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MURDERBALL



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 @BCWSA

international wheelchair rugby

CANADA CUP 2026

RICHMOND OLYMPIC OVAL • JUNE 4-7, 2026



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Thank you to our tournament sponsor Vesco Wheelchairs.

Be sure to chat with them during the tournament and find out what they can do for you!

Webcasts

Can't make it to all the games?

Tune into our tournament webcast on cbcsports.ca and our YouTube channel at youtube.com/bcwheelchairsportsbcwsa.

Every match on both courts will be broadcast live and with full commentary. In addition to our YouTube feed, all Team Canada matches plus all three of Sunday's finals will be streamed on CBC Sports.





Welcome to the 2026 Canada Cup International Wheelchair Rugby Tournament

On behalf of BC Wheelchair Sports and the Canada Cup Organizing Committee, welcome to the 2026 Canada Cup International Wheelchair Rugby Tournament.

After months of preparation, we are thrilled to welcome teams and fans from around the world to Richmond for what promises to be an incredible tournament full of athleticism, intensity, and sportsmanship.

We hope that both locals and visitors will enjoy the event and take away stories, memories and moments that last far longer than the competition.

I would like to thank our partners, sponsors and supporters including the Government of Canada, Government of BC, Richmond Sport Hosting and more whose support make events like this possible. I would also like to express my sincere gratitude to the rest of the organizing committee and all our fantastic volunteers whose efforts bring the Canada Cup to life.

Michelle McDonell
Executive Director, BC Wheelchair Sports Association



Dana Lajeunesse
MLA, Parliamentary
Secretary for
Accessibility



On behalf of the Government of British Columbia, it's my honour to welcome to the 2026 Canada Cup International Wheelchair Rugby Tournament.

This week, athletes from around the world are coming together in B.C. to compete at the highest level of wheelchair rugby. The skill, determination and teamwork on display will highlight the excellence that defines parasport – and how far the sport has come since its beginnings in Canada. Hosted in our province since 2004, with a brief exception in 2010, the Canada Cup has grown into one of the premier international competitions in the sport. For many teams, this tournament is an important step as they prepare for upcoming global competition.

As Parliamentary Secretary for Accessibility, I know firsthand what it means to move through spaces that were not built with you in mind, and I know how much it matters when those spaces are designed for universal access. That is what this tournament represents: an accessible and inclusive British Columbia in action. Through efforts like the Accessible B.C. Act and support for events like this, we are working to remove barriers so people of all abilities can fully participate in community life, including sport.

When sport is inclusive, it creates space for everyone to belong, participate and excel. The Canada Cup shows what is possible when opportunities are built with accessibility in mind not as an afterthought, but from the start. The Province of British Columbia is proud to support the Canada Cup through the Major Events Program and the Destination Events Program. This support helps organizations like the B.C. Wheelchair Sports Association deliver world-class events, while strengthening communities and providing home-grown athletes with opportunities to develop and compete.

Thank you to the organizers, coaches, officials, community partners and the many volunteers who made this event possible. To the athletes – thank you for inspiring us all with your dedication, resilience and excellence. And, I wish you all the very best with the tournament. And to the visitors and spectators – enjoy this highest level of athletic skill, strategy and determination as we experience the power of inclusive sport to bring communities together.



Richard Allcroft
President, World
Wheelchair Rugby



Welcome to the Canada Cup. One of wheelchair rugby's longest standing competition in the international calendar. A true reflection of Canada's commitment in relation to high performance sport and hosting capabilities.

The Canada Cup has always provided a perfect opportunity for teams to compete and the 2026 event will be the final performance before the World Championship in São Paulo, Brazil.

Good luck to all of the athletes and teams attending and my thanks to the organising committee, their staff and volunteers who continue to make the event such a well-run operation.

For those fans that haven't seen the sport before, I know you will enjoy the fast paced and full contact game that is wheelchair rugby.

The athletes are "Here to Win".



Paul Hunter

CEO, Wheelchair
Rugby Canada



On behalf of Wheelchair Rugby Canada, it is my pleasure to welcome everyone to the 2026 Canada Cup International Wheelchair Rugby Tournament in Richmond, British Columbia.

From June 4-7, we are proud to host some of the world’s top wheelchair rugby nations as teams from Canada, Japan, Australia, Brazil, Great Britain, and France come together for four days of elite international competition. Canada Cup is an exciting opportunity to showcase the skill, intensity, and sportsmanship that define our sport on the global stage.

This year’s tournament carries even greater significance as the final international competition before the 2026 World Wheelchair Rugby World Championships taking place this August in São Paulo, Brazil. With every nation competing in Richmond also set to attend the World Championships, Canada Cup provides a valuable opportunity for teams to test themselves against world-class opposition ahead of the sport’s premier event.

Beyond the competition, Canada Cup is a celebration of the international wheelchair rugby community and the connections built through sport. Events like this continue to play an important role in growing the game, creating high-performance opportunities for athletes, and inspiring the next generation of players, coaches, officials, and fans.

