



## SITTING VOLLEYBALL NATIONAL TEAMS 2020-2021 ATHLETE SELECTION PROCEDURES (Men and Women)

### **ELIGIBILITY FOR SITTING VOLLEYBALL NATIONAL TEAM**

In order to be eligible for selection to a National Team, all athletes must have a valid Canadian Passport as validation of Canadian Citizenship.

Athletes must have a physical impairment that meets the classification standards for sitting volleyball as established by World ParaVolley (WPV). WPV is the international governing body for sitting volleyball.

Athletes must meet the minimum eligibility requirements to participate in the Paralympic Games as set by the IPC, including having a confirmed classification status and be in good standing with WPV.

Athletes must attend the Selection Camp\* in order to be considered for selection to the National Team. An athlete who cannot attend the Selection Camp due to injury may be recommended for selection if he/she had previously been involved in the National Team. The athlete must receive the approval of the coaching staff and have written proof of medical reason for exclusion from the selection camp. Athletes must submit application for approval with medical note to the Para HP Manager or the High Performance Director - Sitting Volleyball prior to the Selection Camp. If an athlete's injury does not prevent travel, it is expected that the athlete still attends selection camp and participates team off-court sessions.

\*With current COVID-19 restrictions, athletes will attend selection camp once it is safe to do so, all evaluations will be based on previous performance at camps and competitions

### **SELECTION CRITERIA – NATIONAL TEAM MEMBER**

Athletes will be selected to a National Team program and rated within Volleyball Canada's Gold Medal Profile (GMP) for Sitting Volleyball. The selection committee will include the Head Coach, Assistant Coaches, Para Manager and High Performance Director-Sitting Volleyball. Consultation with other IST members including the Mental Performance Coach, Physiotherapist, Athletic Therapist, Nutritionist and Program Managers may occur as well.

All athletes will be ranked in categories listed and selection will be based on present expertise and/or demonstrated potential in the following GMP areas:



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**Team Canada Sitting Volleyball Gold Medal Profile Rating**

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| 1 Introduction - Community Development Level         |
| 2 Acquisition - Provincial Development Player        |
| 3 Consolidation - National Development Team          |
| 4 Redefining - National A Team                       |
| 5 Maintain & Enhance - Paralympic Podium Performance |

**Technical Abilities:** Forearm Pass, Overhead Pass, Serve, Attack, Block

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|---|
| 1 - Athlete needs to be taught basic, fundamental components of skill and has limited understanding of and no ability to successful transfer and execute skill in random training environments  |
| 2 - Athlete understands fundamental components of skill but requires correction on proper execution. Can successfully perform skill in isolated environment and is beginning to see some transferability in random training                                       |
| 3 - Athlete is able to successful execute proper technique in a random environment. Can consistently perform skill in competition environment but has difficulty when speed of play and number of stimuli increases   |
| 4- Refine: Athlete is able to consistently perform skill effectively in a fast paced, multi-stimuli environment and has no problem transferring skill to a variety of situations  |
| 5- Maintain and Enhance: Athlete has mastered technical components of skill and is able to use skill effectively and consistently in a variety of situations. Athlete can adapt technique to gain tactical advantage over opponents without sacrificing execution |

**Physical Abilities:** Lateral Movement, Forward/Backward Movement, Attack Velocity, Upper Body Strength/Power

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| 1 - Athlete possesses limited ability to perform physical tasks as related to sitting volleyball. Technical development is limited because of physical abilities.                                      |
| 2 - Athlete has understanding of physical tasks but is limited in ability to sustain tasks for extended period of time. Performance decline is evident as exertion level increases and fatigue occurs. |



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3 - Athlete is able to perform physical tasks at a moderate level and maintain throughout the length of a rally and throughout set. Unable to gain tactical advantage through performance of physical tasks and fatigue impacts performance in late sets during match.

4 - Athlete can effectively perform physical task at a high intensity level and is can sustain level of physical performance. Athlete has ability to gain advantage over some opponents.

5 - Athlete can perform physical tasks at a high level and sustain level of performance throughout entire 5 set match. Athlete has the ability to gain a competitive and tactical advantage over their opponents due to their physical abilities

**Tactical Abilities:** Read and respond to game situations, Make correct decision under pressure, Incorporation of team tactics, Ability to adapt to situations on court

1- Athlete has limited understanding of game tactics and proper decision making. Constant direction and instruction is needed through all game situations.

2- Athlete has basic understanding of cycle of actions and general volleyball tactics but there is limited transferability to speed of competition. Direction is needed through some game situations.

3 - Athlete has understanding of game tactics and can apply to situations appropriately. Direction and guidance is still needed through some situations but athlete is able understand and apply information effectively

4- Athlete has strong understanding of game tactics and can communicate effectively with coaches and teammates. Decision making can occur without guidance or direction and although not always correct, they are based on proper cues and observations

5- Athlete has high mastery of game tactics and decision making based on appropriate cues is largely correct. Athlete has the ability to adjust to changing game situations on demand without guidance from coaches, while still being able to play within team system

**Mental Skill Abilities:** Leadership skills and attitude, Ability to perform under pressure,

1 - Athlete is very internally focused and performance of skills and tactics decreases as pressure or decision-making increases.

2 - Athlete is willing to work within the group dynamic but goes internal when stress or pressure increases. Performance is more consistent but still variable under pressure.



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3 - Athlete understands importance of consistent message and working towards common goal. Outside stimuli still impact performance in key situations but performance more consistent.

