# U.S. Ski & Snowboard ATHLETE SELECTION PROCEDURES

# 2022 Olympic Winter Games Men's and Women's Freestyle / Freeski

Halfpipe, Slopestyle/Big Air, Moguls, Aerials/Team Aerials, Ski Cross April 30, 2020

**Amended September 1, 2021** 

#### 1. SELECTION SYSTEM

- 1.1. Provide the minimum eligibility requirements for an athlete to be considered for selection to the Team:
  - 1.1.1. Nationality/Passport requirements:

Athlete must be a national of the United States at the time of nomination (see Section 1.3 for details about the nomination process).

Athlete must hold a valid U.S. passport that will not expire for six months after the conclusion of the Games.

1.1.2. Minimum International Olympic Committee (IOC) standards for participation:

Any competitor in the Olympic Games must be a national of the country of the National Olympic Committee (NOC) which is entering such competitor. For additional information regarding an athlete who is a national of two or more countries, has changed his or her nationality or acquired a new nationality, refer to the Olympic Charter (Rule 41).

- 1.1.3. Minimum International Federation (IF) standards for participation:
  - Athletes must hold a valid and active International Ski Federation (FIS) license and must meet the FIS minimum eligibility standards of a Top 30 in a FIS World Cup or World Championships, in the event concerned, during the qualification period of July 1, 2020 through January 16, 2022.
  - Depending on the event(s) an Athlete competes in, Athletes must also have at least the following number of FIS points on the January 17, 2022 FIS points Lists for the respective event:
    - o For Moguls, Aerials, and Ski Cross: 80 FIS points;
    - o For Halfpipe and Slopestyle: 50 FIS points; or
    - For the Big Air event: 50 FIS points in either Slopestyle or Big Air.

- Athletes eligible to participate in Ski Cross must be born before January 1, 2006. In all other events, athletes eligible to participate must be born before January 1, 2007.
- Athletes eligible to participate in the individual Aerial event are also eligible for nomination to participate in the Mixed Team Aerial event.
- The complete FIS qualification system for the 2022 Olympic Winter Games can be found HERE.

#### 1.1.4. Other requirements:

- Athlete must be a current U.S. Ski & Snowboard member in good standing at the time of nomination.
- Athlete must successfully complete all Games Registration requirements by stated deadline.
- Athletes age 18 or older will be required to undergo a background screen in accordance with the current USOPC Background Check Policy.
- Athletes age 18 or older as of the Closing Ceremony will be required to complete the U.S. Center for SafeSport's online training.

## 1.2. Tryout Events and Rankings:

1.2.1. Provide the event names, dates, and locations of all trials, events and camps to be used as part of the selection process.

The schedule of tryout events will be finalized and published as soon as possible but no later than September 30, 2020 for the tryout events conducted during the 2020-21 competition season and September 30, 2021 for the tryout events conducted during the 2021-22 competition season and shall be available on the U.S. Ski & Snowboard website (the "Tryout Events"): www.usskiandsnowboard.org

Each discipline (Halfpipe, Slopestyle/Big Air, Moguls, Aerials, Ski Cross) shall schedule no more than seven (7) Tryout Events during the combined 2020/21 and 2021/22 competition seasons.

<u>For Halfpipe, Slopestyle/Big Air</u> the selection process, as described in Section 1.3, is based on specific Tryout Events as noted above along with the rankings from the World Freeski Points Lists (WFPLs).

The WFPLs are the result of a global collaborative effort to create one universal, transparent, and fair ranking system for competitive skiing. At any given point in time, the WFPL aims to provide the most accurate and

transparent representation of the top riders in the world and their corresponding results. The WFPL is developed in partnership with FIS and can be found HERE (Editorial Note: The web link is not available for that ranking list as it is still under FIS development. Once/if operational, we will activate the link.)

