



**NATIONAL SKELETON PROGRAM
2018/19 SELECTION PROCESS & CRITERIA**

**FOR SELECTING CANADIAN SKELETON ATHLETES TO THE
WC SKELETON TEAM & ICC SKELETON TEAM
NEXTGEN ATHLETE DESIGNATION AND NAC & EC POSITION ALLOCATION
FOR THE 2018/19 SEASON**

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The following outlines the process **Bobsleigh CANADA Skeleton (BCS)** will follow in selecting athletes to the **WC Skeleton Team (WCST)** and **ICC Skeleton Team (ICCST)** as part of the **National Skeleton Program (NSP)**, NextGen Athlete designation and allocation of position(s) in NAC & EC competition(s) for the 2018/19 competitive season. This Selection Process has been designed in support of BCS' mission to develop and sustain World and Olympic Champions. Fairness, equal opportunity, the desire to field competitive teams for international competition and development of NextGen athletes are the guiding principles of the NSP - Selection Process & Criteria.

BCS will utilize a combination of physical testing camps (dry-land and icehouse) along with a **Selection Race Series (SRS)** for the process of completing team selections. Athletes will earn SRS Points, which will ultimately assist in determining the circuits for which they begin to compete on during the 2018/19 season.

1) NSP - SELECTION PROCESS

A) ELIGIBILITY

To be eligible to participate in the NSP – Selection Process, including the SRS, candidates must fulfill the conditions below. The candidate must:

- i) be a member in good standing of either BCS or the candidate's respective provincial association;
- ii) unless a written exemption is granted by the High Performance Director in advance, have participated in and/or competed in all required events and/or competitions in the 2017/18 Season and in the 2018/19 off/pre-Season to which they were selected to participate, including:
 - (1) NSP camps;
 - (2) Canadian Championships;
 - (3) Competitions (OWG / WCh / WC / ICC / NAC and/or EC); and/or
 - (4) Such other mandatory events as may be notified to the athlete from time to time in advance.("Season" means the 12 month period from April 1st through March 31st annually); and
- iii) have paid all outstanding fees;
- iv) have a passport valid for a period of at least 6 months beyond the end of the upcoming competitive season;
- v) meet the eligibility requirements to obtain a Canadian IBSF license;
- vi) not have a current sanction imposed resulting from an anti-doping rule violation; and
- vii) demonstrate, to the satisfaction of the NSP-Head Coach, sufficient on-ice sliding proficiency.

B) SELECTION RACE SERIES (SRS)

The SRS consists of three (3) races, **SRS Race 1**, **SRS Race 2** and **SRS Race 3** being conducted in Whistler and Calgary for a combined total of eight (8) heats, over three (3) races over two (2) separate timeframes where **SRS Points** are earned.

	SRS Race #1	SRS Race #2	SRS Race #3
Planned Location	Whistler	Calgary	Calgary
Race Format	World Championship (4 heats over 2 days)	World Cup (2 heats over 1 day)	World Cup (2 heats over 1 day)
Start Order Heat 1	By rank according to each athlete's previous season's IBSF ranking. Athletes without an IBSF ranking will be drawn at the end of the field.	By rank according to the final ranking from SRS Race #1.	By rank according to the final ranking from SRS Race #2
Start Order Heat 2	Reverse order by rank according to the first race heat for each SRS Race.		

Note: "By rank" means by highest rank first i.e. athletes who finish first, then second, then third etc.

C) CONDUCT OF THE SRS

The SRS will be conducted in accordance with the current IBSF rules (where applicable), with any modifications to the SRS Rules to be announced at the pre-race meeting(s)/draw(s). Athletes are responsible for representing themselves at these meetings.

General race format will be as follows:

- i) Race draws will be held following the final training heats;
- ii) All equipment (sleds, runners, etc.) must conform to the current IBSF rules, pass the appropriate technical inspections and be available to the athlete for the entire season;
- iii) Specific race protocols will be announced at the race draw, to reflect the race conditions (times, weather, etc.); and
- iv) Protests must be verbally made to a jury member within five minutes of the race ending, and must be submitted in writing within twenty minutes of the race conclusion, along with a \$100 CAD protest fee.

D) SRS POINTS & ATHLETE RANKING

SRS Points will be allocated in accordance with the WC and WCh. Skeleton IBSF Ranking List – Points system as per current IBSF Skeleton rules at the time of the SRS.

Total combined SRS Points will be used to determine athletes' rank based on SRS results for the purposes of section 3).

In the event of a tie in total SRS Points, the tie will be broken by their respective cumulative push times, over all eight (8) SRS race heats. The athlete with the lowest cumulative push time will be deemed to be the athlete of higher rank.

E) UNFORESEEN CIRCUMSTANCES

Fairness, equal opportunity, the desire to field competitive teams for international competition and development of NextGen athletes are the guiding principles of the NSP - Selection Process & Criteria, which are based on the latest information available to BCS. Unforeseen, intervening circumstances (weather, budget, etc.) may occur.

