



2020 National Boccia Training Squad Selection Criteria

1. Introduction:

Up to 14 athletes will be selected to the 2020 National Boccia Training Squad.

Following these nominations the number of athletes to represent Canada at International events in 2020 will depend on program prioritization and funding capacity. Athletes for each event will be selected from the National Training squad. These selections could be made close to the specific events.

2. Selection Committee:

The Selection Committee is composed of the National Coaches hired by Boccia Canada or under contract for the selection period and the High Performance Chair of the Boccia Canada Council. The Selection Committee reserves the right to make decisions in the best interest of Boccia Canada when selecting athletes for events. If needed, the final decision for nomination rests with the Head Coach.

3. Athletes (who are not considered to be 'Rising Stars') will be eligible for consideration based on the following criteria:

- 3.1 15 years old before January 1st 2020;
- 3.2 Capacity to meet the National Boccia Training Squad requirements (point 10)
- 3.3 Athletes will need to send their expected training planning for the year 2020 to Head Coach by October 18th 2019;
- 3.4 Participate in the 2019 Boccia Blast;
- 3.5 Participate in the 2019 Canadian Boccia Championship;

4. "Rising Star" athletes will be eligible for consideration based on the following criteria:

- 4.1 Athletes must have never participated in a Major Games event (e.g., Parapan Games or Paralympics) during the last five years or to more than two BISFed events.
- 4.2 Athletes must be at least 15 years old before January 1st of the year in which the competition they are selected to attend takes place.

5. Illness, Injury, Unforeseen Circumstance or Program priorities

If an athlete cannot attend the 2019 Boccia Blast or 2019 Canadian Boccia Championship because of illness, injury, an unforeseen circumstance or a circumstance related to program priorities the athlete in question must notify BOCCIA CANADA in writing at the latest on October 18th 2019 for the “Boccia Blast” and November 27th 2019 for the Canadian Boccia Championship.

In the event that an athlete is unable to attend a required event or camp due to **illness or injury**, the athlete may still remain eligible for selection, if they submit to the Head Coach and National Office:

- i. A doctor’s medical certificate indicating the date and nature of the illness or injury with the prescribed rehabilitation program and estimated recovery period. A full recovery must be possible within the next 6 months.
- ii. Agreement that for the period of time for which the athlete is unable to fulfill the National Team Program commitments, that the athlete will train and/or rehabilitate under the supervision of the Head Coach (or a person designated by Head Coach) at a level which minimizes risk to the athlete’s personal health, and ensures optimum return to full training and competition at the earliest possible date.
- iii. A written intention to return to full high performance training and competition at the earliest date possible following the illness or injury.

Boccia Canada reserves the right to obtain a second and third medical opinion at any time. The final decision on eligibility for the National Boccia Training Squad nomination rests with the Head Coach and Boccia Canada Council Chair of High Performance.

In the event that an athlete is unable attend a required event or camp due to **unforeseen circumstances**, the athlete may still remain eligible for selection if they notify the Head Coach and National Office of the circumstances in writing. Each case will be reviewed on an individual basis.

6. Selection process for the 2020 National Boccia Training Squad

The following will be taken into consideration for the selection of the athletes to the National Boccia Training Squad in 2020:

1. *Individual play results from the 2019 Boccia Blast (final ranking);
25% of the selection score*
2. *Individual play results from the 2019 Canadian Boccia Championship (final ranking);
35% of the selection score*
3. *Observations with regards to the qualities needed in a prospective National Team athlete - Gold Medal Profile evaluation;*

40% of the selection score

6.1 Tie Break Procedure

In the event of a tie between athletes in the same classification after the completion of the selection process, the Selection Committee will unanimously determine who will be selected in the best interest of BOCCIA CANADA. If the decision is not unanimous, the final decision for nomination will rest with the Head Coach.

6.2 “Rising Star” athletes

At the discretion of the Selection Committee up to three (3) additional athletes may be selected to the National Boccia Training Squad who are considered to be Rising Star athletes.

Rising Star athletes must meet the eligibility requirements outlined in Section 4.

Rising Star athletes may be added to the National Boccia Training Squad at any time.

Rising Star athletes are not required to attend the 2019 Canadian Boccia Championships and may be selected to the training squad and to events based solely on the best interests of the program.

