

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS (FAQ)

Q: What is the Sport Development Tour?

A: The Sport Development Tour takes sport on the road to Indigenous youth and communities across Ontario. The aim of the tour is to ensure that Indigenous youth in the province of Ontario, have access and opportunity to participate in sport, regardless of their level of play. The tour features sport clinics and multi-sport camps to help develop sport specific skills for those just starting out or wanting to try something new; tryouts, competitions and tournaments for those already at the competitive level; and an athlete identification program, which identifies athletes who have the potential to represent Team Ontario at upcoming National and International events. The 2019 Sport Development Tour: On the Road to NAIG, is focused on developing sport skills, identifying potential Team Ontario athletes and hosting tryouts to ensure a wide and inclusive selection process for Indigenous youth across all regions of the province, for the chance to compete at the 2020 North American Indigenous Games (NAIG).

Q: What events are included in the Sport Development Tour?

A: The Sport Development Tour supports three categories of events, with the aim of Indigenous athlete development, from grass roots to competitive play.

1. PLAY with MULTISPORT CAMPS //

ISWO hosts a number of multi-sport camps across the province, on an annual basis, which make-up a critical part of the Sport Development Tour. The goal of the multi-sport camp is to increase physical activity and movement, develop sport specific skills, advance personal resiliency and encourage Indigenous youth to remain active for life. The multi-sport camp experience gives youth a chance to celebrate who they are as Indigenous Peoples, while offering these fundamentals as an opportunity to create friendships and have fun, in a culturally holistic environment. ISWO receives funding from the Government of Ontario to host between one to two camps, per region, per year, across Ontario. ISWO selects host communities based on the interests and needs of the community, but also considers available facilities and community support; communities interested in working with ISWO to host a multi-sport camp are encouraged to submit an application (insert link to application here).

2. PRACTICE with EVENT ADDITIONS //

If you're hosting a sport event in your community, consider inviting ISWO to be part of it. Existing community events can join the Sport Development Tour to provide more youth with the opportunity to develop their skills and try out for Team Ontario. By working with ISWO, your existing event could provide local athletes and those from surrounding communities, an opportunity to develop sport specific skill sets and build capacity for competitive athletes, through a single sport experience.

ISWO, in partnership with Provincial Sport Organizations, can support your event by supplying sport specific training and knowledge for young athletes on how to train and compete. The events aim to inspire first-time athletes, while providing those already familiar with the sport and experience to enhance their knowledge and skill level. In addition to skill development, ISWO will utilize the events as athlete identifiers for Team Ontario. Identified athletes will receive additional information about officially sanctioned Team Ontario NAIG 2020 try-outs and the selection process. All athletes will receive information about ISWO programs and events. To add your event to the 2019/2020 Sport Development Tour, fill out the application (insert link here) or email: team.ontario@iswo.ca for more information.

3. MASTERY with OFFICIAL TEAM ONTARIO TRYOUTS //

Athletes will be evaluated by selected team coaches and technical invitational staff for the purposes of inviting athletes to represent Team Ontario at the 2020 NAIG. Team Ontario athletes will be qualified through a formal selection process to compete against the best athletes from across Turtle Island.

ISWO does not own its own facilities for sporting events, so the success of formulating Team Ontario in 14 respective sports, with inclusion of youth from across the province, depends upon collaboration (between ISWO, communities and respective sport organizations) to obtain quality facilities to co-deliver try-outs from each sport category. Communities interested in hosting an official tryout for 2020 Team Ontario selection are encouraged to fill out an application available on the ISWO website at iswo.ca.



Q: How do we join the Sport Development Tour?

A: Communities can join the 'Sport Development Tour' by either hosting a multi-sport camp, expanding an existing event to include sport specific athlete development and identification, or hosting a tryout. Applications and more information about all three are available on the ISWO website.

Q: Where can I find information about upcoming Sport Development Tour events?

A: You can find information about upcoming Sport Development Tour events, including multi-sport camps, community sport events and try-outs, on the ISWO website or through ISWO social media channels. Registration for all camps, events and try-outs will provide detailed information about eligibility to attend, registration fees and any additional costs, and all other applicable details.

Q: What if I'm not selected to play for Team Ontario?

A: If you attended an identification event or tryout and are not selected to represent Team Ontario at the 2020 NAIG, don't worry, there are still many opportunities for you to take part in. ISWO has a number of programs that can help you further develop your skills or learn new ones. You can sharpen your sport skills at one of our many camps, events or tournaments held annually, or you can join the Standing Bear Youth Leadership Program, available for all Indigenous youth between the ages of 14-24, with an opportunity to earn up to seven distinct leadership certificates.