



2020 OLYMPIC GAMES INTERNAL NOMINATION PROCEDURES

This version of the WATER POLO CANADA Internal Nomination Procedure (INP) was approved on July 2, 2020 and replaces the version of the INP approved on December 12, 2019 and any other previous version of this INP as it relates to the Tokyo Olympic Games.

Water Polo Canada is carefully following the evolution of the coronavirus on the global and domestic level and how it may impact obtaining quota spots for the 2020 Tokyo Olympic Games and/or domestic nomination of athletes for the 2020 Tokyo Olympic Games. Unless otherwise required by exceptional and unforeseen circumstances related to the impact of the coronavirus, Water Polo Canada will respect these published Internal Nomination Procedures as written.

However, situations related to the coronavirus pandemic may arise that require this Internal Nomination Procedure to be modified. Any modifications will be made promptly and as often as required following developments that directly impact the Internal Nomination Procedure. In such circumstances, any modifications will be communicated to all affected individuals as soon as possible.

Further, situations may arise that do not allow this Internal Nomination Procedure to be modified or applied as written due to time constraints or other exceptional and unforeseen circumstances. In such situations, any decision, including nomination decisions, will be made by the individual(s) with decision-making authority, as stated in this Internal Nomination Procedure, in consultation with the relevant individual(s) or committee(s) (as applicable), and in accordance with the stated performance objectives and selection philosophy and approach as stated herein. Should it be necessary to make any decision in this manner, Water Polo Canada will communicate with all affected individuals as soon as possible.

Introduction

It is the primary high performance goal of the Canadian Men's and Women's Senior Water Polo teams to compete in the Games of the XXXII Olympiad to be held in Tokyo, Japan in 2021. Once qualified, Water Polo Canada (WPC) will field their most competitive team at that given time, pursuing best-ever Olympic results for each program while defining a culture of excellence in pursuit of Olympic podium results in 2021.

This document will outline the process which will be used by WPC to identify athletes eligible to compete in the 2020 Olympic Games, and to provide the criteria on which selection of these teams will be based.

Decision-Making Authority

The Canadian Olympic Committee (COC) mandates Water Polo Canada to determine the INP for the athletes and staff that will be nominated to the COC for the 2020 Olympic Games.

Water Polo Canada's High Performance Director (HPD) is the final authority responsible for developing and approving the selection process for the team that will be nominated to the COC for the 2020 Olympic Games.

The Head Coach of each of the Canadian Men's and Women's Water Polo Teams will be the final authority in the selection of all athletes of their respective rosters for the 2020 Olympic Games Team.

Decisions on athlete selection may be made in consultation with the respective Canadian National Team Staff, including but not limited to the HPD, Assistant Coaches, Medical Staff, IST Staff, Scouts and Evaluators as selected by Water Polo Canada.

Qualification system – Games of the XXXII Olympiad – TOKYO 2020

Only NOCs whose national aquatics federation is a member of the International Swimming Federation (FINA) and have met the International Olympic Committee (IOC) qualification requirements may enter athletes in the water polo competition of the Olympic Games. The qualification system as stipulated by the IOC and by FINA can be found in **Appendix 1**.

Eligibility Conditions

In order to be eligible for selection on the Canadian Olympic Team, an athlete must:

- Be a member in good standing with Water Polo Canada
- Be a Canadian citizen in accordance with Rule 41 of the Olympic Charter. All competitors that participate in the XXXII Olympiad, TOKYO 2020 must have the nationality of the NOC with which they are registered.
- Hold a valid Canadian passport that does not expire for a period of 6 months beyond these Games (on or before **31 December 2021**).
- Have signed and submitted the COC Athlete Agreement and Eligibility Condition for the Olympic Games by no later than June 1st, **2021**.

Please note that the Water Polo Canada eligibility criteria is consistent with the IOC and FINA criteria. In the event of a discrepancy, the original IOC and FINA qualification system version will prevail. In the event of changes by the IOC and FINA to the selection and eligibility criteria, Water Polo Canada is bound by these changes and will inform the membership as soon as possible.

