Competition Trip Criteria

Selection Criteria

2022-23

nordiq CANADA

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CLARIFICATION – January 12, 2023
Point 6.5. – The following statement was added to the 2023 WJR/U23 Ski Championships criteria under 6.5 STEP 1 Junior Women and Junior men to clarify the creation of the Junior ranking lists:

- "Final rankings will be from the final results of the Open category heats, followed by the final results of the U20 category heats."

AMENDMENT – October 21, 2022
Point 8 - All criteria was removed from point 8. A new criteria document was developed for the 2023 FISU World University Games. The new and updated criteria can be found on the Nordiq Canada website under *2023 FISU University Games Selection Criteria*.

DISCLAIMER

Due to the changing and unpredictable events surrounding COVID-19, the terms, selection criteria, and competitions outlined in this document are subject to change at any time.

*Nordiq Canada's top priority is health of athletes and staffs. As such, it will follow best practices and recommendations from government health officials (domestic and international) in determining whether or not to proceed with any competition trip in this document**. Nordiq Canada reserves the right to cancel or amend any competition trip deemed unsafe.***

1. General Information and Objectives

1.1 To maximize Canada's performance and podium potential at major championships (World Ski Championships and Olympic Winter Games), we will take Canada's most competitive performers on appropriate competition trips to achieve these goals. Performance benchmarks for competition trips are based off of data from our Gold Medal Profile and Canadian Tire Performance Benchmarks (Appendix C)

1.2 This document establishes the eligibility and criteria used by Nordiq Canada for selecting athletes for international competition trips.

1.3 The process for the creation of selection criteria is guided by the NST Selection, Nomination and Announcement Policy.

1.4 Final decision authority for all selections is the Nordiq Canada High Performance Director (HPD) or their designate.

1.5 Selection decisions may be appealed under the Nordiq Canada Dispute Resolution and Appeal Policy. Due to tight timelines, the appeal deadline is 24 hours after the Team notice has been announced on the Nordiq Canada website.

1.6 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:

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 Canadian Olympic Committee, FIS, or any other relevant organization.
c. To correct, clarify or amend any inconsistencies, errors, or omissions in the criteria.
d. COVID-19 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.

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

1.8 This policy does not require Nordiq Canada to select any or all athletes to the maximum number of allotted quota positions.

1.9 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 HPD.

2. Eligibility Criteria

2.1 Athletes must be Nordiq Canada members in good standing[1] with a valid Canadian passport, a Nordiq Canada racing license, and a valid Canadian FIS license.

2.2 Athletes will not be officially named to a competition team until eligibility requirements have been verified by Nordiq Canada. Athletes selected to a competition team will be notified by Nordiq Canada. The official team will be announced by Nordiq Canada once all verification checks have been completed.

2.3 Athletes must meet all FIS and other event entry standards for the competition(s) for which they qualified. The World Cup entry requirements are located on the FIS website (section 3.2).

2.4 Selected and pre-selected athletes must meet and sign-off on the following conditions to be eligible for a competition trip:

a. The athlete is in optimal health and completely recovered from any illness or injury 48 hours prior to the trip departure as supported by a medical doctor, and the NST coaching and IST team. Historical blood results within a 4-month period of the trip will be required to support optimal athlete health. In some cases, an athlete may be required to meet with the NST doctor for health monitoring, in person or virtual.
b. COVID-19 protocols, including testing, as stated in the Nordiq Canada COVID protocols or when mandated by local government health officials.
c. The athlete must be at a competitive ready performance level, as demonstrated throughout the training season and competition season. This assessment will be made by the NST Coach(es) and the HPD.

2.5 Curtailment of Competition (Curtailment of Health, Force Majeure):

a. **An athlete starting in an event is deemed healthy and fit to compete, as such their results stand for any and all selection criteria**.

[1] Refer to Nordiq Canada By-Laws for conditions of membership.

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 within an hour prior to or after the race.
c. Medical documentation confirming diagnosis from a licensed physician must be submitted to the HPD within 48 hours of the start of the selection race.
d. Nordiq Canada reserves the right to have all submissions reviewed by the NST medical doctor or another licensed medical doctor.
e. Acceptance of a curtailment of competition will be decided by the HPD.
f. Acceptance will be evaluated and based on the most recent comparative objective data and proven international success, in the current and past competition season supporting the fact the athlete would have expected to qualify if they had been able to compete.
g. Accepted curtailment of competition applications will be ranked in the subjective nominations. If there are no subjective nominations, they will be ranked against the last objectively qualified athlete using the most recent comparative data.
h. Submission or acceptance of curtailment of competition does not guarantee event qualification.

