



BIATHLON ONTARIO

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Orleans, ON K4A 4N3

PROVINCIAL TEAM SELECTION POLICY FOR THE 2016 CANADIAN NATIONAL BIATHLON CHAMPIONSHIPS

1. Preamble and Guiding Principles

- a. The Canadian National Biathlon Championship (CCH) is considered to be premier event that brings together the best divisional biathletes in the country. This race is used by Biathlon Ontario (BiON) as one of the key selection criteria for OAAP funding. Biathlon Canada (BiCAN) requires that each division endeavour to send only athletes that are capable of racing at this level of competition. This infers that athletes who attend the CCH should meet a minimum performance and participation standard in order to qualify.
- b. In an effort to comply with this philosophy, the Athlete Development Committee (ADC) has created a selection policy that clearly identifies a set of minimum standards that must be met for all athletes to participate at the CCH. These standards are objective and easily measurable.
- c. The 2015-16 season is the beginning of a new Canada Winter Games cycle and because the 2016 CCH will be held in Quebec City, all biathletes meeting the selection standards will be allowed to attend. In doing so BiON increases the pool of athletes gaining competitive experience at this level and encourages maximum participation.
- d. This document describes the Team Ontario selection procedures in detail.

2. Definitions

- a. "BiCAN" is Biathlon Canada.
- b. "CCH" is Canadian National Biathlon Championship
- c. "BiON" is Biathlon Ontario.
- d. "ADC" is Athlete Development Committee.
- e. Note that for the purposes of this document, the terms "Qualified", "Nominated", and "Selected" are not synonymous.
- f. "Qualified athlete" means that the athlete has met the minimum eligibility requirements in Sections 5(a), (b), and (c) for selection.
- g. "Nominated athlete" refers to a Qualified athlete identified on the ADC's nomination list that will be invited to attend the CCH.
- h. "Selected athlete" refers to a Nominated athlete on the final list of athletes that have been selected by the ADC after all of the appeals have been heard and all Nominated athletes have either accepted their nomination by signing the athlete agreement, or declining their nominations.
- i. "Sanctioned race" refers to a race approved by Biathlon Canada (or a division thereof), or any USBA approved race.

- j. “Sanctioned event” refers to two or more sanctioned races in a single event as outlined in a single event invitation.

3. General Information

The following guidelines apply to the selection of all athletes:

- a. Membership: Every athlete wishing to be considered for a position on Team Ontario must be a registered Class A member of BiON in good standing as of December 31, 2015. Athletes must not have a balance owing to BiON.
- b. Master Athletes: All Master athletes are invited to attend so long as they meet the criteria outlined in Section 5.
- c. Conduct: Athletes wishing to be considered for a position on Team Ontario must sign and be in full compliance with the BiON Athlete Agreement and Code of Conduct.
- d. Force Majeure: The ADC will NOT consider application of *force majeure* for those athletes that have not qualified per section 5. Athletes MUST meet the section 5 requirements to attend the CCH.
- e. Athletes who, for strictly health-related reasons, have not achieved the requirements per Section 5 may be considered for nomination under the following conditions:
 - i. The athlete has fulfilled all reasonable training and rehabilitation requirements as identified in an applicable and generally accepted return to play protocol for injuries (including concussions), illnesses, and pregnancy, and is deemed fit to participate by the BiON team physician or equivalent.
 - ii. BiON, based on its technical judgment and that of a BiON team physician or equivalent, indicates in writing the expectation that the athlete will be able to participate with no risk of harm to themselves as a consequence of the injury or illness in question.
 - iii. The athlete has demonstrated, and continues to demonstrate his or her long-term commitment to training and competition goals.

