

Actions of the USATT High Performance Committee (HPC)
December 2014 – January 2015

Reported by Carl Danner, HPC Chair
November, 2015

During December 2014 – January 2015, the HPC did not hold any formal meetings or conference calls. However, the following summary of its actions and discussions is offered to inform USATT members about the HPC's activities conducted by email, and through participation in the other USATT activities.

1. The HPC discussed potential amounts that could be available in the USATT budget for direct athlete support.
2. The HPC discussed revisions to the Code of Conduct applicable to USATT team members and other USATT members participating in international competition. We received helpful input from the USATT Board, and from the USOC. One concern involved coaches and others (e.g. relatives) who might accompany non-National Team players to international events, and what standards might apply to their conduct.
3. Concerns were expressed to the HPC about the elimination of the national "B" teams for juniors and cadets. In response, the HPC undertook an extensive discussion and reaffirmed its policy change to recognize only the single national team in each category. The HPC also affirmed that it supports the development of other indications of recognition for our young athletes, such as certificates of accomplishment and national rankings. However, the designation of national team member should be reserved for those who earn places on the first-line team.
4. Concerns were expressed to the HPC about the use of U.S. Open events for junior and cadet national team selection purposes. Comments focused on international entrants who might be strong yet unrated players placed in the draw at random, and about a potential for some competitors to exceed the age limits for the events in ways that could not be verified effectively. The HPC discussed these concerns at some length.