



**HIGH PERFORMANCE PROGRAM SELECTION PROTOCOL
SNOWBOARDCROSS NATIONAL TEAM and NEXTGEN PROGRAM
2025-2026**

Approval Authority:	Vice President, Sport
Responsible Department:	High Performance
Approval Date:	December 17 th , 2024
Revision:	Yearly (Pre-Season)
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Related Policies:	HPP – General Policy*

***Note: 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 Purpose of this “*High Performance Program Selection Protocol*” is to set out the process of:
 - a. Identifying and communicating athlete eligibility criteria required for selection to the 2025 -26 HPP in the Snowboardcross (SBX) discipline; and
 - b. Determining which athletes shall be offered positions (selected) to the 2025-26 Snowboardcross National Team or NextGen Program.
2. The High-Performance Program (HPP) consists of those athletes formally selected to the HPP by Canada Snowboard (CS or Canada Snowboard). These athletes 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, Snowboardcross, Para-Snowboard, Halfpipe, Slopestyle and Big Air; or are team members of a CS Development Group or CS NextGen Program within a given discipline.
3. This “*High Performance Program Selection Protocol*” has been drafted by the HPP Technical and coaching staff, reviewed by the Canada Snowboard Athletes Council, and approved by the Vice President, Sport (VPS) of Canada Snowboard prior to publishing the document on the document centre of the CS website.
4. 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/>

5. 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 23 through 26 of this document.

OBJECTIVES

6. 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 2025 – 26 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 International Ski and Snowboard Federation (FIS) World Championship (WCH) and Winter Olympic Games (OWG).

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 Long Term Development (LTD) framework, and trending towards podium performances at marquee competitions (WCH/OWG) within 1–4 years, and who are capable of making finals in World Cup (WC) competitions consistently. This is assessed through the discipline specific 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. Additional evidence to support the PRT includes the 2025 Snowboardcross Overall World Cup Standings which is based on individual results from FIS World Cup competitions during the 2024-25 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 the discipline specific Podium Results Track (PRT) and Canada Snowboard's 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 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 competitions (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 PRT or the ADM, please contact the CS Podium Pathway Manager (PPM), Dave Balne at dave.balne@canadasnowboard.ca

TERMS

7. 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
 - t. DSQ: Disqualified
 - u. DNF: Did Not Finish
 - v. DNS: Did Not Start
 - w. CSCP: Canadian Snowboard Coaching Program

GENERAL CONSIDERATIONS

8. The Selection Committee will be composed of at least three (3) members from the HPP staff and the Snowboardcross 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 and Athletic Performance Lead;
 - d. the Podium Pathway Manager (PPM);
 - e. the High Performance Coordinator (HPC); and
 - f. The Snowboardcross National Team Coach(es).

If the Selection Committee determines additional input is necessary, input may be gathered from:

- g. The HPP Health and Athletic Performance Team Staff (HAP), including strength coaches, physiotherapists, mental performance consultants, etc.; and/or
- h. 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 23 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 (5.o-5.w) of the Canada Snowboard Athlete Agreement.

The Selection Committee may consider the use of a non-voting, independent third-party to observe the Selection Process. The independent third-party observer must not have a conflict of interest, and could be:

- a) A retired athlete, or official; and/or
 - b) A professional within sport.
9. The Selection Committee will meet between April 15, 2025 (conclusion of the competitive season) and before May 31, 2025 (conclusion of the 2024-25 CS Athlete Agreement) to identify and rank athletes eligible for selection to the HPP for the 2025-26 program year. The Selection Committee's recommendations will be made to the Vice President, Sport for final approval.
10. The Selection Committee's recommendations to the Vice President, Sport shall be made on the basis of the athletes' performances between the May 31 2024 - April 30 2025 competitive season (the "Selection Period").

