

International Teams Criteria- 2007-2008 Season

I. Qualification for World Cup Senior World Championship

1. Senior World Championship Team Size

Four women and five men will be named to the World Championship Team. Each nation is allowed to start four athletes in each competition. Upon coaching staff recommendation, the ICC reserves the right to name a fifth 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.

2. Prequalification Criteria for Senior World Championships

One top-30 or two top-40 results (excluding relays – however relay performance can be considered in the naming of a sixth man or fifth woman 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.

3. December and January World Cup Team

New IBU regulations regarding entries will determine how many athletes will be able to start in the World Cups following WC #1. Initially we can start up to 4 men and 3 women.

USBA staff recommends the following entries of athletes for World Cup #1.

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

1. Tracy Barnes
2. Lanny Barnes

4. 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. In case of excellent performance on the NorAm Circuit (eg, podium finishes) and a simultaneous need for additional athletes on the World Cup, an athlete can be moved up to the World Cup.

3. Athletes consistently finishing 70th + on the World Cup can be brought down to the Europa Cup
4. 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 athlete who has 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.

5. Qualification for BWCH Team

Qualification for BWCH will be a several step process for those not prequalifying through Dec World Cup results.

Step #1:

December North America Cups #1 and #2- qualifying for EC Langdorf

Three women and three men will be selected to compete at EC Langdorf 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 (international athletes, Canadians, as well as juniors) 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. A fourth woman and man may be selected by staff recommendation and ICC approval.

Step #2

Prequalification for BWCH at EC Langdorf, Jan 12-14

The US Team can start 7 men and 7 women at EC Langdorf. Junior athletes that start at EC Langdorf must compete in the senior category in the Individual race if they wish to qualify for BWCH.

Athletes can prequalify for the remaining spots on the BWCH team not filled from WC at EC Langdorf provided they meet the following criteria:

-1 top 6 finish or 2 top 10 finishes

Step #3

Qualifications for Juniors through Noram # 1, #2, and EC Langdorf

Juniors can qualify for the BWCH by racing Noram #1, #2 and EC Langdorf (senior distances). All US seniors and juniors will be ranked using percent back scoring method on their best 4 of 6 races, with only US athletes in the point base.

Men: If a US juniors is ranked 1st in this ranking after EC Langdorf, he can be nominated to the BWCH Team with Senior Team coach’s recommendation and ICC approval.

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 1987, 1988)

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/o 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. Same question as junior men

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 1989 and later)

Team size: up to 4 athletes

The best 2 of 3 races from the Trials will scored using the Percent beck 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 filled by the ICC at self-pay basis.

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

2. Prequalification for JWCH 2008

Up to 2 junior men and up to 2 junior women can prequalify for the JWCH 2008 using the below criteria. The best 3 of 4 races at the Norams #1 and #2 will be scored using a percent back method.

- 1) The best ranked US junior, male and female, can prequalify for JWCH provided that they achieve a 96% race average (best 3 of 4 races scored). Scoring will include the Canadian Juniors. Because Noram #1 and #2 are the Canadian Trials, the quality of the field will be very high.

- 2) An additional male and female junior can prequalify if a the junior is ranked in the top 3 in combined U.S. Junior and Senior ranking (best 3 of 4 races) at Noram #1 and #2.

Note: If a youth athlete achieves either of these criteria, they can qualify as a youth for JWCH.

3. 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.

4. Qualification for Juniors to January Europa Cup

All juniors or youth who prequalify for JWCH will be qualified for January Europa Cup. In the case that only one male and one female prequalify for JWCH, the top ranked Junior woman and top ranked Junior man at the Junior Trials will qualify for January Europa Cup. Additional Junior and Youth athletes may be selected to January Europa Cup with staff recommendation and ICC approval.

5. Qualification for Juniors to European Championships

Up to 4 men and 3 women can qualify to compete in the Junior Category at European Championships and Europa Cups in February and March.

Juniors: 1 top 20 result at JWCH to automatically qualify

Youth: 1 top 15 result at JWCH to automatically qualify

If more than 4 men or 3 women qualify, the best percent back result will be counted. If less than 4 men and 3 women qualify, athletes can be added by coaches' recommendation and ICC approval. Funding for European Championships will be determined at a later date.

III. National Team Criteria for 2007-08: Criteria unchanged from 2006-2007

1. Senior National Team

Men:

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 coaching staff with ICC approval

Women:

A team: Two top 20 performances or top 50 overall World Cup or member of medal winning relay team

B team: Two top 40 performances or member of top 8 relay team

C team: Recommendation coaching staff with ICC approval

2. Juniors becoming Seniors:

A team: Medal at World Jrs (except relay), or two top 6 results

B team: Top 12 at World Jrs (except relay), or two top 15

C Team: Member of Medal winning relay team at World Jrs, or recommendation of coaching staff with ICC approval

3. 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)- removed

C Team Criteria:

Top 40 at Biathlon Junior World Championships

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.