



## **Canadian Alpine Ski Team – D Team**

### **NOMINATION GUIDELINES**

October 2024

#### **1.0 INTRODUCTION**

- 1.1. The Nomination Criteria outline the process applicable to all Athletes considered for nomination to the Canadian Alpine Ski Team – D Team.
- 1.2. The Nomination Criteria shall be interpreted and applied in accordance with the principles of procedural fairness and natural justice.

#### **2.0 PERFORMANCE OBJECTIVES**

- 2.1. This Nomination Criteria will be applied in accordance with ACA's performance objective, which is to be a world leading ski racing nation and achieve a Top 5 in the medal ranks at Major Games (Olympic Winter Games/Alpine World Ski Championships) resulting in the attainment of 2-3 podiums. To achieve this performance objective, athletes who have demonstrated evidence of podium potential based on their ability to achieve World Rank (WR) and or World Age Rank (WAR) that are inside those identified within the Major Games Podium Pathway markers will be selected in priority.
- 2.2. The focus of the program will be U21 aged athletes with the ability to support U24 aged athletes should they be demonstrating performances that are trending inside or equivalent to Major Games Podium Pathway markers and aligned with CAST criteria.

#### **3.0 TEAM LIMITATIONS**

- 3.1. Notwithstanding anything contained in these Nomination Guidelines, the maximum number of athletes that can be nominated to the CAST D Team based on available financial resources to provide appropriate support required to deliver programming is 6 per. gender. The TSAC is under no obligation to nominate to the maximum number.
- 3.2. As a condition of being nominated to the CAST D Team, ACA will require Athletes to make a financial contribution to offset program costs.

#### **4.0 ELIGIBILITY**

- 4.1. In order to be eligible for nomination to the CAST D Team, an Athlete must:
  - I. Satisfy all FIS citizen requirements to represent Canada;
  - II. Satisfy the nomination qualification criteria under Section 6 during the Competitive Season;
  - III. Be a registered participant of ACA and a Member in Good Standing;



IV. Meet FIS medical requirements in accordance with Article 221: Medical Services, Examinations and Doping of the International Ski Committee Rules (ICR);

V. Not be subject to a provisional suspension or period of ineligibility for any doping-related offence or any disciplinary offence;

## 5.0 CRITERIA

The following criteria will be used in order of categories from Automatic Nomination (AN), Provisional Nomination (PN). Within each category of nomination, nomination identification will progress from the first line of criteria within the category down throughout each following line of criteria. Ties will be broken by NorAm rank and, if a tie still exists, by the FIS WR in the same discipline.

Age markers have been established based on Major Games Podium Pathway metrics. In its discretion, ACA may make additional discretionary nominations to reach a desired team size according to financial considerations. Athletes shall be considered for nomination on the following basis:

**5.1 Automatic Nomination**, 2002 and younger for men and 2004 and younger for women

1. World Junior Championships - Podium result
2. NorAm Overall Standings – Men top 10, Women top 5
3. NorAm Discipline Standings – Men to 5, Women top 3

**5.2 Provisional Nomination (PN)** (5.2 Year of Birth for 2025/2026 Team Nomination: 2004 to 2008 Women and 2002 to 2007 for Men)

1. **World Rankings** (based on Major Games Podium Pathway metrics)
  - Inside the 90<sup>th</sup> percentile for your age and younger as of 22<sup>nd</sup> FIS point list in any discipline

### 2. NorAm Rankings

#### Women

2004-2008 – top 5 rank in speed (DH or SG), top 10 in GS or SL

2006-2008 – top 5 rank in speed (DH or SG), top 20 in GS or SL

#### Men

2002-2004 – top 15 rank in speed (DH or SG), top 20 discipline rank in SL or GS

2005-2007 – top 20 rank in any discipline

### 3. World Junior Championships Results



- i. Top 10 result – 2002-2004
- ii. Top 15 result – 2005-2007

### **5.3 Discretionary Nominations**

If an Athlete does not satisfy the objective performance standards indicated in Sections 5.1-5.2, the CAST Alpine Staff shall have the sole discretion to recommend or not recommend any Athlete for nomination to the CAST D team under Coaches Discretion. Athletes may be nominated to the CAST D Team under Coaches Discretion considering the following factors/circumstances: -

- History of hitting significant performance markers at:
  - Nor Am Cup Events
  - World FIS Rank – World FIS Rank by Age and Younger
- Ideal functional size of training and competition groups - Attitude, commitment, and positive contribution to the athlete development system and team culture

Notwithstanding the aforementioned, an Athlete may be nominated to the CAST D Team under Coaches Discretion for season-ending health-related reasons such as an injury, illness or pregnancy sustained in the previous 24 months that has prevented the Athlete from achieving the criteria in Sections 5.1-5.2 of these Nomination Criteria.

In order to receive a discretionary nomination for season-ending health-related reasons, the following factors will be assessed during the Coaches Nomination Meeting and by the TSAC:

- I. Whether the Athlete has achieved results deemed by the CAST Alpine Staff to be comparable to nomination criteria prior to their change in health-related status;
- II. The Athlete has committed to a return to snow program and is expected to return to full capabilities and either meet or exceed other nominated athletes; and
- III. The Athlete has a doctor's certificate attesting that they are likely to achieve a full recovery and the indication of the estimated recovery period.

### **5.4 Discretionary Nomination Conditions**

- a) An Athlete cannot receive a Coaches Discretion Nomination more than two times during their tenure with the CAST D Team, and for no more than two consecutive seasons. However, any previous CAST D Team nomination under Coaches Discretion due to a season-ending health-related reason will not count toward the total number of years that an Athlete can be nominated to the CAST D Team under Coaches Discretion.



- b) Any nomination based on Coaches Discretion may require the Athlete to satisfy individualized performance and/or fitness criteria throughout the Competitive Season in order to remain on the CAST D team. There is an expectation that team athletes will demonstrate forward progress towards performance criteria. Athletes will be evaluated individually on a case by-case basis yearly post season, to clearly evaluate forward progress, future performance goals and determination of team status.
- c) The CAST Alpine Staff shall complete the individual evaluations and reserves the right to not nominate an Athlete pursuant to Coaches Discretion.
- d) Proposed discretionary selections will be reviewed and discussed during the TSAC Meeting. An explanation of the discretionary selections proposed during the Coaches Nomination Meeting will be provided to the ACA D Team Selection Advisory Committee (TSAC) for review.

## **6.0 NOMINATION PROCESS**

6.1. The Athletic Directors for the PTSO of each province, or any CAST Alpine Staff, may identify an Athlete for nomination by providing the following materials to the Vice President of Domestic Sport - ACA 36 hours prior to TSAC meeting.

- I. In the case of past injury status: Medical history for the previous two seasons;
- II. Athlete tracking information
  - Fitness testing results from the previous two seasons; and
  - Season End Performance report if available

6.2. The TSAC shall meet and shall make recommendations for nomination to the CAST D team. ACA will advise the TSAC of the TSAC Nomination Meeting date at minimum, 7 days prior to the selected date.

6.3. All recommendations for nomination shall be provided to the TSAC at least two (2) days in advance of the TSAC Nomination meeting. This will include a complete written explanation of all Athletes considered for discretion. An athletes Discretionary Nomination Package will be provided for athletes being nominated through discretion and will include without limitation, the applicable previous results considered, any specific information applicable and any other relevant comments.

6.4. At the TSAC Nomination Meeting, the TSAC shall review the nominated athletes as per the criteria identified within this document and determine if the Nomination Criteria have been applied to each Athlete under consideration. The TSAC shall conduct nomination based on the process identified within 5.1 – 5.3

6.5. Nominations shall be forwarded by the CEO to the BOD for final ratification.

6.6. The SVP Domestic Sport or High-Performance Director, Alpine within one week of the BOD ratification shall notify, by telephone, teleconference or in person, those Athletes nominated to CAST D.



6.7. Those athletes considered but not nominated to the CAST will be contacted by the SVP Domestic Sport or High-Performance Director, Alpine, along with another CAST representative in person or via teleconference, so that the Athlete receives communication most effectively and personally.

6.8. Athletes nominated to CAST D who wish to decline their nomination must advise ACA within seven (7) days after notification.

6.9. All nominated athletes are subject to a medical consultation with an ACA appointed medical doctor. ACA reserves the right to remove any nominated athlete not deemed fit to race/train in the 2025-2026 season.

6.10. Final team status will be determined in May 2025.

6.11. After final team status is confirmed, CAST D Team athletes will be required to reach or maintain predetermined individual fitness standard in order to maintain their team status. These standards will be communicated to athletes by early July 2025 after the final team status is confirmed.

