

# Olympic Winter Games

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Selection Criteria  
**2026**



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## 1. General Information

1. This document defines the process and criteria used by Nordiq Canada to nominate athletes to the Milano-Cortina 2026 Olympic Winter Games Team (OWGT).
2. The nomination process objective is to prioritize selection of athletes who have medal performance potential at the Games in a clear and transparent manner using international benchmarks for performance.
3. Team size is based on available quota spots as determined by the Federation International de Ski (FIS) qualification system.
4. Nomination is the process of Nordiq Canada submitting its final team names to the Canadian Olympic Committee (COC) for selection approval.
5. Selection approval by the COC is the final confirmation of the athlete's position on the team subject to their compliance with Sections 4 and 7.
6. Satisfying the criteria in one of the priorities listed in Section 5 does not guarantee nomination to the team. Only after all selection events have been completed and Nordiq Canada has reviewed all Section 6 applications, will a final team nomination announcement will be made.
7. Nomination by Nordiq Canada does NOT guarantee selection. Selection is subject to COC approval AND the athlete's satisfaction of all FIS eligibility requirements.<sup>1</sup>
8. The OWGT nominations including alternates will be announced by Nordiq Canada following the Trials as per the Nordiq Canada *NST Selection, Nomination and Announcement* policy.<sup>2</sup> If Nordiq Canada is allocated additional quota after the FIS reallocation ending January 22<sup>nd</sup>, additional athletes will be nominated from the alternate list at that time.
9. The OWGT announcement will be announced in conjunction with the COC.

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<sup>1</sup> The hyperlinked version of the FIS eligibility requirements is the version that is in force as of the date of publication of this INP. In the event FIS modifies its eligibility requirements, Nordiq Canada is bound by these modifications, and will update the hyperlink as soon as reasonably possible and announce any modifications on the Nordiq Canada website. However, if due to time constraints or other circumstances that prevent Nordiq Canada from updating the hyperlink in a timely manner, this is not possible before a nomination decision needs to be made, the most recent version of the FIS eligibility requirements shall be considered applicable for the purposes of this INP.

<sup>2</sup> Please see footnote 1, which applies, modified accordingly for the circumstances. All Nordiq Canada policies can be found on the Nordiq Canada website.

10. For questions or clarifications on the contents of this document, contact Chris Jeffries, High Performance Director (cjeffries@nordiqcanada.ca).

## 2. Decision Making Authority

1. The High Performance Director (HPD), as per the Nordiq Canada *NST Selection, Nomination and Announcement* policy, is responsible for developing, and approving the selection process and procedures for the team to be nominated to the COC for the 2026 OWG.
2. The HPD has the final decision-making authority over the nomination of the OWGT pursuant to the selection criteria. The HPC will confirm the final nomination of the OWGT adhered to the selection criteria in this INP and that it was made in an objective and impartial manner.
3. In cases pertaining to Section 6 and Section 7, the Integrated Support Team (IST), led by the IST Lead and comprised of the para-medical lead, medical team doctor, physiologist, strength and conditioning coach, performance dietician and mental performance coach may be consulted in the decision.
4. All Nordiq Canada nominations are subject to COC approval.
5. Nominated athletes are not guaranteed race starts. The Olympic Games Head Coach, in consultation with the HPD and other support staff, has decision making authority for 'race day' and 'field of play' decisions concerning start lists, seeding, relay order, and prioritization of resources while at the 2026 Games. These decisions cannot be appealed.

## 3. International Federation (IF) Eligibility and Qualification Criteria

1. FIS sets the [International Federation Olympic Qualification System](#), which is approved by the International Olympic Committee (IOC). The 2026 OWG national participation quota will be based on cumulative nations ranking from the 2024-2025 World Cup/World Championships season. This quota will apply to Nordiq Canada's 2026 OWGT selection.
2. The FIS 2026 OWG events, quotas, athlete eligibility requirements can be [found here](#).<sup>3</sup> The FIS qualification system will prevail in the case of any discrepancy with this INP.

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<sup>3</sup> Please see footnote 1.

