



Freestyle Canada

CLUB AND ACTIVITY SANCTION POLICY

Effective date

June 10, 2024

PURPOSE AND PRINCIPLES

1. Freestyle Canada is committed to working with its Members and Clubs to provide value in the form of benefits and services and to maintain an accurate membership National Database. The purpose of this Policy is to describe the rights, conditions, and obligations of being a sanctioned Club within Freestyle Canada and to obtain a sanction from Freestyle Canada for conducting activities.
2. Freestyle Canada is an organization whose primary purpose is the development, organization and management of the sport of freestyle skiing in Canada. Freestyle Canada fulfills its purpose by actively engaging its Members and Clubs. Freestyle Canada is generally responsible for developing programs and services that impact all Members and Clubs across Canada and operating the High-Performance Program for elite athletes eligible for international competitions as members of Team Canada. Members are generally responsible for implementing programs and services for athletes within a specific provincial boundary, and the Club is generally responsible for implementing programs and services for athletes at a local or regional level within a territorial/provincial boundary.
3. Freestyle Canada believes that the growth and management of organized freestyle skiing are the joint responsibility of FC and its Members. Membership management and growth require investment in benefits and services and the ability to tailor these changes to the membership market.
4. Freestyle Canada recognizes the services an individual receives are the result of the combined action of Freestyle Canada, its Members, and the Clubs, and believes that by working cooperatively to develop and deliver membership value, Freestyle Canada, its Members, Clubs and all participants in the sport will benefit.
5. Freestyle Canada believes that collecting fees in exchange for services and sanctions is critical to its ability to deliver its core business.

ELIGIBILITY FOR CLUB SANCTION

10. To request to become a Freestyle Canada-sanctioned Club, the candidate Club must comply with the following minimum requirements:

- a. Input the following information in the National Database:
 - i. Name of the Club
 - ii. Club address
 - iii. Administrator email
 - iv. Administrator telephone number
 - v. Name of Administrator Contact
 - vi. Name of Head Coach
 - vii. Contact information of Head Coach
 - viii. List of coaches and their NCCP/CFSA Certifications
 - ix. Program Disciplines (e.g. moguls, slopestyle, halfpipe and/or aerials)
 - x. Type(s) of Freestyle programming (e.g. Fundamentals, Learn to Train, Train to Train, Train to Compete)
 - xi. List of on-snow activities
 - xii. List of dry-land activities/water ramp/airbag/dry slope
 - xiii. Whether athletes will perform inverts on snow
 - xiv. Whether athletes will perform inverts on water/airbag/trampoline
 - xv. Training locations
 - xvi. Driver's abstract (for coaches driving athletes)
 - xvii. Primary ski resort

- b. Pay all registration fees for programs and competitions through the National Database;
- c. Ensure that all members hold an active membership (this includes board members, volunteers, coaches, athletes, etc.);
- d. Assign a Screening Officer to execute Member and Freestyle Canada screening requirements for athletes (non-minor) and coaches, volunteers and officials of the Club (refer to [Freestyle Canada's Screening Policy](#));

- e. Agree to be subject to and comply with Freestyle Canada's policies, procedures, rules and regulations;

- f. Ensure that the Head Coach of the Club holds a Freestyle Canada coaching certification;
- g. Ensure that coaches follow the requirements listed in Annex A;

- h. Pay membership fees as prescribed by Freestyle Canada, and, as applicable, have paid any outstanding debts to Freestyle Canada and their Member from any previous membership period;

- i. Be a Member in Good Standing at all times during the Club Sanction Period with both Freestyle Canada and the relevant Member;
- j. Ensure the accuracy of the information submitted to Freestyle Canada pursuant to Section 10(a) ;
- k. Review and agree to comply with and be bound by the [Canada Snow Sports Risk Management Guidelines](#);
- l. Agree to be bound by and subject to their Member's safe sport policies, including, without limitation, the Member's Code of Conduct and Ethics, Discipline and Complaints Policy, and Appeal Policy or, where their Member does not have its own safe sport policies, agree to be bound by and subject to [Freestyle Canada's safe sport policies](#);
- m. Be a registered member of the Member in which they operate;
- n. Obtain a signed [letter of permission or operating agreement from a Ski Resort or area](#) acknowledging that the Club is permitted to operate Freestyle Canada-sanctioned activities. The Ski Resort or area must be from within the province of the P/TSO the club is applying with.

