



Cross Country
Ski Ontario

Para-Nordic Team Selection Criteria

And

Athlete Support Program

For 2016-2017

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1. Purpose

The provisions in this document will be used by the XCSO Para-Nordic Committee, hereafter called PNC, to identify para-nordic athletes who qualify for the Ontario Para-Nordic Ski Team (OPNST) 2016

1.1 Definitions

CCC	Cross Country Ski de Fond Canada
XCSO	Cross Country Ski Ontario
CL	Classic (ski technique)
CNC	Canadian National Championships
FREE	Free Technique
PN	Para-Nordic
PN CPL	Para-Nordic Canada Points List (as produced by CCC/PNC)
OC	Ontario Cup
OCS	Ontario Cup Series
PNC	Para-Nordic Committee
OPNST	Ontario Para-Nordic Ski Team
OPSWGS	Ontario ParaSport Winter Games
CWGS	Canada Winter Games

1.2 Eligibility

To be eligible for selection to the Ontario Para-Nordic Ski Team athletes must meet each of the following criteria:

- **hold a valid 2016-2017 CCC racing licence with on Ontario club**
- **be registered with a XCSO club at the time of the race**
- **be a Canadian citizen or have Permanent Resident status**
- **be a permanent resident of Ontario¹ prior to the beginning of the Ontario Cup race series**

Para-Nordic Canada Points List (PN CPL) points will **not** be awarded retroactively for a given race if an athlete who, on the day of a points race, did not meet one of the criteria listed above, subsequently meets all of them (e.g., obtains a license or club registration after the race). A day license is NOT a racing license and will not enable athletes to accumulate PN CPL points.

¹A valid Ontario Health Card OR an Ontario Driver's Licence will be used as proof of permanent Ontario residency.

1.3 Selection Races – Date & Location

The races identified in this document will be used in the selection process for the teams and events named within. Races included in the selection process are identified as those where the depth of field of para-nordic athletes is 2 or more athletes per category per gender as CPL will be generated from these races. The identified races change from year to year. The selection races for the 2016/2017 season are:

OCup Race Weekend #2: Highlands Nordic, Duntroon, ON

Date	Technique	Format
Sat Jan. 14	Classic	Interval
Sun Jan. 15	Free	Pursuit Start

OCup Race Weekend #3: Easterns at Nakkertok, Gatineau, QC

Date	Technique	Format
Fri Feb3	Classic	Prologue/Sprint
Sat Feb. 4	Classic	Interval Start
Sun Feb. 5	Free	Pursuit Start

Para Sport Winter Games: County of Brant, ON

Date	Technique	Format
Sat Feb 11	Skate/Classic	Middle distance
Sun Feb 12	Classic	Short distance

OCup Race Weekend #4: Temiskaming Nordic, New Liskeard, Ontario

Date	Technique	Format
Fri Feb 18	Free	Intervals Start
Sat Feb 19	Classic	Sprint
Sun Feb 20	Classic	Mass Start

2. 2017 Ontario Para-Nordic Ski Team

2.1 Team Description

2.1.1 Benefits

It is the intent of the PNC that, where possible, athletes named to the Ontario Para-Nordic Ski Team receive the following:

1. Registration costs for individual races at the Canadian National Championships,
2. Coaching support to Canadian National Championships,
3. Access to personal coach support options for athletes who do not have a club coach,
4. Ontario Para-Nordic Ski Team clothing (please note only OPNST athletes will receive race suits),
5. Eligibility for Ontario Carding when such support is available.

Ontario Para-Nordic Ski Team (OPNST) members may be provided XCSO support to attend special training camps or elite racing events, as specified by the PNC, on a cost-sharing basis. OPNST athletes are eligible to receive the cost sharing only when the athlete travels with the OPNST and attends XCSO-organized camps and events as a member of the OPNST.

2.1.2 Obligations

Ontario athletes who accept their nomination to the Ontario Para-Nordic Ski Team (OPNST) will be asked to sign an Athlete Contract, pay a team fee, as specified by the PNC, and fill out and sign the Athlete's Code of Conduct. In addition, athletes are expected to attend a minimum of one Ontario Dryland Camp (not including designated OPNST) through the year. OPNST athlete's attendance at one or more of these camps is intended to provide program continuity by creating opportunities for Ontario's elite athletes to connect with and motivate developing athletes from across the province.

2.1.3 Team Fee

Ontario Para-Nordic Ski Team nominees for 2016 will be asked to pay a team fee of \$375 to confirm their participation on the Team. The fee will be used to offset the cost of ONPST trips. This fee is due, along with the signed Athlete Contract within 30 days of the posting of the Ontario Para-Nordic Ski Team nomination list on the XCSO website.

2.1.4 Consequences of Athlete Not Meeting Obligations

If an OPNST athlete does not meet the terms of their contract as outlined above in Section 2.1.2, the PNC/XCSO may at their discretion proceed with the following:

1. Written notice to the athlete to identify the infraction/action
2. Agreement/ signed contract with athletes as to their alternate commitments
3. Charging the athlete the full cost of PNC expenses incurred for their attendance on an OPNST trip
4. Removal from an OPNST trip
5. Notification of probation and/or removal from the OPNST
6. Not being selected for the OPNST in the subsequent year.

The Ontario Para-Nordic Trip Leader will be responsible for bringing potential failures to the attention of the PNC/XCSO. For any administrative obligations the XCSO Administrator will identify any issues to the PNC/XCSO.

The intent of this section is to ensure that all OPNST athletes honour their commitments and all are treated equitably. However, it is understood that extenuating circumstances may prevent an athlete from meeting some of their commitments. Therefore, it is in the athlete's best interests to proactively discuss and identify any circumstances as soon as possible after the infraction occurs with the Ontario Para-Nordic Trip Leader and/or XCSO Administrator, as appropriate.

2.2 Ontario Para-Nordic Ski Team Selection

Ontario Para-Nordic Ski Team (minimum of 4 up to max of 6 athletes)

- Top athlete by PN CPL points, in each gender and discipline (standing and sitting) and;
- Compete in a minimum of two OC weekends as identified in Section 1.3. For standing skiers, races must include two of each technique and;
- Compete in at least 2 races at the 2017 Para Nordic National Championships

2.2.1 Special Invitation to Ontario Para-Nordic Trips

In general, team trips are available to identified team members only. Team members may decline a trip for school, health or other reasons. No replacement will be added, however the PNC reserves the right to invite additional athletes with exceptional performances or under unusual circumstances.

2.3 Effect of Race Cancellation on OPNST Selection

In the event that any eligible selection races are cancelled, the following number of selection criteria races will be used:

1. One races cancelled: best 5 of 9 races, including 2 of each technique
2. Two races cancelled: best 4 of 8 races, including 2 of each technique
3. Three races cancelled: best 4 of 6 races, including 2 of each technique
4. Four races cancelled: best 2 of 5 races, including 1 of each technique
5. Five races cancelled: best 2 of 4 races, including 1 of each technique
6. Six races cancelled: best 2 of 3 races,
7. Seven races cancelled: best 1 of 2 races
8. Eight races cancelled: Best 1 of 1 races

The selection of the Ontario Para-Nordic Ski Team and the Ontario Para-Nordic Development Ski Team will be recommended by the PNC to the XCSO Board for approval. In the event that ten or all races are cancelled, the PNC will be responsible for recommending athletes to the XCSO Board.

2.4 Effect of Race Technique Change on OPNST Selection

In the event that a race technique must change (e.g., a change from a planned skate race to a classic race due to lack of snow), the PNC reserves the right to modify the “best of” calculation in-season in as fair a way as possible to reflect the actual race distribution over the racing season. Any modification to the “best of” calculation will be published to the Ontario ski community as soon as possible.

2.5 Force Majeure

Ontario PN Ski Team. Injury, illness, family misfortune, exceptional circumstances and equipment breakage will be considered valid grounds for a force majeure appeal. Appeal documentation to be provided to Cross Country Ski Ontario must include but is not limited to:

- Physician letter if health related
- A letter/email outlining exceptional circumstances
- A letter/email from present personal/club coach indicating their intent to support their athlete as an OPNDST member.

Appeals will be evaluated by the PNC taking into consideration the reason for the appeal and results from other races. Force majeure documentation must be received no later than **5pm EST March 31st, 2017**.

All appeals should be sent by e-mail to XCSO Administrator at admin@xco.org.

2.6 Appeals for Ontario Para-Nordic Ski Team Selection

Once the members of the Ontario Para-Nordic Ski Team been named and released on the XCSO website, any appeals of Para-Nordic Committee decisions must be made to the XCSO Board of Directors in writing by not later than **within 15 days of posting on www.xcskiontario.ca**.

All appeals should be sent by e-mail to the Chair of the Para-Nordic Committee at pattikit@gmail.com, with a copy to admin@xcskiontario.ca. Following the appeal period, the final list will be posted on the XCSO website: www.xcskiontario.ca

3. Para-Nordic Canada Points List

The PN CPL will be calculated by CCC using the process described at: <http://www.cccski.com/Para-Nordic/Events/Para-Nordic-CPL.aspx>

4. Members of the PNC

Questions or comments regarding these selection criteria should be directed to your District's representative on the Para-Nordic Committee. The members of the Para-Nordic Committee are:

Chairperson - Para-Nordic Committee

Patti Kitler

e-mail: pattikit@gmail.com

NCD Representative

Margarita Gorbounova

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XCSO Administrator

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