



Canadian Sport Institute Pacific and **SportAbility (Boccia)** Athlete and Coach Nomination Criteria

Criteria Approved Jan 27th 2026:

CSI Pacific Representative Andrew Latham	<i>Andrew Latham</i>
	Signature
SportAbility Representative Donna Cumming	
	Signature

PURPOSE

Canadian Sport Institute Pacific, through a partnership with the Province of British Columbia (BC), viaSport, the network of PacificSport centres, and SportAbility collaborates to deliver programs and services to place BC athletes¹ onto National Teams, and ensure athletes and coaches have every advantage to win medals for Canada. The partners work jointly to encourage sport excellence and increase podium performances in communities throughout BC.

This template provides a standardized process to identify athletes and coaches within the SportAbility high performance program as well as athletes who are tracking against key development pathway metrics toward national teams. The levels within the targeting seek to create a common standard across all sports; hence, the template must be used in its entirety. PSO/DSOs are able to adapt the template to suit their own purposes (e.g. branding, application process, etc.) provided all relevant information is contained within.

Canadian Sport Institute / PacificSport athlete and coach support for the Sport Canada AAP Carded nomination focuses on athletes and teams 0-4 years from the international podium, identified by the sport-specific Podium Pathway (Figure 1) and Gold Medal Profile. These athletes and teams represent the current generation of National Team athletes who are carded by the NSO through Sport Canada's Athlete Assistance Program.

Canadian Sport Institute / PacificSport athlete and coach support for the Canadian Development and Provincial Development nomination focuses on athletes and teams 5-12 years from the international podium, identified by the sport-specific Podium Pathway (see Figure 1 below) and Gold Medal Profile. These athletes and teams represent both the next generation (5-8 years away) and future generations (9-12 years away) of Olympic and Paralympic or World Championship medallists.

Figure 1 – Podium Pathway (LTAD 3.0)



¹ In general, a BC athlete is defined as an athlete born, developed, and/or trained/centralized (for a minimum of three months) in British Columbia.

DETAILS

Through the above partnership, and with the above purpose in mind **SportAbility** may nominate athletes and their coaches who meet specific criteria for Canadian Sport Institute Pacific / PacificSport athlete or coach registration. Upon registering, athletes and coaches can engage in enhanced programs, benefits, and selected support services through Canadian Sport Institute Pacific and the network of PacificSport regional centres in BC.

Canadian Sport Institute and PacificSport athlete support is divided into **four levels** based on performance, each with a slate of designated benefits. Please click on the following for an outline of Canadian Sport Institute athlete and coach benefits, programs, and services.

Targeted athletes are nominated by **SportAbility** based on the athlete criteria below. Any enquiries regarding the sport-specific selection criteria can be made to **Donna Cumming, donnacumming@sportabilitybc.ca**. As a general principle, all athletes are expected to demonstrate evidence of their ongoing performance progression and tracking toward **SportAbility** high performance program benchmarks to remain targeted. **Donna Cumming** and the Canadian Sport Institute technical lead working with **SportAbility** have the final authority over the Canadian Sport Institute nomination process.

The athlete and coach nomination cycle for Canadian Sport Institute / PacificSport / **SportAbility** targeting runs **February 1st – January 31st** annually, and athletes are selected based on performances from the previous 12 months. Athletes who meet criteria throughout the annual nomination cycle may be added to the **SportAbility** targeted athlete list, on a case by case basis, by contacting the PSO/DSO Technical Representative **Donna Cumming at donnacumming@sportabilitybc.ca**.

ATHLETE/COACH ENROLLMENT

Once the athlete or coach is nominated, he or she will be notified by **SportAbility** and will be provided with information on how to enroll. All athletes and coaches must enroll with Canadian Sport Institute / Pacific Sport in order to receive athlete or coach supports and benefits

CORE CRITERIA

1. For PSO/DSO nominations, athletes must be considered in good standing (at the discretion of the PSO/DSO) with **SportAbility** as a competitive athlete and meet the definition of a BCathlete.
2. All athletes nominated should have a designated coach who is responsible for planned programming. Specific coach criteria must be identified under coach nominations.
3. Athletes who fail to meet targeting criteria due to injury or absence, may remain on **SportAbility's** nomination list at coach's discretion when:
 - a. There is an expectation the athlete in question would have met criteria if no injury or absence had occurred. **AND;**
 - b. The athlete in question was previously nominated by **SportAbility** in the previous 24 months.
 - c. There is an agreed timeline on the return to play process
4. Minimum age of targeted athlete is 16-years-old, however at the discretion of CSI staff exceptions can be approved
5. Maximum number of athletes at each level based on historical conversion rates from 2019-2025, identified by CSI Pacific and communicated to the sport by CSI staff. At the discretion of CSI staff exceptions can be approved

6. Required to participate in Provincial Team and/or National Team programming such as required tournaments and weekly training with local clubs.
7. Follow designed training programs.

