

British Ski and Snowboard



Freestyle Selection Policy

1. Selection Policy

- 1.1. This Policy for selection to British Teams and Squads, and for the determination of entries to international competition, shall apply with effect from 13 January 2012 until further notice.

2. Aims of the Selection Policy

- 2.1. To ensure that fair and just criteria and practices are employed in the issue of Licences for and entry of competitors to international competition.
- 2.2. To support the overall competition and development objectives of Snowsport GB.
- 2.3. To ensure transparency and accountability in the Selection process.

3. Process and Timetable

- 3.1. Selections will normally be made in May, for entries to competitions in the next FIS Competition Year (which commences 1 July). Other selections may be made throughout the Competition year, depending on circumstances. Selections to specific competitions such as Olympic Winter Games, World Ski Championships and World Junior Ski Championships, will be scheduled to ensure that athletes have the fullest opportunity to meet the criteria.
- 3.2. Meetings other than the May meeting will normally be used only to add to or upgrade selections already made, and not to de-select individuals.
- 3.3. Current members of British Teams will automatically be considered for re-selection. While other athletes with suitable results may be considered, all are advised to apply to the Panel for selection, stating their competition and training plans for the coming season.
- 3.4. Throughout the document, evidence of the achievement of specified levels of FIS Points is to be taken from the current published FIS Points List. The Panel may, in its absolute discretion, choose to calculate an athlete's prospective FIS Points from more recent results than are included in the current list, and use these instead.

4. Selection to British Teams

- 4.1. British Teams may be established for the purpose of recognising suitably qualified athletes, making arrangements for their development and distributing any funding or support for which the governing body is accountable. Teams may be established for any or all Events, depending on the circumstances at the time.
- 4.2. The British Team shall be defined as consisting of those British athletes who have been awarded a FIS "A" Licence; additionally in Ski Cross the athlete must have met the criteria for issue of an "A" Licence as a result of competing in Ski Cross competition and not on the basis of Alpine FIS Points.

5. FIS Licences

- 5.1. An applicant for an international ("FIS") Start Licence must be registered as a performer with their Home Nation Governing Body.
- 5.2. Minimum criteria for the award of a FIS Start Licence include the athlete's acceptance of the Snowsport GB Athlete Agreement and behaviour that conforms to British Squad and Team Codes of Conduct.

- 5.3. In all cases where reference is made to FIS Points below, the definitive source of information shall be the current FIS Freestyle Points list unless it can be demonstrated that a recalculation using the athlete's most recent results gives a better score. The same principle shall apply in relation to the FIS Alpine Points List, where relevant (see 5.7.3 below).
- 5.4. For entries to Ski Cross events, the Selection Panel must additionally satisfy itself that the athlete has demonstrated sufficient technical skill and fitness to compete safely in the event. Where an athlete applies for the first time for a start in Ski Cross, such evidence will normally be drawn from an established competition record in either Moguls or Alpine events.

5.5. FIS "C" Licence

- 5.5.1. Any member of a Home Nation Governing Body squad may apply for a "C" Licence and this will normally be granted, subject to 5.2 above.
- 5.5.2. Others may apply, and will be considered by reference to the same criteria as pertain to selection to Home Nation squads at the time.

5.6. FIS "B" Licence

- 5.6.1. To qualify for a "B" Licence, an athlete should normally have achieved results as set out below. In all cases, results achieved in international competition of sufficient quality are to be preferred to results obtained solely in British Championships.

- 5.6.1.1. MO, DM: two instances of a judges' score of 15.0 or more in either FIS Race, World Junior Ski Championships, other FIS competition at C level or higher or the British Freestyle Championships, during the previous 12 months;
- 5.6.1.2. HP, SS: two instances of a place in the top 25% of the field in either FIS Race, World Junior Ski Championships or the British Freestyle Championships, during the previous 12 months; equivalent results in non-FIS events considered by the Panel to be of sufficient standing may be taken into account;
- 5.6.1.3. SX: a minimum of 10 FIS Points; or, for athletes seeking an international Ski Cross Licence for the first time only, British Alpine Seeding System (BASS) points equal to or less than those shown below.

