

## **International Teams Criteria- 2006-2007 Season**

### **I. Junior/Youth Criteria for World Championship 2007**

Qualification from Trials at Mt. Itasca, Dec 29-31 2006

#### **Junior men (born 1986, 1987)**

Team size: up to 4 athletes

The best 2 of 3 races from the Trials will be scored using the Percent Back method.

The top 4 junior men will be selected at the Trials provided they achieve a 98% two race average in the trials composite points list.

Funding: Best two athletes either pre-qualified from the trials - 100% Funding

Third athlete 50% Funding

Fourth athlete Self-pay

If the fourth placing Youth man finishes in front of the fourth junior athlete in the relay format competition, and/or the Junior did not achieve a 98%, only 3 Junior athletes will make the team. If the team size not met, the 4th ranked Youth or Junior may be added to the Junior team by the ICC on a self-pay basis.

#### **Youth men (born 1988 and later)**

Team size: up to 4 athletes

The best 2 of 3 races from the Trials will be scored using the Percent Back method.

The top 4 Youth men will be selected at the Trials provided they achieve a 96% two race average in the trials composite points list.

If the team size is not met (athletes have not scored the 96% two race average), the Youth team may filled by the ICC at a self-pay basis

Funding: Best athlete 100% Funding

Second and third athlete 50% Funding

Fourth athlete Self-pay

#### **Junior women (born 1986, 1987)**

Team size: up to 4 athletes

The best 2 of 3 race from the Trials will be scored using the Percent back method.

The top 4 junior women from the trials will be selected at the Junior Trials provided they achieve 98 % two races average in the composite point list.

If the fourth placing Youth woman finishes in front of fourth junior athlete in relay format competition, and/or the Junior does not achieve a 98% series average, only 3 Junior athletes will make the team. If the team size is not met, a 4th Youth or Junior athlete may be added to the Junior team by the ICC at a self-pay basis.

Funding for Junior Women

Best 2 athletes either pre-qualified or from Trials 100% Funding

Third athlete      50% Funding  
Fourth athlete      Self-pay

### **Youth Women (born 1988 and later)**

Team size: up to 4 athletes

The best 2 of 3 races from the Trials will be scored using the Percent best method.

The top 4 Youth women will be selected at the Trials provided they achieve 96% two race average in the trials composite points list.

If the team size is not met (athletes have not score the 96% two race average), the youth team may be filled by the ICC at self-pay basis.

Funding Best athlete                      100% Funding  
                    Second and third athletes      50% Funding  
                    Fourth athlete                      Self-pay

### **Prequalification for JWCH**

All Junior “A” team athletes automatically pre-qualify for the 2007 YWCH Team (Laura Spector, Brynden Manbeck, Wynn Roberts, Mark Johnson). In order to maintain prequalification status an athlete will need to follow a training and competition plan that is acceptable to the Junior National Team coaching staff.

### **Additional Funding for Self-Pay athletes for top 15 results at YWCH**

Full funding will be provided for self-pay and 50% self-pay athlete if they achieve top 15 results in any of the individual races at YWCH.

## **II. Qualification for World Cup Senior World Championship**

### **Senior World Championship qualification**

At least five women and five men will be named to the World Championship Team. Each nation is allowed to start four athletes in each competition. The ICC reserves the right to name a sixth women and/or sixth man based on objective prior performance at Europa Cup, World Cup, World Junior Championships or selection time trial that indicates a very strong likelihood to start at the World Championships. Athletes attending December and January World Cups will be given the opportunity to pre-qualify for the World Championship Team if they achieve significant results at these events: One top-30 or two top-40 results (excluding relays – however relay performance can be considered in the naming of a sixth athlete to the team). In order to maintain prequalification status an athlete will need to follow a training and competition plan that has been approved by the Senior National Team coaching staff.

### **December and January World Cup Team**

Under IBU regulations we are allowed to start four men and three women in all World Cup competitions in the coming season and the staff recommends registering those numbers to all World Cup events, budget permitting.

