



SSC 2010 Olympic Selection Policy and Procedure Long Track

Article 1 - Objective

- 1.1. The objective of the selection policy and procedures is to select the maximum number of medal potential athletes for the 2010 Olympic team including the best possible team pursuit teams.

2. Article 2 – Eligibility Conditions

- 2.1. In order to be eligible for nomination to the Canadian Olympic Committee for selection to the 2010 Olympic Winter Games, the athlete must meet **all** of the following eligibility conditions:
 - 2.1.1. Be a Canadian citizen;
 - 2.1.2. Hold a valid Canadian passport that does not expire before September 28th, 2010.
 - 2.1.3. Meet the IOC citizenship and nationality criteria in order to be eligible;
 - 2.1.4. Hold a duly valid membership according to the requirements of Article III-200 of Speed Skating Canada's 2009-10 Procedures and Regulations and be a member in good standing;
 - 2.1.5. Skaters must be ranked in the Top 16 from the final 2008/09 Canadian Rankings-long track for the Women's 500m, 1000m, 1500m, 3000m or Men's 500m, 1000m, 1500m, 5000m or Top 12 for the Women's 5000m and Men's 10000m) in an individual distance or receive a "special invitation" from the Long Track High Performance Committee ;
 - 2.1.6. Skaters must have signed the Speed Skating Canada Athlete Nomination Agreement (Appendix A) in order to be considered ;
 - 2.1.7. Sign and submit the COC athlete agreement and the VANOC eligibility conditions form no later than January 18th, 2010.

Article 3 – Qualification Period

The Qualification Period for selection is from March, 12, 2009 until January 5, 2010

Article 4 – Decision-making body

- 4.1. Constitution of body

The final decision making authority will be composed of the 3 elected members of Speed Skating Canada's High Performance Long Track Committee, the Director of High Performance and Olympic Program and the National Team Program Manager.

4.2. Authority

The individuals identified above have full and complete authority and accountability to apply the Internal Nomination Procedures contained herein to this policy in article 11 and without any interference from any additional persons.

4.3. Conflict of Interest

In the exercise of the authority granted above, any and all members of the "Decision-making body" as described in article 2.2 above, have the obligation to apply Speed Skating Canada's Conflict of Interest Policy (INT-400) in the exercise of their duties and as found at the following location

http://www.speedskating.ca/client/cmsUploads/speed_skating/File/policies/en/INT400-ConflictofInterestPolicy.pdf).

Article 5 – Appeals

5.1 Any appeals to the final nomination list must be filed according to Speed Skating Canada's Appeal Policy (RES-100) and as found at

http://www.speedskating.ca/client/cmsUploads/speed_skating/File/policies/en/res100appeals_v4_000.pdf .

Article 6 – Changes to this document

Speed Skating Canada reserves the right to make changes to this document, which in its discretion are necessary to ensure selection of the best teams possible for the 2010 Olympic Games. Any changes to this document shall be communicated directly to all high performance program athletes potentially eligible for the Olympic team nomination. This clause shall not be used to justify changes after a competition or trials which formed part of the internal nomination procedure unless it is related to an unforeseen circumstance. The purpose of this section is to allow for changes to this document that may become necessary due to a typographical error or a lack of clarity in a definition or wording before it has an impact on athletes. The purpose of such changes must be in order to avoid disputes over the meaning of the provisions of this document rather than to allow changes to be made to justify selection of different athletes than would have otherwise been selected. Such changes must be reasonably justifiable in accordance with fundamental principles of natural justice and procedural fairness. 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 possible.

Article 7 - Unforeseen Circumstances

In the event of unforeseen circumstances beyond the control of Speed Skating Canada that prevent the Decision Making Body identified in Article 4 from fairly implementing these internal nomination procedures as written, the Director General (or designate) of Speed Skating Canada shall have the full discretion to resolve the matter as they see fit, taking into account factors and circumstances that they deem relevant.

