National Ski Team

Olympic Stream - Selection Criteria

2027-28

nordiq CANADA

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1. General Information

i. The purpose of this document is to describe the process and criteria that will be used by Nordiq Canada to select athletes to the National Ski Team (NST) for the 2027-28 year.

ii. It is the athlete's responsibility to read and understand the contents of this and other supporting documents and policies.

iii. This document is created in accordance with Nordiq Canada's Team Selection, Nomination and Announcement Policy.

iv. Final decision authority for NST selections is by the Nordiq Canada High-Performance Director (HPD).

v. Nordiq Canada's NST nomination/re-nomination decisions or recommendation to withdraw NST status may be appealed under the Nordiq Canada Dispute Resolution and Appeals Policy. Any such appeals shall be brought directly to the SDRCC to be heard pursuant to the Canadian Sport Dispute Resolution Code.

vi. Appeals shall be filed with the SDRCC within three (3) days of the nomination Synopsis and Rationale being posted to the Nordiq Canada website.

vii. The Nordiq Canada HPD, or their designate, has the authority, and reserves the right to amend this document prior to the selection date under the following circumstances:

viii. If unforeseen circumstances beyond the control of Nordiq Canada prevent the HPD from fairly and objectively implementing this selection criteria.

ix. When new information is provided by external parties, including, without limitation, an event organizing committee, Sport Canada, the Canadian Olympic Committee, the International Ski Federation (FIS), or any other relevant organization and Nordiq Canada determines that it is relevant to the fair application of and rationale of this selection criteria.

x. To correct, clarify or amend any inconsistencies, errors or omissions in the criteria.

xi. Occurrences pertaining to, but not limited to race cancellations or rescheduling, any country border limitations, travel restrictions, travel limitations, inability to maintain safety of athletes, etc.

2. National Ski Team (NST) Definitions

xii. **World Cup Team:**
The World Cup Team recognizes and supports athletes who achieve strong performances at the World Championships (WSC), Olympic Winter Games (OWG), and World Cup (WC) level. Athletes on the WC Team are targeting top 8 results at WC, WSC, and OWG competitions.

xiii. **U25 Team:**

The U25 NST recognizes and rewards athletes for strong performances at WC, and U23 WSC. The U25 NST is intended to support the development needs of U25 athletes who show clear potential to meet WC Team criteria but have not yet achieved those benchmarks.

xiv. To be eligible for the U25 team, an athlete must be born after December 31, 2003 and before January 1, 2008

xv. **U20 Team:**
The U20 NST recognizes and rewards athletes for performance at Junior WSC and Canadian National Ski Championships. The U20 NST is intended to support the development needs of younger athletes who demonstrate clear potential to progress toward U25 and WC NST criteria.

xvi. To be eligible for the U20 team, an athlete must be born after December 31, 2007 and before January 1, 2010.

xvii. **U18 Development Team:**
The U18 NST recognizes and rewards athletes for performance at Eastern and Western Championships in conjunction with Canadian National Ski Championships. The U18 NST is intended to educate and bring together the top U18 athletes who demonstrate clear potential to progress toward U20, U25 and WC NST criteria.

xviii. To be eligible for the U18 team, an athlete must be born after December 31, 2009 and before January 1, 2012.

3. NST Selection Criteria

Each section below sets out the priority order in which athletes may be nominated to the NST. Further, in each of the sections below, the criteria for nomination to the NST are listed in priority order.

Nordiq Canada is not required to select a minimum or maximum number of athletes to the NST. As such, the number of athletes selected to the NST may vary from year to year, and may be influenced by, without limitation, athlete performances or budgetary constraints.

xix.	**2027 WORLD CUP TEAM**
a.	Top eight (8) **and** top half of the field in an Individual or Team event at the 2027 WSC-Falun.
b.	Top three (3) WC or WSC team relay or team sprint final race result.
c.	Top eight (8) WC individual final finish race result.
d.	Two (2) Top twenty (20) WC or WSC individual final finish race result, with equal to or less than fifty-five (55) FIS points.
e.	Three (3) Top thirty (30) WC or 2027 WSC individual final finish race result, with equal to or less than sixty-five (65) FIS points per race.
f.	Top three (3) U23 WSC individual or team relay final finish race result.
g.	Equal to or less than seventy-five (75) FIS points from the eighth (8^{th}) FIS Points Distance or Sprint Ranking list.
h.	Health-Related Reasons for athletes named to the 2026-27 National High-

