



2020-2021 SLOPESTYLE / BIG AIR / HALFPIPE NORAM SPOT ALLOCATION CRITERIA

December 10th, 2020

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1. PREAMBLE

Each year FIS operates the Continental Cup circuits, the NorAm circuit is the tour which is governed by the FIS NorAm Committee for the USSA and Freestyle Canada amateur athletes. The following rules describe the process in which the Canadian Quotas are allocated to the Freestyle Canadian athletes in our recognized system.

1.1. COVID 19 Statement

Freestyle Canada is carefully following the evolution of the coronavirus on the global and domestic level and how it may impact obtaining quota and attending events in respect to selection of athletes for the High Performance Program and qualifying events. Unless otherwise required by exceptional and unforeseen circumstances related to the impact of the coronavirus, FC will respect these published Selection Criteria as written.

However, situations related to the coronavirus pandemic may arise that require this Selection Criteria to be modified. Any modifications will be made promptly and as often as required following developments that directly impact the Selection Criteria. In such circumstances, any modifications will be communicated to all affected individuals as soon as possible.

Further, situations may arise that do not allow this Selection Criteria to be modified or applied as written due to time constraints or other exceptional and unforeseen circumstances. In such situations, any decision, including nomination decisions, will be made by the individual(s) with decision-making authority, as stated in this Selection Criteria in consultation with the relevant individual(s) or committee(s) (as applicable), and in accordance with the stated performance objectives and selection philosophy and approach as stated herein. Should it be necessary to make any decision in this manner, FC will communicate with all affected individuals as soon as possible.

2. DEFINITIONS

“HPP” – High Performance Program

“FC” – Freestyle Canada

“FC member” – all FC members and participants, as defined in the by-laws, including but not limited to coaches, officials, athletes (including athletes training at a national team training camp/centre and those selected to the high performance program), team

managers and team staff, competition organizers, administrators, volunteers, staff and contractors of FC.

“FIS” - Fédération Internationale de Ski (International Ski Federation)

“OC” – Organizing committee

“NA Selection Committee” – NorAm Selection Committee is the responsible group who selects that athletes to compete in the Nor Am Tour.

3. SLOPESTYLE, BIG AIR & HALFPIPE NORAM FIS QUOTA ALLOCATION

There are 2 types of FIS events that Freestyle Canada receives quotas for; NorAm and USSA Rev Tour. (Not all Rev Tour events are FIS NorAm events.) These events are targeted for Learn & Train to Compete athlete levels. For the 2020-2021 FIS competitive season, Canada will not be recognizing the Rev Tour FIS events for our High Performance Ranking (HPP) system.

Each year, Freestyle Canada has the authority from FIS to allocate the NorAm quotas and entries to FIS level events.

3.1. NorAm Selection Committee

The authoritative group responsible for selecting athletes and allocating spots for the NorAm circuit is the NorAm Selection Committee is comprised of:

- High Performance Director
- National Team Head Coach
- NextGen Head Coach
- NextGen Assistant Coach
- Sport Development Manager

3.2. Principles of allocating the FIS quotas

The following are guidelines to direct the selection committee in allocating the FIS spots effectively:

- Provide the Learn to Compete & the Train to Compete stage athletes within the Freestyle Canada athlete development system with these competitive opportunities. These events are a critical step in their competitive skill development.
- Provide the National Team athletes with NorAm competition starts where and when needed to support their ranking in Canada.
- Keep the policy open enough to allow Canadian outliers (skiers not currently in our

programs or competitive system) to be allocated a spot, should the selection committee think it is aligned with Freestyle Canada's mission of winning Olympic and major event medals and this athletes profile;

4. ALLOCATION PROCESS

4.1. NorAm & FIS Quota system

Freestyle Canada receives 15 male and 15 female spots for all USSA NorAm events. These spots are allocated as per the process outlined below. The Sport Development Manager understands that time is of the essence and will pursue the open spots with the Organizing Committee as soon as can be determined.

For the Canadian NorAms, the OC set the field size of the event. There are initial quotas for:

Canada: 15 male & 15 female spots

USA: 15 male & 15 female spots

Foreign, other countries: 20 total – Max of 8 per nation with a max 5 per gender

*Any open spots can be distributed at the hosting NSO's discretion. For Canadian NorAm, see below in "Process for Allocation" how any open host spots will be allocated.

The process for allocation described below will be applied individually to Slopestyle / Big Air and Halfpipe. Spots for Slopestyle & Big Air will be allocated to athletes ranked in the 2019-2020 HPP Slopestyle/Big Air rankings as described below. Spots for Halfpipe will be allocated to the 2019-2020 HPP Halfpipe ranked athletes as described below.

4.2. Athletes' eligibility

- Athletes must have an active FIS License with FIS number.
- Freestyle Canada CanFree 4 License, with appropriate insurance if travelling out-of-country
- Meet the FIS age requirement, athlete needs to turn 13 between January 1 2020 & December 31 2020. See International Competition Rules (ICR), 2014.2

https://assets.fis-ski.com/image/upload/v1606809244/fis-prod/assets/SBF5FK_NEW_ICR_valid_2020-21_clean_30.11.2020.pdf

4.3. Timelines

HALFPIPE NORAM SPOT Allocations:

- Allocations for all Halfpipe NorAms will be done on **January 10th, 2021**.
- If there are more athletes through the season who want to do Halfpipe NorAms, the committee will review on a case by case basis as they arise.

SLOPESTYLE/BIG AIR NORAM SPOT Allocation:

According to the present competition calendar that has 3 US NorAm scheduled (Mammoth, Aspen and Woodward) there will only be one spot allocation block.

