



2023 Freestyle/Freeski World Championships

February 19th - March 5th, 2023

U.S Ski & Snowboard

2023 Freestyle/Freeski World Championships Men's and Women's Team Selection Criteria

1.U.S. SKI & SNOWBOARD POLICY

U.S. SKI & SNOWBOARD policy mandates that World Championships team selection criteria shall be principally objective (or performance-based), however, coaches' discretion will be allowed.

2.TEAM SIZE

The International Ski Federation (FIS) has established that a maximum of thirty-six (36) athletes representing any one nation may compete in the 2023 World Championships in freestyle & freeski. Athletes can be named to compete in the following World Championship events: Aerials/Team Aerials, Halfpipe, Slopestyle/Big Air, Moguls/Dual Moguls, and Skicross. FIS rules require that no more than twenty (20) athletes be of one gender.

3.START RIGHTS

The maximum quota for a nation in any one event will be four (4) per gender up to the max total per gender of twenty (20) athletes and max total team size of thirty-six (36) athletes. Athletes named to the team will start in the event from which they qualified.

The start rights, per discipline and gender, are subject to the U.S. earning those quota spots in the respective discipline and gender through the International Ski Federation (FIS) respective quota process for each discipline

4.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, gender identity, or national origin, and with fair notice and opportunity for a hearing before declaring any such individual ineligible to participate.



An athlete shall be ineligible for consideration if he/she/they is not fit to perform at their highest level at the time selections are made due to any injury or illness from which he/she/they is not expected to recover adequately by the time of the World Championships as verified by U.S. SKI & SNOWBOARD Athletics Staff. Such determination shall be at the discretion of the Sport Director after consulting with the U.S. SKI & SNOWBOARD High Performance and Sport Coaching staffs, the Head Team Physician and the athlete's designated physician.

5. TEAM SELECTION PROCEDURE AND CRITERIA

The coaching staff is responsible for applying the selection criteria set forth herein, subject to the approval of the U.S. SKI & SNOWBOARD Chief of Sport.

AERIALS

Up to three (3) athletes, per gender, will be nominated for the event in the following order:

1. Up to three (3) quota spots, per gender, will be allocated based on an athlete having at least one (1) top three (3) result during the 2022-23 World Cup Aerials competitions held before February 6, 2023.

Any remaining quota slots that are still left unfilled after applying Item 1, will be evaluated under Discretionary Selection Procedures or the Remaining Team Nomination Criteria as described below.

If there are more athletes than there are quota slots available within this objective criteria section, in either gender (i.e., with one (1) top three (3) result in World Cup competitions), then U.S. Ski & Snowboard will utilize the following tie breaking mechanism to identify the athlete(s) who will be nominated via this objective criterion. U.S. Ski & Snowboard will use the following, one at a time – in preferential order starting with (a) – until the quota slots, per gender, in this section are filled. The points awarded from the World Cup competitions toward the FIS Points List shall be used when referring to points results below:

- a. Single highest point result from the 2022-23 Aerials World Cup Events
- b. Second highest point result from the 2022-23 Aerials World Cup Events
- c. Third highest point result from the 2022-23 Aerials World Cup Events
- d. Fourth highest point result from the 2022-23 Aerials World Cup Events
- e. Highest point result from the final 2022-23 Aerials World Cup Event before nomination.

TEAM AERIALS



U.S. SKI & SNOWBOARD coaching staff shall select three (3) athletes to compete in the Aerials Team (AET) event at the 2023 World Ski Championship. Teams must have at least one (1) athlete from each gender represented. In order to be considered for selection for the Team event athletes must be selected for the individual Aerials World Championship Team.

1. Two (2) athletes (1 Man, 1 Woman) will be selected based on the average of the top three (3) scores for single jumps from 2022-23 World Cup Qualifications, Finals and Super-Finals competitions. The average of the top three (3) scores will be used to rank both men and women in a list. In the case of a tie, U.S. Ski & Snowboard will utilize the following tie-breaking mechanism to identify the athlete(s) who will be nominated via this objective criterion. U.S. Ski & Snowboard will use the following, one at a time – in preferential order starting with (a) – until the team spots, per gender, in this section are filled.

- a. Highest single jump score
- b. 2nd highest single jump score
- c. 3rd highest single jump score
- d. Coaches' Discretion

2. One (1) athlete may be selected based on the coaches' discretion. **Coaches'** Discretion may be utilized to select one athlete who has clearly demonstrated the ability to produce a medal-winning result or has demonstrated future medal potential. When considering the application of coaches' discretion the staff will consider the following in order of priority:

- a. Injury, illness or circumstances that prevent participation in the qualifying 2022-23 World Cups
- b. 2022-2023 World Cup podiums
- c. Competed Degree of Difficulty (DD) - Highest DD for Jump successfully competed in World Cup competition in 2022-23 World Cup Season.

3. If Team 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 the next (3rd) highest average of three (3) best single jump scores described in Team Aerials criterion 1 above.

HALFPIPE

Up to three (3) athletes, per gender, will be nominated for the event in the following order:

1. Up to three (3) quota spots, per gender, will be allocated based on an athlete having at least one (1) top three (3) result during the 2022-23 World Cup or Aspen X-Games competitions held before February 6, 2023.



Any remaining quota slots that are still left unfilled after applying Item 1, will be evaluated under Discretionary Selection Procedures or the Remaining Team Nomination Criteria as described below.

If there are more athletes than there are quota slots available within this objective criteria section, in either gender (i.e., with one (1) top three (3) result in World Cup competitions), then U.S. Ski & Snowboard will utilize the following tie breaking mechanism to identify the athlete(s) who will be nominated via this objective criterion. U.S. Ski & Snowboard will use the following, one at a time – in preferential order starting with (a) – until the quota slots, per gender, in this section are filled. The competitor’s finish place (1st, 2nd, 3rd etc.) at the competitions shall be used when referring to the tie-breaking mechanisms below:

- a. Single highest result from the 2022-23 Halfpipe World Cup Events and Aspen X-Games
- b. Second highest result from the 2022-23 Halfpipe World Cup Events and Aspen X-Games
- c. Third highest result from the 2022-23 Halfpipe World Cup Events and Aspen X-Games
- d. Fourth highest result from the 2022-23 Halfpipe World Cup Events and Aspen X-Games
- e. Highest result from the final 2022-23 Halfpipe World Cup Event before nomination.

MOGULS / DUAL MOGULS

Up to three (3) athletes, per gender, will be nominated for the event in the following order:

1. Up to three (3) quota spots, per gender, will be allocated based on an athlete having at least one (1) top three (3) result during the 2022-23 World Cup Moguls or Dual Moguls competitions held before February 6, 2023.

Any remaining quota slots that are still left unfilled after applying Item 1, will be evaluated under Discretionary Selection Procedures or the Remaining Team Nomination Criteria as described below.

If there are more athletes than there are quota slots available within this objective criteria section, in either gender (i.e., with one (1) top three (3) result in World Cup competitions), then U.S. Ski & Snowboard will utilize the following tie breaking mechanism to identify the athlete(s) who will be nominated via this objective criterion. U.S. Ski & Snowboard will use the following, one at a time – in preferential order starting with (a) – until the quota slots, per gender, in this section are filled. The points awarded from the World Cup competitions toward the FIS Points List shall be used when referring to points results below:



- a. Single highest point result from the 2022-23 Moguls World Cup Events
- b. Second highest point result from the 2022-23 Moguls World Cup Events
- c. Third highest point result from the 2022-23 Moguls World Cup Events
- d. Fourth highest point result from the 2022-23 Moguls World Cup Events
- e. Highest point result from the final 2022-23 Moguls World Cup Event before nomination.

SKICROSS

Up to three (3) athletes, per gender, will be nominated for the event in the following order:

1. Up to three (3) quota spots, per gender, will be allocated based on the athlete having at least one (1) top three (3) result during the 2022-23 World Cup competitions held before February 6, 2023.

Any remaining quota slots that are still left unfilled after applying Item 1, will be evaluated under Discretionary Selection Procedures or the Remaining Team Nomination Criteria as described below.

