



NWTSA Arctic Winter Games 2023

Athlete & Selection Policy



Welcome

This Policy sets out the process NWTSA will select Athletes and Coaches to represent Team NWT at the 2022 Arctic Winter Games (AWG).

If you have questions or concerns, please bring them to the NWTSA executive director and not the coaching staff.

Acronyms and Definitions

AWG - Arctic Winter Games

Technical Committee - the NWTSA's Technical Committee

NWTSA - NWT Soccer Association

Participant - any coach, official, athlete or volunteer selected by the NWTSA for the AWG

Our contact information

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1 Who can take part?

The AWG technical package specifies that for the 2023 Games, divisions are as follows:

- Female Junior
Female Juvenile
- Male Junior
- Male Juvenile

		2023
		Born in
Female	Junior	2007/2008
	Juvenile	2009-2011
Male	Junior	2007/2008
	Juvenile	2009-2011

To participate in any stage of the AWG process, athletes, coaches and officials must be residents of the Northwest Territories and members in good standing with the NWTSA at the time of application, and until completion of the Games.

Residency is defined by Sport North as six months' residency in the Northwest Territories prior to the start of the Games.

A member in good standing with the NWTSA is one who has registered and paid for the current membership season (from September 1 to August 31) and received no disciplinary sanctions that prohibit them from participating in the Games.

If an AWG participant violates any of the NWTSA's policies or guidelines they are no longer a member in good standing, can be removed from the AWG process, and may face further disciplinary measures as determined by the NWTSA.



3 Applying to coach a team

Individuals wishing to coach a team travelling to the AWG must apply to the NWTSA and executive director and follow the Sport Norths registration process.

Applicants must be registered with the NWTSA for their application to be considered. Information on how to register can be found on the NWTSA's website.

The NWTSA will, pending the receipt of appropriate applicants, announce the successful coaching staff for the AWG teams prior to the start of that year's Territorial Trials in December.

The NWTSA reserves the right to approach individuals outside the pool of applications if appropriate applicants have not been identified by the deadline.

Applicants must declare all potential conflicts of interest at the time of application (e.g. relatives, coworkers). The NWTSA will seek to avoid conflicts of interest when appointing coaches.

Applications received after the deadline shown online will be considered on an individual basis.

3.1 Selection criteria for coaches

Selecting an appropriate coach is the first step to ensure that Team NWT's players get the most out of their experience.

The NWTSA's Technical Committee will review applications and select the most appropriate coaches for its AWG teams.

In the event that a member of the committee has applied for an AWG coaching position, that member will not be involved in the selection process. An individual designated by the NWTSA may be asked to assist in their place.



Selection of coaches is based on, but not limited to, the following criteria:

- Current member of the NWTSA in good standing
- Past coaching and playing experience
- Current coaching certification (Soccer For Life level at a minimum – contact the NWTSA for more information)
- Desire and intent to continue within the coaching certification program
- Completion of the “Respect In Sport” three-hour online course (cost covered by the NWTSA) prior to the AWG
- Must be available for the duration of Regional Futsal Camps and Territorial Tryouts
- **Current criminal record check with vulnerable sector check (contact your local RCMP for details) – to be supplied with application**
- Commitment to implement the AWG program and abide by policies and procedures set forth by the NWTSA
- Must be above the age of 18
- Valid passport or intention to acquire one (if applicable)
- Demonstrable knowledge of the game of futsal

In selecting AWG coaches the NWTSA may consider assessments of current and past coaching performance, feedback received from Team NWT programs, and other information deemed appropriate by the Technical Committee.

Successful applicants will be asked to sign a contract reflecting their commitments and duties in the lead-up to and during the AWGs.

3.2 Duties of the coach

Coaches must:

- Act as an appropriate role model and chaperone, as identified by the NWTSA’s policies and procedures, at all times on and off the field
- Oversee the training and preparation of the AWG athletes
- Ensure communication with athletes, parents and the NWTSA is prompt and effective throughout the AWG process
- Be prepared to work as a team with their coaching colleagues in the lead-up to and during the AWG, attending all meetings where required



4 Evaluation assistants at Territorial Tryouts

The NWTSA Technical Committee will select evaluation assistants to work with coaches at Territorial Tryouts in evaluating and identifying talent.

Evaluation assistants then work with coaches to select players and alternates for each team travelling to the AWG.

This is a voluntary role for the duration of Territorial Tryouts.

The NWTSA will seek to avoid conflicts of interest when appointing evaluation assistants.

4.1 Selection criteria for evaluation assistants

Prospective evaluation assistants will be expected to demonstrate:

- Current membership of the NWTSA in good standing
- Understanding of this AWG handbook and athlete selection criteria
- Demonstrable knowledge of the game of futsal
- Commitment to implement the AWG program and abide by policies and procedures set forth by the NWTSA
- Must be available for the duration of Territorial Tryouts

NWT residents wishing to serve as evaluation assistants are invited to contact the NWTSA for more information.



5 Athlete selection criteria

There are five criteria on which athlete selection is based. Examples of each criterion are laid out in italics.