4 - Athlete accepts role on team and is comfortable working with others and holding them accountable. Consistently performs well even when pressure of performance or competition environment increases.

5 - Athlete is leader on team in both performance and team initiatives. Athlete is key performer and is relied upon to execute effectively in crucial match situations.

**Team Sport Abilities:** Work effectively within the team concept, Communication with teammates and staff, Willingness to change to meet needs of the group, Willingness to accept role

1 - Athlete is not committed to team concepts, roles or performance expectations of coaching staff. Athlete's main focus is individual needs and development.

2 - Athlete's focus is still on personal needs and performance. Beginning to understand the importance of working within the team dynamic and following team game plans but is not consistently shown in training and competition environments.

3 - Athlete is comfortable working within the team environment and working towards common goals or outcomes. Athlete communication with coaches and teammates during play and in breaks can be improved. Athlete needs clarity in role and is not comfortable adapting roles or preferences to suit the team's needs.

4 - Athlete is a contributing member of the team dynamic and is willing to adapt to role that is needed for team success. Athlete is comfortable within the group and can communicate effectively and respectfully with coaches and teammates in a variety of environments and situations. When situations arise, that athlete is concerned with, they can usually be discussed amongst the group or affected individuals and a common understanding met.

5 - Athlete is key member of team dynamic and has a strong leadership role within the group. Athlete communicates effectively with coaches and works with them on adjusting tactical plans and has respectful input on team plans. Athlete is looked upon as a leader within the athlete peer group and is willing to do what is necessary to help team be successful as well as work with teammates to support them in their roles and contributions.

**NOMINATION CRITERIA - PARALYMPIC GAMES (NOW 2021)**



The athlete pool for nomination to a Paralympic roster will consist of National Team Members who have been selected to the National Team Program prior to the games (outlined above). As National Team programs often hold more athletes than the Parapan American Roster of 12, nominations to the Paralympic Games roster will be based on the evaluation of a combination of previous competitions (ex. performance at a qualifier), commitment to the program over the current and previous seasons, performance at previous training camps, as well as the GMP ratings given to each athlete. A final Paralympic Games Selection camp will take place during the June 2021 training camp for both the Men's and Women's Sitting Volleyball programs.

The Paralympic Nomination Committee will include the Head Coach, Assistant Coaches, Para Manager and the High Performance Director. Consultation with other IST members including the Mental Performance Coach, Physiotherapist, Athletic Therapist, Nutritionist and Program Managers may occur as well.

The team selected will be nominated to be approved by the Canadian Paralympic Committee as the Canadian Paralympic Games at the 2020 Tokyo Games (to take place in 2021).

The final selection of the individual game rosters and starting line ups remains at the discretion of the Head Coach of each program (men's and women's).

#### **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 per Volleyball Canada's Appeal Policy (approved October 8, 2013).

a. Volleyball Canada's Sitting Volleyball Committee will receive, review, and render a decision on any appeal received in writing. Appeals must be submitted in writing to the Chair of Volleyball Canada's Sitting Volleyball Committee.

b. Once the Sitting Volleyball Committee has rendered its decision, and if the appellant is not satisfied with the outcome, they may then appeal within 7 days, to the Volleyball Canada Board of Directors through the Ethics Committee Chair. The process from this point is documented in Volleyball Canada's Appeals Policy (Policy I-2), a copy of which can be found on Volleyball Canada's web-site under "VC Info'.

c. 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 website at the following address:

<http://www.crdsc-sdrcc.ca/eng/home>



## DEFAULT OF ATHLETE AGREEMENT AND DESELECTION

All athletes selected to the Men's or Women's Sitting Volleyball National Team, must sign the 2020 version of the Athlete Agreement with Volleyball Canada. As a member of the National Sitting Team Program, any Athlete who is ruled to have defaulted any of the team rules and conditions outlined in the Athlete Agreement, will be liable to penalization by:

- a reprimand;
- suspension from the team for a period of time;
- suspension from the team for one event;
- immediate dismissal from the National Sitting Team;
- withdrawal of part and/or all privileges.

Decisions around athlete penalties after breach of the Athlete Agreement will be made by a committee made up of the Head Coach, the High Performance Director and members from Volleyball Canada's Sitting Volleyball Committee.

If the athlete is not satisfied with the decision of the committee, they may then appeal within 21 days, to the Volleyball Canada Board of Directors through the Ethics Committee Chair. The process from this point is documented in Volleyball Canada's Appeals Policy (Policy I-2), a copy of which can be found attached to this document.

## AMENDMENTS AND UNFORESEEN CIRCUMSTANCES

### Changes to this Document

Volleyball Canada reserves the right to make changes to this document as they deem necessary. No changes will be made during the nomination weekend, unless changes fall under the unforeseen circumstances listed below.

Volleyball Canada reserves the right to change this document including criteria or decisions related to the nomination process if WPV has any policy or rule changes, such as a change in classification or event scheduling.

All changes to this document will be communicated to all Sitting Volleyball Carded athletes and coaches via email.

### Unforeseen Circumstances

Should the Nomination Committee determine that any unforeseen circumstances arise that inhibit them to apply this criterion (ex. at a selection camp) or inhibits the team to participate in an event, the Nomination Committee has full and absolute discretion to resolve the matter as they determine to be of best interest for the program and safety of all parties involved.



<b>TEAM CANADA SITTING VOLLEYBALL – KEY DATES</b>
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All dates are currently TBD, once COVID-19 restrictions are lifted and it is safe to do so, Volleyball Canada will host a separate Selection Camp for both genders.