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2023 JEUX
AUTOCHTONES
de l'Amérique du Nord



North American
INDIGENOUS
GAMES 2023

Team BC 2023 North American Indigenous Games ATHLETE SELECTION PROCESS

-- ATHLETICS -- (Track & Field & Cross-Country)

The following document outlines the eligibility and selection process for athletes to represent Team BC in the sport of Athletics (Track & Field & Cross-Country) at the 2023 North American Indigenous Games (NAIG) to be held in Halifax, Nova Scotia, July 15 to 23, 2023.

1. Athlete Eligibility

To be eligible for participation on Team BC for North American Indigenous Games (NAIG), athletes must:

- Meet the sport-specific age requirement
- Be a resident of BC
- Be born of Canadian or American Indigenous ancestry. Athletes will be required to provide proof of ancestry (e.g. Status Card, Métis Card, First Nations/Treaty Card, Inuit and Inuvialuit identification)*
- If selected, athlete must become a member of BC Athletics (competitive membership – [link here](#)), if not already currently a member.
- Be fully COVID-19 vaccinated as per the NAIG policy. [CLICK HERE](#) for more information.

*If a participant does not possess one of the specified cards/ID, there is a Declaration of Indigenous Ancestry Form that must be completed and submitted together with supporting documentation to I-SPARC c/o Team BC Chef de Mission.

Please note any athlete that requires the Declaration of Indigenous Ancestry form is not guaranteed eligibility to Team BC to compete at NAIG until the Declaration and supporting documentation is approved and endorsed by Team BC for NAIG submission.

The form will be available in September 2022. If you have any questions in the meantime, please reach out to teambc@isparc.ca.

The Indigenous Sport, Physical Activity & Recreation Council (I-SPARC) is responsible for managing the Team BC Program for the North American Indigenous Games (NAIG) and is supported by the Province of BC. The Team BC NAIG program in the sport of athletics is sanctioned and supported by BC Athletics.

PARTNER AGENCIES



2. Age Eligibility

The 2023 NAIG competition in Athletics will consist of both male and female individual and team relay events for the following age categories:

- 19U (born 2004 & later*)
- 16U (defined as born 2007 & later*)
- 14U (defined as born 2009 & later*)

*Regarding matters of safety and maturity, Team BC is seeking athletes born no later than 2010.

3. Team Composition & Events

Team BC is seeking up to maximum of eight (8) male and eight (8) female athletes for each age category to compete at 2023 NAIG.

Athletes are allowed to compete in four events plus two (2) relays. Cross Country counts as one of the four events. For each age category, each contingent has a maximum of three (3) athletes per individual event. Events are as follows:

Events are either heats and finals, or just finals depending on the number of entries.

Category	14U		16U		19U	
	M	F	M	F	M	F
80M			X	X	X	X
100M	X	X				
150M			X	X	X	X
200M	X	X				
300M	X	X			X	X
400M	X	X	X	X		
800M						
1200M					X	X
1500M	X	X	X	X		
2000M	X	X			X	X
3000M	X	X	X	X		
X Country	2K	2K	3K	3K	8K	6K
High Jump						
Long Jump						
Triple Jump	X	X				
Shot Put						
Discus						
Javelin						
4x100m						
4x400m						

*X's indicate events that are not open for registration.

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Relays: Each Province, territory and State may enter:

- One (1) male 4x100M team and one (1) female 4x100M team in all age categories.
- One (1) male 4x400M team and one (1) female 4x400M team in all age categories.

NOTE: To accommodate the number of participants, athletes may move up to compete in a higher age class relay team, but they may not compete in the same relay event in two different age categories.

4. Coaching Staff

The coaching staff will include a head coach, lead coach, assistant coaches and managers as well as chaperones.

5. Equipment & Implements

For complete details of the NAIG Athletics competition and rules, please refer to the 2023 NAIG Sport Technical Package for Athletics found in full [HERE](#).

