



# Manitoba Speed Skating Association 2011 Canada Winter Games Team Selection Bulletin

January 27, 2010



# 2011 Canada Winter Games Team Selection

## CANADA WINTER GAMES ELIGIBILITY

In order to be eligible to compete in the Games, competitors must:

- A. Be a competitive member of both MSSA and SSC in good standing and properly registered with the event organizers for the selection events;
- B. Competitors who have reached the age of 14 on June 30th, 2010 but have not reached the age of 19 on June 30th, 2010. *Year of Birth:* July 1, 1991 to June 30, 1996 inclusive

## CANADA WINTER GAMES SPEED SKATING TEAM COMPOSITION

- Short Track
  - 5 female
  - 5 male
  - 1 coach
  - 1 manager
- Long Track
  - 4 female
  - 4 male
  - 1 coach
  - 1 manager

## SHORT TRACK COMPETITION FORMAT

### Entry:

Skaters qualify for entry to these Trials on the basis of their combined 500m + 1000m times as recorded in a sanctioned/development competition during the 2010-2011 season up to one week prior to the trials date. Please note manual times will be adjusted upwards by 0.2 seconds. 500m times will be taken at full value, 1000m times will be divided by 2.

The best sixteen (16) ranked female and sixteen (16) male skaters from these combined times will then receive entry to the Manitoba Short Track Team Trials for the 2011 Canada Winter Games.

### Short Track Qualifying Trials:

- The Manitoba Short Track Team for the 2011 Canada Winter Games will be selected from skaters who compete at these trials.
- One trials event will be held over 3 days at the end of October 2010 or the beginning of November 2010.
- The trials will be composed of three (3) distances; 500m, 1000m, and 1500m.
- Each distance will be individually seeded according to the skaters' seed time for that distance.
- The 500m and the 1000m will be run twice during the trials.
- The 1500m will be run once during the trials.
- Ranking points will be assigned based on final placement per event.
- Overall ranking will be based on the ranking points accumulated from the skaters' four (4) best results, one result from either the 500m or 1000m will be discarded.
- Combined point total from the four (4) best results will determine the first four (4) male and first four (4) female qualifying positions for the Short Track team.
- The fifth (5<sup>th</sup>) qualifying position may be selected at the complete discretion of the High Performance Committee depending on unforeseen circumstances or bye requests. If there are no unforeseen circumstances or bye requests then the fifth (5<sup>th</sup>) qualifying position will be assigned from the results of the trials.
- Any ties for qualifying position will be broken by the skaters' best combined 500m + 1000m time achieved during the trials.

### Race Schedule

#### **Day 1**

1000m – heats, semis, and finals

#### **Day 2**

1500m – heats and finals

500m – heats, semis, and finals

#### **Day 3**

1000m – heats, semis, and finals

500m – heats, semis, and finals

### Seeding

- 1000m #1 – Skaters will be seeded on their best 1000m time skated during the 2010-2011 season.
- 500m #1 – Skaters will be seeded on their best 500m time skated during the 2010-2011 season.
- 1500m – Skaters will be seeded on their best 1500m time skated during the 2010-2011 season.

- 1000m #2 – Skaters will be seeded on their best 1000m time skated during the 2010-2011 season, including any new seeds set during 1000m #1 of the trials.
- 500m #2 – Skaters will be seeded on their best 500m time skated during the 2010-2011 season, including any new seeds set during 500m #1 of the trials.
- Skaters without a seed in any distance will be seeded behind skaters with a seed by random draw.

### Advancement to Finals

<b>Distance</b>	500	1000	1500
<b># Skaters in Final</b>	4	4	5

# Skaters in Final	# Skaters in Group	# Heats	Advancement from Heat to Semi-final	# Semi-finals	Advancement from Semi-finals to Final
4	1-4				Straight to final
	5-8			2	2+0
	9-12	3	2+2	2	2+0
	13-16	4	2+0	2	2+0
5	1-5				Straight to final
	6-10			2	2+1
	11-15			3	1+2
	16			4	1+1

### Points System

The All-points system (K4-103 Speed Skate Canada – Procedures and Regulations 2009-2010) will be used to award points for each individual distance.

1 <sup>st</sup> – 1000	5 <sup>th</sup> – 443	9 <sup>th</sup> – 196	13 <sup>th</sup> – 86
2 <sup>nd</sup> – 816	6 <sup>th</sup> – 362	10 <sup>th</sup> – 160	14 <sup>th</sup> – 70
3 <sup>rd</sup> – 666	7 <sup>th</sup> – 295	11 <sup>th</sup> – 130	15 <sup>th</sup> – 57
4 <sup>th</sup> – 543	8 <sup>th</sup> – 241	12 <sup>th</sup> – 106	16 <sup>th</sup> – 46

- A disqualified skater will receive the last place rank in that race.
- Skaters who are disqualified in a heat will be relegated to the last place final.
- Skaters who are disqualified in a semi-final will be relegated to the B final.
- A skater who does not start a heat will be ineligible for a final and will receive no points for that distance.
- A skater who does not start or finish a final, due to equipment or injury, will receive last place points, ahead of a disqualified skater, for the relevant race.
  - If a skater will not be starting a final, officials must be notified prior to the start in order to receive the applicable points.

## LONG TRACK QUALIFYING FORMAT

### Long Track Qualifying Trials

- The Long Track team will be selected from skaters who competed at the 2010 CanAm Competition.
- Skaters must skate 5 distances at the CanAm Competition.
  - Females will skate 100m, 500m, 1000m, 1500m, and 3000m.
  - Males will skate 100m, 500m, 1500m, 3000m, and 5000m.
- The skater's best time per distance achieved at CanAm will be used to determine a ranking.
- Ranking points will be assigned based on final placement per distance.
- Combined point total from the five (5) best results will determine the first three (3) male and first three (3) female qualifying positions for the Long Track team.
- The fourth (4<sup>th</sup>) qualifying position may be selected at the complete discretion of the High Performance Committee depending on unforeseen circumstances or bye requests. If there are no unforeseen circumstances or bye requests then the fourth (4<sup>th</sup>) qualifying position will be assigned from the results of the trials.
- Any ties for qualifying position will be broken by overall sammelagt points using best qualifying times.

## **Competition Format and Eligible Qualifying Races**

The format and schedule of the selection competitions will be dictated by the rules and regulations governing the competition.

In the event that the 100m is not competed at the competition then the 100m opener from the 500m will be used as a substitute.

Where distances are offered multiple times during the competition specific races will be identified to count towards the trials. Two (2) 500m races will be identified from which the best result will count, and two (2) 500m races will be identified from which the best 100m opener result will count. For women, two (2) 1000m races will be identified from which the best result will count.

For selection purposes the distances are:

### **Men**

100m – or best 500m opener  
500m – best result of 2 races  
1500m  
3000m  
5000m

### **Women**

100m – or best 500m opener  
500m – best result of 2 races  
1000m – best result of 2 races  
1500m  
3000m

## **Seeding**

Seeding and pairing will be done according to the rules and regulations governing the relevant qualifying competition.

## **Points System**

The Long Track Ranking Points system (High Performance Bulletin #153 Long Track – page 14) will be used to award points for each individual distance.

1 <sup>st</sup> – 100	5 <sup>th</sup> – 50	9 <sup>th</sup> – 32	13 <sup>th</sup> – 22	17 <sup>th</sup> – 14
2 <sup>nd</sup> – 80	6 <sup>th</sup> – 45	10 <sup>th</sup> – 28	14 <sup>th</sup> – 20	18 <sup>th</sup> – 13
3 <sup>rd</sup> – 70	7 <sup>th</sup> – 40	11 <sup>th</sup> – 26	15 <sup>th</sup> – 18	19 <sup>th</sup> – 12
4 <sup>th</sup> – 60	8 <sup>th</sup> – 36	12 <sup>th</sup> – 24	16 <sup>th</sup> – 16	20 <sup>th</sup> – 11

A skater who fails to achieve a time in a distance will not receive points for that distance

## **Re-skates**

When a re-skate is warranted, for a fall, disqualification, or equipment failure, the provincial coach will work with the competition's referees and coordinators within the rules and regulations of the competition to fulfill a re-skate option.

Should a skater be unable to re-skate then the High Performance Committee shall proceed with applying discretionary criteria in their decision making process.

## **Canada Winter Games Long Track and Short Track Final Team Selection**

The Canada Winter Games Short Track and Long Track Team final selection will be made within 3 days following the conclusion of the final qualifying competition, which may be either the short track or long track depending on scheduling. A skater will only be invited to join a team if they have attended the requisite qualifier(s) for that discipline.

### **Choice of Competition – Long Track or Short Track**

Skaters may choose to try out for both disciplines. Should a skater qualify for both disciplines, that skater, in consultation with the Head and Assistant Coaches, may choose which team to join. In the event that this occurs, other skaters will be moved up according to rankings from final results in the discipline with the open spot.

### **Alternates**

It is the intention of the High Performance Committee to identify one (1) alternate per gender per discipline following the 2011 Canada Winter Games Trials in order to create a more optimal training group and to adequately prepare substitutes in the eventuality of an injury prior to the Games. Alternates will train and attend competitions as part of the "Games squad" right until the commencement of the Games.

### **Emergency Substitutions**

In the event that a team position is not filled or becomes open then the position may be filled by an eligible competitor who has entered into any portion of the Canada Winter Games selection process at the discretion of the High Performance Committee.

### **Bye Request**

Due to exceptional circumstances (e.g. illness, injury) and through no fault of their own, a skater may not have the opportunity to compete for qualification or selection.

In this situation, the skater may be eligible to apply for a bye in accordance with the Bye Policy and procedures.

The basic philosophy for nominating an athlete by granting a Bye is that, all things being equal, the skater given the Bye has clearly demonstrated superior performances in previous competition compared to other skaters being considered for nomination.

A Bye request is considered as the last means by which a skater can earn nomination and is intended to provide for exceptional circumstances outside the normal selection criteria rather than being part of the normal means by which an athlete can earn selection.

If a skater is selected to the 2011 Canada Winter Games Team on the basis of a successful Bye request, they will be required to prove adequate levels of recovery, both from a medical perspective and a performance perspective.

The determination of what constitutes adequate recovery will be made by medical staff, coaching staff and High Performance Committee and will be based upon an assessment of the skater's ability to perform at a level at par with those others selected to the 2011 Canada Winter Games Team. The final date for finalizing such decisions is one week prior to the registration deadline for the 2011 Canada Winter Games.

### **Injury Replacements**

If a skater is injured following their selection to the 2011 Canada Winter Games Team they will be required to prove adequate levels of recovery, both from a medical perspective and a performance perspective. The determination of what constitutes adequate recovery will be made by medical staff, coaching staff and High Performance Committee and will be based upon an assessment of the skater's ability to perform at a performance level equal to current members of the 2011 Canada Winter Games Team. The final date for finalizing such decisions is one week prior to the registration deadline for the 2011 Canada Winter Games.

If a skater is subsequently deemed medically unfit to compete in the 2011 Canada Winter Games they may be replaced in accordance with the Canada Games Technical Manual.

### **High Performance Committee**

The High Performance Committee is the final decision making authority for the selection of the Manitoba Speed Skating Team for the 2011 Canada Winter Games. The committee will be composed of four (4) members at large, the Executive Director, and the Provincial Coach. The four (4) members at large of the committee shall be free of any conflict of interest with regards to the selections of athletes, coaches or managers for the 2011 Canada Winter Games, and will hold the final decision making authority. The Executive Director shall act as the secretary of the committee. The Provincial Coach shall act as the technical consultant and advisor to the committee.

