

Freestyle Ski Judges Guidelines and Procedures

For Moguls/Aerials Judges

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1. Introduction

Freestyle skiing has seen many developments in the past and is advancing rapidly. Competition results are important, and it is the FIS's responsibility to have a system in place that recognizes judges' skill and ability, while ensuring a transparent and effective process.

Countries invest a lot of time and money to ensure athletes excel in their sport. The judging program should also follow a process that offers training and access based on transparency, accountability, fairness, the quality of judging, and the performance of the judging system.

Since judges today are mostly volunteers, there must be a system to ensure they are qualified for the level at which they are judging. Judges' education and evaluation should be a priority to guarantee that only the highest-quality judges are assigned to events. This will ensure athletes are judged fairly and accurately. This applies to all levels of events, with a particular focus on major events like the Olympics, World Cup, and World Championships.

To improve the quality and consistency of scores, this document outlines the necessary processes to achieve this goal. It also recognizes that there are both recommended and required procedures. Additionally, it should be noted that licenses are discipline-specific (moguls and aerials), with training and testing being unique for each. Requirements listed are specific to each discipline.

2. General information for Judging

a. Judges License

To obtain a FIS Judges license, judges must first be appointed by their National Ski Association (NSA), which is responsible for ensuring they meet the minimum requirements for judging at the FIS level. Then, judges are evaluated by the Judges Advisory Group (JAG) as part of the license upgrade process, and finally, they are approved by FIS.

This process ensures transparency and fairness for everyone involved, confirming that judges are qualified to perform their duties at various levels of FIS events.

To obtain a FIS Judges' license and officiate international competitions, a judge must be at least 20 years old.

b. Judges Requests

Requests from judges to FIS will go through the NSA to make sure the NSA is informed of these requests. This includes upgrades and judging assignment requests.

Communication Path	Judge → NSA → FIS → NSA → Judge
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c. Judges License Types

FIS approves the FIS Judge's License according to the Judge License Upgrade and Fast-Track process outlined in Section 3. There are two types of FIS licenses based on the types of competitions assigned and the Judges' skills: one license for Moguls and a separate one for Aerials, as they are two different sports with very different judging requirements. A Moguls License permits judging both single and dual mogul competitions. The Aerials License allows judging both Aerials and Aerials Team competitions.

- **National Level** – A national level license allows a judge to officiate at national-level events. The NSA oversees this license and permits judging at national events that are not sanctioned by FIS. It is understood that judges, unless “fast-tracked,” should gain experience by judging at the national level before applying for a FIS license.
- **FIS C-License (top level of National Level)** – Even these licensed judges are not listed on the FIS list; these are judges who are prepared to be recommended for the FIS B license. It is understood that judges can officiate at events below the Coc level of FIS, such as FIS races and National Championships, to gain judging experience.
- **FIS B-License** can judge the following B-events: Continental Cup, Judge University Games, Junior World Championships, and all other FIS-sanctioned events except for the World Cup (host nation only if a positive judges’ evaluation is given), World Championships, Olympic Winter Games, or other elite or special events requiring the most skilled judges.
- **FIS A-License** – can serve as judge and head judge at all events.

Note: FIS and JAG will follow specific selection procedures when assigning Head Judges and Judges for the Olympic Winter Games and World Championships to ensure the appointment of top-level judges and fair representation of participating countries.

d. **Judges’ Code of Conduct**

The following is recommended for FIS judges, as outlined in the FIS Freestyle ICR Section 223 Sanctions.

Judges will act respectfully toward the sport, the organising committee, the athletes, other officials, and the general public. This includes following all local laws, FIS regulations, and their National Ski Association rules.

During a competition—from the start of official practice sessions, TCMs, or Draw to after official results are posted—judges must not communicate about the **competition** with anyone outside the official judging panel or FIS staff involved in the event. This includes any form of communication, such as email, text messages, voice calls, social media, or other methods, to discuss or review the runs of any athlete. **If a judge or Video Controller is contacted,** they are responsible for informing the Head Judge (HJ), who will then notify the Jury.

To clarify, contact can only be made through the Jury if there is an official protest. Or through the MAG/AAG representatives in an official capacity after the competition to answer specific questions. The HJ will always be present during any communications.

This is not intended to prevent all contact between coaches and judges (or video controllers), as we recognize that this dialogue is important for the development of the sport. Instead, it aims to ensure the MAG/AAG is aware of such conversations to prevent any perceived or actual favoritism toward any athlete or nation. This also helps guarantee that all athletes are judged fairly, following these guidelines, and without bias or outside influence. All individuals involved in the FIS competition need to be made aware of this rule and their responsibility to follow the process.

i. **Infractions**

Any infraction that could lead to disciplinary action, such as a reprimand, fine, suspension, or other penalty, must follow all FIS regulations. Any recommended activity must also adhere to all FIS guidelines.

3. Judges license upgrade and Fast-Track

To advance through license levels by discipline, the following procedures are required.

1. **A notification of an upgrade request is sent to JAG when registering for the Fall Judges clinics.**
2. **Formal application is made to FIS/JAG before 15th April, the following year, as per Appendix 1 = “FIS Freestyle License Upgrade application”**
 - Judges' Fall clinic/webinar test results and clinic participation will be reviewed for all license upgrade requests.
 - Judging reports from the previous season will be evaluated to ensure competence for the requested upgrade.
 - Judging Assist / Mentor upgrade evaluations will be reviewed.

JAG will make recommendations based on the applications, then submit them to FIS for review and approval during the Spring FIS meetings.

a. National Level License

All nationally licensed judges are the responsibility of their respective NSA. Their NSA keeps records of the judge's name and experience, and this information will be submitted to FIS when they are recommended for their International License.

b. International FIS B License

When recommended by their NSA, national licensed judges who wish to be considered for an international license will fill out the appropriate license application for review.

The application must be approved by their NSA, sent to JAG and the FIS office, and include all relevant judging and freestyle history. Applications that are incomplete or contain inaccurate information will be returned to the NSA.

Official application submitted to FIS before 15th April (before the spring FIS meeting or Congress) from NSA approving the request.

➔ *See Appendix 1 = “FIS Freestyle License Upgrade application”*

The following are requirements that each applicant must meet when applying for the International FIS B-License; (do not apply if you do not meet these criteria)

Note: The Judge must first have their NSA support for your request and submit this with their application.

