



# CANADIAN FENCING FEDERATION PARAFENCING

## Selection Policies



# **HANDBOOK**

## **2019-2020**

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## **INTRODUCTION**

This Handbook contains the selection policies, which will be used to select athletes for the High-Performance Para Fencing Program (HPPFP) and projects within the HPPFWFP during the 2019-20 season.

The objective of the HPPFP is to design programs so that Canadian teams/athletes can win medals at the World Championships and Paralympic Games on a sustained basis. This objective is the driving force behind any decision and direction of the HPPFP.

While every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of the material contained within this Handbook, readers are advised to consult with the person in charge of the Program if they have questions about any element contained within.

Similarly, the dates of international selection competitions are accurate as of the date of publication of this Handbook, but dates and events can and do change. Please verify competition details before making final travel arrangements for events. Furthermore, it is the athlete's (and their personal coaches') responsibility to be familiar with the information within this document.

## **HIGH PERFORMANCE SELECTION RATIFICATION COMMITTEE**

The High-Performance Selection Ratification Committee will ratify the final selections. They will ensure that the final team composition proposed by the National Coach for all major Championships meets the criteria published in this Handbook. The HPSRC for each weapon will consist of:

1. the High-Performance Director (HPD);
2. two (2) or three (3) members of the High-Performance Committee.

**The HPSRC reserves the right to withdraw an athlete from a selection in the following cases:**

1. If the athlete has not taken part in a mandatory training camps as described for the HPPFP prior to the event. Exemptions can be requested in advance of a specific event. Exemptions will be granted on a case by case basis once discussed between the HPD and National Coach. All exemptions will be communicated with the National Coach.
2. If the athlete has not fulfilled his/her responsibilities as identified in the "HPP Athlete Agreement".
3. If the athlete has not fulfilled his/her responsibilities as identified in the "CFF Code of Conduct".
4. If the athlete has outstanding debts with the CFF.

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## **HIGH PERFORMANCE PARAFENCING FENCING PROGRAM (HPPFP)**

The Canadian Fencing Federation (CFF) has a High-Performance Director and one National coach to lead the High-Performance ParaFencing Program.

The National Coach is the recognized leader of the national team program and works under the guidance of the High-Performance Director. The National Coach establishes the annual competition schedule, the training camp schedule, and plans the use of IST at events for their program. The National Coach will bring together coaches through the creation of a “Coaching Team” to work towards the common goal of implementing the weapon’s program and sustaining it.

National Team athletes are expected to follow the expectations for athletes in the Train to Win stage of the CFF’s LTAD framework. HP succession athletes will be in either the Train to Win or Train to Compete stage. The National Coach will work with personal coaches to develop an annual training and competition plan that is consistent with the stage of development of each athlete. Failure to follow this plan or communicate your training progress to the National coach on a regular basis as defined the National Coach will result in the athlete being removed from the HPPFP.

The primary focus for National Team athletes will be on performing at World Cups, and other competitions as designated by the National Coach. As a result, National Team members will be given first priority for entry to all world cups and events.

Athletes who accept the invitation to join the HPPFP will be assessed an annual HP fee of \$550. The purpose of this fee is to ensure program coordination.

### ***HPPFP Application Procedures***

In order to be eligible to apply for the HPPFP, an athlete must meet the above criteria and hold a validated CFF license for the 2019-2020 season. To be accepted in the HPPFP, a fencer must also:

1. complete the HPP Application Procedures; and
2. have no outstanding debts with the CFF

Those athletes who have applied to the HPPFP will appear on the first Parafencing HPP Selection Rankings to appear in November 2019. Any fencers who are invited mid-season will be added when they are accepted and any previously obtained result in the identified selection competitions will be counted for the HPP Rankings.

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**NOTE:** The National Coach will have final approval regarding all selections to the HPPFP. An athlete's application may be rejected for a number of reasons including, but not limited to:

1. failure to attend any mandatory training camps during the 2019-2020 season;
2. failure to report their training activities on a regular basis as directed by the National Coach during the 2019-2020 season; or
3. violation of the CFF code of conduct during the 2019-2020 season.

### ***Classification***

Each athlete wishing to take part in any international or national competitions should be classified by a national classifier.

