

SELECTION CRITERIA  
**2017 FIS FREESTYLE/FREESKIING JUNIOR WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS**

Valmalenco, ITA April 3- April 7, 2017 (MO,DM,AE,SS)

Silvaplana, SUI - April 19, 2017 (HP)

**1. PHILOSOPHY:**

The U.S. Ski and Snowboard Association (USSA) will select only the most qualified athletes with the GREATEST OPPORTUNITIES FOR WINNING MEDALS at the 2017 JUNIOR WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS AND FUTURE CHAMPIONSHIPS. Selection criteria will be based on world-class performances during a period of elite-level competition.

**2. QUOTAS:**

Athletes will be selected from Moguls, Dual Moguls, Aerials, Halfpipe, Slopestyle and Skicross disciplines. The total number of athletes will be restricted to the start quota as determined by FIS. The maximum number of athletes may be up to thirty-eight (38) athletes total, with a maximum of twenty (20) per gender/country and four (4) per sex/discipline. Disciplines included at the FIS Junior World Championships are MO, DM, AE, HP, SS, SX.

**3. ELIGIBILITY:**

The age limit for the 2017 FIS Junior World Championships will be by year of birth: from 1996-2000 for SX events and 1997-2002 for Moguls, Aerials, Halfpipe, and Slopestyle.

**4. NAMING OF THE PARTICIPANTS:**

The U.S. FIS Junior World athletes will be named by at least 2 weeks prior to the event. They will be announced at the USSA offices and posted on the USSA website [www.ussa.org](http://www.ussa.org)

**5. INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION RULES:**

All qualifying competitions are governed by the international federation rules of competition. The international federation for snowsports, as recognized by the IOC, is the FIS. All criteria as they relate to rules, regulations and competition calendars are subject to changes based on changes by the FIS, the USOC and the IOC.

**6. SELECTION PROCEDURES – Summary of Objective Selection:**

1. Start positions in Moguls/Dual Moguls, Aerials, Halfpipe, Slopestyle and Skicross will be filled objectively using the following:

**Aerials, Moguls/Dual Moguls** - Four (4) athletes per gender per discipline will be selected by criteria below in order of importance. Moguls and Dual Moguls is considered one Team, athletes qualified for singles will also ski in duals.

1. Current U.S. Freestyle Ski Team: A, B, C or D Team members in aerials and moguls. Ties will be broken by:

- a. Best World Cup finish during the 2016-17 season

- b. Current ranking in the 2016-17 World Cup Standings list within the relevant discipline
- c. Current ranking in the 2016-17 NorAm Grand Prix list within relevant discipline.
- d. Coaches discretion

2. Current Junior World Champion or International Youth Champion (if age eligible) in aerials and single moguls

3. 2016 Junior National Champion (if age eligible) in aerials and single moguls.

4. Remaining start's will be filled by the final 2017 NorAm Grand Prix list.

5. In the event all starts are not filled by the criteria listed above, USSA points list four(4) will be used for final selection.

**Halfpipe Riders** – Two (2) Highest ranking athletes per gender from Halfpipe Selection events listed below will be nominated to the team as follows:

Athletes will score selection points, using the FIS World Cup point scoring system (100 point scale), in each selection event. Only athletes from the United States who are USSA members in good standing and who hold a valid United States passport, and were born between 1997-2002 will be included when assigning selection points. At the end of the selection period each athlete's best (highest) two (2) scores will be averaged to create a ranking list for nomination in each discipline. Athletes must compete in 2 Revolution Tour qualification events to be eligible for the rankings. USSA will use the following tie-breaking mechanisms in priority order:

Best Result (from the ranking list)

Third Best Result (from the ranking list)

Fourth Best Result (from the ranking list)

Total selection points (total points earned in all selection events)

The selection list will be created by averaging scores from each athlete's two best finishes even if one or more selection events are cancelled due to weather or other circumstances beyond the control of USSA.