Article 8 – Announcements

The 2010 Olympic Selection Policy & Procedures will be communicated in the High Performance Bulletin specific to the discipline concerned which will be distributed directly to all athletes' potentially eligible to participate in the selection process. The Policy will be posted on the Speed Skating Canada website under http://www.speedskating.ca/HP_Bulletins.cfm . As indicated herein, any amendments as per Article 6 of the 2010 Olympic Selection Policy & Procedures will be communicated through the release of additional Bulletins specific to these changes.

Article 9 – Alternates

If a skater withdraws from the 2010 Olympic Games Team prior to the final date for the Canadian Olympic Committee to submit entries to VANOC they will be replaced in accordance with the same procedures originally used to select the 10 men and 10 women for inclusion to the 2010 Canadian Olympic Team.

Following this date a skater may NOT be replaced on the 2010 Canadian Olympic Team. However, they can be replaced by a qualified Olympic Team member for entry to a distance in accordance with the Competition Rules and Regulations that are applicable for the 2010 Olympic Games. Any such replacements will be made using the ranking of skaters in that distance from the 2010 Olympic Selection Trials.

If the position cannot be filled through this process the coaching staff together with Team Leader will have absolute discretion in naming the replacement for that distance. The Team Leader will have the ultimate responsibility for making a final decision if the coaching staff are not able to reach a consensual decision.

Substitutions after February 1st, 2010 are subject to VANOC's Late Athlete Replacement Policy.

Article 10 –International Federation (ISU) Olympic Winter Games regulations

The IF regulations specific to the discipline of Speed Skating (long track) and applicable to the 2010 Olympic Winter Games can be found at: <http://www.isu.org/vsite/vfile/page/fileurl/0,11040,4844-191971-209194-141143-0-file,00.pdf> at Rule 209 page 21 of the International Skating Union's SPECIAL REGULATIONS & TECHNICAL RULES SPEED SKATING and SHORT TRACK SPEED SKATING 2008 as accepted by the 52nd Ordinary Congress June 2008 which will determine the number of quota positions available for each distance.

According to Rule 209 f), Canada is guaranteed one entry (per gender) in the Team Pursuit event and only subject “to the general conditions for entry of Skaters and teams.”

In the event of a discrepancy, the English version of these rules will prevail.

Article 11 – Internal nomination (selection) procedures – INP

Nomination to the Canadian Olympic Committee for selection to the 2010 Olympic Games Team will comprise two phases.

11.1 Selection Phase 1: Pre-selection:

11.1.1 Pre-selection: Individual distances

Pre-selection is based upon results from:

2009 World Single Distance Championships – March 12-15, 2009, Richmond, BC, CANADA

- A skater who finishes in the top 5 for an individual distance at the 2009 World Single Distance Championships will earn the right to be pre- selected for that distance

A maximum of Olympic quota minus 2 athletes will be eligible for pre-selection based on the above criteria, taken in order of performance at the 2009 World Single Distance Championships.

Pre-selected athletes are required to confirm their position by skating a time that is within 102% of the winner’s time or finish in a top 6 position at an ISU World Cup race (in the pre-selected distance) during the 2009-2010 season prior to the Olympic Selection Trials. For the 500m distance, the standard can be achieved for any single 500m race at an ISU World Cup competition.

11.1.2 Pre-selection: Team Pursuit

Pre-selection for the Olympic Games – A skater must be pre-selected for both 1500m and 5000m men and 1500m and 3000m women to be eligible for pre-selection. (= max of 1 for men, and max of 1 for women)

11.2 Selection Phase 2: Olympic Trials:

11.2.1 Individual Distances

Olympic Selection Trials will be conducted by Speed Skating Canada for all individual distances including the 500m, 1000m, 1500m, 3000m Ladies, 5000m, and 10000m Men.

11.2.2 Team pursuit:

Team Pursuit selection will be from amongst the skaters who have earned selection for the 2010 Olympic Games Team.

