



BIATHLON CANADA

BIATHLON CANADA INTERNAL NOMINATION PROCEDURE (INP) FOR THE 2018 OLYMPIC WINTER GAMES (OWG), PYEONG CHANG, KOREA

In case of discrepancy in the understanding of this document, the English version will take precedence over the French version.

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PART 1 - INTRODUCTION

The purpose of the Internal Nomination Procedure (INP) is to select biathletes to represent Canada at the PyeongChang Olympic Winter Games. The INP is designed to prioritize selection of athletes who have potential for medal performances at the Games in a clear and transparent manner using international benchmarks for performance.

PART 2 - GOVERNING DOCTRINE FOR BIATHLON CANADA'S INTERNAL NOMINATION PROCEDURE

Along with the principles stated in the introduction, the following key elements from the Biathlon Canada strategic framework and other athlete selection policies have been considered in the development of the Biathlon Canada INP for 2018:

BIATHLON CANADA STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK

Our Mission

Biathlon Canada will achieve consistent international podium performance by leading, promoting, developing and governing biathlon in Canada to the highest standard of excellence.

Our Vision

Consistent medal contenders in international competitions who are led and supported by an effective and dynamic organization, which also provides a domestic program of rewarding participation opportunities for all members.

INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION OLYMPIC SELECTION CRITERIA

The International Biathlon Union (IBU) sets the International Federation Olympic Selection Criteria, which is then approved by the International Olympic Committee (IOC). The 2018 OWG national participation quota will be based on the cumulative IBU points score for each nation from the 2016-17 World Cup/World Championships season. This quota will apply to Biathlon Canada's team selection for the 2018 OWG. In the event of changes by the IBU to the selection and eligibility criteria, Biathlon Canada is bound by these changes and will inform the membership as soon as possible.

The International Biathlon Union criteria are as follows:

NATIONAL FEDERATION (NF) QUOTA

The NF registration and Entry Quota for the OWG is based on the NF's ranking in the Nations Cup from the season before the OWG. Further details are determined by the agreement between the IOC and IBU Executive Board.

	Register	Start	Total Registered	Total Start
NF RANKING MEN/WOMEN				
Place 1-5	6	4	30	20
Place 6-20	5	4	75	60
Place 21-22	2	2	4	4
Places 23+ Wild Card (total 6)			6	6
TOTAL			115	90

IBU ATHLETE ELIGIBILITY

Current IBU rules will be applied to the Olympic Winter Games except where otherwise noted.

1. GENERAL PRINCIPLES

Only the world's best athletes able to race tracks complying with IBU technical standards and able to use the rifles in accordance with applicable safety rules shall take part in the Olympic Winter Games.

2. SYSTEM IN DETAIL

To gain the right to participate in OWG events, an athlete must have 180 IBU qualifying points or less at the end of the last trimester before the OWG, or fulfill one of the following criteria during the current (2017/2018) or previous (2016/2017) season:

- a. Compete in two (2) competitions earning 150 IBU qualifying points or less at IBU Cup, Open European Championships (OECH), World Championships (WCH) or World Cup (WC) in the Sprint or Individual events, or;
- b. Two (2) finishes in the top half at the Junior World Championships (not Youth), or;
- c. One result from each of the criteria a. and b. above.

All members of Relay/Mixed Relay teams must also have met this individual qualification requirement.

