

Olympic Winter Games

Selection Criteria
2026



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1. General Information

1. **PURPOSE:** The purpose of this Internal Nomination Procedure (INP) is to outline the qualification process and nomination procedures of Nordiq Canada for determining those athletes and staff who will be nominated for selection to the Canadian Olympic Committee (COC) to represent Canada on the Milano-Cortina 2026 Olympic Winter Games Team (OWGT).
2. **OBJECTIVES:** The performance objective of this INP is to nominate the team that has demonstrated that it will give Canada the greatest potential to reach the podium in the Team Sprint & Team Relay events at the 2026 Winter Olympic Games in a clear and transparent manner.
3. Team size is based on available quota spots as determined by the Federation International de Ski (FIS) [Olympic Qualification System](#) to a maximum size of 6 men and 6 women. A 7th quota spot, should it become available, will only be accepted if an athlete with 45 FIS points or lower on the 8th (final list) FIS distance points list from the 2024-25 season has not already been selected through Priorities 1 to 7. Team size will reflect the additional spot.
4. Nomination is the process of Nordiq Canada submitting its final team names to the COC for selection approval. All Nordiq Canada nominations are subject to COC approval.
5. Selection approval by the COC is the final confirmation of the athlete's position on the OWGT 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 OWGT. Final OWGT nomination announcement will only be made after all selection events have been completed and Nordiq Canada has reviewed all Section 6 applications.
7. Nomination by Nordiq Canada does NOT guarantee selection by the COC. Selection is subject to COC approval AND the athlete's satisfaction of all FIS eligibility requirements, including, without limitation, any other eligibility requirements set out in this INP or as may otherwise be stipulated by Nordiq Canada, the International Olympic Committee (IOC) or the COC.¹
8. The OWGT nominations, including alternates, will be announced by Nordiq Canada following the Nordiq Canada 2026 Olympic Winter Games Trials as per the Nordiq Canada *NST Selection, Nomination and Announcement* policy.² If Nordiq Canada is allocated additional quota after the FIS reallocation period

¹ 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 the 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 OQS shall be considered applicable for the purposes of this INP.

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

ending January 22, 2026, additional athletes may be nominated from the alternate list at that time in accordance with this INP.

9. The final OWGT announcement will be made in conjunction with the COC.
10. For questions or clarifications on the contents of this document, contact Shawn Bullock, High-Performance Director (sbullock@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 process and procedures for the team to be nominated to the COC for the 2026 Olympic Winter Games.
2. The HPD has the final decision-making authority over the nomination of the OWGT pursuant to the INP. The HPC will confirm the final nomination of the OWGT adheres to the criteria and process described in this INP and that it was made in an objective and impartial manner.
3. Where Sections 6 and/or Section 7 apply, the Integrated Support Team (IST), led by the IST Lead and comprised of the para-medical lead, team medical doctor, physiologist, strength and conditioning coach, performance dietician and mental performance coach may be consulted.
4. Nominated athletes are not guaranteed race starts at the 2026 Olympic Winter Games. 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 Olympic Winter Games. These decisions are final and not subject to appeal.

3. International Federation (IF) Eligibility and Qualification Criteria

1. FIS sets the International Federation Olympic Qualification System, which is approved by the IOC. The 2026 Olympic Winter Games national participation quota will be based on the 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 Olympic Qualification System will prevail in the case of any discrepancy with this INP, but only to the extent of the discrepancy.

The FIS 2026 Olympic Winter Games events, quotas, athlete eligibility requirements can be [found here](#).

4. Athlete Eligibility Requirements

1. **Before** the start of a Nordiq Canada Olympic Winter Games Trials, athletes seeking nomination to the OWGT must be a member in good standing (as set out in Nordiq Canada's Bylaws), be registered with a Nordiq Canada club, have a valid Nordiq Canada race licence, and have a valid Canadian FIS licence. **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 OWGT 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, Nordiq Canada 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, 2026. Where the athlete is under the age of 18 years, their parent or legal guardian must also sign these agreements;
 - f. If requested by Nordiq Canada or the COC, sign the Canadian Safe Sport Program (CSSP) Participant Consent Form and agree to be bound by the CSSP Rules and the jurisdiction of the Canadian Centre for Ethics in Sport (CCES) for the purpose of administering the CSSP;

- g. Be a member in good standing of Nordiq Canada;³
- h. 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;
- i. Have paid all outstanding expenses to Nordiq Canada;

Anti-Doping Requirements

- j. Be available for sample collection and have provided accurate and up-to-date whereabouts information on a regular basis as directed by FIS, the CCES or any other anti-doping organization with authority over the athlete;
- k. not be serving a period of ineligibility or a provisional suspension in force at the time of nomination for or during the 2026 Olympic Winter Games.