## 4. Athlete Eligibility Requirements

1. All eligibility requirements must be met before the start of a Nordiq Canada Olympic Trial event. If a Trials event is not held, eligibility requirements must be met before January 15, 2026.

### CANADIAN OLYMPIC COMMITTEE ATHLETE ELIGIBILITY

2. To be eligible for nomination to the COC for Olympic Team selection, an athlete must:
  - a. Be a Canadian citizen as per Rule 41 of the Olympic Charter;
  - b. Have a valid Canadian Passport that does not expire on or before August 22, 2026;
  - c. Comply with FIS, COC, and IOC requirements for eligibility;
  - d. Sign and submit the Nordiq Canada Competition Trip Agreement if not already under the Athlete Agreement with Nordiq Canada;
  - e. Sign, submit and comply with the COC Athlete Agreement and organizing committee (OCOG) Conditions of Participation Form and any other COC requirements prior to January 15<sup>th</sup>, 2026. Where the athlete is under the age of 18 years, their parent or legal guardian must also sign these agreements;
  - f. Be a member in good standing of Nordiq Canada;<sup>4</sup>
  - g. Athletes named to compete in the OWGT will be required to comply with dress code regulations of the Nordiq Canada and the COC. This will include the Official Team Competition Clothing policy and the Official Team Podium/Parade Clothing policy;
  - h. Have paid all outstanding expenses to Nordiq Canada;

### Doping Requirements

- i. Be available for sample collection and have provided accurate and up-to-date whereabouts information on a regular basis as directed by FIS and/or CCES pursuant to the FIS Anti-Doping Rules or the Canadian Anti-Doping Program (CADP), as applicable;
- j. The athlete must not be serving a period of ineligibility or a provisional suspension in force at the time of nomination for or during the OWG.

### Alternate Athlete Requirements

- k. Alternate athletes selected must comply with all requirements contained in this INP and ensure all administrative and financial obligations are fulfilled within 24 hours of notification of their pending team nomination.

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<sup>4</sup> Please refer to the [Nordic Canada bylaws](#) for the requirements that must be satisfied for a member to be considered to be in good standing.

#### FIS ELIGIBILITY

3. Please refer to the FIS eligibility requirements found in the [Qualification System for XXV Olympic Winter Games, Milano Cortina 2026](#). Athletes seeking nomination to the 2026 Milano Cortina OWGT must satisfy all FIS eligibility requirements.

## 5. Selection Criteria

### A. PERIOD OF QUALIFICATION

1. The qualification period for the 2026 Milano Cortina OWG is from November 29, 2024, to January 18, 2026.

### B. PROCESS

2. Athletes will be nominated to the COC for selection to Nordiq Canada's OWGT if they satisfy the FIS and COC eligibility criteria as outlined in Section 4, and in accordance with the priorities as outlined below.
3. The Nordiq Canada Olympic Team INP performance objectives are aligned with the Nordiq Canada National High Performance Program selection criteria.
4. **Qualifying competitions\* will include:**
  - 2025 FIS Nordic World Ski Championships
  - 2024-2025 FIS World Cups
  - Nordiq Canada Olympic Winter Games Milano Cortina 2026 Trials

Nordiq Canada is exploring dates and locations for a mid-December trials, with the goal of December 11-14, 2025.

Final confirmed date and location will be announced and updated here no later than May 1, 2025.

If Trials is unable to be held at the location or time indicated, Nordiq Canada will announce an alternate location and date no later than 2 weeks prior to the start of the event.

*\*Qualifying competitions must have a depth of field as defined below.*

## 5. Definitions

- a. **Individual Final Finish Race Result:** The final time and ranking attributed to an athlete at the completion of an entire individual event. i.e., Time of day, qualification heat, pre-qualification times, team relay, or team sprint times are NOT considered Individual Final Finish Race Result. An athlete must complete the race and obtain FIS points for any result to be considered a race result.
- b. **Depth of Field:** For an individual final finish race result to be achieved, the athlete must finish top-half of field. Additionally, for World Cup events, there must be 15 of the top 30 FIS athletes according to the FIS World Cup Sprint or Distance standings that



have started the race. The ranking used will be the most up to date standings of the FIS World Cup (Sprint or Distance). Field sizes will include all athletes who start the race, i.e., athletes that are lapped out, disqualified or do not receive a time for another reason will count towards the total field size.

