

U.S. PARALYMPICS BOCCIA
BOCCIA UNITED STATES
ATHLETE SELECTION PROCEDURES
PARAPAN AMERICAN GAMES, SANTIAGO 2023
7 OCTOBER 2022
AMENDMENT #1: 9 MAY 2023

These procedures provide for selection of the ~~U.S. Paralympics Boccia~~Boccia United States team (“Team”) for the 2023 Parapan American Games (“Games”).

1. SELECTION SYSTEM.

1.1. Provide the minimum eligibility requirements for an athlete to be considered for selection to the Team:

1.1.1. Nationality/Passport requirements:

Athletes and BC3 Ramp Operators (“BC3 RO”) must be a national of the United States at the time of selection.

Refer to the [BISFed Policy - Nationality of Competitors](#)

Athlete must hold a valid U.S. passport that will not expire for six months after the conclusion of the Games.

1.1.2. Minimum International Paralympic Committee (IPC) or Americas Paralympic Committee (APC) standards for participation:

Any competitor in the Paralympic or Parapan American Games must be a national of the country of the National Paralympic Committee (NPC) which is entering such competitor. For additional information regarding an athlete who is a national of two or more countries, has changed his or her nationality or acquired a new nationality, refer to the IPC Handbook (Section 2, Chapter 3.1) or the Americas Paralympic Committee bylaws (Chapter 2.4.12 of the IPC Handbook).

1.1.3. Minimum International Federation (IF) standards for participation (if any):

World Boccia’s Qualification System:

<https://www.worldboccia.com/wp-content/uploads/2021/08/BISFed-Competition-and-Ranking-Manual-2021-2024-Final.pdf>

Santiago 2023 Parapan American Games Qualification Criteria:

<https://www.paralympic.org/sites/default/files/2022-06/Santiago%202023%20qualification%20regulations.pdf>

To be eligible for selection by an NPC, athletes must:

- be 15 years of age before January 1, 2023, to be eligible for the Santiago 2023 Parapan American Games.
- be registered with BISFed with a valid BISFed license and anti-doping training
 - BC3 RO must also be registered with BISFed with a valid BISFed license and anti-doping training to be eligible for selection
- be internationally classified in an eligible Sport Class with a Sport Class Status of (i) Confirmed; or (ii) Review with a Review Fixed Date after 31 December 2023.
 - NPCs are permitted to provisionally select athletes with a Sport Class Status of (i) New; (ii) Review; and (iii) Review with a Fixed Review Date of 2023 or earlier, subject to such athletes attending an Evaluation Session prior to or during the Games (including any required in-competition Observation Assessment).
 - A description of sport-specific classification requirements and current athlete sport class status can be found at <https://www.worldboccia.com/about-world-boccia/classifications/> .

1.1.4. Other requirements (if any):

- Athlete must successfully complete all Games Registration requirements by stated deadline.
- Any athlete aged 18 or older will be required to undergo a background screen in accordance with the current [USOPC Background Check Policy](#).
- Any athlete aged 18 or older as of the Closing Ceremony will be required to remain current with the U.S. Center for SafeSport's education and training requirements in accordance with the [USOPC Athlete Safety Policy](#).

1.2. Tryout Events:

1.2.1. Event names, dates and locations of all trials, competitions, and camps to be used as part of the selection process:

N/A

1.2.2. Describe how athletes qualify for the events listed in 1.2.1.:

N/A

- 1.3. Step-by-step description of the selection process for these Games (include maximum Team size):

Allocation of Qualification Slots and Qualification System:

<https://www.worldboccia.com/wp-content/uploads/2021/08/BISFed-Competition-and-Ranking-Manual-2021-2024-Final.pdf>

Maximum Quota Allocation Per NPC:

An NPC may be allocated a maximum of two (2) slots for each gender and sport class, and no more than ten (10) qualification slots in total. Exceptions may be granted via the Bipartite Commission Invitation method.

Team Size:

Team size will be determined by the World Boccia slot allocation.

Team and/or Pairs Athlete Selection:

Athlete slots to fulfill a Team and/or Pairs allocation to NPC USA will be named by ~~U.S. Paralympics Boccia~~ [Boccia United States](#) using the Discretionary criteria below in Section 2.2.

1.3.1. Bipartite Commission Invitation

To be considered for a Bipartite slot, NPCs must submit an official application to BISFed in writing by 1 June 2023.