INDIVIDUAL MEMBERSHIP

- 11. To obtain an individual membership from Freestyle Canada, the candidate must comply with the following minimum requirements:
 - a. Have purchased one of the following membership types based on the activities they are taking part in with Freestyle Canada and the P/TSO:
 - i. Club Athlete
 - ii. Provincial Athlete
 - iii. FIS Athlete
 - iv. Coach
 - v. Official
 - vi. Judge
 - vii. Volunteer
 - viii. Support Staff
 - b. Input accurate and complete personal information in the National Database;
 - c. Comply with [Freestyle Canada's Screening Policy](#);
 - d. Be registered with only one Member. Specifically:
 - i. An athlete must register with the Member that:
 - their Club/team is registered with or
 - with the Member in the province/territory where they are a permanent resident.

- ii. A coach must register with the Member in the province/territory with which their Club/team is registered.
 - iii. An official/judge/volunteer/support staff must register with the Member in the province/territory with which their Club/team is registered. If they are not affiliated to a Club, they must register with the Member in the province/territory where they are a permanent resident.
- e. Agree to be bound by and subject to their Member's policies, rules and regulations, including, without limitation, the Member's safe sport policies, which include the Member's Code of Conduct and Ethics, Discipline and Complaints Policy, and Appeal Policy or, where their Member does not have its own safe sport policies, agree to be bound by and subject to Freestyle Canada's policies, rules and regulations, including, without limitation, its safe sport policies.

REGISTRATION PROCESS

12. Early Club registration opens in June before the new Club Sanction Period; however, early club registrations (i.e. Club Sanction requests) will not be active until approved by Freestyle Canada and endorsed by the Member and shall not come into effect until July 1st, the official start of the Club Sanction Period.
13. Registration for a licence opens in June;
14. Club registration (i.e. a Club Sanction request) on the National Database will be reviewed and approved by Freestyle Canada and endorsed by the relevant P/TSO.
15. Freestyle Canada reserves the right to deny a Club Sanction request if the information submitted by the Club is inaccurate, incomplete or where questions have not been answered by the Club to Freestyle Canada's satisfaction. In such a case, the Club will be provided with a reasonable opportunity to correct or complete information, or answer questions from Freestyle Canada. However, where the Club Sanction request is denied by Freestyle Canada, the Club will be notified, and any registration fees paid will be refunded.
16. Club Sanctions automatically terminate on June 30th of each year and must be renewed per this Policy for the forthcoming year.
17. Club and individual registration fees, including directors' and officers' insurance fees, must be paid through the National Database.
18. Freestyle Canada establishes Club and individual membership fees, which may change at any time and without prior notice. Any changes to membership fees will become effective once the registration is officially open for the next Club Sanction Period.

MEMBERSHIP REGISTRATION ASSISTANCE

19. If a Club needs assistance with registration or the National Database, or access to the National Database, the club administrator may contact the database provider and Freestyle Canada via email at info@freestylecanada.ski.

PRIVILEGES OF MEMBERSHIP

20. Clubs in Good Standing are entitled to the following privileges from Freestyle Canada:

- a. Ability to enter Freestyle Canada member athletes in Freestyle Canada-sanctioned regional, provincial and national competitions;
- b. Apply for Freestyle Canada activity sanctions;
- c. Access to Freestyle Canada programs and services including, but not limited to:
 - i. Freestyle Canada athlete development resources
 - ii. NCCP and Freestyle Canada Coach Training
 - iii. FIS/Freestyle Canada Judge/Official training programs
 - iv. Administrative support and procedures
 - v. Terrain guidelines
 - vi. Rules and regulations of the sport of freestyle skiing
 - vii. Quality assurance standards and programs
- d. Access to the National Database
- e. Directors' and officers' insurance coverage; and
- f. Freestyle Canada/CSA CGL insurance coverage.

RISK MANAGEMENT

21. Member and Club activities will be covered by Commercial General Liability (CGL) insurance if:

- a. Their activities are sanctioned by Freestyle Canada;
- b. The participants have an active Freestyle Canada membership;
- c. The participants have the required [air skill qualifications](#);
- d. Their coaches have an active Freestyle Canada membership, and
- e. Their coaches have the required NCCP/FC Coaching Certifications.

*Please consult the Activity Sanction section for the out-of-country sanctioning process

21. Not-for-profit Clubs are required to have directors' and officers' insurance, which must be valid from July 1st to June 30th of each year. Directors' and officers' insurance is provided via the Club Sanction unless the Not-for-profit Club is already insured through a different provider. In such a case, a Not-for-profit Club must provide proof of alternative coverage to Freestyle Canada.

22. CGL will not cover the following For-profit Club activities:
 - a. Public drop-in programs;
 - b. Programs open to the general public;
 - c. Programs that do not lead to or include participation in CFSA freestyle disciplines.

23. For-profit Clubs are not eligible for directors' and officers' insurance through Freestyle Canada.

INSURANCE REQUIREMENTS

22. Freestyle Canada will provide CGL insurance to Clubs that agree to be bound by and subject to the [CSA's Risk Management Manual](#), the Ski Resort's policies, the Dry-Land Training Facility's policies (e.g. trampoline or gym facility, etc.), their Member (i.e., P/TSO)'s policies as well as, without limitation, the following Freestyle Canada policies:
 - a. Club and Activity Sanction Policy
 - b. [Freestyle Canada Safe Sport Policy Suite](#)
 - c. Risk Management/Athlete Safety/Concussion Management
 - d. Coaching
 - e. Activity Sanctioning
 - f. Competitions (please refer to the policy according to the level of competition e.g., Canada Cup, FIS, Provincial.)

23. CGL insurance is valid from July 1st to June 30th of each year and only during Freestyle Canada-sanctioned activities.

24. CGL insurance is available to Clubs for acrobatic training under the following conditions:
 - a. All participants must be members of Freestyle Canada
 - b. Non-FC members are not to be mixed in with or to use the equipment alongside FC member(s).
 - c. Certified/Evaluated/Qualified FC coaches must directly supervise all activities.
 - d. FC coaches are required to inspect all equipment and facilities before use.
 - e. Equipment that is missing components, not properly maintained, or has inadequate protection must not be used.

ACTIVITY SANCTIONS

25. Activity sanctions must be approved by Freestyle Canada and endorsed by the Club's Member for every Club program or activity to comply with the requirements of the CGL Insurance Policy.

26. To qualify for insurance coverage, an event sanction is required for Clubs to hold any training, competitions or events.
27. Clubs must submit Freestyle Canada activity sanctions to Freestyle Canada and their Member to operate programs and provide services. Activity sanctions are only valid if:
 - a. The Club submits an activity sanction request online through the National Database at least 14 days before the activity takes place.
 - b. Freestyle Canada approves the activity sanction.
 - c. All individual Club members (e.g. coaches, athletes, volunteers) have an active Freestyle Canada membership.
 - d. All coaches have Freestyle Canada Coach Certifications and instruct/manage athletes within the parameters of their certifications.
 - e. The Club offers programs that align with Freestyle Canada's LTAD framework and include at least one of the Olympic disciplines (e.g. moguls, slopestyle, halfpipe or aerials).
28. Clubs must submit an [Out-of-Country Sanction](#) Request for any travel outside of Canada, failing which they will not have insurance coverage.
29. Freestyle Canada and CSA must approve the Out-of-Country Sanction Request.
30. An Out-of-Country Sanction Request will only be approved if:
 - a. It is submitted at least 14 days before the departure date.
 - b. The sanction request includes:
 - a roster of all travelling athletes and coaches
 - country of travel and specific destination
 - dates of travel
 - locations of the nearest trauma facility
 - c. All athletes and coaches have a current Freestyle Canada membership and Out-of-Country Accident Insurance for the whole duration of the activity (travelling included).

