



2020 Water Polo Canada (WPC) Age Group National Team (AGNT) programs (November 22, 2019)

IMPORTANT: *Changes or adjustments to specific programming details as listed in this document may still be required (dependent on exact travel dates, UANA or FINA changes, etc.). Further updates to this document will occur and WPC will communicate them via email to the WPC membership. They will also be posted on the WPC website.*

1. INTRODUCTION

The goal of this document is to provide guidance to all WPC stakeholders with regards to AGNT programs for 2019-20 selection processes and timelines. A preliminary assessment of the fees for participation will be provided in a program update in February 2020 once we have received confirmation of our high performance budgets in late January 2020.

2. REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT CENTRES

In order to better identify, test, and evaluate athletes for team selection, WPC has established Regional Development Center (RDC) programs across the country that are **mandatory** for any athlete who wishes to be eligible for an AGNT in the summer of 2020. Athletes living in regions without an RDC program will have the opportunity to participate in Regional Development Camp(s). See section 7.

An athlete living within the region of an RDC who was unable to participate in the program can request from WPC a special exemption providing detailed information regarding their inability to attend an RDC program (See Appendix 1). Any special exemption request must be made before **February 1st, 2020** to the High Performance Director (HPD) (joliveira@waterpolo.ca).

3. ATHLETE EVALUATION & IDENTIFICATION TOOLS

WPC will be delivering tools to guide and enhance the selection process of the age group national teams to all RDCs and Provincial Sport Organizations (PSOs). All athlete and team evaluations are to be completed using the WPC document, and **other forms of evaluations will not be accepted**. RDCs are required to submit this tool for any athlete to be evaluated as part of the AGNT program. Note that Clubs and PSOs can submit evaluation forms in support of athletes requesting a special exemption for their inability to attend an RDC program.

4. STAFF STRUCTURE AGE GROUP PROGRAMS

All AGNT programs will be centrally managed by WPC. Overall program direction and oversight will come from the WPC High Performance Director (HPD) coming from select Senior National Team Coaches.

Coordination and management of the AGNT programs will be the responsibility of the WPC HPD or designates in coordination with the Senior National Team Manager whereas technical coordination, including the preparation of the Age Group YTP and technical preparation program will be assigned to the Senior National Team Coaching Staff.

The daily implementation of these programs will then be assigned to an age group staffing structure comprised of part time AGNT Head Coach (HC), Assistant Coach (AC) and Team Manager (TM) appointed by WPC. These contracts will be part time contracts.

WPC may name additional resources in the roles of Head Scout, Mentor Coach or medical personnel. The main objectives associated to these positions are to support the overall identification, evaluation and performance of WPC's AGNT Programs. In the spirit of Professional Development and aligned with its Coaching and Technical Leadership (CTL) development strategy supported by WPC high performance partners, WPC has assigned key positions for its current Senior National Team Staff.

5. 2020 NATIONAL TEAM AGE GROUP – WOMEN

a. 18U evaluation, selection, preparation and World Championships (Born in 2002 & after):

- Location: Netanya, Israel
- Competition Dates: September 6-13, 2020
- Selection: See Section 7
- Age Groups involved: 2002-2003-2004 (exceptional 2005s).
- Staff:
 - a. Head Coach: Andrew Robinson (QC)
 - b. Assistant Coach: Raine Paul (AB)
 - c. Assistant / Manager: Emily Riddle (AB)
 - d. FINA Referee: to be assigned

b. 19U evaluation, selection, preparation and Pan Am Championships (Born in 2001 & after):

- Location: Edmonton, Alberta
- Competition Dates: July 6-13, 2020
- Selection: See Section 7
- Age Groups involved: 2001-2002-2003 (exceptional 2004s)
- Staff: To be assigned through internal and external process

6. 2019 NATIONAL TEAM AGE GROUP – MEN

b. 18U evaluation, selection, preparation and World Championships (Born in 2002 & after):

- Location: Istanbul, Turkey
- Competition Dates: August 22-30, 2020
- Selection: See Section 7

- Age Groups involved: 2002-2003-2004 (exceptional 2005s).
- Staff:
 - e. Head Coach: Gyula Toth (AB)
 - f. Assistant Coach: Bogdan Dubrovskiy (ON)
 - g. Assistant / Manager: Ethan D’Souza (SK)
 - h. FINA Referee: to be assigned

c. 19U evaluation, selection, preparation and Pn Am Championships (Born in 2001 & after):

- Location: Edmonton, Alberta
- Competition Dates: July 6-13, 2020
- Selection: See Section 7
- Age Groups involved: 2001-2002-2003 (exceptional 2004s)
- Staff: To be assigned through internal and external application process

7. ATHLETE SELECTION PROCESSES

7.1 Athlete selection timeline

- a. NCL scouting – according to full NCL calendar.
- b. RDC identifies long list of athletes by February 1st
- c. RDC depth charts to be submitted to PSOs no later than April 1st annually.
- d. PSO’s depth charts to be submitted to WPC’s HPD (joliveira@waterpolo.ca) no later than April 15th annually.
- e. **NCAA or international athletes** are responsible to coordinate with the PSO of their registered Club Team to ensure they are present on a depth chart and their willingness to participate in the AGNTs.
- f. Player Nomination timelines are as follows:

