



FREESTYLE ONTARIO 2023-24 CANADA CUP SERIES SELECTION CRITERIA

REVISION RECORD:

Dec 1, 2022 – 2022-23 Canada Cup Selection Criteria created.

Nov 5, 2023 – Criteria updated for 2023-24 to align with the October 20, 2023 updates made to the Freestyle Canada Canada Cup Guidelines. Most notable changes to FO's criteria occurred in the Minimum Skill Level and Quota Allocation requirements and procedures.

FREESTYLE ONTARIO 2023-24 CANADA CUP SERIES SELECTION CRITERIA

- 1) This Selection Criteria applies to Freestyle Ontario (FO) Ontario Athlete selection to all moguls, dual moguls, slopestyle, big air, and halfpipe Canada Cup Series events outlined in the Freestyle Canada (FC) Canada Cup Guidelines except Junior Nationals (see separate FO 2024 Junior Nationals Selection Criteria).
- 2) This Selection Criteria is subject to the procedures and requirements outlined in the most current version of the FC Canada Cup Guidelines. For FC's [Canada Cup Mandate](#) refer to Section 2 of the FC Canada Cup Guidelines (available at <https://freestylecanada.ski/policies/event-policies/>).
- 3) FO Policy Requirements: This Selection Criteria is subject to all the procedures and requirements outlined in the most current version of the FO Ontario Athlete Selection Criteria, including Section 5.7 (FO's Residency policy).
- 4) License: All athletes must have a valid **Freestyle Ontario Provincial Athlete** or **Freestyle Ontario FIS Athlete license** to be eligible for selection.
- 5) Good Standing: All athletes must be considered in good financial standing with FO to be eligible.
- 6) Age Eligibility:

NOTE: Athletes will be competing in a single OPEN AGE category at the Canada Cup Series events addressed by this criteria.

- a) Athletes within FO'S U14, U16, U18 and 18+ Age Categories are age-eligible for selection.
 - b) Age exemptions for athletes under the age of 12 may be made by FO on a case-by-case basis. For an age exemption to be approved by FO, the athlete must:
 - i) Have their parent/guardian place a request with FO that an age exemption be made. This request must be made 60 days prior to the Canada Cup Series event they would like to be considered for;
 - ii) Meet the minimum skill level;
- 7) Minimum Skill Level:

All athletes must meet a Minimum Skill Level to participate in Canada Cup Series events.



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Athletes who meet one or more of the following criteria will be considered to have met the Minimum Skill Level needed to compete at a Canada Cup:

- a) The athlete received an official invitation from Freestyle Ontario to the current season's Ontario Team or Ontario Development Squad, regardless if the athlete accepted their Ontario Team/Development Squad spot or not.
- b) The athlete has competed at a Canada Cup event in the past and placed in the top 2/3rds of their gender category at that event
 - i) In the above case:
 - (1) A slopestyle, big air, or halfpipe Canada Cup result in the top 2/3rds of the field will qualify an athlete for meeting the Minimum Skill Level for slopestyle, big air, or halfpipe Canada Cups.
 - (2) A moguls Canada Cup result in the top 2/3rds of the field will qualify an athlete for meeting the Minimum Skill Level for moguls and dual moguls Canada Cups.
 - (3) An aerials Canada Cup result will not contribute to an athlete meeting the Minimum Skill Level for moguls, dual moguls, slopestyle, big air, or halfpipe Canada Cups.
- c) The athlete has competed at a Canadian Junior Championships event in the past and placed in the top 1/2 of that event's overall placing list (i.e. age categories removed) in their gender category at that event.
 - i) In the above case:
 - (1) A slopestyle, big air, or halfpipe Canadian Junior Championships result in the top 1/2 of the field will qualify an athlete for meeting the Minimum Skill Level for slopestyle, big air, or halfpipe Canada Cups.
 - (2) A moguls Canadian Junior Championships result in the top 1/2 of the field will qualify an athlete for meeting the Minimum Skill Level for moguls and dual moguls Canada Cups.
 - (3) An aerials Canadian Junior Championships result will not contribute to an athlete meeting the Minimum Skill Level for moguls, dual moguls, slopestyle, big air, or halfpipe Canada Cups.

Athletes who do not meet the above criteria will have their Minimum Skill Level eligibility assessed by FO's High Performance Selection Committee (HPSC). Members of the HPSC are outlined in section 5.2 of FO's Ontario Athlete Selection Criteria. Athlete safety will be the primary factor in determining this level. Each Canada Cup Series event may have a different expectation for Minimum Skill Level that is dependent on the terrain, and the field of competitors being targeted for the event. One or more of the following factors will be considered by the HPSC to determine whether the Minimum Skill Level has been demonstrated:

- d) The athlete's position on the Ontario Ranking List in relationship to other athletes competing at the Canada Cup.
 - e) Coach endorsement of the athlete's ability to safely ski the Canada Cup Series event course, and to safely train on the course with other Canada Cup level competitors.
 - f) Video evidence of successful training on terrain equivalent to the terrain expected at the event being considered.
 - g) Evidence that the athlete's technical ability aligns with the stage of the Canada Cup event, as measured through the athlete possessing a general alignment with the technical ability outlined in the FO High Performance Skill Assessment Tool (available at <https://freestyleontario.ski/hp-programs-overview>).
 - h) Evidence of a periodized annual training plan including physical strength, conditioning, and injury prevention programming that demonstrates competition readiness.
- 8) Gender Ratio:
- a) Gender ratio for each quota limited event is 50:50.
 - b) If an uneven number of spots is available, the additional spot will be allocated to the gender with a greater number of athletes on the discipline-specific Ontario Ranking List with a current provincial athlete license.
 - c) 60 Days prior to each event, any unused ranking spots may be moved to the other gender.
- 9) Quota allocation:
- a) Freestyle Canada - Priority of quota allocation:
 - i) Freestyle Canada will allocate quota spots in the order of priority outlined in the event format tables found in Sections 9.1, 9.2, and 9.3. of the FC Canada Cup Guidelines.
 - ii) Freestyle Canada's quota spot allocations will be communicated to the Provincial Sport Organizations (PSO). Freestyle Ontario will then communicate this information to the appropriate athletes, coaches and club leads using contact information available through the athletes' SnowReg membership data, and FO High Performance Program Athlete Agreements. It is the athlete or athlete's parent/guardian's responsibility to report to FO's High Performance Director at heather@freestyleontario.ski if the athlete has changed clubs after they registered for their membership, but before the current membership year has ended.
 - iii) Each Ontario athlete's intent to compete at the specific event will be confirmed, then FO will send the confirmed PSO list to FC either 60 days prior to the event or based on deadlines set by Freestyle Canada.
 - iv) Athletes must respond either by 60 days prior to the event, or within 24 hours if the invitation is sent within 60 days of the event start date, or they may risk losing their spot.

- b) Freestyle Ontario – Provincial Sport Organization (PSO) spots and host PSO spots for events in Ontario:
- i) FO will maintain an **Ontario Ranking List for Canada Cup Spot Allocation** based on the 2022-23 Ontario Ranking. Only Ontario-resident athletes with an FO Provincial Athlete license or higher will be eligible for this ranking list.
 - ii) FO will update the **Ontario Ranking List for Canada Cup Spot Allocation** 60 days prior to each Canada Cup Series event.
 - iii) **Ontario Ranking List for Canada Cup Spot Allocation** will include eligible events from November 30, 2022 up to 60 days prior to the 2023-24 Canada Cup event for which athletes are being selected.
 - iv) 2023-24 events will be added to the **Ontario Ranking List for Canada Cup Spot Allocation** as they occur, using the Ontario ranking score calculations from the 2022-23 Ontario Athlete Selection Criteria.
 - v) Athlete Minimum Skill Level will be verified, and interest to compete at the upcoming Canada Cup Series event will be confirmed 60 days before each event (or earlier if required to comply with Freestyle Canada deadlines).
 - vi) PSO and host PSO spots for events in Ontario will be allocated to eligible athletes in the order of highest to lowest rankings of athletes on the **Ontario Rankings List for Canada Cup Spot Allocation**. For greater clarity, first place is the highest ranking, last place is the lowest ranking.
 - vii) FO will send the PSO athlete list to Freestyle Canada prior to the deadline for each event.
 - viii) As any additional quota spots become available, athletes invited by Freestyle Ontario and will have 24 hours to respond. After 24 hours the offer may be revoked and offered to the next athlete on the ranking list.
- 10) PSO “Wild Card” Spots: Up to two Wild Card Spots may be made available for athletes from underserved geographical regions. This includes the Lake Superior Region and remote areas of the Northern Ontario Region. These spots may be earned through an athlete submitting a video application. Video submissions will be reviewed by the HPSC.
- a) Wild Card Spots will only be granted to athletes who have demonstrated that they are more qualified than the athlete(s) they will displace on the ranking list.
 - b) FO’s High Performance Director must receive video submissions a minimum of 60 days prior to the event the athlete wishes to be considered for. Please contact FO’s High Performance Director at heather@freestyleontario.ski for details on how to submit video applications.

- c) The guidelines below will be considered for Wild Card video submissions for mogul skiers:
 - i) Rationale for why the athlete was unable to earn an Ontario Ranking Spot
 - ii) The athlete's potential for a strong performance at the Canada Cup Series event
 - iii) The athlete's demonstrated ability to safely ski the Canada Cup Series event course
 - iv) The athlete's demonstrated air skills
 - v) The athlete's demonstrated speed
 - vi) The athlete's demonstrated mogul skiing skills, including their abilities in:
 - (1) Stance and balance
 - (2) Steering and edging
 - (3) Pressure control
 - (4) Turn timing and coordination

 - d) The guidelines below will be considered for Wild Card video submissions for slopestyle and big air skiers:
 - i) Rationale for why the athlete was unable to earn an Ontario Ranking Spot
 - ii) The athlete's potential for a strong performance at the Canada Cup Series event
 - iii) The athlete's demonstrated ability to safely ski the Canada Cup Series event course
 - iv) The athlete's jumping abilities and versatility
 - v) The athlete's abilities on rails, boxes, and wall rides
 - vi) The athlete's basic skiing skills

 - e) If a Wild Card Spot is granted to an athlete, a spot will be placed in the **Ontario Ranking List for Canada Cup Spot Allocation** based on their demonstrated performance level.
- 11) Tiebreaker: In the event of a tie, an additional Ontario Ranking score will be used to break the tie (eg. 4 Mogul Ranking scores used instead of 3 Mogul Ranking scores for moguls).
- 12) COVID-19: In the event of widespread cancellation of qualifying events during the Selection Period as a result of COVID-19, Freestyle Ontario's High Performance Program Committee (HPPC) reserves the right to modify this criteria. The HPPC reserves the right to determine if such a modification is warranted. Changes will be made publicly available on Freestyle Ontario's website (<http://freestyleontario.ski>), along with the justification for the change.
- 13) The Canada Cup Schedule can be viewed at <https://freestylecanada.ski/events/#>