CERTIFICATE OF INSURANCE (COI)

31. The COI is a document that confirms that the Club, through Freestyle Canada and CSA, has CGL insurance and lists additional insured organizations as required.
 - a. Clubs do not require a COI for Freestyle Canada-sanctioned activities they conduct.
 - b. A COI is only required if the Ski Resort, Dry-Land Training Facility or a third party requests proof of the Club's insurance coverage.
 - c. The Club is responsible for contacting the Ski Resort, Dry-Land Training Facility or a third party to obtain their legal name, address and any COI requirements to complete a COI request form.

- d. The Club must submit all COI request forms to Freestyle Canada via email. Processing times are 5-10 business days.

Big Mountain/Freeride Skiing and Event Sanction

32. Clubs wishing to attend freeride competitions must complete the following:
 - a. All participants must hold an active membership with Freestyle Canada
 - b. Participants must be directly supervised and coached by coaches with an active Freestyle Canada Coach membership.
 - c. All coaches must possess current IFSA coaching licenses (L100 minimum).
33. IFSA Sanction Request Form must be submitted to info@freestylecanada.ski at least 14 days before the event start date.

Multiple Freestyle Canada Sanctioned Clubs Operating at a Ski Resort

34. The Ski Resort operator has the right to limit the number of Freestyle Canada-sanctioned Clubs that operate at a Ski Resort.

Sport Accident Insurance Program (SAIP)

43. Clubs must provide every individual member with the opportunity to purchase [SAIP coverage](#).
44. Individual members are responsible for initiating or administering SAIP claims. If individual members are having trouble contacting the insurer, they can contact Freestyle Canada at info@freestylecanada.ski for assistance.

Accident Reporting under SAIP

45. Clubs must follow [Freestyle Canada Accident Reporting Policies and Procedures](#).
46. Clubs are responsible for ensuring accident reports are filed within 48 hours with Freestyle Canada for every accident involving a Freestyle Canada License-holder if they receive medical attention during a Freestyle Canada-sanctioned activity operated by a Club.
47. In the event of a head injury or concussion symptoms, it is highly recommended to follow the Member's concussion policies and procedures or, if such policies do not exist, to follow those of [Freestyle Canada](#).

COACHING

48. As part of the Club Sanction, Clubs must submit a list to Freestyle Canada of all [coaches](#) participating in the Club's Freestyle Canada-sanctioned activities and ensure the following:
- Have the appropriate level of NCCP/Freestyle Canada coaching qualifications for the level of athlete(s) the coach is coaching:¹
 - Have a valid Freestyle Canada coaching membership and Freestyle Canada Coach Certifications (Air coaches supervising inverts must have verified certifications);
 - Are at least 16 years old;
 - Has successfully completed Freestyle Canada's screening requirements per the Screening Policy, as validated by the Club's Screening Officer;
 - Demonstrated completion of a safe sport training module on the CAC website within the past two years;
 - Demonstrated completion of the Making Headway Concussion module on the CAC website;
 - Demonstrated completion of the Making Ethical Decisions online evaluation on the CAC website;
49. Club program participation may not exceed an athlete-to-coach ratio of 10:1. One Freestyle Canada-qualified coach must coach every ten athletes within the parameters of their certifications.

