

Ski de fond Canada Selection Criteria for 2016-17 National Ski Team (NST) Competition Trips

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SECTION 1: General Information

1.0 Objectives, Selection Policy, Decision Making Authority for Trip Selections

1. The objective of this document is to describe the policies and procedures that will be used by CCC in selecting athletes for: international competition trips in the 2016-17 season.
2. This document is published under the authority of the High Performance Committee (HPC). It is consistent with CCC Document 2.1.3 NST-PNST Policy and Procedures for Team Selection, Nomination and Announcement:
<http://www.cccski.com/getmedia/79139ddb-7278-468b-a2da-0dd845ed29f1/213NSTSelectionPolicy-April-2012.pdf.aspx>

3. Selection Authority for Trip Selections.

There will be a Selection Committee established for competition trips with the exception of the World Cup competitions. Barring extenuating circumstances, selection authority will normally be constituted in the following manner:

- a) Selection to Development Competitions i.e. U23-WJC and B-Tours will be assigned to a Selection committee chaired by the High Performance Director (HPD).
 - b) Selection to World Cup and Senior World Championships trips will be assigned to the HPDs based on the NST/PNST coaches' recommendations and feedback from coaches of non-NST/PNST athletes who are of the view that their athletes have met the published criteria for specific WC and WCh events. This decision of the HPDs will be based on the published criteria.
4. Appeal Process.
Selection decisions may be appealed under the CCC Dispute Resolution and Appeals Policy. Where time is critical (e.g., in the event of an imminent departure for a trip), the Summary Dispute Resolution Process may be employed. Reference:
<http://www.cccski.com/getmedia/46ea9b4e-68e6-4271-8f9d-568f9c105cbd/17DisputeResolutionandAppealPolicy.pdf.aspx>

2.0 Definitions Relevant to Understanding Criteria Procedures

1. Distance Races - for the purpose of these selection criteria, all races that are longer than 1.8km shall be designated as a Distance Race. This could be an individual start, mass start or skiathlon competition. An athlete selected or identified in a distance race shall be referred to as a distance athlete.
2. Sprint Races - for the purpose of these selection criteria, all races that are shorter than or equal to 1.8 km in length and are designated individual sprints or team sprints shall be designated as a Sprint Event. This includes team sprint events where each leg is shorter than or equal to 1.8 km. An athlete selected or identified in a sprint event shall be referred to as a sprint athlete. All references to sprint results in this criteria are referenced as final results unless otherwise noted.

3. Tier One Selection Events – a categorization of races used for the greater part of team selection and trip standards, which is limited to domestic and international FIS sanctioned races, that count towards the FIS points list. This categorization is intended to incorporate equitable depth of field races used for team selection. It is also intended to reduce the need for athletes to have to perform at peak capacity at all times during the season, both from a LTAD perspective and as a means to ease the financial burden on athletes. As FIS sanctioned races are usually limited to open classes, distinct junior men and women races not included in open category races at NorAm events and junior age category races at National Championships will be included as part of the CPL selection points calculation.

3.0 Selection Guidelines and Procedures: Athlete Eligibility, Ranking and Selection Standards, Criteria Guidelines, Curtailment of Training & Competition for Health-Related Reasons, Performance Readiness

1. Athlete eligibility: Only those CCC members in good standing who have a valid Canadian passport, a valid FIS license and who meet CPL minimum eligibility standards will be considered. For the following countries, passports must be valid after for at least:
 - USA: date of departure
 - EU Countries: 3 months after departure
 - Russia: 6 months after departure
2. Ranking and selection standards for able-bodied skiers:
 - a) This is determined primarily by the Canadian Points List (CPL - international points). An athlete must purchase a CCC racing licence in order to be eligible for CPL points, and must purchase both a CCC licence and a FIS licence to be eligible for FIS points. Follow <http://www.cccski.com/Events/Points.aspx> to become familiar with the current version of the CPL.
 - b) The only races considered for selection rankings and standards are Tier One Selection Events (refer to 2.3) which defines Tier One Selection Events.
 - c) International Performance Benchmarks (IPBs): IPBs represent the expected levels of performance and progressions on a yearly basis (aligned with CCC's long term high performance goals) from athletes qualifying for NST trips and teams. There are specific IPBs for males and females, in distance and sprint. An athlete's points on the final 2016-17 NST selection points lists or single best points based on Tier One Selection Events achieved during the previous 12 months will be compared to the IPBs for the athlete's age. This measurement is used as an indicator of an athlete's general progression from year to year and can be used as a guideline for comparison with other athletes. Refer to Appendix A for more details.
 - d) Ties: In the event of a tie on the selection ranking list, after the selection criteria have been applied, (a) all of the athletes that are tied shall be selected, or (b) the tie may be broken by looking to the number of 1st place finishes, then the number of 2nd place finishes, etc. in the selection competitions. If there is still a tie, the selection committee will make the final decision.

