

Highlands Trailblazers Policy and Procedures for

2012 Ontario Winter Games – Biathlon Team Selection

1.0 Aims

- 1) Describe the policy for the selection of teams for the 2012 Ontario Winter Games (OWG) – Biathlon event
- 2) Explain the procedures for establishing criteria and selecting, nominating and announcing teams consistent with this rationale

2.0 Authority

Authority for the establishment of policy and procedures regarding team selection Highlands Trailblazers has been delegated to the Highlands TrailBlazers Coaches by the Highlands Trailblazers Board of Directors (Board). Operational policies and procedures within this area of responsibilities are required to be consistent with policies established by the Board.

The Highlands Trailblazers Coaches are comprised of:

Larry Sinclair – overall team head coach

Jen Sholte – biathlon team head coach

Mike Sholte - biathlon coach

3. Unforeseen Circumstances.

In the event of unforeseen circumstances beyond the control of Highlands Trailblazers that prevent the coaches from fairly implementing these internal nomination procedures, the Board reserves the right to make changes to this document, which in its discretion are necessary to ensure selection of the best team possible for OWG; the coaches shall have the full discretion to resolve the matter as they see fit, taking into account factors and circumstances that they deem relevant. Any changes to this document shall be communicated directly to all affected parties.

4.0 Eligibility.

In order to be eligible for selection to the OWG Team under the criteria contained in this policy, athletes must meet the eligibility criteria published by the Ontario Winter Games Committee. To be eligible for the 2012 OWG athletes must have been born between 1 January 1995 and 31 December 1998 (age 13 to 16 on December 31, 2011). Athletes must also be registered as a competitive member with Biathlon Ontario/Canada and have been a member of the Highlands Trailblazers since September 15, 2011. Athletes must sign and submit the OWG athlete agreement.)

Athletes must indicate their interest in participating in the OWG by January 13 by e-mailing the biathlon team head coach who will confirm the receipt of the e-mail and that the athlete has been included in the group of athletes eligible for the OWG.

5.0 OWG Qualifications Systems.

In the event of changes by the OWG to the selection and eligibility criteria, Highlands Trailblazers is bound by these changes and will inform the membership as soon as possible

SECTION 2 – PROCESS

1. Qualifying Period. The qualifying period commences January 1, 2012 and ends January 14, 2012.
2. Nomination
 - a) From the group of athletes that has met the qualifying criteria, the coaches will select the athletes Based on the ranking priorities and considerations specified in Section 4.
 - b) Nominations will be submitted as soon as possible after the end of the qualifying period. The deadline for nominations to the OWG is 5 P.M. Eastern Standard Time, January 15, 2012.
 - c) The list of athletes selected, together with the supporting rationale, will be made public by the Selection Committee at the time that it is submitted to the OWG.
3. Injury or Sickness.

In a situation where an athlete has met one or more qualifying criteria but then becomes seriously injured or ill prior to the end of the qualifying period, the Selection Committee will have the athlete's health and fitness assessed by competent authorities and will then make the decision as to whether to nominate the athlete for selection.
4. Substitutions. Any substitutions will be made in accordance with the ranking process in Section 4.2.b
5. Appeals. Any appeals will made to the executive of the Board and will be dealt with prior to 5 P.M. on January 15

SECTION 3 - RATIONALE

1. Goals. Highlands Trailblazers shares the same goals for the OWG that have been established by the organizing committee of the OWG:
 - a) to offer high-level competitions, with the main aim to teach the values and the benefits of sport, by sharing their experiences with others around the province, as they grow in their athletic career;
 - b) to inspire youth around the province to embody, embrace, and express the values of the OWG.
2. Team Size. Team size will be limited to four male and four female athletes as determined by the OWG organizing committee.

Should additional spots be allocated to the Highlands Trailblazers by the OWG the additional athletes will be the next highest ranked athletes.

SECTION 4 – QUALIFYING CRITERIA AND RANKING PROCESS FOR NOMINATION

1. Ranking Process. The team will be selected from amongst the qualifying athletes on the following basis.

- a. Time trials will be held at Highlands Nordic on January 14 and January 15 2012. Points will be awarded on the following basis.
 - i. For each of the two time trials 100 points will be awarded to the fastest year in each gender category.
 - ii. The balance of the skiers in each gender category will be awarded points on the basis of a percentage of their time behind the fastest skier on the following basis;
 1. A = the time in seconds behind the fastest skier
 2. B = the time in seconds of the fastest skier
 3. C = A divided by B
 4. D = 1 – A
 5. the points will be the product of D multiplied by 100 (for example if the fastest skier's time was 300 seconds and the next fastest skiers time was 305 seconds then the calculation would be:
 - a. A = 5
 - b. B = 300
 - c. C = 5/300 = .0167
 - d. D= 1 - .0167 = .9833
 - e. D X 100 = 98.33 points
2. The four male and four female athletes with the highest total points (sum of the points from the two time trials) will be nominated to the team.

Section 5. Nomination and Announcement Procedures

- 1) Nominations to teams and trips will be communicated first to the selected athletes by 2 P.M. on January 15
- 2) Where an athlete has narrowly missed being selected, or where there are known circumstances which indicate that special consideration is warranted, selection results will also be made known to those athletes before a general announcement is made.
- 3) If a selected athlete declines their nomination, an alternate may be selected in accordance with the approved selection list if applicable, and the athlete will be duly notified.
- 4) Once nominations have been accepted and the team(s) finalized, the selected team(s) will be posted on the Highlands Trailblazers web-site.

Section 6 Appeals

- 1) Selection decisions may be appealed by an email to the Board, care of the president ([email address](#)) by 4 PM on January 15 clearly indicating the reasons why the athlete believes that they should be selected to the team.
- 2) As team nominations have to be provided to the OWG on January 15 the decision by the Board on any appeals will be final and not subject to further appeal.

Section 7 Expectations of Athletes and Coaches

- 1) All athletes/coaches are expected to become familiar with the selection process. It is the responsibility of each individual to be familiar with and understand the processes that could affect them.
- 2) Barring extenuating circumstances such as illness or injury, athletes who have been selected for a trip or team are expected to:

- a. Show progress to maintain team status
- b. Accept that entries in races on all trips will be at the discretion of the trip head coach with emphasis on fielding a competitive team.
- c. Compete in all races on trips to which they have been selected, subject to the discretion of the trip head coach.