3. Selection Guidelines

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

3.2 Events from the 2022-23 season that may be considered are:
a. World Cup
b. World JR/U23 Ski Championships
c. COC events
d. International FIS races
e. NCAA races
f. Domestic FIS Tier 1 races

3.3 Unless otherwise stated in the specific event selection criteria, in the event of a tie after the selection criteria has been applied, where a tie exists athletes will be ranked on their single best race result. If there still a tie it will move to 2nd, 3rd, etc. best result in all eligible races until the tie is broken.

3.4 The HPD reserves the right to choose or modify team size, within the operational trip budget, to ensure the optimal health and competitiveness of the team.

3.5 Athletes will not be eligible for a competition team unless they are healthy and in competition ready condition at the time of the competition trip departure. *Refer to point 2.4*.

3.6 In the event a qualifying athlete is ineligible or otherwise unable to compete, the HPD may choose to select the next qualifying athlete for that trip.

3.7 The HPD, in consultation with the High Performance Committee and the HP staff team (IST, NST coaches), has the right to subjectively select an athlete to any trip based on GMP

data, athlete IPPs and performances supported by the selection enhancing the athlete's development pathway and the overall performance of the team.

Performances will be evaluated by but not limited to:

a. Canadian Tire Performance Benchmarks (Appendix C)
b. FIS points
c. Time behind winner
d. Depth of field

3.8 Subject to quota spots, eligible athletes are selected in priority order as per the criteria outlined in the competition trip until quota positions are filled.

3.9 All race results referred to in the selection criteria are from the 2022-23 season unless otherwise indicated.

3.10 All qualification race results referred to are Individual Final Finish Race Results (see Definitions), unless otherwise indicated.

4. World Cup (WC) Selection Criteria

4.1 **Athletes must have the required FIS points to start in the 2022-23 World Cups.** *See point 2.3.*

4.2 Team status on the World Cup does not include full funding from Nordiq Canada except for athletes in the FIS World Cup Red Group as per FIS rules.

4.3 Team size is inclusive of the COC Leaders.

4.4 Trip fees are estimated costs and subject to change. Trip fees include all airfare, ground transportation (not including transit to and from the airport of origin), meals and lodging, insurance, and race service costs. Athletes are eligible for a performance-based trip fee reimbursement based on the following achievements and conditions:

a. The following percent of trip fees[2] will be reimbursed to athletes achieving the following performance benchmarks in individual World Cup, World Ski Championship or World Junior/U23 Ski Championship races.
    i. Top 20 final result = 50% reimbursement of total trip fee
    ii. Top 12 final result = 75% reimbursement of total trip fee
    iii. Top 6 final result = 100% reimbursement of total trip fee
b. The following percentage of trip fees will be reimbursed to athletes achieving the following performance benchmarks <u>in team event</u> World Cup, World Ski Championship or World Junior/U23 Ski Championship races.

[2] All trip fee reimbursements are inclusive of the trip fee only as invoiced by Nordiq Canada. It does not include athlete expenses incurred outside of these costs and the competition start and end date.

i. Top 8 final result = 50% reimbursement of total trip fee
ii. Top 5 final result = 100% reimbursement of total trip fee

c. Only official and final results will count; sprint qualifications and 'time of day' results will not be considered.
d. Reimbursements are not cumulative in a trip; only one reimbursement is applied per trip. If more than one performance benchmark is achieved the highest reimbursement percentage of the achieved performance benchmarks will be applied.
e. Reimbursements will be carried forward to the next competition trip. For example, a performance achieved in P1 will have a reimbursement applied to both P1 and P2. If Nordiq Canada or an athlete is skipping the subsequent period, that reimbursement will be carried forward to the athlete's next competition period. Additionally, a performance achieved in the final period of a season will be carried over to the subsequent season and applied to the athlete's next competition trip in the Competition Trip selection criteria.