Athlete Selection Criteria and Process

Selection of the Athlete Pool

The athlete pool will consist of any athlete eligible to represent Canada at the 2020 Olympic Games (see Eligibility Conditions above) who has demonstrated the potential to earn a position on the Water Polo Canada Olympic Games Team and who has been living and training within the

approved Water Polo Canada centralized senior program since September 30th, 2020 (or thereabout), including all athletes who are under a WPC-approved pro league or NCAA Program.

Factors that will be considered in assembling the athlete pool include:

- Previous and current performance in international competition
- Previous and current performance outside of international competition (i.e. Canadian club system, National Championship League, university/college (NCAA), national training center, high performance or pro leagues, etc.)
- Technical Ability
- Tactical Ability
- Physical Ability
- Compliance with WPC Athlete Agreement and Code of Conduct

Water Polo Canada will publish the athlete pool by December 1st, 2020.

Changes to the athlete pool may be made from time to time at the discretion of the Head Coach of each of the men's and women's teams. In such cases, centralization will be required for additional athletes named to the athlete pool.

Selection of Water Polo Canada's Olympic Games Team

Once the athlete pool has been established (those selected to the centralized national training center programs), final rosters will be selected for specific competitions up to and including the Olympic Games. While some objective criteria will be considered to select teams, the primary selection criteria will be subjective. The following factors will be considered along with any other factors, which in the sole and absolute discretion of the National Team Head Coach, are deemed relevant. The subjective elements involved in team selection will include, but are not limited to:

- Positional requirements (both starters and reserves),
- Competition requirements (i.e. opponents, location, etc.),
- Team dynamics,
- Attitude,
- Leadership ability,
- Mental toughness,
- Other such considerations.

The evaluation of these elements will be an ongoing process from the identification of the athlete pool up to the selection date for the Olympic Games.

It is the responsibility of the Head Coach to select the best possible team for each individual competition. To fulfill this responsibility, the Head Coach will have a high degree of discretion and flexibility. It is possible, given the selection criteria, that the best individual athletes may not be selected.

Although selection to events prior to the 2020 Olympic Games will be examined in the selection of the final roster for the 2020 Olympic Games, all objective and subjective criteria will be reviewed by the Head Coach with the goal of selecting the best team for the competition.

Timelines

- September 2020 to July 2021 – Teams centralized at National Training Centers, common training events with other countries and international competitions program
- July 26 – August 11, 2019 Pan American Games, Lima, Peru (America's Olympic Continental qualifier)
- By December 1, 2020 – Establish Athlete Pool for Tokyo 2020 Olympic Games
- February 14-21, 2021 – FINA Men's Olympic qualification tournament, Rotterdam, Netherlands
- No later than June 30, 2021 – Nomination of the Water Polo Canada Men's and Women's Olympic teams to the Canadian Olympic Committee
- July 23 – August 8, 2021 – XXXII Olympiad, Tokyo, 2020

Dismissal from the athlete pool or from a team

In addition to the selection of athletes, the Head Coach will also have final authority over dismissal of any athlete from the Athlete Pool and/or Team. Reasons for dismissal include, but are not limited to:

- Inability to maintain high training standards
- Inability to meet performance expectations in competition
- Inability to perform due to injury, illness or for other medical reason as determined by the national team medical staff members (see Performance Readiness below)
- Violation of Team rules
- Conduct detrimental to the Team and/or the image of Water Polo Canada or the National Team program
- Any behaviours that require reprimands as per [Water Polo Canada's Code of Conduct](#).

Appeals

Due to the urgency of appeals for the Olympic Games, appeals shall go directly to the Sport Dispute Resolution Centre of Canada (SDRCC).

Confirmation of Entries and Roster Change Deadlines (including late replacement)

The Team will be nominated to the Canadian Olympic Committee no later than June 30, 2021.

Changes to the final roster of 12 athletes and 1 provisional (Ap) athlete may be permitted up to the technical meeting however all substitutions after the nominations have been submitted to the COC on June 30, 2021 will also be subject to COC, IOC and FINA regulations and procedures. No changes are permitted after the technical meeting for any reason.