3. QUALIFICATION TIMELINE

PERIOD	DATE	EVENT
QUALIFICATION	<u>SEASON 2016/17</u>	
	25-27 Nov 2016	IBU Cup #1, Beitostolen, NOR
	28 Nov - 4 Dec 2016	WC #1, Ostersund, SWE
	5-11 Dec 2016	WC #2, Pokljuka, SLO
	9-11 Dec 2016	IBU Cup #2, Ridnaun, ITA
	12-18 Dec 2016	WC #3, Nove Mesto, CZE
	15-17 Dec 2016	IBU Cup #3, Obertilliach, AUT
	2-8 Jan 2017	WC #4, Oberhof, GER
	6-8 Jan 2017	IBU Cup #4, Martell, ITA
	9-15 Jan 2017	WC #5, Ruhpolding, GER
	12-14 Jan 2017	IBU Cup #5, Langdorf, GER
	16-22 Jan 2017	WC #6, Antholz, ITA
	23-31 Jan 2017	OECH 2017, Duszniki-Zdroj, POL
	3-5 Feb 2017	IBU Cup #6, Osrblie, SVK
	8-19 Feb 2017	WCH 2017, Hochfilzen, AUT
	22 Feb – 2 Mar 2017	YJWCH 2017, Ostrov, RUS
	26 Feb – 5 Mar 2017	WC #7, Pyeongchang, KOR
2-5 Mar 2017	IBU Cup #7, Kontiolahti, FIN	
6-12 Mar 2017	WC #8, Tyumen, RUS	
8-12 Mar 2017	IBU Cup #8, Otepaa, EST	
13-19 Mar 2017	WC #9, Oslo, NOR	
INFORM & CONFIRM	20 March 2017	Publication of 2016/17 World Cup Nations Cup Ranking List
ACCREDITATION DEADLINE	9 October 2017	PyeongChang 2018 Accreditation deadline (All potential athletes must be registered in the system)
QUALIFICATION	<u>SEASON 2017/18</u>	
	24-26 Nov 2017	IBU Cup #1, Beitostolen, NOR
	27 Nov-3 Dec 2017	WC #1, Ostersund, SWE
	4-10 Dec 2017	WC #2, Hochfilzen, AUT
	8-10 Dec 2017	IBU Cup #2, Lenzerheide, SUI
	11-17 Dec 2017	WC #3, Le Grand Bornand, FRA
	13-16 Dec 2017	IBU Cup #3, Obertilliach, AUT
	2-7 Jan 2018	WC #4, Oberhof, GER
	5-7 Jan 2018	IBU Cup #4, Osrblie, SVK
8-14 Jan 2018	WC #5, Ruhpolding, GER	
11-13 Jan 2018	IBU Cup #5, Langdorf, GER	

INFORM & CONFIRM	22 Jan 2018	Publication of IBU Qualifying Points List
DELEGATION REGISTRATION MEETINGS	26 Jan - 8 Feb 2018	PyeongChang 2018 Delegation Registration Meetings
SPORT ENTRIES DEADLINE	29 January 2018	PyeongChang 2018 Sport Entries deadline
GAMES TIME	9-25 February 2018	Olympic Winter Games PyeongChang 2018

CANADIAN OLYMPIC COMMITTEE (COC) ATHLETE ELIGIBILITY

To be eligible for nomination to the Canadian Olympic Committee for Olympic Team selection, an athlete must:

1. Be a Canadian Citizen as per Rule 41 of the Olympic Charter;
2. Have a valid Canadian Passport that does not expire on or before August 28, 2018;
3. Comply with all relevant IBU and IOC requirements for eligibility;
4. Sign and submit the COC Athlete Agreement and PyeongChang 2018 Conditions of Participation Form no later than January 21st, 2018;
5. Be a member in good standing of Biathlon Canada.

BIATHLON CANADA – INTERNAL NOMINATION PERIOD OF ELIGIBILITY

The period of eligibility to meet the requirements of the Internal Nomination Procedure, for selection Priorities One through Three herein defined will be from November 25, 2016 through January 15, 2018.

The period of eligibility concerning Priority Four selection criteria (closed Olympic Trial competitions), if required, will be established in accordance with both IBU criteria and established COC guidelines for final team selection and will be announced as part of the 2017-2018 National Team Program.

DECISION-MAKING AUTHORITY

The Biathlon Canada High-Performance Working Group (HPWG) is the decision-making body which will implement the INP. The HPWG is comprised of the following Biathlon Canada staff members: General Manager, High Performance Director, and National Team Coaches (Head Coach/Men’s Coach, Women’s Coach). In cases involving Injury Provision, the Integrated Support Team (IST) led by the Sport Physiologist and comprised of the Medical Doctor, Strength & Condition Coach, Performance Dietician and

Mental Performance Coach may be consulted to help make a decision. Additionally, The Head Coach, in consultation with members of the HPWG, has the responsibility for making “race-day” and “field of play” decisions concerning the start list, seeding, and prioritization of resources while at the Games.

PART 3 – OLYMPIC INTERNAL NOMINATION PROCEDURES

Biathlon Canada Olympic Eligibility Ranking Lists

Athletes will be named to the Biathlon Canada Olympic Eligibility Ranking Lists by meeting IBU and COC criteria as outlined in this document, and in accordance with Priority One through Priority Four criteria outlined below. Separate Ranking Lists will be established for Male and Female Teams.

Positions on the Canadian Olympic Biathlon Teams will be filled, until all available positions are occupied including alternates, in the order in which athletes appear on their respective Olympic Eligibility Ranking List.