11. All HPP athlete selections are generally valid for the duration of the HPP annual plan for the 2025/26 competitive season, typically one year, and ending on May 31, 2026. 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.
12. The maximum number of available positions in the SBX 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 and these guiding principles:
 - a. Athlete to Coach ratio is at or below four to one (4:1);
 - b. The forecasted FIS World Cup quota plus one (1) per FIS declared gender maximum;
 - c. A targeted team size of eight (8) athletes named to the Snowboardcross HPP.
13. 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.
14. Athlete rankings based on the Selection Process will ordinarily determine the order of selection for available HPP positions; however, the Selection Committee has the authority 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>
15. Some individual athletes named to the 2024/25 Snowboardcross National Team or NextGen Team have been given benchmarks as part of a Performance Addendum to their Athlete Agreement for the 2024/25 program year. These performance focused benchmarks will act, in addition to the other applicable eligibility requirements and selection criteria outlined in this document, as a condition of their selection for the 2025/26 program year. The benchmarks are identified 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 (2024/25), and they meet all of the applicable eligibility requirements (outlined in Sections 16 – 20), they may be eligible to be named to the 2025/26



Snowboardcross HPP program year, at the level of their 2024/25 program nomination, regardless of competition results or ranking based on the Selection Criteria (outlined in Sections 23 – 26 in the Selection Process, below).

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 16 – 20, below, and the Selection Criteria, outlined in Sections 23 – 26 below. The deadline to complete benchmarks will align with the Selection Period of this Selection Protocol, ending on April 31, annually.

SELECTION ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

Athletes wishing to be **considered** for selection to the CS SBX HPP must meet all of the 'Eligibility Criteria' as outlined in this document and within the CS HPP General Policy. These 'Eligibility Criteria' are the minimum standards, requirements, benchmarks and conditions athlete must meet or demonstrate in order to be considered **eligible for selection**.

In accordance with Sections 16-20 in this document, an athlete wishing to eligible for selection may (on a case-by-case basis) qualify for exemptions to specific requirements outlined in the Eligibility Criteria.

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 in Section 23-25, below). This ranking determines the priority order of athletes for the available team positions.

SBX HPP General Eligibility Criteria

16. 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 Individualized Performance Plan (IPP) for the season just concluded by April 15, 2025, to:
kim.krahulec@canadasnowboard.ca
 - i. The IPP should be in line with current sport norms and CS's LTD framework, and shall include:
 1. the athlete's Yearly Training Plan (YTP);
 2. the athlete's yearly goals and performance gaps;
 3. a description of the athlete's ancillary programming (e.g. Sport Science / Sport Medicine); and
 4. 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 IPP for each current National Team or NextGen athlete. If an athlete primarily trains with a coach other than a coach provided by CS, it remains the responsibility of the athlete to ensure their IPP is submitted on time and meets the above noted requirements.
 - iii. All other athletes are responsible for personally submitting their application in accordance with this Section(16.b).
 - c. Must, on a case-by-case basis and when deemed necessary, satisfy all criteria that may impact their ability to demonstrate meeting the minimum National Team or NextGen Program Eligibility Criteria, including:
 - i. Section 17(c) related to Maximum Total Number of Program Years; and/or
 - ii. Section 19 related to NextGen Age Limit Exemptions; and/or
 - iii. Section 20 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 competed in a minimum of six (6) FIS Continental Cup level or higher events in the program year just ended.

National Team Eligibility Criteria

17. In addition to meeting all the HPP General Eligibility Criteria (Section 16), 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 2025 SBX World Cup Overall Standings; or
 - ii. A rank within the Top 35 Men or Top 24 Women on the 2026 FIS Base Points List (SBX); or
 - iii. A Top 8 (Men or Women) final individual result at the 2025 FIS SBX World Championships (WCH) (only applicable if a WCH was held during the program year just ended);

Note: a WCH will be held during the 2024/25 competitive season, and as such, the eligibility criteria listed in Section 17(b)(iii) is applicable for 2025-26 National Team eligibility.

