



**HIGH PERFORMANCE PROGRAM SELECTION PROTOCOL
SNOWBOARDCROSS NATIONAL TEAM & NEXTGEN PROGRAM
2024-2025**

Approval Authority:	Vice President – Sport
Responsible Department:	High Performance
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Related Policies:	HPP – General Policy

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 and 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 Snowboardcross (SBX) discipline; and
 - b. Determining which athletes shall be offered positions (selected) to the 2024 - 25 Snowboardcross National Team or NextGen Program.
3. This HPP Selection Protocol for the Snowboardcross National Team and NextGen Program and other CS Selection Protocols are located on the ‘Document Centre’ of the CS website:
<http://www.canadasnowboard.ca/en/docs/>
4. Athletes eligible for selection to the HPP are identified, ranked, and may be offered Snowboardcross National Team or NextGen Program positions according to the specific procedures set out in the ‘Selection Process’, which can be referenced in Sections 22 through 25 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 Snowboardcross 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 Championship and Winter Olympic Games.

In stating this ultimate performance goal, Canada Snowboard describes the objectives of the Snowboardcross National Team and NextGen Program as:



a) **Snowboardcross National Team Purpose**

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 trending towards podium performances at marquee competitions (WCH/OWG) within 1–4 years, and who are capable of making finals in WC competitions consistently (at least 50% of the time). This is assessed through their Podium Results Track (PRT), demonstrating the potential to achieve objective and consistent (at least 50% of the time) Top 16 results for Women or Top 32 results for Men at individual WC and/or WCH events. Performance evaluation is based on the 2024 Snowboardcross Overall World Cup Standings and are based on individual results from FIS World Cup competitions during the 2023/24 season.

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

b) **Snowboardcross NextGen Program Purpose**

To support athletes Learning to Win (L2W) at the international level, displaying year-over-year progress on Canada Snowboard's 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 WCH and/or OWG podium performances. NextGen Athletes demonstrate consistent (at least 50% of the time) Top Third ($\frac{1}{3}$) of the field results at FIS Continental Cups, are within the Top Eight (8) at individual FIS Junior World Championships and are trending towards qualifying for finals at World Cup competitions (Top 32 M / Top 16 W).

Event Focus: FIS Continental Cups, select international marquee events (WCs) and the FIS Junior World Championships.

These objectives are the guiding principle 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

TERMS

6. The following abbreviated terms are used in this Selection Protocol:
- a. ADM: Athlete Development Matrix
 - b. CS: Canada Snowboard
 - c. EC: Europa Cups
 - d. FIS: International Ski and Snowboard Federation
 - e. HAP: Health and Athletic Performance
 - f. HPP: High Performance Program
 - g. IPP: Individual Performance Plan
 - h. JWCH: Junior World Championships
 - i. LTD: Long Term Development framework
 - j. NAC: North American Cup (NorAm)
 - k. NG: NextGen
 - l. NT: National Team



- m. OTP: Own the Podium
- n. OWG: Olympic Winter Games
- o. PRT: Podium Results Track
- p. SBX: Snowboardcross
- q. WC: World Cup
- r. WCH: Senior World Championships
- s. YTP: Yearly Training Plan

GENERAL CONSIDERATIONS

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

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

- f) The HPP Health and Athletic Performance Team Staff (HAP), including 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 22 through 25 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 will meet on or before May 31, 2024, but not earlier than April 15, 2024, to identify and rank 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 the athletes' performances between May 2023 - April 2024 season (the "Selection Period").
10. All HPP athlete selections are generally 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 by the Selection Committee at the outset of the 'Selection Process', as of the end of the Selection Period, annually. This number will be based on 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’s ‘Document Centre’ and available here: <https://www.canadasnowboard.ca/files/HPP-GeneralPolicies.pdf>
14. Some individual athletes currently named to the 2023/24 Snowboardcross 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 podium performances at marquee competitions (WCH/OWG).

