



2022-2023 MOGUL NORAM QUOTA ALLOCATION POLICY

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1. Introduction

The NorAm competition series is part of the FIS Continental Cup level of competitions and serve as a place to gain international competition experience as athletes prepare for World Cup events later in their career. There are five Continental Cup series; host nations of the NorAm circuit are the USA and Canada; athletes from non-NorAm nations do have the opportunity to compete at these events.

Freestyle Canada receives quota spots from the International Ski Federation (FIS) NorAm Committee to distribute to Canadian mogul athletes who wish to compete on the NorAm circuit. This document will describe the process of allocating these quota spots.

Freestyle Canada holds the authority to allocate the Canadian FIS spots; this is done each year using the FIS – Continental Cup (COC) Rules and Freestyle Canada's NorAm Quota Policy. The link to the current COC Rules can be found here:

https://assets.fis-ski.com/image/upload/v1657631929/fis-prod/assets/CoC_Rules_SB_FS_FK_2022_23_clean_Spring_22.pdf

2. Purpose of the NorAm Circuit

Freestyle Canada's Long-Term Athlete Development (LTAD) model is designed to have athletes progress through key learning and experiential objectives as they develop their skills. The following NorAm competition objectives facilitate the learning of meaningful competitive skills:

- Provide international competitive opportunities targeted at athletes in the high-performance athlete development stream (Podium Pathway) who are demonstrating long-term major event podium potential within eight years. In priority order these athletes are:
 - National team members (A, B & C)
 - Provincial team members
 - Club athletes, should they have the skills & require this experience at their current stage of development.
- To prepare athletes for the international competitive stage, FIS World Cup Circuit (same competition formats, exposure to different challenging courses, travelling outside Canada, etc.)

- Provide Continental Cup podium experiences (learning to perform at "Train to Compete" level)
- Provide athletes with the competitive opportunities where they can qualify to be selected into the national team program.

3. NorAm Mogul Quota Allocation Processes

The following guidelines direct the NorAm Quota Allocation Committee in allocating spots fairly and effectively:

- NorAm Mogul competitions target skiers in the “Learn to Compete” and “Train to Compete” LTAD stages in our system. Targeted athletes are typically Tier C National team and provincial team skiers, however, may include skiers in the provincial development programs; it may also include Tier B National team members who require specific skills or experiences.
- Recognize there could be Canadian skiers who are “outliers”: skiers not currently ranked in the Freestyle Canada HPP ranking system. To allow targeted, non-ranked skiers to compete, Freestyle Canada may retain quotas for strategic development opportunities (Smart Tracking) as deemed appropriate by the Allocation Committee.

4. Mogul NorAm Quota Allocation Committee

Spots will be allocated as per the outlined process by the Mogul NorAm Quota Allocation Committee (the “Allocation Committee”). The Committee will consist of three regular members including Freestyle Canada’s:

- Sport Development Director
- A Freestyle Canada High Performance Program Mogul Coach
- Mogul High Performance Program Director (for tie-break)

Other HPP mogul coaches may be consulted when more information is needed.

The Allocation Committee will work and communicate with the High Performance Athlete Development Advisory Group (HPAD- PSO & NAT Team coaches) each year to discuss and update this NorAm policy. The Allocation Committee has the authority by vote to make decisions on disputes.

**The HPAD Advisory Group will review this policy each spring for any changes, then again updated once quotas are received from FIS in the fall of each year.

5. Athlete Eligibility

To be eligible to ski in a NorAm mogul event, it is expected that every skier can safely ski and jump in a NorAm mogul course (see FIS ICR 4204 and 4304: https://assets.fis-ski.com/image/upload/v1634019257/fis-prod/assets/Freestyle_Course_Standards_Manual_2020-21_v.0.1.pdf).

