

**2027 Canada Winter Games
Selection Protocol**



September 16th 2026 V 2.2.3

The purpose of this document is to outline the eligibility and selection requirements put in place to help NS Snowboard select the best possible team for the 2027 Canada Winter Games in Quebec.

This document has been created as a framework to fulfill every aspect of the Technical Package, which was created by Canada Snowboard and the Canada Winter Games, to ensure that NS Snowboard sends a team that is in full compliance of the technical package.

Canada Games is Canada's largest multi-sport event and is hosted every two years. The games rotate between summer and winter. The competition level is in the "Train to Train" phase of Canada Snowboard Long Term Athlete Development Framework (LTAD), because of this there are age requirements associated with specific events at the games.

The 2027 snowboard technical package can be found at:

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1zY76WnfoV1BHEmpUX6HUBeyWZwFhdW8G/view>

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1. INTRODUCTION

1.1. The 2027 Canada Winter Games will take place February 26th until March 15th, 2027 in Quebec - Snowboard is part of Week 2 and athletes will be involved from March 7-March 15th..

1.2. The sport of Snowboarding at the 2027 Canada Winter Games shall consist of the following events:

Women's Parallel Giant Slalom (PGS);

Men's PGS;

Women's Snowboardcross (SBX);

Men's SBX;

Women's Slope Style;

Men's Slope Style;

Women's Big Air;

Men's Big Air.

Women's Halfpipe

Men's Halfpipe

A maximum of four (4) athletes per Province/Territory may be entered into each event.

1.3. Results used for purposes of determining ranking for selection shall be drawn from the events listed in the Appendix A. Other FIS point events may be considered if athletes can show cause for not attending (ie training/attending school out of country)

1.4. *NSSBD has been granted the right to select athletes in the above listed events to the Nova Scotia Canada Winter Games Team. Selections made by NSSBD will be based upon the policies and procedures set out herein, NSSBD 2027 Canada Games Selection protocol and on general NSSBD policies and procedures referenced herein.*

1.5. This Canada Winter Games Selection Protocol sets out the process of:

a) Identifying those athletes who are eligible for selection to the 2027 Canada Winter Games Team; and

- b) From this group, determining those athletes who shall be selected to compete in the Games

2. TERMS

2.1. The following abbreviated terms and definitions are used in this Selection Protocol:

- a) CS: Canada Snowboard
- b) FIS: Fédération Internationale de Ski
- c) CWG: Canada Winter Games
- d) NSSBD: Nova Scotia Snowboard
- e) CGC: Canada Games Council
- f) STP: Snowboard Technical Package

3. MANDATE

3.1. The Canada Games Council and the Canada Games Host Society are the bodies responsible for staging the Canada Winter Games.

3.2. CS is recognized by the CGC as the national governing body for the sport of snowboarding in Canada. The STP (developed by CS and approved by CGC) determines the overall maximum number of snowboard athletes that may participate in the Canada Winter Games and establishes an eligibility standard that all participating athletes must attain. The STP also establishes quotas for each province with respect to that province's maximum team size, maximum number of athletes per gender, and maximum number of athletes per event.

3.3. *NSSBD is mandated by CS to nominate those athletes that wish to represent Nova Scotia in the 2027 Canada Winter Games, in accordance with criteria established by NSSBD.*

4. OBJECTIVES

4.1. *NSSBD's primary objective at the 2027 CWG is to win two medals. Accordingly, the greatest priority will be given to athletes who have demonstrated CWG medal winning potential. Medal winning potential is generally considered to be demonstrated through performance at specific identified events ("performance on demand") or the achievement of at least two top six results amongst Canada Games age-eligible athletes in NorAm or equivalent competition during the year leading up to the CWG. In the event of other considerations being generally equal,*

priority consideration may be given to athletes who have demonstrated such results.

