



**2019-2020 NATIONAL AERIAL TEAM SELECTION
&
2018-2019 WORLD CUP SPOT ALLOCATION CRITERIA**

November 19th, 2018

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PREAMBLE

The following document defines the selection procedures for the 2019-20 National Aerial Team Programs.

1. HIGH PERFORMANCE PROGRAM GOAL

To develop athletes in a safe and ethical manner, who win medals at Olympic Games and FIS World Championships.

Objective of the National Aerial A & B groups:

- Support and prepare athletes in order to consistently achieve podium performances at the highest level, whom are less than 4 years from winning major events;

Objective of the National Aerial NextGen Group:

- Gain experience competing on the International stage,
- Provide technical and sport science support to guide athletes who have been identified as having the potential to reach the podium at major events 3 to 8 years from now.

2. DEFINITIONS

- Freestyle Canada (FC)
- High Performance Program (HPP)
- High Performance Program Director (HPD)
- Long-Term Athlete Development (LTAD)
- High Performance Athlete Development (HPAD)
- World Cup (WC)
- Nor-Am Cup (NAC)

3. TIME FRAME

- Team selection is normally for one calendar season (May to April)
- 2019-20 National Aerial Team Selection period: December 1st 2018 to April 30th 2019, inclusively.

4. SELECTION

The selection of athletes to participate in the Freestyle Canada's HPP is the responsibility of the CEO, acting on the recommendations of the HPP Selection Committee. The CEO may overrule any decision of the HPP Selection committee.

Selections are comprised of the following:

- FC Selection Committee,
- Selection Process,
- HPP Rankings.

HPP Selection Committee

Under the Authority of the CEO, the FC Selection Committee is responsible for all selections. Team selection and World cup spot allocation details are as described in this document. Major Events selection will be published in separate document aligned with their specific timelines and selection requirements.

The HPP Selection Committees shall, as its regular business:

- Select athletes to be offered positions on the National Team and within team groups (i.e. A, B and C - NextGen).
- Allocate HPP athletes with competitive opportunities for targeted FIS events.
- All team selections are for a one-year period only.

The Committee will have 5 votes (in the case of a tie, the chair will have the tie breaking vote).

The HPP Selection Committee is comprised of the:

- National Aerial Team Head coach
- NextGen Group Lead coach
- Sport Science Sport Medicine Director
- High Performance Athlete Development Manager
- High Performance Program Director (Chair)

When applicable, the committee will seek input from:

- High Performance Program Manager
- HPP Mental Training Consultant(s)
- HPP Strength and Conditioning Trainer(s)
- HPP Medical Team
- HPAD Advisory group coaches

Meetings of the Selection Committee:

- 1 The HPPD will chair the meetings.
- 2 All members of the HPP Selection Committee shall abstain from voting on matters that directly affect members of their immediate families.
- 3 The HPP Selection Committee operates on a majority vote.
- 4 Final recommendations from the HPP Selection committee are presented to the CEO of the Freestyle Canada for review and final decision.
- 5 Meetings of the HPP Selection Committee shall be open to members of the committee and invited guests only. A minimum of 4 members, including the chair, must be in attendance.

- 6 Notes from the meeting will be kept by the HPD and distributed to members of the HPP Selection Committee.
- 7 A summary of the decisions of Committee meetings shall be distributed to the Freestyle Canada CEO, and shall be made available to other interested parties on request.
- 8 The HPD notify athletes in writing who have been selected either to the A or B group, or NextGen group (C).
- 9 The HPD shall post the results of Team Selection meetings and notify the divisions that they are available.

Selection Process:

Within 30 days of the completion of the season;

- a) For the National Aerial Team, the HPP Selection Committee reviews the initial ranking list and determines if there are any Special Ranking Considerations or mistakes in the data entry. Corrections will not be made after May 15th for that selection period (see Appendix #1)
- b) Eligible athletes are identified and ranked for nominations.
- c) Athletes who would qualify for Extraordinary Circumstances (i.e. Injury, etc.) are identified and ranked appropriately.
- d) National Team 'A' Group is identified and determined from the nominations.
- e) National Team 'B' Group is identified and determined from the nominations.
- f) NextGen Group is identified and determined from the nominations following the A & B Team Groups.
- g) The HPP Selection Committee will determine if there will be prospects or provisional athletes named to the NextGen group.
- h) Nominated athletes will be officially notified, having a period of 10 days to accept or decline selection.

