



## PARIS 2024 OLYMPIC GAMES INTERNAL NOMINATION PROCEDURE – FENCING

This version of the INP Fencing was approved on May 4, 2023 as it relates to the Paris Olympic Games.

### INTRODUCTION

#### Purpose

- The purpose of this Internal Nomination Procedure is to set out the process and criteria that will be used by the Canadian Fencing Federation to select athletes and coaches to the Paris 2024 Olympic Games team.

#### Objectives

- This Internal Nomination Procedure was developed with the objective of selecting athletes and coaches with the potential to win a medal. In the event that no athletes who are eligible for selection have demonstrated the potential to win a medal, the objective is the highest possible position of finish at the 2024 Olympic Games.

#### Team Size

- The number of athletes nominated to the Paris 2024 Olympic Games will be determined by the number of quota spots qualified by Canada during the qualification process following the qualification process of the Fédération Internationale d’Escrime (FIE), as it appears in the FIE:  
<https://static.fie.org/uploads/28/140899-Olympic%20Games%20Paris%202024%20qualification%20system%20-%20Fencing%20-%20English.pdf>

### DECISION MAKING AUTHORITY

- The High Performance Director (HPD), in consultation with the High Performance Advisory Committee (HPAC), is responsible for developing and approving this Internal Nomination Procedure to determine which athletes will be nominated to the Canadian Olympic Committee (COC) for the 2024 Olympic Games.



- The Canadian Olympic Committee mandates the Canadian Fencing Federation to determine the Internal Nomination Procedures for the athletes and staff that will be nominated to the COC for the 2024 Games.
- The national team coaches are responsible to put forward nominations to the HPD of individual and team athletes in accordance with the criteria found in this Internal Nomination Procedure. All nominations, including alternates and staff, must be ratified by the HPD in consultation with the HPAC.
- The HPD is responsible for ensuring that the process outlined in this document is properly followed and that the nomination process is fair and equitable for all eligible candidates.
- The HPD has the final authority over the nomination of the team.
- Where there is a lack of clarity or if unanticipated circumstances arise that are not covered in this Internal Nomination Procedure, a final and binding decision will be made by the HPD, in consultation with the HPC.
- All Canadian Fencing Federation nominations are also subject to the approval of the COC.

### **Decision-making power at the 2024 Games**

During the on-site competition period during the Paris 2024 Olympic Games, the decision-making power will be exercised by the HPD.

### **RULES AND REGULATIONS OF THE FIE**

This Internal Nomination Procedure is based on the rules and regulations of the FIE is currently known and understood and on the basis of the most recent information available to the Canadian Fencing Federation.

Any changes to this Internal Nomination Procedure as a result of a change to the rules and regulations of the FIE will be communicated by the Canadian Fencing Federation to affected athletes as soon as reasonably possible.

In such circumstances, the Canadian Fencing Federation will review and amend this Internal Nomination Procedure to comply with the new rules and conditions. Changes to this document will be communicated directly to the affected athletes and will be posted on the Canadian Fencing Federation's website.



The criteria of the International Fencing Federation can be found at this link:

<https://olympics.com/ioc/documents/olympic-games/paris-2024-olympic-games>

## **ATHLETE ELIGIBILITY**

In order to be eligible for nomination to the COC for the Olympic Team selection, an athlete must:

- Be a Canadian citizen (in accordance with Rule 41 of the Olympic Charter).
- Hold a valid Canadian passport that expires after February 11, 2025.
- Must be able to represent Canada in accordance with the eligibility requirements established by the FIE.
- Comply with all relevant FIE and International Olympic Committee (IOC) eligibility requirements.
- Be a member of the Canadian Fencing Federation High Performance Program as of December 31, 2023.

### International Fencing Federation Eligibility Requirements

- Respect the residency requirements established by the FIE.
- Hold a license in good standing with the FIE for 2023 - 2024
- Must be able to represent Canada in accordance with the eligibility requirements established by the FIE.

### National Sport Federation (NSF) Financial Requirements

- Be a member in good standing of the Canadian Fencing Federation as of June 1st, 2024.

### Alternate Athlete Requirements

- Alternate athletes selected must also comply with all of the obligations contained in this document and must ensure that all administrative and financial obligations are fulfilled within 48 hours of notification of their pending team nomination.

### Doping Control Requirements

- Be available for sample collection and, if required to do so, have provided accurate and up-to date whereabouts information on a regular basis as directed by the Canadian Fencing Federation, FIE and/or the Canadian Centre for Ethics in Sport (CCES) pursuant to the Canadian Sport Policy.
- The athlete or coach must not be under suspension or any other sanction by any recognized body for any doping or doping-related offence.



