



**Canada Women's Wheelchair Basketball**  
**Athlete Assistance Program, Criteria and Process for**  
**Nomination**

**Process:** 2010-11 Athlete Assistance Program

**Topics:** Selection Criteria- 2010-2011 Carding Cycle  
2010-2011 Senior Women's World  
Championships  
Espoir Program Development Cards

**1. Introduction**

The 2010-2011 Carding cycle is effective for a 9 month period from June 1, 2010 to Feb 28, 2011, and is a component of Wheelchair Basketball Canada's High Performance Program (WBC HP).

Wheelchair Basketball Canada (WBC) is eligible for the equivalent of 16 Senior cards for the Women program. WBC nominates 12 athletes for Senior cards. The remaining cards are available for nominations for Development cards.

Selection is by invitation only and will occur at the designated "Selection Camp" to be held on January 20 to 24, 2010.

The primary purpose of the Senior carding selection process will be to support the best possible team that will represent Canada at the 2010 World Championships.

The primary purpose of the Development carding selection process will be to identify the athletes having demonstrated development potential (Espoir).

In case of replacement for a senior carded athlete who is unable to participate in an event, typically a development athlete (Espoir) will be chosen for the position.





## **2. Decision making process**

The final recommendation for invitations for selection and nominations for the senior and development cards is made by the by the National Women's Team Coach in a consultative process with the National Women Team Staff.

The National Women's Team Staff involves, the National Women's team assistant coaches, the senior national women's program coaches, the Espoir program coaches and selected guest coaches.

AAP recommendations are based on the program depth chart prepared by the above committee. Dependent on classification needs, the top 12 players on the depth chart are eligible for Senior cards. The players to be nominated for Development cards will be based on the development card (Espoir) depth chart.

The National Women's Team Coach has the full and sole authority to decide how the remaining number of Senior cards will be allocated into Development (D) cards. Based on the goals and objectives for the National Team Program in 2010, the number of athlete nominated for D cards and the number of months an athlete may be nominated for a Development card may varies.

## **3. Components of the selection criteria (Senior and Development)**

### ***3.1 Primary components (must be at a critical success level):***

#### **3.1.1 Team line-ups**

-starting units, first change units, foul trouble units

-specialty units (speed, height, fouling, pressing, press breaking, and tempo change)

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All feasible team line-up combinations will be considered, with the greater emphasis being placed on line-up combinations the national team head coach and the program coaching staff identify as most effective. Depending on changes to individual performances and classifications, the line-up combinations are subject to variation. Major consideration will be given to team cohesion and team dynamics as the selection process will focus on selecting the best team of 12 senior athletes and the developing athletes who can potentially fit within this concept.

### 3.1.2 Substitutions

-for particular players for rest purposes (training and games)

-specialized roles in particular line-ups (e.g. shooting, rebounding, point advantage, speed, foul shooting, fouling)

Substitution situations deemed by the coaching staff to be important to team success will be considered. The focus will be on team performance potential as judged by the national team head coach and the program coaching staff.

**The critical success level for the primary component factor is defined as above average elite level performance.** This includes the ability of the player to effectively perform their role on attack, defense and transition, plus the ability of the player to impact their teammates productively to create the best possible on court units. The player's performance will consistently be ranked as an international level starter or impact substitute.

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### **3.2 Secondary components (must be at an acceptable level):**

#### **3.2.1 Player evaluation data (qualitative and quantitative) (small sided games and regular games)**

-Game result and statistical data to be collected, reviewed and taken into account;

#### **3.2.2 Mental competence performance evaluation and mental skills evaluation**

-qualitative evaluation of mental skills in relation to performance and team contribution;

#### **3.2.3 Speed, acceleration and chair skills**

-assessment of speed using timing lights including 0-5 metre times, 0-20 metre times, and the ability to repeatedly maintain times for the above distances;

-performance in a variety of chair skill assessment activities

#### **3.2.4 Shooting and scoring;**

-analysis of basketball statistical data

-data from shooting tests

-qualitative and quantitative analysis of shooting and scoring potential

#### **3.2.5 Knowledge of the game**

-qualitative evaluation of on court performance and decision making

#### **3.2.6 Physical strengths**

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- qualitative evaluation of ability within games to use physical capacities, and an overview of factors such as fitness, agility, chair skills, height and strength

3.2.7 Other components such as commitment to the program and to training, leadership potential, unique characteristics of an individual that contribute to overall team performance and intangible components

- judgments based on year round observations

3.2.8 Team cohesion (contribution to cohesion, interpersonal relationships)

- qualitative analysis of observations regarding player contributions to cohesion and relationships

- consensus of coaching staff including athlete feedback where applicable and unbiased

3.2.9 Potential for international play, and past experience in international games

- coaching staff evaluation of athlete's potential for international play based on observations at all possible national team events

- coaching staff evaluation of athlete's past performances in international games

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### 3.2.10 Ability to fit the overall team style of play and/or specialty team needs

-qualitative analysis of an athlete's contribution to the team in terms of speed, back picking, high tempo and intensity, structured chaos, trapping, fast breaking, 3 point shooting, ball and game management, threat recognition, ball movement, open court game and both on and off court team cohesion

-other team needs as indicated by the coaching staff will also be taken in to consideration

**The acceptable level for the secondary component factor is defined as an average elite level performance.** This includes the ability of the player to perform at least at the international substitute level. The abilities of the athlete within each category are not serious limitations that would prevent the athlete from being effective on attack or defense or in transition or detrimental to team cohesion or team performance. The weighting of these components will be based on team needs as judged by the coaching staff.

### ***3.3 Special considerations for Senior cards***

Factors which will be considered in the case of depth chart rankings for senior cards include the following additional components:

- 3.3.1 Special contributions that will enhance team performance
- 3.3.2 The need for international experience
- 3.3.3 The timing of the selection with respect to the Paralympic cycle

### ***3.4 Special considerations for Development (Espoir) cards***

Factors which will be considered in the case of depth chart rankings for development (Espoir) cards include the following additional components:

- 3.4.1 Future senior national team potential



- 3.4.2 The need for particular classification categories
- 3.4.3 The number of years an athlete has been carded at the developmental level (this will vary depending on senior team turnover rates, and anticipated turnovers)
- 3.4.4 An assessment of the improvement demonstrated by the athlete from year to year

#### **4. WBC carded athletes program standards**

Carded athletes (senior and development) will receive and maintain their AAP support under the following conditions:

- 4.1 attendance at all mandatory events
- 4.2 submission of evidence of maintaining a year round high performance training program, including regular training report forms
- 4.3 maintenance of skill and fitness standards
- 4.4 agreement in writing to comply with the above criteria through both the WBC Athlete Agreement document and the Sport Canada AAP agreement document.

Notwithstanding special situations regarding health, injury and illness as outlined in the Sport Canada AAP guidelines, athletes who fail to comply with the above criteria may no longer be eligible to receive AAP support until such time as the inability to comply is rectified. Other special situations may be considered whereby the application of commonly accepted Canadian sport system fairness principles will be applied.

#### **5. WBC national women's program selection criteria evaluation procedures**





- 5.1 The criteria are distributed to invited athletes prior to camp by email, and posted on the [www.wheelchairbasketball.ca](http://www.wheelchairbasketball.ca) website.
- 5.2 The criteria are reviewed at camp in a group meeting with a provision made for individual queries.
- 5.3 Athlete performances are then observed and recorded.
- 5.4 Qualitative and quantitative performance analyses are done on the recorded data and on the observations by the selection committee.
- 5.5 Depth chart rankings are prepared by the selection committee under the leadership of the Senior team head coach. The depth chart includes rankings by classification, position and overall playing ability, and include lineup factors.
- 5.6 The status of each player is to be communicated verbally and individually by a sub-committee of the selection committee, and to include strengths, needs for improvement and rationale for carding decisions.

## **6. Short-term curtailment of training and competition for health-related reasons**

Health-related circumstances that limit training and competition for relatively short periods (i.e.: less than 3 months) are a matter between WBC and the athlete. The athlete must notify the program Head Coach and WBC of any injury or other legitimate reason that will prevent the athlete from training or competing in an upcoming event as soon as is reasonably possible.

## **7. Long-term curtailment of training and competition for health-related reasons**

Carded athletes who are unable to maintain full training and competition commitments for periods longer than 3 months because of injury or illness

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(or pregnancy) will continue to receive 100% of the AAP financial support to which they would otherwise be entitled, provided the following conditions are met:

7.1) The athlete undertakes in writing, to train or rehabilitate or both, under the supervision of the program Head Coach (or designate) for the period of time which the athlete is unable to fulfill the normal training or competition requirement, and at a level which minimizes risk to the athlete's personal health and ensures optimal return to training and competition at the earliest possible date.

7.2) The athlete signifies in writing his intention to return to full high performance training and competition at the earliest possible date following the illness or injury (or pregnancy).

7.3) In case of injured or ill athletes, a positive prognosis for the athlete's return to training and competition at the high performance level in wheelchair basketball within 8 – 12 months is required from a physician.

#### **8. Failure to meet renewal criteria for health-related reasons**

At the end of a carding cycle, during which an athlete has, for strictly health-related reasons, not achieved the standards required for renewal of carding status, she may be considered for the upcoming carding period under the following conditions:

8.1) The athlete has fulfilled all reasonable training and rehabilitation requirements aimed at a speedy return to training and competition during the period of her injury or illness and, despite making every reasonable effort, has failed to achieve the standards.

8.2) The program Head Coach, along with the team physician, indicates in writing that the athlete will achieve at least the minimum standards required for carding during the upcoming carding period.



- 8.3) The athlete has demonstrated long-term commitment to high performance training and competition goals, as well as their intention to continue to do so throughout the carding period for which they wish to be renewed despite not having achieved the standard.

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