



**2023 FIS Junior World Ski Championships SS/BA/HP  
Canadian Team Selection Criteria**

April 4, 2023

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## 1. Preamble

Disclaimer: At the time of writing this criteria, the FIS has not posted or circulated the 2023 Jr World Championship Invitation and therefore some details may change based on the details to come. Further to this, with the end of the event eligibility period being 5 months away from the team selection time, Freestyle Canada will be using the skill assessment process to select the Slopestyle / Big Air athletes after the HPP rankings has determined the top age eligible athletes.

The 2023 FIS Junior World Ski Championships for SS/BA/HP are scheduled to take place in Wanaka, New Zealand from August 27<sup>th</sup> through September 2<sup>nd</sup>.

Please note that Freestyle Canada's participation in this event will require approval and endorsement from our Medical team. As we near the event, the Selection Committee will do a detailed analysis of the COVID situation and the risk of travel.

## 2. Authority

The FIS Junior World Ski Championships are conducted under rules established by the FIS.

Freestyle Canada will be responsible for:

- Creation and management of the Canadian athlete selection criteria
- Ranking and selection of eligible Canadian athletes
- Selection of coaches
- Logistical and planning support for the team
- Management of entries.

## 3. Guiding Principles

Given this is a special high-performance opportunity on the international stage for this age group and to be the most effective in developing our system, Freestyle Canada has developed the following guiding principles in the development of the 2023 FIS Junior World Ski Championships selection criteria:

- Freestyle Canada's primary objective is to send Canadian athletes who are demonstrating the skills required to perform on the expected course standards for this level of event.
- Selected competitors will be athletes who have proven their performance levels within the eligible age group and use this high performance international competitive experience to further develop as they progress through the Train-to-Compete stage.

- Coaches selected will be chosen based on the 2023 Jr World Team athlete needs in New Zealand as well as their own professional development for the future of Freestyle Canada development system programming.

#### **4. Athlete General Eligibility**

- Freestyle Canada member in good standing
- Have paid the FC International License Fee
- Have an active FIS number
- Must be a citizen of the country of which National Ski Association she/he has a license and prove this with a valid Canadian passport.
- Age Requirements:
  - Admitted Years of birth are 2005-2009, inclusively, based on section 2014.10 of the FIS ICR:  
[https://assets.fis-ski.com/image/upload/fis-prod/assets/SBFSEK\\_NEW\\_ICR\\_February\\_2023\\_clean.pdf](https://assets.fis-ski.com/image/upload/fis-prod/assets/SBFSEK_NEW_ICR_February_2023_clean.pdf)
- Athletes will also be required to meet the discipline specific minimum skill levels as described by discipline in section 8.

#### **5. Liability and Insurance**

The organizer cannot be held liable for any damage or accident. All participants must be sufficiently insured against accidents and illness by themselves or their National Federation.

As a member of Freestyle Canada, each athlete and coach have 3<sup>rd</sup> party liability insurance as part of their Freestyle Canada membership.

- Athletes who have purchased the Freestyle Canada International License will be automatically registered with SAIP insurance (as a minimum). This will cover out-of-country medical expenses.
- Coaches need to ensure they have adequate out-of-country medical insurance that does not have any COVID exclusions.

## 6. Disciplines/Events

The following events are scheduled:

- Women's Slopestyle
- Men's Slopestyle
- Women's Big Air
- Men's Big Air
- Women's Halfpipe
- Men's Halfpipe

Athletes selected for Slopestyle will be entered into Big Air as well, there is no separate selection for Big Air.

Halfpipe will be a separate ranking and selection process.

## 7. Quota

The FIS determines the number of athletes that may compete at the FIS Freestyle Junior World Championships for each country participating. The FIS has established that each nation will be able to enter a maximum of 6 men and 6 women per event. There is no requirement for Freestyle Canada to fill all quota spots. Final decision on number of spots filled, will be based on skill assessment.

## 8. Athlete Selection Process

### 8.1 Selection Committee

The voting group responsible for selecting athletes and allocating spots for the disciplines is comprised of:

Slopestyle and Big Air Team

- NextGen Head Coach
- NextGen Assistant Coach
- High Performance Director (tie breaking vote)

Halfpipe Team:

- NextGen Head Coach
- NextGen Assistant Coach
- High Performance Director (tie breaking vote)

Input from the following professionals may be sought to help gain more information useful to a quality selection:

- FC Sport Development Director
- PSO Coaches as needed.

