



CROSS COUNTRY SKI DEFOND CANADA

Internal Nomination Procedures 2018 Paralympic Winter Games

SECTION 1 - INTRODUCTION

1.1 Purpose: The purpose of this document is to set out the process and criteria that will be used by the Cross Country Ski De Fond Canada (CCC) Para-Nordic Committee to nominate athletes to the Canadian Paralympic Committee (CPC) for selection to compete for Canada at the 2018 Paralympic Winter Games (PWG) in Para-Nordic skiing.

1.2 Strategic Goals:

- a) **Primary goal:** The primary goal of the selection criteria and procedures is to select the maximum number of medal potential athletes for the PWG Team in order to maximize podium performances at the 2018 PWG and meet CCC individual and team benchmarks for this event. Preparation and competition support will be focused on this goal as a first priority.
- b) **Secondary goal:** To promote and facilitate the development of athletes with identified potential to achieve podium results at future PWG where it is in the best interest of the team's overall results at this event.

SECTION 2 – DECISION MAKING AUTHORITY

2.1 Publishing and Selection Authority: This document is published under the authority of the CCC Para-Nordic Committee.

2.2 Selection Committee: The CCC Para-Nordic Committee will act as the selection committee and will select the athletes who will be nominated to the PWG Team based on the selection criteria and considerations outlined in this document. The Para-Nordic athlete representative on the Committee will not participate in selection processes due to conflict of interest. Those members of the CCC Para-Nordic Committee who are coaches with athletes being considered for nomination will not

be a part of the selection process due to conflict of interest but they may be present during selection to offer additional information. Para-Nordic Committee terms of reference <http://www.cccski.com/getmedia/598d313c-da90-4f7f-a430-d12071487368/23-Para-Nordic-Committee-TOR.pdf.aspx>

2.3 Decision Making Authority for team composition and event participation at the

PWG: Nomination to the PWG Team does not provide an entitlement to be entered in all events at the PWG. Once the CPC has accepted those athletes nominated by the CCC Para-Nordic Committee it is up to the CCC Para-Nordic Committee to decide how the athletes are to be entered in the events at the PWG based upon individual athletes' needs and abilities and achieving the best possible results. The decision as to which athletes are entered in each race at the PWG will be made by the CCC Para-Nordic appointed Head Coach in collaboration with the CCC appointed PWG Team Leader having considered the advice of the appointed CCC PWG coaching team and will be in accordance with maximum team size and entry requirements as determined by International Paralympic Committee (IPC) team size and eligibility requirements. The decision will also consider the input of the individual athlete being entered in each race.

This includes, but is not limited to, decisions around removal of an athlete from the team, injuries and/or use of alternates, starting orders, relay team make up, etc. These decisions cannot be appealed. Athletes will be made aware of their entries and competition schedule well in advance of the PWG. Upon arrival on site at the PWG the CCC PWG Coaching Team will provide the final confirmation of athletes' event schedules and will make any required entry changes in the eventuality of unexpected circumstances.

SECTION 3 – INTERNATIONAL PARALYMPIC COMMITTEE CRITERIA

3.1 IPC Qualification Guide for the 2018 PWG: The IPC has established minimum eligibility requirements to participate in the PWG. Please refer to https://www.paralympic.org/sites/default/files/document/170316125740819_PyeongChang%2BQG_March2017.pdf (p. 15-19) as may be updated from time to time. All Athletes nominated to the PWG Team must comply with these requirements as well as any other entry regulations established by the IPC or PWG host.

