



INTERNAL NOMINATION PROCEDURES 2018 PARALYMPIC WINTER GAMES SELECTION PROTOCOL

Ratified by the Executive Director: 4 August 2017

1. INTRODUCTION

The 2018 Paralympic Winter Games (PWG) will take place from March 9-18, 2018 in Pyeongchang, South Korea.

The 2018 Paralympic Winter Games (PWG) include the following ten (10) Snowboard Medal events:

- SBX Snowboardcross
 - Male – LL1, LL2, UL
 - Female – LL1, LL2

- BS Banked Slalom
 - Male – LL1, LL2, UL
 - Female – LL1, LL2

Canada Snowboard (CS) has been granted the right to nominate athletes in the events listed above to the Canadian Paralympic Committee (CPC) for selection to the 2018 Canadian Paralympic Winter Games Team. Nominations made by Canada Snowboard (CS) will be based upon the policies and procedures set out in this 2018 Paralympic Winter Games Selection Protocol and on general Canada Snowboard (CS) policies and procedures referenced herein.

The CS Selection Committee will evaluate all eligible athletes based on Canada Snowboard's published criteria and will recommend a prioritized list of athletes to be nominated to the 2018 Canadian Paralympic Winter Games Team. The CS Nomination Committee will consist of the Sport & High Performance Director (HPD) and High Performance Manager (HPM) in consultation with the High Performance Athlete Development Manager (HPADM) and National Team Coach(es) for each discipline. The prioritized list is submitted to Canada Snowboard's Executive Director for ratification based on the recommendations of the HPP Selection Committee.

This 2018 Paralympic Winter Games Selection Protocol sets out the process of:

- a) Identifying those athletes who are eligible for nomination to the 2018 Canadian Paralympic Winter Games Team; and
- b) From this group, determining those athletes who will become eligible for nomination to the 2018 Canadian Paralympic team members to the Canadian Paralympic Committee (CPC).

2. MANDATE

- a) The International Paralympic Committee (IPC) is the body responsible for staging the Paralympic Winter Games (PWG).
- b) The CPC is mandated by the International Paralympic Committee (IPC) to select those athletes who will represent Canada in the 2018 PWG.
- c) The International Paralympic Committee (IPC) is recognized as the international governing body for the sport of para-snowboarding. The IPC publishes the Pyeongchang 2018 Paralympic Winter Games - Qualification Guide which determines the overall maximum number of snowboard athletes that may participate in the PWG and establishes the eligibility standards for all participating athletes. This guide also establishes quotas for each nation with respect to that nation's maximum team size, maximum number of athletes per gender, and maximum number of athletes per event. In the event of a discrepancy between the IPC Qualification Procedures for Snowboard and this document, the IPC Qualification Procedures for Snowboard shall prevail.
- d) CS is mandated by the CPC to nominate those athletes that it wishes to have represent Canada in the 2018 PWG, in accordance with criteria established by CS and the minimum performance criteria as established by the IPC. However, the final selection of athletes as members of the 2018 Canadian Paralympic Winter Games Team rests with the CPC.

3. OBJECTIVES

For Canadian Para Snowboard athletes competing in Snowboardcross (SBX) and Banked Slalom (BS), the Paralympic Winter Games is the most important competition held every four years. Results from this competition have an impact on funding received from various governmental and non-governmental sources for direct athlete funding, and financial support for CS's High Performance Program (HPP).

It is important to note that Canada Snowboard's **primary objective** at the 2018 PWG is to win medals. This is the guiding principle the CS nomination committee took into consideration when developing the 2018 Paralympic Winter Games selection criteria.

Canada Snowboard's **secondary objective** at the 2018 PWG is to send identified 2022 potentials to gain 'Games' experience.

4. ELIGIBILITY

To be eligible for nomination to the 2018 PWG, an athlete must:

- a) Be a Canadian citizen;
- b) Have a valid Canadian passport that does not expire prior to September 28,

- 2018;
- c) Be in good standing with Canada Snowboard and their provincial snowboard association;
 - d) Be named as a member of the 2017/18 Canada Snowboard High Performance Program (Para National, Development or NextGen Teams);
 - e) Hold a valid WPSB License for the 2016/17 and 2017/18 seasons;
 - f) Achieve race points in at least one (1) race of the 2017/18 season by February 19, 2018;
 - g) Be internationally classified with either a 'Confirmed' sport class status or a 'Review' sport class status with a review date after the 2017/18 season;
 - h) Read, sign, and return to CS, the Canada Snowboard 2017/18 Athlete Agreement, the CPC Team Member Agreement, and the IPC Eligibility Form; and
 - i) Comply with all relevant IPC requirements for eligibility.

