



U23 PAN AMERICAN CHAMPIONSHIPS

TEAM SELECTION CRITERIA 2025

November 2024

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1 – INTRODUCTION

The purpose of this document is to set out the selection process and criteria that will be used by Wrestling Canada Lutte (WCL) to select or nominate athletes to the 2025 U23 Pan American Championships.

WCL is under no obligation to send complete teams to events. Fulfillment of team spots is subject to athletes meeting the necessary qualification and eligibility criteria as outlined by WCL and other external stakeholder agencies, where applicable.

This document will be in effect only for selection for the 2025 U23 Pan American Championships.

The High Performance Director (HPD) is responsible for the development and implementation of a selection process that is fair and equitable for all candidates.

Situations related to the coronavirus or other pandemic viruses may arise that require these criteria to be modified. Any modifications will be made promptly and as often as required following developments that directly impact the criteria. In such circumstances, any modifications will be communicated to all affected individuals as soon as possible.

Further, situations may arise that do not allow these criteria to be modified or applied as written due to time constraints or other exceptional and unforeseen circumstances. In such situations, any decision, including nomination decisions, will be made by the individual(s) with decision-making authority, as stated in these criteria, in consultation with the relevant individual(s) or committee(s) (as applicable), and in accordance with the stated performance objectives and selection philosophy and approach as stated herein. Should it be necessary to make any decision in this manner, WCL will communicate with all affected individuals as soon as possible.

The selection criteria and process outlined in this document were drafted and prepared by the HPD in consultation with High Performance and Club Excellence coaches, Athlete Council and the oversight of the High Performance Advisory Committee (HPAC - composed of athlete and coach representatives). Final approval of the policy is by WCL's Board of Directors.

For questions or clarifications on the contents of this document, please contact the HPD: cwoodcroft@wrestling.ca.

2 – DECISION MAKING AUTHORITY

The High Performance Manager (HPM) will assist the HPD in ensuring that the process outlined in this document is properly followed when making any selection decisions.

Performance-based decisions on selection include:

- Reviewing current domestic and international results;

- Yearly training plan (YTP);
- International Performance Index (IPI);
- Previous competition experience;
- Assessing the suitability of the level of competition;
- Gold medal profile (GMP);
- If no suitable participants are found, the HPD reserves the right to not select or fill a team spot.

The final decision-making authority for selection remains with the HPD.

3 – REFERENCES

The following documents are referenced in this document:

- U23 Team Selection Criteria 2024;
- Senior Team Selection Criteria 2024;
- Wrestle-Off Procedures 2025;
- WCL Athlete Agreement;
- National Team YTP; and
- WCL Appeal Policy.

4 – ATHLETE ELIGIBILITY

In order to be eligible to be considered for selection or nomination, all athletes must meet the following requirements at the time of entry to any selection or ranking event(s) and maintain these requirements throughout the 2025 competitive season:

- Be eligible to represent Canada as governed by United World Wrestling (UWW):
 - Canadian citizen (no previous international representation with another country, i.e. not had a UWW licence with another country), OR;
 - Canadian citizen or Permanent Resident with an approved Sport Nationality Transfer¹ from UWW, effective 2025
- Hold a valid (not expired) Canadian passport or Permanent Resident card, as per above;
- Be a member in good standing of their respective PTSO and be a participant in good standing with WCL;
- Be in compliance with all WCL regulations and requirements;
- Be in compliance with all relevant United World Wrestling (UWW) regulations and requirements at the time of nomination;
- Be in compliance with any other major Games franchise holder regulations and requirements (where applicable) at the time of nomination.

Please refer to specific event information for any other conditions of eligibility or entry.

¹ Please contact the WCL National Office for details on completing a UWW Sport Nationality Transfer. Performance criteria will be used for decision-making where there are limitations on the number of transfers in any given year. All documentation and payment must be submitted to the WCL National Office no later than December 13, 2024.

5 – EVENT FUNDING

Event funding is determined by WCL’s 2025-2026 budget. Additional funding, should it be available, will be allocated on an event basis. As such, some athletes may be required to self-fund all or part of their participation in events. Any funding that is allocated to athletes for national / international training and/or competitive opportunities will be specific to that opportunity only.

All Greco-Roman events and activities are self-funded.

6 – WCL RANKING EVENTS (MEN’S & WOMEN FREESTYLE)

The 2024 U23 Canadian Championships will serve as the ranking event for team selection in both Olympic and non-Olympic weight classes.