3. Criteria Guidelines: Selections will be based on a combination of objective and subjective criteria guidelines.
- a) Objective selections shall be based on the results achieved by athletes in Tier One Selection Events scored on the CPL points list or other indicated race scoring methods, World Cup competitions held during the 2015-16 and 2016-17 seasons, WJC and WU23 held during the 2015-16 and 2016-17 seasons, NorAm and Canadian National Championship competitions held in the 2015/16 and 2016-17 seasons.
 - b) Subjective selections, if any, may be based on a variety of factors, including (but not limited to) the following:
 - i. Outstanding competition results (including results achieved outside of the selection period) defined by achieving podium pathway/IPB benchmarks;
 - ii. Completion of individual performance benchmarks, as set forth by the NST coaching staff and as approved by the HPD, which point toward the achievement of competition results consistent with NST program goals;
 - iii. Attitude and commitment of athletes to take part in the complete NST coaching, IST support, training camp and competition program;
 - iv. Illness or injury during the selection period;
 - v. Physiological indicators accumulated through monitoring and testing;
 - vi. Indication of medal potential in future Olympic, World Cup or World Championship competition, which would be enhanced by selection to the team;
 - vii. Other unanticipated failure of objective criteria to select an athlete likely to achieve competition results consistent with NST World Cup objectives.
 - viii. Where there is only one athlete from a gender on a trip for an extended period, another athlete of that gender may be considered for selection.
4. Curtailement of Training and Competition for Health-related and other reasons: A written request and rationale for selection exemption can be put forward for not having competed in or completed selection races. This rationale must be submitted to the HPD prior to the selection race not competed in, or immediately after a completed selection race. Documentation from a physician and/or other relevant documentation need to be submitted to the HPD within 24 hours of receiving the request for exemption.
- Consideration for exemption may include but not be limited to the following:
- a) An unexpected event beyond the reasonable control of the athlete that crucially affects an athlete's ability to compete (e.g. illness, injury, transportation breakdown)
 - b) Inadequate recovery time from a health-related issue or injury by the time of the selection competition or competition selected to.

5. Performance Readiness: Selected and pre-selected athletes must demonstrate the following competitive readiness: to be compete which will be evaluated on the following factors:
 - a) Optimal Health and readiness to travel based on examination by CCC physicians and IST support staff or personal physicians;
 - b) A performance level, as demonstrated throughout the training season, indicating that the athlete can continue to perform at the level that selected them to the specific international trip. This assessment will be made by the NST Coaching Team and the HPD.
6. Other factors which will be considered in the selection process are:
 - a) The CCC strategic Plan.
 - b) The NST and PNST Operational Plans.

4.0 FIS Continental Cup Series (COC).

All references to this series and the associated selection processes and associated WC starts can be found in the 2016-17 NorAm Series Selection Criteria: <http://www.cccski.com/National-Ski-Team/Selection-Criteria.aspx>

SECTION 2: 2016-17 FIS World Cups

5.0 General Information: Purpose, Objectives, Team Size, OPA-Scando events, WC Entry Requirements, Trip Costs, Team Announcement Dates.

1. Purpose:
 - a) Provide WC starts for athletes who have achieved, or have shown potential to achieve individual and team performance benchmarks outlined as success markers for the 2018 OWG.
 - b) Provide WC starts for developing athletes, based on available WC quota and available support, who have shown potential to contribute to Canada's Nation Cup points through attaining individual WC points and relay points.
2. Objectives:
 - a) Individual events

World Cup Team athletes:

 - Individual athlete benchmarks of podium and/or top 8 results.
 - consistent scoring of WC points
 - 1 athlete in the red group and top 10 overall WC results at the end of the season
 - 1 athlete on the podium at the TDS
 - 4 WC podiums

NST B team and U25 athletes:

- all athletes scoring WC points
- 2 athletes with a minimum of one top 20 result

Other athletes (non NST athletes):

- A minimum of 1 athlete scoring WC points

b) Relay events:

Counting one team per nation:

- one top 5 result for men
- one top 9 result for women.

c) Nations Cup Ranking (combined scoring of individual WC points and Team events)

- Men – top 6
- Women – top 12

3. Team size:

- a) Is dependent on WC Quota; WC quota of start entitlements per nation is set annually by FIS. For 2016-17, Canada's WC quota is 4 women and 6 men. The team size may consist of any number of athletes up to the FIS WC quota for Canada.
- b) In compliance with FIS WC rule 3.2 – Participation and Penalties, Canada must start a minimum of 3 male athletes in all the World Cup competitions during the 2016-17 season except one FIS World Cup weekend. This is a result of being ranked in the top 5 best nations (World Cup Team ranking 2015-2016). If this is not complied with, the team would have no right to start at the following World Cup venue.

