



2019 IAAF WORLD RELAYS SELECTION CRITERIA

OVERVIEW

All nominations will be made in accordance with Athletics Canada's ("AC") [National Team – Selection Rules Book](#). AC is limited in entries by IAAF rules and regulations that will always take precedence should there be any contradictions contained within the Selection Criteria (the "Criteria"). Attached to the Criteria, and forming an integral part of it, is an Appendix. The National Team Committee ("NTC") is responsible for the implementation of the Criteria and has the sole authority and discretion to make all decisions relating to the selection of the team for the IAAF World Relays.

1 GENERAL INFORMATION

1.1 Event Location

- Yokohama, Japan

1.2 Important Dates

Important Dates		
DATES	DESCRIPTION	LOCATION
March 24 – 31, 2019	Relay Camp 1	Gainesville, FL
April 14, 2019	Declaration Deadline	Online Form
April 15, 2019	Team Selection Date	
April 18 – 28, 2019	Relay Camp 2	Baton Rouge, LA
May 2, 2019	Depart Canada	
May 3 – 9, 2019	Pre-World Relays Camp	Gifu, Japan
May 11 – 12, 2019	Competition Dates	Yokohama, Japan
May 13, 2019	Depart Japan	

1.3 Eligibility

To be eligible to participate in the 2019 IAAF World Relays, an Athlete must meet the following requirements:

- be a registered member of an Athletics Canada Branch at the time of qualification and through the 2019 IAAF World Relays;
- hold Canadian Citizenship by the Final Selection Date;
- declare interest via the Online Form as per the dates outlined in section 1.2;
- comply with the Final Phase Preparation Requirements as outlined in section 4;
- be otherwise eligible to participate in the 2019 IAAF World Relays;
- have a Canadian passport valid until at least November 12, 2019;
- attend one of the Relay Camps as outlined in section 1.2; and
- sign the AC National Relay Team Athlete Agreement – See Appendix A.

1.4 Events

4x100m, 4x400m, mixed 4x400m.



1.5 Maximum per Event

The IAAF allows a maximum of 6 athletes per relay team.

1.6 Final Declaration Date

Athletes are required to declare their interest to participate by completing the online form no later than April 14, 2019. **Failure to submit declaration forms by the deadline will render the athlete ineligible for selection.**

1.7 Final Selection Date and Team Announcement

The NTC will make final team selections by April 15, 2019. AC will announce the final team through established communication channels (Branches, AC website, bulletin); athletes selected to the team will be contacted directly.

1.8 Funding

This team will be 100% funded by Athletics Canada.

2 TEAM OBJECTIVES

- To enter teams realistically capable of placing high enough at the 2019 IAAF World Relay Championships to qualify Canada for the 2019 IAAF World Championships in Qatar.

NB: At the 2019 IAAF World Relays the top 10 men's and women's 4x100m teams, top 10 men's women's 4x400m teams and top 12 mixed 4x400m teams will qualify for the 2019 IAAF World Championships in Qatar.

3 SELECTION PROCESS

All selections will be made in accordance with Athletics Canada's (AC) [National Team – Selection Rules Book](#).

NOTE: It is the responsibility of the athlete to submit eligible performances to Athletics Canada at results@athletics.ca in order to be considered for selection.

3.1 The National Team Committee (NTC)

The NTC is comprised of:

- **Chair**
- **Voting Members** - Athletics Canada Technical Staff (two), Event Specialists (two), Branch Representatives (two, as designated by Branch Council), and Athlete Representatives (two, as designated by the Athlete Directors). In the case of a tie, the Chair of the NTC has the tie-breaking vote.
- **Non-Voting** – Can be asked to be present at parts of an NTC Selection Meeting depending on expertise and input required, but might include: Athletics Canada coaching and Integrated Support Team (“IST”) staff as necessary, statistician, legal advisor, as required.

3.2 Selection Process



(a) Selecting Events

The Head Coach will recommend which events (from M4x100m, W4x100m, M4x400m, W4x400m, Mixed4x400m) he/she considers has the realistic capacity to placing high enough at the 2019 IAAF World Relay Championships to qualify Canada for the 2019 IAAF World Championships in Qatar. In making his/her recommendations the Head Coach will consider the following factors in any order that he/she sees fit:

- 2018 and 2019 outdoor rankings for each relay event.
- The pool of Canada athletes declared, eligible and available for each relay event.
- Current trends in the relays globally.

The NTC shall, at their sole discretion, accept or reject the Head Coach's recommendations on an event by event basis, selecting the events that they consider have the realistic capacity to place high enough at the 2019 IAAF World Relay Championships to qualify Canada for the 2019 IAAF World Championships in Qatar.

(b) Selecting Athlete Squads

For each selected single gender relay event a squad of 5 or 6 athletes will be selected.

