



ORIENTEERING
C A N A D A

Team Canada Selection Policy

2021

Creation of Policy

Orienteering Canada's High Performance Committee (HPC) has asked the following people to create this policy: Jeff Teutsch (HP Director), Stefan Bergstrom (HPC member), Bogi Gyorfi (Alberta Orienteering ED). This policy was approved by the HPC by email on the following date: May 21, 2021.

Selection Subcommittee

The HPC has formed a selection subcommittee composed of Marg Ellis (HPC Chair), Stefan Bergstrom (HPC member), and Jeff Teutsch (HP Director). This subcommittee is responsible for selecting athletes to various International Event Teams as per this selection policy.

In the event of a conflict of interest arising between any of the selection subcommittee members and any of the potential team members, replacement selection subcommittee members will be appointed by the HPC.

Any conflicts of interest will be dealt with using Orienteering Canada's conflict of interest policy.

Selection Context

During the COVID-19 pandemic, Orienteering Canada is selecting athletes to represent Canada at a limited number of international events in 2021. The goal of sending athletes to these events is to provide those athletes who possess the talent and means to compete internationally, the opportunity to do so.

Competitors in general will be minimally supported by coaches and other team staff. If there is enough interest from athletes and coaches, and team staff can travel in a safe and responsible manner, a decision to send a coach and team leader may be made part way through the selection process. All relevant athletes will be informed of any such decisions in a timely manner.

Selections to 2021 International Event Teams will be at the discretion of the selection subcommittee, based on the factors outlined below. This is by necessity, given that the opportunities for head-to-head competition that would allow direct comparison between athletes are rare or not feasible, especially during the COVID-19 pandemic restrictions.

The team selection eligibility and the selection processes are listed in the event specific sections below.

Orienteering Canada's Board of Directors and committees are obligated to support all public health measures, restrictions and recommendations during the Covid-19 pandemic. The HPC and Orienteering Canada Board hold all the rights to cancel event participation for any athletes at any time if it is deemed unsafe or not aligned with all the required measures and recommendations.

2021 Events

2021 World Orienteering Championships (WOC), 2021 Junior World Orienteering Championships (JWOC), World Cup Round 1

As per Orienteering Canada's March 10th announcement, Orienteering Canada will not be sending or sanctioning teams to WOC, JWOC, and the 1st round of the Orienteering World Cup.

JWOC has been postponed to September 5th to 10th but after much discussion and consultation it was decided we will still not send any athletes to JWOC. As per previous communication we are focusing on junior athlete development instead.

World Cup Rounds 2 and 3

Orienteering Canada may send teams to World Cup Rounds 2 and 3 but may still make a decision to not send teams due to the ongoing COVID situation and concerns around health and safety and liability. Because of the timelines involved we have felt it important to publish this selection policy before those final decisions are made.

Orienteering Canada will discuss whether we will send a team to the 2nd World Cup Round at the Board of Directors' meeting on Thursday, May 27th, 2021 with the intention to make a decision at that meeting.

Orienteering Canada will discuss whether we will send a team to the 2nd World Cup Round at the Board of Directors' meeting in late June, 2021 with the intention to make a decision at that meeting.

Decisions will be announced to all relevant parties as soon as they are made.

Round 2 - Idre Fjäll, Sweden

Event: Orienteering World Cup Round 2

Organising federation: Sweden

Date: August 12-15, 2021

Events: Long, Middle, Relay

IOF Webpage: <https://eventor.orienteering.org/Events/Show/6743>

As per the [World Cup Quota rules](#), Orienteering Canada can send up to 4 men and 4 women to the Long and Middle Competitions and 3 men's relay teams and 3 women's relay teams.

Round 3 - Cansiglio, Italy

Event: Orienteering World Cup Round 3 - Final

Organising federation: Italy

Date: September 30 - October 3, 2021

Events: Long, Middle, Sprint Relay

IOF Webpage: <https://eventor.orienteering.org/Events/Show/6866>

As per the [World Cup Quota rules](#), Orienteering Canada can send up to 4 men and 4 women to the Long and Middle Competitions and 4 mixed Sprint Relay teams.

Eligibility

In order to represent Canada at World Cup Events, athletes must

- be a Canadian citizen and have a valid Canadian passport;
- be in good standing with Orienteering Canada, i.e., full members of a Canadian orienteering club affiliated with Orienteering Canada with no outstanding amounts owing to Orienteering Canada.

Application Process and Selection Criteria

Eligible athletes must send the following documentation to the selection subcommittee (hpp@orienteering.ca) before each event deadline outlined below. No extensions will be granted.

Item (see below this table for all details)	Submission method	Deadline (end of day 24:00, Pacific Time)
Expression of interest, proof of eligibility, and application letter. Because of compressed timelines due to COVID all of the above are required at once.	Email to hpp@orienteering.ca	Round 2: June 6, 2021 Round 3: July 4, 2021
Team Selection Announcement	To athlete's personal email	Round 2: June 14, 2021 Round 3: July 26, 2021
Acceptance of Selection		One week from being informed of selection (no later than the

		following): Round 2: June 21, 2021 Round 3: August 2, 2021
Public Announcement The team will be announced publicly within 2 weeks of all athletes accepting or declining their positions on the team.		

Expression of interest, proof of eligibility, and application letter

The expression of interest statement must state which World Cup Round(s) you are applying for as well as which races you are interested in racing. Athletes may submit separate expressions of interest for the different World Cup Rounds or may include both in one expression of interest.

Proof of eligibility must include age, gender, and a scan of page 2 of your Canadian Passport.

The application letter must explain why you feel you have the required level of technical and physical preparedness to compete at the World Cup as per the considerations below.

