



## HIGH PERFORMANCE PROGRAM SELECTION PROTOCOL PARA-SNOWBOARD NATIONAL TEAM & NEXTGEN PROGRAM 2024-25

Approval Authority:	Vice President - Sport
Responsible Department:	High Performance
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Related Policies:	<a href="#">HPP – General Policy</a>

Canada Snowboard is revising the High Performance Program (HPP) General Policy as of the approval date of this Selection Protocol. Situations related to the revision of the HPP General Policy may arise that require this Selection Protocol to be modified. Any required modifications will be communicated as soon as possible and come into effect as of the publication date.

### INTRODUCTION

1. The High Performance Program (HPP) consists of those athletes formally selected to the HPP by Canada Snowboard (CS), who are then eligible to receive support directly from CS. Athletes selected to the HPP are recognized as members of CS's National Team or NextGen Program in the disciplines of Alpine, Halfpipe, Slopestyle & Big Air, Snowboardcross or Para-Snowboard.
2. This "High Performance Program Selection Protocol" sets out the process of:
  - a) Identifying and communicating athlete eligibility criteria required for selection to the 2024/25 HPP in the Para-Snowboard discipline; and
  - b) Determining which athletes shall be offered positions (selected) to the 2024/25 Para-Snowboard National Snowboard Team or NextGen Program.
3. This HPP Selection Protocol for the Para-Snowboard National Team and NextGen Program and other CS Selection Protocols are published on the 'Document Centre' of the CS web site at:  
[www.canadasnowboard.ca/en/docs](http://www.canadasnowboard.ca/en/docs).
4. Athletes eligible for selection to the HPP are identified, ranked, and may be offered Para-Snowboard National Team or NextGen Program positions in accordance with the specific procedures set out in the 'Selection Process' which can be referenced in Sections 21 through 26 of this document.

### OBJECTIVES

5. The purpose of this document is to set out the process and criteria that will be used by CS to determine eligibility and select athletes to the 2024 - 25 Para-Snowboard National Team and NextGen program.

The ultimate goal is to field the most competitive and capable team, in a safe and ethical manner, and to



achieve podium performances at FIS World Championships and Paralympic Winter Games.

#### **Para-Snowboard National Team Purpose**

- a) To provide Train to Win athletes with athletic program support. A Train to Win (T2W) athlete is described as being within the Train to Win (T2W) stage of the LTD and are trending towards podium performances at marquee competitions (WCH/PWG) within the next 1–4 years, and who are capable of achieving results that fall within in the Top 8 Women or Top 10 Men at individual WCs/WCHs (at least 50% of the time). Performance evaluation is based on:
  - i. the 2024 Para Snowboardcross and/or BSL Overall World Cup Standings;
  - ii. Results from individual FIS WC competitions during the 2023/24 season; and
  - iii. the athlete's Podium Results Track (PRT) as compared to discipline-specific performance norms to demonstrate podium potential.

**Event Focus:** FIS World Cup Tour (including WCH/PWG)

#### **Para-Snowboard NextGen Program Purpose**

- a) To support athletes who are Training to Compete (T2C) at the national level and select international competitions, and who are displaying year-over-year progress on the Podium Results Track (PRT) and Athlete Development Matrix (ADM). Typically, these athletes are 1 to 4 years away from meeting National Team Eligibility Criteria and 5 to 8 years away from a WCHs and/or PWG podium performances. NextGen Athletes demonstrate consistent (at least 50% of the time) Top Third (1/3) of the field results at FIS Europa Cups and are trending towards falling within the Top Half (1/2) of the field at World Cup competitions.

**Event Focus:** FIS Continental Cups (Europa Cups and NorAms) and select international marquee competitions (World Cups).

These objectives are the guiding principles that Canada Snowboard has taken into consideration when developing this selection Protocol and will serve as the basis for guiding selection decisions made under this Selection Protocol.

For more information on the Podium Results Track (PRT) or the Athlete Development Matrix (ADM), please contact the CS Podium Pathway Manager (PPM), Dave Balne at [dave.balne@canadasnowboard.ca](mailto:dave.balne@canadasnowboard.ca)

### **TERMS**

6. The following abbreviated terms are used in this Protocol:
  - a) AC: Asian Cup
  - b) ADM: Athlete Development Matrix
  - c) BSL: Banked Slalom
  - d) CC: Continental Cup
  - e) CS: Canada Snowboard
  - f) EC: Europa Cup
  - g) FIS: International Ski and Snowboard Federation
  - h) HAP: Health and Athletic Performance



