2027 Canada Winter Games
Biathlon Technical Package

Technical Packages are a critical part of the Canada Games. They guide the selection of athletes by prescribing the age and eligibility requirements, assist the Host Society by detailing competition formats and scoring procedures, assist Provincial/Territorial (P/T) Chefs de Mission in verifying eligibility, help with budgeting by describing the number of participants permitted, advance coach certification by stating minimum requirements, and generally contribute to athlete development by identifying each National Sport Organization's (NSO) version of athletes in the "Train to Compete" phase of its Long Term Development (LTD) model, or other suitable phase of LTD as justified by the NSO.

Technical Packages are developed 36 to 24 months prior to the Canada Games primarily by NSOs, following the Canada Games Council's (CGC) Principles that Govern Technical Packages. As the overall governing body of the Games, the CGC has the ultimate authority over Technical Packages, but this authority is exercised only with the knowledge and understanding of the concerned NSO.

Relevant Games partners, specifically Provincial/Territorial Sport Organizations (P/TSOs) and P/T team staff, are encouraged to review the Technical Package in detail to ensure a thorough understanding. If an individual wishes to seek clarification or initiate a change to a Technical Package leading up to a Games, the request should be first directed to the NSO or the Chef de Mission. The NSO or Chef de Mission will submit the requested change or clarification to the CGC for consideration. Timelines for requesting changes to major elements of the Technical Package (i.e. team sizes, age categories, eligibility restrictions, events, competition formats) are outlined in the Principles that Govern Technical Packages. Minor corrections will be considered at almost any time, but will be increasingly difficult to achieve within six [6] months of the Games. These time frames reinforce the importance of complete understanding of the Technical Package by Games partners early.

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2027 Canada Winter Games
Biathlon Technical Package

1. SPORT: BIATHLON

2. PARTICIPANTS

2.1. Athletes

4 Men, 4 Women.

All registered athletes must intend to compete in at least one event.

2.2. Staff

2 Coaches, 1 Wax Technician

If a team sends athletes who are women, one coach must be a woman. If a team sends athletes who are men, one coach must be a man.

2.3. Additional Team Staff*

- Apprentice Coach
  - See Women in Coaching Canada Games Apprenticeship Program
  - See Aboriginal Apprentice Coach Program
  - Apprentice coaches have the same access as athletes and team staff.

- Venue Pass Holder
  - See Venue Pass Holder Policy
  - Venue Pass Holders do not have access to the field of play
  - Venue Pass Holder's venue access
    - Sport Operational Zone (Zone 2)
    - Back of House Zone (Zone 3)

* Additional team staff positions are administered by the P/T Team. Positions must be applied for based on each P/T Team's process. For information pertaining to the process in your P/T contact your Chef de Mission.

2.4. Support for Participants

The Canada Games Council (CGC) recognizes there can be barriers to participation/attendance at the Canada Games. The below policies have been developed to provide support to participants when required:

- Support for Breastfeeding/Chestfeeding Parents Policy
- Participant Assistant Policy

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3. CLASSIFICATION

- AB, BC, MB, ON, QC, SK: 15-18 as of December 31, 2026
  - Year of birth: 2008-2011
- NB, NL, NS, NT, NU, PE, YT: 15-18 as of December 31, 2026
  - Year of birth: 2008-2011
  - Permitted two (2) athletes 19 years of age, one per gender
    - Year of Birth: 2007

All athletes that meet this classification are considered to be in the “Youth” category for the Canada Winter Games (CWG).

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4. ELIGIBILITY

4.1. Athletes

All athletes must meet the eligibility regulations outlined in CGC’s Athlete Eligibility Policy.

Excluded from the Canada Games are:

- Senior National Team members - defined as: Athletes who have held an SR, SR1, or SR2 card at any time; and/or athletes who are part of (on the roster of) a standing Senior National Team (i.e. recognized as a Senior National Team member regardless of event participation)
- Athletes who have previously competed at any of the following events:
  - Olympic Games
  - Senior Biathlon World Championships (those who have previously competed only at a Youth or Junior Biathlon World Championships are not included in this provision)
  - IBU World Cup Event
- Athletes who do not possess a Canadian Firearms Possession and Acquisition License (PAL) or Minor's License.