- 11.2.2.1 The specific composition of the four (4) member team, including the skaters that will compete in each individual round of the Team Pursuit competition at the 2010 Olympic Games will be determined at the absolute discretion of the Team Pursuit coach so

named for the 2010 Canadian Olympic Team. The following factors will be considered along with any other factors, which in the sole and absolute discretion of the National Team Pursuit Coach, he/she deems relevant. The National Team Pursuit Coach shall be free to assign different weightings to the importance of factors considered in his/her decision making process as he/she deems appropriate to the goal of fielding the best possible Team for the 2010 Olympic Games.

Factors to be considered (inclusive but not limited to):

- a. International experience in the event of Team Pursuit;
- b. International Performance profile in the event of Team Pursuit;
- c. Fit with other skaters already qualified for the Olympic Team and selected to be part of team pursuit team;
- d. Availability to train as part of the team pursuit team;
- e. Other factors may be identified by the team pursuit coaches

11.2.3 Schedule of races

2010 Olympic Selection Trials will take place during the 2010 Canadian Single Distance Championships scheduled to take place in Calgary, Alberta. Only the athletes meeting eligibility criteria identified in Art. 2.1.5 of this document. The other athletes will be competing in the Canadian Single Distance Championships component of the event.

The 2010 Olympic Selection Trials are currently scheduled for December 27, 2009 to January 2, 2010 as per the following schedule: (this schedule is subject to change in response to any unforeseen circumstances)

Date	Day	Women	Men
27-Dec-09	1	2 X 500m	2 x 500m
28-Dec-09	2	3000m	5000m
29-Dec-09	3	1000m	1000m
30-Dec-09	4	Rest day	Rest day
31-Dec-09	5	Rest day	Rest day
1-Jan-10	6	1500m	1500m
2-Jan-10	7	5000m / TP	10000m / TP

11.2.4 – Reskates

1. Reskates may be allowed as per ISU Rule #262.
2. In addition, reskates outside the guidelines of ISU Rule #262 will be permitted by the HPC Jury (High Performance Committee Chair and/or High Performance elected

members in attendance and High Performance and Olympic Program Director) for 2010 Olympic Team Selection purposes.

3. Conditions under which a reskate will be permitted for the purposes of 2010 Olympic Team Selection are:
 - i. Disqualification at start: If a skater is disqualified at the start, he/she will be given a reskate immediately following the final pair of the group.
 - ii. For a Disqualification for an incident during the race, the time will not count. The skater will be able to reskate at the completion of the races for the specific distance. Please note that a skater is entitled to a minimum rest of 30 minutes between his/her race and the reskate, however they may elect to complete their reskate within this minimum 30 minute allowance
 - iii. Equipment failure: If a skater has equipment failure prior to the start of the race and it is brought to the Referee's attention, the skater will have 30 minutes to start. This will be classified as the original start.

If a skater has equipment failure during the race, the skater will have a minimum of 30 minutes before their reskate.
 - iv. Falls: If a skater falls during the race, he/she may request a reskate before they leave the ice. This reskate will take place no sooner than 30 minutes after the fall.
 - v. Finish of races: If a skater finishes a race, he or she may not ask for a reskate, unless the accompanying skater in the pair is disqualified for interference as per rule #262. The exception is if the skater falls across the finish line.
 - vi. The skater elects not to complete the race and skates into the warm-up lane to indicate their withdrawal from that race.
4. For reskates permitted outside the guidelines of ISU Rule #262 the time recorded in the reskate will be used for the purposes of 2010 Olympic Team Selection.
5. Exceptions to the Reskate: In the case of a reskate in the 500m distance when both 500m rounds are conducted on the same day, the reskate will take place after the 2nd round of the 500m races has been completed.

11.2.5 – Bye Requests:

Due to exceptional circumstances (e.g. illness, injury) and through no fault of their own, a skater may not have the opportunity to compete in the 2010 Olympic Selection Trials.

