

WORLD JUNIOR ALPINE CHAMPIONSHIPS 2017 – MINIMUM SELECTION CRITERIA

1. Background to 2017 World Junior Alpine Championships

The 2017 World Junior Alpine Championships will be held in Are, Sweden. As yet BSS does not have precise dates but feels it is important to outline selection, given that the selection window has already started.

BSS is likely to provide further updates as further information becomes available.

Final details of the organisation of the 2016 WJC are not currently known, but if provisions remain as in 2014 and 2015, GBR would be allowed to select up to 16 athletes with a maximum of 10 from any one gender. It would also be allowed to enter four athletes into each event. BSS is expecting competitions in Slalom, Giant Slalom, Super G, Downhill and Alpine Combined. It is also expecting a mixed Team Parallel Slalom competition.

Athletes born in the years 1996 to 2000 inclusive will be allowed to compete in these Championships.

We expect to form the U21 Alpine Selection Committee in accordance with procedures laid out in the BSS Alpine Selection Policy document published in December 2015. Any substantive changes to this will be notified.

The minimum criteria outlined below are based on the BSS Athlete Tracker requirements for men and women. This tool tracks athletes' improvements and percentages behind the best in the world for their age. BSS has threshold requirements which are designed to be consistent with progress to the top 10 in the world at an average age of medalling in Winter Olympic Games.

These criteria are precisely the same as those used for the 2016 World Junior Championships.

BSS and the Alpine Business Group have generally had a limited budget to provide financial support to athletes attending the World Junior Championships. This budget will not be finalised for some time, however it is expected that this budget will be focussed on athletes who are within the A criteria by in excess of 20 points.

2. Eligibility Criteria

Selection is open to any British athlete who meets the following eligibility criteria:

- Athletes must hold a British passport
- Athletes must be registered with FIS as British
- Athletes must be born in the following calendar years: 1995 to 1999 inclusive
- Athletes must meet or exceed the BSS selection criteria set out below in one or more of the Alpine disciplines

Athletes will not be eligible for nomination 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

General Comments

The U21 Alpine selection committee will select the team taking into account the FIS list published immediately prior to the selection meeting.

The U21 Alpine selection committee will also need to confirm that all nominations are adequately supported by current form.

Minimum Qualification Criteria

The minimum qualification criteria are presented as “A” and “B” criteria. If there are still quota slots left after selecting athletes according to the A criteria, the selectors may select one female and one male per event using the “B” criteria. The “B” criteria will only be applied to athletes born in 1999 and 2000. The levels for technical events and Super G are set in line with the qualification criteria used for the World Youth Olympic Games in 2016 and for EYOWF in 2017.

These criteria also contain provision for qualification through a single FIS point score. This is designed to allow recognition for athletes who have clearly made substantial progress since the end of the previous season but have not been able to produce two completed races at the right level by the time of selection. As such and for the avoidance of doubt, the single FIS point score criteria will need to be achieved during the 2016-17 season.

“A” Criteria

Men	FIS points	Single FIS point score
Slalom	50	45
Giant Slalom	50	45
Super G	55	50
SC	55	50
Downhill	55	50
Women		
Slalom	50	45
Giant Slalom	50	45
Super G	55	50
SC	55	50
Downhill	55	50

“B” Criteria

Men	FIS points	Single FIS point score
Slalom	85	75
Giant Slalom	85	75
Super G	85	75
Women		
Slalom	85	75
Giant Slalom	85	75
Super G	85	75

Crossover in technical events

An athlete who is awarded a quota slot in one technical event but has not met criteria in the other technical event will automatically be deemed to have passed qualifying criteria in the other technical event and may be considered for selection for the second technical event if there are available quota slots.

Crossover in speed events

An athlete who is awarded a quota slot in one speed event but has not met criteria in one of the other speed events will automatically be deemed to have passed qualifying criteria in the other speed events. Subject to a review of the difficulty of the Downhill course and any limitations applied by FIS, such athletes may be considered for selection for the other speed event and the SC event if there are available quota slots.

Team Parallel Slalom

If it is clear that GBR will be awarded a slot in the Team Parallel Slalom event, and selection for the individual events will not produce a satisfactory team, then the selectors have the rights to select athletes to ensure a full team, possibly including reserves. These athletes will be deemed eligible to compete in both the SL and GS individual events.

Selection Process

If there are more athletes qualified on these criteria than there are quota slots for specific events or than GBR has overall allocations for, the U21 selection panel will need to make choices. These choices should be led primarily by considerations of world rankings on the FIS list published immediately prior to the final selection meetings, but the selectors may need to take into account other factors as they see fit and are specifically allowed to do so. Any such other factors will need to be detailed in the minutes of that selection meeting.

4. Draft Selection Timelines

BSS will publish a draft timeline for selections when it has more detailed information on the event. However the selection window will be from June 2015 to the cut off for the FIS list published immediately before the final selection meeting.

5. Coaches

The U21 selection committee will appoint management of the WJC team in conjunction with the Alpine Business Group and BSS. In previous years there has been scope for ratification of some private sector coaches and the selection committee, the Alpine Business Group and BSS hope to be able to consider applications in a constructive fashion.

6. Appeals Process

All BSS appeals must be made in writing, with accompanying evidence and additional information to the BSS office. Given the short timelines involved in selection, notification of appeal will need to be within 36 hours of the publication of the list of proposed nominations. Precise timings will be advised nearer the date. A £250 bond must be included with the submission of the appeal. The bond will be returned if the appeal is successful.

All appeals will be considered on an individual basis and must be made on the grounds that this selection policy was not followed. 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.

A BSS Appeals Chairman will be appointed by the Chair of the Alpine, Speed and Telemark Committee and he/she will constitute an internal Appeals Committee made up of at least three people who did not sit on the original Selection Committee but including at least one person with specific Alpine experience.

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 Appeal Panel has no power to alter these policies but may comment on them.

Given the short timelines involved and the importance of allowing reasonable preparation for other athletes involved, for championship selections there will be no further appeals process.