If there are more athletes than there are quota slots available within this objective criteria section, in either gender (i.e., with one (1) top three (3) result in World Cup competitions), then U.S. Ski & Snowboard will utilize the following tie breaking mechanism to identify the athlete(s) who will be nominated via this objective criterion. U.S. Ski & Snowboard will use the following, one at a time – in preferential order starting with (a) – until the quota slots, per gender, in this section are filled. The points awarded from the World Cup competitions toward the FIS Points List shall be used when referring to points results below:

- a. Single highest point result from the 2022-23 Skicross World Cup Events
- b. Second highest point result from the 2022-23 Skicross World Cup Events
- c. Third highest point result from the 2022-23 Skicross World Cup Events
- d. Fourth highest point result from the 2022-23 Skicross World Cup Events
- e. Highest point result from the final 2022-23 Skicross World Cup Event before nomination.

TEAM SKICROSS

The Selection Committee, as outlined below, shall select the athletes who compete in the Team Skicross competition at World Championships. Only the athletes who were selected to compete in the Skicross World Championship competition shall be eligible to compete in the Team Skicross competition.

SLOPESTYLE / BIG AIR

Up to three (3) athletes, per gender, will be nominated for the event in the following order:



1. Up to three (3) quota spots, per gender, will be allocated based on an athlete having at least one (1) top three (3) result during the 2022-23 World Cup or Aspen X-Games competitions held before February 6, 2023.

Any remaining quota slots that are still left unfilled after applying Item 1, will be evaluated under Discretionary Selection Procedures or the Remaining Team Nomination Criteria as described below.

If there are more athletes than there are quota slots available within this objective criteria section, in either gender (i.e., with one (1) top three (3) result in World Cup competitions), then U.S. Ski & Snowboard will utilize the following tie breaking mechanism to identify the athlete(s) who will be nominated via this objective criterion. U.S. Ski & Snowboard will use the following, one at a time – in preferential order starting with (a) – until the quota slots, per gender, in this section are filled. The competitor’s finish place (1st, 2nd, 3rd etc.) at the competitions shall be used when referring to the tie-breaking mechanisms below:

- a. Single highest result from the 2022-23 Slopestyle/Big Air World Cup Events and Aspen X-Games
- b. Second highest result from the 2022-23 Slopestyle/Big Air World Cup Events and Aspen X-Games
- c. Third highest result from the 2022-23 Slopestyle/Big Air World Cup Events and Aspen X-Games
- d. Fourth highest result from the 2022-23 Slopestyle/Big Air World Cup Events and Aspen X-Games
- e. Highest result from the final 2022-23 Slopestyle/Big Air World Cup Event before nomination.

DISCRETIONARY CRITERIA

Discretionary selection may be utilized should quota slots remain after utilization of the objective criteria detailed above. Athletes, as well as the U.S. Ski & Snowboard Head Coach or World Cup Coaches for each discipline, may recommend athlete(s), according to the criteria below, to the Selection Committee. The Selection Committee will review all data when considering the recommendations, subject to the criteria listed below in paragraph (a).

- a. Discretion Eligibility– An athlete (including but not limited to those not nominated objectively due to illness or injury) who has either
- b. Clearly demonstrated the ability to produce a medal winning result
- c. Has demonstrated future medal potential by achieving one of the following criteria listed (in no specific order of priority):
- d. One (1) Top 8 result, within the last twenty-four (24) months, at the Winter Olympics, a FIS World Cup, a World Championships, a X-Games, or a Dew Tour



- e. A Top 20 World Ranking within the last twenty-four (24) months on any of the below ranking lists:
- f. The FIS Aerial Points List (FIS List)
- g. The FIS Halfpipe Points List (FIS List)
- h. The FIS Mogul Points List (FIS List)
- i. The FIS Ski Cross Points List (FIS List)
- j. The FIS Slopestyle Points List (FIS List)

U.S. Ski & Snowboard Selection Committee

Recommendations for discretionary nominations will be made by the U.S. Ski & Snowboard Head Discipline Coach and World Cup Coaches or by self-nominated athletes to the U.S. Ski & Snowboard Selection Committee by February 6, 2023.