\* Should the WFPL not be operational by September 1, 2020 then Halfpipe and Slopestyle/Big Air will utilize the rankings from the FIS Points Lists. The rules for the FIS Freeski/Freestyle Points List can be found at this website: <a href="https://assets.fis-ski.com/image/upload/v1560351450/fis-prod/assets/FIS Points Rules Freestyle Skiing.pdf">https://assets.fis-ski.com/image/upload/v1560351450/fis-prod/assets/FIS Points Rules Freestyle Skiing.pdf</a>

<u>For Moguls, Aerials, and Ski Cross</u> the selection process, as described in Section 1.3, is based on specific Tryout Events as noted above along with rankings from the FIS Points List. The rules for the FIS Freeski/Freestyle Points List can be found at this website:

https://assets.fis-ski.com/image/upload/v1560351450/fis-prod/assets/FIS Points Rules Freestyle Skiing.pdf

- \* UPDATE: Since the WFPL is still not operational at the time of amending these procedures, rankings from the FIS Points Lists for the respective event will be used for all disciplines covered in these procedures.
- 1.2.2. Provide event names, dates, locations and description of how athletes qualify for the Tryout Events listed above in 1.2.1.

The procedures for qualification into the Tryout Events, including World Cup competitions, will be finalized and published as soon as possible but no later than September 30, 2020 for the events conducted during the 2020-21 Competition Season and September 30, 2021 for the events conducted during the 2021-22 Competition Season and shall be available on the U.S. Ski & Snowboard website: <a href="https://www.usskiandsnowboard.org">www.usskiandsnowboard.org</a>

1.3. Provide a comprehensive, step-by-step description of the method that explains how athletes will go through the selection process (include maximum Team size).

The International Olympic Committee (IOC) has determined that a maximum of Thirty (30) athletes representing any one nation may compete in the 2022 Olympic Winter Games across all events in Freestyle/Freeski. The maximum number of athletes nominated to the U.S. team will be up to the maximum team size of Thirty-Two (32) athletes, not to exceed a maximum of Sixteen (16) athletes in either gender, if at least three (3) athletes qualify in Aerials and are eligible to form a team to participate in the Mixed Team Aerials event.

The maximum quota for a nation in any one (1) event per gender will be four (4). Athletes nominated to the team will start in the event for which they qualified and may compete in multiple events, provided they meet qualification criteria as outlined in Section 1.1. above.

The application of the objective criteria for each discipline, noted below, is subject to the U.S. earning at least three Olympic Nations Quota Starts per gender, in the respective discipline, through the <u>FIS Olympic Nations Quota World Ranking List</u>.

After the objective criteria has been applied, unfilled quota slots, if any, may be filled via discretionary selection outlined in Section 2 of these procedures only if the minimum eligibility requirements under Section 1.1 are fulfilled. Should the U.S. have remaining quota slots available after Section 2, up to the maximum team size of Thirty-Two (32) not exceeding a maximum of Sixteen (16) athletes in either gender, the criteria for determining which quotas will be filled is outlined in Section 3 (to be referred hereafter as "Remaining Team Nomination Selection").

# A. Objective Criteria Halfpipe

Up to three (3) athletes, per gender, will be nominated for the event in the following order:

1. Up to the top two (2) highest ranking athletes, per gender, from the FIS Halfpipe Points List WFPL issued on January 6, 2022 December 22, 2021, will be nominated to the 2022 U.S. Olympic Team. Athlete must be ranked within the Top 6 of the rankings. The specific date of the FIS Halfpipe Points List WFPL is subject to change pending confirmation of the competition calendar for the 2021-22 season, with any adjustment to the date taking place as soon as possible but no later than September 30, 2021.

U.S. Ski & Snowboard will use the following tie-breaking mechanism, if two or more athletes, per gender, are tied within the Top 6 of the <u>FIS Halfpipe Points</u> WFPL Ranking List, until the quota slots, per gender, in this section are filled:

- a. Highest result, between the tied athletes, from their most recent head-to-head competition at an identified Tryout Event.
- 2. The third quota slot and any quota slot(s) remaining unfilled by way of criteria Item A1 above, per gender, will be allocated based on an athlete having at least <u>one</u> (1) top three result, in the identified Tryout Events, to be nominated to the 2022 Olympic team.

Any remaining quota slots that are still left unfilled after applying Item A2, will be evaluated under Discretionary Selection Procedures in Section 2 or the Remaining Team Nomination Criteria in Section 3 as described below.

