

2008 Olympic Games ~ XXIX Olympiad

SELECTION CRITERIA

OVERVIEW

This is the Olympic Games! Athletics Canada (AC) has established these Criteria to accurately reflect performance readiness that indicates an athlete's capability of finishing in the top 12 at the Olympic Games. Our intention is to compete with the best in the World on our biggest stage.

As indicated in AC's current Strategic Plan, the specific objectives are to bring home 2 medals, that 40% of the team achieves a top 12 performance, and that a significant majority of our team (65%) will finish in the top 16 of their field or will achieve a seasonal best in Beijing. The Olympic Games plan (including these Criteria, but also training camp and preparation plans) has been developed with these performance objectives in mind. We are going to Beijing 100% ready to compete.

Attached to this document are three appendices, which form an integral part of this Selection Criteria. All athlete selections made in accordance with this Selection Criteria are also subject to AC's general rules and regulations for team selection outlined in the [National Team – Selection Rules Book](http://www.athletics.ca/files//NationalTeamPrograms/NationalTeams/Policy/NATIONALTEAMSELECTIONRULESBOOKFINAL2008.PDF) available at: <http://www.athletics.ca/files//NationalTeamPrograms/NationalTeams/Policy/NATIONALTEAMSELECTIONRULESBOOKFINAL2008.PDF>.

The National Team Committee (NTC) is responsible for the implementation of these criteria and has the sole authority to make all decisions relating to the selection of the Olympic Team.

1.0 GENERAL INFORMATION

1.1 Event Location and Dates

- Beijing, China
- August 8th – 25th, 2008

1.2 Important Dates and Team Member Travel Obligations

Dates	Description	Location/Notes
	Qualifying Periods	Please See Appendix B Repeat Performance Schedule
June 1 st , 2008	Declaration Deadline	
July 4 th – 6 th , 2008	Selection Trials (Canadian Championships)	Windsor, Ontario
July 6 th , 2008	End of Qualifying Period	
July 7 th , 2008	Team Announcement	TBC
August 1 st – 17 th , 2008	Training Camp	Singapore
August 15 th - 24 th , 2008	Athletics competition	Beijing, China

1.3 Eligibility



- Must be a registered current member (athlete) of Athletics Canada
- Must hold Canadian Citizenship by the Final Selection Date
- Must comply with AC rules concerning residency (AC By-Laws, Appendix A, Rule 016)
- Must submit an Athlete Declaration form as per the dates outlined in Section 1.2
- Must comply with Competitive Readiness Requirements as outlined in Section 7.0
- Must otherwise be eligible to participate in the Olympic Games.

1.4 Funding

This team will be 100% funded including the training camp in Singapore.

1.5 Events

100m, 200m, 400m, 800m, 1500m, 5000m, 10,000m, Marathon, 3000m S/C, 100mH / 110mH, 400mH, HJ, PV, LJ, TJ, SP, DT, HT, JT, HEP / DEC, 20km RW, 50km RW (m), 4 x 100m, 4 x 400m

1.6 Maximum per Event

The IAAF allows a maximum of 3 athletes per country per event providing they have all achieved the IAAF 'A' standard. If no athletes have achieved the IAAF 'A' standard, then the IAAF will allow a maximum of 1 athlete per country providing the athlete has achieved the IAAF 'B' standard.

1.7 Qualifying Trials

2008 Canadian Championships Windsor, Ontario on July 3rd - 6th, 2008
 Exceptions - 10,000m Toronto on June 4th, 2008
 Marathon & 50km Race Walk will not have qualifying trials

1.8 Qualifying Period(s)

The Qualifying Period is determined as per the Repeat Performance Schedule (Appendix B).

1.9 Final Selection Date and Team Announcement

The NTC will make final team selections immediately following the Selection Trials on July 6th, 2008. AC will announce the team on July 7th at a media event and through established communication channels (Branches, AC website, bulletin); athletes selected to the team will be contacted directly.

1.10 Final Declaration Date

Athletes are required to submit the Athlete Declaration Form <http://www.athletics.ca/page.asp?id=225> no later than June 1st, 2008. Failure to submit this form by the deadline will render the athlete ineligible for selection. Athletes must fax (613-260-0341), e-mail (enteam@athletics.ca), or hand-deliver the form to the National Head Office.