No athlete can be rendered ineligible within 90 days of the opening of the Games due to National Team status, carding status or competing in an excluded event (i.e., if an athlete is granted National Team status or carding status for the first time, or competes in an excluded event after November 29, 2026, they will still be considered eligible to compete at the 2027 Canada Games).

Athletes who are in their first year of Senior National Team status may be deemed eligible on a case by case basis. Additionally, while C1 cards have been discontinued, athletes who have previously held a C1 card and who meet all other eligibility restrictions may be deemed eligible on a case by case basis. Requests must be submitted to the respective Provincial/Territorial Team Chef de Mission and approved by the Canada Games Council Sport & Games Committee.

4.2. Coaches

Head coaches registered in the Canada Games electronic registration system must be certified under the National Coaching Certification Program (NCCP) Competition Stream, Development Context (certified status) in Biathlon.

Assistant Coaches named on the official registration form must be certified under the NCCP Competition Stream, Development Context (trained status) in Biathlon.

If a Provincial/Territorial team does not distinguish between a head coach and assistant coaches, at least one of the team's coaches must be Competition Development Biathlon certified, while the others must be at least Competition Development Biathlon trained.

Coaches must be so certified no later than 90 days prior to the opening ceremony (November 29, 2026).

Please note that "NCCP Competition-Development Certified, Not Renewed" does not qualify under the coaching standards for the 2027 Canada Winter Games.

Please refer to the CGC's Coach Certification Policy for additional information:

For more information on the coach certification pathway for Biathlon, please see Appendix 1.

All Team Staff are encouraged to complete the *Canada Games Coaching* eLearning module available in The Locker (under *Multi-sport*).

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5. COMPETITION

5.1. Rules

Current International Biathlon Union (IBU) Event and Competition Rules, Annexes and the Canadian Hosting Policy will apply for all aspects of the event unless otherwise stipulated in this Technical Package.

In cases where no specific rule exists for a situation and it is not covered in this Technical Package, the principle or the intent of the IBU and Canadian Hosting Policy Rules or what is reasonable for CWG will be used to resolve the situation.

5.2. Events

The competitions that will be conducted are:

Youth Men:
- 12 km Mass Start 60
- 7.5 km Sprint
- 10 km Pursuit

Youth Women:
- 9 km Mass Start 60
- 6 km Sprint
- 7.5 km Pursuit

All four Youth Men and all four Youth Women P/T team athletes compete in each of the personal (Mass Start 60, Sprint and Pursuit) competitions, which are held separately for both genders.

Relays:
- Single mixed relay (SMR)
- Mixed relay (MR)

A P/T may enter one official team in the MR and up to two official teams in the SMR. All athletes of a P/T must be on an official relay team before an athlete will be permitted to be on more than one official relay team. (E.g. If four athletes of a gender are present on a P/T team, all of them will race in the four available relay starts. If three athletes of a gender are present, one athlete from the MR can race in the SMR on an official team to fill the fourth start position). The participation by

an athlete in multiple relays, other than if a team has fewer than four men and/or four women athletes registered, will only be considered in the case of a documented injury or illness of a non-competing athlete. The jury has the authority to rule on the status of an official team following a request by a P/T team. Relay medals will be awarded to the official teams by order of finish. While both official teams of a P/T can receive medals in the SMR to recognize excellence, Sport Scoring Points are only awarded to the top ranked team by P/T.

In the spirit of the Games, any P/T that does not have sufficient athletes in attendance at the Games to constitute an official relay team, or which does not have enough athletes who are medically fit to compete in the relay, may enter an "unofficial" team in either of the relay competitions, if it is possible to do so (number of available lanes etc.). Such unofficial teams may be composed of athletes of any gender. Unofficial teams are not eligible to place or to gain medals or any Sport Scoring Points that might otherwise have been awarded for finishing the relay competition.

The P/T's aggregated total Sport Scoring Points, as earned for its best three finishes in the Individual, Sprint and Pursuit competitions, will be used to determine the Bib Number assigned to the team, the shooting lane that it must use both for zeroing and all bouts of shooting, and its placement in the starting grid for the simultaneous start.

5.3. Weather Protocol

Refer to IBU Rules 6.6.

5.4. Wax Protocol

A universal wax protocol will be in force for all competitions for all athletes. Skis must be clean when they are submitted for wax protocol before the published drop-off time.

