

Bobsleigh CANADA Skeleton National Skeleton Program 2016/2017 Selection Process & Criteria

The following outlines the process **Bobsleigh CANADA Skeleton (BCS)** will follow in selecting athletes into the **National Skeleton Program (NSP)** for each level of IBSF competition for the 2016-17 competitive season. This Selection Process has been designed in support of BCS' mission to develop and sustain World and Olympic Champions.

BCS will utilize a combination of physical testing camps (dry-land and icehouse) along with a **Selection Race Series (SRS)** for the process of completing team selections. Athletes will earn SRS Points equivalent to IBSF WC points, which will ultimately assist in determining the circuits for which they begin to compete on during the 2016-17 season.

1. NSP - SELECTION PROCESS

A. ELIGIBILITY

To be eligible to participate in the NSP – Selection Process, candidates must fulfill the following conditions:

- i. Athletes must be members in good standing with BCS and/or their respective provincial association;
- ii. Athletes must have a valid passport;
- iii. Athletes must meet the eligibility requirements to obtain a Canadian IBSF license;
- iv. Athletes must sign the current year's BCS Athlete Agreement;
- v. No athlete will be entered into the NSP - Selection Process with positive results from anti-doping testing;
- vi. Returning athletes must have participated in all required NSP events throughout the off-season (unless an exemption is granted, in advance, by the BCS High Performance Director); and
- vii. In order to be eligible to compete in the SRS, athletes must demonstrate, to the satisfaction of the NSP-Head Coach, sufficient on-ice sliding proficiency.

B. QUALIFYING STANDARD (QS)

QS: Achieve the 2016/17 BCS **High Performance Athlete Selection - Skeleton**, attached as *Appendix A*.

C. SELECTION RACE SERIES (SRS)

The SRS consists of four (4) races, **SRS Race 1, SRS Race 2, SRS Race 3** and **SRS Race 4** being held in Whistler and Calgary for a combined total of eight (8) heats, over four (4) races over two (2) separate timeframes where **SRS Points** are earned.

SRS Race 1: Whistler

- i. Eligibility:
 - 1) Open to athletes who meet QS.
- ii. Starting Order:
 - 1) The first race heat start order shall be by rank according to the Athletes' previous seasons IBSF ranking.
 - 2) Athletes without an IBSF ranking are drawn at the end of the field.
 - 3) The second race heat start order shall be reverse order by rank according to the first race heat.

SRS Race 2: Whistler

- i. Eligibility:
 - 1) Open to athletes who meet QS.
- ii. Starting Order:
 - 1) The first race heat start order shall be by rank according to the final ranking from SRS Race 1.
 - 2) The second race heat start order shall be reverse order by rank according to the first race heat.

SRS Race 3: Calgary

- i. Eligibility:
 - 1) Open to athletes who meet QS.
- ii. Starting Order:
 - 1) The first race heat start order shall be by rank according to the Athletes previous seasons IBSF ranking.
 - 2) Athletes without an IBSF ranking are drawn at the end of the field.
 - 3) The second race heat start order shall be reverse order by rank according to the first race heat.

SRS Race 4: Calgary

- i. Eligibility:
 - 1) Open to athletes who meet QS.
- ii. Starting Order:
 - 1) The first race heat start order shall be by rank according to the final ranking from SRS Race 3.
 - 2) The second race heat start order shall be reverse order by rank according to the first race heat.

The SRS will be conducted in accordance with the current IBSF rules (where applicable), with any modifications to the SRS Rules to be announced at the pre-race meeting(s)/draw(s). Athletes are responsible for representing themselves at these meetings.

SRS Points earned will be in accordance to the World Cup Competition - IBSF Points System allocations from the current IBSF rules at the time of the SRS. Each race will be weighted at the standard (x1) WC points, weighting each race at an equal value to each other.

