

**Bowls Canada Boulingrin  
High Performance Program  
National Para Squad Selection  
2023 - 2024**

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**1. STATEMENT OF SELECTION PHILOSOPHY**

- 1.1. The BCB High Performance Program consists of three squads – National Senior Squad, National Para Bowls Squad and National Youth Squad.
- 1.2. The objective of this policy is to outline the criteria and process on how athletes are identified and selected to the National Para Bowls Squad and to National Team Events representing Canada at international events. The identification of the National Senior Squad and National Youth Squad is outlined in a separate criteria process.
- 1.3. BCB is committed to selecting those athletes, who are best qualified to support the goals and objectives of BCB's High Performance Program, as determined by the selection criteria described herein.
- 1.4. BCB will select up to six (6) men and up to six (6) women to the National Para Squad.
- 1.5. The National Para Squad cycle will run from August 15, 2023 to July 31, 2024. If a selected athlete resigns or is removed from the National Para Squad during this cycle, the HPC reserves the right to replace that athlete with another qualified athlete as identified through a modified selection process to be determined at that time
- 1.6. The selection criteria used for specific National Team Events (NTE) may vary depending on the type of event (e.g., Major Event or Development Event) and the event's performance goals.

**2. STATEMENT OF RESPONSIBILITY**

- 2.1. BCB recognizes the importance of having a High Performance Program and NTE selection policy and communicating the selection criteria to all athletes. BCB is committed to a fair and appropriate implementation of its selection policy, which is guided by BCB's High Performance Committee (HPC).

- 2.2. It is the intent to provide athletes with timely information if any amendments are made to the selection policy. The general timeline is a 3-month notification period before any amendment is adopted; this timeline may be amended in extraordinary circumstances.
- 2.3. The Selection Panel (SP) for the High Performance Program (i.e., Squad Selection) will be made up of the National Assistant Coach and up to two additional members as identified by the HPC. The SP for a NTE will be confirmed prior to each NTE by the HPC and identified in the specific NTE selection criteria. The HPC reserves the right to appoint additional qualified Selectors to the SP for National Para Squad Selection and/or any NTE selection as identified in specific NTE selection criteria.
- 2.4. The National Para Bowls Squad will be announced no later than August 15, 2023

### **3. NATIONAL PARA SQUAD SELECTION ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA**

- 3.1. All athletes who wish to be eligible for selection to the National Para Squad must meet the following conditions:
- i) Be deemed in good standing with BCB and/or its affiliates (PTO's and/or Clubs).
  - ii) Be eligible to compete in the identified program events based on BCB policies or the applicable event policies.
  - iii) Be in compliance with eligibility requirements documented by any other governing bodies (e.g., International Bowls for the Disabled, World Bowls, etc.) applicable to the events.
  - iv) Be able to participate in any identified camp and competition events as listed in clause 3.2 (Selection Eligibility – Senior Squad) or Clause 6 (Selection Eligibility – Youth Squad). Exceptions and/or exemptions are covered under clause 6 (Exceptions and/or Exemptions).
  - v) Meet any standard physiological and technical standards as laid out in the selection criteria.
  - vi) Demonstrate a positive attitude toward teammates, the national team, coaches, support staff, and BCB.
  - vii) Comply with the Canadian Anti-Doping Program.

- viii) Complete safe sport training as identified by Bowls Canada in the Expression of Interest.
- ix) Commit to participating in injury reduction and management programs as laid out by BCB.
- x) Be aware that Para Squad and NTE program events will not be fully funded, and personal contributions will be required.

3.2. All athletes who wish to be eligible for National Para Squad selection, must further meet the following conditions:

- i) Be available and participate, if requested, for the following events:
  - a. 2023 Canadian Para Bowls Championships in Calgary, AB from July 24 to July 30, 2023
  - b. International Bowls for the Disabled World Championships in Johannesburg, South Africa on May 18 – May 31,
- ii) Be a Canadian citizen and hold a Canadian passport or has been a permanent resident of the country for a period of twenty-four months immediately prior to the event.
- iii) Be prepared to sign an athlete agreement.
- iv) Be prepared to complete and submit to BCB yearly training plans, monthly training plans, monthly reports and competition reports.

