



2025 TEAM CANADA SELECTIONS POLICY

Internal Nomination Protocol

Updated Feb 28, 2025

PREAMBLE

1. CSAsurf Canada (Surf Canada) will select athletes to compete at all available 2025 International Surfing Association (ISA), Pan American Surfing Association (PASA) and International Olympic Committee (IOC) Olympic sanctioned events. ISA, PASA and IOC competitions include some, or all of the following surf disciplines: Shortboard, Longboard, Bodyboard, SUP Surfing, SUP Racing, Prone Racing, Adaptive/Para categories for both Men and Women. All selections will be administered by Surf Canada.
2. The ISA, PASA and IOC determine the number of athletes that may compete at their events by establishing quotas per discipline for each country participating. Those quotas guide Surf Canada's Qualification System (appendix A).
3. Surf Canada is recognized by the Canadian Olympic Committee (COC) as the governing body responsible for the administration and promotion of the sport of surfing in Canada. Given the very limited resources available, Surf Canada is required to prioritize the allocation of funding to Olympic high-performance excellence. Surf Canada has established that sport programming is focused on performance at Olympic Games and preparatory programs that best assist athletes to be successful at Olympic Games and has directed Surf Canada resources be targeted accordingly.
4. Surf Canada has the exclusive authority for the representation of its Team at all ISA, PASA and IOC (collectively referenced as 'Sport Governing Authority' - SGA) sanctioned events, and may decide not to accept an allocated quota place.
5. This policy establishes a minimum performance standard.

GUIDING PRINCIPLES

6. The following guiding principles have been taken into consideration in the development of the 2025 Surf Canada selection protocol:
 - a) To select the Very Best surf athletes to represent Canada at the ISA, PASA & IOC (SGA) events.
 - b) To provide a clear pathway for surf athletes who strive toward being selected to represent Canada at SGA events.

OBJECTIVES

7. Surf Canada's primary objective in 2025 is to qualify both women and men surf athletes for ISA Worlds events in their preparation to qualify for Dakar 2026, Lima 2027, and Los Angeles 2028 Olympic Summer Games in surf discipline and contend for podium results.
8. Surf Canada's performance objective at every SGA event (i.e., ISA Worlds) is to place in the top 8 women and top 8 men, with the goal to prepare athletes to directly qualify for LA 2028.
9. Surf Athletes and Team placing within the Top 8, and contend for podium results in all 2025 SGA events.



IDENTIFICATION OF ELIGIBILITY – Team Canada

10. To be eligible for selection to **Team Canada** an athlete must:

- a) Be a Canadian Citizen (as per the regulations of SGA).
- b) Have a Canadian Passport that is valid beyond 6 months from departure of SGA event.
- c) Born on the year or before 2010 for Senior level competitions.
- d) Junior athletes (as per the regulations of SGA).
- e) In exceptional circumstances and having applied for citizenship, a surfer may nevertheless be permitted to represent Canada despite not having a Canadian Passport if they have declared their intention to surf for Canada and they have been approved to do so by both the SGA and Surf Canada.
- f) Comply in all respects with the Anti-doping policy of SGA and the World Anti Doping Agency (WADA) Code.
- g) Not be subject to any suspension or disqualification imposed by Surf Canada or any other sport governing authority (SGA) having jurisdiction over the Athlete or the competition i.e., ISA, Pan American Surfing Association (PASA), PanAm Sports, IOC, and World Surf League (WSL).

DECISION MAKING AUTHORITY (DMA)

11. The *Executive Director (ED)* is responsible for developing and approving the selection process and procedures for the team that will be nominated to all 2025 Major Championships and Major Games (MCMG), i.e., all ISA World Championships, PASA Surfing Games, and Olympic Summer Games.
12. The Canadian Olympic Committee (COC) mandates *Surf Canada* to determine the Internal Nomination Procedures for the athletes and staff that will be nominated to the COC for the Paris Olympics.
13. The ED in consultation with the Head Coach are responsible for the implementation of these procedures. All team nominations, including alternates and staff, will be ratified by the ED.
14. The ED is responsible for ensuring that the process outlined in this document is properly followed and that the selection process is fair and equitable for all candidates.
15. All *Surf Canada* nominations to Major Games (MG) are also subject to the approval of the COC.
16. The ED has the final jurisdiction over the selection of the team. After the selection process is completed, if any spots remain unfilled, the ED has the authority to fill those spots. Where there is a lack of clarity or if unanticipated circumstances arise that are not covered in the selection criteria, a final and binding decision will be made by the ED.
17. The ED will confirm the final team composition for all Major Championships and Major Games (MCMG) using the criteria published in this document.



