



## HIGH PERFORMANCE PROGRAM SELECTION PROTOCOL ALPINE NATIONAL TEAM AND NEXTGEN TEAM: 2025-26

<b>Approval Authority:</b>	Vice President, Sport
<b>Responsible Department:</b>	High Performance
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<b>Related Policies:</b>	<a href="#"><u>HPP – General Policy*</u></a>

**\*Note: Canada Snowboard is revising the High Performance Program (HPP) General Policy as of the approval date of this Selection Protocol. Situations related to the revision of the HPP General Policy may arise that require this Selection Protocol to be modified. Any required modifications will be communicated as soon as possible and come into effect as of the publication date.**

### **INTRODUCTION**

1. The purpose of the “*High Performance Program Selection Protocol*” is to set out the process of:
  - a. Identifying and communicating athlete eligibility criteria required for selection to the 2025 -26 HPP in the Alpine Snowboard (ALP) discipline; and
  - b. Determining which athletes shall be offered positions (selected) to the 2025 - 26 Alpine Snowboard National Team or NextGen Program.
2. The High-Performance Program (HPP) consists of those athletes formally selected to the HPP by Canada Snowboard (CS or Canada Snowboard). These athletes are then eligible to receive support directly from CS. Athletes named to the HPP are recognized as members of CS’s National Team in the disciplines of Alpine, Snowboardcross, Para-Snowboard, Halfpipe, Slopestyle and Big Air; or are team members of a CS Development Group or CS NextGen Program within a given discipline.
3. This “*High Performance Program Selection Protocol*” has been drafted by the HPP Technical and coaching staff and reviewed by the Canada Snowboard Athletes Council, and approved by the Vice President, Sport (VPS) of Canada Snowboard prior to publishing the document on the document centre of the CS website.
4. This HPP Selection Protocol for the Alpine National Team and NextGen Team and other CS Selection Protocols are published on the ‘Document Centre’ page of the CS web site: <https://www.canadasnowboard.ca/en/docs/>



5. Athletes eligible for selection to the HPP are identified, ranked, and may be offered Alpine National Team or NextGen Team positions in accordance with the specific procedures set out in the 'Selection Process', which can be referenced in Sections 23 through 26 of this document.

## **OBJECTIVES**

6. The purpose of this document is to set out the process and criteria that will be used by CS to determine eligibility and select athletes to the CS 2025 - 26 Alpine Snowboard National Team and NextGen Team.

The ultimate goal is to field the most competitive and capable team, in a safe and ethical manner, and to achieve podium performances at FIS World Championships (WCH) and Olympic Winter Games (OWG).

In stating this ultimate performance goal, Canada Snowboard describes the objectives of the Alpine Snowboard National Team and NextGen Team as:

- a. **Alpine National Team Purpose:**

To provide Train to Win athletes with athletic program support. A Train to Win (T2W) athlete is described as being within the Train to Win (T2W) stage of the Long Term Development (LTD) framework and are trending towards podium performances at marquee competitions (WCH/OWG) within 1-4 years, and who are capable of making finals (Top 16) in World Cup (WC) competitions consistently at least 50% of the time. This is assessed through the discipline specific Podium Results Track (PRT), demonstrating the potential to achieve objective and consistent (>50%) Top 16 results at individual WC and/or WCH events. Additional evidence to support the PRT includes the 2025 Alpine Overall World Cup Standings which is based on individual results achieved at FIS World Cup competitions during the 2024/25 competition season.

**Event Focus:** FIS World Cup Tour (including WCH/OWG).

- b. **Alpine NextGen Team Purpose:**

To support athletes Learning to Win (L2W) at the international level, displaying year-over-year progress on the discipline specific Podium Results Track (PRT) and Canada Snowboard's Athlete Development Matrix (ADM). Typically, these athletes are 1 to 4 years away from a Top 8 result at individual World Cups and 5 to 8 years away from WCH and/or OWG podium performances. NextGen Athletes demonstrate consistent (at least 50% of the time) "Top Third ( $\frac{1}{3}$ ) of the field" results at FIS Continental Cups and, are within the Top Eight (8) at individual FIS Junior



World Championships and are trending towards moving into the second run (Top 32) in qualifications and qualifying for finals (Top 16) at individual World Cup events.

**Event Focus:** FIS Continental Cups, select international competitions (WCs) and the FIS Junior World Championships.

These objectives are the guiding principles that Canada Snowboard has taken into consideration when developing this Selection Protocol and will serve as the basis for guiding selection decisions made under this Selection Protocol.

