



# 2026 Canmore Spring Biathlon Festival

March 24 - 29, 2026  
Canmore Nordic Centre  
1988 Olympic Way  
Canmore, Alberta

**For Adult, Alumni, Open Ecoaims, Development, and  
Ecoaim U13 and U11 Categories**

**Hosted by Foothills Nordic Ski Club, Canmore Nordic  
Ski Club, and Rocky Mountain Racers**



## **Land Acknowledgement**

In the spirit of respect, reciprocity, and truth, we acknowledge that the Canmore Nordic Centre is located on traditional Treaty 7 territory which includes the ancestral lands of the Îyârhe Nakoda First Nations of Bearspaw, Chiniki, and Goodstoney, the Tsuut'ina First Nation, and the Blackfoot Confederacy First Nations of Siksika, Kainai, and Piikani. We also acknowledge that this area is part of the historic homeland of the Métis Nation of Alberta (Rocky View Métis District 4) which is governed by the Otipemisiwak Métis Government.

We acknowledge these Nations as an act of reconciliation that is meant to honour, raise awareness, and express gratitude for the Indigenous peoples who have cared for these lands for generations.

Dear Biathlon Friends,

On behalf of Biathlon Canada, Biathlon Alberta, and the hosting clubs—the Foothills Nordic Ski Club, Canmore Nordic Ski Club, and Rocky Mountain Racers—it is our great pleasure to invite you to the 2026 Canmore Spring Biathlon Festival, taking place March 24–29, 2026 at the world-class Canmore Nordic Centre Provincial Park. The Festival will be undertaken sequentially to the 2026 Canadian Biathlon Championships and provide an opportunity for more athletes to participate at a national level competition.

Nestled in the heart of the Canadian Rockies, Canmore offers a spectacular training and racing environment with dependable late-season snow, exceptional trail quality, and a community that proudly supports winter sport at every level. Our organizing committee, supported by dedicated volunteers from all three clubs, is working hard to deliver an outstanding championship experience for athletes, coaches, officials, and supporters.

We look forward to welcoming teams from across Canada and celebrating a week of high-performance racing, skill development, and camaraderie.

Sincerely,

The 2026 Canadian Biathlon Championships and Spring Festival Organizing Committee

# 2025 Canmore Biathlon Spring Festival

## March 24 - 29, 2026

<b>Organizing Committee:</b>	
Organizing Committee Chair	Trevor Baine
Competition Lead	Justin Siemens
Timing Lead	Greg Klafki
Timing Deputy	Jason Nishiyama
Course Lead	Brendon Jones
Course Deputy	Dan McCleary
Stadium Lead	John Grappolini
Stadium Deputy	Kirsten Kaarsoo
Range Lead	TBD
Range Deputy	TBD
Competition Secretary	Renee Provencher
Volunteer Coordinator	Christine Baine

<b>Technical Delegate</b>	Ron Pelletier
---------------------------	---------------

**Questions** should be directed to Competition Lead, Justin Siemens:  
[jdrsiedens@gmail.com](mailto:jdrsiedens@gmail.com)

## 1. General Information

### Competition Venue

The event will be held at the Canmore Nordic Centre, located 5 minutes from downtown Canmore and 25 minutes from Banff. The venue features:

- 30 Kurvinen electronic targets
- Up to 24 lanes for 10 metre Ecoaims or air rifle
- Fully lit shooting range
- Extensive natural and machine-made snow coverage
- Multiple homologated race loops (1 km–4 km)
- Heated wax cabins
- Ample stadium space
- Competition office, timing room, jury room, meeting rooms

### Weather & Conditions

Late March in Canmore typically features:

- Morning temperatures: -10°C to -2°C
- Afternoon temperatures: -2°C to +6°C
- Low to moderate humidity
- Stable night cooling that supports consistent grooming

### Rifle Import Regulations

Athletes and coaches traveling from outside Canada must comply with federal firearms regulations and complete the [Non-Resident Firearms Declaration](#).