I would like to extend my sincere thanks to BC Wheelchair Sports Association, the organizing committee, volunteers, officials, partners, and sponsors whose dedication and hard work have made this event possible. Your commitment continues to strengthen wheelchair rugby both in Canada and internationally.

To all athletes, coaches, staff, and supporters; thank you for being part of this event. We hope you enjoy your time in Richmond and wish all participating teams a successful, competitive, and memorable tournament.



Malcolm D. Brodie

Mayor of Richmond



On behalf of City Council and the residents of Richmond, I would like to extend sincere greetings, and welcome you to the 2026 Canada Cup International Wheelchair Rugby Tournament, being held on June 4 - 7, at the Richmond Olympic Oval.

This year’s highly anticipated tournament will feature teams from Australia, Brazil, Canada, France, Great Britain, and Japan. I am confident that the *2026 Canada Cup International Wheelchair Rugby Tournament* will spark excitement and anticipation among spectators while offering athletes a valuable opportunity to showcase their skills, teamwork, sportsmanship, and competitive spirit.

For those of you visiting Richmond, I urge you to experience all that our community has to offer. I hope you will have the opportunity to enjoy the wide variety of restaurants located throughout our beautiful City, as well as our many shopping destinations and recreational facilities. Richmond is also home to an abundance of natural parks, gardens, and miles of dykes to walk and explore.

Thank you to all the organizers and sponsors who worked so diligently to make this tournament a huge success. Best wishes and good luck to all the athletes!

The Canada Cup Logo

Joseph Campbell designed the tournament logo for the inaugural Canada Cup in 2004, and carved the MVP and winning team plaques for the 2008 Canada Cup. His ancestral name is Katxālacha, which means man with a kind heart.

He was born in Vancouver in 1948, and starting carving in his teens, creating many types of carvings including letter openers, figurines, plaques, totem poles, talking sticks and masks. He has done commissions for former Russian President Boris Yeltsin, wall panels for a Hungarian University, and talking sticks for Israeli diplomats. Today, he specialises in carving bentwood boxes for galleries in Vancouver, Seattle WA, and across Vancouver Island, while continuing to learn about art in different media.

The Logo

The logo design shows an eagle, which represents determination and vision. In front of the eagle is a man, representing an athlete with the same determination and vision to be the best he can be. He is wrapped in a Canadian flag to show that he has won and is very proud to represent his country. In 2012, the Canada Cup logo received a makeover as part of the event's rebranding that we believe remains true to the spirit that the original designer intended and celebrates both B.C. culture and the hard-hitting sport of wheelchair rugby.



Wheelchair Rugby Canada

Wheelchair Rugby Canada is the national governing body for the Canadian Heritage Sport of wheelchair rugby. Wheelchair Rugby Canada strives to be a world-leader in wheelchair rugby, a respected advocate for wheelchair athletes committed to excellence in programs from recruitment to retirement.

Wheelchair Rugby Canada's current slogan "It's Our Game", invokes Canadian pride in having invented the sport, once known as Murderball, in 1977 in Winnipeg, Manitoba. It's also meant to reinforce the organization's continued commitment to delivering world-class wheelchair rugby programs.

To learn about Wheelchair Rugby Canada, please visit www.wheelchairrugby.ca and follow us on social media @WCRugbyCanada.





About BC Wheelchair Sports

Since 1971, the BC Wheelchair Sports Association has helped people with physical disabilities across the province lead active, healthy lives through wheelchair sports. We are committed to being a strong advocate for athletes with a disability and working to reduce barriers to participation. We strive to challenge and remove financial, physical, social and attitudinal barriers to sports for people with disabilities across BC.

BCWSA administers Wheelchair Rugby, Wheelchair Athletics (Wheelchair Racing and Seated Throws), and Wheelchair Tennis. As an athlete progresses, we offer wheelchair loans and programs for athletes with a range of skill and experience levels. We are committed to creating positive and safe environments for all of our participants to connect, be active and compete.

BCWSA is also proud to host wheelchair sport competitions of every level from local recreational events to high-performance international tournaments like the Canada Cup Wheelchair Rugby Tournament and the Vancouver International Wheelchair Tennis Tournament.

From Have-A-Go Days to international events, we aim to create opportunities for connection, community and competition for athletes with disabilities in British Columbia!

In 2026, BCWSA is celebrating 55 years of creating opportunities and changing lives through sport. We are grateful for the support of our many partners, supporters, and donors who help make our programs possible.

If you'd like to get involved in wheelchair sports in BC, as an athlete, volunteer or supporter - Contact us today.

**For more information
contact us:**

www.bcwheelchairsports.com

info@bcwheelchairsports.com

[/bcwheelchairsports](https://www.facebook.com/bcwheelchairsports)

[@BCWSA](https://twitter.com/BCWSA)



About Wheelchair Rugby

Wheelchair Rugby is a team sport for male and female athletes with mobility impairment in at least three limbs. It is a unique sport created by athletes with a disability that combines elements of basketball, handball and ice hockey. Wheelchair rugby was invented in 1977 in Winnipeg and was originally known as “Murderball” because of its aggressive nature. The sport continues to grow and evolve and is now played in over 40 countries.

