



SELECTION CRITERIA
2023 FIS SKI CROSS WORLD JUNIOR CHAMPIONSHIPS
Passo San Pellegrino, ITA March 27-28, 2023

1. PHILOSOPHY

U.S. Ski & Snowboard will select only the most qualified athletes with the greatest opportunity for winning medals at the 2023 FIS Ski Cross (SX) World Junior Ski Championships (WJSC) and future FIS SX WJSC.

2. ELIGIBILITY

Only age-eligible (year of birth 2002 – 2006), licensed U.S. Ski & Snowboard and International Ski and Snowboard Federation (FIS) athletes in good standing with a valid USA passport are eligible for consideration. All injured athletes must be cleared by U.S. Ski & Snowboard Sports Medicine staff (or a physician approved by U.S. Ski & Snowboard Sports Medicine staff) before being considered for naming to the team.

3. TEAM SIZE

U.S. Ski & Snowboard may select any number of athletes up to the total number of start quotas as determined by FIS. In Ski Cross (SX) a maximum of up to six (6) athletes per gender may start per event.

4. SELECTION PROCEDURES

A. Summary of Objective Selection Policy

Start positions will be filled objectively using the following criteria:

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

1. Athletes must hold a minimum of 50 FIS points on the 2023 11th Freestyle/Freeski FIS SX points list.
2. Two (2) highest ranking U.S. Athletes per gender from the 2023 11th Freestyle/Freeski FIS SX points list. The FIS Points list is available at www.fis-ski.com.
 - a. Highest FIS SX Point Result (from the 22/23 FIS events)
 - b. Second Highest FIS SX Point Result (from the 22/23 FIS events)
 - c. Third Highest FIS SX Point Result (from the 22/23 FIS events)
 - d. Fourth Highest FIS SX Point Result (from the 22/23 FIS events)
3. Two (2) highest ranking U.S. Athletes per gender from the selection events below will be nominated 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. At the end of the selection period each athlete's best (highest) four (4) scores will be averaged to create a ranking list for nomination in each discipline. U.S. Ski & Snowboard will use the following tie-breaking mechanisms in the priority order listed below:

- a. Best Result (from the ranking list)
- b. Second best result (from the ranking list)



- c. Third best result (from the ranking list)
- d. Highest rank on the 2023 11th Freestyle/Freeski FIS SX points list

The selection events will include the following:

- Nakiska NorAm (December 16-18, 2022)
- Gore Mountain NorAm (February 7-8, 2023)
- Sunday River NorAm (March 1-2, 2023)

B. Summary of Discretionary Selection Policy

U.S. Ski & Snowboard may select additional athletes to the Team as recommended by the Head Coach and/or Sport Development Staff to the Selection Committee, for any age eligible athlete, using factors other than objective criteria such as the following:

1. Outstanding competition results (including results achieved outside of the selection period).
2. Recent direction or trend of competition results (i.e., improving, flat, or declining).
3. Illness or injury during the selection period.
4. Indication of medal potential in future Olympic or World Championship competition, which would be materially enhanced by selection to Team.
5. 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, Chief of Sport
- U.S. Ski & Snowboard, Alpine Development Director
- U.S. Ski & Snowboard, Board Athlete Representative – Freestyle/Freeski

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 benefit privately 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 assuring 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 him/herself 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 him/herself, but who has relevant and necessary information with respect to athlete performance, for example a national team



coach or high-performance 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.

The U.S. Ski & Snowboard Bylaws and Grievance Procedures can be found at: www.usskiandsnowboard.org.

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

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

1. Voluntary withdrawal. Athlete must submit a written letter to the U.S. Ski & Snowboard President & CEO and Chief of Sport.
2. Medical disqualification. Injury or illness that limits the athlete from performing at their highest level (as determined by U.S. Ski & Snowboard coaching staff and Sports Medicine staff) may result in medical disqualification. Injury or illness must be certified by a physician (or medical staff) approved by U.S. Ski & Snowboard. If an athlete refuses verification of his/her/their illness or injury by a physician (or medical staff) approved by U.S. Ski & Snowboard, his/her/their injury will be assumed to be debilitating and he/she/they may be removed.
3. Violation of the U.S. Ski & Snowboard's Code of Conduct (www.usskiandsnowboard.org).
4. Non-compliance with the eligibility requirements listed in Section 2 of these selection procedures.]

C. Remaining Team Nomination Criteria

If quota spots remain after the application of objective criteria and, if applicable, the application of discretionary criteria, any remaining team nominations will be determined in order of next highest ranked U.S. athlete not already selected to the team according to World Ranking using the 2023 11th Freestyle/Freeski FIS points list.

- Athletes must have a minimum of 50 FIS points on the 2023 11th Freestyle/Freeski FIS SX points list

5. NAMING OF THE PARTICIPANTS

The U.S. SX WJSC team will be nominated at U.S. Ski & Snowboard offices on March 3, 2023.

Athletes may be recognized and eligible for selection; however, they will only be registered upon commitment to attend this self-funded event and upon submission of a deposit in advance of the event. All athletes are responsible for cost-sharing the expenses of the team doctor and/or physio, team leader, and coaches.



6. APPLICABLE RULES

All qualifying competitions are governed by the international federation rules of competition. The international federation for snowsports, as recognized by the IOC, is the FIS. All criteria as they relate to rules, regulations and competition calendars are subject to changes based on changes by the FIS, the USOPC and the IOC. All other U.S. Ski & Snowboard rules, including its [Code of Conduct](#), as well as the [U.S. Center for SafeSport Code](#) shall apply to the criteria.

7. MEDICAL CLEARANCE

Athletes named to the team will require proof of medical clearance for participation dated no longer than six (6) months before departure to the Championship, supplied in the form of a sports physical exam. Once named, athlete will submit paperwork to the Team Leader as designated by U.S. Ski & Snowboard.

If an athlete has been injured between the date of their physical and departure for the Championships, additional clearance specific to that injury will be required.

8. ATHLETE OMBUDSMAN

Athletes who have questions regarding their opportunity to compete that are not answered by US Ski & Snowboard may contact the USOPC Athlete Ombuds Office, Kacie Wallace, by:

- Telephone at (719) 866-5000 or toll-free at (888) ATHLETE (1-888-284-5383)
- E-mail at Ombudsman@usathlete.org
- www.teamusa.org/athlete-ombuds