6. For Priorities 1 – 5, the following seasons are defined as:
  - a. **2024-2025 Season:** on-snow FIS sanctioned competitions beginning November 1, 2024, and ending March 31, 2025.
  - b. **2025- 2026 Season:** on-snow FIS sanctioned competitions beginning November 1, 2025 and ending January 18, 2026.

### C. NOMINATION CRITERIA

7. Priority 1: **Top 8 2025 FIS Nordic World Ski Championship** Individual Final Finish Race Result.
8. Priority 2: **1 Top 10 AND 1 x Top 12** individual final finish race result at a **2024-25 World Cup or 2025 FIS Nordic World Ski Championship**.

Once Priority Nominations 1-2 are complete, or if any remaining vacant positions are available once Priorities 1-2 are applied, any remaining spots will be filled using the Nordiq Canada Olympic Trials.

9. Priority 3: **Race Winners, Nordiq Canada Olympic Winter Games Milano Cortina 2026 Trials – December XX, 2025** (see point 5.4)
  - a. Priority ranking of Trials events will be determined and announced by May 1, 2025 from the events listed below (not in order listed). Ranking order will reflect the composition of already qualified athlete nominations to fill any gaps to achieve the best overall results at the OWG. Priorities may be different for men and women.
    - Winner Classic Sprint Final
    - Winner 10km Classic
    - Winner 10km Skate
  - b. Athletes qualified on Priorities 1-3 will be included in the race results used for selection. Foreign athletes will be removed from the race results used for selection.
    - Example: A female athlete who has met a priorities 1-3 finishes is the top Canadian athlete in the 10km classic, she would be considered the race winner.
10. Priority 4: Athletes meeting Injury, Illness, Exceptional Circumstances
11. Priority 5: Additional quota places, if applicable, will be allocated to 2nd place finishers for Priority 3 in the identified priority order of the race events listed above. The process is repeated using 3rd place, 4th place, etc. until maximum allowable 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.

#### **D. TIE BREAKING**

- 12.** Where more than one athlete in the same gender is selected via the same priority, the athletes will be ranked by the highest result. If there is still a tie, it will move to 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, etc. best result in eligible races until the tie is broken.
- 13.** In the event the athletes are still tied, Nordiq Canada will use the 2<sup>nd</sup> FIS Points List of the 2025-26 season to rank the athletes. The athlete with the lowest overall FIS points from the discipline they qualified on (either sprint or distance) will be selected.

#### **E. ALTERNATE ATHLETES**

- 14.** In announcing the final nominations for the 2026 OWGT, one alternate athlete per gender may be announced as a replacement for a selected athlete who is unable to compete at the 2026 OWG for any reason.
- 15.** Alternate athletes will be next in line for selection for their gender as per the qualification criteria outlined in Section 5.
- 16.** Alternate athletes' information will be submitted to the COC at the same time as the quota nominated athletes' information.
- 17.** Alternate athletes are subject to the IOC Late Athlete Replacement policy.
- 18.** Alternate athletes must confirm their willingness to comply with the team preparation plans as set by the Team Head Coach and make themselves available for selection.
- 19.** Alternates will not travel with the OWG Team or be considered a member of the Team unless they are officially named to the Team.
- 20.** Substitutions to replace a selected athlete from January 26, 2026, onward are subject to the IOC Late Athlete Replacement policy, the COC's Team Selection Committee and must comply with all the procedures in this document.

### **6. Exceptional Circumstances, Injury, Illness, Pregnancy**

- 1.** In the event an athlete has satisfied the eligibility requirements indicated in Section 4, if due to an injury, illness or other exceptional circumstance that is beyond the athlete's control, is unable to compete at the **Nordiq Canada Olympic Winter Games Milano Cortina 2026 Trials**, the athlete may be ranked for nomination to the COC for the 2026 Canadian Olympic Winter Games Team provided that they satisfy the requirements indicated in this Section 6.



