2025-26 AERIALS WORLD CUP SELECTION CRITERIA

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.

CRITERIA GUIDELINES

- U.S. Ski & Snowboard policy mandates that team selection criteria be principally objective and performance-based, but selections for the team can also be made using coaches' discretion.
- The U.S. Ski & Snowboard Aerials Head Coach is responsible for applying the selection criteria herein, subject to the oversight of the Freestyle Sport Director and Chief of Sport.
- Selections shall be based on individual on-snow results achieved by athletes in FIS competitions.
- Maximum team size is determined by the FIS World Cup quota for the United States.
- The FIS sets the quota of start rights per nation annually and is subject to change.
- Any change to the quota of start rights per nation could result in a revision of these criteria.
- Only athletes who meet the minimum FIS eligibility requirements of 50 FIS points will be considered for World Cup entry.
- 2025/2026 FIS Freestyle Ski World Cup 1st Quota Calculation - Basic Additional Spots - can be downloaded HERE
- FIS Base List 2026 - can be downloaded HERE
- Printing Deadlines For The FIS Points List Season 2025/2026 - can be downloaded HERE

2025-26 WORLD CUP AERIALS (AE) EVENTS

PERSONAL WORLD CUP STARTS

World Cup Globe Winner

The Overall World Cup Winner from the previous season (per gender and within their event) will be provided an additional personal quota spot that can be entered into the FIS World Cup.

World Cup Globe Winner(s) – NA

Continental Cup Winner

From each Continental Cup standings, the highest-ranked competitor (per gender and within their event) from the host continent will be provided an additional personal quota spot that can be entered into the FIS World Cup.

Continental Cup Winner(s) – NA

NATION QUOTA - Competitors who have earned personal spots will not be included in the application of the following criteria, listed in order of priority.

Aerials (Maximum five (5) per gender plus 1 World Cup Organizer Start = 11 Total)

Athletes will be selected for World Cup start positions using the criteria below, listed in order of priority. Coaches' discretion will allocate additional start positions until the quota is filled. U.S. Ski

& Snowboard will determine the specific gender totals up to a total of eleven (11) athletes, with/max of six (6) per gender quota allocation.

EVENTS
Competition Period 1: Ruka, FIN - Secret Garden, CHN

Criteria #1: Top three (3) men & three (3) women from the FIS Aerials Base List 2026.

QUINN DEHLINGER	WINTER VINECKI
CHRISTOPHER LILLIS	KAILA KUHN
CONNOR CURRAN	KARENNA ELLIOTT

Criteria #2: Remaining quota allocation (not already qualified from the above criteria) may be selected based on coaches' discretion. Discretionary positions may be considered on an event-by-event basis. If Coaches' discretion isn't utilized, the next-ranked athletes on the FIS Aerials Base List 2026 may be selected. If Coaches' discretion isn't utilized, and there is a ranking tie between men and women for the final quota position, the tie will be broken as follows, listed in order of priority:

- Best Aerials World Cup ranking from 2025
- Best World Cup result from the 2024-25 season
- If still tied, then Coaches' discretion will be used

EVENTS
Competition Period 2: Lac-Beauport, CAN - Lake Placid, USA - Deer Valley, USA

Criteria #1: Top three (3) men & three (3) women from the 7th Aerials FIS Points List 2025-26.

Criteria #2: Any athlete who has achieved a top ten (10) World Cup result in the 2025 - 2026 season.

Criteria #3: Remaining quota allocation (not already qualified from the above criteria) may be selected based on the coaches' discretion. Discretionary positions may be considered on an event-by-event basis.

HOST NATION QUOTA
Aerials (Max three (3) per gender = six (6) Total)

Each nation hosting a World Cup can fill the host nation's quota. Athletes who meet the minimum eligibility criteria will be selected for World Cup start positions using the following process, listed in order of priority. Additional start positions will be allocated to coaches' discretion until the quota is filled. U.S. Ski & Snowboard will determine the specific gender totals of up to six (6) athletes total/max three (3) per gender quota allocation.

HOST NATION QUOTA
EVENTS: Lake Placid, USA - Deer Valley, USA

Criteria #1: Athletes will be selected for the Lake Placid and Deer Valley World Cup start positions using the process as follows:

The top two (2) men & two (2) women not already qualified from the above criteria will be selected based on the athlete's best result via World Cup rule 1.7 World Cup Points 1.7.1 (Points Breakdown also listed in Continental Cup rule 7) from the December 2025 U.S. Aerial Selection events**:

- December 2025 U.S. Aerial Selections Event #1
- December 2025 U.S. Aerial Selections Event #2

If a tie remains after the conclusion of the U.S. Selection Aerial Event, then the following tie-breaking mechanisms will be used, listed in order of priority, to select those athletes:

  - Single highest score during the Selection Event
  - Second-highest score during the Selection Event

Up-to-date ranking for host nation spots based on the FIS 100-point scale can be found on our website under Freestyle World Cup Criteria

**If the U.S. Selection Event is canceled in December 2025, the following criteria will be used:

- The top two (2) men & two (2) women, not already qualified from the above criteria, from the 6th Aerials FIS Points List 2025-26.

Criteria #2: The Remaining Host Nation quota allocation may be selected based on the coaches' discretion. If coaches' discretion isn't utilized, the next-ranked athletes on the ranking list referenced above in Host Nation Criteria #1 will be selected.

WORLD CUP TEAM EVENTS

Selection for the Team Event at any World Cup will be based on coaches' discretion, prioritizing the Degree of Difficulty performed during the current season. When athletes have the same Degree of Difficulty, the athlete with the highest result from the 2025/2026 World Cup Season will be selected.

In the case of individual event cancellation, Team Event athletes will be named via coaches' discretion.

DISCRETIONARY SELECTIONS

Athletes who have not met the Objective Criteria may be selected for the team based on a variety of factors, including competitions outside of the selection period, and/or they satisfy any of the following:

- Outstanding competition results from the 2024-25 and 2025-26 seasons indicate a potential for success.
- Recent positive direction or competition trends indicate a potential for success.
- Indication of medal potential in future elite-level competitions (such as international age group results and age rankings) that would be materially enhanced by selection to the team.

U.S. SKI & SNOWBOARD APPEAL AND GRIEVANCE PROCEDURES

Any member who believes that they have 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

ATHLETE OMBUDS OFFICE
Athletes who have questions regarding their opportunity to compete that are not answered by U.S. Ski & Snowboard may contact the USOPC Athlete Ombuds Office by:

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

Dated: November 1, 2025 - MTG
Host Nation Adjustment to
accommodate extra events