



2026 ARMED FORCES PARACHUTING TEAM SELECTION STANDARD PROCEDURES

1. PROPONENT. The United States Army Parachute Team (USAPT) is the lead proponent for U.S. Armed Forces Parachuting team's participation at Conseil International du Sport Militaire (CISM) Parachuting Championships. The USAPT is responsible for selecting the strongest possible CISM parachuting delegation for participation in CISM World Military Parachuting Championships (WMPC). Evaluations will normally take place at the USAPT training facility at Laurinburg-Maxton Airport, NC in early April. Point of contact will be the USAPT Operations Office, 910-907-3131/3205.

2. ABBREVIATIONS AND DEFINITIONS.

- a. Armed Forces Sports (AFS)
- b. Conseil International du Sport Militaire (CISM)
- c. Federation Aeronautique Internationale (FAI)
- d. International Skydiving Commission (ISC)
- e. Freefall Style (Style/S)
- f. Formation Skydiving (FS/F)
- g. Precision Accuracy (Accuracy/A)
- h. Team Captain / Leader is responsible for all team administrative responsibilities as defined in this SOP and CISM regulations (the term Team Captain is used in the AFS SOP, Team Leader is used in the CISM regulation. Team Leader is used in this appendix)
- i. Team Captain (in CISM Parachuting Regulations) is responsible for actions in the aircraft
- j. United States Anti Doping Agency (USADA)
- k. United States Army Parachute Team (USAPT)
- l. World Anti Doping Agency (WADA)
- m. World Military Parachuting Championships (WMPC)

3. REGULATIONS

- a. DOD Instruction 1330.04, Armed Forces Participation in National and International Sports Activities
- b. Armed Forces Sports SOP
- c. FAI / ISC Regulations

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- d. WADA / USADA Rules
- e. CISM Regulations (General and Parachuting specific)
- f. USAPT SOP

4. COMPETITIVE EVENTS IN A CISM PARACHUTING WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP.

a. CISM parachuting consists of the following events:

- 1) Precision Accuracy (Accuracy), Team and Individual event
- 2) Freefall Style (Style) Individual event
- 3) Formation Skydiving (FS) Team event

b. Teams are encouraged to participate in all events but may choose to enter one, two or all three events for medal opportunities.

5. CISM TEAM COMPOSITION.

(As dictated by CISM Parachuting rules and host country invitation)

5 male competitors
5 female competitors
2 junior competitors
1 Coach
1 International FAI or CISM qualified judge
1 Video cameraperson if the mission participates in Formation Skydive event (a second camera person can be accommodated by special request if male and female FS teams participate)
1 Team Leader (Team Captain in AFS SOP)
1 Chief of Mission
Total: 17

6. ELIGIBILITY:

a. Only those selected to the AFS Parachuting Team can represent the United States at CISM events.

- 1) Athletes must be Active Duty Military, National Guard or Reserve .
- 2) Judge can be Military or Civilian with a current FAI Category 1 or CISM judge's rating in at least two events (A/S, A/F, S/F or A/S/F).
- 3) Staff:
 - a) Coach may be military or civilian
 - b) Team Leader may be Military or DOD Civilian
 - c) Chief of Mission should be a senior ranking military officer. Exceptions are permitted.

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b. All Team members must be in good standing with FAI, CISM, AFS and the USADA.

c. Team members must possess a current Official and/or Tourist Passport (valid for six months beyond the end of competition). Failure to secure either of these documents in a timely manner, as determined by the Team Leader, may result in an inability to travel and compete.

7. ATHLETE APPLICATION PROCESS. All applicants shall:

a. Submit the appropriate sports' application for their respective Service branch sports office - links available on the AFS web site (armedforcessports.defense.gov). Application deadlines will be announced in advance based on the schedule for CISM World Championship events.

b. Forward a copy of the application to the USAPT Operations Office no later than the published application deadline.

8. SELECTION CRITERIA:

a. Athletes applying to compete in CISM Parachuting Championships must meet the following requirements:

1) Be on active duty for all evaluations, training camps and competitions.

