

Olympic Winter Games

Selection Criteria

2022



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CRITERIA UPDATE – DECEMBER 22, 2021

As per criteria 5.C.16.c, which states “Priority ranking of Trials races will be determined and announced Dec 22, 2021 from the events listed below...”, the priority ranking of Trials races has been updated to reflect the composition of priority 1-8 athlete nominations to fill any gaps to achieve the best overall results at the OWG.

CRITERIA AMENDMENTS and RATIONAL – SEPTEMBER 2021

The following amendments were made to this document under clause *10.1 Amendments and Unforeseen Circumstances* as the INP as it existed did not support “...the best interests of the priorities and general principles for selection as indicated in these criteria...” as well as the compounding implications of the pandemic.

BACKGROUND/RISKS

At the time of the criteria amendments Canada has been awarded 3 men and 4 women Olympic quota spots. Given the lower number of spots awarded to Canada so far compared to last Games, there is the potential that all quota spots could be filled at international competitions. This could result in the following consequences:

- Domestic trials are unnecessary.
 - It disadvantages those unable to compete in 2020 or achieve international competition selection due to closed trip selections as a result of the pandemic.
 - No pathway for OWG domestic selection which penalizes athletes who did not have the opportunity to race since 2019 through no fault of their own.
 - Style/distance biased selection which will not ensure the most competitive team for the Olympics (e.g. 3 Sprint men).
 - A profound negative effect on the development pathway system through SR athlete drop out.
- i. Previous Priority 9 “One Top 30 Individual Final Finish Race Result at a 2021-2022 World Cup” is removed.

RATIONAL

In the context described above, a single top 30 World Cup finish is perceived as not strong enough to warrant selection to an OWG. It is conceivable that numerous athletes unable to attend WC P1 races due to restricted quota spots would be able to achieve this benchmark or beat the athletes who achieved this benchmark in head-to-head competition.

It disadvantages those unable to compete in 2020 or achieve international competition selection due to closed trip selections as a result of the pandemic.

As there are not enough WC P1 quota spots to provide opportunities for athletes unable to compete internationally in 2020, this criterion was removed to provide additional opportunity for domestic selection.

- ii. Olympic qualification end date changed from Jan 16 to Jan 11 to align with Trials.

RATIONALE

The qualification period was set until January 16, 2022, and is inclusive of World Cup events which will occur after the domestic Trials currently slated for January 6-11, 2022. It was never the intention to include World Cup events as part of the Olympic qualification after the domestic events – this does not allow for proper Olympic preparation, it has the potential of causing delay in team selection, and interferes with staging.

- iii. Trials priority nomination races will be determined following completion of WC P1 on Dec 20, 2022.

RATIONALE

The prioritization of trials nomination races should reflect the composition of athlete nominations following the World Cup P1 races so that selection truly ensures the best team possible is selected by allowing flexibility in fulfilling any gaps in the current nominations.

IMPORTANT

Nordiq Canada is carefully following the evolution of the coronavirus on the global and domestic level and how it may impact obtaining quota spots for the 2022 Beijing Olympic Winter Games (OWG) and/or domestic nomination of athletes for the 2022 Beijing Olympic Winter Games. Unless otherwise required by exceptional and unforeseen circumstances related to the impact of the coronavirus, Nordiq Canada will respect these published Internal Nomination Procedures (INP) as written.

However, situations related to the coronavirus pandemic may arise that require this INP to be modified. Any modifications will be made promptly and as often as required following developments that directly impact the INP. In such circumstances, any modifications will be communicated to all affected individuals as soon as possible.

Further, situations may arise that do not allow this INP to be modified or applied as written due to time constraints or other exceptional and unforeseen circumstances. In such situations, any decision, including nomination decisions, will be made by the individual(s) with decision-making authority, as stated in this INP, in consultation with the relevant individual(s) or committee(s) (as applicable), and in accordance with the stated performance objectives and selection philosophy and approach as stated herein. Should it be necessary to make any decision in this manner, Nordiq Canada will communicate with all affected individuals as soon as possible.

1. General Information

1. The purpose of this document is to set out the process and criteria that will be used by Nordiq Canada to nominate athletes to the 2022 Beijing Olympic Winter Games Team (OWGT).
2. The nomination process has two objectives: 1) to prioritize selection of athletes who have potential for medal performances at the Games in a clear and transparent manner using

international benchmarks for performance, and 2) provide multi-sport Games experience for 2026 Olympic potential medalists.