- c. Athletes who are named to the SBX National Team are expected to progress and

maintain Top 8 international performances 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 2024/25 program year must satisfy the following 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 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 identified by the National Team coaches. The athlete will have to meet these benchmarks 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 2025/26 program year and are put in place to ensure that the athlete progresses towards podium performances at marquee competitions (WCH/OWG).

NextGen Program Eligibility Criteria

18. In addition to meeting the HPP General Eligibility Criteria (Section 16), to be **eligible** for selection to the Snowboardcross NextGen Program, an athlete:
 - a. Must not exceed the FIS-defined junior age by more than five (5) years. Specifically, for the 2024/25 season, the FIS Junior Age Cut-off is December 31, 2005 ([per FIS ICR - Rule 2013](#)). Therefore, athletes must have a birthdate between January 1, 2000, and December 31, 2009, the FIS-defined minimum age (FIS ICR Rule 2011.3).
 - i. Athletes born on or before December 31, 1999 exceed this age limit, but may apply for a one-time age exception (see Section 19);
 - b. Must not have been previously named to the SBX National Team for 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 SBX List (as of the end of the Selection Period); and
 - d. Must have results that are tracking towards Top 8 performances at international level events (WC, WCH, or OWG) within the next four (4) years, and podium finishes within the next eight (8) years. This is evaluated by the Selection Committee, in their sole discretion, and informed by comparing the athlete's SBX rank and points on the most recently published FIS Points List (as of the end of the Selection Period) to the performance targets on the SBX PRT.

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 2024/25 program year. This total does not include the 2025/26 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 2024 World Cup Overall Rankings to the 2025 World Cup Overall rankings. An athlete will be considered to have demonstrated progression if their 2025 World Cup Overall ranking has improved over their 2024 World Cup Overall ranking and if these rankings are demonstrating a trend towards being ranked within the Top 8 in the 2026 World Cup Overall standings, as determined by the Selection Committee in their sole discretion.

Exemptions Eligibility Requirements

19. As an exception to the NextGen Maximum Age Limit (Section 18(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 18(a-d) above (save for the maximum age);
 - c. The athlete must have been a named member, in good standing of the NextGen Program for the past two (2) consecutive program years (2023/24 and 2024/25);
 - d. The athlete must have a PRT within for the past two (2) competition seasons indicating they are one (1) year from meeting current National Team Eligibility Criteria. The PTR is 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 2025 SBX Overall WC Standings;
 - ii. A rank of Top 50 Men or Top 40 Women on the 2026 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, 2025.
 - i. 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.
 - ii. The submission should include evidence and rationale that supports how their performance over the last two (2) years is tracking towards meeting the current National Team Eligibility Criteria within one (1) year.
20. In the event that a health-related reason prevents a current HPP athlete from participating in training or competitive activities during the 2024-25 program year, an athlete may be entitled to a health-related curtailment exemption to the 2025/26 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 (including 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 the minimum number of six (6) or more individual competition starts 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 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 to the HPP at the program level pre-injury, and any affected year(s) will not be counted towards the total number of HPP Program years.

21. An athlete who does not meet the eligibility criteria set out in Sections 16 - 20 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

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

Level 1: FIS World Cups (WCs), Senior World Championships (WCH), Olympic Winter Games (OWG), and World Cup Overall Tour Standings.

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

Team Event results will not be considered for the Selection Process when selecting athletes to the SBX HPP.

SELECTION PROCESS AND CRITERIA

SNOWBOARDCROSS NATIONAL TEAM (NT)

23. Except as otherwise stated herein, the order in which eligible athletes are selected for available Snowboardcross National Team positions will be based on the Selection 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.

24. 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 26 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 select any athletes to the Snowboardcross National Team or NextGen HPP 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 6.

PRIORITY 1

National Team 'Tier A'

- One (1x) Podium at a Level 1 event; and
- Top 8 Ranking in the 2025 Snowboardcross Overall World Cup Standings.

Eligible athletes will be ranked within the priority by their eligible podium results. Eligible athletes with multiple podium finishes will be ranked higher (e.g. an athlete with three podium results will be ranked ahead of an athlete with one), and athletes with the same number of podium finishes will be ranked by the aggregate total of their final podium results.

