



Team NB Wheelchair Rugby Selection Process & Criteria

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Created: October 2023

Selection Mission

To Identify and select the best team in the province to represent Team New Brunswick at Nationals.

Program Goals

1. To develop elite athletes around the province,
2. To provide athletes the opportunity to train, compete, and represent the province of New Brunswick to the best of their ability,
3. To provide a fun and positive learning environment and experience,
4. To contribute to the overall awareness and development of wheelchair rugby in the province.

Team Staff

Manager: Simon Richard
Head Coach: To Be Chosen Shortly
Assistant Coach: To Be Chosen Shortly

Athlete eligibility

Total of 8-12 athletes: Male or female
Age: All ages
Domestic Player Transfers: See Appendix A
Appeals: See Appendix B

Competitor Eligibility

Based on National technical package – Subject to change

Selection process and criteria

The Team New Brunswick Selection Process will take place during the 2022-2023 season. The required commitments, expectations, and selection criteria are clearly identified in the following sections. It is the athlete's responsibility to read and know the commitments, expectations, and selection criteria that will be used to select members of the 2023 New Brunswick Wheelchair Rugby team.

Parasport NB and the Coaching staff **may add or recall players to the selection process at any time** up until the final team selection is made. Players may be added if they demonstrated the potential to make the team through their performances in practices or other sanctioned Wheelchair Rugby Canada tournaments. Adding players to the process is at the sole discretion of the coaching staff who must consider the effects on team chemistry as well as the positional needs of the team.

Required commitments

(2023-2024)

- By Monday December 18th, 2023 – Submit Letter of commitment to participate in Team NB activities and Nationals including
- Attend the Team NB Camp and regional practices as often as possible
 - Attending Team NB Camp is MANDATORY as well as attending 1 practice per month is MANDATORY.
- Member in good standing of Parasport NB

Exceptions

Exceptions can be requested for the following reasons:

- *Illness or injury that prevents an athlete from competing or training,*
- *Major family emergencies or serious illness/injury*
- *Other unforeseeable or unavoidable circumstances that prevent participation (The coaching staff will decide whether requests are accepted or not).*
- ***Exception requests must be made in writing to the Manager, Simon Richard who will consult the coaching before making a decision.***

Evaluation Events

The selection events are listed below. The coaching staff may cut an athlete at any time if they fall short of the required commitment level or required performance, attitude or behavioural standards.

Date	Event	Location
TBD	Team NB Camp	Fredericton
Weekly Saturday Practices	Regional Practices	Fredericton, Moncton and Saint John (rotating from time to time)

Dates and events are subject to change

Selection Criteria for TEAM NB

Components of the selection criteria

The following selection criteria will be used by the coaching staff to evaluate and select the athletes that will represent New Brunswick at the 2024 Nationals.

Primary components

The players who combine to provide the best chance of success will be selected with primary consideration for:

Team line-ups

- *Individual classifications, points on the floor, and possible combinations*
- *starting units, first change units, foul trouble units*
- *specialty units (speed, height, offence, defence)*

All feasible team line-up combinations will be considered, with the greater emphasis being placed on line-up combinations the coaching staff identifies as most effective. Depending on changes to individual performances and classifications, **the line-up combinations are subject to change and influence greatly the team selection.** Major consideration will be given to team cohesion and team dynamics as the selection process will focus on selecting the best team of athletes who can potentially fit within this concept.

Substitutions

- for particular players for rest purposes (training and games)
- specialized roles in particular line-ups (e.g., point advantage, speed)

Substitution situations deemed by the coaching staff to be important to team success will be considered. The focus will be on team performance potential as judged by coaching staff. This includes the ability of the player to effectively perform their role on attack, defense and transition, plus the ability of the player to impact their teammates productively to create the best possible on court units.

Team cohesion

- contributions to cohesion both on and off the court
- interpersonal relationships

Player's contributions to team cohesion and interpersonal relationships with teammates will be assessed by the coaching staff through qualitative observational analysis. Athlete feedback will also be taken into consideration when applicable.

Secondary components

Player evaluation data

Individual players will be evaluated using qualitative and quantitative data gathered during camps, games, scrimmages, testing and tournaments. This information will be used by the coaching staff to aid team selection based on the primary considerations.

Mental Skills

- Focus
- Leadership
- Ability to excel under pressure
- Consistency of preparedness

Speed, acceleration, and chair skills

- assessment of speed during skill testing drills and the ability to repeatedly maintain or improve times
- assessment of performance in a variety of chair skills

Knowledge of the game

- Ability to execute the game plan
- Ability to adapt a game plan
- Decision making on offense, defence, and transition (with and without possession of the ball)
- Ability to react to game situation
- Ball and game management

Physical skills

- Speed
- Endurance
- Agility
- Strength

Other components

Other components that contribute to overall team performance will also be taken into consideration by the coaching staff when selecting the team such as:

- commitment to the team, and to training;
- leadership potential;
- unique characteristics of an individual;
- on and off court team cohesion;
- ability to fit the overall team style of play and/or specialty systems

The weighting of these components will be based on team needs as judged by the coaching staff.

