



2024 ARMED FORCES SKI AND WINTER SPORTS TEAM SELECTION STANDARD PROCEDURES

1. COMPETITION RULES: In different disciplines, current International Ski Federation (FIS), International Biathlon Union (IBU), International Orienteering Federation (IOF) and International Ski Mountaineering Federation (ISMF) amended by the Conseil International du Sport Militaire (CISM) Orienteering Sports Committee.

2. ELIGIBILITY:

a. For all events and categories, only those athletes who are selected to the U.S. Armed Forces Ski Team (CISM Team or the Team) can represent the United States at this event. Only athletes who are active duty military, guard, or reserve will receive selection consideration.

b. Within their respective discipline, all athletes must have a valid USA Biathlon (USAB), U.S. Ski and Snowboard (USSS), Orienteering USA (OUSA), and/or U.S. Ski Mountaineering Association (USSMA) license/membership in good standing and meet all eligibility requirements of the respective International Federations, U.S. Armed Forces Sports and CISM.

c. All athletes must be in good standing with their respective national and international federations, CISM, U.S. Armed Forces Sports and the United States Anti-Doping Agency (USADA).

d. World Elite status athletes are eligible for consideration. Athletes holding a domestic license will obtain an OIF international license upon selection to the CISM Team. Athletes must also possess a current Passport. Failure to secure either of these documents in a timely manner, as determined by the Team Manager, will result in dismissal from the Team.

3. APPLICATION PROCESS. All applicants shall:

a. Complete the appropriate sports application for the respective Service branch and send to the athlete's appropriate Service branch sports office. Application deadlines will be announced in advance based upon the schedule for CISM World Championship events. CISM Team application deadlines will be announced accordingly.

b. Forward to the Vermont Army National Guard (VANG) Biathlon program manager via the Armed Forces Sports Council Secretariat (AFSCS). VANG is the lead proponent for team selections and operations of the U.S. Armed Forces Ski team.

c. Applications/Application process can be found visiting the following website: <https://armedforcessports.defense.gov/For-Athletes/How-to-Apply>. (Follow your Service logo)

4. SELECTION CRITERIA (for all disciplines):

a. There will be no automatic selections to the CISM Team; all selections will be discretionary. All eligible athletes will be given the same selection consideration with no preference given to members of specific clubs, teams, or geographic regions.

b. CISM Skiing Championships and Military World Winter Games consists of multiple disciplines to include, but not limited to:

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- 1) Nordic Disciplines: Biathlon, Cross-Country Ski, and Patrol competitions.
- 2) Alpine Discipline: Giant slalom or slalom
- 3) Ski Orienteering Disciplines.
- 4) Ski Mountaineering Disciplines.

c. Performance Requirements. Minimum performance standards are as followed per each respective event:

- 1) Biathlon.
- 2) Cross-Country Ski
- 3) Patrol
- 4) Giant Slalom
- 5) Ski Orienteering
- 6) Ski Mountaineering

d. Discretionary team selection will be made by the Team Manager, in consultation with a selection panel. The primary purpose is to select the best physically, psychologically and technically prepared athlete(s) in order to produce medal-winning performances. Based on the context of the situation, the selection panel will evaluate which athletes should be selected to the team in order to field the strongest, soundest and most unified team for this event. Discretionary selections shall be based on the following prioritized criteria:

1) CISM medal potential:

- a) A recent history of top finishes at CISM World Championships, international or nationally sanctioned domestic competitive level events;
- b) The ability to produce medal capable times under certified conditions within the past 12 months;
- c) Consistently placing high among top-quality fields at international or domestic sanctioned competitive level events;
- d) A recent history of strong performance in international or domestic elite competition that would indicate CISM medal potential.

2) Capable of enhancing team performance: An athlete who can enhance team performance is one who, based on experience and current level of performance, is expected to contribute substantially to the overall team performance or to the performance of a medal capable team member. In the case of our selection philosophy, this is deemed to be particularly important in the special case where a medal capable individual has been selected to the team and the athlete's contribution may assist the medal capable athlete in a team medal winning performance.

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e. There is no requirement to fill the roster for each specific designated CISM event or gender. Selections will be made based on the ability of athletes to meet the selection criteria.

f. The selection procedures may be subject to change based on the host country or CISM Skiing Sports Committee.

5. SELECTED ATHLETES

a. Selected athletes are expected to compete in a regular schedule of training and races, as approved by the Team Manager, between the team selection and the CISM Championship. The reason for schedule approval is to ensure the athlete's focus is on CISM Team preparation.

b. The Team Manager will nominate/select and manage all athletes and staff who participate in these events.

c. Team travel and logistics.

1) All team travel for National Guard personnel shall be managed by VANG.

2) Team travel for non-National Guard personnel shall be funded and coordinated by the participant's respective Service branch sports office.

3) All on-site logistics and housing during CISM competitions are handled by the host nation and coordinated by the Team Manager while in country.

