

SECTION 20.1

2008 OLYMPIC SELECTION PROCEDURE

December 2, 2006

CANADIAN AMATEUR WRESTLING ASSOCIATION

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INTRODUCTION

The purpose of this document is to outline the selection process for the 2008 Canadian Olympic Wrestling Team.

This policy will be circulated to current national team members and carded athletes, the National and Club Coaches, the CAWA High Performance Committee and the CAWA Board of Directors.

The final decision on our sport's nominations will be made by the COC (Canadian Olympic Committee) taking into consideration compliance with the Olympic Charter and FILA qualifying standards. Individuals should be aware that the FILA qualifying standards are subject to change.

2008 QUALIFYING PROCEDURES

The 2008 Olympic Team will be qualified in four stages

1. Qualifying for the Trials at the 2007 Senior National Championships
2. Olympic Trials (Ladder Wrestle-offs)
3. FILA/COC Selection Criteria
4. Meeting specific training obligations

STAGE ONE: QUALIFYING FOR THE TRIALS (OLYMPIC LADDER WRESTLE-OFFS) AT THE 2007 SENIOR NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS – MARCH 30 & 31, 2007

Those Canadian athletes who place in the top three in Freestyle and top three in Greco at the 2007 Senior National Championships will automatically qualify for the ladder in the Olympic Trials at that weight class. The athlete must place in the top three regardless of whether or not there are landed immigrants who have also placed in the top three. A fourth, fifth, etc. place competitor will not be elevated to a top three position (e.g. due to the withdrawal of a landed immigrant, an injured wrestler, a retired wrestler, a wrestler unwilling to compete, etc. that have placed in the top three positions at the 2007 Senior Nationals). The 2007 Senior National Championships will be held March 30 & 31, 2007.

In the event of an injury provision wrestle-off for the 2007 World Senior Freestyle Championships

Canadian Team, the challenger, should they win the wrestle-off, will be able to challenge the winner of the pool at that weight class for the fourth position on the ladder for the Olympic Trials.

**STAGE TWO: OLYMPIC LADDER WRESTLE-OFF (FS and GR) –
December 14-16, 2007**

The Olympic Trials will be held at a site as determined by the Executive Committee following an open bidding process and a recommendation from the association's high performance staff. The Olympic Trials will be a two day event for Freestyle Men and Women (December 14-15) and a one day event for Greco Roman (December 16).

Athletes must meet the IOC citizenship requirements as of December 7, 2007 to be eligible to compete in the 2008 Olympic Trials. Proof of citizenship must be received by the CAWA High Performance Manager (HPM) by December 12, 2007.

There will be an Olympic "pool" tournament run prior to the ladder tournament. This "pool" tournament will identify the fourth ranked wrestler on the ladder. This tournament is open to any individual that fulfils the IOC citizenship requirement. However, individuals must register with the CAWA HPM by November 30th, 2007 to be eligible to compete. The "pool" tournament will be a single elimination bracket tournament. Only the winner of the "pool" tournament will go into the ladder, regardless of the number of competitors in the ladder.

Any medallist in women's wrestling and any top 8 finisher in men's wrestling at the World Senior Championships or Olympic Games in this quadrennial (2004-2007), that was unable to compete in the 2007 Senior Nationals due to injury, plus any women's world medallist in a non-Olympic weight class at the 2007 Senior Nationals may challenge the "pool" winner in their weight class for the fourth (4th) position on the Olympic ladder. If there is more than one person challenging the "pool" winner (ie. injury provision 2007 World Team member, plus one or more World / Olympic Team performers, plus winner of the pool) they will all wrestle in a random, single elimination draw to determine the fourth(4th) place on the Olympic ladder in that weight class.

Athletes in Men=s Freestyle, Greco and Women=s will be ranked #1-3 based upon their placement at the 2007 Senior National Championships. Each stage of the ladder will be a one match format with the final being a best of three. Wrestlers will have a minimum of 30 minutes between matches. Matches will begin with the #4 ranked wrestler (the winner of the "pool" tournament described above) competing against the #3 ranked wrestler.

The winner will then compete against the #2 ranked wrestler. Finally, the winner of this wrestle-off will compete against the #1 ranked wrestler in a best of three final.