The High Performance Program Director and the High Performance Program Manager coordinate all Competition score Rankings and calculations related to the selection of HPP teams (see section 8). These rankings are presented to the HPP Selection committee for their input and consideration. Coaches also report on each athlete's skill level and overall progression and commitment the past 12 months.

- For an athlete to be ranked they must normally have competed at least five jumps in different Freestyle Canada eligible competitions during the current season.
- Athletes' results are used from the selection period outline in section 3: Time Frames.

5. TEAM STRUCTURE : 2019-2020 NATIONAL TEAM

Freestyle Canada's High Performance Program will name athletes to the National Aerial Team; which is composed of an

- a. A and B group for athlete performance level and funding purposes.

AND

- b. The NextGen Team, referred to as the C group for athlete development, tiering and funding purposes.

**The Selection Committee will determine the team size on an annual basis. Group sizes may change depending on the year of the cycle, depth and skill level of athletes, ranking point spreads, and/or funding fluctuations, Freestyle Canada reserves the right to modify the team structure at any time in order to ensure quality programming.*

6. ELIGIBILITY

To be eligible for selection to the 2019-20 National Aerial Program an athlete needs to meet the following: :

1) General Eligibility

- An athlete must be a Freestyle Canada member in good standing
- Have a valid Canadian passport
- Have the FIS age requirement to compete at FIS World cup level events for 2019-20

2) Performance Eligibility for each group are as follows:

'A' Group: "Podium Excellence" (LTAD stage: Train to Win)

Athletes will be selected to this group based on the 2018-2019 Competition score Ranking and meeting one or both of the following performance benchmarks :

- 1 podium during a 2018-19 Aerial FIS World Cup (excluding team events & downgraded DD events)

AND/OR

- Finishing in the Top 8 at the 2019 Park City World Championships

**The selection committee reserve the right to select additional athlete to the 'A' group that demonstrated international podium performance. (See Special Ranking Considerations)*

'B' Group: "Performers" (LTAD stage: Learn to Win)

Athletes will be selected to this group based on the final 2018-2019 Competition score ranking and meeting the following performance benchmarks:

- Ranking in the top 4 by gender (including A Group athletes) in the final 2018-2019 Competition Score Ranking (See section 8).

AND

- Have met the following Minimum Skill Level at least once before in their careers:
 - Men – Pass snow jump level 6.1 (LFF and FFF with an execution score of 25,8/30,0) or higher of the Canadian Aerial Progression Plan for men.
 - Women – Pass snow jump level 5.1 (LF and FF with an execution score of 26,3/30,0) or higher of the Canadian Aerial Progression Plan for women.

AND

- Make one WC final in the 2018-2019 season.

**The Selection committee may add up to 2 athletes per gender as discretionary spots to the 'B' group (See Special Ranking Considerations).*

'C' Group: NextGen (LTAD stage: Train to Compete)

1. Only athletes who have met the following Minimum Skill Level will be considered by the selection committee to be selected to this group:
 - Men – Pass snow jump level 4.3 (LF and FF with an execution score of 26,3/30,0) or higher on the Canadian Aerial Progression Plan for men.
 - Women – Pass snow jump level 3.3 (LT and LL with an execution score of 25,8/30,0) or higher of the Canadian Aerial Progression Plan for women **AND** have done, at least once before in their career, bF on snow with an execution score of 25,8/30,0.
2. The selection committee will select athletes to this group guided by the FC Gold Medal Profile framework and will consider a multitude of athletic traits specific to the discipline of aerials such as:
 - Fitness level;
 - Acrobatic skills;
 - Attitude;
3. For the NextGen group, the selection committee reserves the right to nominate provisional and prospect members.
 - Provisional members are athletes that have reach the minimum skills level, but that have not demonstrated technical and athletic traits outlined in the FC Gold Medal Profile framework. Those athletes will be required to meet specific individual benchmark by October 15th 2019 to determine if they will become a Next Gen ('C' group) member.
 - Prospect members are athletes that have trained and competed at a high level acrobatic sport (other than aerials), been seriously involved into their aerial training plan, are part or the RBC Future Olympian program and showed a consistent progression into the aerial training (physically, on trampoline, ski, water ramps air bag and on snow jumping). Those athletes will be required to

meet specific individual benchmark by October 15th 2019 to determine if they can still train with the NextGen team.

- 3) Freestyle Canada will strive to maintain gender equity.

TIMELINE: The National A, B and NextGen Aerial teams will normally be named by May 15th of each year.

