

Bowls Canada Boulingrin

High Performance Program National Senior Squad Selection Criteria

2023 - 2026

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 Senior Squad and to National Team Events representing Canada at international events. The identification of the National Para Bowls 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 twelve (12) men and up to twelve (12) women to the National Senior Squad.
- 1.5. If a selected athlete resigns or is removed from the Senior Squad during the cycle (November 1, 2023 – October 31, 2026) 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 Coach and the members of the HPC. The SP for 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 Team Squad Selection and/or any NTE selection as identified in specific NTE selection criteria.
- 2.4. The upcoming cycle for the National Senior Squad will run from November 1, 2023 to October 31, 2026.
- 2.5. The Squads will be announced no later than October 31, 2023

3. NATIONAL SENIOR SQUAD SELECTION ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

- 3.1. All athletes who wish to be eligible for selection to the National Team 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., Commonwealth Games Federation, 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 Senior 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 Team Squad selection, must further meet the following conditions:

- i) Be available and participate, if requested, for the following events:
 - a. 2023 Regional Evaluation Camps - details to be provided by June 15, 2023
 - b. 2025 World Bowls Team Selection Camp: dates to be determined
 - c. 2025 World Bowls Championships dates to be announced Pre-Competition training camp immediately prior at confirmed venue
 - d. 2026 Commonwealth Games selection and training camps
 - e. Other identified international events
- ii) Be a Canadian citizen and hold a Canadian passport, (Commonwealth Games) or has been a permanent resident of the country for a period of twenty-four months immediately prior to the event (World Bowls).
- 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.

4. SELECTION CRITERIA FOR THE NATIONAL SENIOR 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 Senior Squad must identify themselves to BCB through the Expression of Interest Form outlined in Appendix A.
- 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 nominated athletes for the Senior Squad will be established using:
 - i) Team Dynamics will be assessed by implementing the assessment tool, attached as Appendix B, and will be worth 40% of the initial ranking; and,
 - ii) Technical and Team Performance will be assessed by implementing the Technical and Team Assessment Tool, attached as Appendix C, and will be worth 60%.
- 4.5. The positional fit of the top eighteen ranked nominated female and male athletes will be determined by the SP using previous national competitions, international competitions and/or training/evaluation camps over the last three years. Each of the top eighteen ranked nominated athletes will be assessed in each position using Appendix D.
- 4.6. The final selection to the Senior Squad will be made from the respective top eighteen ranked nominated male and female athletes based on composition of position, specific specialists, and team dynamics which may be at the expense of a higher-ranking athlete.

5. NATIONAL TEAM EVENT 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., Commonwealth Games, World 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 he or she 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
November 1, 2023 – October 30, 2026
High Performance Program
National Senior Squad

This completed Expression of Interest form and all requested additional information must be returned to Don Caswell, Performance Manager by **June 15, 2023**.

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

Completed applications may be submitted:

Via email: dcaswell@bowlscanada.com

Via mail: Bowls Canada, 2451 Riverside Dr, c/o

House of Sport, Ottawa, ON K1H 7X7



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 am a Canadian Citizen and hold a Canadian Passport.	
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 acknowledge that I have read the BCB Selection Criteria, available here , 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.	
d) I acknowledge that I have read the current Canadian Anti-Doping Program available at https://www.cces.ca/sites/default/files/content/docs/pdf/2021_cces-policy-cadp-2021-final-e.pdf 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.	
e) I acknowledge my right to appeal my selection or non-selection as set out in the selection criteria.	
f) I have read and agree to comply with the BCB Code of Conduct Policy available at http://bowlscanada.com/downloads/policy/code_of_conduct_en.pdf and that I have completed the Safe Sport Training module developed by the Coaching Association of Canada (https://safesport.coach.ca/)	
g) I understand that I will be required to sign the BCB Athlete Agreement and to consent to be bound by the Universal Code of Conduct to prevent Maltreatment and Abuse in Sport (UCCMS) if I am selected to the Senior Squad	
h) 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"> a. Training Camp(s): Contribution of a minimum of \$1500 due prior to the event (if selected). b. World Bowls and Commonwealth Games Contribution Fees: A minimum of \$2500 due prior to event (if selected). c. Expenses for high performance evaluation camps such as airfare and/or accommodation plus meals 	
i) 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.	
j) I understand that a complete Expression of Interest package also includes the submission of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Both pages of the completed and signed Expression of Interest Form 2023 Competition Schedule – detail must include type and name of event, locations and dates <input type="checkbox"/> My Annual Training (on and off green) and Competition Plan outlining technical and fitness training components for 2023 and 2024. <input type="checkbox"/> Proof of Completion of the Safe Sport Training module. 	

Signed: _____

Date: _____

Appendix B -- 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 C -- 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

Skill	Definition
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

Appendix D -- Positional Fit

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

Positional Fit as a Skip	Positional Fit as a Vice
<i>Ability to consistently make draw shots in complex head situations</i>	<i>Ability to play all shots consistently</i>
<i>Able to play all shots consistently</i>	<i>Good communicator</i>
<i>Able to drive at various speeds consistently</i>	<i>Respected by teammates</i>
<i>Respected as a leader by teammates</i>	<i>Able to collaborate on developing strategic heads</i>
<i>Able to orchestrate strategic heads</i>	<i>Ability to perform under pressure</i>
<i>Consistent and clear communicator</i>	
<i>Ability to perform under pressure</i>	

Positional Fit as a Second	Positional Fit as a Lead
<i>Ability to play consistent draw shot</i>	<i>Ability to consistently place jack as directed</i>
<i>Ability to consistently place bowls in head as directed</i>	<i>Ability to consistently draw to a bare jack</i>
<i>Ability to consistently remove bowls from head as directed</i>	<i>Ability to consistently draw to different lengths</i>
<i>Ability to perform under pressure</i>	<i>Ability to perform under pressure</i>