



**2020 TOKYO OLYMPICS – GAMES OF THE XXXII OLYMPIAD  
SELECTION CRITERIA AND PROCESS  
TEAM CANADA VOLLEYBALL (MEN'S AND WOMEN'S TEAMS)**

The purpose of this document is to outline in a clear and transparent fashion the criteria and process involved in athlete selection to Volleyball Canada's 2020 Tokyo Olympic Teams.

*This version of the Volleyball Canada INP was approved on July 20, 2020, and replaces the version of the INP approved on June 30, 2019] and any other previous version of this INP as it relates to the Tokyo Olympic Games.*

**Team Participation & Qualification**

Only NOC's whose National Volleyball Federation is a member of the FIVB (Fédération Internationale de Volleyball) may register athletes in the Volleyball competition of the 2020 Tokyo Olympics.

According to the quota established by the IOC, there will be a maximum of twelve (12) teams for each gender and a maximum of twelve (12) competitors per team. The FIVB criteria can be found on its website at the following link:

<https://www.volleyball.world/en/volleyball/olympics/2020/competition/qualification%20process>

In the event of a discrepancy with this document, the original FIVB version will prevail. In the event of changes by the FIVB to the selection and eligibility criteria, Volleyball Canada is bound by these changes and will inform the membership as soon as possible.

The 12 places (12 men's quota places and 12 women's quota places) for the Tokyo 2020 Games are allocated as follows:

1 Place - Host Country (Japan)

6 Places - Best ranked NOC from each Intercontinental Olympic Qualification Tournaments (IOQT) to be held simultaneously in 6 different countries in August of 2019.

5 Places - Best ranked NOC from each Continental Olympic Qualification Tournaments to take place in January 2020

**Athlete Eligibility**

All athletes must comply with the provisions of the Olympic Charter currently in force and only those athletes who have complied with the Olympic Charter may participate in the Olympic Games.

In order to be eligible for nomination to the Canadian Olympic Committee for Olympic Team selection, all Athletes must:

1. Be a Canadian Citizen, as per Rule 41 of the Olympic Charter.
2. Have a valid passport valid until December 31, 2021
3. Be a member in good standing of Volleyball Canada
4. Be in compliance with all relevant FIVB and IOC requirements for eligibility
5. Sign and submit the Canadian Olympic Committee (COC) athlete agreement and Eligibility Conditions form no later than June 30, 2021.
6. The athlete must not be under suspension or any other sanction by any recognized body for any doping or doping-related offence.



### **Identification Process**

Athletes can be identified for the Canadian Senior National Volleyball Team that will be representing Canada at the 2020 Tokyo Olympic Games through:

- Recommendation by provincial/regional association, by National Team staff, college or university coaches
- Performance at domestic or international competitions and identification camps
- Performance at previous or current selection camps
- Performance on previous National Team programs

### **Team Selection Process:**

Athletes nominated to the Olympic Team must possess the ability to improve Canada's performance at the international level. The Olympic Games are the focus of the program for 2021. The Head Coach, with input from the Assistant Coach and High Performance Director, will select athletes from the following process:

- Volleyball Canada will hold an Open Selection Camp in late April/early May 2021.
- 18-24 athletes will be selected to the Senior National Team following the selection camp.
- The long list of 19/20 players required for the 'FIVB 02 Team Registration Form' for the Tokyo Olympic Games will be due at a date to be announced later.
- The 12 players that will compete at the 2020 Tokyo Olympic Games will be nominated to the COC no later than June 30, 2021. Those athletes will be nominated internally by June 24. These 12 players must have been named and included on the 'FIVB 02 Team Registration Form'.
- In the case of an injury to a selected athlete following the selection date, an athlete may be replaced on the 12-person roster prior to the preliminary inquiry for the Games, which is scheduled 2 days before the first day of matches. This decision is dependent on the level of the athlete's injury and timeline for full or sufficient recovery, and will be determined through consultation with the National Team Medical Staff, the National Team Coaches, and the athlete. Any injury replacement players must also have been named and included in the 'FIVB 02 Team Registration Form'. Any athlete replacement following nomination to the COC are subject to the approval of the COC Team Selection Committee. Any such replacement after July 5, 2021 is also subject to the International Olympic Committee Late Athlete Replacement Policy.

### **Team Selection Criteria:**

Nominations for the Olympic Games will be done by the Head Coach of the National Team, with consultation and input from the coaching staff and Volleyball Canada's High Performance Director. Athletes will be nominated by the Head Coach based on present expertise and/or demonstrated potential in the following areas:

- Individual skill level, tactical abilities, international physical potential to develop with continued training;
- The dynamics of the team as a whole;
- The development and planning of the National Team program in the future.

