

# 2019 Western Canada Summer Games

## Introduction

In less than five months, Yukon athletes will be among the nearly 2000 Western Canada's best and brightest athletes setting their sights on Swift Current, Saskatchewan, as the community hosts the 2019 Western Canada Summer Games (WCSG). Thousands of visitors including officials, VIPs, media and spectators will come together for the 10-day sporting event. Featuring 16 sports and a major arts and cultural festival, the 2019 Games will be the largest event in Swift Current's history. Volleyball Yukon, along with many other WCSG teams from Yukon, will be a part of this event.

## History of the Western Canada Summer Games

The Western Canada Summer Games were officially launched in Regina, Saskatchewan in August 1975, in a pre-Olympic Games year. Along with the official launch was a commitment from participating provinces and territories to hold the Western Canada Summer Games every four years, one year ahead of the Olympic Games.

The Western Canada Summer Games are intended to provide development opportunities for amateur athletes and to help them advance their skills in a competitive but friendly environment. The Games also serve to broaden the exposure of talented athletes and provide a training ground for national and international level competitions. Social and cultural elements round out the sporting events for athletes.

## Team Yukon - Volleyball

In preparing for the challenge of competing at the 2019 Western Canada Summer Games, Volleyball Yukon is assembling one male and one female indoor volleyball team and two male and two female beach volleyball teams to represent Yukon at the Games.

All competitive volleyball players, who meet the eligibility criteria detailed below, are encouraged to attend optional Identification Camps (if scheduled) and the mandatory Trials (see details below).

# 2019 Western Canada Summer Games

## Selection Criteria

*Officiated by Volleyball Yukon*

### 1.0 ELIGIBILITY

- Must be a Canadian citizen, a permanent resident of Canada, or individual whose family is in Canada on a work visa. Athletes must: be born in **2003 or later for indoor (16 and under as of 12/31/19)**; be born in **2001 or 2002 as an overage player for indoor**; born in **1999 or later for beach**. See “Selection Process” for rules concerning overage players.
- Must be a continuous resident of Yukon for six (6) consecutive months prior to the opening day of the Games.
- Must be a current Volleyball Yukon member in good standing.

NOTE:

- *Students attending an institution outside of the Yukon must also comply with all eligibility requirements prior to the start of the school year, and must maintain their principle residence in Yukon.*
- *Athletes must not have been a member of a national team in the sport in which she/he is competing, nor competed in, nor have been selected for an international competition as a representative of her/his country in the sport within one year of the opening date of the Games.*
- *If a WCSG participant violates any of the policies or guidelines set forth by Volleyball Yukon, Volleyball Canada, or Team Yukon’s (code of conduct), they are considered to be no longer a member in good standing and can be subject to removal from the WCSG process.*

### 2.0 VOLLEYBALL YUKON MEMBERSHIP

Athletes participating in Volleyball Yukon’s selection process (e.g. identification camps, training squads, tryouts/trials) for the 2019 WCSG must have a current Volleyball Yukon membership. The membership must be purchased online, through Volleyball Yukon’s website. <http://site2764.goalline.ca/event-search.php> . An athlete who is not a member of Volleyball Yukon and who wishes to participate in selection events (e.g. ID camps, training squad, tryouts) must present proof of insurance before participating.

Athletes and coaching staff (coaches, assistant coaches and managers) must also be members in good standing with Volleyball Yukon (VY) once selected and must maintain their membership in good standing until the completion of training or the completion of the Games, whichever concludes their participation. A member in good standing with

Volleyball Yukon is and individual: who is registered and has paid all applicable membership fees for the season in which the WCSG take place; with no disciplinary sanctions against them; and who has no other justified reason why membership may be denied or withdrawn.

### **3.0 WCSG TEAM SELECTION PROCESS**

#### **3.1 INDOOR VOLLEYBALL**

The WCSG Volleyball Yukon Final Roster will be comprised of one male and one female team. Team breakdowns are as follows:

- **INDOOR FEMALE (ONE TEAM):** Maximum of 12 females born in 2003 or later (see overage rules for players 16-18 years as of 12/31/2019 below).
- **INDOOR MALE (ONE TEAM):** Maximum of 12 males born in 2003 or later (see overage rules for players 16-18 years as of 12/31/2019).

