



BOBSLEIGH

CANADA

SKELETON

NATIONAL SKELETON PROGRAM

2026 Olympic Winter Games

Internal Nomination Procedure

2026 Olympic Internal Nomination Procedures (INP) for NSP

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Preamble

These Bobsleigh Canada Skeleton (BCS) National Skeleton Program (NSP) 2026 Olympic Internal Nomination Procedures (INP) outline the processes by which BCS qualifies quota places in accordance with the International Bobsleigh & Skeleton Federation (IBSF) Skeleton Qualification System for Milano Cortina 2026, and the processes through which athletes become eligible and are nominated by BCS to the Canadian Olympic Committee (COC) for selection to the Canadian Olympic Team (COT) for the XXV Olympic Winter Games in Milano Cortina 2026 (2026 OWG).

This BCS NSP INP have been designed in alignment with BCS' Mission:

Bobsleigh CANADA Skeleton develops World and Olympic Champions.

In keeping with BCS' Mission, fairness, equal opportunity, fielding medal potential athletes, and the development of NextGen athletes are the guiding principles of these BCS NSP INP.

1. Introduction

This document outlines the INP for the NSP for the 2026 OWG. The INP aligns with the guidelines set forth by the COC, and the [Olympic Qualification System](#) (OQS) established and approved by the IBSF and the International Olympic Committee (IOC).

2. Nomination Objectives

- **Primary Objective:** To nominate the maximum number of medal potential NSP athletes (based on the number of available quotas) to the COT for the 2026 OWG.
- **Secondary Objective:** if quotas remain available after fulfilling the Primary Objective stated immediately above, to nominate BCS-designated NSP NextGen athletes to the COT for the 2026 OWG to provide major games experience in alignment with the BCS NSP 2030 High-Performance Plan.

3. Establishment of the INP

The National Skeleton Program - Technical Lead (NSP-TL) has drafted the BCS NSP INP in compliance with the IBSF OQS and the COC's Team Selection Policy. The draft INP was reviewed by the elected BCS Athlete Representative (Skeleton) and submitted to the COC and OTP HPA on June 6th, 2024. The INP was approved by Jesse Lumsden, HPD, on November 11, 2024.

4. Decision-Making Authority

4.1 High Performance Committee (HPC)

- **Composition:** NSP Technical Lead (Chair), NSP Team Manager, NSP Technical Coach.

- **Responsibilities:** The HPC reviews and evaluates nomination factors, considers eligibility, qualification, and identification of alternate athletes, and makes recommendations to the Selection Committee (SC). The HPC does **not have formal decision-making authority** under the INP; it provides recommendations to the SC for ratification.

Note: Other technical staff and/or key personnel, as applicable, may be consulted from time to time and/or invited to participate in HPC meetings and if any named member is not available or is in a conflict-of-interest situation, a replacement may be designated at the sole discretion of the HPD.

4.2 Responsibilities of the Technical Lead

- **Roles:** Interpreting and applying the INP, establishing the HPC, confirming quota spots, considering eligible athletes, nominating athletes to the SC, and notifying athletes of their selection by the COC.

4.3 BCS NSP Selection Committee

- **Composition:** HPD (Chair), BCS Executive Director, and an impartial technical expert.
- **Responsibilities:** The SC has formal decision-making authority to review and ratify nominations made under this INP to ensure they are made in accordance with the INP.

5. IBSF Skeleton Qualification System for Milano Cortina 2026

BCS and NSP athletes are bound by the OQS for the XXV Olympic Winter Games, Milano Cortina 2026. This includes, without limitation, any changes modifications to the OQS for the XXV Olympic Winter Games, Milano Cortina 2026 by the IBSF and/or the IOC, which shall apply automatically to this INP as of their date of approval.

6. Eligibility

6.1 IBSF Eligibility

To be nominated to the COT, athletes must achieve the minimum eligibility standards set forth by the IBSF OQS.

6.2 COT Eligibility

Candidates must:

- Sign and comply with the BCS 2026 OWG Athlete Acknowledgment and Acceptance Agreement within 14 days of gaining National Team Athlete status.