- 4.2. *NSSBD's secondary objective at the 2027 CWG is to place at least 67% of its participating athletes (6 of 8) in the top eight in their events. Accordingly, second priority will be given to athletes who have established a consistent record of top ten results in Noram level competition amongst Canada Games age-eligible athletes.*

5. 2027 TEAM COMPOSITION

5.1. TEAM SIZE

- 5.1.1. As per Canada Snowboard Canada Winter Games team selection and size criteria - NS Snowboard will be entering athletes in at least three (3) of the five(5) events making our team size:

4 male competitors and 4 female competitors

- 5.1.2. Team size will be reduced per gender as per the 2027 snowboard Technical package if NS Snowboard is unable to register athletes in an event the team structure will be altered as per the Canada Snowboard/Canada Winter Games team selection and size criteria. All registered athletes must intend to compete in at least one event and must compete in the event that they are selected for:

If entering men athletes in at least three (3) of the five (5) events:

4 men athletes

If entering women athletes in at least three (3) of the five (5) events:

4 women athletes

If entering men athletes in at least two (2) of the five (5) events:

3 men athletes

If entering women athletes in at least two (2) of the five (5) events:

3 women athletes

If entering men athletes in one (1) of the five (5) events:

2 men athletes

If entering women athletes in one (1) of the five (5) events:

2 women athletes

All registered athletes must intend to compete in at least one event.

5.2. STAFF

- 5.2.1. NS Snowboard will be sending two (2) Coaches and one (1) Wax Technician as support staff. If athletes that identify as women are being sent, one coach must be a woman. If athletes that identify as men are being sent, one coach must be a man.
- 5.2.2. Both coaches must be at Competition-Introduction Advanced Trained as per Canada Snowboard coach criteria. Coaches must meet the coaching standards no later than 90 days prior to the opening ceremony (November 29, 2026). All coaches are required to complete:
- NCCP Competition Development courses: Leading Drug Free Sport and Evaluation, Managing Conflict course. *(From Canada Snowboard)*
 - EPIC Police check, Canada Games E-learning Module, Safe Sport Training, Understanding the Rule of 2, Making Headway in Sport *(From Sport NS)*
- 5.2.3. *Coaches will be named by October 1st 2025 - as per Team NS*
** Additional team staff positions are administered by the P/T Team. Positions must be applied for based on each P/T Team's process*

6. ATHLETES ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

6.1. AGE

- 6.1.1. All athletes participating at Canada Games must meet the Canada Snowboard approved age restrictions. Athletes competing in any snowboard disciplines must be 13-19 years of age as of December 31, 2026. This is simplified by their year of birth being between 2007-2013

6.2. ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS

- All athletes must be in good standing with Canada Snowboard and Nova Scotia Snowboard.
- Athletes should have lived in Nova Scotia for the last 18 months as of the start of the games and have held a competitive membership with Nova Scotia Snowboard for the 2025-26 year (unless injury prevented them from participating)

- All athletes must have a Compete Membership with FIS, and minimum SAIP level 3 for the 2026-27 year prior to being named to the team.
- All Freestyle athletes must meet the minimum freestyle riding standards listed in Appendix C to be selected for a freestyle spot as of the and to compete in the freestyle events at the games. This may happen at a camp or with a coaches assessment or video proof.
- Attend the Canada Games Seminars in the fall & winter of the 2027 season as provided by Team NS.
- Be free of any banned substance, and be willing to submit to random drug tests during training and competition.
- Have paid all outstanding provincial fees, club fees, and ensure proper registration with NSSBD for the 2026-27 season
- Agree to abide by the Canada Games Code of Conduct during training and competition.
- Attend a minimum total of two separate NorAm competitions, Canadian Jr. Nationals, or equivalent* in the 2025-2026 or 2026-2027 season prior to January 19th 2027. Canada Games snowboard facilities meet the level of NorAm facilities so athletes need to be appropriately prepared to compete on this level. Athletes who are not adequately prepared run the risk of injury and early departure from sport. Athletes who have not attended the minimum events will be ranked after all athletes that have attended the competition standards. Athletes must also be approved by coaches as able to compete at the level of the discipline they are chosen for. **Equivalent would include other continental cups, world cups, world ranked nationals in other countries (eg USASA nationals with FIS or WSPL points, but not USASA nationals that are US points system only)*
- Attend an approved 2027 pre-season training camp by NS Snowboard. Athletes who are training outside of NS Snowboard programs should contact Excellence Coach Cassandra Smith to look at options.
- Attend Canada Games snowboard camps as outlined by the season's mandatory attendance schedule.
- Athletes under injury during the 2025-26 season may request a review of events from the 2024-25 season for a spot.

