

2023-24 Competition Trip Selection Criteria Process

The following is an outline of the 2023-24 Competition Trip Selection Criteria development process, including consultation and rationale.

Consultation Process

1. Pre-consultation meetings late June and early July 2023.
 - Daily Training Environment (DTE) coaches (of National Ski team (NST) athletes) were given the opportunity to have individual meetings with the High Performance Director (HPD) to provide feedback and ideas.
 - NST and National Talent Pool athletes (NTP) were provided two workshop sessions with the HPD and Sport Development Director (SDD) to provide feedback and ideas.
 - All participants were given the same questions from which to base feedback.
2. Draft 1 was shared with the High Performance Committee (HPC), and coach and athlete community in early August for feedback.
 - Feedback meetings on Draft 1 were held in Mont-Sainte-Anne in early August with the NST and DTE coaches, plus athletes participating in the NST/NTP camp.
3. Draft 2 was shared with the HPC, and coach and athlete community in September for final feedback, with a deadline of September 22, 2023.
4. HPC approved the final draft of the criteria, with final approval given by the HPD.

2023-24 Competition Trip Selection Criteria Feedback

- Overall positive feedback, community in general is happy with the clarity and transparency of the criteria and selections.
- Athletes would like to see increased use of subjective criteria via HPD discretion.
- Create more meaningful international opportunities for senior athletes. 2023 World Ski Championships provided very limited race starts, in some cases only one start for athletes.

2023-24 Criteria Draft 1 and 2 Feedback and Rationale

1. WC P3 selections: Is it fair or appropriate to select athletes to U23 World Championships from an event in Alaska? Contributing circumstances included prioritizing of events in Canada, NCAA schedules, costs.

Rationale:

- It was deemed appropriate by the HPC to use the events in Alaska as the first ranking for the U23 championships as it aligns with point 1.1 of the criteria.

- Athletes will have the opportunity to qualify for the U23 World Championships from the Nordiq Canada Selection Trials events in January at Mont–Sainte-Anne QC.
 - Nordiq Canada is assisting in the coordination of a Canadian DTE trip to support athletes and teams and to reduce the financial burden of the trip.
2. WC P3 selections: Would Nordiq Canada consider adding the selection of the 2nd ranked skier in the Nordiq Canada Sprint Series at the completion of P1 to the objective criteria 4.6.g. The point made here is that the sprint leader could be the same as the COC leader after P1.

Rationale:

- It was discussed by the HPC and felt that adding this selection was not necessary to select a team to fulfil the trip rationale.
 - The Nordiq Canada Sprint Series was added to 3.2 under events that may be considered as part of the selection process.
3. Section 2.4.b was identified as posing unnecessary barriers to athlete participation on trips.

Rationale:

- The intention of 2.4.b is not to penalize athletes, but to create a better environment for athletes to compete safely.
- Section 2.4.b.i-vi has been added to provide greater clarity on the process.
- The process of 2.4.b included the consultation of the NST Integrated Support Team (IST) lead and members of the para-medical team, as well as other National Sport Organizations (NSO) and International Sport Organizations (ISO).

2023-24 Competition Trip Selection Criteria Final Draft Approval

1. The final draft of the Competition Trip Selection Criteria was voted on by the High Performance Committee (HPC) and unanimously approved. The HPC oversaw the draft process as per the Nordiq Canada Selection, Nominations and Announcement policy. Members of this committee are:
- Graham Nishikawa (athlete rep – Para)
 - Devon Kershaw (athlete rep – Olympic)
 - Maria Lundgren (BC)
 - Pauline Nadlersmith (Manitoba)
 - John Lofranco (Athletics Canada)
 - Julie Beaulieu (Nordiq Canada)
 - Kate Boyd (Nordiq Canada)
 - Chris Jeffries (Nordiq Canada)

2. Final 2023-24 Competition Trip Selection Criteria was approved by Chris Jeffries, High Performance Director – Olympic

Thank you to all who contributed to the process of developing this year's competition criteria. We value your feedback and insight, and hope this summary provides clarity and transparency of this process.