

Wapiti Nordic Ski Club Screening Policy

October 16, 2024

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Definitions

1. The following defined terms have these meanings in this Policy:

- a) ***Abuse-Free Sport (AFS)*** – Program created by the SDRCC in accordance with its mandate to establish an independent safe sport mechanism to implement the UCCMS.
- b) ***Athlete*** – An individual who is subject to the policies of the Wapiti Nordic Ski Club, and who may also be subject to the policies of the relevant Division Member, Biathlon Canada or Nordiq Canada, as applicable, and the Universal Code of Conduct to Prevent and Address Maltreatment in Sport (“UCCMS”)
- c) ***Criminal Record Check (CRC)*** – A search of the RCMP Canadian Police Information Centre (CPIC) system for adult convictions
- d) ***Enhanced Police Information Check (E-PIC)*** – a Criminal Record Check plus a search of Local Police Information, available from Sterling Backcheck
- e) ***Local Police Information (LPI)*** – Additional conviction and selected non-conviction information in national and local police data sources which may be relevant to the position sought
- f) ***Minor*** – As defined in the UCCMS and as amended from time by the relevant functions of Abuse-Free Sport
- g) ***Participants*** – Refers to all categories of individual member as defined in the By-laws of the Wapiti Nordic Ski Club, as well as all people employed by, contracted by, or engaged in activities with the Wapiti Nordic Ski Club including, but not limited to, employees, contractors, Athletes, coaches, instructors, officials, volunteers, managers, administrators, committee members, parents or guardians, spectators, directors or officers
- h) ***Vulnerable Sector Check (VSC)*** – A detailed check that includes a search of the RCMP Canadian Police Information Centre (CPIC) system, Local Police Information, and the Pardoned Sex Offender database

Preamble

2. Biathlon Canada, Nordiq Canada and its Members¹ understand that screening personnel and volunteers is a vital part of providing a safe sporting environment and has become a common practice among sport organizations that provide programs and services to the sport community.

Application of this Policy

3. This Policy applies to all individuals whose position with the Wapiti Nordic Ski Club is one of trust or authority which may relate to, at a minimum, finances, supervision, or Vulnerable Participants.
4. Not all individuals associated with the Wapiti Nordic Ski Club will be required to obtain a Criminal Record Check or submit screening documents because not all positions pose a risk of harm to the Wapiti Nordic Ski Club or Participants. Participants will be subject to the screening requirements described in the Screening Requirements Matrix found in **Appendix A** of this Policy.

Screening Committee

5. The implementation of this policy is the responsibility of the Screening Committee which is a committee composed of three (3) members. The Wapiti Nordic Ski Club will ensure that the members appointed to the Screening Committee possess the requisite skills, knowledge and abilities to accurately screen documents and render decisions under this Policy.
6. The Screening Committee is responsible for reviewing all documents submitted and, based on the review, making decisions regarding the appropriateness of individuals filling positions within the Wapiti Nordic Ski Club. In carrying out its duties, the Screening Committee may

¹ A Division Member, as defined in the Biathlon Canada or Nordiq Canada By-laws, as applicable. For the purposes of this Policy, Member shall mean a Member who has voluntarily adopted the Policy or who is otherwise required to apply the Policy by the By-laws and governing documents of Biathlon Canada or Nordiq Canada, as applicable, or the Member.

consult with independent experts including lawyers, police, risk management consultants, volunteer screening specialists, or any other person.

7. Nothing in this Policy restricts or limits the Screening Committee from requesting that the individual attend an interview with the Screening Committee if the Screening Committee considers that an interview is appropriate and necessary to screen the individual's application.
8. Nothing in this Policy restricts or limits the Screening Committee from requesting the individual's authorization to contact any professional, sporting or other organization in order to assess the individual's suitability for the position that they are seeking.
9. Nothing in this Policy restricts or limits the Screening Committee from requesting further information from the individual on more than one occasion, subject to the individual's right to insist that the Screening Committee make a decision on the basis of the information before it.
10. The Screening Committee may, where appropriate, draw an adverse inference from an individual's failure to provide information or answer queries.
11. When assessing an individual's screening application, the Screening Committee shall determine whether there is reason to believe that the individual may pose a risk to the Wapiti Nordic Ski Club or to another individual.
12. An individual having been previously penalized for a prior offence shall not prevent the Screening Committee from considering that offence as part of the individual's screening application.
13. If the Screening Committee determines on the basis of the individual's screening application, in addition to any further material received by it, that the individual does not pose a risk to the members of the Wapiti Nordic Ski Club, the Screening Committee shall approve the individual's application, subject to the Screening Committee's right to impose conditions.
14. In the case of a decision denying an application or approving an application with conditions, a copy of the decision shall be provided to the applicant and to the Board of Directors of the Wapiti Nordic Ski Club. Subject to applicable privacy and/or employment legislation and any related internal policies, the Wapiti Nordic Ski Club may disseminate the decision as they see fit in order to best fulfil the mandate of the Wapiti Nordic Ski Club.

