

# British Snowboard Cross Selection Policy

## 2017-18

### 1. Introduction

The aim of the British Snowboard Cross selection process is to support a long-term performance pathway, the development of Athletes and the delivery of programmes to produce consistent World Class performances, most notably at the FIS World Snowboard Championships, World Junior Snowboard Championships, the Olympic Winter Games, European Youth Olympic Festival and the Youth Olympic Games.

This document describes the selection policy and process for selection of Athletes to be invited to join British elite squads and/or to represent the United Kingdom in Snowboard Cross events. Selection will be made without bias or discrimination. The policy and processes are agreed and overseen by the Snowboard Discipline Committee of British Ski and Snowboard (BSS), the National Governing Body for ski and snowboarding in the United Kingdom. The policy and processes are approved by the Board of BSS. BSS aims to identify a clear performance pathway with defined selection criteria and processes for selection to BSS Squads and Teams in the appropriate age categories.

#### 1.1. Aim

The aim of this document is to identify the selection criteria and process for selection to the British Snowboard Cross Squad and Teams and the award of FIS licences. Criteria are laid out within the age group categories as defined by the International Ski Federation (FIS) and identified within this document. BSS selection will be adopting a multi factor approach by considering achievement in competition, snowboard technical skills, athletic capacity.

#### 1.2. Remit

The BSS Snowboard Selection Committee are representatives of the BSS Snowboard Discipline Committee.

The Snowboard Cross Selection Committee will select the Teams for the World Championships or World Junior Championships and other FIS events. The Selection Committee will recommend athletes to the British Olympic Association for selection to teams for the various events run under the Olympic banner.

For Olympic events BSS will agree and publish the Selection Criteria and Procedures in co-operation with the British Olympic Association (BOA) for the Olympic Winter Games, the European Youth Olympic Winter Festival and the Youth Olympic Winter Games.

The Snowboard Cross Selection Committee will select Athletes in the following categories to the following British Squads:

**BSS World Cup Squad** - those who can compete credibly at World and Olympic Level and are offered a comprehensive supporting programme.

**BSS Europa Cup Squad** - those who are working toward top 20 Europa Cup and may be offered attendance at training camps.

If an athlete has not been selected to either the World Cup or Europa Cup Squad, they will be still be eligible to attend training camps if approved by the BSS Ski and Snowboard Cross Head Coach.

## **2. Formation of Snowboard Cross Selection Committee**

### **BSS Selection for Snowboard Cross Squad**

(The quorum for a meeting of this selection committee shall be all four voting members)

- 2 x Representatives from the relevant committee (One of who shall act as Chair)
- BSS Performance Director
- BSS Ski and Snowboard Cross Head Coach

### **BSS Selection for Olympic Snowboard Cross or World Championships Snowboard Cross only**

(The quorum for a meeting of this selection committee shall be four voting members)

- Chair of Selectors
- BSS Performance Director
- BSS Ski and Snowboard Cross Head Coach
- Impartial legal representative acting as non-voting independent observer to the Nomination Panel – *[to be decided]*
- BSS Olympic Team Manager (non-voting)

### **BSS Selection for Youth Olympic Snowboard Cross or World Junior Championships Snowboard Cross**

(The quorum for a meeting of this selection committee shall be all four voting members)

- 2 x Representatives from the relevant committee (One of who shall act as Chair)
- BSS Ski and Snowboard Cross Head Coach
- BSS Head of Talent

### **3. BSS Squad Selection Criteria**

BSS supports a multi-factor approach to selection to define and select the athletes with the greatest potential. The major factor will be performances on snow.

All athletes must hold a British passport, athletes must be registered with FIS as British.

#### **BSS Snowboard Cross World Cup Squad:**

Athletes must be able to perform the following skills:

- Consistently land a straight jump of 15-20m (Men) or 12-15m (Ladies) at a variety of speeds
- Produce an amplitude of 1m (Men) or 50cm (Ladies) in a half pipe run
- Complete a GS course using mostly edges
- Switch ride with good edging
- Perform a gate start with minimal reaction time

Athletes must also demonstrate:

- Commitment to 10 hours of dry land training a week per off snow week
- Commitment to a full preseason training schedule (mid-June start)

#### **BSS Snowboard Cross Europa Cup Squad:**

Medals at age relevant events including World Junior Championships, European Youth Olympic Festival, Youth Olympic Games

