



Canada Games Council

TECHNICAL MANUAL

## Section 3:

### Principles that Govern 2011 CWG Technical Packages

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Technical Packages are a critical part of the Canada Games. They guide the selection of athletes by prescribing the age and eligibility requirements, assist the organizing committees by detailing tournament formats and scoring procedures, assist Chefs de Mission in verifying eligibility, help with budgeting by describing the number of participants permitted, advance coaching certification by stating minimum requirements and generally contribute to athlete development by identifying each NSO's version of athletes in the "training to compete" phase of its Long Term Athlete Development Model, or other suitable phase of the model as justified by the NSO, discussed with the LTAD expert group, and approved by the Sport Committee.

Every Games' coach, manager, Sport Chairperson and Mission staff has an obligation to read and understand every aspect of the Technical Package. Failure to do so could cost an athlete his or her eligibility for the Games or could affect final standings or the conduct of the competition. If someone does not understand an aspect of a Technical Package, he or she is to seek clarification from the Sport Committee of the Canada Games Council through his or her Chef de Mission or National Sport Organization.

Technical Packages are developed primarily by National Sport Organizations, following principles, guidelines and requirements of the Canada Games Council. As the overall governing body of the Games, the Council has the ultimate authority for Technical Packages, but this authority is exercised only with the knowledge and understanding of the NSO concerned.

If an individual wishes to initiate a change to a Technical Package leading up to a Games, the desired change should be first directed to the National Sport Organization or the Chef de Mission. The NSO or Chef will evaluate the merits of the change and will, if it has merit, submit the requested change to the Sport Committee of the Canada Games Council. The NSO or Chef will submit the rationale for the change. Changes to age groups, eligibility requirements, team sizes or staff complements will not be considered after three years prior to the Games. Substantive changes to events or competition formats will not be considered after 18 months before the Games. Minor corrections will be considered at almost anytime, but will be increasingly difficult to achieve within six months of the Games. These time frames reinforce the importance of complete understanding of the Technical Package early.



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## INTRODUCTION

The Canada Games Council's fourth strategic goal identified in its long-range, strategic plan for 2009 – 2017, concerns *Strengthening Sport Development in Canada*. Specifically, this strategic goal states:

*To be recognized by national sport organizations and governments as a significant contributor to the success of Canadian Sport for Life (CS4L).*

The Principles that Govern Technical Packages are founded in the above strategic direction, as well as the values and operating principles contained in the CGC's strategic plan (see section 2 of the Technical Manual).

## PRINCIPLES

### 1. Classification

- a. Next generation of national team athletes competing in international competitions in the "training to compete" phase of the long term athlete development model, or other suitable phase of Long Term Athlete Development (LTAD) as justified by NSO to suit next generation national team athletes (i.e. Developmental or "junior" age, prospective high performance athletes at an age that permits higher levels of training and competition after the Games.)
- b. Within the given age group, selected by the NSO, the best athletes of that particular age should be permitted to participate (with the exceptions listed in principle #2, below).
- c. Single age groups within a sport preferable, unless the NSO can prove multiple age categories within a sport competition can benefit the NSO's LTAD model.
- d. National Sport Organizations are responsible for setting the age group, including the minimum age, based on technical rationale and the best fit of the Canada Games in the NSO's athlete development model for the next generation of national team athletes competing in international competitions (i.e. athletes in the "training to compete" phase of the long term athlete development model). There is no longer a mandatory minimum age; however, the Canada Games Council advises that if an NSO chooses to set a minimum age, the minimum age must be based on an objective element or, where no such element exists, the NSO must establish a review mechanism to allow for exceptional cases (or Human Rights violations may be brought forward to the NSO by the ineligible athlete). If exceptional cases are allowed, the athlete in question must sign a waiver saving harmless the Council, NSO, Host Society and provincial team.



