



Approved By: Management

Effective Date: October, 2016

Updated: 25 April 2018

## Alberta Alpine Ski Association

### Policy Title

3.1 Alberta Ski Team Selection Document

### Policy Objective

#### INTRODUCTION

The Alberta Ski Team (AST) is an athlete centered high performance development program that provides enhanced training and competitive opportunities for Alberta's top performing alpine ski racers. Athletes qualifying to the AST must have demonstrated not only a track record of competitive success but also commitment to the sport above and beyond that of their peers. AST athletes are expected to be fully committed to all elements of the AST training and competition program.

#### PRIMARY GOAL

The primary goal of the AST program is to advance athletes to Canadian Alpine Ski Team (CAST) programs prepared for successful careers on the international stage.

#### GENERAL PRINCIPLES

1. This Selection Document outlines the process by which all AASA athletes will be considered and selected to the AST
2. The objective of the document is to select athletes at the AB provincial level most capable of achieving success at the highest levels of national and international competition based on the criteria applicable for AST and other athletes as listed below.
3. The AST total team size may be limited based on available funding, but will support at minimum 3 men and 3 women.
4. All parties involved in the AST selection will seek understanding of the selection process as outlined in this document, and respect agreed upon communication timelines, deadlines, and process.

#### PROCEDURE

##### 1. ELIGIBILITY

1. Athletes holding a Canadian FIS Card must be an active member in good standing of an AASA member club, have participated in AASA programming for a minimum of two (2) years, and have their primary residence and/or have attended School in the Province of Alberta.
2. Athletes not holding a Canadian FIS Card must be an active member in good standing of an AASA member club, have participated in AASA programming for a minimum of three (3) years, and have their primary residence in the Province of Alberta.

##### 2. SELECTION PROCESS AND TIMELINES

###### 1. NOMINATION TO THE AST

- i. Each member club must submit in writing by the first day of Canadian National Championships, one (1) professional coach as the club's representative and contact point for all formal AST selection communication for the selection process. In absence of formal notification, the member club's Head FIS coach will automatically be appointed.



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- ii. The Alberta Alpine Ski Association (AASA) Athletics Director (AD) will provide a list of selection camp invitees to all member club's Head FIS coach no later than 1600hrs MST, April 25<sup>th</sup> 2018. The member club's representative may choose to add athletes to the list selection camp invitees no later than 1600hrs MST, April 27<sup>th</sup> 2018.
- iii. The member club's representative must submit in writing to the AASA AD all athlete nominations for selection to the 2018-2019 AST Selection Group by 1600 HRS MST May 4<sup>th</sup> 2018. A non-refundable **\$500.00** selection fee is due with each nomination and will cover all evaluation costs during the selection process.
- iv. Nominated athletes are required to attend the AST selection camp (May 12-14) to be considered for selection to the AST. Athletes will test sport specific physical capacities during dryland testing and be evaluated on technical skiing skill and proficiency on snow. Athletes and Families will also be required to attend an evening meeting discussing AST requirements, athlete agreement, etc.
- v. The AST athletics staff will meet following the AST selection camp to make recommendations of Athletes to be selected to the AST.
- vi. The AASA AD shall provide members of the Alberta Alpine Board of Directors High Performance Committee (HPC) an evaluation and recommendation for each Athlete within 7 days of the AST selection camp. The evaluation will include the applicable criteria used, previous results considered, any specific information applicable to athletes recommended for selection under coach's discretion, and any other relevant comments, findings, or conclusion from the AST Athletic staff.
- vii. The HPC and the AASA AD will meet to review the AST staff recommendations for selection within three business days of receipt to determine if the selection process has been applied to each athlete. If the HPC is satisfied that the selection process has been applied reasonably then they shall accept the AST staff recommendations.
- viii. In the event that the HPC determines that the selection process has not been applied reasonably to any athlete, the HPC will provide written notice to the AASA AD requesting further information. Additional time and meetings maybe required for the HPC to approve the AST staff recommendation.
- vii. Once the HPC has completed its review of the AST staff recommendations the HPC chair will forward to the AASA Board of directors for final ratification.
- viii. The AASA AD will notify all nominated athletes and club representatives of their selection status. After all athletes and clubs have been notified the AST will be announced.
- ix. The General Training Phase (GTP) beginning in early May and ending no later than September 30<sup>th</sup> will be considered a probationary period for all AST athletes. The AST Athletic staff will evaluate all AST athletes throughout the GTP for progress, performance, and commitment to excellence in all components of the training programs.

## 2. APPEALS

- i. AASA will conduct a Selection Appeal to resolve any disputes arising from the selection process.
- ii. The Selection Appeals Committee will be appointed by the Chair of the Board of Directors and will consist of a current or past member of the AASA Board of Directors, a current or past member of the AASA Performance Advisory Council, and a past Alberta Ski Team member. Should any member of the Appeals Committee member be



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in conflict of interest, the Chair of the Board of Directors will appoint a replacement of similar background and qualifications.