	19U National Teams (M/W)	18U Men’s National Team	18U Women’s National Team
RDCs identifies long list	February 1 st , 2020		
East/West Selection Camp Completed by	April 12 th , 2019		
RDCs submits depth charts	April 1 st , 2020		
Long List of Athletes Released	April 20 th , 2020		
Scouting Evaluations Finalized	May 10 th , 2020		
Player list named Top 30 +/- List	May 15 th , 2020		
Athletes Report to Pre-event Training 1	June 29 th , 2020 – July 6 th , 2020 Joint Camp in Edmonton – Junior and Youth Athletes		
Rosters named after Pre-Event 1	13 Player Roster July 4 th , 2020	15 Player Travel Roster July 13 th , 2020	15 Player Travel Roster July 13 th , 2020

Tentative Training Camp 2		August 1-22, 2020 Europe TBC	August 13-26, 2020 Montreal, QC August 26-Sept.2, 2020 Europe TBC
Final Roster named	13 Player Roster July 4 th , 2020	August 19 th , 2020	September 2, 2020
Event	Junior Pan Am Championship July 6-13 th , 2020 Edmonton, Alberta	Youth World Championships August 22-30, 2020 Istanbul, Turkey	Youth World Championships September 6-13, 2020 Nettanya, Israel

7.2 Athlete Selection guidelines

In order to be eligible for AGNT programs, an athlete must:

- Be an active member in good standing with Water Polo Canada.
- Be a Canadian citizen.
- Hold a valid Canadian passport valid for a minimum of 6 months beyond the international competitive dates for each AGNT program.
- Sign the WPC Athlete Agreement and Code of Conduct.
- Participate with their local Regional Development Centre, participated in all Regional Development Camp(s) in their local region or has an approved exemption from WPC.
- If currently residing and training full-time in Canada participate in the NCL or MLWP.
 - NCAA and international athletes must follow the guidelines in section 7.1. e.

7.3 Scouting and depth charts

The primary source of scouting information will be from the Regional Development Centres, Regional Development Camps and the National Championship League (NCL). Depth charts will be required according the submission deadline as explained in section 6. All depth charts must be submitted to the HPD and **must be in the WPC format only.**

NCAA scouting reports or video highlight reels will also be considered where applicable and must be provided by the NCAA athlete, RDC Coach or Canadian Club Head Coach.

Athlete Evaluation Process by Region

Province/ Region	British Columbia	Manitoba	Alberta	Saskatchewan	Ontario West	Ontario East	Quebec
Camp/ Centre	Vancouver RDC	Development Camp	Calgary NLDC Edmonton RDC	Regina RDC	Toronto RDC	Eastern ON/QC RDC Program	
Dates	To be communicated through PSO	Dec. 20-21, 2019 Camp #2 - TBD				To be communicated through PSO	
Location		Pan Am Pool					

7.4 Final selection of teams

The final selection of the team will remain the responsibility of WPC. The appointed NT age group head coach will submit final nomination to WPC for final approval on the basis of:

- Athlete's previous and current performance
- Technical Ability
- Tactical Ability
- Physical Ability
- Mental Ability
- Demonstrated commitment to a lifestyle conducive to the training and preparation for, and playing of, international water polo
- Demonstrated ability to play within a team environment,
- Positional requirements (both starters and reserves),
- Competition requirements (i.e. opponents, location, etc.),
- Team dynamics, team cohesiveness
- Attitude

8. AGNT SUPPORT STAFF RESPONSIBILITIES

Each AGNT staff will be composed of a head coach, assistant coach and a team manager. WPC intends to enter into a contractual relationship with each of the selected staff members on the basis of the following time assessment for each position over the course of a calendar year running from April 1st to October 31st annually.

The intent of WPC will be to ensure continuity on a minimum 2-year window aligned with the international requirements. Two-year contractual will be issued for the men and women's 19U AGNT. Furthermore, WPC will consider continuity over a full 4-year period commencing with the 19U staff but will issue contracts on a 2-year basis. Contracts will be subject to OTP and partner funding and will require annual confirmation of funds.

9. ASSESSMENT OF FEES

The AGNT player fees will be determined by the end of February 2020 after confirmation from OTP and Sport Canada of the Water Polo Canada's 2019/20 budget.

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APPENDIX 1

ATHLETE REQUEST FOR SPECIAL EXEMPTION FROM RDC PROGRAMS

Name	
National Team of Interest	
Date of Birth	
Email	
Full Address	
RDC Program in Region	
Club Team	
Club Coach	
NCL Team (category)	
Training Frequency and duration per week (days per week and hours)	
Rationale for request for exemption	
Will you participate in your local RDC next year (2020-21)?	
To support your request for special exemption, you may submit supporting documentation electronically to both the High Performance Director and NextGen Lead Coach.	

APPENDIX 2

	Made Previous AGNT	Participated in RDC or Development Camp	Meets all Eligibility requirements	Eligible for AGNT
Domestic Athlete Living in Canada	✓	✓	✓	✓
	✗	✓	✗	✗
	✗	✓	✓	✓
	✓	✗	✓	✗
NCAA or International Athlete	✓	✗	✗	✗
	✗	✓	✓	✓
	✓	✗	✓	✓

*NCAA or International athletes who did not make previous AGNT's must follow the guidelines above in Section 7 in order to be eligible and will be required to attend either an RDC weekend or camp in their registered province to be assessed by a WPC AGNT or RDC Coach at their own cost unless otherwise agreed upon by WPC. Validation of these athletes shall be completed with the collaboration of the Provincial Sport Organizations. As the RDCs and NCL are the main source of athlete identification any performance outside of these activities can be used as justification to be nominated to the AGNTs.