5. IPC QUOTA ALLOCATION

The International Paralympic Committee (IPC) determines the number of athletes that may compete at the 2018 PWG by establishing quotas per discipline for each country participating in the Games.

For the 2018 PWG, the IPC has established the following Snowboard quotas for Canada:

- Maximum of three (3) athletes per medal event (exceptions can be made by Bipartite Invitation slots);
- Maximum of ten (10) male and six (6) female qualification slots (exceptions can be made by Bipartite Invitation slots).

The International Paralympic Committee (IPC) have also established a maximum quota of all athletes for Snowboard PWG events to 70 Male and 36 Females total for the ten (10) medal events.

The qualification slot is allocated to the National Paralympic Committee (NPC), not to an individual athlete. In the case of a Bipartite Commission Invitation the slot is allocated to the individual athlete, not to the NPC. Slots are allocated by sport class (LL1, LL2, UL) and must be used accordingly.

Qualification slots will be allocated to the nations based on three (3) methods as follows:

(1) 2017 WPSB World Championships Allocation

- 6 Male and 4 Female athletes
- The top-ranked athlete in each medal event at the 2017 World Para Snowboard (WPSB) World Championships obtains one (1) qualification slot for their NPC. In the case that an athlete is top-ranked in more than one medal event, the vacant slot(s) will be allocated through the Bipartite Invitation Allocation method (see below).

(2) 2016/2017 WPSB World Ranking List Allocation

- 42 Male and 20 Female athletes

- The seven (7) highest ranked male athletes (not otherwise qualified) in each medal event on the IPCSB World Ranking List as of 1 May 2017 each obtain one (1) qualification slot for their NPC up to the maximum quota.
- The five (5) highest ranked female athletes (not otherwise qualified) in each medal event on the World Para Snowboard (WPSB) World Ranking List as of 1 May 2017 each obtain one (1) qualification slot for their NPC up to the maximum quota.
- Any slots that cannot be allocated through this method will be allocated through the Bipartite Invitation Allocation method (see below).

(3) Bipartite Commission Invitation Allocation

- 22 Male and 12 Female
- Twenty-two (22) eligible male athletes and twelve (12) eligible female athletes will be considered by WPSB and the IPC for Bipartite Commission Invitation slots. To be considered for a Bipartite Commission Invitation, NPCs must submit an official application in writing to IPCSB by 22 January 2018.

In the event of a discrepancy between the above summary and the actual World Para Snowboard (WPSB) Qualification System, the Paralympic Qualification Criteria as published by the International Paralympic Committee (IPC) shall prevail. The full details of the World Para Snowboard (WPSB) Qualification System can be found at (https://www.paralympic.org/sites/default/files/document/170316125740819_PyeongChang%2BQG_March2017.pdf).

Further, in the event the International Paralympic Committee (IPC) makes any changes to their Paralympic Qualification System, CS will be bound by those changes, and if such a change necessitates other changes to this internal nomination procedure, CS shall make those changes and inform all affected athletes and the Canadian Paralympic Committee (CPC) at the earliest opportunity.

6. CS QUOTA ALLOCATION

The allocation of Canada's quota to each discipline is restricted by the quotas established by the International Paralympic Committee (IPC), as outlined in Section 5 above. Athlete Nomination will be made based on the athletes ranking as determined using the 'Nomination Process' defined below.

7. ELIGIBLE COMPETITIONS (for nomination to 2018 PWG)

The 'Selection Period' shall be defined as February 1, 2017 to February 13, 2018, inclusive.

Eligible competitions for Snowboardcross (SBX) and Banked Slalom (BS) shall be:

- IPC World Cups, and
- the 2017 World Para Snowboard (WPSB) World Championship events during the selection period as defined above.

8. NOMINATION PROCESS

The quota will be allocated to athletes based on their ranking in the nomination process and following the IPC quota allocations. CS reserves the right to assign quota or nominate athletes in an order other than that indicated by "Section 6 – CS Quota Allocation". Athletes who earned a quota spot for Canada may not necessarily be the athlete who will be nominated.