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#### 2. Eligibility

- a. With the more specific alignment of ages in the “training to compete” phase of LTAD, the Canada Games Council will no longer impose ability restrictions so that the best of age can compete at the Canada Games. Carded athletes, national senior team athletes, athlete who participated at major Games, etc. are no longer automatically excluded from the Games. NSOs may choose to include ability restrictions, but will no longer have these restrictions automatically imposed by the Council.
- b. Carding, national team status, or participation in a major Games, etc. refers to the specific sport in question only (ie: if an athlete carded in swimming wishes to participate in diving at the Canada Games, where diving includes a carding restriction, that athlete is deemed eligible if the card is not from the sport of diving).
- c. Athletes must be registered members of NSO and/or PSO
- d. Non-professionals only (i.e. individuals who meet the eligibility standards of their NSO or IF from an amateurism/professionalism standpoint).
- e. Athletes must be a Canadian citizen or must be a permanent resident.
- f. NSOs may set minimum performance standards for safety reasons.
- g. Athletes may not compete in two sports at one Canada Games if they are scheduled in the same week.
- h. Athletes may only compete for one province or territory at a single Canada Games.

#### 3. Residency

- a. An athlete's permanent domicile or actual residence must be located, for at least the 180 days prior to the opening of the Games, within the recognized boundaries of the province or territory they are representing. An athlete can have only one domicile.
- b. Students attending school on a full-time basis outside their province of permanent residence during the year of the Games shall be permitted to compete for either their province of permanent residence or the province in which the athlete attends school. To be eligible to compete for the province where the athlete attends school, the student must be enrolled on a full-time basis during the current academic year.
- c. If a non-student athlete attends a recognized national training centre outside his or her province of permanent residence, the athlete is encouraged to represent his or her province of permanent residence; however, the athlete could represent the province where the centre is located under the terms of paragraph (d), below.
- d. Exceptions to the domicile requirement will be possible if the athlete can demonstrate a commitment to the province or territory she or he wishes to represent by such means as having been a member of a club or provincial sport organization in that province for the entire previous competitive season, having represented that province or territory at a previous national or regional championship or having attended school full-time the



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previous academic year or a recognized national training centre full-time during the previous 12 months. Other similar circumstances may be considered.

- e. An athlete is permitted to try out for any province or territory of eligibility but can only try out for one province or territory per sport. (i.e. An athlete may try out for swimming for one province or territory but not another. An athlete may try out for one province in swimming, and another province or territory in diving.)

#### 4. Team Size

- a. The number of athletes permitted shall be sufficient to permit the safe and proper conduct of the competition in the sport and reflects the team complement allowable for similar events (eg. national championships). The unique tournament or competitive conditions of each Canada Games may be considered in determining team size (ie. tournament format, number of games/rounds per day, distance to competition venues, etc.).
- b. The staff complement permitted to a sport recognizes technical and supervisory requirements.
- c. Other issues to consider for team staff are as follows:
  - i. Technical needs:
    - athlete to coach ratio
    - degree of specialization
    - technical specialist (i.e., mechanic, rigger)
    - safety
    - building certified coach capacity through the Games within each participating jurisdiction
    - competitive and training opportunities
    - coaching involvement in competition and training
    - nature of facility
  - ii. Developmental aspect (athletes and coaches)
  - iii. Team supervision requirements outside of competition
- d. All registered athletes must intend to compete in at least one event.

#### 5. Coaching

- a. An athlete cannot compete at the Canada Games without an accredited coach present.

#### Gender

- a. Teams with female athletes must have a female coach or manager; teams with male athletes must have a male coach or manager (exception: point (e) will be considered before point (a)).



