



Tennis Canada Internal Nomination Procedures

TOKYO PARALYMPIC GAMES

August 24 – September 5, 2021

The Paralympic Games are the pinnacle of elite competition for athletes with a disability. Team Selection Standards are intended to ensure that Canada is represented at the Games by elite athletes, and Canadian performances and results reflect the Canadian Paralympic Committee's (CPC) and Tennis Canada's commitment to excellence.

Athletes are nominated by Tennis Canada to the CPC for consideration. The CPC names the team for the 2020 Paralympic Games, and has the sole authority to name the team for all major Games. The CPC determines the number of qualification slots allocated to Tennis Canada.

Tennis Canada's internal selection procedure for the 2020 Paralympic Games is as follows:

Section I

1. Athlete Eligibility

In order to be eligible for nomination to the Canadian Paralympic Committee for Paralympic Games selection, all athletes must:

1.0 Be in good standing with Tennis Canada and qualify to represent Canada abroad.

Good standing means abiding by the Tennis Canada Code of Conduct. To qualify to represent Canada abroad an athlete must meet the ITF eligibility requirements as outlined in the 2021 ITF Wheelchair Tennis Regulations: <https://www.itftennis.com/media/1457/final-wheelchair-tennis-regulations.pdf>

1.1. Comply with the provisions of the Paralympic Charter currently in force and only those athletes who have complied with the Paralympic Charter may participate in the Paralympic Games.

1.2 To be eligible for selection by the CPC, athletes must meet the following:

- have an official ranking on the ITF Wheelchair Tennis Singles World Ranking List dated June 7, 2021

- be internationally classified either with a ‘Confirmed’ sport class status or with a ‘Fixed Review Date’ sport class status with a review date after 31 December 2021 or with a ‘Confirmed (Transition)’ sport class status;
- have been part of a final nominated team and been present on site for World Team Cup events (including qualifying and Junior World Team Cup) for a minimum of two (2) years between 2017 and 2020 (exceptions to this requirement may be granted by the ITF in accordance with the ITF Tokyo 2020 Paralympic Wheelchair Tennis Regulations)
- Fulfill the minimum eligibility requirements outlined in the ITF Tokyo Paralympic Wheelchair Tennis Regulations: <https://event.itftennis.com/paralympics/>

1.3 Sign and submit the CPC Athlete Agreement and Eligibility Conditions Form

2. Qualification Criteria

All players accepted (except Regional Games Direct Allocation and Bipartite Commission Invitation Allocations) by the ITF for the Paralympic Wheelchair Tennis event gain entry based on their position on the globally accepted 52 week rolling ITF Wheelchair Tennis World Rankings. These represent the qualification system for the wheelchair tennis events.

2.1 Qualification System:

Qualification slots will be allocated as follows:

Method	Qualification	Total
Regional Games Direct Allocation	<p>One (1) male and one (1) female qualification slot in each of the following Regional Games:</p> <p>2018 Asian Para Games 1 male, 1 female</p> <p>2019 Para Panamerican Games 1 male, 1 female</p> <p>The winners of the men’s and women’s singles competitions at each of these Regional Games qualify.</p>	<p>2 male athletes 2 female athletes</p>
Wheelchair Tennis Singles World Ranking Allocation	<p>The top forty (40) ranked male athletes (not otherwise qualified) on the ITF Wheelchair Tennis Singles World Ranking List dated June 7, 2021 qualify.</p> <p>The top twenty-two (22) ranked female athletes (not otherwise qualified) on the ITF Wheelchair Tennis Singles World Ranking List dated June 7, 2021 qualify.</p>	<p>40 male athletes 22 female athletes</p>

	The top twelve (12) ranked quad athletes on the ITF Wheelchair Tennis Singles World Ranking List as of June 7, 2021 qualify.	12 quad athletes
Bipartite Commission Invitation Allocation	<p>Fourteen (14) eligible male athletes will be considered by the IPC and the ITF for Bipartite Commission Invitation slots.</p> <p>Eight (8) eligible female athletes will be considered by the IPC and the ITF for Bipartite Commission Invitation slots.</p> <p>Four (4) eligible athletes in the quad sport class will be considered by the IPC and the ITF for Bipartite Commission Invitation slots.</p> <p>To be considered for a Bipartite Commission Invitation, the ITF must receive an official application in writing from the relevant NPC by June 18, 2021.</p>	<p>14 male athletes</p> <p>8 female athletes</p> <p>4 quad athletes</p>
Total		<p>56 male athletes</p> <p>32 female athletes</p> <p>16 quad athletes</p>

2.2 Athletes qualifying either through Regional Games Direct Allocation, Wheelchair Tennis Singles World Ranking Allocation, or Bipartite Commission invitation slots will be eligible to compete in both singles and doubles.