	Performance Program (NHPP) Senior National Ski Team (NST).
i.	HPD Discretion as described in section 8.
NOTE:	If multiple athletes meet criteria under the same priority, they will be ranked in order of the lowest average FIS points using the qualifying races. A tie will be resolved as per section 4.4.
xx.	**2027 U25 TEAM**
a.	Top three (3) U23 WSC individual or team relay final finish race result.
b.	Top three (3) JR WSC individual or team relay final finish race result.
c.	One (1) x top thirty (30) WC or WSC-Falun individual final finish race result, with equal to or less than seventy-five (75) FIS points per race.
d.	Top ten (10) U23 WSC individual final finish race result.
e.	Top ten (10) JR WSC individual final finish race result for graduating athletes.
f.	One (1) x top forty (40) WC or WSC-Falun individual final finish race result, with equal to or less than seventy-five (75) FIS points per race.
g.	Top twenty (20) U23 WSC individual final finish race result **and** top half of field.
h.	Top twenty (20) JR WSC individual final finish race result **and** top half of the field for non-graduating athletes.
i.	Top 3 NorAm/SuperTour race result from Canmore (December 4-6, 2026) or Lake Placid (January 29-31, 2027) or Top 3 from US Nationals (January 2-7, 2027)
j.	U20 Individual Race Winner from 2027 Nordiq Ski Nationals
k.	Top three (NCAA) Championships
l.	Health-Related Reasons for athletes named to the 2026-27 NextGen team.
m.	HPD Discretion as described in section 8.
Note:	If multiple athletes meet criteria under the same priority, they will be ranked in order of the lowest average FIS points using the qualifying races. A tie will be resolved as per section 4.4. Athletes that qualify under criteria 2.l will be prioritized based on their NHPP-qualifying results from the 2025–2026 competition season.
xxi.	**2027 U20 Team**
a.	Top ten (10) JR WSC individual final finish race result for non-graduating athletes
b.	Top twenty (20) JR WSC individual final finish race result **and** top half of the field for non-graduating athletes.
c.	Top thirty (30) JR WSC individual final finish race result and top half of the field for non-graduating athletes.
d.	U19 Individual Race winner from the 2027 Nordiq Canada Ski Nationals.
e.	U18 Individual Race winner from the 2027 Nordiq Canada Ski Nationals.
f.	U19 Aggregate winner from the 2027 Nordiq Canada Ski Nationals.
g.	U18 Aggregate Winner from the 2027 Nordiq Canada Ski Nationals.
h.	Health-Related Reasons for athletes named to the 2025-26 Development team.

i.	HPD Discretion as described in section 8.
Note:	If multiple athletes meet criteria under the same priority, they will be ranked in order of the lowest average FIS points using the qualifying races. A tie will be resolved as per section 4.4. Athletes qualifying under criteria 3.h will be prioritized based on their NHPP-qualifying results from the 2025–2026 competition season.

xxii. **2027 U18 Development Team**	
Team Size	Up to forty (40) (Twenty (20) male and twenty (20) female athletes
Eligibility	Eligible athletes must be born in 2010 and/or 2011
Selection Criteria	
xxiii.	**Eastern Championships** Up to sixteen (16) eligible athletes will be nominated from the Eastern Championships (February 5-7, 2027) according to the following allocation: i. Top two (2) male and two (2) female 2010-born athletes from each of the Sprint and Distance Ranking Lists ii. Top two (2) male and two (2) female 2011-born athletes from each of the Sprint and Distance Ranking Lists
xxiv.	**Western Championships** Up to sixteen (16) eligible athletes will be nominated from the Western Championships (February 12-14, 2027) according to the following allocation: i. Top two (2) male and two (2) female 2010-born athletes from each of the Sprint and Distance Ranking Lists ii. Top two (2) male and two (2) female 2011-born athletes from each of the Sprint and Distance Ranking Lists
xxv.	**Canadian National Championships** Up to eight (8) additional eligible athletes may be nominated based on performances at the Canadian National Championships, with priority given to individual race winners and athletes not previously nominated through their respective regional championships.
xxvi.	**Birth-Year Recognition** Separate rankings will be established for eligible male and female athletes born in 2010 and 2011. xxvii. **2010-born athletes:** Competing in the U18 category against athletes born in 2009, race points will be calculated using the full U18 competition field. Rankings will then be filtered to include only eligible 2010-born athletes for selection purposes. xxviii. **2011-born athletes:** Competing as the oldest birth year in the U16 category, race points will be calculated using

