



October 1, 2014

**SUBJECT:** 2015 USABA Goalball Team Entry Guidelines

Hello USABA Goalball Friends,

2015 will be the fourth season we've registered teams and players that will compete in USABA-sanctioned adult Goalball tournaments. Based on feedback, we believe this process provides stability to our goalball program by committing teams and players to one another during a competitive season. It has also helped organizers and USABA resolve most membership-related issues prior to tournaments and enabled everyone able to focus on enjoying Goalball at tournaments rather than track down paperwork.

Please take a few moments and familiarize yourselves with the attached guidelines. When you submit rosters, please ensure they are complete as possible, they include a good contact person for your team or program, and ensure those on listed your roster have a 2015 or lifetime USABA membership (membership forms can be found at: [www.usaba.org](http://www.usaba.org)). Also remember that if you need to add players later, you can do so as long as you don't exceed the 15 player limit and players you intend to add are not on the rosters of another team (if you're not sure you can contact me). Please submit your rosters to me by **December 31, 2014**.

Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'John Potts', is written over the typed name.

JOHN POTTS

USABA Goalball Program Coordinator

2 Enclosures:

1. 2015 USABA Goalball Team/Program Guidelines
2. 2015 USABA Goalball Team/Program Roster

# 2015 USABA GOALBALL TEAM/PROGRAM ENTRY GUIDELINES

1. These guidelines apply to adult teams or that participate in USABA sanctioned tournaments during calendar year 2015. These guidelines do not apply to youth or school conference goalball programs, or the USABA National High School Goalball Championships.
2. All teams playing in USABA sanctioned regional or national adult tournaments must have an approved team/program roster on file with USABA.
3. By December 31, 2014, each team or program will submit (by email) a copy of the completed team roster (attached) to the USABA Goalball Program Coordinator ([jpotts@usaba.org](mailto:jpotts@usaba.org)) that can include up to fifteen athletes per team.
4. Each team or program may include one sighted athlete on their roster. The sighted athlete must be the same gender as the team or program and the total of sighted and non-sighted athletes may not exceed the existing fifteen athlete limit per team or program. The sighted athlete will be identified on the team roster as the team's sighted athlete. Regardless of how teams are split up under a given program, only one sighted athlete is permitted per team roster. When teams under a program split, they will have to decide how the one sighted athlete is used.
5. Rosters will be reviewed for membership compliance and to ensure no athlete is being submitted on more than one team or program roster.
6. In the event an athlete appears on more than one team or program roster, the athlete will be contacted by the USABA Goalball Program Coordinator to determine where the athlete wants to play. Factors to be considered are:

6.1 The preference of the athlete.

6.2 Whether or not the team has specific funding or membership eligibility requirements that may prevent the athlete from playing for that team as a permanent member of that team.

7. Once a team is established and team rosters approved by USABA Goalball Program Coordinator, athletes will remain on that team or program roster for the entire calendar year season.

7.1 If an athlete leaves a team during the course of the season, they cannot join another team. They must play as a pool player for the remainder of the season.

7.2 If a team does not submit a full roster, they may later add players to fill a roster. Any players added must meet the same eligibility requirements outlined in these procedures and the roster must be approved by USABA prior to those added athletes playing in a USABA sanctioned tournament.

8. Formation of new teams during the course of the season is encouraged and is essential to the continued growth of the USABA goalball program. New teams may be added to compete in USABA tournaments as follows:

8.1 A single program may request to split into two or more separate teams during tournaments.

8.1.1 All other rules apply and if a player does not play for a team registered under the program, they must then play as a pool player.

8.1.2 Although teams may be permitted to split into more than one team, the overall team is still limited to one sighted player. The teams will need to

determine where the one sighted athlete is used in situations where the team splits. Additional sighted athletes will not be permitted to accommodate split teams.

- 8.2 Any new teams or programs formed during the course of the season must submit a team roster to the USABA Goalball Program Coordinator ([jpotts@usaba.org](mailto:jpotts@usaba.org)) for approval before they can participate in a USABA sanctioned tournament. The roster of any new team cannot contain players already on the roster of another team.
  - 8.3 An international team playing at a tournament on a one time basis may be approved at the discretion of the tournament director.
9. Prior to each tournament, the USABA Goalball Program Coordinator will work with each tournament director to ensure teams who register for tournaments have approved rosters on file with USABA and that the team's entry is limited to the players listed on that team's roster. Any players not on a roster will be considered pool players.
  10. If a team does not participate in a tournament, but an athlete from that team desires to play in the tournament, they must play as a pool player.
    - 10.1 Assignment of pool players will be at the discretion of the tournament organizer.
    - 10.2 Teams will not be permitted contact a potential pool player directly to negotiate adding them directly to their team roster.
  11. Any team and athlete that plays in the 2015 USABA National Goalball Championship Tournament must have competed in at least one 2015 USABA adult regional goalball tournament as either a member of that team or as a pool player.

12. For liability purposes all participants (athletes, coaches/escorts, sighted athletes) must be current USABA members. Renewal forms and an online membership renewal information can be found on the USABA website: [www.usaba.org](http://www.usaba.org). In the event of an international team, they must be members of their respective blind sports federation.
13. These guidelines will remain in effect through the 2015 adult goalball season unless sooner revised.

# 2015 USABA GOALBALL TEAM/PROGRAM ROSTER

TEAM NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

Male Team

Female Team

|                 | Last Name | First Name | Email Address | Phone |
|-----------------|-----------|------------|---------------|-------|
| Athlete         |           |            |               |       |
| Sighted Athlete |           |            |               |       |

Please submit a copy of this roster to [jpotts@usaba.org](mailto:jpotts@usaba.org) by December 31, 2014, or at the time of entry at your team's first USABA sanctioned 2015 tournament. If you do not use all fifteen slots and later decide to add athletes, please submit a revised roster. Please identify your sighted athlete on the sighted athlete line. Although teams can be split to accommodate local athlete availability, they will not be entitled to additional sighted athletes. If the program may be split into more than one team, please provide the name of all teams under the team name.

TEAM CONTACT: \_\_\_\_\_

CONTACT EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

CONTACT PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_