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1 GENERAL INFORMATION

1. This document establishes the eligibility and criteria used by Nordiq Canada (NC) for selecting athletes for international competition trips.
2. This document follows NC Document 2.1.3 [NST Policy and Procedures for Team Selection, Nomination and Announcement](#).
3. A Selection Committee will be assigned and chaired by the NC High Performance Director (HPD) for Development Competitions (WJC - U23/YOG).
4. Selection to World Cup and WSC trips will be assigned to the HPD based on NST Coach(es) recommendations.
5. Selection decisions may be appealed under the [NC 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 will be employed.
6. NC reserves the right to amend this document prior to the Selection Date under the following circumstances: additional information is provided by external parties, and to correct, clarify or amend inconsistencies, errors or omissions in the criteria. NC will publish the amended Criteria by whatever means and wherever the original Criteria were published. NC is not responsible or liable in anyway to anyone as a result of any such amendment.
7. This policy does not require NC to select any or all athletes to the maximum number of allotted quota positions.
8. It is the athlete's responsibility to read and understand the contents of this document and other supporting documents and policies. For clarification on the content of this document contact the HPD.
9. Selection according to the criteria outlined in this document does not qualify an athlete for participation in any FIS event if the athlete does not meet eligibility requirements or qualifies in a lower ranking and the quota is filled.
10. In the event a qualifying athlete is ineligible or otherwise unable to compete, the HPD may choose to select the next qualifying athlete for that trip to fill the spot.
11. Athletes will not be officially named to a competition Team until eligibility requirements have been verified by NC. Athletes selected to a competition Team will be notified by NC. The official Team will be announced by NC once all verification checks have completed.

2 ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

1. Athletes must be NC members in good standing¹ with a valid Canadian passport, a NC racing license, and a valid FIS license will be considered.
2. Athletes must meet all FIS and other event entry standards for the competition(s) for which they qualified. The FIS entry standards for World Cup competitions are located on the [FIS website](#).
3. Selected and pre-selected athletes must demonstrate competitive readiness evaluated on the following:
 - a. Optimal health and readiness to travel based on examination by NC approved physicians and IST support staff or personal physicians.
 - b. To be eligible for a competition trip an athlete must be completely recovered from any illness or injury 48 hours prior to the trip departure.
 - c. 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 Coach(es) and the HPD.
4. Curtailment of Competition (Curtailment of Health, Force Majeure):
 - a. An athlete starting in an event is deemed healthy and fit to compete.
 - b. If an athlete does not start an event, a written exemption can be submitted requesting and explaining the rationale for not competing. This rationale must be submitted to the HPD within an hour prior to or after the race.
 - c. Medical documentation confirming diagnosis from a licensed physician must be submitted to the HPD within 48 hours of the start of the selection race.
 - d. NC reserves the right to have all submissions reviewed by the NST physician or another licensed medical practitioner.
 - e. Acceptance of a curtailment of competition will be evaluated by the selection body for the trip.
 - f. Acceptance will be evaluated and based on the most recent objective data in the current competition season supporting the fact the athlete would have expected to qualify if they had been able to compete.
 - g. Accepted curtailment of competition applications will be ranked in the subjective nominations. If there are no subjective nominations, they will be ranked against the last objectively qualified athlete using the most recent comparative data.
 - h. Submission or acceptance of curtailment of competition does not guarantee event qualification.

3 SELECTION GUIDELINES AND CRITERIA

1. Only Tier One events and those listed in this document are considered for selection rankings and standards.

¹ No outstanding payments to NC, Divisions, training groups, or clubs. Up-to-date club membership and licenses.

2. Unless otherwise stated in the specific event selection criteria, in the event of a tie after the selection criteria have been applied, it will be broken by 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 or HPD will make the final decision.
3. Amendments and Unforeseen Circumstances: In the event of unforeseen circumstances beyond the control of NC that prevent a Selection Committee from fairly and objectively implementing these selection procedures, the HPD reserves the right to make changes to this document, which in its discretion are necessary to ensure selection of the best teams possible for the international trip schedule. The HPD will have the full discretion to resolve the matter through a fair and reasonable process, considering relevant factors and circumstances. Changes to this document will be communicated directly to the ski community as soon as possible.
4. Team size is dependent on FIS WC and event quotas, athlete eligibility, qualified personnel available to support the trip, and the budget.
5. Trips fees are estimated costs and subject to change.

4 WORLD CUP SELECTION CRITERIA

Team status on the World Cup does not include full funding from NC except for athletes in the WC Red Group.

Subject to quota spots, eligible athletes are selected in priority order as per the criteria outlined in the competition trip. NOTE: Curtailment of competition applications will be ranked as per section 2.4.

The HPD has the right to nominate an athlete achieving exceptional performance results ²against an international depth of field to a WC Team. This will be in addition to the Team size.

