



NATIONAL TEAM SELECTION RULES BOOK

[Revised April 2021]

Glossary

AAP	Sport Canada's high-performance support funding (Athlete Assistance Program)
AC	Athletics Canada
CAPP	Athletics Canada's high-performance support program (Canadian Athletics Performance Pathway)
COC	Canadian Olympic Committee
CPC	Canadian Paralympic Committee
HPD	High Performance Director
IAAF	International Association of Athletics Federations
IOC	International Olympic Committee
IPC	International Paralympic Committee
Qualifying Standard	A performance, typically a time, height, distance or points, required to be considered for selection.
Qualifying Period	The dates in which Qualification Standard must be achieved.
Qualifying Trials	Competitions which have special status for selection, for example a National Championships at which the winner is automatically selected if they have also achieved a Qualification Standard.
National Team	An athletics team on which athletes, selected by AC's NTC, represent Canada.
NTC	National Team Committee. The NTC is responsible for the implementation of all team selection criteria and will exercise its authority to make all decisions relating to those selections as per section 126 of the AC Rules and Bylaws (see http://athletics.ca/federation/governance/policies-rules-laws/).
SDRCC	Sport Dispute Resolution Centre of Canada
Selection Criteria Document	A document that outlines the selection ¹ process for each National Team, including team objectives, high performance principles, eligibility for selection, selection processes, selection criteria, deadlines, qualifying periods and standards, exceptions, and performance readiness.
WA	World Athletics
WPA	World Para Athletics

¹ AC usually selects National Teams, but sometimes AC nominates National Teams, leaving final selection to another entity such as the COC. In this document the team 'selection' refers to decisions made by AC to select or nominate teams.



NATIONAL TEAM SELECTION RULES BOOK

[Revised April 2021]

1.0 SELECTION REGULATIONS

General

1. This Rules Book serves as a general guide for AC's National Team nomination and selection process. It establishes general principles that are applicable to selection¹ to all National Team events.
2. For each specific National Team event, a Selection Criteria Document will be approved by the NTC and published by AC.
3. All athlete selections will be made by the NTC in accordance with this Rules Book and the Selection Criteria Document. In the event that there is a conflict between this Rules Book and the Selection Criteria Document, the Selection Criteria Document will prevail.
4. Except as explicitly provided in the Selection Criteria Document, the most restrictive criteria of the IAAF/WA, IPC/WPA, AC, local organizing committee or other relevant international governing body rule(s) will prevail.
5. Except as explicitly provided in the Selection Criteria Document, all athletes must achieve the required selection criteria for each event for which they wish to be considered for selection during the qualifying period as outlined in the Selection Criteria Document.
6. Except as explicitly provided in the Selection Criteria Document, all athletes must compete with bona fide effort at identified competitions ("Qualifying Trials") to be eligible for selection; the NTC shall be the sole arbiters of what constitutes a bona fide effort.
7. The Selection Criteria Document may specify dates within which qualifying performances must be set (the "Qualifying Period"). Except as explicitly provided in the Selection Criteria Document, no performances in events that occur before or after the end of the applicable Qualifying Period will be valid for the purpose of selection to the team.

1.2 Team List Announcement

The composition of selected teams will be announced by AC through established communication channels (notification to Provincial Branches, posting on the AC web-site, and publication in the AC newsletter). Athletes who are selected may be contacted directly by AC prior to the public announcement.

1.3 Amendments

AC reserves the right to amend the Selection Criteria Document. If amendments are made, they will be communicated as soon as possible through the established communication channels referenced in Section 1.2.

1.4 Unforeseen Circumstances

In situations where unforeseen circumstances do not allow the process for selection as contemplated in the Selection Criteria Document to be implemented, the NTC reserves the right to determine an appropriate course of action. Depending on the circumstances, such course of action may involve implementation of an alternate process for National Team selection.



NATIONAL TEAM SELECTION RULES BOOK

[Revised April 2021]

1.5 Team Travel Obligations

1. Athletes who wish to participate on a National Team are required to comply with AC travel plans (including participation in pre-competition and pre-target-event training camps and competitions) as they pertain to training schedules, travel and accommodation schedules.
2. Upon accepting a position on a National Team, athletes agree to fully participate in both the final preparation camp and the full duration of the event as identified in Section 1.0 of the Selection Criteria.
3. Upon accepting a position on a National Team, athletes also agree to travel on the official traveling dates.
4. In extraordinary circumstances, exceptions to these National Team travel obligations may be granted at AC's sole discretion. The request for an exemption must be made in writing to the AC HPD in advance of travel dates, unless explicitly stated elsewhere requests must be made on or before the final declaration date.
5. Failure to comply with National Team travel obligations may result in de-selection from a team and may affect current high performance support status (for example CAPP or AAP support) and/or future high performance support eligibility. Any additional costs incurred as a result of failure to comply with National Team travel obligations will be the sole responsibility of the athlete.

