

Electronic Biathlon Opens the Door for Young Canadians

For many young people and their families, electronic biathlon is their first experience with the sport.

Across this country, Biathlon Canada is introducing youth to biathlon through accessible, community-based programming supported by the Government of Canada's Community Sport for All Initiative. By using electronic rifles that rely on infrared technology rather than traditional ammunition, Biathlon Canada is creating innovative environments where young participants can try the sport.

Electronic biathlon allows youth to experience the fundamentals of biathlon in schools, recreation centres, and outdoor community settings. The adaptable equipment makes it easier for beginners to focus on developing skills while building confidence within their local environment.

At Telemark Nordic Club in Kelowna, British Columbia, electronic biathlon has become an exciting addition to youth programming. Coaches have integrated the system into learn-to-ski sessions to introduce young participants to the sport in a safe and engaging way. The format has also encouraged family involvement, with parents participating alongside their children and gaining exposure to biathlon for the first time.

"My daughter loved her first season in Laser Bears and is already excited to return next year." said a parent at Telemark Nordic Club.

Clubs have found these early, positive experiences help spark interest and encourage youth to continue participating in biathlon programming.

By lowering traditional barriers related to equipment, facilities, and prior experience, Biathlon Canada is helping to ensure more young Canadians are introduced to the sport. These early experiences play an important role in building long-term participation and strengthening inclusive pathways within biathlon.

Through this work, Biathlon Canada continues to create safe and accessible entry points for youth across the country, helping shape the next generation of participants.

To learn more about youth programming opportunities, visit www.biathloncanada.ca.

This activity is part of Biathlon Canada's Community Sport for All Initiative, supported by the Government of Canada.