



SPEED SKATING NWT Travel Funding Policy

1. Purpose

- a) This policy explains how the Speed Skating NWT (the “Association”) will fund athletes and coaches travelling to speed skating events on behalf of the Association.
- b) **All financial contributions are made on a first come, first serve basis while considering budget allocation remains for any given season. Once budget allocation is exhausted, the Association may reduce or eliminate the following subsidies and will warn athletes accordingly on receipt of applications.**
- c) **In addition to this Travel Funding Policy, the Association expects all NWT Clubs and their membership to undertake fundraising activities to help offset travel costs for their community skaters.**
- d) To be sure of receiving financial assistance, athletes should advise the Association of their intention to travel at the beginning of each skating season and provide travel receipts no later than one calendar month after the event. The Association will consider exceptional circumstances on a case-by-case basis via application to the Sports Director.

2. Eligible Events

- a) Events covered by this policy shall be those listed in the Competitions Calendar, as approved by the Board at the start of each season.
- b) Athletes attending eligible events have funding priority on a first come, first serve basis. Athletes desiring funding subsidies for other events must apply through their Club to the Associations’ Sports Director for consideration by the Association on a case-

by-case basis. The decision of the Board is final and is not subject to appeal.

- c) In the absence of a Competitions Calendar, the list below shall apply for the purposes of this policy:
- d) The listing or absence of an event in each season's published Competitions Calendar shall always take precedence over the list below.

High Performance Events

- a) *Events at which the Association is represented nationally by high-performance competitive skaters.*
 - i. Canada Cup Series
 - a. CC 1, 2, Final or Junior Final (1 guaranteed spot per territory/province per gender for CC 1 & 2 if the skater meets minimum time standard. Ranking in CC2 determines qualification for CC Final and CC Junior Final)
 - ii. Canadian Junior Championships (Ranking at CC1 + 2 spots/gender for highest national time ranking)
 - iii. Canadian Championships (national ranking from previous year / NextGen status)
 - iv. Canadian International Invitational (national ranking)

Performance Events

- a) *Events at which the Association is represented by competitive skaters working toward high-performance goals.*
 - i. Western Elite Circuit
 - a. WEC 1,2,3
 - b. Olympic Oval Single Distance
 - ii. Team NT (spots guaranteed for NWT participants)
 - a. Arctic Winter Games Territorial Trials*
 - b. Arctic Winter Games* (up to 4 skaters per gender)
 - c. Canada Winter Games* (up to 5 skaters per gender)
 - d. Canadian Youth Short Track Championships – West (up to 8 skaters per gender - 2 per age year)

e. Canadian Youth Long Track Championships

**For asterisked events, some or all costs are ordinarily covered by Team NT (GNWT). This policy only applies should funding through Team NT be unavailable. The Association will publish an advisory should this be the case.*

Development Events

- a) *Events at which the Association is represented by developing skaters, who may or may not be competitive against the majority of the field at this stage.*
 - i. Peace Wapiti Ability Meet (Grande Prairie)
 - ii. Peace River Ability Meet
 - iii. Edmonton Fall Classic
 - iv. Yellowknife Ability Meet
 - v. Debby Fisher's RU Fast
 - vi. NWT Championships

3. Funding Criteria

- a) Athletes desiring funding subsidies to attend events must apply through their Club to the Associations' Sports Director, for consideration by the Association on a case-by-case basis. The decision of the Board is final and not subject to appeal. All financial contributions are made on a first come, first serve basis while considering budget allocation remains for any given season. Once budget allocation is exhausted, the Association may reduce or eliminate the following subsidies and will warn athletes accordingly on receipt of applications.

High Performance Events

- a) Athletes requesting financial support for High Performance Events must satisfy the following criteria to qualify:
 - a) Athlete meets qualification criteria for identified event.
National events: prequalifies or qualifies by time and national ranking.

- b) Coach / Club recommendation:
 - a. Has demonstrated commitment to training and to the sport of speed skating, to the satisfaction of both the club coach and the Association;
 - b. Adherence to the Associations' Code of Conduct.

Performance Events

- a) Athletes requesting financial support for Performance Events must satisfy the following criteria to qualify:
 - i. Athlete meets qualification criteria for identified event:
 - a) WEC / Single Distance: Achieves the minimum time standard as set by the Event;
 - b) TEAM NT (AWG, CWG, CYSTC-West, CYLTC): Athlete meets the Associations' criteria as laid out in the Athlete Selection Policy.
 - ii. Coach / Club recommendation:
 - a. Recommendation from club coach indicating the meet is suitable for the skater;
 - b. Has demonstrated commitment to training and to the sport of speed skating, to the satisfaction of both the club coach and the Association;
 - c. Adherence to the Associations' Code of Conduct.