3. Team size will be based on available quota spots as determined by the Federation International de Ski (FIS) qualification system.
4. Nomination is the process of Nordiq Canada submitting its final team names to the Canadian Olympic Committee (COC) for selection approval.
5. Selection approval by the COC is the final confirmation of the athlete's position on the team subject to their compliance with Sections 4 and 7.
6. Satisfying the criteria in one of the priorities listed in Section 5 does not guarantee nomination to the team. Only once all selection events have been completed and Nordiq Canada has reviewed all Section 6 applications, will a final team nomination announcement will be made.
7. Further, nomination by Nordiq Canada does NOT guarantee selection. Selection is subject to COC approval AND the athlete's satisfaction of all FIS eligibility requirements.¹
8. The OWG Team nominations will be announced by Nordiq Canada following the Trials as per the Nordiq Canada *NST Selection, Nomination and Announcement* policy².
9. The OWG Team announcement will be announced in conjunction with the COC.
10. For questions or clarifications on the contents of this document, please contact **Stéphane Barrette, acting High Performance Director** (sbarrette@nordiqcanada.ca).

¹ The hyperlinked version of the FIS eligibility requirements is the version that is in force as of the date of publication of this INP. In the event that FIS modifies its eligibility requirements, Nordiq Canada is bound by these modifications, and will update the hyperlink as soon as reasonably possible, and announce any modifications on the Nordiq Canada website. However, if due to time constraints or other circumstances that prevent Nordiq Canada from updating the hyperlink in a timely manner, this is not possible before a nomination decision needs to be made, the most recent version of the FIS eligibility requirements shall be considered applicable for the purposes of this INP.

² Please see footnote 1, which applies, modified accordingly for the circumstances. All Nordiq Canada policies can be found on the Nordiq Canada website.

2. Decision Making Authority

1. The High Performance Director (HPD), as per the Nordiq Canada *NST Selection, Nomination and Announcement* policy, is responsible for developing, and approving the selection process and procedures for the team that will be nominated to the COC for the 2022 OWG.
2. The HPD has the final decision-making authority over the nomination of the OWG Team pursuant to the selection criteria. The HPC will confirm the final nomination of the OWG Team adhered to the selection criteria in this INP and that it was made in an objective and impartial manner.
3. In cases pertaining to Section 6 and Section 7, the Integrated Support Team (IST), led by the IST Lead and comprised of the medical team doctor, physiologist, strength and conditioning coach, performance dietician and mental performance coach may be consulted to help make a decision.
4. All Nordiq Canada nominations are subject to approval from the COC.
5. The Olympic Games Head Coach, in consultation with the HPD and other support staff, has decision making authority for 'race day' and 'field of play' decisions concerning start lists, seeding, relay order, and prioritization of resources while at the 2022 Games. These decisions cannot be appealed.

3. International Federation (IF) Eligibility and Qualification Criteria

1. FIS sets the [International Federation Olympic Qualification System](#), which is approved by the International Olympic Committee (IOC). The 2022 OWG national participation quota will be based on cumulative nations ranking from the 2020-2021 World Cup/World Championships season. This quota will apply to Nordiq Canada's 2022 OWG Team selection.
2. The FIS 2022 OWG events, quotas, athlete eligibility requirements can be [found here](#).³ The FIS qualification system will prevail in the case of any discrepancy with this INP.

³ Please see footnote 1.

4. Athlete Eligibility Requirements

1. All eligibility requirements must be met before the start of a Nordiq Canada Olympic Trial event, in the event a Trials event is not held, then eligibility requirements must be met before [January 11, 2021](#).

CANADIAN OLYMPIC COMMITTEE ATHLETE ELIGIBILITY

2. To be eligible for nomination to the COC for Olympic Team selection, an athlete must:
 - a. Be a Canadian citizen as per Rule 41 of the Olympic Charter;
 - b. Have a valid Canadian Passport that does not expire on or before August 22, 2022;
 - c. Comply with all relevant FIS and IOC requirements for eligibility;
 - d. Sign and submit the Nordiq Canada Competition Trip Agreement if not already under the Athlete Agreement with Nordiq Canada;
 - e. Sign, submit and comply with the COC Athlete Agreement and organizing committee (COG) Conditions of Participation Form and any other COC requirements prior to [January 17th, 2022](#). Where the athlete is under the age of 18 years, their parent or legal guardian must also sign these agreements;
 - f. Be a member in good standing of Nordiq Canada;⁴
 - g. Athletes named to compete in the OWG Team will be required to comply with dress code regulations of the Nordiq Canada and the COC. This will include the Official Team Competition Clothing policy and the Official Team Podium/Parade Clothing policy;
 - h. Have paid all outstanding dues to Nordiq Canada;

Doping Requirements

- i. Be available for sample collection and have provided accurate and up-to-date whereabouts information on a regular basis as directed by FIS and/or CCES pursuant to the FIS Anti-Doping Rules or the Canadian Anti-Doping Program (CADP), as applicable;
- j. The athlete must not be serving a period of ineligibility or a provisional suspension in force at the time of nomination for or during the OWG.