ON-SITE DECISION-MAKING AUTHORITY

18. During the actual competition period onsite at every 2025 MCMG, all final decision-making authority will reside with the head coach or the team leader in the absence of the head coach.
19. If applicable, the seeding order will be made by the *head coach* in the exercise of their discretion. This decision will be a subjective judgment entrusted to their role with the team. The timing of this decision will be in accordance with any International Federation (IF) and Continental Federation rules/regulations.
20. As per competition regulations, the team members and the seeding order of competition for each, shall be decided at least *3 days* prior to the competition. Any final changes of the team will be made by the head coach (*or the team leader*).

ATHLETE SELECTION & PROCESS

21. Period of qualification

Surf Canada's LA 2028 qualification is based on the IOC LA 2028 Olympic Games Qualification System (TBD). Should there be a discrepancy between this document and the Qualification System, the Qualification System shall prevail. In the event of changes by IOC to the eligibility or selection criteria, Surf Canada is bound by these changes and will inform its members as soon as possible.

22. Process that will used

- a. Surf Canada will nominate athletes to the 2025 Surf Canada National Teams using a Results Based process (Method A, and if necessary, a Method B - Performance Based selection process (as described in Sections 23 and 24).
- b. Surf Canada will be setting minimum performance standards and implementing quality controls; utilizing Qualitative and Quantitative data analysis, from verifiable competitions and indexed against direct competitors and judging scale, as well as factoring depth, quality and strength of field.
- c. To be eligible, an athlete must meet the criterion, in each event for which she or he is being nominated.

SELECTION PROTOCOL – all Disciplines for MCMG, quota's guide Surf Canada's Qualification System (appendix A).

23. Method A – Result Based Nomination – selection period: 2024/25

- a. Competition results from the previous 12 months including the previous ISA event, if applicable, are eligible.
- b. Surf Canada's team nominations are evidence based and data driven. Surfers that consistently produce results on the various Global series are Fundamentally critical to the Canadian Team objectives (Section 7,8,9).
- c. **Priority 1 nominations:** Highest ranked, in order of hierarchy, indexed on quality and depth of competition: World Surf League (WSL) Championship Tour (CT), Challenger



Series (CS), Surf Canada Nationals (minimum 1 nomination). If no athletes are represented on CT and CS, allocations may be selected from the following (in order of hierarchy): WSL Qualifying Series (QS), WSL Pro Junior, ISA, PASA, and ISA recognized global National Federations or other eligible and approved events. Athletes with multiple podiums will be ranked higher – see Priority 2.

- d. **Priority 2:** Best 2 results within the top 25% of the field size at eligible competitions, in order of hierarchy from Priority 1, during the selection period. Quality Controlled against depth, quality and strength of competitive field, surf conditions, and type of surf break, as to relate most similarly to contested and expected at MCMG field-of-play.
In the event of a tie in the result(s) in the implementation of the above nomination process, the tie will be broken by the tied athlete's single best percentile of field placing, then 2nd best, 3rd best, and so on, until the tie is broken. Only results from eligible competitions will be considered. Percentile of field placing is calculated according to the following formula: $(\text{Field size} - \text{Placing}) / \text{Field Size} \times 100$
- e. **Priority 3:** Demonstrates measurable medal potential to the Executive Director/High Performance Director and HP Manager as determined by the Athletes performance curves, Surf Canada's Gold medal profile, and Podium pathway.

In the event that Method A cannot be fairly executed, at the discretion of the E.D., Method B will be exercised.

