



Selection Policy (Individual)

“PSO” refers to: The Manitoba Freestyle Ski Association Inc.

Note: Sport Manitoba requires that Provincial Sport PSOs have a policy in place that clearly defines Provincial Team selection for athletes, teams and coaches, where applicable.

SPORT: FREESTYLE SKIING

EVENT: Freestyle Skiing Park & Pipe

POLICY: Athlete Selection Policy

SECTION 1 – PURPOSE

The purpose of this document is to set out the process that will be used by the PSO to select athletes to represent the PSO at the Canadian Junior National Park & Pipe Championships (Jr. Nationals).

SECTION 2 – OBJECTIVE

The objective of this selection policy is to select 6 athletes who will participate in the Canadian Junior Park & Pipe Championships. Athletes are selected in the following categories:

- **Male** athletes (2-3)
- **Female** athletes (2-3)

The number of athletes eligible for selection is based on the allocation provided by the NSO. If the total number of athletes is even, the selection will be equally divided between male and female athletes. However, if the number is odd, the final spot will be decided by the Selection Committee against the *Selection Criteria*.



SECTION 3 – ELIGIBILITY

To be eligible for selection, the athletes must be:

- At least 13 Years of age,
- Members in good standing with the PSO
- Agree to adhere to the PSO's policies
- Registered with Freestyle Manitoba, and a certified club within Manitoba.
- Capable of performing and maintaining a skill-set as defined by the current High-Performance Coach.

SECTION 4 – SELECTION PROCESS

Selection Criteria

To be selected to represent Manitoba at the Jr. Nationals, athletes must demonstrate exceptional skills and abilities within their age category, along with consistent competition results. The selection process will consider both the previous and current seasons. The following criteria will be used in the athlete selection process:

- The number of competitions attended, the strength of the competition, and the athlete's performance in these events will be evaluated by the HP Coach when making selections.
- Athletes who show outstanding physical attributes and/or technical capabilities may be ranked higher than other athletes. (Rationale: At certain stages of development, athletes may prioritize training over competition performance.)
- Athletes who have demonstrated significant achievement of KPIs/benchmarks but lack a competition ranking that reflects their true abilities will still be considered.
- Athletes who have had sufficient opportunities but are not progressing toward program goals may be ranked lower than expected based on their calculated results.
- Athletes with a strong work ethic and commitment to training may be prioritized over athletes who have not shown the same dedication.



Athlete Skill-set KPI/Benchmarks:

- Males must have a minimum of one qualified invert or off-axis trick on-snow.
- Females must be able to spin a minimum of 360 in two directions.

NOTE: As the athletes are separated by age group at Jr. Nationals, this minimum skill-set may increase based on age.

Athletes may be pre-selected based on the previous year's competition results, merit, and overall skill level. To remain eligible, athletes must maintain their snow qualifications and continue training throughout the competition year. Furthermore, athletes must participate in the prerequisite competition held before the Jr. Nationals to be considered for selection.

The HP Coach and coaching staff will inform the PSO of their selected athletes for the Jr. Nationals. The PSO will then verify the athletes' qualifications and results against the HP Coach's selection criteria.

Alternate athletes will only be chosen if necessary, with the decision made by the HP Coach and followed by verification by the PSO.

Selection Process:

- Within 14 days of the final eligible competition or training event, the Selection Committee will review athletes against the Selection Criteria and identify any special considerations.
- Eligible athletes will be selected by the Selection Committee.
- The PSO will confirm the list of selected athletes.
- Nominated athletes will be officially notified by the Selection Committee and will have 7 days to accept or decline the invitation.

Tie-Breaking

In the event of a tie-breaking event, the final selection will be held by a majority vote including coaches and technical director.



Unforeseen Circumstances

If unforeseen circumstances arise which do not allow for this selection process to be implemented as outlined in this document, the PSO reserves the right to identify an alternate process or alternate timelines. Should this occur, all candidates for selection will be notified of these changes in a timely manner.

Athletes will participate in training and out of province competitions. Athletes may be exempted from participation due to sickness, injury, or other circumstances. These athletes shall still be eligible for selection provided they have a signed letter from a medical professional and approval from the PSO.