- i) If a scheduled event cannot be held or must be interrupted, BCS will first try to re-schedule the event;
- ii) If a venue change is feasible, BCS will attempt to change the venue but will not guarantee funding for travel to the new venue; and/or
- iii) If a venue change is not feasible, ranking will be based first on the portion of that event completed or if no portion has been completed, then ranking will be based on the discretion of the NSP-Head Coach.

2) IBSF PARTICIPATION QUOTA

For the 2018/19 season, Canada has qualified the following participation quotas:

Circuit	Men’s Quota	Women’s Quota
World Cup (WC)	3	3
Intercontinental Cup (ICC)	3	3
North American Cup (NAC)	4	4
Europa Cup (EC)	2	2

Note: BCS, at its sole discretion, reserves the right to fill and/or change the number of quota spots filled on each of the circuits (WC, ICC, NAC and/or EC) at any time throughout the competitive season. For the avoidance of doubt, this includes not filling all quota spots on any circuit or in any competition at any time.

3) NSP - SELECTION CRITERIA

A) FINAL SELECTION PROCESS

Upon completion of the SRS, the NSP-Head Coach, or designate, will nominate the list of eligible athletes to the Selection Committee. The Selection Committee will confirm the nominees, and ratify the team selection.

The Selection Committee will be comprised of:

- i) BCS Board Member (Committee Chair);
- ii) BCS Chief Executive Officer;

- iii) BCS High Performance Director;
- iv) Athletes Representative - Bobsleigh; and
- v) Independent participant.

Note: If any named member is not available the High Performance Director may designate a replacement at his/her sole discretion.

B) WC SKELETON TEAM (WCST) SELECTION

The **WCST** may consist of the maximum of the allocated WC quota spots as per section **2)**.

i) WCST - Eligibility:

In addition to meeting the eligibility requirements as per section **1)a)** at the time of nomination, to be selected to the WCST, candidates must fulfill the following conditions:

- (1) execute the current years BCS Athlete Agreement;
- (2) be eligible to compete on the WC and/or ICC Circuits under the current IBSF rules; and
- (3) meet their respective Push Standard at any of the *BCS Push Testing Opportunities* between April 1 of the current year and the beginning of the official training of SRS Race #1; specifically:

WC Push Standard:

- Men: ≤ 4.85sec
- Women: ≤ 5.25sec

ii) WCST - Pre-Selection Eligibility:

A maximum of one (1) athlete per discipline who have met the following performance results may be eligible for Pre-Selection to the 2018/19 WCST based on the following priority:

- (1) - 1st Place – 2018 Olympic Winter Games
- (2) - 2nd Place – 2018 Olympic Winter Games
- (3) - 3rd Place – 2018 Olympic Winter Games
- (4) - 1st Overall – 2017/18 IBSF Ranking
- (5) - 2nd Overall – 2017/18 IBSF Ranking
- (6) - 3rd Overall – 2017/18 IBSF Ranking

Athletes eligible for Pre-Selection are required to confirm their health status as fit to compete through consultation with the BCS Integrated Support Team (IST). Ratification of Pre-Selection will be completed by the High Performance Director prior to the beginning of the SRS.

iii) WCST - WC Quota Allocations:

In accordance with the WC quota places qualified by Canada as per section **2)**, per discipline, the NSP-HC shall nominate the following athletes to the Selection Committee:

- (1) For each discipline in which BCS fills three (3) quota places:
 - (a) WC Position 1 - designated to an athlete eligible for Pre-Selection, otherwise designated to the highest ranked athlete based on SRS results;

- (b) WC Position 2 - if WC Position 1 is designated to an athlete through Pre-Selection, WC Position 2 shall be designated the highest ranked athlete based on SRS results, otherwise it shall be designated to the second highest ranked athlete based on SRS results; and
 - (c) WC Position 3 - designated by BCS, at its sole discretion, to any athlete at any time, otherwise if WC Position 1 is designated to an athlete through Pre-Selection, WC Position 3 shall be designated to the second highest ranked athlete based on SRS results, otherwise it shall be designated to the third highest ranked athlete based on SRS results.
- (2) For each discipline in which BCS fills two (2) quota places:
- (a) WC Position 1 - designated to an athlete eligible for Pre-Selection, otherwise designated to the highest ranked athlete based on SRS results; and
 - (b) WC Position 2 - designated by BCS, at its sole discretion, to any athlete at any time, otherwise if WC Position 1 is designated to an athlete through Pre-Selection, WC Position 2 shall be designated to the highest ranked athlete based on SRS results, otherwise it shall be designated to the second highest ranked athlete based on SRS results.
- (3) For each discipline in which BCS fills one (1) quota place:
- (a) WC Position 1 - designated to an athlete eligible for Pre-Selection otherwise it shall be designated by BCS, at its sole discretion, to any athlete at any time, otherwise it shall be designated to the highest ranked athlete based on SRS results.

