



2021 WBSC U-19 WOMEN'S SOFTBALL WORLD CUP

2021 JUNIOR WOMEN'S NATIONAL TEAM SELECTION PROCESS

REVISED MARCH 31, 2021

SECTION 1 – PURPOSE

The Junior Women's National Team Program for 2021 will compete in the 2021 WBSC U-19 Women's Softball World Cup, which is scheduled to take place in Lima, Peru in August, 2021. The purpose of this document is to set out the process that will be used by Softball Canada to select athletes to the 2021 WBSC U-19 Women's Softball World Cup Team.

This selection process has the following objective:

- Select the best possible Team for the 2021 WBSC U-19 Women's Softball World Cup. 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 2021 WBSC U-19 Women's Softball World Cup (March 1, 2022), 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

Regional Identification Camps and Final Selection Camp

Identification camps will be held in Florida, British Columbia, Saskatchewan, Ontario, Quebec, and Nova Scotia in May, June and July. Athletes will be evaluated using the evaluation process outlined in Appendix A, the “Five Star Rating System”. 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 1, 2021 the Head Coach will, in consultation with the Assistant Coaches and High Performance Director, select up to 24 athletes to attend the Final Selection Camp, which is scheduled to take place August 15-19, 2021 (camp location to be announced). Following the Final Selection Camp, the final Team of 16 athletes, and alternates, for the 2021 WBSC U-19 Women’s Softball World Cup will be named, with the goal being to put together the best possible Team for the event. The final roster will be determined by no later than August 20, 2021.

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
- The depth chart, as developed from the evaluation criteria in Appendix A

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 has the discretion to advance athletes with previous international experience to later stages of the selection process. 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 2021 WBSC U-19 Women’s Softball World Cup team will be as follows. Note that specific events, dates and times may be subject to change.

- Identification camps in May, June and July in Florida, British Columbia, Saskatchewan, Ontario, Quebec, and Nova Scotia. Exact locations to be announced.
- Up to 24 athletes will be selected to participate in the Final Selection Camp by no later than August 1, 2021.
- The Head Coach will select a team of athletes to represent Canada at the 2021 WBSC U-19 Women's Softball World Cup no later than August 20, 2021.
- 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 2021 WBSC U-19 Women's Softball World Cup 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 2021 WBSC U-19 Women's Softball World Cup 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 – FIVE STAR RATING SYSTEM
Women's National Team Program Player Evaluation - Infielders

Player Profile		Infielders					Base Running			Hitting				Attitude			Intangibles		Ranking By		FIVE STAR RANKING						
Position	Surname	Throws	Hits	Ground ball Straight on	Range	Slow Rollers/Chopper to SS/2B	Double Play	Fielding Bunts 1 st & 3 rd	Home to 1 st x2		2 nd to Home x2	Use of All Fields	Ability to hit 65mphs +	Bunting Skills	Bat Control	Game Scenarios	Effort	Competitiveness	Coachability	Ability to get along with teammates		Leadership Ability	Poise under Pressure	Beep Test Level Score	Offence	Defence	
																					Primary						Secondary

Player(s) Evaluated By: _____
 Date(s) of Evaluation: _____
 Location of Evaluation: _____

Score	Criteria
5	An excellent elite-level performance. Athlete executes effectively at position and within role on team. Clearly outperforms counterparts at same position on opposing team. This athlete had a lasting dominant effect. Athlete can definitely play and impact at the <u>top international level.</u> (Elite-level)
4	An above average elite-level performance. Good plays and decision clearly outnumber poor ones. Factors not allowing performance to be (5) might include: playing time lost to game circumstances; slight skill deficiency compared to a (5); slight inconsistency in terms of effort, grittiness, lapse in discipline or emotional control as examples. Athlete can definitely play at the top international level with the only limitation being depth at a similar position.
3	An average elite-level performance. Requires more observation. Athlete made their share of mistakes/poor decisions, but they countered by an equal number of good plays/decisions. Factors within the game may have inhibited achieving satisfactory evaluation on this athlete. Athlete warrants consideration as a candidate for the National Team Program. Athlete demonstrates dominant play at the Junior or Senior Elite Domestic level of play (i.e., Canadian Championships).
2	A below average elite-level performance. Bad plays/decisions outnumber good ones. Athlete may have lacked effort and hustle and made errors costly to the team. Attitude, behaviors and performance questionable. Physical and mental components were deficient and below average. This athlete shows some potential but has definite limitations which would not allow them to play at the top international level. Athlete demonstrates above average play at the Junior or Senior Domestic level of play (i.e., Canadian Championships). Athlete demonstrates dominant play at the Midget Elite Domestic level of play (i.e., Canadian Championships, Canada Games).
1	Unacceptable elite-level performance. Well below acceptable standards. Not approaching level of contribution required or expected. Significant deficiencies in many areas of the game. Athlete has not demonstrated the appropriate skill set to warrant participation in the National Team Program. Significant improvements are necessary in order to successfully complete at the top international level.



Women's National Team Program Player Evaluation - Outfielders



Player Profile			Outfielders							Base Running			Hitting				Attitude			Intangibles			Ranking By		FIVE STAR RANKING				
Position	Surname		Throws	Hits	Hitting Cuts from Fence	Throws to 3rd Base	Throws to Home Plate	Tracking and Catching Fly Balls in Gap	Sun Drill	Home to 1st x2	2nd to Home x2	Use of All Fields Work	Ability to Hit 65mph + above	Bunting Skills	Bat Control Skills	Game Scenarios	Effort	Competitive	Coachability	Ability to get along with teammates	Leadership Ability	Poise Under Pressure	Beep Test Level Score	Offence		Defence			
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Women's National Team Program Player Evaluation - Pitchers



Player Profile			Pitchers						Base Running			Hitting				Attitude			Intangibles			Ranking By		FIVE STAR RANKING						
Position		Surname	Throws	Hits	Fielding Ability	Command of Riseball	Command of Drop Ball	Command of Offspeed	Top Velocity	Pitch Accuracy	Home to 1 st x2		2 nd to Home x2		Use of all Fields	Ability to Hit 65mphs +	Bunting Skills	Bat Control	Game Scenarios	Effort	Competitive	Coachability	Ability to get along with teammates		Leadership Skills	Poise Under Pressure	Beep Test Level Score	Offence	Defence	
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Player Profile		Catchers						Base Running			Hitting				Attitude			Intangibles			Ranking By		FIVE STAR RANKING				
Position	Surname	Throws	Hits	Blocking Balls	Catching Pop Ups	Game Calling Skills	Throws to 2 nd Base	Fielding Bunts	Home to 1 st x2	2 nd to Home x2	Use of All Fields	Ability to Hit 65mph +	Bunting Skills	Bat Control	Game Scenarios	Effort	Competitiveness	Coachability	Ability to get along with teammates	Leadership Ability	Poise under Pressure	Beep Test Level Score		Offence	Defence		
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APPENDIX B – 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

APPENDIX C – TENTATIVE SCHEDULE

May 14	Identification Camp	Fort Myers, FL
June 28 - 29	Identification Camp	Saskatoon, SK
June 30 – July 2	Identification Camp	Lower Mainland, BC
July 13 - 15	Identification Camp	Greater Toronto Area, ON
July 19 - 20	Identification Camp	Greater Montreal, QC
July 21	Identification Camp	Halifax, Nova Scotia
August 15 – 19	Final Selection Camp	TBA
August 19 – 24	Pre-World Cup Training Camp	TBA
August 25 – September 5	U-19 WBSC World Cup	Lima, Peru