1. Approved Fast-tracked (See section 3.6 below) **OR**
2. Two seasons as a National Level Judge.
3. Have judged six (6) competitions in that discipline (six (6) aerials or six (6) moguls) due to some countries not having live events; for Aerials three (3) events (overall) and for Moguls three (3) events can be conducted through an official online shadow panel (judges must have a minimum of two (2) Air Judge competitions) with a positive evaluation required in one season.
4. For a mogul's upgrade, there must be a minimum of at least
 - A. Three judging assignments as a turns judge
 - B. Three assignments as an air judge.
 - C. At least four of the events judged must have been single moguls

Note 1: A dual moguls event that includes a single-format qualification can be counted as a single mogul event, and/or a Dual Moguls event.

Note 2: An event typically includes a qualification round and a final.

5. **Successfully pass the in-person Clinic OR Webinar AND Assist Program with a 75% range on testing, respectively.**

It is recommended that any candidate seeking an upgrade notify the proctors at the Fall Judges clinic to confirm that the upgrade request was made during registration.

The judges' license upgrade must be approved by the FIS AE/MO Judges Advisory Group (JAG)

c. International FIS A License - World Cup

To be eligible for World Cup events and higher levels, an international licensed judge must demonstrate they have the necessary skills to perform at that level. **A performance matrix** has been created to evaluate judges and recognize their skill levels. This matrix also provides feedback to help identify the appropriate and necessary skill training to improve judges' abilities and performance.

Official application submitted to FIS before 15th April (before the spring FIS meeting or Congress) from NSA approving the request.

➔ See Appendix 1 = "FIS Freestyle License Upgrade application"

The following are requirements that each applicant must meet when applying for the International FIS B-License; (do not apply if you do not meet these criteria)

Note: The Judge must first have their NSA support for your request and submit this with their application.

1. Approved Fast-tracked (See section 3.6 below) **OR**
2. One season as an International FIS B-License
3. Have judged six (6) competitions in that discipline (six (6) aerials or six (6) moguls) due to some countries not having live events; for Aerials three (3) events (overall) and for Moguls three (3) events can be conducted through an official online shadow panel (judges must have a minimum of two (2) Air Judge competitions) with a positive evaluation required in one season.
4. For a mogul's upgrade, there must be a minimum of at least
 - A. Three judging assignments as a turns judge
 - B. Three assignments as an air judge.
 - C. At least four of the events judged must have been single moguls

Note 1: A dual moguls event that includes a single-format qualification can be counted as a single mogul event, and/or a Dual Moguls event.

Note 2: An event typically includes a qualification round and a final.

5. **Successfully pass the in-person Clinic AND Assist Program on snow with an 85% range on testing, respectively.**

It is recommended that any candidate seeking an upgrade notify the proctors at the Fall Judges clinic to confirm the upgrade request was made during registration.

The judges' license upgrade must be approved by the FIS AE/MO Judging Advisory Group (JAG)

d. International FIS A-License: Olympics & World Championships Events

Judges shall initially be appointed by their NSA for these roles, then reviewed by the Judges Advisory Group (JAG) and finally approved by the FIS FS sub-committee. See Appendix 3 for additional information.

A judge with an FIS A license must successfully complete an in-person judging clinic before the season if they are nominated to a major competition.

e. Judge License Maintenance

To keep the B-license, the judge must:

- Attend at least one Judging Clinic or Webinar each year and demonstrate satisfactory skills and knowledge on the practical examination.
- Prove active engagement in judge work through assignments. Specifically, B-Licensed Judges must demonstrate at least 2 FIS Judge assignments at the Continental Cup level within two years.
- Demonstrate active involvement in developing AE/MO in their country if the home NSA requests it.
- A judge's license will be revoked if the judge fails to serve as an assigned FIS judge at the Continental Cup level for two consecutive years without a justified cause.
- A judge's license will be revoked (i.e., downgraded to a National License) if the judge fails to attend an FIS international clinic every five years at the latest without a justified cause.

To keep the A-License, the judge must:

- Attend at least one judging clinic annually online and every two years in person, demonstrating satisfactory skills and knowledge on the practical examination
- Prove active engagement in judge work demonstrated by assignments if judges have opportunities to apply. Specifically, judges must complete at least 2 FIS Judge assignments at the Continental Cup level within 2 years and one FIS Judge assignment at the World Cup level every 3 years.
- Demonstrate active involvement in developing AE/MO in their country if the home NSA requests it.
- An A-judge license will be downgraded to a B-license if the judge fails to serve as an assigned FIS judge at the World Cup level for three consecutive years without a justified reason.
- An A-judge license will be downgraded to a B-license if the judge fails to attend a FIS international clinic in person every two years at the latest, without a justified cause.

f. Fast-Track Upgrade Exception:

It is recognized through experience as a competitor, coach, or other key role; a person may possess exceptional skills and advance more quickly through the license process. Therefore, a judge may request a "fast-track" upgrade based on experience and Clinic test results. The JAG supports the Fast Track process and will assess competency and scoring accuracy for the application to ensure the judge has the necessary skills.

Under these circumstances, the judge may be excused from meeting one or more of the guideline criteria normally required for an upgrade, such as the minimum number of judged events or years.

The decision to fast-track must receive approval from 75% of JAG and also be approved by the Freestyle Sub-Committee. Applications for Fast-Track must be submitted to JAG and the FIS through the NSA using the standard judge license process outlined in Section 3 of this document.

If a judge is fast-tracked to a license level, they are credited with the minimum experience required for that level. For example, a judge could be fast-tracked so that after completing the first year with an International B-License, they could be awarded a World Cup A-license (Fast Track Judges will always be evaluated through clinic testing, as well as by head judges at events and from the assist/mentor upgrade program).

g. License downgrades

It is acknowledged that a lack of judging experience and limited exposure to the sport can lead to a decline in judging skills. The evolving nature of the sport demands ongoing skill development, including participation in events. A judge who is inactive, performs only a minimal number of events, or receives a low score in the judge's evaluation system (JES) may be recommended for a downgrade to FIS.

- This includes not judging or instructing at any FIS level event in a specific discipline for five consecutive years.
- Judges who score poorly in either clinics or events during the season
- Judges who do not attend the requisite Judges Clinic for five consecutive years will be downgraded to a **national** license.
- Inappropriate behavior as identified within section 2.4
- Judges who express themselves to retirees.