2.0 TEAM OBJECTIVES

Athletics Canada's objectives for team selection for the 2008 Beijing Olympic Games are as follows:

- Select individual athletes capable of finishing in the top 12 **and** top ½ of the field, and select Relay teams capable of finishing in the top 6 **and** top ½ of the field at the 2008 Olympic Games.
- Select athletes identified as "rising stars" who have achieved AC "B" standard(s) (as per Appendix B), and who have demonstrated to the satisfaction of the NTC that they have competed internationally with success, and have the competitive abilities to achieve a top 24 and top ½ of field placing in Beijing, **and** a top 8 finish in a future Olympic Games.
- Ensure high quality direction and support to selected athletes in the final period leading up to, and including the 2008 Olympic Games.



- Match our best results or improve on our country ranking, and the number of podium, top 8, top 12, top 16 and top ½ of field finishes from Olympic Games in Athens (2004), Sydney (2000) and Atlanta (1996)
- In line with the Strategic Plan, 40% of the team achieving top 12, and 65% of the team to finish Top 16 or achieve a seasonal best.

3.0 HIGH PERFORMANCE PRINCIPLES

3.1 Consistency and Repeatability

Repeatability of published standards is a fundamental principle of selection. The ability to repeat a selection or fitness standard is a requirement for selection. Repeatability indicates consistency of performance and soundness of athlete preparation necessary to compete in the various rounds of the Olympic Games.

3.2 Final Phase Readiness

The achievement of a published performance or fitness standard in the final qualification phase is a fundamental principle for selection. The ability to achieve the standard indicates performance readiness in the main competition period and ultimately for the main competition.

4.0 STANDARD SELECTION PROCESS (Except Relays, Marathon and 50K Race Walk)

4.1 Eligibility Pool

- The Eligibility Pool is defined as all athletes who meet the eligibility requirements set out in Section 1.3; who have achieved the required combination of standard(s) as per the Repeat Performance Schedule (Appendix B); who have finished among the Top 4 competitors at the Qualifying Trials; and who comply with the Competitive Readiness Requirements of Section 7.0 of this Document.
- Only athletes from the Eligibility Pool can be nominated to the team. Being in the Eligibility Pool does not guarantee nomination to the team.
- For the purpose of these Criteria, competitors at the Qualifying Trials who are not eligible for selection as per Section 1.3 (or who are otherwise unable to compete at the Olympic Games) will be removed from the order of finish at the Qualifying Trials, thereby allowing the next eligible athlete in order of finish to move up the list of selectable athletes for this event.
- Combined Event athletes who have achieved the 'A+' standard after May 15th, 2008 at an IAAF Permit Meet may elect not to contest their Combined Event at the trials provided they compete in at least 2 individual events to show fitness.

4.2 Selection

- Athletes among the Top 4 finishers at the Qualifying Trials who have achieved the required standard(s) in that same event as per the Repeat Performance Schedule (Appendix "B") will be nominated to the team in priority order, based on their order of finish at the Qualifying Trials. Failure to achieve the necessary repeat performances outlined in Appendix "B" will render an athlete ineligible for nomination and a position on the team will become available to the next eligible athlete from the Qualifying Trials who has satisfied the requirements of these Criteria.



- Combined Event athletes who choose to compete only in individual events at the trials may only be selected if 3 athletes in their event are not selectable following the trials, if they have achieved the required standards as per the Repeat Performance Schedule (Appendix "B"), including an 'A+' standard after May 15th, 2008 at an IAAF Permit Meet.
- Athletes will be selected to compete in events for which they qualified under these Selection Criteria. Athletes may not compete in secondary events at Beijing, unless the Head Coach, in his sole discretion, decides otherwise, and they meet IAAF minimum requirements.

5.0 SELECTION FOR RELAYS, MARATHON, AND RACEWALK

5.1 Relays

Team Qualification – general requirements

Only teams that have qualified as per IAAF regulations will be eligible to compete at the Olympic Games. Teams must be comprised 100% of eligible athletes (as per Section 1.3).

Relay Eligibility Pool

All athletes who have been named to the AC National Team relay eligibility pool will be eligible for selection to the Olympic Games. Only athletes in the relay eligibility pool who have signed the Relay Team Athlete Agreement (Appendix C) may be nominated to a relay team. Being named to the relay eligibility pool does not guarantee selection to a relay team.

Selection of Athletes

Athlete selection will follow the guidelines outlined in the Relay Athlete Agreement (Appendix C).