24. Method B – Performance Based Nomination

- f. In the event that Method A does not definitively determine Games Team quota (all, or in part) for National Team Nominations, or cannot be practically implemented, Method B on-site performance-based selection will be used to make final Team selections.
- g. Athlete ranking based on this selection process will ordinarily determine the order of selection for available High-Performance Program (HPP) positions. However, Surf Canada's HPP Management and Coaching staff has the right to recommend athletes to the E.D. for selection in an order other than that indicated by the rankings.

ALTERNATE POSITIONS

- 25. It is the intention of the *Surf Canada* high performance program to identify *up to 2* alternates per gender in order to create a more optimal training group and to adequately prepare substitutes in the eventuality of an injury prior to '25 MCMG. These alternates will be identified by *the 2025 Team Selection Protocol with the Executive Director*, following the objective criteria identified in this INP and will train as the "*Games Squad*" right until the nomination deadline for the *2025 MCMG (TBD)*.
- 26. Surf Canada shall identify all athletes who meet the criteria for nomination set out in this INP, but who cannot be nominated due to quota limitations, as alternates in their specific event or events. The alternate athletes will not have the status, privileges, and obligations of a team athlete are not anticipated to travel with the team to the MCMG or pre-Games training camp.



PERFORMANCE READINESS & INJURIES

27. Competitive ready is defined as the ability of the athlete to achieve equal or superior performance(s) onsite at the scheduled event, as compared to the performance(s) the athlete achieved in qualifying. The final decision on competitive readiness will be made by the ED, in consultation with the head coach, using all available information at their disposal including performance results and progress up until the start of MCMG competition, the suitability of the training and competition plan, fitness and other competitive readiness indicators, submitted medical documentation, consultation with the athlete's personal coach, and any other relevant performance related information.
28. Athletes must agree to participate in any *Surf Canada* designated camps related to this event. Failure to comply may lead to removal from the team.
29. Mandatory training camps will be scheduled (*TBD*) for evaluation and preparation for the *2025 MCMG*. Any athlete who does not attend these camps may have their selection revoked by *the ED*.
30. Once chosen, surf athletes on the *Surf Canada 2025 Games* Team will be required to demonstrate their continued preparation, soundness and ability by participating in the *2025 Games* preparation program comprised of training sessions and competitions to be held (*TBD*). Athletes named to the *Surf Canada 2025 Games* Team that are not based in North America will be required to submit a complete preparation program including training and competition plan to be approved by *the ED*. The continued preparation, soundness and ability of non-North American based athletes will be monitored by the ED throughout the preparation period therefore athletes must maintain active communication with *the ED* or risk having their selection be revoked.
31. It is implicit that all athletes selected to the *2025 Games* team will prepare in such a way as to be at peak fitness for MCMG. Surf Canada reserves the right to perform testing on athletes nominated for the *2025 Games* in order to assess their fitness. Surf Canada also reserves the right to remove an athlete from the team in case of injury or inability to perform at an appropriate level, and to replace that athlete with a nominated reserve athlete or to not replace that athlete at all.
32. Athletes being considered for selection to the *2025 Games* team must confirm their willingness to comply with the team preparation plans as set forth by ED and to make themselves available if selected.

INJURIES

33. Once selected, athletes who do not remain competitive ready because of lack of fitness, injury, or illness may be removed from the team at any time. Athletes are required to immediately report any injury, illness, or change in training that could affect their ability to compete at their highest level at *2025 MCMG*. Notification must be sent to ED.
34. In the case of injury or illness, the ED will consider medical recommendations in making a final decision. Injured or ill athletes may be subject to a proof of readiness test to be determined by the team head coach in consultation with the athlete's personal coach. This test will consist of a controlled performance such as a competition or observed test or trial. This trial will have a predetermined expected outcome and will take place in Canada. These athletes will not travel with the team until this requirement has been satisfied. If it is



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- determined that the athlete is not competition ready once onsite at the event, or has not disclosed an injury or illness, he/she may be asked to return home immediately.
35. Under extenuating circumstances an injured athlete who is unable to compete at 2025 MCMG will be allowed to submit a petition to be reviewed by the Executive Director with the following conditions:
- An athlete that qualified through Method A Selections (section 23) but is unable to compete in those *Games* due to illness or injury will be able to petition for a special “match” if he or she has achieved a top 8 2024 ISA *ranking when reduced against PASA Nations and no Canadian athlete in that discipline achieved the same top 8 result at 2024 PASA Pan American Surfing Games*.
 - A medical certificate must accompany the petition; however, Surf Canada may request a medical examination by a *Surf Canada* designated physician.
 - If multiple injury provisions occur in one *discipline*, the injured athletes must compete against each other first to determine who will compete for a spot on the *2025 Games* team.
 - If an athlete is injured during a portion of the qualification period and unable to compete, the ED may elect to consider results from Method A Selections (section 23) in making its nomination decisions.