7. COMPETITIVE OPPORTUNITIES

- 1) Freestyle Canada is not required to fill all FIS World Cup and World Championship quota spots.
- 2) WC opportunities will be prioritized for National A & B group Athletes and then the NextGen group athletes, as determined by the HPP Committee based on current team ranking or special considerations (see section 8).

8. QUALIFYING COMPETITIONS

For the 2018-19 season, the following events will count towards the Competition score ranking.

- 1) 2018-2019 eligible Aerial competitions:

World Cup Level:	Continental Cup Level:
World Cups	Nor Am
World Championships	Europa Cup
Olympic Games	Jr. World Championships
	Senior Nationals

- 2) Competition score rankings
 - An athlete's score based ranking will be determined by the sum of their five (5) best individual, single-jump scores. The selection committee may recommend a change in the number of jumps used to select the National Aerial Team depending on the competition schedule or other extraneous factors.
 - Total scores (Judges score: Take off score + Air and Form score + Landing score multiply by the degree of difficulty of the jump) of each individual single jump from eligible competitions will be used. Other than in extraordinary circumstances (see Section 11 below) scores must be taken from competition held during the just concluded season.
 - Athletes are ranked in descending order (i.e. the higher the score, the higher the ranking).

9. WORLD CUP SPOT ALLOCATION FOR 2018-2019

Canada receives a fixed amount of quotas spots for World Cups. These will be re-calculated by FIS in January 2019. The following methods will be used for each World Cup's Canadian spot allocation:

- National Team A & B group athletes have a guaranteed spot for all 2018-19 FIS World Cups in Aerials;
- If additional spots are available, they could be allocated to Next Gen athletes as follows:
 - The selection committee will meet periodically to allocate available spots for World Cups, by considering the following variables:
 - Achieving the set world cup skill benchmarks in camps or competitions relative to the athlete's signed agreement and
 - Ongoing Rankings and / or potential to qualify for major events

**FC may offer World Cup positions to a smaller number of athletes than the maximum allowable by the FIS designated quota. FC may choose to retain some positions to be used on a taxi squad basis. It is not mandated or necessary that FC fill all allowable quota positions.*

Lake Placid World Cup, January 2019

Since there is no world cup hosted in Canada, there will be one spot (1) open for the Lake Placid World Cup for the athlete who met these criteria:

- LF as a minimum skill competed on snow
- The highest ranked athlete based on the sum of his 5 bests jumps done during the Europa Cup in Ruka December 2018 and the Park City Nor Am in January 2019.

10. EXTENUATING SELECTION CRITERIA

- 1) If within the selection period a HPP athlete is not making the necessary progress as determined by the HPP Selection Committee, the Freestyle Canada maintains the right to implement the Extenuating Selection Criteria.
- 2) Criteria will be determined by the HPP Selection Committee and agreed upon in writing with the athlete in question. Extenuating Selection criteria will be added to the athlete's contract and implemented for identified period.
- 3) The Freestyle Canada maintains the right to withhold FC funding (not AAP carding) of an athlete failing to achieve certain performance goals within a specified period.
- 4) The Freestyle Canada may at any time withhold competitive opportunities or withdraw an athlete from the HPP Program.

11. EXTRAORDINARY CIRCUMSTANCES

- 1) Extraordinary circumstances include, but are not limited to circumstances such as injury, death in the family. The selection committee will nominate athletes they feel do qualify under this clause.
- 2) If an athlete misses an entire season due to health related curtailment of activities the selection period will be extended backwards to a maximum of one season.
- 3) If an athlete misses a portion of the competition season and has fewer than 8 jump scores (typically 4 events) in the season, due to health related curtailment of activities, the selection period will be extended backwards to a maximum of 1 year. The most recent events will be counted until a total of 8 scores (4 events) are available (example: Nationals will be the first replacement event if they were the last event of the season).
- 4) The maximum backwards extension of the selection period shall ordinarily be one competition season.
- 5) The HPP Selection Committee has the discretion to make exceptions to injury clause for special cases. This is more likely for athletes with a significant body of high-level event results (medals or top 6 at world cups or top 16 at major Games). This may include expanding the backwards extension of the selection period, or other adjustments to meet the special case
- 6) Freestyle Canada may, at any time, require an athlete who is unable to participate in training or competition due to injury, to obtain a medical assessment from a team physician. The purpose of the medical assessment is to confirm the degree of the athlete's injury and the anticipated time of the athlete's recovery
- 7) The HPP Selection Committee, with input from medical experts, may prevent an athlete from entering an event if the pace of the athlete's rehabilitation from injury warrants doing so
- 8) It may occur that it is inappropriate for a High Performance Program athlete, by reason of a health related curtailment of activities, to participate in HPP training and competition activities for an entire program year. In such a situation, the following shall apply:
 - a) The athlete, the athlete's personal physician, the Freestyle Canada, and the Freestyle Canada's Chief Physician shall make any such determination collectively.
 - b) The athlete shall remain a member of the High Performance Program, and shall have a Freestyle Canada membership and an international Competitor's License.
 - c) The athlete shall continue to be promoted in the Freestyle Canada Media Guide and shall continue to be eligible for Sport Canada carding and National Sport Centre services.
 - d) A rehabilitation program for the athlete shall be developed jointly between the athlete and the Freestyle Canada staff. The rehabilitation program shall be monitored by the Freestyle Canada and evaluated on a regular basis. The athlete's return to full HPP participation shall be, in part, dependant on satisfactory completion of the rehabilitation program.
 - e) The rehabilitation program may include formal HPP training and entry into competitions, as well as physiotherapy, individual training and other

