



COACH SELECTION POLICY FOR NATIONAL TEAMS

December 2025

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1 – OBJECTIVE

The priority for the national team program of Wrestling Canada Lutte (WCL) is to ensure that the staff coaches have continued oversight of athlete performance pathways led by the High Performance Director (HPD). Coaching assignments are made by the High Performance Director or designate. The performance environment for the overall group of athletes is the top priority. **Coaching selection will be based on the overall philosophy of a commitment to the National Team along with collaboration among other coaches and National Team athletes!** International experience to match the level of competition along with providing mentorship and/or leadership opportunities, safety, professionalism, and gender representation are also important considerations where possible.

The national program Yearly Training Plans (YTP), once finalized, will be circulated to the wrestling community for expressions of interest to be considered as an additional event coach (WCL funded) or personal coach (self-funded). Expressions of Interest, along with Yearly Training Plans and Professional Development plans, should be sent to the High Performance Director for consideration at: cwoodcroft@wrestling.ca. Where possible, appointments will be announced as soon as possible.

2 – EVENT COACH

Coaches wishing to be considered by WCL as an “event coach” must have / must be:

- Competition-Development certification status or higher (NCCP)
- Current WCL Licence
- Signed the Canadian Safe Sport Program (CSSP) Informed Consent Form
- Current UWW Licence
- All appropriate Safe Sport Training & Screening requirements
- Be a member in good standing of their respective PTSO and be a participant in good standing with WCL;
- Adhere to the High Performance program & WCL Vision, Mission and Values

Additional appointments to national team events will be made on the principle of prioritizing coaching for athletes prioritized on the below basis:

- Schedule B
- Next Gen
- Carded Athletes

Coaches will not be considered solely on the basis of the number of athletes from that club in any given team, but this will be a consideration.

For Continental Championships, World Championships, major Games and ranking tournaments the following standard will be applied, budget permitting. Being designated an “event coach” does not guarantee funding.

Table 1: WCL Support Staff Summary for Continental & World Championships, major Games and ranking tournaments

	Senior	U23	U20-Junior	U17-Cadet
Event Coaches	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lead Coach • Support Coach • Mentee Coach* 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lead Coach • Support Coach • Mentee Coach* 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lead Coach • Support Coach • Mentee Coach* 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lead Coach • Support Coach • Mentee Coach*
Team Leader	HPD / Team Leader	Team Leader	Team Leader	Team Leader
Medical / AT / Physio	1	1	1	1

- All championships (Cadet, Junior, Senior) will have a minimum of 1 Medical/AT/Physio support staff assigned by WCL.
- All U17-Cadet & U20-Junior events will include a staff person of each gender.
- *Mentee Coach must be Competition-Development Certified or in the process of certification.

Personal coaches may apply for additional events outside the above window following the Personal Coach procedure (please see section 6 below).

3 – LEAD COACH

The Lead Coach will be the Head Coach for the event and will work in conjunction with the Team Leader on all aspects of the event, under the direction of the HPD. The Lead Coach will work collaboratively with the Support Coach(es), Mentee Coach(es) and personal coaches for the benefit of all National Team Athletes. The Lead Coach's ultimate responsibility is to the National Team Athletes and their preparation, in all areas, leading to a successful outcome for each wrestler.

The Lead Coach will be responsible for:

- On-mat coach assignments (both primary coach and secondary coach) for the event, maintaining personal club coach/athlete combinations as much as possible)
- Coordinating all on and off-mat training, in collaboration with personal coaches on their athlete(s) requirements
- Coordinating and leading all Coach preparatory and debrief sessions for practices and event match sessions
- Team building activities (where appropriate)

4 – SUPPORT COACH

The Support Coach will:

- Collaborate with the Lead Coach on all aspects of the event

- Be a support to the Lead Coach on all aspects of the event with the primary responsibility to the National Team Athletes
- Be the mentor coach to the Mentee Coach

5 – MENTEE COACH

The Mentee Coach will:

- The primary role is to support the Lead Coach and the Support Coach for the benefit of all National Team Athletes
- Work closely with the Support Coach in a mentor/mentee relationship for the purpose of learning to lead a National Team at an international competition
- The goals of the experience will be jointly created in collaboration between the HPD and the Mentee Coach and will be individualized to meet the needs of the Mentee Coach.

6 – PERSONAL COACH PROGRAM

WCL encourages personal coaches of selected wrestlers to all selected National teams, who wish to attend an event/competition, to apply directly to the High Performance Director (HPD). WCL fully recognizes and values the contributions of the personal coach. The personal coach agrees to follow the direction of the Lead Coach and work in collaboration with all coaches for the benefit of all National Team athletes. The personal coach must be in good standing with WCL and fulfill all requirements and expectations.

Personal Coaches wishing to be considered by WCL must have the same qualifications / designations as an event coach.

To participate with their athlete in camps and competitions, personal coaches must adhere to the following guidelines:

a) Travel

All travel and accommodation logistics will be coordinated through the National Office & WCL staff.

All expenses are the responsibility of the personal coach.

b) Participation – Training

- The Lead Coach will be the Head Coach for all aspects of the designated event including all lead up activities.
- The personal coach's role will be assigned in collaboration with the Lead Coach.
- Personal coaches work collaboratively with the Lead Coach, all assigned event coaches and the Team Leader.
- Personal Coaches will be permitted to join all Team functions where feasible (and permitted by Host/Games organization/credentials)

c) Conditions

The personal coach is an invitee of WCL and as such is expected to conduct themselves in a respectful and professional manner. Should a personal coach's behaviour be contrary to the terms and conditions that the selected coaches are held to and which are viewed to negatively impact the team or WCL's reputation, then the personal coach's interaction with the team may be restricted at the discretion of the Team Leader/ Lead Coach.

d) Declaration of Intent to Participate

A personal coach planning to participate with their athlete in camps and/or events as outlined above must declare their intent to participate in writing, via email, to the High Performance Director within 30 days of their athlete being selected to team in question and / or through the Expression of Interest process (outlined in section 1).