2.0 PERFORMANCE REGULATIONS

Except as explicitly provided in the Selection Criteria Document, only performance results that meet the following regulations may be considered by the NTC.

1. Performance results must be achieved at competitions organized or authorized by the IAAF/WA or IPC/WPA, its Area Associations or its National Member Federations, and must be conducted under IAAF/WA or IPC/WPA rules. Thus, results achieved at university, college or school competitions must be certified by the National Federation of the country in which the competition was organized.
2. Performance results must have been achieved at competitions listed on the AC, IAAF/WA or IPC/WPA Member Federation fixtures lists, and must be recognized on the official AC performance ranking lists. Under normal circumstances, Canadian competitions must appear on Provincial Fixtures lists a minimum of 30 days prior to the competition. In recognition of the rapidly changing local health regulations related to COVID-19, this publication period shall be reduced to 7 days until August 31, 2021. A Provincial Branch may request this requirement to be further reduced where COVID pandemic related issues made it unrealistic to list the competition earlier. The NTC will decide on a case-by-case basis if they will allow the performance to stand for selection purposes, provided the following requirements are met:
 - 2.1. The competition must appear on the Provincial Fixtures lists a minimum of 3 working days prior to the competition;
 - 2.2. The Province must request an exception, in writing, a minimum of 3 working days prior to the competition which includes how COVID related restrictions made it unrealistic to list the competition earlier. (The request should be addressed initially to the chair of the NTC, the High Performance Director.)



NATIONAL TEAM SELECTION RULES BOOK

[Revised April 2021]

Note: typically performances will only be counted towards qualification for a Para team (or Para funding programs), if the event also has the appropriate WPA sanction. The timelines for obtaining WPA sanctioning are independent of this Rulebook and are likely to take longer than the NTC approval process.

3. Performance results must be substantiated with official documentation and must be based on official results published and released at the time of the event. Wind readings and implement certification must always be recorded on results to guarantee their validity. In addition, the signature and contact details of the certified AC Official, or international equivalent, are required on the documentation.
4. Performance results achieved in mixed track events under 5000m involving both male and female participants, held completely in a stadium, shall not be accepted for the purposes of team selection, pursuant to IAAF/WA Rule 147. Note that this point does not apply to mixed relay teams seeking selection for mixed relay events.
5. Wind-assisted performances will not be accepted for the purposes of team selection.
6. Hand-timed performances in individual and relay events up to and including the 800m will not be accepted for the purposes of team selection. For all other timed events, hand-timed results will be accepted for National Team selection purposes as long as it is properly documented and signed by the chief track referee.
7. For the 1500m: if the Selection Criteria Document requires an athlete to achieve a fixed performance standard multiple times, and where allowed by the Selection Criteria Document and the relevant Games and/or international event organizer; then converted mile performances to 1500m, based on IAAF/WA Scoring Tables equivalencies, may be counted towards the achievement of repeated standards. For this purpose only, converted standard performances will be acceptable regardless of any electronic performance which may be recorded at the 1500m mark.
8. Indoor performances will not be accepted for the purposes of National Team selection for outdoor events.
9. Events in any competition are only considered completed, and the performance results final, when protests, if filed with the Jury of Appeal in accordance with IAAF/WA Rule 146, have been heard and the Jury decision carried out.
10. The Selection Criteria Document may require an athlete to declare that they wish to be considered for selection (the "Athlete Declaration"). It is the sole responsibility of the athlete to submit performance results to AC prior to the Athlete Declaration deadline.
11. For the purpose of satisfying any required repeat performances, performances must be achieved in separate and distinct competitions. Therefore, repeated performances from within the same competition (whether achieved in a single round in the case of field events; or during multiple qualifying rounds in the case of track events) will not be considered repeat performances for the purposes of team selection. Only one performance for a given event will be accepted for the purpose of team selection from any single competition/meet. Results achieved at competitions conducted with multiple "runs" or back-to-back series (whether conducted in the same day or over multiple days) will only count once for the purpose of achieving repeat performance standards.



NATIONAL TEAM SELECTION RULES BOOK

[Revised April 2021]

EXCEPTIONS – Performances achieved in the finals of the Canadian National Championships or any International Event at which a (Canadian) National Team is competing, in addition to a performance in qualifying rounds or heats, may be accepted for the purpose of satisfying repeat performances.

