

2017-18 Alpine U.S. Ski Team Nomination Criteria

Eligibility for Consideration: The USSA will consider for selection only those USSA members in good standing who have a valid FIS license.

Further, an athlete shall be ineligible for consideration if previously suspended or removed from team membership without having been reinstated by the USSA. Also, athletes who have previously declined an offer of team membership shall not be automatically offered team membership regardless of results achieved during the competition season unless that athlete specifically requests consideration and the USSA Alpine Director and the Vice President of Athletics approves the request.

Team status does not guarantee funding from the USSA for competition or preparation. Athletes who have been given individual performance criteria to meet will be subject to those specific criteria and not to general criteria as outlined below.

U.S. Ski Team nomination criteria recognize athletic achievements while focusing financial support and resources on future athletic potential.

Athletes must demonstrate a capability to adhere to the USSA Values and Code of Conduct in order to be eligible for nomination.

Criteria Rules

Selection criteria referencing the World Cup Start List (WCSL) may apply both the WCSL and the World Cup Standings based on the list published after the World Cup Finals.

Selection criteria using World Rank (WR) and FIS age group rank are based on the FIS Interne BL List, scheduled for publication April 20, 2017, with year-end top-30 WCSL athletes inserted. Final team status will be determined after the 1st FIS points list 2017/18, scheduled for publication July 1, 2017.

A Team – Women

Athletes with YOB 1992 or earlier must achieve A Team criteria

- 1 top 25 WCSL (DH/SL/GS/SG) or 1 top 10 WCSL (AC)

B Team – Women

YOB 1993

- 1 top 30 WCSL (DH/SL/GS/SG), or
- 1 top 15 WCSL (AC)

YOB 1994

- 1 top 35 WCSL (DH/SL/GS/SG) and 1 top 45 FIS WR (DH/SL/GS/SG), or
- 1 top 20 WCSL (AC)

YOB 1995

- 1 top 45 WCSL and FIS WR 45 (DH/SL/GS/SG), or
- 1 top 25 WCSL (AC) and 1 top 45 FIS WR (DH/SL/GS/SG)

YOB 1996 and younger

- 1 top 50 WCSL and FIS WR Top 50 (DH/SL/GS/SG), or
- 1 top 30 WCSL (AC) and 1 top 45 FIS WR (DH/SL/GS/SG)

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Athletes will also be selected using the following:

- YOB 1996 – 2017 NorAm Title or Overall winner (excluding AC) and FIS WR Top 50 (DH/SL/GS/SG)
- YOB 1997 and younger – 2017 NorAm Title or Overall winner (excluding AC)
- Coaches' discretion

C Team – Women

YOB 1997 – athletes must qualify through one of the two following:

- SL/GS – 1 top 60 FIS WR, or
- DH/SG – 1 top 60 FIS WR and a GS or SL WR of 200, or
- 3 top 5 results in any Europa Cup race, or
- 4 top 10 results in any Europa Cup race

YOB 1998 – athletes must qualify through one of the two following:

- SL/GS – 1 top 110 FIS WR, or
- Three-event average of 150 WR excluding AC, or
- 3 top 10 results in any Europa Cup race, or
- 4 top 15 results in any Europa Cup race

YOB 1999 and younger- athletes must qualify through one of the two following:

- SL/GS – 1 top 170 FIS WR, or
- Three-event average of 175 excluding AC, or
- 2 top 15 results in any Europa Cup race, or
- 3 top 20 results in any Europa Cup race

Athletes will also be selected using the following:

- YOB 1997 and younger – 1 top 3 finish in any discipline at the 2017 WJCS and a GS or SL WR of 250 for a DH, SG and AC podium.
- Coaches' Discretion

D Team – Women

YOB 1998 and 1999

- Head-to-Head Competition
 - 1st Nor-Am QRP ranking of YOB 1998 and younger in SL, GS or Speed and another top 5 Nor-Am QRP ranking of YOB 1998 and younger in SL, GS or Speed, or
 - 1 win and 1 top 3 at the 2017 U.S. Junior National Championships (SL, GS, SG), or
 - 1 top 5 or 2 top 10 results at the 2017 World Junior Championships (SL, GS, SG, DH, AC)

AND

- Age-group World Rank (AGWR)

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- Top 10 age-group world rank in SL, GS, SG, or DH

AND

- Performance Band Marker
 - YOB 1998 – 1 top 150 in GS or SL
 - YOB 1999 – 1 top 200 in GS or SL

YOB 2000

- Head-to-Head Competition
 - 1st Nor-Am QRP ranking of YOB 2000 in SL, GS or Speed and another top 5 Nor-Am QRP ranking of YOB 2000 in SL, GS or Speed, or
 - 2 U19 wins at the 2017 U.S. Junior National Championships (SL, GS, SG), or
 - 1 top 10 result at the 2017 World Junior Championships (SL, GS, SG, DH, AC)

AND

- Age-group World Rank (AGWR)
 - Top 10 age-group world rank in SL, GS, SG, or DH

AND

- Performance Band Marker
 - 1 top 300 in GS or SL

Coaches' Discretion

- USSA staff may nominate additional athletes based on exceptional circumstances

Nomination and naming to all teams requires sports science physical fitness testing and USSA medical department clearance.

