



**HIGH PERFORMANCE PROGRAM SELECTION PROTOCOL
SNOWBOARDCROSS NATIONAL TEAM & NEXTGEN PROGRAM
2022-2023**

Approval Authority:	Executive Director
Responsible Department:	High Performance
Approval Date:	December 24, 2021
Revision:	Yearly (Pre-Season)
Next Review Date:	August 2022
Related Policies:	HPP – General Policy

Canada Snowboard is carefully following the evolution of the coronavirus on the global and domestic level and how it may impact domestic nomination of athletes to the 2022-23 Snowboardcross National Team and NextGen Programs. Unless otherwise required by exceptional and unforeseen circumstances related to the impact of the coronavirus, Canada Snowboard will respect this published Selection Protocol as written.

However, situations related to the coronavirus pandemic may arise that require this Selection Protocol to be modified. Any modifications will be made promptly and as often as required following developments that directly impact the Selection Protocol. In such circumstances, any modifications will come into effect as of the date of publication and will be communicated to all affected individuals as soon as possible.

Further, situations may arise that do not allow this Selection Protocol to be modified or applied as written due to time constraints or other exceptional and unforeseen circumstances. In such situations, any decision, including nomination decisions, will be made by the individual(s) with decision-making authority, as stated in this Selection Protocol, in consultation with the relevant individual(s) or committee(s) (as applicable), and in accordance with the stated performance objectives and selection philosophy and approach as stated herein. Should it be necessary to make any decision in this manner, Canada Snowboard will communicate with all affected individuals as soon as possible.

INTRODUCTION

1. The High-Performance Program (HPP) consists of those athletes formally named to the HPP by Canada Snowboard (CS) and who are then eligible to receive support directly from CS. Athletes named to the HPP are recognized as members of CS's National Team in the disciplines of Alpine, Halfpipe, Slopestyle & Big Air, Snowboardcross or Para-Snowboard; or are team members of a NextGen Program within a given discipline.
2. This "High Performance Program Selection Protocol" sets out the process of:
 - a. Identifying those athletes who are eligible for selection to the 2022-23 HPP in the Snowboardcross discipline; and
 - b. Determining which athletes shall be offered positions on the 2022-23 Snowboardcross National Team and NextGen Program.
3. This HPP Selection Protocol 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 National Team or NextGen Program positions according to the specific procedures set out in the 'Selection Process', which can be referenced in Sections 18 through 20 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 select athletes to the 2022-23 Snowboardcross National Team and NextGen program, with the ultimate goal of fielding the most competitive and capable team in a safe and ethical manner to achieve our performance objectives of winning World Championship and Olympic Winter Games Medals.

The above is the guiding principle that CS has taken into consideration when developing this Selection Protocol and will be the principle used by CS when selecting athletes to the 2022-23 Snowboardcross National Team and NextGen program.

TERMS

6. The following abbreviated terms are used in this Selection Protocol:
 - a. FIS: Fédération Internationale de Ski
 - b. CS Canada Snowboard
 - c. HPP: High Performance Program
 - d. SBX Snowboardcross
 - e. NG NextGen
 - f. NT National Team
 - g. WCH Senior World Championships
 - h. JWCH Junior World Championships
 - i. OWG Olympic Winter Games
 - j. WC World Cups
 - k. EC Europa Cups
 - l. NAC North American Cups

GENERAL CONSIDERATIONS

7. The Selection Committee will be comprised of the Snowboardcross National Team staff, the HPP Director (Sport and High-Performance Director), HPP Manager(s) and the HPP Coordinator.

If required, the Selection Committee will seek input from:

- HPP Strength and Conditioning Trainer(s)
- HPP Integrated Support Team (IST)
- Lead Canadian Coaches

Examples of situations where the Selection Committee may seek input from members outside of the Selection Committee 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 to ensure the committee has the necessary and relevant information to support the 'Additional Requirements for Selection to the SBX HPP' rankings outlined in Section 20.



