



**2027 Canada Winter Games
Team Ontario
Long Track Selection Bulletin**

July 2026

INTRODUCTION

This document explains how Speed Skating Ontario (SSO) will select Long Track athletes for Team Ontario at the 2027 Canada Winter Games (CWG). While selected athletes will compete in all individual distances at the CWG, in keeping with the goals of Team Ontario, SSO will select athletes with the greatest potential to win individual medals and the ability to support a medal winning team events.

This document was prepared by the Technical Director, in consultation with the SSO CWG Selection Committee.

SSO CWG SELECTION COMMITTEE

Speed Skating Ontario has named a CWG Selection Committee (“Selection Committee”), comprised of three members of the speed skating community who have retired from regular speed skating training, coaching and competition in Ontario. The roles of the Selection Committee are to ensure that the selection criteria are applied as described in this document and to review bye requests. The members of the Selection Committee are Elizabeth Migneron, Shawn Holman and Chris Holmstead.

CANADA GAMES GENDER INCLUSION POLICY STATEMENT

As stated in the Canada Games Council’s (CGC) Gender Inclusion Policy, individuals, including those who identify as trans, non-binary, gender diverse, two-spirit or intergender, may participate in Canada Games sports, disciplines and events for women or men in the gender category with which they identify or that align with the gender category in which they train and compete on a daily basis. Self-identification of gender requires no further disclosure or documentation.

Athletes can compete for Ontario in the gender category with which they identify for the 2026-2027 season. Athletes must identify their racing gender category when submitting their Declaration of Intent to Participate, as outlined later in this document.

The Canada Games Council’s Gender Inclusion Policy can be found on the CWG webpage here: <https://www.canadagames.ca/about/corporate-resources>.

CWG LONG TRACK ELIGIBILITY

To be eligible for selection for Team Ontario at the Canada Winter Games, athletes must:

1. Be registered and in good standing as a Competitive or National Athlete with SSO and SSC for the 2026-2027 season.
2. Be of eligible age, as defined by the Canada Games Council (CGC): Competitors who have reached the age of 14 on June 30th, 2026 but have not reached the age of 21 as of June 30th, 2026. *Year of Birth*: July 1, 2005 to June 30, 2012 inclusive.

3. Meet the requirements as outlined in Section 4 (Eligibility) of the SSC 2027 Canada Winter Games Long Track Technical Package which can be found at the following link [2027 Long Track CWG Technical Package](#) and in Appendix A of this document. In the event of any disagreement regarding sport-specific athlete eligibility, the wording of the CWG Long Track Technical Package shall prevail.
4. Meet the requirements as outlined in the Canada Games Council's Athlete Eligibility Policy which can be found at the following link [Athlete Eligibility Policy](#) and in Appendix B of this document. In the event of any disagreement regarding general athlete eligibility, the wording of the CGC Athlete Eligibility Policy shall prevail.
5. Properly register with the event organizers for the competitions eligible for selection.
6. Complete the Declaration of Intent to Participate form as outlined later in this document.

TEAM ONTARIO LONG TRACK SELECTION

Team Composition

Team Ontario Long Track for the 2027 CWG will consist of:

- Four (4) women athletes
- Four (4) men athletes
- One (1) Team Manager
- One (1) Coach

Declaration of Intent to Participate

All athletes intending to participate in the Selection Event(s) and seek qualification for Team Ontario Long Track for the 2027 CWG must submit their intent by **September 13, 2026 at 11:59pm** using the [Declaration of Intent to Participate Long Track Form](#). Athletes must declare their gender category and the Selection Event(s) in which they plan to participate. Athletes must declare if they do not (or suspect they do not) currently meet the eligibility standards for any of the Selection Events, or if they do not (or suspect they do not) meet the eligibility standards for a particular CWG distance at any of the Selection Events so that SSO can make a request to the event host for the athlete to participate.

Athletes must be registered and in good standing as Competitive or National Athletes with SSO and SSC prior to being accepted.

Pre-selection

Eligible athletes may be pre-selected to 2027 CWG Team Ontario Long Track based on their results in Speed Skating Canada, World Cup and World Championships selection events. Athletes who achieve one or more of the following results prior to January 26, 2027 will be eligible for preselection.

1. Athletes selected for one or more Long Track ISU World Cups in the 2026-2027 season.
2. Athletes finishing within the top 10 in the first event of any CWG distance at Canadian Long Track Championships on October 15-18 in Quebec City.