The judges cannot serve as judges in any international-level competition in the same year if they participate as competitors in any A, B, or national-level competitions. Additionally, they cannot apply to be judges for the next major events (OWG, WSC, JWC, WC, and YOG).

All downgrades must be approved by 75% of the JAG and also approved by the FIS Freestyle Sub-Committee.

h. Judges Evaluation System

The Judges Evaluation System is how judges are assessed and ranked. The JES is a tool the FIS should use to assign judges at all FIS events. Since judges need exposure to improve their skills, the evaluation should ensure that most judges' panels meet the recommended levels.

The evaluation system will be continuously maintained and updated as various events happen, including event scoring, training and educational sessions (such as assisting / mentoring, clinics, or others), and head judge evaluations at events. The evaluation process is outlined in Section 5.

4. Judges Education

a. Clinics

Judges, Candidates, and licensed Judges need to engage in Judges' Clinics and Updates actively. Not only will the candidates participate alongside licensed Judges, but they will also contribute to the learning process. These sessions go beyond traditional lectures, incorporating interactive workshops, role-plays, simulations, and real-case presentations.

Clinics and updates are essential in Judges' education and are therefore reserved for Judges Candidates and licensed FIS Judges. However, if space and logistics permit, other interested stakeholders, such as National Judges (licensed and/or in training), LOC members, coaches, and others, may participate. Nevertheless, access to supporting learning materials and the FIS e-learning platform is exclusive to FIS Judges Candidates and licensed FIS Judges.

FIS Knowledge Centre Annex Judges Aerials Moguls V 1.0 – August 2025. 11 Judges' clinics will be scheduled regionally each year in late autumn. The ideal site for a seminar is in locations that meet current A judge's requirements to minimize travel costs for judges as much as possible. Typically, there will be two seminars in Europe and North America and one in Asia. The seminar should last at least three days, usually starting on Friday morning and ending on Sunday. These clinics will be offered in person. Additionally, one webinar per region will be provided to assist judges who cannot travel that year.

The seminar will be organised and led by educational members of JAG. Provisional location and dates must be submitted to the S.C. CC Rules & Control by the JAG Chairman before the spring meeting for approval and budget allocation (or before the Autumn meeting for the seminars planned in spring).

The invitation and agenda of the approved FIS seminars must then be sent through the FIS Office to the S.C. CC Rules & Control, the CCC, the CC FIS staff, all the Licensed Judges, and the NSA at least 20 days in advance. At the end of the seminar, the JAG Education coordinators must send the list of the participants to the FIS Office.

b. Assist / Upgrade Programs

The Judges Assist programs will be scheduled annually in late fall, and the availability of judges will determine which WC Assists will be offered. Typically, four judges are needed to run an assist program, with a maximum of eight judges. A wish list will be sent to all judges in early fall and confirmed before the first World Cup, after the application deadline. **In December, judges with Provisional A or B licenses will have priority.** The Assist program will be organised and led by educational members of JAG.

The assist program will also incorporate an exam, and Judges will be evaluated. Normally, in real-time by scoring:

- Aerials F1, F2 overall
- Moguls F1 Turns and F2 Air.

c. Online Education

The use of online education is paramount. JAG will continue to look at ways of enhancing online training to develop further the Judges' education program.

5. Judges Advisory Group (JAG)

JAG members are appointed Judges by their NSAs. JAG members should be licensed at the top level of judging and include a variety of nations. Only one member from each country may be a voting member of the JAG, as JAG working groups may have additional members to assist that working group, for example, educational material development.

JAG members will also have responsibilities to assist in overseeing the licensing recommendations of judges from their nations and providing other necessary support to JAG working groups as needed.

The JAG members can be appointed to various key positions to support the chairman with duties and responsibilities. JAG members can also lead in multiple roles as required.

All JAG members will need to be active in supporting JAG duties. Members who are not active

(do not attend meetings or reply to communications) will be identified to them by the JAG chairperson that NSA. The NSA will be able to replace the member, but if no replacement is found, that member will be removed.

The following will compose of JAG working groups.

- 1 Head Judge Chair – Supporting Head Judges with checklists and guidance for organising the judging panels.
- 2 Judges' Education Chair – Instructors of training materials
- 3 Judges' Evaluation Chair – Oversight of the evaluations will be provided by this group to ensure there are appropriately qualified and approved representatives.
- 4 Judges Licensing and Upgrade Chair – Oversight to ensure that all procedures are followed openly and transparently.
- 5 Judges Assignments Chair – provide FIS, when necessary, recommendations for judging assignments based on qualifications and requirements.

The JAG will also be responsible for keeping updated on such things as.

- Judges' reference materials – Printed or online materials that help judges or other interested parties with regard to criteria and related judging matters.
- Technical material – provide necessary technical support information to support the judging program or others as necessary. This can include the materials needed for judges' training programs.

a. JAG Meetings

Regularly scheduled JAG meetings will occur.

- Before the first Judges Clinic and fall meeting (Approximately Early September)
- After the Clinics and before the first WC competition. (Approximately Early November)
- After the first World Cups and before the North American WC tour (Approximately Early January)
- End of the Season before the FIS spring meetings. (Approximately April)
- After the Spring meetings (Approximately June)

Meetings will include

- All JAG members
- Chairperson of the AAG
- Chairperson of the MAG
- FIS representative

The agenda will be sent before the meetings and minutes will be taken and submitted to FIS for distribution.

b. JAG Chairperson

The JAG chairperson is nominated to the JAG by their NSA and voted on by the JAG, MAG Chair and AAG Chair and has a term of 4 years. The vote will be managed by the FIS representative and will need 51% of the voting members.

