2023

TECHNICAL PACKAGE

BIATHLON - SNOWSHOE

Sport: Biathlon - Snowshoe

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1. Introduction

Technical Packages are critical guiding documents that assist Host Societies as they coordinate all sport competition (including competition formats, rules and procedures) and Mission Teams as they coordinate their teams' participation (including athlete eligibility, categories and team composition). Every Games' Host Society and Participating Unit's Mission Team, Coaches and Managers have an obligation to read and understand every aspect of the Technical Package. Should a need for clarification arise, questions should be directed through the Participating Unit's Chef de Mission for review and response by the Arctic Winter Games International Committee (AWGIC) Technical Director and Technical Coordinator.

2. Rules

This competition will be conducted under the rules of the International Biathlon Union (IBU) Event and Competition Rules as published on January 1 of the year of the Games, except as modified by the AWGIC (Section 13). Where no specific rule exists for a situation, the principle or the intent of the IBU Rules will be used to determine the resolution of the situation. Prior to the start of competition the Biathlon Technical Delegate will review the Arctic Winter Games Rule Modifications with all coaches.
The Host Society must advise Chefs on sanctioning and any related matters that might affect their teams.

3. Sanction

The competition will be conducted under the (IBU) Event and Competition Rules as published on January 1 of the year of the Games, unless otherwise approved by the AWGIC. Where possible, the Host Society should explore sanctioning under their jurisdiction's sport governing body (e.g., Biathlon Canada). Should a competition be granted sanction, the Host Society will communicate said sanction to all Participating Units, including the conditions of the sanction that may or may not differ from the International Federation's (IFs) rules and sanction.

4. Participants

Each Participating Unit may enter a team comprised of a maximum of eight (8) participants and two (2) coaches, as follows:

Athletes

Females born in 2007* or later	-	2
Males born in 2007* or later	-	2
Females born in 2004/2005/2006/2007*	-	2
Males born in 2004/2005/2006/2007*	-	2

Note: Units can register Participants within any of the eligible birth years, at the discretion of their Chef de Mission. Units are not obligated to register Participants within the youngest or oldest age category. Where no minimum age category is listed, Chefs de Mission are responsible for determining an appropriate minimum age for their Unit's Participants, with consideration for Eligibility and Competition structure (as outlined in the Technical Package) and the AWGIC's value of meaningful competition.

* Any overlapping age categories should be considered exceptions for 2023.

Staff

Coaches	-	2
Support Staff	-	0

If qualified coaches are available - unless otherwise approved by the AWGIC Technical Director and Technical Coordinator - one coach must be female and one male. If a coach from one gender is not available a chaperone must be substituted. Units must ensure that coaches are screened and trained in accordance with their jurisdiction's coaching standards.

Note:
- Coaches from a Unit's Biathlon - Ski team are allowed to participate as coaches for the Unit's Biathlon - Snowshoe competition, if required.

5. Eligibility

To be eligible to compete in the Arctic Winter Games, an athlete shall:
1. Be a "Developing Athlete"
    1. A Developing Athlete is one who has not represented one's nation in international competition (outside of an Arctic Winter Games) in the sport they are competing in.
        1. An athlete who has competed for one's club in international competition (not representing one's nation) is considered a

developing athlete;
2. An athlete who is a member of one's national team, but has not represented one's nation in international competition is considered a developing athlete.

Athletes eligible for the younger age category may compete in the older age category at the discretion of their Chef de Mission. Should they choose to do so, the athlete may only compete in the older age category for all events. Requests to have an athlete compete in an older age category must be submitted to the AWGIC Technical Director and Technical Coordinator a minimum of 14 days prior to the start of the Games.

See Appendix A for additional eligibility requirements.

6. Competition

Format

The competition shall take place abiding by the IBU Event and Competition Rules, as published on January 1 of the year of the Games.

Events

Competition shall be conducted as per the schedule below. Alterations at the discretion of the Host Society must be approved by the AWGIC.

