

NSWIS SELECTION GUIDELINES - Winter Sports

NSWIS Aim

The NSW Institute of Sport (NSWIS) will work in partnership with sport to deliver programs that will develop, and assist identified high performance NSW athletes and coaches to achieve excellence and success at international level.

NSWIS will be a major player in the delivery of internationally recognised programs, coaching and services to achieve world-class performance as a part of an effective, nationally coordinated, high performance sport network. NSWIS will apply local flexibility to support talent.

Program Purpose

To support Australian winter sport athletes to become world's best on the international stage.

The NSWIS Winter Sports Program is a Partnership with the Olympic Winter Institute of Australia (OWIA) and Snow Australia (SA) with complementary partnerships from the Australian Paralympic Committee (APC), Perisher & Thredbo ski resorts; and the NSW Government - Office of Sport (OoS).

Selection Aim

The aim of selection is to ensure the best and most suitable athletes available are included in NSWIS programs, according to program description, selection processes and criteria as agreed.

Program Description

Target Athlete Group

The NSWIS Winter Sports Program generally caters for senior elite and elite development athletes who are likely to represent Australia and achieve podium results at the World Cup, World Championship & Olympic/Paralympic level.

NB: All athletes must be Australian citizens and current financial paying members to the state/national sporting organisations to be nominated for NSWIS scholarship.

Structure

The NSWIS Winter Sport Program is a decentralised program operating from the NSWIS (Sydney Olympic Park), National Snowsports Training Centre (Jindabyne Sport and Recreation Centre), Perisher and Thredbo ski resorts and other identified venues both domestically and internationally.

Maximum no. of NSWIS scholarships

Up to **55** NSWIS scholarships will be selected each year.

- Freestyle Moguls – **up to 12** athletes
- Park and Pipe (Ski & Snowboard) – **up to 15** athletes
- Snowboard Cross – **up to 12** athletes
- Individual (Snow and Ice) – **up to 5** athletes
- Individual Para Alpine and Snowboard – **up to 6** athletes and **up to 5** Guides

NB: individual scholarships will be offered based on performance; Podium Potential athletes or higher or an athlete's ability to obtain a Podium Potential performance

Please note: Each discipline may nominate **up to** their respective squad maximum, however **nomination/eligibility does not guarantee selection**. If the nominated squad numbers exceed the overall Program scholarship maximum the Program Planning and Management Group (PPMG) will have the final decision on the athlete numbers within each discipline.

Selection Criteria

Athletes will be eligible for inclusion into the NSWIS Winter Sports Program based on their performance relative to the National Athlete Categorisation Framework and general selection factors for one of the scholarship categories listed below.

NB: 'Eligibility' does not necessarily guarantee an NSWIS scholarship offer. This will be dependent on the number of scholarships available and athletes will be ranked by performance accordingly and will need to gain the necessary approval by the PPMG.

Winter Sport Disciplines covered by NSWIS Selection

The selection of athletes for the NSWIS Winter Sports Program covers events for males and females including:

Olympic sports partnered with the OWIA and SA

- Freestyle Moguls – **National** focus
- Park and Pipe (Ski and Snowboard) – **National** focus
- Snowboard Cross – **National** focus
- Individual Scholarships – **NSW** focus (ice and snow disciplines not competing in the aforementioned sports)

Paralympic sports - **NSW** focus partnered with SA and PA

- Alpine
- Snowboard

NB: athletes residing in NSW are only eligible for NSWIS Individual scholarships

NSWIS Scholarship Categories

There are 5* scholarship categories within the NSWIS Winter Sports Program.

Categories	Detail
<p>Podium, Podium Ready A and Podium Potential B</p> <p>Generally, OWIA contracted athletes (Olympic sports)</p> <p>Approx. 15 – 20 athletes</p>	<p>Freestyle Moguls (FM)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Domestic winter – residential based in Jindabyne (Perisher); International winter – northern hemisphere world cup circuit Dryland training in home base (NSW/VIC) Water ramp training (QLD/VIC) Priority access to OWIA and NSWIS discipline coaches, facilities, equipment and high performance services <p>Snowboard Cross (SBX)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Domestic winter – residential based in Jindabyne (Perisher/Thredbo/Mt Hotham); International winter – northern hemisphere world cup circuit Dryland training in home base (NSW/VIC) Priority access to OWIA coaches, facilities, equipment and high performance services <p>Park & Pipe (P&P) - Snowboard & Ski</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tailored program based on professional athlete contract model Domestic winter – residential based in Jindabyne (Perisher/Thredbo/ NSTC); International winter – northern hemisphere world cup circuit and targeted International competitions Dryland training in home base (NSW/VIC) Airbag training base (NSW/NSTC) Priority access to facilities, equipment and high performance services <p>Individual Scholarships</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Access to NSWIS facilities, equipment and high performance services (as agreed through athlete IPP) <p>Individual Para – Alpine and Snowboard</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Domestic winter – residential based in Jindabyne (Perisher/Thredbo); International winter – northern hemisphere world cup circuit Priority access to Snow Australia coaches and NSWIS facilities, equipment and high performance services (as agreed through athlete IPP)
<p>Developing</p> <p>Approx. 15-20 athletes</p>	<p>Freestyle Moguls (FM)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Domestic winter – residential based in Jindabyne (Perisher); International winter – northern hemisphere based in the USA, contesting NorAm Cup circuit Dryland training in home base (NSW/VIC) Water ramp training (QLD/VIC) Access to OWIA and NSWIS discipline coaches, facilities, equipment and limited high performance services <p>Snowboard Cross (SBX)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Domestic winter – based in Jindabyne (Perisher/Thredbo/Mt Hotham); International winter – northern hemisphere based in Europe, contesting Europa Cup circuit Dryland training in home base (NSW/VIC) Access to NSWIS discipline coach and OWIA guest coaches, facilities, equipment and limited high performance services <p>Snowboard Park & Pipe (P&P)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Domestic winter and summer – camps based in Jindabyne (Perisher/Thredbo/ NSTC); International winter - Europa Cup or NorAm Cup Dryland training in home base (NSW/VIC) Airbag training base (NSW/NSTC) Snowboard individual programs (as agreed through athlete IPP), access to facilities, equipment and limited high performance services