Development Events

- a) Athletes requesting financial support for **Development Events** must satisfy the following criteria to qualify:
 - i. Recommendation from club coach indicating the meet is suitable for the skater;
 - ii. Demonstrated commitment to training and to the sport of speed skating, to the satisfaction of both the club coach and the Association;
 - iii. Adherence to the Associations' Code of Conduct.

4. Financial Support for Athletes

- a) All financial contributions are made on a first come, first serve basis while considering budget allocation remains for any given season. Once budget allocation is exhausted, the Association may reduce or eliminate the subsidies and will warn athletes accordingly on receipt of applications.
- b) In the absence of a Financial Support Guide, and subject to adequate funding being available at the Associations' sole discretion, the following guideline rates shall apply:

High Performance Events

- a) Travel to high performance events by athletes will be considered on a case-by-case basis by the Association upon receipt of a proposal.

Performance & Development Events

- a) All athletes must attend the NWT Championships in the Competitions Calendar for a given season to be eligible for funding support related to performance or development events taking place elsewhere. Failure to attend the NWT Championships may affect future funding. The Association will consider exceptional circumstances on a case-by-case basis via application to the Sports Director for consideration by the Association.
- b) Athletes may apply for one other event per season. Athletes desiring funding subsidies for additional events must apply through their Club to the Associations' Sports Director, for consideration by the Association on a case-by-case basis. The decision of the Board is final and not subject to appeal.
- c) To be sure of receiving financial assistance, athletes should advise the Association of their intention to travel at the beginning of each skating season and provide travel receipts no later than one calendar month after the event. The Association will consider exceptional circumstances on a case-by-case basis via application to the Sports Director.

- d) Once a subsidy for a specific event has been awarded under this policy, no further subsidy from the Association related to that event is available.
- e) Accommodations, car rentals, and meals are not reimbursed.
- f) Athletes are responsible for the payment of their own registration fees.

Flights

- a) For travel by air, athletes traveling to Yellowknife shall be reimbursed up to a maximum of 75% of the lowest return airfare posted each September¹ (maximum value of \$1250). Receipts must be provided.
- b) For travel by air, athletes traveling from Yellowknife to southern events shall be reimbursed up to a maximum of 25% of the lowest return airfare posted each September² (maximum value of \$150). Receipts must be provided.

Driving

- a) For travel by road, athletes shall be entitled to a reimbursement rate of \$0.65/km (maximum value of \$750). Clubs are encouraged to carpool to reduce costs.

5. Financial Support for Coaches

- a) All financial contributions are made on a first come, first serve basis while considering budget allocation remains for any given season. Once budget allocation is exhausted, the Association may reduce or eliminate the following subsidies and will warn coaches accordingly on receipt of applications.
- b) The Association will fund the cost of travel (flight/mileage/car rental) and accommodation for coaches taking NWT athletes to any Eligible Event to a maximum of \$2000 per coach per event from Yellowknife and to a maximum of \$2500 per coach per event from community outside of Yellowknife. For travel by road, coaches shall be entitled

¹ [Lowest Return Airfare Tables](#)

² Ibid.

- to a reimbursement rate of \$0.65/km. The remaining cost of travel and accommodation will be shared amongst the NWT athletes³ attending the Eligible Event.
- c) Coaches/chaperones covered by this policy shall be chosen for each event, as approved by the Board at the start of each season. In the absence of a selected coaches list, coaches should advise the Association of their intention to travel no later than one calendar month prior to an event. The Association will consider exceptional circumstances on a case-by-case basis via application to the Sports Director.
 - d) The Association will cover the costs of up to two coaches (or one coach and one chaperone or team manager). Where more than 12 athletes are travelling, the Association will cover the costs of up to three coaches, chaperones, or team managers. At all times, one funded coach must be certified to the level required by the event. Where possible, the Association will cover the costs of one coach mentee. Where a skater is traveling with their parent, the costs of travel for the parent will not be covered.
 - e) If an event mandates a preset number of coaching staff (e.g., coach and assistant coach, or coach and team manager), the Association will fund the mandated number of positions regardless of the number of athletes travelling.
 - f) Where more coaches apply for funding than are covered by this policy for a given event, the Association shall assess applications and award funding according to:
 - i. Coaching experience and certification
 - ii. Years of active speed skating coaching in the NWT
 - iii. Specific circumstances outlined in any application
 - g) Any decision of the Association regarding allocation of funding shall be final. The Association will consider exceptional circumstances on a case-by-case basis via application to the Sports Director.
 - h) Coach expenses, including registration fees, at Arctic Winter Games and Canada Winter Games are the responsibility of Team NT.

³ NWT Athletes include skaters traveling with Team NT and skaters traveling with their parents to an Eligible Event.

6. Financial Support for Officials & Other Members

- a) Requests for financial support related to NWT-based officials and other members travelling on speed skating business should be directed to the Sports Director, for consideration by the Association on a case-by-case basis. Funding awards may vary according to financial resources available.

7. Review of Policy

- a) This policy will be reviewed two years from the date of approval and every five years following.