## **2. Competition Information**

Please note that this Festival is planned to take place immediately following the Canadian Biathlon Championships competition (Nationals) each day. While Nationals is a key event each season and will naturally take precedence for scheduling and logistics decisions, the Organizing Committee (OC) is equally excited to bring athletes, families, and fans together for a fun and engaging Festival experience. We've worked hard to design additional formats, categories and activities that celebrate biathlon in an inclusive, community-focused way, and the competition schedule has been thoughtfully developed to support both events.

### **Rules**

The Canmore Spring Biathlon Festival will follow the [Biathlon Canada Hosting Policy \(2025 edition\)](#) and the [Biathlon Alberta Hosting Policy \(August, 2025\)](#).

### **Eligibility**

All Canadian competitors must be members in good standing with Biathlon Canada and their respective Division. American competitors must be members of USBA.

### **Competition Classes and Ages**

The following competition classes for their respective age ranges will be offered:

- Adult 1, 2, and 3;
- Open Ecoaims – any age
- Alumni – any age
- Development 1 and 2 – U17
- Ecoaims U13 and U11

## Course Information, Maps, and Stadium

Course and Stadium maps will be posted on the following [website](#).

Courses will be utilized as follows:

Competition	2km	1.5km	1km	750m
Sprint	✓	✓	✓	
Individual	✓	✓		
Mass Start	✓	✓	✓	
Obstacle Course Sprint			✓	✓
Colour	Red	Orange	Purple	Black

## Competition Formats

Class	Competition Format	Competition Distance	Start Type	Skiing Loops	Loop Length	Shooting Sequence	Penalty
<b>Adult 3 (17+)</b>	Sprint	6 km	Single, 15 sec.	3	2 km	PS	75 m
	Individual	10 km	Single, 15 sec.	5	2 km	PSPS	30 sec
	Mass Start 30	7.5 km	Simultaneous	5	1.5 km	PPSS	75 m
<b>Adult 2 (17+)</b>	Sprint	4.5 km	Single, 15 sec.	3	1.5 km	PS	75 m
	Individual	7.5 km	Single, 15 sec.	5	1.5 km	PSPS	30 sec
	Mass Start 30	5 km	Simultaneous	5	1 km	PPSS	75 m
<b>Adult 1 (17+)</b>	Sprint	4.5 km	Single, 15 sec.	3	1.5 km	PS	75 m
	Individual	7.5 km	Single, 15 sec.	5	1.5 km	PSPS	30 sec
	Mass Start 30	5 km	Simultaneous	5	1 km	PPSS	75 m

## Competition Formats

Class	Competition Format	Competition Distance	Start Type	Skiing Loops	Loop Length	Shooting Sequence	Penalty
<b>Alumni</b>	Sprint	6 km	Single, 15 sec.	3	2 km	PS	75 m
<b>Open Ecoaims 2</b>	Sprint	4.5 km	Single, 15 sec.	3	1.5 km	PS	75 m
<b>Open Ecoaims 1</b>	Sprint	3 km	Single, 15 sec.	3	1 km	PP	75 m
<b>Development 2 (U17)</b>	Mass Start 30	6 km	Simultaneous	4	1.5 km	PPP	75 m
	Obstacle Course Sprint	2.25 km	Single, 15 sec.	3	750 m	PP	75 m
<b>Development 1 (U17)</b>	Mass Start 30	4 km	Simultaneous	4	1 km	PPP	75 m
	Obstacle Course Sprint	2.25 km	Single, 15 sec.	3	750 m	PP	75 m
<b>Ecoaims U13</b>	Mass Start 30	4 km	Simultaneous	4	1 km	PPP	75 m
	Obstacle Course Sprint	2.25 km	Single, 15 sec.	3	750 m	PP	75 m
<b>Ecoaims U11</b>	Mass Start 30	4 km	Simultaneous	4	750 m	PPP	75 m
	Obstacle Course Sprint	2.25 km	Single, 15 sec.	3	750 m	PP	75 m

### Note:

Mass Start competition format and related distances will be finalized once registration closes and athlete numbers are known.