Factors, which may be considered in determining an out-of-order selection, include, but are not limited to:

- a) The athlete's commitment to a long-term training program, as demonstrated by training logs, evaluations, and other documentation maintained by the athlete and their coach.
- b) The athlete's level of physical conditioning, evaluated in terms of the physical conditioning benchmarks established for the High Performance Program, and available for review at:
<http://www.canadasnowboard.ca/files/Strength&ConditioningMinStandards.pdf>.
- c) Anomalies in competitions, arising from factors such as weather or abnormally large or small field sizes, which are determined to be a factor in the attainment of, or failure to attain results.
- d) Gaps in the points used to rank athletes, which may be taken to represent a significant gap in performance ability. For instance, if three athletes have 100, 97, and 96 points respectively, and the next ranked athlete has 85 points, a gap may be said to exist which indicates an athlete's potential ability or inability to compete at the same level as other Canada Snowboard athletes in the same discipline.
- e) Competitive opportunities lost due to a health-related curtailment of activities, and/or the athlete's managed recovery from a health-related curtailment of activities.

8.1 NOMINATION FOR ALL DISCIPLINES (SBX and BS)

All athletes will be ranked within the priorities based on the results achieved:

**Priority 1:
SBX**

- Podium at the 2017 World Para Snowboard (WPSB) World Championships in Snowboardcross.

BS

- Podium at the 2017 World Para Snowboard (WPSB) World Championships in Banked Slalom.

Priority 2:

- All eligible athletes will be ranked according to ten (10) separate ranking lists: one (1) per medal event based on the latest World Para Snowboard (WPSB) World Ranking Lists as of February 13, 2018. Athletes will be nominated for each snowboard event based on their rankings until there is no longer any quota or there is no longer any eligible athletes.

In the event of a tie in the ranking(s) in the implementation of the above nomination process, the tie will be broken by the tied athlete's single best percentile of field placing, then second best, third best, and so on, until the tie is broken. Only results from eligible competitions will be considered. Percentile of field placing is calculated according to the following formula:

$(\text{Field size} - \text{Placing}) / \text{Field Size} \times 100.$

8.2 NOMINATION BY BIPARTITE INVITATION

Alternate athletes that have met eligibility but are outside of the allocated quota as established by the International Paralympic Committee (IPC), as outlined in Section 6 above, Canada Snowboard will submit to the IPC for a Bipartite Invitation by January 22, 2018. IPC will invite and allocate quota directly to these athletes for participation in the 2018 PWG if selected.

8.3 GENERAL CONSIDERATIONS

CS retains the right, in the event of circumstances such as changes to the IPC Calendar, the cancellation of events, or the staging of events in sub-standard conditions, to replace any of the eligible competitions set out above in Section 8 with other competitions. In making any such replacements, CS shall exercise its best efforts to replace competitions with ones that are similar in terms of dates, locations, quality of field and type of course. CS will promptly notify athletes of any such substitutions.

9. ALTERNATES

For each discipline and gender, CS shall identify up to three (3) athletes who meet the criteria for nomination set out in Section 8, but who cannot be nominated due to quota limitations, as 'Alternates' in their specific event (or events). These Alternates will be submitted for a Bipartite Invitation to participate in the 2018 PWG but are not guaranteed a spot from the IPC.

Should a nominated athlete, decline their nomination at any time before February 23, 2018, or otherwise be declared unable to participate in a competitive manner, that athlete shall be replaced by the highest ranked Alternate in their event(s).

10. PARALYMPIC TEAM ENTRIES

Selection to the Paralympic Team is not a guarantee that an athlete will compete in an PWG event. The decision as to which members of the Paralympic Team will be entered into each event at the PWG shall be made by the CS Team Leader in consultation with CS Paralympic coaching staff.

11. HEALTH-RELATED CURTAILMENT OF ACTIVITIES

In the event that an eligible athlete is injured during the Selection Period and is unable to compete for a significant amount of time during that period, the following accommodations will be made to permit that athlete to be ranked for nomination (under certain conditions) to the CPC for the 2018 Canadian Paralympic Winter Games Team.

