2026 CANADIAN NATIONAL TEAM NOMINATION FRAMEWORK – 2026

1. 2026 Objectives

1.1. The selection of *Canadian National Team* members will be made with the following objectives:

- Surf Canada's primary objective in 2026 is to select surf athletes for the 2026 International Surf Association (*ISA*) World Championship events (*2026 Major Event*) with the goal of preparing athletes to directly qualify for the 2027 PanAmerican Games in Lima, Peru and the 2028 Olympic Games in Los Angeles (*Major Events*), along with other competitive events sanctioned by the ISA or other governing bodies identified by the *High Performance Committee* as *Major Events*.

- Surf Canada's performance objective in the *2026 Major Event* is to place an athlete in the top 8 women and top 8 men in every discipline.

- Surf Canada's development objective is to provide a clear pathway for surf athletes to strive toward being selected to represent Canada at the 2026 ISA World Championship events and in other competitive events sanctioned by the ISA or other governing bodies in 2026, 2027 and 2028.

2. 2026 CANADIAN NATIONAL TEAMS

2.1. Surf Canada will nominate athletes to the *Senior National High-Performance Team* and the *National Junior Team* (referred to collectively as the *Canadian National Team*) according to this National Team Nominating Framework and selection criteria established for each *Discipline* set out below.

2.2. Surf Canada will nominate athletes as members of the *Senior National High-Performance Team* to compete at 2026 ISA World Championship events in the women's and men's categories in the following *Disciplines*:

- Shortboard – Senior (Open)
- Longboard
- SUP Surfing
- SUP Racing
- Prone Racing
- Adaptive/Para events

2.3. Surf Canada will nominate athletes as members of the *National Junior Team* to compete in *2026 Major Events* in both girl's and boy's categories in the following *Disciplines*:

- Shortboard

2.4. All *Canadian National Team* members will be nominated by the relevant *Discipline*-specific *Selection Committee* of the Surf Canada *High-Performance Committee* according to the following framework and *Qualification Criteria* for each Discipline.

2.5. The ISA determines the number of athletes that may compete at the 2026 ISA World Championship events by establishing quotas per discipline for each country participating. These quotas will determine the number of athletes that Surf Canada will nominate in both of the women's and men's categories for each *Discipline* and the girl's and boy's categories for each *Discipline*.

3. CANADIAN NATIONAL TEAM NOMINATION PROCESS

High-Performance Committee

3.1. The *High-Performance Committee* is appointed by the Surf Canada Board of Directors to provide oversight of athlete selection and to ensure that athlete sections are made in a fair and transparent manner pursuant to the *National Team Nomination Framework* and *Discipline*-specific *Qualification Criteria*. The *High-Performance Committee* is responsible for the *National Team Nomination Framework* and, with the Head Coach or other technical advisors as the *High-Performance Committee* deems advisable, the *Qualification Criteria* for each Discipline.

3.2. The *High-Performance Committee* will review the *Selection Committee* process and will select athletes to the *Canadian National Team* based on the Selection Committee nominations.

3.3. The *High-Performance Committee* will make final and binding determinations regarding the interpretation of the *National Team Framework*, the implementation of the *Qualification Criteria*, and in addressing unanticipated circumstances that are not covered in the *National Team Nomination Framework* or *Qualification Criteria*.

Selection Committee

3.4. The *High-Performance Committee* will appoint the members of a *Selection Committee* for each *Discipline*.

3.5. The *Selection Committee*, in consultation with the *Head Coach* or, in the absence of a *Head Coach*, the national coach for each Discipline (*Discipline Coach*), is responsible for the implementation of the *National Team Nomination Framework* and the identification and nomination of *Canadian National Team* members according to the *Qualification Criteria* for each *Discipline*.

3.6. The *Selection Committee* will make the final determination of the athletes who will be nominated to the *Canadian National Team* for the 2026 ISA World Championships.

3.7. The *Head Coach* or *Discipline Coach* will have the final determination which members of the *Canadian National Team* will be entered to compete in the 2026 ISA World Championship events for each Discipline, taking into account whether an athlete is *Competition Ready* (see Section 7.5.).

