held, then the results from those races will be used to select athletes to compete in the Team Relay event, and, as a result, will supersede the Official Training race-off results. The U.S. athlete or doubles team with the single fastest run time in their respective disciplines from the World Cup / World Championships will win the right to participate in the Team Relay event.

In the case where there are no U.S. athletes in a World Cup Seeded group in one of the disciplines, and, subsequently, none of them qualify to race in the World Cup for their discipline; then the athlete/doubles team with the single fastest time during the above Official Training race-off will be selected to compete in the Team Relay.

In the case where a discipline's race in the World Cup is canceled, but the Team Relay is still contested, then the athlete/doubles team with the single fastest time during the above Official Training race-off will be selected to compete in the Team Relay.

SITUATION #2 - If one or more of the event disciplines is held after the deadline for submitting the US roster of Team Relay competitors, then, for those disciplines, the results from the Official Training race-off will be used to select athletes to race in the Team Relay event.

NOTE: If an athlete/doubles team, through this policy, qualifies to race in the Team Relay, and either declines to compete or is injured; then the second fastest athlete/doubles team in Situations #1 or #2, as prioritized above, will be selected to be the replacement.