For more information on the PRT or the Athlete Development Matrix (ADM), please contact the CS Podium Pathway Manager (PPM), Dave Balne at [dave.balne@canadasnowboard.ca](mailto:dave.balne@canadasnowboard.ca)

## **TERMS**

7. The following abbreviated terms are used in this Protocol:

- a. ADM: Athlete Development Matrix
- b. CS: Canada Snowboard
- c. EC: Europa Cup
- d. FIS: International Ski and Snowboard Federation
- e. HAP: Health and Athletic Performance
- f. HPP: High Performance Program
- g. IPP: Individual Performance Plan
- h. JWCH: Junior World Championships
- i. LTD: Long-Term Development framework
- j. NAC: North American Cup (NorAm)
- k. NG: NextGen
- l. NT: National Team
- m. OTP: Own The Podium
- n. OWG: Olympic Winter Games
- o. PAR: Parallel Discipline (PGS/PSL)
- p. PRT: Podium Results Tracking
- q. PGS: Parallel Giant Slalom
- r. PSL: Parallel Slalom
- s. WC: FIS World Cup
- t. WCH: FIS World Championships
- u. YTP: Yearly Training Plan
- v. DSQ: Disqualified
- w. DNF: Did Not Finish
- x. DNS: Did Not Start
- y. CSCP: Canadian Snowboard Coaching Program



## **GENERAL CONSIDERATIONS**

8. The Selection Committee will be composed of at least three (3) members from the HPP staff and the Alpine Snowboard National Team staff and coaches, including, but not limited to:
  - a. the Vice President Sport (VPS);
  - b. the High Performance Director – Speed, (HPD);
  - c. the Health and Athletic Performance Lead;
  - d. the Podium Pathway Manager (PPM);
  - e. the High Performance Coordinator (HPC); and
  - f. The Alpine Snowboard National and NextGen Team Coach(es).

If the Selection Committee determines additional input is necessary, input may be gathered from:

- g. HPP Health and Athletic Performance Staff Team (HAP), which may include strength coaches, physiotherapists, mental performance consultants, etc.; and/or
- h. Lead Canadian Coaches (such as the athlete's private coach).

Examples of situations where the Selection Committee may seek input from members outside of the Selection Committee to ensure that it has the necessary and relevant information to support the 'Selection Process' outlined in Sections 23 through 26 below include, but are not limited to: off-snow programming, injury management and return to snow plans, and when an athlete designates the use of a private coach as their primary coach, as referenced in Section 5 (5.o-5.w) of the Canada Snowboard Athlete Agreement. Individuals from outside of the Selection Committee are non-voting members.

The Selection Committee may consider the use of a non-voting, independent third-party to observe the Selection Process. The independent third-party observer must not have a conflict of interest, and could be:

- a) A retired athlete, or official; and/or
  - b) A professional within sport.
9. The Selection Committee will meet between April 15, 2025 (conclusion of the competitive season) and before May 31, 2025 (conclusion of the 2024-25 CS Athlete Agreement) to identify and rank athletes eligible for selection to the HPP for the 2025 - 26 program year. The Selection Committee's recommendations will be made to the Vice President, Sport (VPS) for final approval.
  10. The Selection Committee's recommendations to the VPS shall be made on the basis of the athletes' performances during the May 2024 - April 2025 competitive season (the "Selection Period").



11. All HPP athlete selections are valid for the duration of the HPP annual plan for the 2025/26 competitive season, typically one year, and ending on May 31, 2026. Selected athletes must continue to satisfy all eligibility and performance requirements, along with any other policy, procedure, or rule of CS as may be in place from time to time.
12. The maximum number of available positions in the Alpine HPP shall be identified by the Selection Committee at the outset of the 'Selection Process', as of the end of the Selection Period, annually. This number will be based on the program capacity of the HPP and these guiding principles:
  - a. Athlete to Coach ratio is at or below four to one (4:1);
  - b. A targeted team size of four (4) athletes named to the National Team;
  - c. A targeted team size of four (4) athletes named to the NextGen Team.
13. When determining an athlete's field placing, as referenced in this document, the result is not rounded to the nearest whole number because the priority is looking for an actual final finish position result. As a practical example, the dividing line between the top third (1/3) and the rest of the field in a final finish field depth of 58 competitors is at 19.33 so all those who finished 19th place or better are in the top third and those who finished beyond 20th are not. DNFs and DSQs are counted when determining the field size as those competitors started in the event; however, DNS does not count toward the field size and will be removed from the field size calculation.
14. Athlete rankings based on the Selection Process will ordinarily determine the order of selection for available HPP positions; however, the Selection Committee has the authority to recommend athletes for selection in an order other than that indicated by the rankings. The grounds for any such recommendations must be discussed by the Selection Committee, clearly documented, and must be in accordance with the document "High Performance Program - General Policies" located in the CS website's 'Document Centre' here:  
<https://www.canadasnowboard.ca/files/HPP-GeneralPolicies.pdf>
15. Some individual athletes currently named to the 2024-2025 Alpine National Team or NextGen Team have been given benchmarks as part of a Performance Addendum to their Athlete Agreement for the 2024-2025 program year. These performance focused benchmarks will act, in addition to the other applicable eligibility requirements and selection criteria outlined in this document, as a condition of their selection for the 2025-2026 program year. The benchmarks are identified by the HPP Coaching staff and include performance enhancement opportunities to support the athlete in progressing toward Olympic medal potential.

