

Bowls Canada Boulingrin

2026 Commonwealth Games Selection Criteria

1 Introduction

- 1.1 The objective of the Bowls Canada Boulingrin (BCB) 2026 Commonwealth Games Selection Criteria is to outline how athletes are identified and nominated to represent Canada at the 2026 Commonwealth Games held in Glasgow, Scotland from July 23 – August 2, 2026.
- 1.2 **The purpose of the 2026 Commonwealth Games selection criteria and process is to nominate a team of two (2) male athletes and a team of two (2) female athletes to form the best possible teams to achieve the goal of podium success.**
- 1.3 Athletes must meet the eligibility standards outlined by Commonwealth Sport Canada to be nominated.
- 1.4 Funding is not guaranteed and BCB may opt to charge a contribution fee pending financial circumstances which will be determined upon BCB's sole discretion. The amount of the contribution fee will not exceed \$1,200.

2 Statement of Responsibility and Composition of Selection Panel

- 2.1 BCB recognizes the importance of having a clear selection policy and to communicate 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), who is responsible for the approval of this policy.
- 2.2 The selection panel (SP) for the 2026 Commonwealth Games will be the members of BCB's HPC, as well as BCB's National Head Coach;
 - a) Ryan Stadnyk (Chair)
 - b) Derek Dillon (Head Coach)
 - c) Anita Nivala (HPC Member)
 - d) Colin Docherty (HPC Member)
 - e) David Anderson (HPC Member)
 - f) Mary Wright (HPC Member)
- 2.3 Nominations will be announced no later than January 16th, 2026.

3 Athlete Eligibility

3.1 All athletes must meet the following conditions to be eligible for nomination to the 2026 Commonwealth Games Team:

- a) Be a member of BCB's National Squad.
- b) Be in good standing with BCB and its affiliates (PSOs and/or Clubs).
- c) Be eligible to compete in the named event based on the policies of BCB, World Bowls, and the Commonwealth Games Federation.
- d) Participate in the identified selection process.
- e) Have signed the BCB Athlete Agreement.
- f) Demonstrate a positive attitude towards fellow team players, the national team, coaches, support staff, HPC, BCB members and BCB as an organization.
- g) Comply with the Canadian Anti-Doping Program.
- h) Demonstrate commitment to participating in BCB's training program, injury reduction and management programs as laid out by BCB.
- i) Hold a valid Canadian Passport which expires no earlier than February 2027.
- j) Meet all public health conditions required for national and international travel which may include a requirement to be fully vaccinated or have an acceptable exemption. This includes producing said vaccination or exemption documentation to BCB if required.

4 Selection Criteria

- 4.1** Athletes wishing to be considered for nomination to the 2026 Commonwealth Games Team must submit an Athlete Expression of Interest no later than **December 19th, 2025**.
- 4.2** Guided by the Selection Criteria outlined in Section 4, the SP shall use its discretion to nominate a maximum of four (4) athletes (two female athletes and two male athletes).
- 4.3** To ensure the best possible team is formed the SP may, in using its sole discretion, not necessarily nominate the top ranked athletes as defined by Section 4.8's Tools and Aids.
- 4.4** If a nominated athlete does not join the 2026 Commonwealth Games Team, an athlete who best fits the required positional need will be nominated as a replacement.

4.5 As a team sport, BCB's Selection Criteria is made up of three parts:

- a) Over-Riding Selection Criteria specified in section 4.6;
- b) Specific Selection Criteria specified in section 4.7; and
- c) Selection Tools and Aids specified in section 4.8.

4.6 Over-Riding Selection Criteria:

- a) In determining whether BCB nominates an Athlete to the 2026 Commonwealth Games, the Selection Panel (SP) must be satisfied overall that:
 - I. The Athlete has a track record of proven success at international competition.
 - II. The SP is confident that the Athlete will be competitive at the Games.
 - III. The SP is confident that the Athlete will perform creditably at the Games.
- b) In determining whether the Athlete has met the Over-Riding Selection Criteria for the 2026 Commonwealth Games, the SP must take into consideration (but are not limited to considering) the following events:
 - I. World Bowls 2023
 - II. The 2024 and 2025 Atlantic International Challenge
 - III. The 2024 and 2025 Canadian National Championships
 - IV. The 2024 and 2025 Canadian National Youth Championships
- c) To avoid doubt, at the discretion of the SP the Athlete's performances and results at other events may also be taken into consideration for determining whether the Athlete has met the Over-Riding Selection Criteria.

4.7 Specific Selection Criteria:

- a) In determining whether the Athlete will be nominated to the 2026 Commonwealth Games, the SP will consider any one or more of the following additional factors regarding the athlete:
 - I. Performances or results in other relevant events during the squad term.
 - II. Demonstrated and/or potential ability to play in a set position and adapt to the format of play.

- III. Current skill level of the athlete.
- IV. Demonstrated and/or potential ability to work with the high-performance coaching staff, team officials, or other athletes.
- V. Current physical fitness of the athlete.
- VI. Demonstrated commitment to training, the high-performance program, and ability to be supportive to other athletes on the squad.
- VII. Demonstrated compatibility to work with others in a team environment.
- VIII. Event specific performance reviews, monthly reporting, and /or any reporting done by BCB's Coaching Staff.

4.8 Selection Tools and Aids

- a) In determining whether the Athlete will be nominated to the 2026 Commonwealth Games, the SP will utilize (but are not limited to utilizing) the following tools and aids:
 - I. Technical and Tactical Skill Assessment (Appendix A)
 - II. Ancillary Criteria Assessment (Appendix B)
 - III. Positional Fit Assessment (Appendix C)

5 Exceptions and/or Exemptions

5.1 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 at the discretion of the SP, the athlete may still be eligible for nomination and/or be nominated to the 2026 Commonwealth Games Team.

5.2 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.

6 Requirements After Nomination to the 2026 Commonwealth Games Team

6.1 Following nomination to the Team as set out in this policy, all members of the Team will be required to comply with the following additional requirements:

- a) All nominated Team Members must continue to meet the selection eligibility criteria as described in Section 3 of this document.

- b) All nominated members of the Team are expected to meet the [BCB Code of Conduct](#) and the minimum standards of behavior for Team Members.
- c) All nominated Team Members are expected to submit and adhere to the monthly reporting schedule approved by the National Head Coach upon selection.
- d) All nominated Team Members must immediately inform the National Head Coach of any illness or injury that could reasonably impact on the athlete's ability to perform at the level expected of the athlete at the event selected for.
- e) All nominated Team Members must participate in all team events, activities, and meetings.
- f) All selected Team Members will pay any required contribution fees within 30 days of being invoiced by BCB and prior to departing for the Commonwealth Games.
- g) All nominated Team Members must sign and submit the Commonwealth Sport Canada Athlete Agreement by the date specified by Commonwealth Sport Canada.
- h) Nomination does not guarantee selection. Selection is subject to Commonwealth Sport Canada approval.

7 Team Member Removal

7.1 Any Team Member may be removed from the 2026 Commonwealth Games Team who:

- a) Breaches [BCB's Bylaws and/or Policies](#).
- b) 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).
- c) Breaches the requirements outlined in the BCB Athlete Agreement.
- d) Breaches the requirements and/or policies as outlined in the Commonwealth Sport Canada Athlete Agreement.
- e) Has failed to sustain their performance and/or attitude to a satisfactory level, provided that the required performance levels had first been discussed with the Team Member, and the Team Member had been given the opportunity to attain those performance levels.



7.2 An alleged breach of a Team Members obligations will be dealt with using the provisions of [BCB's Discipline and Complaints Policy](#).

8 Appeals

8.1 Decisions regarding selections may be appealed pursuant to the [Appeals Policy of BCB](#).

Appendix A: Technical and Tactical Assessment

Percentage Weight: 75%

Grading Scale

- 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

<i>Skill</i>	<i>Definition</i>
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 placed
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 – Consistency of Game-to-Game Performance	Overall, executes consistent performance technically, tactically, and within positional roles from game-to-game



Appendix B: Ancillary Criteria Assessment

Percentage Weight: 20%

Grading Scale

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

<i>Criteria Item</i>
1 – Adequate fitness to perform on the green over several days at competition
2 – Evidence of respect to the program, for teammates, officials, opposition, and to agreed upon behaviors
3 – Demonstrated ability to be compatible and collaborative with other players
4 – Coachability: openness to learning, receiving feedback, trying alternative ideas, acceptance to coach intervention



Appendix C: Positional Fit Assessment

Grading Scale

- 1 – Poor
- 2 – Improvement
- 3 – Neutral
- 4 – Good
- 5 – Excellent

<i>Criteria Item</i>
1 - Positional Fit as a Lead
2 - Positional Fit as a Skip