

BIATHLON CANADA
2024-2025 TRAINING TEAMS PLAN

September 1, 2023

1. INTRODUCTION:

a. PREAMBLE

The purpose of this document is to define the criteria for athletes to be selected to a **National Training Team**. A National Training Team (Training Team) is a group of athletes that will receive enhanced support and benefits from Biathlon Canada between May 1, 2024 and March 31, 2025. The "training season" will be defined as being between May 1, 2024 and October 31, 2024. The "competition season" will be defined as being between November 1, 2024 and March 31, 2025. The nature of the commitment (i.e. camp based vs. centralized) is dependent on the Training Team and will be defined in the "Training Team Selection Process" section below.

NOTE: The ability for Biathlon Canada to offer centralized/camp-based Training Teams is dependent on budget. Therefore, positions and activities described below may not be fulfilled due to budgetary considerations.

Biathlon Canada is bound by its Athlete Contract to publish selection and eligibility criteria for all National Teams and National Training Teams at least two (2) months before the selection for any team. Further, it is bound to not change any policy, rule or regulation regarding athlete selection while the selection process is underway unless there is a typographical error, safety concern, or other significant reason a change must be made.

Reference document: **2024-2025 ATHLETE ASSISTANCE PROGRAM SELECTION CRITERIA** (AAP).

b. ABBREVIATIONS

Abbrev.	Term
AAP	Athlete Assistance Program
CEO	Chief Executive Officer
CWG	Canada Winter Games
DDHP	Director of Development and High Performance
DTE	Daily Training Environment

HPWG	High Performance Working Group
FISU	Fédération Internationale du Sport Universitaire
IBUC	IBU Cup
IST	Integrated Support Team
JIBUC	Junior IBU Cup
JWCH	Junior World Championships
NDT	National Development Team
NYJT	National Youth and Junior Team
OWG	Olympic Winter Games
SNT	Senior National Team
WC	World Cup
WCH	World Championships
YOG	Youth Olympic Games
YTP	Yearly Training Plan
YWCH	Youth World Championships

c. DECISION MAKING

Training Team selections will be made by the HPWG. The HPWG will include the DDHP, the CEO, and Board representative(s).

HPWG decisions will be informed by advisors to the HPWG. The HPWG may decide who to contact depending on the decision being made and the individuals involved in the decision. Potential advisors include: Biathlon Canada National Team Coaches, Tour Coaches, the Sport Development Manager, Club coaches, IST members, Athlete Representatives etc. NOTE: The HPWG reserves the right to contact whomever necessary in order to make the best decision.

d. ELIGIBILITY

Each Training Team defines specific eligibility requirements; however, all athletes must meet the following eligibility requirements:

- The athlete must be a Canadian Citizen;
- The athlete must be a member, in good standing, with Biathlon Canada by May 1, 2024;
- The athlete must abide by the [Universal Code of Conduct to Prevent and Address Maltreatment in Sport](#), [Biathlon Canada Code of Conduct, policies, procedures, and guidelines](#).

e. TRAINING TEAM SELECTION PROCESS

Starting on April 22nd, 2024 the HPWG will contact athletes for positions on selected teams starting with the Senior National Training Team and finishing with the National Youth & Junior Team. Athletes will be given a maximum of four days to provide their acceptance so that all teams can be confirmed by April 29th, 2024.

Upon acceptance of their position, athletes will:

- Sign the 2024-2025 Athlete Agreement;
- Sign the [Universal Code of Conduct to Prevent and Address Maltreatment in Sport](#);
- Sign the [Biathlon Canada Code of Conduct and Ethics](#);
- Renew Biathlon Canada membership;
- Complete the required Safe Sport training module;
- Complete the required True Sport Pur training module;
- Complete an athlete information sheet; and
- Other requirements as described by Biathlon Canada

2. 2024-2025 TRAINING TEAMS

a. SENIOR NATIONAL TEAM (SNT):