Age on 31 December of Competition Year	Male	Female
15	290	270
16	240	230
17 or more	200	190

- 5.6.1.4. AE: have qualified two different inverted Aerial manoeuvres of DD 2.05 or above, for performance on snow.
- 5.6.2. In exceptional circumstances, the Selection panel may take into account other factors in choosing whether to award a "B" Licence. Such factors may include accepting results from other competitions if insufficient events appear on the FIS Calendar, provided always that the Panel is satisfied that the event meets a standard that is the equivalent of a FIS event. In the event that the Panel judges that insufficient competitions have been scheduled to provide reasonable opportunities for athletes to demonstrate two instances of qualifying results, the Panel is authorised to issue a C Licence with the rider that entry to nominated B level events may be permitted on a case by case basis.

5.7. FIS “A” Licence

- 5.7.1. MO, DM: A competitor achieving a minimum of 50 FIS Points and having achieved a judges’ score of 19.0 or more in at least two events at Continental Cup (B) level will qualify for an “A” Licence.
- 5.7.2. AE: a competitor achieving a minimum of 100 FIS Points and having qualified two double somersaults at or over DD 2.90 (Women) or 3.15 (Men) will qualify for an “A” Licence.
- 5.7.3. SX: A competitor achieving a minimum of 100 FIS Points or a maximum of 50 Alpine FIS Points will qualify for an “A” Licence. For re-selection, only Freestyle FIS Points shall be considered.
- 5.7.4. HP, SS: A competitor achieving a minimum of 25 FIS Points will qualify for an “A” Licence; equivalent results in non-FIS events considered by the Panel to be of sufficient standing may be taken into account.
- 5.7.5. Notwithstanding the qualification levels set out above, the award of an “A” Licence will be subject to the Panel’s evaluation of the athlete’s performance in the round, and of the prevailing levels of performance in the Event in question by athletes from other nations.

6. Entries to specific competitions

- 6.1. The Selection Panel will make selections to individual competitions or competition series by selecting from among holders of FIS Licences suitably qualified athletes according to the above criteria, and taking account of any further considerations as set out below.

6.2. FIS “A” and “B” level events

- 6.2.1. To come into consideration for selection to FIS A and B level events, an athlete must normally have points on the current FIS Points List; note that this is only possible if the athlete has already participated in some FIS competitions. The FIS events are categorised as follows: A level includes World Cup, World Championships and Olympic Winter Games. B level includes Continental Cup, International Youth and World Junior Ski Championship events. C level comprises all other FIS competitions including FIS Race and National Championships listed on the FIS Calendar.

6.3. FIS World Cup

- 6.3.1. A competitor who holds an “A” Licence for a given event is permitted to enter any World Cup event except that, if the number of World Cup quota spots is insufficient to enable all those who wish to enter to do so, entries will be awarded in order of the competitors’ FIS Points. These shall be drawn from the current Freestyle FIS Points List, updated as necessary according to the most recent results available on the FIS web site. This calculation will be made based on the data available at the point in time when the application was made to the Selection Panel. For the avoidance of doubt, other lists (e.g. Alpine FIS Points) shall not be used to rank athletes for this purpose.
- 6.3.2. The same principle as in 6.3.1 above shall apply for entries to other competitions where quotas apply, with the exception of World Ski Championships and Olympic Winter Games (see 6.4 and 6.5 below).
- 6.3.3. Notwithstanding the provisions of 6.3.1 above, the Panel may choose to withhold award of all places in a competition if, on examining the qualifications of those applying, it considers that other better qualified athletes may apply; in such circumstances the Panel will seek applications from all qualified athletes before making a decision.
- 6.3.4. Notwithstanding the qualification levels set out above, all entries to World Cup competition will be subject to the Panel’s evaluation of the athlete’s

performance in the round, and of the prevailing levels of performance in the Event in question by athletes from other nations.

6.4. World Ski Championships

- 6.4.1. Entries will be made from among holders of a FIS “A” Licence based on the quotas set by FIS and by reference to each athlete’s position on the current FIS Points list.

6.5. Olympic Winter Games, Youth Olympic Winter Games

- 6.5.1. In addition to any of the criteria listed above, an athlete seeking entry to World Ski Championships or Olympic Winter Games must satisfy all criteria set by either FIS or IOC as applicable.
- 6.5.2. For Olympic Winter Games and Youth Olympic Winter Games, selections are made by the British Olympic Association on the advice of Snowsport GB, to selection criteria agreed between the two bodies. See Appendix A.

