



**2026 Winter Olympic Games Selection Criteria
Freeski, Freestyle, & Ski Cross
Milano-Cortina, ITA February 16-22, 2026**

To: Elite Freeski, Freestyle, & Ski Cross athletes interested in participating in the qualification events for the 2026 Winter Olympic Games

From: U.S. Ski & Snowboard as the National Governing Body

RE: Preliminary Notice to the Athlete Selection Procedure for the 2026 Winter Olympic Games

Final criteria for the 2026 Winter Olympic Games in Milano-Cortina, ITA will be released in the spring of 2025. However, the opportunity exists for one (1) athlete per gender to qualify over the 2024/25 season for the disciplines listed below.

Freeski Halfpipe, Slopestyle, Moguls and Ski Cross:

U.S. Ski & Snowboard will nominate up to one (1) athlete per gender per discipline based on the following criterion: the top ranked U.S. athlete in the respective gender when ranked in the top three (3) world rank on the respective FIS Base List 2026. World rank retained due to injury protection (relating to injury, illness, pregnancy, or professional/military obligation) will not be eligible for this criterion.

Aerials:

U.S. Ski & Snowboard will nominate up to one (1) athlete per gender where the top ranked athlete is in the top three (3) at the end of the 2024/25 winter season based on winter snow events only. U.S. Ski & Snowboard will use the following process to calculate the top three (3):

1. A season score for each U.S. athlete will be calculated by the average of each athlete's two (2) best individual World Cup results on snow in the 2024/25 season.
2. A season score for the highest scoring three (3) international athletes (excluding U.S.) per gender will be calculated by the average of each athlete's two (2) best individual World Cup results in the 2024/25 winter season.
3. The season scores of all U.S. athletes plus the highest scoring three international athletes will be combined into one ranking list per gender.
4. If a U.S. athlete is ranked in the top three (3) on the combined ranking list in their respective gender, U.S. Ski & Snowboard will nominate that athlete.

*Please note that athlete results from the FIS Freestyle Ski Summer Grand Prix Series will be excluded from all calculations described above.



Ties on the FIS Base list in Aerials, Moguls, and Ski Cross will be broken by taking each athlete's next best result in the 2024-2025 World Cup Season or 2025 World Championship. This process may repeat as many times as needed to break the tie.

Ties on the FIS Base list in Slopestyle and Halfpipe will be broken by taking each athlete's next best result in the 2024-2025 World Cup Season, 2025 World Championship result, or a Winter X Games podium result. This process may repeat as many times as needed to break the tie.

This preliminary information is provided to assist athletes with their training and competition planning and is subject to change upon approval of the Athlete Selection Procedures for the 2026 Winter Olympic Games. Once approved, the Athlete Selection Procedures will be posted at <https://usskiandsnowboard.org/sport-programs/criteria>

If you have any questions or comments, please contact us. You can reach out to the following Sport Directors according to sport:

Freeski: Skogen Sprang skogen.sprang@usskiandsnowboard.org

Freestyle: Matt Gnoza matt.gnoza@usskiandsnowboard.org

Ski Cross: Chip Knight chip.knight@usskiandsnowboard.org