~~U.S. Paralympics Boccia~~ [Boccia United States](#) may, but is not required to, submit an application for a Bipartite slot depending on whether or not, as determined by ~~U.S. Paralympics Boccia~~ [the Boccia United States](#) Discretionary Selection Committee, there are athlete candidates who meet the discretionary selection criteria set forth in section 2.1. The ~~U.S. Paralympics Boccia~~ [Boccia United States](#) Discretionary Selection Committee shall be responsible for making any such selection. ~~U.S. Paralympics Boccia~~ [Boccia United States](#) will disclose on its website (www.teamusa.org/boccia <https://www.lakeshore.org/acivity/boccia-united-states/>) by 1 June 2023 the submission of a particular athlete to BISFed for a Bipartite slot.

If BISFed awards a Bipartite slot to an athlete by name, ~~U.S. Paralympics Boccia~~ [Boccia United States](#) will accept such athlete to the Team. ~~U.S. Paralympics Boccia~~ [Boccia United States](#) will disclose on its website (www.teamusa.org/boccia <https://www.lakeshore.org/acivity/boccia-united-states/>) the name of any athlete named to the Team through the Bipartite Commission Invitation Method.

1.3.2. Sport Assistants/Ramp Operators

One Sport Assistant and one Ramp Operator will be allocated for every BC1 and BC3 athlete, respectively, that qualifies. Sport Assistants and Ramp Operators will be selected based on the discretionary criteria listed in section 2.2.

2. DISCRETIONARY SELECTION (if applicable)

2.1. Rationale for utilizing discretionary selection (if any):

Discretionary selection criteria may be utilized for a bipartite application, Team, BC3 Pair or BC4 Pair awarded slot and/or Ramp Operator and Sport Assistant selection.

The sport of boccia is not a measured or timed event. It is a closed skill environment that is ever-changing with each shot on the floor of competition. It is the belief of ~~U.S. Paralympics Boccia~~ [Boccia United States](#) that the discretionary selection criteria set outlined below, which includes subjective components in the evaluation of performance and ability, will result in the selection of athletes to comprise the most competitive Team and/or Pair(s) or individual play.

2.2. Define the discretionary criteria to be used (if any):

Boccia athletes:

Athletes must be on the 2022-23 ~~U.S. Paralympics Boccia~~ [Boccia United States](#) National or Development Team to be considered for selection by the Discretionary Selection Committee. The Discretionary Selection Committee will consider the following performance-related factors (which are not in priority order):

1. Tactical

- a. Athletes will be evaluated on tactical awareness in game situations including (shot selection, order of play, when to come onto court, awareness and implementation of playing to teammate(s) strengths to advantage team/pair, clock management, advantaging team/pair by implementing game plan after knowing opponents' strengths/weaknesses.

2. Psychological/Social

- a. Attitude: this applies both on and off the court, respecting those athletes he/she plays with and against, staff, coaches and officials. To act in a sportsmanlike manner consistent with the spirit of fair play and responsible conduct.
- b. Leadership: leading by example with a positive influence on all those

- around them.
- c. Teamwork: cooperative effort to be the best he/she can be, working with their teammates to fulfill one common goal, success.
 - d. Coachable: always open to constructive feedback, embracing new ideas and putting the Team's needs before their own.
 - e. Ambassador: Acting in a manner that would be pleasing to the program, sport, country, and else affiliated. Doing what is right, even when no one is watching. Refraining from conduct that would detract from their ability or that of their teammates to attain peak performance.

Sport Assistant/Ramp Operator:

Sport Assistants assist BC1 sport class athletes. The sport assistant stays outside of the competitor's playing box but can stabilize or adjust an athlete's playing chair and give the ball to the player when requested.

The Ramp Operator is defined as a competition partner by World Boccia and IPC, and therefore is selected based upon the preference of the respective athlete who is competing in the BC3 division.

Sport Assistants and Ramp Operators are not included in the maximum team size as defined in section 1.3 above.

The ~~U.S. Paralympics Boccia~~Boccia United States Discretionary Selection Committee will consider the following factors in the selection of Sport Assistant(s) and Ramp Operator(s): (which are not in priority order):

1. Preference of the qualified athlete;
2. Demonstrated expertise of the sport assistance required – must have expertise and experience in the sport of boccia;
3. Knowledge and understanding of the World Boccia rules and regulations for competition.