The letter should also include a statement of understanding that this year, travel and competition and all additional costs regarding COVID-19 protocols will be fully self-funded and that there is a chance that no team leaders or coaches will be traveling to support the competition.

Selection to the team is entirely at the discretion of the selection subcommittee. To assist them in making an informed decision, applicants are requested to present as many results and data points, within reason, to allow for a well rounded application.

Applicants will be evaluated based on the following equally weighted factors:

- Quality of training and preparation in the 3 months leading up to the expression of interest deadline (please include a training log or overview of training with your application)
- Ability to demonstrate your current level of orienteering performance (Please list previous relevant results from WOC, WC, Canadian and North American Championships or team trials and other high level competitions - results may go back as far as 36 months but please also include more recent competitions even if they are at a lower level of competition)
- Time trial results in one or more of the following distances (Time trial can be formal or informal - please include link to results or other evidence of distance and time (gps track is acceptable)):
 - 3000m

- 5km
- 10km
- half marathon

The selection subcommittee reserves the right to ask for additional information which must be provided promptly so that the subcommittee can make an informed decision.¹

Applicants may be selected to run all of the races or a subset. Orienteering Canada may choose not to fill all of its allotted start positions.

Team Selection Announcement

The selection subcommittee will use their discretion, based on information provided, to select the team. Initial team selection results will be communicated to selected athletes via the athlete's personal email.

Acceptance of Selection

Athletes must respond and accept or decline their position on the team within one week of receiving notification of their selection.²

In addition to an email responding with their acceptance of a spot on the team, athletes must submit the following documents by the deadline listed above:

- Acquire (and pay the 30 EURO fee for) an Athlete License from the International Orienteering Federation. ([see info here](#))

Athletes who are not current members of the Team Canada Program must also submit the following:

- The completed Athlete Profile survey which is part of this [Google Form](#) (t-shirt question does not apply).
- Two photos for an athlete profile for the Orienteering Canada website (one head shot and one action shot, preferably from the 2020 or 2019 season, and in the Team Canada uniform). (submit via Google Form or email to hpp@orienteering.ca).
- A signed copy of the [2021 Athlete Agreement](#) (submit via Google Form or email to hpp@orienteering.ca).

Ongoing Team Requirements

Athletes will also be required to complete anti-doping education and sign the CADP Athlete Contract if they have not done so already. Athletes must complete this by the deadline provided when they are accepted or they will be removed from the team.

¹ If one applicant is asked for additional information, all athletes must be asked for that same information.

² Should an alternate be named during the initial team selection announcement, that athlete will be provided a spot should another athlete decline their position.

Athletes will also be required to provide certain information to Orienteering Canada and/or the IOF at various times leading up to and after the event. Failure to provide that information as requested may result in removal from the team.

Funding and Expectations

Orienteering Canada does not have the funds to support the athletes' travel and competition.

Selected athletes must be prepared to cover their own costs for the competition entry fee, room and board, travel, and uniforms. All extra costs related to COVID-19 protocols, e.g., testing, quarantine or self-isolation requirements, including entry into other countries and reentry into Canada, are the athlete's sole responsibility. It is the athlete's responsibility to know what the entry requirements are to different countries and re-entry requirements into Canada.

Orienteering Canada cannot provide any support with medical expenses in case the athlete contracts Covid-19 during travel or competition time.

Orienteering Canada will register the selected team/athletes for the event/race. The athletes will be invoiced by Orienteering Canada for all the costs regarding registration fees.

The athletes must book and pay for their own travel, accommodation, food and any extra costs. Orienteering Canada will not guarantee that there will be a team manager or coach available for support at these events. Regardless of whether or not there are coaches or team officials at the events, the athletes must abide by all Orienteering Canada policies and procedures (www.orienteeering.ca/about/policies), including, but not limited to, the code of conduct and ethics, athlete agreement and social media policy while representing Orienteering Canada at all training sessions, meetings, and competitions. Athletes will also be bound by their athlete responsibilities to the Canadian Centre for Ethics in Sport.

Athlete's will have to purchase certain uniform items to wear at the competition. Please see sections 9.1 and 13 of the [Team Canada Athlete's Handbook](#). More information will be provide to selected athletes.

Any money required to be contributed by the athlete must be paid to Orienteering Canada as requested. Failure to pay such monies may result in the athlete's removal from all teams.

In the case of unforeseen cancellation of the event or if Orienteering Canada decides to withdraw from the event (for example, due to security concerns or increased COVID risk) the athletes will still be responsible for covering the costs of any entry fees, accommodation, and travel costs already paid.

Removal from the Team

Once selected to a team, an athlete may voluntarily withdraw. There is no penalty to an athlete for withdrawing from a team but any costs that have been paid by Orienteering Canada for that athlete (whether before or after the athlete withdraws) must be paid by the athlete.

In addition, the selection subcommittee may exercise their discretion to remove an athlete from the team for any of the following reasons:

- Failure to adhere to team rules and Orienteering Canada's Code of Conduct and or the signed Athlete Agreement.
- Failure to remain competition-ready leading up to the event; or
- Fraudulent misrepresentation.

Note: athletes must immediately report (via email to hpp@orienteering.ca) any injury, illness or change in training that could affect their ability to compete at their highest level.

Prior to removal from the team, the selection subcommittee must give the athlete an opportunity to be heard. The selection subcommittee must notify the athlete in writing that they have been removed from the team and provide reasons for the removal.

Appeals

An appeal against a decision of the selection subcommittee can be made in accordance with Orienteering Canada's [appeals policy](#). The appeal deadline is 48 hours after the announcement.