

SSC 2024 Winter Youth Olympic Games (YOG) Selection Policy & Procedures- Short Track (Oct 13, 2023)

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Article I. OBJECTIVE

The objective of this 2024 Winter Youth Olympic Games Selection Policy and Procedures for Short Track (the “Policy”) is to provide the framework for nominating junior athletes who are eligible to compete at the 2024 Winter Youth Olympic Games (YOG) which will be held in Gangwon, South Korea, Jan 19- Feb 1st, 2024.

Article II. ELIGIBILITY

To be eligible to participate in the YOG, athletes must:

- I. Be born between July 1st, 2006 and June 30th, 2008;
- II. Be a Canadian citizen as per Rule 41 of the Olympic Charter;
- III. Have a valid Canadian passport that does not expire on or before August 1st, 2024;
- IV. Be a member in good standing of Speed Skating Canada
- V. Hold a valid 2023-2024 Speed Skating Canada membership
- VI. Sign and be in compliance with Speed Skating Canada’s 2023-2024 Athlete Agreement
- VII. Sign, submit and comply with the Canadian Olympic Committee (“COC”) Athlete Agreement and Gangwon 2024 Conditions of Participation form;
- VIII. Be eligible to compete at the events listed in Section 4.02.
- IX. Have competed at least once either in a Canadian national championships or in an ISU sanctioned International Competition during the last 16 months prior to the deadline of entries for Gangwon (January 5th, 2024).
- X. Where applicable, comply with the vaccination policies and vaccination requirements of Speed Skating Canada, COC, ISU, International Olympic Committee (“IOC”) and the host country.

Article III. INTERNATIONAL SKATING UNION (ISU)

QUALIFICATION SYSTEM

These nomination procedures are based on the ISU Qualification System, which can be found [here, as presently known and understood and on the latest information available to Speed Skating Canada](#). In the event of a discrepancy between this document and the ISU Qualification System, the ISU Qualification System shall prevail to the extent of the discrepancy. In the event of changes by the ISU to the selection and/or eligibility criteria, Speed Skating Canada is bound by these changes and will inform the membership and make any necessary modifications to this Policy as soon as possible.

Any athlete nominated by Speed Skating Canada to the COC for selection to the YOG team must also qualify for entry in the YOG according to the ISU Qualification System.

According to the ISU Qualification System, each country can qualify up to two (2) athletes per gender based on the results of the 2023 World Junior Short Track Speed Skating Championships. This selection process reflects the possibility of qualifying one (1) or two (2) athletes per gender.

Article IV. SELECTION PROCESS

Section 4.01 Quota

According to the ISU Qualification System, Canada can qualify **up to two (2) positions per gender** for the 2024 Winter Youth Olympic Games.

Section 4.02 SELECTION PRIORITY

Once the quota places have been determined by the ISU, based on results at the 2023 World Junior Short Track Championships, the following order of priority will be used to select the athletes per gender who will be nominated to compete. Except as otherwise provided in this Policy, eligible athletes will be nominated at each priority level until there are no athletes, or no further athletes, who satisfy the given priority.

Please note that an eligible athlete who is granted a bye may, at the sole discretion of the of the Short Track High Performance Advisory Committee (“ST-HPAC”), supersede any of the athletes selected via the selection priority listed below.

1. Up to two (2) junior athletes per gender that have qualified for and participated in at least one (1) of the first four (4) World Cups during the 2023-2024 season will be nominated, in the order of their single top result at those World Cups. The junior who achieves the single top result in any distance at an eligible World Cup will be ranked first, and any others ranked subsequently in descending order.
Ties will be broken in favour of the athlete with the better result in their second-best distance (i.e., the best result achieved in a distance other than the distance in which the athlete achieved his/her single top result). Any further ties will be broken in favour of the athlete with the better result based on the athlete’s best two (2) distance results at the Canadian Championships 2023.
2. If only one (1) junior athlete qualifies to attend World Cups, that athlete will be nominated for one (1) quota position for his/her gender. Up to one (1) other quota position will be granted to the top ranked athlete from the 2023 Canadian Junior Championships, based on the athlete’s best 4 out of 6 events.
3. If no Junior athletes qualify to attend World Cups, then the top 2 ranked athletes from the 2023 Canadian Junior Championships will be nominated (best 4 out of 6 events).
4. In the event that an athlete does not accept their position on the team (see section 4.04 below) for the YOG, then steps 1, 2 and 3 from this section 4.02) will be re-applied.

5. The same process will be followed (Steps 1-2-3 of this section 4.02) to select an (non-travelling) alternate athlete per gender.

Section 4.03 BYE REQUESTS

Bye requests to the YOG team must be made according to the bye policy in the 2023-24 Short Track Master-Bulletin.

Bye request eligibility: Only the following athletes may request a bye to the YOG team if they are unable to fully compete (participate in all the events /distances he or she are registered for) in any of the first four (4) World Cups of 2023-24 (following their selection to those teams) or the 2023-24 Canadian Junior Championships:

- Any junior aged athlete who finishes in a top 12 position of any distance classification at the 2023 Senior Canadian Championships or who is an individual medalist at the 2023 World Junior Championships

In addition, only the results of the last 12 months of Senior National competitions, ISU Short Track World Cups and World Junior Short Track Championships will be used to evaluate bye requests. Senior National competitions include 2022-23 Senior National Ranking competitions and the 2023 Senior Canadian Championships.

Section 4.04 ACCEPTANCE OF TEAM MEMBERSHIP

Nominated athletes will have until 5pm EST on December 11th, 2023, to confirm their acceptance of Speed Skating Canada's nomination with the High-Performance Director.

