



2024 FIS Junior World Ski Championships SS/BA Canadian Team Selection Criteria

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Table of Contents

1. Preamble	3
2. Authority	3
3. Guiding Principles.....	3
4. Athlete General Eligibility.....	4
5. Liability and Insurance.....	4
6. Disciplines/Events	5
7. Quota	5
8. Athlete Selection Process.....	5
8.1 Selection Committee	5
8.2 Timelines	5
8.3 2024 FC Jr World Rankings	6
8.4 Athlete Minimum Skill level	6
9. Coaches	7
10. Athlete Costs.....	8
11. Unforeseen Circumstances	8
12. Appeals.....	8

1. Preamble

Disclaimer: At the time of writing these criteria, the FIS has not posted or circulated the 2024 Jr World Championship Invitation and therefore some details may change based on the details to come.

The 2024 FIS Junior World Ski Championships for SS/BA are scheduled to take place in Livigno, Italy from March 22nd-30th.

Please note that Freestyle Canada's participation in this event will require approval and endorsement from our medical team.

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 2024 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 2024 Jr World Team athlete needs 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 2006-2010, inclusively, based on section 2014.10 of the FIS ICR:
https://assets.fis-ski.com/image/upload/fis-prod/assets/SBFSFK_NEW_ICR_fall_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 3rd 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

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

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 level of eligible athletes.

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)

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

- FC Athlete Development Director
- PSO Coaches as needed.

8.2 Timelines

- Event Eligibility Period: ~~November 30th, 2023~~ November 1, 2022, through ~~February 26th 2024~~ March 3rd 2024
- Team Announcement ~~February 28th 2024~~ March 3rd 2024

- Final athlete entries deadline is to be determined by FIS

8.3 2024 FC Jr World Rankings

The FC Jr World Ranking will be created by using the 2022-2023 & 2023-2024 HPP Slopestyle / Big Air Rankings as of ~~February 26th~~ **March 3rd 2024** and include only the age eligible athletes for the 2024 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
 - The **sum of the athlete's 3 best placing values** will be used to rank them
 - **A minimum of 1 result must come from the 2023-24 season.**
- b) 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 2024-2025 National Team Slopestyle/ Big Air Team Selection Criteria:

<https://freestylecanada.ski/wp-content/uploads/2023/11/Slopestyle-BA-2024-25-Selection-Criteria-EN.pdf>

8.4 Athlete Minimum Skill level

8.4.1 Slopestyle/Big Air

Men's Selection Process

1. The top ranked male athletes will be selected and are expected to meet the following minimum skills to be selected for the event:
 - 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
 - If the skill level of the athlete is considered lower, the Selection Committee may decide not to fill the quota and/or move to the next best ranked athlete who has demonstrated the minimum skill level.
 - The selection committee may consider one (1) wild card spot, based on a video assessment, using the SS-BA FC HPP assessment tool. The video submissions will need to be sent by February 27th.

Women's Selection Process

2. The top ranked female athletes are expected to meet the following minimum skills to be selected for the event:
 - 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
 - If the skill level of the athlete is considered lower, the Selection Committee may decide not to fill the quota and/or move to the next best ranked athlete who has demonstrated the minimum skill level.
 - The selection committee may consider one (1) wild card spot, based on a video assessment, using the SS-BA FC HPP assessment tool. The video submissions will need to be sent by February 27th.

9. Coaches

Freestyle Canada will offer the opportunity to one (possibly two) coach(es) to attend. 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 prices
- 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) does 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/2022/12/Freestyle-Canada-Appeal-Policy.pdf>

