



2010 Biathlon Ontario Provincial Team Selection for The Canadian National Biathlon Championships

Version 3, Dec 12, 2009

1. Preamble and Guiding Principles

The Canadian National Biathlon Championship (Nationals) is considered by both Biathlon Canada and Biathlon Ontario to not be an event of open participation, but 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 Biathlon Ontario (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 requires that athletes that attend the Nationals should meet a minimum standard of competency in order to qualify. In an effort to comply with this philosophy, the Athlete Development Committee (ADC) has created selection procedures that clearly identify *the 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" 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 or declined their nominations by notifying the VP Technical.
- g) "Sanctioned member" refers to an athlete who is chosen by the ADC and may be required to pay 100% of their 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 the athlete percentage used to rank athletes during the year's competition season (see sections 4 and 5 for details on calculation)
- j) "PT" refers to the percentage threshold or a minimum requirement.
- k) "Sanctioned race" refers to any Biathlon Canada Division-approved race or any USBA-approved North American (Nor Am) Cup 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 a fully-paid athlete competitor in good standing of BiOn as of Dec 31st in the year previous to the National Championship. The athlete must be a resident of Ontario to earn a Full Team membership. An Ontario Health card is required for proof of residency.
- b) 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 the resources available and the location of Nationals. BiOn reserves the right to select 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.
- c) Every athlete wishing to be considered for a position on Team Ontario must compete in a minimum of three (3) qualifying events i.e. six (6) races (see section 2. k. definition). Of the minimum three (3) qualifying events, IBU Class athletes must compete in a minimum of one (1) NorAm event i.e. two (2) races.
- d) The ADC will consider application of *force majeure* for those athletes that have justifiable reasons for not competing in a minimum of three (3) qualifying events. (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 (2) weeks prior to the Team selection date. The letter must describe the circumstances that caused the athlete to miss the required minimum events along with providing supporting documentation, such as a letter from a physician.
- e) 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 within 2% of the minimum PT threshold.
- f) 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 first draft of the nominations. 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.
- g) Two members of the Board of Directors 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 the Nationals 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: All athletes in the IBU categories that achieve an AP of 85% or better will be qualified to become a full member of Team Ontario. Any athlete selected to the National Team or National Team Development Squad in that competition season is automatically pre-selected to the Ontario Team. IBU athletes will be ranked using the top four (4) results from any sanctioned race that has a minimum of three (3) athletes in the category. Two (2) results used in the AP calculation, must be from Nor Am Cup races. The percentages for each athlete in relationship to the average time of the top three (3) athletes in the race in all formats of individual competition races (Sprint, Individual, Pursuit, Mass Start, etc) will be calculated for each race entered. The best four (4) percentages from all races (including the two (2) NorAm race results) attended by each athlete will be averaged to create the athlete's AP. There will be no separation by IBU categories. If a tie exists between athletes in the above ranking calculation, the ADC will use the highest result used to determine each athletes AP to finalize the ranking. If there is still a tie both athletes earn full membership to team Ontario. This athlete will be carried as an additional Team member (i.e. 17 athletes) and does not affect the process of filling the team roster explained in section 6.

b) Sanctioned Member of Team Ontario: All athletes in the IBU categories that achieve an AP of between 75% and 85% will be qualified to become sanctioned members of Team Ontario. At the discretion of the ADC, this percentage threshold (PT) may be altered from year to year.

c) Selection Deadlines: The deadline to post race results is Feb 14th 2010.

5. Qualification Procedure for Senior Boy/Girl Categories

a) Full Member of Team Ontario: In order to qualify for Team Ontario, an athlete in the Senior Boy/Girl category must achieve an AP of 85%. Senior Boys & Girls will be ranked in exactly the same manner as the IBU category athletes with the proviso that the races that they participated in (and that their ranking is based on) must be races using a .22 rifle and not the alternate air-rifle races. If a tie exists between athletes in the above ranking calculation, the ADC will use the highest result used to determine each athlete's AP to finalize the ranking. If there is still a tie both athletes earn full membership to Team Ontario. This athlete will be carried as an additional Team member (i.e. 17 athletes) and does not affect the process of filling the team roster as in section 6.

b) Sanctioned Member of Team Ontario: All athletes in the Senior Boys & Girls categories that achieve an AP of between 75% and 85% will be qualified to become sanctioned members of Team Ontario. At the discretion of the ADC, this percentage threshold (PT) may be altered from year to year.

c) Selection Deadlines: The deadline to post race results is Feb 14th 2010.

6. Process for Filling the Team Ontario Roster

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

a) Full Membership Team of 16

- i. The first positions of the team (up to six) will be filled by the three (3) highest ranked Sr Boys and the three (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 still any positions left, these will be filled from the list of qualified athletes in the Senior Boy/Girl categories, by order of their athlete percentage.

b) 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 spaces on the full member team (i.e. those that ranked lower than those athletes identified in sub-section 6 (a) ii above).
- 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 sub-section 6 (a) i or 6 (a) iii above. These positions will be offered in order of the ranking 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 ranking established by their Athlete Percentage (AP).

2009-2010 Biathlon Ontario Athlete Development Committee:

Tim Hurley, Chairperson & VP Technical, Biathlon Ontario
Michelle Armitage, Head Coach, Biathlon Ontario
Chris Lindsay, Technical Programs Coordinator, Biathlon Canada

tim.hurley@ae.ge.com
michelle_armitage@hotmail.com
clindsay@biathloncanada.ca