

# NATIONAL TEAM SELECTION PROCESS



The purpose of this document is to outline the pathway to be nominated to the Boccia National Team and/or Development Team for the 2024 season. There are two rounds of evaluation that all athletes must complete in order to be considered for either team.

National Team make-up:

- Maximum of two (2) athletes of the same gender per sport class

Development Team make-up:

- No maximum of athletes of the same gender per sport class

## CRITICAL DATES:

**July 14th-** you may begin collecting data (Launch of NTS)

**Saturday August 26th-** all final submissions for application to National Team are due by 12:00 am EST. This includes resume and technical skills data submission for the 3 standards in your sport class. To Kathy Brinker - [usabocciahpmanager@gmail.com](mailto:usabocciahpmanager@gmail.com)

## ROUND 1 - SKILLS CHALLENGE:

The Skills Challenge allows boccia athletes to compete through predetermined technical skills to secure an invite to the Boccia United States National Team Selection Camp (Round 2) of assessments to make the Boccia United States National Team or Development Team.

Technical skills in (Round 1) will include:

1. The first 3 skill standards in the sport class.
2. One (1) other skill (per sport class) \*\* will be completed at selection camp round 2. See specific sport class technical skills for the 4th technical skill to be completed at selection camp.

## APPLICATION PROCESS:

- The application deadline for the Boccia Skills Challenge (Round 1) is **Saturday, August 26, 2023**. The full application includes submission of the following items:
  - [Resume](#)
  - [Technical skills data submission](#)
- The applications will be reviewed by a committee of two (2) Boccia United States staff and at least one (1) athlete representative.

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- To receive an invitation to attend the Selection Camp (Round 2), athletes must meet at least two (2) of the three (3) technical skills in either NTS or DTS. The fourth technical skill will be administered at camp in round 2.
- Selectees to the second round will be notified by Monday August 28, 2023.

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## STEP-BY-STEP GUIDE

STEP 1: Submit [Boccia Resume](#)

STEP 2: Review the National Team Standards How-to document

STEP 3: Complete the 3 required technical skills assessments

STEP 4: Submit [technical skills data](#) to Kathy Brinker - [usabocciahpmanager@gmail.com](mailto:usabocciahpmanager@gmail.com)

## ROUND 2 - SELECTION CAMP:

- The Selection Camp will consist of the 4th technical skill assessed, game play (head-to-head and drills to confirm technical and tactical skills), tactical scenarios, rules test, personal interviews, and observations.
- The Selection Camp will take place at Lakeshore Foundation in Birmingham, AL **September 28 – October 1, 2023**. Participants are required to fund and book their own travel arrangements; lodging and meals will be covered by Lakeshore.
- All camp participants will be assessed by the Boccia United States Discretionary Selection Committee.
  - Athletes will be assessed on their demonstrated boccia abilities as well as other qualities, including but not limited to on and off-court behavior, demonstrated team dynamics, and endurance.
- Athletes who have received a medical waiver (see below) will have their known ability compared against the standards.
- National Team and Development Team selections will be made public within 10 days of the camp conclusion.

## Final Selection process to be named to the National Team:

1. If there are two (2) or less athletes per sport class of the same gender that make national standards, one or both will be named to the national team.
2. If there are more than two (2) athletes that make national standards per sport class and of the same gender, then the selection committee will meet and rank-order the athletes based on technical/tactical skills points in both prior submissions in round 1 and at selection camp (round 2).
  - a. Should there be a tie in rank order the results from head-to-head play in round 2 will be used to break the tie. From that rank order, the top two athletes will be named to the national team.

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## WAIVER PROCESS:

- **ROUND 1:**
  - While waivers for Round 1 will not be unreasonably withheld, waivers will primarily be granted only for illness, injury or other incapacity, or for personal/family emergencies. All candidates for the team should arrange for appropriate time off from school, work or other obligations well in advance of the application due date. Requests for a waiver may be submitted in writing to the Boccia United States High Performance Consultant - Kathy Brinker, [usabocciahpmanager@gmail.com](mailto:usabocciahpmanager@gmail.com) - for review. A written response to all requests will be issued to the athlete within 72 hours of the request.
  - The injury or illness must be documented by a certified health care professional and that certification must be forwarded to Kathy Brinker; High Performance Consultant to Boccia United States at [usabocciahpmanager@gmail.com](mailto:usabocciahpmanager@gmail.com)
  - Athletes who have received a waiver will complete Round 1 and Round 2 at a later scheduled date.
  
- **ROUND 2:** If an athlete selected to attend the National Team Selection Camp incurs an injury or illness that prevents them from competing at camp OR is competing in a BISFed sanctioned event within two (2) weeks of camp the following process will be followed:
  - While waivers for Round 2 will not be unreasonably withheld, waivers will primarily be granted only for illness, injury or other incapacity, personal/family emergencies, or a sanctioned BISFed event. All candidates for the team should arrange for appropriate time off from school, work or other obligations well in advance of the application due date. Requests for a waiver may be submitted in writing to Boccia United States High Performance Consultant - Kathy Brinker, [usabocciahpmanager@gmail.com](mailto:usabocciahpmanager@gmail.com) - for review. A written response to all requests will be issued to the athlete within 72 hours of the request.
  - The injury or illness must be documented by a certified health care professional and that certification must be forwarded to Kathy Brinker; High Performance consultant to Boccia United States at [usabocciahpmanager@gmail.com](mailto:usabocciahpmanager@gmail.com) **OR** the athlete must notify the Boccia United States High Performance consultant, of the competition name and dates via email - [usabocciahpmanager@gmail.com](mailto:usabocciahpmanager@gmail.com)

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- Athletes who receive a waiver are not required to attend the National Team Selection Camp. A drop-in session will be conducted to assess their tactical skills based on the rubric at a later scheduled date.

**ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS:** Selected athletes and ramp operators must meet, be eligible to meet and/or maintain compliance with the following eligibility requirements:

1. Be eligible to compete as a U.S. citizen
2. Possess a passport and be eligible for international travel
3. Athletes nominated to the National or Development Team must be internationally classified by BISFed OR nationally classified by Boccia United States and **hold a Paralympic-eligible sport class** as per the BISFed and/or Boccia United States master list and hold a current season license for Boccia from World Boccia. Please note, ramp operator athletes do not undergo classification evaluation but must meet BISFed requirements to fulfill ramp operator role for specified athlete.
4. Comply with all anti-doping policies, procedures and protocols of the International Paralympic Committee, World Boccia, World Anti-Doping Agency, United States Anti-doping Agency and the United States Olympic and Paralympic Committee
5. Abide by the current [Boccia United States Code of Conduct](#)
6. Athletes age 18 or older will be required to undergo a background screen in accordance with the current [LNASO Background Check Policy](#)
7. Athletes age 18 or older by the last day of the National Team Selection Camp will be required to remain current with the U.S. Center for SafeSport's education and training requirements in accordance with the [LNASO MAAPP Policy](#)
8. Submit a completed application to Boccia United States prior to the application deadline, including all necessary documents.

## **Distribution plan to athletes:**

- **July 14, 2023** – email distribution by Boccia United States to listserv
- Posting on <https://usaboccia.org> Website by **July 17th**
- **July 14, 2023** – documents posted to <https://www.lakeshore.org/activity/boccia-united-states>