- a) To be considered “unable, by reason of a health-related curtailment of activities, to compete”, an athlete must qualify under the IPC “injury status” regulations and must have their injury status confirmed by the Head of Canada Snowboard’s Medical Program. The IPC “injury status” form can be referenced on the IPC website (https://www.paralympic.org/sites/default/files/document/160603094358812_2016_06+IPCSB+Break+Penalty+form_0.pdf) in compliance with the IPC Snowboard Rules and Regulations Section 316 (https://www.paralympic.org/sites/default/files/document/161220103135466_2016_12_16_IPC_Snowboard_Rules_And_Regulations_FINAL_Clean_0.pdf).
- b) Canada Snowboard may, at any time, require an athlete who appears, by reason of a health-related curtailment of activities, to be unable to participate in training or competition activities to obtain a medical assessment conducted by a Canada Snowboard designated doctor. Following such an assessment, if Canada Snowboard’s Sport and High Performance Director, with the recommendations from the Para Integrated Support Team (IST) staff, determination that the athlete is unable to participate in the PWG in a competitive manner, Canada Snowboard’s Sport and High Performance Director may remove that athlete from its list of nominations for selection to the Canadian Paralympic Winter Games Team.
- c) In all cases, for an eligible athlete to be considered for extra-ordinary circumstance consideration, his or her physical injury must be medically documented by the athlete’s physician and approved by the Lead physician of CS.

11.1 SNOWBOARDCROSS (SB) AND BANKED SLALOM (BS)

It may occur that an athlete is unable, by reason of a health-related curtailment of activities, to participate in at least three eligible competitions during the qualification period that the athlete would have ordinarily been invited by CS to participate. In such circumstance the qualifying period for that athlete shall be extended backwards to include the same number of competitions in the athlete's primary event as are missed through the health-related curtailment of activities, with the following limitations:

- a) Up to a maximum of three (3) most recent results obtained will be considered.
- b) Only IPC World Cup event results will be considered. Results must have been achieved in the 2015/16 season.
- c) Results will only be considered for eligible competitions missed between May 1, 2016 and January 22, 2018.

12. SUBMISSION OF NOMINATIONS DEADLINE

Subject to IPC deadline to receive sport entry lists, Canada Snowboard shall identify the athletes it proposes to nominate to the CPC for positions on the 2018 Canadian Paralympic Winter Games Team before February 19, 2018.

Also before February 19, 2018, Canada Snowboard shall identify the athletes it will nominate as Alternates for positions on the 2018 Canadian Paralympic Winter Games Team.

13. APPROVAL AND APPEAL PROCESS

As standard practice for Team Nomination Procedures, this CS 2018 Winter Paralympic Games Selection Protocol document will be shared with the CS Athletes' Council and CS Board of Directors for their comments. Final wording of any suggestions provided by these two bodies will be determined by the Executive Director in consultation with those providing suggested changes and the HPP management staff.

The Selection Committee comprised of the National Team Coaches and the HPP management staff will recommend nominations to the CS Executive Director, who will have full and final authority on all nomination decisions for the 2018 Paralympic Winter Games.

Once approved by the CS Executive Director the nominations will be made to the CPC by February 19th, 2018 for final decision on the 2018 Canadian Paralympic Winter Games Team.

Nomination decisions made under this Selection Protocol may be appealed. Appeals will be conducted in accordance with Canada Snowboard Appeals Protocol, which is available on the Canada Snowboard website at:

<http://www.canadasnowboard.ca/files/AppealsProtocol.pdf>

If both parties are in agreement, the Canada Snowboard Appeals Protocol can be

bypassed and the matter brought immediately before the Sport Dispute Resolution Centre of Canada (SDRCC) who will decide the matter.

14. CHANGES TO THIS DOCUMENT

The CS Executive Director, in consultation with the CS Sport and High Performance Director, shall resolve issues not otherwise addressed by this Selection Protocol. Specifically, in the event of unforeseen circumstances beyond the control of CS that prevent this Selection Protocol from being fairly implemented as written, the CS Executive Director and the CS Sport and High Performance Director shall have the full discretion to resolve the matter as they see fit, taking into account factors and circumstances that they deem relevant.

The Executive Director reserves the right to make changes to this document which in his discretion are necessary due to a typographical error or a lack of clarity in a definition or wording before they have an impact on athletes. The purpose of such changes must be to avoid disputes over the meaning of the provisions of this document rather than to allow changes to be made to justify selection of different athletes than would have otherwise been selected. In the event of a change to this document Canada Snowboard shall inform the CPC of the changes and the reasons for those changes as soon as possible.