4.5 WORLD CUP PERIOD 1 (November 15 – Dec 19, 2022)

Races: Ruka, Lillehammer, Beitostolen, Davos
Team Size: 5 athletes
Trip Fee: $5,000

SELECTION CRITERIA

a. COC Leaders
b. Top-20 WC 2021-22 or OWG individual final race result
c. Top-8 **AND** top half at 2021-22 WC or OWG team event
d. HPD discretion as per 3.7

RATIONALE

- World Cup P1 is for athletes who have proven their ability to meet a Top-20 objective, which is currently a relevant result for the current performance state of the NST program.

4.6 WORLD CUP PERIOD 2 (December 19, 2022 – January 9, 2023)

Races: Tour de Ski
Team Size: 9 athletes
Trip Fee: $3,200

SELECTION CRITERIA

a. FIS Red Group Sprint or Distance at completion of P1
b. COC Leaders after P1
c. Top-20 at 2022-23 WC P1 individual final race result
d. Top- 8 **AND** top half of field at 2022-23 WC team event
e. HPD discretion as per 3.7

RATIONALE

- Provide appropriate competition opportunities to athletes that have demonstrated the ability to achieve a Top-20 performance.
- Provide an opportunity for athletes to qualify domestically for World Cup competitions.

4.7 **WORLD CUP PERIOD 3 (January 19 – February 5, 2023)**

Races: Milano, Les Rousses, Toblach

Team Size: Athletes meeting selection criteria

Trip Fee: $3,200

SELECTION CRITERIA:

a. FIS Red Group status sprint or distance at completion of P2 and are in full compliance of the athlete agreement including all necessary monitoring and testing.
No additional athletes will be considered.

RATIONALE

- Preparation for the 2023 World Championship is prioritized in Canada to ensure optimal athlete training and health as detailed in the NST 2026 Quad YTP.

4.8 **WORLD CUP PERIOD 4 (March 7 – March 27, 2023)**

WC P4 Races: Oslo, Drammen, Falun, Tallinn, Lahti

Team Size: up to a maximum of 12

Trip Fee: $3,200

SELECTION CRITERIA

a. FIS Red Group status sprint or distance end of P3
b. COC Leaders at the end of P3
c. Top-12 at 2022-23 WC/WSC individual final race result
d. Top-20 at 2023 WSC individual final race result
e. 2X Top-20 2022-23 WC individual race result
f. Top -8 **AND** top half at 2023 WSC team event
g. HPD discretion as per 3.7

RATIONALE

- Provide appropriate competition opportunities to athletes that have demonstrated the ability to achieve a Top 20 World Cup performance
- Provide appropriate competition opportunities to athletes meeting Gold level standards to enhance their development as part of their IPP.

5. 2023 World Ski Championships – February 12 – March 6, 2023

Races: Planica, Slovenia
Team Size: 12 athletes, minimum 4 per gender
Trip Fee: $1,500

5.1 SELECTION CRITERIA

a. FIS Red Group status sprint or distance end of P3
b. Top-12 at 2022-23 WC individual final race result
c. 2X Top-20 at 2022-23 WC individual final race result
d. HPD discretion as per 3.7
e. **World Ski Championship Trials –Prince George, BC, January 18-21, 2023**
    i. First place male and female final result in the classic sprint race
    ii. First place male and female in the distance race 10k
    iii. First place male and female in the mass start classic race 20k

Any additional quota spots will be allocated to 2nd place ranked athletes from the same order of priority selection races. The process is repeated using 3rd place, 4th place, etc. finishers until the maximum team size is reached.

Athletes that have already met selection criteria 5.1.a to 5.1.d will not be counted in the race results.

This is not a roll down. Selection occurs across race rankings. For example, if a 2nd place athlete is already qualified, the spot goes to the 2nd place athlete in the next priority race – it does not move down to the 3rd place athlete in the race with the already qualified 2nd place athlete.

6. 2023 WJR/U23 Ski Championships – January 22 – February 5, 2023

Races: WJR/U23 Championships; Whistler, BC
Team Size: 24 athletes
Trip Fee: $1,500

6.1 Trip authority at the training camp and the Championships is the Team Head Coach.

6.2 Team Size

a. Maximum team size is 24 athletes for the entire trip.
b. Minimum of 4 athletes per gender per category.
c. Maximum of 4 athletes per gender, per category can be named from the sprint ranking.
d. Each athlete is guaranteed one (1) start at the World Championships. The FIS quota is a maximum of 4 race starts per gender for each race.
e. Athletes eligible for WJRs must be born between 2003 and 2007 in accordance with FIS rules.

