



PRECISIONS, INFORMATION AND INSTRUCTIONS

PARA SNOWBOARD

NORTHERN HEMISPHERE

EDITION 2024/25

Oberhofen, November 2024

PRECISIONS, INFORMATION AND INSTRUCTIONS NORTHERN HEMISPHERE 2024/2025

FIS Council Meeting: 8th November 2024.

1) Introduction

This document presents the rule changes within the Para Snowboard International Competition Rules (ICR), as well as the Qualification Criteria/Regulations, following the approval of the proposals by the FIS Council on 8th November 2024. All updated documents are now available on the FIS Website.

2) Participation of Russian and Belarussian Athletes in FIS competitions

The current FIS policy, which does not allow the participation of Russian and Belarusian athletes and officials at FIS competitions, will remain in effect until further notice.

3) Approved Rule Changes to the International Competition Rules

All approved rule changes* can be seen under [Annex 1 - International Competition Rules Para Snowboard](#)

** The goal of Rule Change Proposal # 4 was to add part of the text from Rule 1411.5.18 to Rule 1410.4. The highlighted paragraph, which appears as deleted, is a mistake and is not part of the Rule 1410.4. For the avoidance of any doubt, there have been no changes to Rule 1411.5.18.*

4) Qualification Guide 2025 FIS Para Snowboard World Championships

The amendments to the Qualification Guide for the 2025 World Championships have been approved and can be found under the following [link](#).

Annex 1 - International Competition Rules Para Snowboard

201.6.1 Nordic and Para ~~Nordic-Cross-Country~~ Events

Cross-Country, Roller Skiing, Ski-Jumping, Ski-Flying, Nordic Combined, Team Competitions in Nordic Combined, Nordic Combined with Roller Skiing or In-line, Team Ski-Jumping, Ski-Jumping on plastic jumping hills, Popular Cross-Country races, Para Cross-Country ~~and~~, Para Roller Skiing ~~and Para Biathlon~~

301 FIS Para Snowboard Competition Levels

The following Para Snowboard competitions are sanctioned by FIS and are subject to regulations regarding participation and/or qualification:

- Paralympic Winter Games (PWG) Level 1
- FIS World Championships (WSC) Level 1
- FIS Para Snowboard World Cups (WC) Level 1
- FIS Para Snowboard Continental Cups (COC) Level 2
 - European Cup (EC)
 - North American Cup (NAC)
 - South American Cup (SAC)
 - Asian Cup (AC)
 - Australia New Zealand Cup (ANC)
- ~~FISU World University Games (UVS) Level 2~~
- National Championships (NC) Level 3
- FIS Races (FIS) Level 3

304.4 Age Limit

In order to be eligible to compete in FIS Para Snowboard Competitions (all competition levels), the competitors must comply with the following admitted years of birth:

~~Competition Year 22/23 23/24~~
~~Year of Birth 2007 and earlier 2008 and earlier~~

<u>Competition Year</u>	<u>Year of Birth</u>
<u>2024/2025</u>	<u>2009 and earlier</u>
<u>2025/2026</u>	<u>2010 and earlier</u>
<u>2026/2027</u>	<u>2011 and earlier</u>
<u>2027/2028</u>	<u>2012 and earlier</u>

305.2 Participation Fee (Athletes)

305.2.1 The OC may decide to charge a daily participation fee of maximum CHF ~~6030~~ per athlete per competition/official training day. Such decision must be announced in the official invitation.

1408.1 Formats four/two athletes per Heat

Finals are based on 32, 16, eight or four athletes with four/two athletes per Heat or such other numbers as determined by the Jury. SBX will be run according to a single knockout format. ~~Special events can be organised in the 6 athletes per Heat format.~~ Qualification runs have only one competitor starting on the course at a time at determined interval. The Qualification format will be chosen by the Jury in its sole discretion taking into account variables including, but not limited to, the weather and field sizes. Any change by the Jury must be announced before the first run begins. The timed qualification runs are to be used to qualify competitors for the Finals. For Level 1 Competitions it is desirable to maintain the same format for the whole World Cup season and if possible, the same format should be used in WSC and PWG. The definition of such format shall be made by FIS.

