

# ONTARIO BATON TWIRLING ASSOCIATION **PRESS RELEASE**

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## **Ontario Baton Twirling Association to Host 2026 Canadian Team Trials for IBTF World Championship**

Athletes from across Canada come to compete to earn their spot on Team Canada and head to the World Baton Twirling Championship and Nations Cup in Paris, France.

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### **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**01/05/2026** - The Ontario Baton Twirling Association (OBTA) is proud to announce that Ontario has been selected to host the 2026 Canadian Team Trials for the IBTF World Freestyle and Rhythmic Twirl Championship and Nations Cup, taking place in Oshawa, Ontario from May 14<sup>th</sup> - May 16<sup>th</sup>, 2026.

This prestigious national event will bring Canada's top baton athletes to the heart of Durham Region as they compete for coveted positions on Team Canada which is heading to the 2026 IBTF World Freestyle & Rhythmic Twirl Championship and Nations Cup in August in Paris, France. The Trials will feature the highest level of baton twirling performance in the country, showcasing elite freestyle routines, rhythmic twirl programs, dynamic pairs and world-class group performances.

This is a FREE event for all to come and enjoy. Spectators will have the opportunity to witness the athleticism and talent of the athletes up close, fostering a deeper appreciation for the sport.



Pair, Dixon & Franklyn, represented Canada at the last IBTF World Freestyle and Rhythmic Twirl Championship in 2024.

*"Oshawa will become the centre of Canadian baton excellence. We are thrilled to host the athletes, coaches, judges, families, and supporters who represent the future of this dynamic and rapidly growing sport. This event is not only a celebration of athleticism but also a chance to highlight the extraordinary talent we have across Canada."*

- Sheryl Baraniuk, Host Province Coordinator

*"We are thrilled to host the 2026 Canadian Team Trials in Oshawa. This event is a testament to the hard work and dedication of our athletes, and coaches, and we are eager to witness the incredible performances that will result in Canada's 2026 World Team."*

- Sarah Weir, OBTA President



Leah Baraniuk, CBTF Jr. Women Athlete of the Year, A 2026 Team Canada hopeful.

The Trials are expected to draw hundreds of competitors, coaches, officials, and spectators from across the nation, providing a meaningful tourism boost to the region. With its strong community spirit, Oshawa offers an ideal backdrop for an event of this calibre.

The 2026 IBTF World Freestyle and Rhythmic Twirl Championship will bring together the best baton athletes from around the globe—making the Canadian Trials a critical and exciting stepping-stone for those aspiring to represent the country on the world stage.

Event Highlights:

- Date: May 14-16, 2026
- Location: Durham College/Ontario Tech Campus Recreation and Wellness Centre, 21 Avenue of Champions, Oshawa, Ontario
- Purpose: Selection of athletes for Team Canada for the 2026 IBTF World Freestyle & Rhythmic Twirl Championship and Nations Cup
- Featuring: National-level freestyle, rhythmic twirl, pairs and high-performance groups

For more information about the 2026 Canadian Baton Twirling Team Trials, including event schedules, please visit [obta.ca](http://obta.ca) or contact Host Province Coordinator, Sheryl Baraniuk at [2ndvicepresident@obta.ca](mailto:2ndvicepresident@obta.ca).

## ABOUT THE ONTARIO BATON TWIRLING ASSOCIATION

The Ontario Baton Twirling Association is dedicated to promoting and advancing the sport of Baton Twirling in Ontario. With a commitment to excellence and inclusivity, OBTA strives to provide athletes, coaches, judges and volunteers with opportunities to showcase their talents and foster a sense of community within the sport.

## MEDIA CONTACTS

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