Basic Rules

- The object of the game is to carry the ball between the two posts and across the opposing team’s try line.
- Two wheels must cross the try line to count and the player must have control of the ball when they cross the try line.
- Wheelchair rugby is played on a hardwood basketball court that is marked by boundary lines, a centre line, a centre circle and two key areas (one at each end). A standard volleyball is used.
- Games consist of four eight-minute quarters with three-minute breaks between the 1st and 2nd quarter and the 3rd and 4th quarter. There is a ten-minute break at halftime between the 2nd and 3rd quarter.
- Teams have 40 seconds to score on each possession.
- After a try or stoppage of play, the player has 8 seconds to inbound the ball.
- After inbounding the ball, a team has 12 seconds to bring the ball across half-court and can’t go over and back.
- A player whose team has control of the ball can’t remain in the opposing team’s key for more than 8 seconds.
- A player must dribble the ball once every 8 seconds.
- The defending team must have no more than 3 players in their key. If a fourth player enters the key on defense, a penalty will be assessed.
- Each team has three one-minute bench time-outs which can be called by the coach at a stoppage in play. If called during the last minute of a quarter, the coach can elect to advance the ball beyond half court.
- If the score is tied, an overtime period of three minutes will be played. Additional overtime periods will be played until one team wins.
- Contact between wheelchairs is an integral part of the game, however physical contact between players is not and will result in a penalty.
- A penalty committed when the opposing team is not in a scoring position results in the offending player spending 30 seconds or until the opposing team scores in the penalty box (similar to ice hockey). Penalties committed when the opposing team is in a scoring position result in a penalty try.

About classification

Wheelchair Rugby uses a classification system to ensure that athletes with different types of disabilities can compete together. To be eligible to play wheelchair rugby, athletes must have impairment in both their upper and lower limbs. Even with this restriction, a wide range of function exists between athletes as they will have varying levels of mobility and strength in their hands, arms, and core.

When an athlete begins playing wheelchair rugby, they are evaluated by a team of qualified professionals (classifiers) and assigned a number based on their functional ability.

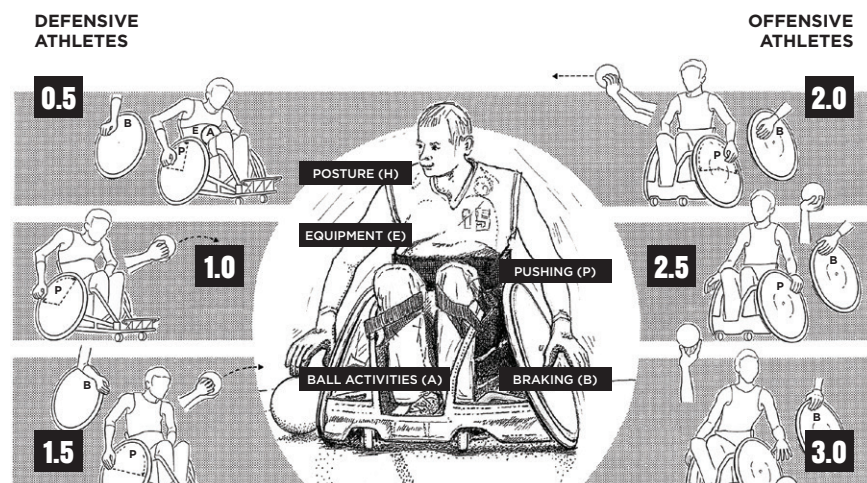
The number ranges from 0.5 (for athletes with the least function) to 3.5 (for athletes with the most function) and increase in 0.5 increments. The four athletes on the court must total no more than 8.0 points.

Wheelchair Rugby is also unique in that it is a mixed-gender sport with male and female competitors competing with and against each other. When a female athlete classified between 0.5-1.5 is on court, their team is allowed an additional 0.5 to their 8.0 point team total. When a female athlete classified between 2.0-3.5 is on court, their team is allowed an additional 1.0 to their team total.

An athlete's classification will be visible on a tag attached to the back of their chair during many Wheelchair Rugby tournaments including the Canada Cup. An athlete's role in the game usually corresponds to their classification and different combinations often lead to different strategies and styles of play as coaches and players find ways to optimize strengths and minimize the impact of functional limitations.

Classification Key

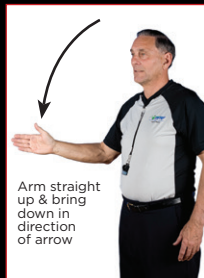
- 0.5** Main role is as a blocker, not a major ball handler and uses a defensive wheelchair.
- 1.0** Blocker, may inbound the ball, not a major ball handler and uses a defensive wheelchair.
- 1.5** Excellent blocker and may also be an occasional ball handler, often uses a defensive wheelchair.
- 2.0** Increasing role on court as a ball handler, often uses an offensive wheelchair.
- 2.5** Ball handler and fairly fast playmaker, uses an offensive wheelchair.
- 3.0** Very good ball-handler and fast playmaker, will use an offensive wheelchair.
- 3.5** Primary ball handler and playmaker, will use an offensive wheelchair.