- Responsible for the overall direction of JAG.
- Will schedule and provide minutes for JAG meetings.
- Will provide information to all JAG members on ongoing concerns and changes.
- Attend FIS and MAG/AAG meetings
- Ensure Chairpersons of other groups have the support needed, and schedule meetings as required.
- Can act as chair of other groups as necessary
- Nominate a Sub chairperson for the JAG Sub-Committee.

c. Head Judge Working Group Chair

- Ensure capable individuals are assigned to the HJ role.
- Help or lead warm-up panels discussion during online per-event preparation
- Ensure Head judges have all pre-event duties accomplished.
- Ensure they are supported with the knowledge needed to lead the panel during competition.
- Ensure HJ does post-event and judge evaluations
- Work with the JAG-Chairperson to ensure duties are completed.

d. Licensing and Upgrade Working Group Chair

Maintain judges names and contact information, as well as their judging history

- Compile Upgrade requests and ensure Judges meet minimum requirements
- Provide the Chairperson with a detailed report of upgrade requests
- Access Fast-track requests with JAG Chairperson
- Work with the evaluation chair for upgrade requests.
- Submit to the JAG the upgrade list for the FIS Spring meeting.

e. Judge Evaluation Working Group Chair

Ensure judges evaluations are completed using the following.

- HJ Reports,
- Clinic Evaluation Reports and exam results
- Assist/Mentor upgrade Evaluation Reports,
- Online Training Reports,
- Monitoring or review from events where not officially assigned, or a report from a JAG member in such a position.
- All other materials pertinent to the evaluation.
- This group is responsible for producing and maintaining the current Judges Evaluation System (JES). This system will be used to help with Assignments and upgrade requests.

f. Assignment Working Group Chair

- The assignments group consists of the JAG members who help gather the necessary data for the Chair of the Assigning working group. The JAG Chair and RD will discuss and review the proposal. This will help ensure the system remains fair and transparent. They will also check assignments to confirm that qualified judges have been assigned based on judging experience, ability level and current licensure.

i. Assignments

Nations' opportunities for judging assignments are created using FIS's Judges' assignment matrix. The system was developed to provide judging opportunities to nations based on their contribution to the development and support of the Freestyle program. After opportunities are identified by FIS, the following criteria is used to fill positions and ensure the best judges are assigned:

- 1 Judges' Evaluations (Clinic and Evaluations)
- 2 Judge availability
- 3 Location and time zone requirements for remote judging positions
- 4 Costs / Budget

g. Education Working Group Chair

The Education Chair is responsible for developing and maintaining educational materials.

- Work with the AAG and MAG to identify the issues that need educational focus
- Provide the AAG and MAG with video and clinic material for comment
- Chair the Proctor Meeting to review with the AAG/MAG materials to ensure the community agrees with the direction of judges' education
- Prepare clinic materials and tests.
- Proctor at clinics
- Proctor at Assist / Mentor / Upgrade programs
- Develop online training materials
- Review issues with the JAG chairperson that need to be added to educational materials.
- Assign Proctors to assist and ensure they have the knowledge to meet the needs of that role.
- Work with judges to identify problems that further educational efforts can clarify or and find solutions.
- Work with the Evaluation Chair and JAG chair to ensure Judges are evaluated fairly

i. Proctors and Assistant Proctors

At least one of the proctors for a FIS A/B clinic must have attended the proctor clinic. Other assistant proctors may be scheduled as necessary and should receive materials in advance. In all but extreme cases, all proctors at World Cup level clinics should have attended the JAG/proctor clinic.

The proctors are the teachers for the clinics and assist / mentor programs and will also provide written or online evaluations for any educational program at which they work or event at which they observe.

1. *Becoming a Proctor*

In order to maintain an open process, a proctor selection process has been defined. To be considered as a proctor, the following conditions must be met.

- Nominated by NSA with the recognition and support of travel reimbursement to the proctor clinic for all airfare, local ground, mileage and related.
- The Proctor nominee must have held the license for at least 4 years in each discipline for which the proctor is being nominated.
- Proctor nominee should be recommended a year in advance so that the nominee may act as an Assistant Proctor at a clinic. The Assistant Proctor will be given materials to present and will be evaluated by the proctors, judges and others in attendance.
- Before attending a Proctor clinic, all proctors must commit to working at a minimum of one clinic.
- Attending a proctor clinic (JAG meeting) is not a substitute for attending a clinic, and ONLY PROCTORS and invited trainers or others deemed appropriate by the JAG and FIS may attend.
- Proctor attendance will be limited to only those proctoring that year and may be further limited due to logistics and maintaining a limited number at the Proctor clinic.
- Proctors, other than the identified test working group, must take all exams.
- At least one of the proctors for a clinic must have attended the proctor clinic. Other proctors may be scheduled as necessary and should receive materials in advance. In all but extreme cases, all proctors at World Cup level clinics should have attended the main JAG/proctor clinic.

h.

Proctor Clinic

The annual proctor clinic is an important meeting to ensure the clinic materials are developed in such a way to improve the Judges educational system. It gives the MAG, AAG and the JAG an opportunity to discuss issues and find solutions. It ensures common goals are met and that proctors clearly identify points at issue to ensure the next season improves where necessary. It gives an opportunity to identify better practices and look at ways to develop the sport. Looks at areas to provide more consistent scores.

6. Judges' Handbook of SCORING (Judge Criteria)

Review the Judges Handbook of scoring for the coming season and publish this by the end of October with the confirmed changes of the fall meeting.

The rulebook is separated into three (3) sections:

1. Moguls/Dual moguls
2. Aerials
3. Technical appendix – as needed

The technical section is an appendix and can change whenever there are changes in data system (including but not limited to DDS if included). This book shall reference the ICR but have no items that would be included in the ICR. In any case where there could be an interpretation of a conflict between this book and the ICR, the ICR shall always have precedent.

Technical Material

Materials will be produced as necessary and posted to appropriate websites and other portals accessible to judges and other officials. Additional information, along with other education, will be provided as it becomes available.

7. Specification for clinics & assist programs

a. Costs of clinics and assists

The following clearly lays out the cost and expense responsibilities for the Proctor clinic (in person/online), Clinics (and or webinar), and Assist/Upgrade Programs (in person/online). This is an annual document that will require revision as appropriate. The information included is subject to change, and all details should be confirmed with FIS and NSAs before scheduling.

