



**DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE**  
**HEADQUARTERS AIR FORCE PERSONNEL CENTER**  
**JOINT BASE SAN ANTONIO-RANDOLPH TEXAS**

2 December 2021

MEMORANDUM FOR 2022 U.S. AIR FORCE TRIALS PARTICIPANTS

FROM: HQ AFPC/DPFW  
550 C Street West Suite 37  
JBSA Randolph TX 78150-4739

SUBJECT: U.S. Air Force Trials and Warrior Games Team Selection Criteria

1. The Air Force Wounded Warrior Program (AFW2) is excited for Warriors to obtain their best at the 8<sup>th</sup> annual Air Force Trials! We are excited to be hosting them in-person this year. Given the current COVID-19 environment AFW2 will execute Air Force Trials (AFT) following DoD, Department of the Air Force and local Nellis AFB protocols to ensure the safety of all participating and supporting this year's event.
2. Below are the projected timelines for the 2022 AFT:
  - **21 Feb 22** Warriors/Caregivers arrive Las Vegas
  - **22 Feb–24 Feb 22** Sport training/Archery/Shooting prelims and classifications
  - **25 Feb 22** Opening Ceremony and Powerlifting competition
  - **26 Feb – 3 Mar 22** Sport training and competitions/Closing Ceremony + WGs Team announcement
  - **4 Mar 22** 2022 Warrior Games Team meeting/CARE Fair
  - **5 Mar 22** Warrior/Caregiver departure
3. Air Force Trials is open to all Airmen and Guardians enrolled in AFW2 to apply for the opportunity to participate. AFT selection is based on the following criteria: priority will be given to participants in the following order: (**Note: ALL participants MUST be fully vaccinated to attend**)
  - Active Duty/Guard/Reserve
  - TDRL
  - PDRL - AFW2 will be partnering with a number of non-profit organization(s) who will fund a limited number of attendees. If you are NOT selected for one of these funded slots but want to attend using your own funding, please contact the AFW2 staff at [afpc.dpfw.adaptedsportsworkflow@us.af.mil](mailto:afpc.dpfw.adaptedsportsworkflow@us.af.mil).
4. Athletes who have not previously competed at Air Force Trials or Warrior Games will have priority in the selection process above participants who have competed at a previous Air Force Trials or Warrior Games.
5. The 2022 Department of Defense (DoD) Warrior Games (WG) are planned for 22–30 August, 2022. Location TBD and will be hosted by the U.S. Army. Selection criteria to represent the Air Force and compete at the Warrior Games will be based on the following:
  - AFW2 Adaptive Sport Coaches' evaluations
  - Submission of "WHY" statement
  - Adherence to the Code of Conduct
  - Display of positive attitude, teamwork, coach-ability and encouragement of others

- Utilizes adaptive sports in their individual recovery by:
    - a. Participation in virtual trainings and competitions offered by AFW2 or other community sports programs, i.e., Office of the Secretary of Defense (OSD), Veterans Affairs (VA), or Wounded Warrior Project (WWP) nonprofit organization
    - b. Regular AFW2 Training Plan Submissions
  - There are limited start rights for each classification by sport and category
    - a. Athletes without severe physical impairment will be rated as Open Category
      - i. *Open Category is a more competitive classification with highest number of athletes competing for a spot on the Warrior Games team*
  - Previous Warrior Games experience
  - Attendance at virtual and in-person training opportunities leading up to Warrior Games
  - Availability to travel and participate during the inclusive dates of Warrior Games
  - Athletes who **have not** competed in a previous Warrior Games will be given priority in the selection process above participants who have competed in previous Warrior Games
  - Records will be screened for suitability to represent Team Air Force, ensuring there are no quality force factors or derogatory information elements potentially leading to a poor representation of the team
6. Additional factors outlined from DoD Warrior Games guidance:
- Athletes that are active duty or retired within 12 months of 22 Aug 2022, the start of the 2022 Warrior Games, will count in the Active Duty percentage for Warrior Games
  - Team will consist of 45 athletes and 15 alternates. Team composition will be in accordance with the Warrior Games rules to include a 70% - Active Duty / 30% Veteran ratio.
  - Athletes are allowed to compete in a maximum of two Warrior Games, there is a four-athlete exception to the two-year maximum rule
  - Air Force will use the four-athlete exception based on the needs of team sports and classifications
7. Athletes who have achieved any of the following standards/criteria 120 days prior to the start of the Warrior Games are ineligible to compete within that sport(s) in the Warrior Games:
- A current/former athlete on a National Team
  - A current/former athlete on a Professional Sports Team
  - A current/former athlete who has represented their nation, country, federation, or foreign state in a sport(s) in any Olympic or Paralympic Games, World Championship, and/or Continental Championship
  - Athletes who are ineligible to compete in a particular Warrior Games sport(s) may still compete in sports where have not been disqualified by above restrictions
8. Final selections will be reviewed and approved by the Air Force Wounded Warrior Leadership Team. For any questions or concerns, please contact AFW2 Adaptive Sports team at [afpc.dpfw.adaptedsportsworkflow@us.af.mil](mailto:afpc.dpfw.adaptedsportsworkflow@us.af.mil).

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