



2025 - 2026 National Mogul Team Selection Criteria

December 6, 2024

1. Preamble and Introduction:

This document explains how Freestyle Canada (FC) selects athletes for the 2025-2026 National Mogul Team. FC's High Performance Program (HPP) focuses on preparing athletes to achieve podium results at the Olympic Winter Games and FIS World Championships.

FC's high-performance staff will assist athletes by providing:

- Personal assessment that will feed a plan to identify each athlete's strengths and areas for improvement.
- Competitive experience on the international stage to refine technical, tactical and psychological skills and strategies.

2. Definitions and Roles

	Acronym	Role
Freestyle Canada	FC	Governing body for Freestyle skiing in Canada
Chief Executive Officer	CEO	Top staff member of FC; answerable to the Board of Directors
High Performance Program / High Performance Director	HPP / HPD	Performance stream within FC / Director
FC Leadership Team		Includes FC's CEO, COO, Director of Sport Science, Sport Medicine and Innovation, High Performance (HP) Director, and HP Manager.
Long-Term Athlete Development	LTAD	Pathway for development of freestyle skiers from grass roots through sport for life
Health Curtailment		A health status or situation approved by the FC Medical team that causes an athlete to miss training or competitive opportunities.
International Ski Federation	FIS	Governing body for Freestyle skiing internationally
FIS World Cup, NorAm	WC, NorAm	FIS competition series
NextGen	NG	Athletes showing evidence of medal potential for the subsequent Olympic Winter Games (up to 7 years ahead)
Sport Science, Sport Medicine, and Innovation	SSSMI / IST	Category of performance services for medical, paramedical, and applied research aimed at enhancing athlete performance
Own the Podium	OTP	Technical agency who makes recommendations to Sport Canada on the funding for all Canadian sports

3. Selection Authority and HP Committee Responsibilities

The Mogul HP Committee (HPC) oversees team selection and ensures alignment with Freestyle Canada's goals. The committee also allocates competitive opportunities and advises the HP Director.

Voting members include the:

- National Team Mogul Program Lead,
- WC Head Technical Coach, and
- HP Director (chair, tie-breaking vote).

Non-voting members may include other national mogul program coaches, FC's CEO, and other FC staff members. The HPC may seek input from other IST members. Meetings are open to committee members and invited experts only. Members abstain from votes impacting their immediate family members.

Team selection details are described in this document; FIS World Cup spot allocations and selection for major events (examples: Olympic Winter Games and World Championships) will be published in separate documents aligned with each event's specific timelines and selection requirements.

4. Selection Process

Team selection covers the FIS season from May (following the competitive season) to the following April (qualification period: November 1, 2024, through April 15, 2025).

1. The HPC reviews athlete performance and rankings by May 15 each year.
2. Athletes are nominated to tiers (Podium, A, B, NextGen); these nominations are provided to the HP Leadership team for final review.
3. Sensitive decisions (e.g., non-selection) will be communicated directly by the athlete's coach.
4. Nominated athletes have 10 days to accept or decline.

In making recommendations to the teams, the HPC will consider gender inclusion in selections. An athlete who may qualify for consideration because of an exceptional circumstance will be considered.

5. Selection Eligibility

OTP provides support under two programs:

1. Enhanced Excellence (World Cup): for athletes on track to medal at the next Olympic Winter Games.
2. NextGen: for athletes projected to medal within eight years.

To be eligible for selection to the 2025 - 2026 National Mogul Team program, an athlete needs to meet the following eligibility criteria. An athlete must:

- be a FC member and be current with their personal FC financial account.
- hold a Canadian passport.
- show an upward sport-specific performance trajectory.
- meet FIS age requirement for FIS World Cup competition.
- if requested by FC, agree to be subject to any proceedings taken under the UCCMS, including, without limitation, signing a UCCMS Participant consent form and accepting the jurisdiction of

the Office of the Sport Integrity Commissioner/Abuse-Free Sport.

6. HPP Mogul Ranking

The HPP Mogul Ranking criteria (see Appendix 1) are based on athlete performance in FC-recognized competitions. Athletes are ranked by gender, and rankings consider event quotas, budgets, and quadrennial goals.

Non-HPP athletes must achieve a top-two-thirds result in three eligible events to be ranked. HPP athletes must meet competition requirements based on their experience level. Athletes are expected to demonstrate continued skill development and competitive growth as they advance through the program, with the goal of achieving progressively stronger results over time. National Team member's rankings may account for injuries and special circumstances.

The High Performance Director coordinates the HPP Mogul Rankings related to the selection of National and NextGen teams, which are presented to the HPC. HP coaches report on each athlete's skill level and overall progression and commitment over the season.

Athletes aiming for selection to the 2025-26 High Performance Mogul Program are expected to compete in the Senior Canadian Championships. If the Senior Canadian Championships conflict with the FIS Junior World Championships, participation in either competition will be accepted.

Score Anomalies - In some circumstances, there are three to four competitive, qualifying events on the same course within a short period of time, often with the same panel of judges. Circumstances such as these can skew rankings (positively or negatively). Scenarios such as these will be reviewed by the HPC and may warrant out of order selections.

Athletes will be nominated for selection to the HPP by the HPC. The FC Leadership Team will review the nominations and discuss any concerns with the HPC. Once satisfied with the nominations, the leadership team will ratify them and release staff to contact the athletes with the offer to join (or rejoin) the program.

7. National Team Tiering and Standards

Athletes will be selected to compete in both Mogul and Dual Mogul events.

World Cup Team Tiers:

- **Podium:**
 - **Criteria:** Requires three World Cup podiums in 2024-2025.
 - **Benefits:** Receives priority entry into World Cup (WC) events and the highest level of FC funding support.
- **A:**
 - **Criteria:** Requires one World Cup podium or a combination of two top results:
 - top 4 from Dual Mogul WCs and/or
 - top 5 from Mogul WCs
 - **Benefits:** Receives priority entry into WC events and a high level of FC funding.

- **B:**
 - **Criteria:** Must be ranked in the top 5 by gender and requires two top placings:
 - Men:
 - top 10 Moguls and/or
 - top 8* Dual Moguls.
 - Women:
 - top 8 Moguls and/or
 - top 8 Dual Moguls.
 - **Benefits:** Receives next priority entry into WC events and enhanced FC funding compared to NextGen athletes.

** A top 8 result in dual moguls indicates that an athlete has passed through several rounds of competition to achieve a "round of 8" finish. Analysis of historic WC DM results indicates that in both men and women, top 8 is a milestone achievement.*

The formation of the team is contingent on resource availability. Podium, A & B athletes are expected to be on track to win a major event within four years. The HPC may add athletes as discretionary spots or otherwise adjust the team sizes by tier based on skills and circumstances.

- **NextGen Team (NextGen):**

The NextGen team is for athletes showing medal potential within eight years. Selection is based primarily on the HPP Mogul Ranking list, but the HPC may consider factors like return from injury or provincial athlete's personal Gold Medal Profile.

- This team size will be determined after the World Cup team athletes are identified.
- The HPC may select athletes out of ranking order base on skills and/or injury status.
 - Skill assessment can occur throughout the season by any of our national program coaches. Skills will be assessed based on the framework outlined in Freestyle Canada's Gold Medal Profiles.
- The HPC may decide to reduce the team size at the point where a large drop in points occurs between athletes on the ranking list.

NextGen athletes are expected to progress to the World Cup team within four years of being first named to the team. Athletes not showing appropriate progression in performance or skill level may not be offered a renewal of their NextGen position.

Conditional Nomination Status:

- A nominated athlete may be offered a spot on the team on a conditional basis, pending assessment by FC's medical team to ensure they have no underlying injuries or physical limitations that could affect their training or performance.
- Newly selected athletes will remain provisional until their performance, compliance, and integration are reviewed during their first training camp.

* Conditional Status is intended for skiers moving into the HP Program for the first time; skiers returning to the program have history with the FC IST staff.

Provisional Nomination by the HPC:

- The HPC may provisionally nominate athletes to the NextGen group. These athletes have met the minimum skill standards but have not yet demonstrated all the technical and athletic traits outlined in FC's Gold Medal Profile framework.
- Provisionally nominated athletes will be given the opportunity to train with the group, with their full selection status to be reviewed following the first training block.

NextGen Camp Invitations and National Team Selections for 2025-26:

- For the 2024-25 season, the top three non-HPP skiers of each gender, based on NorAm Tour rankings, may be invited to the April 2025 NextGen camp in Whistler, which will take place after Nationals.
- Camp invitations will be finalized by **March 10, 2025**.
- The 2025-26 National Team selections will be confirmed following the spring NextGen camp and finalized prior to the **May 15, 2025**, selection deadline. Final rankings for the 2024-25 season will include results from Nationals.

Rookie Consideration

First-year athletes may experience a temporary dip in performance as they adapt to new training methods. These athletes will be evaluated on their compliance with their coach's input, and progression will be considered for a second-year renewal even if their HPP ranking score drops. This is an option for the HPC but not an entitlement for rookie skiers; only rookie skiers who are progressing in their skill development will be considered for this option.

Future Talent Identification

Provincial level athletes who have demonstrated strong skill development and are trending towards NextGen qualification may be invited to a select training opportunity or skill evaluation session that allows the national team coaching staff to work directly with the athlete to evaluate development potential. These opportunities will allow the coaches to better assess specific skills, and overall aptitude for longer term HP prospective while providing direct feedback on expectations to the athlete.

8. Exceptional Circumstances and Special Ranking Considerations

Special Ranking Considerations: The HPC may select athletes out of order based on criteria like exceptional performance, physical capability, or work ethic. Decisions are documented to ensure alignment with program goals. Within specific parameters, the HPC has the flexibility to select athletes "out of rank order". Please see Section 9 Special Ranking Considerations for details.

Exceptional Circumstances: Athletes facing setbacks (i.e., injury, family matters) may qualify for ranking flexibility: these are often a result of a Health Curtailment of activity. Placings from the previous season may substitute for missed events, as outlined below, if the situation that caused the athlete to miss the opportunities are documented and approved by FC leadership. If an athlete voluntarily misses a competition, it does not entitle them to count results from the previous season.

Only athletes who are members of the HPP program are eligible to use the "Exceptional Circumstances" clause. Provincial athletes who have suffered injury may be brought into the HPP through the mechanism of an "out of rank order" selection should sufficient evidence be available to justify.

FC generates an HPP Ranking score for each athlete based on the assumption that each athlete will have six “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 because of a documented Health Curtailment circumstance, placing results can be brought forward from the previous season to meet up to six.

When calculating the HPP rank, the number of placings counted depends on the length of time an athlete is in the HP program. When the exceptional circumstances are being applied to an athlete, the following table will be applied:

HP Rookie (not available for PSO athletes)	If an athlete has less than 6 “2024 - 2025 starts”, the remaining placings to achieve 6 will be pulled from 2023 -2024; three placings will be used to calculate the HPP rank. Note that if an HP Rookie has been compliant with the coaches’ requests and the program, they will be eligible for a second year on the team (per Section 4.4)
Year 2 or 3 in HPP	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If an athlete has 8 or more “2024 - 2025 starts”, their ranking will be calculated using their best 4 placings. • If this athlete has 6 or 7 “2024 - 2025 starts” their ranking will be calculated using their best 3 placings; no results will be pulled from 2023-24. • If an athlete has less than 6 “2024 - 2025 starts”, the balance to make up 6 will be pulled from 2023-24; their ranking will be calculated using their best 3 placings.
Year 4+ in HPP	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If an athlete has 10 or more “2024 - 2025 starts”, their ranking will be calculated using their best 5 placings. • If an athlete has 8 or more “2024 - 2025 starts”, their ranking will be calculated using their best 4 placings. • If this athlete has 6 or 7 “2024 - 2025 starts” their ranking will be calculated using their best 3 placings; no results will be pulled from 2023-24. • If an athlete has less than 6 “2024 - 2025 starts”, the balance to make up 6 will be pulled from 2023-24; their ranking will be calculated using their best 3 placings.

When an athlete does not have six “starts” in a season, the most recent event(s) of the same value from the previous season will be counted until a total of six starts are available for the HPP Ranking calculation (Examples: 1) Missed Canadian Championships would look back to the most recent previous season’s NorAm/ Canadian Championship level event; 2) Missed WC level start would be replaced by the last WC attended from the previous season.) If an athlete has six starts in the current season, the results from that season will be used for HPP Ranking.

An athlete cannot choose to opt out of an event and have this clause applied without meeting the requisite conditions of medical and FC approval in advance.

The HPC has the discretion to use the Exceptional Circumstance clause for special cases. This is more likely for athletes with a significant body of recent WC results (medals, top 6, or top 16 at major games). This may include expanding the backwards extension of the selection period, or other adjustments to meet the special case.

Any injury that causes an athlete to miss a cycle of training may be required to have their injury evaluated and validated by a FC medical team member. The purpose of the medical assessment is to

confirm the degree of the athlete's injury and the anticipated time of the athlete's recovery.

An athlete vying for a spot in the high performance mogul program who is not capable of competing in the National Championships due to injury or other Exceptional Circumstances, must request permission, in writing from the HPD; the HPD may require documentation.

The HPC, 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.

Any issues not covered by this document will be decided by the FC Leadership Team in consultation with the HPC.

9. Injured Athlete Carryover from Previous Season

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:

- Any such determination shall be made collectively by the athlete, the athlete's personal physician, the FC HPD, and FC's Chief Physician.
- The athlete shall remain a member of the High-Performance Program and shall purchase a FC membership and an International Competitor's License.
- The athlete shall remain eligible for any available HPP clothing and other supplier pool goods, shall continue to be promoted through FC Media activities, and shall continue to be eligible for Sport Canada carding and Canadian Olympic and Paralympic Sport Institute Network (COPSIN) services.
- A rehabilitation program for the athlete shall be developed jointly, by the athlete and the FC. The rehabilitation program shall be monitored by the FC and evaluated on a regular basis. The athlete's return to full HPP participation shall be, in part, dependent on satisfactory completion of the rehabilitation program.
 - The rehabilitation program may include formal HPP training and entry into competitions, as well as physiotherapy, individual training, and other rehabilitative measures.
 - Any formal HPP training or entry into competitions shall be for rehabilitative purposes only. Evaluations or results from such training or entry into competitions shall not be used for the ranking of the athlete for HPP Team selections.
 - The athlete shall be eligible to return to full HPP participation only after the FC determines that the rehabilitation program has been successfully completed.

10. Appeal and Hearing Process

Athletes may appeal through the FC Appeal Policy if they believe an error occurred in applying these criteria. If an athlete feels an error was made in the application of this criteria, they should immediately contact their HPP Director. If the situation is not resolved through this discussion an athlete may file an appeal through the regular Freestyle Canada process ([Appeal Policy](#)).

Appendix 1: HPP Mogul Ranking Process

Preamble

For an athlete to be ranked, they must normally:

- be a FC member and be current with their personal FC financial account.
- Have competed in the minimum number of events (range of three to five) based on the number of years they have been in the HP mogul program, unless injured.

And unless an approved absence is documented:

- Have competed the Canadian National Championships during the current FIS season. If the Canadian National Championships and the FIS Junior World Ski Championships are scheduled simultaneously, an eligible junior skier must choose to participate in one of the two events.

Placing values from different levels of competition are included using a factoring system developed through partnership with the Canadian Sport Institute Network Data Analytics Team.

Eligible Competitions:

Only competitions which are recognized as part of the current year’s HPP will be considered when calculating the HPP Mogul Ranking. These competitions include three tiers:

Tier 1	Tier 2	Tier 3
FIS World Championships	FIS NorAms	Apex Classic Events
Olympic Winter Games	Senior Canadian Championships	Youth Olympic Games
FIS World Cups	FIS Junior World Championships	

Ranking Process

FC's objective for athletes is to win medals at the Olympic Winter Games and the World Championships: to do this, one must learn to win at all tier levels to develop winning habits towards winning on demand.

HPP Mogul Placing Value Ranking (“HP Ranking”) scores are calculated as an average of Placing Values assigned to the positions at the three tiers of competition. The number of Placing Values used to calculate each athlete’s average is dependent on their number of years in the HPP.

- Placing values are given to the placing for each eligible position in Tier 1 (WC, WCh, OWG), Tier 2 (NorAm, Sr. Nationals, Jr. Worlds, YOG), or Tier 3 (recognized FIS events).
- One Placing Value (the highest value) will be eligible for consideration per competition (a competition is defined as event with a unique FIS code).
- If an athlete wins a medal in the final of a Tier 1, 2 or 3 event, they will receive a 1.5% increase on the placing points for that run/event. This is based on the chart in Appendix 1.

