



2019-20 Cross Country World Cup Team Selection Criteria

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.

Criteria Guidelines:

- U.S. Ski & Snowboard policy mandates that team selection criteria shall be principally objective (or performance-based) and that available start rights and team spots will not necessarily be filled.
- The U.S. Ski Team Head Coach is responsible for applying the selection criteria set forth herein, subject to the oversight of the U.S. Ski & Snowboard Chief of Sport.
- No minimum team size will be established.
- The team selected by U.S. Ski & Snowboard may consist of any number of athletes up to the FIS World Cup quota for the United States.
- The quota of start rights per nation is set annually by the FIS.
- Objective selections shall be based on the results achieved by athletes in FIS competitions scored to the FIS points list, World Cup competitions held during the 2018/19 and 2019/20 seasons, U.S. Ski & Snowboard SuperTour events held in the 2018/19 and 2019/20 seasons, and select Nor/Am competitions held in the 2018/19 and 2019/20 seasons.
- Athletes who have not met the General Criteria may be selected to the team via discretion if they satisfy any of the following:



- Outstanding competition results from the 2018/19 and 2019/20 seasons, including as a member of a team event, indicating a potential for World Cup success.
- Recent positive direction or trend of competition results indicating a potential for Olympic or World Championship success.
- Indication of medal potential in future Olympic or World Championship competition (such as international age group results and age rankings) that would be materially enhanced by selection to the team.
- Discretionary selections, if any, may be based on a variety of factors, including competitions conducted outside of the selection period.
- Team status does not include funding from U.S. Ski & Snowboard, nor does it automatically include ski service. SuperTour leaders will be required to pay a fee for waxing/service and/or may be asked to provide their own serviceman/technician.

General Criteria:

Athletes shall be selected to the team based solely upon their competition results during the selection period. Athletes meeting below criteria shall be selected to the team, unless application of these criteria would result in a total team size exceeding the FIS quota, in which case U.S. Ski & Snowboard shall use the following tie-breaking mechanisms in order:

- (a) Most World Cup points
 - (b) Lowest current FIS points (sprint or distance, whichever is lower)
 - (c) Lowest current U.S. Ski & Snowboard points
1. Individuals who meet the following criteria will be selected to the World Cup Cross Country Team for **Period 1** (November 29 - December 22, 2019):
 - Attain a top-50 World Cup Overall ranking at the conclusion of the 2018/19 season.



- Attain a Sprint World Cup or Distance World Cup ranking within the top-30 (women) or top-40 (men) at the conclusion the 2018/2019 season.
- Win the 2018/2019 Overall U.S. Ski & Snowboard SuperTour title.

2. Individuals who meet the following criteria will be selected to the World Cup Cross Country Team (in the following order) for **Period 2 – Tour de Ski** (December 28, 2019 - January 5, 2020).

- Attain a current World Cup Overall, World Cup Distance, or World Cup Sprint ranking within the top-30 (women) or top-40 (men) at the completion of World Cup Period 1 (December 22, 2019).
- Attain a top-50 World Cup Overall ranking at the conclusion of Period 1 in the 2018/19 season.
- The leaders of the Overall U.S. Ski & Snowboard SuperTour classification (man and woman) at the completion of the second weekend of fall SuperTour and Nor/Am racing (Dec. 8, 2019 – tentative).

3. Individuals who meet the following criteria will be selected to the World Cup Cross Country Team for World Cups (in the following order) occurring in **Period 3** (January 11 – February 9, 2020).

- Attain a current World Cup Overall, Sprint World Cup or Distance World Cup ranking within the top-30 (women) or top-40 (men) at the completion of World Cup Period 1 (December 22, 2019).
- Attain a top-50 World Cup Overall ranking at the conclusion of Period 1 in the 2018/19 season.
- The leaders of the Overall U.S. Ski & Snowboard SuperTour classification (man and woman) at the completion of the second weekend of fall SuperTour and Nor/Am racing (Dec. 8, 2019 – tentative – this selection date TBD at U.S. Ski & Snowboard Congress, May 2019).

4. Individuals who meet the following criteria will be selected to the World Cup Cross Country Team for World Cups (in the following order) occurring in **Period 4 – Ski Tour 2020** (February 15-23, 2020).