USBA staff recommends the following ranking of athletes for December World Cups:

1. Jay Hakkinen
2. Tim Burke
3. Lowell Bailey
4. Jeremy Teela

1. Tracy Barnes
2. Sarah Konrad
3. Lanny Barnes

### **Movement Between Europa Cup and World Cup**

The national team coaching staff may use the following guidelines to recommend to the ICC that athletes from the Europa Cup start in the World Cup, as well as taking athletes from World Cup down to the Europa Cup.

1. In case of exceptional Europa Cup results (eg, podium finishes or consistent top 8 finishes), an athlete can be moved up to the World Cup from the Europa Cup.
2. Athletes consistently finishing 70th + on the World Cup can be brought down to the Europa Cup
3. Athletes who have been injured or sick for lengthy periods of time can be brought down to the Europa Cup, or can be sent home.

Replacement of athletes in cases 2 and 3 above will be with the athlete(s) who has the best single Europa Cup finish. However, coaches may use discretion based on objective results if there are significant differences in the quality and depth of EC fields from one competition to the next.

In addition, European Cup athletes will be considered to fill World Cup relay teams when there are not enough World Cup athletes to fill the team and the logistics of getting an athlete to the event can be managed without excessive costs.

### **3. Using January Europa Cup to Select BWCH Team-**

After prequalification, the remaining positions will be filled based on results of the competitions at the Forni Avoltri Europa Cup Event (or time trials if for some reason these events do not take place).

Europa Cup #4, Forni Avoltri , Jan 18 to 21 (sprint, pursuit, relay ) will be used as selection races for those who failed to pre-qualify in the World Cups 1-5, and those selected to compete in the European Cups. Standard percent back system will be used to score all the races- using all (international) athletes in the scoring base, selection will be based on scoring best 2 of 3 races (Sprint, Pursuit Split Time , Relay Leg Time). Relay times will be adjusted to take into account variances in the length of course for the first and last leg athletes.

### **4. Qualification for January Europa Cup Method 1- December North America Cup**

Three women and three men will be selected based on the ranking list from North

American Cups #1 in Canmore & #2 West Yellowstone,. The best three of four competitions to be scored using the standard percent back system and including all the athletes (including international athletes – Canadians etc) in the calculations. For the scoring of the pursuit competition “split times” (finish time minus start time) will be used to calculate the percent back. Athletes must achieve at least one 97% race.

### **Method 2- December Europa Cup**

Athletes competing at December Europa Cup will be qualified for the January European Cup Competitions.

### **5. Approving highly ranked athletes for December & January Europa Cups**

Athletes on Senior National “C” team, or Junior “A” team, are approved to compete in the December and January European Cups. Additionally athletes can petition the ICC for participation at these events on or before November 11th. Petitions must include a summary of past results, current training plan and a coaches’ recommendation letter. Athletes accepted by the ICC will be allowed to compete at the December and January European Cup events on a self-pay basis.

### **6. National Team Criteria for 2007-08: Criteria unchanged from 2006-2007**

#### **Senior National Team**

**A team:** Two top 15 performances or top 50 overall World Cup or member of medal winning relay team

**B team:** Two top 30 performances or member of top 8 relay team

**C team:** Recommendation of ICC with input from coaching staff.

#### **Juniors becoming seniors:**

**A team:** Medal at World Jrs (except relay)

**B team:** Top ten at World Jrs (except relay)

**C Team:** Member of Medal winning relay team at World Jrs

#### **Junior National Team**

##### **A Team Criteria:**

Top 15 at Biathlon Youth World Championships

Top 20 at Biathlon Junior World Championships

##### **B Team Criteria:**

Top 25 at Biathlon Youth World Championships

Top 30 at Biathlon Junior World Championships

Top 3 at U.S. Junior Olympics (J1 or OJ category)

**C Team Criteria:**

Top 30 at Biathlon Youth World Championships

Top 10 at U.S. Nordic Junior Olympics (J1 or OJ category)

Top 5 at U.S. Nordic Junior Olympics (J2 category)

Coaches recommendation with approval from ICC

Junior National team will be limited up to 6 men and 6 women. Any athletes who do not make the quota but make the C team criteria will qualify for the National Development Team. Athletes will be ranked by their best single results.