**INDOOR OVERAGE RULES:** Up to four (4) overage players are permitted for each indoor team. The composition of overage players cannot include more than two (2) players from 2001 (18 as of 12/31/19).

Examples of Overage player compositions:

- four (4) overage players born in 2002 (17 as of 12/31/19);
- three (3) overage players born in 2002 and one (1) born in 2001; or
- two (2) overage players born in 2002 and two (2) born in 2001.

**ALTERNATES:** Up to four (4) alternates may be named to each indoor team. The combination of alternates should cover all positions. Alternates should be identified by position and ranking.

#### **3.2 BEACH VOLLEYBALL**

The WCSG Volleyball Yukon Final Rosters will be comprised of two female and two male teams. Team breakdowns are as follows:

- **FEMALE (TWO TEAMS):** Maximum of two (2) females per team born in 2001 or later (18 and under as of 12/31/19) or born in 1999 or later (see overage rules below, for players under 20 years old as of 12/31/19);
- **MALE (TWO TEAMS):** Maximum of two (2) males per team born in 2001 or later (18 and under as of 12/31/2019) or born in 1999 or later (see overage rules below, for players under 20 years of age as of 12/31/19).

**BEACH OVERTAGE RULES:** Up to four (4) athletes per gender born in 1999 (20U as of 12/31/19). A maximum of two (2) athletes per gender on a CCAA, U Sports or NCAA varsity volleyball roster (indoor or beach) are eligible, but not permitted to play on the same team.

**ALTERNATES:** Up to two alternates may be named for each beach team. Alternates should be identified by ranking.

#### **4.0 WCSG TEAM SELECTION CRITERIA**

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

1. Technical – *Ability to play the game, ball control, attacking defending and associated skills and techniques related to specific positions.*
2. Physical – *Player strength, agility, speed, power endurance and jumping ability.*
3. Psychological – *Concentration, mental toughness, communication.*
4. Tactical – *Court awareness, decision making and understanding of the game.*
5. Social – *Interaction with players and coaches, involvement, maturity, respect toward others and overall personal dynamic within the group.*

\* Please refer to the evaluation package for more details on the skill level for which evaluations are based.

Coaches will select players based on the criteria outlined above and detailed in the evaluation package. Volleyball Yukon will identify evaluators to participate in the selection of athletes to mitigate against potential or perceived bias.

Fitness is the onus of each selected player, regardless of circumstance or time of year. If a selected player does not maintain his/her fitness, in the opinion of their coach and based on an evaluation of the athlete's fitness, a coach may elect to remove him/her and consider alternates in their place. This decision will be communicated in writing from the coaches to the athlete only after the coaches has noted their concerns to the athlete and provided a reasonable time-frame to achieve an expected level of fitness.

Coaches and evaluation assistants will meet prior to the commencement of the selection process to establish a uniform approach to the evaluation of athletes. Volleyball Yukon priorities include consistency of evaluation across all WCSG Tryouts with the aim of selecting high performing competitive teams for the 2019 WCSG.

Athletes may be removed and replaced after selection under certain circumstances. See Team Yukon WCSG Code of Conduct.

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 2019 WCSG, and will be asked to sign the Volleyball Yukon and/or Team Yukon Code of Conduct.

## 4.1 STEP 1 – IDENTIFICATION CAMP

Athletes may participate in all or one of the IDENTIFICATION events leading up to the WCSG Volleyball Yukon Trials (tryouts). Identification events are not mandatory and do not serve as official trials.

Athletes may email team coaches to express their interest in attending trials and competing for a spot on a WCSG Volleyball team.

Expression of interests can be emailed to:

- Male Indoor Volleyball Head Coach Dwayne Stoker at [Dwayne.Stoker@yesnet.yk.ca](mailto:Dwayne.Stoker@yesnet.yk.ca) and Assistant Coach Dan Bisson at [Daniel.Bisson@yesnet.yk.ca](mailto:Daniel.Bisson@yesnet.yk.ca)
- Female Indoor Volleyball Head Coach Melissa Laluk at [melissalaluk@gmail.com](mailto:melissalaluk@gmail.com)
- Male Beach Head Coach Matt Taylor at [matt.wfs.taylor@gmail.com](mailto:matt.wfs.taylor@gmail.com)
- Female Beach Head Coach Shannon Poleman at [shannon.poelman@gmail.com](mailto:shannon.poelman@gmail.com)

## 4.2 STEP 2 – TRIALS

Athletes MUST participate in one of the official trials listed below.