If a mixed gender relay is selected the squad will consist of 3 males and 3 females and:

- at least 2 of these males must also be included in the men's 4x400m squad, if that event was selected in step a (above) and
- at least 2 of these females must also be included in the women's 4x400m squad, if that event was selected in step a (above).

For each relay event selected in step a (above) the Head Coach will recommend a squad of athletes. In making his/her recommendations the Head Coach considering the following factors in any order that he/she sees fit:

- 2018 outdoor rankings in the 100m, 200m, 400m and 400m Hurdles.
- 2019 indoor rankings in the 60m, 200m, 300m, 400m and 600m.
- Health and fitness levels that indicate optimal final phase preparation.
- Commitment to the National Relay program as determined by attitude, attendance, participation, and performance at the 2019 Gainesville Relay Camp.
- Performance on previous relay teams.
- Assessment of relay skills and position suitability.

The NTC shall, at their sole discretion, accept or reject the Head Coach's recommendations on an athlete by athlete basis, selecting the squads that they consider have the best realistic capacity to place high enough at the 2019 IAAF World Relay Championships to



qualify Canada for the 2019 IAAF World Championships in Qatar.

Note: all selected athletes must attend either the 2019 Gainesville Relay Camp and/or the 2019 Baton Rouge Relay Camp.

(c) 4x200m Relay Event

The aim of the Canadian team is to qualify places in Qatar. The current 2019 IAAF World Relay Championships timetable does not make it possible to compete in the 4x200m event without compromising this aim. If the organising committee changes the timetable and the Head Coach and HPD agree that contesting a 4x200m will not compromise these aims, then men's and/or women's 4x200m teams may be selected from within the selected 4x100m and 4x400m squads and the events contested in Yokohama.

(d) Selecting Teams at the Championships

Athletes should note that selection for a squad does not guarantee competing at the Championships. All selected athlete are eligible to compete in any relay (subject to gender rules) at the Championships ([IAAF rule]).

NOTE: selected athletes **MUST** attend the Pre-World Relays Camp in Gifu, Japan.

4 FINAL PHASE PREPARATION REQUIREMENTS

Athletes are expected to demonstrate final phase preparation and be able to deliver a peak performance at the IAAF World Relays. An athlete's selection will not be confirmed until they complete the process outlined below and they will be deselected if the process is not completed.

4.1 Injury or Illness

Athletes who arrive at an international competition injured or ill consume a disproportionate amount of IST time and resources that should be spent on preparing healthy athletes to compete at their best. It is therefore AC's intention to work with carded athletes that have been injured or ill to help them recover in time for the competition with a minimal impact to training, or (in the event that full recovery is not possible for this competition) to ensure full recovery so that full training can resume and long-term potential is optimized. With this in mind, the NTC reserves the right to deselect injured/ill athletes who are not sufficiently healthy/fit to perform at their best at the competition.

Once selected, and ongoing until the World Relays, athletes are required to immediately report any injury, illness, or change in training status that could affect their ability to compete at their highest level. Failure to properly report injury or illness prior to the event may result in the athlete being deselected and held financially responsible for all the athlete's costs associated with the event. Notification must be sent immediately to Jared MacLeod at jmacleod@athletics.ca.

Once notified of an athlete's injury, illness or change in training status that could affect their performance, AC team staff will work with the athlete, coach and local/national team IST resources to ensure that a complete injury and illness assessment has occurred and a



recovery plan is in place. This assessment will include a determination of the athlete's potential for recovery and ability to compete at their best. This determination will comprise of two steps:

STEP 1: Medical Clearance

Generally done by local IST in collaboration with AC's National IST and consists of 2 phases:

- a) An initial medical evaluation and paramedical assessment(s) to confirm the diagnosis and determine if/when the athlete is fit to return to full training or competition.
- b) A functional evaluation by IST with experience specific to the event demands (and injury or illness if applicable). This may include assessment of the athlete's movement pattern, for example, during a run, hurdle, jump, walk, or throw to identify dysfunctional movement patterns that may be contributing to the injury and potentially increase the risk of re-injury or undermine their competition performance.

STEP 2: Specific Evaluation

Following medical clearance by the medical team, a more comprehensive physical readiness test (the "Performance Test") to compete will be established as follows:

- Determination of the Performance Test will involve the AC National Event Group Coach, the event Head Coach, and the Personal Coach.
- The Performance Test will vary according to the event, injury or illness.
- The Performance Test will be objective, measurable, fair, realistic, specific to the event, and challenging.

In the case that the athlete is deemed unfit to resume training/competition, or does not meet the Performance Test standard, the athlete would be declared unready for competition and the results of the two steps will be forwarded to the NTC for a decision.

