

SHOOTING FEDERATION OF CANADA

2025 HIGH PERFORMANCE PROGRAM SELECTION CRITERIA

(National and Development Teams)

INTRODUCTION

The Shooting Federation of Canada (SFC) High Performance Program (HPP) identifies athletes in Train to Compete and Train to Win of the SFC's Long-Term Development (LTD) framework and is in alignment with SFC's high-performance strategies. The HPP was developed in consultation with Own the Podium and Sport Canada.

The philosophy behind the selection criteria is to select the best athletes. These athletes can reasonably produce a personal best at a competition fulfilling the requirement of performance on demand and acknowledges the relentless pursuit of excellence.

PURPOSE:

To support Canadian High Performance athletes to podium performances through the planning and implementation of the SFC High Performance Program Plan. The purpose of this document is to set clear, transparent, and fair criteria and procedures for the selection of 2025 High Performance Program (HPP) athletes during the competition season of October 1, 2023 to October 31, 2024.

ABBREVIATIONS

The abbreviation used in this document have the following meaning:

- CAT Championships - Continental Championships of the Americas
- DT - Development Team
- HPC - High Performance Committee
- HPP - High Performance Program
- ISSF - International Sport Shooting Federation
- LTD - Long-Term Development Framework
- NT - National Team
- OTP - Own the Podium
- Pan Am Games - Pan American Games
- QROG - Qualification Ranking for Olympic Games
- RPO - Ranking Points Only
- SFC - Shooting Federation of Canada
- YTP - Yearly Training Plan

1. HIGH PERFORMANCE PROGRAM OVERVIEW & CONDITIONS

- 1.1. High Performance Program athletes are acknowledged as those who have met the expectations posted in this document at the National and Development level.
- 1.2. The High Performance Committee (HPC) will communicate directly to the athlete only once the athlete has reached the age of majority (18). For those athletes under the age of majority, the HPC will communicate directly with the athlete's parent or legal guardian on matters pertaining to the High Performance Program. The onus is on the athlete and parent to keep each other informed.

- 1.3. Athlete selection for Major Games and events independent of the ISSF World Cup and ISSF Grand Prix circuit will be based on separate criteria that will be developed and published by the High Performance Committee (HPC) on an as-and-when- needed basis.
- 1.4. ISSF World Cup participation is at the discretion of the High Performance Coach of each discipline. The High Performance Coach will focus on the specific needs of the individual athletes at each competitive level (National and Development), review gaps in performance, desired achievements relevant to their Yearly Training Plan (YTP) and assign ISSF World Cup/Championship competitions accordingly.
- 1.5. The selection criteria and procedures are based on best practices, are in line with the SFC Long Term Development Framework, and with the input and guidance of Own the Podium (OTP).
- 1.6. If there is a difference in interpretation between the French and English versions of this document, the English version will prevail.
- 1.7. All deadlines are considered firm. The SFC, and by extension the HPC, is not responsible for any late, lost, delayed, misdirected or stolen correspondence directed to the SFC or HPC; either submitted online, via fax, electronically, via postal service, commercially shipped or voice activated.
- 1.8. In the event of unforeseen circumstances beyond the control of the SFC that prevent the HPC from fairly implementing these internal nomination procedures as written, the HPC shall have full discretion to resolve the matter as it sees fit, taking into account factors and circumstances that are deemed relevant.
- 1.9. The HPC shall have full discretion to name athletes to the team based on, but not limited to, ranking, overall desired outcomes, coachability, commitment to training and improving, scores achieved in international events, and regular communication with the High Performance Coach.

2. HIGH PERFORMANCE PROGRAM TEAMS

High Performance Development Team (DT)

High Performance Development Team Athletes are those who have met the performance criteria for the 2025 High Performance Program as listed in Item 6 of this criteria.

- Performance objective: to progress athletes to a top 16 finish at a World Cup.
- High Performance Development Team athletes are expected to perform at the Train to Compete to Train to Win Stage of the SFC Long Term Development (LTD) framework and model.

High Performance National Team (NT)

High Performance National Team Athletes are those who have met the performance criteria for the 2025 High Performance Program as listed in Item 6 of this criteria.

- Performance objective: to progress athletes to a top 8 finish at a World Cup.
- High Performance National Team athletes are expected to perform at the Train to Win Stage of the SFC Long Term Development (LTD) framework and model.

