



# Canadian Slopestyle and Big Air 2024-2025 World Cup Spot Allocation

*September 18<sup>th</sup>, 2024*

## Introduction

Freestyle Canada (FC) allocates World Cup (WC) starts to eligible members of national slopestyle and big air team into available FIS quotas based on the criteria in this document.

This document outlines the process for distribution of FIS World Cup competitive opportunities to athletes in the Canadian slopestyle and big air program for the 2024/25 season. Information on selection to the team, Committee structure, etc., can be found on the Freestyle Canada [website](#).

## Philosophy

FC works in partnership with Own the Podium to build and validate our performance plans that chart the path towards medals at the next and subsequent Olympic Winter Games. Funding from OTP and the Government of Canada 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 HP Committee would love to provide WC opportunities to all our skiers, available 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:

- Provide a transparent selection process for athletes eligible\* to compete in the events,
- Use a "rolling 12-month HPP calculation" to rank the skiers in each gender of the High Performance Program,
- Strive to balance opportunities for each athlete to improve his or her ranking,

\*Eligible athletes are those who are in good standing with the Freestyle Canada high performance program.

## FIS WC Schedule 2024-25

Host	Scheduled Date	Planned Events
Chur, SUI	October 18, 2024	BA
Stubai, AUT	November 22 – 23, 2024	SS
Beijing, CHN	November 29 – December 1, 2024	BA
Klagenfurt, AUT	January 3 – 4, 2025	BA
Kreischberg, AUT	January 9 – 10, 2025	BA
Laax, SUI	January 14 – 17, 2025	SS
Aspen, USA	January 30 – February 1, 2025	SS
Aspen, USA	February 4 – 6, 2025	BA
Stoneham, CAN	February 20 – 22, 2025	SS
Tignes, FRA	March 11 – 14	SS, BA

\*Subject to changes, cancellations, or additions

## FIS Quotas

Each FIS nation earns base quotas spots for World Cup events based primarily on athlete performances from the previous year. Additional spots may be provided by the FIS Race Director based on the FIS allocation system (found in section 2.3, [here](#)).

For the 2024 - 25 season, Freestyle Canada has been allocated the following quota spots:

	Men Slopestyle	Women Slopestyle	Men Big Air	Women Big Air
<b>Basic Spots Available to Canada</b>	1	1	1	1
<b>Additional Spots Available to Canada</b>	2	2	1	1
<b>Personal Spots</b> *May only be filled by the person who earned the spot	Aidan Mulvihill (NorAm)	Skye Clarke (NorAm)	Aidan Mulvihill (NorAm)	Skye Clarke (NorAm)
<b>Additional Spots from the World Cup Allocation system</b>	TBD each event	TBD each event	TBD each event	TBD each event
<b>Additional Host Spots for Canadian WC events</b>	+5 spots	+3 spots	+5 spots	+3 spots
<b>Max Team for the Canadian events</b>	15 not including personal spot	13 not including personal spot	15 not including personal spot	13 not including personal spot
<b>Max Team size for non-Canadian events</b>	10 not including personal spots		10 not including personal spots	

\*There is no requirement to fill all available spots, including personal spots.

## Eligibility

To be eligible for selection each athlete must:

- Sign the FIS Declaration stating compliance with all FIS rules of competition for the current season.
- Be in good standing with Freestyle Canada and be a member of the Slopestyle and Big Air HPP.
- Have a minimum of 50 FIS points in the appropriate discipline (Slopestyle or Big Air).

## World Cup Selection Blocks

1. September 23<sup>rd</sup>: Chur BA,
2. October 7<sup>th</sup>: Stubai SS, Beijing
3. December 19<sup>th</sup>: Klagenfurt BA, Kreichberg BA, Laax SS, Aspen SS/BA, Stoneham SS,
4. February 6<sup>th</sup>: Tignes SS

## FC World Cup Spot Selection Process

Athletes are selected on **HPP Rankings**, based on each athlete's best three event results over the previous 12 month period. The HP Committee is not required to fill all available FIS World Cup quota spots.

Additional factors considered are:

1. **Podium Potential:** Recent top finishes and ability to qualify for major events may be considered. Current top 12 WC results may be prioritized.
2. **Readiness:** Current fitness, health and training progress.
3. **Commitment:** Dedication to training and performance improvement. Commitment includes camp attendance, compliance and effort at camp/training, and other factors associated with excellence.

