

Name of the Committee

Coaching Committee

**Policy Number**

3-06

Selection Criteria and Guidelines for Canada Winter Games**Purpose**

This policy will be used to select a Provincial Team to attend the 2027 Canada Winter Games for Team Alberta.

The team will be selected by the Judo Alberta High Performance Coach Committee and approved by the Judo Alberta Executive committee. Once approved by the Judo Alberta Executive, the Team Selections will be posted on the Judo Alberta website.

Modifications of the Selection Criteria; Judo Alberta can modify the selection criteria as needed with the approval of the High-Performance Coach Committee, the Judo Alberta Executive and Alberta Sport, Physical Activity and Recreation - CWG Chef de Mission.

The most current CWG technical package for judo is the authority on weight divisions, age division and eligibility criteria. Please refer to the most current CWG technical package and eligibility requirements at <http://www.canadagames.ca/sports> for complete details.

Policy:

The Canada Winter Games Team will be selected at the conclusion of the Final CWG Selection Tournament (September/October 2026). Only eligible athletes will be invited to the event and the following points system will rank them for that tournament.

I. Points System and Procedure Ranked athletes

Any athlete that has achieved a Podium Finish (1st, 2nd, 3rd) in the Judo Canada NTH Domestic Tournaments Ranking Grid Level 1 (and meets the CWG eligibility criteria) that is valid at the time of the 2027 Canada Winter Games Final Selection Tournament (Fall 2026) will automatically be selected for the CWG Team in the weight division in which they obtained their result.

If there is more than one athlete in the same weight division who has scored a Podium Finish (1st, 2nd, 3rd) in the Judo Canada NTH Domestic Tournaments Ranking Grid Level 1 (as above) that is valid at the time of the 2027 Canada Winter Games Final Selection Tournament (Fall 2026), there will be a 2 out of 3 match fight off for two athletes and round robin for three or more athletes.

For divisions where no athlete a Podium Finish (1st, 2nd, 3rd) in the Judo Canada NTH Domestic Tournaments Ranking Grid Level 1, Team Selection will be based on the results of the Final Selection Tournament. To be invited to the Final Selection Tournament, athletes must compete in the following qualification events and meet the following criteria.

The qualification events for the 2027 Games Trails will start in the Winter/Spring of 2026 and consist of the: 2026 Saskatchewan Open, 2026 Edmonton International, 2026 Pacific International, 2026 CWG Provincial Championship Division (Spring), the 2026 Open Nationals (Spring/summer). The Final CWG Selection Tournament in the fall of 2026 will determine which athletes will be selected to the judo team representing Alberta at the 2027 Canada Winter Games. (Competitions, location, & date TBD)

The 2026 Alberta Provincial Championships (winter/spring tournament) will run a separate CWG age and weight divisions closed to Alberta athletes only for the CWG team qualification. The 2026 Saskatchewan Open, 2026 Edmonton International, 2026 Pacific International, 2026 Open Nationals will consider the results of U16, U18, U21 and Senior performances for the CWG team qualifications. Athletes need to score at least one win to score points in the qualification competition to score points in the criteria. (Exceptions will be granted if there is only one competitor in the weight division for that event).

Athletes cannot accumulate points from multiple divisions at any of the events. The best result of the athlete will count towards the qualification points from that event.

Athletes need to have national level or international competitive experience prior to the final selection. To be eligible for the CWG Final Selection Tournament, the athletes need to compete in minimum of **four out of five qualification events**. (2026 Saskatchewan Open, 2026 Edmonton International / 2026 Pacific International / 2026 CWG Provincial identification competition / 2026 Open Nationals)

Judo Alberta would like to fill all weights division if possible. However, if no athlete meets the eligibility standard, we can fill other weights divisions with a maximum of 2 athletes in a weight division provided we do not go over our allotted 7 athlete quota per gender. If athletes do not make the eligibility standards of participating **in four out of five qualification events**, they will not be invited to the Final CWG Selection Tournament.

Participation Exemptions (Extenuating circumstances including injuries)

If an athlete must miss a qualification event, for any reason, the athlete and the athlete's judo coach are responsible for communicating with the Judo Alberta HP Coach who will share the information with the Provincial Coaching Staff. The Provincial Coaching Staff will then review the information and make a decision regarding points and credit for the event.

Exemptions: (Injury/ Sickness) If an athlete cannot participate in the CWG qualification event due to sickness or injury, the Judo Alberta HP Coach must be notified prior to the event and receive a doctor's note within 7 days of the competition explaining why.

Exemptions: (Athletes asked to participate at an international competition) Athletes that have been chosen by Judo Canada to participate in an international event on the same weekend can be exempt due to the higher tournament level.

Exemptions: (Out of Province/ Out of Country / NTC athletes) These athletes are exempt from the qualification event minimum participation standards if they are following a training program and are participating in competitions outside of the province.