8. The Selection Committee will meet on or before May 31, 2022 to identify and recommend the athletes for selection to the HPP for the 2022-23 program year. The Selection Committee's recommendations will be made to the Executive Director for final approval.
9. The Selection Committee's recommendations to the Executive Director shall be made on the basis of the athletes' performances during the August 2021- April 2022 season.
10. All HPP athlete selections are valid for one-year, ending on May 31, 2023.
11. The maximum number of available positions in the HPP shall be identified by the Selection Committee at the outset of the 'Selection Process' on or before May 31, 2022.

This number will be based on program constraints of the HPP, which are primarily financial.

12. Athlete rankings based on the selection process will ordinarily determine the order of selection for available HPP positions; however, the Selection Committee has 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 in detail by the Selection Committee, clearly documented, and must be in accordance with the document "General Policies High Performance Program" located in the 'Document Centre' on the CS website here: <https://www.canadasnowboard.ca/files/HPP-GeneralPolicies.pdf>

IDENTIFICATION OF ELIGIBILITY

13. To be eligible for selection to the Snowboardcross National Team an athlete:
 - a. Must be in good standing with Canada Snowboard, as that term is understood in Section 1.1(f) of the Canada Snowboard Bylaws, applied mutatis mutandis;
 - b. Must have competed in a minimum of four (4) Continental Cup level or higher events in the program year just ended; and
 - c. Must have a minimum of 125 FIS SBX points on the most recent FIS Points List as of the selection deadline for National Team selection.

An athlete is expected to progress in their results towards being a Top Eight performer internationally in their discipline in order to maintain National Team status on an ongoing basis. As such, athletes who have been named to the Snowboardcross National Team for a period of Five (5) years or more at the conclusion of the 2021/22 program year¹ must satisfy additional eligibility criteria in order to maintain their status on the National Team thereafter.

Consequently, in addition to satisfying the general Snowboardcross National Team eligibility criteria applicable to the 2022/23 program year, athletes who have been on the Snowboardcross National Team for a total of five years or more at the conclusion of the 2021/22 program year who do not show progression² in their World Cup Overall Ranking from the just concluded season will have individual benchmarks created by the National Team Coaches which the athlete will have to meet for the 6th (or more) program year to remain eligible for selection to the National Team. These benchmarks will act, in addition to the other applicable eligibility and selection criteria, as a condition of their selection for the 2022/23 program year and are put in place to be performance enhancements for the individual to progress towards becoming an Olympic medal potential.

¹ For greater clarity, in order to count the five years that an athlete has been on the Snowboardcross National Team, the five years does not need to be consecutive, but must add up to a total of five years by the end of the 2021/22 program year. This total does not include the 2022/23 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 2021 World Cup Overall Rankings to the 2022 World Cup Overall Rankings. An athlete will be considered to have demonstrated progression if their 2021 World Cup Overall Rankings have improved in their 2022 World Cup Overall Rankings and if these rankings are demonstrating a trend toward being ranked within the Top 8 in the 2022 World Cup Overall standings.

If an athlete has been unable to participate in training or competitive activities during a program year(s) they were nominated to the National Team due to health-related reasons documented by a Canada Snowboard approved physician, this/these year(s) will not count towards the 5-year period referred to immediately above provided that all of the following conditions are met:

1. The athlete did not start in eight (8) or more events during the year of the health-related reason;
2. The athlete does not withdraw from the HPP during the year of the health-related reason and provides written confirmation of their intention to return to full participation in the HPP at the earliest possible date; and
3. The athlete undertakes, in writing, to train and/or rehabilitate under the supervision of Canada Snowboard or its designate at a level that minimizes risk to the athlete's personal health and ensures an optimal return to full training and competition at the earliest possible date.

