



Freestyle Canada Judges Certification and License Upgrade Guidelines

October 10, 2016

Overview

The goal of this document is to make the certification and upgrade process transparent so that Judges know the expectations of Freestyle Canada (CFSA), FIS and AFP.

The following guidelines are to be used for evaluating upgrade requests for Judges in Canada covered under the Freestyle Canada membership.

It is the responsibility of the Judges to keep a record of all of their event experience, and the Head Judge of the event must document each Judge's position in an event. To track this information please use appendix 1 (Judge Resume)

Freestyle Canada's philosophy is to blend FIS and AFP education at the regional and provincial level as much as possible, integrated with competition formats and criteria that reinforce Can Freestyle Long Term Athlete Development principles

The International Ski Federation (FIS) provides standards for, and approves A and B judge licenses for Moguls and Aerials, Slopestyle, Halfpipe and Big Air. If a national licensed judge wishes to be considered for international licensure, they must fill out the appropriate license request by May 1 for consideration effective July 1. The application must be submitted by their NSA to the FIS office and include all relevant judging and other freestyle history.

The Association of Freeskiing Professionals (AFP) guides the training and AFP accreditation of AFP bronze, silver, gold and platinum licenses for Slopestyle, Big Air, and Halfpipe. AFP and FIS share the same judging criteria.

Canadian Judges wishing to access AFP training must purchase a Freestyle Canada judging license at which time they will receive an access code for AFP online training and testing at no extra cost. This reflects AFP and CFSA



commitment to partner in training a quality pool of judges for all Freestyle events, and to create fair and equitable access to education and certification. The Judges Advisory Group (JAG) provides oversight and management of the CFSA judges system.

These guidelines are intended to ensure Canada's Judges are fully qualified for the level of competitions they are judging, and that Judges are prepared to support their upgrade requests made to CFSA, and FIS.

Judges wishing to apply for an upgrade to a FIS 'B' license or higher must initiate the process the season before upgrades are made so that Judges can be observed, tracked and evaluated.

Rules for Judges for CFSA Sanctioned Events

1. Judges must remain members in good standing with Freestyle Canada and hold a current CFSA judges license - the exception is new judges at entry level and club events who may purchase an associate membership.
2. Canada Cup Judges must attend a fall seminar in the competition year the Judge applies for a license upgrade, FIS Judges must identify themselves when registering for the clinic that they will be applying for an upgrade.
3. Judges must ensure they meet the minimum requirements **before sending resume and request to their Provincial HJ. Provincial HJ will make recommendations for upgrade and forward resume to JAG Licensing committee.**
4. Canada Cup Judges inactive for 2 years must apply to the JAG performance group to have their license reinstated.
5. Judges must at all times during CFSA sanctioned events conduct themselves to the standard set out in the CFSA Code of Conduct.
6. Applications for exceptions and appeals must be made in writing to CFSA for consideration by JAG.
7. Judges may not be assigned to events in which a family member is competing at Canada Cup level events and higher.
8. Persons may start Judging with permission of provincial head judge at 15 years of age.

Note: It is CFSA's expectation that judges and officials at all sanctioned CFSA events are trained to the Can Freestyle standards.



Territorial and Provincial Sport Organisations (T/PSO's) provide education and implement curriculum developed by CFSA and its partners for judges at Provincial level events and lower.

Principles for Judge Certification

The experience of judges in the field is recognised and valued,

The competitive experience of coaches and athletes is recognised and valued,

The need for expertise must be balanced thoughtfully with the need to train judges, and ultimately the first consideration is that athletes' development needs are met,

Judges who are responsible for ranking athletes at the Learn To Compete (Canada Cup) level and up must be evaluated as follows to create a portfolio of competence:

- ✓ Objective Evaluation occurs during clinics or on-line testing
- ✓ Subjective Evaluation during training will occur in training environments including clinics, workshops, assists, and informal assists
- ✓ Subjective Evaluation in the field will be conducted continuously by Head Judges at all Canada Cup level events and higher, and must be conducted at Provincial events to count as experience required for license upgrades. Head Judge reports for all events are to be completed.
- ✓ A great deal of learning occurs in the field with mentorship, and judges should continuously be provided with fair, positive, and open feedback.



