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## **ALBERTA MOGUL TEAM SELECTION CRITERIA**

Updated: December, 2024

The Freestyle Alberta Mogul Team comprises the best provincial Freestyle Skiers representing Alberta in Provincial, National and International competitions. The goal of the provincial team program is to advance the skills of the athletes and to offer competitive opportunities in a team atmosphere to ultimately qualify the athlete for the Canadian National Team program.

There must be at least six interested athletes meeting a minimum skill level (MSL) to form a provincial team for any Freestyle discipline (Moguls, Aerials, Halfpipe, Big Air, and Slopestyle). A maximum team size will be decided based upon the number of eligible athletes and operational budget. The Freestyle Alberta Director of Sport and Development with input from the FA Team coaches and Freestyle Alberta High Performance Committee (HP Committee) will assess whether the athlete meets the minimum skill level to join the Alberta Team program.

### **TIMEFRAME**

- The Alberta Mogul Team Selection period: December 1, 2024 through April 30, 2025
- Team selection is for one calendar year (May to April)

### **ELIGIBILITY**

To be eligible for selection to the Alberta Team Mogul an athlete must:

- Have an active membership with Freestyle Canada indicating that they are part of a Freestyle Alberta registered club.
- Be registered in a Freestyle Alberta club program; or be registered to the Alberta Freestyle Ski Team.
- Have no outstanding debt with Freestyle Alberta or a Freestyle Alberta registered club.



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## SELECTION METHOD

Selection to the FA Mogul Team will be based on the FA final RPA Ranking List. All athletes eligible for selection will be ranked using their four highest ranking events eligible ranked events.

The Alberta Mogul ranking list will be calculated using the relative point average (RPA) method, where an athlete's ranking points are determined by their competition score relative to that competition's overall winner. The table of eligible events and the corresponding values can be found in the appendix. In dual moguls competition, the athlete's event placing will be used to calculate the athlete's placement score relative to the event value.

The HP Committee reserves the right to select athletes based on Special Rankings considerations or Extraordinary circumstance clause. The Freestyle Alberta HP Committee, with input from the FA Team Head Coaches, reviews all matters related to selection. The Freestyle AB Director of Sport and Development will be a member of this committee and will hold the tie breaking vote.

Freestyle Alberta values gender equity and aims to have an equal representation of male and female athletes. The Freestyle Alberta HP Committee, with input from the FA Team Head Coaches, will determine the minimum performance level for the Alberta Freestyle Ski Team. If a gender ranking list does not fill the full quota based on the minimum performance level the unused spots will be transferred to the other gender.

## SELECTION PROCESS

The selection of athletes to participate in the Alberta Mogul Team is the responsibility of the Director of Sport and Development, acting on the recommendations of the Freestyle Alberta High Performance Committee (HP Committee).

All revisions to Alberta Team Selection documents shall, unless otherwise specifically indicated, come into effect immediately upon their ratification by Freestyle AB Director of Sport and Development of Freestyle Alberta.

Within 14 days of the competition of the final eligible event:

1. The HP Committee reviews the initial ranking list and determines if there are any Special Ranking Considerations (see Appendix).



2. Eligible athletes are identified and ranked for nominations.
3. Athletes who would qualify for Extraordinary Circumstances (i.e. Injury, etc.) are identified and ranked appropriately.
4. Nominated athletes will be officially notified, having a period of 7 days to accept or decline selection.

## **OUT OF PROVINCE ATHLETES**

Out of province athletes may be considered for selection to Alberta Team if:

- Team spot allocations have not been exhausted following selection of all Alberta athletes that have met the required minimum skill level for Alberta Team, out of province athletes may be considered for remaining spots based on ranking.
- The out of province athlete will improve the daily training environment for current Alberta Team athletes.

## **ATHLETE SKILL DEVELOPMENT CLAUSE**

When a skier is first named to the Alberta Mogul Team, Freestyle Alberta recognizes that he or she will often be breaking down their skills to build for their long-term success; this reshaping of skills could result in a short-term dip in their performance results and their HP Ranking Score. Rookie athletes will be monitored for compliance of their coaches (skiing, S&C, acrobatic) input. Those skiers who are adjusting their skills through their coaches' input will be considered for a second year on the NG team even if their ranking score falls below the cut-off for selection. This is an option for the HP Committee but not an entitlement for rookie skiers; only rookie skiers who are progressing in their skill development will be considered for this option.

