



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

July 2026

INTRODUCTION

This document explains how Speed Skating Ontario (SSO) will select Short Track athletes for Team Ontario at the 2027 Canada Winter Games (CWG). In keeping with the goals of Team Ontario, SSO will select the five (5) men and five (5) women athletes with the greatest potential to win individual medals and the ability to support a medal winning team.

This document was prepared by the Technical Director, in consultation with the Provincial Team Short Track Coach and 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 SHORT 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 20 as of June 30th, 2026. *Year of Birth*: July 1, 2006 to June 30, 2012 inclusive.

3. Meet the requirements as outlined in Section 4 (Eligibility) of the SSC 2027 Canada Winter Games Short Track Technical Package which can be found at the following link [2027 Short Track CWG Technical Package](#) and in Appendix B of this document. In the event of any disagreement regarding sport-specific athlete eligibility, the wording of the CWG Short 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 C 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 SSO for the CWG Short Track Selection event.
6. Complete the Declaration of Intent to Participate form as outlined later in this document.

TEAM ONTARIO SHORT TRACK SELECTION

Team Composition

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

- Five (5) women athletes
- Five (5) men athletes
- One (1) Team Manager
- One (1) Coach

Declaration of Intent to Participate

All athletes intending to seek qualification for Team Ontario Short Track for the 2027 CWG must submit their intent and declare their gender category by **September 13, 2026 at 11:59pm using the [Declaration of Intent to Participate Short Track Form](#)**. Athletes must be registered and in good standing as a Competitive or National Athlete with SSO and SSC prior to being accepted.

Pre-selection

Eligible athletes may be pre-selected to 2027 CWG Team Ontario Short 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 Short Track ISU World Cups in the 2026-2027 season.
2. Athletes finishing within the top 10 in the **top** group at the Canadian Short Track Championships on September 25-27 in Montreal.
3. Athletes selected to represent Canada at the World Junior Short Track Championships.

Pre-selected athletes will take the first available position(s) on Team Ontario Short Track. Should more than one athlete achieve pre-selection, 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

Team Ontario Short Track will be selected from the Ontario 2027 CWG Short Track Trials (“Trials”) on January 1-3, 2027 in Ottawa, Ontario.

There will be two racing groups at the Trials: one group of men and one group of women.

All athletes seeking to be named to Team Ontario Short Track for the 2027 CWG must register for and attend the Trials, except for pre-selected athletes. Pre-selected athletes are not eligible for the Trials.

As athletes are required to compete in all distances at the 2027 CWG, athletes seeking qualification for Team Ontario Short Track for the 2027 CWG must demonstrate fitness by competing in all events available at the Trials. Failure to compete in all available events, unless supported by a valid bye request or medical documentation, will render the athlete in-eligible for selection.

Priority of Selection

At the conclusion of the Trials, racing points (outlined in the Racing Points section of this document) earned in each athlete’s four (4) highest placing events out of the six events raced at the Trials will be totaled. Athletes who participated in the Trials will be sorted, by group, from highest points earned to lowest points earned. Positions on Team Ontario Short Track will be allocated in order, as outlined in the following Athlete Matrix in Table 1 below, until all five (5) positions on Team Ontario per gender and two (2) alternate positions per gender are assigned.

Table 1. Athlete Matrix	
Men Athletes	Women Athletes
1. Highest number of points	1. Highest number of points
2. 2 nd most points	2. 2 nd most points
3. 3 rd most points	3. 3 rd most points
4. 4 th most points	4. 4 th most points
5. 5 th most points	5. 5 th most points
6. 6 th most points	6. 6 th most points
7. 7 th most points	7. 7 th most points

Alternates

Two (2) alternates will be identified, per gender, to the Alternate Pool, using the process outlined above in the Priority of Selection section, but will travel to the 2027 CWG only if one of the selected team members in their gender is not able to attend.

In the event of substitution, only a named athlete from the Alternate Pool of the same gender category 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 the next eligible athlete from the Matrix, in order.

Tie Breaker

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

1. The points earned from each tied athletes' fifth (5th) best event at the Trials will be compared. The athlete with the higher points will be named to the final position.
2. Should the tie persist, the athlete with the fastest 500m time skated at the Trials will be named to the final position.
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 Short Track for the 2027 CWG will be posted by SSO on **January 5, 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 Short Track 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 will be managed at the discretion of the CWG Team Ontario 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

Should an athlete be unable to participate in the Trials due to unexpected and uncontrollable injury, illness or any other accepted unexpected and uncontrollable reason, such as significant equipment failure or significant and unexpected travel disruptions beyond the control of the athlete, the athlete may be eligible for a bye. Except in situations where an athlete is forced to withdraw during the Trials, bye requests must be submitted at least 72 hours prior to the start of the Trials. If an athlete is forced to unexpectedly withdraw from competition when present at or immediately before the Trials, a bye request must be submitted no later than **2:00pm on Monday January 4, 2027**.

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 raced at SSC or SSO sanctioned events from August 1, 2026 to the date of the bye.

If granted, a bye may allow the athlete to use recent competition results raced at SSC or SSO sanctioned events since August 1, 2026 to be compared to other athletes seeking selection in the Athlete Matrix.