3.8. Despite Section 10, decisions made under Section 3 are final with no right of appeal.

4. ATHLETE ELIGIBILITY

4.1. All athletes registered to compete at the 2026 Rip Curl Canadian Nationals will be considered for nomination to the *Canadian National Team*.

4.2. Athletes who do not compete at the 2026 Rip Curl Canadian Nationals, but who believe that they have the requisite experience, skills, conditioning and competitive results to meet the selection criteria for their *Discipline* may request that the *Head Coach* and *Selection Committee* consider their nomination in the selection process.

4.3. To be eligible for nomination to the *Canadian National Team*, an athlete must:

a) be a Canadian Citizen
b) be a member in good standing of Surf Canada
c) meet the age requirements for their category/discipline on the year
d) comply in all respects with the anti-doping policies of Surf Canada, the Canadian Olympic Committee and the World Anti-Doing Agency (WADA) Code

e) not be subject to any current suspension, disqualification, or other sanction imposed by Surf Canada, PASA, ISA or other governing body to which the athlete is subject, such as the World Surf League.

4.4. All members of the *Canadian National Team* are expected to have valid Canadian passports and other travel documents acceptable to the host nation of any *2026 Major Event*. Athletes who do not have a valid Canadian passport (meeting the expiry requirements of the host nation) or other required travel documents will forfeit their place on the *Canadian National Team*.

5. ATHLETE SELECTION PROCESS: NOMINATION TO CANADIAN NATIONAL TEAM

Period of Qualification

5.1. The *Selection Committee* will consider results for the 12 months prior to the *Nomination Date* as set out in the *Qualification Criteria*.

5.2. Surf Canada will endeavour to identify and select *Canadian National Team* members by the *Nomination Date* or as soon thereafter as possible so that athletes have time to develop and execute a proper high-performance training program in advance of 2026 ISA World Championships.

5.3. Athletes nominated to the *Canadian National Team* will be notified by Surf Canada in accordance with Section 6.

5.4. Athletes who are injured and unable to compete for a portion of the *Period of Qualification* may submit a petition to the *Head Coach* and *Selection Committee* to be considered for nomination to the *Canadian National Team* based on the athlete's results.

Qualification Process Applicable to All Disciplines

5.5. The *Selection Committee* will nominate athletes to the *Canadian National Team* to compete at the 2026 ISA World Championships using results-based criteria identified in the *Discipline Qualification Citeria*.

5.6. Specific *Qualification Criteria* will be established for each *Discipline* and for the *National Junior Team*.

Alternate Positions

5.7. The *Selection Committee* will identify up to two alternates for the women's and men's categories on the *Senior High-Performance Team* in each *Discipline* and for the girl's and boy's *National Junior Team*.

5.8. Alternate athletes will be advised that they have been selected as alternates as soon as practicable after the *Nomination Date* so that alternate athletes can adequately prepare to replace a members of the *Canadian National Team* in the event or injury or illness prior to the 2026 ISA World Championships.

5.9. Alternate athletes will ideally meet the *Qualification Criteria* and be *Competition Ready* (Defined in s. 7.5).

5.10. Where possible, the alternates will train with the *Canadian National Team* members. Alternate athletes will not have the status or privileges of *Canadian National Team* members and are not anticipated to travel with the *Canadian National Team* to 2026 ISA World Championship events.

Athlete Agreement

5.11. Athletes nominated to the *Canadian National Team* will be required to enter into the Surf Canada Athlete Agreement failing which their nomination will be withdrawn by the *High Performance Committee*.

6. CONFIRMATION OF NOMIATION TO CANADIAN NATIONAL TEAM

6.1. *Surf Canada* will inform athletes and alternates will be advised of their selection by email that they have been selected to the *Canadian National Team* by the *Nomination Date* or *Wild Card Selection Date,* as applicable, conditional on confirmation of athletes confirming that they meet the *Eligibility Requirements* set out in section 4. Athletes will be advised at that time on the amount of time they have to confirm that they accept their nomination to the 2026 *Canadian National Team* and to sign an Athlete Agreement (*Confirmation Deadline*).

