

**BIATHLON NOVA SCOTIA
TEAM SELECTION CRITERIA AND RELATED PROCEDURES
FOR CANADA WINTER GAMES 2011**

1. GENERAL

The Canada Winter Games (CWG) 2011 will be held in Martock, NS and Biathlon Nova Scotia (BNS) will enter a full team of four Junior Women and four Junior Men to participate at the Games. This document sets out the selection criteria and procedures and the related appeals procedures for the selection of the Nova Scotia Biathlon Team at the CWG 2011. The purpose of the selection criteria and procedures is to ensure that the best possible biathletes represent Nova Scotia at the CWG 2011, and that the selection of the Team is fair, objective and orderly. In preparation for the Games, BNS has been operating a Training Squad of potential candidates for the Games, who have been selected by various performance based criteria. The Training Squad will remain in the present configuration until the selection trials.

2. ELIGIBILITY

In order to be eligible for selection to the Biathlon Team for CWG 2011, an athlete must fully meet all of the eligibility requirements detailed in the Biathlon Technical Package for CWG 2011 attached to this document. As well, any candidate for the BNS CWG 2011 Biathlon Team must be a member in good standing of Biathlon Canada through BNS. Additionally, an eligible athlete wishing to be selected must participate in and qualify against the other eligible candidates under the performance based selection criteria set up by BNS in this document. Also, in order to be eligible for selection, the athlete must have a valid firearms license, Possession Only License (POL), Possession and Acquisition License (PAL) or a Minor's License.

Note: It is recommended that any potential candidates for positions on the BNS CWG 2011 Team should make their intentions known as soon as possible to the 2011 CWG Selection Committee chair, so that he or she may be kept informed of training camps and other critical scheduled events related to the Team selection process.

3. THE TEAM AND THE SELECTION PROCESS

3.1. Athletes to be selected

The BNS Biathlon Team at the CWG 2011 will consist of four Junior Men and four Junior Women athletes, and the selection process is open to any eligible athlete. During the selection process, one reserve athlete of each gender will be selected in addition to the Team, but the reserves will only participate at the Games if a selected Team member is unable to participate. No athlete will be selected unless they participate and qualify through the stipulated selection trial competitions, unless Article 3.4. – Force Majeure Situations applies. Notification of selection or non-selection to the Team will be made not later than 18 January 2011.

3.2. Selection Events and Procedures

Two competitive selection trials will be held, each consisting of two competitions - an Individual and Sprint competition – as follows:

Selection Trial #1: Training Camp / Selection Trial 27 – 31 Dec 2010, Charlo, NB or Martock, NS (location TBC, snow dependant)

Selection Trial #2: 2011 Atlantic Cup # 1 – 7 – 9 Jan 2011, Charlo, NB

In case of problems with the implementation of the above two events, the Atlantic Cup # 2/NS Provincial Championships, 14 - 16 January 2011 will be used for a reserve event, consisting of the necessary competitions to complete the selection process.

The eight Team members and two reserves will be selected based on the best aggregate performance in the best two of the four competitions. The best performance is defined as the lowest sum of the athletes' two rankings in the selected two competitions. Individual athlete ranking scores are based on their rankings against other Training Squad members. The four male athletes with the lowest sum of two placings will be selected for the Junior Men's Team and the four female athletes with the lowest sum of two placings will be selected for the Junior Women's Team. The reserve for each gender will be the next lowest sum after the selected team members. An example of the scoring is, second and fourth places will be the sum six and two second places will be the sum four. If an athlete is only able to participate in one event then the two placings from that one event will be used to determine their ranking.

3.3. Ties in Scoring

In the case of a tie, the Selection Committee will make the decision based on objective and comparative historical performance data from competitions and testing as well as other factors deemed relevant in selecting the best possible biathletes for the Games.

3.4. Force Majeure Situations

If circumstances occur, such as cancellation of the selection competitions for weather reasons, which cannot be rescheduled by BNS, or the force majeure inability of a known well-performing athlete to participate in the selection trials, the Selection Committee shall make the selection decisions based on fair, objective and best-available performance data and with the goal of selecting the best possible Team for the Games. Documented comparative performance data from training camps, competitive events as well as other factors deemed relevant in selecting the best possible biathletes for the Games will be used for such selections.

