



2025 FWT RIDERS RULEBOOK

Published on the 25.11.2024

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0. PRELIMINARY NOTE

This rulebook is subject to change. In very unusual circumstances and after careful consideration, FWT management may decide to adapt the current rulebook to best deal with unpredictable changes we may venue.

All members of the FWT Freeride community are expected to respect and follow local, regional, national, and governmental public health mandates during participation in FWT-sanctioned events.

1. PRO FREERIDERS BOARD (PFB)

The Pro Freeriders Board (PFB) was founded to ensure the best possible conditions for the growth of freeriding. The PFB is an advisory board to FWT Management. FWT will then make decisions. The PFB is made up of up to 7 riders amongst the most experienced riders in the Freeride World Tour. All categories, genders, Regions, and riding backgrounds (Backcountry Freestyle and Big Mountain riding) must be represented to make sure the PFB covers each and everyone's view. The members need to have spent a minimum of 1 year on the Tour but should ideally have experienced several seasons on the FWT to have a general view built on past experiences.

The PFB will meet ideally four times a year:

1. Pre-season PFB Online Meeting
2. PFB Meeting 1st FWT Stop
3. PFB Meeting 3rd FWT Stop
4. PFB Meeting 5th FWT Stop

1.1. How are PFB Members elected?

FWT and PFB current Members will select all riders that meet the criteria above mentioned and that could provide a fruitful input to the PFB, as Candidate Members. Moreover, all riders can, and are encouraged to, submit their candidature to become PFB Members.

All Candidate Members will have to confirm their interest to FWT Management.

If 7 or less riders confirm their interest, they will automatically become PFB Members and there will be no voting process.

If an election process is necessary and there are more than 7 new candidates, all riders that have at least 1 year experience on the FWT will have four votes, one per category. Those votes can be assigned to any rider of that category, regardless of their Region of belonging as long as they have 1 year experience on the FWT.

At the end of the election process, votes will count to the following 7-Members format:

1. The most voted rider of each category will become an official PFB Member. (4)
2. Three additional Members (regardless of their category) are selected by FWT to ensure fair representation of all groups and a well experiences and balanced PFB. (3)

If anytime during the season, there are less than five PFB Members remaining, FWT will propose additional Members to the remaining ones. The remaining Members will then have to vote to approve the new integrations.

1.2. How can I become a PFB member?

All FWT athletes qualified for the following year who are interested to invest time on the PFB should contact the Head of Sport, the Race Director, the Commissioner or one of the Board members. The candidates should not be rookies as it is essential to have enough experience on the Tour to be able to talk about the evolution of the sport. The PFB members are decided after the end of the season.

If a Board Member decides to quit the Board during the season, all athletes currently competing on the FWT could vote for a new member if there is more than 1 candidate representing the same category, gender, riding background.

1.3. Board Members duties

The PFB is a consultant board. Board Members are asked to represent riders' opinions and should talk about the general riders' view at regular meetings set during the season by the Head of Sport, Commissioner or FWT Management. They should also actively take part in all Board discussions (on or off competitions season) when asked by the FWT management. These discussions could be about competition formats, judging, rules, ranking system, sanctions...

PFB members could be consulted individually by the FWT management about competition venue's closed area, judging lines, visibility. This is likely to happen on competition day and it is essential for the PFB Members to separate their duty as a Members and as competitors in order to represent the entirety or the majority of riders. This could be nerve-racking and should be considered before joining the PFB.

A Board Member not reacting on two topics proposed by the FWT Head of Sport, Commissioner or FWT Management should be replaced.

The responsibilities of PFB Members can be summarised by the following lists:

Before the season

- Review and advise on Rulebook changes.
- Advise on any topic that might be brought up by the riders.

On event

- Advise on judging.
- Advise on improvement of FWT towards athletes (information, logistics, etc.)
- Be the riders' representative and be FWT's representatives towards athletes.