6.3 Subject to quota spots, eligible athletes are selected in priority order as outlined in the criteria. NOTE: Curtailment of competition applications will be ranked as per section 2.5.

6.4 SELECTION CRITERIA

Designated Selection Trials: Prince George, BC
January 18 – 21, 2023

Two (2) selection race ranking lists, one (1) sprint and one (1) distance, will be created for each age group and each gender using finishing place results from the following races as outlined below.

SPRINT Ranking List
1st Place Qualifier
1st Place Final
2nd Place Qualifier
2nd Place Final
…etc.

Distance Ranking List
1st 10 KM
1st 20 KM Mass Start
2nd 10 KM
2nd 20 KM Mass start
…etc.

6.5 SELECTON PROCESS

STEP 1: Race Winners will be selected from the following races. Where an athlete wins more than one event, there will NOT be a roll down selection (e.g. the 2nd place athlete is NOT selected in this priority).

Junior Women
Sprint Qualifier
Sprint Final
Final rankings will be from the final results of the Open category heats, followed by the final results of the U20 category heats.
10 KM
20 KM

Junior Men
Sprint Qualifier
Sprint Final
Final rankings will be from the final results of the Open category heats, followed by the final results of the U20 category heats.
10 KM
20 KM

U23 Women
Sprint Qualifier
Sprint Final

10 KM
20 KM

U23 Men
Sprint Qualifier
Sprint Final
10 KM
20 KM

STEP 2: Following Step 1, athletes will be selected to fulfill the 4 athletes per gender per age group minimum using the following rationale:

- There is no selection priority between the sprint and distance race categories. However, the selection ranking lists' athlete order will be followed.
- Selection between the sprint and distance race events will be based on point 3.7. Performances will be evaluated by but not limited to ensure highest chance of performance at the Championships.
    - Canadian Tire Performance Benchmarks (Appendix C)
    - FIS points
    - Time behind winner
    - Depth of field
- Example: A 4th place JR female athlete in a distance race could be selected over a 3rd place junior in a sprint race if the distance athlete has a stronger performance based on time behind the winner, depth of field, tracking performance benchmarks and is better positioned for a stronger performance at the respective Championship race.

STEP 3: Selection will then move to any HPD discretionary selection inclusive of curtailment of health submissions as per point 2.5.

STEP 4: After the minimum of four (4) athletes per gender, per age group is selected, and HPD discretion applied, there will be no priority selections between age group and gender to complete selections to the maximum athlete team size number of 24.

- Selection between the sprint and distance race ranking lists will be based on point 3.7. Performances will be evaluated by but not limited to ensure highest chance of performance at the Championships.
    - Canadian Tire Performance Benchmarks (Appendix C)
    - FIS points
    - Time behind winner
    - Depth of field
- Example: A sixth U23 female could be selected over a fifth U23 male if the next eligible U23 female athlete for selection has a stronger performance based on time behind the winner, depth of field, tracking performance benchmarks and is better positioned for a stronger performance at the respective Championship race.

7. U.S.A. U20 B-Tour – NO B-Tour for the 2022-23 Season

Due to the 2022-23 Canada Winter Games and the location of the Nordiq Canada National Championships in this year's calendar, a B-Tour was not feasible for this season. This competition trip is a valuable component of our podium pathway and will be back on the calendar circumstances permitting for the 2023-24 season.

8. FISU World University Games – January 12-22, 2023

Refer to document *2023 FISU University Games Selection Criteria*

9. APPENDIX A - Definitions

Definitions relevant to understanding criteria procedures.

6.1 Distance Races: For these selection criteria, all races longer than 2.0 km will be designated as a distance race. This could be an individual start, mass start, pursuit, or skiathlon competition. An athlete selected or identified in a distance dace will be referred to as a distance athlete.

6.2 Sprint Events: For these selection criteria, all individual races that are shorter than or equal to 2.0 km and two-athlete team events where each leg is shorter than or equal to 2.0 km are designated individual sprints or team sprints. These races will be designated as a sprint event. An athlete selected or identified in a sprint event will be referred to as a sprint athlete. All references to sprint results in these criteria are references to final results unless otherwise noted.

6.3 Tier One Selection Events: A categorization of races used for team selection and trip standards that is limited to domestic and international FIS sanctioned races that count towards the FIS points list.