Priority One Selection Criteria – World Leading Excellence

During the period of eligibility herein defined (November 25, 2016 through January 15, 2018), an athlete who obtains one (1) of the following results at an IBU World Cup or World Championship event will be placed on the Biathlon Canada Olympic Priority One Eligibility Ranking List:

- a) Top-8 at WCH Sprint, Pursuit, Individual, or Mass Start
- b) Top-8 at WC Sprint, Pursuit, Individual, or Mass Start
- c) Member of Top-3 Relay team at either WC or WCH

Athletes achieving Priority One criteria will further be sub-ranked based on their best WC or WCH competition during the period of eligibility. If two or more athletes have an equal result, the athletes’ second best results would be used to break that tie (and continue with this process until the tie was broken).

Rationale: Top-8 rankings are consistent with our AAP policy.

Priority Two Selection Criteria – Demonstrated Excellence

During the period of eligibility herein defined (November 25, 2016 through January 15, 2018), an athlete who obtains two (2) of the following results at an IBU World Cup or World Championship event will be placed on the Biathlon Canada Olympic Priority Two Eligibility Ranking List:

- a) WC or WCH results of Top-16 in Sprint, Pursuit, Individual, or Mass Start competitions; or Top-6 Relay result. An athlete, however, may present only one (1) Relay result.

Athletes achieving Priority Two criteria will further be sub-ranked based on their best WC or WCH competition during the period of eligibility. If two or more athletes have an equal result, the athletes' second-best results will be used to break the tie (and continue with this process until the tie was broken).

Rationale: Obtaining two top-16 results prior to the 2018 OWG or a Top-6 performance in a relay competition during a WC or WCH event demonstrates an athlete's capacity to perform and be competitive within the approved IBU World Cup points list and Biathlon Canada further considers that meeting this benchmark, regardless of the developmental status of an athlete, allows for a reasonable demonstrated excellence performance gap that could be overcome during Olympic Games. These criteria are consistent with Biathlon Canada's AAP policy.

Priority Three Selection Criteria – Perceived Excellence

Priority Three criteria have been developed to assess and rank perceived excellence of developing athletes for future Olympic Winter Games and for whom it is deemed that early Olympic participation will be beneficial in their development as potential podium performers.

During the period of eligibility herein defined (November 25, 2016 to January 15, 2018), athletes who achieve any of the following results at an eligible competition as outlined in the chart below in an Individual, Sprint, Pursuit, or Mass Start competition, will be placed on the Biathlon Canada Olympic Priority Three Eligibility Ranking List. Criteria may be met in more than one of the defined age categories over the selection period but the athlete must be in defined age class at the time of achieving the result for it to count.

1. Nominations in accordance with the stipulations of Priority Three criteria will be confirmed by the HPWG no later than January 16, 2018 prior to final nomination

to the COC for approval.

2. Levels have been created to establish a sub-ranking within Priority Three criteria. Athletes age-classed within a given level are eligible to meet criteria of any of the higher levels and will be ranked at that higher level.

4. If two or more athletes meet established benchmarks in a given Priority Level, the athletes will be ranked based on their best result achieved toward meeting such benchmark. If two or more athletes have an equal result, the athletes' second best result would be used to break that tie (and continue with this process until the tie was broken).

5. Athletes who move into a higher-aged developmental period during the Olympic year will remain qualified for the Olympic eligibility list based on the preceding developmental period criteria if those criteria have already been completed. An athlete's age is to be determined in accordance with IBU rules.

Priority 3.0 Selection Criteria

	ALL ATHLETES	23 & UNDER
Priority 3.1	3 x WC or WCH TOP 30	
Priority 3.2	2 x WC or WCH TOP 40	
Priority 3.3	2 x WC or WCH TOP 60	
Priority 3.4		1 x TOP 3 JWCH
Priority 3.5	1 x TOP 8 IBU CUP or OECH	
Priority 3.6	2 x TOP 16 IBU CUP or OECH	
Priority 3.7	NEXT BEST RESULT (IN PRIORITY) -WC -IBU CUP TO FILL QUOTA FROM THE 2017-2018 SEASON	

Priority Four Selection Criteria - Closed Olympic Trials

Once all Priority One, Priority Two, and Priority Three nominations to the Canadian Olympic Biathlon Teams are complete, any remaining vacant positions may be filled using Priority Four criteria. Only athletes fulfilling the Olympic Eligibility Criteria as established by the IBU will be eligible to take part in these closed Olympic Trial Competitions.

In the event Closed Olympic Trials may be required, Biathlon Canada will publish key information (dates, place, and format) for these competitions as part of the 2017-2018 National Team Program in June, 2017.