Final Relay Team Assessment

Notwithstanding these Criteria or the provisions of the Relay Team Athlete Agreement, whether AC will enter a specific relay team to an event will depend on the number, quality and competitive readiness of eligible and selected athletes. If there are insufficient numbers of athletes to form a relay team that will be competitive at the Olympic Games, or if none of the relay team athletes are individually qualified in the specific event (100m for 4 x 100m, 400m for 4 x 400m), the NTC reserves the right not to select a given relay team.

5.2 Marathon and 50km Race Walk

Eligibility Pool

The eligibility pool for Marathon and 50km Race Walk is defined as all athletes who meet the eligibility requirements set out in Section 1.3; who have achieved the required combination of standard(s) as per the Repeat Performance Schedule (Appendix B); and who comply with the competitive readiness requirements of Section 7.0 of this document.

Competitors who are not eligible for selection as per Section 1.3 (or who are otherwise unable to compete in Beijing) will be removed from the order of ranking performances, thereby allowing the next eligible athlete in order of ranking to move up the results list of selectable athletes for this event.

Selection

Athletes who have achieved the required standard(s) and corresponding proof of fitness as per the Repeat Performance Schedule (Appendix "B") will be nominated to the Olympic team in priority order based on their performance ranking on the AC rankings for the period September 1, 2006 – May 25, 2008. Failure to achieve the necessary proof of fitness will render an athlete ineligible for nomination. Selection to the team will become available to the next eligible athlete in the rankings who has satisfied the requirements of these Selection Criteria.



For the Marathon and 50KM Race Walk events, athletes who have been nominated for selection are not permitted to take part in any Marathon or 50km Race Walk race during the period **May 26, 2008 to September 30, 2008** unless they make a written request and receive written approval from AC's Program Director for Endurance Events (or designate). Failure to follow this rule will render an athlete ineligible for selection and will affect his/her carding status for 2007-08 and/or 2008-09.

6.0 "RISING STAR" SELECTION PROCESS

Notwithstanding the Criteria contained in this document and its appendices, and in exceptional circumstances, the NTC may, in its sole discretion, identify athletes as 'rising stars' and may select them to the Olympic team.

6.1 Eligibility Pool

IMPORTANT NOTE: Being in of the "Rising Star" Eligibility Pool does not guarantee selection.

The 'Rising Star' Eligibility Pool will consist of athletes who have not competed at an IAAF World Championships in Athletics (Senior aged) or Olympic Games prior to 2007, who have not satisfied the AC "A+" or "A" standards (as per the Repeat Performance Schedule in Appendix B), but have achieved two (2) "B" standards (as per the Repeat Performance Schedule) **and** a first place at the Qualifying Trials (where applicable).

6.2 Selection

From the 'Rising Star' Eligibility Pool, selection of 'rising stars' is determined by the NTC in its sole discretion. The NTC also reserves the right to not select any 'rising stars' regardless of the number of athletes in the eligibility pool.

7.0 COMPETITIVE READINESS REQUIREMENTS

7.1 Training and Competition Plan

Upon selection to the team, athletes and/or their personal coach are required to discuss a training and competition plan for the period July 21st - August 25th with the Head Coach on or before July 20th, and thereafter must inform AC of any changes to this plan. The plan must also address competitive readiness by identifying specific measurable test and/or competition targets, as well as planned tapering during the final preparation phase.

All plans must address the following:

1. Planned competitions, travel and training locations.
2. Training volumes, intensities and periodization including recovery strategies.
3. Injury prevention and medical intervention strategies if applicable.

7.2 Competitive Readiness

Athletes who do not remain competitive ready by reason of lack of fitness, injury, or illness may be removed from the team. Athletes are required to immediately report any injury, illness, or change in training that could affect their ability to compete at their highest level in Beijing. Notification must be sent to the Director of National Team Programs, Scott MacDonald (smacdonald@athletics.ca).



"Competitive ready" is defined as the ability of the athlete to achieve equal or superior performance(s) onsite at the scheduled event, as compared to the performance(s) the athlete achieved in qualifying. The final decision on competitive readiness will be made by the Head Coach once selection is completed. The Head Coach will use all available information at his disposal to come to a decision, including training and competition plan, fitness and competitive readiness indicators, submitted medical documentation, consultation with the athlete's personal coach and any other relevant performance related information.