Wheelchair Rugby Referee Signals



READY SIGNAL



Arm straight up & bring down in direction of arrow

TIME IN SIGNAL



VIOLATION SIGNAL



GOAL



Raise arms up and down in dribble motion

DRIBBLE VIOLATION



Wave and cross arms above head

CANCELLED GOAL



TIME OUT



1 MINUTE TIME OUT



REF/EQUIP TIME OUT



FLAGRANT FOUL



SUBSTITUTION



HELD BALL



VISIBLE COUNT



Point to the floor and outline a semi-circle

1 METER



Strike open hand with fist

CHARGE



12 SECONDS



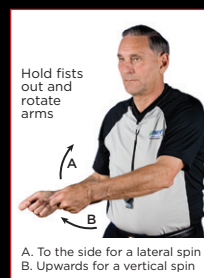
Tap shoulder 3 or 4 times

40 SECONDS



Up and down motion at wrist

PHYSICAL ADVANTAGE



Hold fists out and rotate arms

A. To the side for a lateral spin
B. Upwards for a vertical spin

SPIN



With both palms facing out move hands towards sideline

LEAVING THE COURT

officials & classifiers

The 2026 Canada Cup International Wheelchair Rugby Tournament is proud to welcome officials and classifiers from around the world. These hard-working members of the wheelchair rugby community ensure that every athlete and team receives a level playing field and are integral to the success of any wheelchair rugby event.

| | |
|---------------------------|--|
| Technical Delegate | Ken Sowden (NZL) |
| Head Official | Lloyd White (NZL) |
| Evaluators | Kevin Bowie (CAN) Pierre-Alexandre Briere (CAN) Kerin Banfield (USA) |
| Game Commissioners | Casey Herman (USA) Jacqueline Rowley (CAN) Chantal St-Pierre (CAN) |
| Referees | Cam Broadhead (CAN) Joli-Anne Lavesque (CAN) Kevin Caldwell (CAN) Jon Bongiovanni (USA) Jarek Malek (POL) Kristen Hemphling (GER) |
| Chief Classifier | Andrea Chase (CAN) |
| Evaluator | Julie Bakke (CAN) |
| Classifiers | Emilie Newell (CAN) Katie Chun (USA) Naomi O'Reiley (IRL) Emilie Gollan (AUS) Doug Mazur (USA) Angelika Hegner (GER) |



World Rankings

1. Japan
2. Australia
3. United States
4. Great Britain
5. France
6. Canada
7. Denmark
8. Brazil
9. Germany
10. New Zealand
11. Colombia
12. Switzerland
13. Netherlands
14. Republic of Korea
15. Argentina
16. Thailand
17. Chile
18. Malaysia
19. Sweden
20. Paraguay
21. Poland
22. Peru
23. Italy
24. Czechia
25. Spain
26. Israel
27. South Africa
28. Ireland
29. Norway
30. Singapore
31. Indonesia
32. India



The Canada Cup

The Canada Cup International Wheelchair Rugby Tournament was created in 2004 by BC Wheelchair Sports Association, in order to provide another elite competition opportunity in wheelchair rugby. Canada Cup takes place biennially and is considered to be one of the most prestigious wheelchair rugby tournaments outside of a World Championship or Paralympic Games.

The event has been held at the Richmond Olympic Oval since 2012 and brings together the world's top teams in preparation for the Paralympic Games or World Wheelchair Rugby Championships. The 2026 Canada Cup is a crucial tournament for teams as they prepare for the 2026 World Wheelchair Rugby Championship in Brazil.

Results from recent Canada Cups:

2024 Canada Cup

1. Japan
2. Australia
3. Great Britain
4. France
5. United States
6. Canada

2022 Canada Cup

1. Japan
2. Canada
3. Denmark
4. Great Britain
5. Australia
6. France

2018 Canada Cup

1. USA
2. Japan
3. Australia
4. Canada
5. Denmark
6. Sweden

2016 Canada Cup

1. USA
2. Australia
3. Japan
4. Canada
5. Great Britain
6. Sweden
7. Switzerland

2014 Canada Cup

1. Australia
2. Canada
3. Japan
4. Great Britain
5. Denmark
6. Sweden
7. New Zealand
8. Switzerland

2012 Canada Cup

1. USA
2. Canada
3. Australia
4. Japan
5. Great Britain
6. Sweden
7. Belgium
8. France



Competition Schedule

TEAMS

AUS - Australia
 BRA - Brazil
 CAN - Canada
 FRA - France
 GBR - Great Britain
 JPN - Japan

Thursday, June 4

| TIME | G# | COURT 1 | | | G# | COURT 2 | | |
|-------|----|------------------|-----|-----|----|---------|-----|-----|
| 10:30 | | OPENING CEREMONY | | | | | | |
| 11:00 | G1 | AUS | vs. | CAN | G2 | JPN | vs. | BRA |
| 14:00 | G3 | FRA | vs. | GBR | | | | |
| 17:00 | G4 | CAN | vs. | JPN | G5 | BRA | vs. | AUS |

