

Youth International Competition Trip

Sjusjøen/Lillehammer Training Camp and ASKO Cup Racing

In partnership with U.S. Biathlon, the Eastern Region is excited to announce an international competition trip for Youth athletes during the 2026/2027 season. This trip will provide a unique opportunity to train in the Sjusjøen/Lillehammer region for a week prior to competing in the Norwegian ASKO Cup in Oslo, Norway, at the famous Holmenkollen arena. These races will be the Norwegian Youth and Junior Championships:

- Sjusjøen/Lillehammer training camp: February 4-10, 2027
- ASKO Cup, Holmenkollen, Norway: February 11-14, 2027

This initiative aims to offer our Youth athletes valuable international racing experience. Athletes from all regions are welcome to apply! As this is a club/region lead trip, please direct any questions to John Madigan (jpmad2013@yahoo.com).

APPLICATION: The trip application can be found [here](#) when the application period opens on December 15th.

APPLICATION DEADLINE: January 6, 2027. Selection will be made January 8, 2026.

TEAM SIZE & COMPOSITION: Up to 5 Youth women and 5 Youth men.

Coach Application

AGE ELIGIBILITY

This trip is open to Youth Athletes born in **2010-2008**. U19 athletes who participate in the Jr. Cup and/or JWCH will not be eligible for this trip.

The selection committee is looking for athletes who demonstrate a proactive commitment to their development in **both Biathlon and Nordic skiing**. This includes seeking out race opportunities beyond the USBA trial events. Athletes are encouraged to participate in the trials races at Brillion, Wisconsin, but this is not a requirement to be considered for this trip. Examples of valuable race opportunities include:

- U.S. Biathlon Regional Calendars can be found [here](#)
- U.S. Biathlon National Calendar can be found [here](#)

Applicants are expected to show a certain level of professionalism in their biathlon journey. The selection committee will look for things like training logs and a clear explanation from athletes on how this trip will impact their biathlon trajectory.

SELECTION: Selection will be based on applications reviewed by:

- Eastern Regional Coordinator
- USBA Director of Athlete Development
- Trip Coaches (TBD)

COST: The trip will be self-pay. U.S. Biathlon will provide additional support, when available, to help make the trip as affordable as possible. Coaching costs will be covered by USBA. The estimated cost, not including airfare, is \$2,000. Some need-based support may be available to athletes on an individual basis. Information on this support will be shared with team naming.

COACHING: The trip will be managed by volunteer coaches. Depending on team size, we anticipate 3 coaches will participate. Coach applications can be found [here](#).