- Monday: Individual Events
- Tuesday: Sprint Events
- Wednesday: Rest Day
- Thursday: Mass Start
- Friday: Relays

Competition Class	Individual	Sprint	Mass Start
Males born in 2004/2005/2006/ 2007	5.0 km PSPS	3.0 km PS	4.0 km PPSS
Females born in 2004/2005/2006/ 2007	5.0 km PSPS	3.0 km PS	4.0 km PPSS
Males born in 2007 or later	3.0 km PPP	2.0 km PP	2.5 km PPP
Females born in 2007 or later	3.0 km PPP	2.0 km PP	2.5 km PPP

Relay Event

Mixed Male/Female Competition for competitors born in 2004/2005/2006/2007 - 3 x 2 km
Mixed Male/Female Competition for competitors born in 2007 or later - 3 x 2 km

Official Teams must be made up of three (3) competitors from the same Unit, two (2) of one gender and one (1) of the other. Medals are awarded by team (i.e., the entire 2004/2005/2006/2007 team or 2007 or later team from the Unit will receive a medal [4 medals]). If the Host Society allows, unofficial teams can be formed by joining Units; these teams will not be entitled to a medal. Competitors born in 2007 or later may move up to compete in the 2004/2005/2006/2007 relay; should they choose to do so they cannot compete in the 2007 or later relay.

Schedule

The Host Society shall distribute a first draft of the Master Sport Schedule - a detailed multi-sport schedule, including: competitions, practices/training, pre-Games Coach/Manager meetings and all technical meetings - to the AWGIC and each Participating Unit's Chef de Mission for review no later than 1 year (12 months) prior to the commencement of the Games (Opening Ceremony). The Master Sport Schedule becomes "final" three (3) months prior to the commencement of the Games, unless otherwise approved by the AWGIC. A final review and approval of the Master Sport Schedule must be conducted by the AWGIC Technical Director prior to being considered "final".

The Master Sport Schedule is developed by the Host Society in consultation with the Sport Vice President, Sport Chairs and the AWGIC as required. The sport schedule is developed using the Sport Technical Packages and by reviewing the sport schedules from previous Games.

The Host Society shall:

- Create a process for stakeholders to provide input and request changes to the schedule;
- Revise and update the Master Sport Schedule, redistributing updated versions as required on an ongoing basis between 12 months pre-Games and the end of the Games;
- Refer to the AWGIC Staging Manual to view approved sport schedule templates.

The Host Society, to the best of their ability shall:

- Refrain from scheduling any competition or practice/training within three (3) hours of the beginning of the Opening Ceremony;
- Respect the timing required for participant feeding, transportation and marshalling for opening and closing ceremonies;
- Ensure that practice/training during the first day of the Games reflects the travel realities of Participating Units (e.g., Units with the least amount of travel should be scheduled to practice/train and/or compete first upon arrival in the Host jurisdiction, where Units with the most travel should practice/train and/or compete last).

7. Medals

Medals shall be awarded individually by event and individually by team (relay) as follows:

- Gold - 24
- Silver - 24
- Bronze - 24

8. Equipment

The definitions and specifications of a participant's competition materials/equipment are stipulated in the IBU Materials Catalogue (Annex A). All participants must abide by said Catalogue. Please refer to Section 13. Snowshoe Equipment Regulations for snowshoe specifications.

9. Competition Uniform

The definitions and specifications of a participant's competition clothing are stipulated in the IBU Materials Catalogue (Annex A). All participants must abide by said Catalogue.

10. Registration

All Participants (athletes, coaches, managers and support staff) must be registered in the Arctic Winter Games electronic registration system (GEMS.pro) no later than 14 days prior to the Opening Ceremony.

11. Protests & Appeals

Field of Play disputes should be managed in accordance with the AWGIC Field of Play conduct Policy and Protest Procedure and each International Federation's (IFs) rules.

12. Arctic Winter Games Rule Modifications

If a rule is not specified in this package then the IBU rules shall apply. With respect to the rules related to snowshoe equipment, see the Snowshoeing Technical Package.

Shooting Positions, Carrying and Range Procedures

a. Shooting Positions
   - Competitors born in 2007 or later shoot in the prone position only.
   - Competitors born in 2004/2005/2006/2007 shoot in the prone or standing position according to the sequences for each event.

b. Rifle Carrying
   - Competitors born in 2007 or later shall have their rifles placed on and removed from the firing line (mats) by their coaches or range officials.
   - Competitors born in 2004/2005/2006/2007 will carry their rifles only on the range and securely positioned on their back with the proper biathlon harness.

c. Range Procedures for competitors born in 2007 or later (IBU Rule 8.5.2 Modified)
   - The rifles for competitors born in 2007 or later shall be pre-positioned on the firing point mats by their coaches, with the barrel pointing toward the targets and in such a way that the rifle can be picked up safely by the Competitor. The Competitor shall carry out the entire loading and firing procedure without assistance. After firing the last shot of each bout, the Competitor must open the action, remove the magazine, and place the rifle on the firing point mat with the barrel pointing toward the targets, and then exit the firing point and the range in the normal manner.