## **7. UNFORESEEN CIRCUMSTANCES & REVISIONS**

7.1. In situations where unforeseen circumstances do not allow the nomination process to be applied in the manner set out in this policy, the SVP Domestic Sport, ACA with TSAC approval, reserves the right to determine an appropriate course of action.

7.2. The High-Performance Director, Alpine, with TSAC approval, may exercise discretion to revise this policy prior to the end of the qualifying period with any revisions as may be reasonably necessary to avoid disputes over the interpretation of the Nomination Process. This clause shall not be used to justify changes after a competition or trials which formed part of these Nomination Criteria unless it is related to an unforeseen circumstance. This is to allow for changes to this document that may become necessary due to a typographical error or a lack of clarity in a definition or wording.

## **8.0 APPEALS**

8.1. Any appeal in relation to the CAST D Team nomination process must be brought directly to the SDRCC to be heard pursuant to the Canadian Sport Dispute Resolution Code.

8.2. An Athlete who wishes to appeal the team nominations shall, within 3 business days of the release of the public team announcement, file an appeal with the SDRCC.

8.3. Appeals will not be accepted past this deadline.

8.4. The ACA Board Athlete Representative or the ACA Athlete Council Chair will be an available resource to any athlete pursuing an appeal. N.B. In the event of a discrepancy between the English and French version of the 2025-2026 Nomination Criteria, ACA will



refer to the English version for the purpose of understanding the intended drafting in the French version.

## **9.0 DEFINITIONS**

9.1 ACA – Alpine Canada Alpin.

9.2. Athlete – a FIS carded Athlete that is a Canadian resident or citizen as defined in the Citizenship and Immigration Act (Canada).

9.3. CAST – Canadian Alpine Ski Team.

9.4. CAST Alpine Staff – any one of the following: High Performance Director, Alpine, the discipline Head Coaches or any other coach that is designated as a CAST coach, from time to time, by Alpine Canada ACA, and any other relevant ACA staff.

9.5. PTSO Athletic Director – Provincial/Territorial Sport Organization Athletic Directors identified by the Senior Vice-President, Domestic Sport Programs and Events.

9.6. Performance Committee – ACA Board appointed and provides strategic direction and review of ACA's mandates, the scope and quality of ACA programs, athlete experience, and selection criteria.

9.7. BOD – Board of Directors of Alpine Canada Alpin.

9.8. FIS – International Ski Federation.

9.9. WADA – World Anti-Doping Agency.

9.10. CCES – Canadian Centre for Ethics in Sport.

9.11. SDRCC – Sport Dispute Resolution Centre of Canada.

9.12. Coaches Discretion – means the exercise of discretion by the CAST Alpine Staff to nominate or not-nominate, an Athlete to the CAST based on the considerations set out in these Nomination Criteria.

9.13. Coaches Nomination Meeting – a meeting of the CAST Alpine Staff called for the purpose of making recommendations for nomination to the CAST pursuant to these Nomination Criteria.

9.14. Competitive Season – all FIS events between July 1, 2024, and April 15, 2025.

9.15. WCSL/WC Standings – World Cup Start List (WCSL) may apply both the WCSL, and the World Cup Standings based on the list published after the World Cup Finals.

9.16. IPP Form – the written Individual Performance Plan prepared and submitted by the CAST discipline head coaches that sets out the technical evaluation, performance evaluation and achievement goals of each Athlete.

9.17. Team Selection Advisory Committee (TSAC) – a committee constituted by ACA that may include the following representatives: ACA Senior VP Domestic Sport; ACA High Performance Director, Alpine; PTSO Athletic Directors; CAST Head Coaches; and any other individuals appointed by the TSAC in its discretion.



9.18. TSAC Nomination Meeting – the annual meeting of the TSAC that occurs at the conclusion of the Coaches Nomination Meeting usually in April 2025, during which the TSAC shall review the recommendations and evaluate the decisions made by the CAST Alpine Staff to ensure that the Nomination Criteria have been applied correctly.

9.19. Member In Good Standing – A registered participant of ACA or CAST team member who has completed all mandatory items presented by ACA and is adhering to all items outlined within the ACA Code of Conduct and Athlete Agreement.

9.20. Pay To Play – means that an athlete is responsible for all costs (races, training, camps etc.) associated with their nomination.

9.21. Independent Status – An athlete nominated to CAST D who has declined CAST D nomination and support and therefore choosing to train and compete independently.