Alumni category will follow the same Sprint format as U17 Standing.

### Team Captains' Meeting Schedule

Date and Time	Location	Agenda
Monday, March 9, ~7:45pm MDT (to begin immediately following the Nationals TCM)	Zoom (details to be shared closer to meeting)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Introductions</li> <li>• Event overview</li> <li>• Technical overview</li> <li>• Registration corrections</li> </ul>
Monday, March 23, ~7:45pm MDT (to begin immediately following the Nationals TCM)	Biathlon Building, 2nd Floor	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Call to order</li> <li>• Election of the competition jury</li> <li>• Technical briefing</li> <li>• TD's comments</li> <li>• Weather forecast</li> <li>• Miscellaneous</li> <li>• Adjournment</li> </ul>
Friday, March 27, ~7:45pm MDT (to begin immediately following the Nationals TCM)	Biathlon Building, 2nd Floor	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Call to order</li> <li>• Technical Briefing, Mass Start and Obstacle Course Sprint</li> </ul>

### Competition Schedule

Monday, March 23 — Unofficial Training	
	Unofficial training
7:45pm - 8:15pm	Team Captains' Meeting, Biathlon Building, 2nd Floor
Tuesday, March 24 — Official Training – Adult	
2:30pm - 4:00pm	Official Training
Wednesday, March 25 — Sprint - Adult	
11:30am - 12:15pm	Zero
2:00pm - 3:00pm	Sprint competition
Thursday, March 26 — Individual – Adult	
11:30am - 12:15pm	Zero
2:15pm - 3:30pm	Individual competition
5:00pm - 8:00pm	Banquet

## Friday, March 27 — Sprint – Alumni and Open Ecoaims

2:00pm – 2:30pm	Zero - Ecoaims and Alumni
2:45pm – 5:00pm	Sprint competition – Alumni and Open Ecoaims Categories
~7:45pm	Team Captains' Meeting, Biathlon Building, 2nd Floor

## Saturday, March 28 — Mass Start – Adult, Development, and Ecoaims

1:30pm - 2:15pm	Zero - Adult, Dev, and Ecoaims Categories
2:30pm - 5:00pm	Mass Start competition – Adult, Development and Ecoaims

## Sunday, March 29 — Obstacle Course Sprint – Development and Ecoaims

3:00pm - 3:30pm	Zero - Dev and Ecoaims Categories
3:45pm - 5:00pm	Obstacle Course Sprint competition – Development and Ecoaims

The organizing committee will provide the opportunity for athletes in para-biathlon categories to compete in the Canmore Biathlon Spring Festival. If you are an athlete who would like to compete in a para-biathlon category, please reach out to the Competition Lead, Justin Siemens at [jdrsiemens@gmail.com](mailto:jdrsiemens@gmail.com), before the close of registration.

## Competition Registration

### Athlete Registration

Registration will be completed via Zone4. Fees will be as follows:

- Adult Categories - 3 Competitions, 2 Official training days, incl. range and trail passes: \$60/day.
- Alumni – 1 Competition, incl. range and trail passes: \$15
- Open Ecoaims Categories – 1 Competition, incl. range and trail passes: \$30
- Ecoaims Categories – 2 Competitions, incl. range and trail passes: \$30/day
- Development Categories – 2 Competitions, incl. range and trail passes: \$40/day
- Range and trail passes for unofficial training days can be purchased directly from the Nordic Centre.

- Wax rooms: \$100 from March 23 to 29, 2026. Any teams that are arriving early, can book rooms directly with the Canmore Nordic Centre.
- Cancellation policy: if an athlete withdraws before or after registration closes, no refund will be provided.

Registration deadline is Monday, March 9, 11:59pm MST.

A signed range agreement will be required. This can be signed during athlete registration. If a signed range agreement is not provided, athletes could forfeit the ability to participate in the event.

