



BC Wheelchair Sports Association is pleased to announce the

2023 BC PROVINCIAL WHEELCHAIR TENNIS PROGRAM OUTLINE

General Information:

The purpose of the BCWSA Provincial Wheelchair Tennis Program is to support athletes competing in wheelchair tennis at the Train to Train stage and higher of the Long Term Athlete Development Model. Selection to the 2023 BC Provincial Wheelchair Tennis Program will be considered based on an athlete's potential to represent BC at national and international levels of competition, demonstrated commitment to training, and ongoing development and improvement. Any questions regarding this program can be directed to Program Manager Michelle McDonnell (michelle@bcwheelchairsports.com; 604-333-3520 x208) or Provincial Coach, Sarah Hunter, (tennis@bcwheelchairsports.com; 604-787-2703).

Members of the 2023 BC Provincial Wheelchair Tennis Program will receive the following services/benefits:

- Access to targeted coaching support from Provincial Team Coach Sarah Hunter
- Invitation to Training Camps throughout the season (and travel support as appropriate)
- Access to select IST Services including Strength & Conditioning, Mental Performance Training & Nutrition Consults as available
- Select eligibility for additional funding to support ITF Tournament Travel
- Consideration to be selected to Team BC for competition at the 2023 Birmingham National Championships in Bedford, NS
- Eligibility for the Provincial Athlete Assistance Program (AAP) for the year following their selection.
 - **** All BC athletes nominated to the CSI Targeted Athlete List are eligible for AAP****

Athletes selected to compete at the National Championships will also receive the following:

- Coaching support at the Birmingham National Wheelchair Tennis Championships.
- Funding to assist with travel expenses to the 2023 Birmingham National Wheelchair Tennis Championships in Bedford NS as well as the preceding ITF Tournament in Fredericton NB
- Provincial Team Uniform

Selection Guidelines:

Selection to the 2023 BC Provincial Wheelchair Tennis Program will be determined based on an athlete's potential to represent BC at national and international levels of competition, demonstrated commitment to training and ongoing development and improvement. Selection will be based on both objective and subjective selection criteria (i.e. commitment to training, provincial team potential, and training environment).



Athletes will be selected to the BC Provincial Wheelchair Tennis Program in either a performance or development pool following a selection camp at the beginning of the season. Development Pool members may qualify for similar or a reduced level of services based on availability as determined by the Program Manager and Provincial Team Coach. Final selections for the National Championships at the end of the season will be made ahead of that event based on completion of the following requirements and adherence to expectations throughout the season.

***NB: Current members of the Tennis Canada High Performance Program will be automatically selected to the Performance Pool Provincial Team as they meet or exceed the requirements laid out in this document. Players are however still expected to attend training camps/clinics and to complete other requirements as available. ***

Appeals

Athletes have the right to appeal decisions made regarding the 2023 BCWSA Provincial Wheelchair Tennis Program in accordance with BCWSA's Appeal Policy. An appeal may only be heard if there are sufficient grounds for the appeal (as outlined in BCWSA's Appeals Policy) and must be submitted in writing within 10 days of the team selection to Michelle McDonell (michelle@bcwheelchairsports.com). The BCWSA Appeal Policy is available [online](#).

Eligibility

In order to be eligible for selection to the Provincial Wheelchair Tennis Program athletes must:

- Be a current member in good standing with BCWSA
- Be a Canadian Citizen, or Permanent Resident (necessary in order to compete at the National Championships)
- Be eligible to compete in Wheelchair Tennis per the Minimum Impairment Criteria as outlined in ITF Wheelchair Tennis Classification Rules
 - **OR** for Quad Division players: hold an P (provisional) status Quad classification **AND** have a plan to attend classification and achieve a C (confirmed) status Quad classification within the next 12 months

Selection Criteria

Tennis Canada Podium Pathway Checklist & Gold Medal Profile

Athletes will be assessed using the Tennis Canada Podium Pathway Checklist as well as on several components of the Wheelchair Tennis Gold Medal Profile which can be found at this [link](#).

Testing

Tests will be conducted in alignment with the Tennis Canada Physiological GMP & Testing Protocol for Wheelchair Tennis. Testing protocols will be in line with those used by the Tennis Canada National High Performance Program and will be released ahead of scheduled testing events.

Written Submission

All athletes interested in selection to the Provincial Team Program will be requested to complete an Annual Objectives Sheet and Training Outline detailing their training and competitive goals for the season. Please see additional email attachments for the blank forms or contact program staff to request.



BCWSA Athlete Code of Conduct

Athletes must sign an Athlete Agreement and are expected to adhere to all conditions of the BCWSA Athlete Code of Conduct.

Membership

Athletes must be a member in good standing of BC Wheelchair Sports Association, Tennis BC and Tennis Canada.

Expectations

All members of the BC Provincial Wheelchair Tennis Program will be expected to complete the following throughout the 2023 season and must do so in order to be eligible for selection to the BC Provincial Team to compete at the 2023 National Championships. Training Camps/Clinics, Testing and Education Sessions will be arranged and/or scheduled by BCWSA. Please see the end of this document for more details on Special Considerations.

Testing

Athletes will complete fitness testing at the selection camp, will be expected to attend one additional testing day upon selection to the Provincial Program and are expected to maintain or improve testing scores throughout the season. Athletes who are unable to attend pre-scheduled testing dates must provide their reasons in a written submission to the attention of Provincial Coach Sarah Hunter by email at tennis@bcwheelchairsports.com and must arrange alternate testing times. Supporting documentation may be requested.

Training Camps/Clinics

Athletes are expected to attend all Training Camps/Clinics throughout the season that they are invited to. All athletes selected to the 2023 National Championships Team must also attend the Nationals training camp.

Training Camps have been tentatively scheduled on the following dates:

March 4th & 5th – Selection Camp – UBC Tennis Centre – Details TBC

May 13th & 14th – Provincial Team Training Camp – UBC Tennis Centre – Details TBC

September 23rd & 24th – Nationals Training Camp – UBC Tennis Centre – Details TBC

Education

Athletes must have completed the **True Sport Clean 101** Canadian Centre for Ethics and Sport online module and/or equivalent as well as the **Coaching Association of Canada Safe Sport** online training as indicated by the provincial team coach.

Tournament Requirements

Birmingham National Wheelchair Tennis Championships

All athletes selected to the BC Provincial Wheelchair Tennis Program are expected to be available to participate in the Birmingham National Wheelchair Tennis Championships as a member of the BC Team if selected. The 2023 Championships will be held in Bedford, NS October 12-15, 2023. Details will be announced closer to the tournament date. *Failure to participate in the National Championships will exempt players from receiving additional Provincial Team support and from eligibility for the Athlete Assistance Program.*



ITF Tournaments

Players are expected to compete in both BC ITF Tournaments and a minimum of one additional ITF Tournament before September 1st, 2023. *Players may request an exemption from this requirement in competing in other, more suitable events elsewhere but must request that exemption in writing ahead of the events.*

1. Vancouver International Wheelchair Tennis Tournament – ITF Futures

Location: Kitsilano Beach Tennis Courts, Vancouver, B.C. (Cornwall & Arbutus Streets)

Dates: July 14 – 17, 2022

Entry Deadline: Wednesday, June 15 2022

Tournament Director: Michelle McDonnell – michelle@bcwheelchairsports.com

2. ITF Futures Kamloops Legacy Games

Location: Kamloops Tennis Club, Kamloops B.C.

Dates: July 20 – 22, 2022

Entry Deadline: Tuesday June 21, 2022

Tournament Director: Michelle McDonnell – michelle@bcwheelchairsports.com

For all ITF wheelchair tennis tournaments, please visit:

<http://www.itftennis.com/wheelchair/tournaments/calendar.aspx>

Special Considerations

An athlete who is unable to meet the selection criteria due to acceptable special circumstances may still be considered for selection to the BC Provincial Wheelchair Tennis Program. Some accepted special considerations are listed below although this is by no means an exhaustive list. *The Program Manager and Provincial Team Coach reserve the right to determine acceptable special circumstances on a case-by-case basis.*

Athletes who are unable to meet the selection criteria but still wish to be considered for the team must send written notification to Sarah Hunter (tennis@bcwheelchairsports.com) explaining their circumstances one week prior to the team selection (**to be announced**). *Athletes who have not met all additional requirements without a valid exemption may be named to the Provincial Development team at the sole discretion of the Program Manager and Provincial Team Coach.*

Acceptable Special Circumstances may include:

- Competing on a Canadian Team at an International Competition and/or Training Event – *proof of requirement to participate in National Team competition/training event may be requested* (ex. YTP with identified events from personal coach, emails from National Team staff etc.)
- Injury or Illness – Provincial coach must be notified prior to the start of the competition/clinic and a letter from a medical doctor may be required.
- Domestic Affliction – defined as a personal or family tragedy, incident or emergency that does not allow you to attend.
- Education, Exam, or Graduation Commitment - *schedule indicating classes, exams, or graduation ceremony may be requested*
- Participation in an alternate approved ITF Tournament may be accepted in lieu of participation in one of the above required tournaments. Written approval from Provincial Team Coach Sarah Hunter must be obtained before the tournament registration deadline.