2. Nordiq Canada's HPD has the right to accept or reject any applications made under this Section.
3. Acceptance will be evaluated and based on the most recent comparative objective data and proven international success, in the 2024-25 and 2025-26 seasons supporting the fact the athlete would have expected to qualify if they had been able to compete.
4. Accepted curtailment of competition applications will be ranked as per the specifics of that competition criteria.

#### **QUALIFICATION UNDER THE SECTION 6 FOR ILLNESS OR INJURY**

5. Athletes seeking nomination to the 2026 OWGT pursuant to this Section 6 illness or injury must satisfy the following requirements:
  - a. In the case of injury or illness, the athlete's injury or illness must be documented by a licensed, qualified, and relevant medical health practitioner, which must be validated by the Nordiq Canada IST Lead and Team Doctor;
  - b. The athlete must submit a written application to the HPD within 7 days of being diagnosed with an injury or illness by a licensed, qualified, and relevant medical health practitioner.
  - c. The application must include the following:
    - i. A medical certificate completed by a licensed, qualified, and relevant medical health practitioner indicating the date and nature of the athlete's injury or illness with the prescribed rehabilitation program and an estimated recovery period, as well as the practitioner's opinion regarding whether the athlete will return to their normal state of health and 2024-25 Season level of performance prior to the commencement of the athlete's first competition at the 2026 OWG. Nordiq Canada may require the athlete to submit to a second medical evaluation and opinion;
    - ii. The IST and coaching staff's written recommendation regarding whether the athlete is unable to continue to compete during the 2025-26 season due to their injury or illness in order to allow them to recover from their injury or illness prior to the commencement of their first competition at the 2026 OWG;

- iii. The athlete's written agreement that, for the period of time during which they are unable to fulfill their training and competition commitments as specified in their Athlete or Competition Agreement, they will train and/or rehabilitate under the supervision of Nordiq Canada coaches and IST team at a level which minimizes risk to the athlete's health, and ensures optimum return to full training and competition at the earliest possible date; and
  - iv. The athlete's written confirmation of their intention to return to full high performance training and competition at the earliest date possible following the illness or injury.
6. When determining whether an athlete may be nominated pursuant to this Section 6, Nordiq Canada reserves the right to require that the athlete submit to a performance readiness test, the results of which will be kept confidential between the athlete, their coach and medical practitioner(s) and Nordiq Canada staff and the Nordiq Canada HPC (where relevant).
7. The performance readiness test will consist of a controlled performance such as a competition or observed test or trial and the athlete will be given reasonable notice of the date of the test or trial, taking into account the circumstances of the athlete's illness or injury. Tests may also include, but are not limited to physiotherapy assessment, medical assessment/clearance and time trial/race results to confirm health and readiness to compete at Olympic level.
8. The objective of a performance readiness test shall be to determine whether it is more likely than not that the athlete will be ready to return to competition for the 2026 OWG at their normal state of health and at the level of performance that would have otherwise justified their nomination to the 2026 OWG Team pursuant to priority 1-2 (as applicable). When making any of the aforementioned determinations, the HPD may consult with the IST Lead, Nordiq Canada medical doctor, the HPC or any other individual with relevant expertise.
9. If an athlete is required to undergo a performance readiness test as described above, the athlete will not be nominated to the 2026 OWG Team until they have undergone the test and until the HPD is satisfied that the athlete will return to their normal state of health and at the level of performance that would have otherwise justified their nomination to the 2026 OWG Team pursuant to priority 1-4 (as applicable).
10. If the athlete satisfies all the requirements described in this Section 6, including, if requested, satisfactory performance of a performance readiness test, they may be nominated pursuant to the appropriate priority in Section 5.
11. However, if the athlete does not satisfy all the requirements described in this Section 6,

including, if requested, satisfactory performance of a performance readiness test, they shall not be nominated pursuant to Section 5.

- 12.** The final decision to nominate an athlete to the COC for the 2026 Canadian Olympic Winter Games Team pursuant to this Section 6 shall be made by Nordiq Canada's HPD.