	<p>Ski Park & Pipe (P&P)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Domestic winter – camps based in Jindabyne (Perisher/Thredbo); International winter - Europe based with competitions in Europe & North America • Dryland training in home base (NSW/VIC) • Airbag training base (NSW/NSTC) • Ski team program with access to NSWIS coaches, facilities, equipment and limited high performance services <p>Para – Alpine and Snowboard</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Domestic winter – camps based in Jindabyne (Perisher/Thredbo); International winter – northern hemisphere • Access to Snow Australia coaches and NSWIS facilities, equipment and high performance services (as agreed through athlete IPP)
<p>Emerging</p> <p><i>Approx. 10-15 athletes</i></p>	<p>Freestyle moguls (FM)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Domestic winter – residential based in Jindabyne (Perisher); International winter – northern hemisphere based in the USA, contesting NorAm Cup circuit • Dryland training in home base (NSW/VIC) • Water ramp training (QLD/VIC) • Access to OWIA and NSWIS discipline coaches, facilities, equipment and limited high performance services <p>Snowboard Cross (SBX)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Domestic winter – based in Jindabyne (Perisher/Thredbo/Mt Hotham); International winter – northern hemisphere based in Europe, contesting Europa Cup circuit • Dryland training in home base (NSW/VIC) • Access to NSWIS discipline coach and OWIA guest coaches, facilities, equipment and limited high performance services <p>Snowboard Park & Pipe (P&P)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Domestic winter and summer – camps based in Jindabyne (Perisher/Thredbo/ NSTC); International winter - Europa Cup or NorAm Cup • Dryland training in home base (NSW/VIC) • Snowboard individual programs (as agreed through athlete IPP), access to facilities, equipment and limited high performance services <p>Ski Park & Pipe (P&P)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Domestic winter – camps based in Jindabyne (Perisher/Thredbo); International winter - Europe based with competitions in Europe & North America • Dryland training in home base (NSW/VIC) • Ski team program with access to NSWIS coaches, facilities, equipment and limited high performance services <p>Para – Alpine and Snowboard</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Domestic winter – camps based in Jindabyne (Perisher/Thredbo); International winter – northern hemisphere • Access to Snow Australia coaches and NSWIS facilities, equipment and high performance services (as agreed through athlete IPP)

* Scholarships may extend to 'International' athlete category, subject to capacity as determined by the NSWIS Winter Sports PPMG.

NB: Approx. numbers **exceed** the Program's maximum number of 55 scholarships. Each year there will be variance in scholarship level/sport numbers. The PPMG will determine final numbers each year.

Selection Timeframes

The NSWIS squad will be selected in **April** each year. Athlete scholarships will commence on the **1st April through to 31st March** of the following year.

General Selection of NSWIS Athletes

Scholarships will be filled based on a **combination** of the athlete's:

- Performance at nominated events (within the 12 months prior to selection to the squad)
- Fitness and athletic ability
- Technical competence
- "Tactical Nous" – tactical ability in relation to specific sport
- Potential to improve and progression
- Competitive ability
- Individual application in training and competition
- Team/Squad orientation – ability to 'fit in'
- Specific sport standards/technical considerations

NB: performances to be considered must be recorded at national and International body sanctioned competition and must be achieved within the twelve months prior to selection.

NB: Subjectivity is an unavoidable part of athlete selection where potential to perform is being assessed.