The NTC will use all available information at their disposal including performance results and progress in the final phase, suitability of the training and competition plan, fitness and other final phase indicators, consultation with the AC National Event Group Coach, AC National IST leads, the athlete's personal IST, and any other performance related information (ie Performance Test results when applicable) to determine if the injured/ill athlete will be deselected and will not travel with the team.

The NTC may nominate the next eligible athlete, provided that the alternate athlete has proven their preparation during the final phase and meets all event specific requirements in regards to qualifying standards and timelines.

4.3 Health Questionnaire and Anti-Doping

Upon selection, all athletes will be required to complete a Medical Information Form. These questionnaires will ask athletes to declare all supplements and medications that are being used prior, during and after the event. Athletes who need to take medications while competing **must** ensure they have a completed and approved IAAF Therapeutic Use



Exemption (TUE), if required, prior to selection. **Note:** It is not the responsibility of the AC team physicians to complete the documents for TUEs on behalf of the athlete. This should be done by the physician who prescribed the medication that requires the TUE. AC team physicians are available, however, for questions related to whether or not a TUE is required. Information regarding the TUEs for IAAF events can be found here: <https://www.iaaf.org/about-iaaf/documents/anti-doping>.

5 APPEALS

Only athletes who are eligible to be considered for selection (see sections 1.3 and 3) and who have achieved the standard (see Appendix A) during the Qualifying Period (see section 1.2) may submit an appeal for selection to the Commissioner's Office. Please refer to the National Team Selection – Rule Book and the AC Rules and By-laws Section 140.06 & 140.07 for further information. An appeal has to be submitted to the following e-mail address athleticscanadacommissioner@gmail.com. Due to the IAAF entry deadline of April 22, 2019, appeals must be received within 48 hours of the publication of the team list.

Contact the Director of Finance Sylvie King (Sylvie.king@athletics.ca) for payment options of the \$250 appeal fee. The appeal will not be reviewed until the appeal fee has been paid.

6 AMENDMENTS TO THE CRITERIA

The NTC reserves the right to amend the Criteria prior to the Selection Date. The NTC may amend the Criteria under the following circumstances:

1. When additional (or altered) information that is deemed relevant by the NTC to the Criteria is provided by external parties, such as (but not limited to) an event organizing committee, Sport Canada, the Canadian Olympic Committee, IAAF, or any other relevant organization; and
2. To correct, clarify or amend any inconsistencies, errors or omissions in the Criteria.

Any changes made by the NTC are deemed to come into effect immediately upon publication on the AC website. The NTC will publish the amended Criteria by whatever means and wherever the original Criteria were published.



Appendix A

Athletics Canada (AC) National Relay Team Athlete Agreement

Overview

In order to be successful in Qatar we must continue the momentum we built with the AC National Relay Program since Beijing in 2008. Again, the relay program's fundamental principles are identified below. Athletes who are part of the National Relay Program are expected to adhere to these principles. Athletes selected for the national relay program must sign and return this agreement by April 14, 2019.

Fundamental Principles

1. The relay is a team event and all members are equal.
2. A common vision among team members is critical for success.
3. Open communication is encouraged among athletes and coaches.
4. Full cooperation on and off the track is expected; team cohesiveness is essential.
5. Athletes must have an open mind and a willingness to learn and adapt to relay ideas.
6. Selection of the team will be at the sole discretion of AC coaching staff with approval by the NTC.
7. Versatility as it pertains to relay running position is a must.
8. The goal is to assemble the best possible group of athletes in an order that will best benefit the team. Running order will be determined by the designated event Relay Coach and athletes will be advised of the order in a timely manner.
9. Athletes who are placed in an alternate position are expected to fully participate in team practices and competitions, including dressing and warming up with the team on the day of competition, and to be prepared to contribute if needed. Alternates are expected to accompany the four selected athletes to the call room area or as far as Officials will allow.
10. Members will attend all National Relay Program mandatory events.
11. Punctuality is expected at all relay events; tardiness will not be tolerated.

Relay Team Athlete Selection

All of the following factors will be considered in relay team selection:

1. 2018 outdoor rankings in the 100m, 200m, 400m and 400m Hurdles
2. 2019 indoor rankings in the 60m, 200m, 300m 400m and 600m
3. Health and fitness levels that indicate optimal final phase preparation
4. Commitment to the National Relay program as determined by attitude, attendance, participation, and performance at the Gainesville Relay Camp or commitment to attend the Baton Rouge Relay Camp
5. Performance on previous relay teams
6. Assessment of relay skills and position suitability

The designated AC Relay Coach (in consultation with the AC Head Coach) will make decisions in regards to relay team selection and positioning of relay team members

Athlete Agreement

I have read, understand and accept the National Relay Team's principles and criteria for selection. I understand that my failure to comply with this Agreement may render me ineligible for National Team relay assignments.

Athlete Signature:	Coach Signature:
Print name:	Date: