



2020 WORLD ATHLETICS RACE WALKING TEAM CHAMPIONSHIPS

SELECTION CRITERIA

OVERVIEW

All selections will be made in accordance with Athletics Canada's (AC) [National Team – Selection Rules Book](#). AC is limited in entries by World Athletics rules and regulations that will always take precedence should there be any contradictions contained within the Selection Criteria (the "Criteria"). 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 World Athletics Race Walking Team Championships.

1 GENERAL INFORMATION

1.1 Event Location

Minsk, Belarus

1.2 Important Dates

Important Dates		
DATES	DESCRIPTION	LOCATION
January 1, 2019 – April 5, 2020	Qualifying Period	
April 5, 2020	Declaration Deadline	Online Form
April 6, 2020	Selection Date	
April 13, 2020	Deadline to submit training and competition plan for the period April 13-May 2, 2020	Email to: Jessica.Scarlato@athletics.ca
TBC	Depart Canada	
May 2-3, 2020	Competition Date	Minsk, Belarus
May 4, 2020	Depart Belarus	

1.3 Eligibility

To be eligible to participate in the 2020 World Athletics Race Walking Team Championships, an athlete must meet the following requirements:

- be a registered member of an Athletics Canada Branch at the time of qualification and through the 2020 World Athletics Race Walking Team Championships;
- hold Canadian Citizenship by the 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 within the Age Categories imposed by World Athletics:
 - Any athlete aged 18 or 19 years on 31 December 2020 (born in 2001 or 2002)



may compete in the Senior 20km race or the U20 race (NOT in the Senior 50km race).

- Any athlete aged 16 or 17 years on 31 December 2020 (born in 2003 or 2004) may compete in the U20 race ONLY.
- No athlete younger than 16 years of age on 31 December 2020 (born in 2005 or later) may be entered.

- be otherwise eligible to participate in the 2020 World Athletics Race Walking Team Championships; and
- have a Canadian passport valid until at least November 6, 2020.

1.4 Events

Senior: 20km and 50 km

U20: 10km

1.5 Maximum per Event

AC will select up to a maximum of five (5) athletes per senior event and three (3) athletes per U20 event, provided they have achieved the qualifying standard (section 3.3) during the qualifying period (section 1.2).

1.6 Declaration Deadline

Athletes are required to declare their interest to participate by completing the online form no later than April 5, 2020. **Failure to complete declaration by the deadline will render the athlete ineligible for selection.**

1.7 Selection Date and Team Announcement

The NTC will make team selections on April 6, 2020. AC will announce the 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 provide a competition opportunity for the athletes most likely to represent Canada in Race Walk at the 2020 Olympic Games.
- To maximize the number of athletes who finish in the top half of their field, finish in the top eight and win medals.
- Where it does not negatively impact either of the above objectives, to give quality U23 athletes the opportunity to experience a high level of competition.

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 the following:

- **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

1. Individual Athlete Selection:

- a) All eligible athletes (section 1.3) who have achieved the individual qualifying standard (section 3.3) during the qualifying period (section 1.2) will be considered.
- b) The maximum number of eligible athletes will be selected for each event (subject to the limits in section 1.5) except for the 50km walk.
- c) The NTC may consider, at its sole discretion, selecting U23 athletes who have reached the U23 individual standard. This aspect of the criteria is intended to support athletes with the realistic capacity to be selected to future World Championships or Olympic Games. In this case, selection will be based on all of the following criteria:
 - i. The athlete must be born in 2000, 1999 or 1998, and
 - ii. The athlete must show a clear progression over the last three years, and
 - iii. The athlete must not displace a senior athlete with a faster eligible individual qualifying standard.
For the avoidance of doubt the U23 athlete may, at the NTC’s sole discretion, take a place that could otherwise be taken by a slower senior athlete or a senior athlete eligible for a team selection).
- d) The 50km is a very physically challenging event. Therefore 50km athletes (male or female) will only be selected if the NTC is convinced of their “proven international caliber” in race walking.
- e) Should more than the maximum number of eligible athletes be selectable for any particular event the selection panel will prioritize the athletes who, in their opinion and at their absolute discretion, are the most likely to achieve team objectives (section 2) based on the following factors (in any order) and any other factors that they consider relevant:
 - i. Eligible performances within the Qualifying Period;
 - ii. Head-to-head results within the Qualifying Period;
 - iii. Recent form and fitness;
 - iv. The most recent National Championships results; and
 - v. The athletes’ international championships results.



