



Cross Country NWT

2023 Canada Winter Games

Athlete Selection Policy

This policy sets out the process used by Cross Country NWT to select athletes for Team NWT at the 2023 Canada Winter Games (CWG).

The cross country ski races for the Canada Winter Games 2023 are to be held in PEI in February-March 2023, with cross country ski races held February 28-March 3.

A call-out to gauge athlete interest in trying out for and attending the Canada Winter Games will be made prior to the trials.

CWG 2023 Selection Criteria

1. A maximum of 12 athletes (6 males/ 6 females) can be selected.
2. Athletes seeking a position on the 2023 CWG Team are expected to attend training camps and selection races as set out by the Athlete Selection Committee.
3. Athletes wanting to be a member of the 2023 CWG Team must meet the following eligibility requirements:
 - a. Athletes born between 2003 and 2008 are eligible;
 - b. Hold a valid Nordiq Canada Racing License;
 - c. Be a member of Cross Country NWT, the Territorial Sport Organization. Membership to Cross Country NWT is obtained by being a member of a registered NWT Ski Club; and
 - d. Meet requirements as set out in the Canada Games Cross Country Ski Technical Package, Appendix 1 (included).

Excluded from Team NWT CWG 2023 cross country ski team are:

- a. Senior National Team athletes (Defined as: Athletes who have held an
- b. SR, SR1, SR2 or C1 card at any time; and/or athletes who are part of (on the roster of) a standing Senior National Team (i.e. recognized as a Senior
- c. National Team member regardless of event participation)
- d. Athletes who do not meet the date of birth requirements as determined in section 3.a of this document

- e. Athletes who have previously competed at the following events:
Senior World Championships, Olympic Games or World Cups
(domestic World Cups not included)
4. The Athlete Selection Committee consists of the Head Coach, Assistant Coach, Team Manager, and Wax Tech. The Athlete Selection Committee names its chairperson from within the group and is responsible for managing the selection of athletes to the Canada Winter Games team, including communication with all athletes.

The Athlete Selection Committee must be free from actual and perceived conflict of interest and, where a conflict of interest may exist, committee members must identify the conflict and excuse themselves from selection decisions.

Parents of athletes, or other individuals deemed by Cross Country NWT's board to have special interest in the selection process, are not permitted to be members of the Athlete Selection Committee. Cross Country NWT may appoint another individual to the Athlete Selection Committee to replace any individual with a conflict of interest.

The selection of athletes may be based on:

- a. the results of two race competitions:
 - i. one in the Northwest Territories (proposed for Yellowknife in December 2022)
 - ii. one provincial event (proposed as Western Canada Cup in December 2022)
 - b. Skiers training full-time outside the NWT who are competitive at the national level may be pre-selected.
 - c. To be selected for Canada Winter Games, skiers must demonstrate a commitment to following the training program prescribed for them from the CWG Coaches or from their personal coach. Attending a fall dryland camp and early winter on snow camp may also be part of the training commitment.
5. Cross Country NWT expects athletes to be reasonably competitive, with demonstrated results from at least one race at the provincial, Western Canadian or National levels at a distance similar to CWG distances. Race results from the 2020/2021 or 2021/22 season may be considered at the coaches' discretion.

The coaching team and **Cross Country NWT have the discretion to:**

6. Disqualify Canada Winter Games applicants on the basis of unsportsmanlike behaviour at any time during the selection process and up to and including the Canada Winter Games,
7. Disqualify selected Canada Winter Games athletes, if they fail to maintain their fitness level following selection.

APPEALS

8. Appeals of selection decisions will be heard and decided in accordance with the Cross Country NWT Appeal Policy.

Appendix I – Competitor Eligibility

Athletes must also meet the requirements outlined in the [Canada Games Council - Athlete Eligibility Policy](#).

Excerpt:

Citizenship

3.1.1. Athletes must be Canadian citizens or permanent residents. A permanent resident is defined as someone who has been granted permanent residency prior to the start of the Opening Ceremony. Permanent residents have a Record of Landing (IMM 1000), a Confirmation of Permanent Residency (IMM 5292), a Permanent Resident Card, or any other document deemed eligible by immigration Canada as proof of their status.

3.2. Membership

3.2.1. Athletes must be registered members in good standing of their sports provincial/territorial sport organization (P/TSO) under the terms of principles 3.2.2 and 3.2.3 below.

(NOTE: In exceptional circumstances, an athlete in a given sport within a province/territory with no recognized P/TSO for the sport may be named to the P/T Canada Games team based on established criteria developed by the P/T Government and agreed to by the CGC and NSO. The established criteria should include, but is not limited to the following:

- the athlete is an active member of an established club,
- is being coached by an NCCP certified coach (preferably with Competition-Development certification),

- is competing in regional, provincial and/or national level competitions,
- is adhering to a monitored yearly training plan. The criteria may also include other measures as developed by the respective P/T).

3.2.2. The P/TSO must be recognized and/or funded by the provincial/territorial government, subject to exceptional circumstances.

3.2.3. The P/TSO must be a member in good standing of the national sport organization (NSO).

(NOTE: In exceptional cases where there is a dispute between an NSO and its P/TSO in a given sport, the CGC will contact the respective P/T government to discuss the facts of the dispute. All parties will encourage the sport to resolve the matter through the

NSO's internal mediation process. Should the dispute not be resolved satisfactorily through the NSO's internal process, the P/T governments will jointly determine the participation of the affected P/TSO in the Canada Games in collaboration with the CGC).

3.3. Level of Athlete

3.3.1. Provincial/territorial teams are made up of the best athletes from each jurisdiction that have not yet represented Canada internationally at a Senior World Championships or major multi-sport Games. Senior National Team athletes and/or athletes holding an SR, SR1 or SR2 Sport Canada Athlete Assistance Program card are not eligible for the Canada Games in the sport for which they hold the card.

3.3.1.1. No athlete can be rendered ineligible within 90 days of the opening of the Games due to National Team status, carding status or competing in an excluded event (i.e., if an athlete is granted National Team status for the first time, carding status or competed in an excluded event after May 6, 2021 they will still be considered eligible to compete at the 2021 Canada Games).

Athletes who hold a C1 card (as defined by Sport Canada's Athlete Assistance program) or are in their first year of Senior National Team status may be deemed eligible on a case by case basis. Requests must be submitted to the respective P/T Team Chef de Mission and approved by the Canada Games Council's Eligibility Sub-Committee.

3.3.2. Due to the smaller available pool of para athletes compared to able body athletes, NSOs may request to the CGC Sport Committee a modification to principle 7.3.1 for para athletes only. Any modification must continue to restrict athletes who are beyond the T2C phase of LTAD defined under principle 6.1.

3.3.3. NSOs may choose to include additional eligibility restrictions around amateurism, at their own discretion. All eligibility restrictions refer to the specific sport in question only (i.e. an athlete with AAP carding in swimming would still be eligible in diving even if AAP carding was an eligibility restriction for diving).

3.3.4. NSOs may set minimum performance standards for the Canada Games for safety reasons.

3.3.5. For individual sports, NSOs in consultation with P/TSOs set performance guidelines for athlete selection. For team sports, NSOs in consultation with P/TSOs set guidelines for appropriate team preparation.