

SHOOTING FEDERATION OF CANADA

HIGH PERFORMANCE PROGRAM

2027 TEAM SELECTION CRITERIA

(Junior National Team)

INTRODUCTION

The Shooting Federation of Canada (SFC) High Performance Program (HPP) Junior National Team identifies athletes who meet ISSF Junior eligibility (until December 31 of the year in which they turn 21) and who demonstrate the performance capacity and long-term potential required for progression within Canada's high-performance pathway.

The Junior National Team supports athletes capable of achieving Top 15 results at ISSF Junior World Cups and Junior World Championships, and of making finals at Junior CAT Games and Junior Pan American Games. The program also recognizes athletes with the long-term potential to transition toward senior-level success, including Top 15 ISSF senior performances, CAT finals, and future Olympic or Paralympic quota qualification for Brisbane 2032 and beyond.

The philosophy underpinning the selection criteria is to identify junior athletes who demonstrate both current international competitiveness and the capacity to perform under pressure in world-class environments. Selection is grounded in objective performance standards and reflects SFC's commitment to long-term athlete development and sustained international success.

Junior National Team athletes receive coaching support from National Team coaching staff at selected competitions and may participate in SFC-supported training camps. Athletes are supported with developmentally appropriate training guidance, performance expectations, and sport science resources. They also receive logistical coordination to facilitate international participation and are eligible to purchase SFC-branded apparel for competition and travel.

Junior athletes who achieve the published performance standards for the Senior National Team may express interest and will be assessed in accordance with the Senior Team Selection Criteria.

The purpose of this document is to establish clear, transparent, and fair criteria and procedures for the selection of athletes to the 2027 Junior National Teams, and governs athlete selection for the competition season covering January 1st, 2027 to December 31, 2027.

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 Shooting Sport Federation
- IST - Integrated Support Team
- 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
- TBD - To be determined
- YTP - Yearly Training Plan

1. HIGH PERFORMANCE PROGRAM OVERVIEW & CONDITIONS

- 1.1. Junior National Team athletes include those who have met the expectations posted in this document at the Junior National Team 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 or Championships (Junior World Champs) and events independent of the ISSF World Cups 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 Junior National Team Coach, subject to the approval of the HPC. The Junior National Team Coach will focus on the specific needs of the individual athlete at their individual competitive level, review gaps in performance, desired achievements relevant to their Yearly Training Plan (YTP) and assign ISSF World Cup/Championship competitions accordingly.
- 1.5. These 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. 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.
- 1.7. In the event of unforeseen circumstances beyond the control of the SFC that prevent the implementing of these procedures as written, the SFC shall have full discretion to resolve the matter as it sees fit, taking into account factors and circumstances that are deemed relevant.
- 1.8. 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 Junior National Team Coach.

2. HIGH PERFORMANCE PROGRAM TEAM

Junior National Team

Junior National Team athletes are those who have met the performance criteria for the 2027 High Performance Program. Athletes will remain as Juniors until the 31st December of the year in which they become 21 years of age. Any athlete born between the 1st January and the 31st December, will cease to be a Junior on the 31st December of that year. (Clause 3.7.4.12, ISSF General Rule Book).

- Junior National Team Athletes are expected to strive towards the standards required to be Top 15 at ISSF Junior World Cup, Junior World Championships, and make finals at Junior CAT Games, and Junior Pan American Games. AND may have the aspiration and long-term potential to progress toward Top 15 senior-level ISSF results, CAT finals, and future quota spot qualification for Brisbane 2032 and beyond.
- Junior aged athletes who have accepted an invitation to be National or Development Team athletes must compete in the qualifying matches for those programs.
- Mixed Teams are selected from current High Performance Team athletes assigned to ISSF World Cups and major competitions and games. 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.

3. ATHLETE ELIGIBILITY & RESPONSIBILITIES

To be considered and eligible for selection to the 2027 Junior National Team athletes are required to:

- 3.1. Be a member in good standing of the SFC 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 recognized Permanent Resident in the process of obtaining Canadian Citizenship; if naturalized, the ISSF international participation rule will be applicable (Article 3.7 Participation and ISSF Athletes, item 3.7.4). 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://sportintegrity.ca/safesport>) and the processes required for its administration and enforcement.
- 3.4. Sign and adhere to the Canadian Anti-Doping Program (CADP) Athlete Contract specific to the year of participation.
- 3.5. Complete CCEs True Sport Clean online education module specific to the year of participation.
- 3.6. Complete mandatory Abuse and Harassment training as required by Sport Canada.
- 3.7. Athletes are required to submit and follow a YTP (including Gap Analysis) outlining their planned training and competition activities for the year in collaboration with the applicable National Team Coach.
- 3.8. Pay the High Performance Program Fee of \$350 at the time of team registration.
- 3.9. Work with a Personal Coach who is NCCP and/or ISSF certified in their respective discipline, or a Personal Coach who can demonstrate that they are actively working towards appropriate certification. (Note: As of 2026 new ISSF Rule 6.12.5.2 only Coaches with a valid ‘A’ or ‘B’ ISSF Coach license can be present on the field of play at an ISSF sanctioned event).
- 3.10. Discuss qualifying score competitions with the Junior National Team Coach
- 3.11. Sign and adhere to the SFC Athlete Agreement, including SFC Code of Conduct & all applicable policies