2. Team Selections:

- a) All eligible athletes (section 1.3) who have achieved the team qualifying standard (section 3.3) during the qualifying period (section 1.2) will be considered.
- b) For all events except the 50km, teams will only be selected if a minimum of three athletes are selectable.
- c) The NTC may consider, at its sole discretion, selecting U23 athletes who have reached the U23 team standard. This aspect of the criteria is intended to support athletes with the realistic capacity to be selected to future World Championships or Olympic Games. In this case, selection will be based on all of the following criteria:
 - i. The athlete must be born in 2000, 1999 or 1998, and
 - ii. The athlete must show a clear progression over the last three years, and
 - iii. The athlete must not displace a senior athlete eligible for selection as a team member who has a faster eligible team qualifying standard.
- d) The 50km is a very physically challenging event, especially in the weather conditions likely at this event. Therefore Teams for the 50km (male or female) will only be selected if the NTC is convinced a minimum of three selectable team members are of “proven international caliber” in race walking.
- e) For more than three athletes to be selected to a senior team the additional athletes, above three, must have achieved an individual qualifying standard during the qualifying period (senior or U23 as appropriate). For the avoidance of doubt:
 - i. For four athletes to be selected: during the qualifying period all the athletes must have achieved the team qualifying standard and at least one of these athletes must have achieved the individual qualifying standard (senior or U23 as appropriate).
 - ii. For five athletes to be selected, during the qualifying period all the athletes must have achieved the team qualifying standard and at least two of these athletes must have achieved the individual qualifying standard (senior or U23 as appropriate).
- f) For more than two athletes to be selected to a U20 team the additional athlete must have achieved the individual qualifying standard during the qualifying period. For the avoidance of doubt, for three athletes to be selected: during the qualifying period all the athletes must have achieved the team qualifying standard and at least one of these athletes must have achieved the individual qualifying standard.
- g) Should more than the maximum number of eligible athletes be selectable for any particular event the selection panel will prioritize the athletes who, in their opinion and at their absolute discretion, are the most likely to achieve team objectives (section 2) based on the following factors (in any order) and any other factors that they consider relevant:
 - vi. Eligible performances within the Qualifying Period;
 - vii. Head-to-head results within the Qualifying Period;
 - viii. Recent form and fitness;
 - ix. The most recent National Championships results; and



- x. The athletes' international championships results.

3.3 Standards

Event	Individual	Team
Men's 20km	1:25:00 (15km 1:03:45 in 2018)	1:27:00 (15km 1:05:15 in 2018)
U23 Men's 20km * Subject to section 3.2.1.c ** Subject to selection 3.2.2.c	1:30:00* (15km 1:07:30** in 2018)	1:32:00* (15km 1:09:00** in 2018)
Men's 50km *Subject to section 3.2.1.d **Subject to section 3.2.2.d	4:04:00*	4:06:00**
Women's 20km	1:36:00 (15km 1:12:00 in 2018)	1:38:00 (15km 1:13:30 in 2018)
U23 Women's 20km * Subject to section 3.2.1.c ** Subject to selection 3.2.2.c	1:38:00* (15km 1:13:3** in 2018)	1:40:00* (15km 1:15:00** in 2018)
Women's 50km *Subject to section 3.2.1.d **Subject to section 3.2.2.d	4:40:00*	4:50:00**
U20 Men's 10km	44:00	47:00
U20 Women's 10km	49:30	51:30

NOTE: Athletes qualifying with a 15k standard must have successfully completed a 20k event in 2019.

3.4 General Selection Regulations (for the purpose of selection eligibility)

- Events in any competition are only considered completed when protests, if filed with the Jury of Appeal in accordance with World Athletics Technical Rules, Section 8 (Protests and Appeals), have been heard and the Jury decision carried out.
- Both road and track performances will be accepted.
- The achievement of all performances must be substantiated with official documentation and based on official results published and released at the time of the event.

4 FINAL PHASE PREPARATION REQUIREMENTS

4.1 Training and Competition Plan

Selected athletes (and/or their coaches) are required to present a training and competition plan for the period April 13-May 2, 2020 to National Teams Manager, Jessica Scarlato (Jessica.Scarlato@athletics.ca) on or before April 13, 2020.

All plans must address the following:

- The schedule and list of planned competitions, travel and training locations.
- Present a training cycle for the final phase showing patterns of training load and recovery on a weekly basis.
- Injury prevention and medical intervention strategies if applicable.



Athletes must notify AC in **WRITING** of any changes to their plans.

4.2 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 the selected 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 Race Walk Team Championships, 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 Jessica Scarlato (Jessica.Scarlato@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:

1. 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.
2. 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 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 head coach or his/her delegate, 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 World Athletics 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 World Athletics events can be found here:

<https://www.worldathletics.org/about-iaaf/documents/anti-doping>.

5 APPEALS

Please refer to the "National Team Selection Rules Book" and the AC Rules and By-laws Section 140.06 & 140.07 for full information on the AC appeals process. The process is also summarized at <http://athletics.ca/wp-content/uploads/2018/05/Process-for-Submitting-Appeals-EN.pdf> Appeals must be submitted to the following e-mail address: Commissioner@athletics.ca.

Contact appeals@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, World Athletics, or any other relevant organization; and

2. To correct, clarify or amend any inconsistencies, errors or omissions in the Criteria.

Any amendments 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.