If there are more athletes than there are remaining quota slots available within this objective criteria section, in either gender (i.e., with <u>one</u> (1) top three result in the Tryout Events), then U.S. Ski & Snowboard will utilize the following procedure to identify the athlete(s) who will be nominated via this objective criteria:

U.S. Ski & Snowboard will use the following tie-breaking mechanisms below one at a time – in preferential order starting with (a) – until the quota slots remaining, per gender, in this section are filled. The <u>place</u> points awarded (1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th, etc.) from the Tryout Events toward the World Freeski Points List shall be used when referring to points the place results in the below tie-breaking mechanisms:

- a. Single highest place point result from the Halfpipe Tryout Events
- b. Second highest <u>place</u> point result from the Halfpipe Tryout Events
- c. Third highest place point result from the Halfpipe Tryout Events
- d. Fourth highest place point result from the Halfpipe Tryout Events
- e. Highest <u>place</u> point result from the final event listed in the Halfpipe Tryout Event schedule during the 2021-22 season.

#### B. Objective Criteria Slopestyle/Big Air

Up to three (3) athletes, per gender, will be nominated for the event in the following order:

- 1. Up to the top two (2) highest ranked athletes, per gender, from the <u>FIS</u> Slopestyle <u>Points List WFPL</u> on December 22, 2021 will be nominated to the 2022 U.S. Olympic Team. Athlete must be ranked within the Top 6 of the rankings. The specific date of the <u>FIS Slopestyle Points List WFPL</u> is subject to change pending confirmation of the competition calendar for the 2021-22 season, with any adjustment to the date taking place as soon as possible but no later than September 30, 2021.
  - U.S. Ski & Snowboard will use the following tie-breaking mechanism, if two or more athletes, per gender, are tied within the Top 6 of the WFPL Ranking FIS Slopestyle Points List, until the quota slots, per gender, in this section are filled:

- a. Highest result, between the tied athletes, from their most recent head-to-head competition at an identified Tryout Event.
- 2. The third quota slot and any quota slot(s) remaining unfilled by way of criteria Item B1 above, per gender, will be allocated based on an athlete having at least <u>one</u> (1) top three result, in the identified Tryout Events, will be nominated to the 2022 Olympic team.

Any remaining quota slots that are still left unfilled after applying Item B2 will be evaluated under Discretionary Selection Procedures in Section 2 and the Remaining Team Nomination Criteria in Section 3 as described below.

If there are more athletes than there are remaining quota slots available within this objective criteria section, in either gender (i.e., with <u>one</u> (1) top three result in the Tryout Events), then U.S. Ski & Snowboard will utilize the following procedure to identify the athlete(s) who will be nominated via this objective criteria:

U.S. Ski & Snowboard will use the following tie-breaking mechanisms below one at a time – in preferential order starting with (a) – until the quota slots remaining per gender in this section are filled. The place points awarded (1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th, etc.) from the Tryout Events toward the World Freeski Points List shall be used when referring to the place points results in the below tie-breaking mechanisms:

- a. Single highest <u>place</u> point result from the Slopestyle/Big Air Tryout Events
- Second highest <u>place</u> point result from the Slopestyle/Big Air Tryout Events
- c. Third highest <u>place</u> <del>point</del> result from the Slopestyle/Big Air Tryout Events
- d. Fourth highest <u>place</u> point result from the Slopestyle/Big Air Tryout Events
- e. Highest <u>place</u> point result from the final event listed in the Slopestyle/ Big Air Tryout Event schedule during the 2021-22 season

#### C. Objective Criteria Ski Cross

Up to three (3) athletes, per gender, will be nominated for the event in the following order:

1. Up to the top two (2) highest ranked athletes, per gender, from the FIS Ski Cross Points List as of December 22, 2021 will be nominated to the

2022 U.S. Olympic Team. Athlete must be ranked within the Top 6 of the rankings. The specific date of the FIS Ski Cross Points List is subject to change pending confirmation of the competition calendar for the 2021-22 season, with any adjustment to the date taking place as soon as possible but no later than September 30, 2021.

U.S. Ski & Snowboard will use the following tie-breaking mechanism, if two or more athletes, per gender, are tied within the Top 6 of the FIS <a href="Ski Cross">Ski Cross</a> Points, until the quota slots, per gender, in this section are filled:

- a. Highest result, between the tied athletes, from their most recent head-to-head competition at an identified Tryout Event.
- 2. The third quota slot and any quota slot(s) remaining unfilled by way of criteria Item C1 above, per gender, will be allocated based on an athlete having at least <u>one</u> (1) top three result, in the identified Tryout Events, will be nominated to the 2022 Olympic team.

