

# FIS Registration Information & Guidelines

Nordic Season 2025 - 2026

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## DEFINITIONS

"Competition"	means an Event or series of Events conducted over one or more days including a National or International Competition;
"Discipline Chair"	means the Chair of the Nordic Discipline Committee;
"Event"	means a single race or contest;
"FIS"	means the International Ski Federation;
"FIS Licence"	means the status held by an athlete to enable them to compete in international FIS competitions listed on the FIS calendar
"FIS Calendar"	means the list of competitions registered with FIS and published on the FIS website
"GBR"	means the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland;
"GBS"	means GB Snowsport Ltd.;
"GBS Board"	means the executive committee that jointly supervises the activities of GBS;
"GBS Head Coach"	means the person responsible for coaching delivery within GBS programmes;
"GBS Office"	means the staff who work at GBS headquarters;
	means the document detailing the processes adhered
"GBS Selection Policy"	to when selecting a GBS Squad/team for Major Events; this is published on the GBS website;
GBS Website"	means the official GBS website; https://www.gbsnowsport.com/;
"Selection"	means the process of selecting athletes to represent GBR to GBS Squads or GBS Teams;
"Selection Panel"	means the GBS Selection Panel; a standing committee of the GBS Board responsible, inter alia, for the Selection or nomination of GBS Squads or GBS Teams;
"Squad"	means a set of Athletes selected to represent GBS for the competitive season;

## **1. INTRODUCTION**

This document contains important information for British FIS licence holders, notably the policy adopted by GB Snowsport ("GBS") for the Nordic entry process for the International Ski Federation ("FIS") cross-country races for the season beginning 1st July. This policy is based upon merit and will be applied and adhered to by the GBS Office.

## 2. FIS LICENCE HOLDER RESPONSIBILITIES

In purchasing a British FIS licence athletes have agreed to certain obligations, which are mandatory for participation in FIS competitions. These include:

- a) Signing of the FIS Waiver (Athlete's Declaration) an acknowledgement of the risks that can exist in competitive skiing.
- b) Completion of the Certificate of Health medical declaration by a qualified medical practitioner which certifies that the athlete has had an appropriate evaluation of their medical health and agreement that the athlete informs GBS should any change to their health occur during the season.
- c) Agreement that the athlete will always be covered with necessary, valid medical insurance for racing (at least £1,000,000).
  Club affiliation to the athlete's Home Nation provides £1M public liability cover for racers who are resident in the UK (Snowsport England also provide the same cover to those residing outside the UK)
- d) Agreement that the athlete will abide by GBS policy relating to Drugs and Doping.
- e) Reading and understanding the FIS Rules.
- f) Agreement to the GBS Refund Policy for FIS Licence Holders.
- g) Agreement to GBS FIS Licence Code of Conduct.

All policies can be found under Governance in the Policies and Minutes section of the GBS website under Forms and Guidelines <u>https://gbsnowsport.com/policies/</u>.

## 3. RACE PROGRAMMES & RESULTS

The FIS calendar, containing listings of international events throughout the season, can be found on the FIS website - <u>www.fis-ski.com</u>. There is also a FIS "app" which is available for download free of charge.

Results are posted within the events on the FIS calendar after races have taken place. The FIS website/app offers live timing for events on the FIS calendar.

An athlete's FIS points will be calculated according to the <u>FIS Rules</u>, and <u>FIS Points Lists</u> will be posted on the FIS website throughout the season. Race organisers will consider the latest FIS points lists when seeding races and creating start lists.

## 4. NORDIC LICENCE TYPES

All FIS licence applications are subject to approval by the GBS Head Coach and/or Discipline Chair.

#### **First Time Licence Applicants**

Athletes can apply for a Nordic licence if they are born in 2009 or earlier. All athletes applying for a Nordic licence for the first time must submit a Coach Application Form. This form should be completed and signed by a qualified coach who can vouch for the performance level of the athlete.

Completed coach reports should be emailed to fislicence@gbsnowsport.com or uploaded to the licence portal at the time of application.

#### Nordic A Licence

An *A* licence is suitable for a British Squad athlete who is competing at the highest level of FIS competition, including Winter Olympic Games, World Cup and World Championship events.

