



August 16, 2026

2027 Canada Winter Games

March 6 – 14, 2027 (Week #2), Québec

Team Yukon Selection Criteria

Officiated by Snowboard Yukon

Team Selection & Training Overview:

Application Phase		
Step 1	CWG Snowboard Info Session	August 12, 2026
Step 2	Online Application Deadline	August 17, 2026
Training & Evaluation Phase		
Step 3	Training Squad Announced	August 23, 2026
Step 4	Dryland training begins	August 24, 2026
Step 5	Preseason on-snow training and ongoing athlete evaluation, Mt. Sima	November 14-29, 2026
Step 6	Athlete Evaluations Complete	December 1, 2026
Team Phase		
Step 7	Team Selection Announced	By December 5, 2026
Step 8	On-snow & dryland training continues	December 5 – CWG
Step 9	Provincial Competition	January/February, 2027
Step 10	Canada Winter Games, Québec	March 6 – 14, 2027

Team Composition:

Freestyle <i>Slopestyle & Big Air</i>		
13-19 years of age as of December 31, 2026 <i>Year of birth: 2007-2013</i>	Up to 3 female	Up to 3 male
Speed <i>Snowboardcross, with option to add Parallel Giant Slalom</i>		
13-19 years of age as of December 31, 2026 <i>Year of birth: 2007-2013</i>	Up to 3 female	Up to 3 male
Total athletes:	4 female	4 male

Note: Athletes will be selected for either freestyle or speed and they must train and compete in that discipline. However, athletes may – with approval from the Head Coach – compete in the other discipline as well.

Competitor Eligibility:

To be eligible for the 2027 Canada Winter Games (CWG), Team Yukon riders must meet all eligibility requirements outlined in the [2027 Canada Winter Games Snowboard Technical Package](#) and the [Canada Games Council Athlete Eligibility Policy](#). The following list is a summary, see the linked documents for full details.

- 1) **Citizenship:** Athletes must meet at least one of the following requirements to be eligible for the Canada Games: are a Canadian citizen; are an Indigenous person (registered under the federal Indian Act); are a permanent resident or have status in Canada and are applying for permanent residency; are a convention refugee or other protected person (as defined by Immigration and Refugee Board of Canada); newcomers processed using temporary measures to facilitate them fleeing for safety due to a crisis. See Canada Games Council Athlete Eligibility Policy for details.

- 2) **Membership:** The Canada Games are open to athletes who are members in good standing of their sport's Provincial/Territorial Sport Organization ([Snowboard Yukon](#)).
- 3) **Level of Athlete:** Territorial teams are made up of the best athletes from each jurisdiction that have not yet represented Canada internationally at a Senior World Championships or major multi-sport Games. Senior National Team athletes and/or athletes holding an SR, SR1 or SR2 Sport Canada Athlete Assistance Program (AAP) card are not eligible for the Canada Games in the sport for which they hold the card. Athletes who are in their first year of Senior National Team status may be deemed eligible on a case by case basis.
- 4) **Residency:** An athlete may represent a territory that falls outside the recognized boundaries of their primary residence provided they can demonstrate a commitment to the territory they wish to represent by; having a Snowboard Yukon membership, and having represented Snowboard Yukon at national championships, and not having received funding from another province or territory within a year of the opening of the games.
- 5) **Athletes attending school** on a full time basis outside of the territory of their primary residence for no less than one (1) full academic session (i.e. a term, block, semester, etc.) prior to the Opening Ceremony of the Games are eligible to participate for the Territory in which they attend school.

Selection Process

There will be a multi-step selection process beginning with an Application Phase, followed by a Training & Evaluation Phase, and ending with the naming of the final CWG roster, which will move into the Team Phase. This process allows for maximum training opportunities for a greater number of athletes, yet ensures those who are most dedicated and fit for competition will represent the Yukon at the games.

