

Manitoba Winter Games Selection Policy (Team)

“Organization” refers to: Skate Manitoba

Note: Sport Manitoba requires that Provincial Sport Organizations have a policy in place that clearly defines Team selection for athletes, teams and coaches, where applicable.

SPORT: Figure Skating

EVENT: Manitoba Winter Games

POLICY: Team Selection Policy

SECTION 1 – PURPOSE

The purpose of this document is to set out the process that will be used by the Organization to select athletes and coaches for each of the six (6) Region Teams for the 2026 Manitoba Winter Games.

SECTION 2 – OBJECTIVE

The objective of this selection policy is to select a maximum of forty-eight (48) athletes for the creation of a maximum of six (6) Regional Teams (Winnipeg Blue, Winnipeg Gold, East, South, West and North) that will participate in the 2026 Manitoba Winter Games. Each team will consist of the following:

- STAR 5 Singles (2 athletes)
- STAR 6 & STAR 7 Singles (3 athletes)
- Pre-Novice Singles (2 athletes)
- Novice Women's Singles (1 athlete)

Events will be all gender unless otherwise specified. There will be one (1) Region Team Coach selected for each region. One (1) Region Team Manager will be selected for each region.

SECTION 3 – ELIGIBILITY

To be eligible for selection, the team's athletes must have/be:

- Declared their intent to participate by October 15, 2025 via the [online form](#)
- Must meet the eligibility requirements as identified in the [Manitoba Games Eligibility Policy](#)
- Canadian Citizens, or eligible for Canadian Citizenship and actively pursuing either Citizenship Certificates or Canadian Passports

- Members in good standing with the Organization
- Registered with a skating club or school as the home club in the Manitoba section
- Agree to adhere to the Organization's policies
- STAR 5 and STAR 6/STAR 7 singles skaters must be at least ten (10) years of age by March 1, 2026 and not older than seventeen (17) years of age by March 1, 2026.
- Pre-Novice singles skaters must be at least ten (10) years of age by March 1, 2026 and must not have reached the age of 16 before July 1, 2025.
- Novice women singles skaters must be at least ten (10) years of age by March 1, 2026 and must not have reached the age of seventeen (17) before July 1, 2025.
- Athletes must meet the Assessment requirements for their respective event no later than November 24, 2025:
- STAR 5: Must not have passed any part of the STAR 8 freeskate assessment (<https://info.skatecanada.ca/index.php/en-ca/rules-of-sport/265-star-competition-program-requirements.html#h1-5-star-5-program>)
- STAR 6 & STAR 7: Must have passed the complete STAR 5 freeskate assessment (<https://info.skatecanada.ca/index.php/en-ca/rules-of-sport/265-star-competition-program-requirements.html#h1-6-star-6-program>)
- Pre-Novice: Must have passed the complete STAR 6 freeskate assessment or higher (<https://info.skatecanada.ca/index.php/en-ca/rules-of-sport/261-competitive-competition-program-requirements.html#h1-3-pre-novice-singles>)
- Novice: Must have passed the complete Gold freeskate assessment (<https://info.skatecanada.ca/index.php/en-ca/rules-of-sport/261-competitive-competition-program-requirements.html#h1-4-novice-singles>)

Once selected, the team's athletes will be expected to be training towards, and meet the physical standards expected by, the 2026 Manitoba Winter Games.

SECTION 4 – SELECTION PROCESS

Athletes were to declare their intention to be selected by completing a form indicating that they wished to be considered for the selection process for the 2026 Manitoba Winter Games by October 15, 2025.

Selection for each Regional Team, with the exception of Regional Team North, will be based on the results of the Freeskate program at the Pre-Novice Novice Sectionals & Gordon Linney Open in December 2025.

Skaters, based on their residence postal code, or their registered club if skater resides outside of Manitoba, will fill the team in order of freeskate standings.

For Pre-Novice, athletes participating in their respective events (men's and women's) will have all freeskate scores ranked together and then selection will proceed.

Winnipeg is divided into two (2) teams, Gold and Blue. Selection to each team will be based on placement in the event. For STAR 6/7 Winnipeg Gold will receive placement 1, 4 and 5, and Winnipeg Blue will receive placements 2, 3 and 6. For STAR 5 and Pre-Novice Winnipeg Gold will receive placement 1 and 4, and Winnipeg Blue will receive placements 2 and 3. In Novice placement 1 will be Winnipeg Gold and placement 2 will be Winnipeg Blue. Please see appendix for examples.