- Allocation for the following NorAms: Mammoth, Aspen and Woodward will be done by **January 10th, 2021**.
- Wild card spot notices need to be sent to sabrina@freestylecanada.ski by **December 23rd, 2020** and will be confirmed on January 10th, 2021 allocation deadline. Video can be shared by email.

4.4. Process for Allocations

STEP 1: HPP ATHLETES:

The Freestyle Canada High Performance Program retains the number of spots required for the National Team athletes (which includes NextGen Team). This will be defined in the ranking sheet once World Cup spots have been allocated, timelines will fluctuate;

STEP 2: ATHLETE RANKINGS:

The remainder of the quota spots will be allocated to the athletes as per:

1. HPP Rankings, and then (if quotas remain);
 - The 2019-2020 Final HPP ranking will be used in the process and will be shared with all PSO coaches
https://www.dropbox.com/s/mly4hxlkl4e3erw/2020.09.01_SS-BA-HP.NorAm.Spot.Allocations.20-21.xlsx?dl=0
2. Canada Cup Rankings if needed.

STEP 3: WILD CARD SPOTS:

A maximum of two Wild Card per gender will be saved for allocation.

There are cases where talented athletes may not be ranked within our HPP rankings for many reasons. Some reasons may include missed events due to; extra-ordinary circumstances, injuries, lack of funds to get to events, or potentially significant recent skill acquisition. The Selection Committee recognizes all of these and more factors and will

consider athletes who demonstrate a L2C/T2C skill level and would benefit from competing at a Nor-Am level.

Process for selection of Wild Card athletes:

- Coaches send the video to sabrina@freestylecanada.ski
 - Videos need to consist MINIMUM of: 3 different jumps, 2 different rail combinations, a full Slopestyle run, everything else is up to the athlete.
 - Videos should be a maximum of 2 minutes
- The NA Selection Committee will review the videos
- The Sport Development Manager will inform the athletes and the coaches

Components assessed by the NA Selection Committee: the SS-BA Gold Medal Profile (<https://www.freestylecanada.ski/a/en/resources/hpad/gold-medal-profile/index.html>) framework will be used as a guideline and a ranking list will be created. This includes; rail skills, jump skills, degree of difficulty, overall flow of a run, creativity, and overall potential

- All skills will be assessed and given a score. E.g:

SS/BA PERFORMANCE BENCHMARK FOR ASSESSMENT		
CRITERIA	RESULTS	SCORE 1 to 4
CREATIVITY Maneuvers and grabs variety/ fluidity on the course/style	<i>Good variety/Missing speed/no style</i>	1
JUMP DD Rotations/flips	<i>sw dub 12, dub 10, 2 dir 10</i>	2
RAILS SKILLS Combinations, rotations DD, direction variety	<i>3 diff combos/3 4s/ 2 dir on, 2 dir off</i>	3
OVERALL POTENTIAL Number of years in the sport/basic skills for T2C/age compare to the Olympic cycle and actual athletes' pool/attitude – commitment/physical conditions/mental readiness	<i>Superbe attitude/22 years old– missing skills compare to the actual athletes' pool/ years into the sport</i>	1
	TOTAL SCORE	7

- If the Wild Cards are not used by the deadline, they will be allocated as per Step 2.

STEP 4: UNUSED SPOTS:

Any unused spots will be put back into the mix to be allocated as above.

NOTE: Event organizers will accommodate us as they can with unused spots, we will notify coaches when we have notice.

NOTE: PSO Coaches will have 48 hours to confirm any allocated spots.

HOST SPOTS:

For Canadian NorAm, once the registration deadline has happened, Freestyle Canada will allocate any open spots, field size established by the host organizing committee, as per the process above, these are usually last minute 1 day - 2 weeks prior to the event.

4.5. Injury clause

For the purpose of NorAm spot allocations, the following injury clause can be used:

- Dr's note needs to be sent to the Manager of Sport Development, sabrina@freestylecanada.ski
 - Doctor's note can be filed as soon as an injury happens and MUST be sent at least 2 weeks prior to the allocation deadlines
- Athletes must have missed 2 consecutive events minimums, if they miss less than 2 events or 2 events that are not consecutive – injury clause is not applicable.
- Results for the injured athlete will be pulled from the previous competitive season, within 12 months only
 - When part of a season is missed (2 consecutive events or more) Results will be used from the same level of event in the same time period of the missed events. (i.e. if all 4 NorAms were missed in 2018, the 2017 season's 4 NorAm placing values will be used and entered into the current year's ranking sheet in the summary column).
 - When the full season is missed, the athlete's top 3 placing values will be taken from the previous year and entered into the current year's ranking sheet in the summary column.
- This policy does not apply to the ongoing HPP Rankings for team or World Cup selection, please see "Extraordinary Circumstances" in the HPP Selection Criteria on www.freestylecanada.ski/HighPerformance/Policies

5. FIS REV TOUR SPOTS

The FIS Rev Tour events that are not designated **NorAm** will not be valued for the Freestyle Canada rankings. For these regular Rev Tour events, Canada only receives 5 spots total, so these are an unfair competitive opportunity given the open registration process.

The Rev Tour events will not be valued for the 2020-2021 season in the 2020-2021 rankings.

6. UNFORSEEN CIRCUMSTANCES (including COVID)

This policy is intended to apply as drafted and, specifically, where no athletes are prevented from competing because of unforeseen circumstances. Where unforeseen circumstances or circumstances beyond FC's control do not allow an adequate number of qualifying competitions to take place in a fair manner, the HPP selection committee will meet to consider alternative competition results and/or extend the dates for selection. Any changes, along with the logic for the change, will be communicated to the HPAD advisory group at the earliest time after the decisions are made.