



Selection Policy for the Snow Sports New Zealand Alpine Junior FIS Squad 2025/2026

(Hereinafter referred to as 'Junior FIS Squad' and 'Athletes')

The Snow Sports New Zealand Alpine Junior FIS Squad is established with the aim of bridging a gap in the Alpine pathway between Youth and Senior FIS racing, and to support athlete progress into the New Zealand Alpine Ski Team.

The purpose of this selection policy is to identify New Zealand FIS athletes who qualify for the Junior FIS Squad based on performance criteria as set out in this document.

A Selection Committee will be assembled by the Alpine Technical Committee (ATC) and ratified by the Board of Snow Sports New Zealand (SSNZ) to evaluate athletes in the following areas:

- Results/Rankings
- Physical Fitness - for competition
- Commitment to Snow Sport
- Mental Disposition
- Athletic Ability
- Ability to operate in a team environment

The Selection Committee will be chosen from SSNZ stakeholders and will be a minimum of three in number, plus a convenor.

The Selection Committee will advise the ATC of the athletes selected based on the above evaluation, for final ratification.

Disclaimer: The selection guidelines listed below are considered to be the minimum standard. Meeting the guidelines does not guarantee selection to the Junior FIS Squad but does provide an opportunity to be evaluated through the selection process.

In exceptional cases an outstanding athlete who has not met selection criteria due to injury, illness, or force majeure may be selected for the Junior FIS Squad. The athlete's club or training provider is responsible for identifying any athlete to be considered for force majeure and must provide supporting written documentation.

The Selection Committee's responsibilities in the selection process are to:

- assemble the Selection Committee as and when necessary to meet timelines
- gather all relevant information to make informed selection decisions
- understand and follow the selection process as set out by SSNZ and the ATC
- ensure selected athletes have met all the selection criteria requirements
- review any cases of force majeure
- represent the athletes fairly and objectively at the selection meeting

Criteria Rules (Applicable to all Athlete Selection Criteria)

1. Eligibility for Consideration

Alpine members must be in good standing with SSNZ and have a valid NZL FIS license.

An athlete is ineligible for consideration if previously suspended or removed from team membership without having first been reinstated by the ATC.

2. Physical Fitness

Athletes who meet the FIS Points (Internal Base list 2025) will be required to disclose whether they are fit for international competition and provide information on any significant injuries they are carrying at the time of selection. This may require supporting documentation from a recognised medical professional.

3. Athlete Injury Clause

An athlete injured prior to 1 May of the competition calendar season will be named to the respective team at the time of injury for one year. The athlete must meet the set performance criteria in any successive years (including those athletes who are repeatedly injured); additionally, to maintain team status, an athlete must follow a prescribed rehabilitation or medical programme as approved by SSNZ.

4. Sport Integrity Commission Te Kahu Raunui (formerly Drug Free Sport NZ)

It is the responsibility of each athlete and their coach to be familiar the Integrity Sport and Recreation Act 2023 and Sports Anti-Doping Rules 2025. Sport Integrity Commission has the power to conduct tests in and out of competition. More information can be viewed on one the agency website: <https://sportintegrity.nz/>

Criteria specific to the Junior FIS Squad

5. FIS Points Criteria

5.1 Athletes must meet or better the FIS Points criteria labelled below in one or more disciplines.

	U18		U20	
	1st year	2nd year	3rd year	4th year
	2009	2008	2007	2006
Slalom	100	90	80	70
GS	100	90	80	70
Super G	115	105	95	85
Downhill	125	115	105	95
AC	135	125	115	105

6. Selection Timeline

6.1 SSNZ will collate FIS Point information for all athletes who meet the FIS Point qualification standards based on the year specific **INTERNAL BASE FIS LIST**, usually published in mid-April each year.

6.2 Athletes nominated to the team will be notified to the email in the SSNZ membership register. They must reply to SSNZ to accept or decline their nomination within ten (10) days of notification. All athletes accepting their nominations will be required to sign an athlete agreement to be named to the Junior FIS Squad. Selected athletes who accept their nomination will retain "Squad" status for the term 4th May until the 3rd of May of the following year unless terms of the athlete agreement have not been met.

6.3 Athletes would be named to the Junior FIS Squad on approximately 3rd May each year

6.4 Selections will be made twice yearly. The October selections will be made from the most current FIS List (that includes all results from the southern hemisphere season) and will provide a means of including new athletes to the team based on southern hemisphere winter performances. These second selections will be announced in October and team status will be valid until 3rd May of the following year.

6.5 An athlete who has been named to the Junior FIS Squad at the time of the pre-base list in the previous year but does not meet the FIS criteria in the current year may be given an extension of 1 year on the team in cases of force majeure. Athletes will be required to provide supporting written documentation.

Squad Benefits

- Recognition of squad status and an athlete profile on the SSNZ website
- Athletes who are selected for the Squad in May will receive a Snow Sports NZ Kappa Junior FIS Squad Jacket and Pants
- Athletes selected for the Squad in October - Snow Sports will endeavour to provide NZ Kappa Junior FIS Squad Jacket and Pants (depending on availability of kit in existing stock)
- Option to purchase additional Junior FIS Squad team kit (depending on existing availability)
- Quota priority for entry to FIS competitions overseas
- SSNZ does not support the squad financially but will assist athletes in applications for charitable or commercial funding

Squad Requirements

1. Selected athletes must sign SSNZ athlete event agreement
2. Must have completed Peak Respect training and signed Pact

3. Must send proof of completion of Safe Sport 101

Race Quota Allocation

International Alpine competitions have a limited number of entries available for foreign competitors. Each nation has a quota allocation for each event category which they can apply as they feel appropriate. The Snow Sports NZ ATC have implemented the following quota allocation priority to ensure that athletes are ranked and entered correctly:

- Athletes selected in the National Alpine Ski Team (A-C) have priority in all disciplines in a particular series.
- After which best ranked athletes by FIS points in the specific discipline at the time of entry

Appeals

An athlete may lodge an appeal with the SSNZ Chief Executive within 5 days of the Squad announcement. All appeals must be submitted in written form.

- The SSNZ Chief Executive will attempt to respond to the athlete within one day (twenty-four (24) hours), but not later than five (5) days (120 hours) of lodgement of the appeal.
- The SSNZ Chief Executive will consult with the members of the relevant Selection
- Panel and any other person as may be deemed appropriate to properly respond to the athlete.
- An appeal by an athlete may only be made on one or more of the following grounds:
 - The applicable selection criteria have not properly been followed, applied and/or implemented.
 - The selection process was affected by actual bias.
 - There was no material on which the selection decision could reasonably be based.
- Determination of Appeal. Upon determination of the appeal the SSNZ Chief Executive shall communicate his or her decision together with an appropriate recommendation to both the ATC and the athlete.
 - If at the conclusion of the above process the athlete remains dissatisfied, the athlete may file an application for appeal with the Sports Tribunal of New Zealand ("Sports Tribunal"). Thereafter the appeal shall be determined in accordance with the Rules of the Sports Tribunal (see sporttribunal.org.nz).
 - The decision of the Sports Tribunal shall be binding on the parties and, subject to any right of review and/or appeal as set out in the Rules of the Sports Tribunal, no party to the appeal may institute or maintain proceedings in any Court or other Tribunal.