Excluded from the Canada Games Snowboard events are:

- Senior National Team Members - Defined as: Athletes who have held an SR, SR1, SR2 or C1 card at any time; and/or athletes who are part of (on the roster of) a standing Senior National Team (i.e. recognized as a Senior National Team member regardless of event participation)
- Athletes who have previously competed at the following events:
 - Senior World Championships
 - Olympic Games

No athlete can be rendered ineligible within 90 days of the opening of the Games due to carding status or National Team status (i.e., no athlete will be excluded if they become National Senior Team members for the first time or are granted carding status after November 29th, 2026

7. SELECTION PROCEDURES

7.1 ELIGIBILITY

- 7.1.1. To be eligible for selection, the athletes must meet the criteria and the discipline specific criteria set out in the NSSBD Eligibility document
- 7.1.2. The Qualification Period shall be the period from November 1st, 2025 through January 15th, 2027. Events to be considered as qualifying events during the qualification period are those that are ranked as either FIS or WSPL points events. Points lists will be pulled from both FIS and WSPL on January 16th for rankings. Athletes who participate in provincial events in Nova Scotia or other provinces only shall be ranked after athletes that attended world ranked events. The event shall be inadmissible as a qualifying event if the total field is fewer than 8 competitors (men) or 5 competitors (women).
- 7.1.3. NSSBD retains the right, in the event of circumstances such as changes to the competition calendar, the cancellation of events, or the staging of events in sub-standard conditions, to replace any of the competitions set out in Appendix A with other competitions. In making any such replacements NSSBD shall

exercise its best efforts to replace competitions with ones that are similar in terms of dates, locations, and type of course.

8. SELECTION PROCESS

8.1. NSSBD shall identify the athletes it will select for competitive opportunities in the 2027 CWG in three categories:

- a) National Development and Next Gen Team selection outlined in section 9.5
- b) **“Podium Selections”** shall be identified on the basis of section 9.6.1
- c) **“Other Selections”** shall be identified on the basis of section 9.6.2-9.6.6

Those identified athletes, along with coaching reports, event results, testing results and any additional relevant information will be passed along to the NSSBD CWG Selection committee for final team selection.

8.2. National Development and Next Gen Team Athletes shall be selected first. “Podium Selections” shall be selected second. “Other Selections” shall be selected to last fill any positions not filled by the first two selections.

8.3. NSSBD reserves the right to select athletes for nomination in an order other than that indicated by the selection rankings or for a discipline that they are not competing in. In such cases, NSSBD must record in detail the reasons for its decisions. These reasons must reflect the objectives of NSSBD as presented in these Selection Procedures.

8.4. Grounds which may be considered in decisions such as those indicated in Section 6.2 shall include, but may not be limited to:

a) The athlete’s commitment to a long-term training program, as demonstrated by training logs, evaluations, and other documentation maintained by the athlete and her or his coach.

b) The athlete’s level of physical conditioning, evaluated in terms of the physical conditioning benchmarks

c) The athlete’s level of mental training, evaluated in terms of the maintenance of a daily log book, and in terms of the recommendations for psychological and lifestyle development in Stage 5 of Vision 2020: The Long Term Athlete Development Plan for Snowboarding in Canada. These are available for review on <http://www.canadasnowboard.ca/en/>

d) Anomalies in competitions, arising from factors such as weather or abnormally large or small field sizes, which are determined to be a factor in the attainment of or failure to attain results.

e) Gaps in the points used to rank athletes, which may be taken to represent a significant gap in performance ability. For instance, if three athletes have 100, 97, and 96 points respectively, and the next ranked athlete has 85 points, a gap may be said to exist which indicates an athlete's potential ability or inability to compete at the same level as other NSSBD athletes.

f) Competitive opportunities lost due to a health-related curtailment of activities, and/or the athlete's managed recovery from a health-related curtailment of activities.

- 8.5. Any decision to select an athlete in an order other than indicated by the rankings shall be done through consultation with the coaches of the athletes involved and the High Performance Committee.