- i) HPP: High Performance Program
- j) IPC: International Paralympic Committee
- k) IPP: Individual Performance Plan
- l) LTD: Long Term Development framework
- m) NAC: North American Cup (NorAm)
- n) NG: NextGen
- o) NT: National Team
- p) OTP: Own the Podium
- q) PRT: Podium Results Track
- r) PWG: Paralympic Winter Games
- s) SBX: Snowboardcross
- t) WC: World Cup
- u) WCH: World Championships
- v) YTP: Yearly Training Plan

#### **GENERAL CONSIDERATIONS**

7. The Selection Committee will be composed of the Para-Snowboard National Team staff and coaches, including, but not limited to:
  - a) the Vice President Sport (VPS);
  - b) the High Performance Director – Speed (HPD);
  - c) the Health & Athletic Performance Director (HPAD);
  - d) The Podium Pathway Manager (PPM); and
  - e) The High Performance Coordinator (HPC).

If it determines that it is necessary, the Selection Committee will seek input from:

- f) HPP Health and Athletic Performance Staff Team (HAP Team) which may include strength coaches, physiotherapists, mental performance consultants, etc; and/or
- g) Lead Canadian Coaches (such as the athlete’s private coach).

Examples of situations where the Selection Committee may seek input from members outside of the Selection Committee to ensure that it has the necessary and relevant information to support the ‘Selection Process’ outlined in Sections 21 through 26 below include, but are not limited to: off-snow programming, injury management and return to snow plans, and when an athlete designates the use of a private coach as their primary coach, as referenced in Section 5. (O-W) of the Canada Snowboard Athlete Agreement.

8. The Selection Committee shall meet on or before May 31, 2024, but not earlier than April 15, 2024, to identify and recommend athletes eligible for selection to the HPP for the 2024-25 program year. The Selection Committee’s recommendations will be made to the Vice President, Sport (VPS) for final approval.
9. The Selection Committee’s recommendations to the VPS shall be made on the basis of athletes’



performances between May 2023 – April 2024 (the “Selection Period”).

10. All HPP athlete selections are valid for the duration of the HPP annual plan for the 2024/25 competitive season. Selected athletes must continue to satisfy all eligibility and performance requirements, along with any other policy, procedure, or rule of CS as may be in place from time to time.
11. The maximum number of available positions in the HPP shall be identified at the outset of the Selection Process, as of the end of the Selection Period, annually. This number will be based on the program capacity of the HPP.
12. When determining an athlete’s field placing, as referenced in this document, the result is not rounded to the nearest whole number because the priority is looking for an actual final finish position result. As a practical example, the dividing line between the top third (1/3) and the rest of the field in a final finish field depth of 58 competitors is at 19.33 so all those who finished 19th place or better are in the top third and those who finished beyond 20th are not. DNFs and DSQs are counted when determining the field size as those competitors started in the event; however, DNS does not count toward the field size and will be removed from the field size calculation.
13. Athlete rankings based on the Selection Process will ordinarily determine the order of selection for available HPP positions. However, the Selection Committee reserves the right to recommend athletes for selection in an order other than that indicated by the rankings. The grounds for any such recommendations must be discussed by the Selection Committee, clearly documented, and must be in accordance with the document “High Performance Program - General Policies ” located in the CS website ‘Document Centre’ here: <https://www.canadasnowboard.ca/files/HPP-GeneralPolicies.pdf>
14. Some individual athletes currently named to the 2023/24 Para National Team or NextGen Team have been given benchmarks as part of a Performance Addendum to their Athlete Agreement for the 2023/24 program year. These benchmarks will act, in addition to the other applicable eligibility requirements and selection criteria, as a condition of their selection for the 2024/25 program year. The benchmarks are created by the HPP Coaching staff and include performance enhancement opportunities to support the athlete in progressing toward Paralympic medal potential.

If the athlete is successful in meeting all of the benchmarks over the course of the current program year (2023/24) and they meet all of the applicable eligibility requirements (outlined in Sections 15 - 18), they will be named to the 2024/25 Para HPP program year, at the level of their 2023/24 program nomination, regardless of competition results or ranking based on the Selection Criteria (outlined in Sections 21 – 27).

If an athlete is unsuccessful in meeting the benchmarks as stated in the addendum to their Athlete Agreement, they may still be eligible for selection based on the eligibility requirements outlined in Section 15 – 18, below, and the Selection Criteria, outlined in Sections 21 – 26 below. The deadline to complete benchmarks will align with the Selection Period of this Selection Protocol, ending in April, annually.

## **IDENTIFICATION OF ELIGIBLE ATHLETES**



To be considered for HPP selection, athletes must demonstrate the minimum standards for the Para Snowboard HPP, as outlined in this policy (and within the HPP General Policy). Eligibility Criteria refer to a set of minimum requirements, benchmarks, or conditions that athletes must meet or demonstrate to be considered “eligible for selection.” On a case-by-case basis, individual athletes may qualify for exemptions to specific Eligibility Criteria as detailed in Section 18. Once identified, all athletes who are “eligible for selection” will be ranked based on the team-specific Selection Criteria (outlined in the Overall Athlete Ranking Process). This ranking determines the priority order of athletes for the available of team positions.

### **HPP General Eligibility Criteria**

15. To be eligible for selection to the High Performance Program (HPP), including the Para National Team and Para NextGen Program, an athlete:
  - a. Must be in "good standing" with Canada Snowboard and their Provincial/Territorial Snowboard Association, as that term is understood in Section 1.1(f) of the Canada Snowboard Bylaws, applied *mutatis mutandis*.
  - b. Must provide a copy of their Yearly Training Plan (YTP) for the season just concluded to kim.krahulec@canadasnowboard.ca by April 15, 2024.
    - i. The YTP should be in line with current sport norms and CS's Long-Term Development (LTD) framework, and shall include:
      - a. the athlete's yearly goals and performance gaps; and
      - b. a description of the athlete's ancillary programming (e.g. Sport Science / Sport Medicine); and
      - c. a periodized outline detailing how the athlete's program supported their goal attainment and/or closing performance gaps.
    - ii. CS National and NextGen coaches will provide a YTP for each current National Team or NextGen Athlete. If an athlete primarily trains with a coach other than one provided by CS, it remains the responsibility of the athlete to ensure their YTP is submitted on time and meets the above noted requirements.
    - iii. All other athletes are responsible for personally submitting their application in accordance with Section 15 (b).
  - c. Must, on a case-by-case basis and where deemed necessary, satisfy all exemption criteria that may impact their ability to demonstrate meeting the minimum National Team or NextGen Program Eligibility Criteria, including:
    - i. Section 16(c) or 17(d) related to Maximum Total Number of Program Years; and/or
    - ii. Section 18 related to health-related curtailment of activities.
  - d. Must have a current and valid FIS license (as of the end of the Selection Period) and the appropriate level of Sport Athlete Insurance Plan (SAIP);
    - i. National Team Athletes require minimum SAIP Level 1
    - ii. NextGen Program Athletes require minimum SAIP Level 2
  - e. Must have completed international classification by the International Paralympic Committee (IPC) with a confirmed sport classification or a sport classification with a fixed review date past the conclusion of the 2024/25 competitive season.

### **National Team Eligibility Criteria**



16. In addition to meeting all the HPP general Eligibility Criteria (Section 15), to be eligible for selection to the Para-Snowboard National Team, an athlete:
- a) Must have competed in a minimum of two (2) World Cup level or higher events at two (2) different locations in the program year just ended;
  - b) Must be ranked within the Top Half (1/2) of their Sport Classification in either Para Snowboardcross or Banked Slalom on the FIS World Ranking Points List (as of the end of the Selection Period);
  - c) Athletes who are named to the Para-Snowboard National Team are expected to progress towards a Top-8 international performance in their discipline in order to maintain National Team status on an ongoing basis. As such, athletes who have been on the Para-Snowboard National Team for a total of five (5) years or more at the conclusion of the 2023/24 program year must satisfy additional eligibility criteria to maintain their status on the National Team thereafter.
    - i. Athletes who have been on the Para-Snowboard National Team for a total of ANY five (5) years or more (consecutive or nonconsecutive)<sup>1</sup> as of the end of the Selection Period, annually, must demonstrate each year thereafter, results at eligible World Cup competitions that achieve at least one of the following performance criteria:
      - a. A rank within the Top Third (1/3) for Men or Top Half (1/2) for Women of their sport classification in either Para Snowboardcross or Banked Slalom on the FIS World Ranking Points List within the 2023/24 Program Year;
      - b. Results from all World Cup starts fall within the Top 1/3 for Men or Top ½ for Women of their sport classification field at least 50% of the time; or
      - c. One Top Three (podium) WC result.

#### **NextGen Program Eligibility Criteria**

17. In addition to meeting all the HPP General Eligibility Criteria (Section 15), to be eligible for selection to the Para-Snowboard NextGen Program, an athlete:
- a) Must have competed in a minimum of two (2) Continental Cup level or higher events of the same discipline (SBX or BSL) at two (2) different locations in the program year just ended;
  - b) Must have a minimum of 60 FIS BSL or SBX points on the most recently published FIS Points List (as of the end of the Selection Period);
  - c) Must have achieved at least one of the following (as of the end of the Selection Period):
    - i. Two (2x) Top-Third (1/3) final results from Europa Cup competitions (in either SBX or BSL as long as the sport classification field depth contains four (4) or more competitors);
    - ii. Two (2x) Top-Third (1/3) final results from NorAM Cup competitions (in either SBX or BSL as long as the sport classification field depth contains four (4) or more competitors); or
      - a. If the field depth thresholds, as outlined in Section 17(c)(i) and Section 17 (c)(ii) above, are not met then results obtained from these competitions will

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<sup>1</sup> For greater clarity, in determining whether an athlete has been on the Para-Snowboard National Team or NextGen Program for five years or more, the years do not need to be consecutive. Total years on the Para-Snowboard National Team or NextGen Program must add up to a total of five years (or more) by the end of the 2023/24 program year. This total does not include the 2024/25 program year.



- not be considered regardless of final placing.
- iii. Must fall within 20% off the sport classification qualification leaders time in a WC Banked Slalom competition.
  - d) Must have results that are tracking towards podium potential at the international level (WC, WCH, or PWG) and are eight (8) years away from a podium performance, as evaluated by the Selection Committee, in their sole discretion, and informed by Canada Snowboard's discipline specific sport analytics.
  - e) Must have submitted their 'NextGen Application Package' to Kim Krahulec, High Performance Director – Speed at [kim.krahulec@canadasnowboard.ca](mailto:kim.krahulec@canadasnowboard.ca) by April 15, 2024 for review. The application package shall include:
    - i. Skills Based Assessment;
    - ii. Supporting video footage; and
    - iii. Application letter describing why they snowboard, a description of their yearly training plan (on-snow and off-snow), a description of their ancillary program (e.g. Sport Science/Sport Medicine), and what their snowboarding goals are for the 2024/25 season.
  - f) Athletes who are named to the Para-Snowboard NextGen Program are expected to progress toward meeting the eligibility criteria of the Para-Snowboard National Team in order to maintain NextGen Team status on an ongoing basis. As such, athletes who have been on the Para-Snowboard NextGen Team for a total of five (5) years or more at the conclusion of the 2024/25 program year must satisfy additional eligibility criteria in order to maintain their status on the NextGen Program thereafter.
    - i. Athletes who have been selected to the NextGen Program for a total of ANY five (5) years or more (consecutive or nonconsecutive),<sup>2</sup> as of the end of the Selection Period, annually, will be given benchmarks established by the National Team coaches, which the athlete will have to satisfy in order to remain eligible for selection to the NextGen Team for a 6<sup>th</sup> (or more) program year. These benchmarks will act, in addition to the other applicable eligibility and selection criteria, as a condition of their selection for the 2024/25 program year (if satisfied by the end of the Selection Period) and are put in place to ensure that the individual is progressing towards meeting the National Team eligibility and selection requirements and is making progress towards being podium potential at marquee competitions (WCH/PWG).

### **Eligibility Exemptions**

18. In the event that any health-related reason prevents a current HPP athlete from participating in training or competitive activities during the 2023-24 program year, an athlete may be entitled to a health-related exemption to the 2024/25 HPP National Team or NextGen Program Eligibility Criteria, but only if all of the following conditions are met:
- a) The athlete's health related reasons are communicated in writing (such as with a medical assessment), and documented by a CS approved physician within 30 days of their health status change;
  - b) The athlete did not start in two (2) or more eligible individual competition starts per discipline during the year(s) to which the health-related reason applied;
  - c) The athlete did not withdraw from the HPP during the year(s) to which the health-related reason

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<sup>2</sup> Please see Note 1 above.



- applied;
- d) The athlete provided written confirmation of their intention to return to full participation in the HPP at the earliest possible date; and
  - e) The athlete completes training and/or rehabilitation, in accordance with their CS approved return to competition plan, and under the supervision of CS, or its designate, at a level that minimized risk to the athlete's personal health and ensured an optimal return to full training and competition at the earliest possible date.

In the case where all health related exemption criteria are satisfied, an athlete will be granted a health related exemption and any affected year(s) will not be counted towards the total number of HPP years.

- 19. Athletes who do not meet the eligibility criteria set out in Sections 15 to 18 may still be considered for selection based on the discretionary grounds within the 'High Performance Program General Policies' document, which can be referenced here: <https://www.canadasnowboard.ca/files/HPP-GeneralPolicies.pdf>

#### **ELIGIBLE COMPETITIONS**

- 20. Only eligible results achieved from eligible individual SBX and BSL competition(s) will be considered in the 'Selection Process'. For the purpose of selection, eligible competitions include:
  - a) Paralympic Winter Games (PWG)
  - b) FIS World Championships (WCH)
  - c) FIS World Cups (WC)
  - d) FIS Continental Cups (CC):
    - i. North American Cups (NAC)
    - ii. Europa Cups (EC)

Team Event results will not be considered during the selection process.

#### **SELECTION PROCESS**

- 21. Except as otherwise stated herein, the order in which eligible athletes are recommended for available Para-Snowboard National Team and NextGen Team Positions will be based on the 'Overall Athlete Rankings' process and criteria outlined in Sections 23 – 26 below.
- 22. CS reserves the right to not to select any athletes to the Para-Snowboard National Team or NextGen Program if the Selection Committee determines no athletes meet the minimum eligibility criteria to perform at the necessary level or are deemed unable to meet the objectives of the Para-Snowboard HPP as outlined in Section 5.

#### **OVERALL ATHLETE RANKING PROCESS**





23. Athletes eligible for the NT will be ranked separately, by FIS declared gender, from athletes eligible for the NextGen Program. Ranking for both NT and NG will be determined by assessing each eligible athlete's results against relevant performance criteria in three (3) distinct Performance Categories to calculate an overall "Gap Score." To calculate the Gap Score, each eligible athlete is awarded a value for each achievement within the performance category until there is no more evidence of achievements or there are no more points in the category. A higher Gap Score indicates a more favorable ranking. The athlete with the highest Gap Score will receive the highest rank on the Selection Worksheet, determining their priority order for selection to either the Para NT or NG Program.

<b>Performance Categories</b>	<b>National Team Points</b>	<b>NextGen Points</b>
<b>Event Priority</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>80</b>
<b>FIS World Ranking</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>20</b>
<b>Percentage Off Leader – only WC (or higher)</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>n/a</b>
<b>MAXIMUM GAP SCORE:</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>

The weighting of each Performance Category towards the overall Gap Score is based on specific HPP program objectives and priorities, as determined by the CS HPP staff, and informed by Snowboard's Long Term Development (LTD) framework and historic Podium Results Track (PRT) of previous event winners in the Para-Snowboard discipline.

- a) Event Priority:
  - i. NT (60% of Gap Score): Assesses athlete performance at eligible Snowboardcross and Banked Slalom competitions with focus on Level 1 competitions (WC, WCH and PWG). Points awarded for achieving a 1<sup>st</sup> place podium result or are awarded by calculating the athlete's final result relative to the depth of their Sport Classification field.
  - ii. NG (80% of Gap Score): Assesses athlete performance at Snowboardcross and Banked Slalom eligible competitions with focus on Continental Cup level events (NAC, EC) and World Cup competitions. Points awarded for achieving a 1<sup>st</sup> place podium result or are awarded by calculating the athletes final result relative to the depth of their Sport Classification field.
- b) FIS World Ranking:
  - i. NT (20% of Gap Score): Ranks athletes on their active FIS Points in Snowboardcross and Banked Slalom. Athletes will be given a value and rank based on their most recent FIS World Rank (as of the end of the Selection Period) and awarded points based on their rank relative to the depth of their Sport Classification field.
  - ii. NG (20% of Gap Score): Ranks athletes on their active FIS Points in Snowboardcross and Banked Slalom. Athletes will be given a value and rank based on their most recent FIS World Rank (as of the end of the Selection Period) and awarded points based on their rank relative to the depth of their Sport Classification field.
- c) Percentage Off Leader Difference:



- i. NT (20% of Gap Score): Focuses on an athlete's performance in WC Qualifications, assessing the percentage difference away from the leader's overall WC Qualification times. The single best Snowboardcross and Banked Slalom percentage difference results is used to determine the score.
  - ii. NG: This category is not assessed, and points are not awarded for eligible NG athletes.
- d) Maximum Point Score (NT and NG): If an eligible athlete does not meet the minimum achievement criteria towards any one of the Performance Categories (as detailed above), the athlete will receive no point deductions for that category and will be awarded the maximum point value for the given category. As an example, if an athlete does not have eligible results for the NextGen Event Priority Category, the athlete will receive zero deductions and be awarded zero out of forty category points.

**24. Gap Score Points Calculation**

- a) **Event Criteria (NT: 60% of Total Score, NG: 80% of Total Score):** Athletes will be given a value and be ranked based on their best three (3) eligible results for National Team and their best four (4) eligible results for NextGen, based on the following criteria:

<b>National Team Performance Category: Event Priority</b>	
<b>Performance Criteria*:</b>	<b>Value</b>
Top Three (3) Final World Cup Results, or Higher, for Snowboardcross	Max. 30
Top Three (3) Final World Cup Results, or Higher, for Banked Slalom	Max. 30

\*All results must be achieved within the top half of the field

<b>NextGen Program Performance Category: Event Priority</b>	
<b>Performance Criteria*:</b>	<b>Value</b>
Top Four (4) Continental Cup Result, or higher, for Snowboardcross	Max. 40
Top Four (4) Continental Cup Result, or higher, for Banked Slalom	Max. 40

\*All results must be achieved within the top half of the field

- i. The maximum point value awarded for a single eligible result is ten (10).
- ii. Should an athlete finish with a 1<sup>st</sup> place result, as long as the athlete has three (3) or more competitors within their sport classification category, they shall automatically be awarded the maximum point value of ten (10) regardless of the field depth.
- iii. If there are less than three competitors within an athlete's sport classification, or if an athlete finishes with a result lower than 1st place, their point value shall be determined using the formula found immediately below.
- iv. The equation used to determine the value for the best eligible events in Snowboardcross and Banked Slalom will be as follows:

**Step 1:** Field Depth - Final placement = X

**Step 2:** X/Field Depth = Y



**Step 3:**  $Y \times 10$  (max. point value) = point value awarded

Event Criteria Example: National Team: Athlete 'A' finishes 4<sup>th</sup> out of a field of 17 competitors within their sport classification in an eligible Banked Slalom competition. Using the equation to determine their point value for the single result, as outlined above, the athlete's point calculation would be:

Step 1:  $17 - 4 = 13$   
Step 2:  $13 / 17 = 0.76$   
Step 3:  $0.76 \times 10 = 7.6$

Final point value awarded for Athlete 'A' for this result would be 7.6 out of an available 10 points.

- b) **FIS World Ranking Points List Rank (NT: 20% of Total Score, NG: 20% of Total Score):** Athletes will be given a value and ranked based on their ranking on the most recently published FIS Points List (as of the end of the Selection Period). Should an athlete finish with a ranking of 1<sup>st</sup> place in either discipline (Banked Slalom or Snowboardcross), they shall automatically be awarded the maximum point value of ten (10) in that discipline regardless of the field depth.

An athlete's points will be calculated using the following equation, based on the athlete's FIS Para Snowboard World Ranking in each discipline (Banked Slalom and Snowboardcross):

**Step 1:** Field Depth - Final placement = X  
**Step 2:**  $X / \text{Field Depth} = Y$   
**Step 3:**  $Y \times 10$  (max. point value) = point value awarded

World Ranking Calculation Example: Athlete 'A' is ranked 4<sup>th</sup> in Banked Slalom in a field of 15 athletes and 3<sup>rd</sup> in Snowboardcross in a field of 20 athletes. Using the equation to determine Athlete 'A's point value, as outlined above, Athlete 'A's point calculation for Banked Slalom would be:

Step 1:  $15 - 4 = 11$   
Step 2:  $11 / 15 = 0.73$   
Step 3:  $0.73 * 10 = 7.3$

Final point value for Athlete 'A' for their Banked Slalom World Ranking calculation would be 7.3 out of an available 10 points.

Using the equation to determine Athlete 'A's point value, as outlined above, Athlete 'A's point calculation for Snowboardcross would be:

Step 1:  $20 - 3 = 17$   
Step 2:  $17 / 20 = 0.85$   
Step 3:  $0.85 * 10 = 8.5$



Final point value for Athlete 'A' for their Snowboardcross World Ranking calculation would be 8.5 out of an available 10 points.

Athlete 'A's Banked Slalom score of 7.3 and Snowboardcross score of 8.5 are then added together to give Athlete 'A' a final score of 15.8 out of an available 20 points.

- c) **World Cup Percentage Difference Ranking (NATIONAL TEAM ONLY - 20% of Total Score):** Athletes will be awarded points based on their single (best) Snowboardcross and single (best) Banked Slalom percentage difference (from the leader) in Qualifications in an eligible World Cup (or higher) event, and will be given a score value based on the following chart:

<b>Performance Category: Percentage Off Leader (National Team Only)</b>	
<b>Performance Criteria:</b>	<b>Value</b>
Less than 3% from the leader	10
3.001 % to 5 %	8
5.001% to 7 %	6
7.001 to 9 %	4
9.001 to 10 %	2
10.001 % +	0

In the event that athletes of the same gender are tied, both athletes will receive the same value score.

