

# PARA NATIONAL TEAM CRITERIA

2019/2020 SEASON



JANUARY 13, 2019

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## **PART 1 – SELECTION FRAMEWORK**

### **1. DEFINITIONS**

Season: For the purposes of this document, the term “season” designates the time period between (and including) the 2019 Senior National Karate Championships and the start of the 2020 Senior National Championships.

National Team Head Coach: The term National Team Coach in this document relates to the discipline-specific (para) Head Coach.

National Team Roster: The list of athletes eligible to represent Canada’s Senior National Team at competition.

Developmental Competition: a competition for which no Karate Canada ranking points will be awarded yet which would provide a positive-growth opportunity for a target athlete.

Domestic Competition: a competition occurring within the borders of Canada and with Karate Canada being the highest sanctioning organization.

Continental Competition: a competition with the Pan American Karate Federation or the Pan American Sports Organization being the highest sanctioning body.

International Competition: competition with the World Karate Federation being the highest sanctioning body.

National Training Camp: A camp for targeted Senior National Team athletes

International Camp: A multi-national camp held collaboratively with national teams from other countries.

Alternate Athlete: An alternate is an athlete who is selected as a late replacement to fill a spot left vacant for a specific competition or training camp after an athlete originally selected through the ordinary selection process has pulled out or is declared unable to participate, due to injury, illness or other circumstances.

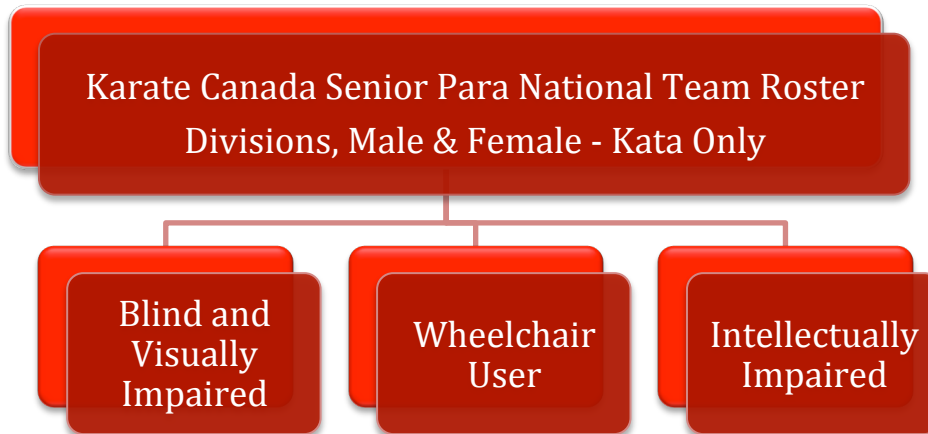
### **2. PARA NATIONAL TEAMS – GENERAL INFORMATION**

Karate Canada is committed to building the Canadian Para-Karate National Teams and programs based on established international frameworks for para-karate under the WKF (World Karate Federation) with further grassroots development under the guidelines of

an international established sport classification system by the IPC (International Paralympic Committee).

## 2.1 Senior Para National Team Roster

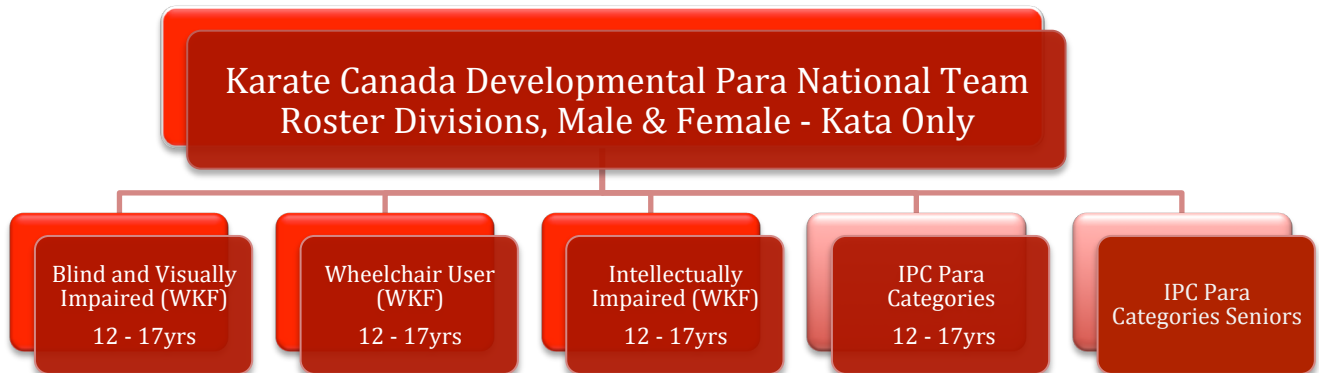
The Senior Para National Team Roster will be selected according to the division qualification standards set out by the WKF Para rules. These athletes will be eligible to represent Karate Canada at WKF-sanctioned events.



## 2.2 Developmental Para National Team Roster

The Para Developmental National Team Roster will be selected according to the division qualification standards established as part of the World Karate Federation Para Karate Competition Rules, indicated in International Paralympic Committee policy, and approved by Karate Canada. The Para Developmental National Team Roster athletes will be invited to participate in training camps, and will be provided with developmental opportunities until and in anticipation of such time as a suited division is created at WKF-sanctioned events, or they become of age to

compete as a Senior Para Karate National Team members.



### 3. INTRODUCTION

Any funding directed to athletes, as stipulated in Part II, Table 3, will be a function of Karate Canada’s budget and each respective athletes’ status.

These Criteria will be applied to all Para National Team Roster and Developmental Para National Team Roster members.

Any reference to the Para National Team Head Coach(es) will refer to either the individual(s) filling that / those position(s) on a full-time, part-time basis, or event basis, or an appointed temporary substitute in the event that the Head Coach position(s) is / are vacant.

The classification of “mandatory” and/or “highly recommended” events, and the points that athletes are able to accumulate at each event, will be determined by the HP Para National Team Head Coach on an annual basis, pending approval by the High Performance Para Karate Committee (HPPC) and ratification by the Board of Directors (BOD). Please refer to Part II of this document for the point allocation for each competition for the current season.

The schedule of international tournaments and/or training camps chosen for the Para Senior National Team Roster can be modified during the course of the season by giving at least eight (8) weeks notice prior to the event. Karate Canada may cancel participation in any of these events due to unforeseen circumstances, such as but not limited to, re-scheduling or cancellation of the event by its organizing committee.

Please note that Karate Canada reserves the right to amend these Criteria after the date of their original publication, in accordance with the primary objective of enhancing Karate Canada's chances of obtaining podium results and achieving success at certain WKF and/or PKF competitions, and as may be required in order to align with international karate sport governing bodies (WKF, PKF...) and other external agencies / partners (International Paralympic Committee, Canadian Paralympic Committee, Sport Canada...).. Furthermore, final selection of the Para Senior National Team Roster and other key strategic decisions made by the HP Para Committee remain subject to final approval by Karate Canada's Board of Directors.

#### **4. OVERALL PHILOSOPHY AND VALUES OF SELECTION CRITERIA**

The following Para Criteria are designed to parallel and to meet the mainstream Senior National Team's two objectives:

1. To ensure that Karate Canada fields the most competitive teams possible in accordance with the long term objectives of the Para Committee, and;
2. To develop future athletes as and when appropriate in order to ensure a healthy and continuous pipeline of athletes representing Karate Canada at designated events.

The values used by the HP Para Committee when developing the Selection Criteria and for decision making in selection-related matters are as follows:

- Transparency – ensuring that the selection process and decisions are clearly and fully communicated to KC stakeholders;
- Performance Excellence – ensuring that decisions and criteria are guided by the philosophy of always selecting the best possible team for Karate Canada within consideration of funding and long-term performance objectives;
- Athlete safety and well being – to ensure that athletes are not forced or coerced into over-competing and/or competing in inappropriate competitions, or at the wrong time of their training cycles.

## 5. HOW TO GET ON THE PARA NATIONAL TEAM ROSTERS

An athlete must:

Senior Para National Team Roster	Developmental Para National Team Roster
Qualify as a Para - Athlete as per Appendix A	Qualify as a Para - Athlete as per Appendix A
Be at least 18 years of age by the last major event of the season	Have competed at the latest National Championships
Have competed at the latest National Championships	Be invited to and participate in either the 2019 KNTC or the 2019 Summit Training Camp
Be invited to and participate in the 2019 KNTC or the 2019 Summit Training Camp. Athletes who hold a current Para status will automatically be invited to these events.	

The subsequent selection of specific athletes to represent Canada at official WKF and PKF karate competitions during the season will:

- Occur at defined times prior to each competition
- Be based on individual status and accumulated performance / ranking points at the time of the invitation; If the status and accumulation of performance/ranking points does not clearly determine a specific athlete, the tie breaking criteria (Section 6.1) will be applied.
- Draw only from the Para Senior National Team Roster at the time of the invitation (with the exception of situations described in section 3.3 below).
- Depend on the total size of the Team at each event, as determined by Karate Canada's budget and /or by the specific tournament Organizing Committee divisions.





## **5.1 Entry to the Senior Para National Team Roster**

Within 5 (five) working days of the conclusion of the 2019 Senior National Karate Championships, a National Team Roster of eligible athletes will be announced. The placement and ranking of athletes on the roster will be directly related to their status and ranking point total at the conclusion of the 2019 Senior National Championships. If the status and accumulation of performance/ranking points does not clearly determine a single specific athlete, the tie breaking criteria (Section 7.1) will be applied.

The subsequent selection of specific athletes to represent Canada at any KC designated karate competitions during the season will:

- Occur at defined times prior to each competition.
- Be based on status and accumulated performance/ranking points at the time of the invitation. If the status and accumulation of performance/ranking points does not clearly determine a single specific athlete, the tie breaking criteria (Section 7.1) will be applied.
- Draw only from the National Team Roster at the time of the invitation.
- Depend on the total size of the Team at each event, as determined by Karate Canada's budget and HP Plan, and/or by that specific tournament Organizing Committee's requirements.

### **5.1.1 Developmental Para National Team Roster**

Athletes who have been issued an invitation to the training camps based on status, need to participate in at least one of the 2 National Training Camps listed in 5.0.

## **5.2 Citizenship Requirements**

Non-Canadian citizens may be named to the Para National Team Roster and, thereby, earn ranking points at Open tournaments and Karate Canada National Championships if and only if they are permanent residents of Canada. Only upon the attainment of Canadian citizenship will they become eligible to be named to a National Team representing Canada at Pan American Championships, as well as official Intercontinental or World Championships. Non-citizen athletes on the Para National Team Roster are not eligible for funding from Karate Canada.

## **5.3 Selection of Alternates / Late Replacement athletes**

See section 8.2 for the selection process and criteria for alternates. Karate Canada is under no obligation to select an alternate for either a training camp or an international

competition. As soon as an athlete is named onto a team for a specific competition as an alternate or to fill a vacant spot, he / she immediately becomes a Senior or Developmental Para National Team Roster member (as applicable), for the remainder of the season.

## **5.4 National Team Competitions**

Para Senior National Team athletes will be invited to compete in specific competitions each season. The list of targeted events for the current season is found in Part II of this document.

Para Senior National Team Roster athletes may also choose to participate in other tournaments. No KC coaching staff, logistical support nor funding will be provided to athletes participating in these additional tournaments.

### **5.4.1 WKF Categories**

All team selection and representation in any Para-Karate Kata categories is subject to the current WKF Para-Karate Kata Competition Rules.

## **6. HOW TO OBTAIN PARA ATHLETE STATUS**

Athletes accumulate points for their performance at the events listed in Part II, and in accordance with the Rules about Status and Points. In turn, a particular status can be obtained according to the following:

By the accumulation of points as follows, as indicated in Part II and following the Rules About Points and Statuses:

- International A: 400 and over points
- International B: 251 – 399 points
- International C: 120 – 250 points
- National A: 80 -119 points

### **6.1 Rules about Status and Points**

1. An athlete who obtains a result, in an event with 2 or 3 competitors including themselves, will be awarded only 50% of the points as listed in Part II. An athlete who obtains a result, in an event with 4 or more competitors will be awarded 100% of the points as listed in Part II.
2. Points obtained in an individual division can only be accumulated within

that same division. Those points cannot cross-accumulate with other individual divisions (i.e. Intellectually impaired, wheelchair, blind).

3. Only the events listed in Part II Table 2 of this document are considered for accumulation of points.

## **6.2 Duration And Expiration of Points**

1. The start date of an athlete's ranking points is the finishing date of the event where the athlete achieved the result for which the ranking points were awarded – (see notes following Part II).
2. An athlete's ranking points are valid:
  - From the end date of a National Championship to the start date of the following National Championship for points derived from performance at the that specific National Championships;
  - From event to the 2<sup>nd</sup> future edition of the event or for two (2) years if the event doesn't reoccur twice within the following two (2) seasons for points derived from a medal at the Senior Pan American Championships;
  - From event to event or for two (2) years if the event doesn't reoccur within the following two (2) seasons for points derived from a medal at the Senior World Championships;
  - For all ranking point awards that carry for a two (2) year duration, a reduction of 50% will occur on the 1st anniversary of the ranking point award and continue at that reduced amount for the remainder of the second year.
  - When an Athlete is awarded a Status through the accumulation of points, the impact on the Athlete's Status will only last as long as the points are maintained to keep that athlete within the respective brackets of statuses

## **7. SELECTION CRITERIA FOR THE PARA SENIOR NATIONAL TEAM ROSTER**

To become eligible for selection onto National Teams that will participate in Karate Canada sanctioned events throughout the season, athletes will be selected onto the National Team Roster in the following order of priority:

1. International A status-holding athletes;
2. International B status-holding athletes;

3. International C status-holding athletes;
4. National A status-holding athletes;
5. 'Coaches' "Discretionary Selection" athletes – are athletes who may fill open spots, if any, as selected by the Head Coach.

A public announcement of athletes selected to the 2019-2020 Senior National Team Roster will be made within 5 working days of the conclusion of the 2019 Karate Canada Senior National Championships. Karate Canada and the Head Coach are under no obligation to fill vacant spots when selecting / naming the National Team Roster.

### **7.1 Tiebreaking Criteria for Selection onto the Para Senior National Team Roster**

The tiebreaker process will be as follows for two or more athletes who hold the same status:

- 1- The athlete with the higher total number of ranking points earned from performance at Senior World (WKF) Championships and Senior Pan American (PKF) Championships will be selected.
- 2- If the tie persists, the athlete with the best overall result / rank at the most recent international championships will be selected. The international championships considered will be only the Senior World (WKF) Championships or the Senior Pan American (PKF) Championships
- 3- If the tie persists, the athlete who obtained the best result / rank (in that division) at the most recent Karate Canada National Championships will be selected.
- 4- If the tie persists, final selection will be decided by the Para National Team Head Coach and approved by the High Performance Para Committee.

The naming of an athlete to the National Team designated to attend a specific targeted event will be made in accordance with ranking point accumulation at the time of the selection.

Unless specified otherwise in this document (see Part II, Table 2), selection onto the National Team for a targeted competition will occur no later than 30 (thirty) days before the start of this competition.

## **8. SELECTION CRITERIA FOR SENIOR PARA NATIONAL TEAMS AT SPECIFIC**

## **INTERNATIONAL COMPETITIONS**

To participate in any Karate Canada-sanctioned competitions, athletes will be selected from the National Team Roster. Selection will occur in the order of priority shown below.

1. International A status-holding athletes;
2. International B status-holding athletes;
3. International C status-holding athletes;
4. National A status-holding athletes;
5. Coaches' Discretionary Selections.

The size of the team will be based on the number of athletes able to participate in each division at each event. Total team size and athlete quotas in competitive divisions may be set by the WKF, PKF and/or the respective event organizing committee. Total team size may also be restricted due to limitations within Karate Canada's budget.

Once selected to represent Canada at an international event, athletes may be required to participate in a mandatory pre-competition National Training Camp. Public announcement and athlete notification of all mandatory pre-competition training camps will occur following the guidelines presented in this document. The forthcoming 2019-2020 Senior National Team Training and Competition Calendar addendum will contain further details relating to all pre-competition mandatory National Training Camps.

### **8.1 Tiebreaking Criteria for National Team Selection**

The tiebreaker process will be as follows for two (or more) athletes who hold the same status:

1. The athlete with the higher total number of ranking points earned from performance at Senior World (WKF) Championships and Senior Pan American (PKF) Championships will be selected.
2. If the tie persists, the athlete with the best overall result / rank at the most recent international championships will be selected. The international championships considered will be only the Senior World (WKF) Championships or the Senior Pan American (PKF) Championships.
3. If the tie persists, the athlete who obtained the best result / rank (in that division) at the most recent Karate Canada National Championships will be selected.

4. If the tie persists, final selection will be decided by the Para National Team Head Coach and approved by the High Performance Para Committee.

## **8.2 Alternates / Late Athlete Replacement**

Alternate – definition:

An alternate is an athlete who is selected as a replacement to fill a spot left vacant for a specific competition or training camp after an athlete originally selected through the ordinary selection process (see section 7) has pulled out or is declared unable to participate, due to injury, illness or other circumstances.

Important: Karate Canada is under no obligation to select an alternate for either a training camp or an international competition.

### **8.2.1 Individual Divisions**

Should a selected athlete, at any time between the official date of team selection for a specific competition or training camp and the latest possible date on which Karate Canada may modify registrations in said event, have pulled out or have been declared unable to participate, due to injury, illness or other circumstances, that athlete may be replaced by the next highest ranked eligible alternate in his or her division, according to the following priorities in decreasing order:

1. International A status-holding athletes;
2. International B status-holding athletes;
3. International C status-holding athletes;
4. National A status-holding athletes

If more than one eligible athlete holds the same status, tie breaking for the selection of alternates in individual divisions is to follow the Tie Breaking Criteria listed in Section 8.1 above.

The selection of alternates (in individual kata divisions) after exhaustion of the priorities listed above is at the discretion of the Senior Para National Team Head Coach; however, the selected alternate athlete(s) must either be a current Para National Team Roster member, or must have participated in the most recent National Championships. Selection of alternates by the National Team Head Coach must also be approved by the HP Para Committee.

As soon as an athlete is named onto a team for a specific competition as an

alternate or to fill a vacant spot, he /she immediately becomes a Senior or Developmental Para National Team Roster member (as applicable), for the remainder of the season.



## **9. REQUIREMENTS, EXEMPTIONS AND APPEALS**

### **9.1 Requirements**

To remain on the Senior Para National Team Roster each athlete must:

- Sign and adhere to the Karate Canada Athlete Agreement.
- Have and maintain a valid Canadian passport or be actively in the process of obtaining Canadian citizenship (as outlined in Section 5.2 above).
- Pay the required annual Senior National Team Package Fee in full and on time.
- Participate in all mandatory training camps individually required of them unless an exemption has been granted.
- Demonstrate an appropriate maintenance of fitness and health level consistent with a high-performance athlete on a National Karate Team. The Head Coach may call for an independent fitness or health assessment in cases of concern about fitness and health.
- Always report any performance limiting injuries or physical conditions to the National Head Coach, no later than 2 (two) weeks prior to the next upcoming camp or competition, or within 1 (one) week of the occurrence of the illness or injury.
- Provide appropriate medical information on the injury and on its treatment. This includes diagnosis and proposed treatment protocol and estimated return to full training and/or competition.
- Keep the National Team Head Coach informed on the progress of their recovery plan and progress according to that plan.
- Provide an accurate mailing address, an active e-mail address and all phone numbers at which they can be reached. Any changes must be sent to the Karate Canada Head Office in a timely manner.

Note: it is an athlete's responsibility to update Karate Canada of any change to any and all relevant addresses for communication of important data. Karate Canada is not responsible for missed deadlines or failure to comply by an athlete if information is sent to an incorrect or inactive address(es) if Karate Canada was not notified of such changes

### **9.2 Exemptions from Para National Team Camps or Competitions**

Exemptions from mandatory national team activities due to exceptional circumstances may include, but are not limited to:

- Recent death in the immediate family (within 1 (one) month prior to the start of the Camp or Competition);

- Injury limiting participation and/or performance;
- Pregnancy; or
- Infectious disease

Requests must be made as soon as reasonably possible after the issue arises but no later than 24 (twenty- four) hours after the start of the event / activity, by notification in writing to the Karate Canada Head Office. Notification of such an event must include details of the circumstances along with any supporting evidence scanned and/or emailed to the Karate Canada Head Office.

In the cases of injury, disease or other performance-limiting physical condition, the athlete must include a medical certificate indicating the specific problem, its severity and the estimated recovery time. Karate Canada has the right to seek its own medical opinion before rendering its final decision.

**IMPORTANT:** An athlete who has sustained an injury must be present at all mandatory training camps unless the ability to receive appropriate medical treatment for that injury precludes that athlete from attending, or unless waived by the National Team Head Coach.

An athlete whose condition persists and is unable to undergo full training during the 2 (two)-week period prior to an event may be withdrawn by Karate Canada from the team representing Canada at that event.

Karate Canada will accept or reject all requests for exemptions and deliver its decision in writing within a reasonable time following receipt of request for exemption. Such decisions will be final and without appeal.

### **9.3 Participation in Domestic Competitions**

Participation at Domestic competitions (other than National Championships and Training Camps announced in this Criteria) will be mandatory only if Karate Canada, or the event organizing committee, covers the full costs of travel and accommodation, and if notice is given to the athlete at least eight (8) weeks prior to the event.

Exemptions to mandatory participation will be considered by the Para National Team Head Coach based on the same criteria contained in section 9.2 above.

### **9.4 Appeals**

Appeals regarding team selection are limited to the incorrect application of criteria or development of new and previously unknown information relevant to the appeal. For any

appeal, please refer to the Karate Canada's Appeal Policy.

### **9.5 Language**

Where / when there is a difference in interpretation between French and English versions of this document, the English version shall prevail.

## PART II – CALENDAR OF EVENTS AND POINT ALLOCATION FOR 2019-2020 SEASON

**Table 1: List of Targeted Camps and Competitions for Senior Para National Team Roster athletes during the 2019-2020 Season**

<b>Event &amp; Location *</b>	<b>Date *</b>	<b>Comments</b>
Pre PKF Training Camp Montreal, QC	March 14-17, 2019	Mandatory for selected athletes
Senior Pan American Championships - (Panama)	March 21-23, 2019	Mandatory for selected athletes
Kata National Training Camp (KNTC) (Vancouver, BC)	TBC	Mandatory for Roster athletes to attend 1 of these 2 events
Training Camp / Seminar at Karate Canada Summit (Toronto, ON)	Sept 27-29, 2019	

\* Subject to change and will be confirmed prior to the event

**Table 2: Ranking points accumulated for participation & performances in individual divisions**

Event	Event Name	Team Selection Dates	Results	Points	Duration / Expiry
1	Senior World Championships (International) ***	n/a	Gold	650	From event to event or 2 years if the event does not reoccur within the following 2 seasons. Points are reduced by 50% in the 2 <sup>nd</sup> year of possession.
			Silver	600	
			Bronze	550	
			4th-5th	250	
			6th-8th	150	
2	PKF Senior Pan American Championships (International)	Within 5 working days of the 2019 Senior National Championships	Gold	400	From event to 2 <sup>nd</sup> future edition of the event or 2 years if the event does not reoccur twice within the following 2 seasons. Points are reduced by 50% in the 2 <sup>nd</sup> year of possession.
			Silver	350	
			Bronze	250	
			4th-5th	100	
3	KC Sr National Championships (domestic)**	n/a	Gold	100	From event to event.
			Silver	80	
			Bronze	50	

\*\*\*Please note: Point allocation will apply to and include results obtained in Para divisions at the 2018 WKF Senior World Championships (until their date of expiry, in accordance with Section 6.2).

**Table 3: Funding ratios for athletes on the Senior Para National Team invited to compete at international competitions \*\*\*\***

<b>Status</b>	<b>Points</b>	<b>Ratio</b>
International A	400+	1.5:1
International B	250 - 399	1:1
International C	120 - 249	None
National A	80 - 119	None

Based on its budgets per event, Karate Canada may distribute additional funding to athletes participating in multiple divisions.

(\*\*\*\* = Whenever funding is available. Based on Karate Canada's available funds and overall budget for each event, if / when applicable.)

Upgrades in the status of athletes may be considered for athlete funding purposes after team selection for an event has occurred. The date on which statuses are to be considered for funding for an event will be at the discretion of Karate Canada.

## **APPENDIX A: PARA SENIOR NATIONAL TEAM ROSTER DIVISIONS**

The Para Senior National Team Roster will be selected according to the division qualification standards set out as part of the [WKF Para Rules](#).

## **APPENDIX B: PARA DEVELOPMENTAL NATIONAL TEAM ROSTER DIVISIONS**

In addition to the Karate Canada Para National Criteria the Para Developmental National Team will also be subject to the WKF Para rules (see Appendix A) and the [IPC Policy on eligible Impairments in the Paralympic Movement](#).