In the case of injury or illness, the Head Coach will consider recommendations made by the Medical Director in making a final decision. Injured or ill athletes may be subject to a proof of readiness test to be determined by the team Head Coach in consultation with the athlete's personal coach. This test will consist of a controlled performance such as a competition or observed test or trial. These athletes will not travel with the team until this requirement has been satisfied. If it is determined that the athlete is not competitive ready once onsite at the event, he/she may be asked to return home immediately.

7.3 Health Questionnaire and Anti-Doping

Upon selection, all athletes will be required to complete an AC health questionnaire as well as one from the Canadian Olympic Committee. These questionnaires will ask athletes to declare all supplements and medications that are being used prior, during and after the event. Athletes who need to take medications while competing **must** have a completed and approved IAAF Therapeutic Use Exemption prior to selection. NOTE: THIS INCLUDES ASTHMA MEDICATIONS.

8.0 APPEALS

Only athletes who are eligible to be considered for selection (as per Section 1.3) and who have achieved the AC 'A+' standard in 2007, or AC 'B' standard in 2008 may submit an appeal for selection to the NTC. Please refer to the National Team - Selection Rules Book for instructions at <http://www.athletics.ca/files//NationalTeamPrograms/NationalTeams/Policy/NATIONALTEAMSELECTIONRULESBOOKFINAL2008.PDF>.



APPENDIX A - 2008 Olympic Games – Athletics Canada Qualifying Standards (Outdoor Only)*

Women's A+	Women's A	Women's B	Events	Men's A+	Men's A	Men's B
11.13	11.32	11.42	100m	10.13	10.21	10.28
22.84	23.00	23.20	200m	20.49	20.59	20.75
50.92	51.55	52.35	400m	45.29	45.55	45.95
1:59.97	2:00.00	2:01.30	800m	1:45.24	1:46.00	1:47.00
4:05.70	4:07.00	4:08.00	1,500m	3:36.60	3:36.60	3:39.00
14:56.94	15:09.00	15:24.00	5,000m	13:19.62	13:21.50	13:28.00
31:20.95	31:45.00	32:20.00	10,000m	27:47.31	27:50.00	28:10.00
2:27:35	2:29:08	2:31:00	Marathon	2:11:31	2:12:38	2:14:00
12.83	12.96	13.11	110m /100m H	13.40	13.55	13.72
55.08	55.60	56.50	400m H	48.46	49.20	49.50
9:41.70	9:46.00	9:55.00	3,000m S/C	8:18.85	8:24.60	8:32.00
1:30:34	1:33:06	1:34:30	20km Walk	1:21:07	1:23:00	1:24:00
			50km Walk	3:51:56	3:54:24	3:58:00
1.95	1.95	1.91	High Jump	2.30	2.30	2.27
6.72	6.72	6.60	Long Jump	8.20	8.20	8.05
14.36	14.20	14.00	Triple Jump	17.10	17.10	16.80
4.54	4.45	4.30	Pole Vault	5.70	5.70	5.55
18.61	18.35	17.20	Shot Put	20.36	20.30	19.80
69.50	69.50	67.00	Hammer	78.50	78.50	74.00
61.89	61.00	59.00	Discus	64.50	64.50	62.50
61.40	60.50	56.00	Javelin	81.80	81.80	77.80
6121	6000pts	5800pts	Heptathlon/Decathlon	8000	8000pts	7700pts
Best 16 National Teams			4 x 100m	Best 16 National Teams		
			4 x 400m			

**Standards must be achieved in accordance with the Performance Regulations outlined in section 2.0 of the [National Team Selection – Rules Book](#).*



