

U.S. Ski & Snowboard
ATHLETE SELECTION PROCEDURES
Olympic Winter Games in Beijing 2022
Nordic Combined
October 14, 2021

1. SELECTION SYSTEM

1.1. Provide the minimum eligibility requirements for an athlete to be considered for selection to the Team:

1.1.1. Nationality/Passport requirements:

Athlete must be a national of the United States at the time of nomination.

Athlete must hold a valid U.S. passport that will not expire for six months after the conclusion of the Games.

1.1.2. Minimum International Olympic Committee (IOC) standards for participation:

Any competitor in the Olympic Games must be a national of the country of the National Olympic Committee (NOC) which is entering such competitor. For additional information regarding an athlete who is a national of two or more countries, has changed his or her nationality or acquired a new nationality, refer to the Olympic Charter (Rule 41).

1.1.3. Minimum International Ski Federation (FIS) standards for participation (if any):

Only competitors who hold a valid and active USA-coded FIS license and who meet the FIS minimum eligibility standard of having gained at least one (1) FIS World Cup or Grand Prix point during their career, or at least one (1) Continental Cup point during the qualification period (July 1, 2020 - January 16, 2022).

Athletes eligible to participate must be born before January 1, 2007.

The complete FIS Qualification System for the 2022 Olympic Winter Games can be found at <https://www.fis-ski.com/en/inside-fis/document-library/winter-olympic-games#d0280cad70a89349d63820bb>.

1.1.4. Other requirements (if any):

- Athlete must be a current U.S. Ski & Snowboard member in good standing at the time of nomination.
- Athlete must successfully complete all Games Registration requirements by stated deadline.
- Any athlete age 18 or older will be required to undergo a background screen in accordance with the current [U.S. Olympic & Paralympic Committee \(USOPC\) Background Check Policy](#).
- Any athlete age 18 or older as of the Closing Ceremony will be required to complete the U.S. Center for SafeSport's online training.

1.2. Tryout Events:

1.2.1. Provide the event names, dates and locations of all trials, events and camps to be used as part of the selection process.

- All FIS Nordic Combined World Cup and Nordic Combined Continental Cup competitions held on or between November 13, 2021 and January 16, 2022 (hereafter, referred to as the "Selection Period") The schedule of competitions is posted at www.fis-ski.com.
- The 2022 Nordic Combined U.S. Olympic Trials to be held in Lake Placid, NY on December 24 & 25, 2021.

1.2.2. Provide event names, dates, locations and description of how athletes qualify for the trials, events and camps listed above in 1.2.1. (if any).

Qualification criteria for the 2021/2022 World Cup and Continental Cup is available at <http://www.usskiandsnowboard.org/sport-programs/criteria/nordic-combined-world-cup-criteria>.

All athletes who have met the minimum IOC, FIS, and U.S. Ski & Snowboard standards for Olympic participation (see 1.1.) before the 2022 U.S Olympic Trials will qualify to compete in the 2022 U.S. Olympic Trials.

1.3. Provide a comprehensive, step-by-step description of the method that explains how athletes will go through the selection process (include maximum Team size).

Team USA can qualify a maximum five (5) men to compete in the 2022 Olympic Winter Games according to the [FIS Qualification System](#).

The objective criteria (Phases 1 through 4) outlined below will be used to select a maximum of one less than the total number of quotas earned by the U.S. for the 2022 Winter Olympic Games.

In the event that only one quota spot is earned, Phase 1 of the objective criteria below will apply.

For example, if Team USA qualifies five (5) quotas, then four (4) athletes will be selected using Phase 1 to Phase 4 criteria. If Team USA qualifies four (4) quotas, then three (3) athletes will be selected using Phase 1 to Phase 4 criteria. Hereafter, this shall be referred to as the “Phases 1-4 Cap.”

Phase 1 – 2022 Olympic Trials for Nordic Combined

The winner of the 2022 Olympic Trials for Nordic Combined shall be nominated to the team.

Phase 2 – World Cup Top 10

Athletes who have achieved a top-10 World Cup individual result during the Selection Period (see 1.2.1.) shall be nominated to the team, unless application of this criteria would exceed the Phases 1-4 Cap, in which case U.S. Ski & Snowboard shall use the following tie-breaking mechanisms. Results earned during the Selection Period outlined above shall be used when referring to the below tie breaking mechanisms listed in order of priority:

- A. Single best World Cup placing
- B. Second best World Cup placing
- C. Third best World Cup placing
- D. Highest total World Cup points

Phase 3 – World Cup Standings

If quotas remain open after Phase 2, athletes ranked in [the FIS Nordic Combined World Cup Standing](#) as of January 16, 2022 shall be nominated to the team, in rank order, until the Phases 1-4 Cap is reached. U.S. Ski & Snowboard shall use the following tie-breaking mechanisms. Results earned during the Selection Period (1.2.1.) shall be used when referring to the below tie breaking mechanisms listed in order of priority:

- A. Highest total World Cup points
- B. Single best World Cup placing
- C. Second best World Cup placing
- D. Third best World Cup placing

Phase 4 – Continental Cup Points

If quotas remain open after Phase 3, athletes who achieve FIS Continental Cup points during the Selection Period (1.2.1.) shall be nominated to the team in [FIS Continental Cup Rank](#) order, until the Phases 1-4 Cap is reached. U.S. Ski & Snowboard shall use the following tie-breaking mechanisms. Results earned during the Selection Period shall be used when referring to the below tie breaking mechanisms listed in order of priority:

- A. Highest total Continental Cup points
- B. Single best Continental Cup placing
- C. Second best Continental Cup placing
- D. Third best Continental Cup placing

Phase 5 - Discretion

Athletes who meet the eligibility criteria defined in 1.1. but were not selected through the objective criteria in Phases 1 – 4 may submit a petition to the U.S. Ski & Snowboard Selection Committee to be considered for selection to the team via discretionary criteria (see Section 2 below for petitioning instructions as well as discretionary criteria to be used). The Selection Committee (defined in 2.3.) will review data on all eligible athletes who petitioned when considering the recommendations in order to fill all remaining quotas.

Team Events:

If Team USA qualifies the maximum of 5 (five) quota spots, the Nordic Combined Team Director will determine which 4 (four) athletes nominated to the 2022 U.S. Olympic Team will compete in the Team event at the Olympic Winter Games.

2. DISCRETIONARY SELECTION (if applicable)

2.1. Provide rationale for utilizing discretionary selection (if any):

Discretionary criteria will be utilized to determine athlete selections for Phase 5 as indicated in 1.3.

2.2. List the discretionary criteria and explain how they will be used (if any):

Any athlete who does not get selected through the objective criteria of Phases 1 – 4 above, meets the eligibility requirements of 1.1., and has indicated a potential for Olympic success based on the criteria below, may file a petition for the right to be considered for selection. Athletes (including those not nominated objectively due to

illness or injury) may petition for discretionary selection by submitting the applicable Olympic Athlete Petition form available at <http://usskiandsnowboard.org/sport-programs/criteria/olympic-winter-games-nordic-combined-criteria> and must state the specific injury, illness, unusual circumstance, or other rationale, and/or the performances to be considered.

The Selection Committee will review the available data on all athletes who submitted petitions and will consider the following criteria in any order when making selections:

1. **Competition Results:** FIS and US National Championship competition results from the 2020/2021 and 2021/2022 seasons.
2. **Best Predicted Finish:** The athlete or athletes who are most likely to finish with the highest placing in any of the events based on head-to-head competition record compared to other eligible athletes at FIS events during the 2021/2022 season.
3. **Medal Capable Athlete:** Indication of medal potential in future Olympic or World Championship competition (such as results at Youth Olympic Games or Junior World Championships) that would be materially enhanced by selection to the team.

The petition must be [submitted through the online process](#) before 5:00 PM Mountain time on January 16, 2022. All petitions received will be provided to the Selection Committee for their review and final decisions to be made on January 17, 2022. Athletes who submitted a petition will be informed of the Selection Committee's decision by email on January 17, 2022.

- 2.3. Provide the name of the committee that will be responsible for making discretionary selections, along with a complete list of the members' titles currently serving on the committee:

The following committee is responsible for making discretionary selections:

U.S. Ski & Snowboard Selection Committee Members:

U.S. Ski & Snowboard President & CEO

USANS Executive Director

U.S. Ski & Snowboard Nordic Combined/Ski Jumping Athlete
(approved by the Athletes' Council)

USANS Board Chair

USANS Board Athlete Representative (approved by the Athletes' Council)

Note: An independent observer of procedure appointed by the U.S. Ski & Snowboard Board of Directors will be present at the final selection meeting to

document the record but will have no voice during the selection discussion nor will the observer have a vote.

- 2.3.1. Specify the process that will be used to identify and handle any potential conflicts of interest involving a member of the committee.

Any member of the Selection Committee that has a possible conflict of interest must either recuse him/herself or disclose it to U.S. Ski & Snowboard's Ethics Committee prior to the start of the selection process. A conflict of interest exists when the Selection Committee member has a direct or indirect relationship, connection or affiliation, past or present, with an athlete in contention for the applicable team selection that could compromise the Selection Committee member's ability to participate in the selection process in an unbiased manner. If a conflict exists, the U.S. Ski & Snowboard Ethics Committee shall vet the conflict and make the final determination of whether that committee member must recuse him/herself from participating in discussions and/or voting. The Ethics Committee may determine that a Selection Committee member who has relevant and necessary information with respect to athlete performance, for example a national team coach or sport director, may, if requested by the Selection Committee, provide such information to the Selection Committee so long as such information is provided in a fair and unbiased manner and the Selection Committee member with the conflict of interest does not vote toward the final decision. The Selection Committee member should not otherwise influence other members of the Selection Committee in the selection process.