### **Discretionary Criteria**

The High Performance Committee is responsible for the selection of athletes to the 2011 Canada Winter Games Team. In the event of unforeseen circumstances and bye requests the committee shall be free to assign different weightings to the importance of factors considered in their decision making process as they deem appropriate to the goal of fielding the best possible Team for the 2011 Canada Winter Games. These will only apply, if necessary, to the one (1) discretionary position per sex per discipline.

The factors that will be considered include but are not exclusive to:

- 1) Make-up of team after first selections to create the strongest team possible either in an individual distance or in the relay or pursuit;
- 2) Past national experience and performance profile of athletes eligible;
- 3) Past head to head performance versus other eligible athletes;
- 4) Athlete commitment to their preparation during the season;
- 5) Current performance level/indicators of the athlete;

**ANNEX A**  
**Special Rules – Short Track and Long Track**

1. Each athlete or, in the case of an athlete who is under 18 years of age, his or her parent/guardian, must sign a declaration immediately following the completion of the selection events. The declaration may be revised up to 48 hours following the completion of the final selection event.
2. “I \_\_\_\_\_, declare that if I should qualify for the Manitoba Speed Skating Association’s Canada Winter Games Team in both Short Track and Long Track, I choose to skate \_\_\_\_\_ Track at the 2011 Canada Winter Games in Halifax Nova Scotia.”
3. Each team member will not be able to compete in the other discipline within eight (8) weeks of the first Games event. Each team member must concentrate on the discipline he or she has accepted on the Team. The Canada Winter Games Coach must approve any exceptions.

## ANNEX B

### Competitor Eligibility 2011 (Halifax) Canada Winter Games

Competitor Eligibility (per 2011 Canada Winter Games Speed Skating Technical Package. Edition 1.3 (2009.01.19))

1. Competitors must meet all eligibility requirements outlined in the Technical Package.
2. The Canada Games are open to Canadian citizens and landed immigrants.
3. The Games are open to athletes who are members in good standing of their provincial and/or national sport organization.
4. An athlete's permanent domicile or actual residence must be located, for at least the 180 days prior to the opening of the Games, within the recognized boundaries of the province or territory they are representing. An athlete can have only one domicile.
5. Students attending school on a full-time basis outside their province of permanent residence during the year of the Games shall be permitted to compete for either their province of permanent residence or the province in which the athlete attends school. To be eligible to compete for the province where the athlete attends school, the student must be enrolled on a full-time basis during the 2010-2011 academic year.
6. If a non-student athlete attends a recognized national training centre outside his or her province of permanent residence, the athlete is encouraged to represent his or her province of permanent residence; however, the athlete could represent the province where the centre is located under the terms of paragraph (7), below.
7. Exceptions to the domicile requirement will be possible if the athlete can demonstrate a commitment to the province or territory she or he wishes to represent by such means as having been a member of a club or provincial sport organization in that province for the entire previous competitive season, having represented that province or territory at a previous national or regional championship, or having attended school full-time the previous academic year, or a recognized national training centre full-time during the previous 12 months. Other similar circumstances may be considered.
8. An athlete is permitted to try out for only one province or territory per Games.
9. The eligibility of any athlete that is not clearly established by these rules and by the Technical Package shall be determined by the Sport Committee of the Council. **Coaches or Provincial Sport Organizations must bring forward any unclear cases to their Chef de Mission and to their National Sport Organization as early as possible before the competition for forwarding to the Sport Committee of the Canada Games Council.**
10. Where a team/province or territory/Chef wishes to challenge the eligibility of an athlete on another provincial/ territorial team, it is expected that such a challenge will be made as soon as the protesting team knows that an athlete may be ineligible. Every effort must be made to ensure that protests on eligibility are lodged before an athlete competes.

## **ANNEX C**

### **Single Event Selection Rational**

Moving to a single-event selection process for the Manitoba teams for the 2011 Canada Winter Games for short track and long track is a shift from previous two-event selections for Canada Winter Games. There are pros and cons for both a single-event and a two-event selection process. The pros and cons of primary concern between the two processes is the amount of time spent in selection mode versus the amount of time spent in preparation mode for the games. The secondary concern between the two selection processes is the number of attempts available to achieve a good result. The primary goal is to maximize the amount of time spent in preparation mode and then allow back up opportunities.

