

**2027 Canada Winter Games
Newfoundland and Labrador
Cross Country Ski Team Selection Criteria**



1.0 Objectives, Process and Authority

- a. The objective of this document is to outline the processes and procedures for which the Ski Team Committee for Cross Country Newfoundland and Labrador (CCNL) will select athletes for the 2027 Canada Winter Games Cross Country Ski Team representing Newfoundland and Labrador.
- b. The document will go through due process of CCNL ratification by following section 6.9-12 (Establishment of Selection Criteria) stated in the Team NL Canada Games Policies and Procedures Manual.

2.0 Force Majeure

In all decisions, discretion is reserved for unexpected event beyond the reasonable control that crucially affects the athlete's ability to compete (e.g. illness, injury, transportation breakdown, family crisis, weather) or unforeseen circumstances that interfere with the functioning of the planned process. All athletes will be notified of Force Majeure.

3.0 Eligibility

- a. Athletes must meet the eligibility criteria outlined in the 2027 Canada Winter Games Cross Country Ski & Para-Nordic Technical Package.
- b. Athletes must meet the eligibility criteria outlined in the Canada Games Council Athlete Eligibility Policy. Please note sections relevant to out-of-province athletes (e.g.: at university, gap year, working ...).
- c. Athletes must hold a valid Cross Country Canada Racing License.
- d. Minimum standard for Para-Nordic: participation in training regime approved by the Para-Nordic coach in the year leading up to 2027 CWG, participation in at least one dryland and one on-snow camp or approval from the Para-Nordic coach to miss such camps and illustration of ability to complete designated competition distances and course difficulty of 2027 CWG.

4.0 Age Categories

As outlined in the Technical Package Cross Country Skiing, 2027 Canada Winter Games:

OLYMPIC PROGRAM:

Year of birth: 2007 or later.

PARA-NORDIC:

Year of birth: 1997 or later.* (*see technical package for exceptions).

5.0 Team Size

As outlined in the Technical Package Cross Country Skiing, 2027 Canada Winter Games:

OLYMPIC PROGRAM: 6 Males and 6 Females.

PARA-NORDIC: 2 Males and 2 Females.

6.0 Team Selection – Able Bodied

6.1 Pre-Selection

At its discretion the Race Committee may pre-select up to two athletes per gender, based on NL Cup, Nordiq Cup / Continental Cup (COC), or Canada Cup (CC) results or any combination of these. Written request in pre-selection to the coaching staff is mandatory and must be provided to the Head Coach Erik Charron at erikcharron@gmail.com by September 30th. Pre-selection will only be considered for athletes whose race history indicates a likelihood of placing first or second overall if they attend the trial races.

6.2 Primary Selection Criteria

Primary Selection Races

The primary selection for any team spots not filled by pre-selection will be at the Canada Games Trial Races, tentatively scheduled for January 8th to 10th, 2027 at the Blow Me Down ski club in Corner Brook. The race date and location will be ratified in fall 2026 and may be rescheduled depending upon snow availability.

OLYMPIC PROGRAM FORMAT:

	Distance
Sprint Free Qualifier	1.0-1.4 km*
Free Distance – Interval Start	7.5 km*
Classic Distance – Mass Start	5-10 km*

PARA-NORDIC FORMAT:

Standing	Distance
Classic Sprint Qualifier	.9-1.2 km*
Free Distance – Interval Start	2.5 km*
Classic Distance – Interval Start	5 km*

Sitting	Distance
Sit-Ski Sprint	0.6-0.8 km*
Sit-Ski – Interval Start	2.5 km*
Sit-Ski – Interval Start	5 km*

* distances are subject to change based on the selected race loop and/or course conditions on race day. Athletes and coaches should consult the Race Package and attend the event coaches meetings for up-to-date information. Events at the selection races are subject to change if events are changed for the Canada Winter Games prior to the selection races.

Primary Selection Ranking List

- a. Pre-selected athletes, if any, shall be named to the team.
- b. The winner of each individual qualification race shall be named to the team.

- c. Only if sufficient places remain unfilled after the first two criteria are applied, the second place finisher of each individual qualification race shall be named to the team.
- d. For the balance of the remaining spots, a selection ranking list will be derived using speed percentages from the winner of each race (100 percent for the winner). The percentages from each selection race will be summed, with the mass start skate race counting as two races (points doubled), to compile a final ranking score.
- e. In the event of a tie for the 6th and final spot, (i) the tie is broken by whomever placed ahead more frequently over the course of the 3 selection races, or (ii) in the event of a 3+ way tie, skiers with the best aggregate placing (e.g.: 1st + 4th + 6th = 11th) will be selected, or (iii) if none of the above methods can be used, the selection will be decided by the CCNL ski team committee.
- f. The selection ranking list will be made public.

6.3 Secondary Selection Criteria – NL Cup Modified Rankings

Secondary Selection Races

In the event that the Primary Selection is unable to proceed due to weather, pandemic or other unforeseen circumstances, the Secondary Selection criteria will be based on NL Cup races completed in the sixteen months prior to the originally scheduled date of the primary selection race.

Secondary Selection Ranking List

- a. Pre-selected athletes, if any, shall be named to the team.
- b. For the balance of the remaining spots, an ad-hoc NL Points List will be made from all the NL Cup races completed in the prior sixteen months, following the regular 2025-2026 season NL Cup rules described at < <https://crosscountrynl.com/standings> >, except for skiers with less than the minimum 4 races who will have their best 1, 2, or 3 results (all results available) averaged and multiplied by 4.
- c. In the event of a tie for the 6th and final spot, the selection will be decided by the CCNL ski team committee.
- d. The selection ranking list will be made public.

6.4 Acceptance of Selection

Athletes will be required to confirm their acceptance of selection within 48 hours of notification of selection or 48 hours of conclusion of any Appeals, as applicable. Selection is contingent on maintaining eligibility in accordance with the Team NL Policy Manual, Canada Games rules and any athlete agreement.

7.0 Team Selection – Para Nordic

Selection will be based on the Para-Nordic coach's review of results of designated selection races described in section 6.2 as well as the criteria in section 3.d.

8.0 Team Announcement

In accordance with Team NL Canada Games Policies and Procedures Manual.

9.0 Selection Appeal

- a. Athletes who have not been selected and who wish to appeal this decision can do so by filing an appeal in writing only with the CCNL Appeals Committee.
- b. The deadline for athletes to submit appeals to the Appeals Committee is five (5) days after final selection has been announced. Appeals must be submitted by e-mail to the Director of Junior Development at jemerigan@pa-law.ca.
- c. The CCNL Appeals committee will consist of the CCNL Executive Board of Directors.
- d. Grounds for appeals will be limited strictly to whether or not CCNL has completed the selection process in accordance with their own published selection criteria and related procedures; Whether or not the selection criteria developed and applied by CCNL was fair, objective, transparent and free from discrimination or conflict of interest.
- e. After hearing an appeal, the Appeals Committee will have the authority to: Direct the Selection Committee to redo the selection process using the correct criteria/process and submit new list of nominated athletes; or deny the appeal.