If no U.S. athlete has had one (1) top three result, in the Tryout Events, then any remaining quota slots will be evaluated under Discretionary Selection Procedures in Section 2 or the Remaining Team Nomination Criteria in Section 3 as described below. If there are more athletes than there are remaining quota slots available within this objective criteria section, in either gender (i.e., with one (1) top three result in the Tryout Events), then U.S. Ski & Snowboard will utilize the following procedure to identify the athlete(s) who will be nominated via this objective criteria:

U.S. Ski & Snowboard will use the following tie-breaking mechanisms below one at a time – in preferential order starting with (a) – until the quota slots remaining per gender in this section are filled. The points awarded from the Tryout Events toward the FIS <u>Ski Cross</u> Points List shall be used when referring to point results in the below tie-breaking mechanisms:

- a. Single highest point result from the Ski Cross Tryout Events
- b. Second highest point result from the Ski Cross Tryout Events
- c. Third highest point result from the Ski Cross Tryout Events
- d. Fourth highest point result from the Ski Cross Tryout Events
- e. Highest point result from the final event listed in the Ski Cross Tryout Event schedule during the 2021-22 season

# D. Objective Criteria Moguls

Up to three (3) athletes, per gender, will be nominated for the event in the following order:

Up to the top two (2) highest ranked athletes, per gender, from the FIS Mogul Points List as of December 22, 2021 will be nominated to the 2022 U.S. Olympic Team. Athlete must be ranked within the Top 6 of the rankings. The specific date of the FIS Mogul Points List is subject to change pending confirmation of the competition calendar for the 2021-22 season, with any adjustment to the date taking place as soon as possible but no later than September 30, 2021.

U.S. Ski & Snowboard will use the following tie-breaking mechanism, if two or more athletes, per gender, are tied within the Top 6 of the FIS <a href="Mogul">Mogul</a> Points, until the quota slots, per gender, in this section are filled:

- a. Highest result, between the tied athletes, from their most recent head-to-head competition at an identified Tryout Event.
- 2. The third quota slot and any quota slot(s) remaining unfilled by way of criteria Item D1 above, per gender, will be allocated based on an athlete having at least <u>one</u> (1) top three result, in the identified Tryout Events, will be nominated to the 2022 Olympic team.

If no U.S. athlete has had one (1) top three result in the Tryout Events, then any remaining quota slots will be evaluated under the Discretionary Selection Procedures in Section 2 or the Remaining Team Nomination Criteria in Section 3 as described below. If there are more athletes than there are remaining quota slots available within this objective criteria section, in either gender (i.e., with one (1) top three result in the Tryout Events), then U.S. Ski & Snowboard will utilize the following procedure to identify the athlete(s) who will be nominated via this objective criteria:

U.S. Ski & Snowboard will use the following tie-breaking mechanisms below one at a time – in preferential order starting with (a) – until the quota slots remaining per gender in this section are filled. The points awarded from the Tryout Events toward the FIS <u>Mogul</u> Points List shall be used when referring to points results in the below tie-breaking mechanisms:

- a. Single highest point result from the Mogul Tryout Events
- b. Second highest point result from the Mogul Tryout Events
- c. Third highest point result from the Mogul Tryout Events

- d. Fourth highest point result from the Mogul Tryout Events
- e. Highest point result from the final event listed in the Mogul Tryout Event schedule during the 2021-22 season

#### E. Objective Criteria Aerials

Up to three (3) athletes, per gender, will be nominated for the event in the following order:

1. Up to the top two (2) highest ranked athletes, per gender, from the FIS Aerial Points List issued on December 22, 2021 will be nominated to the 2022 U.S. Olympic Team. Athlete must be ranked within the Top 6 of the rankings. The specific date of the FIS Aerial Points List is subject to change pending confirmation of the competition calendar for the 2021-22 season, with any adjustment to the date taking place as soon as possible but no later than September 30, 2021.

U.S. Ski & Snowboard will use the following tie-breaking mechanism, if two or more athletes, per gender, are tied within the Top 6 of the FIS <u>Aerial</u> Points, until the quota slots, per gender, in this section are filled:

- a. Highest result, between the tied athletes, from their most recent head-to-head competition at an identified Tryout Event.
- 2. The third quota slot and any quota slot(s) remaining unfilled by way of criteria Item E1 above, per gender, will be allocated based on an athlete having at least <u>one</u> (1) top three result in the identified Tryout Events will be nominated to the 2022 Olympic team.

