



INTERNAL NOMINATING PROCEDURES:

ASUNCION 2025 JUNIOR PAN AMERICAN GAMES

(U23 AGES)

December 2024

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1 – INTRODUCTION

This document outlines the process and procedures to be used by Wrestling Canada Lutte (WCL) for selecting the athletes, coaches, and staff that will be nominated to the Canadian Olympic Committee (COC) to represent Canada at the Asuncion 2025 Junior Pan American Games (Games) in Asunción, Paraguay. Being selected does not mean the athlete, coach or staff member will be nominated to participate.

NOTE: All WCL nominated athletes, coaches and support staff are subject to approval of the Canadian Olympic Committee (COC).

WCL's objective for the Asuncion 2025 Junior Pan American Games includes providing multi-sport games experience for LA 2028 Olympic Games hopefuls or alternates and the NextGen U23 age group, and contribution to the overall medal count of the Canadian team.

All COC deadlines noted herein are subject to change based on Asuncion 2025 timelines.

For questions or clarifications on the contents of this document, please contact Chris Woodcroft, High Performance Director (cwoodcroft@wrestling.ca).

2 – DECISION MAKING AUTHORITY

The process outlined in this document was drafted and prepared by the High Performance Director (HPD) in consultation with high performance and club excellence coaches and oversight of the High Performance Advisory Committee (HPAC – comprised of coaches and athletes). Final approval of the policy was granted by the WCL Board.

The HPD, or their designate, is responsible for the development and implementation of a selection process that is fair and equitable for all candidates.

During the actual competition period onsite at the Games, all final decision-making authority will reside with the HPD or designate.

3 – PERTINENT DOCUMENTS

The following documents are relevant and may be applied during the selection process and/or after athletes are selected to the 2025 Junior Pan American Games Team. WCL documents can be found in the WCL website under Resources (<https://wrestling.ca/resources/>):

- WCL U23 Pan American Championships Team Selection Criteria 2025;
- WCL Athlete Agreement;
- COC Athlete Agreement (once published – 6 months prior);
- Asuncion 2025 Pan American Junior Games Conditions of Participation Form (once published – 2 months prior);
- Olympic Charter;
- National Team YTP;

- WCL Coach Selection Policy;
- WCL Code of Conduct & Ethics (Safe Sport Policy Manual);
- WCL Discipline & Complaints Policy (Safe Sport Policy Manual);
- WCL Appeal Policy (Safe Sport Policy Manual).

4 – QUOTA SPOTS

The Asuncion 2025 Junior Pan American Games events include the six (6) Olympic weight classes in all three styles:

- Women’s Wrestling: 50kg, 53kg, 57kg, 62kg, 68kg, and 76kg
- Men’s Freestyle: 57kg, 65kg, 74kg, 86kg, 97kg, and 125kg
- Men’s Greco-Roman: 60kg, 67kg, 77kg, 87kg, 97kg, and 130kg

*NOTE: WCL is not sanctioning participation in Greco-Roman wrestling.

WCL has been given a conditional quota of four (4) athletes - two (2) Men’s Freestyle and two (2) Women’s Wrestling, and one (1) quota for team support personnel (team leader / coach) by the Canadian Olympic Committee (COC), subject to earning the quotas via the [International Qualification System](#).

These Internal Nominating Procedures shall continue to apply if additional quota spots become available.

5 – ATHLETE ELIGIBILITY

To be eligible to be considered for nomination to the COC for team selection, all athletes must meet the following requirements at the time of nomination and maintain these requirements through the completion of the Asuncion 2025 Junior Pan American Games:

- Be a Canadian citizen;
- Have a valid Canadian passport that does not expire on or before February 23rd, 2026;
- Be in compliance with all relevant UWW, COC and IOC requirements for eligibility;
- Sign, submit and comply with the COC Athlete Agreement and PASO Eligibility Conditions Form (EC) no later than June 26th, 2025. Where the athlete is under the age of 19 years, the parent or guardian must also sign these agreements;
- Sign and submit the WCL Athlete Agreement Form no later than June 26th, 2025;
- Be a member in good standing of their respective PTSO and be a registered participant in good standing with WCL:
 - Must not be under suspension, or other sanction, for any doping or doping-related offense;
 - Must not be under suspension, or any sanction for any WCL Code of Conduct or Discipline Policy offense or any other relevant WCL policy;
 - Must sign and comply with the Athlete Agreement as required by WCL and/or Sport Canada
 - Must not have any outstanding invoices with WCL;
- Athletes must be born between 2002 and 2007;
- Athletes must hold a valid 2025 UWW license;
- Alternate athletes selected must also comply with all items contained in this document and must ensure that all administrative and financial obligations are fulfilled by June 26th, 2025;

- Compliance with vaccination requirements and policies of WCL, COC, IF, PASO and the host country of the event (if applicable);
- Athletes named to compete in the Asuncion 2025 Junior Pan American Games, will be required to comply with the dress code regulations of WCL and the COC.

6 – FUNDING

Subject to COC’s Team Selection Policy, all nationally carded, Schedule B, or NextGen qualified athletes, accredited coaches and staff that fall within the men’s freestyle and women’s wrestling quota and who have been nominated to the Asuncion 2025 Junior Pan American Games, may be fully or partially funded by the COC and/or WCL for participation in the Asuncion 2025 Junior Pan American Games. Any WCL funding (budget dependent) will be performance-based (eg. Schedule B athletes, international performance index), as determined by the HPD.

7 – QUALIFICATION SYSTEM

WCL is under no obligation to send a complete team to the Asuncion 2025 Junior Pan American Games. Fulfillment of quotas are subject to an athlete meeting the necessary qualification and eligibility criteria as outlined by United World Wrestling (UWW), International Olympic Committee (IOC), COC, and WCL. In the event of a discrepancy between this document and the Qualification System, the Qualification System version will prevail. In the event of changes by PASO or UWW to the selection and eligibility criteria, WCL is bound by these changes and will inform the membership as soon as possible.

The 2025 Asuncion Junior Pan American Games Team will be qualified in three stages:

Stage 1: International Qualification System

Stage 2: 2025 U23 Canadian Wrestling Championships

Stage 3: Team training, competition, and administrative obligations

****NOTE:** All dates and locations are subject to change.

STAGE 1: INTERNATIONAL QUALIFICATION SYSTEM

Please refer to the [International Qualification System](#) as determined by UWW and the organising committee of the Asuncion 2025 Junior Pan American Games.

STAGE 2: 2025 U23 CANADIAN WRESTLING CHAMPIONSHIPS (JUNE 2025)

If this event is not held due to unforeseen circumstances (e.g. COVID considerations), alternate Championship dates / selection criteria will be established as soon as possible, in consultation with our athletes, coaches, High Performance Advisory Committee and approved by the Board of Directors.

Final ranking from the 2025 U23 Canadian Wrestling Championships will be used for team selection, subject to international qualification in Stage 1.

Women's Wrestling & Men's Freestyle:

- The 1st ranked athlete from the 2025 U23 Canadian Wrestling Championships in each of the six (6) Olympic weight classes will have first right of refusal for nomination.
- The 2nd ranked athlete (true second ranking) from the 2025 U23 Canadian Wrestling Championships in each of the six (6) Olympic weight classes will be the alternate in each respective weight class.
- Subject to international qualification, WCL will allocate two (2) quota spots to Women's Wrestling and two (2) quota spots to Men's Freestyle.
- *NOTE: If more than two (2) women's and more than two (2) men's quota spots are earned during international qualification in Stage 1, a performance-based decision on results (weight class specific) from the 2024 World Championships (Senior non-Olympic, U23, U20, U17) and the 2025 U23 Pan American Championships will be made by the HPD.
- Results from the 2025 Senior Canadian Championships may be used to break a tie in any other scenarios requiring the HPD to make a performance-based decision.