14. To be eligible for selection to the Snowboardcross NextGen Program an athlete:

- a. Must be in good standing with Canada Snowboard, as that term is understood in Section 1.1(f) of the Canada Snowboard Bylaws, applied mutatis mutandis;
- b. Must have competed in a minimum of four (4) Continental Cup level or higher events in the program year just ended; and
- c. Must have a minimum of 75 FIS SBX points on the most recent FIS Points List as of the selection deadline for NextGen Program selection, and
- d. Must have results that demonstrate that they are tracking towards achieving a podium performance at the international level (WC, WCH, or OWG) who are four (4) to eight (8) years away from that performance. The maximum age for the NextGen athlete is five (5) years past the FIS Junior age category for the upcoming program year.
 - i. As an exception to Section 14(d), an athlete may remain on the NextGen team past this age on a case-by-case basis provided that they show significant progression towards achieving the National Team criteria, which requires that they demonstrate satisfaction of all of the following requirements:
 1. They meet all NextGen Program eligibility requirements outlined in section 14(a-d) above;
 2. The athlete has been a named member in good standing of the CS Snowboardcross NextGen Program for the past two (2) consecutive program years (2020/21 and 2021/22);
 3. The athlete's results demonstrate that they have been tracking towards being ranked within the Top 32M/16L in 2022 Snowboardcross Final World Cup Standings within the previous two (2) competition seasons
 - a. Progression towards being ranked within the Top 32 Men/16 Women in the 2022 Snowboardcross Final World Cup Standings shall be determined by a comparative analysis of the athlete's historical World Cup ranking from the 2020 and 2021 Snowboardcross World Cup Overall Standings. Progression needs to constitute an improvement in ranking each year, and needs to trend towards achieving being ranked within the Top 32 Men/16 Women in the 2022 Snowboardcross World Cup Overall Standings.
 4. The athlete has not previously been granted a NextGen Age exemption (athletes are only eligible to receive a NextGen Age exemption for a period



of one program year. Athletes who have received a NextGen Age exemption in a previous season are no longer eligible to receive an additional NextGen Age exemption); and

- 5. They have provided their exemption submission to Canada Snowboard, in writing, their evidence and rationale as to why an age exemption should be granted and how they are demonstrating significant progression towards achieving the National Team criteria in the 2022/23 season.
 - a. Athlete submissions must be submitted to Canada Snowboard no later than May 1, 2022 to the High Performance Speed Program Manager, Kim Krahulec, by email at: kim.krahulec@canadasnowboard.ca

Athletes previously named to the Snowboardcross National Team for two (2) or more years are no longer eligible for NextGen or a NextGen age exemption unless they were at the FIS Junior age category during the years that they were on the National Team.

NextGen Maximum Age Calculation (based on [ICR Rules 2014.10](#))

Season	2022/23
FIS Jr. Age Cutoff	December 31, 2003
NextGen Age Cutoff	December 31, 1998

- 15. An athlete who does not meet the eligibility criteria set out above may be considered for selection if they meet the conditions of the ‘Exceptional Circumstances’ provisions set out below in Section 25 through 26 or the discretionary grounds within the ‘High Performance Program General Policies’ document, which can be referenced here: <https://www.canadasnowboard.ca/files/HPP-GeneralPolicies.pdf>

QUALIFYING COMPETITIONS

- 16. Only eligible results achieved from individual competition(s) will be considered in the ‘Selection Process’ detailed in Sections 18 through 20 below.

Team Event results will not be considered in the recommendation of athletes for available positions within the Snowboardcross HPP.

- 17. For the purpose of selection, the following competitions will be considered:
 - Level 1: Senior World Championships (WCH), Olympic Winter Games (OWG)
 - Level 2: FIS World Cups (WC)
 - Level 3: Junior World Championships (JWCH), European Cups (EC), Europa Cup and NorAm Overall Tour Standings (EC and NAC)

SELECTION PROCESS SNOWBOARDCROSS NATIONAL TEAM

- 18. The methods utilized to determine the order in which 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 at each priority level (from Highest: Priority 1, to Lowest: Priority 3) until there are no remaining eligible athletes within the priority before moving on to the next priority and so on.

The Selection Committee may conduct a performance analysis of each eligible athlete as outlined in Section 20 below, and rank them to establish the order in which available positions within the Snowboardcross National Team will be offered.