The following aspects are NOT PFB Members' responsibilities, but the organiser's:

- Safety conditions of the venue
- Relocation or cancellation of the event
- Changes or new venues
- Features that should be closed or opened
- Weather Forecast

1.4. Rules validity and updates

Rules are valid for one season. Updates can be made during the season only after being presented to the PFB.

2. FWT RANKING

2.1. Categories

There are 4 categories in FWT Pro events: Ski Men, Ski Women, Snowboard Men, and Snowboard Women. Some events will showcase all 4 categories. Some events might showcase men only, women only, skiers only or snowboarders only.

2.2. FWT Cut for next season's FWT and for the FWT Finals

In 2025, there will be up to 6 FWT events. A cut will be made after the 5th event, before the Verbier Xtreme.

The cut represents approximately 50% to 60% of the riders on the FWT roster prior to the first riders meeting of the season. The FWT cut for FWT26 and for the FWT25 Final will be decided just before the first riders meeting of FWT25 in order to have the most accurate riders' roster.

Riders who aren't making the cut will be qualified for the FWT Challenger where they'll have a chance to requalify for the FWT. The FWT Challenger qualification system will vary between the two Regions, for more information about the FWT Challenger in each Region, please read: "FWT Challenger" below.

Note: The cut may change during the season if too many qualified riders aren't competing in the current season (if too many got injured before the second event for example). For more information regarding the number of riders taken for the cut see "FWT 2025 Qualifications"

Results taken for the cut:

- The best 3 out of the first 5 competitions results will count for the cut.
- 3 results if we only have 4 events before the cut.
- 2 results if we only have 3 events before the cut.
- 2 results if we only have 2 events before the cut.
- 1 result if we have only 1 unique event before the cut.

In the case of all 5 events before the Finals being cancelled, the FWT24 ranking will be used to define the qualifications to the FWT Finals, therefore the same riders who made the cut at the FWT24 for FWT25 will go to the FWT Finals.

In the case of all the FWT25 events being cancelled, all the qualified riders from FWT24 for FWT25 will make the cut for FWT26.

All scenarios are listed below:

Scenario 1: 5 events before the cut.

- Cut is after the first five events who award 10.000 points each for the winners. Best 3 out of 5 results count for the qualification to the FWT Finals.
- Verbier is the only FWT Final, and it rewards 12.000 points for the winners.
- 4 best results out of 6 (or 3 out of 5 if the Final is cancelled) considered for the FWT overall Ranking, for those who competed at the Finals.

Scenario 2: 4 events before the cut.

- Cut is after the first four events who award 10.000 points each for the winners. Best 3 out of 4 results count for the qualification to the FWT Finals.
- Verbier is the only FWT Final, and it rewards 12.000 points for the winners.
- 4 best results out of 5 considered for the FWT overall Ranking, for those who competed on the Finals. (or 3 out of 4 if the Final is cancelled)

Scenario 3: 3 events before the cut.

- Cut is after the first three events who award 10.000 points each for the winners. Best 2 out of 3 results count for the qualification to the FWT Finals.
- Verbier is the only FWT Final, and it rewards 12.000 points for the winners.
- 3 best results out of 4 considered for the FWT overall Ranking, for those who competed on the Finals. (or 2 out of 3 if the Final is cancelled)

Scenario 4: 2 events before the cut.

- 2 results out of the 2 events (10'000 points reward for the winners) are taken for the cut.
- Verbier is the only FWT Final, and it rewards 12.000 points for the winners.
- 2 best results out of 3 events are taken for the FWT overall Ranking for those who made the cut (or 2 out of 2 if the Final is cancelled)

Scenario 5: 1 event before the cut

- The only result at the event giving 10.000 points for the winners before the Finals will count for the cut.
- Verbier is the only FWT Final, and it rewards 12.000 points for the winners.
- If Verbier is cancelled, the only event's result is taken for the FWT overall Ranking. The cut for the next season FWT will be made accordingly to how it was supposed to be after the first event.