Number of Athletes:	A maximum of twelve (12) athletes: six (6) men and six (6) women. Biathlon Canada reserves the right to leave vacant positions unfilled based on the strategic high-performance objectives of Biathlon Canada. Additionally, Biathlon Canada reserves the right to create an internal two-tiered system (ex: A-team and B-Team) in order to best prepare athletes to compete at the international level.
Environment:	Centralized at the National Training Centre in Canmore, Alberta.
Staffing:	Staff assigned: Biathlon Canada Coaching Staff, Technical Equipment Staff and Integrated Services Staff.
Program:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Training based in Canmore, AB. • Training camps and activities will be planned throughout the training season in different locations as required. • An individualized YTP will be provided to each athlete.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Athlete monitoring, testing and assessment driven by Biathlon Canada's Gold Medal Profile.
Cost:	To be defined once budget is confirmed
Eligibility:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Athletes will be offered the opportunity to train at the National Training Centre in Canmore from May 1 to November 1, 2024 under the leadership and direction of Biathlon Canada coaching staff. Alternate training arrangements must be approved by the High Performance Working Group (HPWG).
Selection Criteria	<p>Men:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Athlete achieving the best AAP SR Carding Criteria Athlete achieving the second-best AAP SR Carding Criteria Athlete achieving the third-best AAP SR Carding Criteria Athlete achieving the fourth-best AAP SR Carding Criteria Positions 5 – 6: Discretionary Selection, with bias to select for the immediate past season's IBU international results <p>Women:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Athlete achieving the best AAP SR Carding Criteria Athlete achieving the second-best AAP SR Carding Criteria Athlete achieving the third-best AAP SR Carding Criteria Athlete achieving the fourth-best AAP SR Carding Criteria Positions 5 – 6: Discretionary Selection, with bias to select for the immediate past season's IBU international results

b. NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT TEAM (NDT):

Number of athletes:	A maximum of fourteen (14) athletes: seven (7) men and seven (7) women. Biathlon Canada reserves the right to add additional athletes or leave positions unfilled in order to meet the strategic high performance objectives of Biathlon Canada..
Environment:	A Training Camp based Team.
Coaching:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Home Coach, working in collaboration with a member of the Biathlon Canada coaching staff.
Program:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Up to 3 training camps/activities will be planned throughout the training season in different locations as required. YTP may be developed with the assistance of the Biathlon Canada Coaching Staff if helpful.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Athlete monitoring, testing and assessment driven by Biathlon Canada's Gold Medal Profile.
Cost:	To be defined once budget is confirmed.
Eligibility:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Junior Athletes and First- and Second-Year Senior Athletes as defined by the International Biathlon Union-Events and Competition Rules, Section 1.3 for the 2024-2025 Season. Years of birth 2001, 2002, 2003, 2004, 2005
Selection Criteria Described in rank order i.e. as soon as the quota of athletes is reached, no further positions will be offered.	1. Athletes born in 2001-2005 with 2 x Top 50 individual finishes at OWG, WCH, WC or 2 x Top 8 individual finishes at IBUC or a combination of the above.
	2. Athletes born in 2003-2005 with 1 x Top 5 individual finish at JWCH, YWCH, or JIBUC
	3. Athletes born in 2003-2005 with 2 x Top 65 individual finishes at OWG, WCH, WC or 2 x Top 25 individual finishes at IBUC
	4. Athletes born in 2001-2002 with 2 x Top 65 individual finishes at OWG, WCH, WC or 2 x Top 25 individual finishes at IBUC.
	5. Athletes born in 2001-2005 with 1 x Top 20 individual finish at IBUC, JWCH, YWCH, or JIBUC
	6. Athletes born between 2001-2005 who qualify and attend WC or IBUC Tour via objective selection (i.e. Discretionary Selection does not qualify).
	7. Athletes born between 2003-2005 who qualify for and attend the 2024 YWCH or JWCH via objective selection (i.e. Discretionary Selection does not qualify) .
	8. Discretionary Selections based on 2023-24 current results considering: IBU events (WC, IBUC, JIBUC, JWCH, YWCH etc.), FISU, Biathlon Canada November Trials; Biathlon Canada January Trials, CWG,, and Biathlon Canada National Championships.
	9. Discretionary Selection.