It will be the team manager's responsibility to confirm the final roster of thirteen athletes to the event organizers and FINA Technical Water polo Committee at the technical meeting.

Performance Readiness

The Canadian Men's and Women's National Team Medical Staff (Physiotherapist and/or Doctor), in consultation with the Head Coach of each respective team, will be responsible for the assessment of performance readiness with regard to injury or illness while at the Games and leading up to the Games. On an ongoing basis, all Team members will be evaluated by the Team Medical Staff and will be required to complete the appropriate medical questionnaires.

Should an athlete be judged to be unfit to participate in the competition, he/she may be replaced by an alternate at the discretion of the Head Coach.

Prior to the Games, all pool athletes are expected to communicate any/all injury and illness issues to the Head Coach, Team Manager and to the High Performance Director prior to the selection of the final roster. Should injury or illness occur following Team selection, but prior to departure for the Games, this must be communicated to the Head Coach, Team Manager and to the High Performance immediately in order for an alternate to be selected, should this be required.

An injured athlete may be selected to the final roster for the Olympic Games if the Head Coach, in consultation with the medical staff, have a reasonable expectation that the athlete will return to competition during the event and assist the team in attaining its goals.

Alternates

It is the responsibility of the Head Coach to determine the athletes that are to be named as an alternate, should it be necessary to replace an athlete named to the final roster. All those athletes that constitute the Athlete Pool for this Team can be considered by the Head Coach as potential nominations as alternates.

Announcements

Announcement of the Internal Nomination Procedures for the Water Polo Canada Olympic Games Team will be made public through posting on our website (www.waterpolo.ca) by **November 1st, 2020.**

Amendments and Unforeseen Circumstances

Changes to the Internal Nomination Procedures will only take place with the approval of the HPD of Water Polo Canada and Canadian Olympic Committee. All changes will be communicated via the Water Polo Canada website.

In the event of unforeseen circumstances beyond the control of Water Polo Canada that prevent the Head Coach from fairly implementing these Internal Nomination Procedures as written, the Head Coach will provide his/her recommendation to the HPD, who shall have the full discretion to resolve the matter as he sees fit, taking into account factors and circumstances that they deem relevant. All amendments to the Internal Nomination Procedures must conform to the Canadian Olympic Committee guidance with regards to restrictions to amendments.

Coach and Support staff selection

Appointment of all Head Coach positions for Men's and Women's National Water Polo Teams is the responsibility of the Water Polo Canada HPD. As such, the Head Coach for the Men's and Women's National Water Polo Teams are also named as Head Coaches for the 2020 Olympic Games.

Each Head Coach will be responsible for nominating their respective team's coaching and technical including Assistant Coaches, Manager, Physiotherapist, massage therapist, Doctor, IT Specialist, etc. to the Water Polo Canada HPD for final approval in accordance with the accreditation allocation as provided by the COC.

All staff will be selected no later than May 31st, 2021 and the selection is subject to change at the discretion of the HPD.



QUALIFICATION SYSTEM – GAMES OF THE XXXII OLYMPIAD – TOKYO 2020

INTERNATIONAL SWIMMING FEDERATION (FINA)**Water Polo****A. EVENTS (2)**

Men's Event (1)	Women's Event (1)
12-team tournament	10-team tournament

B. ATHLETES QUOTA**1. Total Quota for Water Polo:**

	Qualification Places	Host Country Places	Total
Men	132 + 11 (11 teams)	12 + 1 (1 team)	144 + 12 (12 teams)
Women	108 + 9 (9 teams)	12 + 1 (1 team)	120 + 10 (10 teams)
Total	240 + 20 (20 teams)	24 + 2 (2 teams)	264 + 22 (22 teams)

2. Maximum Number of Athletes per NOC:

	Quota per NOC
Men	12 + 1 (1 team)
Women	12 + 1 (1 team)
Total	24 + 2 (2 teams)

3. Type of Allocation of Quota Places:

The quota place is allocated to the NOC.

