



Team BC 2023 North American Indigenous Games ATHLETE SELECTION PROCESS

-- SWIMMING --

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

1. Athlete Eligibility

In order 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)*.
- Registered with Swim BC/Swimming Canada (SCN), or, BC Summer Swimming Association (BCSSA).

*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

2. Age Eligibility

The NAIG Swimming competition will consist of both male and female divisions in the following age categories. All age categories are defined by the year of birth of the athlete.

- 14U (defined as born 2009 & later*)
- 16U (defined as born 2007 & later)
- 19U (defined as born 2004 & later)

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

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 program for NAIG in the sport of swimming is sanctioned by Swim BC and BC Summer Swimming Association.

PARTNER AGENCIES



3. Team Size

Each Province, Territory and State may enter a maximum of four (4) male swimmers and four (4) female swimmers per each age classification respectively. Team BC will be fielding a maximum team total of 24 athletes. An athlete shall be allowed to compete in a maximum of six (6) events plus three (3) relays. An additional 12 swimmers will be identified as Team BC “Alternates” (2 per age category and gender) in the event of any illness, injury, etc. (see section 8 Alternates).

4. Coaching Staff

Team BC may accredit up to three (3) coaches and one (1) manager of which at least one must be of opposite gender. Team BC Head Coach will be Leanne Sirup.

5. Athlete Selection Process & Criteria

Swimmers interested in Team BC for NAIG must submit their application via the “Athlete Expression of Interest” form (link below). Contact teambc@isparc.ca or 250-856-0850 for assistance or for a hard-copy.

<https://aboriginalsportbc.wufoo.com/forms/athlete-expression-of-interest-team-bc-swimming/>.

Criteria for selection will be based on athletes’ performance results from sanctioned swim meet(s) in which they competed between May 1, 2022 and April 1, 2023. Details in table below. **While the selection period runs until April 1, 2023, the deadline to submit the “Athlete Expression of Interest” form is January 31, 2023.**

While performance results are the primary factor in the selection process, athlete selection criteria may also include other contributing factors including conduct, attitude, commitment to training, and other criteria determined by Team BC and its 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.

Team BC athlete selections will be finalized in April 2023. Selected Athletes have until May 1st, 2023 to confirm participation. Nil confirmation received = selected Swimmer’s spot will be opened to Alternate.

Selection Period	Individual short course (SCM) and long course (LCM) performances from May 1, 2022 – April 1, 2023 for Swimming Canada / Swim BC and BCSSA members.
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Selection Criteria	Step 1 – Stroke Category – 4 Swimmers per gender/age category*
Stroke Categories	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Freestyle• Breaststroke• Backstroke• Butterfly
The swimmer with the highest 2 x FINA point score (combined total) in each category will be selected (both short course SCM and long course LCM times will be considered). When a swimmer has the highest FINA point combined score in more than one category, that swimmer will be selected to the category in which they score the highest. In categories where the swimmer with the highest FINA point combined score has already been selected for another category, then the swimmer with the next highest FINA point combined score will be selected. <i>*in the instances of vacancies per age category, alternates of the younger age category will have ‘first right of refusal’ to ‘swim up’ an age category. Swimmers can only age up 1 age category. Selected swimmers of their true age will not be moved up to accommodate alternates.</i>	

Selection Criteria	Step 2 – Alternate Category - 2 Swimmers per gender/age
The swimmers with the next 2 highest FINA point combined scores in any one category will be selected as alternates. No more than two swimmers will be selected as an alternate in any one category.	

6. Team Expectations

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

- a) Sign and honour 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.

7. 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

8. Alternates

Where necessary and appropriate, an athlete removed or withdrawn 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.

9. 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.

10. Inquiries

Inquiries regarding Team BC and 2023 NAIG, please contact Head Coach Leanne Sirup at leanne@duncanstingrays.com or Joel Harry, Provincial Coordinator, Performance Sport at teambc@isparc.ca