If no U.S. athlete has had one (1) top three result in the Tryout Events, then any remaining quota slots will be evaluated under Discretionary Selection Procedures in Section 2 or the Remaining Team Nomination Criteria in Section 3 as described below. If more athletes than there are remaining quota slots available within this objective criteria section, in either gender (i.e., with one (1) top three result in the Tryout Events), then U.S. Ski & Snowboard will utilize the following procedure to identify the athlete(s) who will be nominated via this objective criteria:

U.S. Ski & Snowboard will use the following tie-breaking mechanisms below one at a time – in preferential order starting with (a) – until the quota slots remaining per gender in this section are filled. The points awarded from the Tryout Events toward the FIS <u>Aerial</u> Points List shall be used when referring to points results in the below tie-breaking mechanisms:

- a. Single highest point result from the Aerial Tryout Events
- b. Second highest point result from the Aerial Tryout Events
- c. Third highest point result from the Aerial Tryout Events
- d. Fourth highest point result from the Aerial Tryout Events
- e. Highest point result from the final event listed in the Aerial Tryout Event schedule during the 2021-22 season

## 2. DISCRETIONARY SELECTION (if applicable)

2.1. Provide rationale for utilizing discretionary selection (if any):

If there are unfilled quota spots after applying the objective criteria in Section 1.3 above, then U.S. Ski & Snowboard may utilize the discretionary selection criteria to fill any, but not necessarily all (see Section 3 below), vacant spots in order to select athletes with medal capability, future medal capability, or athletes who can achieve the best results.

There are two scenarios for which U.S. Ski & Snowboard may use discretionary selection criteria:

- 1. **Athlete Selection:** Selecting athlete(s) to fill available quotas that are not filled through the objective criteria described in Section 1.3.
- 2. **Team Composition:** Fielding the Mixed Gender Team Aerials event.
- 2.2. List the discretionary criteria and explain how they will be used (if any):

#### 1. Athlete Selection

Discretionary selection will be utilized should quota slots remain after utilization of the objective criteria detailed in Section 1.3 above. Athletes as well as the Head Coach or World Cup Coaches for each discipline may use the form available on <a href="https://www.usskiandsnowboard.org/sport-programs/criteria">https://www.usskiandsnowboard.org/sport-programs/criteria</a> to petition for <a href="mailto:consideration">consideration</a> recommend athlete(s), according to the criteria below, to the Selection Committee. The Selection Committee will review all data when considering the recommendations, subject to the criteria listed below in paragraph (a).

a. <u>Discretion</u> – An athlete (including but not limited to those not nominated objectively due to illness or injury) who has either (i) clearly demonstrated the ability to produce a medal winning result or (ii) has demonstrated future medal potential by achieving one of the following criteria listed (in no specific order of priority:

- One (1) Top 8 result, within the last twenty-four (24) months, at a FIS World Cup, World Championships, X-Games, or Dew Tour
- A Top 20 World Ranking within the last twenty-four (24) months on any of the below rankings lists:
  - The FIS Mogul Points List (FIS List)
  - The FIS Ski Cross Points List (FIS List)
  - The FIS Aerial Points List (FIS List)
  - The FIS Halfpipe Points List (FIS List) World Freeski Ranking List (WFPL)
  - The FIS Slopestyle Points List (FIS List) World Freeski Ranking List (WFPL)

## 2. Team Composition

## a. Mixed Gender Team Aerials

A nation is entitled to a maximum quota of 32 athletes (maximum 16 per gender) if they are qualified with at least three (3) athletes in Aerials and are eligible to form a team to participate in the Mixed Team Aerials event.

If Aerials does not earn enough Objective Team Nominations through Section 1.3 to form a Mixed Aerials Team, consideration will be given under Discretionary Selection 1A to an Aerials athlete, per gender, should that nomination provide for the opportunity to earn a maximum quota of 32 athletes (maximum 16 per gender) and form a team to participate in the Mixed Team Aerials event.

The U.S. Ski & Snowboard Aerial Head Coach shall select the athletes who compete in the Mixed Gender Team Aerials competition at the Olympic Winter Games. Only the athletes who are nominated for Olympic Aerials event shall be eligible to compete in the Mixed Gender Team Aerials event.

