



# **HIGH PERFORMANCE PROGRAM SELECTION PROTOCOL** **ALPINE DISCIPLINE** **2012-13 PROGRAM YEAR**

Updated November 9, 2011

## **INTRODUCTION**

1. The High Performance Program consists of those athletes who receive support directly from Canada~Snowboard (i.e., not through provincial snowboard associations or clubs). Athlete participants in the HPP are members of the National Snowboard Team in the disciplines of Alpine, Freestyle, and Snowboardcross, or are members of Development Programs.
2. This High Performance Program Selection Protocol sets out the process of identifying those athletes who are eligible for selection to the 2012/13 High Performance Program in the Alpine discipline.
3. This High Performance Program Selection Protocol and other Canada~Snowboard Selection Protocols are published on the Canada~Snowboard web site ([www.canadasnowboard.ca](http://www.canadasnowboard.ca)).
4. Athletes eligible for selection to the HPP are identified, ranked, and offered NST and Development Program positions in accordance with the specific procedures set out below.

## **TERMS**

5. The following abbreviated terms are used in this Section Protocol:
  - a) FIS: Fédération Internationale de Ski
  - b) HPP: High Performance Program
  - c) NST: National Snowboard Team
  - d) PGS: Parallel Giant Slalom
  - e) PSL: Parallel Slalom
  - f) WC: World Cup

## **GENERAL CONSIDERATIONS**



6. The HPP Management and Coaching Staff shall meet on or before May 1 to identify those athletes who will be recommended for positions in the HPP for the coming year.
7. The Canada~Snowboard HPP's recommendations shall ordinarily be made on the basis of athletes' performances during the just-concluded season, in accordance with the procedures detailed in this document. Other factors which may be included in determining selections are athletes' progress towards established performance objectives, long term potential as measured against the discipline's Performance Curve, and athletes' physical conditioning.
8. All HPP athlete selections are for a one year period only.
9. All HPP athlete selections are contingent on the athlete's meeting Canada~Snowboard minimum physical conditioning standards at a physical assessment which will be conducted no later than June 30, 2012.
10. Athlete rankings will ordinarily determine the order of selection for available HPP positions. The Canada~Snowboard HPP Management and Coaching Staff have the right, however, to recommend athletes for selection in an order other than that indicated by the rankings. The grounds for any such recommendations must be set out in detail, and must be in accordance with the general High Performance Program objectives.

#### **IDENTIFICATION OF ELIGIBILITY**

11. To be eligible for selection to the HPP, an athlete must:
  - a) Be in good standing with Canada~Snowboard.
  - b) Have competed in a minimum of three (3) Continental Cup level or higher events in the program year just ended.
  - c) Have competed in the Canadian National Championships in the program year just ended.
  - d) Have attended the National team Physical testing camp post Nationals
12. An athlete who does not meet the eligibility criteria set out above may be considered for selection if she or he meets the conditions of the Exceptional Circumstances provisions set out below.

#### **SELECTION PROCESS**

13. The athletes will first be ranked by their updated FIS points. The selection committee will then perform an evaluation of the athletes based on the following guidelines and criteria:

##### **A team (Stage 7)**

Intent of A Team: Provide a world-leading program that supports athletes to achieve and maintain podium world cup performances within the season.

Results and performance metrics that demonstrate program is appropriate for an athlete includes:

- 2 Top 8 world cup results and/or 1 podium result.

- Top 20 world cup overall ranking
- Conversion rate of 40% or higher (world cup starts to Top 16 results).
- Meets established physical testing standards ([www.canadasnowboard.ca](http://www.canadasnowboard.ca))

Intent of selection policy:

Select athletes that show potential in results and metrics to podium at next Olympics or World Championships. Provide type of support necessary for athletes to maintain podium world cup performances.

Events focus: World Cup tour (including world champs/OWGs).

### **B team (Stage 6)**

Intent of B Team: Provide a program aimed at developing riders to perform at a world cup, and require appropriate levels of support to prepare for it.

Results and performance metrics that may demonstrate athlete is suited for B team, and prepared to meet the program, expectations and benefit from support includes:

- Meets established physical testing standards ([www.canadasnowboard.ca](http://www.canadasnowboard.ca))
- Top 3 in nor-am standings
- Nor-Am win (event value over 160 FIS pts)
- Europa Cup finals (top 4)
- Top 40 FIS or World Cup ranking (over 200 points)
- Average results of 100 pts or higher over the season
- Nor-Am conversion rate of 30% of top 4s
- Consistently making 2nd run at World Cups (50% conversion rate)
- Making Finals consistently at Europa cups (50% conversion rate)
- Fits within development curve of current and past world leading athletes

Events focus: World Cups, Europa Cups and strong Nor-Ams.

Athlete commitment to program will include:

- Full-time commitment.
- Relocation to Calgary full time strongly recommended
- 30 to 40 pre-season on snow training days
- 6-10 hours per week of physical training
- Mid-week, daytime training required

## **C team (Stage 5.5)**

Intent of C: Develop riders to perform at Continental Cup and junior world level.

With these athletes we strive to:

- Ensure an adult learning approach centered on the athletes' needs
- Promote core competencies (i.e. valuing, leadership, interaction, critical thinking, and problem solving)
- Identify and develop the skills and abilities necessary to be a world-class racer
- Build in volume and intensity of training required to be a world-class racer

Results and performance metrics that demonstrate an athlete is suited for C team and the programs expectations and support includes:

- Meets established physical testing criteria ([www.canadasnowboard.ca](http://www.canadasnowboard.ca))
- Top 8 at Continental Cups of 240 pts +
- Top 8 in Junior Worlds
- 2nd run in a World Cup with a time within 6% of top qualifier
- Podium in a Nor-Am/Europa Cup 120 pts +
- Average of 80 points or higher.
- Fits within development curve of current and past world leading athletes

Events focus: FIS, Nor-Ams, Europa Cups and domestic World Cups

Athlete commitment to program include:

- Re-locate to Calgary to train full-time with the Snowboard Institute necessary to ensure support and volume to create success at future international events. (Exceptions for high school aged athletes, to camp-based attendance instead.)
- 25 days of pre-season on-snow training (May-Nov) is expected
- 6-10 hours per week of physical training
- Mid-week daytime training required.

## **EXCEPTIONAL CONSIDERATIONS**

14. 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 designated doctor. The purpose of this medical assessment is to determine the appropriateness of the athlete's selection to the HPP by determining the extent of the athlete's incapacity and the anticipated time of recovery.
15. It may occur that an athlete may, by reason of a health related curtailment of activities or

extraordinary circumstances (such as the death of an immediate family member), be unable to participate in the Canadian National Championships. In such circumstances the athlete shall remain eligible for selection, provided that prior approval has been granted by the HPP Director.

16. It may occur that an athlete may, by reason of a health related curtailment of activities or extraordinary circumstances, be unable to participate in a minimum of three (3) Continental Cup level or higher 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 may be available to the High Performance Program Director.

### **ALLOCATION OF COMPETITIVE OPPORTUNITIES**

17. Selection to the NST or Development Program does not automatically provide an athlete with entry into World Cup, World Championship, or Olympic Winter Games competitions.
18. The selection of athletes for participation in the World Championships and Olympic Winter Games is done according to separate Selection Protocols, which are available on Canada~Snowboard website.
19. The selection of athletes for participation in World Cups is done through the "Canada~Snowboard Selection Protocol - Snowboard Cross World Cups", which is available on Canada~Snowboard website. Athletes are ordinarily selected for blocks of World Cups, with priority ordinarily given to NST members.
20. All HPP athletes will be entered into the Canadian National Championships as members of the NST or Development Program.

### **APPROVAL AND APPEAL PROCESS**

21. Final decisions on the selections of athletes to be offered NST and Development positions shall be made by the Chief Executive Officer of Canada~Snowboard, on the basis of recommendations by the HPP Director in consultation with Canada~Snowboard coaching staff.
22. Issues not otherwise addressed by this Selection Protocol shall be resolved by the Chief Executive Officer of Canada~Snowboard, in consultation with the HPP Director.
23. 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. Appeals must be conducted in accordance with the Canada~Snowboard Appeals Protocol, which is available on Canada~Snowboard website ([www.canadasnowboard.ca](http://www.canadasnowboard.ca))