CFSA Judge Certification Pathway

****Please note AFP License requirements are for CFSA/AFP sanctioned events.***

Judge License	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Competition Level 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Requirements For Certification
CFSA E (Entry Level)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Learn To Train* Freestylerz Formats and Club level events. • Note events at this level are to build skills and have fun. • The focus is not on winning and scores can be posted but CFSA recommends there are no medals or medal presentations – skill awards of special performances 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attend a regional judging clinic • Recommended to shadow a judged event prior to judging. (Judge assistant is a great learning opportunity) • View the U14 section of the Can Freestyle Competitions Guide • Recommended to take the Snowsports Officials Volunteer Orientation, Level 1 course, however not required https://www.snowsportsofficials.com/en/
CFSA D License Moguls Dual Moguls Aerials Slopestyle Halfpipe Big Air	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Club, Regional, Provincial Events • Focus Train to Train Athletes • D license judges must be able to ideally judge all disciplines, although may have leadership support with Trick ID 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Participate in a Regional/Provincial (minimum 1 day) clinic • D license status will be approved by the Provincial Head Judge or proctor. • Competitors or coaches with 2+ years of competitive experience may be fast tracked to D status in their discipline, • Complete AFP basics clinic either online or in person
FIS C/ FIS C Mogul and Dual Mogul FIS C Aerials/Air (e.g. Junior Nationals format)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Club (Head Judge), Regional, Provincial, and Canada Cup • Train to Train and Learn to Compete athletes • Judge licensing may become specialized 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attending 1 FIS approved B Level Judges clinic in the current or prior year and receiving a positive evaluation. • Judging a minimum of 5 events in each discipline (not inclusive of club events). • Recommendation from Prov HJ to National Association through the JAG



<p>FIS C/ (Cont'd)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Judges are highly encouraged to attain C and Bronze licensing in all disciplines to be assigned to multi-discipline events. 	<p>upgrade committee</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Competitors or coaches with 2+ years of competitive experience may apply to be fast tracked to C status, and have judged a minimum of 2 provincial level events plus must be recommended by the CFSA Proctor.
<p>AFP Bronze</p> <p>AFP Bronze Halfpipe, Slopestyle, Big Air</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Club (Head Judge), Regional, Provincial Train to Train athletes Judge licensing may become specialized Judges are highly encouraged to attain C and Bronze licensing in all disciplines to be assigned to multi-discipline events. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Score 90% or higher on AFP Bronze Level Exam Recommended to have judged a minimum of 5 events in each discipline
<p>FIS B /</p> <p>FIS B Moguls and Dual Moguls</p> <p>FIS Aerials and Air</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Canada Cup, Nor AM, Continental Cup, University Games, Junior World Championships, or other FIS sanctioned events other than World Cup, World Championship, Olympic, or other elite or special event requiring the highest skilled judges. B level judges frequently 	<p>Two seasons as a nationally licensed judge and eight individual competitions, per discipline (a competition is defined as a men's and women's day event). For a moguls upgrade, there must be a minimum of at least two judging assignments as a turns judge and two assignments as an air judge. At least four of the events judged must have been single moguls events, not duals. A duals event that includes a single-format qualification can be counted as a single mogul event, but can't be counted as two separate events. Aerial events are all overall judged and in the event a competition is judged by the prior standards of component judging, that event shall</p>