REMOVAL OF AN ATHLETE ONCE SELECTED/NOMINATED

36. The *ED*, in consultation with the head coach may, at any time, and at their discretion, disqualify an athlete from being considered for nomination to the Canadian Team based on current or past behavior of the athlete which is inconsistent with *Surf Canada's* Code of Conduct. A copy of the Code of Conduct is available at www.csasurfcanada.org. Surf Canada will advise the affected athlete, in writing, of their decision.
37. An athlete will be removed from consideration if they are in violation of any anti-doping policy or procedure as outlined by Surf Canada, World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA), and the Canadian Centre for Ethics in Sport (CCES).
38. Prior to Team Nomination to the COC, the executive director will have the final authority over dismissal of any athlete from the athlete pool and/or *2025 Games* Team. Following nomination to the COC, any such removals are subject to the approval of the COC Team Selection Committee. Any changes are also subject to MCMG Late Athlete Replacement Policy. Reasons for dismissal include, but are not limited to:
- Inability to maintain high training standards
 - Inability to meet performance expectations in competition
 - Inability to perform due to injury, illness or for other medical reasons as determined by *Surf Canada's* medical staff
 - Violation of team rules
 - Violation of the National Team Code of Conduct
 - Detrimental conduct to the team and/or the image of *Surf Canada* or the national team program



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- Failure to adhere to all WADA, CCES, and COC anti-doping protocols, policies and procedures including participation in out of competition testing as required by WADA, CCES, and COC Rules

39. All nominated athletes may have their injury/health status assessed by the *ED* prior to the *COC nomination deadline/team selection date*. In the event that an athlete is deemed injured (or ill) by the *ED* as a result of having completed this assessment, the *ED* shall decide if the athlete will be sufficiently recovered to be nominated to the 2025 MCMG Team.

40. The *ED* reserves the right to withdraw an athlete from nomination:

- A) If the athlete has not taken part in the mandatory training camps organized by Surf Canada prior to the event.
- B) If the athlete has not fulfilled his/her responsibilities as identified in the Surf Canada Athlete Agreement
- C) If the athlete has not fulfilled his/her responsibilities as identified in Surf Canada's Code of Conduct.

AMENDMENTS AND UNFORESEEN CIRCUMSTANCES

41. In situations where unforeseen circumstances do not allow the selection process to be fairly and objectively applied, the *ED*, in consultation with the *head coach*, reserves the right to rule on an appropriate course of action.

APPEALS

42. *Surf Canada* nominations to the COC for the *2025 Games Team* may be appealed in accordance with the procedures set out in the *Surf Canada* Appeal Policy. Any dispute relating to *Surf Canada* Internal Nomination Procedures for the *2025 MCMG* must be brought according to said Policy, or may be brought directly to the SDRCC with the consent of all parties.

43. If both parties are in agreement, *Surf Canada* Appeals Policy can be bypassed and the matter can be brought immediately before the Sport Dispute Resolution Center of Canada who will then manage the appeals process.

COMMUNICATION

44. The Internal Nomination Procedures for the *2025 Team Canada* will be communicated through *Surf Canada's* official website and distributed by email to *2025 Surf Canada* national team members competing at the MCMG and will be published prior to March 15, 2025.

CONFIRMATION PROCESS FOR QUOTA PLACES

45. SURF CANADA will inform the respective athlete of their earned nomination of their allocated quota places, conditional upon fulfilling all eligibility requirements. The athlete will be informed on the amount of time they will have to confirm if they wish to accept their nomination.



