



2021 WBSC AMERICAS QUALIFIER MEN'S NATIONAL TEAM SELECTION PROCESS

SECTION 1 – PURPOSE

The 2021 Senior Men's National Team Program will compete in the 2021 WBSC America's World Cup Qualifier. 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 America's Qualifier team.

This selection process has two objectives:

1. Select eligible athletes to an Athlete Pool. Athletes in the Pool are those identified by Softball Canada as having demonstrated potential to earn a position on a current or future national team. At any given time, the Athlete Pool represents a 'snapshot' of Canadian talent in Men's softball.
2. From the Pool, select the best possible Teams for specific events. While some objective criteria will be used to select Teams, 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 qualities and team cohesion.

SECTION 2 – ELIGIBILITY

An athlete is eligible for selection to the Athlete Pool 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 the 2021 WBSC America's Qualifier or a person eligible for Canadian Citizenship who is actively pursuing Citizenship.

To be eligible to be selected to a National Team, the athlete must: (1) meet any age requirements and (2) meet any citizenship requirements stipulated by the organizers of the event at which the Team will be competing.

Once selected to the Athlete Pool or to a National Team, all athletes will be expected to be training in preparation for play on the Men's National Team.

SECTION 3 – AUTHORITY FOR SELECTION

The Board of Directors has delegated authority for all decision making under this policy to the Head Coach.

The Head Coach has final authority for all selection decisions, including selecting athletes to the Athlete Pool, adding additional athletes to the Athlete Pool, selecting the National Team from the Athlete Pool, removing athletes from the Athlete Pool or from a National Team, and selecting replacement athletes to a National Team where applicable. In making selection decisions, the Head Coach will consult with the Manager - Men's National

Teams (MNT), and with 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 Pool Selection

The Head Coach, in consultation with the coaching staff and Manager – National Teams, will select a pool of up to 44 athletes. The initial pool of athletes will be published on or before December 1, 2020. Additional athletes may be added, at the Head Coaches discretion at any time after that date. The selection of the pool will be based on:

- Previous and current performance
- Experience
- Positional requirements
- Present and projected development and/or improvement
- Leadership/Contribution to team chemistry
- Availability for competition and training

National Team Selection

Athletes from the Athlete Pool will be selected to the National Team, with the goal being to put together the best possible team for any specific 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. It is at the discretion of the Head Coach to name an athlete to a National Team even though that athlete may not have participated in selection camps or other National Team events.

The timelines that will be followed in selecting the Athlete Pool and selecting athletes for the 2021 WBSC America's Team are as follows. Note that specific events, dates and times may be subject to change.

- On or before December 1, 2020 – The Head Coach will announce an athlete pool of up to 44 players
- On or before May 15, 2021 - The Head Coach will select up to 12 core athletes that will be named to the team that will participate in the WBSC America's Qualifier in Parana, Argentina (Dates to be confirmed)
- Players may be selected to the team in stages, before that date, at the discretion of the Head Coach.
- On or before September 15, 2021 the remaining 4 players will be selected to the team.

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.

In addition to the above schedule, athletes are expected to follow the prescribed training regime, and be available to meet with national team staff at agreed to times and locations throughout the year.

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 Athlete Pool will be notified of these changes in a timely manner.

SECTION 5 – REMOVAL FROM THE ATHLETE POOL OR FROM A NATIONAL TEAM

5.1 Upon selection to the Athlete Pool or Team, an athlete must:

- a) Sign a Team member agreement
- b) Provide Softball Canada with all required documents (passport information etc.)
- c) Participate in Team events, activities, and meetings, as directed by the Head Coach or his/her designate
- d) Ensure they wear proper equipment and clothing
- e) Obey all rules established by the Head Coach and/or Softball Canada
- f) Assist Softball Canada in public relations and fundraising projects where required

5.2 An athlete may be removed from the Athlete Pool or from a National Team where the athlete:

- a) Is unable to meet performance expectations.
- b) Is unable to perform due to injury, illness or for other medical reason as determined by Softball Canada's medical staff.
- c) Is unable to commit to National Team Program activities and events (note that an athlete may obtain an exemption from the Head Coach and Softball Canada).
- d) Violates team rules and/or Softball Canada's policies and procedures.
- e) Exhibits conduct that is detrimental to the image of the National Team program of Softball Canada.
- f) Breaches the Athlete Agreement.
- g) Voluntarily withdraws.
- h) Is removed by a Softball Canada Discipline and/or Appeal panel; or
- i) Fraudulently misrepresents themselves

SECTION 6 – SUBSTITUTION OF ALTERNATES

Where necessary and appropriate, an athlete removed from a National Team may be replaced by an alternate from the Athlete Pool.

SECTION 7 – APPEALS

Softball Canada 2021 WBSC America's team selections may be appealed in accordance with the procedures set out in the Softball Canada Appeals policy. This process may be bypassed with the consent of all parties and referred directly to the Sport Dispute Resolution Centre of Canada (SDRCC).