Scenario 6: No event before the cut

- Only FWT riders Qualified through the previous FWT season are invited to the FWT Finals.
- Verbier is the only FWT Final, and it rewards 12.000 points for the winners.
- 1 results out of 1 is taken for the FWT overall Ranking.
- If all events are cancelled, there will be no FWT25 overall Ranking. The riders qualified for the FWT25 through the FWT24 will be the same qualified for FWT25.

Note:

- All FWT25 Wildcards will be reconsidered for FWT26.
- FWT25 riders qualified through the Challengers 2024 will have to requalify in the region they qualified in, they will be qualified directly for the Challengers where they'll have to regain their qualification for the FWT.
- Riders qualified for the FWT25 through the FWT Challenger 2024 circuit are automatically qualified for FWT26 if there aren't any Qualifiers 4* and Challengers in their region.

See the latest FWT QUALIFIER RIDERS RULEBOOK for more details on FWT qualification through the Qualifier circuit.

2.3. Counting results toward the final FWT Ranking

The Cut that is applied to access the FWT Finals is the same that determines the qualification to the FWT26, and the counting results are the same too. (see above: "FWT Cut for next season and for the Finals").

All qualified riders for the Final (Verbier) will have the opportunity to collect 1 more result.

As FWT Final, Verbier will reward 12.000 points for the winners (instead of 10.000 points for the winners as for the first 5 other FWT events).

The results of Verbier could count as one of the best results considered for the FWT overall Ranking, but don't have to.

The counting results for the FWT Championships:

- . The 4 best results out of the 6 FWT stops.

- . The 4 best results out of the 5 FWT stops.
- . The 3 results out of the 4 FWT stops.
- . The 2 results out of the 3 FWT stops.
- . The 2 results out of the 2 FWT stops.
- . 1 result out of the only 1 FWT stop.

If the only event(s) of the season is/are the Final, only the riders who made the cut on the FWT24 will go to the Final and therefore will be the only riders ranked on the FWT25 Championships.

If there are no FWT events in 2025, there will be no FWT25 overall/Championships ranking.

Note: if a Local Organizer Wildcard participates at the only event(s) of the season, the local organizer Wildcard will be ranked on the FWT Overall ranking but will not make the cut for FWT26.

2.4. FWT overall final Ranking ties

Ties will be split after each event.

The split will be made accordingly:

- Highest non-counting result (points), 2nd highest non-counting result, 3rd highest non-counting result, etc.
- Number of 1st, 2nd, 3rd places...
- Best Final result in Verbier.

Note: In case of perfect tie, riders will remain tied.

2.5. FWT 2026 Qualifications

The numbers of riders who will make the cut in FWT25 and, therefore, would qualify for FWT26 will be defined after the first event of the season. This quantity will vary depending on the amount of FWT athletes attending the first riders meeting of the season, and it will represent approximately 50% to 60% of the attending riders.

Note: The number of riders taken for the cut may change during the season if there are too many riders injured in the same category.

If a rider qualified for the FWT is injured or decides not to compete, the rider will not be automatically replaced. It will be decided by FWT Management whether this rider will be replaced or not, and by whom.

2.6. FWT 2026 Qualification Ties

In case there is a tie for the cut at the last place, the tie split will be made by comparing the number of 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th etc. places on all the events before the cut (and not only the ones taken for the cut).

In case of a perfect tie, all tied riders will be qualified to the FWT Finals and will be qualified for the following season.

3. WILDCARDS

There are 3 types of Wildcards: Tour Wildcards, Local Organizer/ Event Wildcards and Injury Wildcards.

Injury Wildcard and Tour Wildcard riders do score points, are ranked in the event ranking and the overall FWT Ranking, receive prize money and can qualify for next year's FWT.

Local Organizer/ Event Wildcards are ranked in the event ranking only, receive prize money but cannot make the cut for next year's Tour unless given a Tour Wildcard in regard to his/her performance. In this case he/she will be ranked on the overall final FWT Ranking.