Regional Team North selection will be based on the following:

1. Submission of one (1) report card from a Skate Canada sanctioned competition that occurred between July 1st 2025 and December 1st 2025 for the event you are pursuing selection for (ie STAR 6, Pre-Novice or Novice) or participation in the Pre-Novice Novice Sectionals and Gordon Linney Open in December 2025.
2. All submitted report cards, including any from the Pre-Novice Novice Sectionals and Gordon Linney Open in December 2025, will be placed in order of freeskate score to fill Regional Team North spaces.
3. Report card may only be submitted once and must be submitted no later than the day before the start of the Pre-Novice Novice Sectionals and Gordon Linney open commences.
4. Report cards are to be submitted to skate.td@sportmanitoba.ca

In the event that a Region Team does not fill all eight (8) spaces the following will occur as laid out in the 2026 Manitoba Winter Games Technical Package:

Regional teams may utilize athletes from outside of their region's boundaries to fill out rosters in accordance with the Manitoba Games [Regional Team Policy](#).

Regional teams outside of Winnipeg may only use athletes from the North, East, South, or West regions to fill their rosters. Winnipeg Blue or Winnipeg Gold regional teams may only use athletes from the Winnipeg region to fill their rosters.

In order to begin filling spaces in a Region Team, a Region team must have four (4) athletes already named to the team from the region. If a Region Team has less than four (4) athletes the remaining spaces cannot be filled.

Alternates:

In the event that a selected athlete is unable to continue due to injury/dismissal/other, one (1) alternate will be selected for each team, in each event, based on the above selection criteria. Alternates will be named at the time of selection and will be invited to attend any team activities/meetings etc... leading up to the 2026 Manitoba Winter Games.

Exemptions:

Should an athlete be unable to participate in the selection process due to sickness, injury or other exceptional circumstances they may still be eligible for selection provided that they have a signed letter from a medical professional, approval from the Organization and have

registered for the Pre-Novice Novice Sectionals and Gordon Linney Open. Athletes receiving an exemption will be permitted to send in a report card from one (1) competition that they attended between October 1st and December 12th. This report card score will be placed in the rankings for the event at Pre-Novice Novice Sectionals and Gordon Linney Open. No refunds for competition registration fees will be provided. Should an athlete not have a report card to submit from during the listed time frame, the athlete(s) will be placed at the bottom of the ranking list in alphabetical order of their last name.

Tie-Breaking

Please see '[Determination of Combined and Final Result](#)' for information pertaining to ties.

Timelines

Athletes must have completed the Declaration of Intent form no later than October 15, 2025 to be part of the athlete selection pool. Athletes will be selected no later than 48 hours following the conclusion of the Pre-Novice Novice Sectionals and Gordon Linney Open in December 2025.

Unforeseen Circumstances

If unforeseen circumstances arise which do not allow for this selection process to be implemented as outlined in this document, the Organization reserves the right to identify an alternate process or alternate timelines and has decided that in the event that the Pre-Novice Novice Sectionals and Gordon Linney Open, to be held in December 2025, are unable to occur due to exceptional circumstances the following will occur:

All applicants will be required to submit a verified** video of a competition skate of their free program (STAR 5, STAR 6, Pre-Novice freeskate and Novice freeskate) prior to the date of January 2, 2026. These verified videos will then be judged via a remote competition and those scores will be utilized as indicated in the selection policy above, to determine team selection.

**A verified video is one where a designate, of the sections choosing (such as an official), will be present for the skaters regulation warm ups and programs, and will verify on the video that the warm up and skate was conducted in accordance with Skate Canada competition rules.

SECTION 5 – AUTHORITY FOR SELECTION

The Organization shall appoint member(s) to be responsible for managing the selection of athletes to each Regional Team to the 2026 Manitoba Winter Games. The member(s) shall be known as a Selection Committee and are responsible reviewing the event report cards and making a selection based on the selection criteria above.

The Selection Committee must be free from actual and perceived conflict of interest and, where conflict of interest may exist, Committee members must identify the conflict and excuse themselves from selection decisions where there is a conflict. Parents of athletes, or other individuals deemed by the Organization to have special interest in the selection process, are not permitted to be members of the Selection Committee.

Using the criteria outlined in Section 4, the Selection Committee will select the following:

Regional Team North	
Maximum two (2) STAR 5 singles skaters	Maximum three (3) STAR 6/STAR 7 singles skaters
Maximum two (2) Pre-Novice Singles skaters	Maximum one (1) Novice Woman
Regional Team West	
Maximum two (2) STAR 5 singles skaters	Maximum three (3) STAR 6/STAR 7 singles skaters
Maximum two (2) Pre-Novice Singles skaters	Maximum one (1) Novice Woman
Regional Team South	
Maximum two (2) STAR 5 singles skaters	Maximum three (3) STAR 6/STAR 7 singles skaters
Maximum two (2) Pre-Novice Singles skaters	Maximum one (1) Novice Woman
Regional Team East	
Maximum two (2) STAR 5 singles skaters	Maximum three (3) STAR 6/STAR 7 singles skaters
Maximum two (2) Pre-Novice Singles skaters	Maximum one (1) Novice Woman
Regional Team Winnipeg Gold	
Maximum two (2) STAR 5 singles skaters	Maximum three (3) STAR 6/STAR 7 singles skaters
Maximum two (2) Pre-Novice Singles skaters	Maximum one (1) Novice Woman
Regional Team Winnipeg Blue	
Maximum two (2) STAR 5 singles skaters	Maximum three (3) STAR 6/STAR 7 singles skaters
Maximum two (2) Pre-Novice Singles skaters	Maximum one (1) Novice Woman

