

SHOOTING FEDERATION OF CANADA

HIGH PERFORMANCE PROGRAM

2027 IDENTIFIED ATHLETE CRITERIA

INTRODUCTION

The Identified Athlete category is designed for athletes who wish to compete internationally and who have met the minimum qualifying standards required for participation at sanctioned international events. These standards are established to ensure that athletes endorsed by the Shooting Federation of Canada (SFC) demonstrate the technical competence and readiness necessary to represent Canada appropriately in international competition.

SFC recognizes that target shooting is a lifelong sport and that athlete development does not always follow a linear progression. The Identified Athlete designation serves as both an entry point and a re-entry point within the performance system. It provides an opportunity for athletes who wish to compete internationally — whether to experience higher-level competition, to re-engage with the sport, or to demonstrate potential for future Development or National Team selection — provided they meet the published minimum standards. This designation supports athletes seeking continued growth, renewed engagement, or progression within the high-performance framework.

Identified Athletes who subsequently demonstrate performance potential aligned with the Development Team criteria may express interest in progression and will be assessed against the published Development Team standards in effect at that time.

Identified Athletes receive logistical support from SFC for approved international competitions, including entry processing, documentation, and travel coordination when available. They have access to shared high-performance resources, including training programs, technical guidance, camps and Integrated Support Team (IST) services when available. Identified Athletes also receive SFC-branded team apparel for competition and travel. Individualized coaching support, camps and dedicated sport science services are prioritized, based on objectives and capacity, for Development and National Team athletes.

The purpose of this document is to establish clear, transparent, and fair criteria and procedures for the designation of Identified Athletes for the competition season covering January 1st, 2027 to December 31, 2027.

ABBREVIATIONS

The abbreviation used in this document have the following meaning:

ID	Identified
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

MQS	Minimum Qualifying Score (as defined by the ISSF)
NT	National Team
OTP	Own the Podium
QROG	Qualification Ranking for Olympic Games
RPO	Ranking Points Only
SFC	Shooting Federation of Canada
TBD	To be determined
YTP	Yearly Training Plan

1. IDENTIFIED ATHLETES OVERVIEW & CONDITIONS

- 1.1. Identified Athletes are acknowledged as those who have met the expectations posted in this document.
- 1.2. The SFC 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 SFC will communicate directly with the athlete's parent or legal guardian on matters pertaining to the Identified Program. The onus is on the athlete and parent to keep each other informed.
- 1.3. These selection criteria and procedures are based on best practices and are in line with the SFC Long Term Development Framework.
- 1.4. 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; either submitted online, via fax, electronically, via postal service, commercially shipped or voice activated.
- 1.5. In the event of unforeseen circumstances beyond the control of the SFC that prevent SFC from fairly implementing 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.
- 1.6. The HPC shall have full discretion to designate athletes as Identified Athletes 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 relevant National Team Coach.

2. ATHLETE ELIGIBILITY & RESPONSIBILITIES

To be considered and eligible for selection to the SFC Identified Team athlete is required to:

- 2.1. Be a member in good standing of the SFC and, inherently, pay in full any outstanding accounts receivable owing the SFC.
- 2.2. 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 3.7 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.
- 2.3. 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.
- 2.4. Not use or be in possession of, by medical prescription or otherwise unless approved by a Therapeutic Use Exemption (TUE), any drug that is on the World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA) Prohibited List or engage in any method or activity that would be in contravention to the Canadian Anti-Doping Program or World Anti-Doping Code.
- 2.5. Complete CCES True Sport Clean online education module specific to the year of participation.
- 2.6. Complete mandatory Abuse and Harassment training as required by Sport Canada.

- 2.7. Athletes are expected to submit and follow a YTP (including Gap Analysis) outlining their planned training and competition activities for the year to aid performance and support planning resource allocation.
- 2.8. Pay the High Performance Program Fee of \$350 at the time of team registration.
- 2.9. Sign and adhere to the SFC Athlete Agreement, including SFC Code of Conduct & all applicable policies.