Friday, June 5

| TIME | G# | COURT 1 | | | G# | COURT 2 | | |
|-------|----|---------|-----|-----|-----|---------|-----|-----|
| 11:00 | G6 | FRA | vs. | CAN | G7 | GBR | vs. | BRA |
| 14:00 | G8 | AUS | vs. | JPN | | | | |
| 17:00 | G9 | CAN | vs. | GBR | G10 | BRA | vs. | FRA |

Saturday, June 6

| TIME | G# | COURT 1 | | | G# | COURT 2 | | |
|-------|-----|---------|-----|-----|-----|---------|-----|-----|
| 11:00 | G11 | JPN | vs. | FRA | G12 | AUS | vs. | GBR |
| 14:00 | G13 | BRA | vs. | CAN | | | | |
| 17:00 | G14 | GBR | vs. | JPN | G15 | FRA | vs. | AUS |

Sunday, June 7

| TIME | G# | COURT 1 | | | | | | |
|-------|-----|-----------------------------|-----|-----|--------------|--|--|--|
| 11:00 | G16 | 5th | vs. | 6th | | | | |
| 13:00 | G17 | 3rd | vs. | 4th | BRONZE MEDAL | | | |
| 15:00 | G18 | 1st | vs. | 2nd | GOLD MEDAL | | | |
| 16:45 | | CLOSING CEREMONY AND AWARDS | | | | | | |



Australia

Team Highlights

- 2024:** 3rd Paralympic Games, Paris, FRA
- 2024:** 2nd Canada Cup, Richmond, CAN
- 2022:** 1st World Championships, Vejle, DEN
- 2022:** 5th Canada Cup, Richmond, CAN
- 2020:** 4th Paralympic Games, Tokyo, JPN
- 2018:** 2nd World Championships, Sydney, AUS
- 2016:** 1st Paralympic Games, Rio de Janeiro, BRA
- 2016:** 2nd Canada Cup, Richmond, CAN
- 2014:** 1st World Championships, Odense, DEN
- 2014:** 1st Canada Cup, Richmond, CAN

Team Roster

| | | | | | |
|-----------|------------------------|------|-----------|-------------------------------|------|
| 3 | Ryley Batt | 3.0 | 12 | Shae Graham | 3.0F |
| 5 | James McQuillan | 0.5 | 14 | Andrew Edmondson | 2.0 |
| 6 | Michael Ozanne | 0.5 | 15 | Brayden Foxley-Conolly | 3.5 |
| 7 | Lilliana Prucha | 2.0F | 21 | Josh Nicholson | 2.0 |
| 10 | Chris Bond | 3.5 | 24 | Robyn Lambird | 3.0F |
| 11 | Beau Vernon | 1.0 | 25 | Cooper Blackwood | 3.0 |

Coaching & Support Staff

| | |
|-----------------------|----------------|
| Head Coach: | Lewis Quinn |
| Assistant Coach: | Jason Lees |
| Team Leader: | Maddy Lynch |
| Team Staff (Medical): | Rachael Lynch |
| Team Staff (Medical): | Brooke Cranney |

| | |
|-------------------------|----------------|
| Team Staff (Equipment): | Blair Thompson |
| Team Staff (Support): | Suzi Bond |
| Team Staff (Support): | Sam Fox |
| Team Staff (Support): | Greg Smith |
| Team Staff (Support): | Bjorn Maddern |

The Australian Steelers are one of the world's most decorated wheelchair rugby teams. The reigning World Champions have hoisted the Canada Cup twice and will be looking to lift the trophy for a third time this year. Led by the dynamic duo of Ryley Batt and Chris Bond and buoyed by a strong supporting cast, expect lots of excitement from Australia.



Brazil

Team Roster

| | | | | | |
|----|---------------------------|-----|----|---------------------------|------|
| 2 | Lucas Junqueira | 0.5 | 11 | Julio da Rocha | 3.5 |
| 3 | Guilherme Camargo | 1.5 | 12 | Alexandre Giuriato | 3.0 |
| 4 | Gabriel Simplício | 0.5 | 14 | Hawanna Ribeiro | 0.5F |
| 7 | Gabriel de Lima | 3.5 | 30 | Leonardo da Silva | 0.5 |
| 8 | Rafael Hoffmann | 2.0 | 31 | Antônio Braga | 1.5 |
| 10 | Guilherme Teixeira | 3.0 | | | |

Coaching & support Staff

Head Coach: Benoit Labrecque
 Assistant Coach: Beatriz Ramos
 Assistant Coach: Ana Ramkrapes
 Team Leader: José Souza
 Team Leader: Luiz Cavalli
 Team Staff (Medical): Guilherme Adami

Team Staff (Medical): Edilene do Nascimento
 Team Staff (Medical): Luísa Cavalieri
 Team Staff (Equipment): Renan Matias
 Team Staff (Support): Elison da Silva
 Team Staff (Support): Thelma Vidales