rehabilitative measures. Any formal HPP training or entry into competitions shall be for rehabilitative purposes only. Evaluations or results from such training or entry into competitions shall not be used for the ranking of the athlete for HPP Team selections.

- f) The athlete shall be eligible to return to full HPP participation only after the Freestyle Canada determines that the rehabilitation has been successfully completed

12. HEARING AND APPEAL PROCESS

An appeal of any decision of the HPP Selection Committee may be made by any Freestyle Canada member in good standing. Appeals must be conducted in accordance with the Appeals Policy established by the Freestyle Canada. The policy can be found on the FC website: <http://www.freestylecanada.ski/files/policies/CFSA-appeals-protocol-2009-ENGLISH.pdf>

13. GENERAL

Issues not otherwise covered by this document are subject to the decision of the CEO of the Freestyle Canada, in consultation with the High Performance Program Selection Committee.

14. SPECIAL RANKING CONSIDERATIONS

The selection committee may in some cases choose to select athletes out of the initial ranking order. In such cases the Committee must record in detail the reasons for its decisions. These reasons must support the program goals outlined at the beginning of this document.

Special Ranking Considerations include, but are not limited to the following examples:

- An athlete who is showing excellent results and increasing her or his performance results may be moved higher than their calculated ranking.
- An athlete who shows excellent physical characteristics (measurable in testing) and / or technical capability; may be moved higher than her or his calculated ranking. This is more likely to happen early in an athlete's career. Rational: in some stages of development an athlete may focus on training and not perform as well at competition.
- An athlete who has had ample opportunities and is not advancing towards the program goal may move lower than her or his calculated ranking and may result in not being selected to any of the teams. Written rational from the relative selection committee will be provided
- When there is a relatively narrow point spread between two athletes, there is greater chance of "out of order" selection.
- An athlete who is tracking well with strong work ethic and commitment to training opportunities may move ahead of an athlete who has not demonstrated these traits.

- Athletes who have reached major event podiums in recent years (i.e Olympics and World Championships)

Major Games Selection:

During an Olympic Winter Games or World Championships selection period, athletes who have a reasonable chance at selection may be given priority in the allocation of Taxi squad positions.

Score Anomaly:

In some circumstances, there are 3 to 4 counting events on the same course within a short time frame, often with all events judged by the same panel. This scenario may warrant an out of order selection