SECTION 5 – AUTHORITY FOR SELECTION

The PSO shall appoint member(s) to be responsible for managing the selection of athletes to the Jr.Nationals. The member(s) shall be known as a Selection Committee and are responsible for reviewing the competition results, strength of competition, and athlete skill-set. The Selection Committee will be responsible for liaising with the selected athletes.

Using the criteria outlined in Section 4, Selection Criteria, the Selection Committee will choose both male and female athletes to attend the Jr. Nationals, based on the quota of invitations granted by the NSO. The Selection Committee is not required to fill the quota if there are not enough eligible athletes to occupy the available spots.

The Selection Committee must be free from actual and perceived conflict of interest and, where conflict of interest may exist, Committee members must identify the conflict and excuse themselves from the selection process. Parents of athletes, or other individuals deemed by the PSO to have special interest in the selection process, are not permitted to be members of the Selection Committee.



SECTION 6 – DISMISSAL

An athlete may be removed from the selection process or after receiving an invitation if the athlete:

- Fails to remain in good standing with the PSO.
- Fails to meet performance expectations.
- Fails to train towards or achieve the performance benchmarks.
- Exhibits conduct that negatively impacts the image of the PSO.
- Is unable to compete due to injury, illness, or other medical reasons, as determined by the PSO's medical staff.

SECTION 7 – APPEALS

Appeals of selection decisions will be heard and decided in accordance with the PSO's *Appeal Policy*.

SECTION 8 – INJURED and REPLACEMENT ATHLETES

The coaches and/or the Selection Committee may apply to the PSO's Board to remove any athlete from any stage of the athlete selection process. Reasons for removal can include: becoming no longer eligible for participation (under Section 3), injury, illness, or misconduct. Reasons for removal will be communicated by written correspondence to the athlete from the PSO.

The Selection Committee shall designate alternate athletes in each category. Alternate athletes may be selected if one or more of the originally selected athletes are dismissed prior to the Jr.Nationals.

If the alternates have not maintained their eligibility as given in the *Selection Criteria* or are unavailable or uninterested, the Selection Committee may select other athletes who are eligible for selection to be named as alternates. Alternate athletes may be included in any



training or competitions taking place prior to the Jr. Nationals so that they are prepared if later selected..

SECTION 9 – COACH SELECTION PROCESS

The PSO has the authority to select the coaches who will attend the Jr.Nationals.

All coaches selected for Jr. Nationals must:

- Maintain good standing with the PSO
- Maintain a valid coaching license with the PSO and NSO through SNOWREG.
- Maintain all current and applicable qualifications
- Remain in good standing and are held to a higher standard than the minimum required by the PSO and NSO
- Actively participate in ongoing professional development and training opportunities
- Follow and adhere to all Freestyle Manitoba policies, codes of conduct, and ethical guidelines
- Ensure the safety and well-being of athletes at all times during training and competition
- Foster a positive, respectful, and inclusive environment for all participants
- Communicate effectively with athletes, parents, and other stakeholders
- Be accountable for their actions and decisions both on and off the field of play

For Jr. Nationals, the head coach must hold Comp-Intro Certification.

While Comp-Intro certification is not a requirement for assistant coaches, those who possess this certification will be given priority during the selection process. Additional certifications and experience will also provide priority for coaching selection.

In the event that there is no parent chaperone, priority for the assistant coach position will be given to coaches who are capable of renting a vehicle for transportation.

The Coach Selection Committee will select two coaches to attend the Jr. Nationals. The Committee reserves the right to select coaches from outside the pool of applicants if necessary.

Note: Under certain circumstances, a head coach or assistant may be subcontracted from out of province.



The Coach Selection Committee retains the right to dismiss any coach if, in its assessment, the coach is not adequately preparing athletes for the Junior Nationals or if there are other valid reasons for dismissal, as determined by the Committee or the PSO.

APPENDIX A – EVALUATION FORMS

All yearly results must be submitted to the PSO from the clubs.

PSO Board of Directors Approval Date:	<u>April 10, 2025</u>
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