TENTATIVE SCHEDULE

Dec. 13	5:00-6:00 p.m.	Medicals/Weigh-in for Freestyle Men and Women & Greco Roman
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Dec. 14	10:00 a.m.	FS Pool Tournament
	5:00 p.m.	FS Ladder Tournament (4th vs. 3rd)
Dec. 15	10:00 a.m.	FS Ladder Tournament (3rd vs. 2nd)
	12:00 -4:00 p.m.	FS Ladder Tournament (2nd vs. 1st - best of three)
	6:30-7:00 p.m.	Medicals for Greco
	7:00-7:30 p.m.	Weigh-in for Greco Roman (for athletes not weighing in on Dec. 13th)
Dec. 16	9:00 a.m.	GR Pool Tournament
	12:00 a.m.	GR Ladder Tournament (4th vs. 3rd)
	2:00 p.m.	GR Ladder Tournament (3rd vs. 2nd)
	4:00 p.m.	GR Ladder Tournament (2nd vs. 1st - best of three)

Injury Provision: Under extenuating circumstances an injured athlete who is unable to compete in the Olympic Trials will be allowed to submit a petition to be reviewed by the High Performance Committee with the following conditions;

- i) An athlete that competed in the 2007 Senior National Championships, but is unable to compete in the Olympic Trials due to illness or injury will be able to petition for a special wrestle-off if he or she has achieved an international tiering index value of at least 1.00 based on a minimum of twelve consecutive matches from December 12, 2006 - December 12, 2007 or has placed in the top 8 at the 2007 Senior World Championships.
- ii) The athlete must have competed in at least two tournaments from May 1, 2007 to December 12, 2007 at the weight class he or she is requesting the petition in.
- iii) A medical certificate must accompany the petition. However, the CAWA may request a medical examination by a CAWA designated physician.
- iv) Athletes who won medals at the 2004-2007 World Senior Championships or Olympic Games are also eligible for an injury provision. The 2004-2007 World Senior Championship and Olympic Games medallists do not need to meet the requirements of competing in the 2007 Senior National Championships and the two tournaments from May 1, 2007 to December 12, 2007 in the injury provision for a wrestle-off. The athlete must start at the bottom of the ladder and be down one match in a best of three if they make it to the top ranking athlete.
- v) If multiple injury provisions occur in one weight class, the injured athletes must wrestle-off against each other before starting up the ladder.
- vi) All wrestle-offs will occur at scratch weight.

With the exception of iv) above, in the event that an injury petition is accepted, the wrestler will be placed on the ladder based upon his or her ranking from the 2007 National Senior Championships. The athlete must beat all of the opponents equal to and above them based upon their placement at the Olympic Trials. For example, if they placed 3rd at the Senior Nationals, they are placed in the 3rd

position for the special wrestle-off and must compete in a one match wrestle-off against the 3rd place competitor from the Trials. If they beat this competitor, they then compete in a one match wrestle-off against the 2nd place competitor from the Trials. If successful, they will then compete in a best two out of three matches against the wrestler who won the Olympic Trials, with the Olympic Trials winner leading 1-0 (the challenger must win two matches). If wrestlers do not show up for the wrestle-off, they will forfeit their place on the Olympic Team depth chart (i.e. 2nd, 3rd, etc.). A site and schedule for the injury provision wrestle-off will be determined by the respective Men's or Women's National Coach.

CRITICAL TIMELINE

Nov. 30, 2007	! Olympic trials registration deadline
Dec. 13, 2007	! medicals & weigh-in for Freestyle (Men and Women) and Greco
Dec. 14, 2007	! 'pool tournament' for Freestyle ! ladder tournament for Freestyle
Dec. 15, 2007	! ladder tournament and Finals for Freestyle ! medicals & weigh-in for Greco
Dec. 16, 2007	! a.m. - 'pool tournament' for Greco ! p.m. - ladder tournament for Greco

Athletes may compete in both the Men's Freestyle and Greco Roman Olympic Ladder Wrestle-offs. However, if an individual wins the Trials in both styles, he must choose one style to compete in at the Qualifying tournaments and the Olympic Games. Once an individual indicates which style he will compete in, the second place finisher, from the Ladder Wrestle-off in the other style, will become the #1 person on the Olympic Depth Chart. If an individual wins both styles, he must indicate in writing to the CAWA national office which style he will compete in at the Qualifying tournaments and the Olympic Games by December 31, 2007. Once an athlete identifies one style, he forfeits his right to represent Canada at the Olympic Games in the alternate style.

STAGE THREE: FILA/COC SELECTION CRITERIA

The current FILA selection criteria (written verbatim from the FILA bulletin) for the 2008 Olympic Games consists of four phases yielding quota positions as follows;

1st Phase: World Championships (September 2007)

In this phase, wrestlers will qualify in the following way:

The first eight (8) male and eight (8) female wrestlers of each event in the 2007 World Championships rankings will qualify for the 2008 Olympics.