If the athlete is successful in meeting all of the benchmarks over the course of the current program year (2024/25) and they meet all of the applicable eligibility requirements



(outlined in Sections 15 – 18), they may be eligible to be named to the 2025/26 Alpine HPP program year, at the level of their 2024/25 program nomination, regardless of competition results or ranking based on the selection criteria (outlined in Sections 23 – 26 in the Selection Process, below).

If an athlete is unsuccessful in meeting the benchmarks as stated in the addendum to their Athlete Agreement, they may still be eligible for selection based on the eligibility requirements outlined in Section 16 – 20, below, and the Selection Criteria, outlined in Sections 23 – 26, below. The deadline to complete benchmarks will align with the Selection Period of this Selection Protocol, ending in April, annually.

Note: For greater clarity, all 2024/25 Alpine National Team or NextGen Team athletes who train with the coaching staff provided by CS have acknowledged an “Off-Snow Agreement” as an appendix to their Athlete Agreement which communicates expectations of off snow program engagement of the team. This appendix is not considered a Performance Addendum and as such, Section 15 is not applicable in this circumstance.

## **SELECTION ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS**

Athletes wishing to be **considered** for selection to the CS ALP HPP must meet all of the ‘Eligibility Criteria’ as outlined in this document and within the CS HPP General Policy. These ‘Eligibility Criteria’ are the minimum standards, requirements, benchmarks and conditions athlete must meet or demonstrate in order to be considered **eligible for selection**.

In accordance with Sections 16-20 in this document, an athlete wishing to eligible for selection may (on a case-by-case basis) qualify for exemptions to specific requirements outlined in the Eligibility Criteria.

Once identified, all athletes who are determined to be “**eligible for selection**” will be ranked based on the team-specific Selection Criteria (outlined in the Selection Process in Section 23-25, below). This ranking determines the priority order of athletes for the available team positions.

## **ALP HPP General Eligibility Criteria**

16. To be eligible for selection to the HPP, including the Alpine National Team and Alpine NextGen Team, an athlete:
  - a. Must be in "good standing" with Canada Snowboard and their Provincial/Territorial Snowboard Association, as that term is understood in Section 1.1(f) of the Canada Snowboard Bylaws, applied *mutatis mutandis*;
  - b. Must provide a copy of their Individualized Performance Plan (IPP) for the season just concluded to kim.krahulec@canadasnowboard.ca by April 15, 2025.



- i. The IPP should be in line with current sport norms and CS's LTD framework, and shall include:
  - a. the athlete's Yearly Training Plan (YTP);
  - b. the athlete's yearly goals and performance gaps;
  - c. a description of the athlete's ancillary programming (e.g. Sport Science / Sport Medicine); and
  - d. a periodized outline detailing how the athlete's program supported their goal attainment and/or closing performance gaps.
- ii. CS National and NextGen coaches will provide a IPP for each current National Team or NextGen athlete. If an athlete primarily trains with a coach other than a coach provided by CS, it remains the responsibility of the athlete to ensure their IPP is submitted on time and meets the above noted requirements.
- iii. All other athletes are responsible for personally submitting their application in accordance with this section (16b).
- c. Must, on a case-by-case basis and when deemed necessary, satisfy all exemption criteria that may impact their ability to demonstrate meeting the minimum National Team or NextGen Team Eligibility Criteria, including:
  - i. Section 17(c) or 18(f) related to Maximum Total Number of Program Years; and/or
  - ii. Section 19 related to NextGen Age Limit Exemptions; and/or
  - iii. Section 20 related to health-related curtailment of activities.
- d. Must have a current and valid FIS license (as of the end of the Selection Period) and the appropriate level of Sport Athlete Insurance Plan (SAIP);
  - i. National Team Athletes require minimum SAIP Level 1
  - ii. NextGen Team Athletes require minimum SAIP Level 2

### **National Team Eligibility Criteria**

- 17. In addition to meeting all the HPP General Eligibility Criteria (Section 16), to be **eligible for selection** to the Alpine National Team, an athlete:
  - a. Must have competed in a minimum of ten (10) FIS Continental Cup level or higher events in the program year just ended;
  - b. Must have achieved the following (as of the end of the Selection Period):
    - i. Must have a minimum of 225 FIS PAR Points on the most recently published FIS PAR Points List; and
    - ii. One (1) Top 16 final result at an eligible WC or WCH competition.
  - c. Athletes who are named to the Alpine National Team are expected to progress and maintain a Top 8 international performance in their discipline in order to maintain National Team status on an ongoing basis. As such, athletes who have been on the Alpine National Team for a total of five (5) years or more at the





conclusion of the 2024/25 program year must satisfy the following additional eligibility criteria to maintain their status on the National Team thereafter:

- i. Athletes who have been named to the Alpine National Team for a total of five (5) years or more (consecutive or non-consecutive)<sup>1</sup>, as of the end of the Selection Period must achieve each year thereafter, results at eligible World Cup competitions that satisfy at least one (1) of the two (2) performance criteria:
  1. One (1) Top 8 result; or
  2. Two (2) Top 16 results.

### **NextGen Program Eligibility Criteria**

18. In addition to meeting all the HPP General Eligibility Criteria (Section 16), to be **eligible for selection** to the Alpine NextGen Program, an athlete:
  - a. Must not exceed the FIS-defined junior age by more than five (5) years. Specifically, for the 2024-25 season, the FIS Junior Age Cut-off is December 31, 2005 (per [FIS ICR - Rule 2013](#)). Therefore, athletes must have a birthdate on or between January 1, 2000, and December 31, 2009, the FIS-defined minimum age (FIS ICR Rule 2013).
    - i. Athletes born on or before December 31, 1999, exceed this age limit, but may apply for a NextGen age exception (see Section 19), not more than twice in their career;
  - b. Must not have been previously named to the Alpine National Team for two (2) or more years (consecutive or non-consecutive)<sup>2</sup> unless they were younger than the FIS Maximum Junior Age Cut-off while named to the National Team;
  - c. Must have competed in a minimum of (8) Continental Cup level or higher events in the program year just ended;
  - d. Must have achieved the following combination of FIS Points, FIS Point PAR Rank and competition results on the most recently published FIS PAR Points List (as of the end of the Selection Period):
    - a. FIS Junior Age: 100 FIS PAR Points; or
    - b. Non-FIS Junior Age: 130 FIS PAR Points and One (1) Podium NAC or Top Six (6) EC.
  - e. Must have results that are tracking towards a PGS WC Top 8 result within the next 1-4 years, and PGS WC podium results in the next 5-8 years, as evaluated by the Selection Committee, in their sole discretion, and informed by the CS discipline specific performance analytics.

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<sup>1</sup> For greater clarity, in determining whether an athlete has been on the Alpine National Team or NextGen Team for five years or more, the years do not need to be consecutive. Total years on the Alpine National Team or NextGen Team must add up to a total of five years (or more) by the end of the 2024 /25 program year. This total does not include the 2025 /26 program year.

<sup>2</sup> Please see Note 1 above.





- f. Athletes who are named to the Alpine NextGen Team are expected to progress toward meeting the eligibility criteria of the Alpine National Team in order to maintain their NextGen Team status on an ongoing basis. Athletes who have been on the Alpine NextGen Team for a total of five (5) or more years at the conclusion of the 2024/25 program year must meet additional eligibility criteria in order to maintain their status on the NextGen Team thereafter. Specifically, during the most recent 2024-25 program year, athletes must achieve at least one (1) of the following four (4) performance criteria:
- i. At least two (2) performances at eligible World Cups that:
    1. Fall within the Top 32 for Men; or
    2. Fall within the Top 20 for Women.
  - ii. At least one (1) Top 3 (podium) final finish at eligible Europa Cups;
  - iii. A rank within the Top 3 on the NorAm Overall Tour Standings; or
  - iv. At least four (4) Top 16 final finishes at eligible Europa Cups, of which at least one (1) must fall within the Top 8.