2) Have the following equipment:

a) Precision accuracy parachute system (For example: Para-Foil or Classic)

b) Small free-fall system for doing Style and FS

c) Accuracy, Style, and FS jump suits

d) AAD (automatic activation device) on all free-fall systems

e) Altimeter

f) Helmet, goggles, gloves, accuracy shoes, weights as needed

b. Performance Requirements: Applicants must be able to compete in the discipline(s) USAPT will enter during any given WMPC: Accuracy, Style, and/or Formation Skydiving. Minimum performance standards are as follows:

1) Men:

a) Accuracy: Achieve 0.15 centimeter total (or less) for 10 rounds

b) Style: Perform 8 second style sets (judged).

c) FS: Be able to do a minimum of 20 points per round

2) Women:

a) Accuracy: Achieve 0.20 centimeter total (or less) for 10 rounds

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b) Style: Perform 10 second style sets (judged).

c) FS: Be able to do a minimum of 20 points per round

c. There will be no automatic selections to the CISM Team; all selections will be discretionary. All eligible athletes will be given the same selection consideration with no preference given to members of specific clubs, teams, or geographic regions.

d. Discretionary team selection will be made by the Team Leader, in consultation with a USAPT selection panel. The primary purpose is to select the best physically, psychologically and technically prepared athlete(s) in order to produce medal-winning performances. Based on the context of the situation, the selection panel will evaluate which athletes should be selected to the team in order to field the strongest, soundest and most unified team for this event. Discretionary selections shall be based on the following prioritized criteria:

1) CISM medal potential:

a) A recent history of top finishes at CISM World Championships, international and/or domestic competitive level events.

b) The ability to produce medal capable performances under certified conditions within the past 12 months.

c) Consistently placing high among top-quality fields at international and/or domestic sanctioned competitive level events.

d) A recent history of strong performance in international or domestic elite competition that would indicate CISM medal potential.

2) Capable of enhancing team performance. An athlete who can enhance team performance is one who, based on experience and current level of performance, is expected to contribute substantially to the overall team performance or to the performance of a medal capable team member.

3) Medal events at WMPC:

a) Individual Accuracy (general and/or junior categories)

b) Individual Style (general and/or junior categories)

c) Individual Overall (general and/or junior categories)

d) Team Accuracy

e) Team FS

f) Overall Team (must compete in all three disciplines)

e. The number of athlete-start positions per event and category is determined in each event by the host country and the CPC. These selection procedures have been developed based on the most recent information regarding the events, athlete participation, team qualification and team size. The selection procedures may be subject to change based on the host country or CISM Parachuting Sports Committee (CPC) published guidance.

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9. SELECTED ATHLETES AND TEAM MEMBERS

a. The Team Leader will develop training plans and schedules for the Team. Selected athletes are required to participate.

b. Athletes are expected to arrive with all required equipment in functioning order and ready for training/competition. Athletes will notify the Team Leader of any issues pertaining to equipment or health as soon as applicable.

c. All team members must complete the following training:

1) Anti-Terrorism (AT) Level 1 within 12 months prior to travel.

2) SERE Level A Training within 36 months prior to travel.

3) ISOPREP submitted or reviewed within 6-12 months prior to travel.

d. All team members must; review, sign and abide by the following documents (as indicated) prior to and as a condition of being selected to the CISM Team: All forms and documents are located at armedforcessports.defense.gov

1) Armed Forces Sports Higher Level Advancement Form – OCONUS (Appendix C), All Team members

2) Armed Forces Sports Athlete Code of Conduct (Appendix D), All Team members

3) CISM Anti-Doping Education and Declaration Form (Appendix L) Athletes and coach

4) Captain/Coach Letter of Instruction (LOI) (Appendix G) Team Leader and coach

5) Chiefs of Mission LOI (Appendix I)

6) Chief of Mission Handbook

7) Team Captain Handbook (Team Leader)

8) Anti-Doping Brief for athletes and coaches

9) Military Uniforms at CISM Events Brief

e. All team members must abide by all AFS, FAI/ISC, CISM, WADA and USADA regulations prior to, during and after the competition.

1) Therapeutic Use Exemptions (TUE) are available for certain WADA/USADA prohibited medications. TUEs may take several months to process.

2) A positive “A” sample will likely result in disqualification and loss of any medals/titles earned and may affect the athlete’s ability to participate in future FAI sanctioned competitions.

3) Note: Supplements may contain forbidden ingredients.

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10. ALTERNATE AND REPLACEMENT ATHLETES.

a. Alternates MAY be selected prior to departure. If alternates are named, they will be prioritized and may be selected to replace a selected athlete. Selected athletes may be replaced if injury or illness prevents them from 100% participation in the CISM Championships.

b. If an athlete is removed by ineligibility, illness or injury, positive drug testing for a banned substance or fails medical control procedures; voluntarily resign, or is a recipient of CISM, FAI or AFS disciplinary actions, the athlete may be replaced. Replacements of athletes must comply with AFS rules and CISM event entry deadlines.

11. TYPICAL SCHEDULE OF CISM EVENTS:

- 1st day: arrival of mission and technical meetings
- 2nd day: opening ceremony, training jumps, competition
- 3rd day: through 8th day: competition
- 9th day: (competition if necessary), closing ceremony, and banquet
- 10th day: departure of missions

NOTE: If the duration is not 10 days, the schedule will be adapted accordingly. Travel days may extend the total number of days.