	Tier 1		Tier 2		Tier 3	
	Q / F1 Value	F2 +1.5%	Q / F1 Value	F2 +1.5%	Q / F1 Value	F2 +1.5%
1st	100	101.50	87.79	89.11	86.27	87.56
2nd	99.47	100.96	87.64	88.95	86.12	87.41
3rd	98.94	100.42	87.48	88.79	85.97	87.26

- For DM events, only the final placing results will be used for ranking; medals will be provided a 1.5% top up (same as F2 in a mogul event).
- Mogul Qualification and F1 rounds are valued as per the table in Appendix 2. If the final competition results are awarded after only Qualification rounds, the Placing Values used will be based on 100%.
- International athletes will not be excluded from Placing Value calculations (i.e., if a USA skier wins (Q1, Q2 or F1) at the Apex Classic Day 1, the highest possible place points for a Canadian is for 2nd place).
- If a NorAm level field competes at the Apex Classic events, FC will consider upgrading the event to a Tier 2 event.>
- If a two or more athletes have Ranking Scores that are the same, the tie will be broken by comparing each athlete’s best placing result. If the tie remains, the next placing results will be compared, and so on. The better placing will prevail.
- The progress of an athlete on the *Freestyle Canada Athlete Development model* is nonlinear. As each athlete moves through defined development stages, they will be asked by their coaches to learn different skills / tactics: it is likely that this learning process will result in varied performance outcomes on the journey for long-term success. As athletes learn skills/tactics and build performance confidence, FC expects they will become progressively more successful in the completion of (quality) runs; early in their career, we expect that a learning athlete will have a lower run completion rate; they may not always ski to their potential. The expectations of run completion percentages and run quality increase through an athlete’s career. FC allows athletes who are earlier in their career to use fewer placings in their HP Ranking Calculation.

Barring injury, the following will be used for the calculation of the HP Ranking:

Skier’s year on the NSO’s HP Team	Level	Number of Placings used for Calculation
1 st (or less)	PSO Skier or NSO Team Rookie	3
2 nd or 3 rd	NSO Team Member	4
4 th year or longer	NSO Team Veteran	5

If an athlete is unable to participate in either 6 (rookie), 8 (year 2 or 3 in HP program) or 10 (veteran athlete) competitions, please refer to the chart provided in the Exceptional circumstance section (Section 7) that indicates how the calculations will be performed.

Placings Eligible for Ranking Use:

All counting results must be in the top 2/3 of the field size; if not, the top 2/3 place will be the lowest used for calculation purposes (i.e., if field size is 15, top 2/3 is 10th).

Place Values will be calculated for athlete results within the following placings:

Placing Available for use by competition

Event Level	Moguls		Dual Moguls	
	Men	Women	Men	Women
Tier 1	25	20	16	12
Tier 2	25	20	12	8
Approved Tier 3 (Apex Classic)	16	12	8	8

*Available placings will be reviewed annually considering field sizes for each gender.

Appendix 2: 2024 - 2025 Placing Points Tables

Men's Data			
TIER	1A	2A	3A
Place	World Cup	Noram/SrCa nChamp	CanSeln
1	100	87.79	86.27
2	99.47	87.64	86.12
3	98.94	87.48	85.97
4	98.42	87.33	85.82
5	97.90	87.18	85.67
6	97.38	87.03	85.52
7	96.87	86.87	85.38
8	96.36	86.72	85.23
9	95.85	86.57	85.08
10	95.35	86.42	84.93
11	94.85	86.27	84.79
12	94.35	86.12	84.64
13	93.86	85.97	84.49
14	93.37	85.82	84.35
15	92.88	85.67	84.20
16	92.39	85.52	84.05
17	91.91	85.38	
18	91.43	85.23	
19	90.96	85.08	
20	90.49	84.93	
21	90.02	84.79	
22	89.55	84.64	
23	89.09	84.49	
24	88.63	84.35	
25	88.17	84.20	

Women's Data			
TIER	1A	2A	3A
Place	World Cup	Noram/SrCa nChamp	CanSeln
1	100	88.19	86.27
2	99.16	87.95	86.03
3	98.32	87.71	85.79
4	97.49	87.46	85.56
5	96.68	87.22	85.32
6	95.87	86.98	85.09
7	95.07	86.74	84.86
8	94.28	86.50	84.62
9	93.49	86.27	84.39
10	92.72	86.03	84.16
11	91.95	85.79	83.93
12	91.20	85.56	83.7
13	90.45	85.32	
14	89.70	85.09	
15	88.97	84.86	
16	88.24	84.62	
17	87.52	84.39	
18	86.81	84.16	
19	86.11	83.93	
20	85.41	83.7	
21	84.73	83.48	
22	84.05	83.25	
23	83.37	83.02	
24	82.71	82.8	
25	82.05	82.57	

Placing scores from F2 events in Tier 1 and Tier 2 events are eligible for a percentage “bonus” as indicated above. This will be reviewed annually.

Placing data from recent, historic mogul competitions have been used to create the Competition Placing Factors used for calculations.