Clinic expense reimbursement requirements for organisers and FIS:

	Proctor Clinic (JAG)	Judges Clinic Founded by FIS	Judges Clinic Founded by NSA	Assist*
<i>Air travel</i>	NSA	FIS	Organiser	FIS or NSA - Organiser
<i>Ground transport</i>	NSA	Organiser	Organiser	Organiser
<i>Accommodation</i>	FIS	Organiser	Organiser	Organiser
<i>Food</i>	FIS (full board)	FIS (full board)	Organiser	Organiser
<i>Daily fee</i>	FIS	FIS	Organiser	FIS
<i>Meeting facilities</i>	Organiser	Organiser	Organiser	Organiser

b. Clinic / Assists Requirements

Clinics in person - Meeting facilities requirements

Meeting rooms must be available to facilitate the program schedule from 8:30 until 17:30. Rooms must have appropriate privacy from other functions and be large enough without physical impairments for all attendees to view the screen(s) and the proctors. Available outlets for computer and related power must be available throughout the room (including access with provided extension cords and power strips). The facility must provide writing tables with a seating capacity of five to seven each and comfortable chairs.

Materials and equipment to be provided at the organiser's expense include copies of hand-outs and clinic booklets, copy facilities and use for proctors, an LCD (beamer) or other media necessary to display materials, screens or TVs, internet access for proctors, one laptop computer to be used as backup for materials that have the internal capacity to show the video materials. The digital display must be viewed and tested in advance to verify appropriate quality. See Checklist

It is recommended to have one proctor for every 10-15 attendees, with a maximum of 30 attendees at the clinic.

A maximum of 6 proctors can be assigned to one clinic with more than 30 attendees without the expressed written approval from the Proctor Group and the FIS office.

Associate Proctors shall be limited to a maximum of two per clinic per discipline. Associate proctors do not receive compensation or reimbursement of any kind.

Attendees may use a laptop only for the needs of the judges' clinic (entering scores in Google Forms)

Internet, cell phone and other personal digital device use is prohibited during the training sessions.

Clinics must be scheduled through the FIS and an announcement distributed to all NSAs, ideally at a minimum of three (3) months before the start date.

Clinics must be open to any appropriately licensed judge or coach.

NSAs may have internal clinic attendance requirements.

c. Assists in person

Every year, at least 2 assists per discipline per year (USA / Can, Europe, Asia/Pacific) should be organised if requested by NSAs. Assists can be done online or in person.

Any country may apply for and run an Assist/Upgrade program with an approved Proctor. The Proctor must be an approved A level proctor with current certification, having attended the proctor clinic immediately before that competition season.

Assists must be scheduled through the FIS, and an announcement distributed to all NSAs at least six (6) weeks before the start date. Clinics must be open to any appropriately licensed judge. Invitations must be made available to all NSAs so that all judges have access to an Assist/Upgrade Program regardless of the location. Priority shall be given to judges who will be applying for an upgrade at the end of the current season.

A minimum of four (4) and a maximum of eight (8) attendees can participate per Assist/Upgrade program proctor.

The organiser must be willing to provide access credentials to the judge's stands, venues, lifts, etc., to all assist participants.

There is no requirement for any lodging, travel, food, access to VIP areas or any special events for Assist participants.

The proctor should be extended the same courtesies as other judges.

Participants may assist on stand for a prescribed limited time, shifts, etc., as part of their training programs, if this fits in with the organisers and is approved by the competition jury.

Instruction Testing and Evaluation Process

It is recommended that Assist programs follow the training protocol identified here. Training and semi-final or other preliminary segments should be used to engage the group as a whole, as well as to make sure that every participant has the opportunity to show their knowledge and understanding of the criteria. Trainees should be put in the position of having to explain things beyond the score to show a greater understanding of mechanics and the elements contained within each criteria. Proctors must keep notes, identify strengths and weaknesses, and include this information in a final report to each Trainee.

Finals should be an opportunity to test the Trainees by having them assign score values, identify tricks or other elements deemed appropriate by the proctor. This could include twisting and or timing (aerials), trick identification (mogul air), ranking athletes, etc., depending upon the event, venue and access.

The test results and overall evaluation form shall be given by the proctor to each Trainee within ten (10) days of the completion of the Assist/Upgrade program. This shall include a specific test result, a recommendation that identifies strengths and weaknesses, and an overall assessment of whether the judge is ready for the next level of competition. The Proctor must also score the Assist as Pass/Fail within each element (criteria per discipline). A judge must receive an Acceptable score at every level to upgrade their license.

d. Video Material

The video material will be coordinated between the working groups, like

- Moguls Working Group
- Aerials Working Group
- Judges Advisory Group

The Proctor Working Group will make a request for the events

The events that will be covered by videotaping are fixed at the FIS Fall Meeting

The coaches will assign an operator to tape the event from the judge's position

The HJ is collecting the material at the debriefing of the event with the coaches

The video material is forwarded to the Proctors Working Group

Appendix TOC

1. FIS Judge Upgrade form and Evaluation
2. FIS Head Judge procedures
3. Selection Guidelines for Judges Major Competitions WC-OWG
4. FIS Freestyle HJ Report - WC
5. FIS Judge competition report
6. FIS Freestyle HJ Report - CoC
7. Assist program, Shadow panel and Warm-up Evaluation Form
8. Assignment Criteria and Process (Not major events)
9. Dense information regarding judges' licenses

Appendix 1

Upgrade Requests

Please find below the link to the form for Moguls and Aerials Judges Upgrade Requests.

We kindly ask you to send the form to:

klancar.marko@gmail.com and in cc to hostettler@fis-ski.com.

Please also fill in the online form: Judges' information and application for a FIS Judges License Upgrade.

<https://forms.gle/iT1aXWTBiG1WVt3o6>

Please complete the online form and send it back to us by **15th April, along with the NSA approval** (email confirmation from their NSA), **before the deadline**. **Incomplete applications submitted after the deadline will not be accepted.**

Thank you very much in advance.

[Link](#) to the FIS Freestyle Ski Judge's License Upgrade Request Form

Judge First and Last name: _____

Competitions Judged: Type: W = World Cup; N = NorAm; E = Europa Cup; O = Other FIS and major competitions (please identify these by year).

Events = AE/MO/DM.

For MO and DM, please specify the number of events you judged Turn and Air individually.
Use additional sheets as necessary.

Location	Date	Event	Type	MO	Duals	AE	Other	Comment/*head judge's name if possible

Assist / Mentor Programs (Winter on-snow programs. Types: A level at World Cup, B level at other FIS events). Events = AE/MO/DM:

Location	Date	Level of Clinic FIS(A/B)/ National	Events MO, AE	Curret license		Comment
				Mogul	Aerial	

Seminars (Fall clinics) Types = A level or national level.
Events = AE/MO/DM by year.