GUEST COACH SANCTIONS

50. Coaches without NCCP/Freestyle Canada Coaching Certifications or valid Freestyle Canada coach Licenses may not coach Freestyle Canada License-holders during Freestyle Canada-sanctioned activity unless the Club has been granted a guest coach sanction.
51. The Club can submit a guest coach sanction request for special training camps provided the guest coach is:
- A Canadian National Team Member*
 - A coach with freestyle ski-specific coaching certification from another country.
 - The guest coach is constantly supervised by a Freestyle Canada-certified coach. The guest coach cannot instruct skills that are outside the parameters of the Freestyle Canada Coach's certification pathway.
 - The supervising coach must have their relative Air Coach certification for activities where inverts and off-axis tricks will be performed.
- *other requests need to be submitted to Freestyle Canada's Director of Coach Development Pathway
- **The guest coach does not count in the athlete/coach ratio

¹ The Club must verify the coach's Freestyle Canada Coaching Certifications through the CAC "Locker".

52. Guest coach sanction requests must include:
- a. A description of the training camp activities;
 - b. A description of the guest coach's responsibilities;
 - c. A description of the National Team athlete's freestyle skiing experience;
 - d. A description of a non-Canadian coach's freestyle skiing credentials;
 - e. A description of the supervising Freestyle Canada certified coach's certifications;
 - f. The location of the training camp;
 - g. The duration of the training camp; and
 - h. The qualified coach will be overseeing the guest coach.
53. Guest coach sanctions are invalid unless approved by the Freestyle Canada Director of Coach Development Pathway or Director of Athlete Development.

ATHLETE AIR QUALIFICATIONS

54. The Club must ensure all athlete air qualifications are completed during the air qualification process and submitted to the online database.
55. Coaches performing the qualifications process must use the following guidelines:
- a. For airbag and water ramp qualifications, athletes must do at least 50 repetitions of the jump to be qualified.
 - b. For the on-snow qualification, athletes must do at least 15 repetitions of the jump to be qualified before the qualification.
 - c. The coach that qualifies the athletes should have seen more than half of those repetitions.
 - d. To qualify, the athlete must perform that same jump five times in a row and have a minimum total score of 75 for each jump.
 - e. If the qualification is missed, it can't be repeated on the same day.
 - f. Athletes still need to qualify front or back tuck before moving on to inverted spinning maneuvers in that same take-off category. (e.g. Misty, Rodeo, Flatspin etc.)
56. The Air Qualification Database information is available to clubs and coaches by emailing info@freestylecanada.ski, and it includes a brief description of their role within the club.

FREESTYLE PROGRAMMING

57. Freestyle Canada highly recommends that the Club deliver programming that aligns with Freestyle Canada's LTAD framework.
58. Freestyle Canada programs can reduce the risks of injury while ensuring that athletes safely and progressively advance their fundamental physical literacy, skiing and acrobatic skills.

59. Members responsible for monitoring quality assurance, auditing Club Freestyle programs, and reporting non-compliance issues and development needs to Freestyle Canada.

MEMBERSHIP AND REGISTRATION MANAGEMENT

60. The Club is responsible for ensuring that all active members participating in club activities have the appropriate membership type per this Policy.

61. Members are responsible for ensuring that officials and judges have the appropriate License type per this Policy.

62. The Club must use the National Database to register members, which will ensure the validity of member Licenses (e.g., athletes, coaches, volunteers, etc.).

63. The Club is required to verify that coaches complete all coach requirements before they can perform any coaching duties.

64. The Club is required to verify that all of its members satisfy any relevant and applicable screening requirements per the Freestyle Canada Screening Policy.

Non-Canadian residents/members without access to Provincial Health Care

65. Persons who are not Canadian residents may become Freestyle Canada members and participate in FC programs with CGL coverage.

