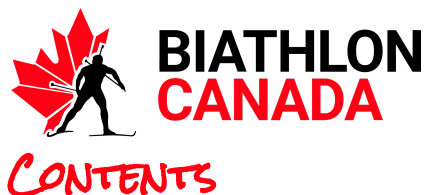


2026-2027 National Program Nomination Procedure

HIGH PERFORMANCE BULLETIN 6

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1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 PURPOSE

The purpose of this document is to establish the procedure to select athletes to national teams to perform at the highest level and achieve the best possible results for Canada at Olympic Games and World Championships.

The National Program is a group of athletes that will receive enhanced support and benefits from Biathlon Canada between May 1, 2026 and March 31, 2027. The “training season” will be defined as being between May 1, 2026 and October 31, 2026. The “competition season” will be defined as being between November 1, 2026 and March 31, 2027.

1.2 DECISION MAKING

The final National Program Nomination decision shall be made at the sole, full, and absolute discretion of Biathlon Canada’s Performance Pathway Director (the “PPD”).

1.3 CONFLICT OF INTEREST

The PPD, Biathlon Canada’s High Performance Manager (the “HPM”), and all members of Biathlon Canada’s Nomination Procedures Advisory Group (the “NPAG”) have an obligation to apply Biathlon Canada’s Conflict of Interest Policy in the exercise of their duties.

Should the PPD declare or be deemed to be in a conflict of interest, decision-making authority will transfer to the HPM.

Should the HPM declare or be deemed to be in a conflict of interest, decision-making authority will transfer to the NPAG.

Should any members of the NPAG declare or be deemed to be in a conflict of interest, they will recuse themselves from all discussion or decisions regarding nomination decisions.

Determinations of the NPAG regarding nomination decisions must be made by consensus of all members of the NPAG who have not been declared or deemed to be in a conflict of interest.

In making nomination decisions, the PPD, HPM, and NPAG, may consult advisors, and will have the discretion to decide who to contact depending on the decision being made and the individuals involved in the decision.

1.4 FORCE MAJEURE

The PPD reserves the right to make changes to this document which, in the PPD's sole, full and absolute discretion, are necessary to ensure Nomination of the best National Program possible. Any changes to this document shall be communicated electronically to the relevant athletes and coaches, and the NPAG.

Biathlon Canada will not change the athlete nomination procedure while it is underway unless there is a typographical error, safety concern, or other significant reason a change must be made.

If the PPD determines that unexpected or unusual circumstances have arisen during the process of applying this document, the PPD shall have the sole, full, and absolute discretion to resolve the matter as they see fit, considering factors and circumstances that they deem as relevant.

1.5 ELIGIBILITY

All athletes must meet the following eligibility requirements for Nomination:

- The athlete must be a Canadian Citizen;
- The athlete must be a member, in good standing, with Biathlon Canada by May 1, 2026;
- The athlete must abide by the [Universal Code of Conduct to Prevent and Address Maltreatment in Sport](#), [CCES anti-doping requirements](#), and [Biathlon Canada Code of Conduct, policies, procedures, and guidelines](#).

2 SENIOR NATIONAL TEAM

2.1 TRAINING ENVIRONMENT

The Senior National Team will have access to a world-class training environment at the National Training Centre in Canmore, Alberta. This world class training environment includes the following:

- Access to the National Training Centre in Canmore and respective facilities;
- Planned training camps and activities throughout the training season in different locations as required;
- Athlete monitoring, testing and assessment driven by Biathlon Canada's Gold Medal Profile;
- An individualized Yearly Training Plan provided to each athlete;
- Access to high performance coaching; and
- Access to Biathlon Canada's Integrated Services Team.

Biathlon Canada must allocate targeted funding as required and, as such, reserves the right to tier funding based on such requirements in order to best prepare athletes to compete at the international level.

2.2 NOMINATION

A maximum of four male athletes and four female athletes may be Nominated. The PPD has the sole, full and absolute discretion to nominate fewer than the maximum number of athletes should the maximum number of athletes not meet the criteria set out in Priority 1, 2, and 3.

Nominations may take place in the following order of priority. Athletes will be ranked within each priority based on their respective placement.

Priority 1: Athletes achieving Senior International Carding criteria for the 2026-2027 season

Priority 2: Athletes achieving Senior National Carding criteria for the 2026–2027 season

Priority 3: Byes

Priority 4: Athletes achieving Development carding criteria for the 2026–2027 season

Athletes Nominated to the Senior National Team must train with the National Program in Canmore, Alberta unless otherwise approved by the PPD.

3 NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT TEAM

3.1 TRAINING ENVIRONMENT

The National Development Team is a camp based program. Athletes must train with a recognized training centre or high performance club program listed in Appendix B unless otherwise approved by the PPD, and their biathlon coach must be NCCP Certified in biathlon at the Competition–Development level or higher.

The National Development Team program will include:

- Access to the National Training Centre in Canmore and respective facilities;
- Planned training camps and activities throughout the training season in different locations as required;
- Athlete monitoring, testing and assessment driven by Biathlon Canada's Gold Medal Profile;
- Access to high performance coaching; and
- Access to Biathlon Canada's Integrated Services Team; and
- National Team Coach collaboration with their biathlon coach.

3.2 NOMINATION

A maximum of six male athletes and six female athletes may be Nominated.

Nominations may take place in the following order of priority. Athletes will be ranked within each priority based on their respective placement.

Priority 1: Byes

Priority 2: Athletes achieving Development carding criteria for the 2026–2027 season

Athletes Nominated to the National Development Team must submit their Yearly Training Plan to Biathlon Canada within one month of the acceptance of their Nomination. National team coaches can support with Yearly Training Plans if desired.

