CANADA CUP SELECTION CRITERIA

Updated: October 2026

Preamble

The Canada Cup is an opportunity for athletes to compete at the national tour of competition. The tour is operated by Freestyle Canada (FC). Freestyle Alberta (FAB) aims to select the top performing Albertan athletes to attend the Canada Cups in all disciplines.

Determination of Provincial Quotas

Freestyle Canada establishes the allocation of divisional quotas for the Canada Cup Series. The quotas allocated to the Alberta division are the property of Freestyle Alberta. Only Freestyle AB can select the athletes to fill the quotas allocated to the AB division for the Canada Cup Series. Freestyle Canada will reallocate unused quotas.

Eligibility for Selection to a Canada Cup

To be eligible to compete at a Canada Cup, an athlete must:

- Be a member in good standing with Freestyle AB;
- Be a member of a Freestyle Alberta team/club program or the Alberta Freestyle Ski Team;
- Receive a quota spot from Freestyle Alberta through the selection process

Out of province athletes

Athletes in programs outside Freestyle Alberta must have a Freestyle Alberta membership. They can represent only one provincial sport organization, determined by their membership before the competition season starts. Athletes must primarily represent an Alberta club or team and hold a Freestyle Alberta membership. Athletes who have represented other provinces in the current or previous ski season may not be eligible for an Alberta division spot. The Freestyle AB High Performance Committee will determine membership status.

Selection Process

Method A - Athletes that are members of the Alberta Freestyle Ski Team will be given priority quota spots for their respective discipline. Should there not be enough quota spots for all Team members, Method B will be used to select intra-team.

Method B - Selection for the remaining Canada Cup quota spots will be based on the current Alberta provincial rankings through the relevant selection period.

Nomination process

Athletes who wish to attend a Canada Cup competition must submit an expression of interest through their team/club's Head Coach. Only athletes who have submitted an expression of interest will be considered for an Alberta quota spot. Submissions of interest can be sent by email to the Director of Sport and Development jeremy@freestylealberta.ski

Canada Cup – Mogul Selection

All athletes eligible for selection will be ranked using their three highest ranking events from eligible moguls and dual moguls events during the selection period. The ranking will be determined using the RPA method point system for the relevant selection period.

Freestyle AB values gender equity and aims to have an equal representation of male and female athletes. The Freestyle AB HP Committee, with input from the Alberta Team Head Coaches, will determine the minimum performance level for the Canada Cups. 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.

The selection committee reserves the right to select athletes based on Special Rankings considerations or Extraordinary circumstance clause (see appendix). The Freestyle AB HP Committee, with input from the Alberta 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.

Event start dates - Moguls

Based on the information FA has at the time of writing, the start dates for this year's events are:

- Apex Classic: December 17, 2026
- Canada Cup DEV #1 – Canyon: January 28, 2027
- Canada Cup DEV #2 – Orford: February 11, 2027
- Senior Nationals (location TBD): March 25, 2027

Nomination deadlines – Moguls

The nomination deadlines for submitting an expression of interest through an athlete's team/club's Head Coach to Freestyle Alberta are:

- Apex Classic: October 28, 2026
- Canada Cup DEV #1 – Canyon: October 28, 2026
- Canada Cup DEV #2 – Orford: October 28, 2026
- Senior Nationals (location TBD): February 8, 2027

Selection Periods – Moguls

The ranking list for the relevant qualifying period will be used for the relevant event. The qualifying periods used for the 2026 event season will be:

- Apex Classic: all eligible events from the 25/26 competition year
- Canada Cup DEV #1 – Canyon: all eligible events from the 25/26 competition year
- Canada Cup DEV #2 – Orford: all eligible events from the 25/26 competition year, plus all eligible events from the 26/27 competition year prior to December 21, 2026
- Senior Nationals: all eligible events from the 26/27 competition year prior to February 22, 2027

Selection deadlines – Moguls

- Apex Classic: October 28, 2026
- Canada Cup DEV #1 – Canyon: November 26, 2026
- Canada Cup DEV #2 – Orford: December 22, 2026
- Senior Nationals (location TBD): February 24, 2027

Summary table (*refer to selection periods above for details)

Moguls (MO & DM)	**FIS: Apex Classic**	**CC Dev: Canyon**	**CC Dev: Orford**	**Senior Nationals**
Nomination deadline	2026-10-28	2026-10-28	2026-10-28	2027-02-08
Selection deadline	2026-10-29	2026-11-26	2026-12-22	2027-02-24
Qualifying events	25/26	25/26	25/26 + 26/27	26/27

Canada Cup – Slopestyle, Rail Event, & Big Air Selection

All athletes eligible for selection will be ranked using their three highest ranking events from eligible slopestyle, rail events, and big air events during the selection period. A maximum of one big air OR one rail event is eligible to be used for selection. The ranking will be determined using the AB Park & Pipe place value point system for the relevant selection period.