3. ATHLETE ELIGIBILITY & RESPONSIBILITIES

To be considered and eligible for selection to the SFC National or Development Team an athlete must:

- 3.1. Be a member in good standing of the Shooting Federation of Canada and, inherently, pay in full any outstanding accounts receivable owing the SFC.
- 3.2. Be a Canadian citizen in possession of a valid Canadian passport OR be a permanent resident in the process of obtaining Canadian Citizenship; if naturalized, the ISSF international participation rule will be applicable (Article 3.6 Entry and Participation, item 3.6.3.3). Athletes must be fully eligible to compete for Canada at the time of representation at an ISSF World Cup or Major Competition / Games.
- 3.3. Consent to being subject to the Universal Code of Conduct to Prevent and Address Maltreatment in Sport (the "UCCMS" available at <https://sportintegritycommissioner.ca/uccms>) and the processes required for its administration and enforcement.

- 3.4. Participate at the 2024 National Championships to be eligible for the 2025 National or Development Team.
- 3.5. Sign and adhere to the Canadian Anti-Doping Program (CADP) Athlete Contract specific to the year of participation.
- 3.6. Complete CCES True Sport Clean online education module specific to the year of participation.
- 3.7. Have completed the [Respect in Sport](#) module.
- 3.8. Follow an NCCP training and competition plan agreed upon in collaboration with the athlete's personal coach and the applicable National Coach. (YTP spans 48 weeks/ year).
- 3.9. Pay the High Performance Program Fee of \$250 at the time of team registration.
- 3.10. Work with a Personal Coach who is NCCP certified in your respective discipline, or a Personal Coach who can demonstrate that they are actively working towards Canadian certification.
- 3.11. Discuss qualifying score competitions with your respective National Team Coach
- 3.12. Adhere to the SFC Athlete Agreement & all applicable policies

4. BENEFITS of TEAM MEMBERSHIP

World Cup participation is at the discretion of the HPC and will be assigned by the High Performance Coach to each National and Development Team athlete based on, but not limited to, ranking, overall desired outcomes, commitment to training and improving, scores achieved in other international events, and regular communication with the High Performance Coach. The List of ISSF World Cups/Championships is available on the ISSF [website](#).

Athletes meeting and maintaining High Performance Program requirements for the various teams **may** benefit from the following:

- 4.1. ISSF World Cup participation for score and QROG Points
- 4.2. ISSF Junior World Cup participation for score (age eligible)
- 4.3. Participate in Mixed Team events at World Cups/Championships as assigned (The first qualified male will be paired with the first qualified female and the second qualified male paired with the second qualified female in the applicable events).
- 4.4. Invitation to HP training. (camps, online presentations, etc.)
- 4.5. Administrative support for ISSF World Cups/Championships and Major Games competition participation
- 4.6. Observation and feedback from HP Coach (webinars, training camps, one-on-one coaching subject to availability)
- 4.7. NCCP Training Plan (YTP) building, guidance & planning support from HP Coach
- 4.8. Benchmark and goal setting with HP Coach
- 4.9. Access to, and support from, IST professionals when available
- 4.10. Access to Sport Canada Athlete Assistance Program Carding nomination (Olympic disciplines only) †
- 4.11. Major Games participation (as per posted Major Games Criteria)*
- 4.12. Funding for participation in training camps, IST support, and competitions when available
- 4.13. High Performance Team Uniform and items of insignia
- 4.14. Competition exemption availability (see 9.1)
- 4.15. Medical exemption availability (see 9.1)

† Development Team members are only eligible for AAP carding funding IF the number of cards exceeds the number of eligible National Team Athletes.

*athletes must qualify via Internal Nominating Procedures, as posted, for Major Games.

5. ATHLETE QUALIFICATION

The philosophy behind the selection criteria is to select the best athletes. These athletes can reasonably produce a personal best at a competition fulfilling the requirement of performance on demand and acknowledge the relentless pursuit of excellence. However, to protect the development of all events in the program the High Performance Committee (HPC) reserves the right to add athletes to the program to ensure ongoing development of that event. These athletes would be named to the Development Team; would not displace a natural Development Team or Games position; would be limited to designated development opportunities as decided with their National Team Coach; and will not be eligible for AAP Funding, nor attendance at World Cups nor attendance at World Championships (unless determined a development opportunity by the their National Team Coach).

QUALIFICATION PROCESS

- Any athlete who wants to be considered for High Performance Team Selection will be required to submit 4 scores online during the High Performance Team Selection Intake Period (known as the “Intake Period”).
- A maximum of two (2) scores can be from a domestic event, the remainder must be International.
- The four (4) scores must come from a minimum of three (3) different competitions.
- Scores must be achieved between October 1, 2023 and October 31, 2024.
- Scores must be from the list of Eligible Events - see Annex A
- The online Intake Period will be from November 1-7, 2024.
- Scores must meet ISSF rules and regulations - see .
- National and Development athletes are encouraged to pursue QROG points when available at World Cups and the designated ISSF Grand Prix’s. Please visit the ISSF website here for a list of eligible Grand Prix.
- Results from RPO (Ranking Points only) competitions will be accepted.
- If an athlete is attempting to qualify in multiple events (e.g. Air Rifle and 3 Position), a separate Intake Form must be filed for each event.
- To be on the 2025 Development or National Team athletes MUST attend the National Championships held in 2024 (exact dates TBD).
- National and Development Team athletes are expected to review their competition plan with the National Coach of their discipline to ensure the scores they plan to submit during the Intake Period qualify as outlined above.
- QSDR Forms will not be required. The Intake Period replaces the QSDR process used in previous years.

GENERAL RULES AND INFORMATION

- 5.1. Athlete appointment to the 2025 Team, and World Cup and Major Games participation is at the discretion of the HPC based on, but not limited to, ranking, overall desired outcomes, commitment to training and improving, scores achieved in other international events, and regular communication with the High Performance Coach.
- 5.2. Athletes are expected to complete all courses of fire, including finals if applicable, in any qualifying score match, or international match (including US Selection Matches) in which they are registered to compete unless there are unforeseen circumstances (e.g. illness/injury).
- 5.3. At any event where there are elimination and qualification rounds, the qualification round will count. If the athlete does not make the qualification round then the elimination round will count.
- 5.4. INDOOR MATCHES: Only International indoor matches can be used as qualified matches.

6. TEAM SELECTION and RANKING

2022 AVERAGE 8th Place scores from World Cups to make finals*:

Women's Air Pistol	574	Men's Air Pistol	579
Women's 25M	580	Men's Rapid Fire Pistol	579
Women's Air Rifle	628	Men's Air Rifle	628
Women's 3 Position	585	Men's 3 Position	586
Women's Skeet	114	Men's Skeet	120
Women's Trap	112	Men's Trap	119

*for a complete list of scores used for these averages please see [here](#). All scores were rounded down to a whole number

QUALIFICATION

There are three ways to qualify for the 2025 High Performance Team:

- A. Percentage Ranking List (National & Development Team)
- B. Top 16 Ranking at a Major Competition* (National Team)
(*Olympics/Paralympics, World Championships, World Cup, ISSF Grand Prix)
- C. Make Finals at a Major Games* (National Team)
(*Olympics/Paralympics, Pan Am Games, CAT Championships / Games where Olympic quota positions are available)(excludes Team Events)

TOP 16 / FINALS

- 6.1. If an athlete ranks in the top 16 or makes Finals in the events listed above they automatically qualify for the National Team. These positions do not displace any of the National Team positions allocated through the Percentage Ranking List.

PERCENTAGE RANKING LIST

- 6.2. Athlete selection will be based on the average of the 4 scores submitted (called Average Score).
- 6.3. The Average Score for each athlete will be compared against the 2022 World Cup 8th place average score for their event to create a "Percentage List":
- 6.4. Average Score values will be calculated to the 4th decimal place.
- 6.5. All athletes who score 100% or more will qualify for the National Team.
- 6.6. If there are fewer than 6 athletes who achieve 100% or more, the next highest percentage athlete will be selected to the National Team until at least 6 athletes are selected.
- 6.7. Once the 6 or more athletes are selected to the National Team, the next 8 athletes on the percentage list will be named to the Development Team.
- 6.8. As stated in section 5.0, the HPC reserves the right to add athletes to the Development Team to ensure ongoing development of that event. These athletes would be named to the Development Team and would not displace a natural Development Team position.
- 6.9. If an athlete achieves National Team status for both their disciplines, the next eligible athlete will be invited onto the National Team.
- 6.10. If an athlete achieves one percentage in the National Team and one percentage in the Development Team, that athlete will be considered a National Team athlete and the next Development Team Athlete will be invited onto the team.

- 6.11. If an athlete achieves two separate percentages on the Development Team (one for each of their disciplines), the next eligible athlete will be invited onto the Development Team.
- 6.12. If two or more athletes have the exact same percentage at the 4th decimal, both/all athletes will be invited onto the respective team from which they achieved their score. (e.g. if 98.4394% achieves a National Team score and there are three athletes who have achieved that score, all three will be placed on the National Team).
- 6.13. If any of the National or Development Team members are Permanent Residents and cannot officially compete for Canada, the next eligible athlete from the percentage list will be invited onto the respective team the Permanent Resident athlete is on.

7. **ATHLETE EXEMPTIONS**

Granted only to current High Performance Program Athletes

- 7.1. General Exemption Rules:
 - Exemptions are considered on a case-by-case basis
 - The athlete understands they may be forfeiting qualifying score opportunities when applying for an exemption.
 - The athlete must submit their request for an exemption to the SFC Chief Executive Officer, in writing by email to: sverdier@sfc-ftc.ca
- 7.2. Medical Exemption:
 - Application for Medical exemption must be applied for as soon as a medical issue is realized and can be substantiated by a doctor's certificate.
 - An athlete who has been granted a 'Medical Exemption':
 - will not displace those who have met the requirements in the qualifying year;
 - will be ranked in the last position on the respective team for which they achieved their scores during that competition year.
 - Medical Exemptions are granted only for the competitive season (October 1, 2023 to October 31, 2024) of which it is applied. After the end of the competitive season, the athlete must, once again, successfully achieve a place on the National or Development Team.
 - The SFC reserves the right to request a doctor's note to confirm medical exemptions if one has not been provided.
- 7.3. Compassionate Exemption:
 - An athlete who has been granted a 'Compassionate Exemption' will be ranked in the last position on the respective team for which they achieved their scores during that competition year.
 - 'Compassionate Exemptions' may be considered for issues beyond the control of the athlete that can negatively impact performance. These are on a case by case basis.
 - Compassionate Exemptions are granted only for the competitive season (October 1, 2023 to October 31, 2024) of which it is applied. After the end of the competitive season, the athlete must, once again, successfully achieve a place on the National or Development Team.
- 7.4. Competition Exemption:
 - Should a **MANDATORY** selection match occur within 30 days **PRIOR OR AFTER** a Major Games, the athletes that attended the games, may apply for a Competition Exemption. However, should the selection match for which the exemption is being applied for be a required selection match for Major Games/Competition, no exemption shall be granted without the athlete understanding that they forfeit their placement on the Major Games/Competition Team.

The above criteria are final and supersede all other previously issued criteria pertaining to the selection of athletes to the Shooting Federation of Canada High Performance Program.

ANNEX A

2025 Eligible Events & Match Criteria

Domestic

Only the following domestic competitions will be accepted as listed below.

National / Development Team	Junior / Identified Team
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Canadian National Championships* 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Canadian National Championships* ● Canadian Air Gun Grand Prix

**Nationals will follow ISSF rules and regulations to the best of their ability.*

International

Eligible international competitions are listed below (in no particular order). For events not listed here, please email sverdier@sfc-ftc.ca to see if it is acceptable.

- USA Shooting hosted events; including CMP (Civilian Marksmanship Programs)
- ISCH Hanover
- InterShoot
- IWK Berlin
- H&N Cup
- Liberation of Plzen
- Emir Cup
- Green Cup
- Eley Open
- Denmark Open
- CAT Championships
- International Championships
- ISSF Grand Prixs
- World Cups
- World Championships
- Major Games (Olympic / Paralympic / Pan & Para-Pan Am Games)

MATCH CRITERIA FOR QUALIFYING SCORE CONSIDERATION

	RIFLE / PISTOL	SHOTGUN
Minimum number of positions	Ten (10) except for 25m Rapid Fire pistol requiring two (2) bays	One (1) ISSF approved Bunker for Trap One (1) ISSF approved field of play for Skeet

Minimum number of Officials	1 ISSF Certified B Licensed Judge AND 1 National Certified Official* , or 2 ISSF Certified B Licensed Judges, or 1 ISSF A Licensed Judge (for each range/field of play in use)	1 ISSF certified Referees or B Licensed Judges AND 1 National Certified Referee* , or 2 ISSF certified Referees or B Licensed Judges, or 1 ISSF certified A licensed Judge (for each range/field of play in use)
Target System	Electronic	International Targets thrown to current ISSF specifications
Match Format	Current ISSF	Current ISSF
<p>*National Certified Official/Referee must be certified for a minimum of 3 years and have been active for the last 2 of the 3 consecutive years (from 2017) at the National Championships. The National Official/Referee must be vetted by the SFC.</p>		

COURSES OF FIRE

At National Championships and any High-Performance Team Trial (as set out by the HPC) where the current standard of two (2) separate courses of fire count as one competition containing two unique opportunities.

Athletes are expected to complete all courses of fire, including finals, if applicable, in any qualifying score match, team trials or international match (including US selection matches) in which they are registered to compete unless there are unforeseen circumstances (examples: illness/injury, equipment malfunction, match rescheduling).