



2019 WORLD PARA ATHLETICS CHAMPIONSHIPS

SELECTION CRITERIA

OVERVIEW

All nominations will be made in accordance with Athletics Canada's ("AC") [National Team – Selection Rules Book](#). AC is limited in entries by the World Para-Athletics ("WPA") rules and regulations that will always take precedence should there be any contradictions contained within the Selection Criteria (the "Criteria"). Attached to the Criteria, and forming an integral part of it, are two Appendices. The National Team Committee ("NTC") is responsible for the implementation of the Criteria and has the sole authority and discretion to make all decisions relating to the selection of the team for the World Para-Athletics Championships in Athletics.

1 GENERAL INFORMATION

1.1 Event Location

- Dubai, UAE

1.2 Important Dates

Qualifying Periods		
DATES	EVENTS	NOTES
Jan. 1, 2018 to Sept. 23, 2019	All events	
Important Dates		
DATES*	DESCRIPTION	LOCATION
July 25 – 28, 2019	Selection Trials (Canadian Championships)	Montreal, QC
Sept. 23, 2019	Final Declaration Deadline	Online Form
Sept. 24, 2019	Final Team Selection	
October 29, 2019	Depart Canada	
October 29 – November 3, 2019	Final Preparation Camp	Sharjah, UAE
November 7-15, 2019	Athletics Competition	Dubai, UAE

1.3 Eligibility

To be eligible to participate in the 2019 World Championships, an Athlete must meet the following requirements:

- be a registered member of an Athletics Canada Branch at the time of qualification and through the 2019 World Para Athletics Championships;
- hold Canadian Citizenship by the Final Declaration Date – Sept. 23, 2019;
- declare interest via the Online Form as per the dates outlined in section 1.2;
- comply with the Final Phase Preparation Requirements as outlined in section 4;
- be otherwise eligible to participate in the 2019 World Para Athletics Championships;
- hold an active World Para Athletics License for the 2019 season;
- minimally hold a "R", "N" or "C" WPA level classification
- have a valid Minimum Entry standard and appear on the WPA World Ranking lists (<https://www.paralympic.org/world-rankings/athletics>)



- have a Canadian passport valid until at least April 6, 2020;
- compete at a 2019 Canadian Championships as outlined in Section 3.5;
- the NTC will consider requests to compete on any other National Team on a case-by-case basis.
- Athletes will only be selected in events identified within the Tokyo Medal Events list (see Appendix A for a list of events and classification combinations).

Guide-Runners must:

- hold an active World Para Athletics License for the 2019 season

1.4 Events

See list of events in Appendix A

1.5 Maximum per Event (Event Quota)

The WPA allows a maximum of three (3) eligible athletes per nation per individual medal event, provided they have achieved the Entry Standard of that event during the Qualifying Period.

Eligible athletes are allowed to enter in an unlimited number of medal events as long as the athlete has achieved the Entry Standard in each of these events.

In the event that two or more classes in Field Events are combined following the final entry by name and event viability review (e.g., Shot Put F53/54/55), nations will not be allowed to exceed a maximum of five (5) eligible athletes in a combined medal event. However, per each sport class, a maximum of three (3) eligible athletes can be entered.

Athletics Canada is allowed a maximum of one (1) team in the universal relay.

1.6 Declaration Dates

Athletes are required to declare their interest to participate by completing the online form by the deadlines stated in section 1.2 (September 23, 2019). **Failure to complete declaration by the deadline will render the athlete ineligible for selection.**

1.7 Selection Meeting and Team Announcement

The NTC will make final team selections following the end of the Qualifying Period on September 24, 2019. AC will announce the final team through established communication channels (Branches, AC website, bulletin); athletes selected to the team will be contacted directly.



1.8 Funding

This team will be 100% funded by Athletics Canada.

2 TEAM OBJECTIVES

- To improve upon our country ranking and the number of medals, top 8 finishes from the most recent World Championships.
- 2017 country ranking = 15, medals = 9, and top 8 = 38

3 SELECTION PROCESS

All selections will be made in accordance with Athletics Canada's (AC) [National Team – Selection Rules Book](#).

