



## Alpine World Cup Eligibility & Selection Criteria Season 2023 – 24 **UPDATED 10/28/23**

### Eligibility for Consideration

U.S. Ski & Snowboard will consider for selection only those U.S. Ski & 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.

U.S. Ski & Snowboard provides an equal opportunity to amateur athletes, coaches, trainers, managers, administrators, and officials to participate in amateur athletic competition, without discrimination on the basis of race, color, religion, age, sex, or national origin, and with fair notice and opportunity for a hearing before declaring any such individual ineligible to participate.

All athletes must meet the minimum FIS point requirement, as set by FIS, for entry into any World Cup.

To be eligible to compete in a World Cup (“WC”), U.S athletes must meet one of the following criteria:

1. Be ranked in the Top 60 World Cup Start List (“WCSL”) in the respective discipline; **or**
2. Have scored WC points (finished top 30 in a WC) in any discipline this season, or prior to an injury, but not more than in the previous two seasons (2022-23 and 2021-22); **or**
3. Have generated a personal WC quota spot in the respective discipline; **or**
4. Scored a top ten (10) result in a Europa Cup (“EC”) in any of the last three (3) *races in the same discipline*.
5. Coaching staff may utilize discretionary selections, considering a variety of factors, including indication of medal potential in future Olympic and World Championship competitions, which would be materially enhanced by selection for World Cup start prior to meeting the preceding criteria.

Notwithstanding the above, prior to the start of the EC season, for the period **10/28/23 - 12/5/23 for Women** and **10/29/23 - 12/7/23 for Men (“Initial WC Period”)**, athletes must have had a Top ten (10) result in an EC or Top three (3) in a NorAm Cup in the 2022/2023 season in the respective discipline, **and** be ranked in the Top 90 on the FIS list in the respective discipline.

### Criteria Guidelines:

- U.S. Ski & Snowboard team selection criteria shall be principally objective (e.g. performance-based).
- The U.S. Ski Team Alpine Director is responsible for applying the selection criteria set forth herein, subject to the oversight of the U.S. Ski & Snowboard Chief of Sport.
- The group of athletes selected by U.S. Ski & Snowboard may consist of any number of athletes up to the FIS World Cup quota for the United States.
- Discretionary selections, if any, may be based on a variety of factors.
- Achieving a start right does not guarantee funding from the U.S. Ski Team, nor does it automatically include ski service. The U.S. Ski Team will provide onsite event logistics support.



### **General Criteria**

There are three (3) types of quotas under which an athlete may earn a WC start:

1. Nations Quota - The number of start rights as part of the Nations Quota is set by FIS periodically throughout the year. The Quota is established based on the number of competitors per nation, ranked within WCSL number 1 to number 60 in the respective discipline. A Nation may be able to enter on the Nations Quota maximum of eight (8) women and seven (7) men for competitions.
2. Basic Quota - Each National Ski Association (“NSA”) that is affiliated with FIS may enter one (1) competitor in FIS World Cup races.
3. Individual Quota - The Individual Quota is earned through placement in the previous season’s NorAm Overall results. The Overall NorAm winner earns a World Cup start in all World Cup disciplines. The first and second place finishers in a respective discipline earn a World Cup start in that discipline.

Any change to the above Quotas by FIS may result in a revision of this criteria.

Athletes qualified for the WC through a Quota spot may choose not to use their start quota based on discussions with their Head Coach in determining their athletic priorities.

Athletes shall be selected to start at a World Cup according to the criteria below, in order of priority, until the available quota is filled or surpassed:

1. Ranking on the WCSL.
2. Athletes with 500 WC points.
3. Europa Cup top 10 result whereby the athlete will be entered into the next available World Cup in the same discipline.
4. Additional quota allocation (not already qualified from the above criteria) may be selected based on coach's discretion. Discretionary positions may be considered on an event-by-event basis.
5. If application of these criteria results in a total team size exceeding the current FIS quota (Nations + Basic), the following Qualification Protocol shall be used:

### **Qualification Protocol**

In the event there are more athletes eligible than the maximum allowed Nations + Basic Quota, there will be a Qualification Time Trial for all athletes outside of the Top 30 WCSL as described in the below Qualification Protocol for WC starts.



Any athlete invited to participate in the Time Trial must attend and participate to be considered for a WC start:

1. A qualification or time trial notice and schedule will be sent to all eligible athletes, at least one (1) week prior to the event. DH athletes will receive notice a week prior to the first training run.
2. Downhill (DH) race spots will be decided based on results in the DH training. The athlete with the fastest time on the predetermined training run will earn a start.
3. If conditions during training runs are deemed to not be an accurate indicator of performance on race day (e.g. due to poor weather), coaches may use the fastest section times, then previous training runs will be utilized to select athletes starting in the WC.
4. For speed events where there are two consecutive races of different disciplines (e.g., SG before a DH or DH before a SG), an athlete may qualify automatically to use an open quota spot ahead of other eligible athletes in the subsequent race if they achieve a Top 5 result in the first race.
5. The Qualification Protocol for Slalom and Giant Slalom is such that each eligible athlete will have the opportunity to compete in a time trial hosted by the U.S. Ski Team coaches and will be assessed as follows:
  - a. Three (3) timed runs
  - b. Total of two runs whereby the first run must be completed and counted with the best of runs 2 and 3
  - c. Course will be reset between runs 1 and 2, when possible
  - d. Athlete(s) with fastest combined 2-run time will be selected to start depending on how many open quota spots are available

### **Quota Spots for Season 2023-24**

#### **Women**

*8 Nations Quota (Maximum)  
+ 1 Basic Quota*

#### **Individual Quotas**

Mary Boccock - All disciplines  
Allie Resnick - Slalom  
Zoe Zimmerman - Slalom  
Tricia Mangan - Downhill & SG  
Lauren Macuga - DH

#### **Men**

*7 Nations Quota (Maximum)  
+ 1 Basic Quota*

#### **Individual Quotas**

Isaiah Nelson - All disciplines  
Sam DuPratt - Super G  
Jack Smith - Super G  
Erik Arvidsson - DH  
Kyle Negomir - DH

### **U.S. Ski & Snowboard Appeal and Grievance Procedures**

Any member who believes that he/she has wrongfully been denied membership on any team whose members are selected through participation in "protected competition," as that term is defined in the USOPC Bylaws, shall be entitled to appeal such a decision.

The U.S. Ski & Snowboard Grievance Procedures can be found within section IX of the U.S. Ski & Snowboard bylaws found at: [usskiandsnowboard.org](http://usskiandsnowboard.org)



### **Athlete Ombudsman**

Athletes who have questions regarding their opportunity to compete that are not answered by U.S. Ski & Snowboard may contact the USOPC Athlete Ombuds Office:

- Telephone at: (719) 866-5000
- Toll-free Telephone at: (888) ATHLETE (1-888-284-5383)
- E-mail at: [ombudsman@usathlete.org](mailto:ombudsman@usathlete.org)
- <https://www.teamusa.org/athlete-ombudsman>