In addition, the following criteria will be used to determine the different levels of financial support available to an athlete, as defined in Sections 21 through 24 below.

PRIORITY 1

National Team 'Tier A'

- One (1) Podium at Level 1 event; or
- One (1) Podium at Level 2 event; or
- Top 8 Ranking in the 2022 Snowboardcross Final World Cup Standings.

PRIORITY 2

National Team 'Tier B'

- One (1) Top 8 final result at Level 2 events (or higher); or
- Top 12 Ranking in the 2022 Snowboardcross Final World Cup Standings.

PRIORITY 3

National Team 'Base Level'

- Top 32M/16L in 2022 Snowboardcross Final World Cup Standings.

SNOWBOARDCROSS NEXTGEN PROGRAM

19. Athletes selected to the Snowboardcross NextGen Program will be invited to National Team training camps as training partners and all 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 or have a personal World Cup spot for the 2022/23 season from their 2021/22 NorAm Overall Tour results. These athletes will continue to be coached and supported by their Provincial Club/Personal Coaches when not otherwise with the National Team.

The methods utilized to determine the order in which 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 at each priority level (from Highest: Priority 1, to Lowest: Priority 2) until there are no remaining eligible athletes within the priority before moving on to the next priority and so on.

The Selection Committee will conduct a performance analysis of each eligible athlete, as required and as outlined in Section 19 below, and rank them to establish the order in which available positions within the Snowboardcross NextGen Program will be offered.

PRIORITY 1

'Method A'

- One (1) Top 16 final result at Level 2 events (or higher);
- One (1) Top 8 at Junior World Championships (JWCH); or



- One (1) Podium at Europa Cup event.

**PRIORITY 2
'Method B'**

- Qualification for the finals at a Level 2 event;
- Two (2) x Top 8 Women/ Top 12 Men Europa Cup events;
- Top 8 Women/ Top 16 Men in Europa Cup Overall Tour Standings; or
- Top 3 in NorAm Overall Tour standings.

NOTE: Qualification for the finals shall be defined as advancing from Qualifications (time trials) into final heat brackets of Top 16 Women (Quarterfinal: 1/4) / Top 32 Men (Eighthfinal: 1/8) when finals are in heats of four (4) or Top 24 Women (Quarterfinal: 1/4) / Top 48 Men (Eighthfinal: 1/8) with heats of six (6). In the event that time trials do not occur and athletes are seeded directly into final heat brackets through pre-heat races, advancing to the final round shall be defined as advancing through two (2) rounds of brackets into the Quarterfinal (1/4) for Women and into the Eighthfinal (1/8) for Men.

NOTE: If there are six (6) or less individual NorAm competitions 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 a single location would count as two individual competitions in this case.

ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS FOR SELECTION TO THE SBX HPP

20. In addition to the 'Selection Process' outlined in Sections 18 – 20, the Selection Committee may conduct a performance analysis of each eligible athlete, as required, taking into consideration the following categories, in no particular order:

- The athlete's history of competitive performances;
- The athlete's progress toward achievement of documented individual performance goals;
- The athlete's performance curves compared to available Podium Pathway and Gold Medal Profile data;
- The athlete's technical skills, physical readiness, and potential for improvement;
 - 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;
- The athlete's progression of results from year to year;
- The conversion rate at which the athlete progresses from qualification into the final rounds (heats); or
- The athlete's commitment and adherence to an approved high-performance training program.

It is important to note that meeting the minimum results for the Snowboardcross National Team or NextGen Program in either 'Priority 1', 'Priority 2', or 'Priority 3', as described in Section 18 – 20 above, does not guarantee an automatic selection to the Snowboardcross HPP (National Team or NextGen Program). The Selection Committee may conduct a performance analysis of each eligible athlete, as outlined above, and rank them to establish the order in which available positions within the Snowboardcross HPP (National Team and NextGen Program) will be offered.