DEFINITIONS

1. The following terms have these meanings in this Policy:
 - a. “Club” – an organization sanctioned by and registered with Freestyle Canada and the relevant and applicable Member that has satisfied all of the requirements pursuant to this *Club and Activity Sanction Policy*, including, without limitation, any requirements imposed by the relevant and applicable Member, and that operates programs for athletes at the local or regional level within a specific territorial/provincial boundary. A Club may be a not-for-profit organization or a for-profit organization, as defined in this Policy. For the purpose of this Policy, Members that operate provincial teams shall be considered Clubs where appropriate in accordance with the context.
 - b. “Club Registration” – The term used for a club sanction request submitted in the National Database.
 - c. “Club Sanction” – The term used for a Club approved by Freestyle Canada.
 - d. “Club Sanction Period” – The time period starts on July 1st and ends on June 30th of each year.
 - e. “Coaching Certifications” – The term used for NCCP/CFSA Fundamentalz, Competition Introduction and Competition Development Coach certifications.
 - f. “CSA” – Canadian Snowsports Association
 - g. “Good Standing” – a Club will be in Good Standing with Freestyle Canada if: i) it has paid all registration fees to Freestyle Canada for the Club Membership Year in progress; ii) it does not have any outstanding debts payable to Freestyle Canada or a Member; iii) it has complied with all of the requirements in this Club and Activity Sanction Policy; iv) it is not subject to disciplinary action or subject to a sanction taken pursuant to Freestyle Canada or a Member’s policies; and v) has fulfilled all terms and conditions of any final disciplinary decision taken against the Club (if applicable).
 - h. “For-profit Clubs” – an organization which aims to earn profit through its operations. For-profit Clubs must be legal corporate entities.
 - i. “Freestyle Canada/FC” – The branded name and abbreviation of the Canadian Freestyle Ski Association (CFSA).
 - j. “LTAD Framework” – The Long-Term Athlete Development framework, developed by Sport for Life, is a developmental pathway whereby Athletes follow optimal training, competition, and recovery regimens from childhood through all phases of adulthood.
 - k. “Membership” – The term used for an individual membership. Memberships are valid from July 1st until June 30th of each year.
 - l. “Member” – the Divisions of Freestyle Canada, as indicated in the Freestyle Canada Bylaws, as amended from time to time.
 - m. “National Database” – The aggregate record of all individual participants.
 - n. “NCCP” – National Coaching Certification Program
 - o. “Not-for-profit Clubs” – an organization that uses its surplus revenues to further achieve its mission rather than distributing its surplus income to its owners as

profit. **Not-for-profit clubs must be registered either provincially or federally as not-for-profit corporations. Not-for-profit Clubs must also have a governing volunteer Board of Directors.** Directors' and Officers' Insurance is mandatory.

- p. "Screening Officer" - assigned member of the club for screening of athletes (non-minor), coaches, volunteers and officials of the Club
- q. "The Locker" is a searchable database where Freestyle Canada Members and Clubs can review coaches' NCCP/CFSA training, certifications, and professional development transcripts. The Locker is operated by the Canadian Association of Coaches' whose mission is to establish education, training and ethical standards for coaches in Canada.

Appendix A – Coach Qualification Requirements

Acrobatic Training and Qualification

Trampoline, water ramp, and airbag training are recognized and approved training tools for learning acrobatic skills. All coaches are required to have the relative environment and appropriate Air requirements as follows:

NOTE: Coaches with a "trained" status in the CAC "Locker" are not qualified to run or supervise training independently.

TRAMPOLINE

- a. Air 2 Trampoline, (Advanced Single Inverted and Off-Axis skills) Evaluated / Qualified is required to supervise trampoline training.
 - i. Air 1 qualified coaches are not permitted to run trampoline training on their own.
- b. Doubles on Trampoline Evaluated / Qualified is required at training sessions where double inverted and/or off-axis skills are being trained.

AIR BAG

- c. Air 3 Air Bag Evaluated / Qualified Coaches are required to supervise any Air Bag training.
- d. Doubles on Airbag Evaluated / Qualified is required to supervise Air Bag training where double inverted and/or off-axis skills are being trained.

WATER RAMP

- e. Air 3 Water Ramp Evaluated / Qualified coaches are required to supervise water ramp training.
- f. Doubles on Trampoline Evaluated / Qualified coaches are required to supervise water ramp training where double inverted and/or off-axis skills are being trained.

SNOW

- g. Air 4 Evaluated / Qualified Coaches are required to supervise single inverted maneuvers on snow.
- h. Doubles on Trampoline and Air Bag Evaluated / Qualified coaches are required to supervise snow training where double inverted and/or off-axis skills are being trained.