

Para-Nordic Competition Trip Criteria

Selection Criteria

2021-22



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Nordiq Canada is carefully following the evolution of the coronavirus on the global and domestic level and how it may impact the criteria for Para-Nordic Trip Team selection. Situations related to the coronavirus pandemic may arise that require these criteria to be modified. Any modifications will be made promptly and as often as required following developments that directly impact the criteria. In such circumstances, any modifications will be communicated to all affected individuals as soon as possible.

Further, situations may arise that do not allow these criteria to be modified or applied as written due to time constraints or other exceptional and unforeseen circumstances. In such situations, any decision, including nomination decisions, will be made by the individual(s) with decision-making authority, as stated in this criteria, in consultation with the relevant individual(s) or committee(s) (as applicable), and in accordance with the stated performance objectives and selection philosophy and approach as stated herein. Should it be necessary to make any decision in this manner, Nordiq Canada will communicate with all affected individuals as soon as possible.

1. GENERAL INFORMATION

- 1.** This document outlines the policies and procedures used by Nordiq Canada (NC) to select athletes for the 2021-2022 Para Nordic World Cups and Para Nordic World Ski Championships.
- 2.** This document is created under the direction of the NST Selection, Nomination, and Announcement Policy.
- 3.** The High-Performance Director-Para (HPC-PARA) is responsible for applying the selection criteria and will make the final selection decisions with review from the Para Nordic Committee (PNC) and High Performance Committee (HPC). Any person with a real, perceived, or potential conflict of interest as per the Sport Dispute Resolution Centre of Canada Conflicts of Interest in Sports-Related Decision-Making will be removed from the review and selection process.
- 4.** Selection decisions may be appealed under the Nordiq Canada Appeal Policy.
- 5.** The Nordiq Canada HPD-PARA, or designate¹, has the authority, and reserves the right to amend this document prior to the selection date under the following circumstances:
 - a.** In the event of unforeseen circumstances beyond the control of Nordiq Canada that prevents the HPD-PARA from fairly and objectively implementing these selection procedures.

¹ In the event the HPD-PARA is unavailable, a designate will be appointed within Nordiq Canada to be the decision-making authority.

- b. When additional (or altered) information deemed relevant by Nordiq Canada to the criteria is provided by external parties, such as (but not limited to) an event organizing committee, Sport Canada, the Canadian Paralympic Committee, FIS, IPC/WPNS or any other relevant organization.
- c. To correct, clarify or amend any inconsistencies, errors, or omissions in the criteria.
- d. Any issues related to COVID-19.

Changes to this document will be communicated directly to the ski community by whatever means and wherever the original criteria were published. Nordiq Canada is not responsible or liable in any way to anyone as a result of any amendments.

6. It is the athlete's and coach's responsibility to read and understand the contents of this document and other supporting documents and policies. For clarification contact the HPD-PARA.
7. Nordiq Canada and the HPD-PARA reserve the right to select the Team size based on the trip criteria. Nordiq Canada is not obligated to select the team to the maximum Team size.
8. Once eligible athletes' eligibility requirements have been verified by Nordiq Canada, athletes will be named to the Team.

2. PURPOSE OF WORLD CUP AND WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS TRIP TEAM SELECTION

1. To provide World Para Nordic Skiing (WPNS) sanctioned World Cup (WC) and World Championship (WCH) starts for athletes who have achieved or have shown potential to achieve medal results and meet established Nordiq Canada international benchmarks.
2. To provide development opportunities to complement Nordiq Canada international benchmarks leading to the WCH and PWG (Paralympic Winter Games) where it is in the best interest of the Team's overall results.
3. To provide competition opportunities for Next Gen athletes leading to the long-term development of athletes on a podium pathway who can progress to medal performance at WPNS WC, WCH, and ultimately the 2022 Beijing PWG.

