



## **Canada West Ski Area Association (CWSAA) Pass Allocation Criteria**

Revised: 2011.09.20

### **1. BACKGROUND**

The Alberta Snowboarding Association (ASA) receives an annual allocation of Competitors All-Area Passes (Passes) from the Canada West Ski Areas Association (CWSAA) for distribution to athletes who are developing their competitive snowboarding skills.

The CWSAA established the Passes in the early 1990's as a form of financial aid to Ski Racers 19 years of age and under and their coaches. The eligibility was based on FIS points. Over time, the up to 400 annual passes have been distributed between Alpine Skiing, Freestyle Skiing, Disabled Skiing, and Snowboarding. Snowboarders in Alberta have been allocated 35 or more passes per year for the past few seasons.

The CWSAA provides the ASA with a guideline to assist in establishing this Pass Allocation Policy.

### **2. POLICY**

The ASA distributes Passes to Alberta athletes in a fair and equitable way and in conformance with the CWSAA ALL-AREA COMPETITORS PASS QUALIFICATIONS (latest edition). The ASA policy is designed to assist qualified, competitive snowboarders who live and train in Alberta sanctioned programs and compete in FIS disciplines. The ASA policy is further designed to support Alberta snowboard-training clubs and thus the development of coaches and strong programs in the province by requiring CWSAA pass holders to train with Alberta-based coaches in Alberta-based and sanctioned programs. Disputes arising from the distribution or Misuses of passes are referred to the ASA Appeals Tribunal.

The Canada West Ski Area Association believes that deserving young ski and snowboard athletes should be given all the support possible to reach their goal to one day represent Canada in the Olympic Games, world championships or World Cups. For this reason CWSAA created the All Areas Competitors Pass to facilitate those athletes access to western Canada's Ski and Snowboard Resorts for the purpose of training and competition. All athletes must understand that the use of a competitor's pass is a privilege that carries with it the responsibility to represent their respective sports discipline in a sportsman like fashion, showing leadership to their fellow athletes.

### **3. DEFINITIONS**

3.1. **ASA:** The Alberta Snowboarding Association recognized by Canada~Snowboard as an accredited sports body.



3.2. **CWSAA:** Canada West Ski Areas Association, an organization representing ski area operators in Western Canada which provides the Passes to competitive athletes.

3.3. **Pass:** Competitors All-Area Pass as issued to the ASA by the CWSAA. The number of passes is based on a formula that considers the number of members of the ASA and will vary from year to year.

3.4. **Club:** An Alberta-based Snowboarding Club, which is a sanctioned member of the ASA and has been in good standing in the prior season and continues to be in good standing for the current season.

#### **4. PROCEDURES**

##### **4.1. General**

4.1.1. Selection committee shall consist of three (3) ASA Board members. This committee will nominate athletes based on criteria set out in this document. The Office Manager is a non-voting member. The selections committee may not vary from the criteria set out in the policy and the selections must be ratified by the full Board prior to posting.

4.1.2. Any decision by the selections committee regarding the athlete selection for a CWSAA pass may be appealed by any member of the ASA in good standing who is materially affected by the decision. An appeal deadline schedule will be posted with the list of selected athletes. If an appeal is received it will be conducted in accordance with the guidelines set out in the ASA Appeals Protocol (available online at [www.albertasnowboarding.com](http://www.albertasnowboarding.com)).

4.1.3 Given that the CanWest Ski Area Association dictates that passes are meant for FIS athletes who are actively training and competing in FIS competition, failure to compete in an event such as World Cup or other C~S ranked events, for which the pass holder was selected, for reasons other than injury or exceptional circumstances could result in the revoking of the pass. In the event that circumstances develop, not specifically considered in the policy, the ASA Board of Directors has full authority to make decisions within the spirit of the policy.

##### **4.2. Competitor Passes – Qualifications & Requirements**

To be eligible to qualify for a pass the athletes must meet the following minimum requirements:

4.2.1. A CWSAA candidate must hold current Canadian Citizenship, be an Alberta resident and hold an Alberta Health Care Card at the time of picking up the pass, and have been a member in good standing with the ASA during the prior season. The Candidate must hold a current membership with the ASA for the upcoming season and have been born between 1992-1996 unless



he/she qualifies under sec. 4.2.5. Athletes with any funding from another province are not eligible.

4.2.2. CWSAA candidates must hold a valid FIS license for the current season with accompanying SAIP insurance.

4.2.3. CWSAA candidates must be a member of an ASA sanctioned Snowboard Club and be enrolled in a competitive snowboard training program for the duration of the entire current season from December 1- March 1 at least with no more than a two week break including Christmas holidays). (Confirmation of enrolment will be required prior to the issuance of any CWSAA passes)

4.2.4. CWSAA candidates must not hold National Team status or National Development Team status if National Development Group pays for lift expenses. If the National Development Group does not pay for lift tickets the National Development Group athlete may qualify for a pass.