Alternate Athlete Requirements

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

5. Selection Criteria

A. QUALIFICATION PERIOD

- 1. The qualification period for the 2026 Olympic Winter Games is from November 29, 2024, to January 18, 2026.

B. PROCESS

- 2. Athletes will be nominated to the COC for selection to the OWGT if they satisfy the eligibility criteria as outlined in Section 4, if they satisfy the criteria and the priorities as outlined below, and provided that available quota spots remain at the relevant priority level.

³ Please see the Nordiq Canada Bylaws for the conditions to be a member in good standing.

3. Qualifying competitions* will include:

- 2025 FIS Nordic World Ski Championships
- 2024-2025 FIS World Cups
- Nordiq Canada 2026 Olympic Winter Games Trials (December 12-16, 2025)
 - 10 KM Interval Start Classic
 - Sprint Free
 - 10 KM Interval Start Free

If the Nordiq Canada 2026 Olympic Winter Games Trials cannot be held at the planned location or time, Nordiq Canada will announce an alternate location and date no less than two weeks prior to the start of the event.

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

4. Definitions

- Olympic Trials Distance Ranking List** - The Olympic Trials Distance Ranking List is a combination of FIS points from the race 10 KM Interval Start Classic and 10 KM Interval Start Free . The Olympic Trials Distance Ranking List will be an internally created list and is based on FIS race points before race penalty is applied. Winner is given “0” race points and the rest of the field is assigned race points according to standard FIS protocol. In doing so, athletes will not benefit nor be penalized by other athletes in the race field.
- Individual Final Finish Race Result:** The final time and ranking attributed to an athlete at the completion of an entire individual event. 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 an Individual Final Finish Race Result.
- 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, an Individual Final Finish Race Result will only be valid for the purpose of this INP if 15 of the top 30 FIS athletes according to the most recent FIS World Cup Sprint or Distance standings as of the date of the World Cup in question have started the race. Field size will be determined by counting all athletes who start the race, i.e., a DNS will not count; however, athletes that are lapped out, disqualified or do not receive a time for another reason will count towards the total field size.

5. For Priorities 1 – 7, 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

Nordiq Canada will apply priorities 1-7 below, in order, until all available quota spots as determined by the Olympic Qualification System have been allocated in accordance with the maximum team size as outlined in Section 1(3).

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

If, following the application of Priorities 1 and 2, quotas remain available, they will be filled in accordance with the criteria set out in priorities 3-7 below.

Note: For Priorities 3 to 7 the **Nordiq Canada 2026 Olympic Winter Games Trials** ranking results will only include Canadian athletes that meet the requirements outlined in Section 4(1) to be nominated for selection to the OWGT.

For example: If an American skier wins a distance race and a Canadian skier finishes 2nd in 10 KM Interval Start Free, the Canadian skier will qualify as the winner and the American will not impact the FIS points in the Olympic Trials Distance Ranking List.

8. Priority 3: **Nordiq Canada 2026 Olympic Winter Games Trials** – December 12-16, 2025
 - a. Winner of 10 KM Interval Start Free per gender
 - b. Winner of 10 KM Interval Start Classic per gender
9. Priority 4: Athletes meeting Exceptional Circumstances, Injury, Illness, (see Section 6. Exceptional Circumstances, Injury, Illness)
10. Priority 5: **Nordiq Canada 2026 Olympic Winter Games Trials** – December 12-16, 2025

- a. Next Ranked athlete(s) with total lowest FIS points from the Olympic Trials Distance Ranking List (Section: 5(4)a) to a maximum of two quota nominations per gender if there are two different winners in the 10 KM Interval Start Free and the 10 KM Interval Start Classic and a maximum of three quota nominations per gender if the same athlete wins the 10 KM Interval Start Free and the 10 KM Interval Start Classic.

The scenarios provided are for explanatory purposes only. If there is a conflict between any information set out in either or both scenarios, the substantive content of the INP will prevail.

