

United States of America Competitive Freeski Pipeline



SKI &
SNOWBOARD

Competitive Pipeline

Where do I start?

Below is an overview of the USA Competitive Pipeline. This graphic is meant to illustrate how the levels build on each other, and help athletes develop the technical and tactical skills to move to the next level.

USASA

Phase 2 & 3 Athletes

Focus on skill development
Learn to compete
Cross, HP, SS, RJ

Futures Tour & FIS Events

Phase 4 Athletes

Focus on trick development
Learn to travel to compete
Learn to put a competitive run together

NorAms

(Continental Cups)

Phase 5 Athletes

Revolution Tour – HP, SS, BA

World Cups

Phase 6 Athletes

Each discipline has a World Cup Tour.

Olympics and World Championships

The pinnacle of our sports - this is where the best in the world get to compete on a world stage.

USASA

Halfpipe, Slopestyle, SKi Cross,
Rail Jam

USASA is grassroots snowboard and freeskiing competition with a history of cultivating Olympians, icons, and darn-good human beings through fun, fair and progressive events. USASA's nationwide Regional Events Series (500+ regional events) give athletes of all ages and levels an opportunity to hone their skills, build confidence, find community, and flourish in the safety of an environment that nurtures creativity, progression, and inclusion.



Membership Requirements

All athletes/coaches/volunteers are required to have a [USASA membership](#). Adult participants must also have a U.S. [Ski & Snowboard Ski & Snowboard membership](#).



How to Register/Qualify

Open to any and all! Find a series near you and register. With over 500 events a season and 32 regional series there is an event for everyone!



Advancement

3 best regional competition results are combined to create a National Ranking List. Regional winners are invited to compete at USASA National Championships.



Skill Benchmarks

Focus should be on the fundamentals of the sport, understanding the rules of competition, how to prepare to compete, and how to progress.

Futures Tour

Halfpipe, Slopestyle

The Futures Tour was born from a desire to create a bridge between regional and national competition. Over the last five years the Futures Tour has grown into the premier stepping stone for the future of snowboarding and freeskiing. The Futures Tour brings athletes from both regional programs and across the country together to compete on higher level courses in events using FIS rules in order to prepare them for and qualify into the Revolution Tour NorAm events.



Membership Requirements

All athletes/coaches/volunteers are required to have a USASA membership, a U.S. Ski & Snowboard membership, and a FIS competitor license.



How to Register/Qualify

Criteria A- The top 10 Men and 5 Women from the USASA Year End National Ranking List in Halfpipe and Slopestyle in Breaker, Youth, Junior and Open Class.
Criteria B- The top 3, 13+(DOB 2010) age eligible with Menhune Men and Women from the USASA Year End National Ranking (YENR) rankings in Halfpipe and Slopestyle.
Criteria C - Petition To Start.



Advancement

Athletes' two (2) best Futures Tour results are averaged to create a National Ranking List. The top ranking athletes will be invited to all Revolution Tour stops the following season.



Skill Benchmarks

At this level athletes should be spinning in all directions with style and a variety of grabs. Amplitude and Edge Control should be advanced. Focus now shifts to bigger and harder tricks on larger features.

Revolution Tour Halfpipe, Slopestyle and Big Air

The U.S. Revolution Tour is a series of events consisting of Halfpipe, Slopestyle, and Big Air. This Tour is designed to serve as a stepping stone for athletes making the transition from competing at the Futures Tour level to the World Cup/elite level.



Membership Requirements

All athletes/coaches/volunteers are required to have a [U.S. Ski & Snowboard Ski & Snowboard membership](#) and a FIS competitor license.



How to Register/Qualify

Athletes can qualify into the Revolution Tour through any of the following pathways: Top ranking athletes from the previous season's tour, top ranking athletes from USASA National Championships Open Class events, top ranking athletes from the World Snowboard Points List, U.S. Ski & Snowboard Ski & Snowboard Rookie Team athletes, Futures Tour top ranking athletes from the previous season's tour.



Advancement

The overall winner of the NorAm events (Revolution Tour plus Canadian NorAms) gets a personal World Cup start for the following season's World Cup tour.



Skill Benchmarks

At this level athletes are progressing toward professional level tricks and courses. Focusing on putting together runs that exemplify style, creativity, technicality, and progression.

Holeshot Tour

Ski Cross

The Holeshot Cross Tour is a competition designed to bridge the gap between grassroots and World Cup level for Snowboard Cross and Ski Cross. The series also brings together athletes across the country to identify the top juniors.



Membership Requirements

All athletes/coaches/volunteers are required to have a [U.S. Ski & Snowboard Ski & Snowboard membership](#) and a FIS competitor license.



How to Register/Qualify

Holeshot Tour events are open to any FIS licensed competitor age 15 and up. For more details visit <https://usskiandsnowboard.org/event-series/holeshot-cross-tour>



Advancement

The overall winners of the NorAm events (Holeshot Tour plus Canadian NorAms) get a personal World Cup start for the following season's World Cup tour.



Skill Benchmarks

At this level athletes should be focusing on body position, gliding, turning, line selection, and start sections. This is also where athletes should be honing in their competition tactics and practicing racing in heats.

World Cups

Halfpipe, Slopestyle, Big Air, Ski Cross,

The FIS World Cup Tour is the annual pinnacle tour for global snowsports. Each discipline has a number of spots hosted in a variety of countries.



Membership Requirements

All athletes/coaches/volunteers are required to have a [U.S. Ski & Snowboard Ski & Snowboard membership](#) and a FIS competitor license.



How to Register/Qualify

Athletes can qualify into the World Cup tour through points and results from the previous season. Each country must earn their quota spots each season. The number of quota spots is based on the nation's performance the previous season. All World Cup invitations and registration will be managed by the athlete's NGB.



Advancement

As the pinnacle annual tour the World Cup is the highest annual competition circuit for professional athletes in these sports.



Skill Benchmarks

At this level athletes are mastering professional level tricks and courses. Focusing on putting together runs that exemplify style, creativity, technicality, and progression.