

NSWIS SELECTION GUIDELINES – Wheelchair Basketball

NSWIS Aim

The NSW Institute of Sport (NSWIS) will work in partnership with sport to deliver programs that will develop, and assist identified high performance NSW athletes and coaches to achieve excellence and success at international level.

NSWIS will be a major player in the delivery of internationally recognised programs, coaching and services to achieve world-class performance as a part of an effective, nationally coordinated, high performance sport network.

Program Purpose

The **NSWIS Wheelchair Basketball Program** will support Basketball Australia to develop World Class athletes capable of winning gold medals at benchmark events in Wheelchair Basketball, delivering a nationally aligned partnership supporting and developing National athletes through performance support and coaching. The program will provide world-class coaching, training and competitions, facilities and support services to prepare athletes to be the best in the world.

Selection Aim

The aim of selection is to ensure the best and most suitable athletes available are included in NSWIS programs, according to program description, selection processes and criteria as agreed.

Program Description

Target Athlete Group

Generally, **Wheelchair Basketball** athletes who:

- are identified in senior national squads
- show the potential to gain open national team selection

Structure

The NSWIS Wheelchair Basketball Program is a decentralised program with an individual athlete focus.

NB: All athletes must be Australian citizens and current financial paying members of Basketball NSW or Wheelchair Sports NSW to be nominated for NSWIS Squad scholarship.

NB: An athlete who does not reside in NSW but is eligible to represent NSW at National Championships may be selected, but only after referral to and authorisation by the PPMG.

Maximum no. of scholarships

Up to 16 NSWIS scholarships (Podium, Podium Ready, Podium Potential, Developing & Emerging Scholarships).

NSWIS reserves the right to offer training agreements to athlete's who have the ability to add value to the daily training environment (DTE).

Selection Criteria

Athletes will be eligible for inclusion into the NSWIS Wheelchair Basketball Squad based on their performance relative to selection criteria for one of the scholarship categories listed below.

NB: 'Eligibility' does not necessarily guarantee an NSWIS scholarship offer. This will be dependent on the number of scholarships available and athletes will be ranked by performance accordingly and will need to gain the necessary recommendation from the Head Coach and subsequent approval by the PPMG.

Athlete Categories

There are five categories in line with Basketball Australia’s Athlete Categorisation Nomination Guidelines & Selection Policy for 2020-2024. The categories are detailed in the table below.

Podium Pathway category	Criteria	BA Description
Podium	Athlete who contributed to the team’s podium performance at Paralympics and/or world championship event in the previous 24 months and will continue to do so over the next 24 months.	Targeted athlete for National senior squad. 12 athletes that represented Australia at benchmark events. Athletes adhering to required AMS reporting platform. Athletes participating in National league or equivalent competition overseas, or other competition as agreed by national program management.
Podium Ready	Athlete who meets required classification and aligned with established team culture to be considered capable of progressing to Podium level immediately.	Targeted athlete for National senior squad. 6-8 athletes that can represent Australia at benchmark events. Athletes adhering to required AMS reporting platform. Athletes participating in National league or equivalent competition overseas; or other competition as agreed by national program management.
Podium Potential	Athlete who is progressing to an opportunity for Podium Ready in the next two years. Athlete who meets classification requirements and shows signs of aligning with team culture, work-ethic and values.	Targeted athlete for National senior squad. Athlete showing initiative and commitment to their DTEs by accepting a NIN scholarship and adhering to national program requirements. Athlete adhering to required AMS reporting platform. Athlete participating in National league or equivalent competition overseas, or other competition as agreed by national program management.
Developing	Athlete who has been identified with the potential to represent at a state or national level wheelchair basketball competition.	Athlete with potential to be invited into a Frank Ponta Cup. Athlete participating in the Kevin Coombs Cup. Athlete showing initiative and commitment to take up opportunities with their state based DTEs/ NINs for training agreements. Athlete adhering to required reporting platform.
Emerging	Athlete who has been identified and engaged in the wheelchair basketball state talent pathway.	Athlete able to participate in a community led wheelchair basketball session.

Selection Timeframes

The NSWIS squad will be selected in **December** each year. Athlete scholarships will commence on the **1st January through to 31st December** each year. Athlete scholarships will be reviewed in **December** each year.

General Selection of NSWIS Athletes

Scholarships will be filled based on a **combination** of the athlete's:

- Performance at nominated events (within the 12 months prior to selection to the squad);
- Fitness and athletic ability
- Technical competence
- "Tactical Nous" – tactical ability in relation to Wheelchair Basketball
- Potential to improve and progression
- Competitive ability
- Individual application in training and competition
- Team/Squad orientation – ability to 'fit in'
- Specific standards/technical considerations
- Classifications and requirements of the national program squads

NB: performances to be considered must be recorded at Basketball NSW, and IWBFB sanctioned competition and must be achieved within the twelve months prior to selection.

NB: Subjectivity is an unavoidable part of athlete selection where potential to perform is being assessed.

NSWIS Selection Guidelines

Squad Selection Ratification

Basketball Australia will nominate potential athlete holders for an NSWIS Scholarship. The nominated scholarship athletes must be approved by the Performance, Planning and Management Group (PPMG) prior to athlete notification and induction.

Where a conflict of interest exists with any member of the panel (e.g., when a member has a personal involvement with an athlete under consideration), that member will exclude themselves from any decisions relating to identified athlete/s.

NB: Selection criteria will be reviewed annually by the PPMG.

NB: Selection to the NSW State teams and National teams is independent from NSWIS Squad athlete selection or membership. Athletes are under no obligation to accept a NSWIS scholarship offer.

Accepting and Maintaining a NSWIS Scholarship

The NSWIS Scholarship athletes must sign and abide by a NSWIS Athlete Agreement and Athlete Code of Conduct for the term of the scholarship. It is the responsibility of the athlete to ensure all conditions of the Agreement are met at all times, including maintenance of a healthy lifestyle and fitness.

The composition of the squad may be amended by the PPMG at any time where an athlete's scholarship is withdrawn based on an athlete's performance review, or an athlete meets selection criteria during the course of a scholarship year.

The level of scholarship an athlete receives is performance based. All scholarships will be reviewed 2 times per year. These will be held on a 6 monthly basis following the domestic and international seasons.



Following each review, NSWIS athletes will either remain at their current scholarship level or be nominated by the NSWIS Head Coach to be moved to another scholarship level. Athletes who perform below expectation and do not meet expected performance indicators when they are on Developing International level may have their scholarship withdrawn.

Athlete Withdrawal from NSWIS Sport Squad Scholarship

An athlete wishing to withdraw from their NSWIS Scholarship may do so by informing the PPMG in writing at any time.

Any equipment loaned to an athlete through the NSWIS Program must be returned to NSWIS upon withdrawal of a scholarship. Athletes who do not return equipment will be liable for the cost of all outstanding equipment.

Scholarship Suspension / Termination

An athlete's scholarship may be suspended or terminated where s/he breaches the NSWIS Athlete Agreement, Code of Conduct, Sport Code of Conduct (or equivalent) and/ or brings the Institute and / or the Sport into disrepute.

In this instance the NSWIS CEO, in consultation with the Program Partners will recommend to the NSWIS Board, the suspension or termination of the athlete's scholarship.

The NSWIS Board is the only body that has the power to terminate or suspend an athlete scholarship. The athlete, Head Coach and Program Partners will be advised in writing of the outcome.

Athlete Appeals Process Relating to Non Selection of NSWIS Athlete Scholarship

Athletes may appeal non-selection to the NSWIS or withdrawal of a scholarship by contacting the Coordinator of the NSWIS Appeals Panel in writing within two weeks of withdrawal or non-selection. The NSWIS Appeals Panel will hear all appeals within two weeks of notification and will consist of the Coordinator and PPMG. The Coordinator may appoint an independent to the Appeals Panel where deemed necessary or at an athlete's request. A full report of the Appeals Panel's decision will be forwarded to the athlete and NSWIS CEO within one week of the Appeals hearing.

Athletes may be accompanied by a support person of their choice at all times during the Appeals process.