

## **Child of this Culture Foundation Frequently Asked Questions**

### **What is breaking?**

Breaking is the physical pillar of Hip Hop culture. Breaking debuted on the Olympic stage in the [2018 Youth Olympics Games](#) in Buenos Aires, Argentina and was announced as a special sport with surfing, climbing, and skateboarding for the 2024 Paris Olympics.

### **Who Can Participate in Breaking?**

Anyone, regardless of age and ability level, can become a breaking athlete. Breaking comes from the Hip Hop culture that celebrates diversity, inclusion, and equality.

### **What are some terms that relate to the Olympics and the sport of Breaking?**

IOC	International Olympic Committee
USOPC	United States Olympic Paralympic Committee
NOC	National Olympic Committee
NGB	National Governing Body
IF	International Federation
WDSF	World DanceSport Federation
USAD	USA Dance
YOG	Youth Olympics Games
USADA	United States Anti-Doping Agency

### **What is the status of the sport of Breaking in the World?**

The IOC announced Breaking in the 2024 Paris Olympics and entrusted the World DanceSport Federation (WDSF), a multidisciplinary ballroom dance organization, to lead the sport. WDSF has garnered support and

input from the worldwide Breaking community leaders to establish Breaking for Gold. Breaking for Gold is the event with rules and regulations for the Olympic Breaking Events. Recently WDSF launched a [Breaking Congress](#) to represent the Breaking community better and build a better relationship. WDSF recognized member bodies in each nation expect to work with their national breaking communities to establish a pathway for the Olympics.

Breaking as a competitive art form grew in acceptance across the World with grassroots community-based efforts that have grown in some areas as long-lasting individual and crew events. The underground Hip Hop circuit has yielded and expanded the artform and development of breakers with competitions, teaching, and performing opportunities. Energy drinks companies, the entertainment industry, and academia have accepted the growth of Breaking as an artform, pedagogy, research, industry, and now a sport.

### **What is the status of the sport of Breaking in the US?**

The sport of Breaking in the US is an emerging sport. There are no national leagues nor established regulations, safety assurances, development, or path for competitive breakers in the US. The US has numerous organizations, crews, and groups that support breakers by hosting events and workshops. Breaking schools have grown in the past ten years, and the underground circuit of breaking events has also grown in numbers and networks to worldwide events. Throughout its history, many practitioners have attempted to establish a sport-like model as well as Olympic talks. In 2014-17, [United Breakin' Association \(UBA\)](#) was created in the US as a trade association for Breakers to organize and establish safety and health regulations for its US breakers. That led to talks with the [USA. Dance \(USAD\)](#), a ballroom organization recognized by the [USOPC as a multidisciplinary sports organization for DanceSport \(ballroom\)](#), and the member organization recognized by WDSF, also a Ballroom organization. UBA and USAD worked together for a bit to voice Breaking community concerns and whispered an opportunity to include them in the Olympics. Unfortunately, the relationship did not materialize into a partnership.

Later, [USAD publicly announced a collaboration](#) in 2018 with Urban Dance and Educational Foundation ([UDEF](#)), a nonprofit organization with the most prominent competitive breaker membership in the US and a well-known ProBreaking Tour funded primarily by a wealthy Breaking enthusiast and philanthropist. Unfortunately, the USAD and UDEF relationship also did not materialize at the time, and as a result, the two young athletes (1 bboy/1bgirl) from the US qualified for the [Youth Olympics \(YOG\) in 2018](#) were not able to compete. After the YOG, USAD created a [Breaking Committee](#) with a Breaker as its chair and intended to help build the sport. In 2019 the chair and former USAD board member (ballroom dancer) left USAD and established an independent nonprofit called “USA. Breakin’” (USAB). USAB initiated a [Memorandum of Agreement](#) (MOU) with USAD in December 2020 with the intent of the two organizations establishing USAD as the NGB of Breaking with USAB leading the Breakers. Meanwhile, USAD with direction from WDSF announced they established a [Breakin’ Task Force](#) of prominent WDSF recognized breaking leaders to liaison between USAD and USAB. In April, USAD publicly announced the [termination of MOU](#) with USAB and stated that the USAB did not intend to meet the agreement and now seeks NGB status as an independent organization.