1409.5 Race Bibs

Must be two, four or more different colours in each Heat or numbered bibs with numbers on front, back and sleeves for better visibility by the course judges.

To differentiate between athletes competing in a race, different coloured (red and green for races with two athletes and red, green, blue and yellow for races with four athletes) race bibs must be used. If that is not possible, different coloured leg bands (red and green for race with two athletes and red, green, blue and yellow for races with four athletes) must be used in addition to the (same colour) race bibs. The Race Director or Jury may approve colours other than red, green, blue and yellow.

~~Special event may require more than four different colours.~~

1410 Snowboard Cross

Pairings for the Finals will be according to the following, ~~excluding Special Event~~

1410.4 DNS, DSQ, DNF in Snowboard Cross Finals

If one or more competitors do not start in the round of 16 or the round of 8 or round of 4 they will be automatically ranked last in the round of 16, 8 or 4 respectively. If two or more competitors are ~~DNF/DSQ~~, they will be ranked in the Heat according to their qualification rank, but

better than the athletes who receive a DIC or DNS. DIC will receive automatically the last place in this Heat and will be ranked last at the end of the second/fourth ranked athletes, but before the DNS.

In a case where more competitors do not complete the course nor cross the finish line (DNF), the rankings in that Heat will be based on the location where the competitor(s) have completed the course. The competitor that has made it further down the course correctly will receive the higher rank. If two or more competitors are tied in the finish or going out at the same gate, in the Big or Small Final, they will remain tied. In all other rounds, if two or more competitors are tied in the finish or going out at the same gate the competitor with the worse seeding points will win the tie. An athlete which does not start in the first round will appear as DNS on the result list. An athlete which did not start (DNS) in the Semi-final is allowed to start in the small final.

The DNF/DSQ competitors which have been ranked 4th in their Heat, will be ranked in the final results amongst those competitors who finished 4th, in the same phase of 1/16, 1/8 or 1/4 Finals, and then ranked by their qualification time. The same applies if more than one competitor was DNF/DSQ and was ranked 3rd ~~or even 2nd or 1st~~.

~~Order of placing: DSQ (sports disqualification) to be ranked on the last place in the Heat according to the seeding points. In a case where more competitors do not complete the course nor cross the finish line, the rankings in that Heat will be based on the location where the competitor(s) have completed the course. The competitor that has made it further down the course correctly will receive the higher rank. If two or more competitors are tied in the finish or going out at the same gate, in the Big or Small Final, they will remain tied. In all other rounds, if two or more competitors are tied in the finish or going out at the same gate the competitor with the worse seeding points will win the tie. An athlete which does not start in the first round will appear as DNS on the result list. An athlete which did not start (DNS) in the Semi-final is allowed to start in the small final~~

1411 Snowboard Cross Team (SBX Team) and Snowboard Cross Mixed Team (SBX Mixed Team), Snowboard Cross Inclusive Team (SBX Inclusive Team) and Snowboard Cross Mixed Inclusive Team (SBX Mixed Inclusive Team)

1411.6 Execution of SBX Inclusive Team and SBX Mixed Inclusive Team

1411.6.1 Eligibility for SBX Inclusive Team

A maximum of 16 teams composed by one Para athlete and one non-disabled athlete per gender are permitted to start. To determine the ranking of each Nation, the most current FIS Points of the best Para athlete and the best non-disabled athlete per gender across all categories will be added together. The top 16 women's teams and the top 16 men's teams will be decided according to their ranking. All Nations' number one teams will be considered first. Any remaining slots can be filled by Nations

number 2 teams. There is a limit of 2 teams per gender per nation allowed to start.