3. ATHLETE QUALIFICATION

QUALIFICATION PROCESS

- Any athlete who wants to be considered for designation as an Identified Athlete will be required to express interest (EOI) in being considered for designation and to submit 4 eligible scores during the Team Selection Intake Period (known as the “Intake Period”).
- To be considered for designation as an Identified Athlete there is no requirement for scores from eligible international events outside of Canada but without at least one (1) eligible international score they cannot be considered for selection to the National or Development Team regardless of their ranking under the Percentile-Based Ranking System.
- 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 designation 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
- Results from MQS only (formerly 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 EOI (Intake Form) must be filed for each event.
- To be considered for designation as a 2027 Identified Athlete, the athlete is expected to attend the National Championships held in 2026 ([dates published here](#)) unless exempted by the HPC.
- Identified Athletes should review their competition plan with their coach to ensure the scores they plan to submit during the Intake Period qualify as outlined above.

4. TEAM SELECTION and RANKING

OVERVIEW

The High Performance Program uses a world-class, percentile-based ranking system to assess and compare athlete performances.

This system replaces the previous approach, of using a % of an 8th place standard based on a single reference year (e.g., “2022 average 8th-place World Cup scores”) with a multi-year, evidence-based model that reflects how scores have translated into competitiveness at international competition.

QUALIFYING THRESHOLD SCORES

To qualify as an Identified Athlete, you must meet or exceed the Qualifying Threshold Score.

ID Senior Team	<table border="1"><thead><tr><th colspan="4">Pistol</th></tr><tr><th>10m Air Men</th><th>25m Rapid Fire Men</th><th>25m Women</th><th>10m Air Women</th></tr></thead><tbody><tr><td>554</td><td>550</td><td>554</td><td>550</td></tr><tr><th colspan="4">Rifle</th></tr><tr><th>50m 3P Men</th><th>10m Air Men</th><th>50m 3PWomen</th><th>10m Air Women</th></tr><tr><td>559</td><td>600.0</td><td>558</td><td>600.0</td></tr><tr><th colspan="2">Skeet</th><td></td><td></td></tr><tr><th>Skeet Men</th><th>Skeet Women</th><td></td><td></td></tr><tr><td>108</td><td>100</td><td></td><td></td></tr><tr><th colspan="2">Trap</th><td></td><td></td></tr><tr><th>Trap Men</th><th>Trap Women</th><td></td><td></td></tr><tr><td>105</td><td>98</td><td></td><td></td></tr></tbody></table>	Pistol				10m Air Men	25m Rapid Fire Men	25m Women	10m Air Women	554	550	554	550	Rifle				50m 3P Men	10m Air Men	50m 3PWomen	10m Air Women	559	600.0	558	600.0	Skeet				Skeet Men	Skeet Women			108	100			Trap				Trap Men	Trap Women			105	98		
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*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).

IDENTIFIED ATHLETE DESIGNATION

- 4.1 To qualify as an Identified Athlete, the average of the 4 scores submitted (called Average Score) must meet or exceed the Qualifying Threshold Score (see above).
- 4.2 Average Score Values will be calculated to the 4th decimal place.
- 4.3. Those athletes designated as Identified Athletes will be ranked using the Percentile-Based Ranking System.
- 4.4. For each athlete, Average Score will be applied to the Percentile-Based Ranking System to determine the athlete's ranking.
- 4.5. 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.
- 4.6. Athlete membership of the High Performance Program is at the discretion of SFC High Performance Committee based on, but not limited to, ranking, overall desired outcomes, commitment to training and improving, and scores achieved in other international events.

5. ATHLETE EXEMPTIONS

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

- 5.1 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.
- 5.2 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.
- 5.3 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.

5.4 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.

5.5 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 Identified Team 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 Zapedzki 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).