2026-2027 MOGULS / DUAL MOGULS / AERIALS

NORAM SPOT ALLOCATION CRITERIA

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1. Introduction

The NorAm competition series is part of the FIS Continental Cup level of competitions and serves as a place to gain international competition experience as athletes prepare for World Cup events later in their career. There are five Continental Cup series, including the NorAm circuit for American and Canadian athletes

Freestyle Canada receives quota spots from the International Ski Federation (FIS) NorAm Committee to distribute to Canadian mogul/aerials athletes who wish to compete on the NorAm circuit. This document will describe the process of allocating these quota spots.

Freestyle Canada holds the authority to allocate the Canadian FIS spots; this is done each year using the FIS – Continental Cup (COC) Rules and Freestyle Canada's NorAm Quota Policy. The link to the current COC Rules can be found here:
https://assets.fis-ski.com/f/252177/x/e7eb8a6467/coc-rules-sb-fs-fk.pdf

2. Purpose of the NorAm Circuit

Freestyle Canada's Long-Term Athlete Development (LTAD) model is designed to have athletes progress through key learning and experiential objectives as they develop their skills. The following NorAm competition objectives facilitate the learning of meaningful competitive skills:

- Provide international competitive opportunities targeted at athletes in the high-performance athlete development stream (Podium Pathway) who are demonstrating long-term major event podium potential within eight years. In priority order these athletes are:
    - National team members (A, B & C)
    - Provincial/Territorial team members
- To prepare athletes for the international competitive stage and FIS World Cup Circuit (same competition formats, exposure to different challenging courses, traveling outside Canada, etc.)
- Provide Continental Cup podium experiences (learning to perform at "Train to Compete" level)
- Provide athletes with competitive opportunities where they can qualify to be selected onto the national team program.

3. NorAm Mogul/Aerial Quota Allocation Processes

The following guidelines direct the NorAm Quota Allocation Committee in allocating spots fairly and effectively:

- NorAm Mogul/Aerial competitions target skiers at the “Learn to Compete” and “Train to Compete” LTAD stages in our system. Targeted athletes are typically Tier C National team (a.k.a. NextGen) and provincial team skiers; however, these events may include skiers in the provincial development programs and also include National team members who require specific skills or experiences.
- Recognize there could be Canadian skiers who are “outliers”: skiers not currently ranked in the Freestyle Canada HPP ranking system. To allow targeted, non-ranked skiers to compete, Freestyle Canada may retain quotas for strategic development opportunities (Smart Tracking) as deemed appropriate by the Allocation Committee.
- There is no obligation for Freestyle Canada to fill all quota spots.
- All FC NorAm allocated spots, including spots allocated by name from HPP rankings, must be approved by the athlete’s P/TSO and supported by Freestyle Canada. In some cases, a P/TSO may approve the spot for specific events, to align with the athlete’s development stage and readiness.

4. Mogul/Aerial NorAm Quota Allocation Committee

Spots will be allocated as per the outlined process by the Mogul NorAm Quota Allocation Committee (the “Allocation Committee"). The Committee is responsible for selecting athletes and allocating spots for the NorAm circuit, it is comprised of:

- 2 National Team program Coaches (of the relevant discipline)
- Sport Development Director (tie breaking vote)
- Sport Development Manager

Other people who are part of discussions and help give perspective when voting is needed are:

- Other National Team Coach
- High Performance Director

The Allocation Committee has the authority by vote to make decisions on disputes.

5. Athlete Eligibility

- Athletes must have an active FIS number
- Freestyle Canada FIS License, with appropriate insurance
- Meet the FIS age requirement. See International Competition Rules (ICR), 2013.4.4: https://assets.fis-ski.com/f/252177/x/74599b71fa/sbfsfk-new-icr-spring-2026_clean.pdf
- 5 FIS points minimum to be entered into NorAm Mogul Event (FIS rule)
- have a year-round, periodized training program
- have a Comp Dev level coach (Certified preferred, Trained status as a minimum) who works with Freestyle Canada's LTAD, GMP and skill matrix with the goal of developing high performance athletes)

For Moguls

Have the Minimum Performance Level (MPL):

- have achieved at least one Top-20 result, within the top 50% of the final rankings, at a FIS level event, during the 2025-26 or 2026-27 season
- have competed an invert in the previous season or at the 2026 Apex Classic

6. NorAm Mogul Quota Allocation Process for Canadian Spots

Freestyle Canada can allocate fifty (46) spots to Canadian athletes. These spots are split evenly between Male & Female athletes (20 spots for men and 20 spots for women). The remaining 6 spots will be split depending on the skill level and readiness of the athlete. As per the FIS Continental Cup Rules, any unused gender quota can be moved to the other gender to a maximum of 30 per gender. The allocation of spots in the mogul discipline will be for both, single and dual mogul events.

The 26-27 NorAm quotas will be allocated to athletes for the entire NorAm competition series, except for Wild Card spots where the committee may decide to offer event specific quotas to emerging athletes.

There is no obligation for Freestyle Canada to fill all quota spots, especially if the skill level is not deemed appropriate for the FIS NorAm circuit.

6.1 Allocation process and timeline

Freestyle Canada will apply the following process to allocate Canadian NorAm quota spots by gender:

STEP 1 : Mogul National Team Athletes

- The Freestyle Canada High Performance Program retains the number of spots required for the Mogul National Team athletes (which includes NextGen Team).