APPENDIX # 1

Canadian Aerial Program Progression Plan - MEN

Men

Lev.		Trampoline		Jump			
		skills	r./scor.	Water	Snow		
7	3	3188 (4,4 - L)	7/8.0				
	2	3186 (4,2 - L)	7/7.5		bFdFF, bdFFF or bFFdF		
	1	3186 (2,4 - L)	7/7.0	bFdFF, bdFFF or bFFdF	bLdFF, bFdFF		
6	3	2185 (2,3 - puck)	6/8.0	bLdFF, bFdFF	bLdFF, bFFF	21 ans +	
	2	3184 (2,2 - L)	6/7.5	bLdFF, bFFF	bLFF, bFFF		
	1	3182 (0,2 - L)	6/7.0	bLFF, bFFF	bLFF, bFFF (25,8)	20-21 ans	B-Team
5	3	3184(2,2 -L)	5/ 8.0	bLFF, bFFF	bLTF or bLFT, bLFF		
	2	2183 (0,3 -T)	5/ 7.5	bLTF or bLFT, bLFF	bFdF,bLdF or bdFF	18-19 ans	
	1	3182(0,2L)	5/7.0	bFdF, bLdF or bdFF	bFF, bFdF		
4	3	2183(1,2Puck)3184(2,2 Puck)	4/ 8.0	bFF, bFdF	bLF, bFF (26,3)		C-Team
	2	3182(1,1-T), 318L	4/7.5	bLF, bFF	bLF, bFF	16-17 ans	
	1	2181P, 3182(0,2-Puck)	4/7.0	bLF, bFF	bLT or bLL, bLF		
3	3	2181T, 318P	3/ 8.0	bLL or bLT, bLF	bLT, bLL		Québec Performance
	2	3144	3/7.5	bF, bLT,	back lay, back full	14-15 ans	
	1	2143, 318T	3/7.0	back lay, back full	back lay, back full		
2	3	3131, 3142	2/ 8.0	back pike, back lay	back pike, back lay		
	2	313L, 2141L	2/7.5	back pike, back lay	back pike, back lay	12-13 ans	Québec Regional
	1	314L, 2141P	2/7.0	back tuck, front tuck	back tuck, front tuck		
1	3	314P, 213L	1/ 8.0	zudnik, 360°	zudnik,360°	10-11 ans	
	2	F drop to Back, 214P	1/7.5	zudnik, kosak	zudnik, kosak		
	1	Cradle, 31123	1/7.0	straight, spread eagle	straight, spread eagle	8-9 ans	Club
0	3			jump on water	ski a mogul run		
	2				ski the landing	no age	
	1				250h skiing+100h coaching		Ex gymnist

For the national team group «B», the athlete have to pass level 6.1 with an execution score of 25.8/30.0.

To be consider for the national team group «C», the athlete have to pass level 4.3 with an execution score of 26.3/30.0.

APPENDIX # 2

Canadian Aerial Program Progression Plan - WOMEN

Women

Level		Trampoline		Ramp		Age	Team
		skills	r./scor.	Water	Snow		
7	3	3188 (4,4 - L)	7/8.0				
	2	3186 (4,2 - L)	7/7.5				
	1	3186 (2,4 - L)	7/7.0				
6	3	2185 (2,3 - puck)	6/8.0				
	2	3184 (2,2 - L)	6/7.5		bFdF, bdFF (26.3)		
	1	3182 (0,2 - L)	6/7.0	bFdF, bdFF (26.3)	bFdF, bdFF	21 ans +	
5	3	3184(2,2 -L)	5/ 8.0	bFdF, bdFF	bFF, bFdF (26.3)		
	2	2183 (0,3 -T)	5/ 7.5	bFF, bFdF (26.3)	bFF, bFdF	20-21 ans	
	1	3182(0,2L)	5/7.0	bFF, bFdF	bLF, bFF (26.3)		B- Team
4	3	2183(1,2Puck)3184(2,2 Puck)	4/ 8.0	bLF, bFF (26.3)	bLF, bFF	18-19 ans	
	2	3182(1,1-T), 318L	4/7.5	bLF, bFF	bLT or bLL, bLF (26.3)		
	1	2181P, 3182(0,2-Puck)	4/7.0	bLT or bLL, bLF (26.3)	bLT or bLL, bLF		
3	3	2181T, 318P	3/ 8.0	bLT or bLL, bLF	bLL, bLT (25.8)	16-17 ans	C- Team
	2	3144	3/7.5	bF, bLT,	back lay, back full (26.3)		Québec
	1	2143, 318T	3/7.0	back lay, back full	back lay, back full	14-15 ans	
2	3	3131, 3142	2/ 8.0	back pike, back lay (26.3)	back pike, back lay (26.3)		
	2	313L, 2141L	2/7.5	back pike, back lay	back pike, back lay	12-13 ans	Québec Regional
	1	314L, 2141P	2/7.0	back tuck, front tuck	back tuck, front tuck		
1	3	314P, 213L	1/ 8.0	zudnik, 360°	zudnik,360°	10-11 ans	
	2	F drop to Back, 214P	1/7.5	zudnik, kosak	zudnik, kosak		
	1	Cradle, 31123	1/7.0	straight, spread eagle	straight, spread eagle	8-9 ans	Club
0	3			jump on water	ski a mogul run		
	2				ski the landing	no age	
	1				250h skiing+100h coaching		Ex gymnast

For the national team group «B», the athlete have to pass level 5.1 with an execution score of 26.3/30.0.

To be consider for the national team group «C», the athlete have to pass level 3.3 with an execution score of 25.8/30.0.