The Selection Process will be governed by the Snowboard Yukon Selection Committee. The Selection Committee is appointed by the Snowboard Yukon Board of Directors. The coaches will be non-voting members of the Selection Committee.

A rider must successfully complete all the steps in order to compete at the games. Alternative arrangements /exemptions may be granted on a case-by-case basis. Please contact the Head Coach ASAP should you have a challenge meeting any of the step(s).

1. Application Phase (up to Aug. 23, 2026)

Online Application: Athletes will be asked to submit an online application indicating their desire to be a part of the CWG team, their goals and objectives in snowboarding, a list of competitions and results, current training initiatives, other sports experience, as well as why they should be chosen for the team.

The Application is due August 17, 2026
[Submit your application online here.](#)

Training Squad Selection: From the received applications, the Selection Committee, in conjunction with the Head Coach, will select athletes to move on to the Training Squad. **Note:** A key factor in selection for the next phase will be if the athlete's snowboarding skills are developed enough to safely and meaningfully utilize the preseason terrain at Mt. Sima.

Training Squad announced August 23, 2026

2. Training & Selection Phase (Aug. 24 – Nov. 29, 2026)

Dryland Training: Once selected, Training Squad athletes are expected to follow a dryland training plan. Plans may include scheduled Snowboard Yukon programs, individual training, or a combination of both. Plans must be approved by the Head Coach. A dryland training plan for athletes at this level might include:

- Trampoline Training (1 session per week)
- Strength & Conditioning (2-4 sessions per week)
- Stretching & Mobility (3+ sessions per week)
- Recovery (1 full rest day per week)

Dryland training begins August 24, 2026

On-snow Training & Evaluation: The Training Squad will participate in preseason training on weekends at Mt. Sima. The coaches will monitor each athlete's performance during training and complete an evaluation at the end of the training phase. If an athlete is training and competing in snowboarding outside of the Yukon during the On-snow Training & Evaluation phase, the evaluation will be completed in conjunction with the athlete's primary coach. Evaluation criteria will be shared with the athletes by the beginning of on-snow training.

On-snow training & evaluation runs November 14 – 29, 2026

Team Selection: Athlete evaluations will be provided to the Selection Committee at the conclusion of on-snow training. The CWG Team will be named by the Selection Committee with guidance from the Head Coach.

The Selection Committee is required to retain copies of the athlete Evaluation Forms for at least ten (10) days following the last day of the Training & Selection Phase. An athlete may request to see their Evaluation Form within the ten (10) day timeline.

Note: In addition to considering the Athlete Evaluations and input from the coaches, the Selection Committee will reference the CWG Snowboard Performance Guidelines as outlined in the [2027 Canada Winter Games Snowboard Technical Package](#) and also listed in the Appendix.

CWG Team announced by December 5, 2026

Note: If athletes named to the CWG Snowboard Team fail to continue to meet their training commitments, are injured, or remove themselves from the Team, the Selection Committee may approach other athletes who participated in the Training Squad to fill the vacant spot.

3. Team Phase (Dec. 5, 2026 – Mar. 14, 2027)

Training: The CWG Team will train in regularly scheduled Snowboard Yukon on-snow programs at least one day per week at Mt. Sima. Athletes named for freestyle will train with the HP / Comp 2 Team. Speed athletes will train with the new SBX Team. Athletes may also train on both teams, as training will be on opposite days of the weekend. Selected athletes will also be expected to continue with their coach-approved dryland training program. Athletes may follow custom training plans if approved by the Head Coach.

CWG Team training December 5 – March 5, 2027

Competitions: The CWG Team will be required to travel to at least one Snowboard Yukon supported, out-of-territory provincial competition in their discipline, in January or February, 2027.

In March, the CWG snowboard team will travel to Québec as a part of Team Yukon.

Out-of-territory competition January/February, 2027 TBD

Canada Winter Games March 6 – 14, 2027

Registration & Expected Fees

There are individual program registrations and fees required for most steps in this selection process. Dates, fees and registrations are currently TBC. As they are confirmed, they will be posted at snowboardyukon.com.