Local Organizer/ Event Wildcards are influencing the event point distribution. If a Local Organizer/ Event Wildcard wins the event, the second ranked rider, will score the points of second place.

If a Local Organizer/ Event Wildcard competes in the only event(s) of the season, he will be ranked at the event(s) and on the FWT Overall ranking as the event(s) will be the only one(s) taken for the FWT Overall ranking.

3.1. Tour Wildcards

Tour Wildcards in each category can be distributed for the season.

Tour Wildcards are marketing Wildcards distributed to help and market the Tour for the benefit of all. They follow various criteria such as:

- Nationality (making sure the FWT have athletes from key marketing countries)
- Returning from injury (athletes with high media potential coming back from injury)
- Prestige (famous athletes from the freestyle, racing or the non-competing freeride scene) who wish to have a go at freeriding competitions.

Of course, the three criteria above shouldn't be sufficient if FWT Management doesn't believe that the level of the rider is not appropriate.

3.2. Local Organizer/ Event Wildcards

There will be up to 2 local organizer or event Wildcards per event and per discipline. Riders getting these Wildcards can only attend the local organizer event(s) and will therefore not have a chance to qualify for the following year Tour through the current FWT season. These Wildcards are given to help the local organizer with special media needs (example of Mancuso in Verbier 2010 or to have a Russian at the start of Sochi in 2011...). Local organizer Wildcards can earn prize money and will be ranked in the event ranking only but will not be ranked on the overall final FWT Ranking.

Note: If a Local Organizer/ Event Wildcard competes in the only event(s) of the season, he will be ranked on the FWT Overall ranking as the event(s) ranking will be the only one taken for the FWT Overall ranking, But Local Organizer/ Event Wildcards cannot make the cut and cannot take a qualification spot for the following FWT season.

3.3. Injury Wildcards

There will be injury Wildcards given out by FWT. Only riders who are missing 1 or more events due to injury can be eligible for an injury Wildcard.

FWT will give 2 Injury Wildcards per season. Therefore, not all injured riders on the Injury Wildcard list will receive a Wildcard. FWT may decide to give more Wildcards, depending on the number of injured riders on the Injury Wildcard List and on the FWT Roster availabilities.

4. FIS LICENSE

To compete at one or all events, every rider, including Wildcards will have to comply with the eligibility criteria:

1. NSA, FIS and FWT License
2. **Safety Course**
3. **Annual Insurance**
4. Anti-Doping Compliance

4.1. NSA, FIS & FWT LICENSE

All Freeride World Tour Pro athletes must have a valid National Ski Association membership from their nation of belonging, and a FIS license. By following the NSAs protocol, they will be granted a FIS license number.

If a Nation Ski Association can't provide a valid membership to an athlete, FWT will issue a FIS license to rider directly. In this case, the cost of the FWT license is retained from the first prize money distributed to the FWT athlete. All riders must complete this process by December 1st. After this date, we will review the full list with FIS to ensure all riders are properly registered and will issue a valid FWT PRO license (free of charge).

Riders have to use their formal family and first names to register, as well as their official information (date of birth, nationality, etc). Generating a unique number per athlete, avoiding spelling mistakes on starting lists and rankings, automated update of seeding and ranking list.

4.2. Safety Course

As part of their FWT license, FWT athletes will receive a code to complete a free online course on Safety, distributed by WEMountain. **In order to validate the FWT license**, all FWT athletes will have to complete the course before the first event's riders meeting. If a rider fails to complete the course, he/she will have until the competition day of the first event to complete it. If not, the rider will not be allowed to start.

4.3. Insurance

All riders (excluding one-event wildcards) will be required to purchase by December 1st a Mandatory Annual Insurance (299 euro), unless their NSA provides one of equal or better coverage.

The Annual Insurance covers riders of all nationalities and globally, for any freeride activity (training, competition, leisure, etc..). Athletes will no longer be deducted a 28 euro fee per event for insurance.