6.6. World Junior Ski Championships, International Youth Championships

- 6.6.1. Selection criteria for World Junior Ski Championships or International Youth Championships will be the same as those for entry to “B” level competitions. Only athletes that meet the FIS age eligibility criteria may be considered.

Iain Mackay

Chair, British Freestyle Selection Panel

13 January 2012

Appendix A

1. Criteria for selection to the 2014 Olympic Winter Games in Sochi, RUS, have not yet been agreed with the BOA. This Appendix will be updated when these have been determined.
2. Criteria for selection to Youth Olympic Winter Games 2012 have been set as follows:

Youth Olympic Winter Games 2012 (YOWG)

1. Selection Process for Ski Halfpipe Athletes

The 2012 Youth Olympic Winter Games will be held from the 13th to 22nd January 2012 in Innsbruck in Austria. Great Britain have been awarded two quota places for Halfpipe athletes at the games, one for a male athlete and one for a female athlete.

Only athletes who were born in 1995 or 1996 are eligible for this competition. The YOWG Selection Committee will consider all eligible athletes, and will select up to 1 male and up to 1 female athlete to nominate to the British Olympic Association (BOA) as British Halfpipe representatives. If further quota spots become available through BOA then the next ranked athletes will be considered. Team selections will be based on the criteria outlined below.

The YOWG Selection Committee will submit its nominations to the BSS Board who will then combine recommendations from each discipline and nominate athletes to the BOA. The BOA will make the final selection decisions on the British team. At this stage, the BOA selects, manages and leads the Team at the Games.

2. Eligibility Criteria:

Selection to represent the United Kingdom at YOWG will be made without bias or discrimination, and is open to any British athlete born in 1995 or 1996 who meets the following eligibility criteria:

- Athletes must hold a British passport.
- Athletes must be registered with FIS as British.
- Athletes must meet the BOA eligibility criteria.
- Athletes must have finished as one of the top 3 male or top 3 female British athletes in the 2011 British Halfpipe Championships held in Laax on the 22nd May

2011, for the years of birth 1995 or 1996 or Athletes must be ranked as one of the top 3 male or top 3 female British athletes who were born in 1995 or 1996 in the 3rd FIS points list in the 2011/2012 competitive season

Athletes will not be eligible for selection if:

- They are currently serving a suspension for a doping or other disciplinary offence.
- The BSS medical officer considers after a medical examination, or report from the official medical support team, that an athlete is not physically fit to compete.

3. Selection Process and Criteria

Athletes who meet the eligibility criteria listed in section 2 above will be considered for selection to the available spots. Any athlete wishing to be considered should write to Kirsty

Buchanan (kirsty.buchanan@teamgb.com) by 5pm on Friday 14th October 2011 with evidence of performance in the form of key results and or coaches reports.

The Selection Committee will use the results of the British Halfpipe Championships as the major indicator of performance when selecting athletes for nomination to the BSS Board and to the BOA. Other factors that may be considered are current FIS points and world rankings.

4. Selection Timelines

April 2011 to mid November 2011	Achieve eligibility to take part through FIS list or British Championships eligibility
---------------------------------	--

5 th December 2011	Meeting of BSS Junior Selection Committee to determine nominations and publication of selected athletes
7 th December	BSS Board meet to ratify nominations from Selection Committee
11 th December	BOA publish team GB for YOWG

5. Participation in a BSS and/or BOA Major Event:

It is vital that any Athletes selected for these events demonstrate their ability to work with the British Team on the mountain for training and competition purposes. This must be achieved through attending British sanctioned training camps or in a manner agreed in advance by BSS .

6. Coaches:

The YOWG Halfpipe team will be managed by a Coach appointed by BSS. Restrictions on accreditation for Coaching staff may necessitate either the sharing of coaches across disciplines or the sharing of coaches across nations . No other club, HN and/or private programme coaches will receive accreditation support from the BOA for attendance at this major championship.

Please see BSS “External Coach Policy”

7. Appeals Process:

All BSS appeals must be made in writing, with accompanying evidence and additional information to the BSS office. Notification of appeal must be made within **36 hours** of the announcement of the Short List (by 5pm GMT on 7th December 2011). A £250 bond must be included with the submittal of the appeal. This bond will be returned if the appeal is upheld.