3.2 IPC Minimum Qualification Performance Standards:

For Biathlon: Be ranked and have at least one (1) race of 180 points or less on the World Para Nordic Skiing (WPNS) Biathlon Ranking Points List as of February 19th 2018. <https://www.paralympic.org/nordic-skiing/rankings>

For Cross-Country: Be ranked and have at least one race of 180 points or less on

either the WPNS Biathlon or WPNS Cross Country Ranking Points Lists as of February 19, 2018. <https://www.paralympic.org/nordic-skiing/rankings>

3.3 IPC Qualification Period: July 1, 2016 – February 19, 2018;

3.4 Changes to IPC Qualification Criteria: In the event of changes by the IPC to the selection and eligibility criteria, Cross Country Canada is bound by these changes and will inform the membership as soon as possible on the CCC website. Athletes who are directly affected by these changes will be contacted directly by members of the CCC Para-Nordic Committee.

SECTION 4 – ADDITIONAL ATHLETE ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

4.1 Additional Athlete Eligibility Requirements: All athletes nominated to the PWG Team must;

- a) Be eligible to represent Canada as determined by the IPC Policy on the Nationality of Competitors or as otherwise accepted by the IPC.
- b) Hold a valid WPNS competition license for the 2017/2018 season.
- c) Be at least fifteen (15) years of age by February 19, 2018;
- d) Be internationally classified with either a “Confirmed” sport class status or a “Review” sport class status with a review date after the 2017/2018 season;
- e) Sign and submit a CPC/CCC 2018 PWG Team Member Agreement no later than February 19, 2018;
- f) Sign and submit a 2017-2018 CCC National Team Athlete Agreement, which includes being a member in good standing of CCC and being bound by the CCC Code of Conduct for members of the National Ski Team, no later than February 19, 2018.

SECTION 5 – QUALIFICATION PERIOD and PROCESS

5.1 CCC Qualifying Period: The CCC qualifying period will follow the IPC qualification period commencing July 1, 2016 and ending February 19, 2018.

5.2 Qualification Process: Athletes who meet the qualifying criteria stated in this document will be eligible for nomination to the CPC for membership on the 2018 PWG Team. However, meeting one or more of the qualifying criteria as specified in this process does not guarantee nomination or team selection. The CPC is the sole and final authority in determining final team selection.

SECTION 6 – TEAM SIZE RANKING AND SELECTION PROCESS

6.1 Maximum team size: CCC may nominate up to the maximum number of athletes permitted by IPC PWG entry regulations in each event and overall as outlined in the IPC PWG Qualification Guide.

- a) The maximum team size will be eight (8) male athletes and three (3) female athletes (not including guides) in accordance with the maximum IPC PWG qualification slots allocated to Canada on June 1, 2017.
- b) At the discretion of the CCC Para-Nordic Committee the maximum team size may be increased by one (1) male or female to a maximum team size of twelve (12) in the case that a Bipartite Invitation Allocation slot is awarded to Canada.

6.2 Ranking for Paralympic Nomination: In the event that there are more athletes meeting the qualifying criteria than the maximum team size the group of eligible, qualified athletes will be ranked for nomination to the PWG Team by the CCC Para-Nordic Committee on the following basis;

- a) Nominations will be filled up to the maximum team size by gender from a ranking list using each athlete's best single result at WPNS sanctioned competition during the qualification period based on the lowest WPNS points in each respective race category in an individual qualifying race;
- b) A qualifying race is any WPNS sanctioned race in the qualifying period with at least three (3) WPNS points ranked competitors including at least one competitor with 60 or fewer WPNS points during the qualifying period.
- c) When calculating WPNS points for ranking, distance race points will be ranked higher than sprint points by a factor of 1.1 to 1.
- d) In the event of a tie, the ranking will be based on the athletes' second best finish placing using lowest WPNS points in each respective category in an individual qualifying race. If there is still a tie in the rankings, the third best finish placing will be used, and so on, to break the tie.

6.3 Bipartite Invitation Allocation:

- a) CCC may apply for additional allocation slots or modify its current allocation slots through the Bipartite Commission Invitation Allocation process as outlined in the IPC Qualification Guide.
- b) CCC will only be eligible to apply for 'Bipartite' entries for those athletes who have met all required nomination/selection criteria as outlined in this document within the qualification period.

