

2008 NATIONAL CROSS COUNTRY TEAM PROGRAM MARCH 2008

Due to unforeseen NACAC XC delays, Athletics Canada (AC) is unable to publish full details about the 2008 Cross Country National Team Programs at this time. In order to allow coaches and athletes to adequately prepare for the Canadian Cross Country Championships, AC wishes to minimally offer the following information and selection guidelines since the event is just a few weeks away. Further details will be made available by AC staff at the championships in Guelph.

Dates	Location	Event
Saturday, December 1, 2007	Guelph, ONT	Trials – 2007 National XC Championships
Early March, 2008	TBD	*NACAC XC Championships
Sunday, March 30th, 2008	Edinburgh, Scotland	World Cross Country Championships

QUALIFYING TRIALS

Participation at the Canadian Cross Country Championships in Guelph, Ontario, Canada on December 1, 2007 is mandatory for all athletes wishing to be considered for the 2008 National Cross Country Team Program.

*Team Members are expected to participate in the entire Cross Country program, which is comprised of the NACAC XC Championships (date and location TBC) AND the IAAF World Cross Country Championships. Significant funding towards this project can be earned through placing at the Trials.

TEAM OBJECTIVES & EVENTS

- AC will only enter teams for a given event (at least the scoring number plus 1 alternate)
- The general objective is to be competitive as a team internationally.
- To use this project as a strong long-term development and strategic planning tool for Canada's middle and long distance running program.

SELECTION PROCESS

- Athletes MUST finish in the top 12 ELIGIBLE places (top 16 for Senior Men) at the Trials to be considered for selection. Team selections will be based on order of finish at the Trials.

In the Junior age category, athletes must be born in 1989, 1990 or 1991 to be considered eligible.

TRAVEL

AC will coordinate and book all travel for this team. Athletes coming from or returning to a city outside of Canada will need to cover amounts beyond the costs of a reasonable domestic ticket.

FUNDING

This event will be largely self-funded however a national fundraising initiative is being explored and more information will be available at the National Championships. As mentioned above, there will be funds available to top performers at the Trials for the NACAC event. It is also important to note that the individual Champions and team Champions at the NACAC Championships will receive funding towards the World Cross Country Championships, so athletes must commit to compete at both.