



## 2026 Cross Country Yukon AWG Selection Criteria

### 2026 Arctic Winter Games, Whitehorse, Yukon

**Competition Date:** March 8-15, 2026

**Team Size:** Maximum 18 skiers (3 male and 3 female per age category: U14 (2012 or 2013), U16 (2010 or 2011), U18 (2008 or 2009)).

**Trial Dates:** December 6-7, 2025; backup dates December 13-14, 2025

**Eligibility:** Athletes must meet all of the eligibility requirements detailed in the 2026 Arctic Winter Games (AWG) Eligibility Requirements document (linked [here](#) and Attached below as Appendix A to this document). If there are any inconsistencies or conflicts between these selection criteria and the 2026 AWG Eligibility Requirements, the 2026 AWG Eligibility Requirements governs.

Some requirements of the 2026 AWG Eligibility Requirements are that:

- **Age:** Athletes must be at least twelve (12) years old as of December 31, 2025.
- **Event/Rules:** Athletes may compete in only one sport at the AWG. They must comply with all other rules and regulations as outlined in the 2026 AWG Eligibility Requirements, the AWG Cross Country Skiing Technical Package and the AWG Staging Manual.

**Trials:** Only eligible athletes who wish to be selected may take part in the trials. All trials participants must register and complete the trials waiver with CCY via [zone4.ca](http://zone4.ca) for the trials races. The registration link will be posted on the CCY website. There is no cost to register for the trials races.

Athletes must participate at the trials races in order to be selected to compete in cross country skiing at the AWG. Exceptions to this rule will be permitted only upon review and approval by the Government of Yukon - Sport and Recreation Branch. Further details on the exceptions and process for seeking an exemption can be found in the 2026 AWG Eligibility Requirements document attached at Appendix A and the 2026 Arctic Winter Games Trials Exemption Request Form attached at Appendix B

Once an athlete is selected to the final cross country skiing team roster, they are not eligible for the final roster in any other sport. If a participant is interested in trying out for two different sports, and those sports are having their specific sport trials at the same time, the participant must choose between the two sports. Conflicting trial dates and times are not grounds for a trials exemption.

**Post Trials:** Following selection to Team Yukon, an athlete must commit to and follow a training program acceptable to their coach and to CCY.

All athletes 18 years or older as of March 10, 2026 are required to submit a RCMP vulnerable sector check. Results of checks completed up to one year prior to the start of the Games are considered valid (on or after March 8, 2025).

## **APPEALS**

All appeals of selection decisions made under this selection criteria are subject to the CCY Dispute Resolution and Appeals Policy. Please refer to the CCY Dispute Resolution and Appeals Policy, found on the following page of the CCY website: [CCY Safe Sport](#)

### **Selection Criteria:**

***Goal:*** To provide a northern competitive opportunity for skiers born in 2008 to 2013 and skiing in U14, U16 and U18 categories.

***Selection races:*** The AWG Trials will be held on **December 6-7, 2025**.

If the trials races must be postponed, the backup trials races will be held on December 13-14, 2025.

### ***Criteria:***

- Athletes must be at least 12 years old as of December 31, 2025.
- Athletes may compete **up one age category**. If athletes racing up are selected, they must compete at the AWG in the category in which they are selected.
- Selections for each male and female age category will be made on the basis of a ranking list generated from the two combined race results (one classic, one skating):
  - The results of each race will be converted to percentages as follows:
    - Male and female winners of each age category will be scored at 100%.
    - All other finishing times will be calculated as a percentage of the relevant category winner's time.
  - The resulting percentages for each athlete in each of the two selection races will be added together.
  - The combined percentages will be ranked for each male and female age category.

- The top three skiers on the ranking list for each category will be selected.
- The fourth-ranked athlete in each category will be named the alternate. Alternates could be used to fill the team if a selected athlete withdraws due to injury or illness. This alternate skier may also be offered a spot in the category one age group older than their own if there are vacancies. If a 4th ranked athlete is offered a spot on the team roster, the 5th place athlete in that category will be named the alternate.

***Decision date:*** Selected athletes will be notified within five days after the completion of the trials.



## 2026 Cross Country Yukon AWG Trials

*December 6, 2025: CLASSIC TECHNIQUE*

### Individual Start

| Year of birth | Male Category | Male Distance | Female Category | Female distance |
|---------------|---------------|---------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| 2012-2013     | U14 M         | 3.75km        | U14 F           | 3.75 km         |
| 2010-2011     | U16 M         | 7.5 km        | U16 F           | 7.5 km          |
| 2008-2009     | U18 M         | 7.5 km        | U18 F           | 7.5 km          |

*December 7, 2025: FREE TECHNIQUE*

### Individual Start

| Year of birth | Male Category | Male Distance | Female Category | Female distance |
|---------------|---------------|---------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| 2012-2013     | U14 M         | 3.75 km       | U14 F           | 3.75 km         |
| 2010-2011     | U16 M         | 7.5 km        | U16 F           | 7.5 km          |
| 2008-2009     | U18 M         | 7.5 km        | U18 F           | 7.5 km          |

Maps will be posted in the wax room prior to the event. It is the responsibility of the skiers to make sure they know each race course and the stadium layout prior to the start of the race.

## Appendix A

# 2026 ARCTIC WINTER GAMES ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

## 2026 ARCTIC WINTER GAMES ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

Athlete or Cultural Participant

Citizenship:

Must be a Canadian citizen, a permanent resident of Canada, or an individual whose family are in Canada on work visas.

Residency: Principal residence must be in Yukon. Must also be a continuous resident of Yukon for six (6) consecutive months prior to the opening day of the Games. The effective date is **September 5, 2025**.