4. Selection to WC Events based on 2016-17 OPA and Scandinavian Cup results:

In addition to the 2016-17 WC Selection Criteria 6.0, CCC sanctioned trips with athletes participating in OPA and Scandinavian Cup races may be considered for selection to specific WC events based on the recommendation of the WC coaches to the HPD. Consideration for selection will consider:

- a) Athletes having met a standard, which is the equivalent of a top 35 and top half WC result, at a 2016-17 OPA or Scandinavian Cup event may be selected. This standard will be established in comparison to 2016-17 WC events for which the athlete is being considered.
- b) Athletes must have met IPB standards for their age at least once in the last 365 days.
- c) Athletes cannot replace athletes already selected for WC trips and there must be adequate coaching and support staff to support any athletes selected under 5.4.

5. World Cup Entry requirements:

The FIS entry standards for these competitions are as follows with the additional FIS requirements that each athlete has a FIS code number and has reached at least one (1) result better than or equal to these standards in the last 365 days:

- a) International WC Group and FIS Regional Series leaders - **distance**: men 60 FIS points; women 90 FIS points;
- b) International WC Group and FIS Regional Series leaders - **sprint**: 120 FIS points for men and women.

6. Trip Costs:

Team status on the World Cup does not include full funding from CCC except for athletes in the WC red group.

7. Team Nomination Announcement Dates:

Tour de Ski: December 19
WC Period 2 (Sweden): January 13
WC Period 2 (PyeongChang): January 15
WC Period 3: (Otepaa): Feb.6
WC Period 4 (Drammen, Oslo): March 5
WC Period 4/Final (Russia): March 5

6.0 Selection Criteria 2016-17 FIS World Cups.

Athletes who meet one of the following standards for each identified World Cup period and/or meet the Criteria Guidelines referenced in 3.3 may be selected to the following World Cup trips.

1. World Cup Period 1 (November 27 - December 20, 2016).

a) *Pre-selected athletes:*

- i. FIS red group status as indicated on the final red group ranking list at the end of 2015-16. [**Alex Harvey**];
- ii. Athletes identified and financially supported by OTP with targeted performance benchmarks of top 8 distance or sprint, and/or top 5 relay results to be achieved in WC Period 1&2: **Alex Harvey** (*distance, sprint, relay*), **Devon Kershaw** (*distance and relay*), **Len Valjas** (*sprint and relay*), **Graeme Killick** (*relay*), **Knute Johnsgaard** (*relay*);
- iii. All NST senior women;
- iv. Winners of the 2015-16 Overall NorAm COC series. [**Dahria Beatty, Andy Shields**]

All pre-selected athletes must demonstrate performance readiness as referenced 1.3.5

b) *Selected athletes:*

An additional 2 male sprinters will be added for specific sprint events based on a November 2016 sprint selection. A total of three sprinters may be considered if sprint quota is available.

- i. Location: Canmore, Frozen Thunder course;
- ii. Dates: Nov. 1 and 3;
- iii. Sprint Ranking Lists:
 - These ranking lists will only include Canadian athletes eligible for selection;
 - Selection ranking will be based on the individual placings in the qualifying results in each of the two designated sprint qualifying races. These results will be used to establish two separate ranking lists.
 - For the purpose of breaking ties, ranking lists using CPL points will be created for each qualifying race.
- iv. *Sprint selection ranking process:* Sprint selections may be made based on the following order of priorities:
 - Race winner(s) in the two sprint events;
 - Second place athletes. If there is only one selection place remaining and 2 athletes meet this second criterion, the selection process will consider the athlete's second best race finish to determine the selection;
 - If after selecting first and second place finishers, only selects a total of 2 athletes, then third place finishers may be considered using the criterion outlined above for second place finishers.
 - In the case of any ties in this process, ties will be broken in favor of the athlete with the best CPL points in either of the qualifying races.