C. ATHLETE ELIGIBILITY

All athletes must comply with the provisions of the Olympic Charter currently in force, including but not limited to, Rule 41 (Nationality of Competitors) and Rule 43 (World Anti-Doping Code and the Olympic Movement Code on the Prevention of Manipulation of Competitions). Only those athletes who comply with the Olympic Charter may participate in the Olympic Games Tokyo 2020.



QUALIFICATION SYSTEM – GAMES OF THE XXXII OLYMPIAD – TOKYO 2020

Additional IF Eligibility Criteria:

Only the athletes who are eligible to participate at the official FINA Competitions, in accordance with the [FINA Rules GR 2.5](#), are entitled to participate in the Olympic Games Tokyo 2020.

D. QUALIFICATION PATHWAY

QUALIFICATION PLACES

The qualification events are listed in chronological order of qualification.

MEN

Number of Team Quota Places	Qualification Events
1 place (12+1 athletes)	2019 World League The highest placed NOC from the 2019 World League will obtain a quota place. (<i>FINA Rule BL 9.3.10.1.2</i>)
2 places (24+2 athletes)	18th FINA World Championships – Gwangju 2019 The two (2) highest placed NOCs from the 2019 World Championships will each obtain one (1) quota place. If any one of these two (2) NOCs has already qualified from the 2019 World League (BL 9.3.10.1.2), the next highest placed NOC from the 2019 World Championships will obtain one (1) quota place. (<i>FINA Rule BL 9.3.10.1.3</i>)
1 place (12+1 athletes)	Host Country The Host Country NOC will automatically obtain a quota place. (<i>FINA Rule BL 9.3.10.1.4</i>)
5 places (60+5 athletes)	Continental Championships The highest placed NOC in each of the five (5) Continental Championships will each obtain one (1) quota place. Should any of these NOCs have already obtained a quota place at the 2019 World League (BL 9.3.10.1.2) or at the 2019 World Championships (BL 9.3.10.1.3), then the next highest placed NOC from the respective Continental Championships will obtain a quota place. (<i>FINA Rule BL 9.3.10.1.5</i>) Should any of the Continental Championships not take place, a play-off match between the top two (2) teams from the respective continent will be organised to determine which NOC would represent the specific Continent. Should there be only one (1) representative from a specific continent, this NOC will obtain a quota place.



QUALIFICATION SYSTEM – GAMES OF THE XXXII OLYMPIAD – TOKYO 2020

<p>3 places (36+3 athletes)</p>	<p>Olympic Games Qualification Tournament 2021</p> <p>The three (3) highest placed NOCs at the Olympic Games Qualification Tournament will each obtain one (1) quota place. The teams that are eligible to take part in the qualification tournament is specified in (<i>FINA Rule BL 9.3.10.1.6</i>)</p>
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WOMEN

Number of Team Quota Places	Qualification Events
<p>1 place (12+1 athletes)</p>	<p>2019 World League</p> <p>The highest placed NOC/NF from the Women's Water Polo World League 2019 will obtain a quota place. (<i>FINA BL 9.3.10.3.2</i>)</p>
<p>1 place (12+1 athletes)</p>	<p>18th FINA World Championships 2019 – Gwangju (KOR)</p> <p>The highest placed team from the women's competition at the 18th FINA World Championships 2019 will obtain a quota place. If this team has already qualified from the 2019 World League, the next highest placed team from the World Championships qualifies. (<i>FINA BL 9.3.10.3.3</i>)</p>
<p>1 place (12+1 athletes)</p>	<p>Host Country</p> <p>The Host Country NOC will automatically obtain a quota place. (<i>FINA Rule BL 9.3.10.3.4</i>)</p>
<p>5 places (60+5 athletes)</p>	<p>Continental Championships/Host Country</p> <p>The highest placed NOC in each of the five (5) Continental Championships will each obtain a quota place. If the NOC is already qualified at the preceding year's World League (BL 9.3.10.3.2), or at the preceding FINA World Championships (BL 9.3.10.3.3), then the next highest placed team from the respective Continental Championships will qualify. (<i>FINA Rule BL 9.3.10.3.5</i>)</p> <p>Should any of the Continental Championships not take place, a play-off match between the top two (2) teams from the respective continent will be organised to determine which NOC would represent the specific Continent.</p> <p>Should there only be one representative from a specific continent, this NOC will obtain a quota place.</p>
<p>2 places (24+2 athletes)</p>	<p>Olympic Games Qualification Tournament 2021</p> <p>The two (2) highest placed NOCs at the Olympic Games Qualification Tournament will each obtain a quota place. The teams that are eligible to take part in the qualification tournament is specified in <i>FINA Rule BL 9.3.10.3.6</i>.</p>



