



SELECTION PROTOCOL 2017 FIS SNOWBOARD WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS

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A. INTRODUCTION:

1. The 2017 FIS Snowboard World Championships will take place in Sierra Nevada, SPA on March 6-19, 2017.
2. Canada Snowboard, through its membership in the Canadian Snowsports Association (CSA), is granted by the FIS the right to enter eligible athletes in FIS sanctioned Snowboard events, including World Championships. Athletes who are not eligible, as established by the FIS and its member national associations, may not participate in FIS sanctioned events.
3. This document sets out the process for identifying those athletes who will be invited by Canada Snowboard to participate in the 2017 FIS Snowboard World Championships in the disciplines of:
 - a) Slopestyle & Big Air (SBS & BA)
 - b) Alpine (PAR)
 - c) Snowboardcross (SBX)
 - d) Halfpipe (HP)
4. For information on the selection process for events not covered by this document (World Cups, Jr. World Championships & Olympics), please refer to the relevant Selection Protocol section on the Canada Snowboard 'Document Centre': <http://www.canadasnowboard.ca/en/docs/>.
5. Any exceptions to the procedures set out in the Selection Protocol must be based on the general policies of the Canada Snowboard High Performance Program. The HPP general policies can be found in the Document Centre on the Canada Snowboard website at: <http://www.canadasnowboard.ca/en/docs/?category=General+Policy>
6. Final decisions in regards to athlete selection for the 2017 FIS World Championships shall be ratified by the Executive Director on the basis of recommendations by the World Championships Selection Committee, which shall consist of the Sport & HPD, and the HPP Manager(s) with technical input provided by the National team coaches.

B. TERMS

7. The following abbreviated terms are used in this Selection Protocol document:
- a) FIS: Fédération Internationale de Ski
 - b) NSO: National Sport Organisation
 - c) HPP: High Performance Program
 - d) WCH: World Championships

C. ELIGIBILITY

8. To be eligible to participate in the 2017 FIS Snowboard WCH, an athlete must:
- a) Be a member in good standing with Canada Snowboard and their recognized Provincial or Territorial Snowboard Association (PTSA);
 - b) Be a member of the 2016-17 Canada Snowboard HPP (**Important Note:** Due to the open selection process, Freestyle athletes do not need to be a member of the HPP; however, they must sign a Canada Snowboard Athlete Agreement in order to compete);
 - c) Have a valid FIS license;
 - d) Have purchased the appropriate class of CSA/NSO Sport Accident Insurance (SAIP); and
 - e) Have a valid Canadian Passport.

D. ALLOCATION OF COMPETITIVE OPPORTUNITIES

9. The number of competitive opportunities available to Canada Snowboard is established by FIS and is described as the 'Canadian Quota' for that event. Although FIS establishes the quota, Canada Snowboard reserves the right to offer fewer competitive opportunities, that is, allocate fewer athletes than the number designated as the 'Canadian Quota'.
10. Each NSO recognized by FIS may enter a maximum of 36 athletes in the WCHs, with the following restrictions:
- a) Maximum of 4 athletes per event; and
 - b) Maximum of 20 athletes per gender.
11. The nations' quota will be allocated using the FIS points list at the time of the provisional team selection on February 15th, 2017.
- a) For Basic Qualification (BQ) one competitor can be entered with a minimum of 5 FIS points in Alpine (PAR), Halfpipe (HP), Big Air (BA) and 10 FIS points in SS. For Additional Qualification (AQ), competitors must have a minimum of 50 FIS points.
 - i. The Slopestyle or Big Air FIS points, whichever is higher, will be

considered for participation in BA.