Freestyle AB values gender equity and aims to have an equal representation of male and female athletes. The Freestyle AB HP Committee, with input from the Alberta Team Head Coaches, will determine the minimum performance level for the Canada Cups. 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.

The selection committee reserves the right to select athletes based on Special Rankings considerations or Extraordinary circumstance clause (see appendix). The Freestyle AB HP Committee, with input from the Alberta 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.

Event start dates - Slopestyle

Based on the information FA has at the time of writing, the start dates for this year's events are:

- Canada Cup FIS #1 – Sun Peaks: January 27, 2027
- Canada Cup DEV #1 – Winsport: February 4, 2027
- Canada Cup FIS #2 – Wentworth: February 17, 2027
- Canada Cup DEV #2 – Orford: March 23, 2027

Nomination deadlines – Slopestyle

The nomination deadlines for submitting an expression of interest through an athlete's team/club's Head Coach to Freestyle Alberta are:

- Canada Cup FIS #1 – Sun Peaks: October 28, 2026
- Canada Cup DEV #1 – Winsport: October 28, 2026
- Canada Cup FIS #2 – Wentworth: October 28, 2026
- Canada Cup DEV #2 – Orford: October 28, 2026

Selection Periods – Slopestyle

The ranking list for the relevant qualifying period will be used for the relevant event. The qualifying periods used for the 2026 event season will be:

- Canada Cup FIS #1 – Sun Peaks: all events from the 25/26 competition year
- Canada Cup DEV #1 – Winsport: all events from the 25/26 competition year
- Canada Cup FIS #2 – Wentworth: all events from the 25/26 competition year
- Canada Cup DEV #2 – Orford: all events from the 25/26 competition year, plus all eligible events from the 26/27 competition year prior to January 25, 2027

Selection deadlines – Slopestyle

- Canada Cup FIS #1 – Sun Peaks: November 26, 2026
- Canada Cup DEV #1 – Winsport: November 26, 2026
- Canada Cup FIS #2 – Wentworth: November 26, 2026
- Canada Cup DEV #2 – Orford: January 27, 2026

Summary table

Freeski (SS, BA, RE)	**FIS CC: Sun Peaks**	**CC Dev: Winsport**	**FIS CC: Wentworth**	**CC Dev: Orford**
Nomination deadline	2026-10-28	2026-10-28	2026-10-28	2026-10-28
Selection deadline	2026-11-26	2026-11-26	2026-11-26	2027-01-27
Qualifying events	25/26	25/26	25/26	25/26 + 26/27

Canada Cup – Halfpipe

All athletes eligible for selection will be ranked using their three highest ranking events from eligible halfpipe events during the selection period. The ranking will be determined using the AB Park & Pipe place value point system for the relevant selection period.

Freestyle AB values gender equity and aims to have an equal representation of male and female athletes. The Freestyle AB HP Committee, with input from the Alberta Team Head Coaches, will determine the minimum performance level for the Canada Cups. 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.

The selection committee reserves the right to select athletes based on Special Rankings considerations or Extraordinary circumstance clause (see appendix). The Freestyle AB HP Committee, with input from the Alberta 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.

Event start dates - Halfpipe

Based on the information FA has at the time of writing, the start dates for this year's events are:

- Canada Cup DEV #1 – Winsport: February 4, 2027

Nomination deadlines – Halfpipe

The nomination deadlines for submitting an expression of interest through an athlete's team/club's Head Coach to Freestyle Alberta are:

- Canada Cup DEV #1 – Winsport: October 28, 2026

Selection Periods – Halfpipe

The ranking list for the relevant qualifying period will be used for the relevant event. The qualifying periods used for the 2026 event season will be:

- Canada Cup DEV #1 – Winsport: all events from the 25/26 competition year

Selection deadlines – Halfpipe

- Canada Cup DEV #1 – Winsport: November 26, 2026

Summary table

Freeski (HP)	**CC Dev: Winsport**
Nomination deadline	2026-10-28
Selection deadline	2026-11-26
Qualifying events	25/26

Appendix

Special Ranking Considerations

The Freestyle AB 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 her or his 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 her or his calculated ranking. This is more likely to happen early in an athlete's career. Rational: in some stages of development an athlete may focus on training and not perform as well at competition.
- An athlete who has had opportunities and is not advancing towards the program goal may move lower than her or his 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 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.
- If 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.
- Freestyle AB 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.