U.S. Ski & Snowboard Selection Committee Members:

U.S. Ski & Snowboard Chief of Sport

U.S. Ski & Snowboard Sport Director – Freeski

U.S. Ski & Snowboard Sport Director – Freestyle

U.S. Ski & Snowboard Sport Director – Alpine (Ski Cross)

U.S. Ski & Snowboard – Freeski Sport Committee Chair or an appointed Sport Committee member

U.S. Ski & Snowboard – Freestyle Sport Committee Chair or an appointed Sport Committee member

U.S. Ski & Snowboard – Alpine (Ski Cross) Sport Committee Chair or an appointed Sport Committee member

U.S. Ski & Snowboard Board Athlete Representative – Freeski

U.S. Ski & Snowboard Board Athlete Representative – Freestyle

U.S. Ski & Snowboard Board Athlete Representative - Alpine (Ski Cross)

Any member of the Selection Committee that has a possible conflict of interest must either recuse him/herself or disclose it to U.S. Ski & Snowboard's Ethics Committee prior to the start of the selection process. A conflict of interest exists when the Selection Committee member has a direct or indirect relationship, connection or affiliation, past or present, with an athlete in contention for the applicable team selection that could compromise the Selection Committee member's ability to participate in the selection process in an unbiased manner. If a conflict exists, U.S. Ski & Snowboard's Ethics Committee shall vet the conflict and make the final determination of whether that Selection Committee member must recuse him/herself from participating in discussions and/or voting. The Ethics Committee may determine that a Selection Committee member 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 Selection Committee so long as such information is provided in a fair and unbiased manner and the Selection Committee member with the conflict of interest does not vote toward the final decision. The Selection Committee member should not otherwise influence other members of the Selection Committee in the selection process.

Additionally, any person (including any potentially impacted athlete or coach of a potentially impacted athlete) with a good faith belief that a Selection Committee member has a conflict of interest may report the alleged conflict of interest to U.S. Ski & Snowboard's Ethics Committee. Reports may be made anonymously.

A recused individual shall be replaced in accordance with U.S. Ski & Snowboard's Selection Committee appointment process.

If it is later determined a conflict of interest existed but was not disclosed, then the nomination will still stand, assuming a majority vote for the nominated athlete still exists after removing the conflicted member's vote.

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 World Ranking using the following most recently published ranking lists as of February 6, 2023 for each event:

- a. The FIS Aerial Points List (FIS List)
- b. The FIS Halfpipe Points List (FIS List)
- c. The FIS Mogul Points List (FIS List)
- d. The FIS Ski Cross Points List (FIS List)
- e. The FIS Slopestyle Points List (FIS List)

U.S. Ski & Snowboard will use the following tie-breaking mechanism, if two or more athletes, per gender, within the same event, are tied within their respective ranking lists:

- a. Highest result, between the tied athletes, from their most recent head-to-head competition in the 2022-23 Season.

In the event a tie remains, the decision shall be made by the Selection Committee listed utilizing the Discretionary Selection criteria outlined.



6. ANNOUNCEMENT OF SELECTIONS

Selections to the 2023 World Championship team shall be announced on February 9, 2023 at the offices of U.S. SKI & SNOWBOARD in Park City, Utah, and shall be published immediately upon announcement.

7. MANDATORY TRAINING

Following the selection of the 2023 World Championships team mandatory training camps may be organized in preparation for the World Championships. Dates, locations and organization of these camps will be announced prior to the final selection of the team.

8. ATHLETE REPLACEMENT PROCEDURE

In the case that an athlete that has been selected to the team becomes injured or ill prior the World Championships and is unable to compete, no replacement athlete will be named unless it is deemed that there is sufficient time to make a replacement without disrupting the competition or preparation of other athletes and that the additional athlete would have sufficient time to properly prepare for the competition. This decision will be made by the Sport Director for U.S. SKI & SNOWBOARD after consulting with the Chief of Sport of U.S. SKI & SNOWBOARD, Head World Championship Coaches, and U.S. SKI & SNOWBOARD High Performance Department. Should an additional athlete be considered, the procedures as outlined in Objective, Discretionary, and Remaining Team Nomination Criteria above will be followed to select that athlete.

9. 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 USOPC Athlete Ombuds Office by:

- a. Telephone at (719) 866-5000
- b. Toll-free telephone at (888) ATHLETE (1-888-284-5383)
- c. E-mail at Ombudsman@usathlete.org
- d. www.teamusa.org/athlete-ombuds