Location	Date	Level of Clinic FIS(A/B)/ National	Events MO, AE	Curret license		Comment
				Mogul	Aerial	

Other Relevant Qualifications and Information (Please include any competition or coaching background in freestyle or relevant sports, any freestyle committees served on and any other relevant background by year. Use additional sheets if necessary):

Appendix 2

Head Judge procedure document

6 weeks before event

- Ensure flights are booked with FIS travel for the Head Judge and Onsite judges. Contact is Karin Quattrini, email: quattrini@fis-ski.com, phone: +41 79 300 3008
- Travel (Airline tickets) should be coordinated together with other FIS officials – Race Director, TD, GSS services, etc.
- Ground Transportation and Hotels are usually arranged by Kathrin at the FIS office.
- If you or your onsite judges are arranging your own travel to the site (driving, train, etc.) then reach out to the Organising Committee and ensure that all details and contact email, and phone numbers are shared for all your judges.

2+ weeks before the scheduled event

- Send out an email to all judges to ensure all are still available for the assignment and include some preliminary information. For example, event program, training/test day/time, and inform that meetings will be arranged (via Teams or Zoom), and event-specific information will be shared via WhatsApp group

1 week before the scheduled event

- Send email invitations for all meetings (Teams or Zoom) for Training/Test Day and Competition Days
- Create the WhatsApp group with the full list of Judges at your event. Avoid adding Judges to common event specific groups.
- Judges' contact point should be with the Head Judge

1 day before the first practice day (before the TCM meeting)

- Send the list of Judges (If there is one onsite MO judge, that judge should be the Turn Judge, and the HJ should be responsible for entering Trick IDs into the system) (Judge number and assignment) to GSS. Contact person for World Cups is Tom, email: thomas.muehlberger@global-sportservice.com, phone +43 699 180 201 23
- **When assigning judges' positions at MO/DM competitions, the HJ must also consider test results that indicate where nominated judges have higher results on testing (Air or Turns).**

Expenses for judges

- For remote Judges, HJ prepares an expense sheet that can be used to simplify the process.
- Remote judges simply need to enter the number of Event Days, Training/Test Days, and Warmup Panel Days in the Excel sheet, see the [Remote judge expense sheet](#)
- For onsite judges, just use the FIS expense sheet like normal that Kathrin sends out.

Reconciliation of Judges' Expenses

- HJ set up a process with Kathrin at the FIS office, where we share a Google Sheet, and this becomes the master for what expenses Kathrin will pay.
- There is one sheet for each competition, along with the guidelines for compensation.
- The Google Sheet titled 'Reconciliation of WC Judges Expenses' will be shared with HJs and Kathrin at the FIS office

When you arrive at the competition venue

On the first practice day

- Check the Judges Stand / OTC and agree with GSS on the locations of the Head Judge and Onsite Judges. If the competition course is visible, select the optimal position for yourself, i.e., the centre line in Moguls.
- Become familiar with the tools and screens for streaming.
- Tom will have two screens that you will use, one for replay and one for the live feed (same as what gets pushed out to Judge Click)
- Learn how the “Shuttle Pro” controller works for showing replays and outputting to Judge. click, to use the side cameras at the top/bottom jump, return from replays, and more.
- **At the request of the AIR judges, after reviewing the jump with the help of a side camera (the grab is not clearly presented to the judges), the score will be assessed with a maximum score in the Average Category (6.0 or less).** This should be marked on the AIR steno/score card. **The exception is a technical error, such as a problem with the image transfer from the competition, or an error beyond our control.**
- **Only HJ can operate the side camera and respond if HJ sees that the AIR judges have incorrectly assessed the jump (for example, when the grab is only touched or completely missed).**
- It's not that complicated; get fully comfortable with how the system works before you need to use it.
- Check the Internet and ensure that you have a stable connection
- Important: Connect your computer with both Wi-Fi and a wired cable connection. A wired connection tends to be more stable.
- Check the speed with [Internet speed test](#)
- Ideally, you have minimum speeds of 30 Mbps downlink and 30 Mbps up.
- Get in touch with the TV Director and Camera Operator
- Agree on the start time and duration for the camera person to follow skiers on Training/Test Day.
- It should be sufficient, for example, to have 30 minutes for Women and 30 minutes for Men on Training Day
- Provide guidelines for following the skier in Moguls, such as positioning the skier in the middle of the camera and ensuring 3 control gates are visible on both sides of the course. In Duals, then 4 control gates are always visible
- Ensure that during the Warmup for W/M Qualifications on Competition Day that the camera person follows the skiers.
- For the warm-ups, then the front camera is showing the course with sufficient zoom so that the remote judges at home can see both the top and bottom airs (this way, the turn judges can also check turns during Warm-up)

Note: Sometimes the camera and camera person only show up on the actual competition day. If this is the case for you, then feel free to express your extreme dissatisfaction with the Race Director.

On the second practice day (Training/Test Day with remote judges)

- Before your judges arrive, connect to Judge Click and ensure streaming is working
- Ensure your camera person is ready at the agreed-upon time

On the competition day

- 15 minutes before your judges arrive, check that the internet, camera, camera person, and streaming to Judge.click are all working. Then, start your Teams or Zoom meeting.
- Make sure you have set up the “breakout room” for your Air Judges (required in Zoom meeting).
- So far at the venues last season, the side (top and bottom jump) camera persons have not been in place until the forerunners. If possible, test that the camera feeds are working too, but don't be surprised if the camera person isn't there until the very last minute.
- Now everything is ready, so enjoy your day!
- **HJ must signal the competitor's start in case of fog, snow, poor visibility, or technical difficulties!**
- **If the judges are unable to see the competitor's run due to technical difficulties, fog, or poor visibility, the HJ must call the jury and request a Rerun.**
- **JAG does not support judging MO/DM competitions using a side camera because this video transmission method prevents judges from assessing fairly and according to the criteria outlined in the JHB, which are the only standards we teach at judge clinics.**

Mogul Stenos

- Stenos or score cards are asked for at the Mogul competitions
- Turn Judges use the color Steno that is posted on the FIS Website, the one in landscape mode with space for six runs on one page, [Freestyle-moguls-turn-steno.pdf](#) or the Turn score card that is posted on the FIS Website too, [Freestyle-judges-cards-moguls-turns.pdf](#)
- Air judges, use the Judges Air Score Cards that are posted on the FIS Website [AIR Score Cards](#) or Air stenos

Dual Mogul Stenos: Just pick these from the FIS website

- Turns: [Judges dual-moguls steno turns.pdf](#)
- Air: [Judges dual-moguls steno air.pdf](#)
- Speed: [Judges dual-moguls steno time overall.pdf](#)

Aerials Stenos

- Judges use the Steno that is posted on the FIS Website - [Judges aerials steno.pdf](#)

Keeping Stenos (from the Judges)

- **Judges keep their steno sheets or score cards for 3 weeks (After that, they can throw them in the trash). No more uploading of judges' scorecards/stenos to anyone.**
- ensures Judge Number, Page number, Women/Men, and Phase: Qualifications or Final 1 or 2 is clearly marked on each page.