## 8.2 Timelines

- Event Eligibility Period: October 15<sup>th</sup>, 2022, through April 30<sup>th</sup>, 2023
- 2023 FC Jr World Ranking May 1<sup>st</sup>, final version
- JR World Skill Assessment June 20<sup>th</sup> – 30<sup>th</sup>, 2023
- Team Announcement July 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2023
- Final athlete entries deadline is to be determined by FIS

## 8.3 2023 FC Jr World Rankings

The FC Jr World Ranking will be created by using the FINAL 2022-2023 HPP Slopestyle / Big Air Rankings and include only the age eligible athletes for the 2023 Jr World Championships. A list will be created for each gender.

- a) Eligible events: all FC HPP recognized events in tier 1, Tier 2 and Tier 3 will be considered in the ranking
- b) Only FC recognized events in the Event Eligibility Period detailed in section 8.5 will be considered
- c) The FC Jr World Rankings will be confirmed as of May 1<sup>st</sup>, 2023.
  - A link will be shared with the relative partners by April 15<sup>th</sup> for review.
- d) Athletes may still be ranked should they only have 2 results.

For more information on HPP rankings and eligible type of events, refer to the 2023-2024 National Team Slopestyle/ Big Air Team Selection Criteria: <https://freestylecanada.ski/wp-content/uploads/2022/12/FC-HPP-2023-2024-Slopestyle-National-Team-Selection-Oct-6-2022-OSIC-.pdf>

## 8.4 Athlete Selection Process

### 8.4.1 Slopestyle/Big Air

#### Men's Selection Process

1. May 1<sup>st</sup>: The top 8 ranked athletes on the FC JR World Rankings will be entered into the Skill Assessment process described in point 2 below. Athletes must meet the following minimum skills for men.
  - Jumps:
    - Singles - 900 in 4 directions
    - Doubles- minimum 2 directional doubles

- Side Take Off - Off-Axis 720
- Grabs: 4 different Grabs
- Rails / Features:
  - 270 three different directions on & off 450 3 directions out
  - One 450 on
  - 360 switch up,
  - Front 630 out

2. Skill Assessment Process:

- a. On June 20<sup>th</sup>: PSO coaches will be asked to submit videos to the Selection Committee for the Skill Assessment Process. Coaches will be given instructions for the required video format. and must be strictly followed or it could affect the selection of an athlete.
- b. June 20<sup>th</sup> – 30<sup>th</sup> 2023, the Selection Committee will assess the athletes and rank them based on quality of skill and level of performance demonstrated in the video submission:
  - Skill Assessment Tool can be seen in section 8.5 below
  - Skiers will be ranked based on the highest to lowest total score
  - Top six (6) skiers will be selected to the team
  - One (1) alternate will be named.

Women's Selection Process

1. Skill Assessment Process, Female Initiative: Freestyle Canada recognizes that we do not have much depth in this age category, who have enough results from the eligibility period; therefore, the skill assessment process for all allocated spots will be applied.
  - a. On June 20<sup>th</sup>: PSO coaches will be asked to submit videos to the Selection Committee for the Skill Assessment Process. Coaches will be given instructions
  - b. June 20<sup>th</sup> – 30<sup>th</sup> 2023, the Selection Committee will assess the athletes and rank them based on quality of skill and level of performance demonstrated in the video submission.
    - Skill Assessment Tool can be seen in section 8.5 below
    - Skiers will be ranked based on the highest to lowest total score
    - Top six (6) skiers will be selected to the team
    - FC is not required to fill the quota
  - c. Athletes must meet the following minimum skills to be ranked and assessed:
    - JUMPS:
      - All direction 540s,
      - One 720,
      - 2 different grabs in any of their jumps
    - RAILS / FEATURES: 2 different combinations including;
      - one switch entry

- 2 different 270 out
- One swap

NOTE: There will be a FC Jr World Championship Ranking created for women as well, but only used as a tie break if needed.