All equipment used in the 2023 NAIG shall comply with WA Rules. Throwers may submit their own implements for certification and use in the events equipment pool as long as the implements comply with WA rules.

For all throwing events the implement weight shall be as follows:

NAIG – Implement Weights

Male	14U	16U	19U
Shot put	3 kg / 6.6 lbs	4 kg / 8.8 lbs	6 kg / 13.2 lbs
Discus	750g / 1.7 lbs	1 kg / 2.2 lbs	1.750kg / 3.9 lbs
Javelin	400g / 14.1 oz	600g / 21.2 oz	800g / 28.2 oz
Female			
Shot put	3 kg / 6.6 lbs	3 kg / 6.6 lbs	4 kg / 8.8 lbs
Discus	750g / 1.7 lbs	1 kg / 2.2 lbs	1 kg / 2.2 lbs
Javelin	400g / 14.1 oz	500g / 17.6 oz	600g / 21.2 oz

6. Selection Guidelines & Key Dates

Athletes interested in competing for Team BC at 2023 NAIG must register on the Team BC system by May 1, 2023, including the expression of interest and the Athletics scorecard:

- The application form will be available online and promoted to I-SPARC and BC Athletics network of contacts and posted on I-SPARC Facebook page and website. Registration link - <https://isparc.perfectmind.com/SocialSite/MemberRegistration/MemberSignIn>
- Athletes must register in the Team BC registration system prior to the deadline of **May 1, 2023** in order to be considered for nomination to Team BC Development Squad.
- Applicants must also provide two (2) references – one sport reference (preferably a coach) and one character reference that is not a relative (e.g. teacher).

- Applicants must also submit their performance results from competitive meets held through the year **January 2022 up until May 14, 2023**. These can be added to their Athletics scorecard at any time up until May 14. It is preferable that results submitted are from BC Athletics sanctioned event(s) and/or School event(s), however, results from other events verified by a coach, teacher, or event official may also be submitted. The form can be downloaded [HERE](#).
- Athletes will be considered for selection based primarily on their performances in the past year and current season, however, athlete selection criteria may also include other contributing factors including conduct, attitude, commitment to training, and other criteria determined by the Coaching Staff/Selection committee.
- Selection committee to consist of Team BC Coaching Staff and representatives from Provincial Athletics Committee.
- Athletes to be notified of selection results during the week of May 15, 2023.
- Athletes must be a member with BC Athletics. Information can be found [HERE](#).

Team BC Coaching Staff/Selection Committees operate under the principles to create quality, competitive teams to represent BC at NAIG and that selection should be free from bias as a result of nepotism, favoritism, or affiliation. They are responsible for ensuring transparency in the process and that good selection principles have been applied.

Date	Action	Notes
Jan. 1 2022 to May 15, 2023	Results Window	Submit results from Cross-Country and/or Track & Field Meets achieved from within this period.
February 24-February 26, 2023	(Optional) Competitive Meet Opportunity	Team BC is encouraging athletes to compete and attend the Van Ryswyk Indoor Invitational in Kamloops February 24-26, 2023. This is a premium development and training opportunity for interested athletes. Results achieved at this event would also be eligible to include on final results submission package. On the evening of February 24 of the meet, Indigenous athletes will also be invited to a private gathering with the Team BC Athletics Coaching Staff.
March 25-March 26, 2023	(Optional) 2023 BC Indigenous Provincial Athletics Camp	Team BC is encouraging athletes to attend the (OPTIONAL) 2023 BC Indigenous Provincial Athletics Camp taking place at the Apple Bowl Stadium in Kamloops, BC. The two-day camp is offered by our Team BC coaches and covers not only run, jumps, and throws disciplines but also sessions on strength training and conditioning, injury prevention, sport psychology and more. To register, please visit https://isparc.perfectmind.com/SocialSite/MemberRegistration/MemberSignIn
May 1, 2023	Final Deadline for interested athletics athletes to register in Team BC registration system.	To be eligible for Team BC, all athletes must register in our Team BC system prior to May 1