Athlete right of refusal is established in the following order of priority:

1. 2024 U23 Canadian Championships winner in the same weight class
2. 2024 U23 Canadian Championships winner at a different weight class
3. 2024 U23 Canadian Championships true second ranked athlete in the same weight class
4. 2024 U23 Canadian Championships true second ranked athlete at a different weight class
5. HPD Discretion

*NOTE: All athletes wishing to compete in the 2025 U23 Pan Am Championships in both the Olympic and non-Olympic weight classes will need to notify the HPD by March 1st, 2025 with the weight class they wish to compete in.

7 – GRECO-ROMAN

NOTE: Application deadline for intent to participate in 2025 U23 Pan American Championships is March 1st, 2025.

Athletes who wish to participate in the 2025 U23 Pan American Championships must follow the procedure outlined below as well as meet the criteria described hereunder. It should be noted that nomination to participate in an international Greco-Roman events is subject to the approval of the HPD. Athletes intending to compete in Greco-Roman must have a suitably qualified coach with Greco-Roman experience.

Male athletes will NOT be permitted to compete in both Freestyle and Greco-Roman styles if they are nominated and selected to both teams.

Criteria:

- Top ranked athlete in weight class specific category in the Greco-Roman style at the 2024 Senior Canadian Wrestling Championships;

Process:

- Athletes and their coaches must apply to the HPD. Applications must include the following:
 - Training history pertinent to Greco-Roman;
 - 2024-25 Greco-Roman competition history and results;
 - 2025 training plans and YTP pertinent to Greco-Roman submitted as part of the event application process.

8 – INJURY / ILLNESS

All nominated athletes will have their injury / health status assessed by the approved Integrated Support Team (IST) after nomination and during the lead up to the event(s) for which they were selected to ensure a proper approach to their health management.

Once selected, athletes who do not remain competition ready because of lack of fitness, injury or illness, may be removed from the team at any time. Athletes are required to immediately report any injury, illness, or change in training that could affect their ability to compete at their highest level. Notification must be sent to the HPD.

9 – REMOVAL OF AN ATHLETE ONCE SELECTED

The HPD reserves the right to withdraw an athlete selected to a team pursuant to these criteria:

- If the athlete has not fulfilled their responsibilities with respect to mandatory training camps, testing, and competitions;
- If the athlete has not fulfilled their responsibilities as identified in the WCL Athlete Agreement;
- If the athlete has not fulfilled their responsibilities as identified in WCL regulations and requirements;
- If the athlete is unable to perform due to lack of fitness, injury, illness or other medical reasons as supported by the WCL Chief Medical Officer.

10 – DOPING CONTROL

Doping control will be conducted throughout the 2025 competition season. Athletes selected to WCL teams are subject to doping control and may be requested to submit to doping control by the Canadian Centre for Ethics in Sport (CCES) in Canada and/or by any Anti-Doping Organization that has authority over the athlete in accordance with the relevant and applicable anti-doping rules. Should a doping violation occur, that individual may be immediately removed from any team for which they have been selected. Other sanctions may also apply.

11 – COACHING

National team events are overseen by WCL staff, including coaches. Additional coaches who wish to attend events should apply in writing to the HPD as outlined in the Coaching Selection Policy.

12 – APPEALS PROCEDURE

WCL nominations may be appealed in accordance with the procedures set out in the WCL Appeal Policy: https://wrestling.ca/wp-content/uploads/2023/01/Safe_Sport_Policy_Manual-January-2023-1.pdf.

13 – COMMUNICATION

This document will be circulated via email to all PTSOs as well as posted on the WCL website. WCL respectfully requests that the PTSOs share this document to their constituents by posting on their respective websites and email distribution. The responsibility of reading and understanding the policy lies with individual participants.

The policy will also be presented to the Athlete Council.

Should any subsequent amendments be made to these Selection Criteria, they will be circulated via email to all PTSOs as well as posted on the WCL website.

Communication of the final team (athletes and staff) and any changes in nomination will be posted on the WCL website.

14 – MODIFICATION OF THIS DOCUMENT

In the event of circumstances beyond the control of WCL, including but not limited to changes made by UWW, COC, IOC or WCL, that prevents the fair implementation of these selection criteria, as written, WCL reserves the right to determine an appropriate course of action, which may include the right to review and change any part of the selection criteria.