The Annual insurance will provide coverage to athletes of all nationalities, anywhere in the world, for the activity of freeriding in and out of competition.

4.4. Anti-doping Compliance

By registering as a licensed FIS FWT athlete, athletes accept the Rules of the International Ski and Snowboard Federation, in particular the provision which foresees the exclusive competence of the Court of Arbitration for Sport as the court of appeal in doping cases, as well as signing the FIS Athletes' Declaration.

FIS FWT might not issue a membership licence to participate in FIS FWT or national competitions to competitors who:

- Have conducted themselves in an improper or unsportsmanlike manner or has not respected the FIS medical code or anti-doping rules.
- Have not signed the Athletes Declaration.
- Are under suspension.

5. FWT QUALIFIERS & CHALLENGERS FOR FWT RIDERS

5.1. FWT QUALIFIER Series

FWT riders can compete and be ranked in both Freeride World Tour and Qualifier. Current year FWT riders are ranked on the Worldwide Qualifier Seeding List (which takes into consideration the 3 best results from the previous 52 weeks). Therefore, they have priority when registering to any QUALIFIERS event as long as they sign up during the registration period which is usually 6 to 4 weeks prior to the event.

FWT Pro riders will be allowed to compete in any FWT Qualifier event, up to a maximum of two riders per category. In case of more than two Pro riders registered/ invited by the organiser as wildcards for an event, the seeding list will determine which ones will be invited to compete.

5.2. FWT CHALLENGER Series

Riders who don't qualify for the FWT Final will be automatically qualified for the FWT CHALLENGER of their Region. If the rider's Region or residence is different to the one the rider qualified in, the rider will have to speak to the FWT Management in order to agree on a CHALLENGERS region to re qualify from.

Region 1 (Europe-Asia-Oceania): FWT Pro riders will not be allowed to compete in any FWT CHALLENGER event throughout the season, except via one-event Wild Card. They will qualify through the "2026 Challenger Qualifying List" to the 2026 FWT Challenger in Region 1.

Region 2 (North and South America): The Challenger Tour Region 2 (R2) is made of 3 events. In those events, The FWT riders will compete against the top ranked Qualifier riders, and will have a chance to requalify for the following FWT season.

For more information about the CHALLENGERS, please read the latest FWT QUALIFIER RIDERS RULEBOOK and the IFSA RULEBOOK.

6. COMPETITION

6.1. Format

FWT events consist of 1 run only. In special cases it could be best run counts out of 2. Special competition format will be explained during the riders meeting before the competition.

The FWT consist of 2 different types of events, FWT events with 10.000 points for the winners and FWT Final(s) with 12.000 points for the winners. Approximately 50% to 60% of the FWT rider roster

will make the cut at the last FWT event and be qualified for the FWT Final(s). To learn more about the cut, the ranking etc. Please read: "FWT RANKING" above.

FWT's goal is to organize a fair competition within each category.

Some venues might have multiple starts either for the riders to choose from, or dedicated to 1 or more categories. This will be decided by the FWT management considering the security, the logistics, the show aspect, and the competition fairness inside the same category.

In case of multiple competition starts inside the same category, all starts should give roughly the same vertical drop and number of features or technical areas for the riders to score equally.

Riders are asked to hike up or skin up to the start. Hiking has a physical impact, and to be fair amongst the riders inside the same category, access to the different starts should have roughly the same amount of hiking. In some cases, 1 or more categories can be Heli-drop to the start, but always for a category as a whole.

6.2. Program

FWT competitions have a multiple day weather window during which the competition can take place. A normal competition program has the competitors arrive at D-2, has a venue inspection at D-1 and has a competition on D-day or later in the weather window. If the weather doesn't permit a venue inspection at D-1, a venue inspection can be done on D-day before the competition starts. If the weather window doesn't look good and the only good day is D-1 (venue inspection day), then this day could become the competition day. FWT management may decide to move the Venue inspection day a day earlier, in this case it would be communicated latest 4 days in advance and riders will be asked to arrive one day earlier for a possible venue inspection on their original arrival day.