NOTE: It is the responsibility of the athlete to submit eligible performances to Athletics Canada at results@athletics.ca in order to be considered for selection.

3.1 The National Team Committee (NTC)

The NTC is comprised of:

- **Chair**
- **Voting Members** - Athletics Canada Technical Staff (two), Event Specialists (two), Branch Representatives (two, as designated by Branch Council), and Athlete Representatives (two, as designated by the Athlete Directors). In the case of a tie, the Chair of the NTC has the tie-breaking vote.
- **Non-Voting** – Can be asked to be present at parts of an NTC Selection Meeting depending on expertise and input required, but might include: Athletics Canada coaching and Integrated Support Team ("IST") staff as necessary, statistician, legal advisor, as required.

3.2 Selection for all Individual Events

The WPA set a maximum number of athletes (the "**Event Quota**") that can be entered for each individual event (see section 1.5).

AC has a "**Championships Quota**" of a maximum of 35 athletes who may be named to the WPA World Championships Team, note that guides are not counted in the "Championships Quota".

Events: The NTC will not select athletes to only compete in events which are on the 2019 WPA World Championships program but not on the 2020 Paralympic Games program (the relevant events are listed below). However if an athlete is selected for an event on the 2020 Paralympic Games program then the NTC, at its sole discretion, may also enter that athlete into one or more of the events listed below provided that:

- The athlete is ranked Top8 and top half in the extra event in 2019 and
- The NTC determine that competing in the extra event will not have a negative impact on the athlete's ability to be competitive in the events that are on the 2020 Paralympic Games program.

List of events at 2019 WPA World Championships that are not on the 2020 Tokyo Medal List:

Men: 100m RR2/RR3, 400m T33/34, 800m T36, Shot Put F38, Shot Put F45



Women: 100m RR2/RR3, 200m T13, 200m T38, Shot Put F43/44/62/64

Step 1 – Athlete Pool

The “Athlete Pool” will consist of all athletes who have:

- Achieved at least one Qualifying Standard (see Appendix A) within the Qualifying Period (see section 1.2);
- met the Eligibility requirements (see section 1.3).

Step 2 – Overall Athlete Ranking

Athletes within the “Athlete Pool” will be given an “Overall Athlete Ranking” as follows.

Athletes will be ranked based on the WPA top lists (<https://www.paralympic.org/world-rankings/athletics>) for the period Jan 1, 2019 to 9am EST on September 24, 2019.

If an athlete does not have a ranked performance in 2019 then they will be added to the end of the “Overall Athlete Ranking” list based on their best performance on the 2018 WPA top lists. (For the avoidance of doubt: athletes who only have a 2018 performance will be ranked behind every athlete in the Athlete Pool who does have a 2019 performance.)

To calculate each athlete’s “Overall Athlete Ranking”:

- Rankings for events which include multiple classifications (see Appendix A) will be combined;
- Only three athletes per nation will be counted; and
- Athlete will be ranked in each event for which they qualify for the “Athlete Pool” (eg athletes may appear multiple times in the “Overall Athlete Ranking”).

Step 3 - Automatic Selection

The first placed Canadian athlete at the Selection Trials in each 2019 WPA World Championships events/classification combination (see Appendix A) will be Automatically Selected if they meet the Eligibility requirements (see section 1.3) and achieve an Automatic Qualifying performance.

An Automatic Qualifying performance is a performance that is:

- Achieved between January 1, 2019 and the end of at the Trials;
- Eligible as specified in the [National Team – Selection Rules Book](#);
- Is equal to or better than the AC Qualification Standard for the event (see Appendix A); and
- Is in the Top 8 and top half of the WPA World Ranking lists based on the WPA top lists (<https://www.paralympic.org/world-rankings/athletics>) for Jan 1, 2019 through to 9am EST on July 24, 2019 only counting three athletes per nation (as published at 9am EST on July 24, 2019).

Wherever possible AC will use the 2019 WPA World Championships classification combinations at the Selection Trials. However when that is not possible due, for example, to field sizes or timetabling issues then the first placed Canadian for the purposes of Automatic



Selection will be determined by prioritising the athlete whose performance in their final at the Selection Trials would rank higher on WPA World Rankings list as published on the day of the selection meeting, the rankings to be calculated by combining classifications as per the 2019 WPA World Championships schedule.

