



**2024-2025 SLOPESTYLE / BIG AIR / HALFPIPE NORAM
SPOT ALLOCATION CRITERIA**

July 25th 2024

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1. PREAMBLE

Each year FIS operates the Continental Cup circuits, the NorAm circuit is the tour which is governed by the FIS NorAm Committee for the USSA and Freestyle Canada amateur athletes. The following rules describe the process in which the Canadian Quotas are allocated to the Freestyle Canada member athletes. .

2. DEFINITIONS

“HPP” – High Performance Program

“FC” – Freestyle Canada

“FC member” – all FC members and participants, as defined in the by-laws, including but not limited to coaches, officials, athletes (including athletes training at a national team training camp/center and those selected to the high-performance program), team managers and team staff, competition organizers, administrators, volunteers, staff and contractors of FC.

“FIS” - Fédération Internationale de Ski (International Ski Federation)

“OC” – Organizing committee

“NA Selection Committee” – NorAm Selection Committee is the responsible group who selects athletes to compete in the Nor Am Tour.

3. SLOPESTYLE, BIG AIR & HALFPIPE NORAM FIS QUOTA ALLOCATION

There are 2 types of FIS events that Freestyle Canada receives quotas for: NorAm and USSA Rev Tour. (Not all Rev Tour events are FIS NorAm events.) These events are targeted for the Train to Compete athlete stage. For the 2024-2025 FIS competitive season, Canada will not be recognizing the Rev Tour FIS events for our High-Performance Ranking (HPP) system, only the NorAm recognized events where Canada receive regular quota.

Each year, Freestyle Canada has the authority from FIS to allocate the NorAm quotas and entries to FIS level events.

3.1. NorAm Selection Committee

The voting group responsible for selecting athletes and allocating spots for the NorAm circuit is

the NorAm Selection Committee, which is comprised of:

- NextGen Head Coach
- NextGen Assistant Coach
- Athlete Development Director (tie breaking vote)

Other people who are part of discussions and help give perspective when voting is needed are:

- National Team Head Coach
- National Team Technical Coach
- High Performance Director
- Events and Officials Coordinator

3.2. Principles of allocating the FIS quotas

The following are guidelines to direct the selection committee in allocating the FIS spots effectively:

- Provide the Train to Compete stage athletes within the Freestyle Canada athlete development system with these competitive opportunities. These events are a critical step in their development.
- Provide the National Team athletes with NorAm competition where and when needed to support their progress towards the World Cup stage.
- Provide a process for athletes returning from injury who may have missed competitive opportunities to be selected and have the required skill for this competitive stage of the pathway.

4. ALLOCATION PROCESS

4.1. NorAm & FIS Quota system

Freestyle Canada receives 15 male and 15 female spots for all USSA NorAm events. These spots are allocated as per the process outlined below. Freestyle Canada's Events & Officials Coordinator understands that time is of the essence and will pursue the open spots with the Organizing Committee as soon as can be determined.

For the Canadian NorAms, the organizing committee sets the field size for the event as operating times vary by resort and event parameters. There are initial quotas for:

Canada: 15 male & 15 female spots

USA: 15 male & 15 female spots

Foreign, other countries: 20 total – Max of 8 per nation with a max 5 per gender

*Any open spots can be distributed at the hosting NSO's discretion. For Canadian NorAm, see below in "Process for Allocation" how any open host spots will be allocated.

FIS Continental Cup rules:

https://assets.fis-ski.com/f/252177/x/2c6e10dcd7/coc-rules-sb-fs-fk-2024_25_clean.pdf

The process for allocation described below will be applied individually to Slopestyle / Big Air and Halfpipe.

Freestyle Canada reserves the right not to allocate all quota spots if the skill level is not deemed appropriate for the NorAm circuit.

4.2. Athletes' eligibility

- Athletes must have an active FIS License with FIS number.
- Freestyle Canada FIS License, with appropriate insurance if traveling out-of-country
- Meet the FIS age requirement. See International Competition Rules (ICR), 2014.2:

https://assets.fis-ski.com/f/252177/x/7224a970bb/sbfsfk-new-icr-spring-2024_clean.pdf

- Meet the Freestyle Canada Minimum Skill Level:
 - Halfpipe
 - Men:
 - Both directions down the pipe 540° or flare.
 - One switch spin 540+
 - Both way alley oop 360°
 - 2 different grabs
 - Women:
 - One direction 360°
 - One direction 540°
 - Both direction alley oop's
 - 2 different grabs
 - SS-BA

- Men: 2 different ways doubles
- Women: 3 different ways 540's and one 720

4.3. Halfpipe NorAm Spot Allocations

Quota for all HP Nor-Am events will be allocated as per the following process.

- Allocations will be done by September **1st, 2024**
 - STEP 1:** Confirm spots for National Team athletes
 - STEP 2:** If there are remaining spots, the 23-24 HPP Rankings will be used

4.4. Slopestyle/Big Air NorAm Spot Allocations

There will be up to 6 NorAm events scheduled for the 2024-2025 season.

Regular Nation Quota allocation (15 Men / 15 Women):

STEP 1: Confirm National Team Athletes:

The Freestyle Canada High Performance Program retains the number of spots required for the National Team athletes (which includes NextGen Team).

STEP 2: Up to 2 spots per gender will be held for exceptional circumstances (see 4.5). These spots will be allocated by September 1st 2024.

STEP 3: Next ranked athletes from the 23-24 HPP Rankings. PSOs must confirm the spot by September 1st 2024. If a spot is declined or unfilled after the deadline, FC will select the following athlete on the 23-24 HPP rankings.

Host Nation Quota allocation (for Canadian Nor-Ams ONLY):

Spots will be allocated using the latest HPP Rankings (This will be made clear with dates once the NorAm schedule is confirmed. A combination of last year's HPP rankings and 24-25 early season results may be used depending on timing of Cdn NorAm).

*The Canada Cup ranking may be used if necessary

NOTE: PT/SO Coaches will have 48 hours to confirm any allocated spots.

For all Canadian NorAms, once the registration deadline has passed for foreign athletes, Freestyle Canada will allocate any open spots using HPP rankings , field size established by the host organizing committee.

4.5. Extraordinary circumstances

An athlete who is progressing in their career but has a setback due to an injury, a death in the family or similar life or psychological experiences could be afforded additional flexibility for HPP Slopestyle / Big Air Rankings, National Team Selection, and other Freestyle Canada decisions; these situations are referred to as "Exceptional Circumstances". These situations need to be supported by a note from a FC recognized medical provider and the PSO to be considered for a Nor-Am quota spot. The following

variables, but not limited to, will be considered by the committee to determine if a quota spot is allocated to the affected athlete:

- Previous results at HPP eligible competitions
- If the athlete had less than 6 HPP eligible starts (5 or less) in 23-24;
- Skill level (Video may be requested by the committee);
- Readiness to compete. The committee may require further medical clearance to ensure the athlete is deemed safe to compete and ready to perform the minimum skills listed in section 4.2.

5. FIS REV TOUR SPOTS

The FIS Rev Tour events that are not designated **NorAm** will not be valued for the Freestyle Canada rankings. For these regular Rev Tour events, Canada only receives 5 spots total, so these are an unfair competitive opportunity given the open registration process.

The Rev Tour events will not be valued for the HPP rankings for the 2024-2025 season.

6. UNFORESEEN CIRCUMSTANCES

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 HPP selection 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.