d. Penalty
   - If the rifle is left with the action closed each violation shall result in a 2-minute penalty imposed by the Competition Jury. The Competition Jury shall handle other issues arising from the procedures according to the principles set out in the IBU Rules and to common sense.

e. Coaches Responsibility
   - Coaches are solely responsible for the pre-positioning of the rifles, moving them to another firing point or away from the firing points, and for the provision of ammunition to their Competitors. No time adjustment will be awarded for a delay caused by any action that is the coaches' error. In addition, the coaches are responsible for ensuring that a rifle placed on a mat does not impede or otherwise disrupt or interfere with other Competitors.

f. Safety Check
   - The Competitors' Coach is responsible for performing the safety check on the rifle before it is moved to another location – by confirming that there is no inserted magazine, that the action has been opened, and that there is no round in the chamber.

<u>Range Procedures for competitors born in 2004/2005/2006/2007 (IBU Rule 8.5.2 Modified)</u>

a. Prior to the start of the competition, all competitors born in 2004/2005/2006/2007 will have their rifles - with the bolts open unless otherwise authorized - placed in racks located on the left or right side of the trail, as decided by the Technical Delegate based on circumstances, just inside of the 10 m line at the entrance to the range.

b. Competitors must come to a complete stop on the mats located in front of these racks before they start to pick up their rifles following the rules outlined in IBU 8.5.2. Each competitor will then pick up their rifle and place the rifle in the correct carrying position on their back.

c. Competitors will then snowshoe to their firing points and carry out normal range procedures, as defined in the IBU rules (IBU 8.5.4), for removal and replacement of the rifle, for shooting, and for leaving the firing point.

d. After completing a bout of shooting, each Competitor will proceed to the rifle racks located on the left or right side of the trail just inside of the 10 m line at the exit of the range and must come to a complete stop on the mats located in front of these racks. They will then remove the rifle from their back and place their rifle on the racks, again following the rules outlined in IBU 8.5.4. The action/bolt must be in the open position when the rifle is placed on the rack. Notwithstanding IBU Rule 8.5.2, once on the mat in front of a range exit rack, provided that the barrel

is pointed up, a competitor will open the bolt in order to prepare the rifle for placement on the rack. The competitor must be in full control of the rifle while opening the bolt (Bolt must not be opened on the rack). Once the rifle has been safely and securely placed on the rack the competitor may continue with the competition.

e. In the case of inclement weather, the Technical Delegate, or in their absence the Chief of Competition or the Chief of Range, may authorize that a designated official close the bolt of the rifles that have been placed in the exit rack to prevent the build-up of snow or ice, but only after inspecting the rifle to verify that the bolt was open, no rounds or empty casings were in the chamber, and that no rounds are present in any magazine inserted into the action of the rifle. This will permit rifles to be carried and to be left in the rifle rack with closed bolts to prevent the ingress of snow and ice when conditions are adverse.

f. Competitors must not be interfered with when retrieving rifles or when placing rifles into the racks.

g. At the end of the competition, each Competitor must collect their rifle, prove it to be safe, and proceed to the designated Material Inspection location so that any required inspection can be completed. Completion of this obligation and any ensuing inspection marks the end of the competition for the non-carrying Competitor.

h. Penalties
    - Any safety violation during the above-specified procedures shall result in a two-minute penalty imposed by the Competition Jury.
    - The Competition Jury shall handle other issues arising from the procedures according to the principles set out in the IBU Rules and to common sense.

<u>Penalty Loop</u>

a. Penalty loops apply to the sprint, mass start and relay competitions only.
b. The penalty loop distance for all events shall be fifty (50) meters.
c. One penalty loop shall be snowshoed for each target missed.
d. The required number of penalty loops shall be snowshoed immediately after each round of shooting.
e. A two-minute penalty shall be added to a competitor's time for each penalty loop not snowshoed.

f. Competitors are responsible for ensuring that they complete the correct number of penalty loops.
g. Individual Event Penalties
   9. The time penalty for individual events will be 40 seconds for each target missed.