2.3 The qualification slot is allocated to the individual athlete, not the NPC.

3. Nomination Process

Tennis Canada's Paralympic Selection Committee is mandated with the responsibility of developing, approving and implementing the Internal Nomination Procedure and with making the final international nomination decisions. This Committee will be comprised of four individuals as follows:

- Director, Wheelchair Tennis
- Director, High Performance Coaching

- National Program Consultant
- High Performance Program Consultant

The final Paralympic Selection Committee athlete nominations to be approved by the Tennis Canada Vice-President of High Performance.

3.1 Nomination based on “**Wheelchair Tennis Singles World Ranking Allocation**”

Tennis Canada’s Paralympic Selection Committee will nominate the highest ranked singles players based on the ITF Wheelchair Tennis World Ranking Lists, as per the ITF/IPC rules below:

An NPC can enter a maximum of four (4) qualified male and four (4) qualified female athletes in the men’s and women’s events respectively, and a maximum of three (3) qualified athletes in the quad singles for a maximum total quota allocation of eleven (11) qualification slots per NPC.

Should more athletes meet the Wheelchair Tennis Singles World Ranking Allocation criteria than slots made available by the Canadian Paralympic Committee, the selection of the athletes will be made in the following order of priority:

- a) If all athletes are within the same playing division (i.e.-men, women, quad) then priority will be given to the athletes with the highest ITF singles ranking as of June 7, 2021
- b) If athletes are in different playing divisions (i.e.-men, women, quad) then the top ITF singles ranked athlete from each playing division as of June 7, 2021 will be extracted and grouped. Once grouped the following tie-break procedure will be followed:

Athlete with the lowest % difference between his/her June 7, 2021 ITF singles Ranking and the ITF Paralympic qualification standards as follows

- Men’s Division: Top 40 in the ITF singles rankings
- Women’s Division: Top 22 the ITF singles rankings
- Quad Division: Top 12 in the ITF singles rankings

For example: A Men’s division player (Player A) achieves a June 7, 2021 ITF singles ranking of #32. His qualification standard was Top 40 in the ITF rankings. $32 \div 40 = .80$. A Quad division player (Player B) achieves a June 7, 2021 ITF ranking of # 10. His qualification standard was Top 12. $10 \div 12 = .83$. Player A has the lower percentage and would therefore be given priority over Player B. Coefficients will be rounded to the nearest hundredth. For example, 9.974 will be rounded to 9.97, and 9.975 will be rounded to 9.98.

Once an athlete with the lowest coefficient as per above has been determined then all extracted athletes are returned to their respective playing divisions (i.e.-men, women, quad).

The procedure outlined above is repeated with the top ITF singles ranked player from each of the remaining playing divisions extracted and grouped. If after repeating the process there only remain athletes from the same playing division (i.e.-men, women, quad) then the athletes will be ordered in priority based on the highest ITF singles ranking as of June 7, 2021

c) In the event that the coefficient procedure outlined above yields more than one player with the same coefficient, the Paralympic Selection Committee will decide on the order of priority based on the following results table:

Order of Priority	
1	The most singles wins within the qualification period over players ranked in the Top 10 men, Top 6 women, Top 3 quad of the ITF singles world rankings.
2	The most singles wins within the qualification period over players ranked in the Top 20 men, Top 11 women, Top 6 quad of the ITF singles world rankings.
3	The most singles wins within the qualification period over players ranked in the Top 30 men, Top 17 women, Top 9 quad of the ITF singles world rankings.
4	The most singles wins within the qualification period over players ranked in the Top 40 men, Top 22 women, Top 12 quad of the ITF singles world rankings.

*ITF singles rankings as of the week the tournament is played will be used for wins over calculation.

