

## **Bobsleigh CANADA Skeleton National Bobsleigh Program 2017/18 Selection Process & Criteria**

The following outlines the process **Bobsleigh CANADA Skeleton (BCS)** will follow in selecting athletes to the **World Cup Bobsleigh Team (WCBT)** as part of the National Bobsleigh Program (NBP) for the upcoming competitive season.

### **PURPOSE**

This Selection Process has been designed in support of BCS' mission to develop and sustain World and Olympic Champions. Fairness, equal opportunity and the desire to field the most competitive teams for international competition are the guiding principles of the NBP - Selection Process, which is based on the latest information available to BCS throughout.

## **1) NBP - SELECTION PROCESS**

### **A) ELIGIBILITY**

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

- i) be members in good standing of BCS and/or their respective provincial association;
- ii) have paid all outstanding fees and/or be current according to a pre-agreed payment plan for any such fees;
- iii) have a passport valid for a period of at least 6 months beyond the end of the upcoming competitive season;
- iv) meet the eligibility requirements to obtain a Canadian IBSF license;
- v) not have a current sanction imposed resulting from an anti-doping rule violation;
- vi) demonstrate, to the satisfaction of the NBP-Head Coach (NBP-HC), sufficient on-ice sliding proficiency; and
- vii) have participated in all required NBP events throughout the off-season (unless an exemption is granted, in advance and in writing, by the BCS High Performance Director).

### **B) EVALUATION RACE SERIES (ERS)**

The ERS consists of two (2) races per discipline, **ERS Race 1** & **ERS Race 2** being held in Calgary and Whistler respectively, for a combined total of four (4) heats, over two (2) races over two (2) separate timeframes, per discipline, where **ERS Points** are earned.

**ERS Race 1** is scheduled to be conducted in Calgary and the Starting Order shall be as follows:

- i) The first race heat start order shall be by rank according to each pilot's previous seasons IBSF ranking.
- ii) Pilots without an IBSF ranking are drawn at the end of the field.
- iii) The second race heat start order shall be reverse order by rank according to the first race heat.

**ERS Race 2** is scheduled to be held in Whistler and the Starting Order shall be as follows:

- i) The first race heat start order shall be by rank according to the final ranking from ERS Race 1.
- ii) The second race heat start order shall be reverse order by rank according to the first race heat.

**C) CONDUCT OF THE ERS**

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

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, if the equipment is not owned by BCS, the equipment must be available to the athlete for the entire season;
- iii) Each pilot is responsible for putting together and entering his/her crew of Eligible athletes into the ERS;
- iv) All crew participating in the ERS must be available to compete for the entire season (unless an exemption is granted, in advance and in writing, by the BCS High Performance Director);
- v) Specific race protocols will be announced at the race draw, to reflect the race conditions (times, weather, etc.); and
- vi) 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 \$100.00 CAD protest fee.

**D) ERS POINTS**

ERS Points will be awarded, per discipline, for each of the ERS Races according to the following points table:

<b>ERS POINTS TABLE</b>	
<b>ERS Race Rank</b>	<b>ERS Points</b>
1 <sup>st</sup>	10
2 <sup>nd</sup>	6
3 <sup>rd</sup>	4
4 <sup>th</sup>	3
5 <sup>th</sup>	2
6 <sup>th</sup>	1

Bonus points will be awarded based on the average time of the top three places finishers, per discipline, with an additional 1/10th of a point being allocated for each 1/10th second ahead of the average time.

**Example: 1st – 115.30 2nd – 117.05 3rd – 117.45 = Average time is 116.60 seconds. 1st place finisher is 1.3 seconds ahead of the average time therefore receives an additional 1.3pts.**

Total combined ERS Points, per discipline, will be used to rank pilots.

In the event of a tie in total combined ERS Points, per discipline, the pilots will be ranked based on the tied pilots’ teams’ cumulative push time, over all four (4) race heats, The pilot with the lowest cumulative push time will be deemed to be the pilot of highest rank.

ERS rank and those considerations as outlined in section **3)** will help to determine the team to which the pilots will be selected.

**E) ERS – UNFORESEEN CIRCUMSTANCES**

Notwithstanding the importance of the ERS in the NBP-Selection Process, unforeseen, intervening circumstances (weather, budget, etc.) affecting the conduct of the ERS, may occur. For example:

- 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 Selection Committee.

In such circumstances, the BCS and/or the Selection Committee, as appropriate, shall make such determination as may be required in keeping with the Purpose set out herein.