Exemptions (Extenuating circumstances) If an athlete must miss any CWG qualification events for any other reason, the athlete must inform the Judo Alberta HP Coach prior to the event. The provincial coaching staff will then review and decide based on individual circumstance.

Note: If an event will not occur or is cancelled, the Judo Alberta HP Coach Committee can reassign a competition or amend the selection policy with approval from Judo Alberta and the Alberta Sport, Physical Activity and Recreation (SPAR) CWG Chef de Mission.

2026 Saskatchewan Open

Age	1st Place	2 nd /3 rd Place
U16	3	2
U18	5	4
U21	6	5
Senior	7	6

2026 Spring Judo Alberta CWG Identification Division

1st Place	2 nd /3 rd Place
5	4

2026 Edmonton & 2026 Pacific International Competition Points

Age	1st Place	2 nd /3 rd Place
U16	4	3
U18	6	5
U21	8	7
Senior	10	9

2026 Open Nationals SR/U21, U18 Points & U16 Points

Age	1st Place	2 nd /3 rd Place
U16	6	5
U18	8	7
U21	10	9
Senior	12	11

*Athletes selected for the 2026 Cadet World Championships will be given credit for 1st place points for any events that might conflict with National team activities.

**Athletes cannot accumulate points from two different age divisions the SR, U21, U18, U16 weight divisions during qualification events. The best result of the athlete will count towards the total selection points.

The number one seed will be determined following the 2026 Open Nationals for each weight division based on the above point structure. If there is a tie in points following the 2026 Open Nationals the winner of the CWG Division at the 2026 Provincial Championships will be the number one seed.

2026 Fall CWG Final Selection Tournament/Trial

If the number one seed wins the fall Judo Alberta Canada Winter Games Final Selection trial (September/October/November 2026), they will be nominated to represent Team Alberta at the 2027 Canada Winter Games and the athlete that finishes second will be named as a reserve for that weight division. If the number one seed of the weight division loses in the Final Selection trial, they will be given a 1 match fight off with the winner of the trial at the end of the tournament. The winner of this match will represent Alberta at the 2027 Canada Winter Games and the loser will be named as a reserve for that weight division.

The Final CWG Selection Tournament will be round robin for divisions of 5 athletes and less. There will be 2 pools of 3 athletes with a semi-final & final for a division of 6. And there will be a modified double elimination for divisions with over 6 athletes.

Athletes that change weight division for the Final Selection Trial will have their points cut by 50% to determine their seeding.

If, following the Final Selection Trial, there are weight divisions that do not have a representative meeting the eligibility criteria, the Judo Alberta High Performance Coach Committee will review the results of reserves in each division to determine further selections for the 2027 Canada Winter Games Team.

II. Judo Alberta Requirements

1. Athlete must have been a resident of Alberta for six months.
2. Athlete must present proof of age when required.
3. Athlete must be a paid-up member in good standing with Judo Alberta and Judo Canada.
4. The athlete must comply with all Judo Canada restrictions at the time of the final selection tournament, to be included in the Provincial Team list.
5. Athletes need to have a minimum rank of green belt prior to the Final Selection Tournament to participate at the 2027 CWG.
6. ***Following the Final CWG Selection Tournament, all selected athletes must stay within 5% of their weight division during the final training phase for the 2027 Canada Winter Games.*** Selected athletes will be expected to compete in the weight division they have been selected in during the final training phase following the final selection.

III. Appeal Procedure

Appeal process that might arise at the Final Selection Tournament

There will be no appeals allowed for on-mat contention at the Final Selection Tournament. An appeal will be allowed only if it is a question of eligibility of a competitor and must be requested before the first match of the athlete in question. The appeal must be in writing and submitted to the sport coordinator or designate within 1 hour of the notification of a request for an appeal. The appeal committee will be composed of the President of Judo Alberta, the Technical Committee chair, and a member of the Judo Alberta Executive (or a designate of each position). A decision on the appeal must be made within 1 hour of the receipt of the written appeal. The decision will be made in writing to all parties involved and will be binding.

For all other team selection appeals, coaches/athletes should refer to the Appeal Process for the Canada Winter Games (Policy number #3-08) on the Judo Alberta website. **(UPDATE APPEAL PROCESS)**
<https://judoalberta.com/wp-content/uploads/2021/02/3-08-Appeal-Process-2023-Canada-Winter-Games.pdf>

Please contact Garry Yamashita (yama8gt@gmail.com), Judo Alberta's CWG Sport Coordinator, regarding any information regarding appeals or eligibility rules.

IV. Funding

Judo Alberta may provide funding to various competitions for Alberta Canada Winter Games eligible athletes, budget permitting.

V. Modifications of the Selection Criteria

Judo Alberta can modify the selection criteria as needed with the approval of the High-Performance Coach Committee, the Judo Alberta Executive and Alberta Sport, Physical Activity and Recreation - CWG Chef de Mission.