General race format will be as follows:

- i. Race draws will be held following the final training heats;
- ii. All equipment (sleds, runners, etc.) must conform to the current IBSF rules, pass the appropriate technical inspections and be available to the athlete for the entire season;
- iii. Specific race protocols will be announced at the race draw, to reflect the race conditions (times, weather, etc.);
- iv. Protests must be verbally made to a jury member within five minutes of the race ending, and must be submitted in writing within twenty minutes of the race conclusion, along with a \$100 CAD protest fee.

D. ATHLETE RANKING

Total combined SRS Points will be used to rank athletes. Based on rank and those considerations as outlined in the 2016-17 NSP - Selection Criteria documentation, athletes will have then achieved a position which will help to determine the competitive team / circuit to which they will be assigned.

In the event of a tie in total SRS Points, the athletes will be ranked based on the tied athletes' cumulative push time, over all eight (8) race heats. The athlete with the lowest cumulative push time will be deemed to be the athlete of highest rank.

E. FINAL SELECTION

Upon completion of the SRS, the NSP-Head Coach, or designate, will nominate the list of eligible athletes to the Selection Committee. The Selection Committee will confirm the nominees, and ratify the team selection.

The Selection Committee will be comprised of:

- i. BCS Board Member (Committee Chair);
- ii. BCS Chief Executive Officer;
- iii. BCS High Performance Director;
- iv. Athletes Representative - Bobsleigh; and
- v. Independent participant.

Note: If any named member is not available the High Performance Director may designate a replacement at his/her sole discretion

F. IBSF PARTICIPATION QUOTA

For the 2016-17 season, Canada has qualified the following participation quotas:

WORLD CUP: 3 Men / 3 Women
INTERCONTINENTAL CUP: 3 Men / 3 Women
EUROPA CUP: 2 Men / 2 Women
NORTH AMERICAN CUP: 4 Men / 4 Women

G. APPEALS - INTERNAL

Any dispute of the Selection Process may be dealt with through the BCS Appeals Policy.

H. UNFORESEEN CIRCUMSTANCES

Fairness, equal opportunity and the desire to field the most competitive teams for international competition are the guiding principles of the NSP - Selection Process, which are based on the latest information available to BCS. Unforeseen, intervening circumstances (weather, budget, etc.) may occur.

- i. If a scheduled event cannot be held or must be interrupted, BCS will first try to re-schedule the event;
- ii. If a venue change is feasible, BCS will attempt to change the venue but will not guarantee funding for travel to the new venue; and/or
- iii. If a venue change is not feasible, ranking will be based first on the portion of that event completed or if no portion has been completed, then ranking will be based on the discretion of the NSP-Head Coach.

2. NSP - SELECTION CRITERIA

BCS, at its sole discretion, reserves the right to:

- i. fulfill any combination of men & women of the qualified quotas on each of the circuits, WC, ICC, NAC, EC per the IBSF Participation Quota outlined in 1.F; and***
- ii. select any two (2) athletes (1 male & 1 female) at any time to the WC and ICC circuits.***

A. PRE-SELECTION ELIGIBILITY – WORLD CUP (WC)

A maximum of two (2) athletes (1 male & 1 female) that have met the following performance results may be eligible for Pre-Selection to the 2016-17 World Cup Team based on the following priority:

- #1. -- 1st Overall – 2015-16 IBSF Ranking
- #2. -- 2nd Overall – 2015-16 IBSF Ranking
- #3. -- 3rd Overall – 2015-16 IBSF Ranking
- #4. -- 1st Place – 2016 World Championships
- #5. -- 2nd Place – 2016 World Championships
- #6. -- 3rd Place – 2016 World Championships

Athletes eligible for Pre-Selection are required to confirm their health status as fit to compete through consultation with the BCS Integrated Services Team (IST). Ratification of Pre-Selection will be completed prior to the beginning of the SRS and subject to the approval of the Selection Committee.