	the full U16 competition field. Rankings will then be filtered to include only eligible 2011-born athletes for selection purposes.
xxix.	**Regional Race Winners** xxx. The highest-placed eligible athlete from each birth year (2010 and 2011), for each gender, in each designated individual race at the Eastern and Western Championships, will be recognized as the birth-year race winner for selection purposes. xxxi. For 2010-born athletes, the first eligible 2010-born finisher will be recognized as the birth-year race winner regardless of their overall finishing position in the U18 category. xxxii. Birth-year race winners will receive priority consideration for nomination within their respective regional allocation.
xxxiii.	**National Championships Participation** xxxiv. Participation in the Canadian National Championships is not mandatory for selection. Athletes nominated through their respective regional championships will not be required to attend Nationals to confirm their nomination.
xxxv.	**Duplicate Nominations** xxxvi. An athlete may only occupy one (1) nomination position. Where an athlete qualifies through both the Sprint and Distance Ranking Lists, the duplicate position will be allocated to the next highest-ranked eligible athlete on the respective ranking list who has not already been nominated. xxxvii. This process will continue until all available nomination positions have been filled, subject to the maximum regional allocation and the availability of eligible athletes.

xxxviii.

Ranking Lists

Separate Sprint and Distance Ranking Lists will be established for eligible male and female athletes born in 2010 and 2011 at both the Eastern and Western Canadian Championships.

xxxix. **Sprint Ranking List:** A ranking list created using the World Cup points scoring system described in Appendix B. Points will be awarded based on final sprint results within the full competition category (U18 for 2010-born athletes and U16 for 2011-born athletes). Rankings will then be filtered by eligible birth year, with the highest points total receiving the highest ranking.

xl. **Distance Ranking List:** A ranking list created using combined FIS-style race points from the designated distance events, as described in Appendix C. Race points will be calculated using the full competition category (U18 for 2010-born athletes and U16 for 2011-born athletes), before the application of race penalties. The overall winner of each race will receive zero (0) race points, with remaining athletes assigned points according to standard FIS race-point calculations. Rankings will then be filtered by eligible birth year, with the lowest combined race points receiving the highest ranking.

xli.

Regional Eligibility

xlii. Athletes will only be eligible for selection through their designated regional championship. Eastern-based athletes will not be included in the Western Championships Selection Ranking Lists, and Western-based athletes will not be included in the Eastern Championships Selection Ranking Lists. This approach is intended to promote regional competition opportunities and minimize unnecessary cross-country travel for athletes at this stage of development.

Regional Club Affiliation

xliii. For selection purposes, athletes will be designated as Eastern or Western based on the provincial or territorial affiliation of their registered Nordiq Canada club for the 2026–27 competition season.

xliv. Eastern Canada will include Ontario, Quebec, New

	Brunswick, Nova Scotia, Prince Edward Island, Newfoundland and Labrador, and Nunavut. **xlv.** Western Canada will include Manitoba, Saskatchewan, Alberta, British Columbia, Yukon, and the Northwest Territories. **xlvi.** Athletes will only be eligible for nomination through the regional championship corresponding to their registered club affiliation. Results achieved at the opposite regional championship will not be considered for selection ranking purposes. **xlvii.** Regional affiliation will be determined by the athlete's registered club at the beginning of the competition season and will remain unchanged for selection purposes.

4. Selection Guidelines

xlviii. The qualification period for selection to the NST is November 15, 2026, to March 31, 2027.

xlix. Only events listed in this document are considered for selection rankings and standards.

l. Athletes will only be selected when eligibility requirements have been verified by Nordiq Canada. Athletes that do not satisfy the eligibility requirements set out in Section 5 below will be ineligible for NST nomination until they satisfy the relevant and applicable condition(s).

li. In the event of a tie after the selection criteria has been applied, the athletes will be ranked by the priorities in the following order:

lii. The lowest FIS points from the single best qualifying race result within the qualification selection criteria. If there is still a tie it will move to 2nd, 3rd, etc. best result.

liii. If there is still a tie, the HPD will make the final decision. Depth of field will be required and considered for each event used to tie break.

