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CANADA
AVIRON

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2009 ROWING CANADA AVIRON NATIONAL TEAM SELECTION CRITERIA

PURPOSE

This document establishes the process and criteria to be used to select National Teams in 2009. Athletes are also referred to the RCA National Selection Team Policy which establishes the broad and ongoing parameters for National Team selection.

NATIONAL TEAM OBJECTIVE

The objective of National Teams is to win Gold medals at 2012 Olympic Games.

Funding and resources provided by Sport Canada, Own the Podium and the Canadian Olympic Committee for RCA's High Performance Program will be directed towards the National Team Objective.

SELECTION PRINCIPLE

The objective of the National Team Selection Criteria is to select crews (which shall include coxswains and single scullers) that have potential to achieve RCA's National Team Objective.

SECTION 1 – AUTHORITY FOR SELECTION

The Director of High Performance shall have the authority to select National Teams based upon nominations received by the Program Coaches (identified below). The composition of various crews within National Teams shall be in the sole discretion of Program Coaches.

SECTION 2 – 2009 NATIONAL TEAMS

2009 FISA World Rowing Senior Championships Poznan, POL Aug. 23 – Aug. 30

Crews selected must have the potential to finish in the top six (6) at the 2009 World Championships.

Adaptive National Team crews are open to athletes who have a minimum disability as defined in the FISA Guidelines and classified by a FISA Classifier. (http://www.worldrowing.com/medias/docs/doc_7_1175.pdf)

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Member of F.I.S.A., Canadian Olympic Committee/Membre de F.I.S.A., Comité Olympique Canadienne

2009 FISA World Rowing U-23 Championships Racice, Czech Republic July –23 - 26

Crews selected to represent Canada must have the potential to finish in the top six (6). Under 23, National Team crews are open to athletes who are born in 1987 or later.

2009 FISA World Rowing Junior Championships Brive-la-Guillarde France August –5-8

Crews selected to represent Canada at the 2009 World Rowing Junior Championships must have the potential to finish in the top six (6). Junior National Team crews are open to athletes who are born in 1991 or later.

SECTION 3 – ELIGIBILITY FOR NOMINATION

National Teams are open to members in good standing, registered with RCA, who are Canadian citizens holding a valid Canadian passport and who fulfill any other team specific eligibility requirements as specified herein.

SECTION 4 - NOMINATION PROCEDURES

4.1 FISA World Championships – Able Bodied Team

Athletes wishing to be considered for the 2009 Senior National Rowing Team must be in their respective training centre within thirty (30) days from the date of publication hereof unless authorized by RCA to enter at a later date. Athletes will be evaluated for nomination on an ongoing basis up to August 10, 2009 in accordance with the following criteria:

- 1) training and racing performance including but not limited to:
 - a. seat racing;
 - b. time trials;
 - c. race results from 2009;
- 2) ongoing ergometer testing;
- 3) ongoing technique and coachability;
- 4) ongoing compatibility with other athletes and coaches;
- 5) commitment to the program; and
- 6) assessment of competitive readiness.

To be considered for nomination for Lightweight crews, athletes must be prepared to meet the following weight maximums in accordance with timelines as established by the Program Coach:

Lightweight Men:	75 kg
Lightweight Women:	60 kg

4.2 FISA World Championships – Adaptive Team

Adaptive Team Crews will be nominated on the basis of performance at a selection camp. The selection camp for these events (LTA4+ Mixed Gender, TA2x Mixed Gender,

A1x Male and A1x Female) shall commence on or about June 2, 2009 (Montreal Rowing Basin, Quebec) and nominations for the National Adaptive Team shall be made no later than July 15, 2009.

The selection camp will be held under the supervision of an RCA National Team Coach to be identified by and to be named by the Director of High Performance.

Athletes wishing to be considered for the adaptive team must submit their request with their latest ergometer score to the National Team Manager by May 15, 2009. Invitations to the selection camp will be made by the Program Coach by May 20, 2009

Athletes will be evaluated during the selection camp on an ongoing basis in accordance with the following criteria:

- 1) training and racing performance including but not limited to:
 - a. seat racing;
 - b. time trials;
- 2) ergometer tests;
- 3) technique and coachability;
- 4) compatibility with other athletes and coaches;
- 5) commitment to the program; and
- 6) assessment of competitive readiness.