The HP Committee may also:

- Acknowledge, discuss and adjust ranking scores due to a significant competition anomaly that might have occurred and affect the ranking order.
- Consider an out of rank order selection when:
  1. there is a relatively narrow point spread in the HPP Ranking between two or more athletes,
  2. an athlete is returning from injury and there is any question about competition readiness.
  3. an athlete has had multiple WC opportunities but is not advancing towards top 12 WC results,
  4. an athlete is not attending training sessions or when present, has a poor attitude or poor training ethic,

Skill assessments may be used to compare competition readiness between two or more athletes. If used, a skill assessment will be undertaken in advance of the selection date and be based on observations at the most recent camps/competitions.

## Selection and Decision Procedures

1. The HP Committee will select athletes for each opportunity and may also designate alternates.
2. Athletes under consideration will be informed of the decision by their coach. Selected athletes will be offered the opportunity and given the choice to accept or decline. The committee may establish a deadline for the athlete's decision.
3. If a selected athlete declines the offer and an alternate has been identified, the alternate may be offered the opportunity.
4. An opportunity may be revoked if an athlete fails to maintain good standing with Freestyle Canada.

## Exceptional Circumstances

An athlete who is progressing in their career but has a setback due to a health related circumstance may be afforded additional flexibility for HP Rankings and WC spot allocation; these situations are referred to as "Exceptional Circumstances".

The FC generated HPP Ranking score for each athlete based on the assumption that each athlete will have six available “starts” that will provide Placing data for the ranking. If an athlete is unable to achieve six starts in which they were qualified to compete, placing results can be brought forward from the previous period to total six.

To be considered for selection to a competition, athletes must be cleared for competition by the Freestyle Canada medical team.

1. The selection committee has the discretion to use the Exceptional Circumstance clause for special cases. This is more likely for athletes with a significant body of recent strong results (medals or top 6 at WC, major games or X-Games). This may include expanding the backwards extension of the selection period, or other adjustments to meet the special case.
2. Any injury must be evaluated and validated by a FC medical staff member.
3. The selection committee, with input from medical experts, may prevent an athlete from entering an event if the pace of the athlete’s rehabilitation from injury warrants doing so.
4. It may occur that it is inappropriate for a High-Performance Program athlete, by reason of a health-related curtailment of activities, to participate in HPP training and competition activities for an entire program year. In such a situation, the following shall apply:

#### Other Situations

Issues not otherwise covered by this document are subject to the decision of the Chief Executive Officer of FC, in consultation with the Selection Committee.

#### Appeal and Hearing Process

FC is committed to upholding our organizational mission and adhering to the standards set by our performance partners. We strive to make decisions that align with these guidelines. If an athlete believes a mistake was made in applying these criteria, he or she should promptly reach out to their coach or the High Performance Director (HPD). If the issue remains unresolved after this discussion, the athlete may proceed with filing an appeal through the Freestyle Canada Appeal process.

## Appendix 1 – Calculation of Slopestyle / Big Air HPP Rankings

Point Values are calculated using the athlete's final placings from eligible events. All competitions are factored based on the Tier and Value: see Appendix 3 for a sample Points Value Table.

The sum of an athlete's three best point values, within a 12 month rolling selection period, will be calculated.

### Ranking Criteria Notes:

A slopestyle or big air event can be determined to be of "neutral" (standard), "boosted" or "diminished" value.

- Neutral or standard events are those that meet the standards set out by the FIS. It is expected that all WC events meet these standards and will receive 100% of the calculation in the HP Ranking.
- A diminished value event results in a reduction of the FC internal ranking points available for the high performance rank by either 7.5% or 15% based on a variety of factors including a:
  - modified event format that allows for an easier "win",
  - below quality venue (small hits, missing features, etc.)
  - low quality field.
- "Boosted" events have been recognized in the past however, an event with a strong field on a difficult venue should now be worth 100%, though in an unusual circumstance, the HP Committee could deem an event boosted by 7.5 or 15%.
- Event values will usually be established before the event start to ensure an unbiased determination is made of the quality and value of the event.
- The selection committee reserves the right to determine that an event will not be recognized for ranking or selection purposes up to two weeks prior to the first training day
- Within two weeks after completion, an event will be valued and may be shifted into a different tier to accurately value the event.
- Value of events are determined as follows:
  - The HPP Selection Committee will determine the value of the Tier 1 events.
  - The HPAD advisory group will value the Tier 2 and 3 events.
  - These committees may decide to add eligible events with a minimum of two weeks' notice prior to the first competition day of that event.