#### **QUALIFICATION UNDER THE SECTION 6 FOR AN EXCEPTIONAL CIRCUMSTANCE**

- 13.** Athletes seeking nomination to the 2026 OWGT on the ground of an exceptional circumstance pursuant to this Section 6 must submit a written application to the HPD within 2 days of the occurrence of the exceptional circumstance that prevented the athlete from competing in any competition during the 2025-26 Season before January 18 2026. The HPD may extend this deadline at their sole discretion depending on the nature of the exceptional circumstance.
- 14.** The athlete's application must include evidence of the exceptional circumstance that prevented them from competing in any competition during the 2025-26 Season before January 17, 2026 detailing that they exhausted every reasonable avenue to compete, as well as any evidence that demonstrates that the athlete's performances were at the same level or better than their performances that allowed them to satisfy the performance requirements for the 2024-25 season indicated in priorities 1 and 2 (as applicable).
- 15.** When determining whether an athlete may be nominated pursuant to this Section 6 due to the occurrence of an exceptional circumstance, Nordiq Canada reserves the right to require that the athlete submit to a performance readiness test, the results of which will be kept confidential between the athlete, their coach and medical practitioner(s) and Nordiq Canada staff and the Nordiq Canada HPC (where relevant).
- 16.** The performance readiness test will consist of a controlled performance such as a competition or observed test or trial and the athlete will be given reasonable notice of the date of the test or trial, taking into account the nature of the exceptional circumstances. Tests may also include, but are not limited to physiotherapy assessment, medical assessment/clearance and time trial/race results to confirm health and readiness to compete at the Olympic level.
- 17.** The objective of a performance readiness test shall be to determine whether the athlete's performances were at the same level or better than their performances that allowed them to satisfy the performance requirements for the 2024-25 Season indicated in priorities 1 or 2. (as applicable). When making any of the aforementioned determinations, the HPD may consult with the IST lead, Nordiq Canada Medical Doctor, the HPC or any other individual with relevant expertise.

18. If the athlete satisfies all the requirements described in this Section 6, including, if requested, satisfactory performance of a performance readiness test, they may be nominated pursuant to the appropriate priority in Section 5.
19. However, if the athlete does not satisfy all the requirements described in this Section 6, including, if requested, satisfactory performance of a performance readiness test, they shall not be nominated pursuant to Section 5.
20. The final decision to nominate an athlete to the COC for the 2026 OWGT pursuant to this Section 6 shall be made by Nordiq Canada's HPD.

## **7 Competitive Readiness, Illness or Injury – Nominated Athletes**

1. All selected Team members, following approval of nominations by the COC, will need to demonstrate competitive readiness up to and including the 2026 Milano Cortina Olympic Winter Games.
  - a. "Competitive readiness" is defined as the ability of the athlete to achieve equal or superior performance(s) at the 2026 Milano Cortina Olympic Winter Games, as compared to the performance(s) the athlete achieved in qualifying through Section 5.
  - b. Once selected, athletes who do not remain competitive ready because of lack of fitness, injury, or illness may be removed from the Team at any time and replaced with an alternate athlete or none at all. Following nomination to the COC, any such removals are subject to the approval of the HPD.
  - c. Athletes and their personal coaches are required to immediately report any injury, illness or change in training that could affect their ability to compete at their highest level at the 2026 Milano Cortina OWG to the Nordiq Canada HPD.
  - d. All nominated athletes will have their injury/health status assessed by Nordiq Canada prior to the COC nomination deadline.
  - e. In the case of injuries or illnesses, the HPD will consider recommendations made by the National Team Physician, and the IST, or any other individual with relevant expertise in making the final decision.
  - f. Nordiq Canada reserves the right to require any athlete nominated for the 2026 OWG be subject to a performance readiness test to assess their fitness.
  - g. The HPD will make the final decision on competitive readiness.
2. The performance readiness tests will consist of a controlled performance test such as a competition or observed test or trial and will be relevant to testing an athlete's readiness related to their stated injury or illness, and the athlete will be given reasonable notice of

the date of the test or trial, taking into account the circumstances of the athlete's illness or injury. Tests may also include, but are not limited to physiotherapy assessment, medical assessment/clearance and time trial/race results to confirm health and readiness to compete at Olympic level.