Athletes must be able to perform the following skills in their chosen discipline:

- Consistently land subsequent straight jumps of 10m (Men) or 8m (Ladies), with good speed management between features
- Produce a half pipe run reaching the top of the coping
- Experience in a GS course, uses edges consistently
- Basic turn in switch
- Experience of producing gate starts

Athletes must also demonstrate:

- Commitment to 6 hours of dry land training a week per off snow week
- Commitment to combined training with World Cup Athletes during pre season schedule

Further to the Performance Criteria, athletes must meet the following FIS points criteria:

Snowboard Cross	Male	Female
World Cup Squad	50 FIS Points	50 FIS Points
Europa Cup Squad	20 FIS Points	20 FIS Points

Selection will be made during September of each season. Athletes may be selected to either the World Cup or Europa Cup Squads during the season if they meet both the Performance and FIS points criteria.

Final selection to any Squad will be made by the Snowboard Cross Selection Committee.

#### **4. Athlete Agreements**

Athletes who are selected to a squad must sign a current BSS Athlete Agreement and continue to abide by the terms of that agreement if they wish to avail themselves of the privileges associated with selection to the squad.

#### **5. Major Events and Championships**

Selection to any major Snowboard Championships is open to any British athlete who meets the following eligibility criteria:

- Athletes must hold a British passport
- Athletes must be registered with FIS as British
- Athletes must meet or exceed the BSS selection criteria set out below

Athletes will not be eligible for nomination if:

- They are currently serving a suspension for a doping or other disciplinary offence
- The BSS medical officer considers after a medical examination, or report from the official medical support team, that an athlete is not physically fit to compete

##### **5.1 Olympic Winter Games**

Any athlete wishing to compete at an Olympic Winter Games must first meet the Olympic Qualification Standards (OQS) that are set out in a document that is agreed for each Olympic Winter Games between the British Olympic Association and BSS. This document can be found on the BSS website.

The selection process and criteria for athletes who meet the OQS referred to above are also set out in a separate document that can be found on the BSS website shortly. BSS does not directly select athletes for TeamGB. The role of BSS is to make recommendation to the BOA for the athletes for inclusion in TeamGB.

## **5.2 World Cups**

Any athlete wishing to compete in a World Cup must meet the World Cup Squad Performance and FIS point criteria of 50 points for Snowboard Cross. Final selection to any World Cup will be made by the Snowboard Cross Selection Committee.

## **5.3 Europa Cups**

Any athlete wishing to compete in a Europa Cup must meet the Europa Cup Squad Performance and FIS point criteria of 10 points for Snowboard Cross. Final selection to any Europa Cup will be made by the Snowboard Cross Selection Committee.

## **5.4 World Championships**

Not applicable this season

## **5.5 World Junior Championships**

Selection for World Junior Snowboard Championships will be from those that meet the FIS age eligibility criteria and have a minimum of 15 points for Snowboard Cross. Final selection will be made by the Snowboard Cross Selection Committee.

## **5.6 European Youth Olympic Winter Festivals and Youth Olympic Games**

Selection for European Olympic Youth Festivals and Youth Olympic Games will be from those that meet the FIS age eligibility criteria and have competed in a minimum of two FIS events. Final selection will be made by the Snowboard Cross Selection Committee.

## **5.7 World University Games**

Not applicable this season

## 6. FIS Licences

- 6.1 An applicant for an international (“FIS”) Start Licence must be registered as a performer with their Home Nation Governing Body.
- 6.2 Minimum criteria for the award of a FIS Start Licence include the athlete’s acceptance of the British Ski and Snowboard Athlete Agreement and behaviour that conforms to British Squad and Team Codes of Conduct.
- 6.3 The issue of a FIS Start Licence is a necessary but not a sufficient condition to enable the athlete to enter an international competition. All entries to international competition must be made by BSS on the athletes behalf, and will be authorised by one of the following procedures:
- 6.3.1 Where the athlete is in a programme run by, or with the direct approval of the BSS Performance Director and his staff, each decision to make an entry to a specific competition shall be at the discretion of the nominated coach of manager, who shall be accountable to the Selection Panel for all decisions made.
- Otherwise :*
- 6.3.2 Where the athlete is in a programme run by one of the Home Nations, entries shall be made by BSS on the request of the duly appointed coach or manager, whose name shall have been agreed between the Home Nation Governing Body and BSS prior to the issue of any Licence, and such entries shall be made to competitions at FIS B level or below but not to Junior World Snowboard Championships.
- 6.4 In all cases, decisions on entry to specific competitions shall be made with due regard to the criteria set out in the remainder of this document.
- 6.5 If the number of quota spots is insufficient to enable all those who wish to enter to do so, entries will be awarded in order of the competitors’ FIS Points. This calculation will be made based on the data available at the point in time when the selection decision has to be made to meet entry deadlines.
- 6.6 The FIS events are categorised as follows :
- A Level** - includes World Cup, World Championships and Olympic Winter Games.
  - B Level** - comprises Continental Cup events.
  - C Level** - comprises all other FIS competitions including FIS Race and National Championships listed on the FIS Calendar.