In March 2021, USOPC posted a [public notice](#) calling for applications for NGB recognition for the sport of Breaking. USOPC invited multiple organizations to apply and now wait to enter into the next phase of certification. Applications were due April 16, 2021.

The next phase will be two public hearings presented to the USOPC certification board.

[What does the USOPC do?](#)

USOPC is responsible for supporting, entering, and overseeing US teams for the Olympic Games, Paralympic Games, Youth Olympic Games, Pan American Games, and Parapan American Games and serves as the steward of the Olympic and Paralympic Movements in the United States. Unlike most other nations, the United States government does not have a Ministry of Sports and does not fund its Olympic Committee.

### [Who leads the sport of Breaking in the US as an Olympic Sport?](#)

As of June 2021, no organization leads the sport of Breaking in the US. The USOPC is currently reviewing candidates for the position. The International Federation, WDSF, is the recognized IF entrusted to lead the sport of Breaking, and their recognized member organization in the US is USAD. There is much speculation that USAD is in the best position to gain recognition because they are already certified as a multidisciplinary sports organization by USOPC. There is very little evidence of USAD contribution to the Hip Hop culture/community nor until recently holds any Breaking events as an organization or any other dance style outside of the ballroom genre.

There is evidence that the USOPC has recognized sports organizations in the past that represent sports not recognized as Olympic sports.

DanceSport is not an Olympic-recognized sport. **Breaking is a recognized Olympic Sport** as the IF nationally recognized organization USAD can select Breakers to attend WDSF events. These events are not detrimental to the sport of Breaking nor the US Olympic Path to Paris 2024. It allows the sport and its athletes to recognition as the WDSF Champion. At this moment, this is equivalent to winning an Undisputed or RedBull BCOne or any Worldwide Breaking Competition. UDEF and USAD recently announced a collaboration to host a national championship in July 2021 for US breakers' access to World Games in China later this year.

The sport of Breaking does not have an independent International Breaking Federation.

[There is the precedent of organizations gaining certification by USOPC in the past whose IF is not recognized by the International Federation.](#) Many

sports with unique sports cultures, especially new emerging sports, bid for recognition as a sport and NGB. The IOC organization structure, the IF and NOCs parallel authority and collaboration to achieve Olympic goals and missions.

### **What does the National Governing Body do?**

National Governing Bodies are organizations that look after all aspects of their sports. The NGBs are responsible for the training, competition, and development of athletes for their sports and nominating athletes to the US Olympic, Paralympic, Youth Olympic, Pan American, and Para-Pan American Teams. Currently, 39 Olympic summer sports NGBs in the United States and eight Olympic winter sports NGBs. Inclusion of surfing, climbing, skateboarding, and Breaking to the Olympic Roster for 2024 Paris. Surfing, climbing, and skateboarding were certified in preparation for Tokyo 2020 (now 2021). Breaking is currently in its NGB selection process.

### **How did Breaking become an Olympic sport?**

WDSF listed Breaking as a discipline of DanceSport and sent a proposal to the IOC. The IOC approved the proposal for Paris 2024.

