



The following document will give you an overview of the athlete pathway in New Zealand and how Snow Sports NZ works to help ski and snowboard adaptive athletes get to the next level.

The team structure and athlete pathway provide alignment with the regional coaches and programmes to develop up-and-coming skiers and riders, provide development opportunities for skiers and riders on the cusp of international success and provide support at the highest level for the national team.

The pathway and team structure is outlined below along with selection criteria explaining how to progress from each level to the next.

Regional Programmes

It all starts at your local resort. Coaching programmes, able bodied and adaptive, delivered at your local resort provide options for skiers and riders of all levels, whether you're just starting out and looking to do your first event or you're a seasoned athlete selected for the National Development Programme. Snow Sports will provide local coaching programmes with the added expertise in Adaptive Snow Sports if necessary.

Snow Sports NZ's long-term aim is to support five regions (Auckland, Central North Island, Canterbury, Wanaka and Queenstown), help strengthen the regions and our adaptive programmes and develop more Adaptive skiers and riders to a higher level within the pathway.

For more information on your local coaching programmes contact your local resort.

Snow Sports NZ Regional Camps: Snow Sports NZ will run regional camps that will focus on regional athlete and programme development with involvement from national and regional co-ordinators, national coaches and national team athletes.

These camps are generally self-funded, however Adaptive Snow Sports NZ may endeavour to subsidise these camps and they will be open to all skiers and riders who show an interest.

National Development Programme

Talent Development Programme: Adaptive Snow Sports NZ will arrange a Talent Development Camp for selected skiers and riders that focuses on developing their talent and preparing them for international competition. National co-ordinators, National coaches and current national team athletes provide mentoring on what it takes to be a professional athlete. Following the Talent Development Camp a group of athletes will be asked to attend an overseas based camp that will introduce them to a High Performance Development Programme. This programme is self-funded.

Criteria

Skiers and Boarders must be able to be classified in their respective classes. Please see the IPC Alpine Skiing, Snowboard and Cross- Country websites for classification details or contact your adaptive manager.

A commitment must be shown to spend time training and attending Noram/ IPC races in the Northern Hemisphere.

Athletes will be informed of their appointment to the Development Programme 6 monthly, June and November. This is a self-funded programme.

High Performance Development Programme: These skiers and riders are on the fringe of the National Team and are showing potential to move up in the next two years. Support for these athletes will be based around the New Zealand season and may include services such as access to and support with gym training, pre-injury physiotherapy, discounted lift passes, mental skills training, long term performance planning, New Zealand competition support and access to Winter Performance Programme(WPP) training sessions . These athletes may or may not be part of the Winter Performance Programme and they are predominantly self-funded. High Performance Sport NZ (HPSNZ) Performance Enhancement Grants (PEGs) are available only if the HPSNZ Pegs criteria are met (www.hpsnz.org.nz).

Criteria

- Ski athletes will have IPCAS points 200 or below and be achieving top 10-15 results at Noram/Europa Cup level.
- Snowboarders will be achieving results in the top 10-15 in IPC sanctioned events.

National Team

Emerging High Performance

Skiers and Snow boarders in this group are racing on the International IPC circuit at World Cup, World Championships and Paralympic level. Their results show that they are on the rise to Elite High Performance. Support for this programme will be through the same channels as Elite High Performance but at a lower level.

Criteria

- Skiers that are consistently in the top 16 in World Cup, World Championships and Paralympic Games and are therefore on the rise to Elite High Performance
- Snowboarders that are constantly in the top 6 in World Cup, World Championships and Paralympics Games and are therefore on the rise to Elite High Performance. Support for these programmes will be through the same channels as Elite High Performance but at a lower level.
- Cross- country skiers that are consistently in the top 16 in World Cup, World Championships and Paralympic Games and are therefore on the rise to Elite High Performance.

Elite High Performance:

Skiers and Riders in this category are performing at the pinnacle of their discipline at World Cup, World Championships and Paralympics. Support for these athletes will come through WPP High Performance Funding, HPSNZ Performance Services, PEGs and Prime Minister's Scholarships. (www.hpsnz.org.nz).

Criteria

- Skiers, alpine and cross-country, consistently in the top 6 and expected to be on the podium at World Cup, World Champs and Paralympics.
- Snowboarders are expected to be consistently in the top 3 and therefore on the podium at World Cup events, World Champs and Paralympics.
- Athletes for all 3 disciplines will be notified 6 monthly in June and November.

Event Pathway and Event Selection Criteria

Alongside the development pathway is the events pathway outlining the events that should be targeted for different levels of development. Some of these events have limited quota (e.g. Winter Paralympic Games). For these events specific selection criteria will be used to select athletes. Athletes in the National Team and Development Programme will have priority for selection to these events.