15. A Participant whose screening application has been denied or revoked may not re-apply to participate in the programs or activities of Biathlon Canada, a Member or a Club for two (2) years from the date the rejected application was made.

Screening Requirements

16. A Screening Requirements Matrix is provided as **Appendix A**.
17. It is the policy of Biathlon Canada, Nordiq Canada and their respective Members that when an individual is first engaged by the organization:
- a) Level 1 individuals will:
 - i. Participate in training, orientation, and monitoring as described in the Screening Requirements Matrix (**Appendix A**)
 - b) Level 2 individuals will:
 - i. Complete an Application Form (**Appendix B**)
 - ii. Complete a Screening Disclosure Form (**Appendix C**)
 - iii. Complete and provide an E-PIC or its equivalent defined as both a Criminal Records Check and a Judicial Matters Check
 - iv. Participate in training, orientation, and monitoring as described in the Screening Requirements Matrix (**Appendix A**)
 - vi. Provide a driver's abstract, if requested
 - c) Level 3 individuals will:
 - i. Complete an Application Form (**Appendix B**)
 - ii. Complete a Screening Disclosure Form (**Appendix C**)
 - iii. Complete and provide an E-PIC or its equivalent defined as both a Criminal Records Check and a Judicial Matters Check, and a VSC
 - iv. Provide one letter of character reference
 - v. Participate in training, orientation, and monitoring as described in the Screening Requirements Matrix (**Appendix A**)
 - vi. Provide a driver's abstract, if requested

- d) If an individual subsequently receives a charge, conviction for, or is found guilty of, an offense they will report this circumstance immediately to the Wapiti Nordic Ski Club. Additionally, the individual will inform the organization of any changes in their circumstances that would alter their original responses in their Screening Disclosure Form.
- e) If the Wapiti Nordic Ski Club learns that an individual has provided false, inaccurate, or misleading information, the individual will be immediately removed from their position and may be subject to further discipline in accordance with the *Discipline and Complaints Policy*.

Young People

18. For the purposes of this Policy, Biathlon Canada, its Members and Clubs define a young person as someone who is younger than 18 years old. When screening young people, the Wapiti Nordic Ski Club will:
- a) Not require the young person to obtain a VSC or E-PIC; and
 - b) In lieu of obtaining a VSC or E-PIC, require the young person to submit up to two (2) additional letters of reference.
19. Notwithstanding the above, the Wapiti Nordic Ski Club may ask a young person to obtain a VSC or E-PIC if the organization suspects the young person has an adult conviction and therefore has a criminal record. In these circumstances, the organization will be clear in its request that it is not asking for the young person's youth record. The Wapiti Nordic Ski Club understands that it may not request to see a young person's youth record.

Renewal

20. Unless the Screening Committee determines, on a case-by-case basis, to modify the submission requirements, individuals who are required to submit an E-PIC, Screening Disclosure Form, Screening Renewal Form, or VSC are required to submit the documents as follows:
- a) An E-PIC every three years

- b) A Screening Disclosure Form every three years
- c) A Screening Renewal Form (**Appendix D**) every year
- d) A Vulnerable Sector Check once

21. At any time, including after either the submission of an individual's application or its approval (with or without conditions), the Screening Committee may re-open an individual's file for additional screening if it is advised of new information that, in the discretion of the Wapiti Nordic Ski Club, could affect the assessment of the individual's suitability for participation in the programs or activities of the Wapiti Nordic Ski Club, or the individual's interactions with other individuals involved with the Wapiti Nordic Ski Club.

Orientation, Training, and Monitoring

22. The type and amount of orientation, training, and monitoring will be based on the individual's level of risk, at the discretion of the Wapiti Nordic Ski Club, as applicable.
23. Orientation may include, but is not limited to: introductory presentations, facility tours, equipment demonstrations, parent/Athlete meetings, meetings with colleagues and supervisors, orientation manuals, orientation sessions, and increased supervision during initial tasks or initial period of engagement.
24. Training may include, but is not limited to: certification courses, online learning, mentoring, workshop sessions, webinars, on-site demonstrations, and peer feedback.
25. At the conclusion of orientation and training, the individual will be required to acknowledge, in written form, that they have received and completed the orientation and training (**Appendix E**).
26. Monitoring may include but is not limited to: written or oral reports, observations, tracking, electronic surveillance (e.g., facility security cameras), and site visits.
27. The Wapiti Nordic Ski Club will annually ensure that Participants have received current training. When the training program has been substantially updated to include new information or resources, or if the Participant's certification has expired, the Participant will be required to re-take the training.
28. The Wapiti Nordic Ski Club will provide annual, up-to-date information on their policies and procedures related to Prohibited Behaviour and Maltreatment. Additional training resources

may be provided by the Office of the Sport Integrity Commissioner (OSIC) and/or Abuse-Free Sport

