



Biathlon Alberta 'Shooting Stars' Team Selection Criteria (2023-24 Race Season)

Biathlon Alberta has established selection criteria governing the composition and selection of a Biathlon Alberta Development Team, the 'Shooting Stars', to establish a high-performance training team in Alberta. This team will have access to training opportunities with a variety of athletes and coaches across the province focused on improving their skill development and overall racing performance. The program objectives are:

- to offer collective development opportunities for athletes and coaches;
- to create better collaboration, growth, and skill development centered around ski technique and shooting skills;
- to build a provincial network of teams, expertise, and resources to help grow biathlon in Alberta.

These objectives are guided by the ultimate goal of building strong, happy, healthy athletes.

The Biathlon Alberta Shooting Stars Team will be composed of selected athletes to a maximum of up to 30 athletes.

Selected Athletes are defined in the following way:

- a) 6 Youth Men and 6 Youth Women
- b) 6 Senior Boys and 6 Senior Girls
- c) Up to 6 additional spots can be used for Nationals Medalists, CWG athletes, International Tour Athletes or Discretionary Selection

Biathlon Alberta reserves the right to:

- a) Limit team size regardless of percentage due to fiscal limitations
- b) Reschedule races at their sole discretion

Eligibility

All athletes must be Alberta division members of Biathlon Canada in good standing and racing for Alberta-based clubs. Athletes eligible for selection to Team Alberta are those who compete in the categories outlined in the following table, within the senior boys/girls and youth boys/girls categories. Athletes who compete out of their respective age class (race-up) at selection events will be classified in the category into which they raced up for purposes of selection percentage ranking.

2023/24 Biathlon Alberta Selection/ Race Requirement by Category				Category			
				Youth Women	Youth Men	Senior Girls	Senior Boys
	Race	Date	Location				
1	Calforex Cup 1	Nov 25- 26, 2023	Canmore	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
2	Calforex Cup 2	Dec 2-3, 2023	Canmore	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
3	WYJCH Trials	Jan 3-7, 2024	Valcartier, Quebec	Yes	Yes	No	No
4	Calforex Cup 3	Jan 13-14, 2024	Grande Prairie	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
5	Calforex Cup 4	Feb 24-25 2024	Edmonton	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
6	Calforex Cup 5	Mar 2-3, 2024	Camrose	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Total Races				13	13	10	10

Selection Process for Team Alberta

Pre-selected Athletes

Athletes selected to compete as part of the 2024 World Youth and Junior Championships (WYJCH), and Youth Olympic will be pre-selected for Team Alberta or any other eligible athlete that has competed at an International Tour.

Selection from Ranked Lists

2 lists will be created to rank athletes for selection including 6 Youth Men, 6 Youth Women, 6 Senior Boys, and 6 Senior Girl Athletes.

Youth Women/Men Athletes: A list will be created for Youth Women/Men using the best 50% of eligible races held plus one race ranking method (rounding up if an odd number of races are held). For example, 8 out of 15 competitions are denoted as selection races for Youth Women/Men. After pre-selected athlete spots are filled, the remaining positions will be filled in order of descending percentage up to a total of 6 Youth Women and 6 Youth Men athletes.

Senior Girl/Boy Athletes: A list will be created for Senior Boys/Girls using the best “50% of eligible races held plus one race” (rounding up if an odd number of races are held). For example, 6 out of 10 competitions are denoted as selection races for Senior Boys/Girls. After pre-selected athlete spots are filled, the remaining positions will be filled in order of descending percentage up to a total of 6 selected Senior Boy and 6 selected Senior Girl athletes.

Additional Selection opportunities for Team Alberta

Any athlete who meets the selection criteria under the eligibility section, who also medals at the Canadian Biathlon National Championships, will gain a pre-selection spot if they have not already earned this spot during the Calforex season. Within the selection criteria, any athlete who attains 85% or below will be considered for a discretionary position.

Selection Event Cancellation

In the event a selection race is canceled, Biathlon Alberta will review the remaining race events and set the ratios by the following formula. "50% of eligible races held plus one race" (rounding up if an odd number of races are held).

Note: Biathlon Alberta reserves the right to reschedule, add races at any time and/or reset selection race ratios.

Biathlon Alberta encourages all athletes wishing to qualify for Team Alberta to compete at all Calforex Cup events, in the event selection races are canceled.

Percentage Calculations

Percentages for each competition will be based on a percentage of the fastest time by an Alberta athlete in the category.

Note: In the scenario where Junior Men/Women are racing down for CWG Trials in Calforex Cup #1, the athletes racing down will be removed from the results and the percentages will be calculated off the first Albertan Youth Men and Youth Women aged finishers.

Example

Winner-time = 20:00 min.; Athlete-time = 22:00 min Percent = $20/22 * 100 = 90.90$ Percentages will be rounded to 2 decimal places.

Note: For a race calculation above to be considered, there must be a minimum of three **Alberta** athletes participating. If only 2 Alberta athletes, the top percentage will be 95%, and if only 1 Alberta Athlete is racing they will be awarded 90% regardless of their position in the race.

Best-of Calculations

Each athlete's best percentages will be selected from the competition results. The arithmetic mean of these values will be calculated.

Timeline

The list of selected athletes will be posted on the Biathlon Alberta website no later than April 8, 2024. Athletes who have earned a spot as a selected athlete will be contacted by Biathlon Alberta and asked to confirm in writing their acceptance (email to GM@biathlon.ca), no later than April 15, 2024. If a selected athlete turns down their nomination, Biathlon Alberta will contact the next highest-ranking athlete by a percentage on the list directly.

Appeals

The selection process is subject to the [Biathlon Alberta Dispute Resolution Policy](#). Any appeals will need to be submitted by April 8, 2024, to GM@biathlionalberta.ca. Appeals will be reviewed by the Biathlon Alberta Nationals Appeal Board. The board will be made up of three members of the Biathlon Alberta board.

Force Majeure

The Selection Committee will consider claims of “force majeure” if an athlete has a justifiable and unavoidable reason for missing selection races, such as documented illness or act of “force majeure”. A written application for “force majeure” must be made by the athlete or their legal guardian within one week of the missed selection event. The letter must describe the circumstances that caused the athlete to miss the race and include a letter from a physician if the claim is for medical reasons. In considering a claim of “force majeure” the Selection Committee will consider performances posted at other races as well as at training camps or time trials to make an informed decision.

The Team Details - More information to come

Objective

To create a positive team environment and additional development opportunities for up-and-coming biathletes, while building a stronger athlete and coaching base in Alberta.

Head Coach

TBD

Costs

TB announced in camp documents.

Team Expectations

Attendance at designated Western Canada Team Camp.

Team Perks

One Item of Team Swag with attendance of either, at least one regional camp, or independent shooting stars camp.

Access to at least one Western Canada Team Camp.