



NUNAVUT SPEED SKATING ASSOCIATION

2023 Arctic Winter Games – Team Nunavut (Speed Skating) Selection Criteria

Policy Title: AWG Team Selection	Policy No: 100.03
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PURPOSE

1. The objective of the NSSA 2023 Arctic Winter Games -Team Nunavut (Speed Skating) Selection Criteria (the "Selection Policy") is to establish procedures, guidelines, criteria, standards and timelines governing the selection of Team Nunavut (Speed Skating) athletes to compete at the 2023 Arctic Winter Games (the "Team").
2. All rules and procedures as set in the Arctic Winter Games policies and Technical Package for speed skating apply to this Selection Policy. (See Appendix "A").

COMMUNICATION

3. This Policy will be available to all eligible athletes via the Nunavut Speed Skating Association website.
4. Any amendments to this Policy will be available to all eligible athletes via the Nunavut Speed Skating Association website.

AUTHORITY FOR SELECTION

5. The Board of Directors of NSSA has delegated the authority for all decision-making under this Policy to the Nunavut Speed Skating Association Arctic Winter Games Selection Committee.
6. The Committee will be comprised of the Team Nunavut designated coaches.

PURPOSE

7. The selection criteria are designed to select athletes who will create the best possible competitive and cohesive team.

FIELD OF APPLICATION

8. This Selection Policy applies to all athletes of the Nunavut Speed Skating Association.

TEAM SIZE AND COMPOSITION

9. The final Team shall be a maximum of 16 skaters – up to 8 males and 8 females (four in each category).

ATHLETE ELIGIBILITY

10. Skaters who meet *all of the eligibility criteria* are eligible to be considered for selection to compete for the Team at the 2023 Arctic Winter Games. The eligibility criteria are referenced from the 2023 Arctic Winter Games Technical Package.

AGE CLASSIFICATION:

11. Born between July 1, 2008 - June 30, 2011 (U15)
Born between July 1, 2004 - June 30, 2007 (U18)

ELIGIBILITY

12. If a Participating Unit has five (5) age eligible U15 skaters and only three (3) U18 skaters, one (1) U15 skater may be entered in the U18 category provided this skater will be age eligible for the U18 category at the next Arctic Winter Games. The coach will certify in writing that this skater can safely participate as a U18. A skater may only compete in



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one age category for the entire competition.

13. In order to be considered for selection to the Team, athletes must:
- Meet the age classification criteria as set out above;
 - Meet eligibility criteria set out in the 2023 Arctic Winter Games Speed Skating Technical Package;
 - Those eligible must be fully COVID-19 vaccinated as per CPHO guidelines at the time of Territorial Selections;
 - Meet additional eligibility and selection criteria developed by the Nunavut Speed Skating Association Arctic Winter Games Committee as outlined below:
 - All prospective team members must:
 - Be duly registered members of NSSA;
 - Attend all selection camps/trials as required; and
 - Participate in all games-related preparation activities;

Excluded from the Arctic Winter Games are:

- Any athlete who has qualified for National competitions within their respective Unit;
- Any athlete who is deemed otherwise ineligible based upon restrictions as detailed within the AWGIC Staging Manual;
- Any athlete that has competed in other events deemed high performance by the AWGIC.

RESIDENCY

14. A skater being outside of his or her territory of permanent residence (Nunavut) during the year of the Arctic Winter Games shall be permitted to compete for either their territory of permanent residence or the province or territory in which the skater is residing temporarily.
- If the skater wishes to compete for Nunavut, the skater must provide evidence of their skating program, including scheduled ice times and other programs, as well as communicating with the Coach ahead of the Selection Trials to express their intent.
 - A skater living outside their territory of permanent residence (Nunavut) may be exempted from competing in Selection Trials, thus making "the Team", if the skater has clearly demonstrated superior performances in previous competition to other skaters being considered for selection. A request for exemption must be provided a minimum of 30 days prior to the start of Selection Trials to the NSSA coaches team for approval by the NSSA Board.

TEAM SELECTION

15. The NSSA will host one (1) Selection Trials (ST) for any eligible athlete wishing for selection to Team Nunavut.
16. The event will be half-day competition in November 2022 in Iqaluit.
17. The Team Nunavut Selection Trials will follow the format and/or distances of the 2023 Arctic Winter Games.

BYE

18. Due to exceptional circumstances (e.g., illness, injury, equipment breaks, etc.) and through no fault of his or her own, a skater sometimes does not have the opportunity to compete in the nominated selection event. In this situation, the skater may be eligible to apply for a bye selection to the Arctic Winter Games.



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The basic philosophy for selecting a skater by granting a bye is that all things being equal, the skater given the bye has clearly demonstrated superior performances within the past year in previous competitions to other skaters being considered for selection or advancement in ranking.

A bye request is considered as the last means by which a skater can gain selection and is intended to provide for exceptional circumstances outside the normal selection criteria rather than being part of the normal means by which a skater can gain selection or advancement. A bye request must be made at the latest within 48 hours following the end of the event to the Coaching Team for approval by the NSSA Board.

REQUIREMENTS FOR ENTRIES:

19. Two (2) weeks before the Selection Trials, coaches will submit the names of their eligible skaters to the designated Meet Coordinator/Chief Recorder.
20. One (1) week before the Selection Trials, each coach will submit to the designated Meet Coordinator/Chief Recorder, a 500m seed time for each Junior skater and a 400m time for each Juvenile skater. The time submitted must be the most recent time.
21. The Meet Coordinator/Chief Recorder will provide each coach with a draft copy of skater seeding no later than the day before the first race to review for errors or omissions.