### **Team Sport Considerations**

- Work effectively within the team concept.
- Committed to communication with other players and team staff.
- Willingness to alter individual preferences and to change to meet the needs of the group and the strategies of the coaches.
- Willingness to work within the assigned role(s) for that term.
- Willingness to accept the length and location of training asked by the National Program

### **Physical Considerations**

Core field test will be utilized to measure:



- Aerobic fitness development (measured by Leger beep test or similar)
- Demonstration of power and quickness (measured by spike, block jump, Sargent jump and a Track & Field Power Test or other similar tests)
- Upper body strength and power, (med ball throw or similar tests)
- Core body strength (metronome timed sit ups or similar tests)
- Sufficient level of other factors; such as flexibility, speed, agility, etc.
- Height and standing reach
- Commitment to the specific physical conditioning and rehabilitation programs assigned throughout the year and improvement of test scores. This is the biggest priority for young athletes entering into any National Team program.

### **Technical Abilities**

Present skill level and future potential. Consideration would be given to biomechanical limiting factors that could prevent future development.

- High level of ball control skills
- Application of skills to the game and competitive situations, all around skills.
- Position specific skills (Left and right side, middle, setter and libero positions).
- Needs of each team and its composition

### **Tactical Abilities**

- Abilities to read and respond to game situations.
- Ability to make correct decision under pressure.
- Incorporation of individual, positional and team tactics as detailed by coaching staff and manual.
- Flexibility and ability to adapt to situations that occur on the court.

### **Mental Skills**

Consideration is also given to athletes that have characteristics that are conducive to individual and team success. Examples include: strong work ethic evidenced in training and physical preparation, assertiveness and leadership evidenced by the ability to work well with others (new players and coaches), ability to apply skills to game and competitive situations, positive attitude.

### **Other Considerations**

- Commitment to participating in international volleyball
- Establishing a lifestyle to cope with training, preparation and competing internationally.
- Recognizing the responsibility of your involvement as an individual, and member of the National Team program, and of the importance and potential as a role model for the sport and the country.
- Exhibiting personal characteristics conducive to international success such as:
  - Self-motivated and responsible
  - Determined and committed to personal and program goals
  - Effective decision making, cooperative and “flexible”
- Selection will also be determined by the needs of the team (i.e. position, etc.), segment of the competitive cycle, retirement, and agreement to move to the National Team training centre.

### **Medical**

- Athletes will be given a thorough medical by their own family doctor or by our National Team doctor before they can take part in our programs. A total muscular assessment will be made by our medical staff and if other tests are deemed necessary, then they will be given to the athletes.
- Previous athletic injuries and potential for life threatening conditions, due to the physical considerations of the sport, will be considered in the selection process if deemed important by the medical staff.
- Athletes are expected to work as hard when they are recovering from injury as they do on the court, having to follow rehabilitation and recovery programs as prescribed by the Medical & Coaching Staff.

**Staff selection**

The Head Coach of the Olympic Team, in conjunction with the HPD, will be responsible for selecting the Team's coaching staff and non-technical staff including: Assistant Coaches, Manager, Therapist, Doctor, IT Specialist, etc.

**Athlete Appeal Process:**

If an athlete wishes to appeal a decision of Volleyball Canada's athlete selection and nomination procedures, the appeal will be dealt with as follows. The detailed process is documented in VC's Appeals Policy, a copy of which can be found on VC's web-site at the following link:

[https://www.volleyball.ca/uploads/Policies/VC\\_Appeal\\_Policy\\_Oct\\_16.pdf](https://www.volleyball.ca/uploads/Policies/VC_Appeal_Policy_Oct_16.pdf)

1. Before any appeal proceeds, the dispute will be referred first to the Volleyball Canada Ethics Committee for review. This referral and review will be done within seven (7) days, with the objective of resolving the dispute at an early stage.
2. Should the review by the Ethics Committee not resolve the dispute, Volleyball Canada will appoint a Case Manager to oversee management and administration of an appeal under this Policy. The Case Manager has an overall responsibility to ensure procedural fairness is respected at all times in this Policy, and to implement this Policy in a timely manner.
3. Finally, if the appellant is still not satisfied with the outcome, they may then appeal through the Sport Dispute Resolution Centre of Canada. This process can only be accessed once the Volleyball Canada internal appeal process as outlined above in points (a) and (b) has been completed. The Sport Dispute Resolution Centre of Canada information can be found on their web site at the following address:  
<http://www.crdsc-sdrcc.ca/eng/home.jsp>

Note that If both parties are in agreement, the Appeals Process can be bypassed and the matter can be brought immediately before the Sport Dispute Resolution Center of Canada who will then manage the appeals process.

**Unforeseen Circumstances:**

In situations where unforeseen circumstances does not allow the 2020 Tokyo Olympic Games Team selection criteria to be fairly and objectively applied, Volleyball Canada's High Performance Director reserves the right to rule on an appropriate course of action.

Contact Julien Boucher, High Performance Director ([jboucher@volleyball.ca](mailto:jboucher@volleyball.ca)) for all comments and questions.