Team size is inclusive of the COC Leaders.

1. World Cup – Period 1 (December 3 - December 23, 2019 - Davos, Planica)

Trip Fee: Approx. \$5,800, COC Leader \$2,000

- i. Athletes with top 30 WC result from 2018-19
- ii. Overall 2018-19 COC Leaders

2. World Cup – Period 3 (January 2 - February 10, 2020 – Dresden, FIS race, Oberstdorf, Falun – sprint race)

Trip Fee: Approx. \$4,700, COC Leader \$2,000

Team size: 4 men, 4 women

² Supported by FIS points indicating Top 30 competitiveness in a WC.

- a. WC top 30 from P1
- b. Overall COC Leaders
- c. Top ranked male and female on a ranking list of the best 2 of 4 sprint races using the Haywood NorAm scoring system from the Canmore and Nakkertok NorAms.
 - *Final result and qualification result will be considered separate races (for a total of 4 races) with NorAm points allocated as such.*
 - *Ties will be broken by the qualifier result in the Canmore skate sprint.*
 - *Available spots will go to the next highest ranked athlete on the ranking list.*

3. World Cup –Period 4 (February 4 -25, 2020 – Falun – distance race and Scando Tour)

Trip Fee: Approx. \$4,700, COC Leader \$2,000

Team Size: 4 men, 4 women

- a. 1 Top 20 or 2 Top 30 WC results from the 2019-20 season
- b. Overall COC Leaders
- c. Top ranked male and female on a ranking list of the best 2 of 3 races at the Mont-Sainte-Anne NorAm (January 31 – February 2, 2020) using the Haywood NorAm scoring system.
 - *Sprint ranking is comprised of the combined scoring of the qualification (50%) and the final results (50%).*
 - *Ties will be broken by the highest rank in the athlete's 3rd best race.*
 - *Available spots will go to the next highest ranked athlete on the ranking list.*

4. World Cup – Sprint Tour (March 11 – 18, 2020 – Quebec, Minneapolis)

Trip Fee: TBD

Team size: TBD

- a. Top 30 WC sprint result in 2019-20
- b. Athletes qualified for WC P3
- c. Top 30 WJC/U23 sprint result 2019-20
- d. COC Leaders
- e. Top ranked male and female from the sprint race at the Mont-Sainte-Anne NorAm using the Haywood NorAm scoring system on combined qualification and final results.
 - *Sprint ranking is comprised of the combined scoring of the qualification (50%) and the final results (50%).*
 - *Ties will be broken by best final result.*
 - *Available spots will go to the next ranked athlete on the list.*

5. World Cup Final (March 20-22, 2019 – Canmore)

Trip Fee: TBD

Team Size: TBD

- a. Athletes qualified for WC P4
- b. Athletes with a Top 30 WC race result in 2019-20
- c. Athletes with 2020 WJC/U23 Championships Top 30 distance result
- d. COC Leaders
- d. First place male and female in the open mass start skate race at the Mont-Sainte-Anne NorAm
- e. First place male and female in the open individual classic at the Mont-Sainte-Anne NorAm

Any additional quota places will be allocated to 2nd place finishers for criteria 5.d., then 5.e. The process is repeated using 3rd place, 4th place, etc. finishers in the same order until all quota spots are allocated.

This is NOT a roll down. Selection occurs across race rankings. For example, if a 2nd place athlete is already qualified the spot goes to the 2nd place athlete in the next priority race – it does not move down to the 3rd place athlete in the race with the already qualified 2nd place athlete.

The mixed relay team will be decided by the HPD and NST Coaches.

5 2020 WORLD JUNIOR/U23 (WJC-U23) – February 16 – March 8, 2020

Athletes must meet all NC and event eligibility requirements (Section 2) before being officially named to the Team.

Subject to quota spots, eligible athletes are selected in priority order as per the outlined criteria. NOTE: Curtailment of competition applications will be ranked as per section 2.4.

1. Itinerary

- Norway a pre-camp: February 16, 2020 (subject to change)
- The trip leaders will be appointed by the NC HPD and will have training and race preparation responsibilities

2. Team Size

- Minimum of 5 athletes per gender for the World Junior Championships
- Minimum of 4 athletes per gender for the U23 Championships.
- Maximum Team size is 20 athletes.
- The FIS quota is a maximum of 4 race starts per gender for each race. Each athlete is guaranteed one start at the World Championships.
- Team selection for each competition day will be determined by the NC National Team Coach and approved by the HPD.