SEEDING:

22. For the first distance of the meet, the Meet Coordinator/Chief Recorder will make the heats based on the seed times submitted for each skater. After having established a list of times (from the fastest to the slowest), the heats will be established using the following manner:

<u>A</u>	<u>B</u>	<u>C</u>	<u>D</u>	<u>E</u>
1	2	3	4	5
10	9	8	7	6
11	12	13	14	15 etc

23. For the subsequent distances, the heats will be seeded based on the skater's accumulated points according to the table.
 - Second distance - seeded by points awarded after the first distance final.
 - Third distance - seeded by the accumulated points from the first two finals
 - Fourth distance - seeded by the accumulated points from first three finals.
24. If there is a tie in points, then the skater with the faster seed time will be placed before the skater with the slower seed time.

POINT SYSTEM:

25. All skaters who finish a final will receive the points for their respective final unless they are disqualified for a major infraction. These points will be used to seed the second, third and fourth distances. Points will be awarded according to this table:

1 st - 250	8 th - 35	15 th - 12
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2 nd - 175	9 th - 30	16 th - 10
3 rd - 125	10 th - 25	17 th - 9
4 th - 75	11 th - 20	18 th - 8
5 th - 60	12 th - 18	19 th - 7
6 th - 50	13 th - 16	20 th - 6
7 th - 40	14 th - 14	

26. The skaters with the top four points in each age category will be named to Team Nunavut. The skater finishing in fifth will be named as the alternate.
27. If there is a tie at the end of the selection competition, the 500m time during the Selections Competition will be used to determine team spots.

TEAM NUNAVUT (SPEED SKATING) ALTERNATES

28. It is the intention of the Nunavut Speed Skating Association to identify one (1) alternate per gender, per discipline, in order to create a more optimal training group and to adequately prepare alternates in the eventuality of an injury prior to the 2023 AWG. Alternates will train and attend competitions as part of Team Nunavut (Speed Skating) until the commencement of the 2023 AWG. Due to budget restrictions, the alternates will not be provided with a Team Nunavut (Speed Skating) skinsuit.

EXCEPTIONS DUE TO SERIOUS INJURY OR ILLNESS

29. In this subsection, a "serious injury or illness" is defined as an injury or illness that prevents an athlete from fully participating in practices for a period of three (3) weeks or more.
30. Any athlete selected to the Team who suffers a serious injury or illness after their selection must be able to prove that their recovery is complete and that they are ready to compete no later than 21 days prior to the start of the 2023 Arctic Winter Games. In particular, the athlete must provide:
- a. Medical clearance to return to high-level training and competition;
31. Team members who suffer any injury or illness less than 21 days prior to the Arctic Winter Games will have their cases evaluated by coaching staff with the aid of medical consultation, if appropriate. Such athletes will be replaced by alternates if, in the opinion of coaching staff, it is unlikely that they will be able to return to peak condition in time for the Arctic Winter Games.

ATHLETE REQUIREMENTS TO REMAIN SELECTED AND REMOVAL

32. Once selected and in order to remain selected, Team Nunavut (Speed Skating) athletes are expected to:
- a. Sign and abide by the NSSA Arctic Winter Games Team Member agreement which also includes the NSSA Code of Conduct.
 - b. All Arctic Winter Games dryland training camps,
 - c. Attend at least one (1) on-ice Arctic Winter Games training camp and a minimum of one (1) meet from November 2022 – February 2023.
 - d. Prepare for the 2023 AWG in all distances. All athletes skate all individual events at the 2023 AWG.
 - e. Obey all rules established by the NSSA.
 - f. Skaters must achieve 100% attendance at off-ice and on-ice training sessions scheduled by or approved by the coach, from NSSA Team selections to the beginning of the games. If 100% attendance at on-ice and off-ice training sessions is not achieved without a plausible explanation, skaters will be removed from the team.



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33. Once selected to a team, an athlete may withdraw or be removed for the following reasons:
- a. Voluntary withdrawal/retirement.
 - b. Failure to satisfy the minimum training standards set out by the Head Coach.
 - c. Failure to adhere to team rules and NSSA's Code of Conduct and policies.
 - d. Failure to remain competitive ready leading up to the event. Athletes who do not remain competitive ready by reason of lack of fitness, injury or illness may be removed from the team. It is the obligation of the athlete to immediately report any injury, illness or change in training that could affect their ability to compete and their highest level.
 - e. Fraudulent misrepresentation.
34. Where an athlete is unable to meet training standards and competitive readiness, or violates team rules, breaches the Athlete Agreement or the Code of Conduct, the Selection Committee will have the discretion to remove the athlete from the team, provided the athlete is given an opportunity to be heard, and to replace the athlete with another suitable candidate.
35. The Selection Committee will notify the athlete in writing that he/she has been removed from the team and outline the reasons for the removal.

FUNDING

36. Any money required to be contributed by the athlete must be paid to the NSSA as requested. Failure to pay such monies may result in the athlete being removed from the team.
37. There may be additional fees, over and above usual fees, required payable to NSSA upon acceptance of a position on Team Nunavut (Speed Skating).

APPEALS

38. Any appeals with team selection will be handled under the NSSA Appeals Policy 100.01 with consultation with the Selection Committee and the Coach.

REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF POLICY

39. The NSSA Board of Directors shall review this Selection Policy on an annual basis.
40. This Selection Policy was approved by the NSSA Board of Directors in December 8, 2022

Moved by Annabelle Esteban
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Carried