



COMBINING CROSS-COUNTRY SKIING AND RIFLE MARKSMANSHIP
ALLIE LE SKI DE FOND ET L'ADRESSE AU TIR

Date: May 18, 2009

To: Divisions; Nominated athletes; Parents of Nominated athletes

CC: Joanne Thomson, Executive Director; Biathlon Canada Executive

From: Graham Lindsay, President

Re: Olympic Forerunners

The Vancouver Organizing Committee for the 2010 Olympic Winter Games (VANOC) has extended to Biathlon Canada the honour and privilege of providing the Forerunners who will ski the trails immediately before each of the Olympic Biathlon competitions.

The Executive of Biathlon Canada has accepted this offer from VANOC and approved a process to select worthy candidates for this tremendous opportunity. The Executive decided, given that Youth and Junior aged athletes are the future of Biathlon in Canada, this honour would be extended to those athletes who most successfully competed in those categories this past season.

Biathlon Canada is offering this unique opportunity to 3 men and 3 women in each category based on the performance of the participants at the most recent YJWCH and the 2009 Canadian Nationals.

The names below represent the first 3 ranked in each category, as well as 3 alternates/spares from the overall ranking list.

VANOC has asked that we identify the forerunners as quickly as possible. Therefore we must solicit a response from each named athlete as to their interest and availability to accept this offer. Having received those responses Biathlon Canada will then advise VANOC of the names and contact details for the Forerunners, together with named alternates.

As you consider the opportunity we would like to provide as much information as is currently known so that each athlete can make a wise decision about participation in the Olympic Winter Games:

1. Youth athletes will participate as Forerunners for the first half of the Olympics (tentatively 11-19 Feb2010)

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2. Junior athletes will participate as Forerunners for the second half of the Olympics (tentatively 19-27 Feb 2010)
3. Other known critical dates for the 2009/2010 season are:
 - i. YJWCH tour 21 January - 4 February 2010
 - ii. Canadian Championships (Canmore) 2 - 7 March 2010
4. Transportation to and from Whistler, accommodation and some meals, as well as daily local transportation to and from the competition venue will be provided and funded by VANOC. Athletes may need to pay for some meals, depending upon their location for that meal.
5. As part of the Forerunner function each selected athlete will receive an exclusive forerunners' team racing suit as well as a warm up suit that can be kept as a souvenir after the Games.
6. As the Olympic Games are between the YJWCH and Canadian Nationals each athlete must consider the impact of not doing shooting training at a crucial point in the year. This consideration should be made in discussion with coaches. Under supervision of the forerunner Captain each athlete will have access to the Biathlon trails **only** before or after the official training during a typical official training day and **only** after the last competition during a competition day. Unfortunately shooting at the Biathlon shooting range will not be possible at any point during the period of the Games. The alternative could be dry firing training at the location of the provided accommodation, using borrowed, locally owned biathlon rifles; this plan will need to be organized with local coaches. We expect that security restrictions will be such that Forerunners will not be able to take a biathlon rifle anywhere near any Olympics-related facility.
7. The Forerunner Captain is Lise LeGuellec. She will be responsible for all Forerunners during the period of their stay and Forerunners will perform their duties under her direction.
8. At this point we do not yet have any details about accommodation for any of the Forerunners, (or for any of the other volunteers/officials who will be working at the Games), except that the accommodation will be arranged and provided by VANOC. However, anyone accepting appointment as a Forerunner will be required to stay in the accommodation that will be provided.
9. The Forerunner Captain will arrange appropriate supervision for any athlete who has not reached the age of majority.

Basic duties:

- Under supervision of the forerunner Captain, Forerunners will ski the trails as a group prior to each competition and ensure that the grooming and marking of the trails is in accordance with the rules;
- If errors are found, the team of forerunners will try to correct them under supervision of the forerunner Captain and will contact the Chief of Course if additional resources are required;
- The team of forerunners will return as a group to the stadium 15 minutes before the first starter.

- The Forerunners must be prepared to look good on national and international television broadcasts!

Nominated Forerunners:

Youth Women (tentatively 11-19 Feb 2010)

- Audrey Vaillancourt
- Yolaine Oddou
- Rose-Marie Côté
- Tana Chesham / First Alternate
- Carly Shiell / Second Alternate
- Emma Lunder / Third Alternate

Jr. Women (tentatively 19-27 Feb 2010)

- Megan Tandy
- Rosanna Crawford
- Jessica Sedlock
- Angela Salvi / First Alternate
- Isabelle Abran / Second Alternate
- Tatiana Vukadinovic / Third Alternate

Youth Men (tentatively 11-19 Feb 2010)

- Kurtis Wenzel
- Scott Gow
- Aaron Gilmore
- Marc V-Brosseau / First Alternate
- David Grégoire / Second Alternate
- Édouard Côté / Third Alternate

Jr. Men (tentatively 19-27 Feb 2010)

- Matt Newman
- Stuart Lodge
- Joel Pacas
- Beau Thompson / First Alternate
- Alex Dumond / Second Alternate
- Dave Endleman / Third Alternate

Based on the information currently available, nominated athletes (including alternates) are requested to respond, indicating their intent to accept or to decline this offer such that a final list can be prepared for submission to VANOC. Each named athlete must indicate their intention by completing the attached form and faxing it to Biathlon Canada **before May 26, 2009**. After this date the named athlete will not be further considered for selection as a forerunner for the 2010 OWG.

The form must be signed by the athlete, and for underage athletes, by a parent or guardian, and returned by fax to Biathlon Canada, Attention: Bernard Voyer. The **fax number is 613-748-5762**. Any question, should be addressed to Bernard by e-mail at bvoyer@biathloncanada.ca

Once again, I would like say that Biathlon Canada's younger athletes have been given a unique opportunity, and ask that each athlete consider all of the factors that are listed above in reaching a decision. Unfortunately, the deadline for decision must be respected. We will announce the names of the selected Forerunners and the alternates as soon as possible after the deadline.

Yours in Sport,



Graham Lindsay
President
Biathlon Canada

2010 Olympic Winter Games
Vancouver, BC

Forerunner Intention Registration Form

Name: _____
Address: _____
Phone: _____
e-mail: _____

- I accept the opportunity to be on the Forerunners Team
 I decline the opportunity to be on the Forerunners Team

Provide measurements for your custom forerunner warm-up and racing suits.

Height: _____
Weight: _____
Birth date: _____

Athlete signature: _____ Date: _____

Parent signature: _____ Date: _____

This form must be returned by fax at 613-748-5762 before May 26, 2009

Attention: Bernard Voyer, Domestic Programs Coordinator, Biathlon Canada