## NSF / COC Athlete Agreements

- In order to participate in the 2024 Olympic Games, all athletes, including alternates, must have signed the 2023-2024 CFF Athlete Agreement, COC Athlete Agreement, and IOC / Paris 2024 Conditions of Participation Form.
- Athletes and coaches must abide by the CFF Code of Conduct and all other Canadian Fencing Federation policies.

## Other

- Athletes named to compete in the 2024 Olympic Games will be required to comply with dress code regulations of the Canadian Fencing Federation Team and the COC.
- Athletes named to the 2024 Olympic Games will only be allowed to use equipment that meets with the rules and regulations of the FIE and IOC.

## **NSF SELECTION CRITERIA**

The Canadian Fencing Federation will identify the eligible athletes it will nominate as follows:

### Individual Selection

Athletes will be selected on the basis of the FIE Olympic Qualification System if the team does not qualify in a specific event:

<https://static.fie.org/uploads/28/140899-Olympic%20Games%20Paris%202024%20qualification%20system%20-%20Fencing%20-%20English.pdf>

### Team Selection

If a team qualifies for the Paris 2024 Olympic Games as per the guidelines of the FIE Olympic Qualification System, the three fencers who have earned the highest number of HPP ranking points (best 7 of 9 results by HPP ranking points, with a minimum of 4 senior world cups being counted) at FIE Senior World Cups, Senior World Championships, and Grand Prix competition between April 3, 2023 to April 30, 2024 will be selected to the Olympic Team.



### Tie-Breaking

Should two (2) or more fencers be tied with the same point total, the tie will be broken as follows:

1. The athlete with the best single result (by place) at a Senior World Cup or Grand Prix between April 3, 2023 and April 1, 2024 will be ranked ahead;  
  
Should a tie still exist,
2. The athlete with the best 2<sup>nd</sup> result (by place) at a Senior World Cup or Grand Prix between April 3, 2023 and April 1, 2024 will be ranked ahead.

### Selection of Alternate Athletes

The selection of alternate athletes will be nominated in accordance to the following criteria, and selected by a panel composed of members of the HPAC. These criteria are NOT numbered by priority:

1. Performance in the Senior Team World Cups in the 2022/2023 and 2023/2024 seasons:
  - a) Indicator (Plus / Minus) at Team World Cup events.
  - b) Team win % with the athlete participating as a fencer (not substitute on the team) against top 5 FIE world ranked teams and 6 to 10 FIE world ranked teams.
2. The athlete with the most HPP ranking points (best 7 of 9 results by HPP ranking points, with a minimum of 4 senior world cups being counted), calculated from April 3, 2023 and April 1, 2024 who has not already been nominated to the 2024 Olympic Team.
3. The athlete's commitment to the program (see *Performance readiness, page 6*).
4. Demonstrated ability and willingness to work effectively and cooperate in a team environment, including the athlete's ability and willingness to follow team tactics and strategies.

In the team event, an alternate athlete can replace any of the three athletes who have been nominated to fence the individual event. An alternate will be selected only if the team is qualified.



## Performance Readiness

All nominations are conditional on the athlete following:

- The training, competition and training camp plan approved by the senior national team coach.
- An athlete must participate in at least 5 FIE senior competitions between April 1, 2023 and April 1, 2024. The 2023 Senior Pan Am Championships and Senior World Championships are not included in these 5 competitions.
- Report 2 time a month (every 2<sup>nd</sup> week) to the National Coach their personal training plan.
- Follow all proposed training camps designated by the National Coach from April 1, 2024 to the Olympic Games.

### NOTES

It is possible to request for an exemption for one of the Performance Readiness criteria cited above. Exemptions can be requested in advance, but must be requested before April 1, 2024. Exemptions will be granted on a case- by-case basis once discussed between the HPD and the National Coach.

For an injury / illness, athletes must justify it by presenting a medical certificate given by a physician recognized by the CFF.

**If no Individual (based on FIE qualification requirements) or Team (based on FIE qualification requirements) qualifies for the Olympic Games in Paris 2024, the CFF will send one athlete per non-qualified weapon to the Zonal Championships (Date and Place TBD). The following will be used to select the athlete:**

- The athlete with the most HPP ranking points (best 7 of 9 results by HPP ranking points, with a minimum of 4 senior world cups being counted) earned at Senior World Cup, Senior World Championships and Grand Prix events from April 3, 2023 to April 1, 2024 will be selected.