Canadian Sport Institute Criteria

LEVEL-SPECIFIC CRITERIA

Sport Canada AAP Carded

Canadian Sport Institute Criteria:

- Athletes who appear on the Sport Canada AAP Carding List and verified by the NSO. These athletes are in the High Performance (HP/T2W) stage of the Podium Pathway.
 - It is the responsibility of SportAbility in consultation with the NSO, to identify and nominate any Sport Canada AAP Carded athletes meeting Core Criteria.

Canadian Development

Canadian Sport Institute Criteria:

- Athletes who compete on the senior national team in eligible events, but do not receive Sport Canada AAP funding, and verified by the NSO. These athletes are in the High Performance (HP/T2W) stage of the Podium Pathway. **OR;**
- Athletes who are in the HP Athlete Development (L2W/T2W) stage of the Podium Pathway (including Gold Medal Profile), and verified by the NSO. If the NSO does not have an approved Podium Pathway, the following criteria will be used:
 - Athletes who have been targeted as “NextGen” defined as the expectation to be selected to the senior national team in eligible events **within 24 months**, and verified by the NSO

Provincial Development Level 1

Canadian Sport Institute Criteria:

- Athletes who are in the Athlete Identification & Development stage of the Podium Pathway, and who are tracking toward the HP Athlete Development stage according to the NSO-specific Podium Pathway and Gold Medal Profile. If the NSO does not have an approved Podium Pathway, the athlete must be tracking toward Canadian Development and meet the criteria below:
 - Met specific performance-based benchmarks in accordance with an overall athlete monitoring and tracking framework (utilizing Gold Medal Profile) **AND;**
 - Athletes at this level are anticipated to convert to national team program as a Canadian Development or Podium athlete within a maximum duration of five years (combined Provincial Development Level One and Two) **AND;**
 - Competed at the appropriate¹ age group or junior world championships in an eligible event (or equivalent international developmental event) in the previous 24 months **OR;**
 - Won a medal in an eligible event at their sport-specific national senior/open, appropriate² age group or junior championships (or equivalent level of performance standard) in the previous 24 months.

Provincial Development Level 2

Canadian Sport Institute Criteria:

- Athletes who are in the Athlete Identification & Development stage of the Podium Pathway, and who are tracking toward Provincial Development 1 according to the NSO-specific Podium Pathway and Gold Medal profile. If the NSO does not have an approved Podium Pathway, the athlete must meet the criteria below:
 - Met specific performance-based benchmarks in accordance with an overall athlete monitoring and tracking framework (utilizing Gold Medal Profile categories: Physical, Technical, Tactical, Mental, Lifestyle),

AND

- Competed in an eligible event at the appropriate² age group national championships (or equivalent level of performance standard) in the previous 24 months, **OR**;
- Won a medal in an eligible event at their appropriate age group provincial championships in the previous 12 months, **OR**;

Coach Nomination

Canadian Sport Institute Criteria:

Coaches are nominated when they are the coach of an athlete who achieves designated criteria. The PSO/DSO may nominate up to two coaches per athlete in cases where both the Provincial/National coach and a personal coach have a significant impact on the athlete's training program. While not required, it is highly recommended that PSO/DSO nominated coaches meet at least one of the following criteria:

- Be the lead person designing and implementing an annual training program for the athlete.
- Be designated as Provincial or Regional coach by the PSO/DSO.
- Be designated as a National Development / Senior National coach by the NSO.
- Be designated as athlete's coach of record based on sport-specific criteria below.

AND,

- Working towards NCCP Competition Development Trained Status or ACD coach.

Sport Specific PSO Criteria

Canadian Development Criteria 1.0

SportAbility Sport-Specific Criteria:

- **1.0** Member of a Boccia National team representing Canada at an International competition, World Championships, or Paralympic Games in the previous 12 months; OR
- **1.1** Invited to Boccia National Team Selection Camp within the previous 12 months as confirmed by the NSO; OR
- **1.2** Named to National Esport Boccia Team in the previous 12 months

Evidence to be provided by PSO/DSO in order to confirm nomination.

Provincial Development Level 1 Criteria 2.0

SportAbility Sport-Specific Criteria:

- **2.0** Invited to a National Development Team Camp within the previous 12 months; AND
- **2.1** Member of the BC Provincial team; AND
- **2.2** Attended a Provincial Team training camp in the previous 12 months; AND
- **2.3** Competed at National Championships, Boccia Blast Tournament, and/or Defit Sportif Boccia Tournament; AND
- **2.4** Have been evaluated by SportAbility coaching staff and placed on the high-performance athlete pathway for a minimum of 3 months.

Evidence to be provided by PSO/DSO in order to confirm nomination.

Provincial Development Level 2 Criteria 3.0

SportAbility Sport-Specific Criteria


:

- **3.0** Member of the BC Provincial Team or Development Team; AND
- **3.1** Attended a Provincial Team training camp in the previous 12 months; AND
- **3.2** Competed at National Championships, Boccia Blast Tournament, and/or Defit Sportif Boccia Tournament; AND
- **3.3** Have been evaluated by SportAbility coaching staff and placed on the high-performance athlete pathway for a minimum of 3 months.


Evidence to be provided by PSO/DSO in order to confirm nomination.