4 NATIONAL PROGRAM NOMINATION AND CONFIRMATION

Once the review and nominations for all National Program athletes are finalized by Biathlon Canada, the following processes will occur:

4.1 NOTIFICATION

Athletes Nominated to the National Program will be advised of their nomination following the annual Spring meeting of the NPAG.

4.2 CONFIRMATION TO A NATIONAL PROGRAM

4.2.1 Athletes have seven days following the official announcement of the 2026–2027 National Program to confirm acceptance of their position and subsequently be required to return a signed copy and complete the following:

- i. 2026–2027 Athlete Agreement
- ii. Universal Code of Conduct to Prevent and Address Maltreatment in the Sport
- iii. Biathlon Canada Code of Conduct and Ethics
- iv. Renewal of Biathlon Canada membership
- v. Completion of the required Safe Sport training module
- vi. Completion of the required True Sport Clean training module
- vii. Completion of an athlete intake; and
- viii. Other requirements as determined by Biathlon Canada.

- 4.2.2 If Biathlon Canada does not receive confirmation from the athlete within the stipulated time limit that they accept their position, they will be regarded as having declined their position and any associated benefits.
- 4.2.3 Any extensions to this confirmation period must be requested in writing by the athletes and will only be considered in exceptional circumstances.

5 LANGUAGE

This document was originally drafted in English and was translated into French. In the event of a discrepancy between the English and French versions, the English version shall be used to understand the intended drafting of the provision in question.

APPENDIX A: GUIDELINES FOR THE ALLOCATION OF BYES

Philosophy

In exceptional and unforeseen circumstances, the PPD may, in their sole, full and absolute discretion, determine that, where an athlete has not had the opportunity, through no fault of their own, to compete at competitions in order to be nominated, or if the athlete participates in competitions but their performance is negatively impacted by an injury, illness or equipment breakage, the athlete may, subject to satisfying the conditions indicated below, be eligible to apply for nomination to the Senior National Team by making a Bye request.

Eligibility for requesting a Bye to the National Program

- Bye requests must be made in writing to the PPD by March 30, 2026
- Only athletes who were on the Senior National Team in the 2025–2026 season are eligible to submit a Bye request for the Senior National Team for the 2026–2027 season.
- Only athletes who were on the National Development Team in the 2025–2026 season are eligible to submit a Bye request for the National Development Team for the 2026–2027 season.
- An athlete can only be the recipient of a maximum lifetime total of three Bye requests to the Senior National Team and the National Development Team combined.

Conditions for Applying for a Bye

- Each Bye request must state clearly what the athlete is seeking and the supporting documentation must be provided at the time that the request is made.
- Unless physically incapable, only the athlete requesting a Bye is permitted to submit the request (in such a case, the athlete's coach may make the request)
- If the Bye request is made as a result of an illness or injury that prevented an athlete from competing at a competition, the athlete must provide documented evidence from a medical practitioner.

- The PPD has the right to request further independent medical review after the bye request has been submitted.

Process for Reviewing a Bye Request

The following outlines the process for considering Bye requests. The PPD will review all Bye requests and make a decision on each with supporting rationale:

- In cases where multiple Bye requests are submitted, they will be assessed individually and on their own merit.
- After the PPD makes their final decision regarding the Bye request, its decision will be communicated to the athletes requesting the Bye, athletes directly affected by the Bye, their coaches, and the athletes' representatives prior to the final nominations.

Conditions for Granting a Bye

When considering whether to grant a Bye in cases where an athlete has been injured or affected by illness, the PPD must first consider the medical condition of the athlete, the degree to which the athlete has followed the prescribed rehabilitation process, and their readiness to return and compete at their previous performance level according to feedback received from the medical team and the athlete's coach. If any of the above conditions are not respected by the athlete, the Bye may be refused on that basis alone.

The PPD may award a "Conditional Bye" to athletes recovering from injury or illness. In such situations, the PPD may impose certain conditions, which may include a specific time frame within which to demonstrate a certain level of fitness or to meet specific performance requirements.

In order to make Bye decisions, the PPD will evaluate a number of elements including, but not limited to the following:

- Past performance at Olympics and World Championships
- Past performances at World Cups and IBU Cups
- Past performance at Junior IBU Cups, Junior World Championships, and domestic events
- Training and testing performances within the current season



- Medical and Health status

In evaluating past performances, the PPD will give priority to performances from the immediate 12-month period going as far back as January 1, 2025. However, occasionally this is not possible because of injuries or the lack of opportunity for athletes to compete. In such instances, prior performances may be considered but will have a lower weighting in assessing the Bye request.

APPENDIX B: RECOGNIZED TRAINING CENTRES AND HIGH PERFORMANCE CLUB PROGRAMS

The following training centres and high performance club programs are recognized for the purposes of section 3.2:

- Whistler Nordic Development Centre
- Sovereign Lake Nordic Development Centre
- Biathlon Alberta Training Centre
- Rocky Mountain Racers
- Chelsea Nordiq

In order for an organization to be considered for inclusion in the list of training centres and high performance club programs, the following criteria must be met:

- The biathlon coach must be NCCP Competition Development certified or higher in biathlon;
- The organization must have access to a biathlon range and adequate ski trails and roller ski trails;
- The organization must have access to appropriate Integrated Support Team services; and
- The organization must offer a year-round daily training environment for its athletes.

Biathlon Canada may add organizations to this list at any time. Organizations that are interested in being recognized should contact Clayton Whitman at cwhitman@biathloncanada.ca.