NATIONAL TEAM SUPPORT TIERS



21. Athlete support and funding levels for the 2022-23 season will be based on results from the 2021-22 season as outlined in Section 18 of the National Team selection criteria above.

Funding will be set at the following levels for the 2022-23 season:

National Team Tier	Eligible Funding Level
'A' Tier	Up to 100%
'B' Tier	Up to 50%
'Base' Tier	N/A

22. Seasonal funding will be prioritized and allocated by tier level achieved. Funding will cover major travel expenses such as airfare, lodging, rental vehicles, training fees, lift tickets and other expenses at the discretion of the Head Coaches. Incidental travel expenses such as meals, local transport, itinerary changes for personal reasons and individual expenses outside of the seasonal team program are not covered. Budgets and travel program will be set annually by the Head Coaches. Athletes will be provided, upon request, an estimate of expenses they will be responsible for after the annual budget and travel plan is finalized for the 2022-23 season.
23. All efforts will be made to adhere to the outlined budget, training program and funding tiers. However, all National Team athletes must recognize that changes and modifications to travel, training plans and funding are possible each season. In the event of major changes, the Head Coaches will make every effort to adhere to funding levels as outlined above; however, athletes may be invoiced for amounts that exceed available funding levels. Any such invoicing will be based on the funding tier of each athlete. All efforts will be made to communicate any changes and their effect on funding as soon as possible.
24. The Snowboardcross Coaching Staff, at their discretion, may also allocate funding to support athletes' equipment purchases for the 2022-23 season. Funding will be determined by the athlete's tier level and available budget resources. Equipment funding requests must be submitted to the head coach no later than May 31 2022.

EXCEPTIONAL CONSIDERATIONS

25. CS 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 CS recognized doctor or other health support practitioner. The medical assessment is for the purpose of confirming the degree of the athlete's ability to compete and to determine the expected timeline for the athlete's recovery.
26. 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 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 may be available to the National Team & NextGen Program Coach(s).

ALLOCATION OF COMPETITIVE OPPORTUNITIES

27. Selection to the 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.

28. 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

29. Final decisions on athlete selection shall be ratified by the Executive Director of CS, on the basis of recommendations by the Selection Committee.
30. 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 Executive Director of CS, in consultation with the Sport and High-Performance Director, shall determine how the issue or circumstance shall be addressed, taking into account the best interests of the HPP program from a performance perspective. Should any action be taken pursuant to this provision, CS will communicate directly with any individual impacted by such action, and provide reasons for any action taken.
31. Appeals of any decision made pursuant to this Protocol may be made by any CS member in good standing. Appeals must be conducted in accordance with the Canada Snowboard Appeals Protocol, which is available on the Canada Snowboard website at:
https://www.canadasnowboard.ca/files/Canada_Snowboard_Appeals_Policy_EN.pdf

Members in good standing 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

31. 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, then the English version shall be used to understand the intent of the drafting of the French version.
32. This Selection Protocol is intended to apply as drafted and, specifically, where no athletes are prevented from competing because of an unforeseen injury or other unanticipated or unforeseen circumstances. Situations may arise where unforeseen circumstances or circumstances beyond CS's control do not allow competition or nomination to take place in a fair manner or in the best interests of the priorities and general principles for selection as indicated in these criteria, or do not allow the procedure for nomination as described in this document to be applied.
33. In the event of such unforeseen circumstances the CS High Performance Director will, where possible, consult with the Executive Director to determine if the circumstances justify competition or nomination should take place in an alternative manner. In such circumstances, the High Performance Director shall communicate the alternative selection or nomination process to all impacted individuals as soon as possible.
34. This Selection Protocol is based on FIS rules and regulations as presently known and understood and on the latest information available to CS. Any changes in the selection criteria and procedures necessitated by a change in the FIS rules and regulations will be distributed to the affected parties as soon as reasonably possible. Should such a circumstance occur, CS will review and amend this



Selection Protocol to comply with new regulations or conditions. Amendments to this document will be communicated directly to the affected athletes as soon as is reasonably possible as well as posted to the CS website.