Students: Students attending an institution outside of the Yukon must also comply with all eligibility requirements prior to the start of the school year and must maintain their principal residence in Yukon. A resident of a participating Contingent, who is attending school outside the Contingent is deemed to be a continuous resident of her/his Contingent and is eligible to compete for her/his residence Contingent, or the Contingent in which s/he is attending school (if a participating Contingent) but not both. An individual who is a resident of a jurisdiction not eligible to compete at the Games; but who lives in a participating jurisdiction as a student, or who is there on a temporary work visa, or who is otherwise temporarily living in a participating jurisdiction; is not considered a resident of the participating jurisdiction and is therefore ineligible to compete in the Arctic Winter Games (AWG).

Age: Must be at least **twelve (12) years of age** as of December 31, 2025. Exceptional circumstances may be considered upon review and approval by the Yukon Government -Sport and Recreation Branch.

Athlete: Must be a developing athlete. A developing athlete is one who has not represented one's nation in international competition (outside of an AWG) in the sport they are competing in. An athlete who has competed for one's club in international competitions (not representing one's nation) is considered a developing athlete. An athlete who is a member of one's national team but has not represented one's nation in international competition is considered a developing athlete.

Event/Rules: Must compete in one sport only and comply with all other rules and regulations as outlined in the sport technical package and the AWG staging manual.

Must meet individual sport requirements as per the technical package.

Must be member and in good standing with their respective Yukon Sport Governing Body (YSGB).

Must adhere to the terms of the Team Yukon Code of Conduct.

Trials:

**Athlete attendance at trials is mandatory.** Exemptions may be granted for the following reasons: injury; significant illness that can be documented with a physician's note; Yukon school program commitments;

and special family circumstances (i.e., death in family, same sport competition/opportunity). **A holiday is not a special family circumstance.**

Exceptions to this rule will be permitted only upon review and approval by the Government of Yukon - Sport and Recreation Branch. In order for an exemption to be considered, the attached request form must be submitted to the Chef de Mission either in person at 4061 - 4th Avenue or by email to [trevor.twardochleb@yukon.ca](mailto:trevor.twardochleb@yukon.ca) forty eight (48) hours prior to the start of the specific trial along with supporting documentation.

All trial participants will be required to fill out a trial registration / waiver form prior to their specific sport trial.

If a participant is interested in trying out for two different sports, and those sports are having their specific sport trials at the same time, the participant must choose between the two sports. Conflicting trial dates and times are not grounds for trials exemption.

Participants will receive a T-shirt for their participation at trials and are also eligible to apply for a travel subsidy through the In-Territory Travel Fund at a rate of .15 per km/per individual.

**All YSGB will be given the flexibility to add up to three athletes (if they choose) who are outside the territory training and competing in the same sport without having them come back to Yukon to attend trials in person.** The names of the potential candidates with rational is to be provided prior to the trials. YSGB are required to provide a final roster eight (8) weeks from the date of your first trial. Trials can be held anytime between **Friday - October 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2025 to Sunday - January 18<sup>th</sup>, 2026**. The last day to submit final rosters for your sport is **January 26, 2026**.

Sport final rosters do not become official until they are submitted and approved by the Chef de Mission.

Each YSGB will be provided with a final roster form prior to their sport trial(s). All YSGB are responsible for obtaining the signatures of all participants, coach(es), and parents/guardians so everyone is aware of their commitment to their team.

Once a participant is notified that they are on the final roster, they are not eligible to be selected to any other final roster.

Please also note that vacant spots on any team cannot be filled after the trials unless the vacancy jeopardizes team competition within the sport, such as in relays or team sports.

Post Trials: Following selection to Team Yukon, an athlete must commit to and follow a training program acceptable to their coach and the YSGB.

All athletes 18 years or older are required to submit an RCMP vulnerable sector check. Results of checks completed one year prior to the start of the Games are considered valid. The effective date is March 8, 2025.

Government of Yukon - Sport & Recreation Branch  
C/o Trevor Twardochleb, Chef de Mission  
Sport Consultant  
4061 - 4th Avenue  
Whitehorse, Yukon, Y1A 1H1  
[trevor.twardochleb@yukon.ca](mailto:trevor.twardochleb@yukon.ca) / (867) 333-2271

## **Appendix B**



### **2026 ARCTIC WINTER GAMES TRIALS EXEMPTION REQUEST FORM**

**SPORT:** Click or tap here to enter text.

**DATE OF TRIAL:** Click or tap here to enter text.

#### **ATHLETE**

**NAME:** Click or tap here to enter text.

**ADDRESS:** Click or tap here to enter text.

**PHONE:** Click or tap here to enter text.

**EMAIL:** Click or tap here to enter text.

**SIGNATURE:** \_\_\_\_\_

#### **PARENT / GUARDIAN**

**NAME:** Click or tap here to enter text.

**ADDRESS:** Click or tap here to enter text.

**PHONE:** Click or tap here to enter text.

**EMAIL:** Click or tap here to enter text.

**SIGNATURE:** \_\_\_\_\_

#### **LIST REASON FOR EXEMPTION:**

Click or tap here to enter text.

#### **ADDITIONAL DOCUMENTATION required with application form:**

- ☐ Letter of support from the YSGB if reason is a special family circumstance.
- ☐ Letter of support from your school if the reason is a Yukon school programming commitment.
- ☐ Physician's note if reason is due to injury or illness.

***The application and supporting documentation must be submitted to Trevor Twardochleb, Chef de Mission (Government of Yukon - Sport and Recreation Branch) either by hand at 4061 - 4<sup>th</sup> Ave, Whitehorse or via email to [trevor.twardochleb@yukon.ca](mailto:trevor.twardochleb@yukon.ca). 48 hours prior to the start of the sport trial or the request will not be considered.***