



XXII Commonwealth Games
Birmingham, England
28th July – 8th August 2022

Nomination Policy and Standards
3x3 Wheelchair Basketball
September 2021

Disability Sport NI
Unit G, Curlew Pavilion
Portside Business Park
189 Airport Road West,
Belfast BT 3 9ED

Introduction

This Selection Policy has been agreed by the Disability Sport NI Board and lodged with Commonwealth Games NI (CGNI). It provides detail on the process by which Disability Sport NI will arrive at athlete nominations, which will be submitted to CGNI for consideration and for final selection to Team Northern Ireland 2022 in accordance with the CGNI Athlete Selection Policy (Appendix 1).

The final selection decision to the 2022 Commonwealth Games team lies with CGNI.

Disability Sport will nominate only athletes who have qualified under both the wheelchair basketball nomination standard stated below, and the CGNI Athlete Selection Policy (Appendix 1).

1. Athlete Eligibility

- 1.1 The eligibility criteria of the Commonwealth Games Federation (CGF) must be met by all nominees (see Appendix 2 – CGF Byelaw 17). 6.1.

Where prospective team members do not automatically comply with the above criteria, they will only be nominated for final selection if they receive prior approval from the CGF under their guidelines 6.2.

- 1.2 Players must be a member of British Wheelchair Basketball (BWB).

2. Games Competition Format

- 2.1 Both Men's & Women's competitions will consist of 6 teams.
- 2.2 Teams will consist of 4 players, with 3 on court at any one time.
- 2.3 Games will be played to the following classification on court: 8.5 points.
- 2.4 Games will be played on a half court with one basket.
- 2.5 Games will last a maximum of 10 minutes or first to 21 points, with a 12 second shot clock.
- 2.6 If a game is tied at end of regulation time, the first team to score 2 points in overtime wins the game.
- 2.7 The maximum number of athletes selected by any country will be in line with CGF allocation for each invited team.

3. Team Size:

- 3.1 Disability Sport NI will nominate 4 players in line with CGF allocation and 4 named reserves for each team.

4. Commonwealth Games Wheelchair Basketball Framework

- 4.1 Competing in the Games is subject to CGNI receiving an invite from the CGF to compete in the Games. In order to receive an invite for both the Men's and Women's competitions, International Wheelchair Basketball Federation (IWBF) and CGF will determine the Commonwealth Games Associations (CGAs) to participate based on the following:
 - 4.2 Host CGA (1 Team): The Host CGA shall be issued with one (1) automatic qualification slot per medal event.
 - 4.3 Regional CGA (4 Teams): The top CGA nation per medal event from each of the four IWBF Zonal Qualifiers (Africa, Americas, Asia Oceania, Europe*) will qualify for a regional qualification slot *IWBF has confirmed that Home Nations (England, Wales, Scotland, Northern Ireland), Crown Dependencies and British Overseas Territories can compete as independent entities at the 2022 Commonwealth Games and the IWBF Zonal Qualifiers. The IWBF has confirmed that British Wheelchair Basketball, as a member of IWBF has jurisdictional responsibility of all eligible athletes across the UK (i.e., Home Nations, Crown Dependencies and British Overseas Territories). These responsibilities include the facilitation and enforcement of an athlete's acceptance and compliance under the international regulations (including eligibility and classification regulations) stipulated by IWBF and the standards executed by British Wheelchair Basketball.
 - 4.4 Bipartite Invitation (1 Team): One Bipartite Invitation slot per medal event will be awarded to one CGA Nation not otherwise qualified.
 - 4.5 In order to meet Team NI's performance targets it is necessary to evidence performances showing the potential to place in the top eight at the Games. An initial invitation to compete from the CGF merits evidence of the ability of a Top 6 finish (Six Team competition).

5. Disability Sport NI Selection Framework

- 5.1 Disability Sport NI has responsibility for the preparation and selection of the men and women's training panels, team selection for the European Qualification Championships and player nomination to Commonwealth Games NI for Birmingham 2022.
- 5.2 Players selected as part of the Disability Sport NI training panel will be eligible for Commonwealth Games nomination.

- 5.3 Team composition of the nominated Commonwealth Games Team will be determined by Disability Sport NI on the basis that the athletes selected are the most skilled and appropriate for the 3x3 game format.
- 5.4 Disability Sport NI nominations will only be selected by CGNI where it is clear that their preparation during the selection period (30 September 2021 to 18th April 2022) is directed at giving the best possible performance.

5.5 **Qualification Event**

Players selected for the European Qualification Championships will not automatically be nominated to CGNI for selection to the Games.

6. **Eligibility & Classification**

- 6.1 Players must hold a confirmed classification by IWBF and meet all eligibility requirements, in line with the agreed IWBF and International Paralympic Committee (IPC) classification action plan. * Please note these are subject to change during the summer of 2021 and it is important to review both the IWBF and IPC websites for updates: <https://iwbf.org/the-game/classification>
<https://www.paralympic.org/classification>

7. **Nominated Player Requirements and Considerations**

- 7.1 All players nominated to CGNI must undertake a full training programme as agreed by the Disability Sport NI, Wheelchair Basketball Performance Lead.
- 7.2 All players nominated to CGNI are subject to fitness monitoring throughout the selection period which will be linked to a player's ability to meet the demands of the 3x3 game format. Fitness assessments will be monitored in partnership with Sport NI, Institute support staff.
- 7.3 All nominated athletes and reserves must undertake approved anti-doping education provided by Disability Sport NI before 1st April 2022. Athletes who fail to attend this compulsory anti-doping education (or refuse to follow up by way of a webinar, if out of the country for legitimate training or competition reasons) will not be nominated for selection to the CGNI.
- 7.4 When making player nominations to CGNI consideration will be given to:
- the classification balance of the team
 - an individual player's ability to play in a number of positions
 - a player's ability to positively contribute to the culture of the team
 - any previous international playing experience
 - an assessment of the player against player characteristics set out in Disability Sport NI's performance criteria (Appendix 3)