⁴ Please refer to the [Nordic Canada bylaws](#) for the requirements that must be satisfied for a member to be considered to be in good standing.

Alternate Athlete Requirements

- k. Alternate athletes selected must also comply with all requirements contained in this INP and must ensure that all administrative and financial obligations are fulfilled within 24 hours of notification of their pending team nomination.

FIS ELIGIBILITY

- 3. Please refer to the FIS eligibility requirements found in the [Qualification System for XXIV Olympic Winter Games, Beijing 2022](#). Athletes seeking nomination to the 2022 Beijing OWG Team must satisfy all FIS eligibility requirements.

5. Selection Criteria

A. PERIOD OF QUALIFICATION

- 1. The qualification period for the 2022 Beijing OWG is from January 22, 2021 to **January 11, 2022**.

B. PROCESS

- 2. Athletes will be nominated to the COC for selection to Nordiq Canada’s OWG Team if they satisfy the FIS and COC eligibility criteria as outlined in Section 4, and in accordance with the priorities as outlined below.
- 3. The Nordiq Canada Olympic Team INP performance objectives are aligned with those stated in the Nordiq Canada National Ski Team (NST) selection criteria.
- 4. **Important:** Positions on Nordiq Canada’s OWG Team will be filled until all available positions are occupied, including alternates, in accordance with the criteria below for both male and female athletes and in the priority order described. Where an application pursuant to Section 6 is accepted by the HPD, nominations will be made in the following priority order:

Table 1 – Priority Nominations

Priority	Criteria
Priority 1	Athletes meeting the Priority 1
Priority 2	Athletes meeting the Priority 2
Priority 3	Athletes meeting the Priority 3
Priority 3 Injury, Illness, Exceptional Circumstances	Athletes meeting the Priority 3 Injury, Illness, Exceptional Circumstances
Priority 4	Athletes meeting the Priority 4
Priority 4 Injury, Illness, Exceptional Circumstances	Athletes meeting the Priority 4 Injury, Illness, Exceptional Circumstances

Priority 5	Athletes meeting the Priority 5
Priority 5 Injury, Illness, Exceptional Circumstances	Athletes meeting the Priority 5 Injury, Illness, Exceptional Circumstances
Priority 6	Athletes meeting the Priority 6
Priority 6 Injury, Illness, Exceptional Circumstances	Athletes meeting the Priority 6 Injury, Illness, Exceptional Circumstances
Priority 7	Athletes meeting the Priority 7
Priority 7 Injury, Illness, Exceptional Circumstances	Athletes meeting the Priority 7 Injury, Illness, Exceptional Circumstances
Priority 8	Athletes meeting the Priority 8
Priority 8 Injury, Illness, Exceptional Circumstances	Athletes meeting the Priority 8 Injury, Illness, Exceptional Circumstances
Priority 9	Athletes meeting the Priority 9

5. IMPORTANT: If nominations for male and/or female quota spots and alternates are exhausted in any given priority step, nominations will be considered complete and the subsequent priority step(s) will not be applied. **If quota spots and alternate athletes cannot be completed through the priority criteria 1-8, a Trials event will be held (priority 9).**

6. Qualifying competitions* will include:

- 2020-2021 World Cups
- 2020-2021 World Championships
- 2020-2021 U23 World Championships
- 2020-2021 Junior World Championships
- 2021-2022 World Cups completed **prior to December 20th, 2021**
- 2021-2022 Nordiq Canada Olympic Trials (**January 6-11, 2022**)

**Qualifying competitions must have a depth of field as defined below.*

7. Definitions

- a. Individual Final Finish Race Result:** The final time and ranking attributed to an athlete at the completion of an entire individual event. i.e. Time of day, qualification heat, pre-qualification times, team relay, or team sprint times are NOT considered Individual Final Finish Race Result. World Cup points must be awarded for any result to be considered a World Cup race result.
- b. Depth of Field:** For an individual final finish race result to be achieved, there must be 15 seeded FIS athletes according to the FIS Seeded Group that have started the race. The Seeded Group is defined as the top 30 competitors in the current World Cup standings (Distance or Sprint). Depth of field does not apply to a Nordiq Canada Olympic Trials event.