5. Eligibility

liv. To be considered for NST selection by Nordiq Canada, athletes must:

lv. Be a Nordiq Canada member in good standing including, without limitation, not having any outstanding debt toward Nordiq Canada;

lvi. agree and sign the Nordiq Canada National Ski Team and AAP Carding Athlete Contract;

lvii. be registered with a Nordiq Canada club;

lviii. have a valid Nordiq Canada race license; and

lix. have a valid Canadian FIS license

2. The Athlete must be available to represent Canada in major international competitions, including WSC, OWG, Junior and U23 WSC under the eligibility requirements of the FIS.

3. Nordiq Canada reserves the right, in its sole discretion, to request further documentation or information from the selected athlete any time after June 1, 2027.

6. Failure to Meet Renewal Criteria for Health-Related Reasons

lx. Nordiq Canada will consider re-nominating Athletes for health-related reasons. The basic philosophy for selecting an Athlete by granting health-related request is that all things being equal, the Athlete nominated has clearly demonstrated superior performances in previous competition to other athletes being considered for NST nomination. A health-related request is considered as the last means by which an Athlete can earn selection and is intended to provide for exceptional circumstances outside the normal selection criteria rather than being part of the normal means by which an athlete can earn selection. This provision only applies when performance is compromised because they have not been able to train or compete for an extended period and the athlete has a positive prognosis with a documented recovery plan within 8 to 12 months of their injury or illness.

lxi. An Athlete who met the 2025-26 NST objective criteria who at the end of the qualification period, has not achieved the standard required for the renewal of NST nomination strictly because of health-related reasons, may be considered for re-nomination for the upcoming year provided the following conditions are met:

a. An Athlete must, within seven (7) days following the incident or occurrence, submit to the HPD a report which includes:
    i. Certificate of diagnosis;
    ii. consistent communication of the Athlete's health and performance status to the HPD or designated Nordiq Canada coaching or IST staff during the time the Athlete is unable to train or compete;
    iii. documentation confirming diagnosis by a licensed medical practitioner in a field that is relevant to the Athlete's injury or illness;
    iv. a return to training and competition plan for the current and upcoming season; and
    v. supporting documentation of the Athlete's treatment by an accredited professional (e.g., physiotherapist/ massage) that supports a return to training and competition plan.

lxii. IMPORTANT: for the purpose of invoking this Section 6 to seek NST nomination, an Athlete's previous application where a health-related circumstance has prevented them from meeting criteria (i.e., nomination to compete during a World Cup or at the World Championships) shall not be considered for NST nominations. New applications must be submitted by each Athlete in accordance with this Section 6 for the purpose of NST nomination.

lxiii. In the case of injury or illness, no NST nominations will be made for injuries that are determined by the HPD in consultation with medical professionals to be career-ending.

lxiv. If an Athlete competes in a qualifying event, they may not invoke Section 6 in respect to the qualifying event in which they competed. The intention of this provision is to ensure that Athletes who are injured, suffering from an illness, or medical condition do not compete, which could cause further ill health or harm. If an Athlete does compete, they must accept the race result they have achieved and may not make an application pursuant to this Section 6 for an event (or events) in which they competed.

lxv. The Athlete may be nominated to the NST on the grounds of injury, a medical condition or illness at the sole discretion of the HPD based on the following factors:

lxvi. the nature and details of the diagnosis and prognosis;

lxvii. assessment and training data provided by the Athlete that is verifiable by the discipline coach and IST;

lxviii. evidence of the Athlete's level of performance prior to injury;

lxix. the strength of the Athlete's rehabilitation and training plan as evaluated by the HPD;

lxx. the advice of medical experts provided to the HPD; and

lxxi. the realistic expectation that the Athlete can return to competition ready performance and continue to demonstrate the potential to perform at the Top 8 level and progress toward the podium.

lxxii. Any documentation required under this Section 8 must be submitted to the HPD by March 31, 2027, 11:59 PM of the time zone where the Athlete resides.

