

# 2025-2026 Open Water National Junior Team

## Selection Summary



## 2025-2026 Open Water National Junior Team

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***\*Team will be announced by September 15, 2025***

### **General Criteria**

All athletes must:

- ❖ Be registered USA Swimming members in good standing at the time of selection and throughout their term on the Open Water National Junior Team (“NJT”). USA Swimming may suspend an athlete from the Open Water NJT if they do not remain in good standing, including membership requirements and adherence to the SafeSport Code for the U.S. Olympic & Paralympic Movement, the U.S. Anti-Doping Agency Protocol, the World Anti-Doping Agency’s Code, and any USA Swimming, U.S. Olympic & Paralympic Committee, World Aquatics, or IOC rules and regulations. If an athlete who has qualified for, but has subsequently been suspended from, the Open Water NJT is reinstated, or their suspension is reduced, by a court or body with competent jurisdiction such that the athlete becomes eligible during all or a portion of the term of the 2025-2026 Open Water NJT, their Open Water NJT suspension will be lifted, in accordance with the order from the court or body. If there is an athlete who was otherwise eligible for selection to the Open Water NJT but was not in good standing at the time of selection due to any type of suspension or ineligibility determination, and the suspension or ineligibility determination is later overturned or reduced by a court or body with competent jurisdiction during the term of the 2025-2026 Open Water NJT such that the athlete would have been eligible at the time of selection to the Open Water NJT, the athlete will be added to the Open Water NJT, in accordance with the order from the court or body. In any of the above scenarios where an athlete is added or reinstated to the Open Water NJT, no athlete will be removed as a result of that addition.
- ❖ Be eligible to represent the U.S. in international competition as of September 1, 2025 and must remain eligible to represent the USA in international competition throughout the time on the Open Water NJT. If an athlete changes their sport nationality and is no longer eligible to represent the U.S. in international competition, they will be removed from the Open Water NJT and will not be replaced.
- ❖ Be 18 years or younger on December 31, 2025.
- ❖ Complete and submit the application for a USA Swimming-required criminal background check within five days of being named to the Open Water NJT if 18 years of age or older, or within five days of turning 18-years-old if already on the Open Water NJT at that time. Athletes will not be allowed to participate in certain activities if they have not passed the background check by the time of that activity, so athletes are encouraged to submit the application as soon as possible.

### **Additional Criteria**

- ❖ Athletes who competed for the United States in a 2021-2025 USA Swimming Open Water Operation Gold Event are ineligible for selection.

- ❖ Athletes cannot be on the Open Water NJT and the Open Water National Team in the same year.
- ❖ Athletes will be considered regardless of their year/grade in high school, college, or university, if all other requirements are met.

**Performance Criteria**

- ❖ The best three placing eligible males and the best three placing eligible females from the USA Swimming 10K National Championships (to be held in Sarasota, FL on April 4, 2025) will qualify for the 2025 USA Swimming Open Water NJT. If there are any ties for the third best placing athlete, all athletes involved in the tie will be selected.
- ❖ The best two placing eligible male and the best two placing eligible female finishers from the 2025 USA Swimming 7.5K Junior National Championship (to be held in Sarasota, FL on April 6, 2025) will qualify for the 2025 USA Swimming Open Water NJT. If the athlete has already qualified based on their performance in the USA Swimming 10K National Championship, then the next best finishing swimmer in the 7.5K Junior National Championship will be named to the 2025 USA Swimming Open Water NJT, if they are eligible. If there are any ties for the third best placing athlete, all athletes involved in the tie will be selected.