

**Scotland Alpine Home Nation and
Regional Academy Selection Policy**

Selection for 2014 – 2015



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Snowsport Scotland, Other Home Nations and British Ski and Snowboard have worked cooperatively to start developing a selection structure for performance athletes in Alpine ski racing. Over time it is hoped that this structure will increasingly integrate with the performance pathway to ensure a seamless progression route for talented athletes.

This document will identify clear athlete selection criteria for entry to the Home Nation and Regional Alpine Academy squads for 2014 - 2015.

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Athletes who are applying to be considered for selection to the Scotland Alpine Home Nation and Regional Academy must submit an application form to the Snowsport Scotland offices by **Monday 21 April 2014**

Selection Overview

In 2014 / 2015 the selection criteria for the Home Nation and Regional Academies are identified within the age group categories as defined by the International Ski Federation (FIS) and these are outlined within this document. **There will be a selection weekend on 03/04 May 2014 where athletes will be assessed on their athletic potential and their skill base. Squad selection will take place after this weekend.**

There are various elements to the selection criteria and these are summarised in the table below.

Snowsport Scotland has had significant dialogue with BSS and the other Home Nations. This process started too late for fully co-ordinated selection policies to be delivered for the 2014-15 season, however all parties hope and expect that further progress will be made to produce a more coherent and unified approach

Selection Status

The Scotland Alpine Regional Academy will consist of athletes in the following age groups - U14, U16 and U18.

The Scotland Alpine Home Nations Academy will consist of athletes in the following age groups - U18, U21 and Collegiate.

Athletes who have narrowly missed the selection criteria but have shown potential will be invited to join the squad on a trial basis. There will be a second entry point for the squad after the October camp.

1:1 Scotland Alpine Home Nation and Regional Academy Selection

1:1:1 Athletic Capacity Evaluations (ACE)

These assessments will take place at Edinburgh's College, Granton Campus, on Saturday 03 May 2014. There will be 2 further assessments throughout the year where athletes are required to show improvement. Details of these assessments are included in this document.

1:1:2 Athlete Tracker (Appendix B)

The tracker shows the FIS points which athletes need to achieve to be selected for each of the alpine disciplines and to which squad – there is a BSS line and Home Nation line.

1:1:3 Skills Quest

The skills quest is a technical skills based element we have this year. This has been developed by the USA and we would determine this is a positive method to assess skill development. The selectors on the day will give details of which skill is going to be assessed. Details available on the website below.

<http://ussa.org/alpine-programs/athletes/development/skillsquest/skiing-assessment>

Benchmark and Profile Selection Process

Squad	Age	ACE % weighting	Skills Quest	Performance Results
Regional	U14 2001 - 2002	50% Attending 2 assessments	Phase 3	Nominated by coach and invited to skills and assessment weekend
Regional	U16 1999 - 2000	30% Attending 2 assessments	Phase 4	Top 5 in age in GB or top 3 in age in Scottish or English Champs
Regional / Scotland Alpine Academy	U18 1997 & 98	30% Attending 2 assessments	Phase 6	Athlete Tracker (1997) Top 5 in age in GB or top 3 in age in Scottish or English Champs (1998)
Scotland Alpine Academy	U21 1996 - 1994	50% Attending 2 assessments	None	Athlete Tracker Including SG and DH results
Scotland Alpine Academy	Collegiate	50% Attending 2 assessments	None	Under 70 points in 2 disciplines

For athletes living in different countries these skills and athletic evaluations can still take place. This will be dealt with on an individual basis. Athletes will be given no status until these evaluations have been completed

Selection Guidelines for 2014 / 2015

1 Scotland Alpine Home Nation and Regional Academy

The Scottish Alpine Home Nation and Regional Academies will select and develop talented ski racers in Scotland – nurturing athletes to maximise the performance potential of individual squad members.

Snowsport Scotland will provide a programme of training to support athletes in their athletic progress through regional academies. These athletes must commit to developing their fitness, technical skills and demonstrate their motivation to succeed. It is vital that there is positive support from coaches and parents but it is also essential that athletes have a strong work ethic to achieve their performance potential as a squad member.

