

## 2024 TEAM ALBERTA – ATHLETE SELECTION POLICY

The purpose of the Team Alberta programs is to identify, select and train a group of athletes who have future Post-Secondary or National Team potential. We offer the opportunity for athletes to train and represent Team Alberta at provincial, multi-sport, national and international competitions.

### SELECTION PROCESS

#### Athlete Identification:

Athletes are requested to apply to be considered for Team AB via Athlete Application Portal (GMTM), all applied athletes will be invited to participate in physical testing. Athletes will be invited to a Team Alberta identification/selection camp or program based on the testing results and/or their performance during the post-secondary season, VA club and Volleyball Canada tournaments during the club season. From this process, a pool of athletes will be invited to a final selection camp.

#### Authority for Selection:

The authority for all decision making has been delegated to the designated Selection Committees assembled for each of the identification/selection camps. The Selection Committee is composed of a minimum of four members; a minimum of two of the members will be non-coaching members (not a coach of the team being selected). The two non-coaching positions may be members of the high-performance working group, post-secondary coaches, designated Volleyball Alberta staff person, or other appointed experts.

#### Pre-Selection Procedure:

Before the final selection occurs, athletes must confirm their commitment to training and competitions. Athletes might not be considered for selection if they are unable to make a full commitment to the Provincial Team program. Exceptions will be considered on a case-by-case basis provided the athletes can commit to a majority of the Provincial Team program.

\* **Injury clause:** An athlete that is ill or injured for the selection camp or program may still be selected to a team (injured athletes may still be required to physically attend) but must show medical evidence to support the illness/injury claim. The evidence must include the athlete's state of readiness to return to training and competition.

\* **Team Canada Clause:** If there is an Alberta athlete who is invited to train/compete with a Team Canada program (Full-time training centre), the athlete may be considered for selection. While the athlete would be unable to attend the selection camp, the athlete would need to be returning to Alberta prior to summer training.

### Selection Process:

- a. The Selection Committee will oversee the tryouts and determine at its sole discretion the athletes who will be offered a position in the program.
- b. The Selection Committee will debrief and discuss all players.
- c. Selection Committee members will list and compare players by position and place them in order based on their performance (technical and tactical skill execution), athletic ability, future potential, and character (leadership, work ethic, coachable, attitude).
- d. A vote will be held by Selection Committee members, to make the final composition of the team.
- e. Guest coaches and/or drill coaches may provide feedback on athletes in the debrief meetings but may not have a final vote on selections.
- f. In an athlete decides not to accept a spot in the program, the coach will offer the position to the next athlete on the Committee's list (dependent on position).
- g. Age range policy: VA will allow an athlete to play up an age class, but this would need to be approved by the Selection Committee and extra care would be taken to ensure the decision was in the best interest of the athlete.

### Team Composition:

When possible, twelve Competition Athletes and a minimum of two Training Athletes will be selected to a team; some exceptions may apply (an opportunity to maximize the number of athletes participating with Team Alberta, funding and limitations to an event's technical package).

Training Athletes: Will be offered the opportunity to train with the team at the Training Centre and participate in local competition and exhibition games. If there are injuries to a member of the competition team, the coaching staff will look at the positional needs of the team and may select:

- One of the team's training players to be rostered to the Canada Games
- Under exceptional circumstances and in consultation with the Selection Committee, a 17U Team Alberta player. **While preferred**, there are no guarantees the Training Athlete would be selected to fill the injured-athletes spot.

### Post Selection Procedure:

When possible, athletes will be notified of their selection results individually and in person or via phone call with the coaches. Coaches will be concise about the decision to select or not select an individual during the selection conversation. Athletes may request specific feedback after a designated period of time post selection.

### Appeal Process:

As per the [Volleyball Alberta Appeal Policy](#).