



CROSS COUNTRY YUKON

2025-2026 TRIP SELECTION CRITERIA

PHILOSOPHY

This criteria establishes the process by which athletes registered in Cross Country Yukon (CCY) Blue and Red Squads are selected to travel to racing opportunities outside the Territory for the 2025-26 racing season.

CCY “aspires to grow our community of skiers and develop high performance athletes in the Yukon by supporting and celebrating the successes of all its members as they achieve excellence in both sport and life.” The High Performance Selection Committee (HPSC) assists in achieving this mission by reviewing, administering and making recommendations to CCY regarding trip selection criteria.

The aims of establishing trip selection criteria are to ensure that:

- Athletes representing the Yukon in cross-country skiing are competitive and capable of finishing in the top 60% of the field at each event;
- A successful high performance program is sustained over the mid- and long-term;
- The most appropriate athletes are selected for each team and trip;
- Athletes receive the required information in a complete, accurate and timely manner;
- The selection criteria reflect the recommendations made in the Long Term Athlete Development (LTAD) model, endorsed by CCY, by focusing on athlete development (up to LTAD Learning to Compete); and
- CCY maintains credibility and objectivity.

Criteria are intended to state the requirements and standards (both objective and subjective) that will be applied in the selection process, and to describe how they will be applied. It is the athletes’ responsibility to read and understand the contents of this document and any other supporting documents and policies.

To be eligible for selection, each skier must be a member in good standing of the CCY Blue or Red Squad programs (please see the attached Athlete in Good Standing Policy), must be in possession of a valid Nordiq Canada racing license, and must be a member of a CCY-affiliated club.

EXPECTATIONS FOR ATHLETES SELECTED TO YUKON SKI TEAM TRIPS

Barring extenuating circumstances such as illness or injury, athletes wanting to be considered for CCY-supported travel and racing opportunities should meet all of the following expectations:

1. Show progress to maintain team status. Progress will be measured by considering: improving CPL ranking, improving test results and athlete commitment.
2. Compete in all selection and other local events as recommended by the ski team Head Coach.
3. Compete in all events (with Head Coach consultation) on trips to which they have been selected.
4. Maintain top 60% of the starting field performance in outside races.
5. Continue to perform at the level that gained them pre-selection (if applicable). If this performance is not demonstrated, then the pre-selection could be re-evaluated and the athlete could be dropped from the trip roster.
6. Be familiar with the selection process. It is the responsibility of each individual to be familiar with the processes that could affect them.

SELECTION CRITERIA

Athlete selection and support to selected athletes will primarily be based on objective standards, typically results achieved in specified races as measured against international standards through the Canada Points List (CPL).

In cases where race results cannot be used exclusively, or where there are extenuating factors, other assessment measures may be used, including:

- Results achieved in other relevant races;
- Evaluating an athlete's commitment, assessed potential and ability to perform and contribute in a team context, and their standing with CCY;
- The athlete development goals of the particular trip or team;
- Costs to athletes and to CCY, and the availability of funding; and
- Other factors – age, health status, past results and force majeure may be taken into consideration.

CCY HPSC reserves the right to modify the selection criteria, or modify/withdraw from trips or tours, in the event of unforeseen circumstances. If such a change is necessary, the HPSC will make this decision. Any changes must be approved by the CCY President, who may request a board executive vote.

CCY is not required to fill maximum team sizes if athletes do not meet selection standards.

The rationale and manner in which these criteria have been applied will be provided in writing as part of each team announcement.

TEAM SELECTION AND ANNOUNCEMENT

Immediately following the relevant selection races, as close as possible to the decision date, the CCY HPSC will meet to implement the criteria. Once selection decisions are made, the team will be announced. Team selections will be posted and selected athletes will be contacted directly. Announcements will consist of 2 documents: a team announcement, including the list of athlete names, and a decision document (which may be published after the athlete list). The decision document will include the selection rationale. Any race results, points calculations or other data used will be provided. If criteria other than strictly objective criteria for specified races are applied, the rationale will be explained.

GENERAL INFORMATION

Final decisions rest with the High Performance Selection Committee, unless an official appeal is lodged.

FORCE MAJEURE

From time to time, situations arise beyond the reasonable control of an athlete that could prevent the athlete from meeting an eligibility standard. In these circumstances, the HPSC will decide on an appropriate action. Illness and injury could be considered when assessing athletes' performance and the HPSC could add or remove an athlete for these reasons.