- c. For Priorities 1 – 8, the following seasons are defined as:
- **2020-2021 Season:** on-snow FIS sanctioned competitions beginning January 22, 2021 and ending March 31, 2021.
 - **2021- 2022 Season:** on-snow FIS sanctioned competitions beginning November 2021 and ending **December 19th, 2021.**

C. NOMINATION CRITERIA

8. Priority 1: **2021-22 World Cup Top 12** Individual Final Finish Race Result.
9. Priority 2: **2021-22 World Cup Top 20** Individual Final Finish Race Result.
10. Priority 3: **2020-21 World Championship Top 12** Individual Final Finish Race Result **AND** one **Top 30** Individual Final Finish Race Result at a **2021-2022 World Cup.**
11. Priority 4: **2020-21 World Cup Top 12** Individual Final Finish Race Result **AND** one **Top 30** Individual Final Finish Race Result at a **2021-2022 World Cup.**
12. Priority 5: **U23 athlete(s)** who achieves a **Top 20 Senior World Cup/World Championships** Individual Final Finish Race Result in the **2020-2021 Season AND** one **Top 30** Individual Final Finish Race Result at a **2021-2022 World Cup** either as a graduated or a non-graduated U23.
13. Priority 6: **2020-2021 World Championships/World Cup Top 20** Individual Final Finish Race Result **AND** one **Top 30** Individual Final Finish Race Result at a **2021-2022 World Cup.**
14. Priority 7: **2020-2021 U23 World Ski Championships Top 3** (podium) Individual Final Finish Race Result **AND** one **Top 30** Individual Final Finish Race Result at a **2021-2022 World Cup.**
15. Priority 8: **2020-2021 Junior World Ski Championships Top 3** (podium) Individual Final Finish Race Result **AND** one **Top 30** Individual Final Finish Race Result at a **2021-2022 World Cup.**
16. Priority 9: **Olympic Trials** – January 6-11, 2022 Canmore, AB
 - a. Once all Priority Nominations 1-8 are complete, or if any remaining vacant positions are available once Priorities 1-8 are applied, any remaining spots will be filled using the Nordiq Canada Olympic Trials.
 - b. If for whatever reason, Trials is unable to be held at the location or time indicated above, Nordiq Canada will announce an alternate location and date no later than 2

weeks prior to the start of the event.

- c. Priority ranking of Trials races will be determined and announced Dec 22, 2021 from the events listed below (not in order of events listed). Ranking order will reflect the composition of already qualified athlete nominations to fill any gaps to achieve the best overall results at the OWG. Priorities may be different for men and women.
- Top athlete race result in the Classic race
 - Top athlete race result in the Skate sprint final
 - Top athlete race result in the 15km women/30 km men race
 - Top athlete race result in the Sprint qualification

Athletes will be nominated in the following order of prioritized Trials races for both genders:

1. Top athlete race result in the Classic distance race
 2. Top athlete race result in the Skate sprint qualification
 3. Top athlete race result in the 15km women/30 km men skate race
 4. Top athlete race result in the Skate sprint final
- d. Athletes qualified on Priorities 1-8 and foreign athletes will not be included in the race results used for selection.
- e. Additional quota places, if applicable, will be allocated to 2nd place finishers for Priority 9 in the identified priority order of the race events listed above. The process is repeated using 3rd place, 4th place, etc. until maximum allowable team size is reached. This is NOT a roll down. Selection occurs across race rankings. For example, if a 2nd place athlete is already qualified the spot goes to the 2nd place athlete in the next priority race – it does not move down to the 3rd place athlete in the race with the already qualified 2nd place athlete.

NOTE: The previous Priority 10 has now become Priority 9 with the removal of the previous Priority 9 of a *“One Top 30 Individual Final Finish Race Result at a 2021-2022 World Cup”*.

D. TIE BREAKING

17. Where more than one athlete in the same gender is selected via the same priority, the athletes will be ranked by the highest result.
18. Where there is a combined criterion (Priorities 3,4,5,6,7 and 8), the athlete will be ranked by the highest ranking in the 2021-2022 Season. See Table 2 for an example.
19. For priority 5 and 6, 2020-21 World Championship results will be ranked higher than 2020-21 World Cup results.