For the purposes of Automatic Selection, ties at the Selection Trials will be broken in the following priority order:

- 1) Best performance within the Qualifying Period;
- 2) Head-to-head results within the Qualifying Period; and
- 3) Most recently achieved standard.

If the tie is still not broken, the NTC will use its discretion to do so considering the additional factors outlined in Step 4 (below).

For the avoidance of doubt, an athlete may be Automatically Selected for more than one event.

Step 4 – Provisional selection of additional athletes

Athletes not Automatically Selected in Step 3 will be Provisionally Selected from the “Athlete Pool”, in the order they appear in the “Overall Ranking Order”, until all the “Championships Quota” is filled.

For the avoidance of doubt, *at this stage* “Event Quotas” will be ignored and so more than three athletes may be Provisionally Selected for an event.

If required, ties in the Overall Ranking Order will be resolved as follows:

The selectors will prioritize athletes in the order that they consider, in their sole opinion, the athletes will finish at the 2019 World Athletics Championships. The selectors decision will be based on any factors that they consider relevant, in any order that they consider relevant, including but not limited to:

- Each athlete’s 2019 World Rankings;
- The results of the 2019 Selection Trials;
- Each athlete’s proven ability to perform on demand;
- Each athlete’s previous international Championships performances; and
- Any injuries or illness reported and documented before the selection meeting.

For the avoidance of doubt:

- the selectors must fill the “Championships Quota” at this stage and not leave “spaces” to be filled at a later stage of selection.

Step 5 – Confirming selection of additional athletes

Athletes Automatically Selected in Step 3 will be Confirmed.

In all of the event/classification combinations in which the “Event Quota” was not exceeded in Step 4 the Provisionally Selected athletes will be Confirmed.



For each event/classification combination where the “Event Quota” is exceeded after Step 4, the selectors will confirm athletes from the pool of Provisionally Selected athletes for that event/classification. The selectors will prioritize athletes in the order that they consider, in their sole opinion, the athletes who will finish at the 2019 World Athletics Championships. The selectors decision will be based on any factors that they consider relevant, in any order that they consider relevant, including but not limited to:

- Each athlete’s 2019 World Rankings;
- The results of the 2019 Selection Trials;
- Each athlete’s proven ability to perform on demand;
- Each athlete’s previous international Championships performances; and
- Any injuries or illness reported and documented before the selection meeting.

For the avoidance of doubt:

- the selectors DO NOT need to use the “Overall Athlete Ranking” when deciding how to confirm athletes to fill the “Event Quota”; and
- the selectors must fill the “Event Quota” at this stage and not leave “spaces” to be filled at a later stage of selection.

This step may reduce the team size below the “Championships Quota”. If that happens then steps 4 and 5 of the selection process will be repeated, in order, until the “Championships Quota” is reached and no event exceeds the “Event Quota”.

Step 6 – Additional Events for Confirmed athletes

At this step of the selection process, the team members are Confirmed. Some of the Confirmed athletes may be qualified to compete in additional individual events that have not yet exceeded the “Event Quota”.

If this is the case athletes will be added to all of the additional individual events for which they are eligible. If that causes the “Event Quota” to be exceeded then Step 5 will be repeated to choose between the additional athletes, however athlete Confirmed before this step (step 6) cannot be removed by this Step 6, the selectors must decide between the athletes added in this Step.

The introduction to this section 3.2 specifies how events on the 2019 WPA World Championships schedule but not on the 2020 Tokyo Paralympic Games schedule will be considered.

3.3 Selection for Relays

Team Qualification – General Requirements

4x100m Universal Relay Team: Athletics Canada may enter one (1) team. Teams must be comprised 100% of athletes who have already been selected to the WPA World Championship team in individual events.

Based on the individual athlete selections the NTC will confirm if a relay team should be entered to the WPA World Championships.



