



**2017 Sports Experts Speed Nation Alpine Nationals
Athlete Qualification Policy
Approved by the Board of Directors February 24th 2017**

INTRODUCTION

Snowboard Ontario supports and implements Canada Snowboard's Long-Term Athlete Development Plan (LTAD). The LTAD is a framework encompassing every element of snowboarding, with the rider as the central focus. The LTAD seeks to enable Canadians to step regularly on top of the podiums due to support from the program and not necessarily because of exceptional performances. It provides a solid foundation for all riders at all ages and levels, allowing long-term participation, enjoyment and achievement.

1. The purpose of this policy is to provide guidance to the Snowboard Ontario Membership on the qualification criteria for attendance at the 2017 Sports Experts Speed Nation Alpine Nationals.
2. The 2017 Sports Experts Speed Nation Alpine Nationals Competition is designed to be inclusive and focused on getting out as many athletes as possible providing that they meet the eligibility outlined (in section 5.).
3. All athletes that meet the eligibility set out in section 5 are encouraged to register online as soon as possible to ensure their entry to the event.
4. Final decisions on the qualification of athletes to participate in the 2017 Sports Experts Speed Nation Alpine Nationals shall be made by the SO High Performance Committee

ELIGIBILITY

5. To be eligible to be selected to participate in the 2017 Sports Experts Speed Nation Alpine Nationals athletes must:
 - a. Be a member of SO in good standing
 - b. Have an active FIS license and SAIP insurance to compete in the FIS events
 - c. Have an Advanced Competitor License to compete in the U15 Category (FIS license and SAIP not required for U15)
 - d. Compete in at least two (2) LTAD Train-to-Train - Stage 4, LTAD Train-to-Compete – stage 5 and/or LTAD Train-to-Win – stage 6 (FIS races and NorAms) events in the 2017 competitive season
 - e. Be medically fit to compete.

GENERAL CONSIDERATIONS

6. Athletes shall ordinarily be eligible for participation in the 2017 Sports Experts Speed Nation Alpine Nationals based on the eligibility criteria outlined in section 5. However, the Snowboard



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Ontario High Performance Committee shall have the power to select athletes to participate in the 2017 Sports Experts Speed Nation Alpine Nationals who do not meet the eligibility criteria, provided that the grounds for any such decision are set out in detail.

7. The Snowboard Ontario High Performance Committee shall recognize and consider situations of athletes who may not otherwise meet the eligibility criteria, through circumstances such as receiving training, coaching and competitive opportunities in a different program.
8. Grounds that will be considered by the Snowboard Ontario High Performance Committee include, but are not limited to:
 - a. Participation and success in competitive events
 - b. The athlete's commitment to a long-term training and competitive program
 - c. Anomalies in competitions, arising from factors such as weather, abnormally small field sizes, or the gross inflation of the point values of the event, which are determined to be a factor in the attainment of -- or failure to -- attain points.
 - d. Other extenuating circumstances.
9. Any decision to qualify an athlete who does not meet the eligibility criteria shall be done through consultation with the coaches of the athletes involved.

APPEALS

10. Appeals to 2017 Sports Experts Speed Nation Alpine Nationals qualifications can be made under SO's Appeals policy. A non-refundable appeal fee of \$100.00 shall apply.

***Please note that this policy is subject to change based upon revised 2017 Sports Experts Speed Nation Alpine Nationals information from Canada Snowboard.**

Necessary changes shall be at the SO Board's sole discretion.