



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

4 January 2023

MEMORANDUM FOR AIR FORCE WOUNDED WARRIOR PROGRAM PARTICIPANTS

FROM HQ AFPC/DPFW

550 C Street West Suite 37
JBSA Randolph TX 78150-4739

SUBJECT: CARE Event/Trials/Warrior Games Invitation and Selection Criteria

1. The Air Force Wounded Warrior (AFW2) Program is congressionally mandated and federally funded, per Public Law 110-181, to provide care and support for wounded, ill and injured Airmen and Guardians on Active Duty and in TDRL status. The AFW2 Program hosts Warrior CARE Events to introduce adaptive sports, provide transitional services, as well as Resiliency and Ambassador workshops to those that can be legally fund based on Congressional mandates. Those enrolled in the AFW2 Program that meet criteria receive targeted invitations to Air Force Trials and CARE Events.
2. Selection criteria to attend CARE Events is based on the following status:
 - a. Active Duty/Guard/Reserve
 - b. TDRL
 - c. PDRL – Those within 1 year after retirement can be legally funded to participate in the Adaptive Sports portion of a CARE Event per NDAA 2020, Section 592. Members who fall outside of this window may be selected to attend if the AFW2 Program is offered funding from a non-profit organization. Selection for those slots will be limited to members with active training plans and based on the number of events previously attended. Members who are NOT selected for a funded slot and want to attend using personally procured funding should contact the AFW2 staff at afpc.dpfw.adaptedsportsworkflow@us.af.mil.
3. Selection for Air Force Trials follows the aforementioned criteria and also considers the following factors:
 - a. Number of events previously attended
 - b. Utilization of adaptive sports in individual recovery through:
 - 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
 - Regular AFW2 Training Plan Submissions

4. Selection for a Warrior Games Challenge Team will be based on the following criteria:
 - a. Priority will be given to athletes who **haven't** competed in a previous Warrior Games
 - b. Active Duty, Guard, Reserve, TDRL and those who are within one year after their PDRL retirement date
 - c. Athletes with favorable AFW2 Adaptive Sport Coaches' evaluations
 - d. Submission of "WHY" statement from athlete
 - e. Display of a positive attitude, teamwork, coachability and encouragement of others
 - f. Adherence to the code of conduct
 - g. Availability to attend training and the inclusive dates of Warrior Games Challenge
 - h. Utilizes adaptive sports in their individual recovery by:
 - Participation in virtual trainings and competitions offered by AFW2 or other community sports programs, i.e., OSD, VA, or WWP nonprofit organization
 - Regular AFW2 Training Plan Submissions
5. Athletes who have competed in two or more Warrior Games Events will be given last priority in the selection process. Selection will be based on the goals of the program and that of the individual. Each athlete nominated for the Warrior Games Team will be vetted to ensure there is no derogatory information found that would prevent the member from representing the Air Force in the most favorable light.
6. The Warrior Games team size is determined each year and typically teams consist of 40 athletes and 10 alternates. Team composition shall not be composed of no more than 30% veteran population. Athletes are allowed to compete in a maximum of two Warrior Games however, there is an eight - athlete exception to the two-year maximum rule with a cap on participating in more than five games since 2016. This exception means that each service is allowed to utilize eight athletes, as an exception to the two-year maximum rule, based on the needs of the team sports and classification.
7. Military athletes who have competed at a Paralympic Games, World Championships, or an international event (as a past or present elite/national team member) within the past two years are NOT eligible to participate in that same sport during a Warrior Games event. Domestic tournaments that have international guests do not constitute international competitions.
8. For any questions or concerns, please contact Ms. Marsha Hoskins, Warrior CARE Support Branch Chief, at Marsha.Hoskins@us.af.mil.

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