2.3. Provide the name of the committee that will be responsible for making discretionary selections, along with a complete list of the members' titles currently serving on the committee:

#### U.S. Ski & Snowboard Selection Committee

Recommendations for discretionary nominations in discretionary Section 2.2 (1.a) above will be made by the U.S. Ski & Snowboard Head Coach and World Cup Coaches or by self-nominated athletes to the U.S. Ski & Snowboard Selection Committee.

#### U.S. Ski & Snowboard Selection Committee Members:

- U.S. Ski & Snowboard President and CEO
- U.S. Ski & Snowboard Director Freeski & Freestyle
- U.S. Ski & Snowboard Freeski Sport Committee Chair or an appointed Sport Committee member

U.S. Ski & Snowboard – Freestyle Sport Committee Chair or an appointed Sport Committee member

U.S. Ski & Snowboard Board Athlete Representative – Freeski

U.S. Ski & Snowboard Board Athlete Representative – Freestyle

Note: An independent observer of procedure appointed by the U.S. Ski & Snowboard Board of Directors will be present at the final selection meeting to document the record but will have no voice during the selection discussion nor will the observer have a vote.

2.3.1. Specify the process that will be used to identify and handle any potential conflicts of interest involving a member of the committee.

Any member of the Selection Committee that has a possible conflict of interest must either recuse him/herself or disclose it to U.S. Ski & Snowboard's Ethics Committee prior to the start of the selection process. A conflict of interest exists when the Selection Committee member has a direct or indirect relationship, connection or affiliation, past or present, with an athlete in contention for the applicable team selection that could compromise the Selection Committee member's ability to participate in the selection process in an unbiased manner. If a conflict exists, U.S. Ski & Snowboard's Ethics Committee shall vet the conflict and make the final determination of whether that Selection Committee member must recuse him/herself from participating in discussions and/or voting. The Ethics Committee may determine that a Selection Committee member who has relevant and necessary information with respect to athlete performance, for example a national team coach or high performance director, may, if requested by the Selection Committee, provide such information to the Selection Committee so long as such information is provided in a fair and unbiased manner and the Selection Committee member with the conflict of interest does not vote toward the final decision. The Selection Committee member should not otherwise influence other members of the Selection Committee in the selection process.

Additionally, any person (including any potentially impacted athlete or coach of a potentially impacted athlete) with a good faith belief that a Selection Committee member has a conflict of interest may report the alleged conflict of interest to U.S. Ski & Snowboard's Ethics Committee. Reports may be made anonymously.

A recused individual shall be replaced in accordance with U.S. Ski & Snowboard's Selection Committee appointment process.

If it is later determined a conflict of interest existed but was not disclosed, then the nomination will still stand, assuming a majority vote for the nominated athlete still exists after removing the conflicted member's vote.

#### 3. REMAINING TEAM NOMINATION SELECTION

If quota spots remain after the application of objective criteria in Section 1.3 and, if applicable, the application of discretionary criteria in Section 2.2, any remaining team nominations will be determined, in order of next highest ranked U.S. athlete not already selected to the team across both genders and all disciplines with remaining positions according to World Ranking using the following most recently published ranking lists, at the time of nomination, for each event:

- The FIS Ski Cross Points List (FIS List)
- The FIS Mogul Points List (FIS List)
- The FIS Aerials Points List (FIS List)
- The FIS Halfpipe Points List (FIS List) World Freeski Ranking List (WFPL)
- The FIS Slopestyle Points List (FIS List) World Freeski Ranking List (WFPL)

U.S. Ski & Snowboard will use the following tie-breaking mechanism, if two or more athletes, per gender, within the same event, are tied within their respective ranking lists:

a. Highest result, between the tied athletes, from their most recent head-to-head competition at an identified Tryout Event.

In the event a tie remains, the decision shall be made by the Selection Committee listed in Section 2.3 utilizing the Discretionary Selection criteria outlined in Section 2.2.(1.a).

#### 4. REMOVAL OF ATHLETES

4.1. Prior to entry by name to the Local Organizing Committee by the USOPC, the NGB/HPMO has jurisdiction over potential nominees.

