



2025 National Team Selection - Para-Climbing

Preamble

As para-climbing continues to evolve, Climbing Escalade Canada (CEC) recognizes the need for a clear and transparent selection process for athletes aspiring to join the National Team. While this policy will be implemented for the 2025 season, it will undergo review in the fall and in the lead-up to the 2026 season to adapt to any changes. CEC will strive for consistency in the selection process but must remain flexible to accommodate potential adjustments from international organizations like the IFSC and the IPC.

Vision Statement:

To establish Canada as a leading force in para-climbing, cultivating a diverse and inclusive community of athletes who have the opportunity to excel at the highest levels of national and international competition, including the Paralympics.

Mission Statement:

Our mission is to develop and support a sustainable pipeline of para-climbing talent across Canada by providing equitable opportunities, clear classification guidelines, and comprehensive resources. We are committed to recruiting and nurturing athletes from diverse regions and backgrounds, offering access to knowledge, coaching, and counseling that extends beyond competition. By fostering youth involvement and collaborating with provincial organizations, we aim to expand our athlete base and build a fair, competitive environment that aspires to medal success at the Paralympic level.

Guiding Principles for a Fair Para-Climbing National Team Selection Process

1. **Equitable Access to National Competitions:**
 - Ensure the availability of national competitions within Canada that are accessible to para-climbers, with clear guidelines on how athletes can participate and be ranked.
2. **Committed Athlete Recruitment and Development:**
 - Create clear criteria to identify and recruit committed athletes, focusing on those who show potential and dedication to compete at a high level. Provide pathways for their development through structured training and support.
3. **Fair National Ranking System:**
 - Develop a para-climbing national ranking system that rewards participation in accessible events and reflects athletes' performances fairly.
4. **Adaptive and Evolving Process:**

- Acknowledge that the sport is rapidly evolving, and the selection process must be adaptable. Regularly review and update the process to reflect changes in the sport, competition standards, and the needs of athletes.
- 5. Inclusivity and Regional Representation:**
- Ensure that the selection process allows for broad regional representation while maintaining a focus on selecting the best athletes for national and international competition. Balance inclusivity with the need to form a high-performance national team.

Eligibility Requirements

To be eligible for selection to the National Team, athletes must meet and maintain all requirements as follows:

- Be of eligible age to participate in the Senior Category: turning 17 years by end of calendar year
- Be classified in one of the following sport classes:
 - AL1 (Bilateral Lower limb impairment):
 - AU2 (Upper Limb Amputee *not allowed to use prosthetic)
 - AL2 (Lower Limb Amputee *prosthetics allowed)
 - B1 (Visually Impaired: Completely or almost completely blind *must wear blindfold during competition regardless of sight)
 - B2 (Visually Impaired: Moderately blind)
 - B3 (Visually Impaired: Legally blind with corrective measures)
 - RP1 (Range of Power: Severe impact)
 - RP2 (Range of Power: Moderate impact)
 - RP3 (Range of Power: Noticeable impact)
 - Complete details regarding these sport classes [are available here](#)
- Hold a valid CEC Para-Climbing Athlete License
- Hold a valid Canadian Passport, expiring no earlier than 6 months prior to the date of the event(s) attending (if applicable)
- Sign and abide by the CEC National Team Athlete Agreement
- Abide by all [CEC Rules & Policies](#), including, but not limited to, the Community Code of Conduct
- Act in accordance with other national and international policies (CCES - CADP, WADA, etc.)
- Participate in all meetings (in person or virtual) set by the National Team program leadership

Quotas

- Up to 5 athletes / gender / sport class will be invited on the National Team
- Quotas to International Competition will differ from the National Team quotas, so not all athletes on the team will be invited to participate in an international competition
- International Competition Selection will be allocated by ranking into the National Team Program

Application Process

- Para-Athletes must submit their nomination for consideration by March 31 of the competition year, using the provided CEC Application Form (posted by February 1 of the competition year)

- Vacancies can be filled after consideration of all applications received by the deadline

National Ranking System and Selection Process

For ranking athletes in para-climbing, a point system will be used based on the results from major competitions. This system ensures that the athlete's score reflects both their performance and the level of competition in their category. The best two (2) results from an athlete over a rolling 24 months period will be considered for ranking.

Note: Athletes' best two results can only include one IFSC result. Therefore, the possible options are: 1 IFSC + 1 Nats result, or 2 Nats results

Here's how it works:

1. Base Points available per events:

- IFSC World Championships: Each category starts with 200 points, divided by the number of participants in that category.
- IFSC World Cups: Each category starts with 150 points, divided by the number of participants in that category.
- USA Climbing Para-Nationals and Canada's Para-Nationals: Each category starts with 100 points, divided by the number of participants in that category.

2. Calculate Competition Points:

- First, determine the value of each position by dividing the base points by the number of participants in that category.
- **Example:** If there are 10 participants in the AL2 category at the USA Climbing Para-Nationals, each position would be worth 100 points / 10 participants = 10 points.

3. Determine Rank Points for the Athlete:

- Multiply the value per position by the number of participants who ranked below the athlete, plus 1.
- **Example:** If the athlete ranked 4th, there are 6 participants ranked below them. So, 10 points (per position) × (6 participants below +1) = 70 points.

FORMULA:

Where:

P is the base points available for an event (1),

N is the number of participants at an event (2),

R is the rank achieved at an event (3):

CP is the competition points for a specific rank at a specific event:

$$CP = P/N * (N-R+1)$$

Examples:

Athletes A attended the Salt Lake City World Cup in 2024.

In the B1 category, the athlete ranked 4 out of 6 participants.

$$CP = 150/6*(6-4+1)$$

$$CP = 25*3$$

$$CP = 75 \text{ points}$$

Athlete B attended the USA ParaClimbing Nationals in 2024.

In the AL2 category, the athlete ranked 7 out of 18 participants.

$$CP = 100/18*(18-7+1)$$

$$CP = 5.55*12$$

$$CP = 66.6 \text{ points}$$