TIES

In the event of a tie on a selection ranking list, both athletes who are tied could be selected (if team size permits), or the tie could be broken by considering each athlete's second best race result in the named qualifying races. The final decision in these cases will be made by the HPSC.

TEAM SIZE

Team size for all trips is limited to the stated maximum for that trip. CCY is not required to fill the stated maximum team size for any trip if minimum qualification standards are not met.

This means that not all athletes who meet the minimum points criteria for a particular trip may be able to participate in that trip. In the event that more than the maximum number of skiers meet the selection criteria for a trip (and are interested in the trip), a ranking list will be established using the ranking priorities listed for each trip.

Team Options:

1. **CCY TEAM**

Includes athletes who have qualified and been selected pursuant to these selection criteria for each respective trip. This team will receive full trip and race service support.

2. **QUALIFIED AND NOT SELECTED**

Athletes who meet the minimum standard to participate in a trip but are not selected for the trip due to team size constraints.

This option exists only if full coaching, supervision and technical support can be organized independently of the coaching and support required for the team selected for that trip. Communication between the two groups can be arranged (eg. advice on waxing will be provided by the coach of the team) but they should expect to function independently of the team.

Note that in cases where the “Qualified And Not Selected” option is made available, athletes must agree to the option in writing.

APPEALS

Appeals of trip and team selection decisions made by the HPSC are subject to the CCY Dispute Resolution and Appeals Policy, found on the following page of the CCY website: [CCY Safe Sport](#)

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Further information about the selection criteria may be requested from Lee Hawkings, Chair, High Performance Selection Committee, by email at leehawkings@gmail.com.

CROSS COUNTRY YUKON TRIP SELECTION CRITERIA: 2025-26 SEASON

The following athletes are pre-selected (“NST Group”) to all CCY trips for the 2025-26 season based on their proven performance in the 2024-25 season and their nomination to Nordiq Canada National Teams for 2025-26:

Sonjaa Schmidt, Derek Deuling, Sasha Masson, Aramintha Bradford and Constance Lapointe

1. Western Canada Cup, Sovereign Lake, BC

Trip Dates: November 24-30, 2025

Team Size: Maximum team size: 16 athletes

Goal: To give CCY Red and Blue Squad skiers an opportunity to race at the highest level in Canada before Christmas.

Selection Process:

Blue Squad athletes who are not selected under Priorities A or B, below, will be ranked using the results of two time trials in November (the “Trip 1 Ranking List”). All Yukon-based athletes are expected to compete in the time trials, whether or not they are already qualified for this trip. The Trip 1 Ranking List will be based on two combined time trial results (one classic, one skating), with male and female categories. All athletes will compete together regardless of age. Times will be converted to percentages as follows:

- Male and female winners of each time trial will be scored at 100%.
- All other finishing times will be calculated as a percentage of their respective gender winner’s time.
- The resulting percentages for each athlete in each of the two selection races will be added together to produce a single combined percentage score.
- The combined percentage scores will be ranked from highest to lowest in a ranking list (male and female athletes will be ranked together in a single ranking list).

Athletes will be selected for the Western Canada Cup team in the order of the priorities listed below. If a selected athlete declines their nomination, the next eligible athlete based on the priorities below will be selected to fill the team. The intention is to fill the maximum team size.

Priorities

A) NST Group skiers needing race support;

- B) Athletes meeting the 2025 CCY Nationals Team standard, ranked based on their selection priority for that team.
- C) The top male athlete and top female athlete with the highest combined percentages on the Trip 1 Ranking List who are not already selected under ranking priorities A and B (space permitting)
- D) Remaining trip spots, if any, will be filled in order from the Trip 1 Ranking List (regardless of gender).

Decision Date for Trip 1: **November 15, 2025 (TBC)**

2. Olympic Games Trials, Prince George, BC

Dates: December 9-17, 2025

Team Size: Maximum of 8 athletes

Goals: To give eligible athletes an opportunity to compete for a spot on the Olympic Games team. To give athletes with proven ability at the national level experience at the Trials for future years.

Eligibility: Athletes must be U18 and older and must be eligible for a FIS license in 2025-26 (born in 2010 or earlier).

Selection process: Athletes will be selected using the following ranking list priorities, up to the maximum team size of 8. Athletes will be ranked for selection in the following order:

Priorities:

- A) NST Group athletes needing race support;
- B) Athletes placing in the top 15 Aggregate at the 2025 Nationals in the U18, U20 and Senior categories, ranked by the highest Aggregate placing in their respective category;
- C) U18/U20 athletes achieving a top 5 placing at the Western Canada Cup in Sovereign Lake. If more than one athlete meets this criteria, they will be ranked in order of their best single race placing.