### **Eligibility Exemptions**

19. As an exception to the NextGen Maximum Age Limit (Section 18(a)), athletes are eligible to remain in the NextGen Program by applying for a NextGen Age Exemption. Age exemptions are valid for one (1) program year only and athletes can only apply for an age exemption for a cumulative total of two program years. To be eligible for the NextGen Age Exemption, the athlete must satisfactorily meet all of the following requirements:
- a. The athlete must not have been previously granted a NextGen Age exemption for more than one (1) program year;
  - b. The athlete meets all NextGen eligibility requirements outlined in Section 18b through 10f;
  - c. The athlete must have been a named member in good standing of the CS NextGen Team for the past two (2) consecutive program years (2023/24 and 2024/25);
  - d. The athlete must have results from the two (2) most recent competition seasons that indicate they are within five (5) years of achieving a WC PGS Top 3 finish as informed by the PGS Podium Results Track (PRT). This is demonstrated by meeting the FIS PAR Point threshold (outlined in Section 19.d.i-ii, immediately below) and meeting one (1) of the three (3) following performance criteria (outlined in Section 19.d.iii-v, below):
    - i. 1<sup>st</sup> Age Exemption: 170 FIS PAR Points on the most recently published FIS PAR Point List (as of the end of the Selection Period); or
    - ii. 2<sup>ed</sup> Age Exemption: 190 PAR FIS Points on the most recently published FIS PAR Point List (as of the end of the Selection Period); and
    - iii. a rank within the Top 40 Men or Top 25 Women in the 2025 Overall PAR WC Standings;
    - iv. a rank within the Top 60 Men or Top 54 Women on the 2026 FIS Base Points List (PAR); or



- v. a minimum of two (2) Top-Half final results at eligible individual World Cups from the competition season that just concluded.
  - e. The athlete must submit an Age Exemption Request to Canada Snowboard that meets the following criteria:
    - i. The submission must be received no later than April 15, 2025.
    - ii. Submissions can be emailed to the High Performance Director - Speed, Kim Krahulec (kim.krahulec@canadasnowboard.ca) for review. Include “NextGen Age Exemption” in the subject line.
    - iii. The submission should include evidence and rationale that supports how their performance over the last two (2) years is tracking towards meeting current National Team Eligibility Criteria within one (1) year.
- 20. In the event that a health-related reason prevents a current HPP athlete from participating in training or competitive activities during the 2024 - 25 program year, an athlete may be entitled to a health-related curtailment exemption to the 2025/26 National Team or NextGen Team Eligibility Criteria, but only if all of the following conditions are met:
  - a. The athlete’s health related reasons are communicated in writing (including a medical assessment), and documented by a CS approved physician within 30 days of their health status change;
  - b. The athlete did not start in six (6) or more eligible individual competition starts during the year(s) to which the health-related reason applied;
  - c. The athlete did not withdraw from the HPP during the year(s) to which the health-related reason applied;
  - d. The athlete provided written confirmation of their intention to return to full participation in the HPP at the earliest possible date; and
  - e. The athlete completes training and/or rehabilitation, in accordance with their CS approved return to competition plan, and under the supervision of CS, or its designate, at a level that minimized risk to the athlete’s personal health and ensured an optimal return to full training and competition at the earliest possible date.

In the case where all of the above health related exemption criteria are satisfied, an athlete will be granted a health related exemption to the HPP at the program level pre-injury, and any affected year(s) will not be counted towards the total number of HPP years.

- 21. Athletes who do not meet the eligibility criteria set out in Sections 16 to 20 may still be considered for selection based on the discretionary grounds within the ‘High Performance Program General Policies’ available on the Canada Snowboard website: <https://www.canadasnowboard.ca/files/HPP-GeneralPolicies.pdf>



## **ELIGIBLE COMPETITIONS**

22. Only eligible results achieved from eligible individual PGS and PSL competition(s) will be considered in the 'Selection Process'. For the purpose of selection, eligible competitions include:

- a. Olympic Winter Games (OLY) – (if applicable)
- b. FIS World Championships – Senior (WCH) and Junior (JWCH)
- c. FIS World Cup (WC)
- d. FIS Europa Cup (EC)
- e. FIS North American Cup (NAC)

Team Event results (PRT) will not be considered for the Alpine HPP Selection Process when selection athlete to the Alpine HPP

If there are six (6) or less individual NorAm competitions hosted during the Selection Period, then only results from the Europa Cup will be considered for NextGen Team Selection as eligible results from the Continental Cup. In this case, results from the NorAm Overall Ranking will not be considered. NorAm competitions are counted by individual start, regardless of location. For example: a 2-day NorAm at Val St Come would count as two (2) individual competitions (Day 1 and Day 2) in this case.

## **SELECTION PROCESS**

### **ALPINE SNOWBOARD NATIONAL TEAM (NT)**

23. Except as otherwise stated herein, the order in which eligible athletes are selected for available Alpine Snowboard National Team positions will be based on the Selection Criteria outlined below. Nominations to the Alpine Snowboard National Team will be made starting at the highest priority level (Priority 1) unless there are no eligible athletes, or until there are no further eligible athletes, who have the requisite performance(s) within the designated competition period, in which case the Selection Committee will move on to the next priority level (Priority 2), and so on.
24. The Selection Committee may also, where it deems necessary, conduct a performance analysis of each eligible athlete, or some of them, as outlined in Section 26 below, and rank the athletes to establish the order in which available positions within the Alpine Snowboard National Team will be offered.

CS reserves the right to not select any athletes to the Alpine Snowboard National Team or NextGen HPP if the Selection Committee determines that no athletes meet the minimum eligibility criteria or selection criteria to perform at the necessary level or are



deemed unable to meet the objectives of the Alpine Snowboard HPP as outlined in Section 6.

### **PRIORITY 1**

National Team 'Tier A'

- One (1x) Top Eight (8) at an eligible FIS WC or the 2025 WCH; or
- Top Eight (8) Ranking in the 2025 Alpine Snowboard Parallel (PAR) Overall World Cup Standings.

Eligible athletes will be ranked within the priority by their eligible Top 8 results. Eligible athletes with multiple Top 8 finishes will be ranked higher (e.g. an athlete with three Top 8 results will be ranked ahead of an athlete with one), and athletes with the same number of Top 8 finishes will be ranked by the aggregate total of their final Top 8 results. If there are no eligible Top 8 results, eligible athletes will be ranked within the priority by their final placement on the 2025 Alpine Snowboard PAR Overall World Cup Standings.

### **PRIORITY 2**

National Team 'Tier B'

- One (1x) Top 10 final result at an eligible FIS WC or the 2025 WCH;
- Two (2x) Top 16 final results at eligible FIS WCs or the 2025 WCH; or
- Top 16 Ranking in the 2025 Alpine Snowboard Parallel (PAR) Overall World Cup Standings.

Eligible athletes will be ranked within the priority by their eligible Top 10 final results. Eligible athletes with multiple Top 10 results will be ranked higher (e.g. an athlete with three Top 10 results will be ranked ahead of an athlete with two), and athletes with the same number of Top 10 finishes will be ranked by the aggregate total of their final Top 10 results. If there are no eligible Top 10 results, eligible athletes will be ranked within the priority by their final placement on the 2025 Alpine Snowboard PAR Overall World Cup Standings.

### **PRIORITY 3**

National Team 'Base Level'

- One (1x) Top 16 final result at an eligible FIS WC or the 2025 WCH, and
- A rank that falls within:
  - the Top 25 Men or Top 20 Women on the 2025 World Cup PGS Overall Standings;
  - the Top 30 Men or Top 25 Women on the 2025 World Cup Parallel (PAR) Overall Standings; or
  - the Top 40 Men or Top 30 Women on the 2026 FIS Base Points List (PAR).



Eligible athletes will be ranked within the priority by their eligible Top 16 results. Eligible athletes with multiple Top 16 finishes will be ranked higher (e.g. an athlete with three Top 16 results will be ranked ahead of an athlete with one), and athletes with the same number of Top 16 finishes will be ranked by the aggregate total of their final Top 16 results.

**Tie Breaking Method (Priority 1 - 3):** In the event of a tie in the result(s) in the implementation of the above Selection Process, the tie will be broken by using the tied athlete's single best percentile of field placing. If the athletes are still tied, the process will continue using the athlete's second best percentile of field placing, third best, and so on, until the tie is broken. Only final results from eligible competitions obtained during the Selection Period will be considered.

In determining an athlete's field placing, Canada Snowboard will use the following calculation:

$X/Y = P\% \times 100$ , where "X" is the athlete result and "Y" is the final field depth

**NOTE:** The Final Field Depth is the number of competitors who started in the competition including the number competitors who Did Not Finish (DNF) or were Disqualified (DSQ) and excludes competitors who Did Not Start (DNS).

**Aggregate Total Ranking Example:** The aggregate (whole sum) of the athletes' Top 8 will be added together to generate a final number used for ranking purposes. As an example, Athlete 'A' has four (4) eligible Top 8 results (8<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, 6<sup>th</sup>, 6<sup>th</sup>) and Athlete 'B' has four (4) eligible Top 8 results (8<sup>th</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup>). Athlete A's aggregate total would equal twenty-seven (27) (8+7+6+6) and Athlete B's aggregate total would equal ten (28) (8+8+7+5). The athlete with the lower aggregate total sum, in this example Athlete 'A', would be ranked ahead (higher) than Athlete 'B'.

## **ALPINE SNOWBOARD NEXTGEN TEAM (NG)**

25. Athletes selected to the Alpine Snowboard NextGen Team will receive guidance from the CS National Team Coach(es) to develop an IPP and YTP. This plan will outline areas of collaboration and support provided by the NextGen Team during training camps and World Cup competitions to which the athlete is invited to or is forecasted to qualify for.

Athletes who satisfy the NextGen Team selection criteria are to challenge each other for available World Cup quota at qualifying events unless they have a personal World Cup spot for the 2025/26 season from their 2024-25 NorAm Overall Tour results or are the 2025 Alpine Snowboard Junior World Champion.

Except as otherwise stated herein, the order in which eligible athletes are recommended for available Alpine Snowboard NextGen Team positions will be based on the criteria outlined below. Nominations to the Alpine Snowboard NextGen Team will be made



starting at the highest priority level (Priority 1) unless there are no eligible athletes, or until there are no further eligible athletes, who have the requisite performance(s) within the designated competition period, in which case the Selection Committee will move on to the next priority level (Priority 2), and so on.

The Selection Committee may also, where it deems necessary, conduct a performance analysis of each eligible athlete, or some of them, as outlined in Section 26 below, and rank the athletes to establish the order in which available positions within the Alpine Snowboard NextGen Team will be offered.

### **PRIORITY 1**

#### NextGen 'Tier A'

- One (1x) Top 20 final result at an eligible FIS WC or the 2025 WCH;
- One (1x) Podium (Top Three) final result at the 2025 Junior World Championships (JWCH); or
- Two (2x) Top 8 final results at Europa Cup's (EC).

Eligible athletes will be ranked within the priority according to their best eligible result according to the athlete's field placing expressed as a percentage of the field that meets the performance criteria in Method A outlined above. In determining an athlete's field placing, Canada Snowboard will use the following calculation:  $X/Y=P\%*100$ , where "X" is the athlete result and "Y" is the final field depth. In calculating the final percentages, the calculation will include two decimal placements (to the hundredth). DNFs and DSQs are counted when determining the field depth as those competitors started in the event; however, DNS does not count toward determining the field depth and will be removed from the calculation.

### **PRIORITY 2**

#### NextGen 'Tier B'

- One (1x) Top 8 final result at the 2025 FIS JWCH;
- Two (2x) Top 16 final results at Europa Cups;
- Two (2x) Top Half (1/2) final results at eligible WCs; or
- A rank that falls within the Top 3 in the 2024-25 NorAm Overall Tour Standings.

Eligible athletes will be ranked within the priority according to their best eligible result according to the athlete's field placing expressed as a percentage of the field that meets the performance criteria in Method B outlined above. In determining an athlete's field placing, Canada Snowboard will use the following calculation:  $X/Y=P\%*100$ , where "X" is the athlete result and "Y" is the final field depth

**NOTE:** The Final Field Depth is the number of competitors who started in the competition including the number competitors who Did Not Finish (DNF) or were Disqualified (DSQ) and excludes competitors who Did Not Start (DNS).



**Tie Breaking Method (Priority 1 - 2):** In the event of a tie in the result(s) in the implementation of the above Selection Process, the tie will be broken by using the tied athlete's single best percentile of field placing. If the athletes are still tied, the process will continue using the athlete's second best percentile of field placing, third best, and so on, until the tie is broken. Only final results from eligible competitions obtained during the Selection Period will be considered.

In determining an athlete's field placing, Canada Snowboard will use the following calculation:

$X/Y = P\% \times 100$ , where "X" is the athlete result and "Y" is the final field depth

**NOTE:** The Final Field Depth is the number of competitors who started in the competition including the number competitors who Did Not Finish (DNF) or were Disqualified (DSQ) and excludes competitors who Did Not Start (DNS).

#### **ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS FOR SELECTION TO THE ALPINE HPP**

26. Where the Selection Committee determines, in its sole discretion, that further consideration is required in addition to the 'Selection Process' outlined in Sections 23 – 25, the Selection Committee may conduct a performance analysis of each eligible athlete, or some of them, in their sole discretion. The Selection Committee may have regard to some, none, or all of the following performance considerations, in their absolute discretion:
- The athlete's history of competitive performances as evidenced by Canada Snowboard's discipline specific sport analytics;
  - The athlete's progress toward achievement of documented individual performance goals as identified in the athlete's IPP and YTP;
  - The athlete's performance curves compared to available CS PRT data;
  - The athlete's technical skills, physical capacities and capabilities and mental readiness, and potential for improvement as evidenced by Technical Skills Assessment completed by a certified, LTD stage appropriate, CSCP coach, physical testing results, and other documentation as available to the Selection Committee;
  - The number of World Cup Quota spots available to Canada for the upcoming competitive season;
  - The athlete's progression of results from year to year as evidenced by Canada Snowboard's discipline specific sport analytics;
  - The conversion rate at which the athlete progresses from qualification into the final rounds (heats) as evidenced by Canada Snowboard's discipline specific sport analytics; and
  - IPP and YTP.





It is important to note that meeting the minimum results for the Alpine Snowboard National Team in either 'Priority 1', 'Priority 2', or 'Priority 3', or for the NextGen Team in either 'Method A' or 'Method B', as described in Section 23 – 25 above, does not guarantee an automatic selection to the Alpine Snowboard HPP (National Team or NextGen Team). The Selection Committee may rank eligible athletes in accordance with their respective performance analyses to establish the order in which available positions within the Alpine Snowboard HPP (National Team and NextGen Team) will be offered.

