



THE SPIRIT
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2023 JEUX
AUTOCHTONES
de l'Amérique du Nord



North American
INDIGENOUS
GAMES 2023

Team BC 2023 North American Indigenous Games ATHLETE SELECTION PROCESS

-- VOLLEYBALL --

The following document outlines the eligibility and selection process for athletes to represent Team BC in the sport of volleyball at the 2023 North American Indigenous Games (NAIG) to be held in Halifax, Nova Scotia, July 15 to 23, 2023.

1. Athlete Eligibility

To be eligible for participation on Team BC for North American Indigenous Games (NAIG), athletes must:

- Meet the sport-specific age requirement
- Be a resident of BC
- Be born of Canadian or American Indigenous ancestry. Athletes will be required to provide proof of ancestry (e.g. Status Card, Provincial Métis Card, First Nations/Treaty Card, Inuit and Inuvialuit identification)*.
- Be a current member in good standing with Volleyball BC (VBC)**.
- Be fully COVID-19 vaccinated as per the NAIG policy. [CLICK HERE](#) for more information.

*If a participant does not possess one of the specified cards/ID, there is a Declaration of Indigenous Ancestry Form that must be completed and submitted together with supporting documentation to I-SPARC c/o Team BC Chef de Mission.

Please note any athlete that requires the Declaration of Indigenous Ancestry form is not guaranteed eligibility to Team BC to compete at NAIG until the Declaration and supporting documentation is approved and endorsed by Team BC for NAIG submission.

The form will be available in September 2022. If you have any questions in the meantime, please reach out to teambc@isparc.ca.

**As the Team BC NAIG program for volleyball is sanctioned by our Provincial Sport Organization (PSO) partner, Volleyball BC, athletes must be registered members with Volleyball BC. Athletes selected to Team BC without current membership can renew/purchase upon successful selection.

The Indigenous Sport, Physical Activity & Recreation Council (I-SPARC) is responsible for managing the Team BC Program for the North American Indigenous Games (NAIG) and is supported by the Province of BC. The Team BC NAIG program in the sport of volleyball is sanctioned and supported by the Volleyball BC.

PARTNER AGENCIES



2. Age Eligibility

The NAIG Volleyball competition will consist of teams in the following age categories:

- 16U (defined as born 2007 & later*)
- 19U (born 2004 & later*)

*Regarding matters of safety and maturity, Team BC is seeking athletes born no later than 2010.

3. Team Composition

Team BC is seeking up to maximum of twelve (12) athletes for each of the 16U and 19U teams to compete at NAIG.

4. Coaching Staff

Team BC is pleased to confirm its volunteer coaching staff for 2020 NAIG:

19U Female

Head Coach	Rob Behrouzian
Asst. Coach	Kristi Howell
Manager	TBA

19U Male

Head Coach	Ren Baskin
Asst. Coach	Ty Baskin
Manager	TBA

16U Female

Head Coach	TBA
Asst. Coach	TBA
Manager	TBA

5. Selection Process

BC Indigenous Provincial Volleyball Camp and “Team BC Development Squads”

The Team BC NAIG Program for volleyball will form “Team BC Development Squads” for the sport of volleyball following the 2023 BC Indigenous Provincial Volleyball Camps. The Regional Camps will serve as the athlete identification events to form the “Team BC Development Squads”.

Development Squad athletes are those identified by Team BC Coaching Staff as having demonstrated strong potential to earn a position on the final Team BC 2023 NAIG roster. Athletes named to the “Team BC Development Squad” are expected to spend the winter & spring months continuing to train and prepare on their own. Development Squad members will be required to attend mandatory Team BC Training Camp(s) in the spring of 2023 (exact date(s) and location(s) to be confirmed) with the ultimate goal to be named to the final Team BC NAIG roster following their performance at the spring camp.

Only those Development Squad members who are named to the final Team BC NAIG roster will participate in the Halifax 2023 North American Indigenous Games (NAIG) held in Halifax, Nova Scotia from July 15 to 23, 2023. Athletes to be named to the final Team BC NAIG roster within 7 days of the spring training camp. Development Squad members not chosen for the final roster may be named to the alternate list.

2023 BC Indigenous Regional Volleyball Camps

The 2023 BC Indigenous Regional Volleyball Camps will serve as the Athlete Identification Camp for Team BC to identify volleyball athletes for the Team BC Development Squads.

