



## **ALL-STAR SELECTION CRITERIA**

The path to becoming one of the truly elite skiers on the US Ski Team and representing the USA at the Olympics is a daunting progression of skill and opportunity. Selecting those that are named to the US team is not a simple process. It is not as if a skier suddenly emerges from nowhere to be a “world beater”. It may seem that way to the average skiing enthusiast, but in every case, skiers emerge, and their talent is nurtured through years of dedication and meeting ever increasingly difficult goals.

The number of skiers selected each year to the US team is miniscule compared to the population of skiing athletes in this country. In the Alpine skiing discipline, as an example, only one or two skiers from a birth year may generally be named to the US D, C, or B Teams and sometimes no skiers are named.

There are many US skiers named to US Skiing’s “sub-US teams.” These skiers are recognized as the “up and comers” in the nation and are named to the US group in order to track their progress and to provide head-to-head competition and training opportunities that they may not attain by competing in their local events. This is the group that the Rocky Mountain Division (RMD) All-Star program focuses on.

Through the RMD we can provide opportunities for the skiers in the Division to meet the criteria of being a named athlete to the US Ski Team. This process has been extremely effective in the past with a number of RMD skiers reaching the pinnacle of their sport.

The path to the US Ski Team is not only difficult athletically, but it is expensive, as well. As an example, an athlete on the track to the US team can expect to spend upwards of fifty to sixty thousand dollars (\$50-60,000) annually. The support these skiers receive from the ski areas in the RMD is critical to their success. From the youngest 3 to 4 year olds experiencing their first exposure to the joy of skiing through ski school or ski club programs, to the 14 year old competitor skiing in their first meaningful event to those on the cusp of meeting the criteria of the US team or being accepted as a student athlete to an NCAA ski team, all owe a debt of gratitude to the areas where they train and compete.

The All-Star pass program plays a critical role in the progression of the elite group in RMD. The expense of the sport, as mentioned earlier, is lessened by the contribution of a season ski pass for skiing in Colorado. This benefit extends not only to the skier’s home mountain where they train daily, but to the ability to compete and train away from home. The savings that the athletes realize through the All-Star pass program may be parleyed into entry fees or travel expenses thus expanding their opportunity to compete on a broader scale.

On the next pages are condensed versions of the criteria for both the Alpine and Freestyle All-Stars.

## Freestyle

The selection criteria for being nominated an All-Star Team athlete (Freestyle) are as follows: 1) Only Colorado residents with a Colorado mailing address are eligible. Three-year proof of Colorado residency is required. 2) Athletes must have been active members of the US Ski & Snowboard Rocky Mountain Division (RMD) for the past three years with no lapses in membership. RMD must be your home division for those three years and RMD divisional dues must have been paid. Athletes must have competed in two Rocky Mountain Freestyle events and the RMF Divisional Championships for each of those three years. Members must be in good standing with US Ski & Snowboard and RMD. 3) Current US Ski Team members are ineligible. Further, they are removed from the US Ski & Snowboard points lists for all remaining calculations. 4) From the season-ending Points List #5 of the previous season, those athletes who are both in the Top 5 and Top 5% of their respective discipline lists are selected to the All-Star Team. This selection criterion typically results in a list of approximately 12 athletes. 5) Next, only those disciplines that are 2022 Winter Olympic Sports are considered. Athletes from the remaining disciplines are ranked according to their percentile rank and selected to fill the remaining spots to reach a team size of 19 athletes. 6) Typically, five alternates are named using the same criteria. 7) All-Star Team nominees are required to participate in the All-Star Camp and attend Physical Assessments. No exceptions will be made to this requirement. Failure to participate in this requirement or any other All-Star events will automatically forfeit the nomination. 8) All-Star Team nominees must also agree to participate in a minimum of three (3) Rocky Mountain Freestyle events during the season, one of which must be the Division Championship event. 9) There is no injury clause or other exceptions to the above rules. Each athlete must re-qualify for the All-Star Team each year.

