

Coach Application for the 2026 Pan Am M&F Cup

2026 Pan Am M&F Cup - February 12-15, 2026; Location: Guatemala City, Guatemala

2026 BWF Thomas & Uber Cup Finals - April 25 - May 3, 2026; Location: Horsens, Denmark

Pan Am M&F Cup (the BWF Thomas & Uber Cup qualifying event)

Events: Team Competition. The Team will consist of ten (10) U.S. male players for the Men's Team and ten (10) U.S. female players selected from the 2025 YONEX USA Badminton Adult National Championships.

USA Badminton (USAB) is accepting applications for coaches for the 2026 Pan Am M&F Cup, to prepare the Team and individual athletes for success on the field of play. See below for the Job Responsibilities of each position.

Applications are DUE **Friday, January 16, 2026, at 12 PM (NOON) Pacific Time**. [Click here for the application form](#). Only applications submitted through JotForm will be accepted.

USAB intends to name one (1) **Men's Team Coach**, one (1) **Women's Team Coach**, and one (1) **Head Coach & Team Manager** (1), a total of 3 team staff members serving the Men's team and the Women's team.

- The selected coaches will also be named the Thomas Cup or Uber Cup Coach if USA qualifies to participate in the Thomas & Uber Cup Finals.
- If only the Men's (or Women's) team qualifies for the Thomas & Uber Cup Finals, only the Men's (or Women's) Team Coach (1) and the Head Coach & Team Manager (1), a total of 2 staff members, will travel with the team to the tournament.

The coaching positions are voluntary positions with funding by USA Badminton for travel and hotel. However, in the event that our funding falls short, reimbursement of expenses will be reduced at USAB's sole discretion.

USAB reserves the right to adjust/change the number and assignment of the coach(es) selected.

Note: A prior USA Badminton athlete selection document for the 2026 Pan Am M&F Cup stated that USAB would select a Head Coach and an Assistant Coach (two coaches total) and that a USAB staff member would serve as the Team Manager for both the Men's and Women's Teams. For this event, USAB intends to appoint one(1) Head Coach & Team Manager, one (1) Men's Team Coach, and one (1) Women's Team Coach, a total of 3 team staff members serving the Men's team and the Women's team. A USAB staff member may serve in a supporting administrative role for the teams, as determined by USAB. This clarification does not change any athlete selection criteria or athlete eligibility in the previously published athlete selection document.

Job Responsibilities/Expectations of Each Position

Head Coach & Team Manager (total of 1 individual)

- Responsibilities as the Head Coach:
 - Prepare the Team and individual athletes for success on the field of play, including coordinating with the Team coaches to set up line-ups for each tie and arranging training & court practice (according to the assigned USA time slots). The Head Coach will have the final say in the line ups for each tie in consultation with the Men's and Women's Team Coaches.
 - Ensure the Team adheres to all BWF and BPAC rules and regulations
 - Be involved in the administrative preparation prior to and during the tournament
 - Arrive before the official practice date (February 11, 2026) and be available for the entire duration of the tournament
 - Respond to emails and requests from USA Badminton promptly, typically within 24 hours, recognizing that urgent matters may require faster responses.
 - Manage the Men's and Women's Team coaches at the tournament
- Responsibilities As the Team Manager:
 - Serve as the primary point of contact and liaison between the athletes, coaches, and USAB during the Pan Am M&F Cup
 - Serve as the primary contact to coordinate and communicate with the local host/organizers onsite on behalf of the USAB team
 - Coordinate with USAB Athlete Services Manager to ensure all athletes and coaches submit information and documents requested by BPAC and local organizers on time
 - Contact USAB Athlete Services Manager if any decision needs to be made by the member association

Men's Team/Women's Team Coach (total of 2 individuals)

- Responsibilities As a Team Coach
 - Reports to the Head Coach during the tournament; if a Head Coach was not selected, they shall report to the Team Manager for administrative purposes
 - Responsible for coordinating with the Head Coach (if present) for choosing the team for each tie in the team competition, providing game strategies and techniques to allow the athletes to reach their highest level of competition. The coaches should motivate the athletes and help them develop sportsmanship, game appreciation, and self-esteem. In the event that a Head Coach is not selected, the Team Coach has the final say in the line ups for each tie.
 - Ensure the Team adheres to all BWF and BPAC rules and regulations
 - Be responsible for the team's adherence to all rules regarding discipline at the Pan Am M&F Cup
 - Assist with administrative preparation prior to and during the tournament, only as deemed necessary and assigned by the Head Coach & Team Manager, so that the Team Coaches can prioritize coaching on court during competition.