All appeals will be considered on an individual basis. Appeals will first be reconsidered by the original Selection Committee, who will explain their reasons for the decision to the athlete. If the athlete is not happy with the process or the outcome of the Selection Committee's final decision, then the athlete may opt to refer the matter to an internal appeals committee.

The BSS Appeals Chairman will constitute an internal Appeal's Committee made up of at least three people who did not sit on the original Selection Committee.

In cases of appeal against non-selection for teams/squads, all appellants should be aware that it is not the task of the Appeal Panel to substitute its selection views for those of the original committee. They are asked only to determine whether, on all the facts which they had – or should have had – before them, the original Selection Committee made a reasonable and fair decision (using the currently applicable Selection Policies – the Panel has no power to alter those policies but may comment upon them) i.e. that the original decision fell within bounds of what was objectively reasonable.

If the dispute remains unresolved, it will be submitted for an exclusive, final and binding determination to the Sports Dispute Resolution Panel (SDRP). BSS understands that both parties will undertake to execute in good faith any decision of the SDRP.

Appendix B – Approval of Athletes' Programmes

The Selection Panel has decided that, in order to provide itself with better information on which to make selections to teams and for entries to individual competitions, each athlete seeking selection shall be required to submit specific details of their coaching, training regime and competition plans for the approaching season. In order to do this in a structured fashion, this information must be received by the Selection Panel no later than 30 September of the year in which each FIS Calendar Year commences.

For the competition season 2011-12, athletes are required to submit this information, via the Event Manager for their event, before the end of January 2012.

Athletes shall submit a package of supporting information that demonstrates a commitment to a training and competition programme relevant to the level of licence sought.

The information required is:

- A 12 months programme that indicates the proposed training and the competitions to be targeted;
- A set of targets and goals for the short, medium and longer term;
- Name and qualifications of the athlete's coach;
- Name(s) and qualifications (if different) of those who will be designing and delivering the training and competition activities or, if training within a programme of another nation, details of that programme;
- Information of any cross training with other disciplines that they take part in, where it will take place and the coach or club that organises the training.

Athletes applying for selection for an Aerials skiing licence need to comply with FIS regulations regarding qualification of Aerial manoeuvres for performance in competition. Great Britain will, in addition to any qualification procedure designed within its own systems, accept as valid the records of qualifications achieved within the programme of another nation provided that the BSS has examined and approved the procedures adopted by that nation, and that sufficient evidence of qualification is provided by the athlete. At the time of publication of this Appendix, the Aerials programmes of the following Nations have been approved as meeting the BSS's requirements:

Switzerland (SUI)

United States of America (USA)

Canada (CAN).

Amendment information

Date	Amendments	Comments
9 January 2012	Adjustments to criteria for each Licence level; addition of YOWG criteria; adjustment of WJSC criteria; addition of Appendix B (information required from athletes).	
14 October 2006	Various. Addition of Annex A – Selection Index calculation system.	Major revision to accommodate new FIS Points system and also to set out new policy for 2010 Olympic quadrennial.
23 July 2007	Emphasises primacy of Index Points over other parameters such as placing in British Championships. Revises and makes explicit timetable for conducting selections. Clarifies requirement to apply for consideration. Revises criteria for award of B and A Licences to include other measures of performance in addition to Selection Index Scores.	
25 May 2008	Removes British Championships results as significant contributors to selection for HP and SX. Clarifies distinction between AE and MO criteria for Licence issue.	

Date	Amendments	Comments
13 June 2009	Change from using SSGB Selection Index Points to using FIS Points in addition to other criteria. Various other changes to clarify the selection process and remove anomalies. Inclusion of published selection criteria for OWG Vancouver 2010	The Selection Index Points system has become unwieldy because of the small populations under consideration, and is not understood by most of the athletes. FIS Points, although a flawed system, are used to award quota spots, so it has become invidious to deny an athlete a place in World Cup once they have earned the quota spot to participate.
9 May 2010	Removal of: preamble concerning change from using Selection Index Points (2009); Vancouver 2010 OWG Selection Criteria. Re-establishment of criteria for defining British Teams at different levels.	Sochi OWG Selection Criteria to be added to Appendix A when available.