

Wheelchair Basketball Canada (WBC) – Men National Team Selection Process

- 2023 Dubai World's Championship
- 2023 Santiago Parapan American games
- 2024 Paris Paralympic Games

1. Introduction

The purpose of this document is to outline the process for Wheelchair Basketball Canada (WBC) to select athletes to represent Canada at the following major events:

- 2023 Dubai World's Championships
- 2023 Santiago Parapan American games
- 2024 Paris Paralympic Games

The goal of the Men's program is to assemble the best possible teams to perform and have development for the future in mind for the 2024 Paris Paralympic Games.

No more than 12 players will be selected to the National Team for the above major events.

2. Timing

The athletes selected to the National Team will be made known to the national team pool athletes no later than the dates listed below known at the event selection dates. The National Team athletes will be formally announced to the public on/or after the appeal period (14 days) has passed.

2022 Dubai World's Championship June 5-21, 2023

- Selection Date - April 17th, 2023

2023 Santiago Parapan American games November 17-25, 2023

- Selection Date - September 28th, 2023

2024 Paris Paralympic Games August 28 to September 8, 2024

- Selection Date - TBD when team qualifies

3. Decision making process

The final recommendation for selection to the National Team is made by the Senior Men's Head Coach, in consultation with the High Performance Director, and program 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 selected events.

Identified national team pool athletes will be measured against the selection criteria at National team training camps, elite competitions, decentralized training environment (training reporting), and training at the National Training Centre.

For Dubai 2023 (World's Championships) the selection will follow these steps:

- Camp January 2023: invitation of those athletes who are considered of interest for the National team (pool of 17 maximum) for the summer depending by all the factors above mentioned with eventual possibility of invitation extended to athletes who were not necessarily carded. After this camp it will choose a group of 12 athletes who have demonstrated to adhere to the requirements for the summer.
- Tournament of April 2023 in Belgium: pool of 14 athletes chosen during the previous camp and at the end of the tournament the definitive selection of the 12 who are going to compete for the World's Championship will be announced.
- Tournament of May 2023 in Ottawa: the 12 athletes who had been chosen to represent the team for the World Championships will compete against three other nations in 6 games in order to refinish the details prior the competition.

For Santiago 2023 Para Pan American Games the selection will follow these steps:

- Camp of August 2023: invitation of those athletes who are considered of interest for the National team (pool of 17 maximum) for the summer depending by all the factors above mentioned with eventual possibility of invitation extended to athletes who were not necessarily carded. After this camp it will choose a group of 12 athletes who better have demonstrated to adhere to the requirements for the summer.
- Camp of September 2023: pool of 14 athletes chosen during the previous camp and at the end of the tournament the definitive selection of the 12 who are going to compete for the Santiago Para Pan American Games will be announced.

For Paris 2024 Paralympic Games the selection will follow these steps:

- TBD after qualification

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 similar, but their timing is different, which allows for the possibility of certain athletes to surpass others in the months between the conclusion of Carding allocation (which determines carding nominations) and the Selection date (which determines up to 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 has the right to do so, by following the WBC Appeals Policy (available at www.wheelchairbasketball.ca or through the National Office). Athletes will have 14 days from the time of the Selection date to file an appeal.

5. Eligibility

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 and be deemed eligible by the IWBF classification rule 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 but not limited to:

- Commitment to WBC's National Team High Performance Values.
- Commitment to compliance with sharing training from the athletes DTE (eg. First beat HR data).
- Commitment to attend the National Team Camps and Competitions.
- 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 the following:

6.1 Performance On Demand

- Execution on skills trained in practice during critical event/play.
- Emotion/Arousal regulation during critical event/play.
- Duration of execution during critical event/play.
- Experience level of athlete.
- Execution of technical skills
- 5-Cone Drill
- Execution of tactical skills

6.2. Optimize Training Gains

- Setting training objectives
- Setting training objectives
- Ability to complete prescribed training programs
- Ability to complete additional training during specified training period
- Ability to sustain focus during training
- 20M Sprint Time

6.3 Support teammate training and performance

- Peer evaluation for impact on basketball development.
- Peer evaluation for impact on personal development.

6.4 Maintain appropriate health & well-being

- Implementation of health related skills & strategies
- Compliance to recovery plans
- Engagement with IST & other resources
- Engagement with outside resources

6.5 Commitment to Culture of Excellence

- Engagement with IST & other resources
- Initiative taken with coaches, IST & other resources
- Ability to complete prescribed training programs
- Ability to complete additional training (mental, physical, tactical, technical, well-being) during -specified training period
- Engagement with athletes during structured training.
- Provides direct feedback
- Equipment

6.6 Additional criteria for consideration:

- 6.6.1 Factors related to team cohesion and team dynamics
- 6.6.2 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
- 6.6.3 Commitment to regular and prompt communication with the Head Coach, IST Staff, WBC staff and the athlete's monitoring system in use for reporting.
- 6.6.4 Ability to fit the overall team style of play (speed, full-court press, back-picking, high tempo defense, fast breaking)
- 6.6.5 Evaluation during the year in competitive events at an elite level.
- 6.6.6 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 maybe removed from the roster for any events, 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 major event. (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.

9. Ultimate Authority

For Major Championships outside of the Paralympic Games and Parapan American Games

Wheelchair Basketball Canada is the ultimate authority on the selection of the Athletes and teams to represent Canada at all IWBF competitions.

For the Paralympic games and Parapan American Games

Wheelchair Basketball Canada will nominate the team to the Canadian Paralympic Committee (CPC) as CPC has the ultimate authority on the selection of athletes and teams to represent Canada at these selected events.