



**2023 FIS Freeski World Junior Championships
HP SS/BA Wanaka (NZL) – August 22 – September 10**

1. Selection Criteria Guidelines

U.S. Ski & Snowboard will select those athletes with the greatest opportunity for winning medals at the 2023 FIS Freeski World Junior Championships (“WJSC”) and future FIS WJSC.

2. Eligibility

Only age eligible (year of birth HP, SS/BA: 2005 - 2009) licensed U.S. Ski & Snowboard and FIS athletes in good standing with a valid USA passport are eligible for consideration. All injured athletes must be cleared by U.S. Ski & Snowboard Sports Medicine staff before being considered for naming to the team.

3. Team Size

U.S. Ski & Snowboard may select any number of athletes up to the total number of start quotas as determined by FIS.

In Halfpipe (HP) and Slopestyle/Big Air (SS/BA) a maximum of up to six (6) athletes per gender may start per event.

4. Start Right

All qualifying competitions are governed by the international federation rules of competition. The international federation for snowsports, as recognized by the IOC, is the FIS. All criteria as they relate to rules, regulations and competition calendars are subject to changes based on changes by the FIS, the USOPC and the IOC. All other U.S. Ski & Snowboard rules, including its Code of Conduct, as well as the U.S. Center for SafeSport Code shall apply to the criteria.⁸

5. Team Selection Procedure and Criteria

A. Summary of Objective Selection Policy:

Start positions will be filled objectively using the following criteria:

Halfpipe – Up to four (4) athletes per gender will be nominated to the team as follows:

1. Athletes must hold a minimum of 50 FIS points on the HP FIS points list valid on March 31st, 2023.
2. Two (2) highest ranking U.S. Athletes per gender from the HP FIS points list valid on March 31st, 2023. The FIS Points list is available at fis-ski.com U.S. Ski & Snowboard will use the following tie-breaking mechanisms in the priority order listed below:
 - a. Highest HP FIS Point Result (from the 22/23 FIS events)
 - b. Second Highest HP FIS Point Result (from the 22/23 FIS events)
 - c. Third Highest HP FIS Point Result (from the 22/23 FIS events)
 - d. Fourth Highest HP FIS Point Result (from the 22/23 FIS events)
3. Two (2) highest ranking U.S. Athletes per gender from the selection events below will be nominated to the team as follows:

Athletes will score selection points, using the FIS World Cup point scoring system (100-point scale), in each selection event. At the end of the selection period each athlete's best (highest) two (2)



scores will be averaged to create a ranking list for nomination in each discipline. U.S. Ski & Snowboard will use the following tie-breaking mechanisms in the priority order listed below:

- a. Best result (from the ranking list)
- b. Second best result (from the ranking list)
- c. Highest rank on the FIS Halfpipe list at the time of team nomination

The selection events will include the following:

- Copper NorAm
- Aspen NorAm
- Mammoth NorAm

Slopestyle/Big Air – Up to four (4) athletes per gender will be nominated to the team as follows:

1. Athletes must hold a minimum of 65 FIS points on the SS FIS points list valid on March 31st, 2023.
2. Two (2) highest ranking U.S. Athletes per gender from the SS FIS points list valid on March 31st, 2023. The FIS Points list is available at fis-ski.com. U.S. Ski & Snowboard will use the following tie-breaking mechanisms in the priority order listed below:
 - a. Highest SS FIS Point Result (from the 22/23 FIS events)
 - b. Second Highest SS FIS Point Result (from the 22/23 FIS events)
 - c. Third Highest SS FIS Point Result (from the 22/23 FIS events)
 - d. Fourth Highest SS FIS Point Result (from the 22/23 FIS events)
3. Two (2) highest ranking U.S. Athletes per gender from the selection events below will be nominated to the team as follows:

Athletes will score selection points, using the FIS World Cup point scoring system (100-point scale), in each selection event. At the end of the selection period each athlete's best (highest) three (3) scores will be averaged to create a ranking list for nomination in each discipline. A maximum of one (1) Big Air score can count toward an athlete's best scores in the ranking list, but no Big Air scores are required. Meaning an athlete's best three (3) Slopestyle scores or their two (2) best Slopestyle scores and one (1) best Big Air score will count toward their final ranking. U.S. Ski & Snowboard will use the following tie-breaking mechanisms in the priority order listed below:

- a. Best Result (from the ranking list)
- b. Second best result (from the ranking list)
- c. Third best result (from the ranking list)
- d. Highest rank on the FIS Slopestyle list at the time of team nomination

The selection events will include the following:

- Copper NorAm
- Aspen NorAm
- Mammoth NorAm

Any riders who qualify to compete in Slopestyle will also qualify to compete in Big Air. There is not a separate quota or qualification for Big Air.



B. Summary of Discretionary Selection Policy

U.S. Ski & Snowboard may select additional athletes to the Team as recommended by the Head Coach and/or Sport Development Staff to the Selection Committee, for any age eligible athlete, using factors other than objective criteria such as 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. Indication of medal potential in future Olympic or World Championship competition, which would be materially enhanced by selection to Team.
5. Other unanticipated failure of objective criteria to select an athlete likely to achieve competition results consistent with U.S. Ski & Snowboard program goals for the Junior World Championships.

The Selection Committee that will be responsible for making discretionary selections will include the following parties (identified by their title):

1. U.S. Ski & Snowboard President and CEO
2. U.S. Ski & Snowboard, Director of Freeski
3. U.S. Ski & Snowboard, Head Coach of Freeski (Discipline Specific)
4. U.S. Ski & Snowboard, Board Athlete Representative - Freeski

Conflicts of interest may arise for Selection Committee members during the Team selection process. Conflicts of interest exist when a Selection Committee member stands to benefit privately from a decision made by the Selection Committee. A conflict may arise, but is not limited to, when a Selection Committee member is in a position to participate in discussion or a vote concerning an athlete whom he or she coaches or trains privately who is being considered for a position on the Team. In the interest of assuring a fair selection process, the following rules will be followed by the Selection Committee when a conflict of interest arises:

- Any member of the Selection Committee that has a possible conflict of interest must disclose it and must recuse him/herself from the Selection Committee discussions and voting.
- The Selection Committee member should not otherwise influence other members of the Selection Committee in the nomination process. However, a committee member who recused him/herself, but 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 committee so long as such information is provided in a fair and unbiased manner.

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

U.S. Ski & Snowboard may remove a selected athlete at any time at its sole discretion and may replace the vacancy pursuant to the relevant selection criteria.

C. Remaining Team Nomination Criteria

If quota spots remain after the application of objective criteria and, if applicable, the application of discretionary criteria, 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 the selection event ranking list.

FIS Point minimums listed in Selection Procedure A will apply in Selection Procedure C.

- The Halfpipe FIS Points List – Must have minimum of 75 FIS points
- The Slopestyle FIS Points List – Must have minimum of 75 FIS points

6. Announcement of Selections

The U.S. Snowboard FIS Junior World athletes for PGS/PSL and SBX will be nominated February 13th, 2023. The U.S. Snowboard FIS Junior World athletes for HP, SS/BA will be nominated June 9th, 2023. The nominated athletes will be announced at the U.S. Ski and Snowboard offices and posted on the U.S. Ski & Snowboard website.

Athletes may be recognized and eligible for selection; however, they will only be registered upon commitment to attend this self-funded event and upon submission of a deposit in advance of the event. All athletes are responsible for cost-sharing the expenses of the team doctor and/or physio, team leader, and the coaches for their respective discipline(s).

7. Medical Clearance

Athletes named to the team will require proof of medical clearance for participation dated no longer than six (6) months before departure to the Championship, this is to be supplied in the form of a sports physical exam. Once named, athlete will submit paperwork to the Team Leader as designated by U.S. Ski & Snowboard. If an athlete has been injured between the date of their physical and departure for the Championships, additional clearance specific to that injury will be required.