Team Highlights

- 2026:** 1st Santos World Wheelchair Rugby Challenge, Adelaide, AUS
- 2025:** 2nd Americas Championship, São Paulo, BRA
- 2024:** 4th Paralympic Qualification Tournament, Wellington, NZL
- 2023:** 3rd Parapan Am Games, Santiago, CHL
- 2022:** 11th World Championships, Vejle, DEN
- 2022:** 4th Americas Championships, Medellin, COL
- 2020:** 7th Paralympic Qualification Tournament, Richmond, CAN
- 2017:** 3rd Americas Championship, Asuncion, PAR
- 2016:** 8th Paralympic Games, Rio de Janeiro, BRA

A team on the rise, Brazil are getting ready to host this summer's World Championship and are making their Canada Cup debut this year. The Brazilians are a fast and aggressive team that have shown no fear while moving up the ranks. Keep an eye on Gabriel de Lima - one of the world's fastest players and Lucas Junqueira, a smart and skilled 0.5 who's becoming one of the premier players in his class.



Canada

Team Highlights

- 2025:** 3rd Americas Championship, São Paulo, BRA
- 2024:** 6th Paralympic Games, Paris, FRA
- 2023:** 2nd Parapan Am Games, Santiago, CHL
- 2022:** 5th World Championships, Vejle, DEN
- 2021:** 2nd Americas Championship, Medellin, COL
- 2020:** 5th Paralympic Games, Tokyo, JPN
- 2019:** 2nd Parapan Am Games, Lima, PER
- 2018:** 6th World Championships, Sydney, AUS
- 2016:** 4th Paralympic Games, Rio de Janeiro, BRA
- 2015:** 1st Parapan Am Games, Toronto, CAN

Team Roster

| | | | | | |
|-----------|---------------------------|-----|-----------|-------------------------------|-----|
| 2 | Travis Murao | 2.0 | 31 | Matt Debly | 3.0 |
| 3 | Austin MacLellan | 3.5 | 32 | Jean-François Huneault | 3.0 |
| 7 | Byron Green | 0.5 | 41 | Eric Rodrigues | 0.5 |
| 9 | Cody Caldwell | 2.0 | 43 | Maxime Drolet-Gauthier | 1.0 |
| 15 | Patrice Simard | 1.5 | 44 | Reese Ketler | 2.0 |
| 21 | Anthony Létourneau | 2.0 | 55 | Yanick Racicot | 1.5 |

Coaching & Support Staff

| | |
|-------------------------|--------------------|
| Head Coach: | Trevor Hirschfield |
| Team Leader: | Emily MacKeigan |
| Team Staff (Medical): | Miriam Lewis |
| Team Staff (Equipment): | Tim Witoski |
| Team Staff (Support): | Sommer Christie |

| | |
|-----------------------|---------------------|
| Team Staff (Support): | Nicole Bewski |
| Team Staff (Support): | Matt Jensen |
| Team Staff (Support): | Susana Lima Tavares |

The hosts come into the Canada Cup with an exciting mix of new faces and experienced talent ready to entertain at home. With an aggressive defense and unselfish offense, Canada's ready to push into a new era. Watch out for up-and-comer Austin MacLellan on both sides of the floor.



France

Team Roster

| | | | | | |
|----|-----------------------------|------|----|--------------------------|-----|
| 1 | Melanie Sambres | 2.0F | 12 | Loup Cathala | 2.5 |
| 3 | Cédric Nankin | 1.5 | 14 | Jordan Ducret | 1.0 |
| 4 | Nicolas Valentim | 2.0 | 21 | Jonathan Hivernat | 3.0 |
| 8 | Aurianne Devailliere | 0.5F | 31 | Lucas Gumez | 1.0 |
| 10 | Brice Maurel | 2.5 | 33 | Sébastien Verdin | 3.0 |
| 11 | Théo Bareton | 3.5 | 44 | Corentin Le Guen | 0.5 |

Coaching & Support Staff

| | |
|-----------------------|-----------------|
| Head Coach: | Adrian Chalmin |
| Co-coach: | David Wilisie |
| Team Staff (Medical): | Vincent Meunier |
| Team Staff (Medical): | Stephane Fuster |

| | |
|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| Team Staff (Medical): | Frédéric Garcia |
| Team Staff (Equipment): | Victor Meynier |
| Team Staff (Support): | Jean-Christophe Deleaye |

Team Highlights

- 2025:** 1st European Championships, The Hague, NED
- 2024:** 5th Paralympic Games, Paris, FRA
- 2023:** 1st European Championships, Cardiff, GBR
- 2022:** 6th World Championships, Vejle, DEN
- 2022:** 1st European Championships, Paris, FRA
- 2020:** 6th Paralympic Games, Tokyo, JPN
- 2019:** 3rd European Championships, Vejle, DEN
- 2018:** 5th World Championships, Sydney, AUS
- 2016:** 7th Paralympic Games, Rio de Janeiro, BRA
- 2012:** 8th Paralympic Games, London, GBR

With three consecutive European titles, France has established themselves as the team to beat in Europe and will be looking to push their way to the podium at the Canada Cup and World Championships. Keep an eye out for the shifty Jonathan Hivernat and defensive menace Cédric Nankin as Les Bleus battle in Richmond.