Nominations shall be made by the Program Coach.

4.3 FISA World U23 Championships

The selection camp for the World Under 23 Championships will commence no later than June 1, 2009. U.S. based athletes who are unable to attend selection camp commencing on June 1, 2009 due to competitive commitments in the NCAA must notify the Program Coach in advance.

Athletes wishing to be considered for these teams must contact the Program Coach to request an invitation, no later than **May 15, 2009**. The latest ergometer score must be submitted with this request. The Program Coach shall decide in his/her sole discretion who shall be invited to the selection camp having regard to eligibility requirements set out herein and shall also decide the latest date upon which a U.S. based athlete competing in the NCAA must report to the selection camp.

Assessment of a crew's potential will be made based on a crew's performance over a variety of distances against RCA's Gold Medal Standard Times using the Time Trial method. The selection camp shall conclude and nominations shall be determined no later than June 25, 2009.

Heavyweight Women and Lightweight Women will be based in London, Ontario and Heavyweight Men and Lightweight Men will be based in Victoria, BC.

To be considered for nomination to Lightweight crews, athletes must be prepared to meet the following weight maximums in accordance with timelines as established by the Program Coach:

Lightweight Men:	72.5 kg
Lightweight Women:	60 kg

4.4 FISA World Junior Championships

Selection for the 2009 FISA World Junior Championships will be based on the 2009 RCA National Junior Rowing Team Selection Document published January 12, 2009 and available on the RCA website.

4.5 Crew Nominations

Program Coaches shall nominate individual athletes for selection to National Teams to the Director of High Performance, who shall make final selections. The composition of crews shall remain in the sole discretion of the Program Coach and the configuration of crews may be changed based on a crew's competitiveness. Such changes will follow current FISA regulations.

4.6 Special Circumstances

If because of injury, illness, prohibitive causes or extenuating circumstances an athlete is unable to meet any of the requirements in this selection procedure, the athlete may still be considered for any of the Canadian National Rowing Teams. He/she must advise the appropriate Program Coach, National Team Coordinator and Director of High Performance in writing of injury, illness, cause or circumstance as soon as possible. Permission to forego the relevant requirement in this selection procedure must be obtained in writing from the High Performance Director. In the case of illness or injury, a medical report must be submitted from a doctor to RCA's Medical Director, Dr. Michael Wilkinson.

4.7 Coxswains Nomination

Notwithstanding the foregoing nomination criteria set out in paragraphs 4.1, 4.2 and 4.3 above, coxswains will be nominated by the National Program Coach based on the following criteria:

- a) athlete and coach input on ability;
- b) past racing experience and results;
- c) compatibility with athletes in a selected crew;
- d) compatibility with coach of the selected crew; and
- e) commitment to the program.
- f) assessment of competitive readiness.

SECTION 5 - ATHLETE AGREEMENT

FISA World Championships – Able Bodied Team

Athletes wishing to try out for the 2009 FISA World Championships - Able Bodied Team shall sign an Athlete Agreement with RCA **by May 1, 2009**. This agreement outlines the responsibilities of both RCA and the athlete and their relationship with each other. This will assist in providing parameters that are important in avoiding misunderstandings and incidents potentially damaging to the athlete, RCA and the sport of rowing. Failure to sign the agreement by this date will result in immediate termination of all RCA National Team services (including coaching and the use of RCA equipment). An athlete signing the agreement after May 15, 2009, may be readmitted to or permitted the benefit of RCA coaching and other services at the discretion of the High Performance Director.

All other National Teams

Athletes seeking to try out for all other National teams must sign an Athlete Agreement as a condition of eligibility to participate in the respective selection camp.

SECTION 6 – APPEAL PROCESS

Decisions made pursuant to this Selection Criteria document may be appealed in accordance with the RCA Appeal Policy.

SECTION 7 - FUNDING

7.1 Senior (Able Bodied and Adaptive), Under 23, Junior

An assessment may be required for the National Teams. The amount of the assessment will be announced by May 1, 2009. Any deposit required must be received by the National Team Coordinator no later than June 10, 2009 from all athletes.

Contact Information:

If you have any questions/concerns, please do not hesitate to contact the following Program Coaches:

Mike Spracklen - National Coach – Senior Men, Lead Centre Coach, Victoria Training Centre

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Additional RCA Contacts:

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