

**National Wheelchair Basketball Association ("NWBA")
ATHLETE SELECTION PROCEDURES
2016 Paralympic Games
Wheelchair Basketball Men and Women**

Amended November 2, 2015

1. SELECTION SYSTEM

- 1.1. Provide the minimum eligibility requirements for an athlete to be considered for nomination to the Team:

- 1.1.1. Nationality/Passport requirements:

Athlete must be a national of the United States at the time of nomination.

Athlete must hold, and supply a copy of the passport to the NWBA National Office, a valid U.S. passport that will not expire for six months after the conclusion of the Games.

- 1.1.2. Minimum International Paralympic Committee (IPC) and/or Pan American Sport Organization (PASO) standards for participation:

Any competitor in the Olympic, Paralympic, Pan American or Parapan American Games must be a national of the country of the National Olympic Committee (NOC) or National Paralympic Committee (NPC) which is entering such competitor. For additional information regarding an athlete who is a national of two or more countries, has changed his or her nationality or acquired a new nationality, refer to the IOC Charter (Rule 42), the IPC Handbook (Section 2, Chapter 3.1), or the PASO Statutes (Article XXII, Sections 4 and 5).

- 1.1.3. Minimum International Federation (IWBF) standards for participation (if any):

- Be internationally classified with a 'Confirmed' sport class status or a 'Review' sport class status with a review date after 31 December 2016.

- 1.1.4. Other requirements (if any):

- Athlete must be a registered NWBA member and in good standing with the NWBA.
- Athlete must have a signed NWBA Athlete Code of Conduct (Attachment B).
- Athlete must have been a member of the Men's or Women's NWBA High Performance Player Pool at any time during the 2013-2016 quadrennial.

1.2. Tryout Events:

1.2.1. Provide the event names, dates and locations of all trials, events and camps to be used as part of the selection process.

- Men
 - USA Men's Team Selection Camp – Date and location will be announced and published on www.nwba.org at least 45 days prior to start of camp.
 - USA Men's Training Camps – Dates and location(s) will be announced and published on www.nwba.org at least 45 days prior to start of the first camp.
 - USA Men's Competition(s) – Date(s) and location(s) will be announced and published on www.nwba.org at least 60 days prior to competition.
- Women
 - USA Women's Team Selection Camp – Date and location will be announced and published on www.nwba.org at least 45 days prior to start of camp.
 - USA Women's Training Camps – Dates and location(s) will be announced and published on www.nwba.org at least 45 days prior to start of the first camp.
 - USA Women's Competition(s) – Date(s) and location(s) will be announced and published on www.nwba.org at least 60 days prior to competition.

- 1.2.2. Provide event names, dates, locations and description of how athletes qualify for the trials, events and camps listed above in Section 1.2.1. (if any).

Athletes that are identified as emerging elite or elite will be placed in the NWBA High Performance Player Pool, hereinafter, "Pool".

Athletes are identified and evaluated throughout the 2013-2016 quadrennial such that athletes that exhibit the necessary attitude, ability and/or potential to perform are eligible to be added to the Pool at any time.

Athletes are identified, evaluated and placed in the Pool by the NWBA High Performance Technical Committee that consists of the NWBA High Performance representative, , Men's and Women's National Team Head Coaches and Assistant Coaches, and members of the NWBA High Performance Committee.

Athletes who are members of the Pool may include the following:

- Members of a current NWBA Men's or Women's National Team;
- Members of the last two Paralympic Games USA Wheelchair Basketball Teams;
- Members of the last two IWBF World Championship USA Wheelchair Basketball Teams;
- Members of the last two Parapan American Games USA Wheelchair Basketball Teams;
- Members of the last two Americas Cup USA Wheelchair Basketball Teams;
- Athletes identified through NWBA High Performance Tryout and Training Camp events;
- Athletes identified by NWBA staff, scouts, consultants or other wheelchair basketball coaches;
- Athletes identified by submitting videos or other relevant data to the NWBA High Performance Technical Staff.

Selection to the Pool at any time does not guarantee that an athlete will be selected to participate in any NWBA High Performance program or event during the 2013-2016 quadrennial including those described in these Selection Procedures. Athletes may be added to the Pool throughout the 2013-2016 quadrennial. Athletes may be removed from the Pool at any time with the High Performance Technical Committee

having the final decision on removal of an athlete from the Pool. Athletes may also voluntarily remove themselves from the Pool by notifying any member of the High Performance Technical Committee in writing..

- 1.3. Provide a comprehensive, step-by-step description of the method that explains how athletes will go through the selection process to become Team nominees (include maximum Team size).

A maximum of 45 athletes of each gender will be invited to the respective 2016 USA National Team Selection Camp. The maximum of 45 athletes that will be invited will be determined by the NWBA High Performance Selection Committee (See Section 2.3). Athlete selection will be determined using the criteria outlined in Attachment E.

At the 2016 USA National Team Selection Camp athletes will participate in drills and scrimmages that will give them a chance to demonstrate their individual fundamental skills and their ability to play within the staff's playing system. The NWBA High Performance Selection Committee will evaluate athletes during all sessions of the Selection Camp on the specific skills and characteristics listed in Attachment E. Recognizing that a Team is more than the skills brought by its individual athletes, the NWBA High Performance Selection Committee will consider the mix of athletes in terms of positions, skills, sport classifications, experience, match-up vs. international opponents, and Team needs, as well as athlete qualities beyond technical skills that contribute to the Team's success. The NWBA High Performance Selection Committee will record their consideration of these other factors which may include:

- Teamwork: The willingness to accept a role that leads to team success.
- Positive Attitude: Exhibiting enthusiasm and support of teammates.
- Versatility: Exhibiting a balance between offensive and defensive skills as well as the ability to play multiple positions and fulfill multiple roles.
- Maturity: Exhibiting an ability to adjust to various situations and dealing with adversity. Adjusting to situations that are not going well and reacting appropriately.
- Coachability: Exhibiting the ability to process and incorporate input from the coaching staff.
- Experience: Number of years on the team and number of matches played.

When the respective 2016 USA National Team Selection Camp (one per gender) is complete, a maximum of 20 players per team/per gender will be selected for further evaluation throughout 2016 in preparation for the 2016 Paralympic Games. The selection of the initial group of a maximum of 20 players is the responsibility of the NWBA High Performance Committee, with consideration of the input by the respective National Team Head Coach. Final selection for the 2016 Paralympic Games Team will be based on results of skills tests associated with (Attachment E), training camps, competition against international players and discretionary criteria listed above.

Final selection of the 12 athletes may be made anytime between completion of the Selection Camp and July 26, 2016. The recommendation of the final group of a maximum of 12 players is the responsibility of the respective National Team Head Coach, with final approval by the NWBA High Performance Selection Committee.

The 2016 Paralympic Games Teams will each be made up of those 12 players that have best met all of the criteria above, and give USA the best opportunity to reach their respective gold medal games at the 2016 Paralympic Games.

All players within the Pool that are not selected for the final 12 will be considered potential alternates for their respective 2016 Paralympic Games Team. If one of the final 12 is unable to compete, one of the athletes within the High Performance Player Pool will replace that athlete based on sport classification and Team need.

2. DISCRETIONARY SELECTION

2.1. Provide rationale for utilizing discretionary selection (if any):

There are no appropriate objective standards which are effective in assembling a competitive wheelchair basketball Team at the international level. The NWBA High Performance Selection Committee is charged with assembling a Team utilizing NWBA and USOC approved policies and procedures, including those included herein, that consists of players that compose the best Team, not necessarily the best individual talents, and who are willing to make the commitment to participate to the fullest extent required by the NWBA. Wheelchair basketball is a well-developed sport in the United States and around the world. Athletes who progress to professional status and compete on IWB teams overseas throughout the year may not be able to participate in designated tryout or training camps but remain in the Pool and are eligible to be named to the National Team. Discretionary selection is not a separate process but is a part of the primary Team selection process.