Coach Nomination

Appendix “A” – Boccia Skills Matrix

LTAD Stages	Skills Matrix				
	Clock Management	Strategic & Decision Making Skills	Social Skills	Emotional Skills	Cognitive Skills
Train to Win	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Effective game time management – regulating shot preparation and execution to remain within the designated time frame. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Able to successfully implement long term strategies during the game Can confidently adjust game strategy in game 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Takes on a leadership roles with developing athletes Developing social skills while in increasingly high pressure situations 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Can effectively teach developing players about basic emotional skill 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Understanding Paralympic pathway and qualification processes Collaborate with interdisciplinary team to start incorporating and perfecting sport psychology principles into training program
Train to Compete	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Able to use the clock effectively and does not leave more than 1 minute on the clock after each end 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Understands the decision making process and able to make independent tactical decisions Can accurately and consistently place jack and 1st ball Understanding advantage of own strengths and weaknesses to develop strong strategy Strong understanding of strategy and tactics 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Learning to compete as a team and developing teamwork, leadership and communication skills with game pressure present 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Practicing adaptations to in game changes Has strong coping strategies 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Is accountable to personal training plan Developing more detailed and long term goals Able to complete a self reflection on own tactical decisions and impact the opponents game and score
Train to Train	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Able to execute good pace for selected shots Practicing taking time between shots to reset and refocus while not running out of time 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Knows when and how to protect a lead Knows when to maximize points Able to make decision after coin toss Learning differences between balls and shot types 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Practicing assertiveness Developing leadership skills Developing in game communication skills 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Practicing controlling emotions under pressure Developing coping strategies in relation to self confidence and game performance 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Applying goal setting to season plans Learning to evaluate coaching advice
Learn to Train	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Able to understand call room process Learning time management principles in practice and recreational games 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Learning jack placement Introduction of formal game rules Progression of different target areas Offensive and defensive play introduced 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Practicing leadership skills Practicing teamwork skills Can demonstrate positive sportsmanship 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Practicing adapting to change Confident in one's ability Learning to control emotions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Learning basic goal setting principles Practices time management
FUNDamentals		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Understands and executes the goal and objective of placing ball as close to the jack to score points 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Practicing confidence in social situations Learning teamwork and what it means to be a team player 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Developing self confidence through sport Learning to adapt to change 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Learns from observing others
Active Awareness			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Learning communication skills Learning sportsmanship principles 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Learning about self confidence 	

Continued on p. 8

LTAD Stages	Skills Matrix			
	Delivery Skills	Positioning	Ball Shots	Ramp Players
Train to Win	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Perfecting the biomechanics of ball release technique Highly effective ball delivery to cover the court 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Perfecting positioning of chair and body Continuing to develop and rehearse shot sequence 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Perfecting all shot types Able to decide the most suitable shot Chooses the correct shot type 95% of the time Can effectively and consistently execute all shot types 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Best possible equipment that meets individual players' needs Highest level of cooperation with sport assistant
Train to Compete	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Using strength training program to increase strength in ball delivery execution High level of consistency of the technical execution Demonstrates a high level of control of the line, pace and trajectory 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Can effectively choose optimal position of chair in the throwing box Learning and rehearsing shot sequence 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Practicing to ricochet Can effectively delivery combination shots Can effectively bounce Can effectively push/bump Can effectively set a block Chooses the correct shot type 85% of the time Practicing shot risk management 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Effective cooperation with sport assistant Has personalized equipment that suits individual player needs Works with a consistent sport assistant at practice and competitions
Train to Train	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Can control breath and use to increase accuracy and velocity of the ball Has a range of propulsion techniques 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Can effectively position body Learning the different angles of body, chair and target Practice each player's shooting range and determine the optimal wheelchair position in the box. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Can effectively set a block Chooses the correct shot type 75% of the time Learning combination shots (see descriptions) Learning to ricochet Practicing pushing/bumping Practicing to block Able to execute good line and trajectory for selected shots 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cooperation and communication with sport assistant in game scenarios
Learn to Train	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Refining trunk control and balance Effectively times the release and aim of the ball Learning breath control in relation to releasing the ball Able to determine the best propelling technique and pattern 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Learning optimal chair positions based on shot type Learning to move chair between shots Able to adjust position of the chair in the box towards the target 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Can effectively deliver a ball with various shot types Learning to choose between shot types Practicing preferred type of shots Learning to block Learning to push/bump 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Augmentative alternative communication if needed Determining set of balls, ramps and assistive devices for player's individual needs
FUNDamentals	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Can effectively stabilize trunk to increase accuracy Can effectively aim the ball at a target Learning timing of releasing the ball 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Exploring limits of wheelchair movement Learning to move chair behind a throwing line 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Able to effectively propel a ball at a target using preferred shot type Introduction to all shot types (See Descriptions) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Explore types of release for BC3 players
Active Awareness	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Learning to release the ball Learning to generate velocity through trunk control 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Learning to release the ball at a target 	

Athlete/Coach Nomination Criteria

Athlete/Coach Nomination Criteria