Table 2 – Example of 4 athletes meeting Priority 6 with one quota spot left

Athlete Example	2020-2021	2021-2022	INP Rank
A	World Championships 15 place finish	World Cup 21 place finish	3
B	World Championships 14 place finish	World Cup 18 place finish	1
C	World Cup 14 place finish	World Cup 18 place finish	2
D	World Cup 15 place finish	World Cup 23 place finish	4

- 20.** In the event the athletes are still tied, Nordiq Canada will use the FIS Points List published on January 17, 2021 to rank the athletes. **The athlete with the lowest overall FIS points from the discipline they qualified on (either sprint or distance) will be selected.**

E. ALTERNATE ATHLETES

- 21.** In announcing the final nominations for the 2022 OWG, one alternate athlete per gender may be announced as a replacement for a selected athlete who is unable to compete at the 2022 OWG for any reason.
- 22.** Alternate athletes will be next in line for selection for their gender as per the qualification criteria outlined in Section 5.
- 23.** Alternate athletes’ information will be submitted to the COC at the same time as the quota nominated athletes’ information.
- 24.** Alternate athletes are subject to the IOC Late Athlete Replacement policy.
- 25.** Alternate athletes must confirm their willingness to comply with the team preparation plans as set by the Team Head Coach and make themselves available for selection.
- 26.** Alternates will not travel with the OWG Team or be considered a member of the Team unless they are officially named to the Team.
- 27.** Substitutions to replace a selected athlete from January 24, 2022 onward are subject to the IOC Late Athlete Replacement policy, the COC’s Team Selection Committee and must comply with all the procedures in this document.

6. Exceptional Circumstances, Injury, Illness

1. In the event that an athlete has satisfied the eligibility requirements indicated in Section 4 and satisfies the performance requirement for the 2020-21 Season indicated in priorities 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, or 8, but, due to an injury, illness or, or other exceptional circumstance that is beyond the athlete's control, is unable to compete at any (all) competition during the 2021-22 Season before January 11, 2022, the athlete may be ranked for nomination to the COC for the 2022 Canadian Olympic Winter Games Team as indicated in the table in Section 5 above and provided that they satisfy the requirements indicated in this Section 6.
2. Nordiq Canada's HPD has the right to accept or reject any applications made under this Section.

QUALIFICATION UNDER THE SECTION 6 FOR ILLNESS OR INJURY

3. Athletes seeking nomination to the 2022 OWG Team pursuant to this Section 6 illness or injury must satisfy the following requirements:
 - a. In the case of injury or illness, the athlete's injury or illness must be documented by a licensed, qualified, and relevant medical health practitioner, which must be validated by the Nordiq Canada IST Lead and Team Doctor;
 - b. The athlete must submit a written application to the HPD within **7 days** of being diagnosed with an injury or illness by a licensed, qualified and relevant medical health practitioner.
 - c. The application must include the following:
 - i. A medical certificate completed by a licensed, qualified, and relevant medical health practitioner indicating the date and nature of the athlete's injury or illness with the prescribed rehabilitation program and an estimated recovery period, as well as the practitioner's opinion regarding whether the athlete will return to their normal state of health and 2020-21 Season level of performance prior to the commencement of the athlete's first competition at the 2022 OWG. Nordiq Canada may require the athlete to submit to a second medical evaluation and opinion;
 - ii. The IST and coaching staff's written recommendation regarding whether the athlete is unable to continue to compete during the 2021-22 Season due to their injury or illness in order to allow them to recover from their injury or illness prior to the commencement of their first competition at the 2022 OWG;

- iii. The athlete's written agreement that, for the period of time during which they are unable to fulfill their training and competition commitments as specified in their Athlete or Competition Agreement, they will train and/or rehabilitate under the supervision of Nordiq Canada coaches and IST team at a level which minimizes risk to the athlete's health, and ensures optimum return to full training and competition at the earliest possible date; and
 - iv. The athlete's written confirmation of their intention to return to full high performance training and competition at the earliest date possible following the illness or injury.
- 4. When determining whether an athlete may be nominated pursuant to this Section 6, Nordiq Canada reserves the right to require that the athlete submit to a performance readiness test, the results of which will be kept confidential between the athlete, their coach and medical practitioner(s) and Nordiq Canada staff and the Nordiq Canada HPC (where relevant).
- 5. The performance readiness test will consist of a controlled performance such as a competition or observed test or trial and the athlete will be given reasonable notice of the date of the test or trial, taking into account the circumstances of the athlete's illness or injury. Tests may also include, but are not limited to physiotherapy assessment, medical assessment/clearance and time trial/race results to confirm health and readiness to compete at Olympic level.
- 6. The objective of a performance readiness test shall be to determine whether it is more likely than not that the athlete will be ready to return to competition for the 2022 OWG at their normal state of health and at the level of performance that would have otherwise justified their nomination to the 2022 OWG Team pursuant to priority 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 or 8 (as applicable). When making any of the aforementioned determinations, the HPD may consult with the IST Lead, Nordiq Canada medical doctor, the HPC or any other individual with relevant expertise.
- 7. If an athlete is required to undergo a performance readiness test as described above, the athlete will not be nominated 2022 OWG Team until they have undergone the test and until the HPD is satisfied that the athlete will return to their normal state of health and at the level of performance that would have otherwise justified their nomination to the 2022 OWG Team pursuant to priority 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 or 8 (as applicable).