ALTERNATE POSITIONS

Biathlon Canada will nominate one alternate for each of the men's and women's OWG teams. Alternate athletes must fulfill either Priority One, Priority Two, or Priority Three criteria to be considered for nomination; otherwise, no alternate athletes will be named.

In individual competitions (SP, PU, IN, MS), alternate athletes will replace a nominated athlete only in situations of serious injury, sickness, a severe breach of the athlete contract, or any other unforeseen circumstance that may lead a nominated athlete to decline their position on the Olympic Biathlon Team or be removed from that team prior to the commencement of the Olympic competition program.

In Relay competitions (Men's, Women's, Mixed), teams may be comprised of both selected and alternate athletes. The composition of Relay teams will be at the discretion of the HPWG.

Substitutions after January 2, 2018 are subject to OWG PyeongChang 2018 / IOC Late Athlete Replacement Policy.

PART 4 - INJURY PROVISION

Injury Provision takes into account the long-term commitment to training and competitive programs required to reach superior international performance criteria identified in this document.

Injury may prevent a current high-level international performing athlete from attending a sufficient number of competitions to qualify for Olympic nomination. Therefore, Injury Provision may be applied in the case of injured athletes who have achieved one of the following:

1. Only one qualifying result as stipulated in Priority 2 criteria;
2. Only two qualifying results as stipulated in Priority 3.1 criteria;
3. Only one qualifying result as stipulated in Priority 3.2 criteria;
4. Only one qualifying result as stipulated in Priority 3.3 criteria.

Injury Provision will not be considered for athletes who have not met any Priority 1, Priority 2, or Priority 3.1 to 3.3 criteria as established in this document.

Athletes granted an Injury Provision will be ranked based on their one, or two in the case of Priority 3.1 criteria, qualifying result(s) during the Olympic eligibility period.

To be considered under the Injury Provision clause, the athlete and their personal coach must each submit a written petition to the HPWG within 7 days upon recognition of an injury or illness which will be monitored and will be retained on file throughout the qualification period. The petition must include the following:

- i. A Doctor's medical certificate indicating the date and nature of the injury with the prescribed rehabilitation program and an estimated recovery period. An indication that a full medical recovery will be possible prior to the commencement of the first competition for the athlete within the 2018 Olympic program. Biathlon Canada reserves the right to require the athlete to submit to a second medical evaluation and opinion;
- ii. For the period of time during which the athlete is unable to fulfill the training and competition commitments included in the athlete's contract, the athlete undertakes in writing to train and/or rehabilitate under the supervision of Biathlon Canada at a level which minimizes risk to the athlete's personal health, and ensures optimum return to full training and competition at the earliest possible date, and,
- iii. The athlete signifies in writing his/her intention to return to full high performance training and competition at the earliest date possible following the illness or injury.

The final decision to apply the Injury Provision (described to retain an athlete for Olympic nomination) will reside with the Biathlon Canada High Performance Working Group and the IST Lead who will have been supported by a review conducted by the

Integrated Support Team. The review must conclude, without doubt, that the athlete in question will be ready to return to competition for the 2018 Olympic Winter Games with a reasonable expectation of performance levels attributable to priority one or priority two criteria benchmarks published herein.

PART 5 – CHANGES AND UPDATES

The High Performance Working Group reserves the right to suggest changes to this document, which in its discretion are necessary to ensure the fair and appropriate selection of the best team for the 2018 Olympic Games. Any changes to this document shall be communicated directly to all National Team Members via email communication and will be posted to the Biathlon Canada website for all members to access (www.biathloncanada.ca). This clause shall not be used to justify changes after a competition or trials which formed part of the internal nomination procedure unless it is related to an unforeseen circumstance. The purpose of this section is to allow for changes to this document that may become necessary due to a typographical error or a lack of clarity in a definition or wording before it has an impact on athletes. The purpose of such changes must be to avoid disputes over the meaning of the provisions of this document rather than to allow changes to be made to justify selection of different athletes than would have otherwise been selected. Such changes must be reasonably justifiable in accordance with fundamental principles of natural justice and procedural fairness. In the event of a change to this document Biathlon Canada shall inform the COC of the changes and the reasons for those changes as soon as possible.

PART 6 – APPEALS PROCESS

In the event of disputes arising from this selection and nomination procedure, The Biathlon Canada Dispute Resolution and Appeals Policy will be used to address disputes.

If both parties agree, the Biathlon Canada Dispute Resolution and Appeals Policy can be bypassed and the matter can be brought immediately before the Sport Dispute Resolution Centre of Canada (SDRCC) who will then manage the appeals process.