In this situation, the skater may be eligible to apply for a bye to be nominated to the COC for Olympic selection.

The basic philosophy for selecting an athlete by granting a bye is that, all things being equal, the skater given the bye has clearly demonstrated superior performances in previous competition to other skaters being considered for nomination.

A bye request is considered as the last means by which a skater can earn selection and is intended to provide for exceptional circumstances outside the normal selection criteria rather than being part of the normal means by which an athlete can earn selection.

In considering a bye request the Speed Skating Canada High Performance Committee – Long Track (HPC-LT) will follow the procedure and policy for the allocation of Byes as detailed in Appendix A of HP Bulletin #152 with the following exceptions.

The HPC-LT will only consider a skater's best time for that distance recorded since the Canadian Single Distance Championships in December of 2008 through to the Olympic Selection Trials (inclusive). This time must be achieved in speed skating events listed on the ISU International Calendar or Canadian World Cup Trials and have electronic timing.

Injury

In the event that a skater is selected to the 2010 Olympic Games Team on the basis of a successful bye request they will be required to prove full recovery, both from a medical perspective and also a performance perspective in order to confirm their selection to the 2010 Olympic Games Team.

The determination of what constitutes full recovery will be made by the Olympic team medical and coaching staff and will be based upon an assessment of the skater's ability to perform at the same performance level that earned them selection to the 2010 Olympic Games Team. The date for finalising such decisions is January 18th 2010.

If a skater is injured following their selection to the 2010 Olympic Games Team the same process as described above will apply.

If a skater is subsequently deemed medically unfit to compete in the 2010 Olympic Games they may be replaced in accordance with the Competition Rule and Regulations that are applicable to the 2010 Olympic Games.

11.2.6 – Selection of skaters

Following the 2010 Olympic Selection Trials, Olympic Quota positions will be determined as detailed below.

1. Pre-selected skaters (individual distance and team pursuit) will be automatically nominated for that distance to the COC subject to meeting the ISU eligibility requirements and quota positions being available for that position.

2. Remaining quota positions will then be considered on the basis of a skater's finish position at the 2010 Olympic Selection Trials or successful bye request.
3. A skater will be ranked in a quota position on the basis of a successful bye request on the basis of their best time (electronic timing) for that distance recorded since the Canadian Single Distance Championships in December of 2008 through to the Olympic Selection Trials (inclusive) in speed skating events listed on the ISU International Calendar or Fall World Cup Trials.
4. If a photo-finish system is in use (as specified in ISU Rule 251, paragraph 2) the recorded times from the photo-finish system in thousandths of seconds will be used to determine the order of Skaters (or teams) in the final results. In this case the official protocol shall indicate tie-breaks by displaying the recorded time for the Skaters (teams) concerned in thousandths of a second.
5. In the event of a tie in time (to the thousandth of a second) for the last quota position in any of the distances this will be resolved by a "skate off" by the skaters who are tied. Each skater will be entitled to a minimum of 48 hours rest between their last Olympic Selection Trials race and the "skate-off". As a result the "skate-off" may be scheduled to take place during the 2010 Olympic Selection Trials or in the following days. (As agreed to by the coaches)
6. Skaters ranked in a quota position in accordance with clauses 2 to 5 above will then be ranked against each other on the basis of their time recorded in the respective distance at the 2010 Olympic Selection Trials, or time as used to determine the Bye Request, compared to the time of the 3rd place finisher in the same distance at the 2009 World Single Distance Championships;

Each skater will then have their time expressed as a percentage value to 3 decimal points and ranked in accordance with this percentage value.
7. In the event of a tie in the percentage scores the skater with the most recent best finish position in an ISU World Cup race for the distance in which they have qualified for a quota position will be ranked ahead of the other skater/s and so on. In the event that this still results in a tie, the skater who has recorded a time closest to the season's best time for that distance (recorded during an ISU World Cup) will be ranked ahead of the other skater/s and so on.
8. Skaters will then be selected in this ranking order to a maximum of 10 male and 10 female skaters (including pre-selected skaters) are selected.