Note: In most cases, **National Team Athlete status** is obtained separately from an Olympic nomination. While National Team status is a prerequisite for Olympic nomination, the nomination process for the Olympic Winter Games (OWG) will occur based on additional criteria set forth in the INP.

- Sign, submit, and comply with the COC Athlete Agreement and Organising Committee (OCOG) Conditions of Participation form no later than January 20, 2026. Where the

athlete is under the age of 19 years, the parent or guardian must also sign these agreements

- Be a member in [good standing of BCS](#) with current National Team Athlete status.
- Demonstrate competitive readiness, as specified in Section 9.1, as and when required;
- Hold Canadian citizenship in accordance with Rule 41 of the Olympic Charter.
- Have a valid Canadian passport that does not expire on or before August 22, 2026.
- Comply in all respects with the Anti-Doping Rules of the IBSF, the Canadian Anti-Doping Program (“CADP”), the IOC and the Anti-Doping Rules of any other Anti-Doping Organization that has authority and must not be serving a period of ineligibility or provisional suspension for an anti-doping rule violation at the time of nomination, or during the Games;
- Comply with any other relevant IBSF, COC, and IOC eligibility requirements.

7. NSP 2026 OWG Nomination Criteria & Process

7.1 Qualification Period

The NSP qualification period (NSP-QP) is from July 1, 2024, to January 18, 2026.

7.2 Nomination Process

On **January 19, 2026**, following the NSP-QP, the HPC will nominate eligible athletes to the SC in the following priority order, filling quota spots only if athletes meet the required standards. Earned quota spots are assigned to the NOC, not to individual athletes.

Athletes who meet the **A Standard** will be prioritized for nomination, followed by those who meet the **B Standard**. If any quota spots remain, athletes who meet the **C Standard** will be considered based on the standards below. BCS reserves the right to leave quota spots unfilled if no eligible athletes meet the performance standards.

A Standard: Athletes who meet the A Standard will be nominated first. In order to be nominated pursuant to the **A Standard**, an athlete must:

1. Achieve a podium result at the 2025 World Championships; OR
2. Achieve 3 top 15 results on the World Cup (WC) circuit during the NSP-QP and a top 15 finish at the 2025 World Championships; OR
3. Achieve 6 top 15 results on the WC circuit during the NSP-QP

B Standard: After A Standard nominations are complete, and provided that quota places remain, athletes that meet the B Standard will be considered for nomination. An athlete may be nominated pursuant to the B Standard by meeting **all** of the following criteria:

- Meet NextGen eligibility requirements as of January 1, 2026; AND

- Achieve a push threshold of 4.75 or faster for men and 5.20 or faster for women in the Winsport icehouse from the standard front block position during a sanctioned BCS session within the NSP-QP; AND
- Score above 4 on the Train to Compete (T2C) December 2025 GMP assessment.

If more athletes meet the B Standard than there are remaining quota spots after A Standard nominations are complete, an **NSP OWG Selection Race** will take place at the **Whistler Sliding Centre on January 19-20, 2026**. The race format will include **1 day of official training** and will follow **IBSF rules**. Athletes will be notified a minimum of 3 days prior to the race of their participation. Only athletes who meet the B Standard can compete. The number of available quota spots and race results will determine nominations in this order:

1. **One Quota spot:** Top finisher is nominated.
2. **Two Quota spots:** Top two finishers are nominated.
3. **Three Quota spots:** Top three finishers are nominated.

C Standard: If any quota spots remain after nominating A and B Standard athletes, additional athletes meeting the C Standard may be considered for nomination. Athletes must have scored at least **3 on the Train to Win (T2W)** GMP assessment in December 2025 to be considered for nomination under the C Standard. Selection order for C Standard is as follows:

1. Athlete(s) with the highest number of A Standard achievements; THEN
2. Highest-ranked athlete(s), who have not met the A or B standard, on the 2025-26 Discipline Ranking List of the **World Cup** race series; THEN
3. Highest-ranked athlete(s), who have not met the A or B standard, on the 2025-26 **IBSF** Ranking List.