Rifles and Ammunition

IBU rules shall be followed with the following clarifications:
- Only .22 calibre rifles are allowed;
- Magnification, telescopic or corrective sights are not allowed;
- Semi automatic or automatic actions are not allowed;
- The maximum capacity of ammunition magazines shall be five (5) rounds;
- The maximum number of rounds allowed in a rifle at any time is five (5);
- Lever or bolt-action rifles are allowed;
- High velocity or similar ammunition is not allowed;
- The maximum muzzle velocity of ammunition is 380 meters per second.

Targets

IBU rules shall be followed with the following clarifications:
- The five (5) bull metal target is the preferred target for competition;
- The distance shot is 50 meters;
- The size of the aligning sight picture is 115 millimetres;
- The scoring size of paper and metal targets is:
    i. Prone – 45 millimetres
    ii. Standing – 115 millimetres

Equipment Check and Marking

Competitors must report to the equipment checkpoint at the designated time announced by the competition committee prior to the start of each race for the purpose of checking rifles and other equipment for compliance with the rules.

Snowshoes and rifles shall be checked for compliance with the rules and marked as such under the supervision of the chief of competition. A spare pair of snowshoes and a spare rifle can also be checked and marked using the same procedures if requested by a competitor or their coach. Spare rifles and equipment may only be used if the original equipment malfunctions during the course of an event.

All snowshoes and rifles must also be checked after each race as per IBU rules.
Replacement:

- Competitors may replace a broken snowshoe during the course of a race. They must, however, finish each race with at least one (1) of the original snowshoes worn at the start of the race. Both Snowshoes must be properly bound to the feet at the finish of the race. Any replacement snowshoes, which were put on during the course of the race, will be measured immediately after the race and the race committee shall ensure compliance with all rules respecting snowshoes.
- Competitors may use their spare rifle if the original rifle malfunctions during a race.
- In both cases above, the competitor's coach may provide the replacement equipment to the athlete during the course of the race provided they do not interfere with the progress of any other athlete.

Cold Weather Policy

The IBU Cold Weather Policy shall apply to this competition (as detailed below). The cut-off temperatures and related requirements will be reviewed with coaches and officials prior to the start of competition.

6.6 WEATHER CONDITIONS

6.6.1 Temperature

Biathlon competitions must not be started if the air temperature is colder than minus 20 degrees Celsius measured at the coldest part of the site (range or course), 1.5 m above ground.

6.6.2 Wind Chill

If it is colder than minus 15°C, wind chill and humidity must be considered before starting and during the competition. In the case of a high wind chill factor, the competition jury will decide whether to start or continue the competition (see IBU rules for additional information)

Snowshoe Equipment Regulations

Snowshoe Equipment Regulations are extracted from the Snowshoeing Technical Package. In the case of any discrepancy between the two documents, the Snowshoeing Technical Package shall prevail.

Equipment – Snowshoes

a. Dimensions
   - The snowshoe shall not be smaller than 220 by 813 millimetres (8 ¾" by 32"). The race committee shall construct a measuring box with inside dimensions of 220 millimetres width and 813 millimetres length. Any shoe that falls through this box in either the vertical or horizontal position shall be deemed illegal and its use will be forbidden. Snowshoes shall be measured and marked by a designated sport official before the start of the first day's events. Officials will check snowshoes for official markings during the weigh-in procedure established in the section below (Weight).

b. Materials
   - Snowshoes shall be made of a wooden frame. The webbing shall be of leather or gut. Snowshoes shall not have any device(s) affixed to them, the purpose of which is the improvement of traction.

c. Weight
   - A pair of snowshoes complete with bindings shall weigh no less than 1.1 kilograms (2.5 pounds). Snowshoes shall be weighed prior to and after each competition. The weigh scale shall be of a mechanical balance type that is unaffected by cold temperatures.

d. Replacement Procedures
   - Athletes must finish the race with at least one (1) of the original snowshoes worn at the start of the race, and both snowshoes must be properly bound to the feet at the finish of the race. Any replacement snowshoes, which were put on during the course of the race, will be measured immediately after the race and the race committee shall ensure compliance with all rules respecting snowshoes.

e. Illegal Snowshoes
   - Any athletes completing the race with an illegal snowshoe(s) shall be disqualified from the race; any medals or points awarded shall be forfeited. It is the competitor's responsibility to ensure their snowshoes are legal as defined by these rules.

f. Marking
   - The Race Committee shall establish a procedure for "marking" snowshoes.

Equipment – Bindings

Bindings must be made of soft leather or hide or lampwik. Metal buckles are allowed but may only be used to fasten one part of the binding to another part of the binding and not the binding to the snowshoe. Not allowed are:

- 3 pin cross-country ski bindings or other metal bindings that prevent the snowshoe from swinging sideways;
- Velcro or similar materials;
- Nylon straps;
- Buckles except as described above.