APPENDIX B - 2008 Olympic Games - Repeat Performance Schedule*

Events	June 1 – Sept 30, 2007	April 01 – July 6, 2008	May 15 th to July 6, 2008**
All Events	→	<u>ALTITUDE PERFORMANCES NOT ACCEPTED IN THIS SCENARIO →→→</u>	
	<u>OR</u>	Achieve Top 12 finish @ 2007 World Championships	<u>PLUS</u> Achieve "A" standard once in this period ("B" starting Jan 1 for 10000m, 20kRW and C/E)
	<u>OR</u>	Achieve "A+" standard once in this period <u>OR</u> 2008 World Indoor Top 6	<u>PLUS</u> Achieve "A" standard once in this period
Sprints, Hurdles, Throws, Jumps, 800m, 1500m	→	→	Achieve "A+" standard once in this period
	<u>OR</u>	→	Achieve one "B" standard
3000mSC, 5000m	→	→	Achieve "A+" standard once in this period
	<u>OR</u>	→	<u>OR</u> achieve "B" standard once in this period
10,000m, 20kRW	→	Achieve "A+" standard once in this period (begins April 1 st)	<u>OR</u> achieve "A" standard once in this period (begins January 1 st)
Combined Events (C/E) (2007 period starts May 25)	→	Achieve "A+" standard in this period	<u>PLUS</u> Achieve "A" standard once in this period
	<u>OR</u>	→	Achieve "A" standard in this period
50kRW	→	Qualifying Period - Sept. 1, 2006 to May 25, 2008. Athletes must achieve "A+" Standard in 2006 or 2007 <u>OR</u> "A" Standard after February 28 th , 2007. Standards achieved in 2006 or 2007 require proof of fitness between Mar. 1 and July 06, 2008.	
Marathon	→	Qualifying Period - Sept. 1, 2006 to May 25, 2008. Athletes must achieve "A+" Standard in 2006 or 2007 <u>OR</u> "A" Standard after May 26 th , 2007. Standards achieved in 2006 or 2007 require proof of fitness between Mar. 1 and July 06, 2008.	
Relays	→	World Top 16 – based on the IAAF qualifying system	
<p><u>'RISING STAR'</u> To be eligible, must minimally: achieve two "B" standards between May 15th - July 6th 2008 <u>AND</u> win the Qualifying Trials, <u>AND</u> must not have been on a World Championship or Olympic Games team prior to 2007.</p> <p><i>EXCEPTIONS – Marathon and 50km Racewalk must achieve "B" standard once between Sept 1, 2006 and May 25th, 2008 Combined Events, 10,000m, and 20k RW must achieve "B" standard once between April 1st, 2008 and July 6th, 2008</i></p> <p><u>IMPORTANT NOTE: Being eligible for "Rising Star" does not guarantee selection</u></p>			

*IAAF restrictions supercede all Selection Criteria. **IAAF Grand Prix or Super Grand Prix events in May prior to May 15th will be considered



APPENDIX C
Athletics Canada (AC) National Relay Team Athlete Agreement

Overview:

We are now in our final build-up towards the 2008 Olympic Games. In order to be successful in Beijing we must develop a common understanding of the AC National Relay Program and its fundamental principles, as identified below. Athletes who are part of the National Relay Program are expected to adhere to these principles.

Athletes selected for the national relay program must sign and return this agreement by March 9th, 2008.

Fundamental Principles:

- 1) The relay is a team event and all members are equal.
- 2) A common vision among team members is critical for success.
- 3) Open communication is encouraged among athletes and coaches.
- 4) Full cooperation on and off the track is expected; team cohesiveness is essential.
- 5) Athletes must have an open mind and a willingness to learn and adapt to relay ideas.
- 6) Selection of the team will be at the sole discretion of AC coaching staff.
- 7) Versatility as it pertains to relay running position is a must.
- 8) The goal is to assemble the best possible group of athletes in an order that will best benefit the team. Running order will be determined by AC Relay Coordinator (in consultation with AC Head Coach) and athletes will be advised of the order in a timely manner.
- 9) Athletes who are placed in an alternate position are expected to fully participate in team practices and competitions, including dressing and warming up with the team on the day of competition, and to be prepared to contribute if needed. Alternates are expected to accompany the four selected athletes to the call room area or as far as Officials will allow.
- 10) Members will attend all National Relay Program mandatory events.
- 11) Punctuality is expected at all relay events; tardiness will not be tolerated.

Relay Team Selection

All of the following factors, which are not listed in priority order, will be considered in relay team selection:

- Placing at the Qualifying Trials in his/her individual event;
- Health and fitness levels that indicate optimal competitive readiness;
- Individual performance ranking as determined by 2008 Athletics Canada rankings;
- Commitment to the National Relay program as determined by attitude, attendance, participation, and performance at national team camps, competitions, and events;
- Performance on previous relay teams; and,
- Assessment of relay skills and position suitability.

The decision on relay team selection and positioning of relay team members will be made by the AC Relay Coordinator (in consultation with AC Head Coach).

Athlete Agreement:

I have read, understand and accept the National Relay Team's principles and criteria for selection. I understand that my failure to comply with this Agreement may render me ineligible for National Team relay assignments.

Athlete Signature:	Coach Signature:
Print name:	Date:

