

**Ski Mountaineering Competition Canada  
Selection Criteria for Competitive Teams  
2021-2022**



**Objectives**

This document describes the guidelines and policies employed in the selection of the **Canadian National Ski Mountaineering Team, Canadian World Championships Ski Mountaineering Team, and Canadian Olympic Ski Mountaineering Team**. The system is reviewed annually, following the selection of the National Team for the current year, and the following policies are amended, approved, and published prior to the competition season for which they will apply.

**1. GOALS**

The main goals of this TEAM SELECTION criteria is to:

- 1.1 Build a strong future for the sport of Ski Mountaineering in Canada;
- 1.2 Have the best and strongest Canadian athletes at international races;
- 1.3 Encourage athletes to train hard to be within the reach of the top athletes in international fields;
- 1.4 Encourage athletes to attend Canadian calendar races , travel to international competitions, and generally show dedication to the sport;
- 1.5 Provide clear and well-articulated selection criteria for athletes;

**2. ATHLETES**

SMCC expects that its Athletes will contribute to the development of Ski Mountaineering in Canada, including:

- Promoting the sport within their communities;
- Supporting and assisting other athletes to improve and compete successfully;
- Representing Canada in a positive manner when attending all events;
- Becoming actively involved in the team and group tasks relating to sponsorship, uniforms, and relationships with support industries;
- Communicating issues to the Team Management;
- Maintaining a positive and respectful approach with all team members, managers, and directors; and
- Maintaining active membership in the Alpine Club of Canada.

### 3. NATIONAL TEAM SELECTION CRITERIA

Prior to each competition season, the SMCC Committee will publish a list of races that will form the **Canadian Cup** Race Calendar.

#### 3.1 Athlete Ranking

- a. All Canada Cup races in a given year will count towards Athlete Rankings
- b. Separate rankings for each discipline (Individual, Sprint, Vertical, Teams) will be maintained.
- c. Points will be tabulated on a percentage back calculation for each race.
- d. All Canadian athletes competing in races eligible under section 3.1(a) will be included in the rankings.
- e. The rankings will be published 15 days after each Canada Cup race.
- f. Athletes may appeal a ranking within 15 days of publication by providing notice to the Ranking and Points Coordinator. Subject to such appeals, rankings may be revised within 15 days of publication.

#### 3.2 National Team Selection

The Team Selection Committee will select athletes for the National Team based on the previous season in the **Athlete Ranking** compiled by the Ranking and Points Coordinator, applied according to the criteria below. The National Team will be announced prior to the competition season of each year.

- a. National Team, in each gender and age category, will be comprised of:
  - i. 4 Individual Athletes (points from best 3 Canada Cup races)
  - ii. 2 Sprint Athletes (points from all Canada Cup races)
  - iii. 2 Vertical Athletes (points from all Canada Cup races)
  - iv. 2 Teams Athletes (points from all Canada Cup races)
- b. Spots on the above teams do not roll down (if an individual is ranked first in Individual and first in Vertical, they fill both of those spots)
- c. Age categories will align with ISMF categories and currently are as follows:
  - i. Cadet (*15 – 16 – 17 years*)
  - ii. Junior (*18 – 19 – 20 years*)
  - iii. Espoir (*21 - 23 years*)
  - iv. Senior (*21 years and above*)
  - v. Masters (*35+, 5 year age brackets in accordance with ISMF standards*)

In order to be selected to the National Team, candidate athletes must:

- Apply, in writing, to the Rankings and Point Coordinator, by May 31<sup>st</sup> each year.
- Train specifically for the sport of Ski Mountaineering;
- Be a member of the Alpine Club of Canada;
- Sign the Athlete Agreement (sent with invitation to the Team);

- Demonstrate commitment to Ski Mountaineering in Canada by Attending:
  - 60% attendance at the Canadian Race Calendar the previous season, or 4 calendar races, whichever is lesser; or
  - with the permission of the Team Director, fulfilling race attendance requirements with International race attendance the previous season; or
  - in the case of calendar variances or cancellations, an equivalent level of race attendance in combined jurisdictions.

National Team Members may be selected and registered for international races. Typically, SMCC is able to provide administrative and coordination assistance. Financial assistance for international competition is limited to ISMF licensing and registration fees at this time. Members of the National Team will receive the following forms of support from SMCC:

- the cost of ISMF International License fees
- the cost of ISMF World Cup and World Championships race registration fees
- access to National Team sponsorship arrangements and pro-deals as they might be arranged by the SMCC annually
- 50% of the cost of team uniforms
- access to coaching and training opportunities
- admin support and endorsement for individual fund raising

### **3.3 National Development Team Selection**

The Team Selection Committee will select athletes for the National Development Team based on their place the previous season in the Athlete Rankings compiled by the Ranking and Points Coordinator, applied according to the criteria below. The Development Team will be announced prior to the competition season of each year.

Up to 5 men and 5 women may be selected to the Development Team. In order to be selected to the Development Team, athletes must:

- Apply specifically, in writing, for naming to the National Team.
- Train generally for racing;
- Attendance:
  - 50% attendance at the Canadian Race Calendar in the season previous to application, or 4 calendar races, whichever is lesser; or
  - with the permission of the Team Director, fulfilling race attendance requirements with International race attendance the previous season; or
  - in the case of calendar variances or cancellations, an equivalent level of race attendance in combined jurisdictions.

Development Team members are sanctioned to attend international events at their own expense unless arranged specifically with the SMCC. Development Team members will receive the following forms of support from SMCC:

- the cost of ISMF International License fees if selected to represent Canada at international events
- the cost of ISMF World Cup and World Championships race registration fees
- potential access to National Team sponsorship arrangements and pro-deals as they might be arranged by the SMCC annually
- 50% of the cost of team uniforms
- access to coaching and training opportunities
- admin support and endorsement for individual fundraising

#### **4. WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP TEAM SELECTION CRITERIA**

World Championship Teams will only be selected for World Championship competitions - typically every 2nd year - in time for organization and training directly for the events at the World Championships.

***An athlete does not need to be a member of the current National Team to be eligible for selection to the World Championships Team.***

- Selection to the World Championship Team will be made by a Selection Committee composed of the Team Director, the Assistant Team Director, and the Team Coach.
- Selection races and spots available at those races will be announced by the SMCC committee prior to the competition year. For a given season, any SMCC sanctioned, USSMA sanctioned, or ISMF calendar race occurring prior to the WCH can be taken into consideration as a selection race.
- Athletes will be ranked as per Section 3.1 above.
- Special Considerations (such as factors based on international racing, health, resources, team objectives, etc.) will assist in final selection. It is expected that discretion will play a part in team selection.

The Selection Committee will announce the athletes selected to the World Championship Team and their ranking one week following the last Selection Race, and no later than one month prior to World Championships.

## **Event & Category Selection for World Championships**

Event and category selection will be primarily driven by performance at selection races. For example:

- 1 individual spot will be available to the top performers at an early December race
- 2 individual spots and 2 sprint spots will be available to top performers at an early January race
- Remaining sprint, vertical, and teams race spots given out based on SMCC committee discretion

*Once registration quotas and race assignments for a World Championships have been filled, changes and substitutions present difficulties for all involved. Race assignments at a multi-event international competition can only be altered or cancelled in exceptional circumstances, and adjustments may only proceed with SMCC Committee approval.*

## **5. OLYMPIC TEAM SELECTION**

Should Ski Mountaineering become recognized as an official Olympic spot, selection of athletes will be controlled by the Canadian Olympic Committee.

Further information regarding selection to the Canadian Olympic Team will be published as it becomes available.