

Paranordic Ski Team (PNST) World Cup Trip Selection Criteria

2019-20



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1 Purpose of World Cup Trip Team Selection

1. To provide World Para Nordic Skiing (WPNS) sanctioned Continental Cup (COC), 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, World Championships (WCH) and ultimately the 2022 PWG.

2 Objectives

1. Contribute to team performance targets as determined by the 2019-20 Nordiq Canada Para-Nordic Operational Plan
2. Give athletes the opportunity to meet Nordiq Canada Para-Nordic team selection criteria to be named to the 2020-21 Nordiq Canada PNST and/or Nordiq Canada PN Prospects Teams.
3. Give athletes the opportunity to meet 2020-21 Sport Canada Athlete Assistance Program funding support criteria.
4. Give athletes who are eligible to be IPC Classified, and who have met selection criteria, the opportunity to be WPNS classified.
5. Identification of Next Gen athletes who:
 - a. Can be ranked and have the demonstrated potential to achieve **TWO 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 or Nordiq Canada PN Prospects team.

3 General Information

1. This document establishes the eligibility and criteria used by Nordiq Canada for selecting Para-Nordic athletes for World Cup international competition trips for the 2019-2020 season, December 2019 through March 2020.

2. This document follows Nordiq Canada document 2.1.3 NST Policy and Procedures for Team Selection, Nomination and Announcement.
3. It is the athlete's responsibility to read and understand the contents of this document and other supporting documents and policies. For clarification on the content of this document contact the High-Performance Director (HPD)/PN-High Performance Manager (PN-HPM).
4. Decision making authority for the selection of athletes to World Cup trips will be assigned to the HPD/PN-HPM based on PNST Head Coach (HC) recommendations.
5. Selection decisions may be appealed under the NC Dispute Resolution and Appeals Policy. Where time is critical (e.g., in the event of an imminent departure for a trip), the Summary Dispute Resolution Process may be employed through the Sport Dispute Resolution Center of Canada (SDRCC).
6. In the event of circumstances beyond the control of Nordiq Canada, including but not limited to; changes made by the International Paralympic Committee (IPC), Canadian Paralympic Committee (CPC) or event organizers, that prevents the fair implementation of these nominating procedures, as written, Nordiq Canada reserves the right to determine an appropriate course of action, which may include the right to review and change any part of the nominating procedures. Changes to this document will be communicated directly to the ski community within 72 hours of changes by posting to Nordiq Canada website and direct email to PN Committee representatives and active PN coaches.
7. This policy does not require Nordiq Canada to select any or all athletes to the maximum number of allotted quota positions.
8. Athletes will only be named to a competition Team when eligibility requirements have been verified by Nordiq Canada.
9. Athletes who meet criteria but are ranked lower than quota spots permit, will not be selected.

4 Eligibility Criteria

To be eligible to be selected for a PNST World Cup competition trip in the 2019-20 competition season (December 2019 – March 2020), athletes must meet the following minimum eligibility criteria:

1. Athletes must be Nordiq Canada and Provincial members in good standing¹;
2. Must be a Canadian Citizen with a valid Canadian passport;

¹ No outstanding payments to Nordiq Canada, Divisions, training groups, or clubs. Up-to-date club membership and licenses.

3. Must hold a current Nordiq Canada racing license;
4. Athletes must be a current Nordiq Canada registered club member;
5. Athletes must have a valid IPC license;
6. Athletes must meet all IPC and other event entry standards for the competition(s) for which they qualify;
7. 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.
 - 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.
8. If an athlete is selected to the Team under these selection procedures and criteria the athlete acknowledges and agrees that:
 - a. He/she, must comply with Nordiq Canada's policies as posted on the Nordiq Canada website;
 - b. He/she, is 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, will comply with all requests from Nordiq Canada and with his/her 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 Agreement.

5 Important Dates

1. Selection Event – Canmore, AB: November 30- December 1, 2019
2. WPNS WC # 1 Lillehammer, NOR : December 12-19, 2019
3. *COC - US Nationals: January 3-5, 2020 (open para-nordic event for all competitors)*
4. WPNS WC # 2 Dresden, GER: January 10-20, 2020
WPNS WCH Biathlon and XC Finals – March 12-22, 2020 (closed event, only PNST World Cup team and athletes achieving 30 WPNS points or better will be invited)

6 World Para Nordic Skiing World Cup Selection Criteria

6.1 Introduction

1. Where there are more than 10 athletes who meet eligibility and selection criteria, additional staff, outside of the National Team personnel will be selected by the Nordiq Canada PN staff, however funding for the additional staff will be the responsibility of the non 2019-2020 National or Next Gen Team members. Where additional funds cannot be secured for additional staff, the team size will be capped at 10.
2. Athletes may be selected for one or more World Cup event based upon the selection criteria as outlined in Section 4.2. 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 after the selection criteria have been applied, it will be broken by the number of 1st place finishes, then the number of 2nd place finishes, etc. in the selection competitions. If there is still a tie, the selection committee will make the final decision.