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 – 19), they will be named to the 2024/25 Snowboardcross 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 22 – 25).

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 – 19, below, and the Selection Criteria, outlined in Sections 22 – 25 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 Snowboardcross HPP, as outlined in this policy (and within the HPP General Policy). Eligibility Criteria refers 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 Sections 15 - 19. Once identified, all athletes who are determined to be “eligible for selection” will be ranked based on the team-specific Selection Criteria (outlined in the Selection Process). This ranking determines the priority order of athletes for the available team positions.

HPP General Eligibility Criteria

15. To be eligible for selection to the Snowboardcross High Performance Program (HPP), including the National Team and 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, and;
 - 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:
 1. the athlete's yearly goals and performance gaps; and
 2. a description of the athlete’s ancillary programming (e.g. Sport Science /



- Sport Medicine); and
3. 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.
 - i. 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(g) or 17(g) related to Maximum Total Number of Program Years; and/or
 - ii. Section 18 related to NextGen Age Limit Exemptions; and/or
 - iii. Section 19 related to health-related curtailment of activities; and/or
 - 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 competed in a minimum of six (6) Continental Cup level or higher events in the program year just ended.

National Team Eligibility Criteria

16. In addition to meeting all the HPP General Eligibility Criteria (Section 15), to be eligible for selection to the SBX National Team, an athlete:
 - a. Must have a minimum of 125 FIS SBX points on the most recently published FIS Points List (as of the end of the Selection Period); and
 - b. Must have achieved at least one of the following (as of the end of the Selection Period):
 - i. a rank within the Top 32 Men or Top 16 Women on the 2024 SBX World Cup Overall Standings; or
 - ii. a rank within the Top 40 Men or Top 25 Women on the 2025 FIS Base Points List (SBX); or
 - iii. a Top 8 (Men & Women) final individual result at the FIS SBX World Championships (WCH) (only applicable if a WCH was held during the program year just ended);
 - iv. There are no WCH held during the 2023/24 competitive season, and as such, the eligibility criteria listed in Section 16(b)(iii) is not applicable for 2024-25 National Team eligibility.
 - c. Athletes who are named to the SBX National Team are expected to progress toward 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 SBX 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 named to the SBX National Team for a total of ANY five (5) years or more (consecutive or non-consecutive)¹, as of the end of the Selection Period, annually, who do not show progression² in their World Cup Overall Ranking from the just concluded season will have individual benchmarks created by the

¹ For greater clarity, in determining whether an athlete has been on the SBX National Team for five years or more, the years do not need to be consecutive. Total years on the SBX National Team 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.

² Progression in an athlete's World Cup ranking shall be determined by a comparative analysis of the athlete's historical World Cup ranking from the 2023 World Cup Overall Rankings to the 2024 World Cup Overall rankings. An athlete will be considered to have demonstrated progression if their 2024 World Cup Overall ranking has improved over their 2023 World Cup Overall ranking and if these rankings are demonstrating a trend towards being ranked within the Top 8 in the 2025 World Cup Overall standings, as determined by the Selection Committee in their sole discretion.



National Team coaches, which the athlete will have to satisfy in order to remain eligible for selection to the National Team for a 6th (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 and are put in place to ensure that the individual progresses towards podium performances at marquee competitions (WCH/OWG).

NextGen Program Eligibility Criteria

17. In addition to meeting the HPP General Eligibility Criteria (Section 15), to be eligible for selection to the Snowboardcross NextGen Program, an athlete:
- a) Must not be more than five (5) years past the FIS Junior Age Cut-off for the upcoming 2024/25 program year defined in the FIS ICR Rules 2014.10 as December 31, 2005. Athletes born before December 31, 2000, may apply for a one-time age exception (see Section 18);
 - b) Must not have been previously named to the SBX National Team for ANY two (2) or more (consecutive or non-consecutive) years unless they were younger than the FIS Junior Age Cut-off while named to the National Team;
 - c) Must have a minimum of 75 FIS SBX points on the most recently published FIS Points List (as of the end of the Selection Period); and
 - d) Must have results that are tracking towards podium potential at the international level (WC, WCH, or OWG) 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.