Identifying & valuing the rating of events:

COMPONENT	DETAILS
<b>ESTABLISHING THE HPP TIER (based on the level of the event):</b>	
TIER 1	FIS World Cups and Major Events / Identified independent events
TIER 2	FIS NorAms and identified Independent
TIER 3	Canada Cup and identified independent events
<b>VALUE OF THE TIERS</b>	Tier 1 is the highest valued events, then Tier 2. Tier 2 is valued more than Tier 3
	Each Tier can be given more detailed value: "Neutral, "Boosted" or "Diminished" based on the below guidelines
	There are 5 values within a tier: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Boosted: + 15 &amp; +7.5 or</li> <li>• Neutral or</li> <li>• Diminished -7.5, &amp; -15</li> </ul>
<b>PLACING VALUES</b>	The placing values are established by the Tier and then if it is Neutral, Diminished or Boosted.
	Have a diminishing value from 1st place to last place in the event.
	There is an "R-Value" for each Tier which is the rate of diminishing value for each placing, and it is relative to the value and tier of the event. Please see Appendix 2.
<b>ESTABLISHING EVENT VALUES</b>	
All the below is taken into consideration when determining the value of events	
COURSE DETAILS	Quality of course overall; features, layout, or flow of course, quality of jumps or Pipe - wall & transition
JUDGING	Quality judging throughout the heats within the phases, accurate scores, and placings at the end of the event
CALIBRE OF FIELD	SKILLS: overall level and quality of skills performed in the top 10 for Women, Top 20 for Men
	COMPETITORS: did the top skiers participate? Countries attending, Current FIS rankings are referred to
	NOTE: FIS rankings can change week to week and so establishing the value will fluctuate based on the current FIS rankings
	Injured top athletes not present will also be taken into consideration
COURSE CONDITIONS	weather delays, snow conditions, wind, maintenance of venue
FIELD SIZE	total field size without DNS, # of countries
EVENT FORMAT	was the format conducive to a quality event?
	Were the heats fairly designed: size / good distribution of caliber of athletes
	# of heats in each phase
	# of runs within each heat

Appendix 2: Skill Assessment Guide

<b>SCALE GUIDE:</b>		
Comparable to current top performers		Consistency: completing skills
Not competition ready	1	0-49%
Doing in competition but not quality of top 50% of field	2	50-69%
Finals round quality	3	70-89%
Top 5 quality	4	90-100%

<b>SLOPESTYLE SKILL ANALYSIS - WC spot allocation</b>											
NAME	JUMP DD	QUALITY	RAIL DD	QUALITY	CREATIVITY: line, grabs, innovation, variety, features	QUALITY	CONSISTENCY: % achieving quality-full runs	SCORE	FULL RUN IMPRESSION	TOTAL SCORE	ATHLETE RANK
EXAMPLE	sw-L-dub-14 & L-dub16-belt	3	6on / 1-ski slide w switch up / flip off	2	one & only rail skill, variety in features,	4	85%	3	3	15	
<b>Current WC top skills will be entered to compare</b>											

<b>BIG AIR SKILL ANALYSIS - WC Spot allocation</b>											
NAME	JUMP 1 DD	QUALITY	JUMP 2 DD	QUALITY	CREATIVITY: style, grabs, height?	QUALITY	CONSISTENCY: % achieving quality jumps	SCORE	OVERALL IMPRESSION	TOTAL SCORE	ATHLETE RANK
EXAMPLE	R-trip16-2xocto	3	sw-L-dub-14 Buick grab	2		3	85%	3	4	15	
<b>Current WC top skills will be entered to compare</b>											

## Appendix 3 – Placing Value Charts

Samples (Truncated for readability, partial chart shown to give concept of placing values)