- Attain a current World Cup Overall, Sprint World Cup or Distance World Cup ranking within the top-30 (women) or top-40 (men) at the completion of World Cup Period 3 (February 9, 2020).
 - Attain a top-50 World Cup Overall ranking at the conclusion of Period 3 in the 2018/19 season.
 - The leaders of the Overall U.S. Ski & Snowboard SuperTour classification (man and woman) at the completion of U.S. National Championships (tentative – this selection date TBD at U.S. Ski & Snowboard Congress, May 2019).
5. Individuals who meet the following criteria will be selected to the World Cup Cross Country Team (in the following order) World Cups in **Period 5** (February 29 – March 8, 2020).
- Attain a current World Cup Overall, Sprint World Cup or Distance World Cup ranking within the top-30 (women) or top-40 (men) at the completion of the World Cup Period 4 (February 23, 2020).
 - Attain a top-50 World Cup Overall ranking at the conclusion of Period 4 in the 2018/19 season.
 - The leaders of the Overall U.S. Ski & Snowboard SuperTour classification (man and woman) on (February 16, 2020 - tentative – this selection date TBD at U.S. Ski & Snowboard Congress, May 2019).
6. Individuals who meet the following criteria (in the following order) will be selected to the World Cup Cross Country Team for the **Sprint Tour** (March 14-17, 2020). Note – the entire Sprint Tour selection method will be reviewed at U.S. Ski & Snowboard Congress, May 2019.
- Athletes ranked in the top-20 in the Sprint World Cup on March 4, 2020 are considered extra quota spots (specific to those athletes) by the FIS and shall be selected to the team. Tentative – TBC at FIS meetings, May 2019.
 - Athletes ranking in the top-50 in the Sprint World Cup standings as of (February 22, 2020 - tentative) shall be selected to the team.
 - The leaders of the Overall U.S. Ski & Snowboard SuperTour classification (man and woman) on (February 16, 2020 - tentative – this selection date TBD at U.S. Ski & Snowboard Congress, May 2019).



- Athletes finishing in the top-12 in the individual sprint event at the 2020 U23 World Championships shall be named to the Team.
- Athletes finishing in the top-10 in the individual sprint event at the 2020 World Junior Championships shall be named to the Team.
- Should there be any remaining positions after the Objective and Discretionary selection has been applied, those positions will be filled by selecting the athletes ranking highest on the 2019-2020 World Cup Overall list (in order of ranking), followed by the athletes ranking highest on the 2019-2020 SuperTour Sprint Tour Qualification points list, which is comprised of an athletes' best X of X sprint SuperTour results between December 1, 2019 and February 16, 2020 - Tentative (the selection period).

7. Individuals who meet the following criteria will be selected to the World Cup Cross Country Team for the **World Cup Finals** (March 20-22, 2020). Note – the entire World Cup Finals selection method will be reviewed at U.S. Ski & Snowboard Congress, May 2019, so that the effectiveness of the 18-19 WC Finals criteria can be evaluated.

- Athletes ranking in the top-50 in the Distance World Cup standings as of (March 8, 2020 - tentative) shall be selected to the team.
- The leaders of the Overall USSA SuperTour classification (man and woman) on (February 16, 2020 - Tentative – This selection date TBD at U.S. Ski & Snowboard Congress, May 2019).
- Athletes finishing in the top-12 in an individual distance event at the 2020 U23 World Championships shall be named to the Team.
- Athletes finishing in the top-10 in an individual distance event at the 2020 World Junior Championships shall be named to the Team.
- Should there be any remaining positions after the Objective and Discretionary selection has been applied, those positions will be filled by selecting the athletes ranking highest on the 2019-2020 World Cup Overall list (in order of ranking), followed by the athletes ranking highest on the 2019-2020 SuperTour World Cup Finals Qualification points list, which is comprised of an athletes' best X of X distance SuperTour results between December 1, 2019 and February 16, 2020 - Tentative (the selection period).



Injury Clause:

An athlete shall be ineligible for consideration if he/she is not fit to compete at the time selections are made due to any injury or illness from which he/she is not expected to recover adequately by the time of the World Cup competitions he/she has been selected for.

Discretionary Selections:

All discretionary selections will be reviewed by a discretionary selection review group comprised of the U.S. Ski & Snowboard Nordic Program Manager, the U.S. Ski & Snowboard Chief of Sport, and the athlete representative from that sport who is a member of the U.S. Ski & Snowboard Board. If the U.S. Ski & Snowboard Board Athlete Representative is also a currently competing athlete then another athlete, who is not actively competing, will be selected by the Athletes' Council to be the representative in this group.

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 USOC Bylaws, shall be entitled to appeal such 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

ATHLETE OMBUDSMAN

Athletes who have questions regarding their opportunity to compete that are not answered by U.S. Ski & Snowboard may contact the USOC Athlete Ombudsman, Kacie Wallace, by:

- Telephone at (719) 866-5000
- Toll-free telephone at (888) ATHLETE (1-888-284-5383)
- E-mail at Kacie.wallace@usoc.org
- www.athleteombudsman.org
- <http://www.teamusa.org/For-Athletes/Athlete-Ombudsman.aspx>