

WCHM President's January 2026 Update

2026 Canadian Masters Weightlifting Championship – Revising Qualifying Totals

Seeing that several Provincial Weightlifting Associations will implement those new bodyweight categories prior to the IWF's date of August 1, I believe the qualifying totals should be revised.

I have created the new qualifying totals according to our Board's wishes of keeping our standards based on 80% of the IMWA World Masters Championship qualifying totals.

Motion: "To approve the revised qualifying totals/standards for the 2026 Canadian Masters Weightlifting Championships to reflect both the new IWF bodyweight categories and the "80% of the Qualifying Total of the current IMWA World Masters Weightlifting Championship." Carried January 14.

Registrations will be online and information will be posted on the WCHM website and I will email the link to all 2026 registered members.

WCHM 2026 Memberships Advisory Committee Members (WCHM Provincial Advisors, Directors, Secretaries) are reminded to renew their memberships in order to retain their role within WCHM.)

The number of members has matched that which was recorded at the end of January 2025.

Board Positions are all up for election/re-election in June 2026. Application forms are on the WCHM Website

Elections will be conducted electronically and more information will be sent to registered 2026 members.

Applications can be sent to the Nominating and Elections Committee Chair Judy Quinn – See Website contact page.

[GO.Board-Member-Candidate-Application.Executive-Position-Form.2025.EN .pdf](#)

[GO.Board-Member-Candidate-Application-Form.2025.EN .pdf](#)

2027 IMWA World Masters Weightlifting Championship / Pan Am Masters Championships - update

To date, 17 women and 15 men have received approval to participate in the WMC. Each potential participant receives Doping Control Information, the Provisional Schedule, travel requirements, and World Masters Coach Honoraria information. After payment to WCHM is made, the applicant then receives the required ACCESS CODE needed to register and any additional information from the IMWA. For the PAMC, 5 women and 3 men have received approvals to participate.

We are in need of a competition host for

2027 Championship

Weightlifting Canada Haltérophilie Masters is inviting an interested club or Provincial Association to submit a letter of interest to the President before the Annual General Meeting of June 18, 2026. The President can be contacted directly at president@wchmasters.org. The “Hosting the Canadian Masters Weightlifting Championship” instruction manual is available on request.

To date we have three organizations who have asked for a copy of the manual “Hosting the Canadian Masters Weightlifting Championship.” One organization is the Saskatchewan Weightlifting Association and the other two organizations are from Montreal and Sherbrooke, Quebec.

The deadline for the submission of an organization’s request to host is due by the end of the 2026 AGM. This year, I will be asking all of the WCHM Provincial Advisors to share their choice with our Board, who will then decide on the host for 2027.

Qualifying Totals (QT) for 2027 Canadian Masters Weightlifting Championships (CMWC)

Inquiring minds have noted that the QT for the 2027 IMWA World Masters Championships (WMC) /IMGA World Masters Games Weightlifting is about 80% of the 2026 IMWA QT. Recall that WCHM bases its CMWC- QT as 80% of the forthcoming IMWA-WMC.

For 2027 CMWC QT, I will be proposing that it remain the same as the 2026 CMWC QT instead of using the 80% IMWA-WMC QT, since that would embarrassingly lower our 2026 CMWC QT. If we drop our QT by 20%, returning to our 80% rule for the 2028 CMWC would then be very large increase which would not land well with our members, particularly those who may not be aware of the IMWA’s fluctuating WMC-QT.

So, keep an eye on my intent to keep our QT the same for 2027 CMWC. For 2028, I will examine what the IMWA proposes for their WMC for that year and apply 80%.

The Open Categories at Provincial Weightlifting Competitions

Although WCH has not provided any direction for the inclusion of transgender weightlifters either within one of the mens, womens, open womens, or open mens categories, WCHM has created, and already implemented, the Open Women and Open Men Categories at the Canadian Masters Weightlifting Championships.

In order to qualify at the WCHM Nationals, transgender athletes can either qualify at a provincial weightlifting competition in which they qualified in an Open Category or through direct arrangements with the WCHM President. The Open Categories do not require an entry total for the WCHM Nationals.

At the present time, there aren't any opportunities for transgender athletes to participate in an Open Category at the provincial level of competition. **I have therefore contacted all of WCH's Provincial Association Presidents requesting that an Open Category be provided at their competitions for athletes who are thirty years of age or older.** I use this age category because these athletes may be considered Provincial Masters Weightlifters and/or WCHM Canadian Masters Weightlifters . WCHM has specific regulations for the Open Category at its Nationals which will could be applied at the Provincial level. Transgender athletes will then have an opportunity to qualify for the WCHM Nationals and all International Masters Weightlifting Championships of the IMWA and the UMWF. This right of inclusion is embedded in human rights legislation at the federal and provincial levels of government, as well as numerous Sports Canada documents and supported by the results from WCHM's legal firm on the establishment of the Open Category.

WCHM President will be unavailable

... from April 20 to April 27, 2026 AND June 23 to June 30 to respond to any requests for information, approval, or Access Codes for 2026 International Masters Weightlifting Events. Refer to the 2026 World/Pan Am Masters WCHM Instructions on the WCHM website.