		https://isparc.perfectmind.com/SocialSite/MemberRegistration/MemberSignIn Please fill out the Expression of Interest as well as Athletics Scorecard section.
May 14, 2023	Last day to submit competitive results	Results can be uploaded to Athlete's registration profile under Athletics. https://isparc.perfectmind.com/SocialSite/MemberRegistration/MemberSignIn
May 15, 2023 (week of)	Athletes are notified of Team BC selection results	Athletes will be expected to continue training and competing in the remainder of the 2023 competitive season.
June 1, 2023	Team BC Fee Due	The Team BC fee for NAIG is \$450. The fee includes NAIG registration fee, Team BC uniform and opening ceremony outfit, three meals/day and accommodations while in Halifax, flight to Halifax from designated major departure hub (e.g. YVR).
June 27-28, 2023	(OPTIONAL) OAC's Annual Jack Brow Meet – Team BC Training opportunity	Team BC athletic athletes will be invited to attend the Okanagan Athletics Club's Annual "Jack Brow Meet" in Kelowna, BC as part of its team training events prior to attending NAIG (OPTIONAL)
July 15 – 23, 2023	2023 North American Indigenous Games (NAIG)	Halifax, NS (travel days July 15 and returning July 23)

7. Team Expectations

Upon selection to Team BC or Team BC Development Squad, an athlete is required to:

- a) Sign and honor the Code of Conduct
- b) Obey all rules established by Team BC and the Head Coach
- c) Participate in Team events, activities and meetings, as directed by the Head Coach
- d) Ensure they wear/use the proper equipment and clothing for their sport
- e) Assist and participate in team fundraising projects where required
- f) Continue with training and preparation
- g) Represent themselves, their families, their community, their team, with pride and integrity
- h) Be fully vaccinated

Team expectations are not limited to the above items and there may be additional expectations communicated by the Head Coach or Team BC.

8. Dismissal

An athlete may be removed from Team BC for the following reasons (not limited to):

- a) Athlete violates Team BC code of conduct or Team rules
- b) Athlete is unable to perform due to injury, illness or for other medical reason
- c) Athlete is unable to commit to Team events, activities, meetings (note that an athlete may obtain an exemption from the Head Coach)

- d) Athlete is unable to maintain training standards or meet performance expectation to the Head Coaches satisfaction
- e) Athlete exhibits behavior/conduct that is detrimental to Team BC program
- f) Athlete voluntarily withdraws

9. Alternates

Where necessary and appropriate, an athlete removed from the Team may be replaced by an alternate, provided the alternate athlete is eligible. The selection of the replacement will be based upon previous results and selection criteria and shall be the decision of the Head Coach.

If an athlete selected to Team BC becomes ill or injured, he or she must seek immediate medical attention and report the illness or injury to Team BC. Team BC will assess the situation in order to make a recommendation. The assessment may involve requesting further information or additional medical tests. Where it is determined an athlete must be replaced, the selection of the replacement will be from among the pool of eligible alternate athletes.

10. Appeals

Any dispute relating to Team BC selections to be brought according to following procedure. The first level of appeal will be to the Team Head Coach. This appeal must be in writing (via email is acceptable) and be filed within 3 calendar days of the selections/announcement of the Development Squad, or, Team roster. If an athlete is not satisfied with this decision they may appeal in writing (via email is acceptable) to an Appeal Committee made up of Team BC Chef de Mission and/or Assistant Chef, and minimum of two members of the Provincial Sport Committee. This appeal must be filed within 3 calendar days of the Head Coach's decision of the first level appeal. At any time during the review/appeal process, the athlete may be required to provide additional information or evidence in support of their appeal. The athlete will receive a response from the Appeals Committee within one week of it being received and shall be the final level of appeal available to the athlete.

11. Inquiries

Inquiries regarding Team BC and 2023 NAIG, please contact us at teambc@isparc.ca or call 250-856-0850.

Team BC Chef de Mission

Michelle Webster

Provincial Coordinator, Performance Sport

Joel Harry