Team pursuit selection:

Team Pursuit selection will be from amongst the skaters who have earned selection for the 2010 Olympic Games Team.

1. The specific composition of the four (4) member team, including the skaters that will compete in each individual round of the Team Pursuit competition at the 2010 Olympic Games will be determined at the absolute discretion of the Team Pursuit coach so named for the 2010 Canadian Olympic Team. Factors to be considered are:
 - a. International experience in the event of Team Pursuit;
 - b. International Performance profile in the event of Team Pursuit;
 - c. Fit with other skaters already qualified for the Olympic Team and selected to be part of team pursuit team;
 - d. Availability to train as part of the team pursuit team;
 - e. Other factors may be identified by the team pursuit coaches

Remaining Team Quota positions:

If the above processes result in less than 10 skaters being selected for either gender the HPC has absolute discretion to select remaining team positions. In using this discretion the HPC can only select a skater if they have competed in the 2010 Olympic Trials.

11.2.7 – Replacement of skaters

If a skater withdraws from the 2010 Olympic Games Team prior to the final date for the Canadian Olympic Committee to submit entries to VANOC they will be replaced in accordance with the same procedures originally used to select the 10 men and 10 women for inclusion to the 2010 Canadian Olympic Team.

Following this date a skater may NOT be replaced on the 2010 Canadian Olympic Team. However, they can be replaced by a qualified Olympic Team member for entry to a distance in accordance with the Competition Rules and Regulations that are applicable for the 2010 Olympic Games. Any such replacements will be made using the ranking of skaters in that distance from the 2010 Olympic Selection Trials.

If the position cannot be filled through this process the coaching staff together with Team Leader will have absolute discretion in naming the replacement for that distance. The Team Leader will have the ultimate responsibility for making a final decision if the coaching staff is not able to reach a consensual decision.

11.2.8 – Final entries

In accordance with ISU rule 209 (e) the names of the competitors and substitutes for each distance shall be presented to the organizing committee not later than three (3) days before the distance will be skated.

Appendix A

2010 Olympic Winter Games

Speed Skating Canada Athlete Nomination Agreement

(name of athlete)

I, the above athlete, consent to being considered for nomination by Speed Skating Canada (SSC) to the 2010 Canadian Olympic Team. In making this consent I acknowledge that:

1. I have been provided with a copy of the 2010 Olympic Selection Criteria – Long Track
2. The 2010 Olympic Selection Criteria – Long Track may be amended from time to time to account for unforeseen circumstances and/or in the best interests of enhancing Canada’s performance in the 2010 Olympic Games. I will be bound by the 2010 Olympic Selection Criteria – Long Track as amended and acknowledge that any such amendments will be posted to the SSC website and sent directly to all athletes who have qualified to compete in the 2010 Olympic Selection Trials or are otherwise eligible to be considered for selection to the 2010 Canadian Olympic Team.
3. I meet the “Eligibility Criteria” as listed in the 2010 Olympic Selection Criteria – Long Track
4. I agree to abide by all Policies and Procedures of SSC, including those additional policies and procedures as detailed in the SSC National Team Agreement.
5. In the event that SSC nominates me to the Canadian Olympic Committee for selection to the 2010 Canadian Olympic Team the COC Team Selection Committee may in its discretion refuse to accept the nomination of an athlete who, in the opinion of the COC Team Selection Committee, is not able to serve as an appropriate example to the sport youth of Canada as provided in the Olympic Charter.
6. If selected by the COC to the 2010 Canadian Olympic Team I will abide by all Policies and Procedures and any Team Rules that relate to participation in the 2010 Winter Olympic Games as a member of the 2010 Canadian Olympic Team and as provided to me by the COC.

Signature of athlete

Date

Witness

Witness signature