



VETERAN WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP PARTICIPATION CRITERIA 2026

February 2026

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1 – INTRODUCTION

This document outlines the process and criteria used by Wrestling Canada Lutte (WCL) for sanctioning athlete participation at the 2026 Veteran World Championships (Men’s Freestyle & Greco-Roman).

Fulfillment of team spots is subject to athletes meeting the necessary eligibility criteria as outlined by WCL and other external stakeholder agencies, where applicable.

All deadlines noted herein are subject to change based on United World Wrestling (UWW) timelines.

This document will be in effect for the 2026 calendar year.

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

2 – DECISION MAKING AUTHORITY

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

The process outlined in this document was drafted and prepared by the HPD. Oversight was provided by the Athlete Council and the High Performance Advisory Committee (HPAC – composed of coaches and athletes). Final approval of the policy was made by the WCL Board of Directors.

The High Performance Manager (HPM) will support the HPD in ensuring that the process outlined in this document is properly followed. The final decision-making authority for selection remains with the HPD.

3 – PERTINENT DOCUMENTS

The following documents are relevant and may be applicable throughout the process. WCL documents can be found on the WCL website under Resources: <https://wrestling.ca/policy-manual/>.

- WCL Agreement;
- WCL Code of Conduct and Ethics;
- WCL Discipline and Complaints Policy;
- WCL Appeal Policy.

4 – ATHLETE ELIGIBILITY

To be considered by WCL for participation, all athletes must meet the following requirements at the time of application for the Championships and maintain these requirements throughout the 2026 calendar year:

- 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 with an approved Sport Nationality Transfer from UWW, effective 2026 or earlier
- Hold a valid Canadian passport, that does not expire before June 30, 2007;
- UWW age eligibility (based on year of birth, not one's age during the event):
 - Division " A " 35 - 40 years
 - Division " B " 41 - 45 years
 - Division " C " 46 - 50 years
 - Division " D " 51 - 55 years
 - Division " E " 56 - 60 years
- Be a participant in good standing and hold a valid (current) WCL licence;
 - Must not be under suspension, or any other sanction, for any doping or doping-related offense;
 - Must not be under suspension, or any other 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;
 - Must not have any outstanding invoices with WCL;
- Be a member in good standing of their respective PTSO;
- Be in compliance with all WCL regulations and requirements;
- Be in compliance with all relevant United World Wrestling (UWW) regulations and requirements;
- Have personal sport accident and medical insurance or similar insurance coverage;

Please refer to specific event information for eligibility / entry requirements and any other conditions of eligibility.

5 – EVENT FUNDING

Participation in the Championship and related activities is on a self-funded basis. If 3 or more athletes compete in the Championships, they must also subsidize the costs of an official, per UWW regulations.

6 – MINIMUM PARTICIPATION CRITERIA

To be eligible to participate in the 2026 Veteran World Championships, athletes must have wrestled in a minimum of one Senior or Master/Veteran competition within a 12-month period preceding the 2026 Veteran World Championships.

7 – MEDICAL

Each athlete must undergo a medical examination in his own country one week before the competition. A UWW Veteran Medical Certificate must be completed and signed by a licensed Physician, and handed to the designated UWW Doctor during the weigh-in.

8 – APPLICATION PROCESS

Athletes must submit a completed application form to the HPM, no later than August 1, 2026.

9 – REMOVAL OF ATHLETE SANCTIONING

Athletes must demonstrate the ability to participate safely in the Championship and must comply with WCL and UWW regulations.

The HPD reserves the right to withdraw athlete sanctioning:

- If the athlete has not fulfilled his/her responsibilities as identified in the WCL Agreement;
- If the athlete has not fulfilled his/her responsibilities as identified in WCL regulations and requirements;
- 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 Sport Integrity Canada, 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 lack of fitness, injury, illness or other medical reasons as supported by the WCL Chief Medical Officer.

10 – ANTI-DOPING

Athletes may be requested to submit to doping control by any Anti-Doping Organization that has testing authority over them. This includes Sport Integrity Canada, 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 Sport Integrity Canada, UWW, WADA or the IOC.

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 Championship Team.

Team members may be required to complete the Sport Integrity Canada e-learning course prior to competing internationally.

11 – APPEALS PROCEDURE

WCL nominations may be appealed in accordance with the procedures set out in the WCL Appeal Policy (as amended from time to time).

12 – 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.

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 and circulated via email to all PTSOs.

13 – MODIFICATION OF THIS DOCUMENT/UNFORESEEN CIRCUMSTANCES

In the event that circumstances beyond the control of WCL arise, including but not limited to force majeure events, pandemics, changes made by UWW or WCL, that prevents the fair implementation of these 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 document, or withdraw sanction for the Championships.

This clause shall not be used to justify changes after a competition or selection event 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.

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.