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A Team – Men

Athletes with YOB 1990 or earlier must achieve A Team criterion

- 1 top 25 WCSL (DH/SL/GS/SG) or 1 top 15 WCSL (AC)

B Team – Men

YOB 1991

- 1 top 30 WCSL (DH/SL/GS/SG), or
- 1 top-20 WCSL (AC) and 1 top FIS 35 WR (DH/SL/GS/SG)

YOB 1992

- 1 top 40 WCSL (DH/SL/GS/SG) and 1 top 50 FIS WR (DH/SL/GS/SG), or
- 1 top 25 WCSL (AC) and 1 top 50 FIS WR (DH/SL/GS/SG), or
- 2 Podiums at a Europa Cup race in (DH, SG, GS, SL, AC, Dual)

YOB 1993 and younger

- 1 top 55 WCSL and FIS WR top 50 (DH/SL/GS/SG), or
- 1 top 30 WCSL (AC) and 1 top 50 FIS WR (DH/SL/GS/SG), or
- 2 podiums at a Europa Cup race in (DH, SG, GS, SL, AC, Dual)

YOB 1994 and younger

- 1 top 60 WCSL and 1 top 60 FIS WR (DH/SL/GS/SG), or
- GS/SL - 1 top 50 FIS WR, or
- DH/SG – 1 top 50 FIS WR and a three event average of 150 WR excluding AC, or
- 2 podiums at a Europa Cup race in (DH, SG, GS, SL, AC, Dual)

Coaches' discretion

C Team – Men

The men's C Team selection will be based on either a technical event performance band or a speed event performance band. Athletes achieving the speed performance band criteria must also meet a three event average as described below.

YOB 1995 – athletes must qualify through one of the two following

- SL/GS – 1 top 80 FIS WR, or
- DH/SG – 1 top 80 FIS WR and three event average of 250 WR excluding AC, or
- Two top 10 results in any Europa Cup race, or
- Three top 15 results in any Europa Cup race

YOB 1996 – athletes must qualify through one of the two following:

- SL/GS – 1 top 115 FIS WR, or
- DH/SG – 1 top 115 FIS WR and three event average of 250 WR excluding AC, or
- Two top 10 results in any Europa Cup race, or
- Three top 15 results in any Europa Cup race

YOB 1997 and younger- athletes must qualify through one of the two following:

- SL/GS – 1 top 150 FIS WR, or
- DH/SG – 1 top 150 FIS WR and three event average of 250 excluding AC, or
- Two top 10 results in any Europa Cup race, or
- Three top 15 results in any Europa Cup race

Athletes will also be selected using the following:

- YOB 1996 and younger – Top 3 finish in DH/SL/GS/SG/AC at the 2017 WJCS and a GS or SL WR of 400 for a DH, SG and AC podium.
- YOB 1995 and younger – 2017 NorAm Title or Overall winner (excluding AC)
- Coaches' discretion

D Team – Men

YOB 1997

- Head-to-Head competition
 - 1st Nor-Am QRP ranking of YOB 1997 and younger in SL, GS or Speed and another top 5 Nor-Am QRP ranking of YOB 1997 and younger in SL, GS or Speed, or
 - 1 win and 1 top 3 result at the 2017 U.S. Junior National Championships (SL, GS, SG), or
 - 1 top-5 or 2 top-10 results at the 2017 World Junior Championships (SL, GS, SG, DH, AC)

AND

- Age-group World Rank (AGWR)
 - Top 10 age-group world rank in SL, GS, SG, or DH

AND

- Performance Band Marker
 - 1 top 160 in SL or GS

YOB 1998, 1999, 2000

- Head-to-Head competition
 - 1st U19 QRP ranking of YOB 1998 and younger in SL, GS or Speed and another top 5 U19 QRP ranking by YOB 1998 and younger in SL, GS or Speed, or
 - U19 QRP ranking consists of all NorAm and NPS races
 - 2 U19 wins at the 2017 U.S. Junior National Championships (SL, GS, SG), or
 - 1 top 15 result at the 2017 World Junior Championships (SL, GS, SG, DH, AC)

AND

- Age-group World Rank (AGWR)
 - Top 10 age-group world rank in SL, GS, SG, or DH

AND

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- Performance Band Marker
 - YOB 1998 – 1 top 250 in SL or GS
 - YOB 1999 – 1 top 430 FIS WR in SL or GS
 - YOB 2000 – 1 top 730 FIS WR in SL or GS

Coaches' Discretion

- USSA staff may nominate additional athletes based on exceptional circumstances

National University Team*

The Men's UNI Team selection will be based on a technical event performance, excluding SC, and a head to head component using NorAms and/or U19 NPS.

