

2014 Biathlon Ontario Provincial Team Selection **CANADIAN NATIONAL BIATHLON CHAMPIONSHIPS**

1. Preamble and Guiding Principles

The Canadian National Biathlon Championship is considered to be an elite event, which brings together the best Biathlon athletes in the country. This race is used by Biathlon Canada, as part of their selection procedures for the National Team. It will also be used by BiON as one of the key selection criteria for OAAP funding. Biathlon Canada requires that each Division send only athletes that are competent to race at this level of competition. This infers that athletes who attend National Championships should meet a minimum standard of competency in order to qualify. Both Biathlon Canada and BiON consider the National Championships as an elite event and not an event of open participation.

In an effort to comply with this philosophy, the Athlete Development Committee (ADC) has created selection procedures that clearly identify a set of minimum standards that must be met for IBU class athletes to qualify for Nationals. These new standards are objective and easily measurable. For the Senior Boy/Girl categories, which the ADC considers as a development level, the qualification procedures are also outlined in this policy. This document describes the Team Ontario selection procedures in detail.

2. Definitions

- a) "BiON" is Biathlon Ontario.
- b) "ADC" is the Athlete Development Committee.
- c) Note that for the purposes of this document, the terms "qualified", "nominated" and "selected" are not synonymous.
- d) "Qualified athlete" means that the athlete has met the minimum standards for selection as either a full member or as a sanctioned member.
- e) "Nominated athlete" refers to the initial list of athletes that have been identified by the ADC to participate as either a full member or a sanctioned member.
- f) "Selected Athlete" refers to the final list of athletes that have been selected by the ADC after all of the appeals have been dealt with and all nominated athletes have either accepted by signing athlete agreement or declined their nominations.
- g) "Sanctioned member" refers to an athlete who is chosen by the ADC and will be required to pay 100% of all costs associated with participating in the National Championships. Other than this, the sanctioned member will be treated in the same way as the full member.
- h) "Full member" refers to an athlete who is nominated, selected and qualifies for Team Ontario and may receive a subsidy from BiON to attend the Canadian Nationals.
- i) "AP" refers to athlete percentile which is used to rank athletes during the year's competition season (see Section 4 and 5 for details on calculation)
- j) "PT" percentage threshold or a minimum requirement
- k) "Sanctioned race" refers to any Biathlon Canada Division approved race or any USBA approved Nor Am event.

- l) "Sanctioned Event" refers to two or more sanctioned races in a single event.

3. General Information for all Categories

The following guidelines apply to the selection of athletes in all categories:

- a) Every athlete wishing to be considered for a position on Team Ontario must be fully paid athlete competitor in good standing of BiON as of 21 Nov 2013. Athlete must be an ordinary resident of the province of Ontario to earn Full Team membership. An Ontario Health Card is required for proof of residency.
- b) Athlete wishing to be considered for a position on the provincial team must sign and be in full compliance of BiON Athlete Agreement and Code of Conduct.
- c) Nominally, there are sixteen potential openings for full membership in Team Ontario. This number is set by the Board of Directors and can vary from year to year depending on resources available and location of Nationals. BiON reserves the right to nominate a smaller team if there are not enough athletes of adequate caliber. BiON reserves the right to select and support any sanctioned athletes based on availability of race support for the Team.
- d) BiON expects a certain minimum level of competition attendance to be considered for selection to attend Canadian Nationals. Every IBU class athlete wishing to be considered for a position on Team Ontario must compete in a minimum of three (3) Nor Am Cup sanctioned events. Eastern, Western Canadian's and World Junior Youth Trials are also considered sanctioned events for the purpose of ranking. Sr Boys & Girls are to compete in a minimum of three divisional sanctioned races that has been selected by BiON ADC Committee.
- e) The ADC will consider application of *force majeure* for those athletes that have justifiable reasons for not competing in events identified in clause 3(d). (E.g. documented illness, *act of god*, etc.). An application for force majeure must be made, in writing, to the Chair of the ADC, no later than two weeks prior to the release of Team Ontario nomination date. The letter must describe the circumstances that caused the athlete to miss the required minimum races along with providing supporting documentation, such as a letter from a physician.
 - (i) Athletes who, for strictly health-related reasons, have not achieved the standards required for nomination **may** be considered for nomination under the following conditions:
 1. The athlete has fulfilled all reasonable training and rehabilitation requirements as set under the PSO and/or local biathlon club return to play protocols for injuries (including concussions), illnesses, and pregnancy, and is deemed fit to participate by the PSO team physician or equivalent.
 2. Biathlon Ontario, based on its technical judgment and that of a PSO team physician or equivalent, indicates in writing the expectation that the athlete will achieve at least the minimum standards.
 3. The athlete has demonstrated, and continues to demonstrate his or her long-term commitment to training and competition goals.
 4. Injured athletes in the IBU categories will be ranked using races results at previous year's National Championships. Injured athletes in the Sr. Boys/Girls categories will be ranked using previous year sanctioned/divisional races results.
- f) The final selection of Team Ontario is the responsibility of the ADC. The ADC will use these procedures to select team members for Team Ontario. The ADC, at their discretion may recommend approval of athletes that are with 2% of minimum PT threshold.