SECTION 6 – DISMISSAL FROM A TEAM

An athlete may be dismissed from a team if the athlete:

- Fails to remain a member in good standing with the Organization
- Exhibits conduct that is detrimental to the image of the Organization
- Is unable to perform due to injury, illness or other medical reasons as determined by the Organization's medical staff
- Fails to complete registration for the 2026 Manitoba Winter Games by January 17, 2026 (unless 'Unforeseen Circumstances' have been invoked, or is an alternate)

Athletes are expected to participate in at least one (1) Manitoba Winter Games Regional Team activity such as (but not limited to) training days or meetings.

When necessary and appropriate, an athlete may be replaced by an alternate athlete provided the alternate athlete is still eligible.

SECTION 7 – APPEALS

Appeals of selection decisions will be heard and decided in accordance with the Organization's *Appeal Policy*. Our policy can be located at the following link and found on page 34, <https://mbskates.ca/wp-content/uploads/2024/10/Standing-Rules-October-2024-FINAL.pdf>

SECTION 8 – INJURED and REPLACEMENT ATHLETES

The coaches and/or the Selection Committee may apply to the Organization's Board to remove any athlete from any stage of the athlete selection process. Reasons for removal can include: becoming no longer eligible for participation (under Section 3), injury, illness, or misconduct. Reasons for removal will be communicated by written letter, communicated digitally, to the athlete from the Organization.

The Selection Committee shall designate alternate athletes in each category. Alternate athletes may be selected if one or more of the originally selected are dismissed prior to the 2026 Manitoba Winter Games.

If the alternates have not kept up their training or are unavailable or uninterested, the Selection Committee may approach other athletes who participated in the selection process to be named as alternates. Alternate athletes may be included in any training or competitions taking place prior to the 2026 Manitoba Winter Games so that they are prepared if called upon.

SECTION 9 – COACH SELECTION PROCESS

The Organization has the authority to select the coaches who will attend the Manitoba Winter Games.

PURPOSE

The purpose of this section is to set out the process that will be used by the Organization to select coaches for each of the six (6) Region Teams for the 2026 Manitoba Winter Games.

**Sport Manitoba requires the Coaches to be selected by May 2025

OBJECTIVE

There will be one (1) Region Team Coach selected for each region.

ELIGIBILITY

To be eligible for selection, the team's Coach must:

- Apply by April 30, 2025 via the [online form](#)
- Minimum Provincial In-training
- Must meet the eligibility requirements as identified in the [Manitoba Games Eligibility Policy](#)
- Canadian Citizens, or eligible for Canadian Citizenship and actively pursuing either Citizenship Certificates or Canadian Passports
- Members in good standing with the Organization
- A clear background check
- Agree to adhere to the Organization's policies
- Participate in at least one Manitoba Winter Games Regional Team activity such as (but not limited to) training days or meetings.
- Participate in any required Sport Manitoba Coach & Manager Meetings

The Organization shall appoint member(s) to be responsible for selecting coaches for Manitoba Winter Games. The member(s) shall be known as a Coach Selection Committee. The Coach Selection Committee must be free from actual and perceived conflict of interest and, where conflict of interest may exist, Committee members must identify the conflict and excuse themselves from selection decisions where there is a conflict. Parents of athletes, or other individuals deemed by the Organization to have special interest in the selection process, are not permitted to be members of the Coach Selection Committee.

The Coach Selection Committee shall select **6 Coaches** to attend the Manitoba Winter Games. The Coach Selection Committee reserves the right to select coaches from outside the pool of applicants.

The Coach Selection Committee reserves the right to dismiss a coach if, in its estimation, the coach is not sufficiently preparing the athletes for the Manitoba Winter Games or if there are other legitimate reasons, as determined by the Coach Selection Committee or the Organization, for dismissal.

SECTION 9 – MANAGER SELECTION PROCESS

The Organization has the authority to select the managers who will attend the Manitoba Winter Games.

PURPOSE

The purpose of this section is to set out the process that will be used by the Organization to select managers for each of the six (6) Region Teams for the 2026 Manitoba Winter Games.

