



National X Team Selection Criteria

Several athletes with extraordinary potential for success may be selected for a special training team that will quickly accelerate their development in a highly challenging and dedicated environment. High level cross-country skiers who commit to competitive excellence in biathlon are most suitable for this team. It is generally expected that members of this team will demonstrate high performance at the National Team level within 24 months. The staff will propose their recommendations to the ICC for consideration and approval.

Team members will have the possibility to train alongside National Team athletes on a case by case basis, as determined by National Team staff, as well as opportunities to train with the Senior Development Group from time to time.

Note: The National X Team roster may be filled with athletes over the course of the year, not just at the beginning of it.

Appendix A:

USBA Principles of Discretionary Selection

The purpose of a discretionary choice is to ensure selection of the most competitive team. Creating watertight, finite criteria for discretionary choices is impossible, since by their very nature they are meant to account for the unanticipated circumstances, which inevitably elude the principles of objective criteria. Based on the context of the situation, the ICC will select the athlete(s) that has the best chance of producing the best result based on the following factors. Note: This list is not in any order of priority:

1. History of performance in a specific competition type (e.g., Relay or Individual) over the current and previous two competitive seasons.
2. Recent improvements in results or performance parameters such as ski speed and shooting performance (both in training and competition).
3. Recent positive trend of competition results or performance parameters, such as ski speed and shooting, indicating a potential for Olympic success. This includes indication of medal potential in future Olympic or World Championship competition that would be materially enhanced by selection to the Team.
4. Performance/participation in the qualification process affected by illness or injury as confirmed by USBA.
5. Ability to effectively contribute to a relay.

If an athlete declines or is unable to attend the competition(s) for which (s)he has qualified, the ICC will rely upon the above Principles of Discretionary Selection to fill the spot. The ICC also reserves the right to not fill the vacated spot.