9. RANKING OF ELIGIBLE ATHLETES

- 9.1. All eligible athletes shall be ranked within their discipline category. The purpose of the ranking is to establish the order in which athletes are nominated, within their category, to participate in the 2027 CWG.

- 9.2. Rankings will be set through

In the calculation of percentile of field placing, a maximum field size of 80 athletes will be used, regardless of the actual field size.

- 9.3. In the calculation of percentile of field placing, entries with Disqualification (DSQ) and Did Not Finish (DNF) results are included with a 0%; entries with Did Not Start (DNS) results will not be included unless the athlete does not have three results.
- 9.4. In the event of a tie in the final overall rankings, the tie will be broken by each tied athlete's single best percentile of field placing during the period (then second best, then third best, and so on) until the tie is broken.

9.5. Method A Ranking

9.5.1. National Development and Next Gen Team Selection

9.5.2. All athletes who are currently selected to a National Development or Next Gen team, at the time of the selection, who meet the eligibility requirements will receive priority for team selection.

9.5.3. Those athletes shall be ranked and nominated in the order of their ranking outlined in section 10.2 to 10.5 until the relevant event or gender quota is filled.

9.6. Method B Ranking

9.6.1. Priority 1 - Podium Selection- 1st Place FIS/WSPL NorAM 2025-26 Season.
(Possible events prior to January 15th selection)

9.6.2. Priority 2 - Top 4 @NorAm/Europa Cup Overall finish, 2 Top 10 at Noram, Overall Final Ranking in top 30% of Cup

9.6.3. Priority 3 - Top 3 at Canadian Jr Nationals FIS (13-17 freestyle, 15-19 speed)

9.6.4. Priority 4 - 2 Top 4 FIS Regional/Provincial finishes

9.6.5. Priority 5 - Top Nova Scotia Snowboard Athlete WSPL/FIS points list

9.6.6. Priority 6 - Out of province and in province provincial events non-FIS ages 13-19. Remaining eligible athletes are awarded available quota spots based on final ranking. Athletes must also meet the minimum technical criteria as assessed by a Nova Scotia Snowboard Canada Winter Games 2027 coach as of the selection deadline.

9.6.7. All athletes eligible for Podium Selection shall be ranked and nominated in the order of their ranking until the relevant event or gender quota is filled.

9.6.8. Tie-Breaking - Ties are broken by the athlete's single best percentile-of-field placing, then second best, third best, and so on until the tie is broken.

9.6.9. An athlete selected for one discipline may at his or her coach's discretion compete in an additional event at the CWG. Athlete's safety is paramount and

athletes should be able to execute at the minimum technical standards listed in the selection Appendix C. Should more athletes be nominated for a second event than there are quota spots, athletes will be ranked according to other experience/performance in the secondary event during the qualifying period

10. ALTERNATES

- 10.1. When all quota spots are filled, remaining athletes eligible for selection within that quota shall be identified, in order of their ranking outlined in section 10.2 to 10.5, as alternates per gender.
- 10.2. NSSBD shall identify all athletes who meet the criteria for selection set out above, but who cannot be selected due to quota limitations, as alternates in their specific event or events.
- 10.3. Should a nominated athlete, at any time before the CWG nomination deadline decline his or her selection or be declared unable to participate in a competitive manner, that athlete shall be replaced by the highest ranked alternate (or alternates) in his or her event (or events).
- 10.4. Should NSSBD not otherwise fill its overall quota by January 21, 2027, it shall include in its selections sufficient alternates to fill its overall quota, with athletes deemed to have the ability to compete safely at the CWG level of events. These alternates shall be chosen in order of ranking, with one alternate chosen in each event for which an alternate is available before a second alternate is chosen in any event. Alternates so identified shall not be entered into Canada Winter Games competition unless they are selected to replace a nominated athlete in accordance with Sections 10.3, 10.5 or 10.6 and, where applicable, the Canada Games Late Athlete Replacement Policy.
- 10.5. Should a selected athlete, at any time between January 16th, 2027 and the sport entry deadline February 5th, 2027, decline his or her nomination or be declared unable to participate in a competitive manner, that athlete shall be replaced, subject to the approval of NSSBD Selection Committee, by the highest ranked Alternate (or Alternates) in his or her event (or events).
- 10.6. Should a selected athlete, at any time between the sport entry deadline of 5:00 p.m. (a.s.t.) February 5th, 2027 and the opening of the 2027 CWG event training team captains meeting decline his or her selection or be declared unable to participate in a competitive manner, that athlete shall be replaced, subject to

CWG's Late Athlete Replacement Guidelines, as supported by the Assistant Chef de Mission, by the highest ranked Alternate (or Alternates) in his or her event (or events).