Scenario 1:

If there are two different winners in the 10 KM Interval Start Free and the 10 KM Interval Start Classic, the following scenario would apply: If one (1) quota spot is available, the quota spot will go to the highest ranked athlete (athlete C in scenario 1) on the Olympic Trials Distance Ranking list (see Section: 5(4)a) not including race winners. If a 2nd quota spot is still available, the quota spot will go to the 2nd highest ranked athlete (athlete D in scenario 1) on the Olympic Trials Distance Ranking list (see Section: 5(4)a) not including race winners. See example scenario 1 below.

Rank	Athlete	10 KM Classic (Rank)	10 KM Free (Rank)	Classic Race FIS Pts.	Free Race FIS Pts.	Total FIS Pts.
1	A	3	1	16.95	0	16.95
2	B	1	5	0	46.55	46.55
Athlete A and B selected (Race winners from Priority 3.)						
3	C	2	2	9.01	4.02	13.02
4	D	4	3	25.96	10.92	36.88
Athletes C and D selected if 2 quota spots available, next two (2) athletes with total lowest FIS points from Olympic Trials Distance Ranking List (Priority 5.a)						
5	E	5	4	28.08	28.73	56.81
6	F	7	6	36.14	46.62	82.76
7	G	6	7	35.02	48.83	83.85

Scenario 2:

If the same athlete wins the 10 KM Interval Start Free and the 10 KM Interval Start Classic, the following scenario would apply: If one (1) quota spot is available, the quota spot will go to the highest ranked athlete (athlete C in scenario 2) on the Olympic Trials Distance Ranking list (see Section: 5(4)a) not

including race winner. If a 2nd quota spot is still available, the quota spot will go to the 2nd highest ranked athlete (athlete D in scenario 2) on the Olympic Trails Distance Ranking list (see Section 5(4)a) not including race winner. If a 3rd quota spot is still available, the quota spot will go to the 3rd highest ranked athlete (athlete B in scenario 2) on the Olympic Trails Distance Ranking list (see Section 5(4)a) not including race winner. See example scenario 2 below.

Rank	Athlete	10 KM Classic (Rank)	10 KM Free (Rank)	Classic Race FIS Pts.	Free Race FIS Pts.	Total FIS Pts.
1	A	1	1	0	0	0
Athlete A selected (Race winner from priority 3.)						
2	C	4	2	17.05	4.02	21.07
3	D	6	3	25.96	10.92	36.88
4	B	2	7	9.01	46.55	55.56
Athletes C, D and B selected if quota spots available, next three (3) athletes with total lowest FIS points from Olympic Trials Distance Ranking List (5.a)						
5	F	3	5	14.92	41.22	56.14
6	E	5	4	28.08	28.73	56.81
7	G	7	6	28.32	43.25	71.57

11. **Priority 6:** The winner of the Sprint Free Final, as long as the athlete is ranked in the top eight (8) in one of the races from the Olympic Trials Distance Ranking list based on FIS Points from Priority 3 races (10 KM Interval Start Free or 10 KM Interval Start Classic) to a maximum team size as outlined in Section 1(3). Maximum of one (1) quota nomination per gender available in Priority 6.
12. **Priority 7:** If quota spots are still available, the next highest-ranked athlete(s) on the Olympic Trials Distance Ranking list (Section 5(4)a) based on FIS Points from Priority 3 races (10 KM Interval Start Free or 10 KM Interval Start Classic) to a maximum of two (2) quota nominations per gender based on quota spots available to a maximum team size as outlined in Section 1(3), following the completion of Priorities 1 through 6.
13. **Priority 8:** An accepted 7th quota spot would be awarded to the athlete with the lowest FIS points on the 8th (final list) FIS distance points list from the 2024-25 season if the athlete has not been selected in Priorities 1 through 7. To be eligible in Priority 8, athletes must have 45 FIS points or lower on the 8th (final list) FIS distance points list from 2024-25 season.

D. TIE BREAKING

6. In the event of a tie in Priorities 3-7, the athlete with the lowest FIS points from one of the Priority 3 races (10 KM Interval Start Free or 10 KM Interval Start

Classic) will be selected. If a tie still exists, it will be broken by the lowest FIS points from the Olympic Trials Skate Sprint Qualification.