3.5. The Selection Committee

The BNS Selection Committee for the CWG 2011 Team shall consist of five members of the Executive, as follows:

Chair: Bruce Jarvis
Members: Brian Seidel
Peggy Falkenham-Boutilier
Richard Powell
Randy Royal

The Selection Committee was ratified at the BNS AGM 2010. The Committee will be competent to make decisions if three members are present. Decisions in the Committee shall be made by vote, with the majority of the votes cast deciding the issue. The Chairperson shall only vote in the case of a tied vote of the members.

4. APPEALS AGAINST SELECTION DECISIONS

4.1. Grounds for Appeals

Athletes have a right to appeal a selection decision if the criteria were not implemented properly, or were biased in some way. An appeal shall be heard ONLY on the grounds that the selection process and final decision was flawed not because the athlete did not like the decision. The grounds are as follows:

- a. The Selection Committee made a decision for which it lacked authority.
- b. The Selection Committee failed to follow procedures in the BNS approved selection criteria.
- c. The Selection Committee made a decision which was influenced by bias.
- d. The Selection Committee failed to consider relevant information or took into account irrelevant information in making the decision.
- e. The Selection Committee exercised its discretion for an improper purpose. and/or
- f. The Selection Committee made a decision that was unreasonable.

4.2. Appeals Time Lines and Procedures:

The athlete shall be given 48 hours following the official notifications of selections for the BNS CWG 2011 Team to request an appeal. The athlete must present his/her request in writing to the Chair of the Appeals Committee of BNS. The Appeals Committee shall review the presented documentation and information and decide whether or not the request has grounds for a hearing. They shall also review all selection procedure documentation from the Selection Committee that has a bearing on the case in question.

If there are no legitimate grounds for an appeal, the Chair of the Appeals Committee shall telephone or speak in person to the athlete advising her/him of the decision. This will be followed up with a formal letter to the athlete.

If the Appeals Committee feels there are grounds for an appeal hearing, the following procedures will take place:

- a. The Chair of the Appeals Committee shall select a designated place, date and time to hear the appeal. This will be done no later than 48 hours from receipt of the appeal request
- b. The Appeals Committee shall hear the athlete's complaint. She/He may be accompanied by one advocate (parent or guardian or legal advisor, etc.)
- c. The Appeals Committee shall hear from the Selection Committee representative (the Chair or a member appointed by the Chair)).
- d. The Appeals Committee will make a final decision at the appeal hearing and the decision shall be final and binding.

- e. The Chair of the Appeals Committee will contact the athlete no later than 24 hours.
after the hearing by phone to advise her/him of the outcome and this will be followed up by a formal letter and copy of the appeal findings and recommendations.
- f. The Chair of the Appeals Committee will contact the Selection Committee Chair by phone to advise her/him of the outcome. This will be followed up by a copy of the formal letter to the athlete and copy of the appeal findings and recommendations.

4.3. The Appeals Committee:

The Appeals Committee shall consist of five persons in the positions as follows (incumbents are shown in brackets):

Chair	President of BNS (Murray Wylie)
Members	BNS Member at Large (Judy Saikaly)
	BNS Treasurer (Jylene Ryan)

Contact information for the Appeals Committee Chair is:

Murray Wylie
5516 Spring Garden Road
Halifax, NS B3J 1G6
Phone: (902) 425-5454, Ext. 206
Fax: (902) 425-5606
Email: biathlon@ns.sympatico.ca

The Appeals Committee will be ratified by the BNS AGM 2010. The Committee will be competent to make decisions if all three members are present. Decisions in the Committee shall be made by vote, with the majority of the votes cast deciding the issue. The Chairperson shall only vote in the case of a tied vote of the members.

4.4. Costs

The athlete who submits an appeal must be prepared to cover his/her own expenses during the process (i.e.: travel to the hearing if required). BNS will make every effort to minimize such costs. If the appeal of the athlete is upheld by the Appeals Committee, BNS will reimburse the expenses directly arising from the appeal.

5. COMING INTO FORCE

This document comes into force when ratified by the BNS AGM 2010.

Murray Wylie
President

ATTACHMENT: Biathlon Technical Package Canada Winter Games 2011