Great Britain

Team Highlights

- 2025:** 3rd European Championships, The Hague, NED
- 2024:** 4th Paralympic Games, Paris, FRA
- 2023:** 2nd European Championships, Cardiff, GBR
- 2022:** 2nd European Championships, Paris, FRA
- 2020:** 1st Paralympic Games, Tokyo, JPN
- 2019:** 1st European Championships, Vejle, DEN
- 2018:** 4th World Championships, Sydney, AUS
- 2017:** 1st European Championships, Koblenz, GER
- 2016:** 5th Paralympic Games, Rio de Janeiro, BRA
- 2015:** 1st European Championships, Nastola, FIN

Team Roster

| | | | | | |
|---|------------------------|-----|----|-----------------------|-----|
| 1 | Oliver Wightman | 3.5 | 10 | Tyler Walker | 3.5 |
| 2 | Jonathan Coggan | 0.5 | 11 | Kieran Flynn | 2.0 |
| 3 | Stuart Robinson | 3.5 | 15 | Josh Williams | 2.5 |
| 4 | Gavin Walker | 2.0 | 20 | Muhammad Islam | 0.5 |
| 5 | Jack Smith | 0.5 | 21 | Hannah Bucys | 3.0 |
| 7 | Harri Jenkins | 1.5 | | | |

Coaching & Support Staff

| | | | |
|-----------------------|------------------|-------------------------|--------------|
| Coach: | Jem Akpınar | Team Staff (Equipment): | Tom Dalton |
| Team Leader: | Lee Stutely | Team Staff (Support): | Lauren Filer |
| Team Staff (Medical): | Hannah Llewellyn | Team Staff (Support): | Jack Clarke |

Great Britain is back at the Canada Cup with a talented side that mixes established stars of the sport like Stuart Robinson and Jack Smith with rising stars like Hannah Bucys and Tyler Walker. Great Britain is always in the mix at the major competitions and will be a real threat for the podium.



Japan

Team Roster

| | | | | | |
|----|---------------------------|-----|----|--------------------------|------|
| 1 | Hidefumi Wakayama | 1.0 | 21 | Yukinobu Ike | 3.0 |
| 2 | Yuki Hasegawa | 0.5 | 22 | Seiya Norimatsu | 1.5 |
| 7 | Daisuke Ikezaki | 3.0 | 23 | Hitoshi Ogawa | 1.0 |
| 8 | Tomoshige Kabetani | 2.0 | 32 | Katsuya Hashimoto | 3.5 |
| 11 | Ryuji Kusaba | 1.5 | 51 | Kohei Suzuki | 0.5 |
| 14 | Shunya Nakamachi | 2.0 | 52 | Yuna Nishimura | 2.5F |

Coaching & support staff

| | | | |
|-------------------------|--------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------|
| Head Coach: | Hideki Nakatani | Team Staff (Support): | Saki Tanaka |
| Team Leader: | Tomoko Ota | Team Staff (Support): | Akiyo Fujikawa |
| Team Staff (Medical): | Higuchi Noriyuki | Team Staff (Support): | Asami Sugimoto |
| Team Staff (Equipment): | Yoshihide Kawasaki | Team Staff (Support): | Miwa Fujinaga |
| Team Staff (Support): | Huang Weichen | Team Staff (Support): | Chiaki Inoue-Hirschmann |

Team Highlights

- 2025:** 1st Asia/Oceania Championships, Bangkok, THA
- 2024:** 1st Paralympic Games, Paris, FRA
- 2024:** 1st Canada Cup, Richmond, CAN
- 2023:** 1st Asia/Oceania Championships, Chiba, JPN
- 2022:** 3rd World Championships, Vejle, DEN
- 2020:** 3rd Paralympic Games, Tokyo, JPN
- 2018:** 1st World Championships, Sydney, AUS
- 2016:** 3rd Paralympic Games, Rio de Janeiro, BRA
- 2014:** 4th World Championships, Odense, DEN
- 2012:** 4th Paralympic Games, London, GBR

After knocking on the door for a decade, Japan finally claimed Paralympic gold at the 2024 Paralympic Games in Paris. Champions of the past two Canada Cups, Japan is going for the three-peat with an incredibly deep squad. Look out for Katsuya Hashimoto, a thrilling talent who plays with a unique combination of joy and intensity.

Battle in Brazil!

All of the teams that you will see in action at the Canada Cup are preparing to fight for the World Wheelchair Rugby Championship from August 15-24 in São Paulo, Brazil.

It's the first time that the World Championships have ever taken place in South America and Brazil is getting ready to welcome 12 incredible teams who fought through an intense qualification cycle that included three Zonal Championships and a last-chance qualifier to earn the right to fight for the title.

