



## 2024-25 AERIAL TEAM NOMINATION CRITERIA

### ELIGIBILITY FOR CONSIDERATION

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

An athlete shall be ineligible for consideration if previously suspended or removed from team membership without being reinstated by U.S. Ski and Snowboard. An athlete who has previously declined an offer of team membership shall not be automatically offered team membership unless that athlete specifically requests consideration and the U.S. Ski and Snowboard Aerial Head Coach approves the request.

The U.S. Ski Team will select only the most qualified athletes with the greatest possibilities for winning medals in future World Championship and Olympic Winter Games competitions.

Athletes must demonstrate a capability to adhere to U.S. Ski and Snowboard Values and Code of Conduct to be eligible for nomination.

### CRITERIA GUIDELINES

- The Freestyle Sport Director is responsible for applying the selection criteria herein, subject to the oversight of the U.S. Ski & Snowboard Chief of Sport.
- Objective selections shall be based on the results achieved by athletes in FIS competitions held between December 2, 2023, and April 30, 2024 ("the selection period").
- Any athlete nominated must meet Degree of Difficulty (DD) requirements by completing the following minimum trick in the 2023-24 season:
  - Women: Full Full (FF)
  - Men: Full Double Full (FdF) or Double Full Full (dFF)
- Discretionary nominations, if any, may be based on various factors, including competitions conducted outside of the selection period.
- Team status does not guarantee U.S. Ski and Snowboard funding for competition or preparation.
- No minimum team size will be established.
- A maximum of fourteen (14) total athletes may be nominated, with a maximum of ten (10) A Team athletes using the objective criteria outlined below.
- Athletes will be nominated in the order of the listed objective criteria below until the maximum team size is reached.
- Athletes must be willing to commit to and participate in the full U.S. Ski Team camp and competition season structure.

### OBJECTIVE CRITERIA

Athletes meeting the following objective criteria during the selection period, which are listed in order of priority, may be selected for the A Team within the maximum team size limits outlined above.



### **A Team**

Athletes meeting the following objective criteria during the selection period, which are listed in order of priority, may be selected for the A Team within the maximum team size limits outlined above. All criteria qualification is based on **individual results** only.

- Any athlete achieving a podium in an Aerial World Cup (on snow) competition in the 2023-24 season.
- Any athlete achieving two (2) top six (6) results in an Aerial World Cup (on snow) competition in the 2023-24 season.

### **Rookie Team**

Athletes meeting the following objective criteria during the selection period, which are listed in order of priority, may be selected for the Rookie Team within the maximum team size limits outlined below. All criteria qualification is based on **individual results** only.

- An athlete who meets the objective criteria for the A team but is not nominated to the A team based on max team size.
- 2024 Aerial NorAm Grand Prix Champion
- An athlete who achieves two (2) top twelve (12) World Cup results
- An athlete who achieves four (4) top sixteen (16) World Cup results
- Any athlete achieving two (2) NA Podiums one (1) Junior World Championships podium

### **DISCRETIONARY SELECTION POLICY**

U.S. Ski & Snowboard may select additional athletes to the team using Coach's Discretion based upon factors other than the objective criteria. If the coaching staff selects any team nominations with discretionary selections, then the staff may consider any factors, including (but not limited to) the following:

- Illness or injury during the selection period.
- Indication of medal potential in future Olympic and World Championship competitions, which would be materially enhanced by selection to the team.

Renomination of any named team athlete by discretion will be based on objective performance benchmarks within the individualized Athlete Plan that exists for all named team athletes as established by U.S. Ski & Snowboard Staff.

### **ATHLETE INJURY CLAUSE**

Any athlete that has been objectively named to the team and sustains a season-ending injury (as declared by the High Performance Director) prior to February 1<sup>st</sup> will be re-nominated to their current team for the subsequent season. In certain exceptional cases, due to severe injury, certain athletes may be granted a two-year re-nomination to give them time to return to peak performance. Such a two-year re-nomination will be communicated to the athlete prior to the beginning of the selection period of the second year. Athletes sustaining an injury after February 1st who have not made objective criteria will be subject to a discretionary selection, which is not guaranteed. In this circumstance, the ranking at the time of injury will be considered in the decision for Coach's Discretion.



To retain current team status, an injured athlete must follow the prescribed rehabilitation or medical program and an approved return to performance on snow progression as approved by the U.S. Ski & Snowboard High Performance, the Freestyle Sport Director, and the Head Coach. Travel funding, team re-integration, and trip inclusion will be based upon passing Return to Performance tests and sport-specific competitive form as determined by the U.S. Ski & Snowboard medical, high performance, and coaching staff.

#### **IN-SEASON PROMOTION**

Athletes will not be promoted in season. No athletes will be demoted during the season; however, funding may be suspended at any time if progress or commitment is inconsistent with the team program and the athlete does not remain in good standing.

Dated: October 20, 2023