6.3. Natural vs. man-made venues

For FWT events the mountain stays untouched, the riders ride it as it is. Only for security reasons the FWT management may decide to alter the venue (bombing, breaking cornices, taking rocks out of possible lines, creating a passage by covering rocks with snow...). If the venue has already built-in structures, like bike park jumps for example, the FWT Management may decide to open these structures to be used by riders as features. These structures will be open to be ridden as features only if specified by the FWT at the riders meeting. The FWT organization will not build snow kickers.

6.4. Closed areas during an event

If an area has to be closed during the competition, or if the snow conditions have changed to a point that some riders will have to change their lines (because of a slide that occurred, ice or rocks that were exposed after a rider's run, or a cliff landing no longer safe) the competition will be on hold and the next rider will be given some time to change his/her plan (either pick a new line or change his "Plan A" for his "Plan B").

All riders, Starters and Prestarters will be sent a new picture of the venue, indicating the closures and/or affected areas. From the moment the picture has been received, the next rider who was about to drop will be given the possibility to start 2 BIB numbers later to have approximately 6-8 minutes to visualize a new line (only if the following rider was getting ready to ride a line not affected

by the newly closed area). In the event of all following riders concerned by the newly closed area, the race competition will be held 5 minutes to let the riders get ready for their new line.

When multiple starts, one of the starts could be closed and no longer be used for security reasons. Therefore, all riders must have a line on 2 different starts when there is more than one start. This closure shouldn't happen in the middle of a category but if for security reasons it's really important for the closure to have immediate effect, the Contest Director will decide after consulting the FWT commissioner/head judge and/or the PFB if the competition can continue in keeping a fair competition ranking.

6.5. Weather rule / Accident rule

If the competition is stopped (decision taken by the Contest Director after consulting with the Commissioner and the Head of Security), the Event Organizer can validate the competition results if more than 2/3rd of the competitors of each category have taken the start (= 66,7%).

If the weather waiting period and weather forecasts presents additional alternatives, and if the event's budget allows, the FWT Management may decide to organize a rerun of all competitors. This decision is at the Event Organizer's sole discretion, after consulting with the different sources including weather forecasts, PFB, ...

In the case of a results of the cancelled day are not taken into consideration. In case of a serious accident, the FWT Management may decide or not to validate the competition results even if 2/3rd of the competitors have started.

If the competition is stopped on a multiple runs format and all riders of the same category did at least 1 run, the results of the event would be the ranking after the first run for this category.

In case of an event validated with only 2/3rd of the field down, the riders who couldn't ride will get as result, the average of their last 2 results. If this happens at the first event of the season, the awarded result will be the average of the next two results. If it happens at the second event, the rider will be awarded the average points from the first and the 3rd event. If the 2/3 rule takes place on 1 of only 2 competitions before the cut the riders who couldn't compete will be given the same ranking at this competition than the one he competed in. If the 2/3 rule has to be applied at the only competition of the season, the riders who didn't take the start will be DNS at the event and DNS on the FWT Overall final ranking. If it happens at the only competition before the cut, the riders who didn't compete will be treated as Injury Wildcard for the next season.

If the average of the 2 results isn't a whole number, it will be rounded to the better rank integer. (For example: 6th place + 7th place => 6 + 7 = 13, 13 / 2 = 6,5 => 6th place)

6.6. NS, DNF, DNS, DNA and DQ

NS, for No Score: A rider who loses a ski or any mandatory equipment (see the list "Mandatory equipment" below) during his run will get a NS (No Score) on the final ranking list. No other loss of material will be sanctioned as NS.

No points will be deducted by the judges for the loss of a pole. Example: if a skier loses a pole while pushing out of the starting gate without committing any mistake, he/she won't be penalized (no points deducted), however, if the loss of poles is the result of a loss of control, the judges will

penalize the loss of control. But as skiing without poles may affect the riding technique, balance or overall control, points could be deducted for the poor skiing caused by the missing pole.