U14 Scotland Alpine Regional Academy

The Scotland Alpine Academy Selection Committee will select an U14 Regional Academy squad – athletes from this squad will have the opportunity to be nominated to British Ski and Snowboard for selection for International competitions. Only athletes born in 2001 will be invited to the May selection weekend and further selections will be made after the races and skills assessment in Jan 2015 to include athletes born in 2002.

Athletes selected to this regional academy will:

- Be invited to attend the Athlete Capacity Evaluation (ACE) screening session and skills assessment. Athletes **must** complete this evaluation before being given any status
- Have weekly training opportunities for both ski and fitness that will work in with their club commitments. These will have to be booked and will incur an extra charge
- Be named on the Snowsport Scotland website
- Be invited to 2 fitness weeks during the summer. There will be an extra charge for these camps
- Have the opportunity to purchase U14 Regional Academy clothing

Please note that there will be a £100 core costs to help cover some of the activities and equipment needed. More information on programme will be given at the selection weekend in May 2014.

U16 Regional Academy

The Scottish Alpine Academy Selection Committee will select an U16 Regional Academy. The purpose of this regional academy is to support talented athletes as they prepare to make the progression to FIS competition.

Athletes selected to this academy will:

- Be invited to attend the Athlete Capacity Evaluation (ACE) screening session and skills assessment. Athletes **must** be complete this evaluation before being given any status
- Have weekly training opportunities both ski and fitness which will work in with their club commitments. These will have to be booked and will incur an extra charge
- Be named on the Snowsport Scotland website
- Be invited to 2 fitness weeks during the summer. There will be an extra charge for these camps
- Be invited to join Scottish Alpine camps abroad when it fits in with their club programmes
- Take part in all academy programmes
- Have the opportunity to purchase U16 Regional Academy clothing

Please note that there will be a £100 core costs to help cover some of the activities and equipment needed. More programme information will be given at the selection weekend in May 2014

U18, U21 & Collegiate Scotland Alpine Home Nation and Regional Academy

Athletes in the U18 category can be selected to the Regional or Home Nations Academy. U21 and Collegiate will be selected to the Home Nation Academy if they meet selection criteria below.. The programme for these athletes will be outlined at the selection weekend in May 2014 and details of commitment level will be identified to support selected athletes in their development.

3 Scotland Alpine Academy Selection Committee

The selection committee has the responsibility of selecting athletes who have met the criteria or who have been recommended (and accepted by the Selection Committee) to join the squads. The Chairman of the Selection Committee may invite individuals with specialist knowledge to contribute to part of a meeting depending on their availability: these individuals would be selected to add professional expertise to the process. Committee members should be free from external conflicts of interest in the selection process.

Scotland Alpine Academy Selection Committee

Chairman (Performance Manager)	Ross Gardner
Board Director of Performance	Duncan Freshwater
Performance Coach	Finlay Mickel
Athlete Representative	Ben Rewt
U16/14 Performance Coach	Mark Vinter
U16/14 Athlete Representative	Alex Moran

4 Code of Conduct

All Squad members will be required to sign and abide by a code of conduct. This document will be issued with offers of selection.

5 Injury Status

Each Scottish Alpine Home Nation and Regional Academy athlete who suffers an injury and has successfully applied for injury status as defined by section 4.6 of the rules of FIS points will be given a conditional re-selection to the Scottish Alpine Academy Squads.

6 Appeals Process

The Snowsport Scotland appeals process is structured to conform to UK Sport guidelines.