In addition, each skier must:

- Hold an active FIS license (with a FIS code number) as well as a Freestyle Canada License, with the appropriate insurance
- Have competed at the current year Apex Classic event
- Athletes must:
 - have a year-round, periodized training program
 - have a Comp Dev level coach (Certified preferred, Trained status as a minimum) who works with Freestyle Canada's LTAD, GMP and skill matrix with the goal of developing high performance athletes.
 - have the Minimum Performance Level (MPL):
 - have achieved at least one Top-16 result, within the top 75% of the final rankings, at a Canada Cup level event (excluding Junior National Dual Moguls) during the 2021-22 or 2022-23 seasons

6. NorAm Mogul Quota Allocation Process for Canadian Spots

Freestyle Canada can allocate fifty (50) spots to Canadian athletes. These spots are split evenly between Male & Female athletes; 25 spots for men and 25 spots for women. As per the FIS Continental Cup Rules, any unused gender quota can be moved to the other gender. The allocation of spots in the mogul discipline will be for both single and dual mogul events. The event organizer will determine the maximum field size: any unused non-Canadian quota spots are available to Canada for allocation (based on eligibility and ranking).

The NorAm spots allocation will be divided in 2 allocation blocks:

- Block 1: Apex and Deer Valley NorAm. The allocations will be done by **December 22nd 2022**.
- Block 2: VSC and Stratton. The allocations will be done by **February 13th 2023**

6.1. Block 1

Freestyle Canada will follow this process to allocate Canadian NorAm quota spots by gender for the 1st NorAm Block (Apex and Deer Valley):

1. National Team program Athletes assigned first
2. Top-3 per gender from 2021-22 HPP rankings, excluding current HPP athletes.
3. 2022-23 NorAm ranking (Top 10 athletes per gender, excluding HPP athletes and Top 3 from 2021-22 HPP Rankings)
4. PSO Host spots (2 athletes per gender)
5. Wild card spots (up to 4 athletes total)
6. PSO discretionary (remaining spots)

6.1.1. High Performance Program Athletes

The Allocation Committee retains the number of spots required for the Freestyle Canada HPP athletes who will ski in the event; HPP skiers are the first to be assigned spots for the event(s). The HPP ranking process and formula is described in the HPP Mogul Team Selection Criteria on Freestyle Canada's website.

6.1.2. Top-3 per gender from 21-22 HPP Rankings

Excluding current HPP athletes, the Top-3 athletes by gender from the 21-22 HPP Rankings will be awarded a spot for Block 1

6.1.3. 2022-23 NorAm Ranking

The **top 10 athletes** per gender on the 2022-23 NorAm Ranking as of December 19th, 2022 will be awarded a spot for Block 1.

- The sum of the 2 places points from the 2022 Apex Classic event will be used to set the Nor-Am Ranking. The athletes will then be ranked from the largest to smallest sum of points (only placings in the Top 20 will provide points for the ranking).
- In case of a tie, the athlete with the highest single place value will be ranked ahead.

6.1.4 Spots for the hosting PSO

Two (2) of the 25 Canadian quota spots per gender are reserved for the hosting PSO. If not used, they will return to the pool of available Canadian spots. Host nominees are in isolation of the NorAm Ranking List. Unused host spots will be added to the Wild Card spots.

6.1.5 Wild Card Spot

Once the National Team program ranked athletes, the top 12 athletes on the 2022-23 NorAm ranking, and the PSO host spots have been assigned, up to 4 athlete spots may be allocated through the wild card allocation process. Wild Card spots are intended for athletes in one or more of the following situations:

1. An athlete returning from medically documented injury that has prevented them from attending the Apex Classic, training camps over the last 6 months and/or has missed more than 50% of the 2021-22 Canada Cup level events;
2. An athlete who is demonstrating a fast progression and Nor-Am readiness in relation to Freestyle Canada's skill matrix (Train-to-Compete stage)

Wild Card Application Process:

- A. The national team coaches attending the Apex Classic events will observe athletes during training and competition days.
- B. PSOs of Wild Card Applicant athletes must send their identified athletes to david@freestylecanada.ski before **December 15th, 2021**
- C. Applicant athletes will be asked to perform two "top to bottom runs" during an identified training, with the NT coaching staff observers watching. Those applicant athletes who are unable to ski due to injury will require a video submission.
- D. Once submissions and reports from the NT Coaches are received, the NorAm Quota Allocation Committee will review the packages and make allocations based on:
 - Technical level of the athlete.
 - Athlete results from the 2022 Apex Classic
- E. Once the Wild Card decisions and ranking are made, the athlete's PSO will be notified by Freestyle Canada of the allocations.