C) ICC SKELETON TEAM (ICCST) SELECTION

The **ICCST** may consist of the maximum of the allocated ICC quota spots as per section **2)**.

i) ICCST - Eligibility:

In addition to meeting the eligibility requirements as per section **1)a)** at the time of nomination, to be selected to the ICCST, candidates must fulfill the following conditions:

- (1) execute the current years BCS Athlete Agreement;
- (2) be eligible to compete on the WC and/or ICC Circuits under the current IBSF rules; and
- (3) meet their respective Push Standard at any of the *BCS Push Testing Opportunities* between April 1 of the current year and the beginning of the official training of SRS Race #1; specifically:

ICC Push Standard:

Men: ≤ n/a
Women: ≤ n/a

ii) ICCST - ICC Quota Allocations:

In accordance with the ICC quota places qualified by Canada as per section **2)**, per discipline, the NSP-HC shall nominate the following athletes to the Selection Committee:

- (1) For each discipline in which BCS fills three (3) quota places:

- (a) ICC Position 1 – designated to the remaining highest ranked athlete, after WC Positions are designated, based on SRS results;
 - (b) ICC Position 2 – designated to the remaining highest ranked athlete, after ICC Position 1 is designated, based on SRS results; and
 - (c) ICC Position 3 – designates by BCS, at its sole discretion, to any athlete at any time, otherwise it shall be designated to the remaining highest ranked athlete after ICC Position 2 is designated, based on SRS results.
- (2) For each discipline in which BCS fills two (2) quota places:
- (a) ICC Position 1 – designated to the remaining highest ranked athlete, after WC Positions are designated, based on SRS results; and
 - (b) ICC Position 2 – designated by BCS, at its sole discretion, to any athlete at any time, otherwise it shall be designated to the remaining highest ranked athlete, after ICC Position 1 is designated, based on SRS results.
- (3) For each discipline in which BCS fills one (1) quota place:
- (a) ICC Position 1 – designated by BCS, at its sole discretion, to any athlete at any time, otherwise it shall be designated to the remaining highest ranked athlete, after WC Positions are designated, based on SRS results.

D) NEXTGEN SKELETON ATHLETE (NGSA) DESIGNATION

BCS may designate an unlimited number of candidates as **NGSAs**.

i) NGSA - Eligibility:

In addition to meeting the eligibility requirements as per section **1)a)** at the time of nomination, to be designated as a NGSA, candidates must fulfill the following conditions:

- (1) execute the current years BCS Athlete Agreement;
- (2) be eligible to compete on the WC, ICC, NAC, and/or EC Circuits under the current IBSF rules; and
- (3) meet their respective Sprint Standard or Push Standard at any of the *BCS Testing Opportunities* between April 1 and September 30 of the current year, specifically:

NGSA Sprint Standard:	NGSA Push Standard:
Men: ≤ 3.90sec	Men: ≤ n/a
Women: ≤ 4.20sec	Women: ≤ n/a

- (4) be born during or after the year:

Men: 1991
 Women: 1994; and

- (5) never have been nominated to the Sport Canada AAP at the SR1/SR2 carding level.

ii) NGSA - Individual Athlete Competition/Development Plan:

The NSP-HC, or designate, will develop an Individual Athlete Competition/Development Plan for each designated NGSA. This plan may include competing at any of the current season's WC, ICC, NAC and/or EC circuit competitions, Canadian Championships and/or other strategic training opportunities. The goal is to create a strategic competition/development plan for each designated NGSA to best prepare them for podium results at the 2026 Olympic Winter Games.

For the avoidance of doubt, athletes may be nominated and/or selected to any team and concurrently be designated as a NGSA.

E) NORTH AMERICAN CUP (NAC) / EUROPA CUP (EC) POSITION ALLOCATIONS

The **NAC** and **EC** position allocations are at the sole discretion of BCS and designated on a per race basis. NAC and EC positions will first be designated to BCS athletes and if any positions remain they may be designated to PSO athletes in collaboration with the PSOs: British Columbia Bobsleigh and Skeleton Association (BCBSA), Alberta Bobsleigh Association (ABA), Ontario Bobsleigh & Skeleton Association (OBSA), Bobsleigh Skeleton Québec (BSQ).

F) IN SEASON RE-ALLOCATION

BCS may re-allocate designated Positions (WC / ICC / NAC / EC) at certain times in the 2018/19 season. For avoidance of doubt, all competitive results may be taken into consideration for the purposes of In Season Re-Allocation.

G) BCS DISCRETION

BCS shall consider using discretion in accordance with this **2018/19 Selection Process & Criteria** in the event of circumstances such as but not limited to:

- i) Injury or long term sickness resulting in missed *BCS Push Testing Opportunities* and/or SRS Race(s) and/or IBSF Competitions and/or other events;
- ii) In the event of a tie that is not broken by section **1)d)** herein;
- iii) "Acts of God" - adverse weather conditions or other external factors resulting in modified or cancelled *BCS Push Testing Opportunities* and/or SRS Race(s);
- iv) "IBSF Rulings" - decisions made by the IBSF which impact the nations rankings or athlete results or qualification standards; and/or
- v) Such other circumstances and/or events that in the determination of the Selection Committee and/or NSP-Head Coach, as appropriate, warrants the use of discretion, as set out in section **3)** herein.

H) APPEALS - INTERNAL

Any dispute of the Selection Process may be dealt with through the BCS Appeals Policy.