



PROVINCIAL WOMEN'S SOFTBALL ASSOCIATION

Canada Games Selection Process

The purpose of this document is to outline the process that will be used to select the athletes who will comprise the 2025 Team Ontario Canada Games Team.

Objective

The goal is to select the best team possible to compete at the Canada Summer Games. Objective criteria in the form of physical and skill testing will be used to select players but certain subjective criteria such as previous and current performance, experience, positional requirements, leadership, and team cohesion will be used in the selection of the team.

Eligibility

To be eligible for the team, you must be an athlete in good standing with the Provincial Women's Softball Association. You must be a Canadian Citizen and you must meet the age requirements of the Canada Summer Games during the 2025 calendar year.

Authority for Selection

The Head Coach has final authority for all selection decisions, including player removal and replacement athletes. In making selections, the Head Coach will consult with assistant coaches and selected talent evaluators. All player personnel decisions must be approved by the P.W.S.A. Canada Games Chairperson prior to the selections being made public.

Athlete Pool Selection Process

Athletes are required to attend at minimum one evaluation camp.

Athletes will be put through a series of fitness tests along with game/tactical situations. Athletes may be scouted at the following events during the spring/summer of 2024:

- Team Ontario Talent Identification and Training Weekends
- Softball Canada Junior National Team Evaluations
- P.W.S.A. invitational tournaments, P.W.S.A. Qualifier and Grand Championship Tournaments and Softball Canada's Canadian Championships

At the conclusion of the 2024 competitive season and camps, the Canada Games Coaching Staff will select up to 15 athletes and 10 alternates from each age group to form the Canada Games Athlete pool. These athletes will be notified of their place in the pool before the fall of 2024.

The Head Coach has the discretion to invite athletes to the final selection camp who were unable to attend an evaluation camp.



Team Selection

The athletes who are in the Canada Games athlete pool will have participated in evaluation activities during the 2023 and 2024 softball seasons.

All Canada Games Athlete Pool athletes will be available to play for their club team in 2024.

During the 2023-2024 offseason (October 2023-April 2024), the Canada Games Athlete Pool will participate in the following:

- Autumn College/Showcase Event (24 – 30 athletes)
- Monthly/Bi-Monthly Training Camps
- Strength and Conditioning Programming
- Spring Training Tour (24 – 30 athletes)

During the 2024 season:

- Final Selection Camp(s)/Tournament

Fall 2024

After the Final Selection Camp(s), 15 athletes and 10 alternates will be named to Team Ontario.

Athletes selected to the 2025 Canada Summer Games Team will only play for Team Ontario in 2025.

Canada Summer Games Coaching Staff may name an additional 5 to 15 athletes as “reserves” who will train alongside Team Ontario in the 2024-2025 offseason. These athletes will be available to their club team in 2025, however, the Head Coach reserves the right to call them into Team Ontario, should the need arise.

2025

In May/June, in accordance with Team Ontario Canada Games timelines, 15 athletes and 3 alternates will be selected to the Canada Summer Games Competition Roster.

Factors that will be considered but not limited to when selecting the athlete pool include physical, technical, and tactical aspects of the game, as well as team dynamics. Other items that will be considered are:

- Previous and current performance
- Experience
- Positional requirements primary and secondary
- 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 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 final player pool even though that athlete may not have participated in evaluation camps or other selection activities.

Removal from a Camp or from the Team

An athlete may be removed from a camp or team where the athlete:

- is unable to meet performance expectations
- is unable to perform due to injury, illness, or other medical reasons
- is unable to commit to the required team activities
- violates team rules
- exhibits conduct that is determined to be detrimental to the image of the Team Ontario Program

Appeals

A player not selected to the Canada Games Team may appeal that decision in accordance with the P.W.S.A. appeals procedure.

Selection Policy for Canada Summer Games Staff

See attached - Appendix A

Thank you

The Provincial Women's Softball Association would like to take this opportunity to thank the Government of Ontario - Ministry of Sport for their continued support and commitment to sports in the Province of Ontario.

Policy Name: Canada Games Selection Process

Ratification Date: July 15, 2025

Review Date: July 2026

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APPENDIX A

Selection Policy for Canada Summer Games Staff

The Provincial Women's Softball Association (hereafter referred to as the P.W.S.A.) is responsible for the selection of the Staff for the Canada Summer Games Team.

The Manager of the Canada Summer Games Team must be a member of the P.W.S.A. Board of Directors.

Notification on the P.W.S.A. website will be posted regarding the positions available, Certification necessary and a deadline for receipt of applications.

The P.W.S.A. will utilize a Head Coach, two Assistant Coaches and several Pool Coaches.

The Head Coach and all Assistants need Competition Development coaching certification by January in the year of the games.

Once the deadline for applications is past, a Committee from the P.W.S.A. Board of Directors will review all applications for all positions and decide on the number to be interviewed in each Category.

Once interviews have taken place and decisions have been made, all results will be posted on our website.

Coaches and Manager must meet with the P.W.S.A. Board of Directors for an annual evaluation review.

2025–2026 Winter Training Program – Athlete and Coaches Requirements

To ensure the health and well-being of athletes, those participating in the 2025–2026 Winter Training Program will only be permitted to participate in one high-performance program (Team Ontario) in addition to their club team's off-season training plan.

This policy is designed to:

- Prevent overuse injuries
- Reduce the risk of athlete burnout
- Promote sustainable, long-term athlete development

Coaches will not be permitted to coach in two separate high-performance programs during the winter training period.

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