



2019-2020

**Southern Ontario
Division Ski Team
Selection Criteria and
Guidelines**



Program Outline

The Southern Ontario Division Ski Team (SODST) is a high performance FIS alpine program for likeminded, committed athletes wishing to pursue the sport of ski racing to the highest level. The mandate is to deliver world class training and racing opportunities for the team members.

The SODST's long-term goal is to increase Southern Ontario Divisions (SOD) presence on the Provincial and National Ski Teams. To be successful in these endeavors we recognise the need to select athletes based on past performance and subjective factors that highlight an athlete's athletic potential, dedication to the sport, work ethic and love of competition.

The SODST has a very strong and unique relationship with the member ski clubs within SOD. Their support provides the SODST with excellent training environments and facilities which allows coaches and athletes to maximize training and race opportunities for success. Qualifying for the SODST is designed for the very best graduating U16 and U19 athletes within the SOD.

For the 2019-2020 season, the SODST will have two programming options:

1. Performance Level

These athletes are identified as being on a high performance pathway. They have demonstrated very strong race results at National or the International level and have a strong level of commitment and dedication to the sport.

2. High Performance Level

This criteria is applied to identify Ontario athletes in the AOA U19 High Performance Pathway, and to provide additional training opportunities with the Ontario Ski Team coaches and program.

Good luck to all athletes and thank you for your interest in the SODST. If you have any questions please feel free to contact T.E.S. or Suki.

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1.0 Definitions

1. "Athlete" means a FIS carded athlete that is an Ontario resident.
2. "Appeals Committee" means a committee to be appointed by the Executive Director of AOA and the Program Director of SOD.
3. "OST" means Ontario Ski Team.
4. "SOD" means the Southern Ontario Division.
5. "SOD Alpine Staff" refers to the coaches for the men's and women's teams and the SOD Program Director.
6. "Selection Committee" will be comprised of the AOA Executive Director, AOA High Performance Director and the SOD Program Director.
7. "FIS Rankings" means the rankings for each discipline on the most current FIS Points List published prior to selections.
8. "NRBA" means National Rank by age or younger and can be found on the FIS website www.fis-ski.com.

2.0 Selection Process

- 2.1 The selection process will include both objective and subjective criteria to properly assess potential athletes for the SODST. Coaches' discretion may be applied by the SODST staff and the SOD athletic committee to those athletes who have demonstrated technical ability and dedication to the sport during the competition season and/or during SOD training sessions.
- 2.2 The SODST Head Coaches will initiate the nomination process by contacting Club Head Coaches and U16 Head Coaches for all nominated athletes no later than April 23rd, 2019.
- 2.3 Athletes nominated to the SODST must contact the SOD Program Manager to accept or decline their nomination within fifteen (15) days of notification. All athletes accepting their nominations will be required to sign an athlete agreement in order to be eligible to be named to the Team.
- 2.4 Team naming will occur after the nominated athletes have signed the SOD athlete agreement.



3.0 Criteria for SODST Performance Level Athletes

This team is targeted to those athletes who show both results and the dedication required for racing at the FIS level.

3.1 One of the following hard criteria must be met:

- U16 athletes (YOB 2003)
- Selection to U16 Nationals
- Selection to U16 Eastern Can-Am

3.2 For second year FIS athletes and older (YOB 2002-1999) one of the following must be met:

- 2 top 30 NRBA rankings in technical disciplines
- 1 top 15 NRBA ranking in technical disciplines

*Please note that speed disciplines will not be considered in hard criteria but may be considered in coaches' discretion.

3.3 For Performance Level athletes the following components are mandatory:

- Completion of spring dryland testing at the University of Toronto on May 19th, 2019.
- Commitment to a summer dryland program monitored by the SODST coaching staff.

Summer Ski Camps:

- I. Les 2 Alpes, France – June/July
- II. El Colorado Chile – August (Mandatory)
- III. Fall training camp in Western North America (Mandatory)

4.0 Criteria for AOA High Performance (HPP) Level Athletes

4.1 These athletes are identified as being on an AOA High Performance Pathway.

4.2 The following criteria will apply for graduating U16 Athletes (YOB 2003)

ONE of the following must be met:

- Top 10 at U16 Nationals (top 5 in one top 10 in 2 disciplines)
- Top 10 at U16 Eastern Can-Am (top 5 in one top 10 in 2 disciplines)



- Outstanding performance(s) at Whistler Cup or Val D'Isere, France

4.3 HP Criteria for second year FIS Athletes and third year FIS athletes:

Current FIS Athletes (Born 2001-2002):

- Average of top 20 in two disciplines by FIS National Rank by Age (one discipline must be technical), or top 12 in one discipline

Athletes that do not meet criteria but are close can apply in writing to AOA High Performance director, Kip Harrington with a rationale for acceptance. U21 racers can apply and will be accepted on a case by case basis.

4.4 The following components are mandatory for the HP Program:

- Completion of the Ontario Ski Team (OST) Fitness Testing weekends at Canadian Sports Institution of Ontario (CSIO) Pan Am Center April 27, 28, 29, 2019 / June 8-9 / July 27-28 / September 14-15 / October 11.
- Commitment to a summer dryland program monitored by SOD and OST coaching staff.
- Three training camps prior to the competitive season:
 - i. June/July – Les 2 Alpes, France
 - ii. August – Chile (Mandatory)
 - iii. October - Europe (Mandatory, AOA operated with Ontario Ski Team)
 - iv. November - Western North America (Mandatory)

5.0 Coaches Discretion

Coaches' discretion may be applied by the SODST staff to those athletes who have demonstrated technical ability and dedication to the sport during the competition season and/or during SOD training sessions. The same discretion may be applied by the SODST staff to second and third year FIS athletes who demonstrate ability, dedication and a commitment to move forward to the Ontario Ski Team



6.0 Appeals Process

6.1 Appeals may be made for those athletes who did not make the hard criteria. Written appeals are to be submitted and endorsed by an athletes' coach and head coach with reasonable cause as to why an athlete failed to meet hard criteria.

6.1 SOD will conduct an appeals process to resolve any disputes arising from the selection process.

6.2 The Appeals Committee will be appointed by the AOA Executive Director and the SOD Program Director.

6.3 The Athlete's Club Program Director or coach and the Athlete's parents (if the athlete is under 18 years of age) must endorse the appeal.

6.4 The Appeals Committee will meet as soon as is reasonable following the receipt of the notice of appeal. The appeals committee shall establish its own rules including rules as to the ability of an Athlete to make an oral presentation.

6.5 Following the appeals meeting, the committee will advise the SOD Staff and the Athlete of its decision within five business days of hearing the appeal. All decisions of the Appeals Committee shall be final.