



2026 FIS SNOWBOARD JUNIOR WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS SS/BA, HP, RE – Calgary, CAN March 2 – 7, 2026

1. SELECTION CRITERIA GUIDELINES

U.S. Ski & Snowboard will select only the most qualified athletes with the greatest opportunity for winning medals at the 2026 FIS Snowboard Park and Pipe Junior World Championships (JWC) and future FIS Snowboard Park and Pipe JWC.

- a. U.S. Ski & Snowboard policy mandates that team selection criteria be principally objective (i.e., performance-based), but additional athletes may be selected using coaches' discretion.
- b. Selections shall be based on individual on snow results achieved by athletes in FIS competitions.
- c. No minimum team size will be established.
- d. Slopestyle (SS) and Big Air (BA) are considered a single event discipline and share a quota. Athletes selected will be eligible to compete in both disciplines.
- e. All qualifying competitions are governed by the international federation rules of competition. The international federation for snowsports, as recognized by the IOC, is FIS. All criteria as they relate to rules, regulations, and competition calendars are subject to change based on changes by FIS, the USOPC, and the IOC.
- f. All other U.S. Ski & Snowboard rules, including its [Code of Conduct](#), and the [U.S. Center for SafeSport Code](#) shall apply to the criteria and all participants.

2. ELIGIBILITY FOR CONSIDERATION

- U.S. Ski & Snowboard will consider for selection only those U.S. Ski & Snowboard members in good standing who have a valid U.S. passport and a valid USA-coded FIS license, and who meet the minimum eligibility standards.
- Athletes born in the years 2008-2012 are eligible to be selected for the 2026 FIS Snowboard Junior World Championships.
- All injured athletes must be cleared by a U.S. Ski & Snowboard- approved Sports Medicine provider before being considered for naming to the team.
- Athletes must hold the minimum FIS points on the discipline specific FIS points list or WSPL list valid on February 9th, 2026. The FIS and WSPL point minimums for JWC are listed below:
 - Slopestyle – 50 FIS points or 225 WSPL points
 - Halfpipe – 30 FIS points or 135 WSPL points
 - Rail Event – No FIS point minimum



3. TEAM SIZE

The total team size for each event discipline may be up to twelve (12) with a maximum of six (6) per gender. U.S. Ski & Snowboard may select any number of athletes up to the total number of start quotas as determined by FIS.

4. START RIGHT

- a. A maximum of six (6) men and six (6) women can start per event discipline.
- b. Athletes may be recognized and eligible for selection; however, they will only be registered upon commitment to attend this self-funded event and upon timely submission of a deposit in advance of the event. All athletes are responsible for cost-sharing the expenses of the team doctor and/or physical therapist/athletic trainer, team leader, and the coaches/staff for their respective discipline(s).

5. TEAM SELECTION PROCEDURE AND CRITERIA

The Freeski/Snowboard Development Director is responsible for applying the selection criteria herein, subject to the oversight of the U.S. Ski & Snowboard Chief of Sport. The 9th Snowboard FIS Points List 25/26 as well as head-to-head performance at the NorAm SS/BA competitions listed below will be utilized to select the team. The procedures are defined below.

A. Objective Selection Procedure

Slopestyle/Big Air – Up to four (4) athletes per gender will be selected to the team as follows:

- I. The two (2) highest ranking U.S. athletes per gender from the SS FIS points list valid on November 28th, 2025, will be selected to the team. The FIS Points list is available [HERE](#).

In the event of a tie, U.S. Ski & Snowboard will use results from the 2025/26 FIS events for the following tie-breaking mechanism listed in order of priority:

- Highest SS FIS Point Result
 - Second Highest SS FIS Point Result
 - Third Highest SS FIS Point Result
 - Fourth Highest SS FIS Point Result
- II. The two (2) highest ranking U.S. athletes per gender from the selection events below will be selected to the team as follows:



Athletes will score selection points, using the FIS World Cup point scoring system (100-point scale), in each selection event. Starting December 1st, 2025, through the conclusion of the final selection event as listed below, each athlete's SS scores and best (highest) BA score will be averaged to create a ranking list for selection in each discipline.

In the event of a tie, U.S. Ski & Snowboard will use the following tie-breaking mechanism listed in order of priority:

- Best Result (from the ranking list)
- Second best result (from the ranking list)
- Third best result (from the ranking list)
- Highest rank on the FIS Slopestyle list at the time of team selection

The selection events will include the following:

- Copper NorAm SS
- Stoneham NorAm SS
- Copper NorAm BA or Stoneham NorAm BA

Halfpipe – Up to four (4) athletes per gender will be selected to the team as follows:

- III. The two (2) highest ranking U.S. athletes per gender from the HP FIS points list valid on November 28th, 2025, will be selected to the team. The FIS Points list is available [HERE](#).

In the event of a tie, U.S. Ski & Snowboard will use results from 2025/26 FIS events for the following tie-breaking mechanism listed in order of priority:

- Highest HP FIS Point Result
 - Second Highest HP FIS Point Result
 - Third Highest HP FIS Point Result
 - Fourth Highest HP FIS Point Result
- IV. The two (2) highest ranking U.S. Athletes per gender from the Copper NorAm HP will be selected.

