



**Bobsleigh Canada Skeleton
National Bobsleigh Program – Selection Process & Criteria
2011-12**

SELECTION PROCESS

The following outlines the process Bobsleigh Canada Skeleton (BCS) will follow in selecting the best and most qualified athletes for each level of FIBT competition for the 2011/12 competitive season. This selection process has been designed in support of BCS' mandate to develop and sustain World and Olympic Champions in preparation for the Sochi (RUS) 2014 Olympic Winter Games and beyond

For the 2011/12 competitive season, BCS will utilize a selection race series consisting of two (2) races on the Calgary track for team selections. This format has been adopted in order to continue to increase the level of competition and performance expected of athletes participating in BCS programs, as well as to evaluate those athletes with the greatest potential for success in Sochi 2014 and throughout the 2011/12 World Cup, Europa Cup and America Cup circuits. Through participation during this series of competitions, pilots will earn "Selection Points" which will ultimately assist in determining the circuit for which they will compete in during the 2011/12 season.

1. Eligibility for National Bobsleigh Program – Selection Process

1.1 Eligibility for National Team participation is based upon the following;

- a) Pilots having participated in all of the selection race series, unless non-participation is authorized by the Head Coach;
- b) Athletes must participate in National Training Camps, including meetings and functions as specified by BCS Coaching Staff (conflicts to be resolved via written documentation provided 1week prior to event);
- c) Athletes must maintain a minimum level of physical ability as determined by Head Coach;
- d) Athletes must be members in good standing of a recognized BCS club and or provincial association;
- e) Athletes must have a valid passport;
- f) Athletes must be eligible for a Canadian FIBT license;
- g) Athletes must sign a 2011/12 Athlete Agreement prior to participating in any FIBT sanctioned event (including any and all FIBT races).
- h) No athlete will be entered into an international competition for BCS with positive results from anti-doping testing;



2. Physical Testing

2.1 Physical testing will take place during the two (2) summer training camps in August and September at National and/or Regional development camps around Canada in the year of Selection.

3. Push Testing

3.1 The National Push Testing competition will take place in the Calgary Ice House on the 27th and the 28th September, 2011.

4. National Team Selection Races

4.1 National Team selection races will be held in Calgary from 11th October thru 16th October. All athletes are eligible to race in the selection races. These races will be used to help determine the athletes for the 2011-12 National Bobsleigh Program competitive programs.

4.2 Selection races consist of two (2) races per discipline for Men and Women. If track conditions or the weather deteriorate and the field needs to be reduced this will be done using last season's ranking.

4.3 All selection races will be conducted in accordance with FIBT rules (where applicable), with any modifications to the selection race rules announced at the pre-race meeting(s)/draw(s). Athletes are responsible for representing themselves at these meetings.

4.4 Points will be awarded for the final race ranking in each of the races according to the following points table:

1st	10
2nd	6
3rd	4
4th	3
5th	2
6th	1

Bonus points will be awarded based on the average time of the top three places, 1/10th of a point for each 1/10th second ahead of the average time:

Example: 1st – 115.30 2nd – 117.05 3rd – 117.45

Average time is 116.60 seconds

1st place finisher is 1.3 seconds ahead of the average time, receives 1.3 points



4.5 General race format will be as follows: Race draws for the races will be held following the final training runs. Athletes must have completed the minimum number of training runs to be eligible for the selection race series.

- a) Equipment must conform to the FIBT regulations in force - technical checks will be conducted.
- b) All equipment used in selection races must be available to the pilots for the entire season.
- c) Any brakeman used in selection races must be available to the pilot for the entire season.
- d) Specific race protocols will be announced at the race draw, to reflect the known race conditions (times, weather).
- e) Protests must be verbally made to a jury member within five minutes of the race ending, and must be submitted in writing within twenty minutes of the race conclusion, along with a \$100.00CDN protest fee.

5. FIBT QUOTA – Available Positions

5.1 For the 2011/12 season, Canada has qualified for the following number of athletes on each perspective circuit:

5.2 National Bobsleigh Program

- a) WORLD CUP TEAM: 2 x 2er Men / 2 x 4er Men / 3 x 2er Women;
- b) EUROPA CUP TEAM: 3 x 2er Men / 3 x 4er Men / 3 x 2er Women;
- c) AMERICAS CUP TEAM: 4 x 2er Men / 4 x 4er Men / 4 x 2er Women;

6. Final Selection

6.1 Upon completion of the selection procedures, the Head Coach will nominate the list of eligible athletes to the Selection Committee. The Selection Committee will be comprised of: BCS Board Member (Committee Chair), Chief Executive Officer, High Performance Director and an independent participant. The Selection Committee will confirm the nominees, and render a final decision.