Classification is undertaken to:

- define who is eligible to compete in IWAS Wheelchair Fencing and consequently who has the opportunity to reach the goal of becoming a Paralympic Athlete and
- group Athletes into Sport Classes which aim to ensure that the impact of Impairment is minimised and sporting excellence determines which athlete or team is ultimately victorious.

### Eligible impairment

Any Athlete wishing to compete in a sport governed by IWAS Wheelchair Fencing must have an Eligible Impairment and that Eligible Impairment must be permanent.

In order to be eligible to compete in Wheelchair Fencing, the Athlete's Eligible Impairment must meet one of the Minimum Impairment Criteria.

### Minimum impairment

IWAS Wheelchair Fencing has set Minimum Impairment Criteria to ensure that an Athlete's Eligible Impairment affects the extent to which an Athlete is able to execute the specific tasks and activities fundamental to the sport.

Each athlete's fencing wheelchair should also be checked to assure that it meets the acceptable criterias.

National classification will take part in:

Edmonton – May 8-10.

Any athlete wishing to undergo classification should submit a request 3 weeks in advance and send medical documents along with the demand to Lynn Seguin, President of the Parafencing Committee.

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## **CFF SELECTION POLICIES**

NOTE: In the event of a dispute over a selection, athletes can find the [CFF Selection Appeals Policy](#) on the CFF website.

### ***1- Eligibility for Selections***

To be eligible for selection for any IWAS competition, a fencer must:

1. have a validated 2019-2020 CFF license;
2. have a 2019-2020 IWAS license for Canada;
3. be a Canadian Citizen; and
4. meet any published selection criteria for the respective competition.
5. Be classified by a National classifier

Please see the CFF website to purchase an IWAS license.

### ***2- North America Cups (NAC's)***

Selection: Open to any Canadian athlete with a CFF and IWAS license.

The CFF does not make any selections for NAC's. Fencers are responsible for their own registration and travel arrangements to these competitions, unless the competition is identified as part of an NTP. Please confirm all dates, locations and registration deadlines on the respective websites before booking flights:

NAC – USFA: [www.usfencing.org](http://www.usfencing.org)

### ***3- IWAS Sanctioned competitions***

Registration for IWAS competitions:

Only the CFF can register fencers for IWAS competitions. Consequently, all requests for registration for an IWAS competition must be made as indicated in the sections below.

**Minimum Qualification Standard:** To be eligible to compete in an IWAS competition held outside of North America, a fencer must have a valid IWAS and CFF license for the current season. For entry to World Championships, athletes must have met minimum criteria as outlined on the selection criteria on page 7.

**Registration deadline:** 1 month (4 weeks) before the first day of competition of any IWAS competition. However, all athletes will be charged a referee fee to cover the cost of a referee(s).

**Entry Procedures:** Fencers must **email the Chairperson of the Parafencing Fencing Committee (lynnseguin@shaw.ca)** before the registration deadline to be considered for selection for an IWAS competition. Submission of this email does not guarantee fencers a spot in the

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competition. Non-HP fencers will be charged an additional administration fee if selected for the event

**Entry Limitations:** CFF will select a maximum of 7 fencers for any World Cup competition.

**Final Entry Selection:** Within five (5) business days after the deadline, the list of selected fencers for the competition will be finalized. The list of selected fencers will be compiled as follows, with the HPD having final approval:

1. registrations will first be accepted from HPPFP athletes and will be prioritized according to the HPPFP rankings.
2. any other athletes who are not members of the HPPFP may request permission from the HPD to register if there are still spots available;

**Results that change the point standings between the selection date and the competition have no bearing on the selection.**

**Withdrawals from an IWAS Competition:** Withdrawals must be received at the CFF office by e-mail at [hpdc@fencing.ca](mailto:hpdc@fencing.ca), at least 14 days prior to the first day of the competition. Voice mail is not acceptable. Fencers withdrawing after the deadline or who do not show up at the competition will be fined **\$1,500.00 and will be suspended from any future International selections until the fine is paid.** Exception to this fine will be considered if the fencer is withdrawing due to a “force majeure” situation such as an injury or illness, which prevents the fencer from competing. Medical documentation from a doctor must accompany the withdrawal notice, which must be sent by e-mail with the withdrawal request **before** the scheduled competition.

### **Notification**

Following confirmation of participation, the final registration list is e-mailed to all fencers, their personal coaches and to the pertinent National Coach.