6.2. If a nominated athlete declines or does not accept their nomination to the *Canadian National Team* by the *Confirmation Deadline*, their quota place will be reallocated to the next highest ranked eligible athlete as determined under the *Discipline Qualification Criteria*.

6.3. Despite Section 10, the nomination of athlete by the *Selection Committee* and the selection of athletes to the *Canadian National Team* is final and cannot be appealed.

7. ATHLETE SELECTION PROCESS FOR COMPETION AT EVENTS: COMPETITION DAY

Completion Day Selection and Seeding

7.1. As set out in Section 3.7, the *Head Coach* or the applicable *Discipline Coach* will select the *Canadian National Team* members who will compete in each day of 2026 ISA World Championship events for each *Discipline* and the seeding order of competition in each category and *Discipline*, which shall be decided at least three (3) days before the competition (*Roster Date*).

7.2. Any final changes to the *Canadian National Team* members selected to compete, and the seeding order, will be made by the *Head Coach* or the applicable *Discipline Coach*. The decision of the *Head Coach* or *Discipline Coach* is final, with no right of appeal.

On-Site Decision-Making Authority

7.3. During any actual competition period on-site at the 2026 ISA World Championships, the *Head Coach*, or in the absence of a *Head Coach*, the *Discipline Coach*, has final decision-making authority over all competition-related matters. The decision of the *Head Coach* or *Discipline Coach* is final, with no right of appeal.

7.4. The *Head Coach*, or applicable *Discipline Coach*, will determine the seeding order which, according to their judgment, will best meet the *2026 Objectives*.

Competition Readiness

7.5. "*Competition Ready*" means the ability of the athlete to achieve an equal or superior performance on-site at the scheduled event as compared to the performance(s) the athlete achieved in competition prior to their nomination to the *Canadian National Team*.

7.6. The *Head Coach*, or in the absence of the *Head Coach*, the *Discipline Coach*, will have the final determination of whether an athlete is *Competition Ready*, based on an assessment of all information available, including: performance results demonstrating each athlete's progress from the *Nomination Date* through to the

Roster Date for the 2026 ISA World Championships; the suitability of the athlete's training and competition plan including any agreed upon training plan; the athlete's individual fitness and other performance indicators; submitted medical documentation; consultation with the athlete's personal coach; and any other relevant information.

7.7. All *Canadian National Team* members are expected to train and prepare to be at peak fitness for the 2026 ISA World Championships and agree to perform fitness, physiological, and psychological testing requested by the *Head Coach* or *Discipline Coach* in order to assess whether the athlete is *Competition Ready*.

7.8. Athletes who are determined to not be *Competition Ready* because of a lack of fitness, injury, or illness may be removed from the *Canadian National Team* following the process set out in Section 8.

Injuries

7.9. *Canadian National Team* members are required to report any injury, illness, or change in training that could affect their ability to compete at their highest level the 2026 ISA World Championships immediately to the *Head Coach* as required under the *Athlete Agreement*.

7.10. The *High-Performance Committee* reserves the right to remove an athlete from the *Canadian National Team* on the recommendation of the *Head Coach* or applicable *Discipline Coach* if the athlete is injured or unable to perform at the appropriate level of fitness and preparation. The *Selection Committee* and *Head Coach* will determine whether to nominate an alternative athlete to replace the removed athlete, or to not replace the athlete. The *Head Coach* may, in extenuating circumstances, recommend that an injured athlete remain on the *Canadian National Team* taking into account the following:

a. An athlete that qualified based on ISA standings but is unable to compete for an extended period of time due to illness or injury will be able to petition for a special *"match"* if the athlete has achieved a top 8 2026 ISA ranking when reduced against PASA *Nations* and no Canadian athlete in that discipline achieved the same top 8 result.

b. A medical certificate must accompany the petition; however, the *Selection Committee* may request a medical examination by a *Surf Canada* designated physician.

c. If more than one athlete is injured in a single *Discipline*, the injured athletes will compete against each other first to determine who will compete for a spot on the team.