2. FIS Tour de Ski (January 1-10, 2017).

Selections will be in the following ranking order:

- a) World Cup podium in the 2015-16 or 2016-17 season. [**Alex Harvey**]
- b) FIS red group status at the end of WC Period 1.
- c) One top 12 World Cup distance and/or sprint result, or two top 20 distance and/or sprint results, or three top 30 distance and/or sprint results up to the end of World Cup Period 1. This will include individual stage results in Stage WC events.
- d) All targeted OTP athletes who have distance benchmarks (reference 6.1.a.ii) [**Alex Harvey, Devon Kershaw**].
- e) If 6.2 a-d does not provide a minimum men's team size of three, additional men will be selected to create a men's team of 3 athletes (refer to 5.3.b). Men will be ranked according to their total 2016-17 WC distance points. If there are less than 3 male athletes with WC points, then the ranking will use the athlete's single best 2016-17 WC distance race up to the end of WC Period 1.
- f) Athletes scoring WC points in the 2016-17 season may be considered based on the recommendation of the WC Coaching Team to the HPD. These recommendations must consider 5.1&2 and 3.3.b.

3. World Cup Period 2 (January 21-28, 2017 – Sweden).

Selections will be in the following ranking order:

- a) World Cup podium in the 2015-16 or 2016-17 season. [**Alex Harvey**]
- b) FIS red group status (distance and/or sprint) at the end of WC Period #1.
- c) All targeted OTP athletes for events for which they have performance benchmarks (refer to 6.1.a.ii).
- d) One top 12 World Cup distance and/or sprint result, or two top 20 distance and/or sprint results, or three top 30 distance and/or sprint results up to the end of World Cup Period 1 and including individual stages of the TDS (WC Period 2).
- e) Any athletes scoring WC points in World Cup Period 1.
- f) Athletes qualified for the WSC may be considered.
- g) Leaders of the 2016-17 NorAm COC series at the end of WC Period 1.
- h) Additional athletes may be selected based on the recommendations of the WC Coaching Team to the HPD. These recommendations must consider 5.1&2 and 3.3.b.

4. World Cup Period 2 (February 3-5, 2017 – PyeongChang, Korea): sprint cl, skiathlon and team sprint fr.

Note: *The Canadian WCT distance skiers will not attend this event as it is too close to the WSC. This is an opportune WC event for sprinters and NextGen athletes.*

Team Size: Up to 12 athletes.

Ranking Process: Only Canadian citizens with CCC licenses will be considered. Selections will be made in the following ranking order:

- a) Top 3 men from the 2016-17 WC season, up to the end of the WC races in Falun, ranked on their total individual WC points.
- b) Athletes selected to the WSC sprint.
- c) Athletes selected to the WSC distance events.
- d) 2016-17 FIS COC leaders at the end of WC Period 1.
- e) Up to 2 additional sprint athletes may be selected using a sprint ranking list based on finish results from the Jan.8 classic sprint competition at the US Nationals.
- f) Up to 2 additional distance athletes may be selected. This selection will include the top Canadian of each gender in each distance event at US Nationals, excluding athletes selected under 6.4.a-e. This ranking will be based on final results and will include the following additional ranking process considerations:
 - i. If one athlete is this top Canadian in both races, the next ranked athlete will be the athlete with the best combined ranking of the 2 distance events; this ranking will also exclude athletes selected under 6.4.a-e.
 - ii. If only one athlete is selected from any gender due to team size limitations, the ranking between these 2 athletes per gender will be decided by choosing the athlete with the best combined finish results in the 2 distance events; this ranking will also exclude athletes selected under 6.4.a-e.

- g) Additional athletes may be selected based on the recommendations of the WC Coaching Team to the HPD. These recommendations must consider 5.1-3, 3.3.b and the ability of the service team to support the athletes.

5. World Cup Period 3 (February 18-19, 2017 – Otepaa, EST)

NOTE: this trip and selection is integrated with the WSC trip (refer to Section 3)

6. World Cup Period 4 (March 8-12, 2017 – Drammen, Oslo).

- a) World Cup podium in the 2015-16 or 2016-17 season. [**Alex Harvey**]
- b) FIS red group status at the end of WC Period 3.
- c) World Cup and/or World Championships results: One top 12 distance and/or sprint result, or two top 20 distance and/or sprint results, or three top 30 distance and/or sprint results up to the end of World Cup Period 3 and including individual stage races.
- g) If 6.5 a-c does not provide a minimum men's team size of three, additional men will be selected to create a men's team of 3 athletes (refer to 5.3.b). Men will be ranked according to: total sprint WC points for Drammen and total distance WC points for Oslo. If there are less than 3 male athletes with WC points, then the ranking process will use the best FIS 2016-17 WC sprint and distance rankings up to the end of WC Period 3.
- d) Athletes with top 30 results at the WSC.
- e) FIS COC leaders at the end of WC Period 3.