**2) IBSF PARTICIPATION QUOTA**

For the 2017/18 season, Canada has qualified the following participation quotas:

<b>Circuit</b>	<b>Women’s Bobsleigh Quota</b>	<b>2-Man Bobsleigh Quota</b>	<b>4-Man Bobsleigh Quota</b>
World Cup (WC)	3	3	3
North American Cup (NAC)	4	4	4
Europa Cup (EC)	4	4	4

*BCS, at its sole discretion, reserves the right to fill and/or change the number of quota spots filled on each of the circuits (WC, NAC and/or EC) at any time throughout the competitive season. For the avoidance of doubt, this includes not filling all quota spots on any circuit or in any competition at any time.*

### 3) NBP - SELECTION CRITERIA

#### A) FINAL SELECTION PROCESS

Upon completion of the ERS, the NBP-HC will nominate the list of eligible athletes to the Selection Committee. The Selection Committee will review the nominations in the context of this 2017/18 Selection Process & Criteria, 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 - Skeleton; 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***

#### B) NBP – WORLD CUP BOBSLEIGH TEAM (WCBT) SELECTION

The **WCBT** may consist of the maximum of the allocated WC quota spots as per section **2**).

i) WCBT Eligibility – Pilots & Crew:

To be eligible to be selected to the WCBT, candidates must fulfill the following conditions:

- (1) sign the current years BCS Athlete Agreement;
- (2) have paid all outstanding fees and/or be current according to a pre-agreed payment plan for any such fees;
- (3) be eligible to compete on the WC Circuit under the current IBSF's rules; and
- (4) meet their respective WCBT Push Standard at any of the *BCS Push Testing Opportunities* between April 1 and December 31, 2017, specifically:

(a) WCBT Push Standard - Pilots:  
Men  $\leq$  5.20sec, Women  $\leq$  5.60sec

(b) WCBT Push Standard - Crew:  
Men  $\leq$  5.15sec, Women  $\leq$  5.55sec

ii) WCBT Pre-Selection Eligibility - Pilots:

A maximum of one (1) pilot, per discipline, who have met the following performance results may be eligible for Pre-Selection to the 2017/18 WCBT based on the following priority:

- (1) - 1<sup>st</sup> Place – 2017 World Championships
- (2) - 2<sup>nd</sup> Place – 2017 World Championships
- (3) - 3<sup>rd</sup> Place – 2017 World Championships
- (4) - 1<sup>st</sup> Overall – 2016/17 IBSF Ranking
- (5) - 2<sup>nd</sup> Overall – 2016/17 IBSF Ranking
- (6) - 3<sup>rd</sup> Overall – 2016/17 IBSF Ranking

Pilots 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 by the High Performance Director prior to the beginning of the ERS.

iii) WCBT - WC Quota Allocations - Pilots:

In accordance with the WC quota places qualified by Canada as per section **2**, per discipline, the NBP-HC shall nominate the following pilots to the Selection Committee:

(1) For each discipline in which BCS fills three (3) quota places:

- (a) WC Position 1 (CAN1) – designated to a pilot eligible for Pre-Selection otherwise designated to the highest ranked pilots based on ERS results;
- (b) WC Position 2 (CAN2) – if WC Position 1 is designated to a pilot through Pre-Selection, WC Position 2 shall be designated the highest ranked pilot based on ERS results, otherwise it shall be designated to the second highest ranked pilot based on ERS results; and
- (c) WC Position 3 (CAN3) – designated by BCS, at its sole discretion, to any pilot at any time, otherwise if WC Position 1 is designated to a pilot through Pre-Selection, WC Position 3 shall be designated to the second highest ranked pilot based on ERS results, otherwise it shall be designated to the third highest ranked pilot based on ERS results.

(2) For each discipline in which BCS fills two (2) quota places:

- (a) WC Position 1 (CAN1) – designated to a pilot eligible for Pre-Selection otherwise designated to the highest ranked pilots based on ERS results; and
- (b) WC Position 2 (CAN2) – designated by BCS, at its sole discretion, to any pilot at any time, otherwise if WC Position 1 is designated to a pilot through Pre-Selection, WC Position 2 shall be designated to the highest ranked pilot based on ERS results, otherwise it shall be designated to the second highest ranked pilot based on ERS results.

(3) For each discipline in which BCS fills one (1) quota place:

- (a) WC Position 1 (CAN1) – designated to a pilot eligible for Pre-Selection, otherwise designated by BCS, at its sole discretion, to any pilot at any time, otherwise it shall be designated to the highest ranked pilot based on ERS results.

iv) WCBT - Crew Selection:

(1) Crew

Upon completion of the ERS the NBP-HC, in consultation with such other BCS staff as may be appropriate, shall nominate athletes to the Selection Committee as Crew for selection to the WCBT considering all relevant factors, including but not limited to the following factors:

(a) Performance Score Rubric

<b>PERFORMANCE SCORE RUBRIC</b>
<p><b>1. QUANTITATIVE SCORE - MAX 12 POINTS (80% Weighting)</b></p> <p><b>A: APE Points / 100</b> <i>Refer to Appendix A: BCS APE Tables - Bobsleigh</i></p> <p><b>B: Previous Results</b> <i>1 point = 2 or more WC medals in the 2016/17 season</i> <i>2 points = 1 or more WCh medal at the 2017 WChs</i></p>
<p><b>2. QUALITATIVE SCORE - MAX 8 POINTS (20% Weighting)</b></p> <p>The Athlete's demonstrated:</p> <p><b>A: Commitment to BCS programs</b></p> <p><b>B: Ability to take personal responsibility for self and their results</b></p> <p><b>C: Ability to work within a team structure</b></p> <p><b>D: Understanding and respect for their position on a Canadian National Team</b></p> <p><b>E: Willingness to promote BCS in a positive manner</b></p> <p><b>F: Contribution towards a positive daily training/competition environment</b></p> <p><b>G: Respect towards BCS coaches and staff</b></p> <p><b>H: Respect towards their fellow teammates</b></p> <p><i>Scoring:</i> <i>-1 = Unacceptable or nonexistent</i> <i>0 = What is expected of a national team athlete</i> <i>1 = World class, an example to others</i></p>
<p><b>PERFORMANCE SCORE = <math>((1A+1B)*4/3) + ((SUM(2A:2H))*1/2)</math></b> <i>Refer to Appendix B: Performance Score Calculation Example</i></p>

(b) Performance Indicators

The Performance Indicators shall include but are not be limited to the following:

- (i) 2016/17 World Cup Season Push Performance Analysis, including relative start times and relative start speeds.
- (ii) NBP Push Testing Results (Ice House), including individual and team push times, start acceleration profiles and start speed profiles;
- (iii) Push performances during the ERS; and/or
- (iv) Competitive Experience.

(2) Alternate Crew

Upon completion of the ERS the NBP-HC, in consultation with such other BCS staff as may be appropriate, and considering all relevant factors, including those set out in section **3)B)iv)**, may nominate to the Selection Committee athletes as Alternate Crew

for selection to the WCBT. In order to be selected as Alternate Crew, athletes must meet all WCBT Eligibility conditions with the exception of section **3)B)i)(4)(b)**.

### (3) Crew/Alternate Crew Rotation & Replacement

In keeping with the Purpose set out herein, BCS reserves the right throughout the selection process (including but not limited to the ERS) and/or competitive season, at its sole discretion, to rotate and/or replace Crew/Alternate Crew, including but not limited to:

- (a) Changing and/or rotating Crew/Alternate Crew (individually or as a team) between pilots and/or circuits (WC, EC and/or NAC);
- (b) Replacing individual Crew/Alternate Crew members on the WCBT with other Eligible Crew/Alternate Crew; and/or
- (c) Such other changes as may be appropriate from time to time.

For the avoidance of doubt, the PERFORMANCE SCORE RUBRIC and/or the PERFORMANCE INDICATORS shall not be determinative in selecting athletes for nomination and the Selection Committee may consider such other factors in its discretion as it deems appropriate in the circumstances.

## **C) NORTH AMERICAN CUP (NAC) / EUROPA CUP (EC) TEAMS**

The **NAC and EC Teams** are selected by BCS on a per race basis with collaboration from the PSOs: British Columbia Bobsleigh and Skeleton Association (BCBSA), Alberta Bobsleigh Association (ABA), Ontario Bobsleigh & Skeleton Association (OBSA), Bobsleigh Skeleton Québec (BSQ). Ultimately the selection lies at the discretion of BCS.

## **D) CHANGE IN QUOTA SPOTS FILLED & IN SEASON RE-ALLOCATION**

BCS may modify the number of quota positions that it fills on any circuit at any time for any reason throughout the competitive season. BCS may also re-allocate designated Positions and/or re-assign pilots to different competition circuits (WC / NAC / EC) at certain times in the 2017/18 season. For avoidance of doubt, all competitive results may be taken into consideration for the purposes of modifying quota positions and/or In Season Re-Allocation.

## **E) BCS DISCRETION**

BCS shall consider using discretion in accordance with this **2017/18 Selection Process & Criteria** in the event of circumstances such as but not limited to:

- i) Injury or long term sickness resulting in missed *BCS Push Testing Opportunities* and/or ERS Race(s) and/or IBSF Competitions and/or other events;
- ii) In the event of a tie that is not broken by section **1)D)** herein;
- iii) "Acts of God" - adverse weather conditions or other external factors resulting in modified or cancelled *BCS Push Testing Opportunities* and/or ERS Race(s);

- iv) "IBSF Rulings" - decisions made by the IBSF which impact the nations rankings or athlete results or qualification standards; and/or
- v) Such other circumstances and/or events that in the determination of the Selection Committee and/or NBP-HC, as appropriate, warrants the use of discretion, as set out in section **3)** herein.

#### **F) APPEALS - INTERNAL**

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