- g) All appeals relative to the selection of Team Ontario must be sent to the Chair of the ADC within seven days of the publication of the nomination list. The length of the appeal period may be shortened by the ADC in cases where tight deadlines need to be met. The appeals must be based on the misapplication of this selection process.
- h) Two members of the Executive of BiON who are not on the ADC will be appointed by the President to review and adjudicate the appeal. Their ruling will be final.

4. Qualification Procedure for IBU Categories

To qualify for provincial team, all athletes in the IBU categories (Senior Men/Women, Junior Men/Women and Youth Men/Women) must meet a pre-defined performance standard.

a) Full Member of Team Ontario

- i. Pre-Selection
Athletes who are selected to the National Team, National Team Development Squad, Jr/Yth National, IBU Cup Tour Team, or CWG Teams in that competition season are automatically pre-selected to the Provincial Team.
- ii. Qualification Criteria
 1. Achieve AP ranking of 90.00% or better.
 2. Must compete in 3 sanctioned events of their choosing as described in Clause 3(d).
 3. Each sanctioned race must consist, at a minimum, 3 competing athletes in their respective IBU category.
- iii. Athlete Percentile (AP) Ranking
Athlete Percentile Ranking is calculated as follows:
 1. The athlete's top four (4) sanctioned races will be considered in the Athlete Percentile ranking. Each of the top four races will be calculated by dividing the athlete's official race finish time from the average official finish time race of the top three competitors from the athlete's respective IBU category.
 2. AP Ranking is then established by averaging the athlete's top four (4) race percentile.
 3. All race formats are eligible for the AP Ranking.
 4. Only one (1) Individual race format result can be used as one of the top four race percentile.
 5. There will be no separation by IBU categories.
 6. If a tie exists between athletes in the above ranking calculation, the ADC will use the highest race percentile result of each athlete to finalize the ranking. In the event that both athletes still remain in a tie, the each athlete will have earned full membership to Team Ontario. Thus, this athlete will be carried as an additional Team member i.e. 17 athletes and does not affect the process of filling team roster in Section 6.

b) Sanctioned Member of Team Ontario

- i. Qualification Criteria

1. Achieve AP ranking of 82.5% or better.
 2. Must compete in 3 sanctioned events of their choosing as described in Clause 3(d).
 3. Each sanctioned race must consist, at a minimum, 3 competing athletes in the respective IBU category.
- ii. AP Ranking
- AP Ranking is calculated as described in Clause 4(a)(iii).

c) Selection Deadlines

Deadline for athletes to post race results to the ADC is **23 Feb 2014**.