**Minor athletes participating in any of these events must be accompanied by an adult (parent, personal coach or guardian).**

Athletes should not make any travel arrangements until they have received an e-mail confirming that they are registered.

### **NOTES**

Carded athletes are reminded that they are required to take part in all World Cup (for which they are selected) in their entirety. Failure to do so could result in the Senior NTC recommending that the athlete be removed from the HPPFP and carding be revoked.

**The Canadian Fencing Federation will identify the eligible athletes it will nominate as follows:**

#### Individual Selection

Athletes will be selected on the basis of IPC Tokyo 2020 Qualification Criteria

<http://fencing.ca/wp-content/uploads/Parafencing.pdf>

#### Team Selection

In case Canada has a qualified team, all fencers qualified for the individual event are automatically qualified for the team event.

#### Team Athlete Allocation

If the CFF wins a place through IWAS, the selected athlete will be the highest ranked athlete in the IWAS ranking in one of three combined rankings.

#### **Tie-Breaking**

Should two (2) or more fencers be tied with the same point total, the tie will be broken as follows:

1. by the most IWAS points earned between September 1<sup>st</sup>, 2019 and May 31<sup>st</sup>, 2020

Should a tie still exist, the tie will be broken,

2. by the best single result (by place) at a World Cup between September 1<sup>st</sup>, 2019 and May 31<sup>st</sup>, 2020;

Should a tie still exist, the tie will be broken,

3. by the last result (by place) at the World Cup before the official deadline of official selection May 31<sup>st</sup> 2020.

#### Selection of substitute athletes

The selection of alternate athletes will be at the discretion of the National Coach and the High-Performance Director according to the following criteria:

- Performance in the World Cup in the 2019/2020
- The IWAS ranking
- The CFF HP ranking
- The athlete's commitment to the program (see below *Performance readiness*)
- Demonstrated ability and willingness to work effectively and cooperate in a team environment.

This athlete can replace any of the 3 athletes who fenced the individual event

#### Performance Readiness



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All selections are conditional on the selected athlete following:

- The training and competition plan approved by the senior national team coach. An athlete must participate in at least 3 IWAS competitions between November 1, 2018 and May 31, 2020.
- Participate in and follow the prescribed conditioning program for their weapon.
  - This program will be created by the national weapon coach and the Strength and Conditioning coach assigned to that weapon.
- Report and track their workouts on a regular basis per the program tracking sheet
- Attend the June training camp to prepare Paralympic Games.

### Note

It is possible to request for an exemption for one the Performance Readiness cited above. Exemptions can be requested in advance. Exemptions will be granted on a case-by-case basis once discussed between the High-Performance Director and the National Coach. For an injury / illness, athlete must justify it by presenting a medical certificate given by a physician recognized by the CFF.

### *5- 2020 Americas Regional Championships*

Category	Men's cat. A	Men's cat. B	Women's cat. A
Date	March 26 <sup>th</sup> - 30 <sup>th</sup>	March 26 <sup>th</sup> - 30 <sup>th</sup>	March 26 <sup>th</sup> - 30 <sup>th</sup>
Location	Sao Polo (BRA)	Sao Polo (BRA)	Sao Polo (BRA)
Selection date	February 20 <sup>th</sup> , 2020	February 20 <sup>th</sup> , 2020	February 20 <sup>th</sup> , 2020

### Selection criteria

The selection will apply as follow in the respective category, based on the total of points in the HP ranking:

#### Individual selection

- Athletes who, on the selection date, have at least 20 points in the Para-HP ranking are selected to the Americas Regional Championships
- At the date of selections, spots could be filled by athletes recommended by the national coach, approved by HPC and HPD.

The recommendations by the National Coach must be based on the following criteria:

- Total number of Para-HP points;
- Performances in individual and team events in World Cups in the current season;
- Participation in the national team program;
- Discipline in competition, on and off the strip;
- Improvement in competition as judged by the National Coach.

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### Team selection (3 athletes)

- Athletes who, after the individual event, are ranked highest in the Para-HP Ranking will be selected for the team competition. Two athletes in category A and one athlete in category B must be selected in the team event.

### **Note**

In collaboration with the High-Performance Director, the National Coach can refuse the selection of an athlete who:

- Does not attend the NAC or any designated competitions (World Cups),
- Does not regularly submit training reports as requested by the National Coach,

Athletes can ask for exemptions in advance for specific events. Following a review, the HPD and the HPAC can provide exemptions if deemed warranted.

### **Confirmation of Participation in Americas Regional Championships**

Fencers are required to confirm their participation in the Americas Regional Championships by replying to the selection e-mail (hpd@fencing.ca) sent to fencer within 72 hours following its reception. If a reply is not received in this timeframe, it will be taken as a refusal of selection.

### **Selection refusal**

If an athlete declines his selection, the next athlete in the HP ranking will be selected.

### **Notification**

Following confirmations of participation, the final list is e-mailed to all concerned fencers, their personal coaches and the National Coach.

### ***6- 2020-2021 Athlete Assistance Program (APP) criteria and nominations***

The 2020-21 Athlete Assistance Program (AAP) selection criteria and nomination process will be made available and distributed to athletes by December 1st, 2019 at the latest, consistent with Sport Canada guidelines.

Please note that the carding cycle for 2019-2020 will be from October 1, 2020 – Sept. 30, 2021.

### **CFF Selection Appeals Policy**

For information on the CFF Selection Appeals Policy, please reference the following links:

<http://fencing.ca/wp-content/uploads/Selection-Appeals-policy-Aug.-2018.pdf>

## HIGH PERFORMANCE PROGRAM SELECTION RANKING EVENTS

### Overview

The HPP Selection Rankings are used to identify athletes for International selections, and as one of the selection criteria to nominate and prioritize athletes for the AAP. Consequently, only those athletes who have been accepted into the HPP will appear on this ranking.

Domestic Tournaments		
Competition	Location	Dates
National Championships	Edmonton	2020, May 8-10
North American Cup		
Training camp	Charlotte	2020, January 2nd
NAC	Charlotte	2020, January 3-6
World Cups		
Competition	Location	Dates
WC#1	Amsterdam, NLD	2019, Nov 14-17
Training camp	Europe	2020, Feb 9-12
WC #2	Eger, HUN	2020, Feb 14-16
WC#3	Americas WC	2020, Mar 19-20
Training camp	Europe	2020, TBD
WC#4	Warsaw POL	2020, July TBC
Regional Championships		
Zonal	Americas Zonal	2020, Mar 26-30
Paralympic Games		
Paralympics	Tokyo JAP	2020, Aug 26-30

## HIGH PERFORMANCE POINT GRIDS

The following point grids will be used to award selection points for designated National and International selection competitions:

### Domestic competitions

#### Chart 1

##### Point grid

##### Domestic Competitions :

Placing		Points
1 <sup>st</sup>		50
2 <sup>nd</sup>		40
3 <sup>rd</sup>		30
5 <sup>th</sup>		25
6 <sup>th</sup>		20
7 <sup>th</sup>		15
8 <sup>th</sup>		10
9 <sup>th</sup>	17 <sup>th</sup>	5

**North American Cups**  
Chart 2

Point grid		
North American Cups:		
Placing		Division 1
1 <sup>st</sup>		150
2 <sup>nd</sup>		125
3 <sup>rd</sup>		110
5 <sup>th</sup>		95
6 <sup>th</sup>		80
7 <sup>th</sup>		65
8 <sup>th</sup>		50
9 <sup>th</sup>	17 <sup>nd</sup>	20
18 <sup>nd</sup>	32 <sup>nd</sup>	10

**World Cups**  
Chart 3

Point grid		
World Cups:		
Placing		Senior
1 <sup>st</sup>		500
2 <sup>nd</sup>		400
3 <sup>rd</sup>		300
5 <sup>th</sup>	8 <sup>th</sup>	200
9 <sup>th</sup>	16 <sup>th</sup>	125
17 <sup>th</sup>	32 <sup>nd</sup>	100
33 <sup>rd</sup>	64 <sup>th</sup>	65

**Americas Regional Championships**  
Chart 4

Point Grid		
World Championships:		
Placing		Senior
1 <sup>st</sup>		300
2 <sup>nd</sup>		250
3 <sup>rd</sup>		200
5 <sup>th</sup>	8 <sup>th</sup>	100
9 <sup>th</sup>	16 <sup>th</sup>	50

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## **Updates**

In each weapon, the Para-HP Selection Ranking will be updated on the CFF website two weeks after each competition.