



## **U23 MEN'S NATIONAL TEAM SELECTION PROCESS FOR THE 2021 WBSC AMERICAS QUALIFIER**

### **SECTION 1 – PURPOSE**

The U23 Men's National Team Program for 2021 will compete in the 2021 WBSC Americas Qualifier this December in Colombia. The purpose of this document is to set out the process that will be used by Softball Canada to select athletes to the U23 Men's National Team for the Qualifying event.

**This selection process has the following objective:**

- Select the best possible Team for the 2021 WBSC Americas 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**

To be eligible to be selected to the Team an athlete must be in good standing with Softball Canada, must be a Canadian Citizen holding a valid Canadian passport, or alternatively must be a person eligible for Canadian Citizenship who is actively pursuing Citizenship.

To be eligible to be selected to the Team, the athlete must further 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 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**

### **Team Selection**

Various Provincial Identification camps will take place in July – August 2021 at select locations. Athletes will be evaluated on fitness levels and softball skills. The coaching staff will scout the U23 Rawlings Grand Slam Softball Championship and select provincial events to finalize the players that will be invited to the final selection camp/event October 1-3 in Saskatoon, SK. A total of up to 22 players will be invited by the Head Coach, who will consult with his Assistant Coaches and the Manager – National Teams on the selected athletes.

The final selection of 16 players for the WBSC Americas Qualifier will be published on or before October 15, 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 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 identification camps or other selection activities.

The timelines that will be followed in selecting the athletes to the 2021 WBSC Americas U23 Men's National team will be as follows. Note that specific events, dates and times may be subject to change.

- A series of open identification camps will be held July-August, 2021
- The Coaching Staff may scout various events throughout 2021 to identify players.
- A final selection camp/event in Saskatoon, SK Oct. 1-3, 2021
- The Head Coach, in consultation with Assistant Coaches and the Manager of National Teams, will select the roster by October 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**

5.1 Upon selection to the Team, an athlete must:

- a) Sign a Team member agreement / concussion protocol form
- 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 fund raising projects where required

5.2 An athlete may be removed from the Camp or from a 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 Team may be replaced by an alternate selected by the Head Coach.

## **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).