Additionally, any person (including any potentially impacted athlete or coach of a potentially impacted athlete) with a good faith belief that a Selection Committee member has a conflict of interest may report the alleged conflict of interest to U.S. Ski & Snowboard's Ethics Committee. Reports may be made anonymously. No committee member or U.S. Ski & Snowboard employee/contractor shall retaliate in any way against a person who, in good faith, reports an alleged conflict of interest.

A recused individual shall be replaced in accordance with U.S. Ski & Snowboard's Selection Committee appointment process.

3. REMOVAL OF ATHLETES

- 3.1. Prior to entry by name to the Local Organizing Committee by the USOPC, US Ski & Snowboard has jurisdiction over potential nominees.

An athlete who is to be nominated to the Team by U.S. Ski & Snowboard may be removed for any of the following reasons, as determined by U.S. Ski & Snowboard:

- 3.1.1. Voluntary withdrawal. Athlete must submit a written letter to the U.S. Ski & Snowboard CEO/Executive Director.
- 3.1.2. Injury or illness as certified by a physician (or medical staff) approved by U.S. Ski & Snowboard. If an athlete refuses verification of his/her illness or injury by a physician (or medical staff) approved by U.S. Ski & Snowboard, his/her injury will be assumed to be disabling and he/she may be removed.
- 3.1.3. Failure to participate in Mandatory Training and/or Competition as defined in Section 9 of these procedures.
- 3.1.4. Violation of the U.S. Ski & Snowboard Code of Conduct, which may be found online: <https://usskiandsnowboard.org/governance/policies>.

An athlete who is removed from the Team pursuant to this provision has the right to a hearing per U.S. Ski & Snowboard Bylaws (Article IX Section B) and the USOPC's Bylaws, Section 9.

- 3.2. Once athlete entries have been submitted to the Local Organizing Committee by the USOPC, the USOPC has jurisdiction over the Team, at which time, in addition to any applicable U.S. Ski & Snowboard Code of Conduct, the USOPC's Code of Conduct and Grievance Procedures shall apply. The USOPC's Code of Conduct is included in the Games Forms made available prior to the respective Games; the USOPC's Grievance Procedures can be found at: www.teamusa.org/Footer/Legal/Governance-Documents
- 3.3. An athlete may be removed as a nominee to the Team or from the Team for an adjudicated violation of IOC, WADA, FIS, USADA, and/or USOPC anti-doping protocol, policies and procedures, as well as the U.S. Center for SafeSport Code, the USOPC Athlete Safety Policy and U.S. Ski & Snowboard's Athlete Safety policies, as applicable.

4. REPLACEMENT OF ATHLETES

- 4.1. Describe the selection and approval process for determining replacement athlete(s) should a vacancy occur:
 - 4.1.1. Prior to submission of Entries by Name to the Local Organizing Committee, including any applicable group or committee:

If necessary, if an athlete is removed from the team for any of the reasons described in Section 3 above, the athlete may be replaced by the U.S. Ski & Snowboard Selection Committee using the selection processes specified in Sections 1.3. and 2. Any replacement of athletes must comply with these selection procedures, IOC, USOPC, and FIS regulations and entry deadlines.

- 4.1.2. After submission of Entries by Name to the Local Organizing Committee, including any applicable group or committee:

See above, same as Section 4.1.1. provided U.S. Ski & Snowboard is still authorized to add a replacement athlete to the Team and is in accordance with the FIS Qualification System and the IOC's Late Athlete Replacement policy.

5. SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

U.S. Ski & Snowboard will retain the approved Selection Procedures and all supporting documents, including scouting or evaluation forms, etc., and data from the selection process for six months past the date of the Closing Ceremony of the Olympic Games.

6. REQUIRED DOCUMENTS

In addition to the USOPC Code of Conduct, the following documents are required to be adhered to/signed by an athlete as a condition of nomination to the Olympic Games and can be found online [HERE](#) and [HERE](#):

- U.S. Ski & Snowboard Code of Conduct
- U.S. Ski & Snowboard Athlete Safety Policies & Guidelines

7. PUBLICITY/DISTRIBUTION OF PROCEDURES

The USOPC approved Selection Procedures (complete and unaltered) will be posted/published by U.S. Ski & Snowboard in the following locations:

- 7.1. U.S. Ski & Snowboard Website: www.usskiandsnowboard.org

These procedures will be posted as soon as possible, but not more than five (5) business days following notice of approval by the USOPC.

- 7.2. Other: USA Nordic website: www.usanordic.org

8. DATE OF NOMINATION

The Nomination of Athletes, including replacements, will be announced to all athletes and submitted to the USOPC on or before January 17, 2022.

9. MANDATORY TRAINING AND/OR COMPETITION

Specify the location, schedule and duration of mandatory training and/or competition:

Following the nomination of the team, mandatory training camps may be organized in preparation for the Olympic Winter Games. The dates, locations and organization of these training camps are unknown at this time. However, athletes will be notified at least thirty (30) days in advance of the mandatory training camp. Final arrangements will be confirmed immediately prior to any camp based on weather conditions and availability for the best opportunity to train.

Waivers from mandatory training and/or competitions are not permitted, unless there are extraordinary circumstances. In that case, it is reviewed and either accepted or rejected by the U.S. Ski & Snowboard Selection Committee (see Section 2.3). Any unexcused absence will serve as cause for removal from the 2022 U.S. Olympic Team with the right to a hearing pursuant to the U.S. Ski & Snowboard Bylaws and Grievance Procedures or Section 9 of USOPC Bylaws.

10. ANTI-DOPING REQUIREMENTS

Athletes must adhere to all IOC, WADA, FIS, USADA and USOPC anti-doping protocols, policies and procedures, as applicable. This includes participation in Out-of-Competition Testing as required by the IOC, WADA, FIS, USADA and USOPC rules, as applicable.

11. DEVELOPMENT OF SELECTION PROCEDURES

The following committee/group (include names and titles) was responsible for creating these Selection Procedures:

The following committee/group was responsible for creating these Selection Procedures:

Billy Demong	USANS Executive Director
Jed Hinkley	USANS Sport Director
Bryan Fletcher	USSA Athlete Board Representative

12. NGB/HPMO BYLAWS AND GRIEVANCE PROCEDURES

The U.S. Ski & Snowboard Bylaws and Grievance Procedures can be found at:
<https://usskiandsnowboard.org/governance/policies>

13. INTERNATIONAL DISCLAIMER

These procedures are based on IOC and FIS rules and regulations as presently known and understood. Any change in the selection procedures caused by a change in IOC and/or FIS rules and regulations will be distributed to the affected athletes immediately. The selection criteria are based on the latest information available to U.S. Ski & Snowboard. However, the selections are always subject to unforeseen, intervening circumstances, and realistically may not have accounted for every possible contingency.

If any force of nature, or force majeure, should cause the alteration or cancellation of any of the selection events listed in this document, these selection procedures will be revised, pursuant to their resubmission to the USOPC.

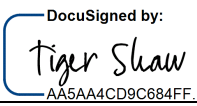

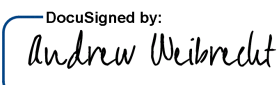
14. ATHLETE OMBUDS

The Athlete Ombuds Office provides cost-free, independent and confidential advice regarding athlete rights, grievance procedures and any other related guidance pertaining to selection procedures and can assist in mediating disputes between athletes and their NGB.

To contact the Athlete Ombuds Office:
 PHONE: (719) 866-5000
 EMAIL: ombudsman@usathlete.org
 WEBSITE: www.usathlete.org

15. NGB SIGNATURES

I certify that I have read and understand the standards/criteria set by FIS and incorporated those standards/criteria into our Selection Procedures. I further certify that the information provided herein regarding Athlete Selection Procedures represents the method approved by U.S. Ski & Snowboard.

Position	Print Name	Signature	Date	
U.S. Ski & Snowboard President or CEO/Executive Director	Tiger Shaw	DocuSigned by:  AA5AA4CD9C684FF...	10/15/2021	9:35 AM MDT
Nat. Team Coach, Head Coach, or Nat. Program Director	Billy Demong	DocuSigned by:  D6B69359BEF34E7...	10/15/2021	6:22 AM PDT
USOPC Athletes' Advisory Council Representative*	Andrew Weibrecht	DocuSigned by:  D6E12A88754242B...	10/15/2021	8:17 AM MDT

* If the USOPC AAC Representative has delegated authority to the Alternate AAC Representative to sign the Selection Procedures, attach a letter from the AAC Representative indicating the reason he/she has delegated authority.

* Signature by the Athlete Representative constitutes that he/she has read and understands the Selection Procedures. If the Athlete Representative reads and does not agree with the Athlete Selection Procedures being submitted by the NGB, he/she may submit those reasons in writing to his/her Sport Performance Team.

* If, for some reason, a sport does not have an elected USOPC AAC Representative, the NGB must designate an athlete from that sport to review and sign the Selection Procedures.