Rail Event – Up to four (4) athletes per gender will be selected to the team as follows:

- V. The two (2) highest ranking U.S. athletes per gender from the RE FIS points list valid on November 28th, 2025, will be selected to the team. The FIS Points list is available at [HERE](#).



In the event of a tie, U.S. Ski & Snowboard will use the results from the 2025/26 FIS events for the following tie-breaking mechanism listed in order of priority:

- Highest RE FIS Point Result
- Second Highest RE FIS Point Result
- Third Highest RE FIS Point Result
- Fourth Highest RE FIS Point Result

VI. The two (2) highest ranking U.S. athletes per gender from the Stoneham NorAm RE will be selected.

B. Summary of Discretionary Selection Policy

If quota spots remain after the application of objective criteria, U.S. Ski & Snowboard may select additional athletes to the Team as recommended by the discipline Rookie Team Head Coach to the Selection Committee, for any age-eligible athlete, using factors other than objective criteria, which include, but are not limited to, the following:

- i. Outstanding competition results (including results achieved outside of the selection period).
- ii. Recent direction or trend of competition results.
- iii. Illness or injury during the selection period from which they will recover in time for the JWC.
- iv. Other unanticipated failure of objective criteria to select an athlete likely to achieve competition results consistent with U.S. Ski & Snowboard program goals for the Junior World Championships.

The Selection Committee that will be responsible for making discretionary selections will include the following parties (identified by their title):

- U.S. Ski & Snowboard Director of Freeski/Snowboard Development
- U.S. Ski & Snowboard Snowboard Director
- U.S. Ski & Snowboard Board of Directors Athlete Representative - Snowboard

Conflicts of interest may arise for Selection Committee members during the Team selection process. Conflicts of interest exist when a Selection Committee member stands to individually benefit from a decision made by the Selection Committee. A conflict may arise, but is not limited to, when a Selection Committee member is in a position to participate in discussion or a vote concerning an athlete whom he or she coaches or trains privately who is being considered for a position on the Team. In the interest of ensuring a fair selection process, the following rules will be followed by the Selection Committee when a conflict of interest arises:

- Any member of the Selection Committee that has a possible conflict of interest must disclose it and must recuse themselves from the Selection Committee discussions and voting.



- The Selection Committee member should not otherwise influence other members of the Selection Committee in the nomination process. However, a committee member who recused themselves, but who has relevant and necessary information with respect to athlete performance, for example the sport of development director, may, if requested by the Selection Committee, provide such information to the committee so long as such information is provided in a fair and unbiased manner.
- If the U.S. Ski & Snowboard Board of Directors Athlete Representative is also a current competing junior athlete, then another athlete who is not actively competing in the junior category will be selected by the Athletes' Council to be the representative in this group.

C. Remaining Team Selection Criteria

If quota spots remain after the application of objective criteria and, if applicable, the application of discretionary criteria, any remaining team selections may be filled in order of next highest ranked eligible athlete not already selected to the team across both genders and all disciplines with remaining positions according to the Internal World Junior Ranking List selection event ranking list.

FIS Point minimums listed in Selection Procedure A for each discipline will apply in this Selection Procedure C.

6. ANNOUNCEMENT OF SELECTIONS

The U.S. Snowboard FIS Junior World athletes for Park and Pipe will be notified by February 9th, 2026. The Team will be announced on the U.S. Ski and Snowboard website.

7. REMOVAL OF ATHLETES

U.S. Ski & Snowboard may remove a selected athlete at any time at its sole discretion and may replace the vacancy pursuant to the above selection criteria.

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

- Voluntary withdrawal: Athlete must submit a written letter to the U.S. Ski & Snowboard Freeski/Snowboard Development Director.
- Medical disqualification: Injury or illness that limits the athlete from performing at their highest level (as determined solely by U.S. Ski & Snowboard coaching staff and Sports Medicine staff) may result in medical disqualification. Injury or illness



must be certified by a medical provider approved by U.S. Ski & Snowboard. If an athlete refuses verification of his/her/their illness or injury by an approved medical provider, his/her/their injury will be assumed to be debilitating and he/she/they may be removed.

- Violation of [U.S. Ski & Snowboard's Code of Conduct \(www.us skiandsnowboard.org\)](http://www.us skiandsnowboard.org).
- Non-compliance with the eligibility requirements listed in Section 2 of these selection procedures.

8. ATHLETES REPLACEMENT

Replacement of athletes due to circumstances listed in Section 7 will be complete according to the criteria outlined in Sections 5.A - C.

9. MEDICAL CLEARANCE

Athletes must attest to medical clearance in order to be eligible for event entry. If an athlete has been injured in season prior to departure for the Championships, additional clearance specific to that injury will be required from a U.S. Ski & Snowboard-approved Sports Medicine provider.

10. APPEAL AND GRIEVANCE PROCEDURES

The U.S. Ski & Snowboard Grievance Procedures can be found within section IX of the U.S. Ski & Snowboard bylaws found at: us skiandsnowboard.org

11. 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 Ombuds Office by:

- PHONE: (719) 866-5000
- EMAIL: ombudsman@usathlete.org
- WEBSITE: usathlete.org