6.4 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, pre-qualification times, team relay, or team sprint times are not considered individual final finish race results. World Cup (WC) points must be awarded for any result to be considered a WC race result.

6.5 Competition Ready: Defined as the ability of the athlete to achieve equal or superior performance(s) onsite at the scheduled event, as compared to the performance(s) the athlete achieved in qualifying.

10. APPENDIX B – World Cup Points Scoring System

1st place =	100 points	26th place =	30 points
2nd place =	95 points	27th place =	28 points
3rd place =	90 points	28th place =	26 points
4th place =	85 points	29th place =	24 points
5th place =	80 points	30th place =	22 points
6th place =	75 points	31st place =	20 points
7th place =	72 points	32nd place =	19 points
8th place =	69 points	33rd place =	18 points
9th place =	66 points	34th place =	17 points
10th place =	63 points	35th place =	16 points
11th place =	60 points	36th place =	15 points
12th place =	58 points	37th place =	14 points
13th place =	56 points	38th place =	13 points
14th place =	54 points	39th place =	12 points
15th place =	52 points	40th place =	11 points
16th place =	50 points	41st place =	10 points
17th place =	48 points	42nd place =	9 points
18th place =	46 points	43rd place =	8 points
19th place =	44 points	44th place =	7 points
20th place =	42 points	45th place =	6 points
21st place =	40 points	46th place =	5 points
22nd place =	38 points	47th place =	4 points
23rd place =	36 points	48th place =	3 points
24th place =	34 points	49th place =	2 points
25th place =	32 points	50th place =	1 point

11. APPENDIX C – Canadian Tire Performance Benchmarks

Cross Country Skiing - Performance Profile Benchmark Summary

Each metric across the top of the table below has a set of benchmarks for each gender and race type group - A: Major Podium; B: WC Top 12; C: WC Top 30.

Each of these groups are cumulatively exclusive, meaning each subsequent group contains all athletes not within a previous group. Athletes are placed in each group if they have achieved that target performance since 2010. Their career performance data, dating back to the 2000 season, is then used in the benchmark calculations.

The benchmark for each group is the 75th Percentile of the metric for those athletes within the group. The 75th Percentile was selected to eliminate any extreme out..

Gender	Race Type	Target	Number of Athletes	First Age	JWCH Best Rank	U23WCH Best Rank	U23 WC Best Rank	U25 WC Best Rank	U28 WC Best Rank	29+ WC Best Rank	U23 WC Best 5 Avg. Rank	U25 WC Best 5 Avg. Rank	U28 WC Best 5 Avg. Rank	29+ WC Best 5 Avg. Rank
Men	Distance	A: Major Podium	33	29.0	8.0	5.0	29.5	6.0	2.0	2.0	37.5	12.1	3.9	2.6
		B: WC Top 12	140	27.0	14.3	13.0	33.0	21.0	11.0	13.0	43.4	32.9	19.2	21.0
		C: WC Top 30	127	27.0	30.0	21.0	49.0	41.0	36.0	35.5	58.9	54.7	46.8	43.9
	Sprint	A: Major Podium	15	26.5	11.5	6.0	4.0	2.0	1.0	3.5	7.9	5.5	3.3	5.0
		B: WC Top 12	162	26.0	19.0	16.0	28.0	17.0	12.0	17.0	40.7	31.8	22.3	28.6
		C: WC Top 30	148	26.0	30.0	25.0	45.0	37.8	38.0	38.0	57.1	51.4	51.1	50.8
Women	Distance	A: Major Podium	20	27.3	5.5	1.3	5.0	1.5	1.0	1.3	8.1	3.7	4.4	2.4
		B: WC Top 12	133	28.0	19.0	7.8	34.0	25.3	14.0	11.0	42.1	32.4	22.3	19.0
		C: WC Top 30	143	26.0	25.8	16.5	37.0	35.8	31.0	30.3	47.8	44.6	41.9	41.1
	Sprint	A: Major Podium	15	28.0	6.0	8.0	5.0	2.5	2.0	3.0	10.2	7.1	3.6	3.9
		B: WC Top 12	122	25.0	17.0	10.8	27.0	17.0	10.5	11.3	34.1	27.8	20.6	20.2
		C: WC Top 30	126	26.0	25.0	22.5	36.0	35.0	32.0	33.0	47.8	42.4	42.9	44.7