6.3 Notification Process

Within 5 days of the close of the 2019 Canadian Boccia Championship the Selection Committee will meet to select the athletes who will be invited to join the 2020 National Boccia Training Squad.

Within 10 days after the close of the 2019 Canadian Boccia Championship the athletes taking part in the process will be contacted and will be notified of their status with us for 2020.

An official announcement will be made in January 2020.

7. Deadline to Appeal Team Selection

Athletes have up to 7 days after they have been notified of the National Boccia Training Squad selection decision to submit an appeal. The Appeal Policy is available through Boccia Canada.

8. Financial obligations and responsibilities

Athletes will be notified of their financial obligations (for example: assessment fees) when they are named to the National Boccia Training Squad. The ability to pay a fee will not determine whether or not an athlete will be chosen for the Squad.

8.1 After notification, athletes will:

1. Provide their yearly training plan to the Head Coach or notify the Head Coach if they do not have one;
2. Participate in the training and evaluations activities identified by Boccia Canada;
3. Participate in the competitions identified by Boccia Canada;
4. Provide Boccia Canada with the name and contact information of their Performance partner;
5. Ensure their Performance partner is a member in good standing of their Provincial Sport Organization;
6. BC3's Performance partners must be Canadian citizen
7. Complete and sign the following forms and return them to the Boccia Canada office;
 - Personal identification profile
 - Medical health questionnaire
 - Travel form
 - Uniform information
 - Athlete profile
 - Athlete/NSO agreement
 - Team Member Agreement
 - Athlete Assistance Program documents (if they are eligible according to the AAP criteria)
8. Provide Boccia Canada with their provincial and/or personal coach contact information;
9. Send personal training reports to the Head Coach on a weekly or monthly basis (to be determine depending of the training periods);
10. Communicate effectively and follow up with coaches

Note: Failing to meet these obligations could result in a non selection or expulsion from the Squad. If the athletes are named for the Athlete Assistance program of Sport Canada this may have a direct impact on their carding.

9. Schedule of events and Training camps

The 2020 Schedule of events depends on funding, prioritisation, BISFed rankings and BISFed decisions around International events. The International calendar for Team Canada will be confirmed in January 2020. All available events will be evaluated based on congruity with the HP plan and the capacity of Boccia Canada in 2020.

Details around Training Camps (if some) will be confirmed in January 2020.

10. National Boccia Training Squad requirements

- 10.1 Athletes need to train technically/tactically for a minimum of twelve (12) hours per week.
- 10.2 Developing and improving the following skills is a priority:
 - Precision skills, including first ball and open placement accuracy

- Tactical and decision making skills
 - Displacing and pushing a ball skills
 - Defensive/Offensive skills
- 10.3 In order to train short, mid and long range and to work properly on angle shots, a minimum of eight (8) of the twelve (12) training hours must be done on a court of legal dimension (12.5m by 6m);
- 10.4 Training with other athletes in the program is required when athletes live within a 50km radius;
- 10.5 Training regularly and being followed by a national, provincial, or personal coach in touch with the National coaches is required. The coach should be level "Introduction to Competition" or engage in getting the level within the year;
- 10.6 Athletes need to train in the field of mental preparation, meeting with and being followed by a sport psychologist or a mental trainer is recommended.
- 10.7 Athletes need to train in the field of physical preparation, being followed by a physical trainer, physiotherapist, massage therapist, etc. is recommended.
- 10.8 Number of overall hours per week spent on training technically/tactically (court training) physically, and mentally must be a minimum of 20 hours per week;

11. Key Performance Factors to Consider in the Gold Medal Profile. These elements are likely to be evaluated by the coaches for the purposes of the 2020 selection.

GOLD MEDAL PROFILE					
Skills and Performance Factors to be evaluated in December 2019					
Technical	Tactical	Mental	Physical	Environnement	Equipement
1st ball	Decision making	Confidence	Posture	Training environment	Ball quality
Placement	Shot selection	Focus and intensity	Endurance	Acces to Coaching	Ramp quality
Pushing	Ball selection	Emotional control	Power	Access to specialiste	Chair quality and set-ups
Displacement	Time managment	Leadership	----	-----	----
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