3.3 All athletes who wish to be eligible for National Para Squad Selection must meet IBD Classification standards as identified through the official classification process held at the 2023 Canadian Para Bowls Championships. More information on classification standards can be found online at <https://bowlscanada.com/en/programs-resources/para-bowls/para-bowls-classification/> and in Appendix B.

#### **4. SELECTION CRITERIA FOR THE NATIONAL PARA SQUAD**

4.1. As a team sport, BCB selection is based on a combination of subjective and objective criteria.

4.2. Athletes wishing to be considered for selection to the National Para Squad must identify themselves to BCB through the Expression of Interest Form outlined in Appendix A and participate at the 2023 Canadian Para Bowls Championships.

- 4.3. As facilitated by the Performance Manager, the SP will apply the selection policy and criteria for squad selections.
- 4.4. An initial ranking of athletes for the Para Squad will be established using:
- i) Team Dynamics will be assessed by implementing the assessment tool, attached as Appendix C, and will be worth 30% of the initial ranking; and,
  - ii) Technical and Team Performance will be assessed by implementing the Technical and Team Assessment Tool, attached as Appendix D, and will be worth 70%.
- 4.5. The final selection to the Para Squad will be made using the ranking of the male and female athletes, the results at the 2023 Canadian Para Bowls Championships, composition of classification, position, specific specialists, and team dynamics which may be at the expense of a higher-ranking athlete.
- i) If participant numbers at the 2023 Canadian Para Bowls Championships warrant the need for athletes to compete against athletes not of the same classification status, both the result of the competition and the final result based on classification will be considered.

## **5. NATIONAL TEAM EVENT (NTE) SPECIFIC SELECTION CRITERIA**

- 5.1. In some cases, BCB reserves the right to introduce overriding selection criteria, which are customized to the type of event for which selection takes place, or which may be governed by associations other than BCB.
- 5.2. Examples of these cases may include;
- i) Major events (e.g., International Bowls for the Disabled World Championships, Commonwealth Games, World Bowls Championships), where the selection results may have a significant weighting on specific performance minimum potentials, such as a podium finish.
  - ii) Development events where selection may have a significant weighting on athlete development and/or the need to provide international exposure to a broader group of athletes.
- 5.3 BCB strives to notify athletes a minimum of 90 days prior to the NTE of any changes in selection criteria for NTE.

## **6. EXCEPTIONS AND/OR EXEMPTIONS**

- 6.1. Conditional Selection: Conditional selection of an athlete may be made based on circumstances where the athlete is provided an extension to meet the required selection criteria. Any such circumstance shall be reviewed and granted by the SP at its sole discretion.
- 6.2. Injury or Illness: An athlete who is eligible to be considered for selection, but who is injured or ill to the extent that they cannot fulfill the selection criteria may nonetheless be selected at the discretion of the SP. In exercising such discretion, the SP may require that the athlete supply a specialist diagnosis and prognosis for recovery.
- 6.3. Extenuating Circumstances: These may include any number of circumstances and prohibitive causes by which a player is unable to meet the requirements in this selection policy within the defined timelines. Based on the circumstances and the discretion of the Selection Panel, the athlete may still be eligible for selection and/or selected to the High Performance Program or to a NTE.
- 6.4. Should circumstances arise that would prevent the BCB selection criteria, as described in this document, from being applied, the HPC reserves the right to determine alternate criteria. Should this occur, all athletes shall be notified of changes in a timely manner.

