



2024-2025 National Team Selection Wheelchair Curling

Selection Process: Up to twenty (20) athletes will be invited to participate at the National Team Selection Camp. A minimum of twelve (12) athletes will be selected via an application process while the remaining invitations will be extended to the members of the 2023-2024 National Team. If any of the National Team athletes decline the invitation, that invitation will be selected via the application process.

Eligibility Requirements: Selected athletes must meet, be eligible to meet and/or maintain compliance with the following eligibility requirements:

1. Be eligible to represent USA per WCF Rules
2. Be a member in good standing with the United States Curling Association (USCA)
3. Possess a US passport and be eligible for international travel
4. Comply with all anti-doping policies, procedures and protocols of the International Paralympic Committee, World Curling Federation, World Anti-Doping Agency, United States Antidoping Agency, the Center for Safe Sport, and the United States Olympic & Paralympic Committee
5. Sign and adhere to the USCA Code of Conduct
6. Exhibit a recognized physical impairment which allows the athlete to meet one of the six (6) eligibility criteria for international classification specific to the sport Wheelchair Curling
7. Submit a completed application to the USCA prior to the application deadline, if not a member of the prior season's National Team

Applications can be requested via email by contacting Pete Annis, Wheelchair Curling Director at Pete.Annis@usacurling.org Applications must be received via email by Pete Annis by Friday, March 22nd, 2024 before 11:59pm CT. An incomplete application or late application will not be considered. No exceptions will be made.

Applications are considered complete when the following have been received:

1. Completed application form.
2. Letter of reference from personal coach or your respective curling club, endorsing the athlete's curling specific skills, curling knowledge and ability.
3. 2 sets of skill shots completed with score sheet completed with signature.
4. A \$200 registration fee will be collected if selected for the Selection Camp.

Athletes will be responsible for all travel expenses to attend the 2024-2025 National Selection Camp in addition to the registration fee.

All applications will be reviewed by the Wheelchair Selection Committee. Committee members will consider experience, sport acumen, athleticism, ability to learn the sport if little to no experience, coachability, team dynamics, work ethic, and review of videos.

The minimum of twelve (12) application athletes as well as a maximum of eight (8) returning National Team athletes will be invited to a Selection Camp to take place April 30- May 2, 2024, in Denver, CO at Denver Curling Club. Any National Team athletes choosing to decline their invitation must email Pete Annis no later than March 22nd, 2024, before 11:59pm CT of their decision to decline their Selection Camp invitation. All athletes will be notified of selection with camp details no later than April 1st.

Wheelchair Selection Committee

Pete Annis

Marc DePerno

Athlete Representative- TBD

The athlete rep on the Selection Committee will be approved by the Athletes' Advisory Council and pass a conflict-of-interest screening.

The Selection Committee will evaluate the athletes across the following areas, both objective & subjective in nature: 1.) physical fitness 2.) personal interview 3.) curling skills (individual skills & strategy) 4.) soft skills such as coachability, ability to work with a team and contribute to positive team dynamics.

Gender specific rankings will be created as a minimum of three (3) athletes of one gender will be selected. The Committee will select from the gender specific rankings the appropriate number of athletes to select a National Team of a minimum of eight (8) athletes and a maximum of ten (10) athletes. The male/female ratio is at the sole discretion of the Committee but a minimum of three (3) athletes per gender will be selected.

Athletes who have received a medical waiver (see below) will have their known ability compared against the last selected athlete(s) on the gender specific rankings. The Committee will then determine the maximum of ten (10) athletes who scored highest per the outlined criteria above. Selected athletes will be notified by the end of the Trials.

Waiver Process: If an invited athlete is unable to attend Selection Camp due to illness or injury, they must immediately contact Pete Annis at Pete.Annis@usacurling.org with medical documentation from a health care professional. A hearing will be conducted within 48 hours of receiving the documentation with the Selection Committee and a medical professional

determining the legitimacy of the injury or illness and its effect on the athlete. The Committee has no authority to place an athlete directly onto the National Team. Athletes that have received a waiver are not required to attend the National Team Selection Camp but will have their known ability compared against the last selected athlete(s) on the gender specific rankings. The National Team Selection Committee will then determine the National Team of maximum of ten (10) athletes.

The filling of any vacancy at the Selection Camp is at the discretion of the National Team Selection Committee. If a vacancy is decided to be filled, additional athletes will be selected from the gender specific rank order listings from the application process.

Athletes selected to the 2024/2025 National Team will be expected to attend all National Team Training Camps, exact dates, and locations to be communicated no later than 30 days prior to the start of the respective camp. Attendance is a requirement to maintain National Team status. An athlete may be excused from a training camp for the following extenuating circumstances:

- An immediate death in the family
- Illness/injury approved by medical professional
- Hospitalization
- Other approved emergency at the sole discretion of the Staff

The five (5) athletes selected to the 2025 World Championship Team will come from the maximum of ten (10) athletes named to the 2024/2025 National Team. Athletes will be observed throughout the season at both training camps and competitions and will be named to the 2025 World Championships Team no later than December 31, 2024.

Areas that will be observed throughout the season:

- Training Accountability: The ability to meet or exceed technical, tactical, physical, and mental training requirements. This element will be heavy weighed.
- Teamwork: The willingness to accept a role that leads to team's success
- Attitude: Exhibiting enthusiasm and support for teammates.
- Resilience: Exhibiting an ability to adjust to various situations and deal with adversity.
- Coachability: Exhibiting the ability to process and incorporate input from NT staff.
- Communication: The ability to communicate effectively on-and -off ice with teammates and staff.
- On Ice Performance: Knowledge of game, shooting percentages, strategy.