#### **6.6.1 FIS C Level Events**

All snowboard cross athletes will be eligible for a FIS “C” level licence and will be permitted to enter competitions at no higher than C level.

#### **6.6.2 FIS B and A Level Events**

To come into consideration for selection to FIS B and A level events, an athlete must normally have points already on the current FIS Points List; note that this is only possible if the athlete has already participated in some FIS competitions.

Where selection criteria quote the achievement of specific competition results or points, these must have been obtained no earlier than 12 months prior to the start of the FIS Competition Year for which selection is being considered.

#### **6.6.3 FIS B level**

To enter events at FIS B level, an athlete should normally have achieved results as set out below.

In all cases, results achieved in international competition of sufficient quality are to be preferred to results obtained solely in British Championships.

For Europa Cup races, the requirement is a minimum of 10 Snowboard Cross Points. Entries to other Continental Cup Snowboard Cross events will be considered on a case by case basis.

#### **6.6.4 FIS A Level**

A minimum of 50 FIS Snowboard Cross points

## **7. Prolonged absence from competition**

- 7.1 An athlete who, having competed at a given level, fails to compete for whatever reason for a continuous period of twelve months, will normally not automatically be authorised to compete at the same level, even if the formal criteria to compete at the previous level are still met. In such circumstances the athlete will be required to demonstrate full fitness and competition readiness after which the relevant Selection Panel shall consider whether the approval to compete is justified. In making such a judgement, the Panel shall consider all the evidence at its disposal and shall be entitled, in cases of doubt, to continue to withhold entry to the higher level of competition until it is satisfied that the required level of performance has been reached.

- 7.2 If the previous approval was to compete at FIS C level, the athlete will in these circumstances be required to qualify again according to the criteria prevailing at the time.
- 7.3 For the avoidance of doubt, the provisions of the above are intended to cover absence from competition for any reason, including officially recorded Injury Status.

## **8. Appeals Process**

- 8.1 The BSS appeals processes are structured to conform to UK Sport guidelines. All appeals must be made in writing, with accompanying evidence and additional information to the BSS office. All appeals must be accompanied by an appeals fee of £250 which will be refunded if the appeal is upheld.
- 8.2 An appeal in relation to British Squad Selections must be made within five days of the announcement of the Squad.
- 8.3 An appeal in relation to selection for a major event must be made within twenty-four hours of the announcement of the team for the event to enable an appeals hearing to be held within the appropriate selection timescales.
- 8.4 All appeals will be considered on an individual basis. Appeals will first be reconsidered by the original selection committee, who will explain their reasons for the decision to the Athlete or legal Guardian. If the Athlete or legal Guardian is not happy with the process or the outcome of the selection committee's final decision, then the Athlete or legal Guardian may opt to refer the matter to an internal appeals committee.
- 8.5 The BSS will nominate an Internal Appeals Panel made up of at least three people who did not sit on the original selection committee.
- 8.6 In cases of appeal against non-selection for Squad, all appellants should be aware that it is not the task of the Appeal Panel to substitute its selection views for those of the original committee. They are asked only to determine whether, on all the facts which they had – or should have had – before them, the original selection committee made a reasonable and fair decision using the currently applicable Selection Policies – the Panel has no power to alter those policies but may comment upon them - i.e. that the original decision fell within bounds of what was objectively reasonable.

8.7 If the dispute remains unresolved, it will be submitted for an exclusive, final and binding determination to the Sports Dispute Resolution Panel (SDRP). BSS understands that both parties will undertake to execute in good faith any decision of the SDRP.