



SELECTION PROTOCOL FOR WORLD CUP EVENTS

SNOWBOARDCROSS

Updated 13 September 2011

INTRODUCTION

1. Canada~Snowboard, through its membership in the Canadian Snowsports Association, is granted by the FIS the right to enter eligible athletes in FIS sanctioned Snowboard World Cup events.
2. This document sets out the process for identifying those athletes who will be invited by Canada~Snowboard to participate in all FIS sanctioned Snowboard World Cup events in the Snowboardcross discipline.
3. For information on the selection process for events not covered by this document, please refer to the appropriate separate Selection Protocol. All Canada~Snowboard Selection Protocols are published on the Canada~Snowboard web site (www.canadasnowboard.ca).
4. This Selection Protocol is established within the context of the general Canada~Snowboard High Performance Program policies. Any exceptions to the procedures set out in this Selection Protocol must be based on the general Canada~Snowboard High Performance Program policies.
5. Final decisions on the selection of athletes to participate in Snowboardcross World Cups shall be made by the Executive Director on the basis of recommendations by the SBX World Cup Selection Committee, which shall consist of the HPP Director, the SBX National Team Coaches, and the HPP Manager.



TERMS

6. The following abbreviated terms are used in this Section Protocol:
 - a) FIS: Fédération Internationale de Ski
 - b) HPP: High Performance Program
 - c) SBX: Snowboardcross
 - d) WC: World Cup
 - e) WCRL: World Cup Ranking List

ELIGIBILITY

7. To be eligible to participate in a FIS Snowboard World Cup, an athlete must:
 - a) Be a member of the High Performance Program.
 - b) Be a member of his or her recognized provincial snowboard association.
 - c) Have a valid FIS license.
 - d) Have Canada~Snowboard approved medical insurance.
 - e) Be a member in good standing with Canada~Snowboard
 - f) Have a minimum of 50 SBX points in the most recent FIS Points List.

ALLOCATION OF COMPETITIVE OPPORTUNITIES

8. The number of competitive opportunities available to Canada~Snowboard athletes in each FIS World Cup event is established by FIS, and is described as the Canadian quota for that event. Canada ~ Snowboard may decide to offer competitive opportunities to fewer athletes than the number allowed by the Canadian quota.
9. The 2011/12 Canadian Snowboardcross quota is the basic three (one man + one woman + one gender neutral), plus three additional women and reigning World Cup Champion Dominique Maltais, plus four additional men. As well, an additional six "host quota" spots for each gender are available for the Canadian hosted World Cups.
10. On February 3, 2012 the FIS will allocate additional quota spots based on World Cup Snowboardcross event results to that date. Additional quota spots will be awarded (but no spots will be taken away) on the basis of the top 30 athletes in the World Cup Ranking List (WCRL).
11. The opportunity to participate in World Cup competitions shall ordinarily be offered to athletes in the order of their ranking, as determined by the process set out below.
12. Athletes who have earned individual World Cup spots through their status as defending World Cup or Continental Cup champions must still have their entry into World Cups ratified by Canada~Snowboard.

13. World Cup competitive opportunities will ordinarily be determined at the following times:

Block	Competitions	Dates	Selection Deadline
1	Telluride, USA	16 December 11	10 December 11
2	Bad Gastein, AUT	14-15 January 12	22 December 11
	Veysonnaz, SUI	21-22 January 12	
3	Blue Mountain, CAN	6-8 February 2012	30 January 12
	Stoneham, CAN	21-23 February 11	
4	Valmalenco, ITA	18-19 March 11	27 February 12

RANKING PROCESS

Block 1

14. The first priority in the allocation of competitive opportunities for Block 1 competitions shall be given to members of the National Snowboardcross Team.
15. Remaining competitive opportunities shall be awarded to eligible athletes, according to the Selection Committee's assessment and event and/or time trials held at the National Team Training Camp in Powder King. The Committee's assessment shall, in addition to any other factors, give due consideration to the factors set out in Section 30 below.

Block 2

16. The first priority in the allocation of competitive opportunities for Block 2 shall be given to members of the National Snowboardcross Team.
17. The second priority in the allocation of competitive opportunities shall be given to eligible athletes who have achieved good results at the Telluride. A good result is considered a qualification for the final day. If more athletes achieve a good result than there are competitive opportunities, athletes shall be ranked based on their placing.
18. Remaining competitive opportunities shall be awarded to eligible athletes who request participation (nadia@canadasnowboard.ca), according to the Selection Committee's assessment. This assessment shall be conducted in consultation with the athlete's current coach and shall, in addition to any other factors, give due consideration to the factors set out in Section 30 below.

Block 3

19. The first priority in the allocation of competitive opportunities for Block 3 competitions shall be given to members of the National Snowboardcross Team.
20. The second priority in the allocation of competitive opportunities shall be given to eligible athletes who have qualified for the block 2 events.
21. Remaining competitive opportunities shall be awarded to eligible athletes ranked according to the most current NorAm Cup Standings.

