



2025 NORDIC COMBINED WORLD SKI CHAMPIONSHIP SELECTION CRITERIA

Trondheim, NOR February 25 - March 9, 2025

1. SELECTION CRITERIA GUIDELINES

The U.S. Ski & Snowboard selection philosophy is aimed at fielding teams with athletes that are capable of winning medals or show potential for future medal success. Athletes will be selected to the World Championship Team based on the following principles.

- No minimum team size will be established.
- U.S. Ski & Snowboard policy mandates that team selection criteria shall be principally objective (or performance-based), but it may also select athletes to the team using coaches' discretion.

2. ELIGIBILITY FOR CONSIDERATION

U.S. Ski & Snowboard will consider for selection only those U.S. Ski & Snowboard members in good standing who have a valid U.S. passport, a valid USA-coded FIS license, and who meet FIS minimum eligibility standards.

U.S. Ski & Snowboard provides an equal opportunity to amateur athletes, coaches, trainers, managers, administrators, and officials to participate in amateur athletic competition, without discrimination on the basis of race, religion, age, gender, disability, national origin, or sexual orientation and with fair notice and opportunity for a hearing before declaring any such individual ineligible to participate.

An athlete shall be ineligible for consideration if at the time selections are made he/she is not fit to compete due to any injury or illness from which he/she is not expected to recover adequately by the time of the 2025 World Ski Championship (WSC) as verified by a member of the U.S. Ski & Snowboard medical staff. Such determination shall be at the discretion of the U.S. Ski & Snowboard Ski Jumping & Nordic Combined Sport Director and Chief of Sport in consultation with the U.S. Ski & Snowboard High Performance staff, Men's or Women's Head Coach, the respective Head Team Physician, and the Athlete's designated physician.

3. TEAM SIZE

U.S. Ski & Snowboard may enter up to five (5) athletes per gender in Official Training rounds and four (4) athletes per event per gender as determined by FIS (notwithstanding any individually earned start rights).

4. START RIGHTS

Up to four (4) male and up to four (4) female athletes may start for the United States in both individual events and team events and up to two (2) male and two (2) female athletes in the mixed team event. Athletes will be selected for individual events based on their performance in official training rounds. For team events, selection will consider both official training performances and individual event results prior to the team competitions.



5. TEAM SELECTION PROCEDURE AND CRITERIA

U.S. Ski & Snowboard Ski Jumping & Nordic Combined Sport Director is responsible for applying the selection criteria set forth herein, subject to the approval of the Chief of Sport. Objective selections shall be based on the results achieved by athletes in competitions held in the 2024-25 season from November 28, 2024 through February 9, 2025 (the “selection period”). Discretionary selections, if any, may be based on a variety of factors as outlined below.

Objective Criteria:

Up to five (5) athletes shall be selected to the WSC Team based solely upon their competition results during the selection period. Criteria for objective selection shall be as follows, listed in order of priority below, until up to five (5) quota spots are filled. If application of this criteria would result in a total of more than five (5) objective selections for that event, U.S. Ski & Snowboard shall use the tie-breaking mechanisms described in section 5A.4 below. If after application of this criterion additional quota positions remain, coaches' discretion may be applied.

5A.1. Athletes ranked in the top 30 of the FIS World Cup Ranking List as of February 9, 2025 shall be selected to the team.

5A.2 One or more top fifteen (15) World Cup results.

5A.3 Four or more top thirty (30) World Cup results.

5A.4 Tie-Breaking Mechanisms:

In the case that more than five (5) athletes would be named after application of the above criteria, U.S. Ski & Snowboard shall use the following tie-breaking mechanisms in order:

1. Highest ranked athlete on the FIS World Cup Ranking List as of February 9, 2025.
2. Best single individual World Cup performance during the selection period.

A. Coaches' Discretion:

If after application of the 5A Objective Criteria above, additional quota positions remain, coaches' discretion will be applied. U.S. Ski & Snowboard staff may consider any factors including (but not limited to) the following:

5B.1. Illness or injury during the selection period.

5B.2. World Cup results during the selection period indicative of World Championship medal potential.

5B.3. (*If applicable*) Medal potential in the Nations Team Event, as described in Section 6 below.

All discretionary selections will be documented and the appropriate forms will be available for record keeping purposes. All discretionary selections will be reviewed by a discretionary selection review group composed of the U.S. Ski & Snowboard Ski Jumping & Nordic Combined Sport Director, the Chief of Sport, and the Nordic Combined athlete representative who is a member of the U.S. Ski & Snowboard Board. If the U.S. Ski & Snowboard Board Athlete Representative is also a currently competing athlete, then another athlete who is not actively competing will be selected by the Athletes' Council to be the representative in this group.



C. Remaining Team Nomination Criteria

If quota spots remain after the application of 5A Objective Criteria and 5B Coaches' Discretion, any remaining team nominations will be determined, in order of next highest ranked U.S. athlete not already selected to the team across both genders and all disciplines according to FIS Continental Cup Ranking from the below list:

5C.1. Highest ranked athlete on the FIS Continental Cup Ranking List as of February 9, 2025.

If two or more athletes, per gender, are tied within their respective ranking lists U.S. Ski & Snowboard will use the following tie-breaking mechanism:

- Highest result, between the tied athletes, from their most recent head-to-head competition in the respective discipline and in the *2024-25 Season*.
- In the event a tie remains, the decision shall be made by the selection committee listed above utilizing the Discretionary Selection criteria outlined.

6. NATIONS TEAM EVENT SELECTIONS

Athletes will be selected for the WSC Nations Team Event using coaches' discretion from among the WSC Team members.

7. ANNOUNCEMENT OF SELECTIONS

Selections to the 2025 World Ski Championship team shall be announced on February 14, 2025 via media from the offices of U.S. Ski & Snowboard in Park City, Utah.

8. ATHLETE REPLACEMENT PROCEDURE

In the case that an athlete that has been selected to the team becomes injured or ill prior the World Ski Championships and is unable to compete, no replacement athlete will be named unless it is deemed that there is sufficient time to make a replacement without disrupting the competition or preparation of other athletes and that the additional athlete would have sufficient time to properly prepare for the competition. This decision will be made by the U.S. Ski & Snowboard Nordic Combined Director after consulting with the Chief of Sport, the Head Coaches, and the High Performance Department. Should an additional athlete be considered, the procedures as outlined in section 5B above will be followed to select that athlete. No athletes will be named to the team following the conclusion of mandatory training for or within five (5) days of the start of the World Ski Championship.

9. APPEAL AND GRIEVANCE PROCEDURES

Any member who believes that he/she has wrongfully been denied membership on any team whose members are selected through participation in "protected competition," as that term is defined in the USOPC Bylaws, shall be entitled to appeal such a decision.

The U.S. Ski & Snowboard Grievance Procedures can be found within section IX of the U.S. Ski & Snowboard bylaws found at: usskiandsnowboard.org



10. ATHLETE OMBUDSMAN

Athletes who have questions regarding their opportunity to compete that are not answered by U.S. Ski & Snowboard may contact the USOPC Athlete Ombudsman, Kacie Wallace, by:

- Telephone at (719) 866-5000
- Toll-free telephone at (888) ATHLETE (1-888-284-5383)
- E-mail at: ombudsman@usathlete.org