

United States Ski & Snowboard

2023 U.S. Cross Country Team Nomination Criteria - DRAFT

Eligibility for Consideration:

U.S. Ski and Snowboard will consider for selection only those U.S. Ski and Snowboard members in good standing who have a valid U.S. passport, a valid USA-coded FIS license and who meet FIS minimum eligibility standards.

An athlete shall be ineligible for consideration if previously suspended or removed from team membership without having been reinstated by U.S. Ski and Snowboard. An athlete who has previously declined an offer of team membership shall not be automatically offered team membership unless that athlete specifically requests consideration and the U.S. Ski and Snowboard Cross Country Program Director approves the request.

The U.S. Ski Team will select only the most qualified athletes with the greatest possibilities for winning medals in future World Championship and Olympic Winter Games competitions. Selection criteria will stress performance in the Nordic World Ski Championships, World Cup and the U23/World Junior Championships in the 2022-23 season. Selection criteria will also stress progress toward individual performance markers, set forth by the U.S. Ski Team coaches, which point toward international success.

Criteria Guidelines:

- The U.S. Ski and Snowboard Cross Country Program Director is responsible for applying the selection criteria set forth herein, subject to the oversight of the Chief Executive Officer.
- Objective selections shall be based on the results achieved by athletes in World Cup competitions held on or between November 26, 2021 and March 20, 2022 and on World Ranking as determined by FIS points accrued from March 28, 2021 to March 27, 2022 (the “selection period”).
- Discretionary nominations, if any, may be based on a variety of factors, including competitions conducted outside of the selection period.
- Team status does not guarantee funding from U.S. Ski and Snowboard for competition or for preparation.
- No minimum team size will be established.
- Athletes who have been given individual performance criteria to meet will be subject to those specific criteria and not to general criteria as outlined below.
- Athletes must be willing to commit to and to participate in the full U.S. Ski Team camp and race season structure.

General Criteria:

Athletes will be selected to the team based solely upon their competition results during the selection period. Athletes meeting the following objective criteria will be selected to the U.S. Ski Team:

A-Team

Athletes meeting the following objective criteria will be selected to the A-Team. World Rank will be assessed using FIS points accrued from March 28, 2021 to March 27, 2022 and will utilize an athlete's sprint or distance ranking (whichever is better).

- Any athlete finishing the 2021-22 World Cup season in the top-15 of the FIS World Cup Sprint & Red Group List, and/or in the top-15 of the FIS World Cup Distance & Red Group List.
- Any athlete achieving one top-6 finish and one top-12 finish in FIS individual distance or individual sprint World Cup and/or Olympic Winter Games races in the 2021-22 season, excluding "Winner of the Day" performances in pursuit events.

YOB 1997 or earlier:

- World Rank of 20 or better (men and women).

YOB 1998:

- World Rank of 30 or better (men) and 25 or better (women).

YOB 1999:

- World Rank of 40 or better (men) and 30 or better (women).

YOB 2000:

- World Rank of 60 or better (men) and 40 or better (women).

YOB 2001:

- World Rank of 75 or better (men) and 50 or better (women).

B-Team

Athletes meeting the following objective criteria will be selected to the B-Team.

B-Team athletes are expected to be racing at World Cup competitions and will have greater preparation and competition season requirements than D-Team athletes.

World Rank will be assessed using FIS points accrued from March 28, 2021 to March 27, 2022 and will utilize an athlete's sprint or distance ranking (whichever is better).

- Any 1999 YOB athlete finishing two (2) times in the top-10 in individual events at the 2022 U23 World Ski Championships, or one (1) top-10 U23 World Ski Championships finish and one (1) top-30 individual result in a World Cup race in the 2021-22 season.

YOB 1993 or earlier:

- World Rank of 40 or better (men and women).

YOB 1994:

- World Rank of 45 or better (men and women).

YOB 1995:

- World Rank of 50 or better (men and women).

YOB 1996:

- World Rank of 60 or better (men) and 55 or better (women).
YOB 1997:
- World Rank of 70 or better (men) and 60 or better (women).
YOB 1998:
- World Rank of 90 or better (men) and 70 or better (women).
YOB 1999:
- World Rank of 125 or better (men) and 80 or better (women).

D-Team

The D-Team is designed for athletes who are eligible to compete at and achieve success in future World Junior and U23 World Championship events.

World Rank will be assessed using FIS points accrued from March 28, 2021 to March 27, 2022 and will utilize an athlete's sprint or distance ranking (whichever is better).

- Any 2000 or 2001 YOB athlete finishing in the top-10 in an individual event at the 2022 U23 World Ski Championships.
 - Any athlete finishing in the top-10 in an individual event at the 2022 Nordic Junior World Ski Championships.
- YOB 2000:
- World Rank of 175 or better (men) and **125** or better (women).
- YOB 2001:
- World Rank of 250 or better (men) and **175** or better (women).
- YOB 2002, 2003, 2004 and 2005:
- World Rank of 400 or better (men) and 250 or better (women).

Discretionary Selection Policy:

U.S. Ski and Snowboard may select additional athletes to the team or may select athletes to the B-team who have met D-team criteria, using coaches' discretion based upon factors other than the objective criteria. If the coaching staff fills any spot(s) on the team with discretionary selections, then the staff may consider any factors including (but not limited to) the following:

- Completion of individual markers, as set forth by the U.S. Ski Team coaching staff and as approved by the U.S. Ski and Snowboard Head Cross Country Coach, which point toward the achievement of competition results consistent with U.S. Ski Team program goals.
- Attitude and commitment of athletes to take part in the complete camp and competition program.
- Illness or injury during the selection period.
- Indicia of medal potential in future Olympic and World Championship competitions, which would be materially enhanced by selection to team.
- Other unanticipated failure of objective criteria to select an athlete likely to achieve competition results consistent with the U.S. Ski and Snowboard program goals.

In-season Promotion:

Athletes will not be promoted in season. No athletes will be demoted during the season; however, funding may be suspended at any time if progress or commitment is not consistent with the team program and athlete does not remain in good standing.

U.S. Ski and Snowboard Core Values, Code of Conduct, and SafeSport:

Athletes must demonstrate a capability to adhere to U.S. Ski and Snowboard Values and Code of Conduct, in addition, all athletes age 18 and older must complete SafeSport training and its required updates, complete avalanche training, and pass any necessary background screening to be eligible for nomination.