## 8.5 Slopestyle / Big Air Skill Assessment Tool

| EXAMPLE, SKILL ASSESSMENT TOOL |      |                        |         |                  |         |  |         |  |         |   |                        |             |
|--------------------------------|------|------------------------|---------|------------------|---------|--|---------|--|---------|---|------------------------|-------------|
| ATHLETE RANK                   | NAME | JUMP DD                | QUALITY | JUMP DD          | QUALITY | OVERALL RAILS:<br>variety of skills, DD,<br>creativity, variety of<br>combinations,<br>versatility for different<br>features | QUALITY | CREATIVITY:<br>line, grabs,<br>innovation,<br>variety,<br>features | QUALITY | CONSISTENCY<br>SCORE: %<br>achieving<br>quality-full runs | FULL RUN<br>IMPRESSION | TOTAL SCORE |
| 1                              |      | All 16's               | 3.5     |                  | 3.5     | Smooth ops   | 4       | iQ 150s'   | 3       | 3   | 3.5                    | 20.5        |
| 2                              |      | SwR12m                 | 3       | Ldub16B          | 3.5     | Easy-E   | 4       | Not pushing his<br>limits, has<br>mega upside if<br>goes all in    | 3       | 3.5   | 3                      | 20          |
| 3                              |      | Lf Dub 16<br>Lead Tail | 3       | Sw Rt 10<br>Mute | 3       | variety of tricks that<br>would finish top 5 in<br>any rail comparison   | 4       | adequate DD,<br>no special<br>creativity or<br>style               | 3       | 3.5   | 3                      | 19.5        |
| 5                              |      | SwL14b                 | 3       | R12dubjap        | 3       | Good rails, not as<br>good as the vets   | 3       | goes big   | 3       | 3   | 3                      | 18          |
| 4                              |      | Ldub16buick            | 2       | Swrdub12         | 2       | Weak grab &<br>amplitude   | 2       | Low DD rails   | 2       | 2   | 2                      | 12          |
| 6                              |      | Ldub16m                | 3       | Swrdub14s        | 3       | Good pop, flow<br>rotation,  | 3       | impressive for<br>his age group                                    | 2.5     | 2.5   | 2.5                    | 16.5        |

## 8.6 Halfpipe Team

1. May 1<sup>st</sup>: For Men and Women, the top 6 ranked athletes on the FC Jr World Rankings will be selected. Athletes will need to have the following minimum skill level to be considered for selection:

### Men:

- Both direction 900
- Single direction flare
- Single direction switch rotation 720+
- Three different grabs

### Women:

- Both direction 540
- One direction 360 (comfortable landing switch)
- One direction switch rotation 360+
- Both direction alley-oop
- Two different grabs

## 9. Coaches

Freestyle Canada will offer the opportunity to one (possibly two) coach(es) to attend for each discipline SS/BA & HP. Coaches will be offered the opportunity based on:

- Canadian registered coaches will be considered – generally, Comp Dev trained is required. Coaches must be qualified to coach the skills being performed by the athletes at the competition to be considered.
- If the majority of athletes selected for one discipline come from one program, the coach from that program will usually be prioritized selection (i.e. if 6 athletes are chosen from the NextGen Team – a NextGen coach will be prioritized).
- Experience needed to become an improved HPAD coach
- Freestyle *Canada Coach* certification and active license.

Coaches will normally be selected at the same time as the athletes. They will only receive expenses for this activity; they will not receive contractor fee; coach expenses will be covered through athletes' contributions. Details on what expenses will be covered must be discussed and approved before the coach accepts the role.

## 10. Athlete Costs

At present, there is no funding available from Freestyle Canada for this competitive opportunity. Athletes will be responsible for their own expenses as well as an even share of their discipline's coach's (es') expenses; PSOs are free to contribute towards their athletes' expenses.

At the time of writing this criterion, there has not been an invitation circulated so most costs need to be determined. Each athlete will be responsible for their own expenses:

\*subject to clarification in the official invitation

- half board price
- participation fees normally, CHF40 per competition day
- lift ticket CHF30 per training day
- airfare
- meals
- a share of the coach costs, see below estimation
- a share of ground travel

The coach expenses will be summed and split between the total number of athletes. The team size is expected to be 8-12 athletes. This is a list of items that will have a cost for the 2 weeks.

- Airfare: market dependent, subject to fluctuation and availability estimate of \$2,500.00
- Accommodations: estimated at \$1,400.00
- Meals: \$800.00
- Any lift access charged by the organizing committee, expecting to be free, but potentially about \$800.00

## **11. Unforeseen Circumstances**

In situations where an unforeseen circumstance (as determined by FC) do not allow the FIS Jr World Ski Championships selection criteria to be fairly and objectively applied, FC and its selection committees reserves the right take appropriate course of action.

If the criteria result in fewer athletes than the quota allows, FC reserves the right to adjust the criteria to include additional athletes.

## **12. Appeals**

Freestyle Canada's selections for the FIS Junior World Ski Championships may be appealed in accordance with the procedures set out in the FC Appeals Protocol.

[https://freestylecanada.ski/wp-content/uploads/2021/04/Appeal\\_PolicyJan\\_2021\\_EN.pdf](https://freestylecanada.ski/wp-content/uploads/2021/04/Appeal_PolicyJan_2021_EN.pdf)