STAGE 3: PERFORMANCE READINESS AND INJURY

Nominated team members and alternates will be required to demonstrate a commitment to an HPD approved training and competition program, leading into and throughout the 2025 competitive season. National Team training camps and scheduled competitions are a necessary part of an athlete's preparation program and are, therefore, mandatory. All nominated athletes will have their injury/health status assessed by the approved Integrated Support Team (IST) after nomination to ensure a proper approach to their health management.

In addition to programs identified, the personal coach, HPD and HPM will identify specific competitive and training program requirements for each team member. These requirements will be based upon the National Team program. The athlete is expected to undergo regular monitoring against the WCL Gold Medal Profile (GMP) and programming will be based on the identified gaps. All nominated athletes shall have their injury/health status assessed by WCL medical staff as directed by WCL.

Both athletes and personal coaches must communicate with the HPD, HPM and national IST leads to collaborate on best practices and ensure optimal preparation for the benchmark event.

Once nominated to the Asuncion 2025 Junior Pan American Games, athletes who do not remain competitive 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 at the Asuncion 2025 Junior Pan American Games. Notification must be sent to the HPD.

8 – REMOVAL OF AN ATHLETE ONCE SELECTED

The HPD reserves the right to withdraw an athlete from nomination:

- 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 is found to be in breach of the WCL Code of Conduct by a duly appointed disciplinary panel in accordance with the WCL Discipline Policy.
- If the athlete has been found to have committed an anti-doping rule violation by an Anti-Doping Organization with jurisdiction over the athlete. For the avoidance of doubt, this could include the CCES, UWW, the IOC, or a National Anti-Doping Organization from the country in which the athlete is located and is subject to doping control.
- If the athlete is unable to perform due to injury, illness or other medical reasons as supported by the WCL Chief Medical Officer (CMO).

Following nomination to the COC, any such removals are subject to approval by the COC Team Selection Committee. Any substitutions after the deadlines are also subject to the Asuncion 2025 Junior Pan American Games Late Athlete Replacement Policy.

If an athlete is removed, it is WCL's intention to have the alternate in the specific weight class fill the spot as long as they have met all athlete eligibility criteria, competitive readiness and WCL is able to meet the COC/IOC late replacement process/timelines. If no suitable alternates are found, the HPD reserves the right to not select or fill a team spot.

9 – ANTI-DOPING

Athletes may be requested to submit to doping control by any Anti-Doping Organization that has testing authority over them. This includes the CCES, any National Anti-Doping Organization of the country in which the athlete is located, UWW, WADA and the IOC. Athlete Support Personnel, which includes, *inter alia*, coaches or any other person who is working with, treating or assisting an athlete, are also subject to the anti-doping rules of relevant anti-doping organizations, such as the CCES, UWW, WADA or the IOC. It is expected that any athlete that is not part of a national or registered testing pool will undergo doping control prior to participation in the Games.

Should an athlete, coach or other athlete support personnel commit an anti-doping rule violation, that individual, in addition to other sanctions, will be removed from the 2025 Asuncion Junior Pan American Games Team.

All team members will be required to complete the CCES e-learning course prior to competing internationally.

10 – STAFF SELECTION

The staff will be selected on the principle of sending a team of specialists that are best capable of assisting and supporting the athletes in achieving a podium performance at the Games as well as contributing to a winning team culture.

Staff selections will be based on final confirmation of COC quota allocations. Any decisions on the distribution of accreditations falls within the authority of the HPD.

In the event WCL is allotted a lower quota due to our overall team size, the HPD will prioritize the distribution of full staff (Ao) accreditations.

Staff selections will follow the principles of WCL's Coaches Selection Policy and may include, but not limited to the following:

- Team Leader: NSO nominated team leaders must satisfy the expectations and requirements of COC's Team Leader position description
- Designated Lead Coach (possibly a coach & team leader dual role)
- High Performance / Designated Support Coach
- And/or other staff based on the needs of the team (TBD following confirmation of team support personnel quota spot(s))

To be eligible to be considered for nomination to the COC for team selection, all coaches must meet the following requirements at the time of nomination and maintain these requirements through the completion of the Asuncion 2025 Junior Pan American Games:

- Be in compliance with all relevant UWW, COC and IOC requirements for eligibility;
- Sign, submit and comply with the COC Support Staff Agreement and PASO Eligibility Conditions Form (EC) no later than June 26th, 2025;
- Be 18 years of age or older;
- Be a member in good standing of their respective PTSO and be a registered participant in good standing with WCL:
 - Must not be under suspension, or other sanction, for any doping or doping-related offense;
 - Must not be under suspension, or any sanction for any WCL Code of Conduct or Discipline Policy offense or any other relevant WCL policy;
 - Must not have any outstanding invoices with WCL;
 - Must have completed all WCL safe sport training and screening requirements;
- Must hold a valid 2025 UWW license;
- Must have Competition Development Certified Status or higher in wrestling (National Coaching Certification Program);
- Be in good standing with the Professional Coaching Program of the Coaching Association of Canada;
- Must have a valid passport that does not expire until 6 months after the Games have ended;
- Compliance with vaccination requirements and policies of WCL, COC, IF, PASO and the host country of the event (if applicable);
- Support staff named to compete in the Asuncion 2025 Junior Pan American Games, will be required to comply with the dress code regulations of WCL and the COC.

11 – NOMINATIONS TO THE COC

Final athlete and support staff nominations to the COC will be made no later than July 15th, 2025. Nominated athletes and support staff must continue to satisfy the eligibility criteria laid out above until the completion of the Games.

Should a nominated athlete, at any time between the sport entry deadline and the sport technical meeting for the Asuncion 2025 Junior Pan American Games, decline their nomination or be declared unable to participate in a competitive manner or no longer meet the eligibility criteria, that athlete shall be replaced,

subject to the Asuncion 2025 Junior Pan American Junior Games Late Athlete Replacement Policy, by the highest ranked COC approved alternate from the 2025 U23 Canadian Championships in their event.

12 – PROVISIONAL TIMELINE SUMMARY

DATE	EVENT
December 2024	INP published
April 3-5, 2025	Stage 1: International Qualification Event - U23 Pan American Championships (Queretaro, MEX)
April 18, 2025	UWWA to confirm to the NOCs the quota spots they have qualified
April 25, 2025	NOC to confirm acceptance of allocated spots to UWWA
April 28, 2025	UWWA Reallocation of Quota Spots
May 2, 2025	NOC to confirm/accept any reallocated quota spots
May 9, 2025	NOC to confirm number of entries to UWWA
June 27-28, 2025	Stage 2: U23 Canadian Wrestling Championships (Niagara, ON)
July 4, 2025	Athlete & support staff confirmation deadline to WCL
July 11, 2025	WCL appeal deadline
July 15, 2025	WCL entry by name deadline to COC
July 19, 2025	COC entry by name deadline
August 9-23, 2025	Asuncion 2025 Pan American Junior Games

13 – 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#page=51). If the timing of the nomination process is challenging and if both parties are in agreement, the WCL Appeal Policy can be bypassed and the matter can be brought immediately before the Sport Dispute Resolution Centre of Canada (SDRCC) who will then manage the appeals process.

14 – COMMUNICATION

The draft of this document will be vetted through the Athlete Council, high performance and club excellence coaches, High Performance Advisory Committee, along with seeking input from other coaches prior to being approved by the Board of Directors.

The 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. All National Team Athletes will receive notification of this policy once it is approved.

The policy will be presented via webinars to athletes, coaches and PTSOs.

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.

15 – MODIFICATION OF THIS DOCUMENT / UNFORESEEN CIRCUMSTANCES

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

This clause shall not be used to justify changes after a competition or trials which formed part of this document unless it is related to an unforeseen circumstance as described immediately above. This also allows for changes to this document that may become necessary due to a typographical error or a lack of clarity in a definition or wording before it has an impact on athletes.

In the event of a change to this document, WCL shall inform the membership of the changes and the reasons for those changes as soon as possible.

Situations related to pandemic viruses may arise that require these procedures to be modified. Any modifications will be made promptly and as often as required following developments that directly impact the procedures. 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 procedures 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 procedures, 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.