3. Athletes selected to represent Canada at the World Junior Long Track Championships.
4. Athletes selected for one or more ISU Junior World Cups in the 2026-2027 season.

Pre-selected athletes will take the first available position(s) in the distance(s) in which they prequalify. Should more than one athlete achieve pre-selection in a distance, they will be allocated positions in accordance with the priority order listed above, followed by their placement at the selection event in question.

Selection Format

Fastest times skated in the CWG Olympic Style distances at five Selection Events will be considered for eligibility for Team Ontario Long Track selection for the 2027 CWG.

Athletes may participate in up to three Selection Events. It is not possible for an athlete to participate in all four selection events based on overlapping event dates.

As athletes compete in all individual distances at the 2027 CWG, athletes seeking qualification for Team Ontario Long Track should enter and complete all distances available at each Selection Event.

Selection Events

The following events will be considered “Selection Events” for Team Ontario Long Track at the 2027 CWG:

1. Nagano Fall Classic: September 18-20, 2026 in Calgary
2. Coupe Quebec 1: September 19-20, 2026 in Quebec City
3. Coupe Quebec 2: November 21-22, 2026 in Quebec City
4. Nagano Skate CanAm Classic: November 27-29, 2026 in Calgary

Time Comparison

To fairly compare times raced in Quebec City and Calgary at the Selection Events, the Indoor Lowland Conversion Time Factor from the CWG Long Track Technical Package will be used. Times raced in Calgary at the Olympic Oval will be multiplied by 1.02 to compare to times raced in Quebec City at the Intact Insurance Centre de Glaces.

Selection Event Eligibility

Eligibility standards and racing formats for each of the Selection Events are determined by the event hosts. Speed Skating Ontario is working with each event host to ensure that the athletes most likely to qualify for CWG are permitted to participate in Selection Events and in all distances required for selection. Time standards or quota spots may be imposed by the event hosts to qualify for the long distance event or mass start.

If an athlete does not meet the entry criteria for the competition or for a certain distance, SSO will request entry for the athlete from the event host, but entry is not guaranteed without meeting the Selection Event entry criteria as determined by each event host. Athletes must inform SSO

of intention to participate in a Selection Event for which they are not eligible using the process outlined in the Declaration of Intent to Participate section of this document.

Priority of Selection

All times skated by CWG Team Ontario-eligible athletes in each CWG Olympic Style distance raced at the Selection Events will be ranked in order from fastest to slowest, by distance, after the Indoor Lowland Conversion Time Factor from the CWG Long Track Technical Package (1.02) is applied to times raced in Calgary.

Pre-selected athletes will occupy the first position(s) in the distance(s) in which they have earned pre-selection, regardless of times skated at Selection Events. Time rankings from the Selection Events will occupy subsequent position(s), by distance.

Positions on Team Ontario Long Track will be assigned in the order outlined in the Athlete Selection Matrix (“the Matrix”) below for each gender category until four (4) athletes of each gender are named. If the same athlete(s) are named in multiple steps of the Matrix, the Matrix will continue to be followed until four (4) unique athletes of each gender are selected.

Table 1. Athlete Selection Matrix	
Men Athletes	Women Athletes
1. 1 st 500m	1. 1 st 500m
2. 1 st 1000m	2. 1 st 1000m
3. 1 st 1500m	3. 1 st 1500m
4. 1 st 5000m	4. 1 st 3000m
5. 2 nd 5000m	5. 2 nd 1500m
6. 2 nd 1500m	6. 2 nd 3000m
7. 3 rd 1500m	7. 3 rd 1500m
8. 3 rd 5000m	8. 3 rd 3000m
9. 2 nd 1000m	9. 2 nd 1000m
10. 2 nd 500m	10. 2 nd 500m
11. 3 rd 1000m	11. 3 rd 1000m
12. 3 rd 500m	12. 3 rd 500m
13. 4 th 5000m	13. 4 th 1500m
14. 4 th 1500m	14. 4 th 3000m
15. 4 th 1000m	15. 4 th 1000m
16. 4 th 500m	16. 4 th 500m

All selected athletes are eligible to participate in each individual distance, including the Mass Start, at the 2027 CWG. The Athlete Selection Matrix order considers selection of athletes with

the greatest potential to win individual medals and the ability to support medal winning team events.

Alternates

Alternates will only travel to the 2027 CWG if one of the selected team members is unable to attend.

SSO will name up to two alternates in each gender category to Team Ontario Long Track for the 2027 CWG. The alternates will be the next-placed athletes who have not yet been selected in the Athlete Selection Matrix for each gender. These athletes will make up the Alternate Pool.