### **HEALTH RELATED CURTAILMENT OF ACTIVITIES / EXCEPTIONAL CIRCUMSTANCES**

27. CS may, at any time, require an athlete who appears to be unable to participate in training or competition activities by reason of a health-related curtailment of activities to obtain a medical assessment conducted by a CS recognized doctor or other approved healthcare practitioner. The medical assessment is for the purpose of confirming the degree of the athlete's injury and their ability to compete, and to determine the expected timeline for the athlete's recovery.
28. It may occur that an athlete is, by reason of a health-related curtailment of activities or other exceptional circumstances, unable to participate in the minimum number of national or international level events in the program year just ended. In such circumstances the athlete's eligibility for selection shall be reviewed on the basis of his or her projected medical rehabilitation, as well as such other information (results, video, coaches' assessments, performance analysis, etc.) as may be available to the Selection Committee. Except as detailed in Sections 31 and 32, the decision to grant or not grant as exception to any minimum requirement of this Selection Protocol due to exceptional circumstances resides with the Selection Committee, in their sole discretion.

### **ALLOCATION OF COMPETITIVE and FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES**

29. Selection to the Alpine National Team or NextGen Team does not automatically provide an athlete with entry into Continental Cup(s), World Cup(s), World Championship (Senior and Junior) or Olympic Winter Game competitions, or automatically provide Athlete Assistance Program (AAP) carding or other funding support.
30. Athlete selection for World Cups, World Championships (Senior and Junior) and Olympic Winter Games is done according to separate Selection Protocols, which are available on the 'Document Center' of the Canada Snowboard website at: <https://www.canadasnowboard.ca/en/docs/>



## **DECISION-MAKING AUTHORITY AND APPEAL PROCESS**

31. Final decisions on the selections of athletes shall be ratified by the VPS of CS, on the basis of recommendations by the Selection Committee.
32. In the event that an unforeseeable issue or exceptional circumstance arises that is not otherwise addressed by this Selection Protocol and this issue or circumstance will have a material impact on the selection process as outlined herein, the VPS, in consultation with the High Performance Director - Speed, shall determine how the issue or circumstance shall be addressed, taking into account the best interests of the HPP program in accordance with the objectives detailed in Section 6. Should any action be taken pursuant to this provision, CS will notify the impacted parties as soon as reasonably possible.
33. Appeals of any decision made pursuant to this Selection Protocol may be made by any CS member in “good standing” who is directly affected by the decision. Appeals must be conducted in accordance with the Canada Snowboard Appeal Policy, which is available on the Canada Snowboard website at:  
<https://www.canadasnowboard.ca/files/Canada Snowboard Appeal Policy EN.pdf>

Individuals wishing to appeal a decision are also encouraged to consult the Canada Snowboard Appeals Process Map which is available on the Canada Snowboard website at:

<https://www.canadasnowboard.ca/files/AppealsPolicyProcessMap.pdf>

## **GENERAL**

34. This Selection Protocol was originally drafted in English and then translated into French. Where there is a difference in interpretation between the French and English versions of this document, which may be due to translation, the English version shall be used to understand the drafter’s intent.
35. This Selection Protocol is intended to apply as drafted. Unforeseen circumstances or circumstances beyond Canada Snowboard’s control may arise which prevent relevant competitions from taking place or from taking place in a fair manner, and/or where the procedure for nomination as described in this Selection Protocol would result in a nomination process which is unfair or not in the best interests of Canada Snowboard’s Objectives and the General Principles for selection, as indicated in this Selection Protocol.
36. In the event of circumstances outlined in Section 35 the Canada Snowboard High Performance Director, Speed will (where possible) consult with the CS Vice President, Sport to determine if the circumstances justify competition or nomination should take place in an alternative manner (a revised protocol). In such circumstances, the High Performance Director, Speed shall communicate the alternative selection or nomination



process to all impacted individuals as soon as possible. In the event an alternative selection or nomination process takes place, the Selection Committee remains responsible for making selection recommendations, for approval to the CS Vice President, Sport in accordance with the revised protocol.

37. This Selection Protocol is based on FIS rules and regulations as presently known and understood and on the latest information available to Canada Snowboard. Should Canada Snowboard become aware of any changes to the FIS rules and regulations, Canada Snowboard will review and amend this Selection Protocol as necessary to comply with the new rules and regulations. Amendments to this document will be communicated directly to the affected athletes as well as posted to the Canada Snowboard website as soon as reasonably possible.