2026-2027 SLOPESTYLE / BIG AIR / STREET STYLE / HALFPIPE

NORAM SPOT ALLOCATION CRITERIA

October 2026

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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 slopestyle 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 to be identified for the national team program

3. SLOPESTYLE, BIG AIR, RAIL EVENT & HALFPIPE NORAM FIS QUOTA ALLOCATION

NorAm events are targeted for the Train to Compete athlete stage. For the 2026-2027 FIS competitive season, Canada will not be recognizing the Rev Tour FIS events for any national ranking system, only the NorAm recognized events where Canada receive regular quota.

Each year, Freestyle Canada has the authority from FIS to allocate the NorAm quotas and entries to FIS sanctioned events.

3.1. NorAm Selection Committee

Spots will be allocated as per the outlined process by the SS/BA/ST/HP 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

3.2. Principles of allocating the NorAm quotas

The following are guidelines to direct the selection committee in allocating the NorAm spots effectively:

- Provide the Train to Compete stage athletes within the Freestyle Canada athlete development system with these competitive opportunities. These events are a critical step in their development.
- Provide the National Team athletes with NorAm competition where and when needed to support their progress towards the World Cup stage.

- Provide a process for athletes returning from injury who may have missed competitive opportunities to be selected and have the required skill for this competitive stage of the pathway.

4. ALLOCATION PROCESS

4.1. NorAm Quota system

Here are the initial quotas for all NorAms :

Canada: 20 male & 20 female spots (as of now 15 for Mammoth)

USA: 20 male & 20 female spots

Foreign, other countries: 20 total – Max of 8 per nation with a max 5 per gender

In addition, the top 16 competitors in the current FIS points list (each event) will receive a personal spot (CoC rule).

These spots are allocated as per the process outlined below.

For the Canadian NorAms, more spots may be available, Freestyle Canada will set the field number with the Organizing Committee and manage spot distribution.

The process for allocation described below will be applied individually to Slopestyle / Big Air / Street Style and Halfpipe.

Freestyle Canada reserves the right not to allocate all quota spots if the skill level is not deemed appropriate for the NorAm circuit.

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.

4.2. Athletes' 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), 2013.3.4: https://assets.fis-ski.com/f/252177/x/74599b71fa/sbfsfk-new-icr-spring-2026_clean.pdf
- 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)
- Meet the Freestyle Canada Minimum Skill Level:
    - Halfpipe
        - Men:
            - Both directions down the pipe 540° or flare.
            - One switch spin 540+
            - Both way alley oop 360°
            - 2 different grabs
        - Women:
            - One direction 360°
            - One direction 540°
            - Both direction alley oop's
            - 2 different grabs
    - SS-BA
        - Men: 2 different ways doubles
        - Women: 3 different ways 540s and one 720

4.3. Halfpipe NorAm Spot Allocations

Quota for all HP Nor-Am events will be allocated as per the following process.

- Allocations will be done by **November 1st, 2026**

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.

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.

4.4. Slopestyle/Big Air/Rail Event NorAm Spot Allocations

STEP 1 : Full Nor-Am Tour Nation Quota spots (20 spots per gender, 15 for Mammoth as of now)

- Full Nor-Am Tour Nation Quota spots will be automatically allocated to all confirmed National Team members and the following ranked athletes on the 25-26 HPP rankings (athlete needs 3 valid HPP scores), by gender. 3 spots per gender will be held for extraordinary circumstances, if not used or not fully used, the spot(s) will go to the next ranked athlete on the 25-26 HPP rankings (athlete needs 3 valid HPP scores), until Nation Quota spots are filled.

Athletes must confirm their spot by **November 1, 2026**.
P/TSOs must submit a demand for extraordinary circumstances by **October 29, 2026.**

STEP 2 : Alternate, additional or host spots for Copper/Stoneham NorAm

- For alternate, additional or host spots for the Copper/Stoneham NorAms, the next athlete per gender on the 25-26 HPP rankings (athlete needs 3 valid HPP scores) and when the list is exhausted, the 25-26 Toyo Cup rankings will be used to select the next athlete (excluding National Team athletes and athletes already selected in previous steps).

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

STEP 3 : Alternate, additional or host spots for Aspen/Mammoth NorAm (as of FEB 1st)

- For alternate, additional or host spots for the Aspen/Mammoth NorAms, a combination of scores from the 2025-2026 season and 2026-2027 season will be used to select the next athlete per gender.
  Ranking will be determined by doing the total of the 3 best scores, using a minimum of 1 result from the 26-27 season.
  Parameters of the 26-27 Freestyle Canada FIS rankings (previously known as Toyo Cup rankings) will be used. Eligible events are : 2025-2026 NorAms SS/BA/RE & 2025-2026 Canada Cup - FIS Series SS/BA/RE events and 2027 Sun Peaks - Freestyle Canada : FIS Series event & 2027 Copper NorAm (max 1 ST or RE result)

Athletes must confirm their spot by **February 4, 2027**.

STEP 4 : Alternate, additional or host spots for Whistler NorAm (as of FEB 22nd)

- For alternate, additional or host spots for the Whistler NorAm, ranking will be determined by doing the total of the 3 best scores of the 2026-2027 NorAms SS/BA/ST & 2026-2027 Freestyle Canada - FIS Series SS/BA/ST events using parameters of the 26-27 Freestyle Canada FIS rankings (max 1 ST result).

Athletes must confirm their spot by **February 25, 2027**.

Extraordinary circumstances for Canadian NorAms

- Freestyle Canada may consider more extraordinary circumstances spots for Canadian NorAms with a bigger quota for Canadian athletes.

*Selected athletes will have 24 hours to confirm their spot

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 Slopestyle / Big Air / Street Style 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 skills listed in section 4.2.

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

***Non NorAm sanctioned Rev Tour events will not be valued for the HPP rankings.**

5. 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 HPP selection 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.