- F. Any Wild Card spot not accepted by an athlete or otherwise going unused will be added to the PSO discretionary spots.

6.1.6 PSO Discretionary Spots

The PSO will be asked to send the name of the athletes that they think should get a NorAm spot to david@freestylecanada.ski by **December 19th 2022**. If there are more PSO athletes than remaining spots, the athletes with the best placing obtained during the Apex Classic will be prioritized for the spot(s).

6.1.7 Extenuating Circumstances

Athletes that are not able to compete at the 2022 Apex Classic due to an injury will be invited to apply through the wild card process. Efforts should be made to include recent video of T2B runs of the athlete in the submission package.

6.2 Block 2

Freestyle Canada will follow this process to allocate Canadian NorAm quota spots for the 2nd NorAm Block (VSC and Stratton):

1. National Team program Athletes assigned first
2. 2022-23 NorAm ranking (Top 15 athletes per gender, excluding HPP athletes)
3. PSO Host spots (2 athletes per gender)
4. Wild card spots (up to 4 athletes total)
5. PSO discretionary (remaining spots)

6.2.1 HPP Program Athletes

The Allocation Committee retains the number of spots required for the Freestyle Canada HPP athletes who will ski in the event; HPP skiers are the first to be assigned spots for the event(s).

6.2.2 2022-23 NorAm Ranking

The **top 15 athletes** per gender on the 2022-23 NorAm Ranking as of **February 12th 2023** will be awarded a spot for Block 1.

- The **sum of the 3 places points** from the current season will be used to set the Nor-Am Ranking. The eligible events are Apex Classic, Apex Nor-Am, Red Deer Canada Cup and Deer Valley Nor-Am. The athletes will then be ranked from the largest to smallest sum of points. For each level of event, only the following placings will provide a point value:
 - Apex Classic – Top 20 placing only
 - Red Deer Canada Cup:
 - Singles: Top 20 placing only
 - Duals: Top 8 placing only
 - Apex and Deer Valley Nor-Ams:
 - Singles: Top 30 placings only
 - Duals: Top 12 placings only
- In case of a tie, the athlete with the highest single place value will be ranked ahead.

6.2.3 Spots for the hosting PSO

Two (2) of the 25 Canadian quota spots per gender are reserved for the hosting PSO. If not used, they will return to the pool of available Canadian spots. Host nominees are in isolation of the NorAm Ranking List.

6.2.4 Wild Card Spot

Once the National Team program ranked athletes, the top 15 athletes on the 2022-23 NorAm ranking, and the PSO host spots have been assigned, up to 4 athlete spots may be allocated through the wild card allocation process. Wild Card spots are intended for athletes in one or more of the following situations:

1. An athlete returning from medically documented injury that has prevented them from attending Apex Classic, training camps over the last 6 months and/or has missed the majority of 2022-23 eligible events to date;
2. An athlete who is demonstrating a fast progression and Nor-Am readiness in relation to Freestyle Canada's skill matrix (Train-to-Compete stage)

Wild Card Application Process:

1. PSOs of Wild Card Applicant athletes must send their identified athletes to david@freestylecanada.ski before **February 8th, 2023**
2. Applicant athletes will be required to provide video of "top to bottom runs"
3. Once submissions and reports from the NT Coaches are received, the NorAm Quota Allocation Committee will review the packages and make allocations based on:
 - Technical level of the athlete.
 - Athlete results from thus far this season
4. Once the Wild Card decisions are made, the athlete's PSO will be notified by Freestyle Canada of the allocations.
6. Any Wild Card spot not accepted by an athlete or otherwise going unused will be added to the PSO discretionary spots.

6.2.5 PSO Discretionary Spots

The PSO will be asked to send the name of the athletes that they think should get a NorAm spot to david@freestylecanada.ski by **Febraury 8th 2023**. If there are more PSO athletes than remaining spots, the athletes with the best ranking on the 2022-23 NorAm ranking will be allocated the remaining spots.

6.2.6 Extenuating Circumstances

Athletes that are not able to compete during the season to date, due to an injury, will be invited to apply through the wild card process. Efforts should be made to include recent video of T2B runs of the athlete in the submission package.

7. Unforeseen 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 Allocation 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.