

U.S. National Team Trials Selection Process Wheelchair Curling

Selection Process: The field for the 2019 U.S. National Team Trials for Wheelchair Curling is limited to a maximum of 12 athletes. The field will be comprised of the 8 returning athletes from the prior year's National Team plus the 4 qualifiers from the current year's Pre Trials. The deadline for application is Oct 1, 2018. If vacancies exist following the application deadline, additional athletes may be selected from the gender specific rank order listings from the US National Camp and Selection Trials. Notification will be made to these additional athletes on Oct. 2.

The Trials will consist of individual skill shots, game play, personal interviews and observations. Throughout the Trials, participants will be assessed by a panel of judges regarding their demonstrated curling abilities as well as other qualities including, but not limited to, on- and off-ice behavior, demonstrated team dynamics, fitness level, endurance and their match to specific team needs. Past National Team experience also will be considered. Gender specific rankings will be created.

The panel will select from the gender specific rankings the appropriate number of athletes to select a National Team of eight total athletes. The male/female ratio is at the sole discretion of the Selection Committee. The Committee will select a minimum of two athletes of each gender to the National Team of eight (8) athletes. Athletes who have received a medical waiver (see below) will have their known ability compared against the last selected athlete(s) on the gender specific rankings. The Committee will then decide upon the National Team of eight (8) athletes.

From this group of eight athletes, a final team of five athletes will be selected. These five athletes will be recognized as Team USA and will compete at the 2019 World Wheelchair Curling Championship on March 3-10, 2019, in Stirling, Scotland. The final team will be named no later than Dec. 31, 2018. The athlete selection process will be based upon subjective and objective evaluation by the national staff regarding their demonstrated curling abilities as well as other qualities including but not limited to, on and off-ice behavior, demonstrated team dynamics, fitness level, endurance and their match to specific team needs. The committee will select a minimum of one athlete of each gender to the final team of five (5) athletes.

The National Team Selection Panel will consist of a minimum of three judges consisting of members of the USA Wheelchair Curling National Team staff and a prior U.S. National Team member (any curling discipline). Additional judges may also be appointed.

Waiver Process: If an athlete who has registered for the National Wheelchair Curling Team Selection Trials has incurred or incurs an injury or illness that may prevent them from competing at the Trials, they must immediately contact the NGB and the National Coach. The injury or illness must be documented by a certified health care professional and that certification must be forwarded to the NGB. A hearing will be conducted within 48 hours of the NGB receiving the documentation. The result of the hearing will be presented to the athlete

within 48 hours of the completion of the hearing. The purpose of the hearing is solely to determine the legitimacy of the injury or illness and its effect on the individual. The hearing panel has no authority to place an athlete directly onto the National Team. Athletes that have received a waiver are not required to attend the National Team Selection Trials. Athletes who have received a medical waiver will have their known ability compared against the last selected athlete(s) on the gender specific rankings. The Committee will then decide upon the National Team of eight (8) athletes.

The filling of any vacancy is at the discretion of the Selection Committee. If a vacancy is filled, athletes will be selected from the gender specific rank order listings from the U.S. National Camp and Selection Trials.

Eligibility Requirements: Selected athletes 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. Be one of the eight (8) returning athletes from the prior year's National Team or one of the four qualifiers from the current year's US National Camp and Selection Trials (PreTrials). If vacancies exist following the registration deadline additional athletes selected to fill those vacancies will be contacted directly.
3. Be a member in good standing with the United States Curling Association
4. Possess a valid Passport and be eligible for international travel
5. Comply with all anti-doping policies, procedures and protocols of the International Paralympic Committee, World Curling Federation, World Anti-Doping Agency, United States Antidoping Agency and the United States Olympic Committee
6. Abide by the current Code of Conduct
7. Exhibit a recognized physical impairment which allows the athlete to meet one of the six eligibility criteria for international classification specific to the sport Wheelchair Curling
8. Submit a completed application to the United States Curling Association prior to the application deadline, including all required fees, forms and documents