7. NST Nomination Related to Pregnancy

lxxiii. An Athlete who met the 2026-27 NST objective criteria who at the end of the qualification period, has not achieved the standard required for the renewal of NST nomination strictly because of pregnancy, may be considered for re-nomination for the upcoming year.

lxxiv. It must be clear for a nomination to the NST related to pregnancy that the athlete was tracking towards meeting the criteria and the program commitments but was unable to, due directly to their pregnancy.

lxxv. Any documentation required under this section must be submitted to the HPD by March 31, 2027, 11:59 PM of the time zone where the Athlete resides.

8. High-Performance Director (HPD) Discretion

1. HPD discretion will only be applied in exceptional circumstances. In such circumstances the HPD will consult with the High-Performance Committee (HPC), and a decision as to whether an athlete could be considered for nomination will be reached by majority consensus.

2. To be considered for a discretionary selection to the NST:

lxxvi. Athletes born December 31st, 2007, or earlier must have Equal to or less than eighty (80) FIS points from the eighth (8th) FIS Points Distance or Sprint Ranking list;

lxxvii. Athletes born January 1st, 2008, or later must have Equal to or less than one hundred seventy-five (175) FIS points from the eighth (8th) FIS Points Distance or Sprint Ranking list.

3. When assessing an athlete for discretionary selection to the NST, the HPD will review the athlete's

results from the season immediately prior to the season that ended before the start of the qualification period (the "Prior Season"). The HPD will evaluate such results against the objective criteria in the current selection criteria to determine whether the athlete should be selected to the NST for the upcoming season. The HPD may also use the following evidence:

a. Current and historical results
b. Current and historical testing data
c. Current and historical training data

9. Withdrawal of NST Status

1. The HPD may remove an Athlete from the NST, under the following conditions:
    a. the Athlete has not fulfilled their responsibilities with respect to mandatory training camps, testing, or competitions;
    b. the Athlete has not fulfilled their responsibilities as identified in the Nordiq Canada National Ski Team and AAP Athlete Contract;
    c. the Athlete is no longer considered in good standing with Nordiq Canada;
    d. the Athlete has been found to have breached Nordiq Canada's Code of Conduct and Ethics, the Universal Code of Conduct to Prevent and Address Maltreatment in Sport (UCCMS), or any other Nordiq Canada, FIS or COC policy, or the policy of any other sport organization with authority over the Athlete, and such behaviour could have a detrimental impact to Nordiq Canada's Culture of Excellence;
    e. the Athlete has not adhered to their anti-doping responsibilities; or
    f. fraudulent misrepresentation to the NST program.

2. The procedures for the removal of NST status by Nordiq Canada are:

lxxviii. Provide a verbal warning to the Athlete, including the steps and timelines to remedy the situation and the consequences of a failure to correct their behavior.

lxxix. Follow up with a written warning to the Athlete if the verbal warning is not respected.

lxxx. If the above steps are not successful in resolving the matter Nordiq Canada must send a letter to the Athlete. This letter must indicate:

lxxxi. The grounds on which the removal is being made;

lxxxii. The steps already taken to address the issue (verbal warning followed by a formal letter of warning);

lxxxiii. Provide notice to the Athlete of the athlete's right to contest the Nordiq Canada's decision before the SDRCC as provided for in Section 1.5.

10. Definitions

lxxxiv. OWG: Olympic Winter Games

lxxxv. WC: World Cup

lxxxvi. WSC: World Ski Championships

lxxxvii. HPD: High-Performance Director

lxxxviii. HPC: High-Performance Committee

lxxxix. U23 WSC: FIS Nordic U23 World Ski Championships

xc. JR WSC: FIS Nordic Junior World Ski Championships

xci. NST: National Ski Team

xcii. NHPP: National High-Performance Program

xciii. 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 heats, or prequalification times are not considered individual final finish race results. An athlete must complete the race and obtain FIS points for any result to be considered a race result.

xciv. Team Final Finish Race Result: The final time and ranking attributed to a team at the end of an entire team event, i.e., qualification rounds are not considered. A team must complete the race and obtain a final finish time to be considered a race result.

xcv. Depth of Field Team Event: For a final finish race result to be achieved, the team must be top half of field, including all teams that start the event, i.e., teams that are lapped out, disqualified or not permitted to start will count towards the total field size.