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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 Paranordic 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 2020-2021 World Cups and World Championships.
2. This document is created under the direction of the NST Selection, Nomination, and Announcement Policy.
3. The High-Performance Director 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, or acting representative, 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 from fairly and objectively implementing these selection procedures.
 - 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 Canada Paralympic Committee, FIS, or any other relevant organization.

- c. To correct, clarify or amend any inconsistencies, errors or omissions in the criteria.
- d. 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.
- 7. The qualification period is November 1, 2020 to April 15, 2021. Athletes will be named to the team for the period of May 2021 – April 2022.
- 8. This policy does not require Nordiq Canada to select any or all athletes to the maximum number of allotted quota positions.
- 9. Athletes will only be named to a competition Team when eligibility requirements have been verified by Nordiq Canada.
- 10. Athletes who meet criteria but are ranked lower than quota spots permit, will not be selected.

2 PURPOSE OF WORLD CUP AND WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS 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.

3 OBJECTIVES

1. Contribute to team performance targets as determined by 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 2021-22 Nordiq Canada PNST and/or Nordiq Canada PN Prospects Teams.
3. Give athletes the opportunity to meet 2021-22 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.

4 ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

To be eligible to be selected for a PNST World Cup competition trip in the 2020-21 competition season (December 2020 – March 2021), 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 or can represent Canada at a Paralympic Games;
3. Must hold a current Nordiq Canada racing license;
4. Athletes must be a current Nordiq Canada registered club member;

¹ Please refer to the [Nordic Canada bylaws](#) for a complete description of members in good standing

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. Must adhere to all municipal, provincial, federal and international Covid or other pandemic guidelines;
8. 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.
9. 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 - TBC

- | | |
|--|-----------------------|
| 1. Selection Event – Canmore, AB (TBC) | December 2020 |
| 2. Ostertund 2021 World Cup (TBC) | January 26 – 31, 2021 |
| 3. Lillehammer World Championships | February 6 – 14, 2021 |
| 4. Beijing 2021 World Cup | Mar 8 – 13, 2021 |
| 5. Sapporo 2021 World Cup | Mar 17 -21, 2021 |

6 SELECTION CRITERIA

6.1 Introduction

1. In an effort to meet the performance goals of the Para Nordic, and given the current Covid climate, Nordic Canada will make team size decisions that are in alignment with Nordic Canada's Covid protocols, 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 6.2. 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 HPD will make the final decision.

6.2 World Cup Selection Criteria in Priority Order

1. Nordiq Canada Para-Nordic 2020-2021 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 a benchmark performance equivalent to 180 WPNS points 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 the PN Annual Camp in Canmore, AB, December or designated trial event(s) as required, as communicated by the HPD.
3. Additional Prospect/NexGen athletes 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/or IPC sanctioned 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):
 - 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

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.

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 HPD discretion based on their potential to achieve 180 WPNS points.

6.3 World Championships Selection Criteria

1. Nordiq Canada's Para-Nordic 2020-2021 World Cup Team athletes are pre-selected for the 2021 WPNS World Championships. This group will receive Nordiq Canada PNST support and will be funded based upon available budget and yearly training plan (YTP) priorities.
2. Any athlete who achieves a 50 WPNS or less at a 2020-2021 World Cup.
3. Additional athletes may be considered, at HPD discretion, based on the Paralympic Quota qualification standards. Athletes will be ranked based on their 2020-2021, 2019-2020 international race results as well as domestic results against known performers and contribution to PWG overall medal potential. These athletes will be expected to self pay.

6.4 Maintaining Selection and Racing Status

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

- a) Submit a 2020-2021 yearly training program (YTP) and training log for review to Nordiq Canada HPD. 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;
- b) Will report any illness or injury to the Nordiq Canada HPD 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 the municipal, provincial, federal, international and NSO Covid 19 protocols;
- d) Comply with applicable Nordiq Canada policies including these procedures;
- e) Any selected athlete may have their selection status reviewed by the HPD if any of the requirements in clause 6.4 are not met. The HPD 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

Athletes selected to a World Cup Trip team who are not 2020-2021 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 2020-2021 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 costs: \$5500.00 CDN + Covid Contingency Costs

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
5. Travel health insurance – and all associated fees not covered by insurance (flight change, quarantining, medical bills, etc.)
6. Covid testing costs according to IPC/FIS – could potentially be \$200/test/every 4 days
7. Any costs associated with any mandatory municipal, federal, provincial requirements upon return to Canada (e.g. quarantine)

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

Athletes who are injured or ill and unable to compete at a selection event as designated by the HPD, 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 – 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.

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

- 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 the day of the event.
- c) Medical documentation confirming diagnosis from a licensed physician must be submitted to the HPD 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)
- 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 HPD.
- f) Final decision will rest with the HPD in consultation with the PNC and HPC.