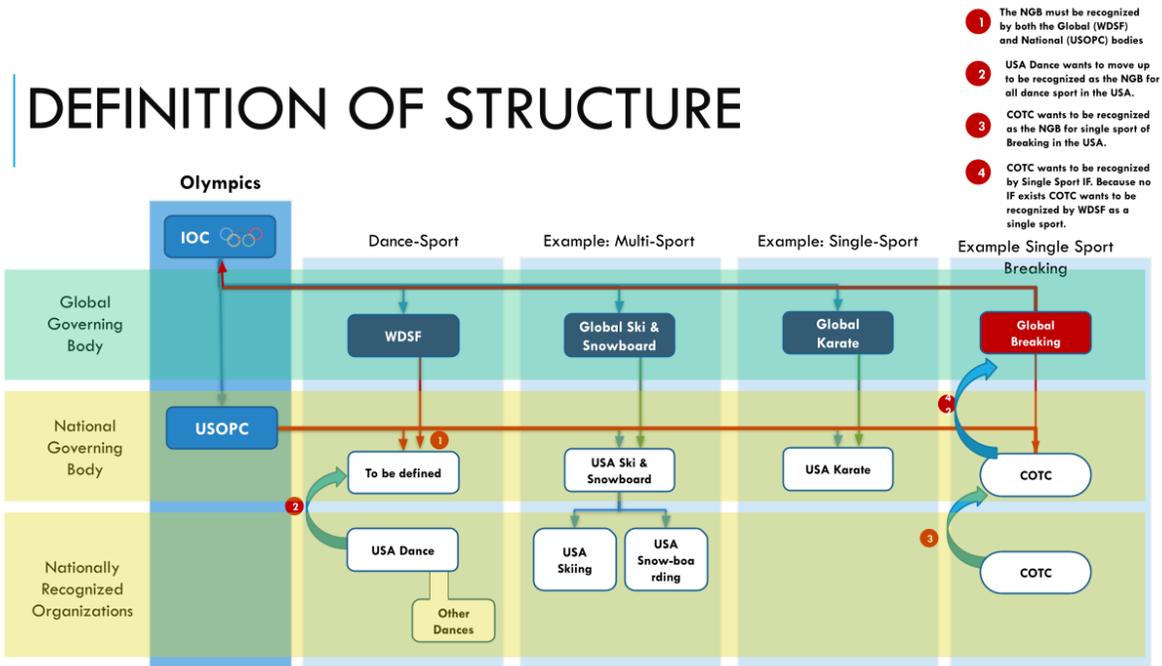
### **Why is Breaking under a ballroom dance organization?**

WDSF is a ballroom dance organization credited for getting Breaking into the Olympics.

### **Why did the Child of this Culture Foundation get involved?**

COTC's mission to foster a positive image of Hip Hop culture has not changed in the last nine years. As such, we have a long-standing positive relationship with the breaking community and believe its position as a sport should be independent and rooted in the sports culture and people it represents in Hip Hop and Black culture. We got involved in leading the community in building a sustainable organizational structure that is

principle-based and safety-focused. Like a few other organizations, COTC was invited to apply for recognition and submitted a complete application on April 16, 2021.



### How do I register for the Olympics?

The recognized NGB will follow all USOPC compliance and establish membership, safety and background screenings, and selection process for breakers. Most selection processes last about a year, with trials a couple of months before the Summer Games. In this case, Breaking for Gold will release the rules and regulations no later than Spring of 2022, with events leading to the Olympics. COTC prepared a thorough high sports performance plan.

### How am I eligible for top-tier cyphers?

USOPC spells out what is needed to be considered an Elite Athlete in its By-laws. COTC evaluates an elite athlete who has competed in national events in the last ten years and placed at least the top 64. Elite Athletes must adhere to USADA and SafeSport compliance.

## **How are US delegates selected?**

If COTC is NGB, there is a short and long-term plan that demonstrates how delegates are selected. In transient, numerous events held and rankings will determine who is eligible for trials. The outcome of trials determines the US delegates.

## **How many people are there for the Olympic qualifiers?**

Two, one bboy and one bgirl will qualify for the Olympics in 2024.

## **Are there programs for youth?**

Yes, COTC has a pathway for breakers called the “FLOAT” Pathway that allows breakers to enter as a youth to adults who can build skills from emerging athletes to high performance.

## **[How can I check if I am eligible to participate in the Olympics?](#)**

If COTC is NGB, our membership network creates an account and lists your credentials and eligibility.

## **How is the Head Coach selected?**

Head Coach applicants must be members of COTC and meet COTC approved coaching certifications, education, and experience. The Board of Directors review applications and give interviews and ultimately select the Head Coach.

## **How are you ensuring safety at events?**

COTC has top-level background screening for all staff, members, and volunteers. Additionally, a Sports Medicine team that we named Healers will be available to ensure athletes are supported.

### **Are athletes allowed to demonstrate racial and social issues?**

Although at the IOC level, athletes must follow [Rule 50](#) that discourages athletes from using their platform to demonstrate views outside of sports. [USOPC](#) recently changed its policy to allow athletes to present in national events and advocate with the IOC to change Rule 50. COTC supports our breakers' freedom of speech and demonstration as it relates to racial and social issues.

### **What happens to Breaking after the Olympics?**

Child of this Culture will continue to establish opportunities at all levels of the sport with continued enhancing pathways, improving coaching development, increasing research and athlete advocacy and action.