

NATIONAL TEAM SELECTION PROCESS

The purpose of this document is to outline the pathway to be nominated to the Boccia National Team and/or Development Team for the 2022-23 season. There are two rounds of evaluation that all athletes must complete in order to be considered for either team.

ROUND 1 - SKILLS CHALLENGE:

The Skills Challenge allows boccia athletes to compete through predetermined technical skills to secure an invite to the U.S. Paralympics Boccia National Team Selection Camp (Round 2) of assessments to make the U.S. Paralympics Boccia National Team or Development Team.

Technical skills in (Round 1) will include:

1. Jack and 1st ball;
2. Ball Placement in open space;
3. Push;
4. Displacement;
5. One (1) other skill (per division)

APPLICATION PROCESS:

- The application deadline for the Boccia Skills Challenge (Round 1) is Friday, September 23. The full application includes submission of the following items:
 - [Resume](#)
 - [Technical skills data submission](#)
 - [Technical skills video records](#)
- If the athlete does not have the required target to complete the assessment, then a \$15 fee will be assessed to cover the mailing fee to ship the target - [complete the electronic payment form](#)
- The applications will be reviewed by a committee of two (2) U.S. Paralympics Boccia staff and at least one (1) athlete representative.
 - To receive an invitation to attend the Selection Camp (Round 2), athletes must meet at least four (4) of the five (5) technical skills.
 - Selectees to the second round will be notified by Friday, September 30.

STEP-BY-STEP GUIDE

STEP 1: Submit [Boccia Resume](#)

STEP 2: Complete [electronic payment form](#) to receive the target, if needed

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STEP 3: Review the National Team Standards How-to document

STEP 4: Complete technical skills assessment

STEP 5: Submit [technical skills data](#) to Kathy Brinker - usabocciahpmanager@gmail.com

STEP 6: Upload required videos to [Dropbox](#)

File label: LAST NAME - TECHNICAL SKILL_DISTANCE - BALL COLOR

ROUND 2 - SELECTION CAMP:

- The Selection Camp will consist of game play (head-to-head and drills to confirm technical and tactical skills), tactical scenarios, personal interviews, and observations.
- The Selection Camp will take place at Lakeshore Foundation in Birmingham, AL October 27 – 30, 2022. Participants are required to fund and book their own travel arrangements; lodging and meals will be covered by Lakeshore.
- All camp participants will be assessed by the U.S. Paralympics Boccia Discretionary Selection Committee.
- Athletes will be assessed on their demonstrated boccia abilities as well as other qualities, including but not limited to on and off-court behavior, demonstrated team dynamics, and endurance.
- Athletes who have received a medical waiver (see below) will have their known ability compared against the standards.
- National Team and Development Team selections will be made public within 10 days of the camp conclusion.

WAIVER PROCESS:

ROUND 1:

- While waivers for Round 1 will not be unreasonably withheld, waivers will primarily be granted only for illness, injury or other incapacity, or for personal/family emergencies. All candidates for the team should arrange for appropriate time off from school, work or other obligations well in advance of the application due date. Requests for a waiver may be submitted in writing to the U.S. Paralympics Boccia Consultant - Kathy Brinker, usabocciahpmanager@gmail.com - for review. A written response to all requests will be issued to the athlete within 72 hours of the request.
- The injury or illness must be documented by a certified health care professional and that certification must be forwarded to Kathy Brinker; Consultant to U.S. Paralympics Boccia at usabocciahpmanager@gmail.com
- Athletes who have received a waiver will complete Round 1 and Round 2 at a

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later date.

ROUND 2:

If an athlete selected to attend the National Team Selection Camp incurs an injury or illness that prevents them from competing at camp OR is competing in a BISFed sanctioned event within two (2) weeks of camp the following process will be followed:

- While waivers for Round 2 will not be unreasonably withheld, waivers will primarily be granted only for illness, injury or other incapacity, personal/family emergencies, or a sanctioned BISFed event. All candidates for the team should arrange for appropriate time off from school, work or other obligations well in advance of the application due date. Requests for a waiver may be submitted in writing to the U.S. Paralympics Boccia Consultant - Kathy Brinker, usabocciahpmanager@gmail.com - for review. A written response to all requests will be issued to the athlete within 72 hours of the request.
- The injury or illness must be documented by a certified health care professional and that certification must be forwarded to Kathy Brinker; Consultant to U.S. Paralympics Boccia at usabocciahpmanager@gmail.com **OR** the athlete must notify the U.S. Paralympics Boccia Consultant, of the competition name and dates via email - usabocciahpmanager@gmail.com
- Athletes who receive a waiver are not required to attend the National Team Selection Camp. A drop-in session will be conducted to assess their tactical skills based on the rubric at a later date.

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS:

Selected athletes and ramp operators must meet, be eligible to meet and/or maintain compliance with the following eligibility requirements:

1. Be eligible to compete as a U.S. citizen
2. Possess a passport and be eligible for international travel
3. Athletes nominated to the National or Development Team must be internationally classified by BISFed OR nationally classified by U.S. Paralympics Boccia and **hold a Paralympic-eligible sport class** as per the BISFed and/or U.S. Paralympics master list and hold a current season license for Boccia from BISFed and/or U.S. Paralympics Boccia. Please note, ramp operator athletes do not undergo classification evaluation but must meet BISFed requirements to fulfill ramp operator role for specified athlete.
4. Comply with all anti-doping policies, procedures and protocols of the International Paralympic Committee, World Boccia, World Anti-Doping Agency, United States Anti-doping Agency and the United States Olympic and Paralympic Committee
5. Abide by the current [USOPC Athlete Code of Conduct for U.S. Paralympics](#)

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Programs

6. Athletes age 18 or older will be required to undergo a background screen in accordance with the current [USOPC Background Check Policy](#).
7. Athletes age 18 or older by the last day of the National Team Selection Camp will be required to remain current with the U.S. Center for SafeSport's education and training requirements in accordance with the [USOPC Athlete Safety Policy](#).
8. Submit a completed application to U.S. Paralympics Boccia prior to the application deadline, including all required fees (boccia target shipping expense), forms, videos, and documents

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Distribution plan to athletes:

- August 19, 2022 – email distribution by U.S. Paralympics Boccia to listserv
- TBD – email distribution by USA Boccia
- August 19, 2022 – documents posted to www.TeamUSA.org/boccia