3. OBJECTIVES

1. Contribute to Team performance targets as determined by the Nordiq Canada 2021-2022 Business Plan.

2. Give athletes the opportunity to meet Nordiq Canada Para-Nordic Team selection criteria to be named to the 2022-23 Nordiq Canada PNST and/or Nordiq Canada PN Development and/or PN Prospects Teams.
3. Give athletes the opportunity to meet 2022-23 Sport Canada Athlete Assistance Program funding support criteria.
4. Give athletes the opportunity to earn a 2022 Beijing PWG Team nomination.
5. Give athletes who are eligible to be IPC Classified, and who have met selection criteria, the opportunity to be WPNS classified.
6. Identification of Next Gen athletes who:
 - a. Can be ranked and have demonstrated potential to achieve TWO (2) races of 180 WPNS points or less on the WPNS BT or WPNS CC ranking points list.
 - b. Demonstrate the long term potential to achieve established benchmarks leading to WPNS WC, WCH or PWG podium results.
 - c. Can progress towards meeting the performance criteria to be eligible for the Nordiq Canada PNST, PN Development or PN Prospects Teams.

4. ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

1. To be eligible for selection for a Para Nordic World Cup competition trip in the 2021-22 competition season (December 2021 – March 2022), athletes must meet the following minimum eligibility criteria:
 - a. Athletes must be a current Nordiq Canada and Provincial member in good standing²;
 - b. Must be a Canadian Citizen with a valid Canadian passport or can represent Canada at a Paralympic Games;
 - c. Must hold a current Nordiq Canada racing license;
 - d. Athletes must be a current Nordiq Canada registered club member;
 - e. Athletes must have a current and valid IPC license;
 - f. Athletes must meet all IPC and other event entry standards for the competition(s) for which they qualify;
 - g. Must adhere to all municipal, provincial, federal, and international Covid or other pandemic guidelines;

² Please refer to the [Nordic Canada bylaws](#) for a complete description of members in good standing.

2. Selected and pre-selected athletes must demonstrate competitive readiness evaluated on the following factors:
 - a. Optimal health and readiness to travel based on examination by Nordiq Canada approved physicians and IST support staff or personal physicians, with review by Nordiq Canada team physician. Nordiq Canada may request expertise from another medical professional, when required, in one of Canada's official languages.
 - b. To be eligible for a competition trip an athlete must be completely recovered from any illness or injury 48 hours prior to the trip departure.
3. If an athlete is selected to the Team under these selection procedures and criteria the athlete acknowledges and agrees that:
 - a. He/she/they, must comply with Nordiq Canada's policies as posted on the [Nordiq Canada website](#);
 - b. He/she/they, are subject to drug testing by the Canadian Sports Anti Doping Agency (CCES), WPNS, or other applicable bodies and must comply with Nordiq Canada's, CCES's and WPNS's Anti- Doping bylaws or policies;
 - c. He/she/they, will comply with all requests from Nordiq Canada and with his/her/their obligations set out in the Nordiq Canada Anti-Doping Bylaw to provide accurate whereabouts information to CCES and WPNS; and,
 - d. Comply with the Nordiq Canada Athlete Code of Conduct and/or the Athlete Competition Trip Agreement.

5. IMPORTANT DATES

- | | |
|------------------------------------|----------------------|
| 1. Selection Event – Canmore, AB | November 22-23, 2021 |
| 2. Canmore World Cup | December 4-12, 2021 |
| 3. Lillehammer World Championships | January 8-23, 2022 |

6. SELECTION CRITERIA

INTRODUCTION

1. In an effort to meet the performance goals of the National Para Nordic Ski Team program, and given the current Covid climate, Nordiq Canada will make team size decisions that are in alignment with Nordiq Canada's Covid protocols, High Performance (HP) budget restrictions, PN performance goals and staff's availability and ability to support the Team.
2. Athletes may be selected for one or more World Cup events based upon the selection criteria as outlined in Section 6.4. Individual athlete Yearly Training Plan (YTP) priorities will be taken into consideration.

3. Unless otherwise stated in the specific event selection criteria, In the event of a tie, the ranking will be based on the athletes' second-best finish placing at (1) 2021-22 WPNS WC event or (2) a 2021-22 WPNS sanctioned event, using lowest WPNS points in each respective category in an individual qualifying race. Depth of field will be required and considered for each event used to tie break. If there is still a tie, the HPD-PARA will make the final decision.

WORLD CUP SELECTION CRITERIA IN PRIORITY ORDER

4. Nordiq Canada Para Nordic 2021-2022 National Team athletes are pre-selected for all WPNS World Cup events. This group will receive Nordiq Canada PNST support and will be funded based upon available budget and yearly training plan (YTP) priorities.
5. Nordiq Canada's Para-Nordic 2021-22 Development and Prospect teams are pre-selected for the WPNS WC in Canmore. This group will be funded based on available budget and YTP individual priorities.
6. Additional Canadian athletes. As the WPNS WC in Canmore is a qualifying race for the 2022 Beijing PWG, for athletes to be eligible to race at this WC, they must meet all IPC event qualification standards **AND**:
 - a. Achieve the **equivalent of 240 WPNS points or better** at the Time Trial held in Canmore at the Development Camp November 22 and 23, 2021,
 - b. Points must be achieved against a current known international podium/top 5 performer,
 - c. Have submitted all required paperwork for IPC licensing and entry to the event by November 1, 2021,
 - d. Be classified or eligible to be classified "confirmed" or "review" by the IPC at the international classification held December 1-5, 2021, in Canmore, and
 - e. This is a self-funded opportunity.
7. Additional Prospect/NexGen athletes may be considered for selection to a World Cup event based on head-to-head racing against a current international performance including but not limited to demonstrated ability to achieve 180 WPNS points or better and WPNS WC points. For Prospect/NextGen athletes only:
 - a. Only Nordiq Canada and/or IPC sanctioned events are considered for selection rankings and standards.
 - b. Selections will be based on a combination of objective and subjective criteria guidelines. Objective criteria will take precedence over subjective criteria. Criteria will be based on, but not limited to (not in priority order):
 - i. Outstanding competition results (including results achieved outside of the selection period) defined by achieving podium pathway benchmarks
 - ii. Completion of individual performance benchmarks, as set by the PNST coaching staff and approved by the HPD-PARA, that point toward the achievement of competition results consistent with PNST program goals

- iii. Leadership, positive attitude, and strong commitment of athletes to take part in the complete PNST coaching, IST support, training camp and competition program, **as outlined in the Nordiq Canada Code of Conduct and Ethics Policy**
 - iv. Illness or injury during the selection period
 - v. Physiological indicators accumulated through monitoring and testing
 - vi. Indication of medal potential in future Paralympic, World Cup or World Championship competition, that would be enhanced by selection to the Team
 - vii. Other unanticipated failure of objective criteria to select an athlete likely to achieve competition results consistent with PNST World Cup objectives
8. Additional athletes at HPD-PARA discretion based on their potential to achieve 180 WPNS points.

WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS SELECTION CRITERIA (MAXIMUM 11 ATHLETES, 5 MEN AND 5 WOMEN – BASED ON PWG QUOTE ALLOCATIONS)

9. Nordiq Canada's Para Nordic 2021-2022 World Cup Team athletes are pre-selected for the 2022 WPNS World Championships. This group will receive Nordiq Canada PNST support.
10. Any athlete who achieves a 50 WPNS or less at the 2021-2022 WPNS World Cup in Canmore, AB.
11. Additional athletes may be considered, at HPD-PARA discretion, based on the Paralympic Quota qualification standards. Athletes will be ranked based on their 2021-2022, and 2020-2021 World Cup race results. These athletes will be expected to self pay.
12. Additional athletes at HPD-PARA discretion based on their potential to achieve 180 WPNS points, and if appropriate, for optimal PWG preparations for an individual.