4) All athletes and staff who are part of the official U.S. Armed Forces Skiing Team delegation for this event must function as a single team.

d. U.S. Armed Forces Sports and U.S. Armed Forces Ski committee will not be responsible for or manage logistics for personal team managers, personal coaches/staff, athletes' families, spouses, friends or significant others. It will be the responsibility of these individuals to make separate arrangements for housing, food and transportation and they will be responsible for all costs related to any separate arrangements they might make. Additionally, these individuals will not be credentialed as part of the CISM Team for this event and will therefore not be allowed in the USA Team areas unless specifically granted that privilege by the Team Manager.

e. If possible, the CISM Delegation will be gathered together for staging prior to departure. This normally will be approximately 3-5 days prior to the start of the CISM Championship.

f. Athletes are expected to arrive with all identified requirements, as directed by the designated Team Manager.

g. The number of athlete start positions per event and category is determined in each event by the host country and the CISM Ski Sport Committee. These selection procedures have been developed based on the most recent information regarding the events, athlete participation, team qualification and team size.

h. All team members must complete Anti-Terrorism (AT) Level-1 within 12 months prior to travel; Level-A SERE Training within 36 months prior to travel; ISOPREP submitted or reviewed within 6-12 months prior to travel.

i. All athletes selected to the CISM Team must sign prior to and as a condition of being selected to the CISM Team, and abide by all required forms including, but not limited to:

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- 1) Armed Forces Sports Higher Level Advancement Form – OCONUS (Appendix C)
- 2) Armed Forces Sports Athlete Code of Conduct (Appendix D)
- 3) CISM Anti-Doping Education and Declaration Form (Appendix L)

4) Coaches, Team Captains and Chiefs of Mission must sign the aforementioned forms, with the exception of Appendix (L). Coaches and Team Captains must also sign the Team Captain/Coach Letter of Instruction (LOI) (Appendix G); and the Chiefs of Mission must sign their respective LOI (Appendix I).

5) The above forms and information books can be found on the U.S. Armed Forces Sports web site (armedforcessports.defense.gov).

6) Failure to complete the forms and sign the agreements will result in dismissal from the Team. Failure to abide by these and other required agreements will result in dismissal from the Team.

j. All athletes and staff must abide by USAB, USSS, OUSA, USSMA, FIS, IBU, IOF, ISMF, CISM, WADA and USADA anti-doping regulations prior to, during and after the competition period for this event per CISM anti-doping regulations, a competitor against whom an investigation was opened in relation to a fact which may cause a breach of the CISM Anti-Doping Rules, will not be considered eligible until the end of the suspension or until definitive acquittal. In the event of a positive "A" sample, this clause applies starting from the notification of the abnormal analysis result to the competitor.

6. ALTERNATE AND REPLACEMENT ATHLETES: Alternates may be selected in each event. If alternates are named, they will be prioritized and may be selected to replace a selected athlete. Selected athletes may be replaced if injury or illness prevents them from 100% participation in the CISM Championship competition. If an athlete is removed by ineligibility, illness or injury, positive drug testing for a banned substance or fails medical control procedures; voluntarily resigns, or is a recipient of national or international federation or Armed Forces disciplinary actions, the athlete may be replaced. Replacement of athletes must comply with U.S. Armed Forces rules and CISM event entry deadlines.

7. COMPETITION RULES AND GUIDELINES: Within the United States, USAB, USSS, OUSA, USSMA rules apply. Regulations of the FIS, IBU, IOF, ISMF Rules and the CISM Ski Sport Committee govern conduct of the CISM Skiing Championship events. General CISM rules govern other aspects of the CISM event.

8. TYPICAL SCHEDULE OF CISM EVENTS:

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| 1st day: | Arrival of mission |
| 2nd day: | Technical meetings, opening ceremony, and training |
| 3rd day: | Biathlon Sprint, Giant Slalom |
| 4rd day: | Cross-Country |
| 5th day: | Patrol competition |
| 6th day: | Departure of missions |

Note: Optional events such as Ski Orienteering and Ski Mountaineering may be added within the schedule after approval by the CISM Ski Sports Committee.

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9. 2022 CISM DELEGATION COMPOSITION

Composition of the CISM Delegation as governed by CISM Ski rules:

- 1 Team Captain
- 1 Biathlon Coach
- 1 Cross Country Coach
- 1 Biathlon Technician
- 1 Cross Country Technician
- 1 Ad libitum
- 5 Biathlon Male Athletes
- 5 Biathlon Female Athletes
- 5 Cross Country Male Athletes
- 5 Cross Country Female Athletes

Optional disciplines offered:

- 3 Ski Orienteering Male Athletes
- 3 Ski Orienteering Female Athletes
- 4 Ski Mountaineering Male Athletes
- 4 Ski Mountaineering Female Athletes
- 6 Indoor Climbing Male Athletes
- 6 Indoor Climbing Female Athletes

The final authorization for delegation size is based upon the host country, CISM Ski rules, and U.S. Armed Forces Sports.

10. TYPICAL COMPETITIVE EVENTS IN A CISM WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP

a. Nordic Disciplines:

- 10 km Biathlon Sprint (Men)
- 7.5 km Biathlon Sprint (Women)
- 15 km Cross-Country (Men)
- 10 km Cross-Country (Women)
- 20 km Patrol (Men)
- 15 km Patrol (Women)

b. Alpine Disciplines:

- Giant slalom or slalom (in case that the organizer does not have a ski slope with enough vertical drop for giant slalom. Competition of two (2) runs for men and women.

c. Ski Orienteering Disciplines (Optional):

- Middle distance Ski Orienteering competition
- Ski Orienteering Relay competition

d. Ski Mountaineering Disciplines (Optional):

- Individual competition
- Team competition