The HPP ranking points will be included in the High Performance Point Grid of the 2023/2024 Selection Booklet to be published at the beginning of the 2023-2024 season.



## Injuries

In the event that an athlete is injured (or ill), the Head Coach and the High Performance Director will consider the medical recommendations made by Nader Abdelkader (Canadian Fencing Federation Head Doctor) in making their final decision.

Injured or ill athletes will be tested to demonstrate their readiness as determined by the Head Coach in consultation with the athlete's personal trainer and the HPD. Such tests will consist of a controlled performance such as a competition or a test or trials in observation.

The expected outcome of this test, which will take place in Canada, will be determined in advance. These athletes will not travel with the team unless the Head Coach and the HPD are satisfied that the athlete's performance is at the level that they were at when nominated for selection to the 2024 Olympic Team or that the athlete's performance will be at this level by the time they compete at the 2024 Olympic Games.

If, once at the 2024 Olympic Games, it is determined by the HPD that the athlete is not ready for the competition as a result of an injury or illness, or it is discovered that they have not disclosed an injury or illness that, on the basis of the opinion of team medical staff, will have a negative impact on their performance or may aggravate their injury or illness, the athlete may be withdrawn from competition. In this case, the alternate will be allowed to compete.

## Removal Of an Athlete Once Selected

- An athlete from being considered for nomination to the Canadian Team could be removed if the athlete is found to have committed a Code of Conduct violation by an independent disciplinary panel and that violation results in a suspension that will run through the Olympic Games, or the conduct would bring CFF's reputation into disrepute. A copy of the Code of Conduct is available at the following link:  
  
<https://fencing.ca/wp-content/uploads/CFF-Safe-Sport-Policy-Manual-March-29-2023.pdf>
- The CFF will advise the affected athlete, in writing, of his/her/their decision.
- An athlete or coach will be removed from the team if he/she is in violation of any anti-doping policy or procedure as outlined by the CFF, World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA), and the Canadian Centre for Ethics in Sport (CCES) they are found to have committed an anti-doping rule violation or have been provisionally suspended by any Anti-Doping Organization that has jurisdiction over the athlete.



## CONFIRMATION OF ENTRIES

As of May 15, 2024, the athletes to be nominated by the COC for a position on the 2024 Canadian Olympic Team will be determined.

In addition, on May 15, 2024 the CFF shall determine the athletes it will select as alternates to the athletes it proposes to nominate to the COC for positions on the 2024 Canadian Olympic Team.

Subject to any revisions required by an athlete's decision to decline a nomination to be a member of the 2024 Canadian Olympic Team, or by an athlete's inability to participate at a competitive level due to a health-related curtailment of activities, the CFF shall submit its list of athlete and alternates being nominated to the COC for the 2024 Canadian Olympic Team on May 15, 2024.

### Late Athlete Replacement Policy

- Substitutions after nomination to the COC are subject to the approval of the COC Team Selection Committee. Any such replacements after July 8, 2024 are also subject to the IOC Late Athlete Replacement Policy.
- Should a nominated athlete, at any time between the sport entry deadline of July 5, 2024 and the sport technical meeting for the 2024 Paris Olympic Games, decline his or her nomination or be declared unable to participate in a competitive manner, that athlete shall be replaced, subject to the IOC Late Athlete Replacement Policy, and FIE regulations, by the highest ranked alternate (or alternates) in his or her event (or events).

## AMENDMENTS & UNFORESEEN CIRCUMSTANCES

*This INP is intended to apply as drafted and, specifically, where no athletes are prevented from competing because of an unforeseen injury or other unanticipated or unforeseen circumstances. Situations may arise where unforeseen circumstances or circumstances beyond the Canadian Fencing Federation's control do not allow competition or nomination to take place in a fair manner or in the best interests of the priorities and general principles for selection as indicated in these criteria, or do not allow the procedure for nomination as described in this document to be applied.*

*In the event of such unforeseen circumstances the HPD will, where possible, consult with the HPAC to determine if the circumstances justify competition or nomination should take place in an alternative manner. In such circumstances, the HPD shall communicate the alternative selection or nomination process to all impacted individuals as soon as possible.*