MAINTAINING SELECTION AND RACING STATUS

13. An athlete who is selected under these procedures and the applicable criteria supplement must:
- a. Immediately report any performance limiting contagious illness or obvious injury to the Nordiq Canada HPD-PARA, after consultation with experts, to ensure that they are healthy and injury free prior to departure and able to optimally compete at the level that selected them for the trip;
 - b. Complete a pre-trip health screen with the Nordiq Canada team doctor
 - c. Comply with the municipal, provincial, federal, international and NSO Covid 19 protocols;
 - d. Comply with applicable Nordiq Canada policies including these procedures;

- e. Have their selection status reviewed by the HPD-PARA if any of the requirements in clause 6.13 are not met. The HPD-PARA will notify the athlete in writing as to why their selection or racing status is under review. The athlete shall be given a reasonable opportunity (no more than seven days) to provide reasons why she/he should not be removed from the trip team or have their racing status revoked.

7. FUNDING

1. Athletes selected to a World Cup Trip Team who are not 2021-2022 PN National Team or NextGen athletes will be required to self-fund.
2. Additionally, any additional staff that Nordiq Canada requires beyond the scheduled PN National Team appointed staff and the related expenses, will be the responsibility of the non-PNST or non-Next Gen Team members.

ANTICIPATED TRIP COSTS

3. PNST, Development and Prospects Team athletes will be funded based upon available budget and YTP priorities. Additional athletes will be required to pay all of their trip expenses³. Outlined below are the generic estimated trip costs:
 - a. Estimated average trip costs: \$5500.00 CDN + Covid Contingency Costs
 - i. Race Fees (€20/race - approx. \$30/race)
 - ii. Accommodation/Meals (\$150/day x 13 days = \$1950)
 - iii. Flight & Baggage Fees approx. \$2000 (depending on departure location)
 - iv. Technical Support (wax, coaching, transportation) \$500
 - v. Travel health insurance – and all associated fees not covered by insurance (flight change, quarantining, medical bills, etc.)
 - vi. Covid testing costs according to IPC/FIS – could potentially be \$200/test/every 4 days
 - vii. Any costs associated with any mandatory municipal, federal, provincial requirements upon return to Canada (e.g., quarantine)

³ Final trip costs will be calculated at the conclusion of the trip and will reflect the actual costs incurred.

8. INJURY, ILLNESS and EQUIPMENT FAILURE PROVISION for the SELECTION EVENT

- 1.** Athletes who are injured or ill and unable to compete at a selection event as designated by the HPD-PARA, as well as those whose performance may have been affected by no fault of their own during the race, or equipment breakage that results in a DNF, may apply for selection consideration by the HPD-PARA and an expert panel (i.e., medical, or technical expertise) if they meet the following criteria:
 - a.** Performance marker – Acceptance of a curtailment of competition will be evaluated on the most recent objective sanctioned race results in the current competition season supporting the fact the athlete would have expected to qualify if they had been able to compete.
 - b.** If an athlete does not start an event, a written exemption can be submitted requesting and explaining the rationale for not competing. This rationale must be submitted to the HPD-PARA the day of the event.
 - c.** Medical documentation confirming diagnosis from a licensed physician must be submitted to the HP-PARA within 2 days from date of the selection race (i.e., event is January 1, you have until the end of day January 3 at 23:59 MST).
 - f.** Nordiq Canada reserves the right to have all submissions reviewed by the PNST physician or PNST approved licensed medical practitioner. Nordiq Canada may request expertise from another medical professional, when required, in one of Canada’s official languages.
 - d.** Acceptance of an injury provision will be evaluated by the PNST physician, Head Coach and HPD-PARA.
 - e.** Final decision will rest with the HPD-PARA in consultation with the PNC and HPC.