- The camps are scheduled as follows. Exact times and which days for each age division and gender will be posted on the website when confirmed:
 - Interior Regional Camp – Kelowna/Westbank – January 7/8, 2023 (cancelled)
 - Vancouver Regional Camp – Vancouver – January 14/15, 2023
 - Northern Regional Camp – Prince George – Jan 28/29, 2023
- Athletes need only attend the one camp nearest them for their gender/age but must attend all sessions scheduled within that day.
- The camps and registration information will be circulated to I-SPARC email network and posted on I-SPARC Facebook page and website.
- Athletes must register and submit \$50 registration fee prior to deadline of 4:00 PM on the Thursday before their regional camp.
- Athletes will be evaluated at one-day camps by the Team BC Coaching Staff and any additional evaluators appointed to assist with athlete ranking process.
- Team BC Development Squad selections will be finalized and a list will be published by February 10, 2023 after the conclusion of the Camps.
- Development Squad members will be required to attend a mandatory training camp in the spring of 2023 (exact dates and location TBA).
- Team BC Coaching staff will select members of the final team BC roster for the 2023 NAIG at the conclusion of the spring training camp.
- It is understood that in making selections is to create the best possible team and selection criteria may include not only their performance at both the Camp, but also other contributing factors including conduct, attitude, ability to work with others, commitment to training, experience, positional requirements, leadership, recent performance results and other criteria determined by the Coaching Staff.
- Team BC Coaching Staff/Selection Committees operate under the principles to create quality, competitive teams to represent BC at NAIG and that selection should be free from bias as a result of nepotism, favoritism, or affiliation. They are responsible for ensuring transparency in the process and that good selection principles have been applied.

6. Absentee Consideration

Athletes, who for extenuating circumstances are unable to participate in the Camp/Championships, (e.g. injury, illness, domestic affliction, conflict with a major competition), and would like to request to be considered for Team BC, may apply for “Absentee” consideration to Team BC. Procedure as follows:

1. Absentee requests must be filled out through an Absentee Form Application. This form can be requested through Team BC teambc@isparc.ca before the registration deadline (or in the case of sudden injury, illness or emergency, as soon as possible before the start of the selection event).
2. Athletes must register for the Camp as well as submit the Absentee Form.
3. Athletes requesting Absentee Consideration due to injury or illness must also submit a medical statement from their doctor or specialist describing injury and length of inactivity. If the nature of the injury would allow the athlete to attend the camp in person to observe and participate in any non-physical sessions (e.g. 'chalk-talks'), the athlete is encouraged to register and attend the Camp.
4. Athletes attending the Camp receive greater priority for team selection and no spot is guaranteed through Absentee application. Any athlete selected to Team BC through Absentee application will be subject to any applicable Camp registration fees incurred by players who attended.

7. Team Expectations

Upon selection to Team BC or Team BC Development Squad, an athlete is required to:

- a) Sign and honor the Code of Conduct
- b) Obey all rules established by Team BC and the Head Coach
- c) Participate in Team events, activities and meetings, as directed by the Head Coach
- d) Ensure they wear/use the proper equipment and clothing for their sport
- e) Assist and participate in team fundraising projects where required
- f) Continue with training and preparation
- g) Represent themselves, their families, their community, their team, with pride and integrity

Team expectations are not limited to the above items and there may be additional expectations communicated by the Head Coach or Team BC.

8. Dismissal

An athlete may be removed from Team BC for the following reasons (not limited to):

- a) Athlete violates Team BC code of conduct or Team rules
- b) Athlete is unable to perform due to injury, illness or for other medical reason
- c) Athlete is unable to commit to Team events, activities, meetings (note that an athlete may obtain an exemption from the Head Coach)
- d) Athlete is unable to maintain training standards or meet performance expectation to the Head Coaches satisfaction
- e) Athlete exhibits behavior/conduct that is detrimental to Team BC program
- f) Athlete voluntarily withdraws

9. Alternates

Where necessary and appropriate, an athlete removed from the Team may be replaced by an alternate, provided the alternate athlete is eligible. The selection of the replacement will be based upon previous results and selection criteria and shall be the decision of the Head Coach.

If an athlete selected to Team BC becomes ill or injured, he or she must seek immediate medical attention and report the illness or injury to Team BC. Team BC will assess the situation in order to make a recommendation. The assessment may involve requesting further information or additional medical tests. Where it is determined an athlete must be replaced, the selection of the replacement will be from among the pool of eligible alternate athletes.

10. Appeals

Any dispute relating to Team BC selections to be brought according to following procedure. The first level of appeal will be to the Team Head Coach. This appeal must be in writing (via email is acceptable) and be filed within 3 calendar days of the selections/announcement of the Development Squad, or, Team roster. If an athlete is not satisfied with this decision they may appeal in writing (via email is acceptable) to an Appeal Committee made up of Team BC Chef de Mission and/or Assistant Chef, and minimum of two members of the Provincial Sport Committee. This appeal must be filed within 3 calendar days of the Head Coach's decision of the first level appeal. At any time during the review/appeal process, the athlete may be required to provide additional information or evidence in support of their appeal. The athlete will receive a response from the Appeals Committee within one week of it being received and shall be the final level of appeal available to the athlete.

11. Inquiries

Inquiries regarding Team BC and 2023 NAIG, please contact us at teambc@isparc.ca or call 250-856-0850.

Team BC Chef de Mission

Michelle Webster

Assistant Chef de Mission

Kim Leming

Assistant Chef de Mission/Provincial Coordinator, Performance Sport

Joel Harry