3. Any athletes subject to a performance readiness test will not travel with the Team to the 2026 Milano Cortina Olympic Games or to any related training camp(s) until this requirement has been satisfied.
4. If the athlete's injury or illness occurs after they have travelled to the 2026 Milano Cortina Olympic Games or any related training camp(s), the HPD may require the athlete to undergo a performance readiness test as described above at the training camp or in Beijing (as applicable). If, following such a performance readiness test, it is determined by the HPD that the athlete is not competition ready, the athlete may be removed from the 2026 OWG Team and asked to return home immediately.
5. If the HPD, or COC personnel discover that an athlete has not disclosed an injury or illness after their selection to the 2026 OWG Team, the HPD may remove the athlete from the Team, and they may be asked to return home immediately.

## 9. Removal of an Athlete Once Selected/Nominated

1. In addition to the reasons mentioned in Section 7 above, the HPD may, at any time, and at his/her discretion, remove an athlete from the 2026 OWGT for any of the following reasons:
  - a. Failure to maintain the training standards that were communicated to the athlete;
  - b. Failure to meet previously communicated performance standards in competition;
  - c. Failure to meet Competitive Readiness as defined in Section 7;
  - d. Failure to partake in mandatory training organized by Nordiq Canada;
  - e. Violation of Nordiq Canada's Code of Conduct or any other Nordiq Canada, FIS or COC policies;
  - f. Behaviour counterproductive to creating a positive team environment and that disrupts Team cohesiveness;
  - g. Detrimental conduct to the Team or image of Nordiq Canada's national team program; or
  - h. Failure to adhere to the anti-doping rules or requirements of any Anti-Doping Organization with authority over the athlete.

## 10. Confirmation of Entries

1. Nominations to the COC will be submitted immediately at the end of the qualifying period. The deadline for nominations to the COC is January 21, 2026.
2. The list of nominated athletes, with rationale, will be made public at the time it is

submitted to the COC.

3. The COC will approve and announce the final Olympic Team selections in January 2026.

## **11. Amendments and Unforeseen Circumstances**

1. This INP is intended to apply as drafted and, specifically, where no athletes are prevented from competing because of an unforeseen injury or other unanticipated or unforeseen circumstances. Situations may arise where unforeseen circumstances or circumstances beyond Nordiq Canada's control do not allow competition or nomination to take place in a fair manner or in the best interests of the priorities and general principles for selection as indicated in these criteria, or do not allow the procedure for nomination as described in this document to be applied. In the event of such unforeseen circumstances, the HPD will, where possible, consult with the HPC to determine if the circumstances justify that competition or nomination take place in an alternative manner. In such circumstances, the HPD shall communicate the alternative selection or nomination process to all impacted individuals as soon as possible.
2. Should it be necessary to cancel or postpone any event specified in this INP that is conducted under the authority of Nordiq Canada, such decision shall be made by the HPD.
3. Decisions to cancel or postpone any event specified in this INP shall be made: a) only when absolutely necessary, such as when it has become impossible or unreasonably difficult to hold the event at all or on the originally scheduled date (for example, due to public health restrictions or other circumstances beyond the control of Nordiq Canada and b) as soon as reasonably possible after Nordiq Canada has become aware that the event cannot be held.
4. If any event specified in this INP is canceled, Nordiq Canada's HPD shall determine whether it is feasible to reschedule the event in a different location and on a different date than previously scheduled and shall communicate any such decisions to reschedule the event to all impacted individuals as soon as reasonably possible, taking into account the time needed for athletes to prepare for the rescheduled event and for any logistical matters in relation to the event to be addressed, including, but not limited to, any matters related to Nordiq Canada's organization of the event, as well as athlete and athlete entourage travel to the location of the rescheduled event.
5. Nordiq Canada's HPD may also determine, at its sole discretion, following consultation with the HPC, to hold alternative replacement events or assessments for the purpose of nomination to the OWG Team, including virtual events, but only where feasible and where the nomination procedure indicated in this INP, including the stated performance objectives, are not prejudiced.