Biathlon Canada ski technicians will prepare all skis for competition. All athletes must submit one pair of skis to the identified Wax Room during the times indicated in the waxing schedule. Biathlon Canada ski technicians will make note of the athlete's name and skis, ensure the athlete's skis are waxed and that the athlete's skis are available in the start pen as they proceed to the start.

6. TIE BREAKING RULES - COMPETITION

In all competitions, if two or more competitors or Relay teams are tied within the Rules, they shall have the same placing in the Final Results and the next place will be skipped.

When medals are distributed, all those who are tied shall be awarded the same place, title and/or medal. IBU rules 9.2.5, 9.4.1.1.

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7. REGISTRATION & EVENT ENTRIES

7.1. Canada Games Council Registration Deadline

All participants (athletes, coaches, managers and additional team staff) must be registered in the Canada Games electronic registration system no later than 30 days prior to the Opening Ceremony (January 28, 2027); this may include long list participants. All participants attending the Games are required to have their status set to “Final Roster” in the Canada Games electronic registration system no later than 14 days prior to the Opening Ceremony (February 13, 2027).

7.2. Event Entry Deadline

Event entries for each participant will be confirmed at the Coach/Manager meeting held prior to the first event.

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8. SPORT SCORING POINTS

Sport scoring points are a tool used to determine the performance of a P/T Team across all events within a sport. At the conclusion of an event, sport scoring points will be awarded using the following criteria:

8.1. Individual Events

- Athletes will be ranked from first through last place
- Each Province/Territory’s three (3) best placings in each individual event will count for sport scoring points
- If an athlete does not finish or is disqualified, the athlete will not receive sport scoring points
- If there is a tie, points will be shared equally between competitors (i.e. If two athletes are tied for first then each competitor would receive 83 points [(90+75)/2] and 3rd place points would be awarded to the next finisher)
- Each event will be scored separately
- Sport scoring points will be awarded based on the chart below

1st place	90 points	2nd place	75 points

3rd place	65 points	4th place	55 points
5th place	50 points	6th place	45 points
7th place	41 points	8th place	37 points
9th place	34 points	10th place	31 points
further decreasing by one down to 40th place.			

8.2. Relay Events

- Teams will be ranked from first through last place
- If a team does not finish or is disqualified, the team will not receive sport scoring points
- If there is a tie, points will be shared equally between teams (i.e. If two teams are tied for first then each team would receive 114 points [(120+108)/2] and 3rd place points would be awarded to the next finisher)
- Each event will be scored separately
- Any P/T's second ranked official relay team in the SMR and any unofficial relay teams will not be awarded any sport scoring points
- Sport scoring points will be awarded based on the chart below

1st place	120 points	2nd place	108 points	3rd place	96 points
4th place	86 points	5th place	80 points	6th place	76 points
7th place	72 points	8th place	68 points	9th place	64 points
10th place	62 points	11th place	60 points	12th place	58 points
13th place	56 points				

9. FLAG POINTS

Games to Games performance by a P/T Team at the Canada Games is measured by accumulated Flag Points. Every P/T Team is awarded Flag Points for its ranked performance in each sport in which it competes.

In Biathlon, Flag Points will be awarded together for women's and men's events based on the total of sport scoring points awarded.

After ranking the P/T Teams from first to last, and after any ties have been resolved as detailed in Section 10 (Tie Breaking Rules - Flag Points), Flag Points will be awarded as follows:

Placing	Points	Placing	Points	Placing	Points
1st	20	6th	10	11th	3
2nd	18	7th	8	12th	2
3rd	16	8th	6	13th	1
4th	14	9th	5		
5th	12	10th	4		

10. TIE BREAKING RULES - FLAG POINTS

Ties are not permitted in the ranking for the Flag Points. Any tie that may occur after the sport scoring points are aggregated will be resolved in favour of the P/T that has been awarded the most gold medals in Biathlon. If a tie still persists, it will be resolved in favour of the P/T that was awarded the most silver medals in Biathlon and, if necessary, the resolution process will be extended to examine the bronze medals that were awarded.

In the event that a tie still persists, even after the number of medals awarded has been examined, then such a tie will be resolved in favour of the P/T that achieved the highest placing in the relay competitions. Should a tie continue to exist after examining the placings in the relay competition, then the placings of the P/Ts in the individual competitions, examined sequentially in the reverse chronological order of their occurrence, will be used to resolve the tie.