4. BENEFITS of TEAM MEMBERSHIP

World Cup participation is at the discretion of the HPC and **MAY** be assigned by the Junior National Team Coach to a Junior National 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 Junior National Team Coach.

The List of ISSF World Cups/Championships is available on the ISSF [website](https://www.issf-sports.org/calendar.ashx) (<https://www.issf-sports.org/calendar.ashx>).

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

- 4.1. ISSF World Cup participation for MQS and Ranking Points (age eligible)
- 4.2. Participate in Mixed Team events at World Cups/Championships as assigned and in accordance with the relevant Major Games selection policy.
- 4.3. Invitation to HP training (camps, online presentations, etc.)
- 4.4. Administrative support for ISSF World Cups/Championships and Major Games competition participation
- 4.5. Observation and feedback from Junior National Team Coach (webinars, training camps, one-on-one coaching subject to availability)
- 4.6. Gap Analysis and Training Plan (YTP) building, guidance & planning support from the Junior National Team Coach
- 4.7. Benchmark and goal setting with the Junior National Team Coach
- 4.8. Access to, and support from, IST professionals when available

- 4.9. Major Games participation (as per posted Major Games Criteria)
- 4.10. Funding for participation in training camps, IST support, and competitions when available
- 4.11. High Performance Team Uniform and items of insignia

5. ATHLETE QUALIFICATION

It is the responsibility of the athlete to provide evidence of performance and the intention of 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 are actively striving for performance improvement.

QUALIFICATION PROCESS

- Any athlete who wants to be considered for Junior National Team Selection will be required to express interest (EOI) in being considered for selection and to submit 4 eligible scores during the Team Selection Intake Period (known as the “Intake Period”).
- A maximum of three (3) scores can be from domestic events, at least one (1) score must be from an eligible international event outside of Canada.
- The four (4) scores must come from a minimum of three (3) different competitions.
- Scores must be achieved during the 2026 competitive season defined for these purposes as between **December 1, 2025 and December 2nd, 2026**.
- The opportunity to express interest (EOI) in being considered for selection and to submit scores online will be from **December 7th- 14th 2026**.
- Scores must be from events that are approved or sanctioned by SFC and/or meet ISSF rules and regulations. Guidance and a list of eligible events is provided below - see Annex A.
- If an athlete is attempting to qualify in multiple events (e.g. Air Rifle and 3 Position), a separate EOI (Intake Form) must be filed for each event.
- To be on the 2026 Junior National Team athletes are expected to attend the National Championships held in 2026 ([dates published here](#)) unless exempted by the HPC.
- Junior National Team athletes are expected to review their competition plan with the Junior National Team Coach to ensure the scores they plan to submit during the Intake Period qualify as outlined above

6. TEAM SELECTION and RANKING

QUALIFYING THRESHOLD SCORES

Pistol: 10m Air Men	556	25m Rapid Fire Men	551
10m Air Women	553	25m Women	558
Rifle: 10m Air Men	612	50m 3P Men	568
10m Air Women	612	50m 3P Women	565
Skeet: Men	106	Skeet: Women	100
Trap: Men	105	Trap: Women	98

Junior National Team qualifying scores are designed to guide us towards performance levels at or better than the middle of an ISSF Junior World Cup field.

TEAM SELECTION

- 6.1 To qualify for the Junior National Team the average of the 4 scores submitted (called Average Score) must meet or exceed the Qualifying Threshold Score (see above)
- 6.2 Average Score Values will be calculated to the 4th decimal place.
- 6.3 Those athletes who achieve the qualifying score for the Junior National Team will be ranked using the Percentile-Based Ranking System.

- 6.4 For each athlete, Average Score will be applied to the Percentile-Based Ranking System to determine the athlete's ranking.
- 6.5 Athletes shall be ranked from highest to lowest, in the event that two or more athletes have an identical predicted placing, the tie shall be broken by comparing each athlete's single highest submitted score; the athlete whose highest single score produces the stronger predicted placing shall be ranked higher.
- 6.6 Should NO athlete achieve the Junior National Team qualifying score in a specific event, the next highest ranking Junior athlete may be named to the Junior National Team in that event providing they have submitted the 4 scores as outlined in section 5 under "Qualification Process"

GENERAL RULES AND INFORMATION

- 6.7 Athlete appointment to the 2027 Junior National 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 Junior National Team Coach.