## **7. ATHLETE REMOVAL**

- 7.1. Any Athlete may be removed from the High Performance Program or from being selected to a NTE if the athlete:
- i) Breaches BCB's Bylaws and/or Policies.
  - ii) By reason of illness or injury, is unable to perform to the required standard in the opinion of the SP (after having received advice from a medical practitioner).
  - iii) Breaches the requirements outlined in their Athlete Agreement.
  - iv) Has failed to sustain his or her performance and/or attitude to a satisfactory level, provided that the required performance levels had first been discussed with the athlete, and the athlete had been given the opportunity to attain those performance levels.

7.2 An alleged breach of an athlete's obligations will be dealt with using the provisions of BCB's Discipline and Complaints Policy at <https://bowlscanada.com/wp-content/uploads/2023/02/BCB-Discipline-and-Complaints-Policy-January-2023.pdf>

## **8. APPEALS**

8.1. Decisions regarding selections may be appealed pursuant to the Appeals Policy of BCB at: <https://bowlscanada.com/wp-content/uploads/2023/02/BCB-Appeal-Policy-January-2023.pdf>

## **9. LANGUAGE DISCREPANCY**

9.1. In case of any wording discrepancies between the English and French versions of the selection criteria, the English wording takes precedence.



**Appendix A**  
**Expression of Interest**  
**High Performance Program**  
**Evaluation and Selection**  
**National Para Bowls Squad**  
**2023-2024**

This completed Expression of Interest form and all requested additional information must be returned to Don Caswell, Performance Manager by **June 30, 2023**. **By submitting this form you agree to be evaluated for selection to the National Para Bowls Squad.**

**Only athletes selected to the National Para Bowls Squad will be considered for selection to the 2024 International Bowls for the Disabled World Championships.**

Name:			
Address:			
Email:		Gender Identification:	
Phone:		Date of Birth:	
Classification:			

Completed applications may be submitted:

**Via email:** [dcaswell@bowlscanada.com](mailto:dcaswell@bowlscanada.com)

**Via mail:** Bowls Canada, 2451 Riverside Dr, c/o House of Sport, Ottawa, ON K1H 7X7

**BCB Expression of Interest – Para Bowls Squad**



I acknowledge the following to be true at the time of signing this form, by initialing in the box beside each statement:

	Initial
a) I hold a Canadian Passport and am a Canadian Citizen or hold a Permanent Residence Status.	
b) I declare that I am a member in good standing of a Canadian Bowls Club belonging to a Bowls Canada Boulingrin member association. That club being:	
c) I confirm that I have been or would be classified as a para bowls athlete in accordance to the standards of International Bowls for the Disabled (IBD). These standards are available on the BCB website at: <a href="https://bowlscanada.com/en/programs-resources/para-bowls/para-bowls-classification/">https://bowlscanada.com/en/programs-resources/para-bowls/para-bowls-classification/</a>	
d) If selected, I confirm that I am available to attend the International Bowls for the Disabled World Championships in Johannesburg, South Africa on May 18, 2024 to May 31, 2024	
e) I understand that while BCB will continue to strive to find funding to support the High Performance Program, a financial commitment will be required of me to attend select camps and international events, including but not limited to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> International Bowls for the Disabled Fee: A minimum of \$2500 due prior to event (if selected).</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> A \$500 High Performance Program Fee</li> </ul>	
f) I acknowledge that I have read the BCB Selection Criteria, available <a href="#">here</a> , and I agree to comply with it. I acknowledge that this policy may be amended from time to time, and I understand that BCB will inform me of any such amendments.	
g) I acknowledge that I have read the current Canadian Anti-Doping Program available at <a href="https://cces.ca/sites/default/files/content/docs/pdf/2021_cces-policy-cadp-2021-final-e.pdf">https://cces.ca/sites/default/files/content/docs/pdf/2021_cces-policy-cadp-2021-final-e.pdf</a> and I agree to comply with it. I acknowledge that this policy may be amended from time to time, and I understand that BCB will inform me of any such amendments.	
h) I acknowledge my right to appeal my selection or non-selection as set out in the selection criteria.	
i) I have read and agree to comply with the BCB Code of Conduct Policy available at <a href="http://bowlscanada.com/downloads/policy/code_of_conduct_en.pdf">http://bowlscanada.com/downloads/policy/code_of_conduct_en.pdf</a> and that I have completed the Safe Sport Training module developed by the Coaching Association of Canada ( <a href="https://safesport.coach.ca/">https://safesport.coach.ca/</a> )	
j) I understand that I will be required to sign the BCB Athlete Agreement and consent to be bound by the Universal Code of Conduct to prevent Maltreatment and Abuse in Sport (UCCMS) if I am selected to the Para Squad	
k) I understand that there is a year-round training and performance commitment required of all members of the High- Performance Program and if selected I will adhere to the commitments as outlined by the National Coaching Staff. This includes but is not limited to regular reporting on my training and performance commitments and attendance at IST meetings.	
l) I understand that a complete Expression of Interest package also includes the submission of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Both pages of the completed and signed Expression of Interest Form</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Proof of Completion of the Safe Sport Training module.</li> </ul>	