The selection events will include the following:

Copper Revolution Tour	December 9-10, 2016
Mammoth Revolution Tour	February 8-10, 2017
Seven Springs Revolution Tour	March 7-8, 2017

One (1) Highest ranked athlete per gender from the 2016-2017 Grand Prix Rankings. If athlete is already qualified from above, the next highest ranking athlete will be selected.

**-Slopestyle Riders** – Two (2) Highest ranking athletes per sex from Slopestyle Selection events listed below will be nominated to the team as follows:

Athletes will score selection points, using the FIS World Cup point scoring system (100 point scale), in each selection event. Only athletes from the United States who are USSA members in good standing and who hold a valid United States passport, and were born between 1997-2002. will be included when assigning selection points. At the end of the selection period each athlete's best (highest) two (2) scores will be averaged to create a ranking list for nomination in each discipline. Athletes must compete in 2 Revolution Tour qualification events to be eligible for the rankings. USSA will use the following tie-breaking mechanisms in priority order:

Best Result (from the ranking list)

Third Best Result (from the ranking list)

Fourth Best Result (from the ranking list)

Total selection points (total points earned in all selection events)

The selection list will be created by averaging scores from each athlete's two best finishes even if one or more selection events are cancelled due to weather or other circumstances beyond the control of USSA.

The selection events will include the following:

Waterville Valley Revolution Tour	January 9-13, 2017
Mammoth Revolution Tour	February 8-10, 2017
Seven Springs Revolution Tour	March 7-8, 2017

One (1) Highest ranked athlete per gender from the 2017 Mammoth Grand Prix. If athlete is already qualified from above, the next highest ranking athlete will be selected.

**Skicross Riders** – Three (3) Highest ranking athletes per gender from Skicross Selection events listed below will be nominated to the team as follows:

Athletes will score selection points, using the FIS World Cup point scoring system (100 point scale), in each selection event. Only athletes from the United States who are USSA members in good standing and who hold a valid United States passport, and were born between 1996-1998. will be included when assigning selection points. At the end of the selection period each athlete's best (highest) two (2) scores will be averaged to create a ranking list for nomination in each discipline. USSA will use the following tie-breaking mechanisms in priority order:

Best Result (from the ranking list)  
Third Best Result (from the ranking list)  
Fourth Best Result (from the ranking list)  
Total selection points (total points earned in all selection events)

The selection list will be created by averaging scores from each athlete's two best finishes even if one or more selection events are cancelled due to weather or other circumstances beyond the control of USSA.

The selection events will include the following:

Ski Cooper Hole Shot Race #1	February 22, 2017
Ski Cooper Hole Shot Race #2	February 23, 2017
TBD Hole Shot Race #1	
TBD Hole Shot Race #2	

## **B. Discretionary Selection Policy**

The USSA may select additional athletes to the Team using Coach's Discretion, using factors other than objective criteria such as the following:

1. Opportunities previously provided to an athlete in relationship to results
2. Attitude and commitment
3. Outstanding results (inside or outside of the selection period and events)
4. AFP Points List ranking
5. Injuries

## **C. Objective Criteria (Part Two):**

If after using the aforementioned objective criteria (Part One) and Discretionary Criteria (see Section B. Discretionary Selection), the total team size is not yet attained, USSA will complete the nomination of the team utilizing the following criterion:

Highest Selection Points Ranking (average of 2 best results using the FIS World Cup point scoring system [100 point scale] and the selection events identified). If fewer than four athletes per gender are nominated to the team in an event based upon the objective criteria (Part One) and the Discretionary Criteria (see Section B. Discretionary Selection), then additional athletes will be added to the team based on the average of their 2 (two) highest results during the selection period provided it is higher than 50% of the field. The total number of competitors on the official results will define the field size. To complete this selection USSA will produce one list that ranks athletes from all events and both genders based on the selection events results. If application of this criterion would result in a total of more than four nominations per gender in

any event or a team size greater than thirty eight (38), then USSA shall limit such nominations accordingly by using the following tie-breaking mechanisms in order:

Best Result (from the ranking list)

Third Best Result (from the ranking list)

Fourth Best Result (from the ranking list)

Total selection points (total points earned in all selection events)