All appeals must be made in writing, with accompanying evidence and additional information addressed and Private and confidential to the CEO and Chair at: -

Snowsport Scotland,
Caledonia House
South Gyle
Edinburgh
EH12 9DQ

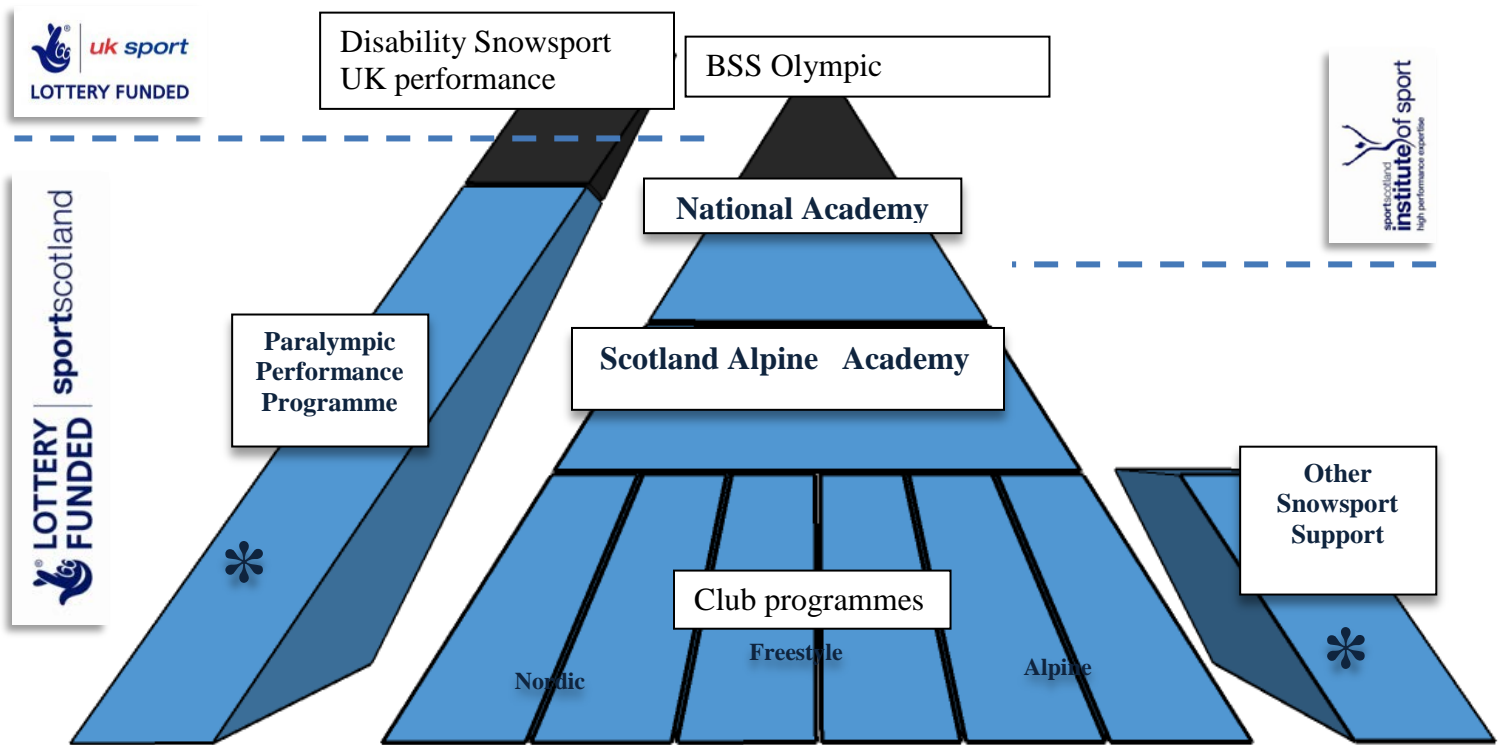
To apply for Scottish Alpine Academy Squad selection, appeals must be made within 7 days of the announcement of the teams. Publication of the team will take place after the selection weekend on 03 / 04 May 2014

All appeals will be considered on an individual basis. Appeals will initially be reconsidered by the original selection committee, who will explain the reasons for their decision to the athlete. If the athlete is not happy with the process or the outcome of the selection committee's final decision, the athlete may then opt to refer the matter to an internal appeals committee. The Scottish Alpine Academy appeals Chairman will constitute an internal appeals' committee consisting of at least three people who did not sit on the original selection committee.