Athlete Support

Athlete training schedules and support will vary between scholarship categories and sport:

Area	Podium, Podium Ready A and Podium Potential B Scholarships	Developing Scholarship	Emerging Scholarship
Coaching	OWIA/SA discipline Head Coach to deliver training sessions or as agreed.	SA/NSWIS discipline Head Coach to deliver training sessions or as agreed.	SA/NSWIS discipline Head Coach to deliver training sessions or as agreed.
Venues	Provided at Perisher, Thredbo, Jindabyne and overseas locations as determined by discipline Head Coach/Coordinator.	Provided at Perisher, Thredbo, Jindabyne and overseas locations as determined by discipline Head Coach/Coordinator.	Provided at Perisher, Thredbo, Jindabyne and overseas locations as determined by discipline Head Coach/Coordinator.
Equipment	Select equipment provided through OWIA/SA/NSWIS.	Select equipment provided through SA/NSWIS.	Select equipment provided through SA/NSWIS.
Camps & Competition Support	Attendance at Camps. International and national representation as appropriate.	Attendance at Camps. International and national representation as appropriate.	Attendance at Camps. International and national representation as appropriate.
High Performance Services	Priority access to services as determined by discipline Head Coach/Coordinator.	Priority access to services as determined by discipline Head Coach/Coordinator.	Access to services as determined by discipline Head Coach/Coordinator.
Screening	Compulsory medical, physio and ECG screenings.	Compulsory medical, physio and ECG screenings.	Compulsory medical, physio and ECG screenings.
Uniform	Sport specific uniform supplied through OWIA/SA. NSWIS uniform as per NSWIS Uniform Policy	Sport specific uniform supplied through OWIA/SA. NSWIS uniform as per NSWIS Uniform Policy	Sport specific uniform supplied through OWIA/SA. NSWIS uniform as per NSWIS Uniform Policy

NSWIS Selection Guidelines

Squad Selection Ratification

The National Sporting Organisation (Snow Australia) via the national discipline specific selection committees (including the head coach/ coordinator where applicable) will nominate athletes for scholarship based on their respective national discipline selection criteria. The nominated scholarship athletes will be provided to the NSWIS Winter Sports Program PPMG for approval. The PPMG will review the squads as a whole and ensure the overall program numbers are within maximum scholarship numbers before providing final approval. If overall numbers exceed maximum numbers, the PPMG will have final decision of numbers within each squad. Discipline squad numbers may vary year to year. The nominated scholarship athletes must be approved by the PPMG prior to athlete notification and induction.

Where a conflict of interest exists with any member of the panel (e.g. when a member has a personal involvement with an athlete under consideration), that member will exclude themselves from any decisions relating to identified athlete/s.

NB: Selection criteria will be reviewed annually by the PPMG.

NB: Selection to the NSW State teams and National teams is independent from NSWIS Squad athlete selection or membership. Athletes are under no obligation to accept a NSWIS scholarship offer.

Accepting and Maintaining a NSWIS Scholarship

The NSWIS scholarship athletes must sign and abide by a NSWIS Athlete Agreement, Athlete Code of Conduct and the NSWIS Bullying & Harassment policy for the term of the scholarship. It is the responsibility of the athlete to ensure all conditions of the agreements are met at all times, including maintenance of a healthy lifestyle and fitness.

The composition of the squad may be amended by the PPMG at any time where an athlete's scholarship is withdrawn based on an athlete's performance review, or an athlete meets selection criteria during the course of a scholarship year.

The level of scholarship an athlete receives is performance based. All scholarships will be reviewed 2 times per year. These will be held on a 6-monthly basis in October and May following the domestic and international seasons.

Following each review, NSWIS athletes will either remain at their current scholarship level or be nominated by the discipline Head Coach to be elevated or demoted to another scholarship level. Athletes who perform below expectation and do not meet expected performance indicators may have their scholarship withdrawn.

Athlete Withdrawal from NSWIS Sport Squad Scholarship

An athlete wishing to withdraw their NSWIS Scholarship may do so by informing the NSWIS Senior Coordinator Winter Sports in writing at any time.

Any equipment loaned to an athlete through the NSWIS Winter Sport Program must be returned to the discipline Head Coach/ Senior Coordinator upon withdrawal of a scholarship. Athletes who do not return equipment will be liable for the cost of all outstanding equipment.

Scholarship Suspension / Termination

An athlete's scholarship may be suspended or terminated where s/he breaches the NSWIS Athlete Agreement, Code of Conduct, NSWIS Bullying and Harassment Policy, Sport Code of Conduct (or equivalent) and/ or brings the Institute and / or the Sport into disrepute.

In this instance the NSWIS CEO, in consultation with the Program Partners (Snow Australia & the Olympic Winter Institute of Australia) will recommend to the NSWIS Board, the suspension or termination of the athlete's scholarship.

The NSWIS Board is the only body that has the power to terminate or suspend an athlete scholarship. The athlete, discipline Head Coach/ Senior Coordinator and Program Partners will be advised in writing of the outcome.

Athlete Appeals Process Relating to Non-Selection of NSWIS Athlete Scholarship

Athletes may appeal non-selection to the NSWIS or withdrawal of a scholarship by contacting the Coordinator of the NSWIS Appeals Panel in writing within two weeks of withdrawal or non-selection. The NSWIS Appeals Panel will hear all appeals within two weeks of notification and will consist of the Coordinator and PPMG. The Coordinator may appoint an independent to the Appeals Panel where deemed necessary or at an athlete's request. A full report of the Appeals Panel's decision will be forwarded to the athlete and NSWIS CEO within one week of the Appeals hearing.

Athletes may be accompanied by a support person of their choice at all times during the Appeals process.