8. REMOVAL FROM THE NOMINATION PROCESS OR CANADIAN NATIONAL TEAM

Anti-doping Violations

8.1. Athletes who are in violation of any anti-doping policy, protocols, or procedure, as outlined by *Surf Canada*, World Anti-Doping Agency (*WADA*), Canadian Olympic Committee (*COC*), and the Canadian Centre for Ethics in Sport (*CCES*), during the 12 months prior to or after the *Nomination Date* will be removed from the *Canadian National Team*.

8.2. No member of *Team Canada* charged with a doping offence will be entitled to compete in either the 2026 PASA Championships or 2026 ISA World Championships and will have their names withdrawn from competition and consideration for the *Canadian National Team*.

Athlete Misconduct

8.3. The *Selection Committee*, 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 National 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.

Removal of Athletes from Nomination Process

8.4. The *Selection Committee,* in consultation with the *Head Coach,* may at any time and at their discretion, withdraw an athlete's nomination to the 2026 *Canadian National Team* and dismiss any athlete from the consideration under the *Qualification Criteria*. Reasons for dismissal include, but are not limited to, the following:

a) The athlete's inability to maintain high training standards.
b) The athlete's inability to meet performance expectations in competition.
c) The athlete's inability to perform due to injury, illness or for other medical reasons as determined by the *Head Coach* or *Discipline Coach* and the *High-Performance Committee*.

d) The athlete's violation of the *Surf Canada Sports Integrity Policies* and other Surf Canada code of conduct.
e) The athlete has engaged in conduct that is detrimental the Canadian National Team and/or the image of Surf Canada or the national team program.

Dismissal from the Canadian National Team

8.5. The *Head Coach* or *Discipline Coach* reserves the right to recommend that the *High-Performance Committee* withdraw an athlete's nomination to the *Canadian National Team* and dismiss an athlete from the *Canadian National Team* at any point. Reasons for dismissal include, but are not limited to, the following:

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 is injured or unable to perform at the appropriate level of fitness and preparation, as set out in sections 7.5 – 7.7.
c) If the athlete has not fulfilled their responsibilities as identified in the Surf Canada Athlete Agreement.
d) If the athlete has not fulfilled their responsibilities as identified in the *Surf Canada Sports Integrity Policies* or other code of conduct.
e) If the athlete has engaged in conduct that is detrimental the *Canadian National Team* and/or the image of *Surf Canada* or the national team program.

8.6. *Surf Canada* shall provide the athlete with written reasons for a decision to dismiss an athlete's nomination to the 2026 *Canadian National Team* under Section 8.3 or Section 8.4. The decision of the *Selection Committee* or *High-Performance Committee* is final.

8.7. *Surf Canada* shall provide the athlete with written reasons for a decision to remove an athlete form the *Canadian National Team* under Section 8.1 or Section 8.5. Subject to the appeal rights set out in Section 10, the decision to remove an athlete from the Canadian National Team under Section 8.1. or Section 8.5 is final.

9. AMENDMENTS AND UNFORSEEN CIRCUMSTANCES

9.1. In situations where unforeseen circumstances do not allow the selection process to be objectively applied, the *High-Performance Committee*, in consultation with the *Head Coach*, reserves the right to rule on an appropriate course of action.

9.2. Subject to the appeals process set out in Section 10, the decision of the *High-Performance Committee* is final.

10. APPEALS

10.1. Any dispute relating to the *National Team Nomination Framework* for the 2026 ISA World Championships must be brought according to the *Surf Canada Appeal Policy*, or if all parties agree, brought directly to the Sport Dispute Resolution of Centre of Canada (*SDRCC*) which will then manage the appeals process under the SDRCC rules.

10.2. Despite Section 10.1, there is no appeal from decisions made under Section 3 regarding the nomination of athlete by the Selection Committee, the selection of athletes to the *Canadian National Team* by the High Performance Committee, or the decisions regarding the athletes who are entered to compete in the 2026 ISA World Championship events for each Discipline.

11. COMMUNICATION

11.1. The *National Team Nomination Framework* for the 2026 ISA World Championships will be published on Surf Canada's official website and distributed by email to Surf Canada members and all competitors registered to compete at the 2026 Surf Canada Nationals.

11.2. The *National Team Nomination Framework* for the 2026 ISA World Championships may be amended at any time and republished on Surf Canada's official website.