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_



## APPENDIX B

### International Bowls for the Disabled (IBD) Classification Classes

There are 8 classes for para bowls (4 visual impairment classes: B1 - B4 and 4 physical impairment classes: B5-B8). Each is described below:

- B1** No light perception in either eye up to light perception but no recognition of hand movements at any distance or any direction.
- B2** From the ability to recognize hand movements up to a visual acuity of 2/60 (Berkeley Rudimentary Test).
- B3** From a visual acuity of better than 2/60 up to a visual acuity of 6/60 (Berkeley Rudimentary Test).
- B4** A visual acuity up to a visual acuity of worse than 6/24 (Berkeley Rudimentary Test) and/or a visual field of less than 20 degrees.
- B5** Ambulant and wheelchair bowlers with restricted grip and upper body limb function, poor balance and coordination, unable to bowl a full length end or needing a splinting device to do so.
- B6** Ambulant and wheelchair bowlers with reduced balance function (loss of 5 points or more) but able to bowl a full length end.
- B7** Ambulant and wheelchair bowlers with minor balance problems (loss of less than 5 points).
- B8** Ambulant bowlers, who have a permanent and irreversible disability, have lost 10 points on the bench test, but have minimal noticeable impairment of function (loss of 0-1 points).

## Appendix C -- Team Dynamics Criteria Assessment

**\* Rating Scale:**

1 = Very Weak                      2 = Weak                      3 = Below Average    4 = Average  
 5 = Above Average              6 = Good                      7 = Very Good              8 = Excellent    9 = Outstanding

Criteria Item
1. Adequate fitness to perform on the green over several days at competition
2. Evidence of Respect- to the program, for teammates, officials, opposition, to agreed on behaviours (e.g., codes of conduct, tournament conditions of play, etc.)
3. Demonstrated ability to be compatible and collaborative with other players
4. Coachability: openness to learning, receiving feedback and trying alternative ideas, acceptance to coach intervention

## Appendix D -- Technical and Tactical Assessment

1 = Average domestic player  
 2 = Good domestic player, below average Internationally  
 3 = Average as compared to international standards  
 4 = Slightly above average as compared to international standards  
 5 = Good as compared to international standards  
 6 = Very Good as compared to international standards  
 7 = Excellent as compared to international standards

<b>Skill</b>	<b>Definition</b>
1. Draw	Ability to accurately and consistently draw on both hands
2. Drive	Ability to accurately and consistently drive on both hands
3. Mid Weight	Accurate and consistent mid-weight shot on both hands
4. First Bowl Effectiveness	Consistently delivering the first bowl where directed and/or intentionally positioned
5. Effective Positional Bowls	Consistently places bowls where directed and/or intentionally positioned for tactical advantage
6. Mental Training Application	Consistently displays effective mental training skills: managing distractions, composure, positive body language, effective communication
7. Tactical Approach	Consistently demonstrates effective tactical approach to the game: effective decision making, effective shot selection, appropriate aggression
8. Consistency of performance	Overall, executes consistent performance technically, tactically and within positional roles from game to game