6. Should any event specified in this INP be canceled, postponed, rescheduled, or replaced, Nordiq Canada shall update the nomination procedures indicated in this INP, as applicable, as soon as reasonably possible and shall communicate any modifications to all impacted individuals, as well as publish the modified INP on its website, prior to the postponed, rescheduled or replacement event.
7. Decisions made pursuant to this clause shall not be subject to appeal and do not apply to the cancellation of events that are conducted under the authority of organizations other than Nordiq Canada.
8. In such circumstances, Nordiq Canada will determine if alternate events may be attended as a substitute for the event that Nordiq Canada has decided not to participate in and, if so, will modify this INP accordingly, publish the new version on Nordiq Canada's website, and inform all impacted individuals as soon as possible.
9. When making decisions regarding Nordiq Canada's travel to and participation in events for safety reasons, Nordiq Canada will endeavor to minimize any impact of such decisions on Olympic qualification, obtaining Olympic quota spots and domestic nomination to the Team. However, depending on the circumstances, athlete, athlete entourage and staff safety may be prioritized based on the advice of medical and public health safety experts.

## 12. Appeals

1. Athletes wishing to appeal decisions regarding team selection must follow the [Nordiq Canada Dispute Resolution and Appeal Policy](#). The Nordiq Canada appeal deadline will be posted on the Nordiq Canada website with the team selection announcement. The external nomination and selection timelines set by the FIS, IOC and COC are very short and therefore appeals must be filed no later than 11:59 pm MST on January 20, 2026.
2. If both parties agree, the Nordiq Canada Dispute Resolution and Appeal Policy can be bypassed, and the matter can be brought immediately before the Sport Dispute Resolution Centre of Canada (SDRCC) who will then manage the appeals process.

## 13. Staff Selections

### ACCREDITED STAFF

1. The HPD has the sole discretion in selecting the support staff for the 2026 OWG.
2. The support staff will be selected based on the principle of sending a team of specialists that is best capable of assisting athletes to achieve podium performances at the OWG.

3. All staff selection decisions are subject to COC approval.
4. Staff selection will be based on final confirmation of COC quota allocations.
5. All coaches must be a registered or chartered professional coach with the Coaching Association of Canada by January 15, 2026.
6. Have a valid passport that does not expire for up to six (6) months after the Games (August 22, 2026).
7. Be in compliance with all certifications, including but not limited to relevant COC, IF, and IOC eligibility requirements.
8. Sign, submit and comply with the COC Support Staff Agreement and Organizing Committee Conditions of Participation form no later than January 15, 2026.
9. Be 18 years of age or older.
10. Be a member in good standing of Nordiq Canada.

**NON-ACCREDITED STAFF**

11. Notwithstanding COC staff quota allocations noted above, Nordiq Canada may consider the selection of support staff in a non-accredited capacity. Non-accredited staff must comply with all COC requirements. Costs may be incurred by the individual associated with this position.

**14. Timeline Summary**

Date	Event
July 1, 2024 – 18 January 2026	Qualification period to achieve FIS points
November 29, 2024 - March 23, 2025	Period to achieve points for Nation ranking
February 26 – March 9, 2025	2025 FIS Nordic World Ski Championships, Trondheim, NOR
November 29, 2024 - March 23, 2025	2024-25 FIS World Cup Season
June 19, 2025	Long List Deadline
August 21, 2025	Accreditation Deadline
December XX-XX, 2025	Domestic Olympic selection trials
December XX, 2025 (day after last race at trials)	OWG team nominations

January 15, 2026	Deadline for athletes to accept nomination and submit required documents
January 19, 2026	FIS confirmation of allocated quota places and eligibility
January 19-20, 2026	Confirmation of used allocated quota places to FIS
TBD	Nordiq Canada OWG Team nominations announcement
January 21, 2026	Deadline for Nordiq Canada to submit nominations to COC
TBD	COC approval of Nordiq Canada nominations
January 21-22, 2026	FIS reallocation of unused quota places/12 hr confirmation
After January 22, 2026	COC OWG Team announcement
January 26, 2026	Team Canada OWG staging/training camp
February 2, 2026	Tentative Team arrival at Milano Cortina OWG site
February 6, 2026	2026 Milano Cortina OWG

## 15. Funding Support

1. Funding support for selected athletes and staff will be in alignment with COC Olympic Team Size Policy and dependent on Nordiq Canada available resources.