NOTE: Qualifications (time trials) shall be defined as the run or runs an athlete takes, as an individual, though the course for time with the purpose to seed into the final bracket for head-to-head races. Typically, an athlete takes two (2) qualification runs in Snowboardcross and two qualification runs in Banked Slalom with seeding based on the best results.

25. Except as otherwise specified herein, athletes who satisfy all of the eligibility requirements set out at Sections 15 and 18 will be considered for National Team and NextGen Program positions by the order of their final ranking on the selection sheets.
26. Except as otherwise specified in this Protocol, positions on a team will generally be offered to the highest ranked athletes, until a significant gap is presented on the worksheet, a gap in the athlete's skills or results compared to a relevant Continental Cup (NextGen) or WC Level (National Team) field is shown, the maximum amount of athletes CS can support is reached, or until there are no eligible athletes remaining. All determined gaps will be recorded within the meeting minutes during the overall selection process.

Determination of what constitutes a significant gap may fluctuate depending on final results achieved and where the majority of athletes for a given team fall within the criteria and overall rankings. For example, a veteran athlete and a rookie athlete may show a much larger gap than comparing two



veterans of the team. When determining what constitutes a significant gap, the Selection Committee will provide reasoned explanations and data to support any decisions to not select athletes because it has been considered that a significant gap exists.

As such, athletes who meet the eligibility requirements for a specific team, for the purpose of being included in the overall athlete ranking process, but who display a significant gap relative to the majority of the riders within the ranking, might not be ultimately selected to the team. As an example, if three athletes who are eligible for the same team have 100, 97, and 96 points respectively, and the next ranked eligible athlete has 85 points, a gap may be said to exist which indicates the athlete's potential ability or inability to compete at the same level as other ranked athletes on the same team.

#### **HEALTH RELATED CURTAILMENT OF ACTIVITIES / EXCEPTIONAL CIRCUMSTANCES**

27. It may occur that an athlete is, by reason of a health-related curtailment of activities or other exceptional circumstances, unable to participate in the minimum number of national or international level events in the program year just ended. In such circumstances, the athlete's eligibility for selection shall be reviewed on the basis of his or her projected medical rehabilitation, as well as such other information (results, video, coaches' assessments, etc.) as available to the Para High Performance staff. Except as detailed in Sections 31 and 32, the decision to grant or not grant an exception to any minimum requirement of this Selection Protocol due to exceptional circumstances resides with the Selection Committee, in their sole discretion.
28. CS may, at any time, require an athlete who appears to be unable to participate in training or competition activities by reason of a health-related curtailment of activities to obtain a medical assessment conducted by a CS recognized doctor or other approved healthcare practitioner. The medical assessment is for the purpose of confirming the degree of the athlete's injury and their ability to compete, and to determine the expected timeline for the athlete's recovery.

#### **ALLOCATION OF COMPETITIVE & FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES**

29. Selection to the Para-Snowboard National Team & NextGen Program does not automatically provide an athlete with entry into World Cup, World Championship or Paralympic Winter Games competitions, or automatically provide Athlete Assistance Program (AAP) carding or other funding support.
30. The selection of athletes for participation in World Cups, World Championships and Paralympic Winter Games is done according to separate Selection Protocols, which are available on the Para discipline page of the 'Document Centre' on the Canada Snowboard website at:  
<http://www.canadasnowboard.ca/en/docs/?discipline=Para>

#### **DECISION MAKING AUTHORITY AND APPEAL PROCESS**

31. Final decisions on the selection of athletes shall be made by the Vice President, Sport (VPS) of Canada Snowboard, on the basis of recommendations by the Selection Committee.
32. In the event that an unforeseeable issue or exceptional circumstance arises that is not otherwise



addressed by this Selection Protocol and this issue or circumstance will have a material impact on the selection process as outlined herein, the Vice President, Sport, in consultation with the High Performance Director - Speed, shall determine how the issue or circumstance shall be addressed, taking into account the best interests of the HPP program in accordance with the objectives detailed in Section 5. Should any action be taken pursuant to this provision, CS will notify the impacted parties as soon as reasonably possible.

33. Appeals of any decision made pursuant to this Selection Protocol may be made by any CS member in good standing who is directly affected by the decision. Appeals must be conducted in accordance with the Canada Snowboard Appeal Policy, which is available on the Canada Snowboard website at: [https://www.canadasnowboard.ca/files/Canada\\_Snowboard\\_Appeals\\_Policy\\_EN.pdf](https://www.canadasnowboard.ca/files/Canada_Snowboard_Appeals_Policy_EN.pdf).