5. Qualification Procedure for Senior Boy/Girl Categories

To qualify for provincial team, all athletes in Sr. Boys/Girls categories must meet a pre-defined performance standard.

a) Full Member of Team Ontario

- i) Pre-Selection
Athletes who are OAAP carded provided they meet OAAP athlete agreement requirements at the time of Provincial Team nomination are automatically pre-selected to the Provincial Team.
- ii) Qualification Criteria
 1. Achieve AP ranking of 90.00% or better.
 2. Must compete in three divisional sanctioned races as described in Clause 3(d) for Sr Boys/Girls category. BiON selected event is:
 - a. NorAm #3/Quebec Cup #3, Val Cartier QC, 16-19 Jan 2014. Jan 16th will be a time trial details, TDB and is a BiON sanctioned event.
 3. Each sanctioned race must consist of, at a minimum, 3 competing athletes in the respective Sr. Boys/Girls category.
- iii) AP Ranking
Athlete Percentile Ranking is calculated as follows:
 1. The athlete's top (2) two races will be considered in the Athlete Percentile ranking.
 - a. An athlete's race percentile is calculated by dividing the athlete's official race finish time from the average official finish time race of the top three BiON competitors from the sanctioned race.
 2. AP Ranking is established by averaging the athlete's two (2) race scores.
 3. If a tie exists between athletes in the above ranking calculation, the ADC will use the highest race percentile result of each athlete to finalize the ranking. In the event that both athletes still remain in a tie, then each athlete will have earned full membership to Team Ontario. Thus, this athlete will be carried as an additional

Team member i.e. 17 athletes and does not affect the process of filling team roster in Section 6.

b) Sanctioned Member of Team Ontario

i. Qualification Criteria

1. Achieve AP ranking of 80.00% or better.
2. Must compete in the sanctioned events as described in Clause 3(d) for Sr Boys/Girls category.
3. Each sanctioned race must consist, at a minimum, 3 competing athletes in the respective Sr. Boys/Girls category.

ii. AP Ranking

AP Ranking is calculated as described in Clause 5(a)(iii).

Selection Deadlines

Deadline for athletes to post race results to the ADC is **23 Feb 2014**.

6. Team Ontario Athlete Nomination Process

All athletes nominated and selected for the Provincial Team must have signed, and be in full compliance with the Biathlon Ontario Athlete Agreement & Code of Conduct.

The following outlines the nomination process for Team Ontario provincial team.

a) Nomination of Full Membership Members

- i. The first positions of the team, up to six, will be filled by the 3 highest ranked Sr Boys and the 3 highest ranked Sr. Girls from the list of qualified athletes in the Senior Boy/Girl categories. This will ensure that there is at least some Senior Boy/Girl nominated to the team.
- ii. The next 10 positions will be filled by those IBU category athletes that have qualified for full membership. The filling of these positions will be in order of the rank established by their Athlete Percentage (AP).
- iii. If there are any remaining positions left, they will be filled from the list of qualified athletes in the Senior Boy/Girl categories, by order of their AP Ranking.

b) Nomination of Sanctioned Team Members

- i. The first positions of the sanctioned team will be filled by any IBU class athlete that qualified to be a full member, but was excluded because of lack of available position on the full member team (i.e. those that ranked lower than those athletes identified in 6(a)(ii).
- ii. The next positions of the sanctioned team will be filled by any Senior Boy/Girl that qualified for Team membership, but was ranked lower than those athletes identified in 6 (a)(i) or 6(a)(iii). These positions will be offered in order of the rank established by their Athlete Percentage (AP).
- iii. If there are any positions left on the Sanctioned Team, they will be offered to those IBU class athletes that qualified as a sanctioned member. These positions will be offered in order of the rank established by their Athlete Percentage (AP).

c) Team Roster Nomination List

The Nomination list is to be approved by the Board of Directors and release no later than 25 Feb 2013.

d) Nomination List Acceptance

Upon release of Nomination list, nominated athletes will have until 28 Feb 2014 11:59pm EST to submit their acceptance to the ADC Chair via email at tim.hurley@ge.com. Any response received after the deadline will not be accepted.

e) Provincial Team Selection list

Pending any appeals, ADC Chair is to present to BiON Board of Directors the selection list of the provincial team athletes for approval no later than 01 Mar 2014.

7. Communication

Any questions in regards to this policy can be directed to ADC Chair.

Tim Hurley
VP Technical/ADC Chair
Biathlon Ontario