- b) The allocation will be made by assigning one quota place per nation that fulfills the basic quota requirement. The remaining spots will be allocated by assigning one quota place per competitor from the top of the FIS points list downwards until the maximum is reached. Once a nation has achieved the maximum of four quota spots per gender/event its remaining competitors will no longer be counted and the next eligible nation on the FIS points list will be allocated a quota.
- c) The field size for Slopestyle is set at a maximum of 90 competitors and is limited to a maximum of 3 heats per discipline and 30 competitors per heat and gender. Quota allocation per nation will be capped at the maximum amount of 90 participants for Slopestyle.
- d) This can be referenced online at:
http://www.fis-ski.com/mm/Document/documentlibrary/MajorEvents/08/58/09/FISRuleprecisionsspecifictotheFISFreestyleSkiandSnowboardWSC2017inSierraNevada_English.pdf

12. Due to the overall maximum team size, the 4th ranked athlete, per gender per event, will be compared by a multi-discipline ranking from the 2016/17 season up until February 15, 2017. Eligible placings will be defined as FIS World Cups (speed) and WSPL (World Snowboarding Points List) Elite or International events worth a minimum of 700 WSPL Points (freestyle).

The Athletes will be ranked as follows:

- a) Taking the athlete's two (2) best results from eligible events. In the event of a tie, then the athlete's single best result will be used.
- b) If a tie still remains, the athlete with the next highest placing at an eligible event that breaks the tie will be selected.

E. SELECTION PROCESS

13. The Selection Date for the 2017 World Championships team is February 15, 2017.

14. Eligible athletes will be ranked by discipline according to gender based on the process outlined below:

- a) Athletes meeting selection for Slopestyle will also be selected to compete in Big Air; and
- b) Athletes meeting selection in Alpine (PGS or PSL) will compete in both events at the WCHs.

Snowboardcross

15. Priority in the allocation of competitive opportunities will be given to the top performing athletes by gender based on their results from the following 2016/17 FIS World Cups:

- Montafon, AUT - World Cup (Dec 15-18, 2016)
- Park City, USA - World Cup (Jan 19-26, 2016)
- Feldberg, GER - World Cup (Feb 9-12, 2016)

Should the above SBX FIS World Cup schedule change, then all 2016/17 SBX FIS World Cup results until Feb 15th, 2017 will be considered.

Athletes will be ranked by their best two (2) World Cup results.

16. Remaining Competitive opportunities for the 2017 FIS WCH will be awarded to eligible athletes who achieve the following:

- Men – Quarter-final result at a 2016/17 World Cup
- Ladies – Semi-final result at a 2016/17 World Cup

In the event of a tie in the rankings, the athlete with the single best result from the qualifying period will be ranked ahead. This process will be continued until the tie is broken.

Alpine

17. Athletes must achieve a single top 6 result at the following events to be eligible for selection:

- Le Relais, QC, CAN - 2x PSL Noram (January 5-6, 2017)
- Steamboat, CO, USA - PGS/PSL Noram (January 14-15, 2017)

18. The first priority in the allocation of competitive opportunities to eligible athletes will be given to the top performing athletes by gender and will be based on their results from the following 2016/17 FIS World Cups:

- Carezza, ITA - PGS World Cup (Dec 15, 2016)
- Cortina, ITA - PSL World Cup (Dec 17, 2016)
- Rogla, SLO - PGS World Cup (Jan 28, 2017)
- Bansko, BUL - PGS World Cup (Feb 4, 2017)
- Bokwang, KOR - PGS World Cup (Feb 12, 2017)

Athletes need to qualify into a second run at one of the above 2016/17 World Cups.

Athletes will be ranked by their best two (2) results from the above 2016/17 World Cups.

NOTE: Only the events listed above will be used towards selection. Should the above FIS World Cup schedule have any events added or cancelled, they will not count towards athlete ranking for selection.

In the event of a tie in the rankings, the athlete with the single best result from the qualifying period will be ranked ahead. This process will be continued until the tie is broken.

Halfpipe

19. Athletes will be ranked, by gender, according to the Halfpipe World Snowboarding Points List (WSPL) at the time of selection (February 15, 2017). Athletes will be ranked in order of highest to lowest number of points.
- Athletes must have a minimum of 200 points on the Halfpipe WSPL in order to be eligible for selection
 - In the event of a tie in the rankings, the athlete that scored the highest number of points at a single event will be ranked ahead. . In the event that the athletes are still tied, the athlete that scored the next highest number points at a single event will be ranked ahead. This process will be continued until the tie has been broken.