The following guidelines apply to the selection of all coaches:

- f. Eligibility: Coaches must, at a minimum, have achieved Competition - Introduction Certified status by February 22, 2016 as per their NCCP transcript to attend the CCH as a contracted staff member.
- g. Development: BiON will make available, at minimum, one (1) unpaid staff positions to coaches having achieved Community Coaching Gold Certified status, and/or Competition – Introduction Trained status, with priority going to the latter, in an effort to foster coaching development in the province. Coaches participating for development purposes will have their expenses reimbursed.

4. Final Selection and Appeals

- a. The final selection of Team Ontario is the responsibility of the ADC by way of BiON Board of Directors approval. The ADC will use this policy to select Team Ontario.

- b. All appeals related to the selection of Team Ontario athletes and coaches must be sent to the Chair of the ADC by February 25, 2016 at 11:59pm EST. 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 policy.
- c. Two members of the BiON Board of Directors who are not ADC members will be appointed by the President to review and adjudicate the appeals. Their ruling will be final.
- d. The nomination list is to be approved by the ADC and BiON Board of Directors and released no later than February 22, 2016.
- e. Upon release of the nomination list, Nominated athletes will have until March 1, 2016 at 11:59pm EST to submit their acceptance to the ADC Chair via email. Any response received after the deadline may not be accepted.
- f. Pending any appeals, the ADC Chair is to present to BiON Board of Directors the list of selected athletes for approval no later than February 29, 2016.
- g. The Provincial Team uniform consists of the BiON race suit, BiON coat and BiON Kama hat, and must be worn by all Team Ontario athletes, coaches and staff members at the CCH.

5. Eligibility Requirements and Performance Standards

All athletes meeting the eligibility requirements of Section 5 will be Nominated athletes provided that they meet all other conditions outlined in this policy.

- a. Shooting performance: Athletes are required to meet the following shooting performance in one (1) sanctioned race in the 2015-16 competitive season to qualify:
 - i. Sr. Boys & Girls 60%;
 - ii. Yth. Men & Women 70%;
 - iii. Jr. Men & Women and Men & Women 80%; and
 - iv. Master athletes are not required to meet a shooting performance benchmark.
- b. Attendance: BiON expects a certain minimum level of competition attendance to be considered for nomination to Team Ontario.
 - i. IBU-class athletes must compete in a minimum of three (3) NorAm Cup sanctioned events (totaling a minimum of sanctioned 6 races). Eastern, Western Canadian's, World Junior Youth Trials and any higher level competitions (WJYC) are also considered sanctioned events for the purpose of ranking IBU-class athletes.
 - ii. Sr. Boys & Girls athletes are to compete in a minimum of three (3) divisional sanctioned events (totaling a minimum of 6 sanctioned races). Sr. Boys & Girls must compete in a minimum of two (2) .22cal sanctioned events prior to the CCH including the BiON Provincial Championship (totaling a minimum 4 sanctioned races) to be eligible to attend the CCH.
 - iii. Master athletes must compete in a minimum of two (2) divisional sanctioned .22 caliber events (totaling a minimum of 4 races).

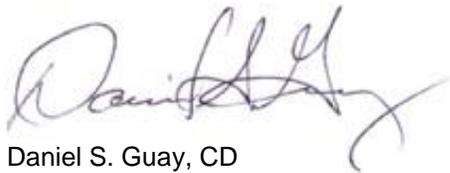
- c. Race Performance Standard: Athletes meeting the eligibility standards in section 5(a) and 5(b) prior to February 22, 2016 are required to have achieved one (1) race percentage of 85% or greater at an eligible event as outlined in section 5(b). The athlete's competition category at the eligible event in which the 85% performance is achieved must include at least three (3) athletes. Masters athletes are not required to meet this performance benchmark.

6. Coaching Fee Subsidy

Athletes producing two (2) individual-start (relays not eligible) race performances at the CCH of 92.5% or greater will be eligible for a subsidy towards their coaching fees. The subsidy amount may vary from year-to-year based on the financial state of BiON.

7. Communication

Any questions in regards to this policy can be directed to the BiON VP Technical.



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Biathlon Ontario