With the two-event selection process there is a difference between short track and long track. In the past within MSSA the two-event short track selection has been held over two weekends in early to mid November while the long track selection has been held over two competitions in mid-November and early January. The short track selection mode lasts only 9 days and then allows approximately 3 months in the preparation mode for the games while the long track selection mode lasts about 2 months and then only allows approximately 1 month in the preparation mode for the games. The past short track and long track selection process have allowed for multiple attempts at distances with the best result counting towards the selection. The detraction from proceeding with this selection process for the 2011 Games is the extended selection period and the minimal preparation period for long track especially.

The proposed single-event selection process for both short track and long track is meant to minimize the time spent in selection mode and maximize the time spent in preparation mode for the games while at the same time accommodating multiple attempts at distances. The single-event selection process would have both the short track and long track teams selected by the end of November. The time in selection mode would be completed before the end of November and thus provide a good two-month preparation period leading in to the games. The proposed single-event selection process also makes accommodations for multiple attempts at distances, especially for the higher risk sprint distances. All short track the skaters will have multiple attempts at the 500m and 1000m distances. Only the best results will count. All long track skaters will have multiple attempts at the 100m and 500m distances, with the exception of the 1000m which is for females only. Only the best results will count. The benefit of proceeding with this selection process for the 2011 Games is the reduced selection period and the greater preparation period for the both short track and long track.

## ANNEX D

### Operational Guidelines for the Allocation of Byes

(pulled from Speed Skating Canada's Operational Guidelines to the High Performance Committees for the Allocation of Byes)

#### 1. **Purpose**

To provide guidelines to the High Performance Committees in the granting of Byes.

#### 2. **Philosophy of Team Selection**

The philosophy for team selection is to select the athletes that will achieve the best possible result for Manitoba at different competitions (Canada Winter Games, National Championships, etc).

The High Performance Committees is committed to make the selection to these teams as objective as possible. To ensure this occurs the committee will use, wherever possible, objective criteria such as time, placing at a specific competition/s, and ranking etc. as the foremost criteria in selecting athletes.

These criteria will be used at specified selection event/s or a series of specified events.

In nominating the specific selection event/s, the Committee will only nominate an event that occurs after the confirmation of the relevant selection policy.

In all cases it is the intent of the Committee that selection is earned through current performances in the specific selection events. However, in exceptional circumstances an athlete may not be able to compete in the relevant selection events. In this instance the athlete is eligible to apply for selection under the Bye Clause as detailed below.

#### 3. **Bye Clause Selection Philosophy**

Due to exceptional circumstances (e.g. illness, injury, equipment break, etc) and through no fault of their own, a skater sometimes does not have the opportunity to compete in the nominated selection event/s. In this situation the athlete may be eligible to apply for a Bye selection to the relevant team.

The basic philosophy for selecting an athlete by granting a Bye is that, all things being equal, the skater given the Bye has clearly demonstrated superior performances in previous competition to other athletes being considered for selection.

A Bye request is considered as the last means by which an athlete can gain selection and is intended to provide for exceptional circumstances outside the normal selection criteria rather than being part of the normal means by which an athlete can gain selection.

#### 4. **Procedures under which a Bye application can be made**

Bye requests must be made in writing to the High Performance Committee

Unless physically incapable, only the skater requesting a Bye can submit the request.

If the Bye request is made on the basis of an illness or injury, the skater must provide documented evidence from a sports medicine practitioner. The Committee has the right to request further independent medical review after the Bye request has been submitted.

If the Bye request is made on the basis of equipment breakage, this must be reported to and verified by the race referee or Committee representative immediately following the race in which the equipment breakage occurred.