B. NATIONAL TEAM – WORLD CUP (WC)

The **WC Skeleton Team** may consist of the maximum of three (3) men and three (3) women as per the IBSF Participation Quota in 1.F. Consideration for the WC Skeleton Team will be given to athletes who are eligible for Pre-Selection or have participated in the NSP - Selection Process.

i. WC Skeleton Team Eligibility:

1) Athletes must meet their respective WC Skeleton Push Standard at any of the *BCS Push Testing Opportunities* between April 1, 2016 and the beginning of the official training of SRS Race 1.

a) WC Skeleton Push Standard, Men: ≤ **4.85sec.**

b) WC Skeleton Push Standard, Women: ≤ **5.25sec.**

2) Athletes must be eligible to compete on the WC Circuit under the IBSF's rules as outlined in the *IBSF International Skeleton Rules 2016*.

ii. If BCS fills three (3) WC Positions they shall be designated to athletes (men & women respectively) based on the following priority:

1) WC Position 1 – designated to athletes eligible for Pre-Selection otherwise designated to the highest ranked athletes based on SRS results;

2) WC Position 2 – if WC Position 1 is designated to athletes through Pre-Selection, WC Position 2 shall be designated the highest ranked athletes based on SRS results, otherwise it shall be designated to the second highest ranked athletes based on SRS results; and

3) WC Position 3 – designated by BCS, at its sole discretion, to any athlete at any time, otherwise if WC Position 1 is designated to athletes through Pre-Selection, WC Position 3 shall be designated to the second highest ranked athletes based on SRS results, otherwise it shall be designated to the third highest ranked athletes based on SRS results.

iii. If BCS fills two (2) WC Positions they shall be designated to athletes (men & women respectively) based on the following priority:

1) WC Position 1 – designated to athletes eligible for Pre-Selection otherwise designated to the highest ranked athletes based on SRS results; and

2) WC Position 2 – designated by BCS, at its sole discretion, to any athlete at any time, otherwise if WC Position 1 is designated to an athlete through Pre-Selection, WC Position 2 shall be designated to the highest ranked athlete based on SRS results, otherwise it shall be designated to the second highest ranked athlete based on SRS results.

iv. If BCS fills one (1) WC Position it shall be designated to athletes (men & women) based on the following priority:

- 1) WC Position 1 – designated to athletes eligible for Pre-Selection, otherwise it shall be designated by BCS, at its sole discretion, to any athlete at any time, otherwise it shall be designated to the highest ranked athlete based on SRS results.

C. NATIONAL TEAM – INTERCONTINENTAL CUP (ICC)

The **ICC Skeleton Team** may consist of the maximum of three (3) men and three (3) women as per the IBSF Participation Quota in 1.F. Consideration for the ICC Skeleton Team will be given to athletes who have participated in the NSP - Selection Process.

i. ICC Skeleton Team Eligibility:

- 1) Athletes must meet their respective NextGen Skeleton Push Standard at any of the *BCS Push Testing Opportunities* between April 1, 2016 and the beginning of the official training of SRS Race 1.
 - a) NextGen Skeleton Push Standard, Men: **Not Applicable.**
 - b) NextGen Skeleton Push Standard, Women: **Not Applicable.**
- 2) Athletes must be eligible to compete on the ICC Circuit under the IBSF's rules as outlined in the IBSF International Skeleton Rules 2016.

ii. If BCS fills three (3) ICC Positions they shall be designated to athletes (men & women) based on the following priority:

- 1) ICC Position 1 – the remaining highest ranked athlete, after WC Positions are designated, based on SRS results;
- 2) ICC Position 2 – the remaining highest ranked athlete, after WC Positions are designated, based on SRS results; and
- 3) ICC Position 3 – designate by BCS, at its sole discretion, to any athlete at any time, otherwise it shall be designated to the remaining highest ranked athlete, after WC Positions are designated, based on SRS results.

iii. If BCS fills two (2) ICC Positions they shall be designated to athletes (men & women) based on the following priority:

- 1) ICC Position 1 – the remaining highest ranked athlete, after WC Positions are designated, based on SRS results; and
- 2) ICC Position 2 – designated by BCS, at its sole discretion, to any athlete at any time, otherwise it shall be designated to the remaining highest ranked athlete, after WC Positions are designated, based on SRS results.

iv. If BCS fills one (1) ICC Position it shall be designated to athletes (men & women) based on the following priority:



- 1) ICC Position 1 – designated by BCS, at its sole discretion, to any athlete at any time, otherwise it shall be designated to the remaining highest ranked athlete, after WC Positions are designated, based on SRS results.

D. NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT TEAM – NORTH AMERICAN CUP (NAC) / EUROPA CUP (EC)

The **NAC & EC Teams** are selected by BCS with collaboration from the four PSOs: British Columbia Bobsleigh and Skeleton Association (BCBSA), Alberta Skeleton Association (ASA), Ontario Bobsleigh & Skeleton Association (OBSA), Bobsleigh Skeleton Québec (BSQ).

2016/17 BCS HIGH PERFORMANCE ATHLETE SELECTION SKELETON

NSP ATHLETE

NDSP ATHLETE

APR/MAY TRAINING BEGINS

- 2015/16 WCh/WC/ICC Athletes
- Post season debriefs
- IAP Updates
- Tier Status Updates

APR/MAY TRAINING BEGINS

- 2015/16 NAC/EC Athletes

2015/16 SPORT CANADA AAP CARDED ATHLETES

AUG 8-12 BCS TESTING CAMP 1

DRY-LAND TESTING / PUSH TESTING

- Eligibility:
2015/16 NSP Athletes (WCh/WC/ICC)
2015/16 NDSP Athletes (AAP Carded)
- **BCS Push Testing Opportunity**

SEP 10-17 NEXTGEN TESTING CAMP

DRY-LAND TESTING / PUSH TRAINING

- Eligibility:
Athletes who met their respective sprint standard at a BCS approved camp between April 1, 2015 and Sep 9, 2016

ATHLETES WHO MEET THEIR RESPECTIVE SPRINT STANDARD

SEP 26-30 BCS TESTING CAMP 2

PUSH TESTING

- Eligibility:
2015/16 NSP Athletes (WCh/WC/ICC).
2015/16 NDSP Athletes (AAP Carded).
Athletes from NextGen Camp who met their respective Sprint Standard.
- **BCS Push Testing Opportunity**

ATHLETES WHO MEET THEIR RESPECTIVE SPRINT STANDARD

2016/17 RECRUITMENT

BCS RECRUITMENT CAMPS

- Sprint / Jump / Throw
- Athletes identified by BCS as "Blue Chip" may enter pathway at any point

NEW ATHLETES & ATHLETES WHO DO NOT MEET THEIR RESPECTIVE SPRINT STANDARD ENTER PSO STREAM

2016/17 STANDARDS

- BCS Sprint Standard (30m sprint)
- M: ≤ 3.90sec - W: ≤ 4.20sec
- WC Skeleton Push Standard
- M: ≤ 4.85sec - W: ≤ 5.25sec
- NextGen Skeleton Push Standard
- M: NA - W: NA

OCT/NOV ON ICE EVALUATION

- 2016/17 NSP SELECTION RACE SERIES
- Whistler Selection Race(s)
Participation is by Invitation Only
 - Calgary Selection Race(s)
Participation is by Invitation Only

ATHLETES NOT SELECTED TO NATIONAL TEAM'S ENTER PSO STREAM

2016/17 WC TEAM

WC SKELETON TEAM ELIGIBILITY:

- WC Skeleton Push Standard
- As per 2016/17 Selection Process and Criteria

2016/17 ICC TEAM

ICC SKELETON TEAM ELIGIBILITY:

- NextGen Skeleton Push Standard
- As per 2016/17 Selection Process and Criteria