3.2 Doubles Team Nomination

If three (3) athletes qualify in the men's/women's/quad divisions, and no Bipartite Commission Invitation Allocations are approved, the doubles team will be determined by the Paralympic Selection Committee. Fielding doubles teams that are best capable of winning a medal at the 2020 Paralympic Games will be the primary consideration in determining these partnerships. Tennis Canada's Paralympic Selection Committee will also take the following variables into consideration; ITF ranking (singles and doubles), team chemistry and compatibility, recent singles and doubles results, team history, recent player health, doubles skills, game-styles intangibles (attitude, personality and ability to compete and handle the moment), feedback received from the player or players will also be strongly considered.

3.3 Nomination based on "Bipartite Commission Invitation Allocation "

The Paralympic Selection Committee may consider applying for Bipartite Commission Invitation Allocations pending the availability of qualification slots as approved by the Canadian Paralympic Committee under the following circumstances:

- To complete a doubles team*
- To obtain a singles slot for the next highest ranked singles athlete on the ITF Wheelchair Tennis World Ranking lists as of June 7, 2021**
- Exceptional Circumstances***

Doubles:

*If one (1) or three (3) men or women, or one (1) quad division athlete has met the selection criteria as per IPC/ITF Tokyo Paralympic Games Qualification Guide then the Paralympic Selection Committee may

apply for a Bipartite Commission Invitation Allocation to complete a doubles team. Fielding doubles teams that are best capable of winning a medal at the 2020 Paralympic Games will be the primary consideration in determining these partnerships. Tennis Canada’s Paralympic Selection Committee will also take the following variables into consideration; ITF ranking (singles and doubles), team chemistry and compatibility, recent singles and doubles results, team history, recent player health, doubles skills, game-styles intangibles (attitude, personality and ability to compete and handle the moment), feedback received from the player or players will also be strongly considered.

Singles:

** Should the next highest ranked players be from different divisions the coefficient calculation process laid out in section 3.1 will be applied to determine who will be selected.

***Tennis Canada reserves the right to apply for a Bipartite Commission Allocation for any athlete who is unable to meet to the Wheelchair Tennis Singles World Ranking Allocation as per IPC/ITF Tokyo Paralympic Games Qualification Guide due to injury, illness, pregnancy or other exceptional circumstances.

An order of priority will be established when submitting the Bipartite Commission Allocations. The process laid out in section 3.1 will be applied to determine the order of priority in which the athletes will be selected for Bipartite Commission allocation.

3.4 Paralympic Coaches & Support Staff Nomination.

The coaching and support staff for the 2020 Tokyo Paralympic Games will be selected by the Paralympic Selection Committee.

The Paralympic Selection Committee will determine the staffing nominations based on

- Meeting the CPC coaching certification requirements
- Past Paralympic experience
- Familiarity with the players and results achieved
- Member in good standing with Coaches of Canada

The final Paralympic Selection Committee athlete nominations to be approved by the Tennis Canada Vice-President of High Performance.

4. Nomination & Appeals Timeline

June 6, 2021	End of the period for athletes to attain performances to be recorded on the Wheelchair Tennis World Ranking Lists
June 7, 2021	Wheelchair Tennis World Ranking Lists published
June 8, 2021	ITF confirms in writing to the CPC & Tennis Canada the allocation of qualification slots
June 9, 2021	The Paralympic Selection Committee and the Tennis Canada Vice-President, High Performance Athlete Development provisionally selects the athletes to be nominated to the CPC. This includes nominations for Wheelchair Tennis Singles World Allocations and the Bipartite Commission Invitation Allocations