#### 5. **Conditions for applying for a Bye**

##### **i. Bye request for a specific competition in the current skating season**

Bye requests will be considered in two categories:

- *Pre-competition illness or injury that prevents an athlete from competing in the ranking / selection event.*

If the skater is ill or injured before the beginning of the competition, he/she must request a Bye before the Coaches' meeting at the competition. The Committee Representative must formally announce all Bye requests at this meeting so that all other competitors are made aware of the possibility of a Bye being granted.

A Bye request will be ruled ineligible if the skater subsequently competes in the selection event.

In the case of selection being based upon a cumulative ranking from multiple events, a skater is eligible to apply for a Bye request to a subsequent ranking event if they are prevented from competing in one of the ranking events due to a pre-existing illness or injury.

- *Injury, illness or equipment breakage during the selection event.*

A Bye request must be made **within 24 hours** following the end of the competition unless the skater is physically incapable of making this request (in such a case, the skater's coach may make the request).  
(See Clause 4d above for the reporting requirements for equipment breakage)

In both categories the Bye request **must state clearly** what the skater is asking for, and supporting documentation (medical, race referee report etc) must be attached. The Committee should also have confirmation (medical or other, if not a medical problem) that the athlete will be at 100% of his/her capacity (physical, psychological, etc) to participate in the competition for which he/she has requested a Bye.

#### ii. Bye request to a specific Team or a Competition for the season following the selection event/s

This process is for the selection to a specific team such as the Provincial Training Program or Provincial Development Program or for competitions in the next skating season but before the next selection competition/s.

The Bye must be requested **within two weeks** following the final selection event. The Bye application **must state clearly** what the skater is requesting, and appropriate documentation (medical, etc) **must be attached**.

The Committee should also have confirmation (medical or other, if not a medical problem) that the athlete will be at 100% of his/her capacity (physical, psychological, etc) to be on the Team or participate in the competition to which he/she has requested a Bye.

### 6. Process for reviewing a Bye application

The following steps are involved in the process of considering a request for a Bye.

- Following the final selection event for the respective team / event, the Committee meets (in person or via conference call) to review the facts.
- In cases where multiple Bye applications are lodged they will be assessed individually and on their own merit.
- The Committee members (if not in conflict of interest) will review the facts and make a recommendation (with supporting rationale). If any member of the Committee is in conflict of interest, then the Board shall appoint a new member.
- If relevant, the Committee will establish a revised ranking of athletes based upon the selection event/s and an assessment of previous performances from those who have requested a Bye.
- From this revised ranking, the final selections will be made.
- These final selections will then be named as the "Team" and will be communicated to the skater/s requesting the Bye, skater/s directly affected by the Bye request, the coaches, and athletes' representatives.

### 7. Conditions for Granting a Bye

The basic question Committee must answer is whether the skater requesting the Bye had a recent history of performances or other factors as listed below that demonstrate clear superiority of the skater requesting a Bye to those of other athletes in consideration for selection.

The Committee must also be certain that the athlete requesting the Bye would be able to compete at a similar level in the event or team for which they seek selection. The Committee may award a "Conditional Bye" to skaters recovering from injury or illness. In this situation the skater may have certain conditions imposed. This could include, but is not limited to such things as a certain time frame, performance requirement etc.

In order to make these decisions, the Committee will evaluate a number of elements including, but not limited to the following.

- Head-to-head competition results of the athletes being considered for selection.
- Past performances of the skater requesting the Bye,
- Results of the selection competition (by skaters in contention for the team),
- Recent training and testing performances

In evaluating past performances, the Committee will assign priority to those performances from the 12 month period prior to the final selection event.

However, this is occasionally not possible because of injuries, or the lack of opportunity for the skaters to compete. In such instances, performances beyond this 12-month period will be considered but will assume a lower value in assessing the Bye request.

## **ANNEX E**

### **Fees**

There will be additional fees, over and above usual Provincial Program fees, required payable to the Manitoba Speed Skating Association upon acceptance of a position on either the Manitoba Short Track or Long Track Speed Skating Team for the 2011 Canada Winter Games. An outline of the fees will be made known prior to the qualifying trials.