7. ATHLETE EXEMPTIONS

Granted only to current High Performance Program Athletes (National, Development and Junior National Team and ID Athletes)

- 7.1. General Exemption Rules:
 - Exemptions are considered on a case-by-case basis and are confirmed by the CEO subject to approval by the HPC.
 - The athlete understands they may be forfeiting qualifying score opportunities when applying for an exemption.
 - The athlete must submit their request for an exemption, by email to ceo@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 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.
 - An athlete who has been granted a Compassionate 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.

- Compassionate Exemptions are granted only for the competitive season 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. Maternity Exemption:

- An athlete who becomes pregnant may apply for a Maternity Exemption, which will be considered a specific and recognized category of exemption within the SFC High Performance Program.
- Application for a Maternity Exemption should be made as soon as reasonably practicable, at a time chosen by the athlete, and may be substantiated by appropriate medical documentation if required.
- An athlete who has been granted a Maternity 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.
- Maternity Exemptions are granted only for the competitive season or seasons for which they are applied. After the end of the exemption period, the athlete must once again successfully achieve a place on the National or Development Team, subject to applicable eligibility and selection criteria
- The SFC recognizes that pregnancy and post-pregnancy recovery timelines vary between athletes. Consideration of return-to-training and return-to-competition planning will be managed on a case-by-case basis, guided by medical advice and athlete readiness.
- The SFC reserves the right to request medical confirmation to support a Maternity Exemption, while respecting athlete confidentiality and privacy.

7.5. 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.

This document was drafted in English, and the official French document is a translation. When there are issues of interpretation of this selection policy, the English and French versions are equally authoritative and must be read together in order to determine the intended meaning.

ANNEX A

2027 Eligible Events & Match Criteria

Domestic

The following domestic competitions will be accepted as listed below.

National / Development / Junior / Identified Team
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Canadian National Championships*• Provincially Hosted Competitions**• Canadian National Junior Championships (CNJC)***• SFC Sanctioned Competitions

**Refers exclusively to the (Pistol / Rifle / Skeet / Trap) SFC sanctioned Canadian National Championships.*

***Provincially hosted competitions must meet the Match Criteria for Qualifying Score Consideration (see below) or have received written exemption from SFC for any variance or exemption that – in the opinion of SFC - does not reasonably impact safety or fairness.*

****CNJC scores will only be eligible in “In Person” years and must meet the Match Criteria for Qualifying Score Consideration. Scores in “Remote” years are not eligible.*

International

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

<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Olympic & Paralympic Games• Pan & Para-Pan American Games• ISSF World Championships (SR & JR)• ISSF World Cups (SR & JR)• CAT Championships• Grand Prix (including Canadian Air Gun Grand Prix)• USA Shooting hosted events using ISSF certified officials• British Shooting hosted events using ISSF certified officials • H&N Cup (January 2026)• ISSF Grand Prix Ruse (January 2026)• Intershoot (February 2026)• Denmark Open (February 2026)• Qatar Grand Prix, QAT (February 2026)• ISAS Dortmund (March 2026)• Portugal Grand Prix, POR (March 2026)• Cyprus Grand Prix, CYP (March 2026)• IWK Berlin (April 2026)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Hellenic Grand Prix Malakasa, GRE (May 2026)• Grand Prix of France Chateauroux, FRA (May 2026)• IRS Cup (May 2026)• Gibraltar Open (May 2026)• EMIR Cup Grand Prix, Todi ITA (June 2026)• Green Cup Grand Prix, Todi ITA (July 2026)• GP Wroclaw TBC• GP Jozef Zapiedzki TBC• Liberation GP TBC• Danish Masters TBC• Pardini Rapid Fire Cup TBC• MASPED Cup TBC• Shooting Hopes TBC• Hungarian Open TBC• RIAC TBC• GP Osijek TBC
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MATCH CRITERIA FOR QUALIFYING SCORE CONSIDERATION

Competitions should meet the Match Criteria for Qualifying Score Consideration (see below) or have received written exemption from SFC for any variance or exemption that – in the opinion of SFC - does not reasonably impact safety or fairness.

	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 (for each range/field of play in use)	1 ISSF Certified B Licensed Judge and 1 National Certified Official; or 2 ISSF Certified B Licensed Judges; or 1 ISSF A Licensed Judge	1 ISSF Certified Referee or B Licensed Judge; and 1 National Certified Referee; or 2 ISSF Certified Referees or B Licensed Judges; or 1 ISSF certified A licensed Judge
Target System	Electronic	International Targets thrown to current ISSF specifications
Match Format	Current ISSF	Current ISSF

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).