- The HPD reserves the right to amend the Criteria prior to the Final Nomination Date. The HPD may amend the Criteria under the following circumstances:
  1. When additional (or altered) information that is deemed relevant by the HPD to the Criteria is provided by external parties, such as (but not limited to) an event Organizing Committee, Sport Canada, COC, the FIE, or any other relevant organization; and
  2. To correct, clarify or amend any inconsistencies, errors or omissions in the Criteria.
- Any changes made by the HPD are deemed to come into effect immediately upon publication on the CFF website. The HPD will publish the amended Criteria by whatever means and wherever the original Criteria were published.
- Any changes to this document must be communicated directly to affected athletes, their coaches and national team coaches.
- This clause must not be used to justify modifications after a competition or training camp that is part of these internal nomination procedures, unless it is related to an unforeseen circumstance.
- Changes to this document may be required due to a typographical error or unclear definition or wording.
- In case of modification of this document, the CFF will inform the COC of the changes and reasons for these changes as soon as possible.
- If unforeseen circumstances beyond the CFF's control prevent the HPD from fairly implementing this Internal Nomination Procedure as written, the HPD will have discretion to resolve the issue as he or she sees fit taking into account the factors and characteristics and circumstances that it considers relevant.
- In cases where unforeseen circumstances make it difficult to apply the selection process fairly and objectively, the CFF Board, in consultation with the Executive Director, reserves the right to decide on the appropriate course of action.
- The HPD reserves the right to review and modify any selection criteria or decision related to the selection process in the event of rule changes or policies of the FIE or the International Olympic Committee that have an impact on the selection criteria set out in this document.
- In the event that the selection criteria are changed, the CFF will promptly post an announcement on its website announcing the changes.



## APPEALS

- CFF nominations to the COC for the 2024 Paris Games may be appealed in accordance with the procedures set out in the CFF Appeal Policy.  
<https://fencing.ca/wp-content/uploads/Appeals-Policy-2023.pdf>
- In accordance with CFF By-Laws, any disagreement involving a national team player and the CFF shall be heard by the Sport Dispute Resolution Centre of Canada (SRDCC).
- A dispute must be filed by the athlete within 7 days of CFF's publication of the 2024 Paris Games Team – Definite Entry and Alternate List.

## GENERAL

- The Internal Nomination Procedures for the 2024 Paris Olympic Games will be communicated through CFF official publications, posted on the CFF web site and distributed by email to 2023-2024 CFF HPP members.

## STAFF SELECTION

- Hold a valid Canadian passport that expires after February 11, 2025.
- Sign, submit and comply with the COC support staff agreement by June 24, 2024.
- The nominated team leader must satisfy the expectations and requirements of the COC's *Team Leader Position Description*.
- The HPD, in consultation with the HPC, has the sole discretion in selecting the support staff, including team leader, coach(s) for the 2024 Olympic Games.
- The support staff will be selected based on the principle of sending a team of specialists that is best capable of assisting athletes in achieving podium performances at the Games. All selections are subject to COC approval.

### Coach Selection

- Member in good standing of CFF.
- Member in good standing with the Professional Coaching Program of the Coaching Association of Canada.
- Have completed a criminal background check.
- Complete the "Respect and Sport" training available at this link:  
<http://fencing.ca/en/respect-and-sport/>



- Complete the «Make Ethical Decision » training available at the following link: <https://coach.ca/nccp-make-ethical-decisions>
- Must adhere to the CFF Code of Conduct.
- The CFF High Performance Director and High Performance advisory Committee will select coaches from the qualifying coaches of the Senior National Team (including personal coaches) of the Qualified Athlete. These coaches will then be appointed by the CFF for the Paris 2024 Olympic Games
- Coaching accreditation will be a priority:
  1. The coaches of the senior national team;
  2. Personal coaches.
- Must comply with any other requirements or obligations imposed on coaches as found in this Internal Nomination Procedure.

## TIMELINES SUMMARY

<b>DATE</b>	
<b>May 4, 2023</b>	INP approved / circulated
<b>April 1, 2023 to April 1, 2024</b>	Qualification period
<b>January 1, 2024</b>	Deadline to have signed the NSF Athlete Agreement, Code of Conduct, submitted any documents as required in this Internal Nomination Procedure
<b>May 15, 2024</b>	Date team will be nominated
<b>May 17, 2024</b>	Date athlete must accept their nomination
<b>May 23, 2024</b>	Timeline or deadline for filing an Appeal
<b>May 30, 2024</b>	Date team will be nominated to the COC
<b>June 24, 2024</b>	Date to sign and return the COC Athlete Agreement and Eligibility Conditions
<b>July 8, 2024</b>	Start of late athlete replacement period