Final Relay Team Selection (at the Championships)

Notwithstanding the Criteria or the provisions of the Relay Team Athlete Agreement, whether AC will enter a specific relay team at the Championships will depend on the number, quality and final phase preparation of eligible athletes. If the Head Coach determines that there are insufficient numbers of high-level athletes to form a relay team that will be capable of making the top 8 at the 2019 WPA World Championships, the Head Coach reserves the right not to enter a given relay team. This decision will be taken in consultation with the High Performance Director.

3.5 Canadian Championships Requirement

NOTE: Athletes must compete in at least one event at a 2019 Canadian Championships during the Qualifying Period as stated in section 1.2 of these Criteria, unless they receive a medical exemption from the AC Medical Lead, Dr. Paddy McCluskey.

4 FINAL PHASE PREPARATION REQUIREMENTS

Athletes are expected to demonstrate final phase preparation and be able to deliver a peak performance at the WPA World Championships. An athlete's selection will not be confirmed until they complete the process outlined below and they will be deselected if the process is not completed.

4.1 Injury or Illness

Athletes who arrive at an international competition injured or ill consume a disproportionate amount of IST time and resources that should be spent on preparing healthy athletes to compete at their best. It is therefore AC's intention to work with the selected athletes that have been injured or ill to help them recover in time for the competition with a minimal impact to training, or (in the event that full recovery is not possible for this competition) to ensure full recovery so that full training can resume and long-term potential is optimized. With this in mind, the NTC reserves the right to deselect injured/ill athletes who are not sufficiently healthy/fit to perform at their best at the competition.

Once selected, and ongoing until the WPA World Championships, athletes are required to immediately report any injury, illness, or change in training status that could affect their ability to compete at their highest level. Failure to properly report injury or illness prior to the event may result in the athlete being deselected and held financially responsible for all the athlete's costs associated with the event. Notification must be sent immediately to Kristine Deacon at kdeacon@athletics.ca

Once notified of an athlete's injury, illness or change in training status that could affect their performance, AC team staff will work with the athlete, coach and local/national team IST resources to ensure that a complete injury and illness assessment has occurred and a recovery plan is in place. This assessment will include a determination of the athlete's potential for recovery and ability to compete at their best. This determination will comprise of two steps:

STEP 1: Medical Clearance



Generally done by local IST in collaboration with AC's National IST and consists of 2 phases:

- a) An initial medical evaluation and paramedical assessment(s) to confirm the diagnosis and determine if/when the athlete is fit to return to full training or competition.
- b) A functional evaluation by IST with experience specific to the event demands (and injury or illness if applicable). This may include assessment of the athlete's movement pattern, for example, during a run, hurdle, jump, walk, throw or wheel to identify dysfunctional movement patterns that may be contributing to the injury and potentially increase the risk of re-injury or undermine their competition performance.

STEP 2: Specific Evaluation

Following medical clearance by the medical team, a more comprehensive physical readiness test (the "Performance Test") to compete will be established as follows:

- Determination of the Performance Test will involve the AC National Event Group Coach, the event Head Coach, and the Personal Coach.
- The Performance Test will vary according to the event, injury or illness.
- The Performance Test will be objective, measurable, fair, realistic, specific to the event, and challenging.

In the case that the athlete is deemed unfit to resume training/competition, or does not meet the Performance Test standard, the athlete would be declared unready for competition and the results of the two steps will be forwarded to the NTC for a decision.

The NTC will use all available information at their disposal including performance results and progress in the final phase, suitability of the training and competition plan, fitness and other final phase indicators, consultation with the Para Performance Lead, AC National Event Group Coach, AC National IST leads, the athlete's personal IST, and any other performance related information (i.e. Performance Test results when applicable) to determine if the injured/ill athlete will be deselected and will not travel with the team.

The NTC may nominate the next eligible athlete, provided that the alternate athlete has proven their preparation during the final phase and meets all event specific requirements in regards to qualifying standards and timelines.