- i. Technical
Ability to play the game, ball control, attacking, defending and associated skills and techniques
- ii. Physical
Player strength, ability to hold a player off the ball, endurance
- iii. Psychological
Concentration, mental toughness, communication
- iv. Tactical
Awareness and movement on and off the ball
- v. Social
Interaction with players, involvement, maturation

Fitness is each player's own responsibility, regardless of circumstance or time of year. If selected players do not maintain their fitness in the opinion of their coach, a coach may elect to remove them and consider alternates in their place.

Coaches and evaluation assistants will meet prior to the commencement of Territorial Tryouts to establish a uniform approach to the evaluation of athletes. The NWTSA's priorities include consistency of evaluation across Regional Futsal Camps and Territorial Tryouts with the aim of selecting competitive teams for the AWG.

The NWTSA's athlete evaluation form has been appended to this document.

Selection at Territorial Tryouts is based entirely upon performance in front of AWG coaches and evaluation assistants during the weekend of Territorial Tryouts.

There is no further opportunity for athletes to be considered once Territorial Tryouts have concluded.

Athletes may be removed and replaced after selection under certain circumstances. See Section 12 for more information.



7 Territorial Tryouts selection process

Dates for Territorial Tryouts – the second stage of the AWG athlete selection process – will be confirmed on the NWTSA's website prior to the start of Regional Futsal Camps, subject to confirmation from Sport North.

Up to nine (9) athletes per age group will be advanced from each Regional Futsal Camp to Territorial Tryouts, alongside athletes who qualify under out-of-territory criteria (see 7.2 below).

Athletes must register with Sport North no later than the Territorial Tryouts registration deadline, which will be advertised on the NWTSA's website.

The specific format for the selection of players will be finalized once final numbers are known following Regional Futsal Camps. The format for each age group will be communicated to players attending the Territorial Tryouts in advance.

The assigned coach of each team, along with evaluation assistants identified by the Technical Committee, will select nine (9) players and three (3) alternates at Territorial Tryouts.

All successful athletes selected to travel to the AWG must then pay a fee to Sport North on or before the date specified by Sport North. This fee (an amount set by Sport North) helps to cover costs Sport North incurs for facility and travel costs. Further information will appear on the NWTSA's website ahead of tryouts – see also Appendix 1.

Sport North covers the cost of travel to Territorial Tryouts from regional centres.

Following selection, alternates may be contacted in the event that athletes become injured or unavailable to attend the Games. If alternates have not kept up their physical fitness, or are unavailable or uninterested, the assigned coach may approach other players who were in attendance at Territorial Tryouts.

Coaches must inform the NWTSA immediately if players will not be continuing on with their team.



Players are allowed to participate in Territorial Tryouts for two different sports as long as the dates for the two Territorial Tryouts do not conflict. If a participant wishes to do this, they are required to register and pay their Sport North registration fees twice.

Athletes trying out for two sports should be aware that under the guidelines printed in Sport North's handbook, an athlete selected at the first tryout they attend is no longer eligible to try out in a second sport.

An athlete identified as an alternate at the first tryout they attend *can* participate in a second sport's tryout. However, the athlete must decide which sport to pursue immediately following the conclusion of the second tryout. Contact Sport North for more information.

7.1 Exceptional circumstances

Should an eligible athlete be unable to attend a Regional Futsal Camp owing to exceptional circumstances, a written request may be made to the Technical Committee as soon as possible for special permission to attend Territorial Tryouts. This request must be received by the NWTSA no later than the second Friday in October of the year preceding the AWG.

This application must explain the circumstances in question as fully as possible. The Technical Committee will issue a decision within fourteen (14) days of the request being received.

7.2 Out-of-territory athletes

Students attending school outside the Northwest Territories but otherwise eligible to take part in the selection process are encouraged to attend the Regional Futsal Camp of their home region where possible.

If unable to attend a Regional Futsal Camp, a written request to be advanced to Territorial Tryouts may be made to the Technical Committee under the provisions for exceptional circumstances given above.

The NWTSA reserves the right to request a transcript as proof of status. Financial support is not available for out-of-territory athletes to travel to Regional Futsal Camps.

Athletes, in all instances, are expected to attend Regional Futsal Camps where at all possible.



be considered to be representing their home region for the purposes of regional selection quotas as outlined and imposed by Sport North.

7.3 Contracts

All selected athletes and their parents or guardians will be asked to sign a contract reflecting their commitments and duties in the lead-up to and during the AWG, and will be asked to sign the NWTSA Code of Conduct.

8 Expectations of Participants

We want all NWT participants at the AWG to be safe, enjoy themselves and proudly represent the Northwest Territories. We ask that all participants:

- Abide by the terms of their contracts signed with the NWTSA, the NWTSA's Code of Conduct, and Sport North policies and procedures
- Demonstrate respect to event organizers and all athletes, coaches, and volunteers
- Uphold a standard of behavior in keeping with a participant representing their territory
- Remember, at all times, that their behavior and demeanor are the subject of scrutiny by others