

Snowsport Scotland Alpine Ski Team Selection Criteria

The primary aim of the Scottish Alpine Ski Team is to provide a solid programme for talented athletes from the Scottish Part-Time team into the Home-Nations full-time team and the British Ski Team. Therefore overall selection policy has been brought together with the other Home-Nations under the Snowsport GB selection policy.

This unified policy is to provide a clear performance pathway of selection standards that will support the progressive development of our athletes within a structured framework. To achieve this the programme concentrates on promoting solid technical skiing, high levels of fitness in addition to low FIS points. The selection criteria is primarily based around these 3 main elements especially in the Junior 1 category.

Aims

The aim of this document is to set out the procedure and criteria for selection to the various levels and categories of competitive Scottish Alpine Skiing. These are in agreement with Snowsport GB and falls in line with the Snowsport GB selection criteria.

Remit

The selection committee is appointed by the Snowsport Scotland board and is tasked to select the Scottish Alpine Ski Team for the Full-time, Part-time and Collegiate categories.

The selected team will then be passed through to the Snowsport GB selection panel for ratification and programme placement.

The selection committee will also select Scottish collegiate athletes to be nominated to compete in the World Student Games. They will agree standards with the British University Sports Association (BUSA) for the World Student Games and propose athletes based on those standards to the BUSA, who will then select the British University Team.

Formation of Selection Committee

The Selection Committee comprises of a chairperson, the performance director (SNOWSPORT SCOTLAND), the (SNOWSPORT SCOTLAND) coaching staff, and an independent individual who will represent the interests of athletes nominated by each club. The Chairman of the selection committee may invite others (if necessary), with specialist knowledge, to contribute for part of a meeting depending on the availability of individual members and the specific areas for which it is selecting.

Members

For Scottish Alpine Ski Team selection the committee shall comprise:-

Chairperson

Performance Director

Snowsport Scotland Alpine Head Coach

Snowsport Scotland PT Alpine Coach

An independent Club representative

Duncan Freshwater

Sam Liddell

Chris Park

(To be confirmed)

If a Club either does not provide a squad or has athletes that would otherwise qualify for selection who train elsewhere (e.g. abroad) the Chairperson, having received a relevant nomination, will invite the Coach of such athletes to attend the relevant part of the meeting subject to that Coach having provided the Performance Director with details in advance or the athlete(s) which shows that the criteria have been met.

Team Commitment

Participation in the Scottish Alpine Ski Team requires a significant financial and life-style commitment from both the athletes and parents in order to operate successfully. To accept a position on one of the Scottish Alpine Ski Teams, athletes must commit to a program agreed by the coach and the athlete or parent. All athletes must sign the athlete's agreement, which includes a code of conduct.

Injury Status

Every athlete who suffers a serious injury will be given time to recover full fitness before being considered for reselection to a team. They will be given opportunity through conditional selection to prove that they will be able to meet the selection criteria, and continue their position on their performance pathway. Each case will be considered individually, and there will be no automatic reselection.

Appeals Process

All appeals must be made in writing, with accompanying evidence or additional information, to the SNOWSPORT SCOTLAND office in accordance with the Sports Council's publication 'Getting it Right' which is available from the SNOWSPORT SCOTLAND's and BSSF's office. It should be noted that one of the provisions contained in that booklet is that appeals must be received within 7 days of the selection announcements. All appeals will be considered on an individual basis.

SNOWSPORT SCOTLAND has adopted the procedures and rules of appeals as set out by the Sports Council in its publication 'Getting it Right'.

Appeals Committee

In the event of any appeal, an appeals committee shall be formed with an independent Chairperson and a Head Coach from each of the Scottish Alpine Race Clubs. They will be tasked with reviewing the selection committees decision making process. In the first instance appeals should be addressed to The Chief Executive at Snowsport Scotland.

Members

For Appeals concerning selection to the Scottish Alpine Ski Team the committee shall comprise:-

Independent Chairperson	ASC Head Coach	SSC Head Coach
CSC Head Coach	GDN Head Coach	GSC Head Coach

Selection Criteria

1. Selection Guidelines for 2005-2006

1.1 Introduction

The selection policy has changed from previous years to be integrated with Snowsport GB selection policy. This is to promote a clear performance pathway from children to senior age groups. Therefore all the Home-Nations select within a unified structure to promote fair selection of athletes on the full time home nations team provided by Snowsport GB.

The Scottish Alpine Ski Team exists to identify and develop ski-racers with the potential to compete at the highest international level.

The aim of the selection process is to identify the athletes who merit and want inclusion into the Scottish Alpine Ski Team training and racing programme. The aim of the programme is to develop the technical, physical and mental skills necessary for progression into the Home Nations Development programme and the World Class Start programme in years 3, 4 or 5 of Junior FIS racing. We emphasise that the priority in these early years of FIS racing is to lay solid foundations for later competition success.

1.2 Selection Overview

Selection will be made in line with the Snowsport GB selection policy. See Snowsport GB Selection Policy 1.2.3.