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

7 Scotland Alpine Home Nation and Regional Academy Pathway

The Alpine Pathway, illustrated below, outlines the structure of the Performance Programme. The pathway is designed to feed athletes into the GBR Olympic Programme. This pathway will take players from early years' competition all the way through to World Class potential.



* Activities funded other than by sportscotland Performance Investment

Information on the Scotland Alpine Home Nation and Regional Academy & Snowsport Scotland

The Scotland Alpine Home Nation and Regional Academy Programme is a performance pathway to support talented athletes to progress their skills, fitness and work ethic towards individual athletes maximising their potential and achieving progression to the GB squad and international competition.

The Selection weekend will take place on Saturday 03 May 2014 at Edinburgh's College and on 04 May 2014 in SnowFactor. On Saturday 03 May 2014 Snowsport Scotland Management will give a presentation of the following components of the programme:-

1. Athletic assessments / fitness programme (2014 - 2015)
2. Alpine programme and partners' programme for 2014 - 2015
3. Programme costs - a draft financial outline for core/etc.
4. Educational support opportunities
5. Scottish Alpine Academy Management Group
6. Information on the Scotland Alpine Academy Pathway

At the selection weekend the National Performance Manager will overview the programme and there will be an opportunity for parents and athletes to raise individual questions relating to training needs

There will be a commitment level we will require from all Scotland Alpine Academy athletes and this will be identified at this meeting.

The main aim is to identify and support the best route to success for the Scottish athletes selected on to the Scotland Alpine Academy Squads

Appendix 2.



**S N O W S P O R T
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Scottish Alpine Home Nation and Regional Academy Application Form

Please return to Snowsport Scotland via email, info@snowsportsotland.org, or post to Caledonia House, South Gyle, Edinburgh, EH12 9DQ, by Wednesday 11th April

1. Athlete Details

Athlete Name		
Date Of Birth		
Sex	Male	Female
FIS No.		
Club		
Athletes Phone No.		
Athletes Email		
Coach		
Coach Contact		
Name of Parent/ guardian		
Parent/Guardian Phone No.		
Parent/ Guardian Email		

2. Training and Racing 2013/14

Please give an estimate of	May – Oct	Nov - Apr	Total
Number of days on snow training			
Number of days on snow racing			

Hours per week of fitness training			
Hours per week other sports			
Number of days artificial slope training			

3. Injuries

Please give details of any injuries/prolonged illnesses that have prevented you from training as fully as you would have liked over the last 18 months

Injury summary and approximate date	Number of ski days lost	Number of weeks to recover

Do you currently have any injury/illnesses that will prevent you from training in the next 6-12 months or any ongoing injury that is likely to reoccur under a heavy training load?

N.B. If the injury will prevent participation in the programme at any time in the next 9 months please also include a letter or certificate from a Doctor indicating the nature of the injury and confirming that recovery to sufficient strength to continue training and racing is anticipated in the next 9 months.

Please give brief details

4. Signatures

I, the athlete, hereby apply to be selected to the Scottish Alpine Squad in accordance with the above details.

Name

Signed

Date

Countersignature by Parent/ Guardian if the athlete is under 18

Name

Signed

Date

6. Coaches Report

Please give a brief assessment of the main strengths and weaknesses of the athlete under the following headings. Please indicate why you believe the athlete should be selected onto the Team including long term development/progress in applicable. Please also include race results which might demonstrate why the athlete should be selected even if their FIS points do not meet the criteria. Please continue on another sheet if you run out of space.

Athletes Name

Technical skills

Slalom incl. results

Giant Slalom incl. results

SuperG incl. results

DH Incl. Results

Fitness

Psychology

Nutrition

Please list the main areas of improvement in 2013/14 season

1.

2.

3.

Other information

I support and endorse the application of this athlete for selection to the Scott Alpine Squad for 2014/15

Signed

Date

Name

Club

Coaching Qualifications