In the event of substitution, only a named athlete from the Alternate Pool of the same gender as the withdrawing athlete will be eligible to take the place of a CWG Team Member.

The athlete that is selected from the Alternate Pool to replace the withdrawing athlete will be determined based on the re-classification of athletes in the Matrix. When the withdrawing athlete is removed from the Matrix, the athlete from the Alternate Pool that next fills the vacant position will be selected to attend the 2027 CWG for Team Ontario Long Track.

If the withdrawing athlete held multiple Matrix positions that would have qualified them for Team Ontario Long Track, the following steps will be taken:

1. The distances of the Matrix positions that would have qualified the withdrawing athlete for Team Ontario Long Track will be considered. For example, if the skater held Matrix Position 1, 2 and 13, but only positions 1 and 2 would have qualified them for Team Ontario Long Track, then the distance of position 13 will not be considered when selecting an alternate.
2. The times (skated at the Selection Events) of the distances identified in Bullet 1 for each athlete from the Alternate Pool, will be compared against the Canadian Record at the time of the substitution.
3. The athlete with the lowest percentage off the Canadian Record in one of the distances identified in Bullet 1 will be selected to attend the 2027 CWG for Team Ontario Long Track.

Tie Breaker

If a tie exists for the selection of the final position on Team Ontario Long Track for the 2027 CWG, the following steps will be taken until the tie is broken:

1. The athlete that is higher ranked in the next available distance in the Matrix will be named for the position in question. For example, if there is a tie for the fourth and final position on Team Ontario Long Track with Matrix Position 6, the next Matrix Position, 7, will be used. If it is the same distance as the position with the tie, the higher ranking athlete in the next Matrix Position with a different distance, in this case the 5000m via Matrix Position 8, will be used to break the tie.
2. Should the tie persist, the athlete with the best head-to-head result at the Selection Events, in the order listed in this bulletin, will be selected.
3. Should the tie still persist, the selected athlete will be determined with a coin toss.

Announcement of Team Ontario

The provisional list of selected athletes and alternates for Team Ontario Long Tack for the 2027 CWG will be posted by SSO by **December 4, 2027** on the [Canada Winter Games page of the SSO website](#), after selections have been reviewed by the Selection Committee.

The final list of selected athletes and alternates for Team Ontario Long Tack for the 2027 CWG will be posted by SSO on **January 26, 2027** on the [Canada Winter Games page of the SSO website](#), after dates pertaining to the preselection criteria have passed.

Team Event Participants

Athlete selection for Team events at the 2027 CWG will be managed at the discretion of the Team Ontario CWG Coach during the 2027 CWG.

GENERAL

The Selection Committee, using its absolute discretion, will manage all situations not expressly covered by the rules contained within this bulletin.

BYES

Byes will only be considered for athletes who were not able to participate in their primary distance at any of the Selection Events due to unexpected and uncontrollable injury, illness or travel disruptions beyond the control of the athlete. For example, an athlete that was ill or had a travel disruption for their primary distance at the first available Selection Event, but was fit to participate in their primary distance at next available Selection Event, is expected to participate and their results will be used for consideration for Team Ontario Long Track at the 2027 CWG without a bye being granted.

Athletes should plan to arrive at least 2 days prior to each Selection Event to reduce the risk of being impacted by weather or other travel delays.

Except in situations where an athlete is forced to withdraw unexpectedly during or immediately prior to a Selection Event, bye requests must be submitted at least 72 hours prior to the start of a Selection Event. If an athlete is forced to withdraw from competition when present at or immediately prior to a Selection Event, a bye request must be submitted **no later than 2:00pm on the Monday following the Selection Event**.

An athlete requesting a bye must submit their request in writing to the Selection Committee by the timeline outlined above and attach all relevant supporting documentation including any pertinent medical information, a note from their coach and their recent competition results history. Recent competition results that will be accepted for consideration must be raced at a PTSO or SSC sanctioned Long Track event from August 1, 2026 to the date of the bye.

If granted, a bye may allow the athlete to use the recent competition results to be compared to other athletes seeking selection in the Athlete Matrix. The Indoor Lowland Conversion Time Factor from the CWG Long Track Technical Package will apply to the recent competition results.

The Selection Committee will review all bye applications.

Bye applications will be reviewed for eligibility following each Selection Event and a conditional decision will be rendered, based on the current rankings. Should a bye request be accepted, the Selection Committee may assign a provisional position in the Athlete Selection Matrix based on the athlete's results history. Positions will only be confirmed following the final Selection Event. Individuals obtaining a provisional position will only be considered for that position if they are unable to compete in any of the remaining Selection Events.