3. Trip Fee

- Approx. \$3,000

4. Designated Selection Trials - Mont-Sainte-Anne (January 31 – February 2, 2020)

- a. First place U23 male and female and JR male and female in the mass start skate race
- b. First place U23 male and female and JR male and female final result in the sprint skate race
- c. First place U23 male and female and JR male and female in the distance classic race

Any additional quota places will be allocated to 2nd place finishers for criteria 4.a., 4.b., then 4.c. The process is repeated using 3rd place, 4th place, etc. finishers in the same order until minimum Team size is reached

This is NOT a roll down. Selection occurs across race rankings. For example, if a 2nd place athlete is already qualified the spot goes to the 2nd place athlete in the next priority race – it does not move down to the 3rd place athlete in the race with the already qualified 2nd place athlete.

The Selection Committee will increase Team size, in either the Junior and U23 categories only on the recommendation of the HPD in consultation with NST coaches. The recommendation will be based on demonstrated and compelling reasons for selection that support the trip purpose and the long-term NC HP strategic plan.

6 2020 YOUTH OLYMPIC GAMES (YOG) Lausanne, Switzerland

<https://www.lausanne2020.sport/en/>

Athletes must meet all NC and event eligibility requirements (Section 2) before being officially named to the Team.

Subject to quota spots, eligible athletes are selected in priority order as per the criteria outlined. NOTE: Curtailment of Competition applications will NOT be accepted for this event.

1. Athlete Eligibility

Athletes must:

- Meet eligibility criteria published by FIS. Refer to the [FIS qualification system](#).
- Have been born between 1 January 2002 and 31 December 2004
- Have a FIS license prior to the events
- Have the required YOG FIS points sprint or distance to start in the respective competition. YOG FIS points are earned in accordance with the [FIS Rules for FIS Points](#) during the YOG qualification period from July 1, 2018 to December 8, 2019.
- Have a Canadian passport valid until the end of June 2020

2. Team size

Canadian quota is 2 males and 2 females

3. Trip Fee

- Approx. \$1,000

4. Designated Selection Trials – Canmore NorAm (Alberta), December 6-8, 2019

- a. Top male and female with the highest combined score of the sprint freestyle race final result and classic distance race (5/10k) using the NorAm points scoring system. Ties will be broken by next best single result comparison.

5. Itinerary:

TBD

Trip Leader - TBD

Selection Process and Ranking, Alternate Athletes

The ranking list will be based eligible Canadian athletes on the final results of the sprint and distance competitions using the Haywood NorAm scoring system. As per the NorAm scoring system, these lists will be tabulated using 100 points to the top junior male and female, etc.

Alternate athletes may be selected if an athlete declines or is unable to accept their nomination. The ranking list will be used to select the alternate athlete. Alternate selections need to be approved the Canadian Olympic Committee's YOG Team Selection Committee.

Illness and Injury: In a situation where an athlete has met the qualifying criteria but becomes seriously injured or ill prior to the end of the qualifying period, NC will have the athlete's health and fitness assessed by a physician and decide whether the athlete can still be nominated for selection.

7 FIS CONTINENTAL CUP SERIES (COC)

1. All references to this series and the associated selection processes and associated WC starts can be found in the 2019-20 FIS Continental Cup Series (COC) Selection Criteria (To be linked when finalized)

8 APPENDIX A - DEFINITIONS

Definitions Relevant to Understanding Criteria Procedures

1. Distance Races - For these selection criteria, all races longer than 2.0 km will be designated as a Distance Race. This could be an individual start, mass start, pursuit or skiathlon competition. An athlete selected or identified in a Distance Race will be referred to as a distance athlete.
2. Sprint Events - For these selection criteria, all individual races that are shorter than or equal to 2.0 km and two-athletes team events where each leg is shorter than or equal to 2.0 km are designated individual sprints or team sprints. These races will be designated as a Sprint Event. An athlete selected or identified in a Sprint Event will be referred to as a sprint athlete. All references to sprint results in these criteria are references to final results unless otherwise noted.
3. Tier One Selection Events – A categorization of races used for team selection and trip standards that is limited to domestic and international FIS sanctioned races that count towards the FIS points list.

9 APPENDIX B – WORLD CUP COMPETITIONS

1. Purpose

- a) Provide WC starts for athletes who have achieved, or shown potential to achieve, individual and team performance benchmarks outlined as success markers for the 2026 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 by attaining individual WC points and relay points in the WC races for which the selection is made.

2. Objectives

a) Individual Events

- NST Senior Development athletes:
 - all athletes scoring WC points
 - 3 athletes with a minimum of one top 20 result on WC
 - 2 athletes with a minimum of one top 15 result at WSC
- NST Junior Development Team
 - a minimum of 2 athletes qualifying for WC start

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

- Men: Top 8
- Women: Top 12

10 APPENDIX C – WORLD JUNIOR/U23 SKI CHAMPIONSHIPS

1. Purpose

To provide international competition experience for Canada's U23 and Junior athletes tracking toward World Cup, World Ski Championship and Olympic competitions.

2. Objectives

- a) 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)
- b) U23 – 2 men and 2 women placing in the Top 12; 2 men and 2 women placing 13-20.