7. Appeals to Bobsleigh Canada Skeleton - Internal

7.1 Any dispute with regards to the selection and nomination to the National Team will be dealt with by BCS's appeal procedure as outlined in BCS's 2011/12 Athlete's Agreement.



8. Unforeseen Circumstances

8.1 There may be an occasion, where unforeseen and intervening circumstances do not allow the BCS National Bobsleigh Team Program – Selection Process & Criteria to be fairly and objectively applied. In this case, an appeal may be made by the athlete(s) in question to the BCS Appeals Committee who reserves the right to rule on an appropriate course of action.

8.2 The selection procedures above are based on FIBT rules and regulations as presently published. Any change in the selection procedures caused by a change in FIBT rules and regulations will be distributed to all athletes immediately. Fairness, equal opportunity and the desire to field the most competitive teams for international competition are the guiding principles and will determine the administration of the selection criteria. The 2011/12 National Bobsleigh Program - Selection Process & Criteria are based on the latest information available to BCS. However, these criteria are always subject to unforeseen, intervening circumstances (weather, budget, etc.) and no doubt have not accounted for every possible contingency. If a scheduled event cannot be held or must be interrupted, BCS will first try to re-schedule the event. Second, BCS will try to change the venue but will not guarantee funding for travel to the new venue. Finally, if a venue change is not feasible, ranking will be based first on the portion of that event completed or if no portion has been completed, then ranking will be based on last trials conducted.

8.3 ***BCS reserves the right not to take the full contingent of athletes based on budgets, competitive schedules, and/or coaches / selection committee discretion.***

8.4 Thank you for your attention to these matters and good luck to all, en route to Sochi 2014.



**Bobsleigh CANADA Skeleton
National Bobsleigh Program - SELECTION PROCESS & CRITERIA
2011-12**

SELECTION CRITERIA

1. Pre-Selection Eligibility

1.1 If there are pilots who have achieved a top 4 in the 2010-11 World Championships or FIBT overall ranking, then this pilot will be given a bye through the National Team Selection Races and be automatically placed on the team. This driver and his/her team will race in the National Bobsleigh Program - Selection Races.

2. National Bobsleigh Program - Pilot Selection

2.1 For pilot selection, the National Team Selection Races alone will NOT be the definitive method of selection. The following factors will be considered along with any other unforeseen issues, which the Head Coach deems relevant. The Head Coach will use the following factors (in no particular order) when assessing the selection of pilots into the various National Teams.

- a) Physical ability, as determined at summer testing events
- b) Future driving potential, as determined by the Head Coach and the Driving Coaches.
- c) 2011-12 Selection Race results
- d) Commitment to BCS World Cup and Olympic Programs
- e) Attitude and work ethic
- f) Previous season's race results

2.2 After the final World Cup race of the season, the teams for the World Championships, will be decided by each individual pilots current FIBT ranking.

In seasons where World Championships are to be held in St. Moritz, the FIBT will issue a different qualification date, prior to the final race of the season.

2.3 Once the World Cup Team is competing internationally, the lowest ranked pilot may be replaced by the next ranked Pilot. This will be determined by the Head Coach if the lowest ranked pilot does not maintain the agreed upon benchmarks set by the Head Coach. A change in pilots will not change the fact that push athlete's team status is governed by their personal ranking.

2.4 No pilot will be entered into an international competition for the BCS with positive results from anti-doping testing.



3. National Bobsleigh Program - Push Athlete (Brakemen / Crew) Selection

3.1 The guiding principle behind brakemen and side push athlete selection will be to achieve the best possible result for Canada at World Cup level, but more importantly at World Championship and Olympic competitions. Push athletes will be ranked at the National Push Start competition. Male athletes will be ranked as brakemen, side pushers and drivers. Female athletes will be ranked as brakemen and drivers.

3.2 Pilots will select push athletes for their teams prior to the National Team Selection Races. They may use the following push athlete criteria to help in their decisions.

3.3 Pilots may use input from the Coaching Staff as needed. There is no implied priority of these criteria. Pilots' overriding principle should be those athletes who will produce the best push and riding combinations for competition.