The first of the qualification tournaments was the 2025 European Championships in the Netherlands. France won a third straight European title with a victory over silver medalists Denmark. Great Britain rounded out the podium, while Germany punched their ticket to Brazil with a fourth-place finish.

Next up was the Americas Championship in Brazil, where the hosts made a statement with a best-ever silver medal finish. Joining them on the podium were the winners from the United States and bronze-medalists Canada who claimed the two tickets from their zone.

The last of the zonal qualifiers took place in November of 2025 in Thailand where Paralympic champions Japan edged out reigning World Champions Australia in a spirited final between the two qualifiers from the Asia/Oceania Zone.

Heading into 2026, 9 of the 12 World Championship spots had been filled leading to an exciting clash between six nations for the final 3 spots at April's last chance qualifier in Medellin, Colombia.

After four exciting days of competition, The Dutch topped the podium to earn their way back to Worlds for the first time since 2006. Colombia claimed silver to qualify for their third-consecutive World Championship and New Zealand got past Switzerland to keep their streak of competing in every World Championship going.

The past two years of exciting international Wheelchair Rugby have built towards what promises to be an incredible World Championship in Brazil.

Follow the World Championship online at:
<https://rugbiabrc.org.br/2026wrwc> and on social media @2026wrwc

Past Champions

Canada Cup

2024: Japan
2022: Japan
2018: United States
2016: United States
2014: Australia
2012: United States
2010: Australia
2008: United States
2006: United States
2004: United States

World Championships

2022: Australia
2018: Japan
2014: Australia
2010: United States
2006: United States
2002: Canada
1998: United States
1995: United States

Paralympic Games

2024: Japan
2020: Great Britain
2016: Australia
2012: Australia
2008: United States
2004: New Zealand
2000: United States
1996: United States



50/50 Draw

BC Wheelchair Sports Association is excited to announce our online 50/50 fundraiser through Rafflebox — grab your tickets now!

Funds raised through this raffle go directly toward the programs, athlete supports, and equipment that keep BC’s wheelchair sport community active and thriving.

The winner will be contacted directly to claim their prize — and your support means the world to our athletes and coaches. Thank you for helping us keep everyone in the game!

50/50 Draw Rules

1. Players must reside in British Columbia or be in the province at purchase, be 19 years or older, and use a major credit card, Visa Debit or MasterCard Debit.
2. Tickets will be available online:
 - 1 ticket for \$10** - 200 tickets available
 - 4 tickets for \$25** - 1000 tickets available
 - 10 tickets for \$50** - 1200 tickets available
 - 25 tickets for \$100** - 1200 tickets available
3. The draw is June 7th, 2026 at 6:00pm PT.
4. The winner will receive 50% of ticket sales.
5. The registered Electronic Raffle Supplier (Rafflebox) will email all ticket numbers to purchasers.
6. A random draw will determine the winner utilizing a registered Electronic Raffle Supplier Random Number Generator.
7. The winner will be contacted by phone and email. The winner has 90 days to claim their prize; a second draw from the same numbers will occur after 90 days if the prize goes unclaimed.
8. Draw results will appear under the “Winners” tab on the main raffle page. By playing, you consent to having your name and winning numbers published.

*Gaming Event Licence #174399

**SCAN THE QR
CODE TO ACCESS
THE 50/50 DRAW!**



Silent Auction

Come and check out the huge number of amazing items in our ever popular silent auction

Items will be on display and available for bidding throughout the tournament. Cash, debt, and credit are accepted.



Bridging the Gap

Every athlete's journey starts with their first push and the Bridging the Gap program aims to make those first pushes as smooth as possible. The Bridging the Gap program aims to reduce barriers to participation in sport for people with physical disabilities so that more people can experience the joy and power of sport.

The Bridging the Gap program provides a variety of programs and services including a Wheelchair Loan program, Have-A-Go Days, junior programs and camps, sport-specific weekly programs in wheelchair rugby, wheelchair tennis, athletics and more.

To learn more about the Bridging the Gap program in BC, please contact Program Coordinator Daniel Bahrani at programs@bcwheelchairsports.com today!

Indigenous Bridging the Gap (IBTG)

The Indigenous Bridging the Gap Program aims to remove barriers to participation in sport for Indigenous individuals with disabilities across BC. The program applies the components of the Bridging the Gap program through a cultural lens to ensure greater success in providing a positive experience for the participants and their communities.



Through this program, we hope to support more Indigenous individuals with disabilities to get active by improving awareness of wheelchair sports opportunities and removing barriers to participation. We'll accomplish this by helping individuals and communities access equipment through our wheelchair loan program, provide fun, safe and supportive opportunities for people to try wheelchair sports in their own communities, and offer mentorship from our experienced athletes, coaches and staff.

To learn more about the Indigenous Bridging the Gap Program, please contact IBTG Coordinator Savannah Smith at i-btg@bcwheelchairsports.com today.



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**i n t e r n a t i o n a l
wheelchair rugby
CANADA CUP 2026**

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