∃ 7 events x 8 wrestlers = 56 freestyle wrestlers

∃ 7 events x 8 wrestlers = 56 Greco-Roman wrestlers

∃ 4 events x 8 wrestlers = 32 female wrestlers

Host Nation

Wrestlers from the host country (China) must participate in all qualification phases to obtain their places at the Olympic Games in the same way as all other countries. In the event that wrestlers from the host country fulfil these conditions but do not qualify, priority will be given on the quota of seven (7) places remaining, for FILA allocation, in order to guarantee optimal participation.

2nd Phase: 2008 Continental Championship – Pan American Championships
February-March 2008

In this phase, the wrestlers will be qualified as follows:

The first ranked wrestler at the Pan American Championships in each weight category will qualify for the Beijing 2008 Olympic Games. In the event that a wrestler(s) [read country] who already qualified at the 2007 World Championships is at the top of this ranking, the next highest ranked wrestler in each weight category will qualify.

3rd Phase: 1st qualification tournament (April - May 2008)

These wrestlers who qualify at the 2007 World Championships or the 2008 Continental Championships will not have the right to take part in the third qualification phase, and countries will not have the right to enter other participants in the events in which (they) already have a qualified wrestler. All other countries from all the continents may take part in this third phase. In this phase, wrestlers will qualify as follows:

- 7 events x 4 wrestlers = 28 Freestyle wrestlers
- 7 events x 4 wrestlers = 28 Greco-Roman wrestlers
- 4 events x 2 wrestlers = 8 female wrestlers

4th Phase: 2nd qualification tournament (May 2008)

The wrestlers who qualify in the first, second and third phases will not have the right to take part in this fourth qualification phase, and countries will not have the right to enter other participants in the events in which (they) already have a qualified wrestler. All other countries from all the continents may take part in this fourth phase. In this phase, wrestlers will qualify as follows:

- 7 events x 3 wrestlers = 21 Freestyle wrestlers
- 7 events x 3 wrestlers = 21 Greco-Roman wrestlers
- 4 events x 2 wrestlers = 8 Female wrestlers

The COC will grant CAWA an Olympic entry in those weight classes in which we qualify through the FILA for a quota position. The winner of the 2008 Olympic Trials will represent Canada at the FILA selection events.

Qualification Events

Greco Roman Wrestling

18-23 September, 2007	World Championships, Baku (AZE)
28 February – 2 March, 2008	Senior Pan American Championships - TBD
10-11 May, 2008	1st GR Qualification tournament – Cairo (EGY)
24-25 May, 2008	2 nd GR Qualification tournament – Novi Sad (SCG)

Freestyle Wrestling

18-23 September, 2007	World Championships, Baku (AZE)
28 February – 2 March, 2008	Senior Pan American Championships - TBD
19-20 April, 2008	1st Freestyle Qualification tournament – Martigny, (SUI)
3-4 May, 2008	2 nd Freestyle Qualification tournament – Warsaw, (POL)

Women's Wrestling

18-23 September, 2007	World Championships, Baku (AZE)
28 February – 2 March, 2008	Senior Pan American Championships - TBD
17-18 May, 2008	1st Women's Qualification tournament – Edmonton (CAN)
31 May – 1 June, 2008	2 nd Women's Qualification tournament – Haparanda (SWE)

STAGE FOUR: TRAINING AND PREPARATION

Before qualified athletes are nominated by CAWA to the COC, they must agree, by a signed contract, to follow the Olympic Team preparation program. Athletes that are unable to commit to the entire program will not be nominated.

OLYMPIC APPEALS PROCEDURE

An athlete will be expected to follow the CAWA Grievance Procedure outlined in the Policy Manual with regards to all matters pertaining to the 2008 Olympic Selection Procedure.

REGULATIONS FOR THE OLYMPIC TRIALS

All matches conducted for the Olympic Wrestle-offs will be conducted according to the rules of FILA. However, protests, as per the CAWA Rulebook, will be allowed. All matches will be videotaped. Coaches are requested to follow the protest procedure outlined in the latest version of the CAWA rulebook.

Only Canadian officials of category National AE and FILA 1, or higher, as selected by the Canadian Amateur Wrestling Officials Association, will be permitted to officiate.

No weight allowance will be given. FILA weigh-in procedures apply.

Athletes winning the Olympic Freestyle Trials (Men and Women) will be automatic C cards for the 2008-2009 carding cycle.

DOPING CONTROL

Doping control will be conducted throughout 2007 and 2008. Potential Olympic Team members may be requested to submit to doping control as selected on a random basis by the Canadian Centre for Drug-free Sport.