## **APPEALS**

An appeal of any decision of the HP Committee may be made by any Freestyle Alberta member in good standing. Appeals must be conducted in accordance with the Appeals Policy established by Freestyle Alberta.



## GENERAL

Issues not otherwise covered by this document are subject to the decision of the Freestyle Alberta Director of Sport and Development, in consultation with the HP Committee.

## APPENDIX

### ELIGIBLE EVENTS AND VALUES

EVENT	VALUE
Alberta Provincial Series	65%
Canadian Series	75%
Junior Nationals	75%
Senior Nationals	90%
Canada Winter Games	85%
NorAm Cup	95%
Canadian Selections	85%
Junior World Champs	95%

### RELATIVE POINT AVERAGE (RPA) METHOD

Relative point average (RPA) is the basis for ranking Alberta athletes in Moguls, RPA is determined by calculating the athlete's score relative to the top score of the event.

For example: The best score of a mogul run is 24.6. This score results in a RPA of 1000. The next best score is 23.1. Applying the RPA formula:  $23.1 / 24.6 = 0.939$  or an RPA of 939. The resulting RPA score is then multiplied by the event value to determine the athlete's final score for the event. Once all scores are converted to RPA they are ranked from highest to lowest.

Athletes will only be allowed to use 1 RPA score from each competition. RPA calculations will automatically use the higher RPA from a competition.



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## **SPECIAL RANKING CONSIDERATIONS**

The Freestyle Alberta HP Committee may in some cases choose to select athletes out of the initial ranking order. In such cases the committee must record in detail the reasons for its decisions. These reasons must support the program goals outlined at the beginning of this document.

Special Ranking Considerations include, but are not limited to the following examples:

- An athlete who is showing excellent results and increasing their performance results may be moved higher than their calculated ranking.
- An athlete who shows excellent physical characteristics and/or technical capability; may be moved higher than their calculated ranking. (Rational: in some stages of development an athlete may focus on training and not perform as well at competition.)
- An athlete who might have demonstrated high achievement of KPIs/benchmarks but may not have a competition ranking reflective of their ability.
- An athlete who has had opportunities and is not advancing towards the program goal may move lower than their calculated ranking.
- When there is a relatively narrow point spread between two athletes, there is greater chance of "out of order" selection.
- An athlete with strong work ethic and commitment to training opportunities may move ahead of an athlete who has not demonstrated these traits.
- Athletes who have reached major event podiums in recent years.

## **EXTRAORDINARY CIRCUMSTANCES**

Extraordinary circumstances include, but are not limited to circumstances such as injury, death in the family.

The HP Committee will nominate athletes they feel do qualify under this clause if:

- An athlete misses an entire season due to health-related curtailment of activities the selection period will be extended backwards to a maximum of one season.
- An athlete misses a portion of the competition season due to health-related curtailment of activities; the selection period will be extended backwards.
- The Selection Committee has the discretion to make exceptions to injury clause for special cases. This may include expanding the backwards extension of the selection period, or other adjustments to meet the special case.



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- Freestyle Alberta may, at any time, require an athlete who is unable to participate in training or competition due to injury, to obtain a medical assessment from a team physician. The purpose of the medical assessment is to confirm the degree of the athlete's injury and the anticipated time of the athlete's recovery.
  - The Selection Committee, with input from medical experts, may prevent an athlete from entering the event if the pace of the athlete's rehabilitation from injury warrants doing so.

## **Future Talent Identification**

Club level athletes who have demonstrated strong development and are trending towards Alberta Mogul Team qualification may be invited to a select training opportunity or skill evaluation session that allows the provincial team coaching staff to work directly with the athlete to evaluate development potential. These opportunities will allow the coaches to better assess specific skills and overall aptitude for longer term provincial team selection while providing direct feedback on expectations to the athlete.