

## **US Ski & Snowboard**

### **2023 U.S. Men's Nordic Combined World Championship Team Selection Criteria**

#### **Eligibility for Consideration:**

USA Nordic Sport will consider for selection only those U.S. Ski & Snowboard members in good standing who have a valid U.S. passport, a valid FIS license and who meet FIS minimum eligibility standards.

U.S. Ski & Snowboard provides an equal opportunity to amateur athletes, coaches, trainers, managers, administrators, and officials to participate in amateur athletic competition, without discrimination on the basis of race, color, religion, age, sex, or national origin, and with fair notice and opportunity for a hearing before declaring any such individual ineligible to participate.

#### **Criteria Guidelines:**

- The USA Nordic Team Director is responsible for applying the selection criteria set forth herein, subject to the approval of the Chief of Sport of U.S. Ski & Snowboard.
- Objective selections shall be based on results in World Cup & Continental Cup (COC) competitions held between November 21, 2022 and February 06, 2023 (the "selection period").
- Up to four athletes may start for the United States in each of the events unless otherwise specified by the International Ski Federation (FIS). Assignment of start rights will be at the discretion of the USA Nordic Sports Nordic Combined Team Director.
- A minimum team size of 4 athletes will be named, a maximum of 5 athletes.
- Discretionary selections, if any, may be based on a variety of factors, including competitions conducted outside of the selection period.
- U.S. Nordic Combined World Championships Team status does not grant funding from U.S. Ski & Snowboard or USA Nordic.
- Selections will be made in the following order: Selection method 1, discretionary selection, and then selection method 2.

#### **Objective Criteria:**

Athletes may be selected to the team based upon their competition results during the selection period. Up to five athletes may be selected to the team based solely upon their World Cup & COC competition results during the selection period,

##### **Selection Method 1:**

1. Athletes who achieve a top 15 in Individual World Cup competition
2. Athletes ranking in the top 50 of the FIS 2022-23 World Cup Ranking List on Feb 6<sup>th</sup>, 2023 shall be selected to the team in order of their World Ranking.
3. Athletes who achieve a top 3 result in COC
4. Athletes who achieve an individual top 3 in Individual JWSC with the highest ranking result qualifying first

Athletes meeting the selection method #1 objective criteria shall be selected to the team, unless application of these criteria would result in a total of more than five objective selections, in which case, selection method 2 will be used.

#### **Discretionary Selection Policy:**

U.S. Ski & Snowboard may select additional athletes to the Team using coaches' discretion, using the factors below in order:

1. Recent positive direction or trend of competition results indicating a potential for World Championship success
2. Illness or injury during the selection period
3. Indication of medal potential in future Olympic or World Championship competition (such as international age group results and rankings) that would be materially enhanced by selection to the team

All discretionary selections will be documented, and appropriate forms will be available for record keeping purposes. All discretionary selections will be reviewed by a discretionary selection review group composed of the USANS CEO, USANS Board Chair, USANS Athlete Representative, U.S. Ski & Snowboard Board Chief of Sport, and the U.S. Ski & Snowboard Board Ski Jumping and Nordic Combined Athlete Representative. If the Athlete Representative is a currently competing athlete then another athlete, who is not actively competing, will be selected by the Athletes' Council to be the representative in this group.

Athletes may also petition directly to the Selection Committee to be considered for discretionary selection by submitting a petition in writing, including any rationale to the CEO of USA Nordic Sports, before 8:00 AM Mountain time on February 6, 2023.

Selection Method 2: Athletes best single best individual result will count for selection method #2

1. Best ranking on the most current FIS World Cup Nordic Combined Ranking List by Feb 6th, 2023.
2. Best WC result top 35
3. Best COC result top 5
4. Best WC result top 40
5. Best COC result top 8
6. Best WC result top 45
7. Best COC result top 10
8. Best WC result top 50
9. Best COC result top 13
10. Best WC result top 55
11. Best COC result top 15
12. Best WC result top 60
13. Best COC result top 18

Tie Breaking mechanisms:

- In the event of athletes achieving the same result on World Cup or COC, the athlete with the highest percent back from the winner will be used.

#### **Injury Clause:**

An athlete shall be ineligible for consideration if he/she is not fit to compete at the time selections are made due to any injury or illness from which he/she is not expected to recover adequately by the time of the competitions he/she has been selected for. Such determination shall be at the discretion of the USA Nordic Sports Team Director, Sport Director, Head Team Physician, in consultation with U.S. Ski & Snowboard Medical Director, and the athlete's designated physician.

#### **Athlete Replacement Procedure:**

In the case that an athlete that has been selected to the team becomes injured or ill prior to the World Championships and is unable to compete, no replacement athlete will be named unless it is deemed that there is sufficient time to make a replacement without disrupting the competition or preparation of other athletes and that the additional athlete would have sufficient time to properly prepare for the competition. This decision will be made by the USA Nordic CEO, the Nordic Combined Team Director, and Head Team Physician. Should an additional athlete be considered, the same criteria as outlined above shall be followed to select that athlete. No athletes will be named to the team following the conclusion of mandatory training or within two days of the start of the World Championships.

**Team Selection:**

Selection for the USA Nordic Combined WSC team will be made on or near Feb 7, 2023, the team selection will be posted to [www.usans.org](http://www.usans.org) and all athletes selected will be notified by the Nordic Combined Team Director.

**U.S. SKI & SNOWBOARD APPEAL AND GRIEVANCE PROCEDURES :**

Any member who believes that he/she has wrongfully been denied membership on any team whose members are selected through participation in “protected competition,” as that term is defined in the USOPC Bylaws, shall be entitled to appeal such a decision.

The U.S. Ski & Snowboard Grievance Procedures can be found within Article IX of the U.S. Ski & Snowboard bylaws found at: [usskiandsnowboard.org](http://usskiandsnowboard.org)

**ATHLETE OMBUDSMAN :**

Athletes who have questions regarding their opportunity to compete that are not answered by U.S. Ski & Snowboard may contact the USOPC Athlete Ombudsman, Kacie Wallace, by:

- • Telephone at (719) 866-5000
- • Toll-free telephone at (888) ATHLETE (1-888-284-5383)
- • E-mail at [kacie.wallace@usopc.org](mailto:kacie.wallace@usopc.org)
- • [www.athleteombudsman.org](http://www.athleteombudsman.org)
- • <http://www.teamusa.org/For-Athletes/Athlete-Ombudsman.aspx>