7. ALTERNATE ATHLETES

1. When announcing the final nominations for the OWGT, a first alternate and 2nd alternate per gender may be announced as a replacement for a selected athlete who is unable to compete at the 2026 Olympic Winter Games for any reason or, in accordance with priority 8, if Nordiq Canada is awarded an additional quota spot that does not exceed the maximum team size (see Section 1(3)).
2. Alternate athletes' information will be submitted to the COC at the same time as the quota nominated athletes' information.
3. The participation of alternate athletes at the 2026 Olympic Winter Games is subject to the IOC Late Athlete Replacement Policy (LARP).
4. Alternate athletes must confirm their willingness to comply with the team preparation plans as set by the HPD and Team Head Coach and make themselves available for selection.
5. Alternates will not travel with the OWGT or be considered a member of the Team unless they are officially named to the Team.
Note: In the case that Nordiq Canada has not received a 5th quota spot for the men's team before December 18, 2025, the first men's alternate may be considered to travel with the OWGT for camps and competitions leading up to the 2026 Olympic Winter Games.
6. Substitutions to replace a selected athlete from January 26, 2026, onward are subject to the LARP, the COC's Team Selection Committee and must comply with all the eligibility requirements and procedures in this INP.

6. Exceptional Circumstances, Injury, & Illness

7. If an athlete satisfies the eligibility requirements indicated in Section 4, but due to an injury, illness or other exceptional circumstance that is beyond the athlete's control, is unable to compete at the **Nordiq Canada 2026 Olympic Winter Games Trials**, the athlete may be considered for nomination to the COC under Priority 4 above for the OWGT provided that they satisfy the requirements indicated in this Section 6.
8. Nordiq Canada's HPD has the right to accept or reject any applications made under this Section.
9. Provided that they otherwise satisfy the requirements set out in Section 6 of this INP, an Athlete may be exempt from racing at the Nordiq Canada 2026 Olympic Winter Games Trials and may be considered for nomination to the OWGT pursuant to Priority 4 if they suffer an injury or illness during the Trials and the onsite Nordiq Canada medical exempts the athlete from racing at the trials.
10. In order for an athlete to receive an exemption from racing at the Nordiq Canada 2026 Olympic Winter Games Trials, they must:
 - a. Notify the onsite Nordiq Canada medical team of their injury or illness as soon as possible after it occurs and receive an exemption no later than the start of the first distance race to be held at the Nordiq Canada 2026 Olympic Winter Games Trials; and
 - b. Demonstrate, to the onsite medical team's satisfaction, that it is more likely than not that their performance at the Nordiq Canada 2026 Olympic Winter Games Trials would be negatively impacted by their injury or illness.
11. Any decision by the onsite Nordiq Canada medical team to exempt an athlete from racing at the Nordiq Canada 2026 Olympic Winter Games Trials is final and not subject to appeal by the athlete seeking the exemption or any other person who may be impacted by an exemption decision.
12. If an athlete starts the first distance race at the Nordiq Canada 2026 Olympic Winter Games Trials despite being injured or ill, their performance shall stand, and they shall not be permitted to request an exemption from racing at the Trials.

QUALIFICATION UNDER THE SECTION 6 FOR ILLNESS OR INJURY

13. Athletes seeking nomination to the OWGT pursuant to Section 6 must satisfy the following requirements:

- a. Have 45 FIS points or lower on the 8th (final list) FIS distance points list from the 2024-25 season.
- b. 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.
- c. 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.
- d. The application must include the following:
 - i. A medical certificate completed by a licensed, qualified, and relevant medical health practitioner validated by Nordiq Canada 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 at the level of performance that would have otherwise justified their nomination to the 2026 OWG Team prior to the commencement of the athlete's first competition at the 2026 Olympic Winter Games. 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 Olympic Winter Games;
 - 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.
- 14.** 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).
 - 15.** The performance readiness test will consist of a controlled performance such as a competition or observed test or trial. 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.
 - 16.** 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 Olympic Winter Games 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 team doctor, the HPC or any other individual with relevant expertise.
 - 17.** If an athlete is required to undergo a performance readiness test as described above, the athlete will not be nominated to the OWGT 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 1-7 (as applicable).
 - 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 Priority 4.

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 Priority 4.
20. 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.