### **Coach Registration**

Coach registration deadline is Monday, March 9, 2026, at 11:59pm MST.

All coaches will need to register in Zone4 to obtain access to the shooting range. When registering, coaches will need to provide proof that they meet the Safe Sport requirements as described in section 4.4.1 of the [Canadian Hosting Policy](#).

### **Rifles and Equipment Check**

Rifle safety checks will be done on the first official training day in the biathlon building. Random spot checks will be conducted daily, throughout the competition. Rifle checks for Alumni and Dev categories will take place during Zero.

Rifles must be safe and in a case while in the parking lot or on the back of the athlete via a carry harness.

### **Competition Office**

The Competition Office will be located in Room 104 of the new Biathlon Building. It will be open from 8:00 am to 4:00 pm for any official training or race days. Radio and timing will also be in Room 104. First aid will be in room 106. Entrance for these rooms is from the main building entrance.

### **Wax Rooms**

The wax room building is situated adjacent to the biathlon stadium. Wax rooms will be reserved and paid for as part of the event registration process for coaches. There are a total of 24 rooms and smaller teams (ie, <6 athletes) may be requested to share a room with another club. If required, if too many teams request wax rooms, the organizing committee reserves the right to place smaller teams together. Wax rooms need to be cleaned and vacated by mid-afternoon of Sunday, March 29, 2026, immediately following the awards ceremony. Any damage, required cleaning, or lost keys will be billed to clubs.

## **Course, Stadium, and Range Access**

The Canmore Nordic Centre continues to be under construction in the Biathlon area. It is possible that muddy/ice conditions and on-going construction will exist between the parking lots and the course/stadium/range. Please follow all signage on-site.

## **Kananaskis Conservation Pass**

The Canmore Nordic Centre Provincial Park is part of the Kananaskis Parks area and a Kananaskis Conservation Pass is required to park and use the facilities. CNC staff have asked that all participants purchase the Conservation Pass online, and prior to coming to the event since they don't have the staff capacity to process passes on site. The Kananaskis Conservation Pass can be purchased [HERE](#). Conservation pass checks will occur during the competition and fines are expensive.

## **3. Logistical Information**

### **Web Site**

A website with competition, accommodation, things-to-do in the area, and volunteer information is provided and available [HERE](#).

### **Accommodation**

Teams are responsible for arranging their own accommodation. Recommended hotels in Canmore and Banff can be found on the [Nationals website](#).

### **Banquet**

A championship banquet will be held on the evening of March 26, 2026. It is currently estimated that the banquet will cost \$65, to a maximum of 250 people. Athletes, coaches, and team support staff will have priority and must register for the banquet by February 24, 2026. Accompanying persons (parents, friends, etc.) may have access if extra space is available, tickets will be available for purchase from February 24 to March 10, 2026. Menu will be provided prior to the competition.

The banquet will be held at CanGOLF - #125B 306 Bow Valley Trail, Canmore.

<https://www.cangolfcanmore.ca/>. Doors will open at 5pm on Thursday, March 26.

### **Transportation**

- Calgary International Airport (YYC) is 1 hour from Canmore.
- Major rental car agencies available at the airport.
- Teams are encouraged to arrange their own transportation.

### **Food & Groceries**

Canmore offers numerous restaurants and grocery stores. On-site food options will be announced later.

## **Volunteers**

Volunteer registration will open later this season. Officials and volunteers from across Canada are welcome. Check in will be in the new Biathlon Building.

## **Canmore Nordic Centre**

There is food service at the Day Lodge with hot and cold food for purchase. Pack a lunch or use the food service at the Day Lodge. There are toilets and coin-operated showers in the wax room areas and the Day Lodge but you must bring your personal towels and supplies.

## **4. Awards**

Medals will be awarded for the Adult categories according to the Canadian Hosting Policy. Medal ceremonies locations and schedules are TBD. Competitors in the Dev and Ecoaims categories will all receive a token of participation.