Individuals wishing to appeal a decision are also encouraged to consult the Canada Snowboard Appeals Process Map which is available on the Canada Snowboard website at: <https://www.canadasnowboard.ca/files/AppealsPolicyProcessMap.pdf>

#### **GENERAL**

34. This Selection Protocol was originally drafted in English and then translated into French. Where there is a difference in interpretation between the French and English versions of this document, which may be due to translation, the English version shall be used to understand the drafter's intent.
35. This Selection Protocol is intended to apply as drafted. Unforeseen circumstances or circumstances beyond Canada Snowboard's control may arise which prevent relevant competitions from taking place or from taking place in a fair manner, and/or where the procedure for nomination as described in this Selection Protocol would result in a nomination process which is unfair or not in the best interests of Canada Snowboard's Objectives and the general principles for selection, as indicated in this Selection Protocol.
36. In the event of such circumstances the Canada Snowboard High Performance Director - Speed will, where possible, consult with the Vice President, Sport to determine if the circumstances justify competition or nomination should take place in an alternative manner. In such circumstances, the High Performance Director – Speed shall communicate the alternative selection or nomination process to all impacted individuals as soon as possible.
37. This Selection Protocol is based on FIS rules and regulations as presently known and understood and on the latest information available to Canada Snowboard. Should Canada Snowboard become aware of any changes to the FIS rules and regulations, Canada Snowboard will review and amend this Selection Protocol as necessary to comply with the new rules and regulations. Amendments to this document will be communicated directly to the affected athletes as well as posted to the Canada Snowboard website as soon as reasonably possible.



**APPENDIX A  
Skill Based Assessment**

A 'Skill Based Assessment' that has been completed for the 2023-24 season by an athlete's coach must be submitted by April 15, 2024 to High Performance Director - Speed, Kim Krahulec: [kim.krahulec@canadasnowboard.ca](mailto:kim.krahulec@canadasnowboard.ca) for review.

The Skill Based Assessment chart can be downloaded from the 'Document Centre' on the Canada Snowboard website: <http://www.canadasnowboard.ca/en/docs/> and is available by request by emailing the High Performance Director - Speed, Kim Krahulec: [kim.krahulec@canadasnowboard.ca](mailto:kim.krahulec@canadasnowboard.ca)

Example of the Skills Based Assessment chart:

<b>Skill Development:</b> <b>1 = First exposure to skill, initial attempts</b> <b>2 = Skill complete but rough form, inconsistent execution</b> <b>3 = More polished form in controlled conditions</b> <b>4 = Polished form under stress, still refining</b> <b>5 = Perfect form in any conditions, varied, personalized</b>	Athlete Name					
	Date of Birth					
	Height					
	Mass					
	Stance: Reg. / Goofy					
	Dominant Leg (Left / Right)					
	Provincial Association:					
	Date of Assessment:					
	Assessor:					
	Provide a brief overview of the athletes program:		Events attended and results: (this and last season)			
		Stage of LTAD:				
		Coach:				
		Club:				
		Days on snow / week:				
		Dryland:				
		Dryland Details				
		Recovery Training:				
		Terrain Use:				
Key Performance Factors   NP INFLUENCE		Level of development		Notes:		
<b>Snowboard Skills</b>		<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>Stance and Balance</b>						
Manage instability - remain balanced in varying conditions						
Strong adaptable position (In and out of neutral) over varied terrain/features (Wu, Rollers etc)						
Hip and knee flexion and extension - not breaking at waist						
<b>Edging:</b>						
Turn using both legs						
Maintain CoM inside turn						
Balance over working edge						
Carve turns						
<b>Pressure:</b>						
Generate lift (Pop, Coast, Retract or Ollie/Nollie)						
Absorption on edge and/or flat based						
Adjust turn shape using flexion & extension						
Build board pressure and deflect it in direction of travel						
Pop / Resistance through takeoff						
Stabilization in air						
Control and absorb landing forces						
<b>Discipline Specific Skills (SBX)</b>						
Read & Understand the Race Line						
Ride the Race Line						
Speed Control in Course						
Starts (Gate Pull)						
Riding in close proximity to other riders						
Course Features (Stage appropriate, Smart Style)						
Start Features & Combos (Wu-Tang, Stairs, Wedges, etc...)						
Rollers and Variations						
Berns and Variations						
Jump and Jump Variations						
<b>Tactical Skills</b>						
Line for Heats (Plan A & B)						
Drafting						
Passing (Where & How)						
Blocking/Closing lanes						
Teamwork on the track						
<b>On the fly decision making</b>						
<b>Perform in adverse conditions</b>						