Eligibility Exemptions

18. As an exception to the NextGen Maximum Age Limit (Section 17(a)), athletes are eligible to remain in the NextGen Program by applying for a one-time NextGen Age Exemption. Age exemptions are valid for one (1) program year only. To be eligible for the NextGen Age Exemption the athlete must satisfactorily meet all of the following requirements:
- a) The athlete must not have been previously granted a NextGen Age Exemption;
 - b) The athlete meets all NextGen Program eligibility requirements outlined in section 17(a-d) above (save for the maximum age);
 - c) The athlete must have been a named member, in good standing of the CS NextGen Program for the past two (2) consecutive program years (2022/23 and 2023/24);
 - d) The athlete must have a Podium Results Track (PRT) within for the past two (2) competition seasons indicating they are one (1) year from meeting current National Team Eligibility Criteria, based on historical results modeling of stage specific performance benchmarks within the discipline informed by Canada Snowboard's discipline specific sport analytics, and as demonstrated by:
 - i. a rank within the Top 50 Men or 35 Women in the 2024 SBX Overall WC Standings;
 - ii. a rank of Top 50 Men or Top 40 Women on the 2025 FIS Base Points List (SBX); or
 - iii. a minimum of one (1) Top-Half final result at an eligible individual World Cup from the competition season that just concluded.
 - e) The athlete must submit an Age Exemption Request to Canada Snowboard that meets the following criteria:
 - i. The submission must be received no later than April 15, 2024.
 - ii. Submissions can be emailed to the High Performance Director - Speed, Kim Krahulec (kim.krahulec@canadasnowboard.ca) for review. Include "NextGen Age Exemption" in the subject line.
 - iii. The submission should include evidence and rationale that supports how their performance over the last two (2) years is tracking towards meeting the National



Team Eligibility Criteria in the upcoming season.

19. 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, only if all of the following conditions are met:
- 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;
 - The athlete did not start in the minimum number of eight (8) or more individual competition starts during the year(s) to which the health-related reason applied;
 - The athlete did not withdraw from the HPP during the year(s) to which the health-related reason applied;
 - The athlete provided written confirmation of their intention to return to full participation in the HPP at the earliest possible date; and
 - 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 Program years.

20. An athlete who does not meet the eligibility criteria set out in Sections 15 - 19 above may still be considered for selection based on the discretionary grounds within the 'High Performance Program General Policies' available on the Canada Snowboard website: <https://www.canadasnowboard.ca/files/HPP-GeneralPolicies.pdf>

ELIGIBLE COMPETITIONS

21. Only results achieved from eligible individual Snowboardcross competition(s) will be considered in the 'Selection Process'. For the purpose of selection, eligible competitions include:

Level 1: Senior World Championships (WCH), Olympic Winter Games (OWG), FIS World Cups (WC)

Level 2: Junior World Championships (JWCH), Europa Cup (EC), Europa Cups Overall Tour Standings, and NorAm Cup (NAC) Overall Tour Standings

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

SELECTION PROCESS

SNOWBOARDCROSS NATIONAL TEAM

22. Except as otherwise stated herein, the order in which eligible athletes are recommended for available Snowboardcross National Team positions will be based on the criteria outlined below. Nominations to the Snowboardcross National Team will be made starting at the highest priority level (Priority 1) unless there are no eligible athletes, or until there are no further eligible athletes, who have the requisite performance(s) within the designated competition period, in which case the Selection Committee will



move on to the next priority level (Priority 2), and so on.

23. The Selection Committee may also, where it deems necessary, conduct a performance analysis of each eligible athlete, or some of them, as outlined in Section 25 below, and rank the athletes to establish the order in which available positions within the Snowboardcross National Team will be offered.

