**USA Athletes February Training Coach: February 24-27, 2022**

20 athletes and 10 PCAs and coaches from the national team traveled to Lakeshore Foundation in Birmingham, Alabama February 24-27th for an intensive long weekend of training and selection for 2022 international events.

Athletes participating in the training camp included: Will Lowry, Charlie Fleisch, Mohammad Zakai, Fawad Zakai, Natalie Chastain, Sabrina Hemmingway, Jimmy Miranda, Michele Miranda, Tony Blauert, Kalvin Blauert, Austin Hanson, and Julia Dykes with BC3 division coach Troy McPherson leading the way. BC4 division coach Jeremy Finton took on the responsibility of overseeing the very competitive group of athletes including: Henry Sawyer, Jeremy Palmer, Scott Stokes, and Nick Taylor. Athletes in the BC1 BC2 division including: Cornelius Oatis, Marck Harrison, Wyatt Struxness and Michele Lynch were ably led by division coach and former Paralympian Sam Williams.

Metrics were taken on athletes serves and first balls, as well as in space drills, ricochet, push, lob, smashing, and other game play drills. There were many great tactical and technical skills being used as athletes went head-to-head as part of the selection process. National standards are being developed off the metrics that were applied and data collected during the camp. We appreciated the excellent help of PCA’s/assistants to camp Phil Eide, Stephanie Blauert, Megan Mack, Brooke Matula and Chris Garr.

Consultant to the U.S. Paralympics Boccia Team, Kathy Brinker stated, “We want to thank the USOPC for funding this incredible training camp. Lakeshore was a perfect facility for intense training in the sport of boccia. The staff was incredible in meeting our needs. We look forward to a long-term relationship with Lakeshore in helping our elite athletes achieve their potential and growing the sport of boccia.”

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