YOB 1994

- 1 top-80 FIS WR (SL/GS)

And

- 1 top-7 International NorAm season standings (SL/GS)

YOB 1995

- 1 top-100 FIS WR (SL/GS)

And

- Two or more Top 10 NorAm or one top 10 NorAm and 1 top 5 U.S. Nationals results in SL and or GS

YOB 1996

- 1 top-140 FIS WR (SL/GS)

And

- Top-3 Junior International NorAm season standings (SL/GS)

YOB 1997

- 1 top-220 FIS WR (SL/GS)

And

- 1 top-3 NorAm QRP ranking of YOB 1997 and younger (SL/GS) and another top-5 Nor-Am QRP ranking of YOB 1997 and younger (SL/GS)

YOB 1998

- 1 top-370 FIS WR (SL/GS)

And

- 1 top-3 U19 QRP ranking of YOB 1998 and younger (SL/GS) and another top-5 U19 QRP ranking of YOB 1998 and younger in SL, GS (SL/GS)
 - U19 QRP ranking consists of all NorAm and NPS races

* Selection to the U.S. Ski Team via National University Team criteria is contingent on funding availability and continuation of programming.

Nomination and naming to all teams requires sports science physical fitness testing and USSA medical department clearance.

Qualification Race Points (QRP) Rules and Example

In order for QRP's to count the athletes must be within 8% of the winning time

All athletes are included in the QRP calculation

- First U20 athlete in the Nor-Am Qualification race will be set at 0 QRP
- First U19 athlete in the U19 NPS race will be set at 25 QRP
- Each successive eligible athlete will be assigned QRPs based on race points behind the first eligible athlete.
 - NorAm QRP race example:

Racer	YOB	Race Points	QRP
Racer 1	1996	12	NA
Racer 2	1997	13.5	0
Racer 3	1996	15	NA
Racer 4	1998	17	3.5
Racer 5	2000	17.2	3.7
Racer 6	1999	18	4.5

- Event rankings are calculated from the average of the best two results per event using QRPs (SL and GS)
- Speed event rankings use the best two SG races or the best one SG and the best one DH result
- If only one result achieved 10 points will be added to the QRP

Qualification races C/D Team

- All Europa Cup series
- All NorAm Cup series
- U19 National Performance Series
- World Junior Championships
- U.S. Junior National Championships
- U.S. National Championships

Tentative Dates:

Team Nominations: May - July TBA

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Athlete Competition Advancement

Athletes will be advanced based on the following general guidelines:

1. Win a NorAm race: you will be entered in the next available and practical Europa Cup competition, in that event, in the same season.
2. Place in the top 3 in a Europa Cup race: you will be entered in the next available World Cup competition, in that event, in the same season (if you meet the minimum FIS standards).

Clauses Applicable to all Athlete Selection Criteria

Coaches' Discretion - Consideration for coaches' discretion will include the following:

1. Opportunities previously provided to an athlete in relation to results
2. Attitude and commitment
3. Outstanding results
4. Physical fitness level
5. Injuries

Proposed discretionary selections will be reviewed and discussed by the "Coaches Discretion Review Committee" during the Athletic Summit

Members of the CDRC are Tiger Shaw, Luke Bodensteiner, Patrick Riml, Sasha Rearick, Paul Kristofic, Chip Knight.

Complete explanation will be provided for any decision if requested.

Athlete Injury Clause

Athlete's return from injury will fall completely under Coaches jurisdiction. In order to receive team status an athlete must follow a prescribed rehabilitation or medical program as approved by the USSA medical staff. Funding may be based upon a return to physical fitness level or competitive form as determined by the USSA approved medical staff.

In Season Promotion

Athletes will not be promoted in season. No athletes will be demoted during the season; however, funding may be suspended at any time if progress or commitment is not consistent with the designed program.

Medical Clearance

New athletes named to the team will require a medical clearance for participation. This will be completed by a sports physical exam by a USSA approved physician. Once named, athlete will contact the USSA Medical Director for appropriate paperwork and direction. Medical clearance must be obtained prior to athlete participation in team projects.

Acceptance to Team

Athletes nominated to the team must accept or decline their nomination within ten (10) days after notification by their respective coach. Team naming will occur after nominated athletes have signed the U.S. Ski Team athlete agreement.

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U.S. Ski and Snowboard Association
ALPINE SKIING

Direct Athlete Support Programs (2017 season)

A athletes have a top 25 (women) or top 25 (men) World Ranking or World Cup Start List in Downhill, Slalom, Giant Slalom or Super-G, or a top 5 (women) or top 20 (men) World Ranking or World Cup Start List (WCSL) in Super Combined. Athletes qualifying for the WC Finals are also considered A.

B athletes are 2015 World Junior Championship medalists and athletes ranked in the top-40 (women) or top-50 (men) in the World or World Cup Start List.

Male & female athletes who are born 1989 or earlier must meet A criteria.

Allocation for 2017:

- \$50,000 total allocation
- Athletes earning over \$100,000 are ineligible for program
- \$3,490 per A athlete
- \$1,690 per B athlete