### 4.2.1 INDOOR VOLLEYBALL

#### **WCSG INDOOR VOLLEYBALL TRIALS #1 - MALE**

**Date/Time:** March 30, 2019 6:00PM - 8:00PM  
and March 31, 2019 10:00AM - 12:00PM

**Location:** Porter Creek Secondary School

#### **WCSG INDOOR VOLLEYBALL TRIALS #2 - MALE**

**Date/Time:** April 13, 2019 6:00PM - 8:00PM  
and April 14, 2019 10:00AM - 12:00PM

**Location:** Porter Creek Secondary High School

### **WCSG INDOOR VOLLEYBALL TRIALS #1 - FEMALE**

**Date/Time:** April 14, 2019 Noon - 2:00 pm

**Location:** Porter Creek Secondary School

### **WCSG INDOOR VOLLEYBALL TRIALS #2 - FEMALE**

**Date/Time:** May 8th, 2019 8:00 - 10:00 pm

**Location:** Porter Creek Secondary School

## **4.2.2 BEACH VOLLEYBALL**

Athletes MUST participate in one of the official trials listed below.

### **WCSG BEACH VOLLEYBALL TRIALS - MALE**

**Date/Time:** TBD

**Location:** Rotary Park Beach Courts, Whitehorse

### **WCSG BEACH VOLLEYBALL TRIALS - FEMALE**

**Date/Time:** TBD

**Location:** Rotary Park Beach Courts, Whitehorse

**EXCEPTIONS to ATTENDING TRIALS:** Exceptions will be permitted only upon review and approval by the Volleyball Yukon WCSG Committee. The decision will be available upon request (or posted on the Volleyball Yukon website).

**EXEMPTIONS to ATTENDING TRIALS:** Exemptions may be granted for the following reasons: injury, illness, Yukon school program commitments and special family circumstances. In order for an exemption to be considered, an application for exemption must be submitted to the Volleyball Yukon WCSG Committee 48 hours prior to the start of the WCSG official volleyball trials. Where there are unusual or unexpected situations making attendance impossible, which could not have been anticipated (e.g. something within 48 hours of trials), these will be considered individually by the Volleyball Yukon WCSG Committee on a case by case basis.

## **5.0 TEAM FINAL SELECTION**

A Selection Committee appointed by Volleyball Yukon Board of Directors will review the 2019 WCSG Player Evaluation Forms and Coach recommendations to approve the final

team roster. The WCSG Coaches will be non-voting members of the Selection Committee.

In the event of a tie and before confirming the final roster, the 12th spot can remain open in the event there is more than one player eligible for that spot. These players would be identified, by the coaches, as alternates for the remaining spot and would vie for the position during team training/practices.

### **5.1 Final Roster Announced – Date TBD**

The Volleyball Yukon WCSG Selection Committee is required to retain copies of the Athlete Evaluation Forms for at least ten (10) days following the last day of the Trials. An athlete may request to see their Evaluation Forms within the ten (10) day timeline.

### **5.2 APPEALS Regarding Final Athlete Selection**

Any athlete will be able to file an appeal with Volleyball Yukon within 2 days of the announcement of the 2019 WCSG team(s). This can be done in writing to the Vice President of Volleyball Yukon, Kenneth Howard at [k.howard.vy@gmail.com](mailto:k.howard.vy@gmail.com).

A separate appeals committee will be formed by Volleyball Yukon to review the appeal and make a decision if needed. Team Yukon will also be fully advised of any appeal by Volleyball Yukon and/or the mission staff.

### **5.3 REMOVAL AND REPLACEMENT**

The head coach and assistant coach of a WCSG team may, once players have been selected, jointly request that the Volleyball Yukon Board of Directors remove an athlete from the WCSG process. Volleyball Yukon will communicate the decision to the athlete or coach in writing with a copy to Team Yukon. Examples include (but are not limited to) injury, illness, attendance, fitness standard, disrespect, and misconduct.