#### Nordic B Licence

A *B* licence is suitable for an athlete competing at Continental Cup level of FIS competition, including Europa Cup, World Junior Championship, Youth Olympic Winter Games, North American Cup, Australia-New Zealand Cup, and South American Cup events. Athletes must have competed in a minimum of two FIS-level competitions (i.e. NC, FIS, UNI, Junior Race, EYOF) before considering applying for this licence.

#### Nordic C Licence

A *C* licence is suitable for an athlete competing at FIS and entry level FIS competitions, including National Championship, National Junior Championship, FIS, University, Junior, and European Youth Olympic Winter Festival events.

#### **Upgrading Licences**

Athletes can upgrade their licence to an A or B level licence during the season by submitting a Coach Application Form completed by their coach to support this change in licence type. Completed coach reports should be emailed to <u>fislicence@gbsnowsport.com</u>. All upgrades are subject to approval by the GBS Head Coach and/or the Nordic Discipline Committee. The difference in the cost of licence (if applicable) will be payable via invoice.

#### **Approved Licences**

There are no physical licences issued by the GBS Office – licences will be approved via a confirmation email. Athletes will become "Active" on the FIS website and have their own FIS profile which will record all race results and FIS points.

## 5. RACE ENTRY PROCESS

#### **Entries and Timescales**

Entries to all races listed in the FIS calendar will be made by the GBS Office or by a GBS nominated cross country coach/representative.

Only athletes selected by the Nordic Selection Panel will be entered into World Cup, Continental Cups, World Ski Championships and World Junior Championships events. The British Olympic Association is responsible for entries to European Youth Olympics Winter Festival, Youth Olympic Winter Games and Winter Olympic Games. The selection process for Major Events is detailed in the GBS Selection Policy which is published on the GBS website.

To enter a race, you must send your request via email 10 days prior to the Team Captain's Meeting ("TCM") on the first day of the event, not the specific race. If you have any queries in relation to your race entries, please contact <u>raceentry@gbsnowsport.com</u> or the appropriate coach or official within your discipline.

# Race entry requests will not be accepted by phone call, text message or WhatsApp – all entry requests must be sent via email.

If entries are made by the GBS Office, there will be an administration charge of £6.00 plus VAT per entry, which will be invoiced to you during and/or at the end of the Winter season. There is no charge for World Cup or Major Event entries.

#### **Confirmation of Race Entries**

GBS will send a copy of the official GBR entry for the event to all applicants who have been successfully entered and email those unsuccessful athletes directly.

GBS will email race organisers with the British entry for all racers. Athletes will be copied into the final entry email to the organisers. This email will serve as confirmation of entry. It is sometimes necessary to make changes to race entries after an entry has been submitted. Therefore, it is imperative to check regularly for updates to the race entry which will be sent via email.

#### Race Meeting Representation

Team Captains' Meetings take place in the afternoon or evening before the race to determine the programme and start list. There should be no more than two people at these meetings to represent the whole GBR entry although this is not always possible.

You should make every effort to have a presence at the race meeting; organisers do have the right to remove racers from the board who are not represented. You can represent yourself or your coach/parent/guardian can represent you. Please ensure you arrive at least 30 minutes before the meeting begins. If you are unavoidably detained en route, it is vital that you phone the race office to confirm your participation. Race office numbers are listed on the FIS calendar and you should take a note of the number before you travel. GBS takes no responsibility for racers being withdrawn from the start list if you are not represented at the TCM.

Under no circumstances are TCM representatives allowed to enter athletes at the TCM who were not on the final entry submitted by GBS or the GBS entry representative to the organisers.

# 6. FIS RACE CATEGORIES

## FIS

- Entry requests should be processed, no later than 10 days before the day of the TCM on the first day of the event, not the specific race.
- It is a requirement of racing in the United States, Europe and often in the Southern Hemisphere, to pay entry fees at approximately £25 per race. The fee is paid directly to the race organiser in the local currency. GBS <u>will not pay</u> for any entry fees.