How to Obtain an E-PIC or VSC

29. Biathlon Canada and Nordiq Canada have joined the Coaching Association of Canada's Responsible Coaching Movement and therefore has access to the E-PIC at a discounted rate. Participants can obtain an E-PIC via https://www.sterlingtalentsolutions.ca/landing-pages/c/cac_ace/
30. The Wapiti Nordic Ski Club and Participants understand that the requirements and process for obtaining a criminal record check may vary by province. The Wapiti Nordic Ski Club and/or the Participant, as the case may be, is responsible for confirming and following the applicable requirements and process in each case.
31. Questions concerning a VSC should be directed to the relevant local RCMP office or police service. Fees may also be required.
32. The Wapiti Nordic Ski Club understands that it may be required to assist an individual with obtaining a VSC. A Request for VSC (**Appendix F**) may need to be submitted or other documentation may need to be completed that describes the nature of the organization and the individual's role with Vulnerable Participants.

Procedure

33. Screening documents must be submitted to the Screening Committee.
34. An individual who refuses or fails to provide the necessary screening documents will be ineligible to volunteer or apply for the position sought. The individual will be informed that their application and/or position will not proceed until such time as the screening documents are submitted.
35. The Wapiti Nordic Ski Club understands that there may be delays in receiving the results of an E-PIC or a VSC. At the discretion of the Wapiti Nordic Ski Club, an individual may be permitted to participate in the role during the delay. This permission may be withdrawn at any time and for any reason.
36. The Wapiti Nordic Ski Club recognizes that different information will be available depending on the type of screening document that the individual has submitted. For example, an E-PIC may show details of a specific offense, or not, and/or a VSC may be returned with specific information or simply a notification indicating 'cleared' or 'not cleared'. The Screening

Committee will use its expertise and discretion when making decisions based on the screening documents that have been submitted.

37. Following the review of the screening documents, the Screening Committee will decide if:

- a) The individual has passed screening and may participate in the desired position;
- b) The individual has passed screening and may participate in the desired position with conditions;
- c) The individual has not passed screening and may not participate in the desired position; or
- d) More information is required from the individual.

38. In making its decision, the Screening Committee will consider the type of offense, date of offense, and relevance of the offense to the position sought.

39. The Screening Committee must decide that an individual has not passed screening if the screening documentation reveals any of the following:

a) If imposed in the last three years:

- i. Any offense involving the use of a motor vehicle, including but not limited to impaired driving
- ii. Any offense of assault, physical or psychological violence
- iii. Any offense involving trafficking or possession of illegal drugs
- iv. Any offense involving conduct against public morals
- v. Any offense involving theft or fraud

b) If imposed at any time:

- i. Any offense involving a Minor or Minors
- ii. Any offense involving the possession, distribution, or sale of any child-related pornography
- iii. Any sexual offense

Conditions and Monitoring

40. Excluding the incidents above which, if revealed, would cause the individual to not pass screening, the Screening Committee may determine that incidents revealed on an individual's screening documents may allow the individual to pass the screening process and participate in a desired position with conditions imposed. The Screening Committee shall have the sole and unfettered discretion to apply and remove conditions, determine the length of time for the imposition of conditions, and determine the means by which adherence to conditions may be monitored.

Records

41. All records will be maintained in a confidential manner and will not be disclosed to others except as required by law, for use in legal, quasi-legal, or disciplinary proceedings.

42. The records kept as part of the screening process include but are not limited to:

- a) An individual's Vulnerable Sector Check
- b) An individual's E-PIC (for a period of three years)
- c) An individual's Screening Disclosure Form (for a period of three years)
- d) An individual's Screening Renewal Form (for a period of one year)
- e) Records of any conditions attached to an individual's registration by the Screening Committee
- f) Records of any discipline applied to any individual by Biathlon Canada, the Wapiti Nordic Ski Club, or by another sport organization

Privacy

43. The collection, use and disclosure of any personal information pursuant to this Policy is subject to the Wapiti Nordic Ski Club's *Privacy Policy*.