The Volleyball Yukon Board of Directors reserves the right to remove any athlete or coach from the WCSG process if that athlete or coach is found unable to meet or abide by any requirements in the selection criteria or other policies and guidelines set forth by Volleyball Yukon and Team Yukon. In the event of conflicting policies Team Yukon policies will supercede.

### **5.4 DISPUTE RESOLUTION**

Coaches are expected to keep full evaluation records of all athletes from both Trial Selection sessions. Following each Trial selection session, coaches and evaluators must hand-in completed evaluation forms to the designated Volleyball Yukon representative at the end of each session.

## 6.0 STEP 4 – TRAINING COMMITMENTS

**Following selection through to the conclusion of the Games, Team Yukon volleyball athletes will be expected to meet a training commitment.**

Volleyball Yukon honours athletes' individual situations and is weary of over-training. Team members are encouraged to customize training plans in conjunction with the coaches if there are: personal barriers; geographical limitations; or conflict with any other concurrent athletic pursuit.

For athletes that may not reside in Whitehorse, selected athletes will be asked to provide proof of following a Volleyball Yukon WCSG coach approved training program that they will adhere to, and to work on the assigned skills as requested by their coaches.

Team Yukon WCSG selected players, who are also registered in CLUB volleyball programming, will give priority to Volleyball Yukon WCSG Team commitments over CLUB practices. Selected players will communicate any potential conflicts to his/her WCSG coaches after team selections are finalized. Every effort will be made by the player and coach (WCSG and CLUB) to resolve such conflicts.

Selected players who are registered in other CLUB or Travel Teams, or another WCSG team will communicate any scheduling conflicts with his/her WCSG coach(es) following announcement of final roster and/or as soon as the conflict is known. Every effort will be made by the WCSG coach(es) and player to work out a training plan that aligns with team needs. Selected athletes will give priority to WCSG practices over CLUB or other travel team commitments.

## 7.0 HEADING INTO THE GAMES

All team members must show proper respect for coaching staff, other team members, and the community at all times. Team members are expected to follow the training plan set out by the coaches. Any team member not willing to cooperate and follow the Volleyball Yukon and/or Team Yukon Code of Conduct, or follow the training plan set out by the coaches may be released by his/her coach or the Volleyball Yukon Board of Directors, from the WCSG program at any time.

All Yukon WCSG athletes, coaching staff and Games Committee members will abide by the Team Yukon Code of Conduct, the Canada Anti-Doping Policy and Team Yukon's Discipline Policy.

If athletes named to the Yukon WCSG Volleyball Team fail to continue to meet their training commitments, are injured and can't recover before the WCSG start, or remove



themselves from the Team, the Volleyball Yukon Selection Committee may approach athletes who participated in the WCSG Selection Process, with preference going to athletes named as alternates, to fill the vacant spot(s).

## **8.0 EXPECTATIONS**

We want all Yukon participants at the WCSG to be safe, to enjoy themselves and proudly represent the Yukon. We ask that all participants:

- abide by the terms of their contracts signed with Volleyball Yukon, the Volleyball Yukon Code of Conduct, Volleyball Yukon policies and Team Yukon 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 Yukon; and
- remember, at all times, that their behavior and demeanor are the subject of scrutiny by others.

**For further information & contacts, please refer to the contact list below:**

**Volleyball Yukon:**

**Lisa-Marie Vowk**

Executive Director

Volleyball Yukon

[volleyballukon@gmail.com](mailto:volleyballukon@gmail.com)

**Volleyball Yukon Selection Committee:**

For questions regarding WCSG Trials exemption and general Team Yukon eligibility.

**Kenneth Howard**

Vice President, Board of Directors

Volleyball Yukon

**Tarra Mikeli**

Director at Large, Board of Directors

Volleyball Yukon

**Alexandra Taylor**

Secretary, Board of Directors

Volleyball Yukon

**Dwayne Stoker (non-voting)**

Head Coach

Team Yukon Indoor Volleyball Male Team

**Dan Bisson (non-voting)**

Assistant Coach

Team Yukon Indoor Volleyball Male Team

**Melissa Laluk (non-voting)**

Head Coach

Team Yukon Indoor Volleyball Female Team

**Matt Taylor (non-voting)**

Head Coach

Beach Volleyball - Men

**Shannon Poelman (non-voting)**

Head Coach

Beach Volleyball - Women