- iii. Athletes not named to the AST, may submit a written appeal to the Appeals Committee (c/o Alberta Alpine) within three business days of being advised of their non-selection by AASA. A non-refundable fee of **\$500.00** must accompany the letter of appeal. This fee will be applied to AST fees of any successful appeals.
- iv. The athlete's home club Program Director and the athlete (and parent if the athlete is under 18 years of age) must endorse the appeal.
- v. The Appeals Committee will meet as soon as is reasonably possible following the receipt of the notice of appeal.
- vi. The Appeals Committee will invite the athlete and his/her representatives (which may include legal counsel) to attend the appeal hearing or conference call. The Appeals Committee may also invite a member or members of the AST technical staff to attend the appeal hearing.
- vii. The Appeals Committee will advise Alberta Alpine and the athlete of its decision within three business days of hearing the appeal. All decisions of the Appeals Committee shall be final.

### **3. INJURY STATUS**

- i. Athletes who suffer a major injury or illness prior to March 1 of the 2017-2018 competitive season and who were clearly showing the competitive performance to be within AST selection criteria may only be named to the AST for evaluation throughout the GTP.
- ii. At the conclusion of the GTP period the AST staff will review the injured athlete's preparedness to train and compete within the AST program and will make a recommendation regarding an injured athlete's selection status to the HPC.
- iii. The injury / illness status applies only to the competitive season immediately following the year of injury. In subsequent seasons the athlete must qualify by performing to selection standards.

### **4. MID-SEASON EVALUATION**

- i. AASA club based athletes who perform exceptionally well and clearly demonstrate through race results, that they are competitive with the majority of AST members of similar age, may be promoted to the AST.
- ii. The athlete, the athlete's club, and AST technical staff must agree that midseason selection is in the best interests of the athlete.
- iii. Alberta Alpine must have the available financial and human resources to operate a larger team.



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## APPENDIX A:

### AST SELECTION CRITERIA

#### EXPLANATORY NOTE:

The following selection criteria are considered for selection for the AST. Meeting one or more criteria does not guarantee selection to the AST. It does provide an opportunity to be evaluated through the selection process.

#### 1. Professional Evaluation

1.1. The AST & AASA Athletics Staff will use the following criteria to evaluate each nominated athlete for suitability for the AST:

- 1.1.1. Athlete's standing in relation to performance targets
- 1.1.2. Athlete's national rank
- 1.1.3. Performance evaluation at identified races
- 1.1.4. Technical Skiing Evaluation at AST spring selection camp
- 1.1.5. Physical fitness testing at AST spring selection camp.
- 1.1.6. Athlete's birth date, stage of growth and development, and maturity.

#### 2. Specific Criteria

2.1. The Performance criteria listed below is valid and consistent for both genders.

##### 2.2. Performance Evaluation at Identified Races

- 2.2.1. National Championship (U16, U19, Senior Championships).
- 2.2.2. Performance at AB & BC FIS CUP
- 2.2.3. U21 and Senior Athletes - Head to Head Performance at NORAM Cup series.

##### 2.3. Performance Targets

2.3.1. All criteria are applicable to the 2017-2018 season and all rankings are based on the athletes' performance in the 2017-2018 (FIS List 13) competitive period.

2.3.2. World Junior Rank by Age and Younger (WJRY)

2.3.2.1. *4<sup>th</sup> Year FIS (Athletes born 1998)*

2.3.2.1.1. WJRY top 100 in a single event (SL, GS, SG)

2.3.2.1.2. WJRY average of top 125 in two (2) events (SL, GS, SG, DH)

2.3.2.2. *3<sup>rd</sup> Year FIS (Athletes born 1999):*

2.3.2.2.1. WJRY Average of top 150 in two (2) events (SL, GS, SG, DH) including at least one (1) tech discipline (GS or SL)

2.3.2.3. *2<sup>nd</sup> Year FIS (Athletes born 2000)*

2.3.2.3.1. WJRY Average of Top 150 in two (2) events (SL, GS, SG, DH) including at least one (1) tech discipline (GS or SL)

2.3.2.4. *1<sup>st</sup> Year FIS (Athletes born 2001)*

2.3.2.4.1. WJRY average of top 60 in two (2) events (SL, GS, SG)

#### 3. Older & U16 Athletes

3.1. 5<sup>th</sup> year FIS athletes (U21) and Senior athletes who have demonstrated clear progress toward CAST program selection will receive special consideration to be selected to the AST. In evaluating these athletes, the AST technical staff will consider such factors as NORAM and Canadian Championships performance, the athlete's potential to qualify for CAST programs selection in the next 12 months, and the ability of the AST to offer a suitable program to assist the athlete in meeting that goal.

3.2. Graduating U16 athletes who have demonstrated exemplary national and international performance far exceeding that of the peer group may be considered for AST Selection on a case by case basis.