An athlete who is to be nominated to the Team by U.S. Ski & Snowboard may be removed for any of the following reasons, as determined by a majority vote of the U.S. Ski & Snowboard Selection Committee:

- 4.1.1. Voluntary withdrawal. Athlete must submit a written letter to the U.S. Ski & Snowboard's President/CEO.
- 4.1.2. Injury or illness as certified by a physician (or medical staff) approved by U.S. Ski & Snowboard. If an athlete refuses verification of his/her illness or injury by a physician (or medical staff) approved by U.S. Ski & Snowboard, his/her injury will be assumed to be disabling and he/she may be removed.

- 4.1.3. Failure to participate in Mandatory Training and/or Competition as defined in Section 10 of these procedures.
- 4.1.4. Violation of the U.S. Ski & Snowboard Code of Conduct, which may be found online HERE.

An athlete who is removed from the Team pursuant to this provision has the right to a hearing per the U.S. Ski & Snowboard Bylaws (Article IX Section B) and the USOPC's Bylaws, Section 9.

4.2. Once athlete entries have been submitted to the Local Organizing Committee by the USOPC, the USOPC has jurisdiction over the Team, at which time, in addition to any applicable U.S. Ski & Snowboard Code of Conduct, the USOPC's Code of Conduct and Grievance Procedures apply. The USOPC's Code of Conduct is included in the Games Forms made available prior to the respective Games; and the USOPC's Grievance Procedures can be found at:

<u>www.teamusa.org/Athlete-Resources/Athlete-Ombudsman/Games-Info/Athlete-Conduct-www.teamusa.org/Footer/Legal/Governance-Documents</u>

4.3. An athlete may be removed as a nominee to the Team or from the Team for an adjudicated violation of IOC, WADA, FIS, USADA, and/or USOPC anti-doping protocol, policies and procedures, as well as the U.S. Center for SafeSport Code, the USOPC Athlete Safety Policy and U.S. Ski & Snowboard Athlete Safety policies, as applicable.

#### 5. REPLACEMENT OF ATHLETES

- 5.1. Describe the selection and approval process for determining replacement athlete(s) should a vacancy occur:
  - 5.1.1. Prior to submission of Entries by Name to the Local Organizing Committee, including any applicable group or committee:

If necessary, if an athlete is removed from the team for the reasons described in Section 4 above, the athlete may be replaced by the U.S. Ski & Snowboard Selection Committee using the selection <a href="mailto:criteria">criteria</a> specified in Sections 2 and 3. Any replacement of athletes must comply with these selection procedures, IOC, USOPC, and FIS regulations and entry deadlines.

5.1.2. After submission of Entries by Name to the Local Organizing Committee, including any applicable group or committee:

See above same as Section 5.1.1. <u>provided it is in accordance with the IOC/FIS</u> Late Athlete Replacement (LAR) policy.

#### 6. SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

U.S. Ski & Snowboard will retain the approved Selection Procedures and all supporting documents, including scouting or evaluation forms, etc., and data from the selection process for six months past the date of the Closing Ceremony of the Games.

#### 7. REQUIRED DOCUMENTS

In addition to the USOPC Code of Conduct, the following documents are required to be adhered to/signed by an athlete as a condition of nomination to the Olympic Games and can be found online <a href="HERE">HERE</a> and <a href="HERE">HERE</a> and <a href="HERE">HERE</a>:

U.S. Ski & Snowboard Code of Conduct
U.S. Ski & Snowboard Athlete Safety Policies & Guidelines

# 8. PUBLICITY/DISTRIBUTION OF PROCEDURES

The USOPC approved Selection Procedures (complete and unaltered) will be posted/published by U.S. Ski & Snowboard in the following locations:

8.1. U.S. Ski & Snowboard Website: www.usskiandsnowboard.org

These procedures will be posted as soon as possible, but not more than five (5) business days following notice of approval by the USOPC.

#### 9. DATE OF NOMINATION

The Nomination of Athletes form, including replacements, will be announced to all athletes and submitted to the USOPC on or before **January 21, 2022**.

#### 10. MANDATORY TRAINING AND/OR COMPETITION

Specify the location, schedule and duration of mandatory training and/or competition:

Any mandatory training and/or competitions after the date of nomination will be announced at least thirty (30) days prior to the start of training or competition. Location, schedule and duration of any mandatory training and/or competition will be posted on U.S. Ski & Snowboard website at www.usskiandsnowboard.org/

Waivers from mandatory training and/or competitions are not permitted, unless there are extraordinary circumstances. In that case, it is reviewed and either accepted or rejected by the U.S. SKI & Snowboard Selection Committee (see Section 2.3). The U.S. Ski & Snowboard Selection Committee's determination is final and not appealable. Any unexcused absence will serve as cause for removal from the 2022 U.S. Olympic Team with the right to a hearing pursuant

to the U.S. Ski & Snowboard Bylaws and Grievance Procedures or Section 9 of the USOPC Bylaws.