11. MEDALS

The Canada Games will award medals to athletes only. Gold, silver and bronze medals will be presented for each event.

Gold: 12 Silver: 12 Bronze: 12

12. COMPETITION UNIFORM

Provincial/Territorial team uniforms must follow the approved Provincial/Territorial colours. Additional information on each Provincial/Territorial team's colours can be found in Appendix A of the CGC's P/T Team Colour and Branding Policy. CGC's regulations concerning advertising on competition uniforms can be found in the CGC's P/T Team Apparel Sponsorship Policy.

13. EQUIPMENT

IBU equipment rules apply for the Canada Winter Games for ski equipment and rifles but the IBU advertising rules do not apply. The CGC's P/T Team Apparel Sponsorship Policy applies to advertising marking on all equipment and uniforms and must be consulted since it differs considerably from the IBU rules.

For the policy governing the transport and storage of rifles at the Games, see Appendix 4.

14. PROTEST & APPEALS

14.1. Canada Games Council Protest Policy & Appeal Policy

Appeals relating to a decision made based on this Technical Package or any decisions made by the CGC will be made in accordance with the CGC's Appeal Policy.

Protests relating to disputes between and among Provincial/Territorial Teams as it relates to the CGC Policies, Procedures and Principles that Govern Technical Packages will be made in accordance with the CGC's Protest Policy.

14.2. Competition Protests

Refer to IBU rules; 9.4.2.3 and Article 10.

15. ANTI-DOPING

The CGC adopts the Canadian Anti-Doping Program (CADP) Covenant as a fundamental commitment to engage in a cooperative and collaborative effort to eliminate doping in sport and to support harmonized, coordinated and effective anti-doping measures in Canada. Any Canada Games participant (athlete, coach, manager, technical support, or other person) found to have committed an anti-doping rule violation at the Canada Games (as determined pursuant to the CADP) will be subject to all of the penalties and consequences, as outlined in the Canadian Anti-Doping Program.

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16. APPENDICES

Please review the attached appendices as they form an integral part of this technical package.

- APPENDIX 1 - Coach Certification Requirements
- APPENDIX 2 - Performance Guidelines
- APPENDIX 3 - Age Dispensation
- APPENDIX 4 - Biathlon Rifle Policy

APPENDIX 1 - COACH CERTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS

For more information on Biathlon Canada coach certification and certification pathway, coaches are directed to: Competition Introduction Coaching Pathway & Competition Development Coaching Pathway

APPENDIX 2 - PERFORMANCE GUIDELINES

The following Performance Guidelines have been established by the respective NSO, at the request of the CGC and the Federal-Provincial/Territorial Sport Committee (FPTSC), to reflect the expected training and/or performance parameters of a typical Canada Games athlete in the Training to Compete phase of LTD. These Performance Guidelines have been developed as a tool for P/T teams to use at their discretion in the training and selection of their Canada Games teams. These Guidelines are not required selection criteria.

Biathlon Performance Guidelines Targets:

- Learn to Compete and Train to Compete.
- 500-625 hours of physical training per year.
- 15-20 winter competitive season competitions per year.
- Seasonal shooting average above 75+%.
- 3000m run times of 10:30 men, 12:00 women.
- All key performance indicators (KPIs) of technical/tactical skiing in the refinement phase.

APPENDIX 3 - AGE DISPENSATION

Participation in Biathlon in the Canada Games by an underage athlete (**born after 31 December 2011**) must be approved by Biathlon Canada.

The Biathlon competitions at the Canada Winter Games have been designed as appropriate challenges for athletes who are 15 to 18 years old - the Youth Men and Youth Women Classes.

In order to request the entry of an athlete who does not meet the minimum age requirement, the Provincial/Territorial Sport Organization must submit a completed copy of the following form, together with the required objective evidence, to Biathlon Canada.

Biathlon Canada will use the following submission and additionally solicited or researched information as appropriate in determining if the athlete is at the required level of ability to successfully participate in CWG. This is a discretionary selection process, and will consider current and historical results. It is to be expected that an athlete requesting dispensation would be able to compete at the level of the majority of the field or better.

The submission must include:

- Parent/Guardian Authorization
- A positive recommendation and statement of ethics from the athlete's normal coach
- Divisional Sanction
- Objective evidence, in the form of published results, that *the athlete has successfully competed in the Youth category each of an Individual, Sprint and Pursuit Competition*.

