

## **PyeongChang, Korea World Cup Team Announcement and Synopsis of Selection Process**

PeongChang, Korea will host three World Cup events Feb. 3-5, 2017 in preparation for the 2018 Olympic Winter Games. This includes a classic sprint, skiathlon and team sprint (2 teams allowed per nation). Charles Castonguay will be the trip leader.

The following athletes were nominated for selection based on results from the US National trial races in Soldier Hollow, January 2017.

Andrea Dupont	Rocky Mountain Racers
Annika Hicks	AWCA – Canmore Nordic
Sadie White	Thunder Bay NTDC - Big Thunder
Len Valjas	NST – Team Hardwood
Jess Cockney	NST – Foothills Nordic
Bob Thompson	Thunder Bay NTDC – Team Hardwood
Julien Locke	AWCA – NST – Blackjack
Simon Lapointe	CNEPH - Skinouk
Brian McKeever	Para-Nordic National Ski Team

### **SELECTION SYNOPSIS**

The following athletes are selected to the PyeongChang World Cup in accordance with Section 6.4 of the 2016-17 Ski de fond Canada Selection Criteria for 2016-17 NST Competition Trips and the following selection considerations.

#### Additional considerations:

- Numerous athletes declined their trip nomination due to preparation for the 2017 WSC and/or conflicting race dates with the 2017 U23 World Championships;
- The team was selected with the intent of providing all selected athletes with a minimum of 2 race starts at this WC event;
- The team sprint is limited to 2 teams per nation;
- Athletes needed to meet the FIS standards for WC entry.

### **Selection Process, Team Size and Ranking**

- a) Top 3 men from the 2016-17 WC season, ranked on their total individual WC points. **Len Valjas accepted; the other 2 athletes declined.**
- b) Athletes selected to the WSC sprint. **Jess Cockney: this WSC selection was based on winning the sprint qualifier Jan.12 in Soldier Hollow.**
- c) Athletes selected to the WSC distance events. **All athletes declined.**
- d) 2016-17 FIS COC leaders at the end of WC Period 1. **Both FIS COC leaders declined – they are competing at the U23 Championships.**
- 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. **Andrea Dupont – Top Canadian in woman’s sprint final after considering other athletes who declined the trip;**

**Bob Thompson - 2<sup>nd</sup> Canadian men's sprint final;**

**Julien Locke - 4<sup>th</sup> Canadian men's sprint final.**

- 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 a combination final results of the 2 distance races:

**Annika Hicks – top ranked Canadian after considering athletes who declined the trip.**

**Sadie White – second ranked Canadian after considering athletes who declined the trip.**

**Brian McKeever – top ranked Canadian after considering athletes who declined.**

- 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.

**Simon Lapointe: The next male sprinter on the sprint ranking list who accepted the nomination; this excludes athletes selected to the U23-WJC. Simon was recommended for his consistency in being among the top male sprinters in Canada.**

PyeongChang selection ranking: women					
Name	Sprint cl finish results	10K fr rank	20K cl rank	Race winners	Comments
Emily Nishikawa	4	1	1	X	declined
Dahria Beatty	1	3	DNS	X	declined
Cendrine Browne	5	2	2		declined
Andrea Dupont	6	DNS	DNS		
Jenn Jackson	7	7	5		declined
Annika Hicks	9	10	6		
Sadie White		8	9		
Isabella Howden		11	8		declined
Katherine Stewart-Jones	2	4	3		declined
Frederique Vezina	3	6	4		declined
Sophie Carrier-Laforte					declined

\*Juniors are counted in this ranking but are not listed.

PyeongChang WC selection ranking US Nationals: men					
Name	Sprint Cl finish rank	15K fr rank	30K cl rank	Race winners	Comments
Andy Shields		1	DNF	X	declined
Erik Carleton		2	5		declined
David Palmer		3	16		
Russell Kennedy		6	9		
Jack Carlyle		7	10		
Brian McKeever		8	2		
Jess Cockney	1		DNS	X	
Bob Thompson	2	13	4	2nd	
Knute Johnsgaard	3	5	1	X	declined
Julien Locke	4	DNS	DNS		
Simon Lapointe	5	DNS	DNS		
Yannick Lapierre	6	DNS	DNF		

\* U23 and junior athletes are counted in this ranking.