- Arrive before the official practice date (February 11, 2026) and be available for the entire duration of the tournament
- Respond to emails and requests from USA Badminton promptly, typically within 24 hours, recognizing that urgent matters may require faster responses.

In the event that no qualified candidate applies for the **Head Coach & Team Manager** position, USAB may select a staff member to serve as the Team Manager (they will assume the responsibilities of the Team Manager listed above). In this scenario, the Head Coach's responsibility will be shared among the two Team Coaches.

Commitment for all selected individuals

- Once the coaching position is assigned and the applicant has accepted, the applicant's failure to fulfill their responsibilities will impact their future assignments.
- All applicants are expected to be able to use communication technology (mainly WhatsApp and Emails).
- Two weeks after the end of the tournament, the individuals should work together and provide a detailed report to submit to USAB's Athlete Services Manager.
- Each assigned coaching staff member should remain independent regardless of their affiliate of current or past club, player, or business, and manage Conflict of Interest situations at the competition.

Who Can Apply

Minimum Eligibility Requirements: Applicants must have, within a week of the application deadline and throughout the tournament, the following criteria (not listed in priority):

- USAB Compliance
 - Be a current USAB member in good standing
 - Have a current green light NCSI background check on file
 - Have completed SafeSport Training within the past calendar year
- Have a current season USAB Coaching Pass (2025-2026)
- Possess a valid passport that does not expire until at least six months after the conclusion of the Pan Am M&F Cup
- Meet all health, entry, and visa requirements established by the host country

Applicants must:

- Possesses a high level of specific technical and tactical knowledge of the sport.
- Have the ability to manage large groups of athletes.
- Have the ability to manage conflicts of interest.
- Be able to deal with emotionally charged situations with integrity and in a professional manner.

Additional Criteria:

- Have the ability to work effectively with USAB.
- Have thorough knowledge and understanding of the IF and CF rules and regulations governing the sport as necessary for the position.
- Demonstrate ability to establish harmonious relationships with athletes and other Team Personnel.
- Be in good health and able to withstand the physical rigors of traveling with and working with the Team.
- Take an anti-doping course/workshop as required by the tournament organizers or USA Badminton.

USAB prefers that Coach(es):

- Be BWF Level 1 or above certified (BWF Level 2 or above for the Head Coach position)
- Be the personal coach as designated by at least one athlete/doubles pair who is named to the 2026 Pan Am M&F Cup teams

Selection Process

The High Performance Committee (HPC; previously known as the High Performance Advisory Group, HPAG) will review the identified pool of candidates for the Head Coach and Assistant Coach positions and evaluate individuals based on the requirements above, as well as the criteria below.

The HPC will rank up to five (5) candidates for both positions. The coaches will be selected based on the following factors, **which are listed in no particular order**:

- Be a current personal coach of an athlete/pair nominated to the 2026 Pan Am M&F Cup team, but able to manage conflicts of interest this may create.
- Experience working with elite athletes.
- Experience coaching at BWF international individual or team competitions.
- Standing of competing athlete(s) of personal coaches based on ranking and past results, including the 2025 YONEX USA Badminton Adult National Championships.
- Ability to work with multiple athletes.
- History of traveling internationally with athlete(s)
- Proven ability to work in collaboration with USAB and other team staff.

USA Badminton High Performance Committee (HPC) consists of USAB:

- Coaching Director, Board of Directors
- CEO/interim CEO, or designated USAB staff member
- Director of Para-Badminton
- USAB Team USA AC Representative, Board of Directors
- USAB Alternate Team USA AC Representative, Board of Directors