Decision Date for trip 2: December 5th, 2025

3. World Junior & U23 World Championships Trials, Canmore, Alberta

Dates: January 26th to February 2nd, 2026

Team Size: Maximum of 12 athletes

Goals: To give eligible athletes an opportunity to compete for a spot on the World Junior or U23 World Championship Team. To give athletes with potential to qualify for the World Junior/ U23 Championships in the 2027 season experience at the Trials.

Eligibility: Skiers must be eligible for a FIS license in 2025-26 (born in 2010 or earlier).

Selection process: Athletes will be selected using the following priorities, up to the maximum team size of 12. Athletes will be ranked for selection in the order of priorities below.

For those athletes not selected under Priorities A or B below, a ranking list will be created (the “Trip 3 Ranking List”) using the following criteria:

- All U18, U20 or U23 Athletes achieving a single race result within 12 CPL points behind the top Canadian skier in their own category at the Western Canada Cup 2025 (CCY Trip 1) will be ranked in a single list (regardless of gender or age category) from lowest to highest CPL points behind the top Canadian skier in their own category.

Priorities:

A) NST Group skiers needing race support;

B) Athletes selected to the CCY Team for Trip 2 (OWG Trials);

C) The top male and top female athlete from the Trip 3 Ranking List who are not already selected under priorities A or B;

D) U18 or U20 athletes on the Trip 3 Ranking List in order of priority from lowest CPL behind, to highest CPL behind;

E) U23 athletes on the Trip 3 Ranking List in order of priority from lowest CPL behind, to highest CPL behind.

Decision Date for Trip 3: December 5th, 2025

4. Western Championships Canada Cup, Canmore Alberta

Dates: January 27- February 2, 2026 *Same event as the WJC/U23 Trials

Team Size: Red and Blue Squad athletes in good standing with CCY

Goal: to give Blue Squad athletes an opportunity to race outside the Yukon. To represent Yukon at the Western Canadian Championships.

Selection Criteria:

- 1) All interested Red and Blue Squad athletes are eligible to be selected for this trip;
- 2) Expressions of interest will be sought in December;
- 3) Final team size and composition will be determined before January 10th, 2026.

Decision Date for Trip 4: January 10th, 2026.

5. Nordiq Canada Ski Nationals, Mount Saint- Anne, Quebec

Dates: March 5-15, 2026

Team Size: Maximum 13 skiers.

Goals: To provide the best Yukon skiers an opportunity to compete at the highest level in Canada in their respective age groups. To represent the Yukon at the National Championships.

Selection process: Athletes will be ranked for selection in the order of priorities below and will be selected, up to the maximum team size of 13. Athletes who are selected based on results achieved in a category above their own will be selected to compete in their correct age category at the Ski Nationals.

For those athletes not selected under Priorities A, B, or C, a ranking list will be created (the “Trip 4 Ranking List”) using the following criteria:

- All U16, U18, U20 or Open Athletes achieving a single race result within 12 CPL points behind the top Canadian skier in their own category at the Western Canada Cup 2025 (CCY Trip 1) will be ranked in a single list (regardless of gender or age category) from lowest to highest CPL points behind the top Canadian skier in their own category.

Priorities:

A) NST Group skiers needing race support;

B) Athletes selected to the 2026 World Junior/U23 Trials trip, ranked on their selection priority/ ranking for that trip;

C) Athletes selected to the Nordiq Canada Prospects for the 2025-26 season;

- D) The top male athlete and the top female athlete from the Trip 4 Ranking List who are not already selected under priorities A, B or C;
- E) U16, U18, U20 or Open Athletes on the Trip 4 Ranking List in order of priority from lowest CPL behind, to highest CPL behind.

Decision Date for Trip 5: February 5th, 2024



Cross Country Yukon Athlete in Good Standing Policy

- 1) Registration must be completed and squad fees paid by the registration deadline.
- 2) Amounts owing on athlete accounts must be paid within 30 days of invoice date.
- 3) Trip deposit fees, when required, must be paid by trip confirmation deadline
- 4) Athletes must remain in compliance with Athlete Code of Conduct.
- 5) Athletes must be in good standing in order to participate in the CCY activities.
- 6) Athletes and parents review and agree to YST selection criteria by November 1st 2025