- 2.2. List the discretionary criteria and explain how they will be used (if any):

See Section 1.3.

- 2.3. Provide the name of the committee that will be responsible for making discretionary selections, along with a complete list of the members' titles currently serving on the committee:

NWBA High Performance Selection Committee	
Women's Team Selection	Men's Team Selection
Women's Head Coach	Men's Head Coach
2 Women's Assistant Coaches	2 Men's Assistant Coaches
1 Athlete Representatives	1 Athlete Representatives
1 – Coaches Selection	1 – Coaches Selection
1 NWBA High Performance Committee Member *	1 NWBA High Performance Committee Member *

- The NWBA High Performance Committee Member will represent the association at all selection sessions, including on court activities and selection discussion meetings. The NWBA High Performance Committee Member's role is primarily a moderator/observation role to ensure the Selection Procedures are followed during all aspects of the Selection Camp. The NWBA High Performance Committee Member will not have a vote in the final team selection.

- 2.3.1. Specify the process that will be used to identify and handle any potential conflicts of interest involving a member of the committee.

Any member of the selection committee that has a possible conflict of interest must disclose it. If such conflict exists, the selection committee member must recuse him/herself from committee discussions and voting. Further, the committee member should not otherwise influence other members of the committee in the selection process. However, a committee member who recused him/herself, but who has relevant and necessary information with respect to athlete performance, for example a national team coach or high performance director, may, if requested by the selection committee, provide such information to the committee so long as such information is provided in a fair and unbiased manner and the committee member who declared the conflict of interest does not vote toward the final decision.

3. REMOVAL OF ATHLETES

- 3.1. Prior to acceptance of nominations by the USOC, the NWBA has jurisdiction over potential nominees.

An athlete who is to be nominated to the Team by the NWBA may be removed as a nominee for any of the following reasons, as determined by the NWBA:

- 3.1.1. Voluntary withdrawal. Athlete must submit a written letter to the NWBA Executive Director.
- 3.1.2. Injury or illness as certified by a physician (or medical staff) approved by the NWBA. If an athlete refuses verification of his/her illness or injury by a physician (or medical staff) approved by the NWBA, his/her injury will be assumed to be disabling and he/she may be removed.
- 3.1.3. Violation of the NWBA Athlete Code of Conduct (Attachment B).
- 3.1.4. Re-classification by the IPC such that the athlete's qualifying performance would not have qualified him or her for the Team.
- 3.1.5. Removal by the IPC of the event in which the athlete qualified for the Team from the program of the 2016 Paralympic Games.

An athlete who is removed from the Team pursuant to this provision has the right to a hearing per the NWBA Bylaws Article 13 (Attachment D) and the USOC's Bylaws, Section 9.

- 3.2. Once an athlete nomination is accepted by the USOC, the USOC has jurisdiction over the Team, at which time, in addition to any applicable NWBA Code of Conduct, the USOC's Code of Conduct and Grievance Procedures apply. The USOC's Code of Conduct and Grievance Procedures can be found at:

<http://www.teamusa.org/Athlete-Resources/Athlete-Ombudsman>

- 3.3. An athlete may be removed as a nominee to the Team or from the Team for an adjudicated violation of IOC, PASO, IPC, WADA, IF, USADA and/or USOC anti-doping protocol, policies and procedures, as applicable.

4. REPLACEMENT OF ATHLETES

- 4.1. Describe the selection and approval process for determining replacement athlete(s) should a vacancy occur:

- 4.1.1. Prior to submission of Entries by Name to the Local Organizing Committee, including any applicable group or committee:

See Section 1.3.

- 4.1.2. After submission of Entries by Name to the Local Organizing Committee, including any applicable group or committee:

See Section 1.3.

5. SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

NWBA will retain the approved Selection Procedures and all supporting documents, including scouting or evaluation forms, etc., and data from the selection process for six months past the date of the Closing Ceremony of the 2016 Summer Paralympic Games.