Athletes will be selected to teams using the criteria for the performance indicators relative to their corresponding year of FIS registration (for the following season relative to year of birth) See Snowsport GB Selection Policy 1.2.3a.

Selection to a team will allow access to the relevant training programme as outlined in Snowsport GB Selection Policy 1.2.3b.

Only athletes who can commit to full-time training and meet the relevant criteria will be eligible for selection onto the Home Nations Development Programme.

There are various elements to the selection criteria.

These are listed below.

1.2.1 Snowsport GB Fitness Tests (see Snowsport GB Selection Policy appendix 1.5.2)

1.2.2 Snowsport GB FIS point matrix

The matrix is based on the average points of the best 10 skiers in the world by year of birth. Criteria is based on the levels of percentage behind this average. These levels are calculated using the final FIS list produced at the start of May. See Snowsport GB Selection Policy appendix 1.5 available at: www.snowsportgb.com.

- Select “disciplines”
- Select “alpine selection policy appendices”

You will find the percentage margins that you must be within for selection.

1.2.3 Snowsport GB Time Trials

This is for skiers entering the first three years of Junior FIS racing.

These will take place during the British Junior and Children's Championships.

1.2.4 Snowsport GB Technical Skills Assessment Video

This is for skiers entering the first two years of Junior FIS racing.

Technical skill assessment video must be submitted to the National Team Coach by the final day of the British Junior and Children's Championships.

1.2.5 Snowsport GB Performance Profile

(Only for athletes currently on a Home Nations team).

This will only be completed by National Team coaches.

1.3 Code of Conduct

All team athletes will be required to sign and abide by a code of conduct and financial Deed of Guarantee. These documents will be issued with offers of selection.

1.4 Selection Status

There are three levels of selection. Only athletes selected to the A or B teams are eligible for the full time team.

A Status

As per table 1 and table 6 in Snowsport GB Selection Policy for 1st year juniors.

As per table 2 and table 7 in Snowsport GB Selection Policy for juniors.

B Status

As per table 1 and table 6 in Snowsport GB Selection Policy for 1st year juniors.

As per table 2 and table 7 in Snowsport GB Selection Policy for juniors.

Senior Home-Nations Team

As per table 10 in Snowsport GB Selection Policy.

2. 2005-2006 Scottish Alpine Ski Team training and race programme.

2.1 Description

Training for success at FIS Junior level requires a far greater degree of commitment and expense than at children's level. Equipment and training requirements become more specific and demanding.

Technical training, free skiing and fitness and conditioning need to be strongly addressed in the summer and autumn periods. This is the most important part of the programme. Time taken to work on the underlying technical and physical basics involved with skiing is fundamental to long-term athlete development. There are no quick fixes. Therefore the summer and autumn periods are crucial for development and the value of quality time on snow cannot be understated.

At this period in young athlete development the balance between technical training and racing is difficult to get exactly right. A common error is to become preoccupied with racing, forsaking on-going technical training that makes success in the longer term far more likely. Our training opportunities are relatively rare and so the only major time we have for improvement is during the summer and autumn months. While technical training does continue into the competitive period the opportunities for technical improvement are far shorter.

Our overall aim is to have enough races to ensure steady improvement of FIS points and progression along the development pathway.

Part time programme

For the majority of younger FIS athletes it will only be possible to follow a part time programme. This will need to be tailored around educational commitments and other constraints. While every effort is made to make sure that camps fit around the school breaks it may be necessary to take time off from school.

We intend to run a continuous programme of activity throughout the year with ongoing physical training and assessments during time off snow.

Full Time Programme

The Home Nations Development Team is managed by Snowsport GB and is a full time year round programme. This is intended for athletes who have minimal or few educational commitments. A large part of the year will be spent away from home, racing and training in Europe, based at the BOA centre in Lofer, Austria.

Collegiate Programme

Collegiate athletes will have the opportunity to participate in one of the above programmes.

British University Sports Association (provisional) Selection Policy to

World Student Winter Games.

Staged every two years on odd years. E.g. 2005(Turin, Italy), 2007(tbc), 2009(tbc)

Schedule of Universidad Qualification Requirements.

Alpine Skiing

1. A maximum of 6 athletes from each National Organising Committee may compete in each of the following disciplines:
Men and Women - Downhill, Super-Giant Slalom, Giant Slalom, and Slalom. The Combined result is determined from these results.
2. Only those male and female competitors with less than 90 FIS points in two disciplines (one must be technical) on the FIS Points List out in November immediately preceding the Universidad will be eligible for selection.
3. The BUSA will consider eligible for selection athletes who have met the agreed selection criteria for an Alpine discipline however would prefer athletes to compete in all four disciplines once at the Universidad.
4. There will be no restriction on where results were achieved.
5. Athletes qualified under point 2 above in the season preceding the Universidad are required to achieve and/or maintain the training and/or competition performance requirements set by the Head Coach for the season of the Universidad, to confirm current form, fitness and/or consistency.