6.4 Nomination Process:

- a) The CCC Para-Nordic Committee will select athletes based on the criteria and considerations outlined in this document and nominate these athletes to the CPC.
- b) Nominations will be submitted to the CPC as soon as possible after the end of the qualifying period. The deadline for nominations to the CPC is noon Eastern Standard Time, February 22nd, 2018.
- c) Following its review of CCC's nominations, the CPC will approve and announce the final PWG Team selections as soon as possible after the nomination deadline. The list of athletes nominated, together with the supporting rationale, will be made public by the CCC Para-Nordic Committee at the time that it is approved and announced by the CPC.
- d) Once the final nomination list of CCC is accepted by the CPC, all athletes will have equal status as qualified PWG Team members.

SECTION 7 – REPLACEMENT AND EXEMPTION

7.1 Replacement: If an athlete who has qualified for the PWG team is injured or does not accept their nomination that athlete may be replaced, subject to IPC and PWG regulations, by the next ranked individual athlete who has met all required eligibility and selection criteria. CCC's team physician or any other physician appointed by the CCC Para-Nordic Committee will assess any injured athlete and determine if that individual is unable to compete.

7.2 Exemption: CCC reserves the right to offer a nomination exemption to any athlete who is unable to meet the qualification criteria described in this document due to injury, illness, pregnancy or other exceptional circumstances. These circumstances must be clearly documented before the qualifying event in question and must be supported by a member of CCC's medical team or by another CCC approved equivalent before CCC will submit the nomination for the consideration of the CPC. The CPC is the sole and final authority in determining if an exceptional nomination under this clause will be accepted.

In support of this nomination, the CCC Para-Nordic Committee must submit supporting documentation with their nomination demonstrating:

- a) The athlete has been examined by the CCC medical team and cleared to return to competition.
- b) The athlete will have sufficient preparatory time and a formalized training plan in order to be in peak competitive condition at the time of the PWG.
- c) A summary of the past four years of the athlete(s) rankings and results, and the athlete(s) recent results during the PWG qualification period in order to demonstrate the probability that the athlete would have been capable of achieving all required selection criteria if not for the exceptional circumstances.
- d) Any other supporting information deemed relevant by CCC.

The CPC cannot accept any substitution or nomination following the Delegation Registration Meeting.

SECTION 8 – AMENDMENTS & UNFORESEEN CIRCUMSTANCES

8.1 Unforeseen Circumstances: In the event of unforeseen or unusual circumstances, beyond the control of CCC that prevent the CCC Para-Nordic Committee from fairly and objectively implementing these internal nomination procedures, the CCC Para-Nordic Committee shall have the full discretion to resolve the matter as it sees fit, taking into account factors and circumstances that the committee deems relevant and necessary to ensure selection of the best teams possible for the PWG. Any changes to this document shall be communicated directly to all affected parties as soon as possible.

Amendments to Nomination Procedures: CCC Para-Nordic Committee reserves the right to make changes to this document, which, in its discretion, are necessary to ensure nomination of the best team possible for the PWG. All such changes are subject to final approval by the CPC. Once approved by the CPC, any changes to this document shall be communicated directly to all Canadian Para-Nordic Cross-Country Skiing & Biathlon members and will be published on the CCC website forthwith.

SECTION 9 – APPEALS

In the interests of expediting resolution, there will be no recourse to appeal nomination decisions through CCC's internal appeal procedure. Appeals of nominations submitted to the CPC in accordance with this Selection Policy must be addressed to arbitration through the Sport Dispute Resolution Centre of Canada (SDRCC) in the initial instance. The appeals period will begin immediately after the qualification period ends on February 19th, 2018 and will end at 12:00 noon Eastern Standard Time on February 22nd, 2018.

SECTION 10 – LANGUAGE

Where there is a difference in interpretation between the French and English versions of this document, the English version shall prevail.