Block 4

22. The first priority in the allocation of competitive opportunities for Block 4 competitions shall be given to members of the National Snowboardcross Team.
23. Remaining competitive opportunities shall be given to eligible athletes based on the sum of the FIS points earned at the Block 3 events.

GENERAL CONSIDERATIONS

24. Athletes shall ordinarily be selected for participation in the order of their ranking. However, the following sections also have a bearing on the final selection.
25. Selection rankings notwithstanding, Canada~Snowboard shall have the power to withhold any athlete from participation in any competition if doing so is warranted, in the view of Canada~Snowboard's Return to Competition Protocol, by the pace of that athlete's rehabilitation from a health related curtailment of activities.
26. Selection rankings notwithstanding, Canada~Snowboard shall have the power to select athletes to participate in an order other than that indicated by the rankings. Canada~Snowboard shall also have the power to select fewer male or female athletes than the maximum quota provided by FIS. The grounds for any such decisions must be set out in detail in the minutes of the meeting of the Selection Committee, and must be in accordance with the general High Performance Program policies.
27. The allocation of any 'gender neutral' quota positions shall be determined by the Selection Committee. The grounds for any such decisions must be set out in detail in the minutes of the meeting of the Selection Committee, and must be in accordance with the general High Performance Program policies.
28. Grounds which may be considered in decisions such as those indicated in Sections 8, 11, 18, 20, 28 et 29 shall include, but may not be limited to:
 - a) The athlete's commitment to a long-term training program, as demonstrated by training logs, evaluations, and other documentation

- maintained by the athlete and her or his coach.
- b) The athlete's level of physical conditioning, evaluated in terms of the physical conditioning benchmarks established for the High Performance Program, and available for review on www.canadasnowboard.ca.
 - c) The athlete's level of mental training, evaluated in terms of the maintenance of a daily log book, and in terms of the recommendations for psychological and lifestyle development in Stage 6 of Vision 2020: The Long Term Athlete Development Plan for Snowboarding in Canada. These are available for review on www.canadasnowboard.ca.
 - d) The athlete's level of technical and tactical skill.
 - e) Anomalies in competitions, arising from factors such as weather or abnormally small field sizes, or the gross inflation of the points value of the event, which are determined to be a factor in the attainment of or failure to attain results.
 - f) Gaps in the points used to rank athletes, which may be taken to represent a significant gap in performance ability. For instance, if three athletes have 100, 97, and 96 points respectively, and the next ranked athlete has 85 points, a gap may be said to exist which indicates an athlete's potential ability or inability to compete at the same level as other Canada ~ Snowboard athletes in the same discipline.
 - g) The financial capacity of Canada~Snowboard to properly support a team at this level of international competition.
29. Any decision to select an athlete in an order other than indicated by the rankings shall be done through consultation with the coaches of the athletes involved.

COACHING

30. An athlete may not participate in a FIS Snowboard World Cup unless coached by a Canada~Snowboard approved coach.

HEALTH RELATED CURTAILMENT OF ACTIVITIES

31. It may be that an athlete who is otherwise selected to participate is or becomes, by reason of a health related curtailment of activities, unable to compete. In such circumstances Canada~Snowboard shall have the right to replace this athlete with another eligible athlete.
32. Canada~Snowboard may, at any time, require an athlete who appears, by reason of a health related curtailment of activities, to be unable to participate in training or competition activities, to obtain a medical assessment conducted by a Canada ~ Snowboard recognized doctor or other health support practitioner. The purpose of the medical assessment is to confirm the degree of the athlete's ability or inability to compete and the anticipated time of the athlete's recovery.

33. It may be that an athlete is unable, by reason of a health related curtailment of activities of which Canada~Snowboard has been notified, to participate in FIS sanctioned competitions or Canada~Snowboard sanctioned time trials for a period of at least four consecutive weeks since the start of the WCRL qualifying period, and that the athlete would ordinarily have been selected by Canada ~ Snowboard to participate in at least one World Cup, NorAm, or time trial event during that period. In such circumstances the Selection Committee shall establish the athlete's ranking for selection through an assessment of all the athlete's performance factors. This assessment shall, in addition to any other factors, give due consideration to the factors set out in Section 24 above.

APPEALS

34. Any decision of the professional staff relating to the operation and conduct of the HPP may be appealed by any member of Canada~Snowboard who is materially affected by that decision, and who is a member in good standing of her or his provincial snowboard association. Appeals must be conducted in accordance with Canada~Snowboard Appeals Protocol, which is available on the Canada~Snowboard website (www.canadasnowboard.ca).

GENERAL

35. Issues not otherwise covered by this Selection Protocol shall be resolved by the Executive Director of Canada~Snowboard, in consultation with the High Performance Program Director.