The requirements and criteria listed above must be achieved by *24 January 2027*, and the completed Request for Age Dispensation must be delivered to Biathlon Canada by *25 January 2027* in order to be considered.

The form below should be used when seeking age dispensation for an athlete.

BIATHLON AGE DISPENSATION FORM 2027

Name of Athlete Nominee:
Date of Birth:

List below the results of three competitions for the Youth Men/Youth Women Class in which the nominee successfully participated. Include a link to each competition's full results.

Mass Start Competition (location, date, and link):

Sprint Competition (location, date, and link):
Pursuit Competition (location, date, and link):

Coach's Recommendation and Statement of Ethics

I understand that the principle of responsible coaching carries the basic ethical expectation that the activities and decisions of my coaching will benefit my athletes in general and in particular, and will do them no harm. As such I attest that fundamental to the implementation of this principle is the notion of competence and responsible coaching (maximizing benefits and minimizing risks to participants) and that I adhere to this principle. By signing this age exemption request for the above named athlete, I believe that I am acting in the best interest of the athlete's development as a whole person as well as accepting the responsibility to ensure that he/she is adequately prepared for the 2027 Canada Winter Games.

Name of Coach:
Coach's Certification Number:
Coach Signature:
Date of Signature:

Parent/Guardian Authorization

As the parent(s)/guardian(s) of the above named athlete, by signing this age exemption request, I/we believe that I am/we are acting in the best interest of his/her development and understand that he/she will be required to compete in the Youth category at the Canada Winter Games. Furthermore, I/we understand that he/she will be competing against athletes aged from 15 to 18 years old.

Parent/Guardian Signature(s): _____
Date of Signature(s): _____

Parent/Guardian Name(s):
_____

Divisional Sanction

As the authorized representative of the Biathlon Canada Division within which this athlete normally competes, I am satisfied that this athlete is fully capable of competing at the Canada Winter Games and I further certify that the enclosed results are true copies of the results of competitions in which this athlete successfully participated.
Signatory for the Athlete's Biathlon Canada Division (signature):

_____

Date of Signature: _____

Name and Appointment of Divisional Signatory:

_____

APPENDIX 4 - BIATHLON RIFLE POLICY

Firearms Act

In relation to biathlon at the Canada Winter Games, the Canadian Firearms Act must be followed.

Firearms Licenses

All athletes must be licensed under the Firearms Act, and provide evidence of licensing (PAL or Minors license) to the Biathlon Canada Technical Representative by January 28, 2027. They will not be permitted to train or compete on the biathlon venue without the license.

Arrival at and Departure from the Games

All rifles will arrive and depart the event packed in locked hard-cases, unloaded, trigger/cable locked, and with ammunition in a separate container. Cases must be well marked with the athletes' names and team.

The rifle must be accompanied at all times during transport to the storage area either by an identified team representative or other licensed and designated escort responsible during this phase. Rifles must remain under escort until they arrive on the field of play, and in the designated guarded room.

Storage, Access and Transport during the Games

Storage will be in a designated secure room – this normally requires a guard or a guarded area. The room will have sufficient space that the rifles can be uncased and dried after competitions. Rifles can be stored in this guarded room uncased with a trigger/cable lock. Sufficient space and lighting is required for dry firing drills to be carried out by up to eight athletes. The room is to be locked, with no window or adjoining room access. Storage for each team must be designated and marked.

Access is by accreditation, to be inspected at the door. The room will be open and monitored at times that are coordinated with the demands of the competition and practice schedule. In addition, times for dry firing practice of not less than 15 minutes per team are to be available at suitable times for this activity.

Rifles may be transported to and from the competition venue on Games supplied transport by the athletes in an unloaded/locked, and covered condition. They may be moved to and from the venue in bulk with a suitably-federally-licensed team member or other licensed and designated escort responsible during this phase.

Unattended Rifles

Any rifles that, in the opinion of a Major Technical Official, have been left unattended anywhere on or near the field of play will be impounded and the incident will be investigated by the Competition Jury, which may impose appropriate sanctions.

Covering of Rifles when not on the Field of Play

All rifles will be covered with a soft cover or in a hard case when they are being moved in or out of the stadium area. They may only be uncovered after they are in the stadium, and must be covered when they are taken out of the stadium.