



**2019 WBSC JUNIOR WOMEN'S (U17)
AMERICA'S QUALIFIER**

**2019 JUNIOR WOMEN'S NATIONAL TEAM
SELECTION PROCESS**

RELEASED MAY 3, 2019

SECTION 1 – PURPOSE

The Junior Women's National Team Program for 2019 will compete in the 2019 WBSC Junior Women's America's Qualifier, which takes place in Barranquilla, Colombia in October, 2019. The purpose of this document is to set out the process that will be used by Softball Canada to select athletes to the 2019 WBSC Junior Women's America's Qualifier Team.

This selection process has the following objective:

- Select the best possible Team for the 2019 WBSC Junior Women's America's Qualifier. While some objective criteria will be used to select the Team, it is also recognized that there is a significant subjective element. Subjective elements include such factors as previous and current performance, experience, positional requirements, leadership, and team cohesion.

SECTION 2 – ELIGIBILITY

An athlete is eligible for selection to the Team so long as they are: (1) in good standing with Softball Canada, and (2) a Canadian Citizen holding a Canadian passport valid up to 6 months after 2019 WBSC Junior Women's America's Qualifier (April 1, 2020), or a person eligible for Canadian Citizenship who is actively pursuing Citizenship.

To be eligible to be selected to the Team, the athlete must meet any age requirements and citizenship requirements stipulated by the organizers of the event at which the Team will be competing.

SECTION 3 – AUTHORITY FOR SELECTION

The Head Coach has final authority for all selection decisions, including selecting athletes to the Team, removing athletes from the Team, and selecting replacement athletes to the Team where applicable. In making selection decisions, the Head Coach will consult with the High Performance Director and Manager – Women's National Teams (WNT), and with the coaching staff, defined for the purposes of this document to include assistant coaches, scouts and evaluators as designated by Softball Canada.

SECTION 4 – ATHLETE SELECTION PROCESS

Athlete Combines

Athlete combines will be held in Ontario and British Columbia in May and Saskatchewan in July. Athletes will also be scouted at various events throughout the summer, including the U-16 and U-19 Canadian Championships.

Athletes will be evaluated on hitting, fielding, throwing, pitching and catching. Skill evaluations are specific to positional requirements – infield, outfield, pitchers and catchers. This process will act as a resource for athlete evaluation and not necessarily be the final determinant. In addition, the Head Coach will have the discretion to organize any other drills, practices and games that will assist in the selection process.

Team Selection

No later than August 31st, the Head Coach will, in consultation with the Assistant Coaches, High Performance Director and Manager – Women's National Teams, select the final Team of 15 athletes, and alternates, for the 2019 WBSC Junior Women's America's Qualifier, with the goal being to put together the best possible Team for the event.

Factors that will be considered in this selection include physical and technical aspects of the game, as well as team dynamics. These factors, which will be assigned weight by the Head Coach, as he or she deems appropriate for the decision-making process, include:

- Previous and current performance
- Experience
- Positional requirements (primary and backup)
- Present and projected development and/or improvement
- Leadership/Contribution to team chemistry

- Availability for competition and training

It is understood that in making selections to create the best possible Team, it is possible that the best individual athletes may not be selected. The Head Coach also has the discretion to name an athlete to the Team even though that athlete may not have participated in evaluation camps or other selection activities.

The timelines that will be followed in selecting the athletes to the 2019 WBSC Junior Women's America's Qualifier team will be as follows. Note that specific events, dates and times may be subject to change.

- Athlete Combines in early May (Ontario and British Columbia) and early July (Saskatchewan). Exact locations to be announced.
- Athlete scouting completed at U16 and U19 Canadian Championships and other events identified by the coaching staff.
- The Head Coach will select a team of athletes to represent Canada at the 2019 WBSC Junior Women's World Championship no later than **August 31, 2019**.
- Alternates may be added to the Team to replace an athlete removed from the team pursuant to section 5. The addition of alternates to the team is at the sole discretion of the Head Coach and will be in keeping with the philosophy of fielding the best possible Team.

UNFORESEEN CIRCUMSTANCES/CHANGES TO THE DOCUMENT

If unforeseen circumstances arise which do not allow for this selection process or the above timelines to be implemented as outlined in this document, Softball Canada reserves the right to identify an alternate process or alternate timelines. Should this occur, all athletes in the selection process will be notified of these changes in a timely manner.

SECTION 5 - REMOVAL FROM A CAMP OR FROM THE TEAM

An athlete may be removed from a camp or from a Team where the athlete:

- a) Is unable to meet performance expectations;
- b) Unable or unwilling to meet required training expectations;
- c) Is unable to perform due to injury, illness or for other medical reasons as determined by Softball Canada's medical staff;
- d) Is unable to commit to the required Team activities (note that an athlete may obtain an exemption from the Head Coach and Softball Canada)
- e) Violates team rules and/or Softball Canada's policies and procedures; or
- f) Exhibits conduct that is detrimental to the image of the National Team program or Softball Canada.

SECTION 6 – SUBSTITUTION OF ALTERNATES

Where necessary and appropriate, an athlete removed from a Team may be replaced by an alternate selected by the Head Coach.

SECTION 7 – APPEALS

Softball Canada selections for the 2019 WBSC Junior Women's America's Qualifier Team may be appealed in accordance with the procedures set out in the Softball Canada Appeals policy. Any dispute relating to the Softball Canada Internal nominations procedure for the 2019 WBSC Junior Women's America's Qualifier Team must be brought according to said policy, or may be brought directly to the Sport Dispute Resolution Centre of Canada (SDRCC) with the consent of all parties and at the discretion of the SDRCC.

APPENDIX A – TRAINING STANDARDS

Pitchers

	Minimum Standard	National Team Best
Fastball	60mph	65mph
Change-Up	15-18mph slower than maximum	
Any (2) of the following		
Rise	58mph	60mph
Curve	58mph	60mph
Screw ball	60mph	62mph

Catchers

	Minimum Standard	National Team Best
Throw: H-2b	< 2.00 seconds	1.84 seconds
Glove to glove release:	< 0.95	0.80

General Fitness and Technical Standards

	Minimum Standard	National Team Best
Throwing speed (overhand)	> 58mph	65mph
Beep Test (Leger)	6.5	12
Pro Agility	6.0	4.36
Medicine Ball Throw	9	11