4.2.5. Athletes in a high performance program with an accredited ASA club and in the C~S development program who otherwise meet all the ASA policy criteria shall be considered members of the Alberta Provincial Team for the sole purpose of distribution of passes to Athletes born in 1990 or 1991. Overall FIS ranking will determine who will get pass as in Section 5. A written submission must be sent to the CWSAA office signed by the ASA president stating the reason for the request for a pass for an older athlete.

4.2.6. An athlete enrolled at the National Sports School for the 2011/2012 school year in Alberta but not normally residing in Alberta shall be eligible for a CWSAA pass if he/she was an ASA member the previous year, with ASA membership as of December 31<sup>st</sup> of the previous season. Athletes qualifying under this clause are not required to have an Alberta Health Care Card but must prove alternative Provincial Health Care coverage.

### **4.3. Coach Passes - Requirements**

4.3.1. Of the passes available to the ASA, up to a maximum of five (5) passes, may be reserved for coaches.

4.3.2. A club holding ASA club membership may be eligible for a CWSAA Coach Pass. Passes will be assigned to a club, with the club advising the ASA of the name of the coach that will use the Coach Pass for the season.

4.3.3. The club must have a minimum of three (3) athletes carrying CWSAA Passes to receive one coach pass.

4.3.4. Coach Passes will be issued after all Athlete Passes have been allocated and accepted.



4.3.5. There will be no more than one (1) Coach Pass allocated to a club, unless the total number of CWSAA Pass carrying athletes is twelve (12) or more.

4.3.6. There shall be a maximum of two (2) Coach Passes for any club. To receive the second Coach Pass, a club must have a minimum of twelve (12) athletes carrying CWSAA Passes.

4.3.7. Where there are more eligible clubs than available Coach passes, the clubs with the greatest number of athletes carrying CWSAA passes shall receive a pass first. In the event that clubs have an equal number of athletes carrying CWSAA passes, there shall be a random draw for the remaining Coach Passes.

## **5. ATHLETE SELECTION**

Passes will be allocated according to FIS ranking, with allotment-by-discipline determined on an annual basis, based on the number of passes given to the ASA and the number of eligible ASA athletes. The ASA will publish the allocation formula once it has received its quota of passes from CanWest.

### **5.1 Halfpipe**

Pass allocation to qualified athletes will be based on final FIS list of the current season, in order, beginning with the highest FIS ranked qualified rider and X spots below (X being the number of available passes).

### **5.2 Alpine**

Pass allocation to qualified athletes will be based on final FIS List of the current season, in order, ranked beginning with the highest FIS ranked qualified rider and X spots below (X being the number of available passes).

### **5.3 Snowboardcross**

Pass allocation to qualified athletes will be based on final FIS List of the current season, in order, ranked beginning with the highest FIS ranked qualified rider and X spots below (X being number of available passes).

### **5.4 Slopestyle**

Pass allocation to qualified athletes will be based on final FIS List of the current season, in order, ranked beginning with the highest FIS ranked qualified rider and X spots below (X being number of available passes).

**CONSIDERATION:** In the event there are more passes than qualified junior athletes or qualified NDG athletes in a given discipline, the ASA reserves the right to nominate to the Alberta Provincial Team for the sole purpose of distribution of passes, the senior amateur athletes who meet the CWSAA overage athlete definition (born 1990 – 1991) and whose FIS ranking would otherwise qualify them for a pass.



## **6. DISQUALIFICATION**

6.1. An athlete who has been disciplined by CWSAA or the ASA for CWSAA pass infractions and/or pass related behavioural issues in previous seasons will automatically be disqualified from receiving the Pass in future years.

6.2. Athletes who, during the course of the competition season, discontinue participating in competitions or regularly scheduled training with their Alberta-sanctioned program, except due to injury must return their pass to the ASA. Failing to do so, the athlete will have their Pass revoked by the ASA and not voluntarily returning the pass will be considered fraud by the CWSAA. A prorated refund may be provided, less a non-refundable handling charge, by the CWSAA.

6.3. The ASA may disqualify an Athlete for other disciplinary reasons besides Pass infractions including contravention of the ASA Athlete Code of Conduct. The cancellation of the Pass may be one of the disciplinary actions. Discipline will be done in accordance of the ASA Discipline Policy.

## **7. ACCOUNTABILITY**

The ASA requires that coaches of the CWSA pass holders will complete an initial report confirming the CWSAA holder is currently training and competing. This report is due before the athlete can obtain their pass. The ASA reserves the right to periodically request a coaching report to ensure pass holders are actively training and competing. This is to ensure the passes were used for the intended purpose. This information will be collected and forwarded to the ASA CWSAA committee for accountability. Failure to complete reporting will result in pass cancellation and ineligibility in the following season.

Athletes, coaches and clubs are jointly and severally responsible for completing the report. Failure to complete the report in a timely basis will put athletes, coaches and clubs at risk of losing the pass.