6. REQUIRED DOCUMENTS

In addition to the USOC Code of Conduct, the following documents are required to be signed by an athlete as a condition of nomination to the 2016 Paralympic Games and are included as attachments:

NWBA Athlete Code of Conduct - (Attachment B)

7. PUBLICITY/DISTRIBUTION OF PROCEDURES

The USOC approved Selection Procedures (complete and unaltered) will be posted/published by the NWBA in the following locations:

- 7.1. NGB/HPMO Web site: www.nwba.org

These procedures will be posted as soon as possible, but not more than five business days following notice of approval by the USOC.

- 7.2. Other: None

8. DATE OF NOMINATION

The Nomination of Athletes form, including replacements, will be announced to all athletes and submitted to the USOC on or before:

July 26, 2016

9. MANDATORY TRAINING AND/OR COMPETITION

Specify the location, schedule and duration of mandatory training and/or competition:

Date(s) and location(s) will be announced and published on www.nwba.org at least 45 days prior to the start of any camp(s). Excused absences will be handled on a case by case basis and approved by the Head Coach of the respective team.

10. ANTI-DOPING REQUIREMENTS

Athletes must adhere to all IOC, IPC, PASO, WADA, IF, USADA and USOC anti-doping protocols, policies and procedures, as applicable. This includes participation in Out-of-Competition Testing as required by the IOC, IPC, PASO, WADA, IF, USADA and USOC Rules, as applicable.

11. DEVELOPMENT OF SELECTION PROCEDURES

The following committee/group (include names and titles) was responsible for creating these Selection Procedures:

NWBA Director of Sport and High Performance – Dan Humphreys
USA Men’s Head Coach – Ron Lykins
USA Women’s Head Coach – Stephanie Wheeler
USA Men’s Team Captain – Steve Serio
USA Women’s Team Captain – Darlene Hunter
AAC Representative – Katie Holloway

12. NGB/HPMO BYLAWS AND GRIEVANCE PROCEDURES

The NWBA Bylaws and Grievance Procedures can be found at:

Attachment D

13. INTERNATIONAL DISCLAIMER

These procedures are based on IOC, IPC, PASO, as applicable, and/or IWBf rules and regulations as presently known and understood. Any change in the selection procedures caused by a change in IOC, IPC, PASO, as applicable, and/or IWBf rules and regulations will be distributed to the affected athletes immediately. The selection criteria are based on the latest information available to NWBA. However, the selections are always subject

to unforeseen, intervening circumstances, and realistically may not have accounted for every possible contingency.

If any force of nature, or force majeure, should cause the alteration or cancellation of any of the selection events listed in this document, these selection procedures will be revised, pursuant to their resubmission to the USOC.

14. ATHLETE OMBUDSMAN

Athletes who have questions regarding their opportunity to compete that are not answered by NWBA may contact the USOC Athlete Ombudsman, Kacie Wallace, by:

- Telephone at (719) 866 2299
- E-mail at kacie.wallace@usoc.org
- <http://www.teamusa.org/Athlete-Resources/Athlete-Ombudsman>

15. NGB/HPMO SIGNATURES

I certify that I have read and understand the standards/criteria set by our IF and/or CF (PAG/PPAG only) and incorporated those standards/criteria into our Selection Procedures. I further certify that the information provided herein regarding Athlete Selection Procedures represents the method approved by NWBA.

Position	Print Name	Signature	Date
NGB/HPMO President or CEO/Executive Director			
Nat. Team Coach, Head Coach, or Nat. Program Director			
USOC Athletes' Advisory Council Representative*			

* If the USOC AAC Representative has delegated authority to the Alternate AAC Representative to sign the Selection Procedures, attach a letter from the AAC Representative indicating the reason he/she has delegated authority.

* Signature by the Athlete Representative constitutes that he/she has read and understands the Selection Procedures. If the Athlete Representative reads and does not agree with the Athlete Selection Procedures being submitted by the NGB/HPMO, he/she may submit those reasons in writing to his/her Sport Performance Team.

* If, for some reason, a sport does not have an elected USOC AAC Representative, the NGB/HPMO must designate an athlete from that sport to review and sign the Selection Procedures.