## University (UNI)

- UNI races are for students, therefore you may be asked to prove your student status.
- The British quota is at the discretion of the race organizers.
- Entry requests should be processed, no later than 10 days before the day of the TCM on the first day of the event, not the specific race.
- Entry fees may be applicable. If so, the fee is paid directly to the race organiser in the local currency. GBS <u>will not</u> pay for any entry fees.

## National Junior Races (NJR)

- FIS NJR races are <u>only open to juniors</u> (year of birth 2006 (U21) or younger).
- The British quota is at the discretion of the race organisers.
- NJR races are good because you may start further up the field as there are less competitors and therefore provide a great opportunity to earn good FIS points.
- Entry requests should be, no later than 10 days before the day of the TCM on the first day of the event, not the specific race.
- Entry fees may be applicable. If so, the fee is paid directly to the race organiser in the local currency. GBS <u>will not</u> pay for any entry fees.

## National Junior Championships (NJC)

- NJC are for juniors (U21) (2006 year of birth or younger)
- The British quota is at the discretion of the race organisers.
- Entry requests should be processed, no later than 14 days before the day of the TCM on the first day of the event, not the specific race.
- Entry fees may be applicable. If so, the fee is paid directly to the race organiser in the local currency. GBS <u>will not</u> pay for any entry fees.

## National Championships (NC)

• The British quota is at the discretion of the race organisers. Organisers of NC races have the right to restrict the total foreign entry to no more than 25 overseas competitors often based on a maximum points criteria. The decision of the organising committee can be as late as 24 hours before the event.

- Entry requests should be processed, no later than <u>**14 days**</u> before the day of the TCM on the first day of the event, not the specific race.
- Entry fees may be applicable. If so, the fee is paid directly to the race organiser in the local currency. GBS <u>will not</u> pay for any entry fees.

Continental Cup (e.g. Scandinavian Cup, OPA Cup, Far Eastern Cup etc.)

- The GBR quota for Continental cups is determined annually by FIS (<u>www.fis-ski.com</u>).
- Entry requests should be processed, no later than 10 days before the day of the TCM on the first day of the event, not the specific race.
- Only athletes selected by the Nordic Selection Panel will be entered into Continental Cups.

#### World Cup (WC)

- These races are usually restricted to GBS Squad athletes, all entries by non-Squad athletes must be approved by the Nordic Discipline Committee.
- Entries are requested by coaches to the Nordic Programme Manager and then are made directly by GBS with the race organisers via the online FIS Entry System
- Preliminary Entry closes 8 weeks before the respective competition, the Entry (entry by name) closes 8 days before the respective competition and the Final Competition Entry closes 2 hours before the TCM of the respective competition.
- Entry fees may be applicable. If so, the fee is paid directly to the race organiser in the local currency. GBS <u>will not</u> pay for any entry fees, unless the athlete is part of the GB Nordic World Cup Programme.

# 7. CANCELLATIONS & CHANGES

According to FIS regulations, race organisers must cancel an event at least 48-hour in advance. If GBS are notified about changes or cancellations to the published programmes, GBS will endeavour to relay this information to all entered athletes as soon as possible.

The FIS website shows all confirmed cancellations or changes to races: <u>www.fis-ski.com</u>. Races have an individual codex, which can be useful to note when tracking race cancellations or changes.

#### **GBS Office Hours**

GBS Office hours are Monday to Friday 09:00 - 17:00. Therefore, all communication must be submitted before 17:00 GMT on the day of the entry deadline. If the race takes place on a Sunday or Monday, then communication must be submitted before 17:00 GMT on the Friday prior to the race. If communication is received outside of GBS Office hours, there is no guarantee that entry requests or changes can be actioned.

# 8. ABUSE OR MANIPULATION OF THE POLICY

Athletes are not able to enter two events which are running on the same day. FIS will penalise double entries – it is the athlete's responsibility to ensure they do not have a double entry. Any abuse or manipulation of the race entry process that results in other athletes being disadvantaged (e.g., entering races but failing to start) may result in loss of privilege, priority or even refusal by the GBS Office to enter athletes, taking part in such abuse, in subsequent races or suspension of FIS licence. Measures under this clause will be at the discretion of the GBS Head Coach.