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- b. For team sports where there are 2 coaches for a separate women's team, one of the coaches must be a woman. The application will be as follows:

Winter Games:

- Women's hockey,
- Ringette
- Wheelchair basketball (if there are females on the team)

- c. For individual sports with more than one coach per team and with women competitors, one of the coaches must be a woman. The application will be as follows:

Winter Games:

- Judo
- Figure Skating
- Freestyle Skiing
- Biathlon
- Snowboard
- Cross Country Skiing
- Gymnastics (Artistic)
- Alpine
- Speed Skating

- d. Since affirmative action is deemed necessary, there will be no exemption process for gender requirements unless the Sport Committee is satisfied that exceptional circumstances exist.
- e. There is no gender requirement for sports with only one coach allowed. (Exception: For individual sports where there is a quota for one coach and one manager, teams who are sending athletes of one gender exclusively must have either the coach or manager of the same gender as the team.

#### Certification

- a. NCCP Level 3 certification is required, or at least NCCP Competition – Development (Trained) status for the 2011 Canada Games. Level 3 certification includes theory, technical and practical components, unless otherwise stated in the Technical Package.
- b. Exemptions from Level 3 certification or Competition-Development qualifications are possible in truly exceptional cases. Such exemptions must be requested by provincial/territorial Chefs de Mission.
- c. The conditions associated with granting an exemption will be monitored closely.
- d. An exemption will be granted only if a coach is NCCP Level 2 certified or has Competition – Development (In-Training) status. Exceptional cases may be granted an exemption from this requirement.
- e. A coach is permitted only one exemption in his/her coaching career per sport.



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#### Other

- a. Only provincial/territorial team coaches as permitted by the technical packages and as accredited by the Host Society may coach - in training or competition - athletes at the Games. This measure will ensure that some athletes or teams do not gain an advantage because personal coaches happen to live close to the Games' site or can afford to travel to the Games.

#### **6. Events/Competition Format**

- a. Events and/or competition format should be similar to those of similar-age national championships or international events (eg. heats, semis and finals in track sprinting events; heats and finals in swimming).
- b. Seeding is based on most recent similar-age national championship results or other means to ensure opportunity for best athletes or teams to progress through successive rounds of competition.
- c. "Field of Play" rules are those of NSO, with absolute minimum of modifications for the Canada Games

#### **7. Tie-Breaking: Competition**

- a. NSO rules apply

#### **8. Provincial/Territorial Ranking**

- a. Every team that enters a sport will be ranked, regardless of finish.
- b. Separate men's and women's teams per sport will be ranked separately and will be awarded 10 flag points each (eg. men's cross country skiing; women's hockey).
- c. Combined men's and women's teams shall be ranked as two and be awarded 20 flag points (affects figure skating, badminton and tennis).
- d. Results of every competition must contribute to sport scoring.
- e. Sport scoring systems will be constructed to showcase excellence, while recognizing participation.

#### **9. Tie-Breaking: Provincial/Territorial Ranking**

- a. Ties will be broken.
- b. Where possible, ties should consider "on field" results between tied teams.
- c. If required, consider most event first places, then second places, etc.



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#### 10. Medals

- a. There must be separate team and individual competitions in order to award two sets of medals.
- b. There must be a distinct competition for medals to be awarded (ie. no "combined" medals unless there are competitions specifically for "combined" medals). For bodyweight sports, there shall be one set of medals per weight class (boxing, judo, wrestling).

An athlete finishing last cannot win a medal. For combative sports, an athlete must win a match or a bout to be awarded a medal. For all other sports, there must be at least four entries for a bronze to be awarded, three for a silver and two for a gold.

- c. The Canada Games will award medals to athletes only.

#### 11. Uniforms

- a. NSO "field of play" rules must be followed for style of competition uniforms. Specific differences or requirements of the Canada Games will be listed in the technical package (ex: numbering).
- b. Competition uniforms must be designed in provincial/territorial colours. If this is not possible, approval must be obtained from the Canada Games Council.
- c. Please see the Canada Games Council's Commercialization Policy for complete regulations concerning advertising on uniforms.
- d. Ceremonial team walk-out uniforms are required for Medal Ceremonies. NSOs desiring to wear competition uniforms for medal ceremonies must obtain approval from the Canada Games Council.

#### 12. Equipment

- a. Sport equipment must follow the NSO rules & regulations, as outlined in the technical package.