1411.6.2 Seeding for SBX Inclusive Team

For the purpose of seeding into brackets, each team will be ranked according to the sum of the FIS Points of both team members.

Ties of teams with the same sum of FIS Points will be broken in favour of the team with the higher individual FIS Points. If the tie still exists, it will be broken by random draw.

1411.6.3 Teams eligibility for SBX Inclusive Team

Each team is composed of one Para athlete and one non-disabled athlete. Once the nation teams seeding is determined, each nation can field any eligible competitor (*) into their team, although each competitor is only eligible to compete on one team. Nations must declare which competitor will comprise each team at the team captains meeting preceding the event. Similar to regular SBX, lane choice is determined by each nation team seed, within each Heat. Lane choice will be declared in the following order: seed 1, seed 2.

1411.6.4 Eligibility for SBX Mixed Inclusive Team

A maximum of 16 teams composed by one Para athlete and one non-disabled athlete of different gender are permitted to start. To determine the ranking of each Nation, the most current FIS Points of the best Para athlete and the best non-disabled athlete across all categories will be added together. The top 16 teams will be decided according to their ranking. All Nations' number one teams will be considered first. Any remaining slots can be filled by Nations number 2 teams. There is a limit of 2 teams per nation allowed to start.

1411.6.5 Seeding for SBX Mixed Inclusive Team

For the purpose of seeding into brackets, each team will be ranked according to the sum of the FIS Points of both team members.

Ties of teams with the same sum of FIS Points will be broken in favour of the team with the higher individual FIS Points. If the tie still exists, it will be broken by random draw.

1411.6.6 Teams eligibility for SBX Mixed Inclusive Team

Each team is composed of one Para athlete and one non-disabled athlete of different gender. Once the nation team's qualification and seeding is determined, each nation can field any eligible competitor (*) into their team although each competitor is only eligible to compete on one team. Nations must declare which competitor will comprise each team at the seed meeting for the competition start. Nations determine by themselves which teammate will run 1st and 2nd. Similar to regular SBX, lane choice is determined by each nation team seed, within each Heat. Teams will declare which teammate will run 1st after the teams have declared lane choice. Lane choice will be declared in the following order: seed 1, seed 2, and then teammate running order will be declared in the following order;

seed 2, seed 1. The Jury may limit the teams to choose the same order for rider 1 and 2 on a team for a portion of (for instance semifinals and Finals) or the entire event. This must be announced at the team captain meeting the night before the actual team event.

* Qualification requirements are according to the necessary minimum FIS Points List for participation in a single SBX at the respective level of event (e.g. WC minimum 100 FIS points in Para SBX).

1411.6.7 Competition

In a SBX Inclusive Team/SBX Mixed Inclusive Team event the time difference between the first competitors from each team is measured in accordance with the Freestyle/Snowboard FIS Timing Booklet. All of the first competitors from each team line up in the start and the traditional SBX start cadence is given with all gates opening at the same time. As soon as these competitors leave the start, the gates are closed and their teammates line up in the same start gate. When all first competitors from all teams cross the finish line (or are DNF and in safe position) the recorded time difference between the first competitors will be entered in the start gate and a new start command will be given. The start gates will then open individually for each competitor, with a delay equal to the time difference between the first competitors up to the maximum penalty time (art. 1411.6.14). The first two teams whose second teammate crosses the finish line will advance to the next round. In all heats where teams advance automatically to the next round, these teams may choose to run or to skip that heat.

If the start gate cannot be opened respecting the time delays or the maximum penalty time, all competitors start at the same time. In this case, the time differences between the competitors of the first heat and the competitors of the second heat will be added together. The two teams with the lowest added time differences will advance to the next round. If two or more teams are tied in the Big or Small Final, they will remain tied. In all other rounds, if two or more teams are tied, the team with the worse seeding points will win the tie.