FIS and GBS are able to obtain full listings from the FIS website of licence holders who:

- make double entries
- do not show up for events

This information will be used in the implementation of any disciplinary sanctions.

It contravenes FIS rules to enter more than one race on the same day and double entries that we identify will not be made by GBS. It is also important that withdrawals and cancellations should be communicated directly to GBS as quickly as possible. Repeated breaches of these regulations, shown up by the FIS Database, will result in disciplinary action.

#### **Discipline & Sanctions**

All FIS licence holders are expected to have read and be bound by the International Ski Federation (FIS) rules (<u>www.fis-ski.com</u>), the rules of the competition entered for and GBS FIS licence information and guidelines.

The following sanctions may be imposed by GBS:

- I. Non-attendance at pre-entered races without prior notification to GBS/or race organisers or failure to remove name from start list if not competing in an event or failure to start second run, unless for medical reasons.
- II. Entering athletes directly at the TCM who are not listed as on the final entry submitted to the organisers by GBS.

Warning
One month suspension of licence
Suspension of licence for remainder of season

III. Making entries and then regularly making a withdrawal at short notice (possibly preventing other licence holders from entering).

Entries will only be made for events that are not oversubscribed by British FIS licence holders.

IV. Actions or behaviour that are considered breaches of discipline.

Suspension of licence for a period relative to the seriousness of the incident.

Appeals can be made against any sanction. These should be addressed to the Board of GBS.

# 9. REFUND POLICY

GBS operates a **restricted refund** policy for FIS Licences.

When athletes are selecting their FIS licence type, ensure that you meet all the necessary criteria and requirements of the licence that is being applied for – this is detailed in <u>NORDIC</u><u>LICENCE TYPES</u>.

If an athlete makes a mistake and either applies for the wrong licence in error or does not meet the criteria for the licence has been applied for, the athlete may as a result be granted a licence which is of a reduced cost from the original fee paid, in this case the difference will be refunded after deduction of administration fees of 10 percent. Athletes have 21 days to apply for a refund for an application due to an error in licence type.

FIS licences are non-refundable and cannot be carried over from one season to the next in case of athlete injury during the season, or in case of an athlete deciding not to compete. FIS licences are valid only for the season during which they were purchased. FIS licences are non-transferrable to other athletes.

## 10. COMMERCIAL MARKINGS & COMPETITION EQUIPMENT

## **Specifications for Commercial Markings**

FIS provide guidelines relating to sizes and style of permissible commercial markings on all aspects of clothing and competition equipment. Different rules will apply at Winter Olympic Games. Details will be published annually on the FIS website and further information on the GBS website, although if in doubt you should contact the GBS Office.

Extract from **FIS Rules** regarding headwear:

2.6 Helmets and Headwear

2.6.1 Helmets and headwear may carry two commercial markings of the manufacturer with a maximum size of 15 cm2, one on each side, placed above or below the ears. The front of helmets and headwear may only be used for the emblems of national teams, and sponsors, subject to art. 2.6.2 and 2.8.

2.6.2 The front (middle) of helmets and all headwear worn in competition and within the competition area, to include flower and prize-giving ceremonies, interviews etc., must carry the identification of the National Association with a minimum size of 6 cm<sup>2</sup>.

2.6.3 Helmets and headwear worn in competition may carry the name or

nickname (incl. hashtag) of an athlete. The athlete's name or nickname (incl. hashtag) with a maximum size of 20 cm2 must be placed at the back of the helmet or, on the rear of a hat/headband for Cross-Country, Nordic Combined, namely when a helmet is not worn.

#### **Specifications for Competition Equipment**

For rules and restrictions regarding Cross-Country competition equipment e.g. skis, bindings, boots, poles and any additional equipment, this can be found in the following <u>FIS</u> <u>Rules</u> document on page 8.