Sport Assistants and Ramp Operators will be held to the same standards and code of conduct as outlined in these Procedures.

The Sport Assistant and Ramp Operator position(s) are contingent on the selection of the respective BC1 and/or BC3 athlete to be supported. If the selected athlete declines his/her selection or is subsequently removed from the team after selection, the respective sport assistant/ramp operator also loses his/her place on the team.

- 2.3. Name of the committee that will be responsible for making discretionary selections, along with a complete list of the members' titles:

~~U.S. Paralympics Boccia~~ Boccia United States Discretionary Selection Committee

1. Boccia High Performance ~~Manager~~ Consultant
2. ~~Former/current coach or National Team Manager~~ Chief of Programs and Special Projects
3. Athlete representative

2.3.1. Process that will be used to identify and handle any potential conflicts of interest involving a member of the committee:

All members of the selection committee must comply with the USOPC Conflict of Interest Policy, to include completing and submitting a disclosure form consistent with the USOPC's Conflict of Interest Policy before convening the committee.

Any member of the selection committee who has an actual, potential, or perceived conflict of interest must disclose it consistent with the USOPC's Conflict of Interest Policy prior to the start of the selection process. A conflict of interest exists when a personal, family, financial, professional, club, team or business interest of the committee member poses a direct or indirect relationship, connection, or affiliation, past or present, with an athlete in contention for the applicable team selection that could compromise or could be perceived to compromise the committee member's ability to participate in the selection process in a fair and impartial manner. If an actual, potential, or perceived conflict exists, the internally managed sport team should send the disclosure to the Chief Ethics & Compliance Officer and the Sr. Director, Compliance Investigations and Ethics (collectively, the Ethics team) to share with the Ethics & Compliance Committee for review and disposition. For example, if a Selection Committee member may be required to recuse him/herself from voting, but that individual may still be able to provide relevant or necessary information concerning athlete performance in a fair and impartial manner. The Selection Committee member must not otherwise influence other members of the committee during the selection process.

Additionally, any person (including any potentially impacted athlete or coach of a potentially impacted athlete) with a good faith belief that a committee member has a conflict of interest may report the alleged conflict of interest to the USOPC's Ethics team. Reports may also be made anonymously through the USOPC's Integrity Portal. No committee member shall retaliate in any way against a person who, in good faith, reports an alleged conflict of interest.

Any recused individual shall be replaced in accordance with the USOPC's internally managed sport selection committee appointment process.

3. REMOVAL OF ATHLETES

- 3.1. Prior to entry by name to the Local Organizing Committee by the USOPC, ~~U.S. Paralympics Boccia~~Boccia United States has jurisdiction over potential nominees.

An athlete who is nominated to the Team by ~~U.S. Paralympics Boccia~~Boccia United States may be removed for any of the following reasons, as determined by ~~U.S. Paralympics Boccia~~Boccia United States:

- 3.1.1. Voluntary withdrawal. Athlete must submit a written letter to the ~~U.S. Paralympics Boccia Consultant~~High Performance Consultant, Boccia United States.
- 3.1.2. Injury or illness as certified by a physician (or medical staff) approved by ~~U.S. Paralympics Boccia~~Boccia United States. If an athlete refuses verification of his/her illness or injury by a physician (or medical staff) approved by ~~U.S. Paralympics Boccia~~Boccia United States, his/her injury will be assumed to be disabling and he/she may be removed.
- 3.1.3. Failure to participate in Mandatory Training and/or Competition as defined in Section 9 of these procedures.
- 3.1.4. Violation of the ~~U.S. Paralympics Boccia Athlete Agreement~~Boccia United States Code of Conduct: <https://form.jotform.com/231066035027143>
- 3.1.5. Non-compliance with the eligibility requirements listed in Section 1.1. of these selection procedures.
- 3.1.6. Removal by the IPC/IF of the event in which the athlete qualified for the team from the medal event program of the 2023 Parapan American Games.
- 3.1.7. Change in the athlete's sport class(es) following team selection, such that:
 - 3.1.7.1. the athlete's qualifying performance would not have qualified him/her for the team; and/or
 - 3.1.7.2. the athlete is deemed Not Eligible (NE) by the IPC/IF.