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REALLOCATION OF UNUSED QUOTA PLACES

46. If a quota place allocated is not confirmed by the athlete by the deadline for confirmation or is declined by the athlete, the quota place will be reallocated to the next highest ranked eligible athlete, provided that the athlete is within the SURF CANADA quality control ranking and respecting the maximum number of quota places. If no available athlete is within the quality control, Method B selections will be utilized (24).

Contact

For clarifications or questions on the contents of the INP, please contact:

Dom Domic MPA, BA

Executive Director CSA **SURF CANADA**

dom.domic@csasurfcanada.org



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APPENDIX A



2025 TEAM CANADA QUOTA SPOTS

2025 ESTABLISHED QUOTAS *
*as of Feb 28, 2025

NATIONAL TEAM SPOTS ARE EARNED, NOT GIVEN.

Organization	Event	Division	Category	Maximum Total Athlete Quota	Quota 1	Team Quota 2	Quota 3	Quota 4	Athlete Selections	Reserves
ISA	2025 ISA World Surfing Games Sep 5 - 14, El Salvador	Female	Shortboard	3	Method A	Method A	Method A	N/A	Method A	
		Male	Shortboard	3	Method A	Method A	Method A	N/A	Method A	
				6						
ISA	2025 ISA World Longboard April 25 - May 1, El Salvador	Female	Longboard	2	Method A	Method A	N/A	N/A	Method A	
		Male	Longboard	2	Method A	Method A	N/A	N/A	Method A	
				4						
ISA	2025 ISA World Juniors Date and Location TBD	Female	U18	3	Method A	Method A	Method A	N/A	Method A	
		Male	U18	3	Method A	Method A	Method A	N/A	Method A	
		Female	U16	3	Method A	Method A	Method A	N/A	Method A	
		Male	U16	3	Method A	Method A	Method A	N/A	Method A	
				12						
ISA	2024 World SUP Date and Location TBD	Female	SUP Surf	0	Method A	Method A	N/A	N/A	Method A	
		Male	SUP Surf	0	Method A	Method A	N/A	N/A	Method A	
		Female	SUP Tech	2	Method A	Method A	N/A	N/A	Method A	
		Male	SUP Tech	2	Method A	Method A	N/A	N/A	Method A	
		Female	JR SUP Tech	1	Method A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Method A	
		Male	JR SUP Tech	1	Method A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Method A	
		Female	SUP Distance	2	Method A	Method A	N/A	N/A	Method A	
		Male	SUP Distance	2	Method A	Method A	N/A	N/A	Method A	
		Female	Prone Tech	1	Method A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Method A	
		Male	Prone Tech	1	Method A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Method A	
		Female	Prone Distance	1	Method A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Method A	
		Male	Prone Distance	1	Method A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Method A	
		Female	Sprint	1	Method A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Method A	
		Male	Sprint	1	Method A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Method A	
				16						
ISA	2025 World Adaptive Date and Location TBD	combined	PS-S1	2	Method A	Method A	N/A	N/A	Method A	
		combined	PS-S2	2	Method A	Method A	N/A	N/A	Method A	
		combined	PS-S3	2	Method A	Method A	N/A	N/A	Method A	
		combined	PS-K	2	Method A	Method A	N/A	N/A	Method A	
		combined	PS-S	2	Method A	Method A	N/A	N/A	Method A	
		combined	PS-P1	2	Method A	Method A	N/A	N/A	Method A	
		combined	PS-P2	2	Method A	Method A	N/A	N/A	Method A	
		combined	PS-VI1	2	Method A	Method A	N/A	N/A	Method A	
		combined	PS-VI2	2	Method A	Method A	N/A	N/A	Method A	
				18						
ISA	2025 ISA World Masters Date and Location TBD	Female	40+	1	Method A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Method A	
		Female	50+	1	Method A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Method A	
		Female	60+	1	Method A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Method A	
		Male	40+	1	Method A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Method A	
		Male	50+	1	Method A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Method A	
		Male	60+	1	Method A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Method A	
				6						
TOTAL SURFERS				62						

*ninemen and ninewomen maximum athletes per country, will include no more than two athletes in any one Para Surfing Sport Class.