8. If the athlete satisfies all of the requirements described in this Section 6, including, if requested, satisfactory performance of a performance readiness test, they may be nominated pursuant to the appropriate priority in Section 5 (for the avoidance of doubt, the athlete's appropriate priority is immediately following the priority that the athlete had otherwise satisfied in the 2020-21 Season but that they were prevented from having an opportunity to satisfy in the 2021-22 Season as a result of their injury or illness)
9. However, if the athlete does not satisfy all of the requirements described in this Section 6, including, if requested, satisfactory performance of a performance readiness test, they shall not be nominated pursuant to Section 5.
10. The final decision to nominate an athlete to the COC for the 2022 Canadian Olympic Winter Games Team pursuant to this Section 6 shall be made by Nordiq Canada's HPD.

QUALIFICATION UNDER THE SECTION 6 FOR AN EXCEPTIONAL CIRCUMSTANCE

11. Athletes seeking nomination to the 2022 OWG Team on the ground of an exceptional circumstance pursuant to this Section 6 must submit a written application to the HPD within 2 days of the occurrence of the exceptional circumstance that prevented the athlete from competing in any competition during the 2021-22 Season before January 17, 2022. The HPD may extend this deadline at their sole discretion depending on the nature of the exceptional circumstance.
12. The athlete's application must include evidence of the exceptional circumstance that prevented them from competing in any competition during the 2021-22 Season before January 17, 2022 detailing that they exhausted every reasonable avenue to compete, as well as any evidence that demonstrates that the athlete's performances were at the same level or better than their performances that allowed them to satisfy the performance requirements for the 2020-21 season indicated in priorities 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, or 8 (as applicable).
13. When determining whether an athlete may be nominated pursuant to this Section 6 due to the occurrence of an exceptional circumstance, Nordiq Canada reserves the right to require that the athlete submit to a performance readiness test, the results of which will be kept confidential between the athlete, their coach and medical practitioner(s) and Nordiq Canada staff and the Nordiq Canada HPC (where relevant).
14. The performance readiness test will consist of a controlled performance such as a competition or observed test or trial and the athlete will be given reasonable notice of the date of the test or trial, taking into account the nature of the exceptional circumstances. Tests may also include, but are not limited to physiotherapy assessment,

medical assessment/clearance and time trial/race results to confirm health and readiness to compete at the Olympic level.

15. The objective of a performance readiness test shall be to determine whether the athlete's performances were at the same level or better than their performances that allowed them to satisfy the performance requirements for the 2020-21 Season indicated in priorities 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, or 8 (as applicable). When making any of the aforementioned determinations, the HPD may consult with the IST lead, Nordiq Canada Medical Doctor, the HPC or any other individual with relevant expertise.
16. If the athlete satisfies all of the requirements described in this Section 6, including, if requested, satisfactory performance of a performance readiness test, they may be nominated pursuant to the appropriate priority in Section 5 (for the avoidance of doubt, the athlete's appropriate priority is the priority that the athlete had otherwise satisfied in the 2020-21 Season but that they were prevented from having an opportunity to satisfy in the 2021-22 Season as a result of an exceptional circumstance).
17. However, if the athlete does not satisfy all of the requirements described in this Section 6, including, if requested, satisfactory performance of a performance readiness test, they shall not be nominated pursuant to Section 5.
18. The final decision to nominate an athlete to the COC for the 2022 OWG Team pursuant to this Section 6 shall be made by Nordiq Canada's HPD.

7 Competitive Readiness, Illness Or Injury – Nominated Athletes

1. All selected Team members, following approval of nominations by the COC, will need to demonstrate competitive readiness up to and including the Beijing 2022 Olympic Games.
 - a. "Competitive readiness" is defined as the ability of the athlete to achieve equal or superior performance(s) at the Beijing 2022 Olympic Games, as compared to the performance(s) the athlete achieved in qualifying through Section 5.
 - b. Once selected, athletes who do not remain competitive ready because of lack of fitness, injury, or illness may be removed from the Team at any time and replaced with an alternate athlete or none at all. Following nomination to the COC, any such removals are subject to the approval of the HPD.
 - c. Athletes and their personal coaches are required to immediately report any injury, illness or change in training that could affect their ability to compete at their highest level at the Beijing 2022 OWG to the Nordiq Canada HPD.
 - d. All nominated athletes will have their injury/health status assessed by Nordiq Canada prior to the COC nomination deadline.