- BCS Individual Push Competition: On the Calgary Ice Push Facility, date to be set
- Driver evaluation of 2-man Push (push athletes only): On the Calgary Ice Push Facility
- Driver evaluation of 3-man Push (push athletes only): On the Calgary Ice Push Facility
- Off-ice testing: 30 meters, 45 meters, vertical jump, power clean and any other testing done by the National Team Coaching Staff.
- International (World Cup/Championships) push times and push experience/history
- Team cohesion, attitude and work ethic (team works well together.).
- International finish results.

3.4 The Head Coach may remove an athlete for injury, illness, doping, or code of conduct violations. This action will be taken consistent with the BCS bylaws and criteria.

3.5 Experienced athletes, who are injured or have long-term sickness before or after selection, will have their merit for team selection assessed by the Head Coach based on advice provided by the BCS Doctor/ Physiotherapist. Once deemed fit, the athlete's fitness will be reviewed at a date and venue specified by the Head Coach. The athlete will be expected to demonstrate that he or she has the ability to achieve a minimum level of 90% of the athlete's personal best in officially recorded BCS testing. The Head Coach may use his discretion to set higher targets depending on the proximity to and the level of competition (i.e. closer to or higher levels of competition may result in higher targets being set).

3.6 The Head Coach will select alternate push athletes based on the overall needs of the team.

3.7 No push athlete will be entered into an International competition for BCS with positive results from anti-doping testing.



4. BCS Sled/Runner Allocations

4.1 Prior to each year's National Team Selection Races the BCS Head Coach will allocate BCS sleds to male or female pilots based upon the following objective criteria:

- a) The top FIBT ranked pilot will receive first choice on sled allocation.
- b) The next ranked pilot will receive second choice on sled allocation.
- c) The next top ranked pilot shall pick third, and this process will continue until all ranked pilots have a sled.
- d) After sleds have been allocated to ranked pilots, any further allocation of sleds will be on the results of the Individual push tests i.e.; fastest pilot will be allocated the next sled.
- e) When male or female pilots are equally ranked on the FIBT standards, the Head Coach will use his discretion to allocate sleds based on a pilot's current athletic performance and future potential.

4.2 Sleds may be re-allocated after the 2011-12 National Team Selection Races. New pilots on the World Cup team may re-choose from these newly available sleds.

4.3 At any given time, other allocations may occur if all pilots involved and the Head Coach are in agreement. If a sled is irreparably damaged, the Head Coach will reallocate sleds guided by the allocation criteria. Unless it is determined a better solution will avoid or cause the least disruption to the teams and also provide the best opportunity for international success.

4.4 After the selection races, pilots not selected to the team will lose their sled selection. New pilots on the team may re-choose from these newly available sleds, based on current BCS sled allocation criteria.

4.5 The Head Coach may withhold equipment from a pilot if, in his judgment, that pilot has a history of poorly maintaining BCS equipment or does not yet have the requisite driving skills to preserve the equipment in a reasonable manner.

4.6 Four-man BCS sleds and pilots will follow the same allocation plan.

4.7 Runners which are property of BCS will be allocated by rank and shared between teams wherever possible.

4.8 BCS sleds and runners may not be altered by an athlete without permission from the Head Coach and athletes may only allow inspection of BCS sleds or runners by BCS approved personnel.

4.9 Athletes will not share BCS technology, directly or indirectly, with anyone other than National Team athletes or BCS staff.



5. 2011-12 World Cup Start Positions

5.1 Pilots will start the season in rank order in each discipline as determined by their overall FIBT rank. After the first international race, pilots shall be ranked for start order in each discipline based on their current FIBT ranking in that discipline.

6. International Federation Eligibility

6.1 All athletes and teams selected must be eligible to participate in the World Cup under all FIBT rules.

7. 2011-12 National Team Selection Races

7.1 Canadian Pilots will be ranked and entered into the start order for the 2010-11 National Team Selection races in the following priority order:

1. 2009-10 World Cup results (Combined for Men's Bobsleigh)
2. 2009-10 Europa Cup results (Combined for Men's Bobsleigh)
3. 2009-10 America's Cup results (Combined for Men's Bobsleigh)

7.2 Unranked Pilots will be allowed to compete provided they are safely completing the track prior to official training, as determined by the Head Coach. The Head Coach will resolve any entry disputes. Unranked Pilots will be entered in the second seed.