

**Wheelchair Basketball Canada (WBC) – Women
National Team Selection Process
2016-2017**

1. Introduction

The purpose of this document is to outline the process for athletes to be selected to the National Team to represent Canada at the 2016 Rio Paralympic Games.

The goal of the Women's program is to assemble the best possible team to achieve a podium performance at the 2016 Rio Paralympic Games. 12 players will be selected to the National Team that will represent Canada at those Games.

2. Timing

The 12 athletes selected to the National Team will be made known to the national team pool athletes no later than April 29, 2016 (to be known as the Selection date). The National Team athletes will be formally announced to the public on/or after May 13, 2016, after the appeal period (14 days) has passed.

3. Decision making process

The final recommendation for selection to the National Team is made by the Senior Women's Head Coach, in consultation with the High Performance Director, the U25 Head Coach and the program Assistant Coaches.

The information used to determine the selections will be an ongoing process from the time of the identification of the national team pool athletes up to the Selection date for the Rio 2016 Paralympic Games. Identified national team pool athletes will be measured against the selection criteria at talent ID camps, Centres for Performance, National Team training camps, elite competitions and at the National Academy.

NB: Being nominated for a Senior card does not ensure that an athlete will be selected to the National Team to represent Canada at any major competition (Paralympics, World Championship, Qualification Tournament). The criteria used for carding nominations and National Team selection are identical, but their timing is different, which allows for the possibility of certain athletes to surpass others in the months between the conclusion of Carding Camp (which determines carding nominations) and the Selection date (which determines the 12 athletes who will be named to the National Team).

4. Appeals

An athlete who wishes to appeal the decision of the Head Coach regarding their position as a member of the National Team that will represent Canada at the 2016 Rio Paralympics, has the right to do so, by following the WBC Appeals Policy (available at www.wheelchairbasketball.ca or through the National Office). They will have 14 days from the time of the Selection date to file an appeal.

5. Eligibility

Athletes who wish to be considered for inclusion in the National Team Pool, and by consequence, National Team selection, must inform the Head Coach no later than 3 months prior to Carding Camp (scheduled for December 2015), so that sufficient time can be given to measuring the athlete's performance throughout the year.

As well, the Head Coach may inform an athlete they are being included in the national team pool and considered for selection at any time during the year, in advance of Carding Camp.

Athletes must be Canadian citizens, or otherwise eligible to compete for Canada according to IWBF regulations and be members in good standing with Wheelchair Basketball Canada.

Athletes must have a medically-documented physical disability or be considered minimally-disabled by the IWBF to be considered for selection to the National Team.

The Head Coach has the final authority on deciding whether an athlete should be included in the national team pool in a given year.

Considerations include:

- The ability of the athlete to travel independently to National Team camps/competitions.
- The athlete's future National Team potential, in comparison to the other athletes in the program.
- The classification of the athlete, in comparison to the other athletes in the program.
- The likelihood of the athlete being able to maintain a high enough level of training during the year, as determined by the Head Coach.

6. Criteria for Selection

The primary criteria for selecting athletes to the National Team is to select the best team possible, ensuring the classification needs based on the primary line-up combinations, special line-up combinations, and substitution for players in the primary line-ups are met.

The measurement criteria can be broken down into 7 operational components:

6.1 Technical operational component. Athletes are measured using both contribution data and accuracy/intensity data that assess the core skills of wheelchair basketball (shooting, passing, ball-handling, rebounding, etc.). The data is measured using box score information and the Individual Technical Quality Measure Test (ITQMT) which rates the quality of skills execution.

6.2 Tactical operational component. Athletes are measured by assessing basketball intelligence and their understanding of decision making in WBC's style of play. Basketball IQ and Style of Play are measured using the ITQMT for basketball IQ and style of play.

6.3 Physical operational component. Athletes are measured by assessing their speed, agility and fitness for WBC's style of play. Speed, agility and style of play fitness are measured using the 20m sprint test, u-turn test, obstacle push test, and data collected from lactate tests, heart rate data and local positioning system (LPS) data.

6.4 Mental operational component. Athletes are assessed by measuring the mental skills needed specific to WBC's style of play. Examples of the skills measured include, but are not limited to, goal setting and arousal control. As an example, mental skills are measured using survey data from a mental skills inventory.

6.5 Health operational component. Athletes are assessed by measuring their durability using an index that tracks the number and type of workouts they do. The durability index is calculated on the number of possible workouts an athlete has outlined in their YTP and how many they are able to complete.

6.6 Nutrition operational component. Athletes are assessed by measuring their nutritional knowledge and improvements in their nutritional health. As an example, nutrition knowledge is measured using a questionnaire, while nutrition health is measured through blood tests.

6.7 Equipment operational component. Athletes are assessed by measuring how their installation is maximized to optimize pushing power, injury prevention and skill execution. This is calculated based on power outputs measured using an ergometer and skill execution in field tests like partner pylon passing, obstacle dribble and one minute shooting.

6.8 Additional criteria for consideration:

6.8.1 Factors related to team cohesion and team dynamics

6.8.2 Experience in international competition

6.8.3 Commitment to the program and to training as demonstrated through attendance at training and competition throughout the year and submission of training reports to the coaching staff

6.8.4 Ability to fit the overall team style of play (speed, full-court press, back-picking, high tempo defense, fast breaking)

6.8.5 Evaluation during the year in competitive events at an elite level.

6.8.6 The future potential of an athlete to compete in the next Paralympic Games will be considered.

7. WBC athlete program standards

7.1 National Team athletes' post-selection criteria

Athletes selected to the National Team may be removed from the roster for the 2016 Rio Paralympics, up until the final IWBF/IPC deadlines, under the following scenarios:

- Failure to meet training or competition commitments, as determined by the Head Coach;
- Injury or illness that will prevent them from training properly in advance of, and/or competing at a high enough level at the Paralympic Games (as determined by the program medical staff in consultation with the Head Coach);

- Violation of the Athlete/National Sport Organization (NSO) Agreement;
- Gross breach of discipline, as per the WBC Code of Conduct;
- Investigation for cause; and
- Violations of anti-doping rules.

It is the responsibility of the Head Coach to determine the athletes that are to be named as alternates, should it be necessary to replace an athlete named to the National Team. All national team pool athletes may be considered by the Head Coach as alternates.