8. **Selection Process and Timeframe**

- 8.1 Player nominations will be made by the coaching team, comprised of the Wheelchair Basketball Performance Lead and Assistant Coaches. The role of the Wheelchair Basketball Performance Lead is to compile the names of players who meet the criteria for nomination and to make recommendations to the Selection Panel.
- 8.2 The Selection Panel will be made up of the Disability Sport NI Performance Pathway Manager, the Wheelchair Basketball Performance Lead and one external performance sport expert. The selection panel will be overseen by a non-voting Disability Sport NI Board Member to ensure policy compliance.
- 8.3 Each player will be notified in writing of their nomination to the Commonwealth Games Team by 1st May 2022.
- 8.4 Disability Sport NI will send final nominations to CGNI by 16th May 2022.
- 8.5 Final selection to the Games team is dependent on provision of relevant information required by CGNI such as completion and signing of the CGF Eligibility form and CGNI Team Member Agreement.

9. De-Selection

- 9.1 Athletes suspended by British Wheelchair Basketball or Disability Sport NI as a result of ongoing or concluded anti-doping violation allegations, will not be considered for selection, and if previously selected will be deselected from the Birmingham 2022 team.
- 9.2 At any time prior to travelling to the Commonwealth Games, Disability Sport NI reserves the right to withdraw an athlete should they no longer be eligible. Ineligibility includes but is not limited to: bringing the sport into disrepute, failure to attend training camps without prior permission, failure to abide by Disability Sport NI's Code of Conduct.
- 9.3 De-selection may also happen due to the outcome of a successful appeal.

10. Injury and Illness:

- 10.1 Any player ill or injured prior to competing in any tournament leading up to or in advance of the Games will undergo assessments to determine their ability to compete.
- 10.2 The assessments will be carried out by one or more of the following: a doctor; physiotherapist; S&C coach; and Wheelchair Basketball Performance Lead and will include physical tests.
- 10.3 The physical tests will be agreed with the player in advance.
- 10.4 The final decision to compete will rest with the Wheelchair Basketball Performance Lead in consultation with the medical staff and other support staff.

- 10.5 At any time prior to travelling to the Commonwealth Games, Disability Sport NI reserves the right to withdraw an athlete should they no longer be eligible or be deemed unfit to participate

11. Athlete Agreement

All nominated athletes and reserves must sign the Disability Sport NI Code of Conduct (Appendix 4) and Team NI Team Member Agreement. In signing the agreement, athletes commit to attending mandatory team meetings, antidoping education, and abiding by all policies related to the Games including those associated with the use of social media and holding camp attendance. Athletes who do not agree to be bound by the terms of this agreement will not be nominated for selection to the CGNI.

13. Uniform/Kit

- 13.1 All Team uniform and kit (other than competition playing kit) for the Games will be provided by CGNI.
- 13.2 Competition playing kit will be provided by Disability Sport NI.
- 13.3 Athletes must wear the kit provided by CGNI or Disability Sport NI.

14. Unforeseen Circumstances

- 14.1 In the event that this Policy is silent on any matter which arises in the administration or application or interpretation of any selection process or decision, then the Selection Panel shall have discretion to determine any issue as they deem fit, so long as it is exercised fairly and quickly.

15. Amendments

- 15.1 Subject to CGNI approval, Disability Sport NI reserves the right to make changes to this Policy which, in its discretion, are necessary. No such changes shall be made after the European Qualification Tournament unless the changes relate to the Selection Panel exercising its discretion under the 'Unforeseen Circumstances' provisions (Section 14)
- 15.2 Subject to CGNI approval, Disability Sport NI reserves the right to review and modify this Policy or a decision related to the nomination process in the case of rule

or policy changes from the CWF and/or IWBF that affect the criteria set out in this Policy.

- 15.3 Any changes to this Policy shall be communicated to those involved via email and published on the Disability Sport NI website: www.dsni.co.uk

16. Appeal Process

- 16.1 An appeal against non-nomination to CGNI by Disability Sport NI is entirely a matter for the athlete and Disability Sport NI. This should be held in accordance with Disability Sport NI's own appeal procedures but taking into consideration only the CGNI selection policy and agreed wheelchair basketball standards and conditions.
- 16.2 Any player not nominated to the team has the right to meet with the Wheelchair Basketball Performance Lead and the Performance Pathways Manager in order to seek further clarification on their non-nomination to the team of players. The player must request this meeting by 3rd May 2022. After this meeting a player may appeal in writing to Disability Sport NI and that appeal must arrive at the Disability Sport NI offices within 2 days of the aforementioned meeting taking place, but no later than 9th May 2022. The CEO of Disability Sport NI will convene a meeting in line with Disability Sport NI appeals process (Appendix 5), and within three days of receipt of the appeal. The player will be notified of the decision of the appeals panel and the decision of the panel is final.
- 16.3 An appeal against CGNI non-selection on behalf of an athlete may only be submitted by Disability Sport NI and not by any individual athlete. If an appeal is submitted to CGNI by Disability Sport NI a CGNI Appeal Panel will consider the case along with any additional information provided. The appeal must be made by email to conal.heatley@teamni.org within 3 days of notification of selection outcomes to Disability Sport NI by CGNI.

17. Appointment of Team Staff

The final complement of Wheelchair Basketball team staff attending the Games will ultimately depend upon team numbers and composition and will be determined by CGNI in consultation with Disability Sport NI. This will include different categories of accreditation and access to the Games Village and other secure areas.