c. NATIONAL YOUTH AND JUNIOR TEAM (NYJT):

Number of athletes:	A maximum of fourteen (14) athletes: seven (7) men and seven (7) women..
Environment:	A Training Camp based Team.
Coaching:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Home Coach. Supported by Biathlon Canada Head Coach.
Program:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Up to two training camps/activities to be planned throughout the training season, which may include presentations from IST approved providers
Cost:	To be defined once budget is confirmed

Eligibility:	First-year Junior Athletes and Youth Athletes as defined by the International Biathlon Union–Events and Competition Rules, Section 1.3 for the 2024–25 Season. Year of birth 2005, 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009.
Selection Criteria Described in rank order i.e. as soon as the quota of athletes is reached, no further positions will be offered.	1. Athletes with 2 x Top 65 Individual finishes at OWG, WCH, WC or 2 x Top 25 individual finishes at IBUC or a combination of the above.
	2. Athletes with 1 x Top 5 individual finish at YWCH, YOG, or JIBUC.
	3. Athletes with 1 x Top 20 individual finish at OWG, WCH, WC, IBUC, YWCH, YOG or JIBUC.
	4. Athletes who are selected for and attend any 2023–2024 WC or IBUC Tour via objective selection (i.e. Discretionary Selection does not qualify).
	5. Athletes with 1 x Top 40 individual finish at YWCH and/or JIBUC.
	6. Athletes who qualify for and attend the 2024 YWCH, YOG or JIBUC via objective selection (i.e. Discretionary Selection does not qualify) .
	7. Discretionary Selections based on 2023–24 current results considering: IBU events (WC, IBUC, JIBUC, YWCH etc.), Biathlon Canada November Trials; Biathlon Canada January Trials; YOG, CWG, and Biathlon Canada National Championships.
	8. Discretionary selection.

If there are fewer remaining positions on a team than athletes meeting a specific criteria within a Ranking Order, those athletes will be ranked as follows:

- A. Ranked by best placing in an individual event (Sprint, Pursuit, Individual, Mass Start, Super Sprint) at OWG, WCH, WC, IBUC, JWCH, YWCH, YOG or JIBUC (in this order) that qualified the athlete for the Ranking Order.
- B. If tied, ranked by next-best individual placing at OWG, WCH, WC, IBUC, JWCH, YWCH, YOG or JIBUC (in this order) that qualified the athlete for the Ranking Order.
 1. If neither athlete has a second result that qualifies the athlete for a Ranking Order the next best result in the competition (such as the JWCH) in which the athletes qualified for the Ranking Order will be determined.
 2. If two athletes are still tied after both results that qualified the athletes for the Ranking Order, the best finish in the highest level of competition both athletes competed in will be used.

Discretionary Selection: The HPWG will make team selection decisions in consideration of any or all of the following. The order of the following bullet points do not imply order of importance. The relevance and or weighting of any of these points will be dependent on the situation and decision at hand:

- Current and historical results including but not limited to: IBU International competitions, NorAm Cup, Trials, and Domestic races;
- IBU Qualifying Points for Sprint and Individual races during the current season;
- Demonstrated ability to meet Biathlon Canada's Goals for the High Performance Program Through 2026 and potential to meet long-term objectives of Olympic, World Cup, or World Championship medals through 2026, 2030 and beyond;
- Fit with the appropriate competition level for the athlete's long-term development;
- Strategic long-term athlete development;
- Selection process impacted by illness, injury or adverse unforeseen circumstances;
- Recent improvements in performance parameters, such as shooting performance or ski speed;
- Recent decline in performance parameters, such as shooting performance or ski speed;
- Ability to effectively contribute to a relay performance;
- Competition field size and quality;
- Athlete behavior and compliance to [Biathlon Canada Policies, Procedures, and Guidelines](#).

Should no athletes meet established criteria for a team position, or should an athlete decline selection, the HPWG may:

- Fill the position as a discretionary selection; or
- Leave the position unfilled.