STEP 2 : 2025-2026 HPP rankings

- The top 10 active women and top 10 active men (excluding National team athletes) from the 2025-2026 Mogul HPP ranking have a spot for the full NorAm Tour. If the spot is declined, the unfilled spot will be allocated using step 3.

Athletes must confirm their spot by **November 1, 2026**.

STEP 3 : 2026 Apex Classic

- Following the two December 2026 Apex Classic, a ranking will be determined by doing the total of the 3 best scores, using a minimum of 1 result from the 2026 Apex Classic. Parameters of the 26-27 Freestyle Canada FIS rankings (previously known as Toyo Cup rankings) will be used. Eligible events are : 2025-2026 NorAms MO/DM & 2025-2026 Canada Cup - FIS Series MO/DM events and 2026 Apex Classic.
  Up to a maximum of 20 men and 20 women will be selected after this step (including athletes selected in steps 1 & 2).

Athletes must confirm their spot by **December 23, 2026**.

STEP 4 : Wild Cards

- The remaining spots will be allocated through the Wild Card process. Freestyle Canada does not have to fill all spots. Wild Card spots are intended for athletes in one or more of the following situations:
  1. An athlete returning from medically documented injury that has prevented them from training camps over the last 6 months and/or has missed more than 50% of the 2025-26 HPP eligible events.
  2. An athlete who is demonstrating a fast progression and NorAm readiness in relation to Freestyle Canada's skill matrix and performing well at the Apex Classic in December 2026.

Variables that will be considered:

● Previous results at HPP eligible competitions ● Skill level (based on video and National Team coach observations during the Apex Classic event) ● Any other aspects that demonstrates readiness to compete on NorAm level courses

Wild Card Application Process:

- P/TSOs are responsible to coordinate and request Wild Card applications, which must be sent to julien@freestylecanada.ski by **December 21, 2026**

- Coaches of the applicant athletes will be asked to share video with two "top to bottom competition runs", from the Apex course in December 2026.

- Once submissions and skill assessment reports from the NT Coaches are received, the NorAm Quota Allocation Committee will review the packages and make a decision on allocating remaining spots.

- Once the Wild Card decisions and ranking are made, the athlete's P/TSO will be notified by Freestyle Canada and receive their respective athlete's skill assessment.

Athletes must confirm their spot 48 hours after receiving it.

7. Aerial process

Freestyle Canada can allocate fifty (30) spots to Canadian athletes. These spots are split evenly between Male & Female athletes (15 spots for men and 15 spots for women). As per the FIS Continental Cup Rules, any unused gender quota can be moved to the other gender. The allocation of spots in the aerial discipline will be for both, aerial and team aerial events.

The 26-27 NorAm quotas will be allocated to athletes for the entire NorAm competition series, except if communicated otherwise by Committee to offer event specific quotas to emerging athletes.

There is no obligation for Freestyle Canada to fill all quota spots, especially if the skill level is not deemed appropriate for the FIS NorAm circuit.

7.1 Allocation process and timeline

Freestyle Canada will apply the following process to allocate Canadian NorAm quota spots by gender:

STEP 1: Confirm National Team Athletes:
The Freestyle Canada High Performance Program retains the number of spots required for the National Team athletes (which includes NextGen Team). These athletes will have their spot granted for the full NorAm circuit.
STEP 2: The next ranked athlete per gender from the 25-26 HPP Rankings will be granted a spot for the full NorAm circuit.

Athletes must confirm their spot by **November 1, 2026**.

STEP 3: If spots still remain, P/TSOs may request spots for their athletes progressing for this level. To make sure of the athlete's participation, a request must be made no later than 2 weeks prior to the event to the FC Sport Development Manager.

Extraordinary circumstances
2 spots per gender will be held for extraordinary circumstances, if not used or not fully used, the spot(s) will go back to step 2 or 3.

8. Extraordinary circumstances

What is an extraordinary circumstance?

An athlete who is progressing in their career but has a setback due to an injury, a death in the family or similar life or psychological experiences could be afforded additional flexibility for HPP Moguls or Aerials rankings, National Team Selection, and other Freestyle Canada decisions; these situations are referred to as "Exceptional Circumstances". These situations need to be supported by a note from a FC recognized medical provider and the P/TSO to be considered for a Nor-Am quota spot. The following variables, but not limited to, will be considered by the committee to determine if a quota spot is allocated to the affected athlete:

- Previous results at HPP eligible competitions
- If the athlete has missed a significant amount of eligible events (~50% or more);
- Skill level (Video may be requested by the committee);
- Readiness to compete. The committee may require further medical clearance to ensure the athlete is deemed safe to compete and ready to perform the minimum level listed above

The athlete must clearly demonstrate he has achieved better performances/higher skill level than the next ranked athlete to be granted this clause.

9. Unforeseen Circumstances

This policy is intended to apply as drafted and, specifically, where no athletes are prevented from competing because of unforeseen circumstances. Where unforeseen circumstances or circumstances beyond FC's control do not allow an adequate number of qualifying competitions to take place in a fair manner, the Allocation Committee will meet to consider alternative competition results and/or extend the dates for selection. Any changes, along with the logic for the change, will be communicated to the P/TSO leads at the earliest time after the decisions are made.