

## **United States Ski & Snowboard Association**

### **2023 Cross Country World University Games Championship Team Selection Criterion**

#### Eligibility for Consideration:

U.S. Ski & Snowboard will consider for selection only those active U.S. Ski & Snowboard competitor members in good standing who a valid USA-coded FIS license and who meet FIS, FISU, USOPC and U.S. Ski & Snowboard 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.

- 1) Athletes must meet the following FISU regulations:
  - a. Be officially registered students enrolled on a full-time basis as defined by the rules of the institution.
  - b. OR be a former student of the establishments mentioned in the previous article who have graduated within the last calendar year.
  - c. Be at least 18 years of age and no older than 25 years of age on the 31st December of the year of the event (age range as specified in the FISU regulations and entry forms of the concerned Event).
- 2) Athlete accept and commit to their nomination on the 2023 USA World University Games Team by Monday, December 13<sup>th</sup>, 2022. A \$700.00 US Dollar down payment for World University Games is due Monday, December 13<sup>th</sup>, 2022.

#### Criterion Guidelines

- This criterion is for the year of 2023 only. Criterion will be reevaluated in May 2023 at the spring congress and changes may be made for the 2025 selection year.
- U.S. SKI & SNOWBOARD policy mandates that team selection criteria shall be principally objective (or performance-based), that coaches' discretion must be limited to no more than twenty-five percent (25%) of total team selected, and that available start rights and team spots will not necessarily be filled.
- The U.S. SKI & SNOWBOARD Cross Country Sport Development Manager is responsible for applying the selection criteria set forth herein, subject to the oversight of the U.S. Ski & Snowboard Cross Country Director.
- Up to eight (8) athletes per gender shall be selected to the team based solely upon their FIS competition ranking during the objective selection period.
- The team selected by U.S. SKI & SNOWBOARD may consist of any number of athletes up to the quota set by the International Ski Federation (FIS).
- Objective selections shall be as determined by FIS points accrued from March 28, 2021 to March 27, 2022 (the "selection period").

- 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 the U.S. SKI & SNOWBOARD.

### General Criterion

- 1) Selection Date: Monday, November 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2022.
- Athletes with the lowest COMBINED FIS Distance and Sprint rankings determined by FIS points accrued from March 28, 2021 to March 27, 2022 (the "selection period").
- 2) All Team selections will be final and replacements or additions will not be made after submission of the official USA Team entry on Monday, December 13<sup>th</sup>, 2022.

### Tie-Breaking Procedure

In the event of a tie for the final quota spot, a skier will move ahead in the selection standings, and on selections list, based on the following procedures until the tie is broken.

- 1) The skier with the lowest FIS Distance Point Ranking on the 2021-22 FIS 8<sup>th</sup> Cross Country Points List (posted TBD). FIS points can be found here: <https://www.fis-ski.com/DB/cross-country/fis-points-lists.html>
- 2) Best current rank on the U.S. SKI & SNOWBOARD OVERALL National Ranking List (Final 2021-22 Season List – posted TBD). U.S. Ski & Snowboard points can be found here: <https://usskiandsnowboard.org/>

### Discretionary Selection Policy

U.S. SKI & SNOWBOARD may select athletes to the team using coaches' discretion. The number of individuals selected through coaches' discretion cannot exceed twenty-five percent (25%) of the total named team. If the coaching staff fills any available spot(s) on the team with discretionary selections, then the staff may consider any factors including (but not limited to) the following:

- 1) Outstanding competition results (including results achieved outside of the selection period).
- 2) Recent direction or trend of competition results (i.e., improving, flat, or declining).
- 3) Illness or injury during the selection period.
- 4) Other unanticipated failure of the objective criteria to select an athlete likely to achieve competition results consistent with U.S. SKI & SNOWBOARD program goals for the World University Games Championships.

### 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 University Games Championships.

#### 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](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 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](mailto:Kacie.wallace@usoc.org)
- [www.athleteombudsman.org](http://www.athleteombudsman.org)
- <http://www.teamusa.org/For-Athletes/Athlete-Ombudsman.aspx>