Slopestyle & Big Air

20. Athletes will be ranked, by gender, according to the Slopestyle World Snowboarding Points List (WSPL) at the time of selection (February 15, 2017). Athletes will be ranked in order of highest to lowest number of points.
- Athletes must have a minimum of 200 points on the Slopestyle WSPL in order to be eligible for selection.
 - In the event of a tie in the rankings, the athlete with the higher ranking on the Big Air WSPL will be ranked ahead. In the event that the athletes are still tied, the athlete that scored the highest number of points at a single Slopestyle event will be ranked ahead. In the event that the athletes are still tied, the athlete that scored the next highest number of points at a single Slopestyle event will be ranked ahead. This process will be continued until the tie has been broken.

F. SPECIAL RANKING CONSIDERATIONS

21. Selection rankings notwithstanding, Canada Snowboard may at any time withhold competitive opportunities for any given athlete as per the *"HPP Protocol for Return to Competition Protocol"* (General Policy).
22. Selection rankings notwithstanding, Canada Snowboard shall have the discretion to select athletes to participate in an order other than that indicated by the rankings. Canada Snowboard shall also have the discretion to select fewer male or female athletes than the maximum quota provided by FIS. The grounds for any such decisions must be clearly detailed by the Selection Committee in their meeting minutes and must be in accordance with the General Policies of the *High Performance Program*. The General Policies are posted on the Canada Snowboard website within the *"Document Centre"*.

Special Ranking Considerations include, but are not limited to the following examples:

- The athlete's level of physical conditioning evaluated in terms of the "Strength & conditioning Minimum Standards" established for the High Performance Program and available for review at:
<http://www.canadasnowboard.ca/files/Strength&ConditioningMinStandards.pdf>
- The athlete's level of technical skill will be evaluated in terms of the HPP Technical Skills Chart and Athlete Development Matrix. Benchmarks are determined by performance demands of each discipline according to the Gold Medal Profile.
- 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 considered by the selection committee to be a factor in the attainment of or failure to attain results.
- Gaps in the points used to rank athletes, which may be taken to represent a significant gap in performance ability. A gap will be defined as a 5% change of the maximum allowance of points. For instance, if using the FIS Points system (1000 Point Maximum) three athletes have 100, 97, and 96 points respectively, and the next ranked athlete has 45 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.
- An athlete who is showing very strong results may be moved higher than their calculated ranking.
- An athlete who shows excellent physical characteristics (measured in testing) or technical capability may be moved higher than her or his calculated ranking.
- An athlete who has failed to capitalize on numerous competitive

opportunities and is therefore not progressing towards the program goal may move lower than his or her calculated ranking.

G. HEALTH RELATED CURTAILMENT OF ACTIVITIES

23. There may be occasions when 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 discretion to replace this athlete with another eligible athlete.
24. Canada Snowboard may, at any time, require an athlete who is unable to participate in training or competition due to injury, to obtain a medical assessment from a team physician. The purpose of the medical assessment is to confirm the degree of the athlete's injury and to determine the expected timeline for the athlete's recovery.

H. COACHING

25. An athlete who is not coached by an official Canada Snowboard Coach may not participate in FIS Snowboard Events. The list of CS approved coaches can be found here:
<http://www.canadasnowboard.ca/en/programs/coaching/currentcoach/>.

Coaches registered outside of Canada may be approved on a case-by-case basis where the coach will need to accept and sign a reliability form and send a photo of their coaching membership for approval to Tyler Ashbee High Performance Manager at: tyler@canadasnowboard.ca. Any concerns with respect to this requirement should be addressed, at the earliest opportunity.

I. APPEALS

26. Any appeal of any decision of the Selection Committee 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: <http://www.canadasnowboard.ca/en/docs>.

J. GENERAL

27. Issues not otherwise covered by this Selection Protocol shall be resolved by Canada Snowboard's "*Dispute Resolution Policy*" which is available on the Canada Snowboard website at: <http://www.canadasnowboard.ca/en/docs>.