### Women

Tier 1: WC and Similar					Tier 2: FIS NORAM, Gold AFP, etc					Tier 3: Canada Cup, Silver AFP, etc					
ADJUSTMENT		EVENT VALUE			ADJUSTMENT		EVENT VALUE			ADJUSTMENT		EVENT VALUE			
+15		1000			+15		776			+15		575			
+7.5		968			+7.5		726			+7.5		538			
Bench		900			Bench		675			Bench		500			
-7.5		833			-7.5		624			-7.5		463			
-15		765			-15		574			-15		425			
R Value		0.020			R Value		0.020			R Value		0.020			
+15	+7.5	Bench	-7.5	-15	+15	+7.5	Bench	-7.5	-15	+15	+7.5	Bench	-7.5	-15	test Plac
Points	Points	Points	Points	Points	Points	Points	Points	Points	Points	Points	Points	Points	Points	Points	
1000	968	900	833	765	776	726	675	624	574	575	538	500	463	425	1
980	948	882	816	750	761	711	662	612	562	564	527	490	453	417	2
960	929	864	800	735	746	697	648	600	551	552	516	480	444	408	3
941	911	847	784	720	731	683	635	588	540	541	506	471	435	400	4
922	892	830	768	706	716	669	623	576	529	530	496	461	427	392	5
904	875	814	753	691	702	656	610	564	519	520	486	452	418	384	6
886	857	797	737	678	688	643	598	553	508	509	476	443	410	376	7
868	840	781	723	664	674	630	586	542	498	499	467	434	402	369	8
851	823	766	708	651	660	617	574	531	488	489	457	425	393	362	9
834	807	750	694	638	647	605	563	521	478	479	448	417	386	354	10
817	791	735	680	625	634	593	552	510	469	470	439	409	378	347	11
801	775	721	667	613	622	581	540	500	459	460	430	400	370	340	12
785	759	706	653	600	609	569	530	490	450	451	422	392	363	334	13
769	744	692	640	588	597	558	519	480	441	442	413	385	356	327	14
754	729	678	627	577	585	547	509	471	432	433	405	377	349	320	15
739	715	665	615	565	573	536	499	461	424	425	397	369	342	314	16
724	700	651	603	554	562	525	489	452	415	416	389	362	335	308	17
709	686	638	591	543	551	515	479	443	407	408	381	355	328	301	18
695	673	626	579	532	540	504	469	434	399	400	374	348	322	295	19
681	659	613	567	521	529	494	460	425	391	392	366	341	315	290	20

### Men

Tier 1: WC and Similar					Tier 2: FIS NORAM, Gold AFP, etc					Tier 3: Canada Cup, Silver AFP, etc					
Slide Value		Event Value			Slide Value		Event Value			Slide Value		Event Value			
+15		1000			+15		776			+15		575			
+7.5		968			+7.5		726			+7.5		538			
Bench		900			Bench		675			Bench		500			
-7.5		833			-7.5		624			-7.5		463			
-15		765			-15		574			-15		425			
R Value		0.010			R Value		0.015			R Value		0.025			
+15	+7.5	Bench	-7.5	-15	+15	+7.5	Bench	-7.5	-15	+15	+7.5	Bench	-7.5	-15	Contest Placing
Points	Points	Points	Points	Points	Points	Points	Points	Points	Points	Points	Points	Points	Points	Points	
1000	968	900	833	765	776	726	675	624	574	575	538	500	463	425	1
990	958	891	824	757	765	715	665	615	565	561	524	488	451	414	2
980	948	882	816	750	753	704	655	606	557	547	511	475	440	404	3
970	939	873	808	742	742	693	645	597	548	533	498	463	429	394	4
961	929	865	800	735	731	683	635	588	540	520	486	452	418	384	5
951	920	856	792	728	720	673	626	579	532	507	474	441	408	374	6
941	911	847	784	720	709	663	616	570	524	494	462	430	397	365	7
932	902	839	776	713	698	653	607	562	516	482	450	419	387	356	8
923	893	830	768	706	688	643	598	553	508	470	439	408	378	347	9
914	884	822	761	699	678	633	589	545	501	458	428	398	368	338	10
904	875	814	753	692	667	624	580	537	493	446	417	388	359	330	11
895	866	806	745	685	657	614	572	529	486	435	407	378	350	322	12
886	858	798	738	678	647	605	563	521	479	424	397	369	341	314	13
878	849	790	731	671	638	596	555	513	471	414	387	360	333	306	14
869	841	782	723	665	628	587	546	505	464	403	377	351	324	298	15
860	832	774	716	658	619	578	538	498	457	393	368	342	316	291	16
851	824	766	709	651	610	570	530	490	451	383	358	333	308	283	17
843	816	759	702	645	600	561	522	483	444	374	350	325	301	276	18
835	807	751	695	638	591	553	514	476	437	365	341	317	293	269	19
826	799	744	688	632	582	545	507	469	431	355	332	309	286	263	20