Athletes ranked in the top three (3) eligible Ontario athletes when sorted by 500m + 1500m/3 combined time on the SSO CWG Ranking List immediately prior to the Trials will have priority for bye considerations for a position on Team Ontario Short Track for the 2027 CWG.

If a bye request is made prior to the start of the Trials, the presence of a bye request will be announced at the Trials' Coaches and Officials Meeting.

The Selection Committee will review all bye applications and a conditional decision will be rendered, based on the information available. 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. Individuals obtaining a provisional position will only be considered for that position if they are unable to compete in the Trials.

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, competition results and 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 Short Track 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: SHORT TRACK TRIALS FORMAT

Definitions

Distance: the numerical distance of the race. Ex. 1500m = a race consisting of fifteen hundred metres

Event: the full round of racing of a particular distance, including heat, semi and final.
Ex. 1500m(1) = the first event of the 1500m distance

Eligibility

There will be 20 athletes in each of the women and men groups at the SSO CWG Short Track Trials. Athletes will qualify to the Trials as follows:

The top 20 athletes per gender category, based on combined 500m+1500m/3 time on December 14, 2026, who meet CWG eligibility criteria for Ontario will be eligible to race in the ST Trials. Times must be skated between August 1, 2026 and December 13, 2026 on the 111m track in a PTSO or SSC sanctioned event with Electronic Timing.

The list of the top 24 eligible athletes per group (20 qualified athletes + 4 alternates per group) will be published by **Wednesday December 16, 2026**.

Eligible athletes must register for the Trials by **Sunday December 20, 2026 at 11:59pm**.

In the event of declines from the qualified athlete list, alternate athletes, if invited, must register for the Trials by **Tuesday December 22, 2026 at 11:59pm**.

Coaching Requirements

There shall be a maximum of two (2) coaches from each Club in the coaches' box at any one time at the ST Trials event. Coaches should be Introduction to Competition or Competition Development Certified.

Competition Schedule

Friday: 1500m (1), 500m (1)

Saturday: 1000m (1), 1500m (2)

Sunday: 500m (2), 1000m (2)

Seeding

The first round of each distance shall be seeded separately, in a single distance format. The heat of the 500m (2), 1000m (2) and the 1500m (2) will be seeded based on racing points earned in the 500m (1), 1000m (1) and 1500m (1), respectively.

All athletes shall be seeded on their current eligible SSO Ranking List times as of the registration deadline for the Trials.

Missed Races

An athlete who does not start a race is eligible to skate the remaining events, but may not finish the remainder of the event in which they missed a race. For example, if an athlete did not skate

the 1500m (1) heat, the athlete is out for the remainder of the 1500m (1) but may return for the 1500m (2), or other events.

Retiring from Competition

Athletes seeking qualification for Team Ontario Short Track for the 2027 CWG must demonstrate fitness by competing in all events available at the Trials. Failure to compete in all available events, unless supported by a valid bye request or medical documentation, will render the athlete in-eligible for selection.

If an athlete retires from the competition due to illness or injury, the athlete will retain the points they have accumulated to that point. The athlete may only return to competition with written medical clearance. Without medical clearance, the athlete will not be seeded into subsequent events and will not earn points for the missed events.

Advancements

Advancements shall be based on place then time.

Ex. X + Y where Y is based on place, followed by time.

False Starts

No false starts allowed. The first (and subsequent) false start(s) result(s) in a penalty.

Racing Points

Racing Points will be awarded in the competition in accordance with the following:

Rank	Points	Rank	Points
1	1000	13	86
2	816	14	70
3	666	15	57
4	543	16	46
5	443	17	37
6	362	18	30
7	295	19	25
8	241	20	24
9	196	21	23
10	160	22	22
11	130	23	21
12	106	24	20

- A tie for 1st = 908 points each, the next athlete 666 points, and so on.
- A tie for 2nd = 741 points each, the next athlete 543 points, and so on.
- A tie for 3rd = 605 points each, the next athlete 443 points, and so on.
- A tie for 4th = 493 points each, the next athlete 362 points, and so on.

Order of Finish and Racing Points Allocations

Athletes who register for the Trials but do not compete will not be ranked.

Athletes who do not start the first round of an event do not receive any points for that event.

Athletes who complete a race will be ranked ahead of those who start but do not complete the race, unless there is a penalty or Yellow Card (YC).

Order of Finish and associated points allocations will be in the following order:

Finishing athletes with a time

No Time

DNF

Penalties, YC-2 and YC-Lap

DNS

YC-Behaviour

Athletes that start an event but do not complete the event due to injury will receive a rank based upon the placement in the preceding round. For example, if the athlete is injured in the A-B semi final and cannot race the final, they would be placed in the Final B and receive points based on the Order of Finish rules outlined above.

A penalized athlete will not skate any remaining races in that event and will earn points based on the Order of Finish rules outlined above.

If more than one penalty occurs in the same race, the athletes will be tied for the lowest available points. Ex. If there are five athletes in a race, one penalized athlete receives fifth place points. Two or three penalized athletes all receive fifth place points.

APPENDIX B: CWG SHORT TRACK TECHNICAL PACKAGE

The CWG Short Track Technical Package (https://drive.google.com/file/d/1Bic2OfGln-wcGiMwVBbeF-B2pk1p_J3H/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 Short Track Technical Package should be consulted for greater clarity in the event of questions of athlete eligibility for short 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 C: 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.