- e. In the case of injuries or illnesses, the HPD will consider recommendations made by the National Team Physician, and the IST, or any other individual with relevant expertise in making the final decision.
 - f. Nordiq Canada reserves the right to require any athlete nominated for the 2022 OWG be subject to a performance readiness test in order to assess their fitness.
 - g. The HPD will make the final decision on competitive readiness.
2. The performance readiness tests will consist of a controlled performance test such as a competition or observed test or trial and will be relevant to testing an athlete's readiness related to their stated injury or illness, and the athlete will be given reasonable notice of the date of the test or trial, taking into account the circumstances of the athlete's illness or injury. Tests may also include, but are not limited to physiotherapy assessment, medical assessment/clearance and time trial/race results to confirm health and readiness to compete at Olympic level.
 3. Any athletes subject to a performance readiness test will not travel with the Team to the 2022 Beijing Olympic Games or to any related training camp(s) until this requirement has been satisfied.
 4. If the athlete's injury or illness occurs after they have travelled to the 2022 Beijing Olympic Games or any related training camp(s), the HPD may require the athlete to undergo a performance readiness test as described above at the training camp or in Beijing (as applicable). If, following such a performance readiness test, it is determined by the HPD that the athlete is not competition ready, the athlete may be removed from the 2022 OWG Team and asked to return home immediately.
 5. If the HPD, or COC personnel discover that an athlete has not disclosed an injury or illness after their selection to the 2022 Canadian Olympic Winter Games Team, the HPD may remove the athlete from the Team and they may be asked to return home immediately.

8. Removal of an Athlete Once Selected/Nominated

1. In addition to the reasons mentioned in Section 7 above, the HPD may, at any time, and at his/her discretion, remove an athlete from the 2022 Canadian Olympic Winter Games Team for any of the following reasons:
 - a. Failure to maintain the training standards that were communicated to the athlete;
 - b. Failure to meet previously communicated performance standards in competition;
 - c. Failure to meet Competitive Readiness as defined in Section 7;
 - d. Failure to partake in mandatory training organized by Nordiq Canada;

- e. Violation of Nordiq Canada’s Code of Conduct or any other Nordiq Canada, FIS or COC policies;
- f. Behaviour counterproductive to creating a positive team environment and that disrupts Team cohesiveness;
- g. Detrimental conduct to the Team or image of Nordiq Canada’s national team program; or
- h. Failure to adhere to the anti-doping rules or requirements of any Anti-Doping Organization with authority over the athlete.

9. Confirmation of Entries

- 1. Nominations to the COC will be submitted immediately at the end of the qualifying period. The deadline for nominations to the COC is January 19, 2022.
- 2. The list of nominated athletes, with rationale, will be made public at the time it is submitted to the COC.
- 3. The COC will approve and announce the final Olympic Team selections in January 2022.

10. Amendments and Unforeseen Circumstances

- 1. This INP is intended to apply as drafted and, specifically, where no athletes are prevented from competing because of an unforeseen injury or other unanticipated or unforeseen circumstances. Situations may arise where unforeseen circumstances or circumstances beyond Nordiq Canada's control do not allow competition or nomination to take place in a fair manner or in the best interests of the priorities and general principles for selection as indicated in these criteria, or do not allow the procedure for nomination as described in this document to be applied. In the event of such unforeseen circumstances, the HPD will, where possible, consult with the HPC to determine if the circumstances justify that competition or nomination take place in an alternative manner. In such circumstances, the HPD shall communicate the alternative selection or nomination process to all impacted individuals as soon as possible.
- 2. Should it be necessary to cancel or postpone any event specified in this INP that is conducted under the authority of Nordiq Canada, such decision shall be made by the HPD.
- 3. Decisions to cancel or postpone any event specified in this INP shall be made: a) only when absolutely necessary, such as when it has become impossible or unreasonably difficult to hold the event at all or on the originally scheduled date (for example, due to public health restrictions or other circumstances beyond the control of Nordiq Canada)

and b) as soon as reasonably possible after Nordiq Canada has become aware that the event cannot be held.

