



Canadian Aerial Team 2023 – 24 Season FIS World Cup (WC) Spot Allocation Guidelines

October 13, 2023

Updated November 8, 2023

Revision: Addition of Mixed Aerial Team selection process from existing competitors at an event.

Introduction

Freestyle Canada allocates WC quota spots to members of our national aerial team. When allocating competitive opportunities, the High Performance Aerial Committee will consider the published criteria as well as the individualized development plan for each athlete.

Authority

This document outlines the process for distribution of FIS World Cup competitive opportunities to aerialists in the Canadian aerial program for the 2023/24 season. A separate document, the National Aerial Team Selection protocols, outlines the process for selecting athletes to the 2024/25 aerial High Performance Program.

Philosophy

Own the Podium reviews Freestyle Canada's plans and the results from our athletes before making a funding recommendation to Sport Canada. The OTP recommendation is based on medal results from our athletes in the most recent Olympic Winter Games and the evidence that our athletes are trending towards medals in the subsequent Games. While Freestyle Canada's Selection Committee would love to provide opportunity to all our skiers, the reality is that quota spots are limited, and we must give priority to those athletes who have the strongest evidence of medal potential in 2026.

Freestyle Canada will:

- In general, use a "rolling 12-month HPP calculation" to rank the skiers in each gender of the High Performance Program (exception, post North America events as there are enough data points to rank skiers from the current season).
- Strive to balance opportunities to improve ranking,
- Provide a transparent selection process for athletes eligible to jump in the events,
- Eligible skiers are those who are part of the Freestyle Canada HPP or Quebec Aerial team.

Pre-Selected Athletes

The following athletes will be provided the opportunity to start in all December and January WC events:

1. A/B Team

Athlete
Marion Thenault and Flavie Aumond
Alex Duchaine, Lewis Irving, Miha Fontaine and Emile Nadeau

2. WC Organizing Nation Quota: *because of Canada Hosting a 2023-24 World Cup event; may be applied to either gender each event.*



3. Available WC Quota Spots for Team Canada

Spots Available to Canada from the FIS for WC events	10	<i>Max 5 per gender (not including personal spot)</i>
WC Organizing Nation Quota spot for 2023-24 FIS WC Events	• 1	
Additional Host Spots for Canadian WC events	+3 spots for men +3 spots for women	
Max Team for the Canadian events	17 total	
Max Team size for non-Canadian events	11 total	

4. FIS WC Schedule

Host	Scheduled Date
Ruka, FIN WC	Dec 3, 2023
Changchun, CHN WC	Dec 16,17, 2023
Christmas Break	
Deer Valley, USA WC	Feb 2, 2024
Lac Beauport, CAN WC	Feb 10, 11, 2024
Almaty, KAZ WC	Mar 10, 2024

*Subject to changes, cancellations, or additions

5. Selection Stages

Please note: The Selection Committee bases their decision off competition results however, an athlete may be held back if that is in the best interest of their stage of development. The committee is not required to fill all available WC spots.

Stage 1 – Selection for December WC Event(s)

Aerialists will be ranked by gender from eligible events from December 1, 2022, through April 30, 2023. The High Performance Committee will announce their decision on or before October 31, 2023.

Stage 2 – Selection for the North American WC events

HPP Aerialists will be ranked by gender from eligible events from January 1, 2023, through January 3rd, 2024 (to include December WC and EC events if applicable).

If quota spots for Canadian WC events remain available after HPP athlete selection, they may be filled with non-HPP aerialists based on the 2023-24 High Performance Aerial final ranking results.



Stage 3 – Selection for KAZ WC event

Canadian team participation in post North American events will be subject to available funds and the priorities of the program at that time. The HP committee will meet by Feb 14th, 2023, and use the current HPP rankings for this season (December 1st, 2023, to February 12th, 2024) to select any skier(s). Note the Final WC may be held as a WC Final where only invited skiers are eligible to participate.

Freestyle Canada is not required to fill all available quota spots.

6. Mixed Team Aerial Selections

In some instances, event organizers have added an Aerial Team event (AET) to their competition program. Each competition invitation will detail whether the team event includes two, three or four skiers. The High Performance Committee's desire objective is to win a medal by fielding a team that can combine the scores from jumps that lead to the highest possible combined jump total. Athletes will be selected for the Mixed Aerial Team from the pool of Canadians aerialists who have been named to that competition.

To select the AET competitors, the Aerial HP Committee will calculate the average score from the best three of five recent jumps. These jumps must have occurred within a specified time period.

For the 2023 China World Cup, we will be fielding three athletes and will only consider jumps from the 2023-24 FIS Season.

- I. The female aerial athlete with the highest three jump score average will be selected.
- II. The male aerial athlete with the highest three jump score average will be selected.
- III. The third team member will be selected based on that skier's ability to maximize the score in the Mixed Team Aerial Event. Men and women will be considered equally based on best of three average score. The Selection Committee can substitute an athlete in the event of an injured athlete or if there is a reason the selected athlete is not able to perform; if the committee chooses this course of action, it must be documented in detail.



Current Aerial HP Ranking as of April 30, 2023

Men's HPP Summary

TOP 5 JUMPS (no jump rest)

2023-24 Selection HPP Ranking

Rank	Athlete	Team	Total
1	Miha Fontaine	Nat Team	587.50
2	Alexandre Duchaine	Nat Team	569.71
3	Lewis Irving	Nat Team	569.01
4	Émile Nadeau	Nat Team	549.64
5	Victor Primeau	Nat Team	528.12
6	Alec Haineault	Next Gen	484.66
7	Anthony Noel	Next Gen	483.66
8	Pierre-Olivier Côté	Next Gen	471.63
9	Gabriel Dion	QC Team	468.11
10	Elliot Beauregard	QC Team	452.16
11	Louis Aumond	QC Team	432.48

Women's HPP Summary

TOP 5 JUMPS

2023-24 Selection HPP Ranking

Age eligible for JR Worlds (2000-2005)

Rank	Athlete	Team	Total
1	Marion Thénault	Nat Team	486.43
2	Flavie Aumond	Nat Team	421.77
3	Charlie Fontaine	Next Gen	354.64
4	Rosalie Gagnon	Next Gen	331.23
5	Alexandra Montminy	QC Team	99.06