



## 2025 NATIONAL TEAM SELECTION PROCESS

The **national team selection process represents the high-performance component of our LTAD implementation**, identifying athletes who have successfully navigated the developmental pathway and demonstrated readiness for international competition. By incorporating multiple assessment criteria—including tournament performance, DUPR ratings, match play analysis, and role identification—the selection process aligns with the LTAD's holistic approach to athlete development. This comprehensive framework ensures that **Bermuda's competitive pickleball structure serves players at all stages of development**, from those enjoying their first tournament experience to those representing our country on the international stage. Together, these integrated systems create a cohesive development pathway that supports our mission to grow pickleball in Bermuda while developing **world-class competitors who demonstrate our values of excellence, inclusion, and sportsmanship**.

### **NATIONAL TEAM SELECTION**

The selection process for the Bermuda National Pickleball Team is comprehensive, data-driven, and aligned with the country's Long-Term Athletic Development (LTAD) Plan. While the ranking system provides an objective foundation, the selection methodology incorporates multiple factors to ensure that Bermuda is represented by players who can perform at their best on the international stage.

### **SELECTION CRITERIA**

The following criteria are used in National Team selection, ordered by importance:

#### **1. INTERNATIONAL RESULTS**

Results from international competitions at elite skill levels carry the highest weight in the selection process

Players who have competed abroad and achieved significant results in elite divisions demonstrate proven ability to perform; under higher levels of competition and pressure International performance in elite divisions serves as the strongest predictor of success in representing Bermuda globally

#### **2. NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS PERFORMANCE**

Performance in the Bermuda National Championships is a critical selection factor, with emphasis on:

- Ranking Points: Accumulated points in overall performance, with primary focus on doubles events
- Partnership Results: Outcomes achieved with partners of varying skill levels, with appropriate weighting to recognize achievement with both higher and lower-rated partners



- Competition Level: Quality of opposition faced and how performance translates to international readiness
- Pressure Situations: Ability to execute in pivotal moments, particularly in medal rounds

### **3. PAB RANKING SYSTEM**

A player's standing in the national rankings provides an objective measure of consistent performance

Rankings reflect both achievement (placement) and engagement (participation) across sanctioned events

The system's tiered structure ensures appropriate weighting for performance at higher skill levels

### **4. DUPR RATINGS**

The Dynamic Universal Pickleball Ratings (DUPR) system provides a standardized, global measurement of player ability

DUPR ensures objective assessment of skill level relative to international standards

Ratings are particularly valuable when evaluating players who have had limited opportunities to compete against each other

### **5. OBSERVATION AND MATCH PLAY ANALYSIS**

Direct observation by the National Director and coaching staff during tournaments and training sessions

Technical and tactical execution is evaluated through comprehensive match analysis

Assessments include:

- Player understanding of their specific role and ability to leverage strengths effectively
- Situational awareness and adaptability to changing match conditions
- Decision-making under pressure
- Strategic implementation and tactical adjustments

### **6. TEAM ROLE IDENTIFICATION**

Each player's potential role within the national team is considered to ensure balanced team composition:

- Doubles vs. Mixed Doubles vs. Singles: Different formats require specific skill sets and strategies
- Lead Competitor: Players capable of anchoring the team and delivering consistent high-level performance
- Supporting Partner: Players who complement lead players with strong gameplay and tactical support
- Utility Player: Versatile players able to adapt to different roles based on team needs

Understanding of these roles is essential for both team cohesion and individual preparation



### **ADDITIONAL CONSIDERATIONS**

Age and Development Stage: Players are evaluated based on their position in the athletic development journey, ensuring alignment with the LTAD plan

Physical and Mental Readiness: Conditioning, injury status, and psychological preparedness for international competition

Team Dynamics: Compatibility with potential partners and contribution to overall team culture

Long-Term Potential: Players showing exceptional promise may receive consideration as part of Bermuda's long-term international development strategy

### **QUALIFICATION REQUIREMENTS**

Players must compete in a minimum of three (3) PAB-sanctioned tournaments during the qualification period unless ordinarily resident overseas

Participation in the National Championships is mandatory (exemptions require advance written approval)

Players must maintain active PAB membership throughout the selection and competition period

Selected players must commit to pre-tournament training sessions and team preparation activities

Players must sign the PAB National Team Agreement outlining responsibilities and code of conduct

By applying these criteria, the national team selection process ensures fairness, transparency, and focus on long-term development. The comprehensive approach provides players with clear understanding of their selection status and areas for growth as Bermuda continues to build its presence in international pickleball.

***Selection decisions are made by the National Pickleball Director in consultation with the Competition Committee and are subject to approval by the PAB Board of Directors.***