<p>FIS B / (Cont'd)</p>	<p>judge at the provincial and regional level and provide leadership and mentorship to C and D judges.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • B Judge Training is primarily geared to Learn and Train to compete events, and some Learn to Win • These judges may be completely specialized but are encouraged to cross train and license 	<p>count but at least three events must be judged as overall.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Note: For any event, a qualifications round and a finals constitutes one event. • Attend and pass an International Introductory level clinic. Since most clinics are held September through December, a judge requesting an upgrade in the spring should have attended the clinic prior to that season. • Attendance and passing of an International Assist program may be substituted for the clinic. No Assist program is required to receive a B license. • Recommendation from CFSA through the CFSA JAG Licensing committee • Applications are done at the Proctor meeting and the approval is done in the FIS fall meeting. • Approval by the appropriate FIS Working Group and committees. Review of the FIS fall meeting.
<p>AFP Silver CFSA</p> <p>AFP Silver Halfpipe, Slopestyle, Big Air</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Canada Cup, Nor AM, possibly World Cup with enough experience. • B level judges frequently judge at the provincial and regional level and provide leadership and mentorship to C and D judges. • B Judge Training is primarily geared to Learn and Train to compete events, and some Learn 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Big Air events will be identified in resume, and is treated as an AFP judge discipline. • For AFP disciplines judges must study • Gold Level Clinic material and score an 85% or higher on the Gold Level Exam to attain silver status



	<p>to Win</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • These judges may be completely specialized but are encouraged to cross train and license 	
<p>FIS A License/ FIS A Moguls and Dual Moguls</p> <p>FIS Aerial</p> <p>FIS A/ (Cont'd)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NorAm, World Cup, World Championships, Olympics, X Games. US Open etc • 'A' judge training is geared to Learn and Train to Win stages • Most of these judges are specialized AFP or FIS, but are encouraged to pursue cross licensing to help lead in the domestic system 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Two seasons as an internationally licensed judge and six</u> individual competitions, per discipline (a competition is defined as a men's and women's day event). For a moguls upgrade, there must be a minimum of at least two judging assignment as a turns judge and two assignments as an air judge. At least three of the events judged must have been single moguls events, not duals. A duals event that includes a single-format qualification can be counted as a single mogul event, but can't be counted as two separate events. Aerial events are all overall judged and in the event a competition is judged by the prior standards of component judging, that event shall count but at least three events must be judged as overall. • Attend and <u>pass an International World Cup clinic</u>. Since most clinics are held September through December, a judge requesting an upgrade in the spring should have attended the clinic prior to that season. If a judge has met all requirements except the clinic, they can apply for the license immediately after successful completion of the clinic. It is strongly recommended that a judge seeking an upgrade in the coming season should notify the proctors at the start of the clinic. • Attend and <u>pass an International Assist program</u>. Since assist programs are on-snow, completing this required element will allow a judge to apply for an upgrade



		<p>following the season in which the assist took place. Assist program completions are valid for 3 years. If an upgrade is not awarded within three years of the assist, a judge must pass another program prior to receiving an upgrade.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> FIS-A Recommendation from CFSA through the CFSA JAG Licensing committee and approval by the appropriate FIS Working Group and committees. Review of the applications are done at the Proctor meeting and the approval is done in the FIS fall meeting.
<p>AFP Gold/Platinum</p> <p>AFP Gold and Platinum Halfpipe, Slopestyle, Big Air</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> NorAm, World Cup, World Championships, Olympics, X Games. US Open etc 'A' judge training is geared to Learn and Train to Win stages Most of these judges are specialized AFP or FIS, but are encouraged to pursue cross licensing to help lead in the domestic system 	<p>AFP – Gold – This status is given by AFP after achieving a Gold standard grade on testing and an AFP review of Judge competency.</p> <p>AFP – Platinum – This major event status is given by AFP after achieving a Gold standard grade on testing and an AFP review of Judge competency.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> AFP – Gold – Score a 95% or higher on the AFP Gold Level Exam. Judge a minimum of 4 AFP Silver events within the past season Submit an AFP judging certification upgrade request form to AFP Receive approval from AFP Judging Committee for Gold certification upgrade during upgrade period (end of competition season) Remain current on freeski industry, athlete and competition news <p>AFP – Platinum –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Judge at AFP Gold Level for 3 years Judged a minimum of 3 AFP Gold events within the past season



		<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Judges must submit an AFP judging certification upgrade request form to AFP• Receive approval from AFP Judging Committee for Gold certification upgrade during upgrade period (end of competition season)• Remain current on freeski industry, athlete and competition news
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License Maintenance

All judges shall maintain their license levels as long as they remain current. They must attend a clinic at the start of each season to be eligible to judge in that season. They may substitute an assist program for the clinic but would be ineligible to judge until after the assist program is completed.

