DORDRECHT DEVELOPMENT TOUR 2027 ELIGIBILITY AND SELECTION CRITERIA

In line with its commitment to offer international exposure to its high-performance athletes, the Lifesaving Society is announcing the eligibility and selection criteria for the following event:

Name: Dordrecht Development Tour

Location: Dordrecht, The Netherlands

Dates: March 1 to March 8th, 2027

Team: Development Team – 6 females, 6 males

Fees: $5,000 inclusive. Athletes are responsible for their transportation to and from one of the following airports: St. John's (YYT), Halifax (YHZ), Moncton (YQM), Fredericton (YFC), Québec (YQB), Montréal (YUL), Ottawa (YOW), Toronto (YYZ), Thunder Bay (YQT), Winnipeg (YWG), Regina (YQR), Saskatoon (YXE), Calgary (YYC), Edmonton (YEG), Vancouver (YVR). Athletes departing from another Canadian airport may submit a written request, and approval is at the discretion of the national team management team based on comparable total travel costs. Any approved alternative airport must not result in additional costs.

The Dordrecht Development Tour is designed for athletes looking to advance their international experience in preparation for selection for the Commonwealth Championships and future world championships. The focus of the tour will be building capacity of the athlete, while fostering team comradery.

Eligibility criteria

To be eligible to compete as a member of the Development Team at this championship, the athlete shall:

- Be a bona fide member in good standing with the Lifesaving Society Canada and their branch;
- Be a registered athlete with the Lifesaving Society Canada by November 15th, 2026;
- Be a Canadian citizen, by birth or naturalization; or permanent resident of Canada;
- Be at least 15 years of age by December 31, 2027;
- Comply with anti-doping rules and policies set by the Canadian Anti-Doping Program (CADP) and the ILS;
- Be available to participate in designated training camps or regimens as required by the Team;
- Be available for the duration of the tour; and
- Respect the Code of Conduct, terms of the tour agreement and the athlete agreement.

Selection Criteria

This tour will include opportunities for 6 female and 6 male athletes in either the youth or open division. **Selections will be finalized by November 27th, 2026**. The criterion for selection is as follows:

- Evaluation of best times – athletes in the upper third of these meets may be selected:
    - Submission of best times from Canadian Pool National Championships held in June 2026;
    - Consideration will be given to long course times achieved from a sanctioned Lifesaving event in 2026 with approval;
    - Consideration will be given to earlier sanctioned lifesaving events provided the applicant is a member of the national team program and is returning from a recognized absence.

The applicant will be considered ineligible for the following:

- An injury that has not been rehabilitated and cleared to compete;
- An athlete who has competed on the National Team at the World Lifesaving Championships 2026 as this tour is designed to expand opportunities to creating depth on the National Team.

Weighting of Selection:

This is a development tour, it is focused on building the capacity in athletes who have been recognized as having potential. It is an opportunity for athletes in the National Program who have been injured and are returning to competition.

Criteria (but not limited to):

- Top-five performance at the 2026 Canadian Pool National Championships.
- Be part of the National Team Program but not yet selected for a tour in 2026.
- Selected as an alternate for Worlds 2026.
- Having been identified to the National Program as having development potential.
- Having been identified as having potential to compete at the Commonwealth Championships.
- Member of the National Team Program that has been injured and wants to return to international competition.

Interested athletes must complete the National Team Application Form – Dordrecht Development Tour no later than November 15th, 2026. The form must be completed in full and must include the candidate's best times from the events listed in the form, with the event, time and date for each. A parent or legal guardian must be identified for any candidate who has not reached the age of majority in their province or territory of residence.

Incomplete applications and applications received after the deadline will not be considered.The National Team will be announced no later than **November 27th , 2026**.

Alternates

The selection committee will select one or more alternates at their discretion to ensure that a number of athletes are competition ready and prepared to assume a position on the team in the event that a

previously selected athlete was to pull out (due to health or other reasons) or be removed from the team.

Decisions

All decisions of the selection committee are final and binding.

Appeal

An aggrieved athlete may appeal against a failure of the selection committee to comply with the procedures as set down in this policy. That is, an appeal may be made on procedural grounds only, not on the merits of a particular selection decision.

This appeal must be made to the Lifesaving Sport Commissioner within ten (10) days of public announcement of the team.

This appeal must be in writing setting out:

1. The particular alleged failure of the selection committee to comply with the procedure in question;
2. Grounds on which the appeal is made; and
3. The reasons or circumstances supporting the appeal attaching all supporting documentation/evidence, if applicable.

Appeals must be submitted to dvaillancourt@lifesaving.ca and must be accompanied by a $100 deposit in Canadian funds, refundable in the case of a successful appeal. The appeal will be reviewed by the Sports Commissioner, or their delegate and two members of the National Sport Commission, as chosen by the Sport Commissioner or their delegate, who shall have no significant relationship with the affected parties and shall not be involved with the decision being appealed, and shall be free from any other actual or perceived bias or conflict. All decisions of the Appeal panel are considered to be unanimous, final and without appeal.