Bindings may be affixed to the mukluks, moccasins or kamiks by using one toe loop that is sewn to the mukluks, moccasins or kamiks within 76 millimetres (3 inches) of the centre front part of the mukluks, moccasins or kamiks. The binding cannot be affixed to the mukluks, moccasins or kamiks in any other way. The loops must be of a natural material such as hide or leather.

Equipment – Footwear

All athletes must wear mukluks, moccasins or kamiks when racing. Footwear must be made of soft leather below the ankle including the sole. No commercial shoes, hard-soled shoes or rigid orthotics are to be worn inside the mukluks, moccasins or kamiks. Acceptable liners are felt, wool or foam. Rubber liners are not allowed. No cleats or track shoes or any kind, or part thereof, are allowed. Velcro or similar materials are not allowed. Duct tape or similar materials or cardboard or similar manufactured materials are not allowed.

13. Appendix A

AWGP1 ATHLETE AND CULTURAL PERFORMER ELIGIBILITY POLICY

Preamble:
The Arctic Winter Games combine athletic competition, cultural exchange and social interaction among northern contingents. Arctic Winter Games athletic competitions feature sports that enjoy worldwide popularity and sports unique to the north. The AWG Cultural Program offers opportunities for northern artists to perform on a larger stage to diverse audiences. The Arctic Winter Games International Committee is responsible for providing direction and guidance to contingents to ensure meaningful competition and a diverse cultural program in the Arctic Winter Games Program.

Purpose: This policy provides direction and guidance to the participating contingents when selecting athletes and cultural participants for their teams.

1. To be eligible to compete in the Arctic Winter Games, an athlete shall:
    a. be a "Developing Athlete" as described in the Glossary of Terms and not have been a member of a national team in the sport in which they are competing, nor competed in, nor have been selected for an international competition as a representative of their country in the sport within one (1) year of the opening date of the Games (sports without national sport governing bodies are exempt from this rule)
    b. compete in one sport only c) meet individual sport requirements as per the current technical package.

2. To be eligible to participate in the Arctic Winter Games, a Contingent Cultural performer shall comply with the eligibility requirements included in the current Cultural Technical Package.

3. To be eligible to participate in the Arctic Winter Games, all Contingent Athletes and Cultural performers shall:
    a. be a resident of Yukon, Northwest Territories, Alberta North (north of 55 degrees), Greenland, Alaska, Nunavut or any other participating Contingent/Guest Contingent approved by the Arctic Winter Games International Committee (AWGIC). Current approved Guest Contingents are Nunavik (Quebec, Canada), Yamal-Nenets (Russia)*, Sapmi (Finland/Norway/Sweden);

b. have been a continuous resident of the participating Contingent for six (6) months prior to the opening day of the Games;
c. comply with all other Arctic Winter Games rules and regulations as outlined in the Arctic Winter Games Staging Manual, Arctic Winter Games Technical Packages or other publications issued by the Arctic Winter Games International Committee;
d. comply with all rules and regulations of their Contingent.

NOTE #1.1: 'Resident' means a person who makes their permanent home in a jurisdiction and includes someone who may be temporarily absent from the jurisdiction but who maintains a close connection with the jurisdiction and has the intention of returning to the jurisdiction after a temporary absence. An individual leaving a jurisdiction with no intention of returning continues to be considered a resident of that jurisdiction up to 90 days after leaving and may participate if the first day of the Games falls within that 90-day period.

NOTE #1.2: A resident of a participating Contingent who is attending school outside the Contingent is deemed to be a continuous resident of their Contingent and is eligible to compete for their residence Contingent or the Contingent in which they are attending school (if a participating Contingent) but not both.

NOTE #1.3: An individual who is a resident of a jurisdiction not eligible to compete at the Games; but who lives in a participating jurisdiction as a student, or who is there on a temporary work visa, or who is otherwise temporarily living in a participating jurisdiction; is not considered a resident of the participating jurisdiction and is therefore ineligible to compete in the Arctic Winter Games.

NOTE #1.4: Individual Contingents may impose additional requirements for eligibility for their team provided they do not contravene the intent of the AWG International Committee policies.

* The Arctic Winter Games International Committee has suspended Yamal, Russia, with immediate effect, following the attacks unfolding in Ukraine in a March 1, 2022 decision.