In the event of situations arising that are not covered by these rules, Parasport NB and the Coaching Staff shall be empowered to make decisions based on the best information available and in accordance with the programs stated goals.

Conflict of interest

In the case where a member of the coaching staff is in a position of conflict of interest or perceived conflict of interest, the matter will be addressed by the Parasport NB Executive Director.



Letter of Commitment
2024 Nationals, Calgary, Alberta

NB Wheelchair Rugby Team commitment form

I, _____, am committed to competing for a position on the New Brunswick Wheelchair Rugby Team for the 2023-2024 season.

By making this commitment, I will be helping NB to create its best possible team and a larger group of skilled wheelchair rugby players.

I agree to do my part in training and overall personal development to make my best effort to be on the team, and understand that this includes:

- Attending Team NB practices, training camps, and other all other team activities,
- Following the Team NB training program, including practices with provincial and/or regional team
- Attending all mandatory competitions and events
- Managing my time effectively, including school, work and family to ensure that I can give my team the time it deserves,
- Adhere to drug and alcohol policies
- Getting the proper rest an athlete needs, prior to training camps and competitions,
- Maintaining an overall good nutrition,
- Maintaining a positive and supportive attitude with teammates and coaching/management staff

Classification: _____

Email address: _____

Signed by Athlete: _____

Date: _____

Parent or guardian: _____

Date: _____

If athlete is a minor (under age of 19)

APPENDIX A

DOMESTIC PLAYER TRANSFERS

In order to compete for a provincial team, athletes need to be a resident of the province they wish to represent for a minimum of 6 continuous months. If the athlete anticipates having less than 6 continuous months' residency at time of declaration, the athlete needs to provide either proof of school enrolment or letter of support from the national team staff supporting a move for enhanced DTE/Centralization purposes. Similarly, if an athlete wishes to compete for their home province/province of origin, but has lived in another province for more than six continuous months, the same supporting documenting and declaration is required.

Furthermore, if the athletes training outside of their home province/province of origin, they need to be a member of the new PSO, play for that provincial team in tournaments and not receive any funding from their home province/province of origin for a full year.

If the athlete's home province/provincial of origin is not fielding a team to the National championships, the athlete can play for another provincial team provided he/she has competed with that team in at least one tournament

If the athlete is not selected to his/her provincial team, he/she can be released by that team after the short list submission and be picked up by another province prior the registration deadline. In this case, release will not be unreasonably withheld by the home province and this individual does not have to play a tournament with the 'new' province prior to nationals.

The athlete must declare their intentions, in writing to both their home province and the province they wish to compete for to ensure transparency.

Residency will be determined by having at least two of the following four criteria in place:

- Health care card issued by the province of residence
- Taxes submitted in the province of residence
- Driver's license issued in the province of residence
- Rental agreement (for a term of 6 continuous months or more) or property ownership in the province of residence

If the athlete is unable to meet the above residency criteria, his/her home province may still release him/her to play for another province if it is deemed in the best interest of all parties.

The Competition Committee strongly encourages provinces to develop and provide playing time to their own players before transferring another player in to their province who may taking playing time away from players who are resident of that province. This is to ensure a strong development system across the country and grow the sport and its players in each province.

APPENDIX B

Appeal Process

An appeal shall be heard ONLY on the grounds that the process and/or final decision were flawed, and did not respect the selection criteria established in this document.

The grounds for an appeal are limited to:

1. The Selection Committee did not apply the Selection Criteria as approved,
2. The Selection Committee's decision was biased,
3. The Selection Committee made decisions that it was not empowered to make.

Appeal Time Lines:

The athlete shall be given 48 hours to request an appeal. The athlete must present their request in writing (by email) to the Chair of the Appeals Committee, as indicated below, and a copy must be forwarded to Sally Hutt, the executive director of Parasport NB by e-mail (sally.hutt@parasportnb.ca).

The Appeals Committee shall review the letter and all selection documentation from the Coaching Staff in order to decide whether or not the request has basis.

If there are no legitimate grounds, the Chair of the Appeals Committee shall call the athlete advising him/her of the decision. This will be followed up by a formal email to the individual.

If the Appeals committee feels that there are grounds for an appeal, the following procedures will take place:

- a) The Chair of the Appeals Committee shall select a designated location, date and time to hear the appeal. This will be completed no more than (5) days after receipt of the appeal request.
- b) The Appeal Committee shall hear the athlete's complaint. He/she may be accompanied by an advocate (parent, guardian, local coach).
- c) The Appeals Committee shall hear from the Coaching Staff.
- d) The Appeals Committee shall make a final decision within three (3) days of the appeal hearing and the decision shall be final and binding.
- e) The Chair of the Appeals Committee will contact the coach no later than 24 hours after the decision has been rendered to advise him/her of the outcome. This will be followed by a copy of the formal email sent to the athlete and a copy of the appeal findings and recommendations.

The appeal committee shall be comprised of 3 unbiased individuals:

- 1) Chair – Sally Hutt, Executive Director of Parasport NB
- 2) Unbiased individual nominated by Parasport NB
- 3) Unbiased individual nominated by Parasport NB