44. The Wapiti Nordic Ski Club or any of its delegates pursuant to this Policy (i.e., the Screening Committee) shall comply with the Wapiti Nordic Ski Club's *Privacy Policy*.

Appendix A – Screening Requirements Matrix

The roles listed in the matrix are only examples of where individuals could be assessed based on the risk their role might pose. Every club structure is different. Clubs need to consider the roles and associated risk within their own organizations to determine whether an individual requires screening and training and, if so, where an individual falls in the matrix.

Risk Level	Roles	Training Required ²	Screening	Timing
Level 1 Low Risk	<p>For Biathlon Canada: The Wapiti Nordic Ski Club Biathlon Program Athletes</p> <p>For Nordiq Canada: Nordiq Canada Race License holders, excluding Associate Race License and Development License holder¹</p> <p>¹ Athletes attest to having satisfied training requirements as part of their Nordiq Canada Race License application; clubs should confirm with their athletes that the training is complete.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● CAC Safe Sport training, and ● CAC Understanding the Rule of Two eLearning Module <p>² Parents of Minor athletes are highly encouraged to take this training.</p>	Participate in training, orientation, and monitoring as determined by the organization	Within 30 days of committing to participate in either the cross country or biathlon development programs
Level 2 Medium Risk	<p>a) Anyone other than Athletes and Minors travelling overnight with a team</p> <p>b) Athlete support personnel (e.g., wax technicians, integrated support team)</p> <p>c) Non-coach contractors, employees and managers with direct Athlete contact</p>	<p>Required for a) to e):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● CAC Safe Sport training, and ● CAC Understanding the Rule of Two eLearning Module <p>Required f) coaches:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● CAC Safe Sport training, and ● CAC Understanding the Rule of Two 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Level 1 Requirements ● Complete and provide an E-PIC ● Provide a driver’s abstract, if requested 	<p>The earlier of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Prior to their first formal activity in their season ● Prior to any unsupervised contact with an Athlete ● For those without direct Athlete contact, within four weeks of starting the role

	<p>d) Directors and officers (e.g., Board members)</p> <p>e) For Biathlon Canada: Officials: Technical Delegates, Instructors For Nordiq Canada: Jury members and major officials at race events</p> <p>f) For Biathlon Canada: The Wapiti Nordic Ski Club Coaches who are not identified under Level 3 High Risk For Nordiq Canada: Nordiq Canada Licensed Coaches who are not identified under Level 3 High Risk³</p> <p>³Coaches attest to having satisfied training requirements as part of their Nordiq Canada Coach License application; clubs should confirm with their coaches that the training is completed</p>	<p>eLearning Module, and</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Make Ethical Decisions (MED) Online Evaluation 		
<p>Level 3 High Risk</p>	<p>a) Full Time Coaches</p> <p>b) Coaches who travel with Athletes</p> <p>c) Coaches who could be alone with Athletes</p>	<p>Required:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● CAC Safe Sport training, and ● CAC Understanding the Rule of Two eLearning Module, and 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Level 2 Requirements ● Provide a VSC ● A letter of character reference from someone without conflict (required for coaches hired following the 	<p>The earlier of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Prior to their first formal activity in their season ● Prior to any unsupervised contact with an Athlete

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Make Ethical Decisions (MED) Online Evaluation 	effective date of this policy)	
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Young People

For the purposes of this Policy, the Wapiti Nordic Ski Club defines a young person as someone who is younger than 18 years old. When screening young people, the Wapiti Nordic Ski Club will:

- a) Not require the young person to obtain a VSC or E-PIC; and
- b) In lieu of obtaining a VSC or E-PIC, require the young person to submit up to two (2) additional letters of reference.

Appendix B – Wapiti Nordic Ski Club Application Form

Note: Participants who are applying to volunteer or work within certain positions with the Wapiti Nordic Ski Club must complete this Application Form. Participants need to complete an Application Form once for the position sought. If the individual is applying for a new position within the Wapiti Nordic Ski Club, a new Application Form must be submitted.

NAME:

First Middle Last

CURRENT PERMANENT ADDRESS:

Street City Province Postal

DATE OF BIRTH: _____ **GENDER IDENTITY:** _____

Month/Day/Year

EMAIL: _____ **PHONE:** _____

POSITION SOUGHT: _____

By signing this document below, I agree to adhere to the UCCMS and the policies and procedures of the Wapiti Nordic Ski Club including but not limited to the *Code of Conduct and Ethics*, *Conflict of Interest Policy*, *Privacy Policy*, and *Screening Policy*.

I recognize that I must pass certain screening requirements depending on the position sought, as outlined in the *Screening Policy*, and that the Screening Committee will determine my eligibility to volunteer or work in the position.

