

Statement on the NorAm Tour
February 5, 2021

NorAm Committee Unable to Sanction NorAm Events for the 2020/21 Season

On Tuesday, January 26th after several months of work and collaboration to find a solution to run a 2020-21 NorAm Tour, the NorAm Committee approved a proposal to not sanction any events as NorAms this winter competition season. Collectively, the U.S. and Canada have spent significant man hours working to find a way to move forward with a tour that provides equitable access to American and Canadian athletes. Ultimately, given the shifting government travel restrictions, it became clear that hosting a NorAm Tour this season would not be feasible.

The NorAm committee submitted a preemptive provision to the FIS this fall regarding how personal World Cup spots, that are typically awarded to the NorAm overall champion, would be managed if we were unable to run a NorAm tour this season. The NorAm Committee will work with, and get approval from, all of the FIS subcommittees and the SB FS FK committee to finalize a solution for this situation. We will be sure to publish that information immediately following the FIS spring meetings the first week of June 2021

While this outcome is not ideal, the NorAm Committee feels confident that the decision was made with the best interest of the athletes in mind. U.S. Ski & Snowboard will now turn our attention to hosting great events as well as providing opportunity for athlete development.

What does this mean for the events that are on the calendar as NorAms?:

- U.S. Ski & Snowboard remains committed to supporting the events we have on the calendar this year and we will use alternate FIS categories to sanction these events.
- The Aspen Rev Tour will be sanctioned as a FIS Open.
- The Copper Rev Tour will be sanctioned as National Championships.
- The criteria to compete in the Rev Tours remains unchanged. We do anticipate some additional spots will open up without Canada's athletes in attendance - so please make sure and get your athletes [signed up on the Alternate List](#) if they would like to attend and they are not prequalified.
- Race to the Cup events will be sanctioned as International FIS events.
- Holeshot Tour will be sanctioned using a combination of International FIS and National Championships categories. Currently, there is not a cross event on the calendar, but we are optimistic that we will be moving forward with an event in early April. Stay tuned for details on this.

See below for the official NorAm Proposals as voted on by the NorAm Committee.

Proposal 1 AE - MO - FK Park & Pipe:

Due to the ongoing health risks during the pandemic combined with uncertain and insurmountable travel and quarantine requirements between the USA and Canada the NorAm Committee proposes the following:

1. That the NorAm Mogul series be cancelled for the 2020-2021 season with the intent to return in 2021-2022. All remaining NorAm events on the calendar will be run as FIS, FIS Open, or National Championship events should the organizers be willing and able to proceed.
2. That the following NorAm series be cancelled for the 2020-2021 season with the intent to return in 2021-2022. All remaining NorAm events on the calendar can be run as FIS, FIS Open, or National Championship events should the organizers be willing and able to proceed.
 1. Ski Halfpipe
 2. Ski Slopestyle and Big Air
3. That the NorAm Aerial event scheduled for early February 2021 be provisionally kept on the schedule. Should the Canadian travel restrictions come into place before the event, this event will change its level of sanctioning to FIS and the Canadians will return to Canada in advance of the costly required hotel quarantine. If this occurs, all remaining NorAm events on the calendar can be run as FIS, FIS Open, or National Championship events should the organizers be willing and able to proceed.
4. That the NorAm Committee will work with the respective FIS race directors, the FIS Rules Advisory Group, and the FIS SB FK FS Committee to identify how the 2021-2022 NorAm Overall Champion World Cup personal spots will be managed for the 2021-2022 World Cup Tours. The NorAm Committee previously submitted a provision to the FIS to manage this situation knowing it was possible the season would be disrupted due to the pandemic.

Proposal 2 SB Park & Pipe – SB Alpine – SBX:

Due to the on-going health risks during the pandemic combined with uncertain and insurmountable travel and quarantine requirements between the USA and Canada the NorAm Committee proposes the following:

1. That the following NorAm series be cancelled for the 2020-2021 season with the intent to return in 2021-2022. All remaining NorAm events on the calendar can be run as FIS, FIS Open, or National Championship events should the organizers be willing and able to proceed.
 1. Snowboard Halfpipe
 2. Snowboard Slopestyle and Big Air
 3. Snowboard Cross
 4. Snowboard Alpine
2. That the NorAm Committee will work with the respective FIS race directors, the FIS Rules Advisory Group, and the FIS SB FK FS Committee to identify how the 2021-2022 NorAm Overall Champion World Cup personal spots will be managed for the 2021-2022 World Cup Tours. The NorAm Committee previously submitted a provision to the FIS to manage this situation knowing it was possible the season would be disrupted due to the pandemic.

The focus of the NorAm Committee is to continue supporting organizers in their effort run events, while mitigating risk, and ensuring that competitor access to competition is as fair and equitable as possible, given current travel restrictions. Additionally, the NorAm Committee feels it is our role to set a clear direction to our active members in this challenging time to keep communities safe and ensure time on snow is a priority for our developing athletes.

Please direct questions to:

Ashley Deibold

Snowboard Freeski Freestyle

Sport Development Senior Manager

ashley.deibold@usskiandsnowboard.org