

International Blind Golf Association

Vision Cup – Team Selection

Last Updated: September 2023

1. Composition of Teams:

- 1.1 Teams from the Americas (selected from North, Central and South America) and a World Team (selected from the rest of the world) will consist of 16 players per side.
- 1.2 There shall be 4 men from each of the 3 sight categories (B1-B3) and 4 women (ideally including no more than 2 from the B3 sight category) per team.
- 1.3 For the World Team: No more than two players in any one category may come from the same Member Association.
- 1.4 For the American Team:
 - (a) No more than three players in any one category may come from the same Member Association.
 - (b) There must be at least one player from each of Canada and the USA in each sight category.
- 1.5 If it is not possible to find the required number of players from each category who are available, the Board of Directors may agree to revise the requirement.
- 1.6 The teams (including 2 non-travelling substitutes/alternates), as proposed by the team captains, will be ratified and announced by the IBGA Board of Directors as early as possible in the year in which the event will take place.

2. Eligibility Criteria:

- 2.1 Players must be a member of an IBGA Member Association (or be an Associate Member).
- 2.2 Players must have at least 7 Standard Qualifying Rounds (as defined in the IBGA Handicap Policy) from the previous 24 months recorded on the IBGA handicap system. (To be eligible for selection for the 2026 and subsequent Vision Cup events, at least two of these rounds must have been in IBGA-sponsored events.)
- 2.3 Players must have a record of good conduct.
- 2.4 A player may not represent different teams in consecutive Vision Cup events.

3. Method of Selection:

- 3.1 The IBGA handicap indexes, as calculated at the end of December in the year prior to the event (excluding rounds which are not Standard Qualifying Rounds as defined in the IBGA Handicap Policy), will be the initial basis on which selections are made.
 - 3.1.1 For players with fewer than 20 scores on the IBGA handicaps website, their IBGA handicap index should be recalculated using at least 40% of their recorded scores.

(This is done to ensure such players' performance can be assessed in the same way as for players with 20 scores.)

- 3.1.2 Where a player has changed sight category (for example, has dropped from B2 to B1):
- (a) Rounds played in the original sight category, together with those in the current sight category, will count towards meeting the eligibility conditions set out above.
 - (b) At least 4 Standard Qualifying Rounds must have been played in the current sight category and at least two of these rounds must have been in IBGA-sponsored events.
 - (c) Performance in the current sight category will form the basis on which selection is made, recalculating the IBGA handicap index based only on scores in the current sight category as outlined in 3.1.1 above where required.
- 3.2 WHS handicap indexes may be considered in cases where these differ significantly from (being either higher or lower than) players' IBGA handicap indexes. (As with the IBGA handicap index, it is the players with the lowest index who would be favoured.)
- 3.3 Performance in the last 2 IBGA World Championships (gross, in the relevant sight category) should be considered.
- 3.4 Participation and performance in other IBGA-sponsored events over the previous 24 months (gross, in the relevant sight category), as well as performance in previous editions of the Vision Cup, may also be considered.

4. Captains & Vice-captains:

- 4.1 A captain (and vice-captain(s) if deemed necessary) will be selected by the Board of Directors by December in the year prior to the event.
- 4.2 These may be non-playing captains/vice-captains and do not need to be members of the IBGA Board.
- 4.3 If a captain is not a member of the IBGA Board the Board will allocate a liaison person(s) from the Board to ensure a smooth flow of communication between the captain and the IBGA Board.

5. Withdrawals:

- 5.1 If a selected player is not able to confirm that he/she is available to participate at least 3 months prior to the start of the event that player will forfeit his/her place, and the next most eligible player will be selected.
- 5.2 If a player withdraws within two weeks of the start of the event it may become necessary for a captain to select a replacement player who does not meet the normal selection criteria. However, a B1 player may not be replaced by at B3.
- 5.3 If it becomes necessary to include players not in the originally specified category, the replacement players will be deemed to fall in that category for the purpose of play.