



3x3 Wheelchair Basketball  
XXII Commonwealth Games  
European Qualification Championships  
27<sup>th</sup> – 30<sup>th</sup> December 2021, Scotland  
Selection Policy and Standards

September 2021

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

## **Introduction**

This selection policy has been approved by the Disability Sport NI Board. It provides details on the process by which Disability Sport NI will select a Men's Team and a Women's Team to represent Northern Ireland at the Commonwealth Games European Qualification Championships being held in Scotland from the 27–30 December 2021.

### **1. Athlete Eligibility**

- 1.1 The eligibility criteria of the Commonwealth Games Federation (CGF) must be met by all athletes (see Appendix 1 – CGF Byelaw 17).

Where prospective team members do not automatically comply with the above criteria, they will only be considered for selection if they receive prior approval from the Commonwealth Games Federation (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 3 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 the end of regulation time, the first team to score 2 points in overtime wins the game.

### **3. Team Size:**

- 3.1 Disability Sport NI will select 4 players and 4 named reserves for each team.

### **4. Eligibility & Classification**

- 4.1 To be eligible for training panel selection and European Qualification Championships Team selection, players must hold a confirmed classification by the International Wheelchair Basketball Federation (IWBF) or be working in partnership with BWB to secure a confirmed classification status 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>

- 4.2 Players who have not submitted the required paperwork in the agreed BWB timelines will not be eligible for selection.

## **5. Preparation Programme Long List Athletes**

- 5.1 Players involved in the NI Academy Tier 1/Tier 2 and Women's Development Squad will automatically be invited to be part of the Commonwealth Games preparation programme long list.
- 5.2 Players from outside of the NI Academy may be invited to be part of the Commonwealth Games preparation programme by the Wheelchair Basketball Performance Lead based on the following:
- Previous international experience
  - A classification that would increase on court playing combinations in the women's game.

## **6. Training Panel Selection and Timeframe**

- 6.1 Up to 10 players per team will be selected for the training panel from the preparation programme long list.
- 6.2 When making player nominations to the Selection Panel 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 as set out in NI 3x3 Player Characteristics document (Appendix 2).
- 6.3 Player nominations will be made by the coaching team, comprised of the Wheelchair Basketball Performance Lead and Assistant Coaches. The Wheelchair Basketball Performance Lead will compile the names of players and will make recommendations to the Selection Panel.
- 6.4 All players will be notified in writing of their position by 7 October 2021.
- 6.5 If qualification at the European Qualification Championships is achieved, the successful 10 training panel players of the qualified team will continue to train as part of the preparation programme until final Commonwealth Games nomination in May 2022.

6.6 In the event of an athlete withdrawing from the training panel, Disability Sport NI reserves the right to select a player from the long list not previously selected. Selection considerations and selection process as laid out in 6.2 – 6.4 will be implemented in such an event.

## **7. Player Requirements and Considerations:**

7.1 All players selected for the training panels and European Qualification Championships Teams must undertake a full training programme as agreed by the Wheelchair Basketball Performance Lead.

7.2 All players are subject to fitness monitoring throughout the selection period (April 2021 – December 2021) 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, Sports Institute support staff.

## **8. Team Withdrawal**

8.1 In the event of not being able to enter a team that meets the classification requirements of the 3x3 format, or if a team fails to be physically and/or technically ready to compete at an International level, that team will be withdrawn from the Championships.

8.2 This will be at the discretion of the Selection Panel.

## **9. European Qualification Championships Selection and Timeframe**

9.1 4 players and 4 reserves per team will be nominated by the coaching team.

9.2 When making player nominations to the Selection Panel 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 as set out in NI 3x3 Player Characteristics document (Appendix 2).

9.3 Player nominations will be made by the coaching team, comprised of the Wheelchair Basketball Performance Lead and Assistant Coaches. The Wheelchair Basketball Performance Lead will compile the names of players and will make recommendations to the Selection Panel.

9.4 All players will be notified in writing of their position by 19 November 2021.

9.5 Selection for the European Qualification Championships will not result in automatic nomination to CGNI for selection to the Birmingham Commonwealth Games if the team qualifies.

## **10. Selection Panel**

- 10.1 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.

## **11. De-Selection**

- 11.1 Athletes suspended by Disability Sport NI or British Wheelchair Basketball 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 team.
- 11.2 At any time prior to travelling to the European Qualification Championships, 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.
- 11.3 De-selection may also happen due to the outcome of a successful appeal.

## **12. Injury and Illness:**

- 12.1 Any player named on the training panel or European Qualification Championships Team who is ill or injured will undergo assessments to determine their ability to continue to train and compete.
- 12.2 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.
- 12.3 The physical tests will be agreed with the player in advance.
- 12.4 Any selection or de-selection decision, following such a test, will be made by the Wheelchair Basketball Performance Lead and will be final.
- 12.5 At any time prior to travelling to the European Qualification Championships, Disability Sport NI reserves the right to withdraw an athlete should they no longer be eligible or be deemed unfit to participate

## **13. Athlete Code of Conduct**

All selected players on the training panels must sign the Disability Sport NI Code of Conduct (Appendix 3). In signing the Code of Conduct, players

commit to making a positive contribution to the behaviours and culture of the Team. Athletes who do not agree sign the Code of Conduct will not be eligible for nomination to the European Qualification Championships Team.

#### **14. Uniform/Kit**

- 14.1 All kit will be provided by Disability Sport NI.
- 14.2 Athletes must wear the kit provided by Disability Sport NI during the Championships.

#### **15. Unforeseen Circumstances**

- 15.1 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 Disability Sport NI shall have discretion to determine any issue as they deem fit so long as it is exercised fairly and quickly.

#### **16. Amendments**

- 16.1 Subject to Board 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 26 November 2021 unless the changes relate to Disability Sport NI exercising its discretion under the 'Unforeseen Circumstances' provisions (Section 16)
- 16.2 Disability Sport NI reserves the right to review and modify this Policy or a decision related to the selection process in the case of rule or policy changes from the Championships hosts and/or IWBF that affect the criteria set out in this Policy.
- 16.3 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](http://www.dsni.co.uk)

#### **17. Appeal Process**

- 17.1 Players not selected for the training panel have the right to meet with the Wheelchair Basketball Performance Lead in order to seek further clarification on their non-selection. The player must request this meeting by 11 October 2021. After this meeting a player may appeal in writing to Disability Sport NI and that appeal must arrive with the Disability Sport NI offices within 2 days of the aforementioned meeting taking place, but no later than 14 October 2021. The CEO of Disability Sport NI will convene a meeting in line with Disability Sport NI appeals process (Appendix 4) 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.

- 17.2 Players not selected for the European Qualifying Championships have the right to meet with the Wheelchair Basketball Performance Lead in order to seek further clarification on their non-selection. The player must request this meeting by 22 November 2021. 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 26 November 2021. The CEO of Disability Sport NI will convene a meeting in line with Disability Sport NI appeals process (Appendix 4) 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.

## **18. Appointment of Team Staff**

The final complement of Wheelchair Basketball team staff attending the Tournament will ultimately depend upon team numbers and composition and will be determined by Disability Sport NI.