PRIORITY 2

National Team 'Tier B'

- One (1x) Top 6 final result at a Level 1 event; and
- Top 12 Ranking in the 2025 Snowboardcross Overall World Cup Standings.

Eligible athletes will be ranked within the priority by their eligible Top Six (6) final results. Eligible athletes with multiple Top Six (6) results will be ranked higher (e.g. an athlete with three Top Six (6) results will be ranked ahead of an athlete with two).

PRIORITY 3

National Team 'Base Level'

- Top 32 Men/Top 16 Women in the 2025 Snowboardcross Overall World Cup Standings.

Eligible athletes will be ranked within the priority by their final result on the 2025 Snowboardcross Overall World Cup standings.

Tie Breaking Method (Priority 1 - 3): In the event of a tie in the result(s) in the implementation of the above Selection Process, the tie will be broken by using the tied athlete's single best percentile of field placing. If the athletes are still tied, the process will continue using the athlete's second best percentile of field placing, third best, and so on, until the tie is broken. Only final results from eligible competitions obtained during the Selection Period will be considered.

In determining an athlete's field placing, Canada Snowboard will use the following calculation:

$X/Y = P\% \times 100$, where "X" is the athlete result and "Y" is the final field depth

NOTE: The Final Field Depth is the number of competitors who started in the competition including the number competitors who Did Not Finish (DNF) or were Disqualified (DSQ) and excludes competitors who Did Not Start (DNS).

Aggregate Total Ranking Example: The aggregate (whole sum) of the athletes' podiums will be added together to generate a final number used for ranking purposes. As an example, Athlete A has four (4) eligible podium results (1x 1st, 2x 2^{ed}, 1x 3rd) and Athlete B has four (4) eligible podium results (2x 2^{ed}, 2x 3rd). Athlete A's aggregate total would equal eight (8) (1+2+2+3) and Athlete B's aggregate total would equal ten (10) (2+2+3+3). The athlete with the lower aggregate total sum, in this example Athlete A, would be ranked ahead (higher) than Athlete B.

SNOWBOARDCROSS NEXTGEN PROGRAM (NG)

25. Athletes selected to the Snowboardcross NextGen Program will receive guidance from the CS National Team Coach(es) to develop an IPP and YTP. This plan will outline areas of collaboration and support provided by the National Team during training camps and World Cup competitions to which the athlete is invited to or is forecasted to qualify for. During these identified times, the athlete will be invited to work directly with the CS National Team Coach(es) under the supervision of the National Team program.

NextGen athletes will continue to be coached and supported by their Provincial Club/Personal Coaches when not otherwise with the National Team. If an athlete primarily trains with a coach not provided by CS, or if the athlete's IPP/YTP reflect an environment that has a primary focus which falls outside of the National Team Environment, the athlete is responsible for informing CS of their personal coach and participating in a planning meeting prior to signing the Canada Snowboard Athlete Agreement. This ensures the athlete's IPP/YTP for the 2025/26 season can be optimized, areas of collaboration and services can be identified, and consensus is reached between the CS HPP coaching staff, the athlete, and the athlete's private coach to meet the above noted requirements.

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 2025/26 season from their 2024/25 NorAm Overall Tour results and/or are the 2025 SBX Junior World Champion.

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 26 below, and rank the athletes to establish the order in which available positions within the Snowboardcross NextGen Program will be offered.

PRIORITY 1

NextGen 'Tier A'

- One (1x) Top 12 Women / Top 24 Men final result at a Level 1 event (WC or WCH);
- One (1x) Top 4 Women / Top 8 Men final result at the 2025 JWCH; or
- One (1x) Top 3 Women / Top 6 Men final result at a Europa Cup (EC) event.