Any athlete receiving a bye will be required to demonstrate fitness to compete at the time of the 2027 CWG by way of a return to performance plan, race results and/or training data. Specific requirements will be published as part of the Selection Committee's decision.

APPEALS

Appeals will be managed in accordance with the SSO Appeal Policy which can be found on the [SSO Policies webpage](#). Grounds for appeal are outlined below, with an excerpt from the SSO Appeal Policy.

Grounds for Appeal

A decision cannot be appealed on its merits alone. An appeal may only be heard if there are sufficient grounds for appeal. Sufficient grounds include the Respondent:

- a) Made a decision that it did not have the authority or jurisdiction (as set out in the Respondent's governing documents) to make
- b) Failed to follow its own procedures (as set out in the Respondent's governing documents)
- c) Made a decision that was influenced by bias (where bias is defined as a lack of neutrality to such an extent that the decision-maker appears not to have considered other views)
- d) Failed to consider relevant information or took into account irrelevant information in making the decision
- e) Made a decision that was patently unreasonable

Appeals must be submitted via the [SSO 2027 CWG Selection Appeal Submission Form](#) within 72 hours of the final list of selected athletes and alternates for Team Ontario Long Tack being posted on January 26, 2027.

DISCIPLINE PARTICIPATION AT 2027 CWG

The Short Track and Long Track events of the 2027 CWG take place on different weeks. There is no ruling to prevent an athlete from participating in both disciplines (Short Track and Long Track) for the 2027 CWG in the Technical Package or any SSC or CGC wording.

Athletes that qualify for the 2027 CWG in both Short Track and Long Track may represent Ontario in both disciplines at the 2027 CWG.

PREPARATION FOR CWG

A detailed training and preparation plan must be developed for each qualified athlete in consultation with the Short Track and/or Long Track Team Ontario Coaches and Club or Regional Training Centre Coaches with guidance from the SSO Technical Director, to ensure that the athlete is adequately preparing to best represent Ontario at the 2027 CWG. An athlete agreement must be signed outlining the CWG preparation plan. The CWG Coach, Manager, and SSO Technical Director must approve any changes.

APPENDIX A: CWG LONG TRACK TECHNICAL PACKAGE

The CWG Long Track Technical Package (https://drive.google.com/file/d/1XmklBK_yvAADgQimfuVuT3cy9Yrw770w/view) will prevail in the event of any question regarding sport-specific athlete eligibility for the 2027 CWG.

An excerpt of the eligibility section of the CWG Athlete Eligibility Policy (section 4 Eligibility) is outlined below. The full CWG Long Track Technical Package should be consulted for greater clarity in the event of questions of athlete eligibility for long track speed skating.

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:
 - Senior World Championships
 - Senior World Cups
 - Olympic Games
- Athletes who have previously competed in the following event 2 or more times
 - ISU Four Continent Championships

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.

APPENDIX B: CANADA GAMES COUNCIL ATHLETE ELIGIBILITY POLICY

The CGC Athlete Eligibility Policy (<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1wUszKUOf7U-2GvlpWw7vTUdqfha5f0UW/view>) will prevail in the event of any question regarding general athlete eligibility for the 2027 CWG.

An excerpt of the most pertinent information from the CWG Athlete Eligibility Policy (section 6.3 Athlete Eligibility) is outlined below. The full CWG Athlete Eligibility Policy document should be consulted for greater clarity in the event of questions of general athlete eligibility.

6.3. ATHLETE ELIGIBILITY

Citizenship

6.3.1. Athletes must meet at least one of the following requirements to be eligible for the Canada Games:

- are a Canadian citizen;
- are an Indigenous person (registered under the federal Indian Act);
- are a permanent resident;
- have status in Canada and are applying for permanent residency

and:

- have submitted an application to Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada (IRCC);

-AND-

- IRCC has confirmed they have reviewed the application and that you meet the eligibility requirements to apply;

-AND-

- the application has not yet been denied;
- are a convention refugee or other protected person (as defined by Immigration and Refugee Board of Canada);
- Newcomers processed using temporary measures to facilitate them fleeing for safety due to a crisis.

Membership

6.3.2. Athletes must be registered members in good standing of their sport's P/TSO under the terms of principles 6.3.3 and 6.3.4 below.