An athlete who is removed from the Team pursuant to this provision has the right to a hearing per the USOPC Complaint Procedures for U.S. Paralympics National Teams and Paralympic Programs and the USOPC Bylaws, Section 9.

- 3.2. Once athlete entries have been submitted to the USOPC, the USOPC has jurisdiction over the Team, at which time, in addition to any applicable ~~U.S. Paralympics Boccia~~Boccia United States Code of Conduct, the USOPC's Delegation Conduct Requirements apply, contained in the USOPC Games Delegation Terms. The USOPC Games Delegation Terms are specific to each Games and made available during the Games registration process; the USOPC's Grievance Procedures and Hearing Process are found within the Delegation Terms. See "Delegation Events" at <https://www.teamusa.org/Footer/Legal/Dispute-Resolution> for more information.

3.3. An athlete may be removed as a nominee to the Team or from the Team for an adjudicated violation of IPC, APC, WADA, BISFed, USADA and/or USOPC anti-doping protocol, policies and procedures, as well as the U.S. Center for SafeSport Code and the USOPC Athlete Safety Policy, as applicable.

4. REPLACEMENT OF ATHLETES

4.1. Describe the selection and approval process for determining replacement athlete(s) should a vacancy occur:

4.1.1. prior to submission of Entries by Name to the Local Organizing Committee, including any applicable group or committee:

Replacement athletes will be selected pursuant to discretionary selection set forth in Section 2.2.

4.1.2. after submission of Entries by Name to the Local Organizing Committee, including any applicable group or committee:

No replacement of athletes will occur.

5. SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

~~U.S. Paralympics Boccia~~[Boccia United States](#) will retain the approved Selection Procedures and all supporting documents, including scouting or evaluation forms, etc., and data from the selection process for six months past the date of the Closing Ceremony of the Games.

6. REQUIRED DOCUMENTS

In addition to the ~~USOPC Code of Conduct~~[Boccia United States Code of Conduct](#), the following documents are required to be signed by an athlete as a condition of nomination to the Parapan American Games (include as attachments or provide links):

~~[U.S. Paralympics Boccia Athlete Agreement](#)~~

~~[USOPC Code of Conduct for U.S. Paralympics National Teams and U.S. Paralympics Programs](#)~~

~~[USOPC Complaint Procedures for U.S. Paralympics National Teams and Paralympic Programs](#)~~

[Boccia United States Athlete Code of Conduct](#)
[LNASO Grievance Procedures](#)

7. PUBLICITY/DISTRIBUTION OF PROCEDURES

The USOPC approved Selection Procedures (complete and unaltered) will be posted/published by ~~U.S. Paralympics Boccia~~Boccia United States in the following public location(s):

- 7.1. Web site: www.teamusa.org/boccia and <https://www.lakeshore.org/acivity/boccia-united-states/>

These procedures will be posted as soon as possible, but not more than five business days following notice of approval by the USOPC.

8. DATE OF NOMINATION

Athlete nominations for Bipartite Commission Invitations will be announced on or before:

1 June 2023

Nomination of athletes, including replacements, will be announced to all athletes and submitted to the USOPC on or before:

2 October 2023

9. MANDATORY TRAINING AND/OR COMPETITION

~~All Team nominees (members) are subject to the provision of the USOPC Code of Conduct that requires each athlete to maintain the level of fitness and readiness that qualified him or her for the Team and that will allow for his or her best performance at the Santiago 2023 Parapan American Games.~~

All athletes selected to the Team are required to share training logs and data with ~~U.S. Paralympics Boccia~~Boccia United States. In addition, athletes and their personal coaches will be contacted by ~~U.S. Paralympics Boccia~~Boccia United States staff to develop an agreed-upon training plan in preparation for the 2023 Santiago Parapan American Games.

The location, schedule and duration of any mandatory training will be announced and posted on the website at least 30 days prior to the start of the mandatory training and/or competitions. <https://www.teamusa.org/Boccia/Events>
<https://www.lakeshore.org/acivity/boccia-united-states/>

While waivers for any mandatory training will not be unreasonably withheld, waivers will primarily be granted only for illness, injury or other incapacity, or for personal/family emergency. All candidates for the team should arrange for appropriate time off from school, work or other obligations well in advance of team activities. Requests for a waiver

may be submitted in writing to the ~~U.S. Paralympics Boccia Consultant~~High Performance Consultant, Boccia United States for review. A written response to all requests will be issued to the athlete within 72 hours of the request.