	(If applicable). The provisional coaching and support staff - to be nominated to the CPC - will be selected at the same time
June 11, 2021	An athlete who wishes to appeal Tennis Canada's provisional nominations may do so in writing to the Director, Wheelchair Tennis no later than June 11, 2021 (5:00pm EST) *
June 13, 2021	Tennis Canada will communicate appeal decision to the athlete no later than June 13, 2021 (5:00pm EST) *
June 15, 2021	Athletes have the right to appeal Tennis Canada's appeals decisions to the Sport Dispute Resolution Centre of Canada (SRDCC) no later than June 15, 2021 (5:00pm EST) *
June 17, 2021	SRDCC will communicate final appeal decision to the athlete, CPC and Tennis Canada no later than June 17, 2021 (5:00pm EST) *
June 18, 2021	Entry Confirmation – Tennis Canada deadline to confirm qualified athletes Bipartite Commission Invitation – CPC and Tennis Canada deadline to submit bipartite applications. Appeals – Deadline for Tennis Canada to submit any appeals not yet heard to the ITF
June 29, 2021	Wheelchair Tennis Committee Appeals Hearing (2) and Bipartite Application hearing. Tennis Canada & CPC informed directly of Appeals decisions.
July 2, 2021	ITF confirms in writing to the NPCs the reallocation of unused qualification slots and the awarding of Bipartite Commission Invitation slots
July 2, 2021	CPC confirms the acceptance of the reallocation of unused qualification slot with the ITF
July 23, 2021	Deadline for Tennis Canada to submit team nomination certificates to CPC for approval. Note: Tennis Canada must have completed any appeals before this deadline.
July 30, 2021	CPC Paralympic Performance and Games Committee review and approve NSO nominations
August 2, 2021	Final day for CPC to register Canadian Paralympic Team with the Tokyo 2020 Paralympic Games Organizing Committee

* For details on the appeals process please refer to the Appeal Procedures in Section IV below. The written appeal must include the specific grounds for appeal as per the guidelines

Section II

Entry at the Paralympic Games

Athletes nominated by the CPC in their respective divisions by Tennis Canada will be entered in those events at the Paralympic Games. Any required changes on site for unforeseen circumstances will be at the discretion of the Paralympic Coach.

Section III

Athlete Acknowledgment

All potential Paralympic team members are required to read, sign and return the attached Athlete Acknowledgment and Acceptance form to Tennis Canada.

Section IV

Appeals to Tennis Canada's International Nomination Procedures

Athletes may appeal the Paralympic Selection Committee nomination decisions under the following grounds:

Grounds for appeal include:

- Error in law (policy not applied correctly).
- Error in fact (inaccurate results affected the selection outcome).
- Lack of procedural awareness (the criteria was changed and/or athlete's were unaware of the criteria).

Athletes cannot appeal:

- The fact that they do not like the decision and/or;
- They do not like the published policy and/or;
- The published criteria should be changed (it can be changed for the year/cycle, not during the year/cycle).

The process for lodging an appeal is outlined below. If an athlete demonstrates an injustice, then;

1. An athlete must submit a written appeal to the Director, Wheelchair Tennis as per timelines laid out under Section 4: Nomination & Appeal Timelines. The written appeal must clearly outline the grounds for the appeal.
2. Tennis Canada's Appeals Committee will review and place a ruling on the appeal as per timeline laid out in Section 4: Nomination & Appeal Timeline.
3. An athlete may appeal the final decision of Tennis Canada by submitting a written appeal to the Sport Dispute Resolution Centre of Canada (national program selections and discipline decisions) as per timelines laid out Section 4: Nomination & Appeal Timeline

Section V

Unforeseen Circumstances Clause

5.0 In the event of unforeseen circumstances beyond the control of Tennis Canada that prevent Tennis Canada's Paralympic Selection Committee from fairly implementing these criteria as written, Tennis Canada's Paralympic Selection Committee shall have the full discretion to resolve the matter as they see

fit, taking into account factors and circumstances they deem relevant. Any such exercise of discretion shall be subject to the Canadian administrative law principles of fairness.

Section VI

Changes to this Document

The Wheelchair Tennis Director, in conjunction with the Paralympic Selection Committee reserves the right to make changes, which in its discretion, are necessary to ensure the selection of the best individuals or teams possible for the 2020 Paralympic Games.

Any changes to this document shall be communicated directly to all National High Performance Program members. This clause shall not be used to justify changes after a competition or trials which formed part of the internal nomination process unless it is related to an unforeseen circumstance.

The purpose of this section is to allow for changes to this document that may become necessary due to a typographical error or a lack of clarity in a definition or wording before it has an impact on athletes. The purpose of such change must be in order to avoid disputes over the meaning of the provisions of this document rather than to allow changes to be made to justify selection of different athletes than would have otherwise been selected. Such changes must be reasonably justifiable in accordance with fundamental principles of natural justice and procedural fairness.

In the event of a change to this document, Tennis Canada shall inform the CPC of the changes and the reason for those changes as soon as possible.