NAME (print): _____ **DATE:** _____

SIGNATURE: _____

Reasons for discipline, sanction or dismissal: _____

Penalty or Punishment Imposed: _____

Further Explanation: _____

3. Are criminal charges or any other sanctions, including those from a sport body, private tribunal or government agency, currently pending or threatened against you? If so, please complete the following information for each pending charge or sanction. Attach additional pages as necessary.

Name or Type of Offense: _____

Name and Jurisdiction of Court/Tribunal: _____

Name of disciplining or sanctioning body: _____

Further Explanation: _____

PRIVACY STATEMENT

By completing and submitting this Screening Disclosure Form, I consent and authorize Biathlon Canada or Nordiq Canada, as applicable, and their respective Members, as applicable, to collect, use and disclose my personal information, including all information provided on the Screening Disclosure Form as well as my Enhanced Police Information Check and/or Vulnerable Sector Check (when permitted by law) for the purposes of screening, implementation of the *Screening Policy*, administering membership services, and communicating with National Sport Organizations, Provincial/Territorial Sport Organizations, Clubs, and other organizations involved in the governance of sport. Biathlon Canada, Nordiq Canada and their respective Members do not distribute personal information for commercial purposes.

CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify that the information contained in this Screening Disclosure Form is accurate, correct, truthful and complete.

I further certify that I will immediately inform the Wapiti Nordic Ski Club of any changes in circumstances that would alter my original responses to this Screening Disclosure Form. Failure to do so may result in the withdrawal of volunteer responsibilities or other privileges and/or disciplinary action.

NAME (print): _____

DATE: _____

SIGNATURE: _____

Appendix D – Wapiti Nordic Ski Club Screening Renewal Form

NAME:

First Middle Last

CURRENT PERMANENT ADDRESS:

Street City Province Postal

DATE OF BIRTH: _____ GENDER IDENTITY: _____
Month/Day/Year

EMAIL: _____ PHONE: _____

By signing this document below, I certify that there have been no changes to my criminal record since I last submitted an Enhanced Police Information Check and/or Vulnerable Sector Check and/or Screening Disclosure Form and/or Driver's Abstract ("Personal Document") to the Wapiti Nordic Ski Club. I further certify that there are no outstanding charges and warrants, judicial orders, peace bonds, probation or prohibition orders, or applicable non conviction information, and there have been no absolute and conditional discharges.

I agree that any Personal Document that I would obtain or submit on the date indicated below would be no different than the last Personal Document that I submitted to the Wapiti Nordic Ski Club. I understand that if there have been any changes, or if I suspect that there have been any changes, it is my responsibility to obtain and submit a new Personal Document to the organization's Screening Committee instead of this form.

I recognize that if there have been changes to the results available from any Personal Document and if I submit this form improperly, then I am subject to disciplinary action and/or the removal of volunteer responsibilities or other privileges at the discretion of the Screening Committee.

NAME (print): _____ DATE: _____

SIGNATURE: _____

Appendix E – Wapiti Nordic Ski Club Volunteer Orientation and Training Acknowledgement Form

1. I have the following role(s) with the Wapiti Nordic Ski Club (circle as many as apply):

Parent / Guardian

Coach

Director / Volunteer

Athlete

Official

Committee Member

2. As an individual affiliated with the Wapiti Nordic Ski Club, I acknowledge I have received and completed the following orientation and training:

Name of Training or Orientation: _____

Instructor: _____ Date Completed: _____

Name of Training or Orientation: _____

Instructor: _____ Date Completed: _____

Name of Training or Orientation: _____

Instructor: _____ Date Completed: _____

Name

Signature

Date

Appendix F – Wapiti Nordic Ski Club Request For Vulnerable Sector Check



Wapiti Nordic Ski Club
Box 1176
Grande Prairie, Alberta
T8V 4B6

Request date

Royal Canadian Mounted Police
10202-99th Street
Grande Prairie, Alberta
T8V 2H4

Dear Sir or Madam,

The Wapiti Nordic Ski Club is a not for profit society that provides introductory, skill development and competition development programs in Nordic skiing, biathlon and mountain biking.

Name of individual, is a volunteer program leader within our organization responsible for a group of children between the ages of eight and seventeen years of age. For this reason, we are requesting your support in conducting a Criminal Record and Vulnerable Sector Check for this individual according to our Safe Sport policy.

Should you have any comments or questions, please contact the Wapiti Nordic Ski Club Safe Sport Screening Committee Chair, *Name and contact number for Committee Chair*.

Sincerely

Safe Sport Screening Committee Chair, Wapiti Nordic Ski Club