12. For the purpose of team selection that requires repeat performances, only one such performance can have been achieved at a non-Canadian altitude competition. Where team selection requires only one performance, such performance cannot have been achieved at a non-Canadian altitude competition. For the purposes of this document, altitude is defined as greater than 1000m. (NOTE: This rule only applies to events under 1500m, jumping events and the relays.)
13. For the purposes of team selection that requires repeat performances, only one such performance can have been achieved at a competition featuring only single events or event groupings.

Racewalk and Road Running Results

14. For Marathon, Half Marathon and Race Walk, both road and track performance results will be accepted for the purposes of National Team selection. All road results must be achieved in conformity with the following rules: (1) the course must be certified, and (2) the race must be sanctioned by a National Governing Body, under IAAF/WA or IPC/WPA structure.
15. For Road Running events, IAAF/WA Rule 260 31.21, 31.21.2 and 31.21.3 (see box) will be applied to all National Team selections.

RULE 260 31.21

For World Records in Road Running events:

- 31.21.2 The start and finish points of a course, measured along a theoretical straight line between them, shall not be further apart than 50% of the race distance.
- 31.31.3 The overall decrease in elevation between the start and finish shall not exceed 1:1000, i.e. 1m per km (0.1%).

3.0 APPEALS FOR SELECTION

1. Appeals of team selection decisions may only be submitted by athletes deemed eligible to submit appeals as specified in the Selection Criteria Document.
2. In the interests of efficiency when external bodies² require tight selection timelines the Selection Criteria Document may specify circumstances in which appeals must be brought directly to the SDRCC; this can only be included in a Selection Criteria Document if approved by both the NTC and AC's Board. In all other circumstances, appeals will follow the procedure below.
3. Appeals may be submitted for circumstances related to athlete illness or injury or other reasonable technical circumstance deemed appropriate by AC's Commissioner's Office. The Commissioner will decide all first level appeals, bearing in mind the team objectives and high-performance principles

² Such external bodies include world sporting organizations such as the IOC, IPC, IAAF, IPC, WA, WPA and national sporting organizations such as the COC and the CPC.



NATIONAL TEAM SELECTION RULES BOOK

[Revised April 2021]

as specified in the Selection Criteria Document. Athletes should refer to the AC Rules & Bylaws and the AC Commissioner's Office – Terms of Reference for full information on the procedure for filing an appeal (see <http://athletics.ca/federation/governance/policies-rules-laws/>).

4. Except when a shorter time is specified in the Selection Criteria Document, athletes who wish to submit a first level appeal must submit the appeal to the AC's Commissioner's Office within 5 days following the announcement of the National Teams list.
5. Once the form below is completed it should be sent to AC's Commissioners' Office via e-mail (to Commissioner@athleticscommissioner.ca) for an appeal to be officially reviewed.
6. All appeals must be accompanied by a fee of \$250 (payable to Athletics Canada). This amount will be returned if the appeal is successful. Contact appeals@athletics.ca for payment options.
7. If it is determined by the Commissioner that a first level appeal, if successful, would displace another athlete nominated to the team as per the Selection Criteria, that athlete will be consulted as part of the Commissioner's deliberations, and will be bound by the Commissioner's decision.
8. Where the appeal relates to injury or illness, the athlete must supply documentation from a medical practitioner diagnosing the injury or illness. In deciding such appeals, AC's Commissioners' Office may obtain input from the AC Chief Medical Officer, or designate. Any decision by the Commissioner on an appeal relating to illness or injury must take into consideration the athlete's ability to fulfill the Final Phase Preparation Requirements contained in the Selection Criteria Document.

If an athlete is not satisfied with the decision of the Commissioner, a formal second appeal may be available, timelines permitting, pursuant to AC Rules and Bylaws and the AC Commissioner's Office – Terms of Reference (see <http://athletics.ca/federation/governance/policies-rules-laws/>).



NATIONAL TEAM SELECTION RULES BOOK

[Revised April 2021]

Appeal of Selection

(If the appeal relates to injury or illness, please include a medical diagnosis from a medical practitioner)

I, (name) _____ wish to submit an Appeal of Selection based on the information provided below. **Please write neatly.**

I declare that the statements made above accurate and truthful.

Date:

Athlete's Name:

Athlete's Signature:

Once the form is completed it should be sent to AC's Commissioners' Office via e-mail (to Commissioner@athleticscommissioner.ca) for an appeal to be officially reviewed. All appeals must be accompanied by a fee of \$250 (payable to Athletics Canada). Contact appeals@athletics.ca for payment options.