7. World Cup Period 4 (March 16-19, 2017 – Tuyen, RUS – WC Final).

Selections will be in the following ranking order:

- a) Top 3 men: ranked in the following order:
 - FIS red group status at the end of WC Period 3;
 - top 12 2015-16 WC and/or 2017 WSC results;
 - total number of individual WC points.
- b) Top 3 women ranked according to single best WC points result and/or top 30 result at 2017 WSC.
- c) FIS COC leaders at the end of WC Period 3.
- d) Additional athletes may be selected based on the recommendations of the WC Coaching Team to the HPD. These recommendations must consider 5.1&2 and 3.3.b

SECTION 3: 2017 World Ski Championships – Lahti, Finland (Feb. 21 – Mar. 5) and Otepaa WC Feb. 18, 19.

7.0 General Information: Purpose, Objectives, Entry Standards, Quota, Team Size & Composition, Trip Costs, Itinerary.

1. Purpose:
 - a) To meet established CCC individual and team performance benchmarks for this event including targets leading to achieving podium success at the 2018 OWG.
 - b) To provide development opportunities to complement these benchmarks where it is in the best interest of the team's overall results at the 2018 and 2022 OWG
2. Objectives:
 - a) Individual events:
2018 OWG targeted athletes: 2 podiums + 2 top 12
2022 OWG targeted athletes: 2 top 20s
 - b) Relay events: men top 5; women top 8
3. WSC entry requirements for individual events:
 - a) Distance competitions: Athletes who have reached at least one result better than or equal to 90 FIS points distance for the men and 120 FIS points distance for the women during the last 365 days (21/02/2016 – 21/02/2017), will be allowed to start in the distance competitions (10/15km Interval Start, Skiathlon and 30/50km Mass Start).
 - b) Sprint Competitions: no FIS points requirement.
4. WSC quota: 4 athletes per gender per individual race and 1 team per nation for team events.
5. Team Size and Composition: Up to 11 athletes which with the aim of including a minimum of 4 athletes per gender after considering 7.1 and 7.2.
6. Trip Costs:
 - a) Team status at the WSC does not include full funding from CCC and may include a trip fee.
 - b) The number of nights of accommodation supported by the OC for qualified competitors who participate in the WSC competition is 4 nights per competition. The maximum number of nights of free accommodation with full board cannot exceed the total duration of the championships.
7. Itinerary: The WCT will stay in Europe for WSC preparation after the Falun WC. Other athletes selected to this trip will arrive in Otepaa prior to that WC event and depart from the World Championships after finishing their specific events at the World Championships.
8. Team Selection Announcement: Feb.6, 2017

8.0 Selection Process, Priorities and Ranking

1. Selection process overview:

- a) The Otepaa WC and the 2017 WSC will include the same team and selection process.
- b) Selections would be dependent on appropriate start positions being available after consideration of the start positions not already filled by the selected team (8.3.a-d).
- c) Selection will be made by the HPD based on recommendations from the WSC coaching staff.

2. Selection evaluation process will consider:

- a) Criteria Guidelines 3.3
- b) 2016-17 World Cup results up to Feb.5
- c) 2017 U23-WJC results
- d) 2017 US Nationals results

3. Selection priorities and ranking:

Selection will be made using the following order of priorities with consideration of the maximum team size (refer to 7.5), WSC quota (7.4), and the purpose and objectives of this trip (8.1-2).

- a) Athletes in the FIS red group at the end of WC Period #2 and athletes having been on the podium at World Cup or World Senior Championships in the last 2 years will be selected. Athletes will be ranked according to their single best 2016-17 WC result. [**Alex Harvey**]
- b) Athletes with a top 12 distance or top 12 sprint result on the 2016-17 WC may be selected. Athletes will be ranked according to their single best result.
- c) Athletes with a 2016-17 WC podium relay team result may be selected.
- d) Athletes with a top 6 distance or top 6 sprint result at the 2017 U23-WJC may be selected. Athletes will be ranked according to their single best result.
- e) Athletes having scored WC points in the 2016-17 season may be selected. Results from WC events with minimum red group participation will be reviewed based on average equivalent top 30 WC FIS points in the 2016-17 season.
- f) The WSC Coaching Team may recommend additional athletes to the HPD based on demonstrated and compelling reasons for selection that are evidence based in order to substantiate the recommendations. A combination of the following factors will be used in evaluating any recommendations: ranking lists from US Nationals (8.4), IPBs 3.2.c, Criteria Guidelines 3.3 and Trip Objectives 7.2.

4. US Nationals.

Meeting one or more of the qualifying criteria as specified in this process does not guarantee nomination or team selection. The ranking lists will be used as guidelines to fill remaining available nominations for specific events up to the maximum team size (7.5).

a) Designated Competitions:

		WOMEN	MEN	
07.01.2017	Sat	10 km FR	15 km FR	Interval start
10.01.2017	Tues	5/20 km CL	10/ 30 km CL	Mass start
12.01.2017	Thurs	Sprint F	Sprint F	Qualifier only

b) Distance Ranking List. ***MEN and Women***

There will be a distance ranking list for each designated distance selection event based on final results ranking;

c) Distance selection ranking process: Distance selections may be made based in the following ranking order:

- i. Race winner(s) in the distance events;
- ii. Second place finishers in the distance events. If there is only one position available, then the ranking will consider the athletes' finish ranking in the other distance race. In the event of a tie, the WSC Team Coaches will make a recommendation to the HPD as they deem appropriate to meet the goal of fielding the best possible WSC Team. This recommendation will consider:
 - The make-up of the team after considering 8.3 a-h, i.e the need to strengthen the team in an individual distance or relay;
 - Past international experience and performance profile of the athletes;
 - Current performance level/indicators of the athletes.

d) Sprint selection ranking process:

The ranking list for the designated sprint competition will be based on the final results list from the sprint qualifying event.

SECTION 4: 2017 U23-World Junior Championships (U23-WJC)

9.0 General Information: Purpose, Objectives, Designated Selection Trials, Eligibility Requirements.

1. Purpose: To provide an international age appropriate competition for Canada's highest performance potential U23 athletes for the purpose of identifying and developing the athletes capable of progressing to World Cup, World Championship and Olympic competitions.
2. Objectives:
 - a) U23 – 2 men and 2 women placing in the top 12; 2 men and 2 women placing 13-20.
 - b) WJC – 2 men and 2 women placing in the top 20; 2 men and 2 women in the top 21-30, top 8 relay (men and women).
3. Designated Selection Trials:

US National Championships: Soldier Hollow, Utah - Jan. 7-10, 2017.

		WOMEN	MEN	
07.01.2017	Sat	10 km FR	15 km FR	Interval start
08.01.2017	Sun	SPR CL	SPR CL	
10.01.2017	Tues	5/20 km CL	10/ 30 km CL	Mass start

4. Eligibility requirements:
 - a) Athletes are expected to have a FIS license prior to these events.
 - b) Passports valid up until the Feb.15, 2017 are required before airline tickets will be purchased.
 - c) Athletes must demonstrate competitive readiness and the capacity to meet the trip objectives, including:
 - i. Medical evidence of health and readiness to travel is to be provided as requested through the athlete's coach. An athlete shall be ineligible for the trip if he/she is not expected to recover from injury or illness adequately by the time of the trip departure;
 - ii. International Performance Benchmarks (IPB) based on the single best result in CPL points over the last 365 days will be used as an eligibility guideline for assessing U23 athletes in the selection process. These U23 IPB standards are as follows:

Age groups	Female		Male	
	Sprint	Distance	Sprint	Distance
Born in 1994	95.0	93.0	96.0	95.0
Born in 1995	94.0	92.0	95.0	94.5
Born in 1996	93.0	90.5	94.0	93.5

10.0 U23-WJC trip details: Itinerary, Team Size, Trip Costs.

1. Itinerary:

- a) Championship dates, location and race calendar: Soldier Hollow, Utah, USA; January 30 – February 5, 2017. The event calendar can be found at: <http://utah2017.com>
- b) The trip leader will be Lisa Patterson.

2. **Team Size:** This is limited by FIS to the maximum allowable competitors per nation up to a maximum of 8 athletes per gender for each of the World Junior and U23 categories with a maximum FIS quota of 4 male and 4 female starters per race. The selection committee will determine the final team size.

3. **Trip Costs:** To be determined.

11.0 U23-WJC Selection Process, Priorities and Ranking.

Selection will be made using the following order of priorities, up to the maximum team size (10.2) and considering the maximum entry of four athletes in all U23/WJC events. Only Canadian citizens with CCC licenses will be considered in the ranking process.

1. Process:

- a) **Pre-selected athletes:** Any athletes having scored WC points in the 2015-16 season will be pre-selected for the specific event (distance or sprint) that they scored the WC points in. [**Dahria Beatty and Maya Macissac-Jones – sprint**]
- b) Any U23 athletes achieving top 30 WC results in the December 2017 World Cups will be nominated for selection.
- c) **Available U23 start positions announcement:** Remaining U23 start positions will be announced Dec. 19 so that athletes know what is available for selection at the January trials races.
- d) **Winners of Selection Trials:** The top Canadian in each competition at the Selection Trials and in each of the four categories (U23 men and women; junior men and women) will be selected after consideration of the selection eligibility guidelines for U23 skiers (9.4). In the circumstance that there are 3 U23 winners in a category, in addition to the

pre-selected athletes, then additional U23 athletes may be selected in each gender category.

- e) *Selections based on sprint and distance ranking lists:* After considering 11.1.a-c, the selection committee can increase the team up to the maximum team size (10.2). These recommendations will be based on consideration of ranking lists for men and women from the Designated Selection Trials and potential to meet the purpose and objectives of the criterion. The ranking lists (11.2) will only consider the top 5 Canadian ranked athletes on either the sprint or distance lists and will include the race winners.
- f) Special consideration may be made to take additional athletes, in each of the age groups and genders. Additional athletes will not be considered if it compromises the potential results of the selected athletes from criteria 11.1 a-c. The basis for this decision will consider the purpose and objectives of the criteria and the individual strengths of the selected athletes. Additional selections can be made by the selection committee under the following order of considerations:
 - i. Additional athletes can be selected using the Criteria Guidelines 3.3.
 - ii. Training Centre and Head Club Coach's recommendations to add additional athletes will be considered and must be submitted in writing to the High Performance Director within 30 minutes of the final selection race. These recommendations can be considered for selection in the following order of priorities:
 - Curtailment of Training and Competition for Health-related and other reasons for athletes having previously demonstrated their capacity to meet the trip objectives;
 - The next athlete on the ranking lists.
- g) The Selection Committee will decide the balance between sprint and distance athletes based on consideration of the trip purpose and objectives and the outcomes of 11.1 a-c.

2. Distance and Sprint Ranking:

- a) Distance Ranking Lists: An athlete's sum total of the two distance competitions will be used to establish the distance ranking list. This ranking list will be established from the distance competitions at the selection event using an athlete's points calculated using the CPL system (refer to <http://www.cccski.com/Events/Points.aspx> for CPL details);
- b) Sprint Ranking Lists: Athletes need to compete in the Junior class heats to be considered for selection unless they qualify in the top 10 of the entire US Nationals Senior class in which case they will be ranked ahead of the final junior sprint ranking list.

The sprint race for each gender will have two ranking lists: final results list and sprint qualifying list (this list will use an athlete's points calculated using the CPL system (refer to <http://www.cccski.com/Events/Points.aspx> for CPL details). Additional sprint selections will be based on the recommendations of the HPD to the selection committee considering both ranking lists.

SECTION 5: Para-Nordic Competitions:

12.0 General information: Purpose, Objectives, Events, Dates, Team Size.

1. Purpose:

- a) Provide International Paralympic Committee Nordic Skiing (IPCNS) WC/WCh/COC starts for athletes who have achieved, or have shown potential to achieve medal results and meet established CCC international benchmarks leading to the 2018 Paralympic Winter Games (PWG);
- b) To provide development opportunities to complement CCC international benchmarks leading to the 2018 PWG where it is in the best interest of the team's overall results at the 2018 PWG.
- c) To provide competition opportunities for developing athletes leading to the long term development of athletes on a podium pathway who can progress to medal performance at IPCNS WC/WCh and PWG

2. Objectives:

- a) Contribute to team goals of 8 WC medals and 5 WCh medals in the 2016-2017 season leading to individual overall top three to five placings for identified Para-Nordic National Team (PNST) members on the IPCNS WC/WCh ranking list and an overall 5th place Nations ranking.
- b) Consistent scoring of IPCNS points by individual athletes leading to ranking on the IPCNS Cross Country (CC) or IPCNS Biathlon (BT) ranking points list with a Top five ranking for identified PNST Team Athletes.
- c) Give athletes the opportunity to meet CCC team selection criteria in order to be named to the 2017-18 CCC PNST and CCC PN Prospects Team and/or to meet 2017-18 Sport Canada Athlete Assistance Program (AAP) funding support criteria.
- d) Give athletes the opportunity to begin qualifying for the 2018 PWG and maximize CCC athlete quota allocation for PWG.
- e) Identification of development level athletes who:
 - i. Can be ranked and have at least one race of 180 IPCNS points or less on the IPCNS BT or IPCNS CC ranking points list.
 - ii. Demonstrate the long term potential to achieve established benchmarks leading to IPCNS WC, WCh or PWG podium results.
 - iii. Can meet IPCNS eligibility criteria to be considered for selection to the CCC 2018 PWG team.

3. Events and Dates:

- a) IPCNS WC #1 Vuokatti FIN (3 x CC + 3 x BT): December 9-16, 2016
- b) IPCNS COC-NorAm Bozeman MT USA (3 x CC): Jan 5-8, 2017
- c) *IPCNS WC#2 West Centre UKR (3 x CC + 3 x BT): Jan 13-20, 2017
- d) IPCNS WCh Finsterau GER (3 x CC + 3 x BT + 2 x Relay): February 11-19, 2017
- e) IPCNS WC #3 PyeongChang KOR (3 x CC + 3 x BT): March 10-15, 2017
- f) IPC WC #4 Sapporo JPN (2 x CC + 2 x BT): March 18-22, 2017

***Note:** CCC will not be supporting/sending a PN team to compete at the West Centre UKR WC Jan 13-20, 2017. With HPD-PN approval athletes and their support staff may attend this race at their own cost and organize their own logistics.

4. Team Size:

There are no IPCNS WC/WCh/COC athlete quota limitations but team size will be limited by available budget, support staff and logistics as determined by the Head Coach (HC) and Director of High Performance Para-Nordic (DHP-PN).

13.0 Selection Process:

- 1. CCC PNST (WC and Development) athletes are pre-selected for all events. This group will receive CCC PNST support and will be fully funded based upon available budget and yearly training plan (YTP) priorities.
- 2. CCC Prospects Team athletes will be selected for events based upon individual athlete YTP priorities and available budget and staff support. Self-funding for all or part of these events may be necessary for Prospects Team athletes.
- 3. Additional Selections: Additional athletes may be added for one or more of these events based on specific athlete development priorities considering the purpose and objectives of the criteria in 12.1 and 12.2.
 - a) Additional selected athletes and their support staff wishing to take part in these events must be recommended by the HC and sanctioned by the DHP-PN.
 - b) Additional selected athletes and their support staff will be required to work with the trip Team Leader and/or DHP-PN to organize their trip logistics.
 - c) Additional selected athletes will be required pay some or all of their own and their support staff trip costs.
- 4. Additional Selection Standard: Under the conditions outlined in 13.3 additionally selected athletes must meet the following criteria:
 - a) Have a yearly training program that is led and monitored by a qualified coach and has shown the commitment to long term development in order to achieve benchmarks leading to the long-term goals of competing for Canada in IPCNS WC, WCh, or PWG.

- b) Demonstrate the long term potential to achieve benchmarks leading to IPCNS WC, WCh or PWG podium results and/or add benefit to the team strategy and goals for PWG.
- c) Demonstrate the ability or potential to achieve at least one result of 180 IPCNS points or less on the IPCNS CC or IPCNS BT ranking points list in the 2016-2017 season.
- d) Recommendation by their Division.
- e) Meet minimum IPCNS eligibility criteria for each event.

Appendix A – International Performance Benchmarks (IPBs)

IPBs were reviewed and revised August 2015 to align with podium pathway profiles; the primary objective was to set benchmarks that provide guidelines relative to the viability of achieving World Cup podiums. The objectives of this review, method and rationale for data analysis, data analysis conclusions and intended use of IPBs can be found at

<http://www.cccski.com/getmedia/b7ddc61b-73a8-4ff1-9896-df189c3b9b38/Summary-IPB-revision-2015.pdf.aspx>

	JBG1	JBG2	JMW1	JMW2	SEN1	SEN2	SEN3	SEN4	SEN5	SEN6	SEN7	SEN8	SEN9	SEN10+
wm sprint	83.5	86.5	89	91	93	94	95	96	96.5	97	97.5	97.5	97.5	97.5
wm dist.	81	84	86.5	88.5	90.5	92	93	94	94.5	95	95.5	96	96	96
men sprint	84.5	87.5	90	92	94	95	96	96.5	96.5	96.5	97	97	97	97
men dist.	84	87	89.5	91.5	93.5	94.5	95	95.5	96	96.5	97	97.5	98	98.5