(NOTE: In exceptional circumstances, an athlete in a given sport within a province/territory with no recognized P/TSO for the sport may be named to the P/T Canada Games team based on established criteria developed by the P/T Government and agreed to by the CGC and NSO. The established criteria should include, but is not limited to the following:

- the athlete is an active member of an established club,
- is being coached by an NCCP certified coach (preferably with Competition-Development certification),
- is competing in regional, provincial/territorial and/or national level competitions,
- is adhering to a monitored yearly training plan. The criteria may also include other measures as developed by the respective P/T.

6.3.3. The P/TSO must be recognized and/or funded by the provincial/territorial government, subject to exceptional circumstances.

6.3.4. The P/TSO must be a member in good standing of the NSO.

(NOTE: In exceptional cases where there is a dispute between an NSO and its P/TSO in a given sport, the CGC will contact the respective P/T government to discuss the facts of the dispute. All parties will encourage the sport to resolve the matter through the NSO's internal mediation process. Should the dispute not be resolved satisfactorily through the NSO's internal process, the P/T governments will jointly determine the participation of the affected P/TSO in the Canada Games in collaboration with the CGC).

Level of Athlete

6.3.5. Provincial/territorial teams are made up of the best athletes from each jurisdiction that have not yet represented Canada internationally at a Senior World Championships or major multi-sport Games. Senior National Team athletes and/or athletes holding an SR, SR1 or SR2 Sport Canada Athlete Assistance Program card are not eligible for the Canada Games in the sport for which they hold the card. Athletes who are in their first year of Senior National Team status may be deemed eligible on a case by case basis. Requests must be submitted by the respective P/T Team Chef de Mission and approved by the CGC's Sport & Games Committee.

- No athlete will be rendered ineligible for the Canada Games within 90 days of the opening of the Games due to National Team status, carding status or competing in an excluded event.

6.3.6. Due to the smaller available pool of para athletes compared to able body athletes, NSOs may request to the CGC Sport & Games Committee a modification to principle 6.3.5 for para athletes only. Any modification must continue to restrict athletes who are beyond the T2C phase of LTD.

6.3.7. NSOs may seek approval from the CGC Sport & Games Committee to include additional eligibility restrictions beyond what is stipulated in section 6.3.5 of this policy.

6.3.8. All levels of athlete conditions (sections 6.3.5 - 6.3.10 of this policy) refer to the specific sport in question only (i.e. an athlete with AAP carding in swimming would still be eligible in diving even if AAP carding was an eligibility restriction for diving).

6.3.9. NSOs may set minimum performance standards for the Canada Games for safety reasons. Such measures must be submitted to the CGC Sport & Games Committee for approval prior to implementation.

6.3.10. For individual sports, NSOs in consultation with P/TSOs must establish performance guidelines for athlete selection. For team sports, NSOs in consultation with P/TSOs must establish guidelines for appropriate team preparation.

Residency

6.3.11. An athlete's primary residence must be located, for at least 180 days prior to the Opening Ceremony, within the recognized boundaries of the province/territory they wish to represent. An athlete can only have one primary residence. Should an athlete not meet this requirement, they may be ruled as eligible under sections 6.3.12 or 6.3.13 below.

6.3.12. An athlete may represent a province/territory that falls outside the recognized boundaries of their primary residence provided they can demonstrate a commitment to the province/territory they wish to represent by:

- Having been a member of a club or P/TSO in that province/territory for the entire previous or current competitive season;

-AND-

- Having represented that province/territory at a national or regional championship (if applicable);

-AND-

- Not having received direct development funding from their province/territory of primary residence within a year of the Opening Ceremony, unless the funding jurisdiction provides permission for the athlete to compete for another team;

-OR-

- Other similar circumstances may be considered.

6.3.13. Athletes who attend school on a full time basis outside of the province/territory of their primary residence for no less than one (1) full academic session (i.e a term, block, semester, etc) prior to the Opening Ceremony of the Games are eligible to participate for the Province/Territory in which they attend school.

Selection, Registration and Substitutions

6.3.14. The CGC does not have jurisdiction or authority regarding the selection of participants (including: coaches, managers, athletes, or technical support) for the Canada Games. Provincial/territorial teams and P/TSOs are responsible for determining the selection process of all participants within their province/territory.

6.3.15. An athlete is permitted to try out for any P/T they are eligible to compete for, but can only try out for one P/T per sport. (i.e. an athlete may try out for swimming for one P/T but cannot try out for swimming for another P/T. An athlete may try out for one P/T in swimming, and may try out for another P/T in diving.)

6.3.16. Athletes may only compete for one P/T at a single Canada Games.