10. ANTI-DOPING REQUIREMENTS

Athletes must adhere to all IPC, APC, WADA, BISFed, USADA and USOPC anti-doping protocols, policies and procedures, as applicable. This includes participation in Out-of-Competition Testing as required by the IPC, APC, WADA, BISFed, USADA and USOPC rules, as applicable.

11. DEVELOPMENT OF SELECTION PROCEDURES

The following committee/group was responsible for creating these Selection Procedures:

Cecelia Bolin, Mgr., Para Int'l Relations & Events

Kathy Brinker, ~~U.S. Paralympics Boccia High Performance Consultant~~High Performance Consultant, Boccia United States
Jen Allred, Chief of Programs and Special Projects, Lakeshore Foundation

Meagan Rowe, High Performance Manager, Lakeshore Foundation

Patrick Parkes, USOPC Athletes' Advisory Council Representative

12. USOPC BYLAWS AND GRIEVANCE PROCEDURES

The USOPC Bylaws and Grievance Procedures can be found at:

<https://www.teamusa.org/Footer/Legal/Governance-Documents>

13. INTERNATIONAL DISCLAIMER

These procedures are based on IPC, APC, as applicable, and/or BISFed rules and regulations as presently known and understood. Any change in the selection procedures caused by a change in IPC, APC as applicable, and/or BISFed rules and regulations will be distributed to the affected athletes immediately. The selection criteria are based on the latest information available to ~~U.S. Paralympics Boccia~~Boccia United States. However, the selections are always subject to unforeseen, intervening circumstances, and realistically may not have accounted for every possible contingency.

If any force of nature, or force majeure, should cause the alteration or cancellation of any of the selection events listed in this document, these selection procedures may require revisions, pursuant to their resubmission to the USOPC.

14. ATHLETE OMBUDS OFFICE

The Athlete Ombuds Office provides cost-free, independent, and confidential advice

regarding athlete rights, grievance procedures and any other related guidance pertaining to selection procedures and can assist in mediating disputes between athletes and their NGB/PSO.

To contact the Athlete Ombuds Office:



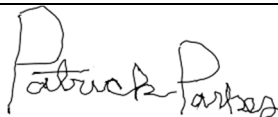
PHONE: (719) 866-5000



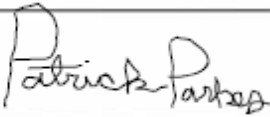
EMAIL: ombudsman@usathlete.org

WEBSITE: www.usathlete.org

15. U.S. PARALYMPICS BOCCIA NGB/PSO SIGNATURES

I certify that I have read and understand the standards/criteria set by World Boccia and incorporated those standards/criteria into our Selection Procedures. I further certify that the information provided herein regarding Athlete Selection Procedures represents the method approved by U.S. Paralympics Boccia Boccia United States.

<u>Position</u>	<u>Print Name</u>	<u>Signature</u>	<u>Date</u>
Chief of Paralympic Sport	Julie Dusliere		10/5/2022
Nat. Team Coach, Head Coach, or Nat. Program Director	Kathy Brinker		10/3/2022
USOPC Athletes' Advisory Council Representative*	Patrick Parkes		10/04/2022

<u>Position</u>	<u>Print Name</u>	<u>Signature</u>	<u>Date</u>
Lakeshore Foundation President or CEO/Executive Director	John D. Kemp		5/11/2023
Nat. Team Coach, Head Coach, or Nat. Program Director	Kathy Brinker		5/11/2023
USOPC Athletes' Advisory Council Representative*	Patrick Parkes		5/13/2023

* If the USOPC AAC Representative has delegated authority to the Alternate AAC Representative to sign the Selection Procedures, attach a letter from the AAC Representative indicating the reason he/she has delegated

authority.

* Signature by the Athlete Representative constitutes that he/she has read and understands the Selection Procedures. If the Athlete Representative reads and does not agree with the Athlete Selection Procedures being submitted by ~~U.S. Paralympics BocciaBoccia United States~~, he/she may submit those reasons in writing to his/her USOPC Sport Performance Team.

* If, for some reason, a sport does not have an elected USOPC AAC Representative, ~~U.S. Paralympics BocciaBoccia United States~~ must designate an athlete from that sport to review and sign the Selection Procedures.