



Alberta Ski Team (AST) Selection Criteria for 2025 – 2026

The Selection Committee will comprise a minimum of three Nordiq Alberta Board members and will be assisted by the Provincial Coach/Development Director.

Program Objectives:

- o To prepare Alberta's top high-performance athletes for the next level of development through appropriate education, training, physiological testing, technique development, and potential competitive opportunities
- o To advance the psychological skill set of the highest-performing athletes in Alberta
- o To provide an avenue to support development-level athletes through Nordiq Alberta
- o To promote and support long-term involvement in competitive cross-country skiing
- o To develop coaching knowledge, skills, and attitudes amongst club coaches from around the province
- o To ensure opportunities for social development within the team and the sport of cross-country skiing
- o To deliver a program that is consistent with the LTAD framework

Team Size: Minimum of 10 athletes (5 female and 5 male) up to a maximum of 16 athletes (8 female and 8 male)

Athlete Eligibility:

1. Member in good standing of a registered Nordiq Alberta Club
2. Alberta resident (defined as full-time resident for 6 months, prior to team selection date)
3. Holder of Alberta Health Care card
4. Holder of valid Nordiq Canada license
5. Born between 2006-2009

Selection Acceptance Requirements:

The selection will be considered accepted when the Nordiq Alberta Office has received the following:

1. Nordiq Alberta athlete agreement signed by the athlete, coach, and parents (if an athlete is under 18 years of age)
2. Signed Athlete Code of Conduct



3. Nordiq Alberta athlete media form and medical form completed
4. Payment of AST fee when applicable

Selection Criteria:

Athletes will be selected according to the priority of selection criteria ranking as follows:

SC1.

An athlete who earns a position on the World Junior Championships and/or Youth Olympic Games teams.

SC2.

An athlete winning a medal at the Canadian National Championships (individual event only).

SC3.

Up to 3 males and 3 females from the season end Ad hoc Canada Points List (CPL) (combination of 3 Distance races and 2 Sprint races).

SC4.

Alberta Cup aggregate points will be used for the selection of up to one 2009 male and up to one 2009 female athlete, up to one 2007-2008 male and up to one 2007-2008 female athlete. Only skiers with CPL points of 78 or above, in either Sprint or Distance, will be considered to be selected for the team. Points are accrued for selection consideration only when an athlete competes in their appropriate category as defined by Nordiq Alberta for their year of birth. Where limited spots on the team are available priority will be given to the 2007-2008 athlete(s).

Aggregate points are calculated according to the 6-4 rule for 9 or 10 races (if applicable); the 5-3 rule for 7 or 8 races; or the 4-3 rule for 5 or 6 races, where the first number of the rule refers to the maximum number of race results to be used and the second number refers to the minimum number of races that a skier must complete to be eligible to receive an aggregate award. If only 4, 3, 2, or 1 race (s) are/is held, then the rule becomes a 3-2, 2-2, 2-1, or 1-1 rule respectively.

For example, eligible athlete points are calculated from:

- Best 5 of 7 or 8 races (when there are 7 or 8 AB Cup races in a season)
- Best 4 of 5 or 6 races (when there are 5 or 6 AB Cup races in a season)
- Best 3 of 4 races (when there are 4 AB Cup races in a season)
- Best 2 of 2 or 3 races (when there are 2 or 3 AB Cup races in a season)
- Best 1 of 1 race (when there is only 1 AB Cup race in a season)



SC5.

If the maximum team size has not been reached after applying SC4, the next highest-ranked athlete will be selected using the SC3 Ad hoc CPL. Only skiers with CPL points of 78 or above, in either Sprint or Distance, will be considered to be selected for the team.

SC6.

In extraordinary circumstances, the Development Director (Provincial Team Coach) may make discretionary selections to the AST. These selections are motivated to provide fairness and equity and must be rationalized consistent with the above-noted criteria.

Force Majeure

Athletes selected under Force Majeure will be in addition to, not to replace, athletes eligible under SC1 - SC6, but can not exceed the maximum team size. "Force Majeure" means an unexpected event beyond the reasonable control of the athlete that crucially affects that athlete's ability to compete, and will be determined on a case-by-case basis (e.g. racing out of YOB category for specific events, illness, injury, transportation breakdown, etc., with proper documentation included) and must be submitted by the athlete's coach as rationale for not having competed in or completed a selection race(s). The proper documentation needs to be received by Nordiq Alberta and reviewed by the Technical Committee between April 1 – April 20, 2025.

In the event that the regular competition season does not occur, athletes will be selected using the criteria that can be applied based on events that did occur.

In the event no competitions take place Force Majeure will NOT be applied.

Selection timeline

- **February 1, 2025** – 2025-26 AST Draft program published on the Nordiq Alberta website;
- **March 21, 2025** – AB Cup Aggregate points published on the Nordiq Alberta website;
- **April 30, 2025** - Invitations sent to selected athletes by Nordiq Alberta;
- **May 7, 2025** – Athletes are required to accept or decline their selection to the AST by notifying the Nordiq Alberta office in writing by email. No response will be interpreted as a decline;
- **May 10, 2025** – Round two of the AST athlete selections based on any openings created by athletes declining their selection in the first round;



- **May 14, 2025** – Any additional athletes selected to the AST are required to accept or decline their selection by notifying the Nordiq Alberta office in writing by email. No response will be interpreted as a decline;
- **May 21, 2025** – The AST announced with the selection synopsis made available;
- **June 3, 2025** – The AST selection paperwork and payment are due at the Nordiq Alberta office;
- **Please note – final invitations are dependent on Nordiq Canada and when they finalize their CPL list.**

The program and size is dependent on the Nordiq Alberta Ski Team Policy.