OBJECTIVE

There will be one (1) Region Team Manager selected for each region.

ELIGIBILITY

To be eligible for selection, the team's manager must:

- Apply by December 1, 2025 via the online form
 - Coaches who applied but were not selected for a Region Team Coach position and indicated on their coach application that they would be interested in a manager position do not need to complete as your application will transfer over
- Must meet the eligibility requirements as identified in the [Manitoba Games Eligibility Policy](#)
- Canadian Citizens, or eligible for Canadian Citizenship and actively pursuing either Citizenship Certificates or Canadian Passports
- Members in good standing with the Organization
- A clear background check
- Respect in Sport for Activity Leaders certified
- Complete the Understanding the Rule of Two eLearning module
- Agree to adhere to the Organization's policies
- Participate in any required Sport Manitoba Coach & Manager Meetings

SELECTION

The Organization shall appoint member(s) to be responsible for selecting managers for Manitoba Winter Games. The member(s) shall be known as a Manager Selection Committee. The Manager Selection Committee must be free from actual and perceived conflict of interest and, where conflict of interest may exist, Committee members must identify the conflict and excuse themselves from selection decisions where there is a conflict. Parents of athletes, or other individuals deemed by the Organization to have special interest in the selection process, are not permitted to be members of the Manager Selection Committee.

The Manager Selection Committee shall select **6 Managers** to attend the Manitoba Winter Games. The Manager Selection Committee reserves the right to select Managers from outside the pool of applicants. If an athlete who identifies as Male is selected for any Region team, at least one (1) manager who also identifies as Male must be selected as a manager.

The Organization reserves the right to dismiss a manager if, in its estimation, the manager fails to remain eligible for the Manitoba Winter Games.

Selection will commence after the athlete selection has occurred.

APPENDIX A – SELECTION PROCESS EXAMPLES

To further clarify the selection process please find examples of possible scenarios. Examples do not include every possible scenario, and are there to provide possibilities.

Example 1:

STAR 5 ranking			STAR 6 ranking			Pre-Novice Ranking		
Skater	Score	Qualified	Skater	Score	Qualified	Skater	Score	Qualified
Skater 1 U13 - Winnipeg	20.02	Winnipeg Gold (1)	Skater 7 - East	20.02	East (1)	Skater 2A - West	49.21	West (1)
Skater 2 U13 - South	19.01	South (1)	Skater 13- South	19.01	South (1)	Skater 12A - Winnipeg	48.23	Winnipeg Gold (1)
Skater 3 U13 - East	18.71	East (1)	Skater 1 - Winnipeg	18.71	Winnipeg Gold (1)	Skater 5A - South	47.89	South (1)
Skater 4 U13 - North	18.65	North (1)	Skater 4 - Winnipeg	18.65	Winnipeg Blue (1)	Skater 10A - Winnipeg	44.38	Winnipeg Blue (1)
Skater 5 13& O - West	18.3	West (1)	Skater 16 - West	18.3	West (1)	Skater 9A - East	40.01	East (1)
Skater 6 13 & O - Winnipeg	17.23	Winnipeg Blue (1)	Skater 2 - Winnipeg	17.23	Winnipeg Blue (2)	Skater 1A - West	38.07	West (2)
Skater 7 13&O - South	17.18	South (2)	Skater 12 - South	17.18	South (2)	Skater 6A - South	35.22	South (2)
Skater 8 13&O - East	16.81	East (2)	Skater 17- West	16.81	West (2)	Skater 4A - West	30.57	East (2) Fill Policy *
Skater 9 U10 - South	16.45	ALTERNATE SOUTH	Skater 3- Winnipeg	16.45	Winnipeg Gold (2)	Skater 11A - Winnipeg	29.79	Winnipeg Blue (2)
Skater 14 13&O - North	16.21	North (2)	Skater 11- South	16.21	South (3)	Skater 7A - South	29.74	ALTERNATE SOUTH
Skater 10 13&O - West	15.64	West (2)	Skater 18 - West	15.64	West (3)	Skater 3A - West	25.01	ALTERNATE WEST
Skater 11 13&O - Winnipeg	15.19	Winnipeg Blue (2)	Skater 9- North	15.19	North (1)	Skater 8A - South	24.97	
Skater 12 13&O - Winnipeg	14.34	Winnipeg Gold (2)	Skater 5 - Winnipeg	14.34	Winnipeg Gold (3)			
Skater 13 13&O - South	14.22		Skater 14 - East	14.22	East (2)			
Skater 15 U13 - East	13.2	ALTERNATE EAST	Skater 15- East	12.49	East (3)			
Skater 16 U13 - Winnipeg	12.49	ALTERNATE WINNIPEG	Skater 17- West	12.48	Alternate West			

PSO Board of Directors Approval Date: July 15, 2025