1411.6.8 Bibs / Competitors identification

Numbered bibs with numbers on front, back and sleeves for better visibility should be utilized. The numbers have to clearly identify each team and the individual team members. The bibs should therefore be assigned with a larger number identifying the team and a small number (or for example 31 & 32, 45 & 46 etc.) identifying the different team members: e.g. Team 1: 11/12, Team 2: 21/22, Team 3: 31/32, Team 4: 41/42.

To aid in competitor identification different coloured bibs have to be used. Nation outfits are allowed but these outfits clearly need to distinguish the various riders/teams. If coloured bibs will be utilized the following colours have to be used: red – green – blue – yellow.

1411.6.9 Gate Judges

The same rules apply for the use of gate judges as like in a regular SBX event (art. 1412.4)

1411.6.10 Competition Clothing

The same rules apply for competition clothing as like in a regular SBX event.

1411.6.11 Start

The same rules apply for start ramp, start gates as like in a regular SBX event as well as for start command, false start or malfunction of the start gate (art. 1310.4, 1310.7, 1402.9.1).

1411.6.12 Choice of start lane

The choice of the start lane, during each Heat is based upon the seeding position. Higher seeded teams can choose their lane first. A missed start is considered a disqualification / sanction. It is the competitors' responsibility to arrive at the start in time to compete (art. 1310.4, 1310.6, 1310.7).

1411.6.13 Competitors coaching at start during final start signals

During the final start command no coaching is permitted at the start (no coaches present at the start gate, no radio information from the course, etc.).

1411.6.14 Penalty Time

The penalty time is calculated using the qualification times of the individual Para competition. The penalty time for a SBX Mixed Inclusive Team event is calculated by taking 6% of the average of the best individual race qualification time per event per gender, with a maximum of three (3) seconds (e.g. best time Men 0:48 + best time Women 0:51) / 2 = 49.5 sec * 6% = 2.97 sec). The penalty time for a SBX Team event is calculated for each gender separately, by taking 6% of the best individual race qualification time, with a maximum of three (3) seconds. The Jury may decide to change the penalty time in a range between 3% and 7% to adapt to special circumstances and grant interesting racing. The adaption of the penalty-time must be announced at the TCM before the competition.

If there is no individual race time as a reference this calculation result has to be estimated and confirmed by the race Jury.

A team which is ranked DNF cannot continue to participate. A start stop during a SBX team event should be confirmed by the Race Director who should therefore have clear overview of the course.

1411.6.15 Contact

The same rules apply for contact as like in a regular SBX event (art. 1408.6).

1411.6.16 Protest

The same rules apply for Protests as like in a regular SBX event (art. 1408.8).

1411.6.17 Final Ranking

Teams 1-2-3-4 are ranked according to their place of finish in the final Heat (Big Final). Teams 5-6-7-8 are ranked according to their place of finish in the consolation round (Small Final).

Within the each round the third and fourth placed teams are ranked by their seeding position within that group (example: all third place finishers in the Quarter final will be ranked, according to their seeding position and then all the fourth placed teams will be ranked according to their seeding position).

1411.6.18 DNS, DNF and DSQ in SBX Inclusive Team and SBX Mixed Inclusive Team Finals

If a team does not start in the round of 16 or eight it will automatically be ranked in the 16th or eighth position. If two or more teams do not start, the DNS teams will be ranked 16/15th or 8/7th according to their seeding position and so on with three or more DNS teams.

Order of placing: DSQ (sports disqualification) to be ranked on the last place in the Heat according to the seeding points. In a case where more competitors do not complete the course nor cross the finish line, the rankings in that Heat will be based on the location where the competitor(s) have completed the course. The competitor that has made it further down the course correctly will receive the higher rank. If two or more competitors are tied in the finish or going out at the same gate, in the Big or Small Final, they will remain tied. In all other rounds, if two or more competitors are tied in the finish or going out at the same gate the team with the worse seeding points will win the tie. A team which does not start in the first round will appear as DNS on the result list. A team which did not start (DNS) in the Semi-final is allowed to start in the small final.