4. If any event specified in this INP is canceled, Nordiq Canada's HPD shall determine whether it is feasible to reschedule the event in a different location and on a different date than previously scheduled and shall communicate any such decisions to reschedule the event to all impacted individuals as soon as reasonably possible, taking into account the time needed for athletes to prepare for the rescheduled event and for any logistical matters in relation to the event to be addressed, including, but not limited to, any matters related to Nordiq Canada's organization of the event, as well as athlete and athlete entourage travel to the location of the rescheduled event.
5. Nordiq Canada's HPD may also determine, at its sole discretion, following consultation with the HPC, to hold alternative replacement events or assessments for the purpose of nomination to the OWG Team, including virtual events, but only where feasible and where the nomination procedure indicated in this INP, including the stated performance objectives, are not prejudiced.
6. Should any event specified in this INP be canceled, postponed, rescheduled or replaced, Nordiq Canada shall update the nomination procedures indicated in this INP, as applicable, as soon as reasonably possible and shall communicate any modifications to all impacted individuals, as well as publish the modified INP on its website, prior to the postponed, rescheduled or replacement event.
7. Decisions made pursuant to this clause shall not be subject to appeal and do not apply to the cancellation of events that are conducted under the authority of organizations other than Nordiq Canada.
8. As a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, Nordiq Canada may be required, in the best interests of athlete, athlete entourage and staff safety, to not travel to and participate in events indicated in this INP that will be used for nomination to the Team, even in circumstances when the event may proceed as planned. Any such decisions will be made in consultation with relevant experts, including medical and public health safety experts, and will be communicated to all impacted individuals as soon as possible.
9. In such circumstances, Nordiq Canada will determine if alternate events may be attended as a substitute for the event that Nordiq Canada has decided not to participate in and, if so, will modify this INP accordingly, and inform all impacted individuals as soon as possible.

10. When making decisions regarding Nordiq Canada's travel to and participation in events for safety reasons, Nordiq Canada will endeavour to minimize any impact of such decisions on Olympic qualification, obtaining Olympic quota spots and domestic nomination to the Team. However, depending on the circumstances, athlete, athlete entourage and staff safety may be prioritized based on the advice of medical and public health safety experts.
11. Nordiq Canada recognizes that athletes, athlete entourage and staff may, for safety reasons related to the COVID-19 pandemic, also decide not to travel to and participate in events indicated in this INP that will be used for nomination to the Team, even in circumstances when the event may proceed as planned, and even when Nordiq Canada has decided that it will travel to and participate in the event because it has decided, following consultation with medical and public health safety experts, that it is safe to do so.
12. In such circumstances, athletes will be responsible for any impact that their decision may have on their Olympic qualification, ability to obtain Olympic quota spots or domestic nomination to the Team.

11. Appeals

1. Athletes wishing to appeal decisions regarding team selection must follow the Nordiq Canada Dispute Resolution and Appeal Policy. The external nomination and selection timelines set by the FIS, IOC and COC are very short and therefore appeals must be filed no later than 11:59 pm MST on January 19, 2022.
2. If both parties agree, the Nordiq Canada Dispute Resolution and Appeal Policy can be bypassed and the matter can be brought immediately before the Sport Dispute Resolution Centre of Canada (SDRCC) who will then manage the appeals process.

12. Staff Selections

ACCREDITED STAFF

1. The HPD has the sole discretion in selecting the support staff for the 2022 OWG.
2. The support staff will be selected based on the principle of sending a team of specialists that is best capable of assisting athletes to achieve podium performances at the OWG.
3. All staff selection decisions are subject to COC approval.

4. Staff selection will be based on final confirmation of COC quota allocations.
5. All staff must meet COC eligibility requirements and all coaches must be members in good standing with the Professional Coaching Program of the Coaching Association of Canada.

NON-ACCREDITED STAFF

6. Notwithstanding COC staff quota allocations noted above, Nordiq Canada may consider the selection of support staff in a non-accredited capacity. Non-accredited staff must comply with all COC requirements. Costs may be incurred by the individual associated with this position.

13. Timeline Summary

Date	Event
January 22, 2021 - Jan 11, 2022	Qualification period
Jan 6-11, 2022	Domestic Olympic selection trials
Jan 17, 2022	Deadline for athletes to accept nomination and submit required documents
Jan 17, 2022	Publication of FIS points list
Jan 17, 2022	FIS confirmation of allocated quota places and eligibility
Jan 17/18, 2022	Confirmation of used allocated quota places to FIS
Jan 18, 2022	Nordiq Canada OWG Team nominations announcement
Jan 19, 2022	Deadline for nomination appeals
Jan 19, 2022	Deadline for Nordiq Canada to submit nominations to COC
Jan TBC, 2022	COC approval of Nordiq Canada nominations
Jan 19/20, 2022	FIS reallocation of unused quota places/12 hr confirmation
Jan TBD, 2022	COC OWG Team announcement
Jan TBD, 2022	Team departs Canada for OWG training camp
Jan 27, 2022	Tentative Team arrival at Beijing OWG site
Feb 4, 2022	2022 Beijing OWG

14. Funding Support

1. Funding support for selected athletes and staff will be in alignment with COC Olympic Team Size Policy and dependent on Nordiq Canada available resources.