4.2 Health Questionnaire and Anti-Doping

Upon selection, all athletes will be required to complete a Pre-Participation Questionnaire. These questionnaires will ask athletes to declare all supplements and medications that are being used prior, during and after the event. Athletes who need to take medications while competing **must** ensure they have a completed and approved IAAF Therapeutic Use Exemption (TUE), if required, prior to selection. **Note:** It is not the responsibility of the AC team physicians to complete the documents for TUEs on behalf of the athlete. This should be done by the physician who prescribed the medication that requires the TUE. AC team physicians are available, however, for questions related to whether or not a TUE is required. Information regarding the TUEs for IAAF events can be found here:

<https://www.iaaf.org/about-iaaf/documents/anti-doping>.



5 APPEALS

Only athletes who are eligible to be considered for selection (see sections 1.3 and 3) and who have achieved the standard (see Appendix A) during the Qualifying Period (see section 1.2) may submit an appeal for selection to the Commissioner's Office. Please refer to the [National Team Selection – Rules Book](#) and the [AC Rules and By-laws](#) Section 140.06 & 140.07 for further information.

An appeal must be submitted to the following e-mail address: commissioner@athletics.ca

Contact the AC Appeals email address (appeals@athletics.ca) for payment options of the \$250 appeal fee. The appeal will not be reviewed until the appeal fee has been paid.

6 AMENDMENTS TO THE CRITERIA

The NTC reserves the right to amend the Criteria prior to the Selection Date. The NTC may amend the Criteria under the following circumstances:

1. When additional (or altered) information that is deemed relevant by the NTC to the Criteria is provided by external parties, such as (but not limited to) an event organizing committee, Sport Canada, the Canadian Paralympic Committee, WPA, or any other relevant organization; and
2. To correct, clarify or amend any inconsistencies, errors or omissions in the Criteria.

Any changes made by the NTC are deemed to come into effect immediately upon publication on the AC website. The NTC will publish the amended Criteria by whatever means and wherever the original Criteria were published.



APPENDIX A
2019 WPA WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS
AC SELECTION STANDARDS (OUTDOOR ONLY)

EVENTS AND STANDARDS CAN BE FOUND [HERE](#)

NOTE: Highlighted events are not Tokyo Medal Events and therefore cannot be an athlete's primary event.

**Standards must be achieved in accordance with the Performance Regulations outlined in section 2 of the [National Team Selection – Rules Book](#)*



Appendix B

Athletics Canada (AC) National Relay Team Athlete Agreement

Overview

The relay program's fundamental principles are identified below. Athletes who are selected in the National Relay Pool are expected to adhere to these principles. Athletes selected for the national relay pool must sign and return this agreement by October 28, 2019.

Fundamental Principles

1. The relay is a team event and all members are equal.
2. A common vision among team members is critical for success.
3. Open communication is encouraged among athletes and coaches.
4. Full cooperation on and off the track is expected; team cohesiveness is essential.
5. Athletes must have an open mind and a willingness to learn and adapt to relay ideas.
6. Selection of the team will be at the sole discretion of Head Coach and HPD.
7. Versatility as it pertains to relay running position is a must.
8. The goal is to assemble the best possible group of athletes in an order that will best benefit the team. Running order will be determined by the designated Head Coach and athletes will be advised of the order in a timely manner.
9. Athletes who are placed in an alternate position are expected to fully participate in team practices and competitions, including dressing and warming up with the team on the day of competition, and to be prepared to contribute if needed. Alternates are expected to accompany the four selected athletes to the call room area or as far as Officials will allow.
10. Punctuality is expected at all relay events; tardiness will not be tolerated.

Relay Team Athlete Selection

All of the following factors (not listed in priority order) will be considered in relay team selection:

- Placing at the Selection Trials in his/her individual event.
- Health and fitness levels that indicate optimal competitive readiness.
- Individual performance ranking as determined by 2019 WPA World Rankings.
- Commitment to the National Relay program as determined by attitude, attendance, participation, and performance at national team camps.
- Performance on previous relay teams.
- Assessment of relay skills and position suitability.

The Head Coach will make decisions in regards to relay team selection and positioning of relay team members.

Athlete Agreement

I have read, understand and accept the National Relay Team's principles and criteria for selection. I understand that my failure to comply with this Agreement may render me ineligible for National Team relay assignments.

Athlete Signature:	Coach Signature:
Print name:	Date: