

Ontario Amateur Softball Association Male U21 Team Ontario Program Selection Criteria

The Ontario Amateur Softball Association (O.A.S.A.) administers the Male U21 Team Ontario Program (Team Ontario) as a member organization of Softball Ontario. The OASA has the authority through the OASA Athlete Development Committee to select the Team Ontario coaching staff, manager and ensure they meet the National Coaching Certification Program eligibility requirements and have a current Vulnerable Sector Police Check certificate. The OASA Athlete Development Committee has the responsibility to apply for all available funding opportunities through provincial Quest for Gold grants to further develop athletes and coaches within this program.

SECTION 1 – PURPOSE

Team Ontario will compete in the Canada Summer Games in Winnipeg Manitoba July 27 to August 4, 2017. The purpose of this document is to set out the process used by the O.A.S.A to select athletes for Team Ontario to compete in this tournament.

The selection process has the following objective:

Select the best possible team for the 2017 Canada Summer Game. While some objective criteria will be used to select the team, it is also recognized that there are significant subjective elements such as previous and current performance, experience, positional requirements, leadership and team cohesion.

SECTION 2 – ELIGIBILITY

To be eligible to be selected to the team an athlete must be in good standing with Softball Canada, must be an Ontario resident with Canadian citizenship, or alternatively must be a person eligible for Canadian citizenship who is actively pursuing citizenship within the Province of Ontario.

To be eligible to be selected to the team, the athlete must further meet any age requirements and citizenship requirements stipulated by the organizers of the event at which the team will be competing. The eligibility requirements are stated in the 2017 Canada Summer Games Technical package for Softball.

SECTION 3 – AUTHORITY FOR SELECTION

The Head Coach has final authority for all athlete selection decisions, including selecting athletes to the team, removing athletes from the team, and selecting replacement athletes to the team where applicable. In making selection decisions, the Head Coach will consult with the coaching staff.

SECTION 4 – ATHLETE SELECTION PROCESS

Team Selection

Coaching staff were named to Team Ontario March, 2013. Staff attend various provincial and Canadian championships to identify athletes to be invited to compete for membership on the team. A series of skill development and evaluation camps will take place during the selection process leading into a final selection camp. The number of athletes will be reduced as the camps progress ending with a final team of 15 athletes.

- Initial list of up to 72 players invited to skill development camps released in September 2014
- Additional players, up to the 72 maximum, may be added at any time prior to the selection camp

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- The initial skill development camps will be held in Ingersoll and Cobourg in November 2014
- A skill development and evaluation camp will take place in Kitchener, August 2015 for 56 invited athletes.
- An evaluation camp for 56 invited athletes will take place in Grafton, May 2016
- A final selection camp will take place in Kitchener, August 2016 for 32 invited athletes
- Final team selection of 15 athletes and 4 alternates will be made no later than September 5, 2016. Publication of the final team selection to be made after approval by the O.A.S.A.
- A holistic training and fitness assessment camp with mandatory attendance of all athletes and alternates selected and team staff will take place in Brampton in January, 2017
- Alternates may be added to the team to replace an athlete removed from the team pursuant to Section 5 (below). The addition of alternates to the team is at the sole discretion of the Head Coach and will be in keeping with the philosophy of fielding the best possible team.

Factors that will be considered in this selection include physical, mental and technical aspects of the game, as well as team dynamics. These factors, which will be assigned weight by the Head Coach, as he/she deems appropriate for the decision-making process, include:

- Previous and current performance
- Experience
- Positional requirements (primary and backup)
- Present and projected development and/or improvement
- Leadership/Contribution to team chemistry
- Availability for competition and training

It is understood that in making selections to create the best possible team it is possible that the best individual athletes may not be selected. The Head Coach also has the discretion to name an athlete to the team even though that athlete may not have participated in all of the skill development, evaluation camps or other selection activities.

UNFORESEEN CIRCUMSTANCES/CHANGES TO THE DOCUMENT

If unforeseen circumstances arise which do not allow for this selection process or the above timelines to be implemented as outlined in this document, the O.A.S.A reserves the right to identify an alternate process or alternate timelines. Should this occur, all athletes in the selection process will be notified of these changes in a timely manner.

SECTION 5 – REMOVAL FROM A CAMP OR FROM THE TEAM

5.1 Upon selection to the team, an athlete must:

- a) Sign a Team Ontario Athlete Agreement
- b) Provide Team Ontario staff with all required documents (birth certificate, medicals, etc.)
- c) Participate in team events, activities and meetings, as directed by the Head Coach or his/her designate
- d) Wear proper equipment and clothing
- e) Obey all rules established by the Head Coach and/or Canada Summer Games Council
- f) Assist Softball Canada, Softball Ontario and the OASA in public relations.
- g) Participate in fund raising projects where required within the Team Ontario program

5.2 An athlete may be removed from a camp or from the team where the athlete:

- a) Is unable to meet performance expectations
- b) Is unable to perform due to injury, illness or for other medical reason as determined by Team Ontario or Canada Summer Games medical staff
- c) Is unable to commit to Team Ontario program activities and events (note that an athlete may obtain an exemption from the Head Coach)
- d) Violates team rules and/or Softball Canada's policies and procedures
- e) Exhibits conduct that is detrimental to the image of the Team Ontario program.
- f) Breaches the Athlete Agreement

- g) Voluntarily withdraws
- h) Is removed by an O.A.S.A Discipline and/or Appeal panel
- i) Fraudulently misrepresents themselves

SECTION 6 – SUBSTITUTION OF ALTERNATES

Where necessary and appropriate, an athlete removed from the team may be replaced by an alternate selected by the Head Coach.