7. Competitive Readiness, Illness or Injury – Nominated Athletes

1. All selected OWGT members, following approval of nominations by the COC, will need to demonstrate competitive readiness up to and including the 2026 Olympic Winter Games.
 - a. "Competitive readiness" is defined as the ability of the athlete to achieve equal or superior performance(s) at the 2026 Olympic Winter Games, as compared to the performance(s) the athlete achieved to be nominated under Section 5.
 - b. Once selected, athletes who do not remain competitive ready because of lack of fitness, injury, or illness may, subject to the Late Athlete Replacement Policy, be removed from the OWGT at any time and replaced with an alternate athlete. The HPD may decide not to replace such an athlete. Following nomination to the COC, any such removals are subject to the approval of the HPD and the Late Athlete Replacement Policy.
 - 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 Olympic Winter Games 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. 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.
 - f. In the case of injuries or illnesses, the HPD will consider recommendations made by the National Team doctor and the IST, or any other individual with relevant expertise in making the final decision

- f. Behaviour counterproductive to creating a positive team environment and that disrupts team cohesiveness;
- g. Detrimental conduct to the OWGT, image of Nordiq Canada's national team program or the image of the COC; 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 communicated to the impacted athletes at the time it is submitted to the COC.
3. The COC will approve and announce the final OWGT selections no later than January 23, 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 this INP, 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 OWGT, 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 Section 11 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. Where relevant, Nordiq Canada will determine if alternate events may be attended as a substitute for any 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 endeavour 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. Any appeal in relation to decisions made under this INP must be brought directly to the SDRCC and will be heard pursuant to the Canadian Sport Dispute Resolution Code.
2. Any athlete who wishes to appeal an OWGT nomination decision shall file an appeal with the SDRCC within 2 days of being informed of the decision. Notwithstanding the aforementioned, any athlete who wishes to appeal an OWGT decision made pursuant to Priority 8 must file their appeal with the SDRCC no later than 11:59pm EST on January 21, 2026.
3. Appeals will not be accepted past any of the above-mentioned deadlines.

13. Staff Selections

ACCREDITED STAFF

1. The HPD has the sole discretion in selecting the support staff for the 2026 Olympic Winter Games.
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 Olympic Winter Games.
3. All staff selection decisions are subject to COC approval.
4. Staff selection will be based on final confirmation of COC available accreditations allocations.
5. All coaches must:
 - a. be a registered or chartered professional coach with the Coaching Association of Canada by January 15, 2026;
 - b. have a valid passport that does not expire for up to six (6) months after the Games (August 22, 2026);

- c. Comply with and hold all certifications, including but not limited to relevant COC, IF, and IOC eligibility requirements;
- d. Sign, submit and comply with the COC Support Staff Agreement and Organizing Committee Conditions of Participation form no later than January 15, 2026;
- e. If requested by Nordiq Canada or the COC, sign the CSSP Participant Consent Form and agree to be bound by the CSSP Rules and the jurisdiction of the Canadian Centre for Ethics in Sport (CCES) for the purpose of administering the CSSP;
- f. Be 18 years of age or older; and
- g. Be a member in good standing of Nordiq Canada.

NON-ACCREDITED STAFF

6. 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 the requirements stated above. Costs may be incurred by the individual associated with this position.

14. Timeline Summary

Date	Event
July 1, 2024 – January, 18 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 13, 2025	Priority 4 Illness, Injury Athlete is deemed eligible or not eligible to race at Nordiq Canada 2026 Olympic Winter Games Trials. Medical opinion and decision made by HPC.
December 12-16, 2025	Nordiq Canada 2026 Olympic Winter Games Trials

December 17, 2025 (day after last race at trials)	OWGT nominations
December 19, 2025	Date athlete must accept their selection (Yes, they will participate in the Games or No, thanks)
December 22, 2025	Deadline for filing an Appeal
January 15, 2026	Deadline to complete COC registration requirements for Coaches, Athletes and Support staff
January 19, 2026	FIS confirmation of allocated quota places and eligibility
January 20, 2026	Additional quota nominations (if applicable)
January 21, 2026	Deadline to accept and appeal additional quota nominations
January 22, 2026	Deadline for Nordiq Canada to submit nominations to COC
TBD	COC approval of Nordiq Canada nominations
No later than January 23, 2026	Nordiq Canada OWGT nomination announcement
January 26, 2026	Team Canada OWG staging/training camp
February 2, 2026	Tentative OWGT arrival at Milano Cortina OWG site
February 6, 2026	Start of 2026 Milano Cortina Olympic Winter Games

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.