6.2 Selection Criteria in priority order

1. Nordiq Canada Para-Nordic 2019-2020 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.
2. An athlete achieves within 20% or better against a known international performer who has achieved a medal at WPNS WC/WCH event and/or PWG, in their category (standing, sitting)² at the PN trials race(s) at the PN Annual Camp in Canmore, AB, November 28-Dec 1, 2019.
3. Prospect/NexGen athletes who do not meet 6.2.2. may be considered for selection based on past performances including but not limited to demonstrated ability to achieve 180 WPNS points or better and WPNS WC points. For Prospect/NextGen athletes only:
 - i. Only Nordiq Canada and IPC sanctioned Selection Events are considered for selection rankings and standards.
 - ii. 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):

² IPC rules for factored times will be applied, using currently IPC factors and applying additional factors where appropriate where mix gender races occur to deem a race relevant.

- a) Outstanding competition results (including results achieved outside of the selection period) defined by achieving podium pathway
 - b) Completion of individual performance benchmarks, as set by the PNST coaching staff and approved by the HPD/PN-HPM, that point toward the achievement of competition results consistent with PNST program goals
 - c) Leadership, positive attitude and strong commitment of athletes to take part in the complete PNST coaching, IST support, training camp and competition program
 - d) Illness or injury during the selection period
 - e) Physiological indicators accumulated through monitoring and testing
 - f) Indication of medal potential in future Paralympic, World Cup or World Championship competition, that would be enhanced by selection to the team
 - g) Other unanticipated failure of objective criteria to select an athlete likely to achieve competition results consistent with PNST World Cup objectives
4. Additional athletes at PN-HPM discretion based on their potential to achieve 180 WPNS points.
 5. For Dresden only - Athletes achieving 120 WPNS points at the US Nationals event (December 31, 2019 - January 5, 2020, will be considered for the Dresden, Germany event, January 10-20, 2020

6.3 Maintaining Selection Status

An athlete who is selected under these procedures and the applicable criteria supplement must:

- a) Submit a 2019-2020 yearly training program (YTP) and training log for review to Nordiq Canada PN-HPM. The YTP must be led and monitored by a qualified Nordiq Canada NCCP certified coach. The training will support a commitment to long term development; ^[1]_{SEP}
- b) Will report any illness or injury to the Nordiq Canada PN-HPM immediately to ensure that they are healthy and injury free prior to departure and able to compete at the level that selected them for the trip
- c) Comply with applicable Nordiq Canada policies including these procedures;
- d) Any selected athlete may have their selection status reviewed by the PN-HPM/HPD if any of the requirements in clause 4.8 a-d are not met. The PN-HPM/HPD will notify the athlete in writing as to why their selection 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 selection process.

7 Funding

Athletes selected to a World Cup Trip team who are not 2019-2020 PN National Team or NextGen athletes will be required to self-fund.

Additionally, any additional staff required outside of the PN National Team appointed staff, will be the responsibility of the non 2019-2020 PN National Team or Next Gen Team members

7.1 Anticipated Trip Costs

PNST and Prospects team athletes are 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:

Estimated average trip costs⁴: \$4600.00 CDN

1. Race Fees (€20/race - approx. \$30/race)
2. Accommodation/Meals (\$150/day x 13 days = \$1950)
3. Flight & Baggage Fees approx. \$2000 (depending on departure location)
4. Technical Support (wax, coaching, transportation) \$500.00

8 Athletes Attending the US Nationals

Athletes attending the US nationals must:

- a) Be sanctioned by the HPD/PN-HPM.
- b) Athletes and their support staff will be required to work with the trip Team Leader and/or PN-HPM to organize their trip logistics (race registrations, classification as needed and available, and IPC licensing)
- c) Will be required pay all of their own and their support staff trip costs (Flights, Meals & Accommodations, Ground Transportation, Race Fees, and Wax Support)

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

⁴ Athletes will be responsible for organizing their own flights, in coordination with PNST team arrivals/departures & will be invoiced post-event by Nordiq Canada for race fees, accommodations, IPC fee and technical support.

9 Injury, Illness and Equipment Failure Provision for the Selection Event

Athletes who are injured or ill and unable to compete at the selection event in Canmore, AB November 30 - December 1, 2019, as well as those whose performance may have been affected by no fault of their own during the race equipment breakage that results in a DNF, may apply for selection consideration if they meet the following criteria:

- a) Performance marker – NextGen, Prospect...KPIs % differential - 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/PN-HPM within an hour prior to or after the race.
- c) Medical documentation confirming diagnosis from a licensed physician must be submitted to the HPD/PN-HPM within 48 hours of the start of the selection race.
- d) Nordiq Canada reserves the right to have all submissions reviewed by the PNST physician or PNST approved licensed medical practitioner.
- e) Acceptance of an injury provision will be evaluated by the PNST physician, Head Coach and NC PN-HPM, PN Coach assigned to the jury for the event (*if the coach does not have a conflict of interest with the athlete submitting the injury provision) for the trip who have the final authority on selection.

10 Appeals

Selection decisions may be appealed using the Nordiq Canada Dispute Resolution and Appeals Policy. Appeals must be submitted within 24 hours of the end of the qualification races. Appeals will not be accepted after this time.