If a judge misses a year (does not attend an international clinic) they shall remain certified for the next year, presuming they attend a clinic. If a judge misses two consecutive years they shall be ineligible to judge at their current license level. In the third or fourth year (a 2 or three year leave of absence), the judge must apply for reinstatement at the clinic and must work at a minimum of two events at a level lower than their highest achieved and can re-apply for their highest level achieved with the successful head judge evaluations from the events judged. They do not need to attend an assist program or meet any other event requirements

For example, if a World Cup judge takes off one season, they can come back with no restrictions. If they take off two full seasons, they must attend and pass a clinic and judge two Continental Cup events before being assigned a world cup. If a world Championship approved judge were to take two seasons off, they would have similar restrictions and be required to judge at a minimum of one world cup event in each discipline where they were licensed before being eligible for assignment to a world championship or Olympic competition.

Fast-Track Exemptions



It is recognized by virtue of past experience as a competitor, coach or other key experience; a person may have exceptional skills and may progress through the license process more quickly. Therefore, a judge may apply to receive a “fast-track” upgrade based on experience and test results. Under these circumstances, the judge may be excused from meeting one or more of the guideline criteria normally required for an upgrade (for instance, the minimum number of events judged or minimum number of years). The decision for fast-tracking must receive the approval of 75% of JAG and also be approved by the Freestyle Committee. Applications for Fast-Track must be sent to the FIS by the NSA during the normal judge license process. If a judge is fast-tracked to a license level, the judge is given credit for the minimum level of experience for that level. For example, a judge could be fast tracked so that after completing the first year with an International License, he/she could be awarded a World Cup license (with proper evaluation by head judges at events and from the clinic or assist program).

License downgrades – A and B level

It is CFSA’s belief that a judge is required to stay active in the program to keep current at the level that is expected by CFSA of their judges.

It is recognized that lack of judging and exposure to the sport results in a decrease in ability. The evolving sport requires constant skill upgrading including the exposure to events. A Judge who is not active or only does a minimum number of events, or scores low in the judges’ performance system (JPS) may be recommended for a downgrade to FIS. This includes not judging or instructing for two consecutive years at any FIS level event in a specific discipline.

A Judge that scores poorly during the season or who does not attend the requisite Judges Clinic for 2 consecutive years and is not active judging the sport will be recommended for a downgrade.

All downgrades must be approved by 75% of the JAG and approved by the FIS Freestyle Committee.

International License: Olympics & World Championships



To be eligible for World Championships and Olympics, a World Cup Judge shall have judged at least 2 seasons with a World Cup license and judged at a minimum of 6 World Cup events. For moguls there must be at least two assignments as a turns judge and two assignments as an air judge. A World Cup judge will automatically be assessed on their performance from the time they become approved for World Cup and no other application process is required

Appendix 1

Judge Resume and Upgrade Request

Must be submitted at fall clinic for FIS A,B (season before upgrade)

Name:	
Address	
Street:	Province:
City:	Postal:
Telephone	
Home	Fax
Cell	Work
Email :	
1.	2.

Current License

FIS Aerials: ____ FIS Moguls: ____ AFP (SS/HP/BA) ____

Request:

FIS Aerials: ____ FIS Moguls: ____ AFP (SS/HP/BA) ____

License History (D license and above only, by date and license):



Assist programs

Location	Date	Type of Event **	MO	DM	AE	BA	HP	SS	Proctor(s)	Comment

V. Seminars (Fall clinics) Events Attended = AE/MO/DM/HP/SS/BA.
Indicate score if available

Location	Date	Level of Clinic FIS A/B/C AFP Bronze or Gold	Events	Current License			Proctor(s)
				M	AE	AFP	

VI. Other Relevant Qualifications and Information (Please include any competition or coaching background in freestyle or relevant sports, any

