



## ALBERTA ALPINE

### **Policy Title**

2019-2020 Alberta Ski Team Selection Guidelines

### **Scope**

This policy applies to all current and prospective Alberta Ski Team (AST) athletes, all AST Staff, the High Performance Committee (HPC), and the Alberta Alpine Ski Association (AASA) Board of Directors.

### **Policy Objective**

#### **1. Introduction:**

- 1.1 The AST is a high-performance program with enhanced training and racing opportunities designed to prepare committed athletes to compete at the National level and at Nor-Am Cup events. Our primary goal is to move athletes towards the Canadian Alpine Ski Team (CAST).
- 1.2 The programming of the AST requires full time commitment. The team will often train Monday-Friday and be away for extended periods. It is recommended that athletes complete two years of FIS with their club to further develop athletically and to finish High School.

### **Procedure**

#### **2. Eligibility:**

- 2.1 Athlete must hold a Canadian FIS licence.
- 2.2 Athlete must have participated in an AASA program for at least one of their U16 or FIS seasons.
- 2.3 If an athlete hasn't met 2.2 but has established full time residency in the Province of Alberta, may be considered on a case-to-case basis.

#### **3. Quota:**

- 3.1 AST Staff and the HPC through consultation with the AASA Board of Directors reserve the right to determine the number of athletes named to the AST based upon financial resources and the ideal functional size of the training group regardless of an athlete's nomination criteria achieved.
- 3.2 The AST will be limited to a maximum of 10 athletes per gender to ensure the best possible training and racing environment is available to all nominated athletes.

#### **4. Selection Process Overview**

- 4.1 Selection criteria will be applied to athletes for the AST Invitee Camp (to be held in late April/early May). AST Staff will evaluate the athletes' performance at the AST Invitee Camp to identify the AST Training Group. AST Staff will work with and evaluate AST Training Group athletes throughout the general preparation phase (summer and early fall) before selecting the AST athletes for the competitive season.

#### **5. Selection to AST Invitee Camp:**

- 5.1 To be considered for evaluation by the AST Staff at the AST Invitee Camp, the athlete must be nominated by their Program Director or FIS Head Coach by March 15<sup>th</sup>, 2019 (5.2) and meet minimum criteria (5.3) with potential exceptions if not meeting the minimum criteria (5.4). There is no cost to nominate an athlete; however, there may be costs associated to participating in the AST Invitee Camp.
- 5.2 A nomination letter must be submitted in writing to the AST Staff/AASA Provincial Program Director (PPD) and include:
- FIS results from current season
  - National and International FIS ranking for YOB or younger (if more than 1 year of FIS experience)
  - Most recent fitness test results
  - Medical history from previous 3 seasons
- 5.3 Selection Criteria (**Rankings from 18<sup>th</sup> FIS list posted April 16<sup>th</sup>, 2019**).
- 5.3.1 Athletes in consideration must have FIS points that are competitive with those who meet the national average ranking criteria.
- 5.3.2 2001-2002 YOB: A national average rank of top 8 (2 disciplines, must include 1 tech) in CAN for YOB 2001 and younger or average top 100 international rank (2 disciplines must include 1 tech) for 2001 and younger (excludes DH and AC).
- 5.3.3 1999-2000 YOB: A national average rank of top 12 (2 disciplines must include 1 tech) in CAN for YOB 1999 and younger or average top 150 international rank (2 disciplines must include 1 tech) for 1999 and younger.
- 5.3.4 1998 or older YOB: An athlete may be selected for the AST Invitee Camp based on their performances, attitude and leadership qualities.
- 5.4 If an athlete is close to making the minimum criteria and has demonstrated strong head to head performances at major competitions (5.5) and is progressing towards criteria, the athlete may be nominated to the AST Invitee Camp.
- 5.5 Head to head events to be considered:
- Nor-Am Cup
  - National Championships
  - AB/BC Cup FIS races
- 5.6 The AST Staff and the AASA PPD will announce selections to the AST Invitee Camp on or before April 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2019.

**NOTE:** Athletes selected to the AST Invitee Camp are not guaranteed selection to the AST Training Group.

## 6. AST Selection

- 6.1 Following the AST Invitee Camp, the AST Staff will make recommendations of athletes to be selected to the AST Training Group. The AST Staff and AASA PPD will provide the HPC with an evaluation for each athlete selection and will include the applicable criteria, results considered, and any other relevant information.
- 6.2 Once the HPC has completed its review of the recommendations and is satisfied that the selection process has been applied reasonably, the HPC Chair will forward to the AASA Board of Directors. Upon satisfactory completion of its review, the Board will accept the recommendations.
- 6.3 The AST Staff and the AASA PPD will announce selections to the AST Training Group on or before May 24<sup>th</sup>, 2019. Following the announcement, athletes and families will be required to join a

meeting hosted by the AST Staff and AASA PPD to discuss AST requirements, athlete agreement, etc.

- 6.4 The AST Training Group will work together on and off snow and will undergo individual evaluations periodically throughout the general preparation phase by the AST Staff. The AST Staff will have full discretion in the selection of athletes to the AST based on the following athletic characteristics:
- Commitment to and participation in all aspects of the AST training program
  - Physical fitness
  - Grit, the ability to stick with a challenge and see it through
  - Maturity to take on the lifestyle of an athlete without supervision
  - Progression made through the general preparation phase
- 6.5 Termination of an athlete from the AST Training Group will be at the discretion of the AST Staff. Should termination occur, the athlete will receive a clear explanation in writing.
- 6.6 Injury status allows a current AASA athlete to be considered for selection by the AST Staff. The athlete must have clearly demonstrated the competitive performance to be within AST selection criteria (5.3, 5.4), but due to major injury or illness in the most recent season, the athlete could not meet criteria. They must also exemplify athletic characteristics (6.4) and demonstrate discipline in their recovery.
- 6.7 The AST Staff and the AASA PPD will announce selection to the AST for the competitive season on or before October 30<sup>th</sup>, 2019.

**NOTE:** Athletes selected to the AST Training Group are not guaranteed selection to the AST for the competitive season.

## 7. Appeals Process

- 7.1 Following the announcement of the AST Training Group, an athlete not selected has 14 days to appeal the decision. The athlete must fully meet selection criteria (5.3) or have been on the AST the previous season.
- 7.2 The appeal must be in writing rationalizing the decision to appeal and be endorsed by the athlete's home club program director or FIS coach and if under the age of 18, the athlete's parents. A non-refundable cheque made out to: Alberta Alpine Ski Association, for \$500 must accompany the appeal. This fee will be applied to the AST fees if the appeal is successful.
- 7.3 The final decision of the appeal will be handled by the Appeals Committee, which will consist of a current board member of the AASA, a current or former member of the AASA Performance Advisory Council and a past member of the AST. Should any member of the appeals committee be in conflict of interest the Chair of the Board of Directors will appoint a replacement of similar background and qualifications.
- 7.4 The Appeals Committee will meet as soon as is reasonably possible following the receipt of the notice of appeal.
- 7.5 The Appeals Committee will invite the athlete and his/her representatives to attend the appeal hearing or conference call. The Appeals Committee may also invite a member or members of the AST Staff to attend the appeal.
- 7.6 The decision of the Appeals Committee will be delivered to the athlete in question within 3 business days of the hearing.
- 7.7 The decision of the Appeals Committee will be final.

## Related Documents

N/A