

## **USA Men and Women Deaf Tennis Athlete Selection Criteria for 2009 Summer Deaflympics**

Title: National Tennis Athlete Selection Criteria

### ***Time Frame:***

The 21<sup>st</sup> Summer Deaflympics will be held in Taipei, Taiwan September 5 to 15, 2009. USA Deaf Sports Federation (USADSF) is seeking athletes for the 2009 Summer Deaflympics. Athletes who are selected will participate in two week training prior to the Summer Deaflympics. They will also be responsible for raising funds to cover the cost of training and participation in the Summer Deaflympics. The exact amount needed to raise funds will be announced by May 1, 2008.

### ***Mandatory Eligibility Requirements:***

Athletes selected to the USA Team must satisfy the following requirements:

1. Be a USA citizen who is eligible to represent USA in 2009 Summer Deaflympics.
2. Have a hearing loss of at least 55 dB in the better ear (3-tone frequency average at 500, 1000 and 2000 Hertz, ISO 1964 Standard).
3. Be a member in good standing with US Tennis Association (USTA), US Deaf Tennis and USADSF.
4. Agree to, sign and abide by USADSF *Honor Code*.
5. Submit him/herself without any reservations to all doping control policies and procedures of the USADSF, International Committee of Sports for the Deaf (ICSD) and World AntiDoping Agency (WADA).
6. Commit to train year-around from the time of selection to the 2009 Summer Deaflympics.
7. Maintain contact with the US Team coaching staff and keep informed about training regimens and competition results from time of selection to the 2009 Summer Deaflympics.
8. Exhibit good sportsmanship and character. Also show positive attitude, coachability, commitment and conditioning.
9. Complete the US Team application packet, which includes providing proof of having or in the process of obtaining a United States passport, and paying a non-refundable US Team application fee of \$100.00 within 30 days of selection.

### ***Tennis Athlete Selection:***

1. Athletes will be selected based on performances and the coaches' decision at the National Qualifier, the National Championships or any registered USTA, high school or college tennis competition.
2. The selection of athletes will be subject to approval of the USADSF Executive Board.
3. The date of the National Qualifier or National Championships will be held one year before the Summer Deaflympics during the summer or fall of 2008 at a site to be decided later.

4. National Qualifier or National Championships will be posted on the USADSF and USTA websites as well as other deaf-related press releases.

***Replacement Procedures:***

Any athlete will be withdrawn from the US Team if, for any reason (including injury or illness), that he/she is unable or unwilling to maintain a training regimen that is necessary for his/her peak performance in the 2009 Summer Deaflympics or does not abide by selection criteria requirements. Athletes will also be withdrawn from the US Team if they do not satisfactorily perform in their fundraising duties required by USTA or USADSF. If an athlete is withdrawn from the US Team, an alternate athlete will be placed on the US Team.

***Selection Committee:***

The selection committee may consist of five members:

Five (5) members of the Selection Committee, appointed by the Chair of the Tennis Ad Hoc Committee, may consist of the following:

1. 2009 USA National Tennis Head Coach.
2. Two (2) former USA Deaflympic tennis players with years of experience playing tennis on domestic and international levels.
3. Tennis Ad Hoc Committee At Large Member.
4. Chair of the Tennis Ad Hoc Committee.

***Due Process:***

Applicants shall have the right to obtain due process in accordance with the provisions of the USADSF bylaws if they feel any part of the selection progress is biased or unjust. Refer to [http://www.usdeafsports.org/links/usadsf\\_org.pdf](http://www.usdeafsports.org/links/usadsf_org.pdf) (*Chapter Ten: Due Process Procedures*).

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