# 11. ANTI-DOPING

#### **Application of Rules**

The UK Anti-Doping Rules shall apply to and shall bind all Athletes and Officials under the jurisdiction of GBS. Those to whom these Rules apply include:

- All Athletes and Officials who are members of, or licensed by GBS, including all GBS Teams and GBS Squads;
- All Athletes and Officials participating in Events, Competitions and other activities organised, convened, authorised or recognised by GBS;
- All Officials working with, treating or assisting an Athlete participating in a professional or sporting capacity; and
- Any other Athlete or Official who, by virtue of an accreditation, membership, licence, contractual arrangement or otherwise, is subject to the jurisdiction of GB Snowsport for the purposes of anti-doping, whether or not such person(s) is or are resident in the UK.

More information on UK Anti-Doping Rules and Violations can be found <u>here</u> (Rules) and <u>here</u> (Violations).

#### Written Agreement Provisions

Athletes shall be deemed to have made themselves familiar with, and hereby agrees to be bound by the UK Anti-Doping Rules and to submit to the authority of UK Anti-Doping and any other appropriate body in the application and enforcement of those Rules.

#### **Disciplinary Actions**

Athletes must cooperate fully with any anti-doping investigations or proceedings, whether conducted by UK Anti-Doping or any other competent body. Failure to do so without acceptable justification may be treated as misconduct under the Code of Conduct.

If an Athlete commits an act of misconduct that relates to anti-doping but does not amount to a violation of the UK Anti-Doping Rules, GBS may bring disciplinary proceedings against that Athlete for such misconduct under Clause 6 of the Code of Conduct.

# 12. INJURIES & INJURY STATUS

It is the responsibility of the athlete to inform GBS of their injury and request FIS Injury Status.

When an athlete injures themselves, GBS must apply to FIS as soon as possible for FIS Injury Status using the official Single Penalty Form and submitting a medical certificate. The medical certificate should state the estimated duration of injury. **Athletes can only apply for injury status during the current season up until 30th April.** However, it is recommended to contact the GBS Office within 3 weeks of injury, as it is not GBS practice to ask FIS to backdate injury status applications if athletes forget to apply.

The application of injury status is valid for one season and athletes must be inscribed on the FIS list for their injury status to be active e.g., if the injury occurs near the end of the season, then athletes should renew their FIS licence for the following season and apply for a continued injury status.

To obtain a copy of the single penalty form or read the FIS points rules in more detail, please follow the links below:

Cross Country Single Penalty Form Rules for FIS Cross Country Points

## Extract from FIS Point Rules:

#### 3.5 Injury Status

#### 3.5.1 Request injury status

When competitors injure themselves and apply for the single penalty, the National Ski Association must apply to FIS within 3 weeks after the day of the injury or medical operation for the approval of a single penalty using the official form "Single Penalty" and submitting a medical certificate.

The medical certificate must contain an estimation of the length of the injury. If the status as injured is approved and according to the valid FIS points at the date of injury there will be added a penalty of 22%, but minimum 4 points respectively maximum 26 points to the original FIS points before the injury break. As soon as the competitor starts at a FIS competition, she/he will lose her/his injury status.

#### 3.5.1.1. Conditions

Competitors must remain registered as active with the FIS to maintain injury protection.

#### 3.5.1.2. Duration

The injury status shall start on the day of the injury or medical operation. The injury status can be applied for maximum 365 days. The medical certificate must contain an estimated date of return to competition. The injury status is not extended automatically. If the injury is longer, the National Ski Association must apply for the injury status again with a written request and medical certificate to FIS.

3.5.1.2. Termination of the injury status

The injury status ends:

- After a maximum of 365 days since the day of the injury or medical operation
- If a competitor starts in a FIS competition during the injury status period

#### 3.5.1.3. FIS points after return to FIS competitions

After the end of the injury status, competitor must compete in FIS competitions before the publication of the next FIS points list. The competitor will lose all FIS points if he/she does not start in a FIS competition before the next publication of the FIS points list.

#### How to apply for FIS Injury Status

To apply for FIS Injury Status, the injured athlete should send the below two documents to programme@gbsnowsport.com:

1) Single Penalty Form as per the link above

2) A medical report/certificate which details the athlete's injury and expected recovery time scale, including the accident date as detailed on the Single Penalty Form

The GBS Office will then submit the application to FIS. Athletes can check their FIS competitor biography which will show their injury protection status.