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## **Alberta Ski Team (AST) Selection Criteria for 2021 – 2022**

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

The Alberta Ski Team (AST) supports excellence in competitive cross country skiing for Alberta athletes in the Long Term Athlete Development (LTAD) stages of Train to Train and Learn to Compete. These LTAD stages are the Nordiq Canada competition categories of U-20 Men/Women and U-18 Boy/Girl. Development opportunities are provided for periodized training, competition and recovery plans, nutrition, and technique support to help athletes attain success at major national and international events.

### Program Objectives:

- To provide a team for the developing level competitive athletes to strive to attain.
- To prepare athletes for the next level of competition through appropriate educational, training and technique development opportunities.
- To advance the psychological skill sets of the highest performing athletes in Alberta
- To provide an avenue to support development-level athletes through Nordiq Alberta and other funding.
- To promote and support long-term involvement in competitive cross-country skiing.
- To develop coaching knowledge, skills, and attitudes amongst clubs and coaches from around the province.
- To ensure opportunities for social development within the team and sport of cross-country skiing.
- To deliver a program that is consistent with the LTAD framework of the Canada Winter Games and Alberta Sport Connection

### Information:

As a province and as a country, our athletes strive for international excellence with goals of qualifying for World Junior Championships, Youth Olympics Games and international development tours. As a selection process, we use local and domestic measuring tools as a comparative resource. This will be done to compare athletes of similar ages in Alberta and Canada, and internationally.

Team Size: Minimum of 10 athletes (5 female and 5 male) up to 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 licence
5. Born in 2002-2005

#### Selection Acceptance Requirements:

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

1. Nordiq Alberta athlete agreement signed by the athlete, coach and parents (if 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:

##### **\*\*COVID-19 Criteria Update\*\***

- 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.
- Should no events take place or only regional events take place athletes will be selected based on discretion as per Selection Criteria 6.
- In the event no competitions take place SC5 Force Majeure will NOT be applied
- Selection Criteria will be reviewed on December 1<sup>st</sup>, 2020 to allow for modifications based on updates to health recommendations and the racing calendar.

Athletes will be selected according to the priority of ranking SC1, SC2, SC3, SC4, SC5

**SC1.** An athlete who earns a position on the World Junior Championships and/or Youth Olympic Games teams, will be selected to the AST team.

**SC2.** An athlete winning a medal at the National Championships. (individual event only)

**SC3.** Canada Points List (CPL) – Athletes Selections 2002-2005 up to 3 males and 3 females\*

\*National Team Selection Ad hoc list will be used for the selection of athletes 2002-2005

**SC4.** Alberta Cup aggregate points will be used for the selection of up to one U-16 male and up to one U-16 Female (2005 2nd year), up to one U-18 Male and up to one U-18 Female (2003/2004). Points are accrued for selection consideration only when an athlete competes in their appropriate category as



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defined by Nordiq Alberta for their year of birth. Where limited spots on the team are available priority will be given to the U-18 athlete(s).

Alberta Cup points will be used for the selection of AST athletes based on the following formula:

- Best 5 of 7 or best of 6 of 8 races (when there are 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.** Force Majeure factors – athletes selected under SC4 will be in addition to, not to replace athletes eligible under SC1, SC2 or SC3. “Force Majeure” means an unexpected event beyond the reasonable control of the athlete that crucially affects the athlete’s ability to compete (e.g. illness, injury, transportation breakdown, etc., with proper documentation included) and can be put forward as rationale for not having competed in or completed a selection race(s).

**SC6.** Where an athlete selected from SC1, SC2 or SC3 does not accept his/her position on the AST, the next highest ranked athlete will be selected based on SC2 then SC3, only skiers with CPL points of 78, in either Sprint or Distance, or above will be considered to be selected to the team.

- 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.

#### Selection timeline

- **Feb 1, 2021** – 2021-22 AST Draft program published on the Nordiq Alberta website
- **March 21, 2021** – AB Cup Aggregate points published on the Nordiq Alberta website
- **April 30, 2021** - Invitations sent to selected athletes by Nordiq Alberta
- **May 7th, 2021** – 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 to be a decline
- **May 10th, 2021** – Round two of the AST athlete selections based on any openings created by athletes declining their selection in the first round
- **May 14th, 2021** – 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 to be a decline
- **May 21, 2021** – The AST announced with the selection synopsis made available
- **June 3rd, 2021** – The AST selection paperwork and payment are due at the Nordiq Alberta office.



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- **Please note – final invitations are dependent on Nordiq Canada and when they finalize their CPL.**

*The program and size of the Alberta Ski Team is dependent upon the approved budget, as according to Nordiq Alberta Policy 4.4.2.*