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**Biathlon Canada Youth/Junior Trials – 2021**

**Information Bulletin #1**

**October 19, 2020**

Biathlon Canada and the Caledonia Nordic Ski Club are excited to provide the following information about the 2021 Canadian Youth/Junior Trials. Additional information will be provided by way of the Invitation, further information bulletins, and a dedicated web page on the Caledonia Nordic Ski Club (CNSC) [web site](#).

1. Date of Youth/Junior Trials – February 1-7, 2021 (see item #3 below for details)
2. Organizing Committee
  - a. Chief of Competition – John Neumann
  - b. Chief of Course – Alan Witwicki
  - c. Chief of Range – Sheldon Clare
  - d. Chief of Results – Tim Roots
  - e. Chief of Stadium – Chelton van Geloven
  - f. Chief of Timing – Pierre Beaudry
  - g. Competition Secretary – Kara Simons
  - h. Biathlon Canada contact - Roddy Ward
3. Event schedule, competition formats and distance for both Youth and Junior (subject to change)
  - a. February 1, 2021 - Unofficial training
  - b. February 2, 2021 - Xc skate race - 7.5km M/W
  - c. February 3, 2021 - Official training
  - d. February 4, 2021 - Sprint - 7.5km M, 6km W
  - e. February 5, 2021 - Official training
  - f. February 6, 2021 - Individual - 12.5km M, 10km W
  - g. February 7, 2021 - Sprint - 10km M, 7.5km W
4. Courses maps and elevation profiles – located at the following links:
  - a. Red loop – 2.0km:  
<https://www.caledonianordic.com/uploads/Biathlon%20Race%20docs/Course%20maps/Red-cnsc.pdf>
  - b. Green loop – 2.5km  
<https://www.caledonianordic.com/uploads/Biathlon%20Race%20docs/Course%20maps/Green-cnsc.pdf>

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Blue loop – 3.3

<https://www.caledonianordic.com/uploads/Biathlon%20Race%20docs/Course%20maps/Blue-cnsc.pdf>

5. COVID statement - The Organizing Committee and Biathlon Canada are committed to holding this event in a manner which will result in an acceptably low risk of disease transmission to athletes, coaches, officials, other volunteers, and the Community of Prince George.

Under the present state of emergency in British Columbia the Provincial Government has the authority to prevent the event from taking place and, if it is to take place, state the terms under which it will proceed. The Caledonia Nordic Ski Club and Biathlon BC, in conjunction with Biathlon Canada, are in the process of determining with the appropriate authorities the conditions under which the event can proceed. If, by December 1, 2020, the conditions are such that the goals and purposes of the event cannot be met, the event will not take place in Prince George.

Possible changes to the competitions or restrictions on the event because of the COVID situation are expected. It is not yet known what this will entail however some possibilities include:

- Requirements to minimise the number of people travelling to the event, limiting to athletes, coaches and essential support;
- Requirements affecting where people may be permitted to stay in Prince George;
- Competitions scheduled so that the number of people on site at any time is reduced;
- Limit on the total number of coaches/support people at any one competition in specific areas of the field of play such as the range;
- Pre-event travel and health protocols, including answering an online COVID assessment at time of registration;
- Race and training day protocols to reduce transmission risk of Covid-19
- Athletes assigned a specific lane for each competition; and
- Fewer officials and volunteers on the field of play.

6. Internet resources

- a. Caledonia Nordic Ski Club – (<https://www.caledonianordic.com/events/biathlon-competitions>)
- b. IBU annual schedule: (<https://www.biathlonworld.com/calendar/#/event-18>)

7. Hotels – it has yet to be determined (with government officials) if all out-of-town participants will stay at a “hub” hotel or will be free to stay where they choose.

8. In collaboration with Biathlon Canada, the Organizing Committee will decide on December 1, 2020, at the latest, whether to proceed with the current location of the event in consideration of current COVID guidelines and provincial orders and restrictions <http://www.bccdc.ca/health-info/diseases-conditions/COVID-19>

9. Philosophy of the event – Yth/Jr Trials provides the opportunity for high performance athletes to come together from across Canada and showcase their abilities. It is the goal of Biathlon

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Canada and the Organizing Committee to provide an open competition with all Canadian Youth/Junior athletes having a fair opportunity to compete for a spot on the Yth/Jr National Team.

10. Ski waxing - the Canadian Trials will have a wax protocol for all competitions, which will be organized and run by Biathlon Canada. The use of fluorinated ski waxes, inline with Biathlon Canada hosting rules will not be allowed at this event, including all training and competition days. [Non-Fluoro memo](#).
11. Schedule of anticipated communications:
  - a. Information Bulletin #1 – October 16, 2020
  - b. Invitation – December 5, 2020
  - c. Information Bulletin #2 – January 1, 2020
12. IBU has indicated that the IBU Youth/Junior World Championships will take place on February 24 - March 7, 2021 in Obertilliach (AUT) <https://www.biathlonworld.com/news/detail/ibu-adjusts-competition-schedule-for-2020-21-season>.

As the Canadian Trials for this event is an important opportunity for the Youth and Junior athletes to compete at a National level as high performance athletes, it is currently the intent of Biathlon Canada and the Caledonia Nordic Ski Club to run the Canadian Trials even if the IBU Championships are cancelled.
13. To meet restrictions imposed by COVID 19 safety protocols, the Organizing Committee and Biathlon Canada request that the teams minimize the number of support people sent to the event. Note that to minimize COVID transmission risks, the Team Captain's meeting will be done virtually (e.g., Zoom). Therefore, all teams should have a device and data service available to attend these virtual meetings.
14. For possible contact tracing requirements, all participants (athletes, coaches, support) will provide names and contact information to the Competition Secretary for each day of the event, including training days.
15. Registration by numbers will occur in mid-December and because of COVID planning issues, it is imperative that all teams submit their registration by numbers in a timely fashion.