Eligible athletes will be ranked within the priority according to their best eligible result according to the athlete's field placing expressed as a percentage of the field that meets the performance criteria outlined in Method A above. In determining an athlete's field placing, Canada Snowboard will use the following calculation: $X/Y = P\% \times 100$, where "X" is the athlete result and "Y" is the final field depth. In calculating the final percentages, the calculation will include two decimal placements (to the hundredth). DNFs and DSQs are counted when determining the field depth as those competitors started in the event; however, DNS does not count toward determining the field depth and will be removed from the calculation.

PRIORITY 2

NextGen 'Tier B'

- One (1x) Top 16 Women / Top 32 Men final result at a Level 1 event (WC or WCH), otherwise known as 'advancing to the final round';
- Two (2x) x Top 8 Women/ Top 12 Men final results at Europa Cup events; or
- 1st Place Women / Top 3 Men in 2024/25 NorAm Overall Tour standings.

Eligible athletes will be ranked within the priority according to their best eligible result according to the athlete's field placing expressed as a percentage of the field that meets



the performance criteria outlined in Method B above. In determining an athlete's field placing, Canada Snowboard will use the following calculation:

$X/Y = P\% \times 100$, where "X" is the athlete result and "Y" is the final field depth

NOTE: The Final Field Depth is the number of competitors who started in the competition including the number competitors who Did Not Finish (DNF) or were Disqualified (DSQ) and excludes competitors who Did Not Start (DNS).

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 the Top 16 Women (Quarterfinal: 1/4) / Top 32 Men (Eighth final: 1/8). 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 during the 2024/25 FIS competitive season, then only results from the Europa Cup will be considered for NextGen Team Selection as eligible results from the Continental Cup. In this case, results from the NorAm Overall Ranking will not be considered. 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.

Tie Breaking Method (Priority 1 - 2): In the event of a tie in the result(s) in the implementation of the above Selection Process, the tie will be broken by using the tied athlete's single best percentile of field placing. If the athletes are still tied, the process will continue using the athlete's second best percentile of field placing, third best, and so on, until the tie is broken. Only final results from eligible competitions obtained during the Selection Period will be considered.

In determining an athlete's field placing, Canada Snowboard will use the following calculation:

$X/Y = P\% \times 100$, where "X" is the athlete result and "Y" is the final field depth

NOTE: The Final Field Depth is the number of competitors who started in the competition including the number competitors who Did Not Finish (DNF) or were Disqualified (DSQ) and excludes competitors who Did Not Start (DNS).

ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS FOR SELECTION TO THE SNOWBOARDCROSS HPP

26. Where the Selection Committee determines, in its sole discretion, that further consideration is required in addition to the 'Selection Process' outlined in Sections 23 –

25, the Selection Committee may conduct a performance analysis of each eligible athlete, or some of them, in their sole discretion. The Selection Committee may have regard to some, none, or all of the following performance considerations, in their absolute discretion:

- 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 identified in the athlete's IPP and YTP;
- The athlete's performance curves compared to available CS PRT data;
- The athlete's technical skills, physical capacities and capabilities, 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 athlete's and coach training logs and engagement within their IPP and 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 23 – 25 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

27. 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.

28. 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 31 and 32, 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 and FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

29. Selection to the Snowboardcross National Team or NextGen program does not automatically provide an athlete entry for Continental Cups, World Cups, World Championships (Senior and Junior) and Olympic Winter Game competitions, or automatically provide Athlete Assistance Program (AAP) carding or other funding support.
30. 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

31. Final decisions on athlete selection shall be ratified by the Vice President, Sport of CS, 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 Appeal Policy EN.pdf](https://www.canadasnowboard.ca/files/Canada%20Snowboard%20Appeal%20Policy%20EN.pdf)

34. 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

35. 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.
36. 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.
37. In the event of circumstances outlined in Section 34 the Canada Snowboard High Performance Director, Speed will (where possible) consult with the CS Vice President, Sport to determine if the circumstances justify competition or nomination should take place in an alternative manner (a revised protocol). 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 recommendations, for approval to the CS Vice President, Sport in accordance with the revised protocol.
38. 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.