#### 11. ANTI-DOPING REQUIREMENTS

Athletes must adhere to all IOC, WADA, FIS, USADA and USOPC anti-doping protocols, policies and procedures, as applicable. This includes participation in Out-of-Competition Testing as required by the IOC, WADA, FIS, USADA and USOPC Rules, as applicable.

#### 12. DEVELOPMENT OF SELECTION PROCEDURES

The following committee/group (include <u>names</u> and titles) was responsible for creating these Selection Procedures:

Tiger Shaw President & CEO

Jeremy Forster U.S. Freeski & Freestyle Director

Matt Gnoza U.S. Moguls Head Coach

Mike Jankowski U.S. Freeski Head Coach – Halfpipe, Slopestyle/Big Air

Vladimir Lebedev U.S. Aerials Head Coach

Tom Wallisch Freeski Athlete Board Representative
Heather Watanabe Freestyle Athlete Board Representative

Whitney Gardner Skicross Athlete Sub-Committee Representative

#### 13. NGB BYLAWS AND GRIEVANCE PROCEDURES

The U.S. Ski & Snowboard Bylaws and Grievance Procedures can be found at:

https://usskiandsnowboard.org/governance/board-directors

#### 14. INTERNATIONAL DISCLAIMER

These procedures are based on IOC and/or FIS rules and regulations as presently known and understood. Any change in the selection procedures caused by a change in IOC and/or FIS rules and regulations will be distributed to the affected athletes immediately. The selection criteria are based on the latest information available to U.S. Ski & Snowboard. However, the selections are always subject to unforeseen, intervening circumstances, and realistically may not have accounted for every possible contingency.

If any force of nature, or force majeure, should cause the alteration or cancellation of any of the selection events listed in this document, these selection procedures will be revised, pursuant to their resubmission to the USOPC.

#### 15. ATHLETE OMBUDSMAN

The Athlete Ombudsman provides cost-free, independent and confidential advice regarding athlete rights, grievance procedures and any other related guidance pertaining to selection procedures and can assist in mediating disputes between athletes and their NGB.

To contact the Athlete Ombudsman Office:

PHONE: (719) 866-5000

EMAIL: <a href="mailto:ombudsman@usathlete.org">ombudsman@usathlete.org</a>

WEBSITE: www.usathlete.org

## 16. NGB/HPMO SIGNATURES

I certify that I have read and understand the standards/criteria set by the IOC, USOPC, and FIS and incorporated those standards/criteria into our Selection Procedures. I further certify that the information provided herein regarding Athlete Selection Procedures represents the method approved by U.S. Ski & Snowboard.

Position	Print Name	Signature	Date	
President/ CEO U.S. Ski & Snowboard	Gale H. "Tiger" Shaw	Docusigned by: Gale H. "Tiger" Shaw AA5AA4CD9C884FF	9/7/2021   12:3	7 PM MDT
Freeski/Freestyle Director, U.S. Ski & Snowboard	Jeremy Forster	DocuSigned by:  DB2D0F1ADFD346A	9/8/2021   11:2	4 AM MDT
USOPC Athletes' Advisory Council Representative*	Andrew Weibrecht	Docusigned by: Andrew Weibrecht DBE12A887542428	9/7/2021   1:32	PM MDT

<sup>\*</sup> If the USOPC AAC Representative has delegated authority to the Alternate AAC Representative to sign the Selection Procedures, attach a letter from the AAC Representative indicating the reason he/she has delegated authority.

<sup>\*</sup> Signature by the Athlete Representative constitutes that he/she has read and understands the Selection Procedures. If the Athlete Representative reads and does not agree with the Athlete Selection Procedures being submitted by the NGB, he/she may submit those reasons in writing to his/her Sport Performance Team.

<sup>\*</sup> If, for some reason, a sport does not have an elected USOPC AAC Representative, the U.S. Ski & Snowboard must designate an athlete from that sport to review and sign the Selection Procedures.