If athletes do not confirm their nomination by this time, then their position will be forfeited and offered to the next athlete according to the selection priority in Section 4.02.

Section 4.05 TEAM NOMINATION

The YOG team will be nominated by the ST High-Performance Committee following the 2023 Canadian Junior Short Track Championships.

Nomination to the YOG team is provisional until any and all bye requests have been considered. Once all bye requests have been considered, Speed Skating Canada will then formally announce a YOG team by posting the team list on the Speed Skating Canada website (by December 8th, 2023).

Article V. REMOVAL OF AN ATHLETE ONCE SELECTED

An athlete may be removed from the YOG team at any point due to the following three circumstances:

- If the athlete is subject to a provisional suspension or period of ineligibility for any anti-doping rule violation by any Anti-Doping Organization with authority over the athlete and the provisional suspension or period of ineligibility will remain in force during any part of the YOG.
- If the athlete is suspended for any disciplinary offence by Speed Skating Canada or any other sport organization with authority over the athlete and the suspension will remain in force during any part of the YOG. Note that athletes must agree to abide by the Speed Skating Canada Code of Conduct when accepting their nomination to the YOG team.
- Performance readiness/injury in the sole discretion of the ST-HPAC.

The final decision to remove the athlete will be the responsibility of the ST-HPAC prior to departure of the team for the Games. Once on site this will be under the responsibility of the Team Leader.

An athlete who is removed from the team may be replaced by the alternate, according to Article IV. Replacement of a Team Member.

Article VI. REPLACEMENT OF A TEAM MEMBER

In the event that an athlete already nominated or selected to the team is removed from the team pursuant to Article V, that athlete may be replaced by the alternate at the discretion of the ST-HPAC. Any such replacements after December 18th, 2023, are at the discretion of the COC Team Selection Committee. Replacements after January 5th, 2024, are also subject to the International Olympic Committee Late Athlete Replacement Policy.

Article VII. YOUTH OLYMPIC GAMES COACHES AND STAFF

The ST-HPAC will designate support staff, a team leader and coach(es), according to the number of accreditations granted to the sport. The support staff will be selected based on the principle of sending a team of specialists that is capable of assisting athletes in achieving podium performances at the YOG. All selections are subject to COC approval.

To be recognized as an official coach, an individual must be:

- A Member in good standing with Speed Skating Canada, as defined in the Speed Skating Canada By-Laws
- In good standing with the Professional Coaching Program of the Coaching Association of Canada

Article VIII. DECISION-MAKING AUTHORITY

Prior to the departure of the team for the YOG, the ST-HPAC, with input from the designated YOG coach(es), has final authority and responsibility to make decisions under this Policy and to nominate athletes and coaches to the YOG team.

Once the YOG team departs Canada for the YOG, including for any preparatory training camps or competitions in advance of the YOG, all decision-making authority will reside with the YOG Team Leader".

Article IX. APPEALS PROCESS

Any appeals in relation to nomination decisions made pursuant to this Policy must be filed in accordance with Speed Skating Canada's Appeal Policy. These appeals shall be filed directly with the Sport Dispute Resolution Centre of Canada (SDRCC), with notice to the Short Track High Performance Advisory Committee (ST-HPAC).

Article X. TIMELINES SUMMARY CHART

2024 Youth Winter Olympic Games timeline

Jan 27-29, 2023	2023 World Junior Short Track Championships (Dresden, GER) ISU Qualification competition for Gangwon 2024
April 17, 2023	Long List Deadline
Apr 26, 2023	Launch of the COC “The Bridge” portal for long list members
Aug 28, 2023	The Bridge Accreditation deadline
Nov 9-12, 2023	2023 Canadian Junior Short Track Championships (Calgary)
Dec. 8, 2023	SSC Team Nomination
Dec. 11, 2023 – 5pm EST	Deadline to accept SSC Team Nomination
Dec. 17, 2019	Finalization of Team composition
Dec. 18, 2023	COC Team Nomination Deadline

Article XI. AMENDMENTS AND UNFORESEEN CIRCUMSTANCES

The ST-HPAC reserves the right, and has the sole discretion, to make changes to this document which it deems necessary to ensure selection of athletes with the greatest medal potential for the 2024 YOG team. Any changes to this document shall be communicated to all athletes potentially eligible to participate in the selection process by posting of the changes to the Speed Skating Canada website.

All athletes and coaches are reminded that it is their obligation to understand this Policy and to make themselves aware of any changes. Athletes are encouraged to regularly check the Speed Skating Canada website or with the High-Performance Director to confirm if there are any changes to this Policy.

After a competition or selections/nomination which formed part of the selection procedures in the Policy have occurred, this clause shall not be used to justify changes unless such changes relate to (a) an unforeseen circumstance; (b) are necessary due to a typographical error or a lack of clarity in a definition or wording; or (c) are required due to a change made by the ISU to its Qualification System. Such changes must be reasonably justifiable in the circumstances. In the event of a change to this document, Speed Skating Canada shall inform the COC of the changes and the reasons for those changes as soon as practical.

In the event of unforeseen circumstances beyond the control of Speed Skating Canada that prevent the ST-HPAC from fairly implementing the Policy as written, the Chief Executive Officer (“CEO”) of Speed Skating Canada (or, in the absence of the CEO, the interim CEO or such person

as the Board of Directors may appoint), with the input of the High-Performance Director, shall have the full discretion to resolve the matter as he or she sees fit, taking into account factors and circumstances he or she deems relevant.

Approved by the ST-HPAC on July, 2023.