



BC Summer and BC Winter Games

Wildcard System **(Individual Sports only)**

The Wildcard System for individual sports was introduced for the following reasons:

- To maintain the commitment to province-wide sport development on a zone-by-zone basis, without allowing the backfilling that has occurred in previous years.
- Allow PSO's to bring a few extra top athletes who would otherwise not qualify from their zones.
- Maintain the established BC Games gender balance for each sport.

Team sports will continue to follow the rules outlined under Replacement Team policy.

The BC Games Society staff, along with PSO Provincial Advisors for the BC Games, will determine the total number of athletes each sport can send to the BC Summer or BC Winter Games (this will be based on past Zone Team Composition numbers found in the BC Games Rules Book).

If a sport is able to fill their zone athlete totals, then the Wildcard System is not needed and will not be implemented. If a sport is unable to fill their athlete zone totals, then the Wildcard System will be implemented. In this case, the number of Wildcard spots will generally be achieved by dividing the total number of athletes by 9. The eight zones will all receive equal numbers of athletes and remaining spots or ninth zone will become Wildcards and be allocated by the Provincial Advisor to the next best athletes who did not otherwise qualify for the Games.

Example: If it is determined that sport X will have a total of 90 competitors at the BC Games, each of the 8 zones will be allowed to send 10 athletes (total 80 athletes) the remaining 10 spots will be Wildcard positions. The Provincial Advisor, in consultation with the Zone Coaches, will determine which athletes will fill the 10-wildcard spots. The BC Games intends for PSO's to send their next "best" 10 athletes in the province to fill these spots. Zone 1 could send 20 athletes, then Zone 2 would send 10 athletes, Zone 3 would send 10 athletes etc. (as all the wildcard spots have been given to Zone 1). Sport X can choose to divide up the wildcard spots in any way that works for them to send their next best 10 athletes. Determining which zone gets the wildcard spots would be determined by sport X once regional qualifications were complete. In this example sport X knows that they have 10 wildcard spots to fill by the BC Games registration deadline.

All athletes (including Wildcards) will compete for the Zone where they live and will appear on the registration form in this way. Once all registration forms are submitted, BC Games staff will do an overall review of numbers to ensure each sport has not gone over their total number of athletes published in the Rules Book.

Where a Zone does not fill all of its allocated spots, those unfilled spots remain unused and cannot be converted to wildcard spots

If sport X did not fill all 10 spots in Zone 3 for example, (only able to send 7 athletes) these remaining 3 spots would stay vacant, and would NOT be converted to additional wildcard spots. In the above example, if sport X were able to fill all other spots within the zones and their wildcard spots, they would end up bringing 87 athletes to the BC Games and not their full contingent of 90.

The male / female split of wildcard spots should reflect the male / female split in the BC Summer and BC Winter Games sport package for that sport. Example – if there were 6 male weight classes and 4 female weight classes then the wildcard spots would be broken down 6 and 4 as well.