This list is for illustrative purposes to help with planning. Prices are estimates. Additional fees may apply.

- SY / Canada Snowboard Compete Membership + FIS (\$200)
- SAIP Insurance (FIS requirement) - Level 3 (\$98)
- Trampoline Training (\$800)
- Strength & Conditioning (\$1,700)
- Preseason Training at Mt. Sima (\$700)
- On-snow Training at Sima (\$700)
- Out-of-territory Competition Expenses (\$2,000)
- CWSAA Pass, Season Pass or Lift Tickets (\$850)
- CWG Team Yukon Fee (?)

Appeals Regarding Final Athlete Selection

Training Squad athletes may file an appeal with Snowboard Yukon within 48 hours of the announcement of the CWG team. This must be done in writing to the Technical Director of Snowboard Yukon, Mary Binsted at mary@snowboardyukon.com

A separate committee will be formed to review the appeal and make a decision if needed. Sport Yukon will also be fully advised of any appeal. The results will be decided within 72 hours of receipt of the appeal.

Behaviour

Athletes must show proper respect for coaching staff, fellow team members, and the community at all times.

Any team member not willing to cooperate or follow the training plan set out by the coaches may be asked to leave the program at any time.

We will be abiding by the [Canada Snowboard Code of Conduct and Ethics](#) and the [Snowboard Yukon Discipline Policy](#).

Athletes and coaches will also be required to sign the [Snowboard Yukon Travelling Athlete Agreement](#) at the team meeting prior to travel.

Breaking any of the rules can lead to disqualification from the CWG selection process or team.

Further Information & Contact

Esa Suominen, Head Coach, Snowboard Yukon
esa@snowboardyukon.com
867-335-6632

For questions regarding CWG Team Yukon eligibility:

Trevor Twardochleb, Yukon Government, Sport & Recreation Branch
trevor.twardochleb@gov.yk.ca

For questions regarding CWG Final Team appeals:

Mary Binsted, Technical Director, Snowboard Yukon
mary@snowboardyukon.com
867-334-2944

Appendix

Online Application

2027 CWG Training Squad Team Application Questions

- What are your snowboarding goals this season?
- What are your snowboarding goals in the next 5 years?
- What are your long term snowboarding goals?
- What achievement(s) in snowboarding are you most proud of?
- List your top competition results; top 3 in freestyle (slopestyle, big air, rail jam, etc) and top 3 in speed (snowboardcross, banked slalom, giant slalom, etc):
- List your current training initiatives:
- Do you do any other sports and how often?
- Tell us why you want to be on the CWG team?
- Anything else we should know?

The Application is due August 17, 2026

[Submit your application online here.](#)

CWG Snowboard Performance Guidelines

The following Performance Guidelines have been established by Canada Snowboard to reflect the expected training and/or performance parameters of a typical Canada Games athlete in the Training to Compete phase of Long Term Athlete Development. These Performance Guidelines have been developed as a tool for P/T teams to use at their discretion in the training and selection of their Canada Games teams. These Guidelines are not required selection criteria.

Freestyle Skills

- Perform varied maneuvers on small and medium features
- Ability to enter and exit features regular and switch
- Ability to maneuver body position on a rail/box feature using both frontside and backside rotation (i.e. able to do both)
- Ability to vary the entrance into a rail/box feature – lip slides and front/back side approaches
- Ability to spin 180+ on and off of features in four directions
- Ability to spin 360+ in four directions on jump features and in halfpipe
- Air stability with style (ability to grab/tweak/vary body position) on jumps
- Air out of halfpipe with grabs
- Perform basic maneuvers on large features

Speed Skills

- Speed management
- Timing of gross motor movements refined
- Symmetry in turn shape
- Riding varied terrain with speed
- SBX – ability to navigate small and medium course features at speed
- Develop basic race tactics