11. HEALTH RELATED CURTAILMENT OF ACTIVITIES

- 11.1. It may occur that an athlete is unable, because of a health-related curtailment of activities, to participate in sanctioned competitions for a period of at least four consecutive weeks during the Qualifying Period. In such circumstance the Qualifying Period for that athlete shall be extended backwards from April 15th, 2025 to include the same number of competitions in the athlete's primary event as are missed through the health-related curtailment of activities, with the following limitations:
- 11.2. A maximum of two results will be considered from FIS Noram or Equivalent events.
- 11.3. To be considered "*unable, by reason of a health related curtailment of activities, to compete*", an athlete must qualify under the FIS "injury status" regulations (which may be referenced in Section 4.5-4.6 of the FIS Points Rulebook {Snowboard})(https://assets.fis-ski.com/f/252177/x/e8e3c1c4ff/sbfsfk_fis_points.pdf), and must have her or his status confirmed by a medical professional of NSSBD's appointment/approval.
- 11.4. NSSBD may, at any time, require an athlete who appears, by reason of a health curtailment of activities, to be unable to participate in training or competition activities to obtain a medical assessment conducted by a NSSBD designated doctor. Following such an assessment, if it is NSSBD's determination that the athlete is unable to participate in the CWG *in a competitive manner*, NSSBD may remove that athlete from its list of selections to the Canada Winter Games Team.

12. ANNOUNCEMENT OF SELECTIONS

- 12.1. On January 16th, 2027, NSSBD shall determine the athletes it selects for positions on the 2027 Canada Winter Games Team. Also on that date, NSSBD shall determine the athletes it will select as alternates to the athletes it selects for the 2027 Canada Winter Games Team.
- 12.2. Subject to any revisions required by an athlete's decision to decline a selection to be a member of the 2027 Canada Winter Games Team, or by an athlete's inability

to participate at a competitive level due to a health-related curtailment of activities, NSSBD shall submit its list of athletes selected to the 2027 Canada Games Team

13. APPROVAL AND APPEAL PROCESS

13.1. Final decisions on the selection of athletes to the 2027 Canada Winter Games shall be made by the NSSBD CWG Selection Committee and announced by the President of NSSBD.

13.2. Any decision of the professional staff relating to the operation and conduct of the Selection Committee may be appealed by any member of NSSBD who is materially affected by that decision, and who is a member in good standing of NSSBD. Appeals must be conducted in writing to the President of NSSBD by Midnight AST Jan 20th, 2027 and be accompanied by a non-refundable fee of \$100.

14. CHANGES TO THIS DOCUMENT

14.1. Issues not otherwise addressed by this Selection Protocol shall be resolved by the President of NSSBD, in consultation with the Head Coach and selection committee.

Appendix A -

List of non- approved Nor Am Events from 2025-26 season due to lack of competitors:

Big Air:

Slopestyle:

SBX:

Alpine:

Halfpipe

Appendix C

Freestyle riding standards

FREESTYLE SKILLS

- Perform varied maneuvers on small and medium features
- Ability to enter and exit features regular and switch
- Ability to maneuver body position on a rail/box feature using both frontside and backside rotation (i.e. able to do both)
- Ability to vary the entrance into a rail/box feature – lip slides and front/back side approaches
- Ability to spin 180+ on and off of features in four directions (female)
- Ability to spin 360+ in four directions on jump features (male)
- Air stability with style (ability to grab/tweak/vary body position) on jumps
- Perform basic maneuvers on 30-50 foot jumps and halfpipes at 20-22 foot

SPEED SKILLS

- Speed management
- Timing of gross motor movements refined
- Symmetry in turn shape
- Riding varied terrain with speed
- SBX – ability to navigate small and medium course features at speed
- Develop basic tactics