In the event of a tie, GMP assessments and performance results from the 2024/25 and 2025/26 seasons will be used to determine the outcome. The tiebreaker will consider GMP scores across physical, technical, tactical, and psychological parameters.

7.4 Alternate Athletes

Based on performance assessments from the 2024/25 and 2025/26 seasons, the HPC may identify one eligible athlete per discipline as an **alternate**. If a nominated athlete is unable to compete at the 2026 OWG due to injury or illness or other circumstances, the alternate may, subject to the **Late Athlete Replacement Policy**, replace the nominated athlete if the SC determines that it is necessary to do so.

Note: The alternate will not be a traveling athlete and will only be considered as a replacement if required by the circumstances and if the SC determines that a replacement is necessary.

8. Medical and Injury Protocol

8.1 Reporting

Athletes must promptly report any injuries, illnesses, or mental health issues to the **NSP Medical Lead** without delay and provide the necessary supporting medical documentation.

8.2 Rehabilitation

As a condition of maintaining their nomination, any athlete that has been nominated to the COT and that has suffered an injury or illness must adhere to recovery and rehabilitation programs approved by the **NSP Medical Lead**. The programs are designed to ensure a safe return to training and competition and to ensure their competitive readiness for the 2026 OWG.

8.3 Illness, Injury, and Mental Health

NSP will provide comprehensive support to any injured or ill athlete nominated to the COT through the Integrated Support Team (IST). The athlete's well-being is the primary consideration, and the NSP will work collaboratively with medical professionals to ensure appropriate care and support.

9. Injury, Illness, and Competitive Readiness

9.1 Competitive Readiness

Athletes nominated to the COT (including alternates) must maintain competitive readiness and promptly report any physical or mental health concerns that may impact their ability to perform at the level that led to their nomination. For the purposes of this section, competitive readiness means sustaining or returning to the level of performance that justified the athlete's selection to the COT under Section 7.2. The SC holds the authority to make the final decision on an athlete's competitive readiness, informed by assessments from the medical lead regarding any health-related concerns affecting performance

9.2 Injury or Illness Before Nomination

The HPD, in consultation with the BCS Team Physician, will determine if the athlete will recover in time for the 2026 OWG and satisfy the conditions of the competitive readiness clause detailed above.

9.3 Injury or Illness After Nomination

Subject to the Late Athlete Replacement Policy, the SC will review and reconsider nominations in light of any injuries or illnesses or failure to maintain competitive readiness.

9.4 Athlete Removal

Athletes may be removed from the nomination list or COT for reasons that include, without limitation, an inability to maintain competitive readiness, failure to report injuries or changes, the commission of a disciplinary infraction, anti-doping rule violations, or breach of the Athlete Agreement.

10. Athlete Replacement

If a nominated athlete declines their nomination or is unable to compete at the 2026 OWG, they may be replaced by an alternate athlete, subject to COC and IBSF regulations and the Late Athlete Replacement Policy.

11. Application and Interpretation

The INP shall be applied and interpreted to align with BCS's mission and objectives as stated in the Preamble of this INP. Any ambiguity or lack of clarity will be resolved by BCS, including the HPD, HPC, and SC, as appropriate.

12. Changes to the INP

BCS may amend the INP in accordance with any IBSF, COC, and IOC requirements or unforeseen circumstances. Changes will be communicated promptly to affected parties.

13. Unforeseen Circumstances

In the event of unforeseen circumstances that prevent fair implementation of the INP, the SC and HPC will resolve the matter, considering all relevant factors.

14. On-Site at the Olympic Games

Subject to any decision-making authority belonging to the COC, IBSF or IOC, the designated BCS NSP Olympic Team Leader will have decision-making authority at the 2026 OWG, including, without limitation, for matters that may impact an athlete's team status, including removal and replacement decisions during the Olympics.

15. Appeals

All disputes related to nomination decisions made under this the INP shall be referred directly to the **SDRCC** due to the timelines required by the COC and IOC to confirm entries for the 2026 OWG. To file an appeal, visit [SDRCC Appeals Process](#). Appeals must be filed with the SDRCC no later than 11:59pm EST on January 21, 2026 and must be resolved by January 26th, 4:30pm EST