CS reserves the right to not to select any athletes to the Snowboardcross National Team or NextGen Program if the Selection Committee determines that no athletes meet the minimum eligibility criteria to perform at the necessary level or are deemed unable to meet the objectives of the Snowboardcross HPP as outlined in Section 5.

PRIORITY 1

National Team 'Tier A'

- One (1) Podium at Level 1 event; or
- Top 8 Ranking in the 2024 Snowboardcross Overall World Cup Standings.

PRIORITY 2

National Team 'Tier B'

- One (1) Top 6 final result at Level 1 event; or
- Top 12 Ranking in the 2024 Snowboardcross Overall World Cup Standings.

PRIORITY 3

National Team 'Base Level'

- Top 32 Men/Top 16 Women in the 2024 Snowboardcross Overall World Cup Standings.

SNOWBOARDCROSS NEXTGEN PROGRAM

24. Athletes selected to the Snowboardcross NextGen Program will be provided with guidance to establish an Individualized Performance Plan (IPP) and Yearly Training Plan (YTP) reflecting training camps and World Cup Competitions that they qualify for. During these times, athletes will work directly with the National Team coaches and under the direct supervision of the National Team program/system.

Athletes who satisfy the NextGen Program selection criteria are to challenge each other for available World Cup quota at qualifying events unless they have a personal World Cup spot for the 2024/25 season from their 2023/24 NorAm Overall Tour results or are the 2024 SBX Junior World Champion. NextGen athletes will continue to be coached and supported by their Provincial Club/Personal Coaches when not otherwise with the National Team.

Except as otherwise stated herein, the order in which eligible athletes are recommended for available Snowboardcross NextGen Program positions will be based on the criteria outlined below. Nominations to the Snowboardcross NextGen Program will be made starting at the highest priority level (Priority 1) unless there are no eligible athletes, or until there are no further eligible athletes, who have the requisite performance(s) within the designated competition period, in which case the Selection Committee will move on to the next priority level (Priority 2), and so on.

The Selection Committee may also, where it deems necessary, conduct a performance analysis of each eligible athlete, or some of them, as outlined in Section 25 below, and rank the athletes to establish the order in which available positions within the Snowboardcross NextGen Program will be offered.

PRIORITY 1

'Method A'

- One (1) Top 16 Women/ Top 24 Men final result at a Level 1 event (WC or WCH);



- One (1) Top 8 final result at the 2024 Junior World Championships (JWCH); or
- One (1) Podium at a Europa Cup (EC) event.

PRIORITY 2

'Method B'

- Qualification for the Finals (advancing to the final round) at a Level 1 event (WC or WCH);
- Two (2) x Top 8 Women/ Top 12 Men final results at Europa Cup events;
- Top 8 Women/ Top 16 Men in Europa Cup Overall Tour Standings; or
- Top 3 in 2023/24 NorAm Overall Tour standings.

As indicated in the Selection Process, when a priority level states “advance to the final round” as a required threshold result, advancing to the final round shall be taken to mean advancing from Qualifications (time trials) into final heat brackets of Top 16 Women (Quarterfinal: 1/4) / Top 32 Men (Eighth final: 1/8) when finals are in heats of four (4), or Top 24 Women (Quarterfinal: 1/4) / Top 48 Men (Eighth final: 1/8) when finals are in heats of six (6). If time trials do not occur, and athletes are seeded directly into final heat brackets through pre-heat races (Holistic Format), advancing to the final round shall be defined as advancing through pre-heat brackets into the Quarterfinal (1/4) bracket for Women and into the Eighth final (1/8) bracket for Men.

If there are six (6) or less individual NorAm competitions hosted, then only results from the Europa Cup will be considered for NextGen Team Selection. NorAm competitions are counted by individual start, regardless of location. For example: a 2-start NorAm at Big White would count as two individual competitions in this case.

ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS FOR SELECTION TO THE SNOWBOARDCROSS HPP

25. Where the Selection Committee determines, in its sole discretion, that further consideration is required in addition to the ‘Selection Process’ outlined in Sections 22 – 24, the Selection Committee may conduct a performance analysis of each eligible athlete, or some of them, in their sole discretion, taking into consideration the following categories, in no particular order:
- The athlete’s history of competitive performances as evidenced by Canada Snowboard’s discipline specific sport analytics;
 - The athlete’s progress toward achievement of documented individual performance goals as evidenced by the athletes’ Individual Performance Plan (IPP) and Yearly Training Plan (YTP);
 - The athlete’s performance curves compared to available CS Podium Results Track (PRT) data;
 - The athlete’s technical skills, physical and mental readiness, and potential for improvement as evidenced by Technical Skills Assessment completed by a certified, LTD stage appropriate, CSCP coach, physical testing results, and other documentation as available to the Selection Committee;
 - This can include the athlete’s ability to handle high speeds and large jumps safely and the athlete’s potential for long term international competition success.
 - The number of World Cup Quota spots available to Canada for the upcoming competitive season;
 - The athlete’s progression of results from year to year as evidenced by Canada Snowboard’s discipline specific sport analytics;
 - The conversion rate at which the athlete progresses from qualification into the final rounds (heats) as evidenced by Canada Snowboard’s discipline specific sport analytics; and
 - The athlete’s commitment and adherence to an approved high-performance training program as evidenced by the athletes and coach training logs and engagement within their Individual Performance Plan (IPP) and Yearly Training Plan (YTP).



It is important to note that meeting the minimum results for the Snowboardcross National Team in either 'Priority 1', 'Priority 2', or 'Priority 3', or for the NextGen Program in either 'Method A' or 'Method B', as described in Section 22 – 24 above, does not guarantee an automatic selection to the Snowboardcross HPP (National Team or NextGen Program). The Selection Committee may rank eligible athletes in accordance with their respective performance analyses to establish the order in which available positions within the Snowboardcross HPP (National Team and NextGen Program) will be offered.

HEALTH RELATED CURTAILMENT OF ACTIVITIES / EXCEPTIONAL CIRCUMSTANCES

26. CS reserves the right to require a HPP 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 ability to compete, train and to determine the expected timeline for the athlete's recovery.
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, performance analysis, etc.) as may be available to the Selection Committee. Except as detailed in Sections 30 and 31, the decision to grant or not grant as exception to any minimum requirement of this Selection Protocol due to exceptional circumstances resides with the Selection Committee, in their sole discretion.

ALLOCATION OF COMPETITIVE & FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

28. Selection to the Snowboardcross National Team or NextGen program does not automatically provide an athlete entry for World Cups, World Championships (Senior and Junior) and Olympic Winter Game competitions, or automatically provide Athlete Assistance Program (AAP) carding or other funding support.
29. Athlete selection for World Cups, World Championships (Senior and Junior) and Olympic Winter Games is done according to separate Selection Protocols, which are available on the 'Document Center' of the Canada Snowboard website at: <https://www.canadasnowboard.ca/en/docs/>

DECISION-MAKING AUTHORITY AND APPEAL PROCESS

30. Final decisions on athlete selection shall be ratified by the Vice President, Sport (VPS) of CS, on the basis of recommendations by the Selection Committee.
31. 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.
32. 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

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

33. 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.
34. 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.
35. In the event of such unforeseen circumstances the Canada Snowboard High Performance Director – Speed will, where possible, consult with the Vice President, Sport to determine if the circumstances justify competition and/or nomination taking 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. In the event an alternative selection or nomination process takes place, the Selection Committee remains responsible for making selection decisions, in accordance with the revised protocol as determined by the High Performance Director - Speed.
36. This Selection Protocol is based on FIS rules and regulations as presently known and understood and on the latest information available to CS. Should CS become aware of any changes to the FIS rules and regulations, CS will review and amend this Selection Protocol as necessary to comply with new rules and regulations. Amendments to this document will be communicated directly to the affected athletes as well as posted to the CS website as soon as possible.