Appendix 3

Selection Guidelines for Judges: Olympic Winter Games & FIS World Ski Championships in Moguls and Aerials

1. Judging Panel Composition: Goals & Structure

Separate expert judging panels are assigned for Aerial and Mogul disciplines.

Panel Structure:

- Aerials: 5 scoring judges + 1 head judge
- Moguls: 7 scoring judges + 1 head judge

Secondary Goals:

- Gender Balance: Aim for balanced male and female representation.
- Geographic Representation: Strive for broad representation across FIS member nations.
- No country should have a disproportionate number of judges (only one judge per NSA).

2. Judge Eligibility Criteria

Judges' license and Experience:

- Must hold FIS "A" Level judges' license.
- Minimum 4 years of World Cup (WC) judging experience in the relevant discipline, covering all event types (Aerials, Aerials Team, Moguls, Dual Moguls).
- Alternatively, for fast-tracked judges: at least 2 years of WC judging experience and 4 years as a coach or athlete.

Additional Requirements:

- Must be registered with a FIS member nation and hold a valid passport from that nation.
- Judges must undergo regular training and certification updates.
- Former athletes and/or coaches are considered advantageous.

3. Exclusion Criteria

Judges must disclose any relationships that may result in real or perceived conflicts of interest.

Mandatory Exclusion:

- Current international athletes or coaches in the Freestyle MO/AE discipline.
- Family members or coaches of candidate athletes (ICR).
- Pending or recent Safe Sport or ethics violations.

Potential Exclusion (Subject to Review):

- Employment with the National Ski Association (NSA) in any capacity.

All candidates must affirm that they meet these criteria and have no disqualifying conflicts.

4. Nomination, Sanctions, and Validation

NSA Nominations:

- **The AAG chair** informs all NSAs through AAG members about judges who meet the criteria for judging at major competitions. **Judges must submit their applications through the FIS office and get approval from their respective NSAs before the deadline. The application without NSA support before the deadline is not valid.** Each NSA may nominate one judge per discipline (Aerials/Aerials Team).
- **The MAG chair** informs all the NSAs through the MAG members about the judges who meet the criteria for judging at major competitions. **Judges must submit their applications through the FIS office and get approval from their respective NSAs before the deadline. The application without NSA support before the deadline is not valid.** Each NSA may nominate one judge per discipline (Moguls/Dual) Moguls).
- NSAs determine their internal selection process for choosing eligible candidates.
- If a nomination is not approved, the NSA will be invited to submit an alternative.

Sanctions

- If a judge informs us in writing before the fall meeting that they will not serve as a judge in the upcoming season due to a conflict of interest, this means they will not judge competitions under the auspices of FIS. The judge's license remains frozen for the agreed-upon period, during which they attend clinics and assist programs to stay engaged with judging. Once the conflict of interest is resolved, the judge's license remains valid, and after successfully completing the Judges Clinic, they are eligible to judge all FIS competitions permitted by their license level.
- When a judge or NSA submits an application to officiate at competitions under the auspices of FIS and is aware that the judge has a conflict of interest, we will be compelled to impose sanctions not only on the judge but also on the NSA that knowingly violated the written rules. The sanctions will include a one-level license reduction and a ban on judging FIS competitions for the NSA that knowingly broke the rules for a period of 2 years, as well as a ban on judging major competitions for the following two years.
- We will appoint a team of responsible individuals to identify and resolve conflicts of interest among judges. We will create a document that clearly defines what is acceptable and what constitutes a conflict of interest, and all judges must sign it. If a judge does not sign the document, it will be assumed they have a conflict of interest and cannot judge competitions under the auspices of FIS (similar to hiding information from JAG).

JAG Validation:

- JAG reviews nominations to confirm eligibility and performance history.
- JAG and RD together make the final review.

Performance Evaluation

Assessment Metrics:

Judging skill is evaluated using FIS criteria, comparing scores to the derived "Real Score."

- Judges must fall within FIS's defined tolerance levels.
- Performance at annual clinics, particularly fall proctor testing, is a critical factor.
- Top clinic performers with FIS A licence per discipline receive priority consideration.
- Gender and regional diversity are considered during final selection.

5 Final Recommendations

JAG will review all names submitted by NSAs, evaluate the judges using the Judges' assessment metrics, make pre-selections, and then provide the names to the FIS RD.

Final Approval:

- The FIS Council approves all appointments to Major Championships.

6 Ongoing Engagement and Conduct

Active Judging Requirement:

- Judges must remain active post-nomination and commit to judging at least two events per season before the championship.

Timeline:

- Final selections are made up to 24 months before the WSC.
- OWG judges are nominated concurrently with those for the preceding WSC.

Confidentiality:

- All deliberations are confidential.
 - Judges are required to sign a code of conduct and a conflict-of-interest declaration.
- Appendix 4

Appendix 4

FIS Freestyle HJ Report

Judges Evaluation Report

<https://forms.judges-evaluations>

Competition Evaluation Report

<https://forms.competition-report>

And is filled out by the HJ one week after the competition.

Appendix 5

FIS Judge competition report

https://Judge_Competition_Report

To be filled out by a judge one week after the competition.

Appendix 6

FIS Freestyle HJ Report – CoC

https://CoC_Head_Judge_Judges_Evaluation_Report

To be filled out by a CoC HJ one week after the competition.

Appendix 7

Assist program, Shadow panel and Warm-up Evaluation Form

https://Assist_Shadow_Warm-up_program_form

To be filled out by a proctor one week from the competition evaluation.

Appendix 8

Assignment Criteria and Process (Not major events)

1. Judges will be assigned based on the following license.

Licenses	OWG	YOG	WSC	WC	UVS	WJC	CoC	Other FIS
A-Judges	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
B-Judges		X*		X*	X	X*	X**	X
C-Judges								X

*) Only one B-licensed judge maximum per FIS YOG, JWC, and WC (host Nation).

**) Only up to two B-licensed judges are allowed per FIS Continental Cup competition, with two judges in a 5- or 7-judge panel in AE or MO (one scoring judge and one reserve judge).

2. Assignments & Replacements

WC: Nations' proposals must be made before or at the annual fall FIS meetings of the respective season.

All National Associations can propose Judges to the FIS JAG if they meet all the criteria.

- **YOG, JWC panels:**

The FIS Race Director will nominate judges for WC, YOG, and JWC panels in collaboration with FIS JAG.

- **CoC, FIS panels:**

Judges' CoC panels will be nominated by the FIS CoC Director in consultation with FIS JAG. Judges' panels will also be nominated by the national organiser together with FIS JAG. All Head Judges and Judges for the upcoming season will be selected before the fall meetings of the FIS Freestyle Committee.

The Judges for WC, CoC, and FIS events will be selected once the final calendar planning is complete.

- **Judge Replacement**

If a judge for the Olympic Winter Games, FIS World Championships, or FIS Junior World Championships cannot serve, both the FIS Council and the respective National Ski Association must be notified immediately. The FIS Council is responsible for appointing a replacement judge.

For all other competitions, the National Ski Association to which the Judge belongs, along with FIS, is responsible for the immediate appointment of a replacement. The relevant Organising Committee and FIS must be informed immediately.

A valid reason for the judge's inability to attend the competition will include serious injuries, illnesses of the judge or his immediate family (such as husband, wife, or children), force majeure events (like floods or tsunamis), and other significant reasons. Documentation confirming such an event should be submitted to the Federation, the Chairperson of the JAG, and Kathrin Hostettler at the FIS.

Notification of the inability to preside must be submitted 6 months before the arrival date at the OWG, WJC, WSC, YOG, University Games; 60 days before the WC, CoC. In cases of disrespectful conduct, the judge will face penalties in addition to ongoing and future sanctions for the competition, etc.

If, due to unforeseen circumstances, a Judge for the Olympic Winter Games, FIS World Championships fails to arrive or arrives too late and is partially or completely unable to perform their duties at the competition, the “Assistant” Head Judge will take their place.

3. Level Competitions (CoC)

At least two countries are represented on the scoring panel.

Level Competitions (OWG, WC, WSC, WJC, and YOG)

At World Championships & Olympic Winter Games

A judge appointed to the current World Championships or Olympic Games cannot serve as a scoring judge for the next edition of the same event. Exception: they can be appointed as a Head judge.

At World Cups, Junior World Championships, and YOG:

For the host nation World Cup, WJC and YOG - it's possible to have one FIS A license, not scoring Head judge, and one FIS B license, scoring or reserve judge.

Appendix 9

Dense information regarding judges' licenses

	National licence level	FIS B licence level	FIS A licence level
Judges clinic	Attend the National Judges clinic	Attend and successfully pass an FIS A or B judges clinic/webinar (with a score of 75%), as clinics are held September through December, a judge requesting an upgrade in the spring should have attended and successfully passed the clinic prior to that season	Attend and successfully pass an FIS A or B judges clinic/webinar (with a score of 85%), as clinics are held September through December, a judge requesting an upgrade in the spring should have attended and successfully passed the clinic prior to that season
Official language at Judges clinic/webinar and Assist/Upgrade program		English language, if a judge wants to judge Internationally	English language, if a judge wants to judge Internationally
When is a judge ready to upgrade their license if they achieve the set results at the Clinic/Webinar and Assist/Update program?		Approved Fast tracked (See section 3.6 below) or Two seasons as a National Level Judge.	Approved Fast tracked (See section 3.6 below) or One season as a FIS B Level Judge.
Assist / Upgrade program with Evaluation		Attend and Successfully passing the Assist/Upgrade program on snow with Evaluation (with a score of 75%)	Attend and Successfully passing the Assist/Upgrade program on snow with Evaluation (with a score of 85%)
Number of AE competitions judged		Have Judged 6 (six) competitions in that discipline (6 AE competitions) - due to some countries not having live events, 3 events can be done through an Official Online Shadow panel with positive evaluation needed (with a score of 75%).	Have Judged 6 (six) competitions in that discipline (6 AE competitions) - due to some countries not having live events, 3 events can be done through an Official Online Shadow panel with positive evaluation needed (with a score of 85%).
Number of MO/DM competitions judged		Have Judged 6 (six) competitions in that discipline. (three judging assignments as a turns judge and three assignments as an air judge) - (At least four of the events judged must have been single mogul's) Due to some countries not having live events; three (3) events can be conducted through an official online shadow panel (Judges must have a minimum of two (2) Air Judge competitions) with a positive evaluation needed (with a score of 75%).	Have Judged 6 (six) competitions in that discipline. (three judging assignments as a turns judge and three assignments as an air judge) - (At least four of the events judged must have been single mogul's) Due to some countries not having live events; three (3) events can be conducted through an official online shadow panel (Judges must have a minimum of two (2) Air Judge competitions) with a positive evaluation needed (with a score of 85%).
At which competition level can a judge officiate	This license is managed by the NSA and allows the judging at National level events that are not sanctioned under FIS. It is recognized that Judges, unless "fast tracked", should judge at the national level for experience before applying for a FIS license	Can Judge and Head Judge B-Events, Continental Cup. Can be a scoring judge or a reserve judge at the World Cup (Host nation only if positive judges evaluation given), Junior World Championships and University Games	Can Judge and Head Judge all events.
Judges panel	Can be any licence judges	Junior World Championships and University Games - a maximum of 50% of the judges' panel can be FIS B-licensed judges. For the host nation World Cup - it's possible to have one FIS A licence, not scoring Head judge, and one FIS B licence, scoring or reserve judge	For the host nation World Cup - it's possible to have one FIS A licence, not scoring Head judge, and one FIS B licence, scoring or reserve judge
When is the last date for a judge to apply for a license upgrade?	Deadline is - April 15th of each year (3 weeks before the FIS Spring Meeting)		