QUALIFICATION SYSTEM – GAMES OF THE XXXII OLYMPIAD – TOKYO 2020

HOST COUNTRY PLACES

The Host Country is guaranteed one (1) team quota place per gender.

E. CONFIRMATION PROCESS FOR QUOTA PLACES

CONFIRMATION OF QUALIFICATION PLACES

Following each qualification event, FINA will publish the results on its website (<http://www.fina.org/>) and inform the respective NOCs of their allocated quota places.

The NOCs will then have 21 days to confirm if they wish to use these quota places, as detailed in paragraph **G. Qualification Timeline**.

CONFIRMATION OF HOST COUNTRY PLACES

The Host NOC has to confirm the use of the allocated quota places to FINA two (2) weeks after the end of the qualification tournament.

F. REALLOCATION OF UNUSED QUOTA PLACES

REALLOCATION OF UNUSED QUALIFICATION PLACES

Any unused quota places will be reallocated to the next highest placed NOCs according to the ranking of the Men's Olympic Games Qualification Tournament (FINA Rule BL 9.3.10.1.7) or the Women's Olympic Games Qualification Tournament (FINA Rule BL 9.3.10.3.7), as applicable.

REALLOCATION OF UNUSED HOST COUNTRY PLACES

Any unused Host Country quota place will be reallocated to the next highest ranked NOC, not yet qualified, according to the ranking of the Continental Championships (for Asia).

G. GENERAL PRINCIPLES REGARDING THE USE OF AP ALTERNATE ATHLETES

AP ALTERNATE ATHLETES

Ap alternate athletes are non-competing athletes, and are not included within the athlete's quota as described in Paragraph **B. Athletes Quota**. More detailed information about entitlements and quotas can be found in the '*Accreditation at the Olympic Games – Users Guide*'. Ap alternate athletes can only become competing athletes as per the conditions outlined in the '*IOC/Tokyo 2020 Late Athlete Replacement policy*'.



QUALIFICATION SYSTEM – GAMES OF THE XXXII OLYMPIAD – TOKYO 2020

Eligibility:

Ap alternate athletes must comply with the same eligibility rules as competing athletes as described in above paragraph **C. Athlete Eligibility**.

Quota:

Each qualified team is entitled to 1 (one) Ap alternate athlete.

H. QUALIFICATION TIMELINE

Date	Milestone
June 2019	2019 FINA Water Polo World League
12-28 July 2019	2019 FINA World Championships, Gwangju (KOR)
July 26-August 11, 2019	Americas – 2019 Pan Am Games, (Lima, PER)
12-26 January 2020	Europe – European Championships, (Budapest, HUN)
12-16 February 2020	Asia – Qualification Tournament, (Nur Sultan, KAZ) <i>The event was cancelled due to the pandemic. The Asian Games 2018 in Jakarta, on-field results were taken to allocate the quotas.</i>
17 February 2020	Continental Associations to inform FINA about the Continental place and the teams at the Qualification Tournament Oceania/Africa – Continental Selections
17-24 January 2021	Women's Olympic Games Qualification Tournament (Trieste, ITA)
14-21 February 2021	Men's Olympic Games Qualification Tournament (Rotterdam, NED)
1 March 2021	FINA to inform NOCs/NFs of their allocated quota places
21 March 2021	NOCs to confirm use of allocated quota places to FINA
31 March 2021	FINA to reallocate all unused quota places
5 July 2021	Tokyo 2020 Sport Entries deadline
23 July – 8 August 2021	Olympic Games Tokyo 2020