Athlete Responsibility - Membership on the All-Star Team comes with responsibilities that must be met. As mentioned above, successful attendance at All Star Camp and completion of the Physical Assessment is required. It is the athlete's responsibility to arrive at the All-Star Camp and Physical Assessment physically fit and ready to demonstrate their athletic preparedness to RMD officials through a series of prescribed physical fitness tests. All Star Team athletes must agree to a Code of Conduct and sign an acknowledgement of that Code of Conduct. All Star Team athletes are required to compete in a minimum of three (3) Rocky Mountain Freestyle Competitive Series events during the competition season. One of those events must be the Rocky Mountain Freestyle Division Championship event. By competing in Rocky events, the All-Star Team athletes are bringing their high US Ski & Snowboard points back to the Division so that younger, up-and-coming athletes have a chance to compete against the best in our Division and earn higher US Ski & Snowboard Points as a result.

If an athlete suffers an injury that would prevent him or her from fulfilling his or her three-competition responsibility (e.g., a season-ending injury), he or she must provide medical documentation supporting his or her condition. Depending on the nature and severity of the injury, the athlete may be required to surrender his or her All Star Team passes to RMD officials. An athlete who fulfills the terms of this injury exemption may re-qualify for the next season. Athletes who accept their position on the All-Star Team and fail to fulfill the responsibilities may have their All-Star passes invalidated and will be ineligible for the All-Star Team for a period of three (3) years even if all other requirements are met.

## Alpine

Rocky Mtn Division (RMD) USA All Star Team - The RMD All Star Team is one of the highest honors attainable. These All-Star athletes represent the elite skiers within the talent pool of the Rocky Mountain Division. The Team is identified and designated to provide recognition and benefits to outstanding Rocky Mountain competitors.

Eligibility requires that competitors intend to compete as a member of the Rocky Mountain Division and U.S. Ski & Snowboard during the season of eligibility and in the past three competition seasons. Previous season results determine the RMD All-Star nominees. Team nominees must pass the RMD Conditioning Assessment to become eligible to be named to the All-Star Team.

The physical assessment will be provided and directed by the RMD. Athletes unable to attend must notify the Division Manager in writing 30 days in advance of the assessment.

All-Star Team nominees are required to attend the All-Star Workshops at the RMD Fall Meetings if applicable. Team nominees must sign a written agreement that they will represent Rocky Mountain Division in a positive light and must adhere to the U.S. Ski & Snowboard Code of Conduct. Any misuse of the privileges extended to All-Stars will result in immediate suspension from the team and revocation of their All-Star pass. Any athlete in violation of RMD team requirements and expectations will not be eligible for the team for the balance of the season or for the following season.

FIS Age (16 +) Alpine All-Star athletes must compete in at least one (1) National Point Scored race as a pace skier by March 1st per Colorado Ski Cup Guidelines. All-Star Selection criteria, All-Star passes will be awarded in the following order a. RC Regional Team members b. 15 and or 14-year-old athletes. Top 3 Overall in YOB results at U16 National Championships - Only current year U16's considered. c. National U.S. Ski & Snowboard age rank except for the 21+

99 Year of Birth (YOB) and older athletes where they are ranked nationally, based on List 19 of 20/21 season National points lists, as follows: Ranking criteria in below points ii, iii, iv, v: There is another ranking within this criteria and it is as follows: (Number of discipline athletes qualified for the All-star team (i.e. if an athlete met criteria in DH, SG, and GS, they would have a 3, if an athlete only qualified in one event they would have a 1) 1. If a tie exist, athletes are then ranked by their best rank and then the next best. 2. If a tie still exists, the tie will be decided at the discretion of the RMD Manager in conjunction with the RMD Alpine Competition Committee's Executive Committee. ii. 14–15-year-old skiers ranked top 3 nationally by YOB in Giant Slalom (GS) or Slalom (SL). iii. 16–17-year-old Skiers ranked with 1 top 5 or 2 top 8 national age rank in SL or GS, or top 3 in Super G (SG) National age rank, or 1 top 3 in Down Hill (DH) with 1 top 10 national age rank in SL or GS. iv. 18–20-year-old athletes ranked with 1 top 5 or 2 top 8 in GS or SL, top 5 in SG, or top 3 in DH national age rank with 1 top 10 national age rank in SL or GS. v. 21-year-old skiers and older - Top ten overall National ranks in SL and GS d. RMD U16 Rocky/Central Division Junior Championship Overall winners, if from RMD e. Overall SYNC Cup (a national point series) Champion f. Athletes named to the team by discretion

*Respectfully submitted with gratitude,  
Roger Perricone  
President of the Rocky Mountain Division  
of the US Ski and Snowboarding Assn.*