A snowboarder who has to take off his board or unbuckle one foot from his board at any time during the run will get a NS unless specified at the riders meeting. (For example: If the Finish or a segment of the venue is hard to access without pushing, snowboarders will be allowed to take off their board without getting a NS then).

All riders who are NS are ranked behind the last rider of the competition who isn't NS. If more than 1 rider per category are NS, the NS riders will be ranked following their scores up to the loss of ski/mandatory equipment or unstraps the board. Example: In an event with 20 riders in which 4 riders lost a ski, the 4 riders are ranked from the 17th to the 20th place depending on the score the judges gave them up to the loss of the mandatory equipment. A NS rider will get the points and the prize money of his/her place in the event ranking.

NOTE: riders who lose a mandatory equipment (or unstrapped a snowboard) have to take the easiest route down to the finish line. They are not allowed to ride their originally planned line with jumps and risk another fall and/or loss of ski, which could result in health issues and further time delay for the event.

NOTE II: a rider who would finish his line after losing a mandatory equipment (or unstrapped a snowboard) may be sanctioned and may not receive any or part of his prize money for this event.

DNF, for Did Not Finish: A rider who can't finish his run due to injury, or who rides through a closed area, will get a DNF (Did Not Finish) on the final ranking list. He will be ranked like the NS, after every other riders who aren't NS or DNF. Example: in an event with 20 riders in which 4 riders were NS and 1 DNF, the 5 riders will be ranked separately and behind the other riders from the 16th to the 20th place depending on the score the judges gave them up to the point they either got a NS or a DNF. A DNF rider will get the points and the prize money of his/her ranking.

DNS, for Did Not Start: A rider qualified for the event, but missing any mandatory equipment when at the start or not showing up at the start for a valid reason. (A proof of a valid reason for not showing up at the start or missing mandatory equipment will have to be provided before the event to the FWT management who will consult the PFB. They will decide if the reason is accepted. Valid reasons could be an injury or exams for example.). If the reason is accepted and validated, the rider will get a DNS (Did Not Start) on the event ranking list. He will get the points of the last ranked rider after all NS and DNF. In an event's final day with 20 riders in which 4 riders did not start for valid reasons (accepted by the FWT Management), the 4 riders are tied in 20th place and will all score the points of 20th place.

DNA, for Did Not Attend: A rider qualified for the event, who did not attend the event or did not start for a valid reason. DNA riders will be ranked last after all NS, DNF and DNS. DNA rider won't score any points at this particular event.

DQ, for DisQualified: A rider is disqualified if he/she does a major fault such as riding the venue before the contest, having unethical behaviour towards other FWT riders, hosts, FWT employees... The DQ rider is ranked last after all NS, DNF and DNS. DQ riders do not score any points and doesn't earn any prize money for that event. DQ Athletes could face sanctions like multiple events ban (see chapter "FWT CODE OF CONDUCT & DUTIES TOWARD FWT").

6.7. Injuries, Pregnancy and frozen points

Injured or pregnant athletes have three ways to qualify for the following FWT season:

1. Their ranking at the time of the cut is high enough to be qualified.
2. They receive an "Injury Wildcard".
3. They receive a FWT "Tour Wildcard" from the FWT Management.

For more information regarding Injury Wildcard and Tour Wildcard please go to chapter: "WILDCARDS"

Riders can however freeze their points on the Global Seeding List by providing a medical certificate to FWT.

6.8. Training on competition venues

The FWT Organizer will close the competition venue(s) 30 days prior to the event. On rare occasions the FWT management may decide to close the venue for more than 30 days prior to the event, if so, it will be communicated to all riders.

If a rider was to be seen riding the competition venue(s) after the time the FWT Organizer decided to close it, and it is clearly marked and communicated, the FWT Management has the right to disqualify the rider.

Riding the competition venue(s) before they are officially closed is permitted.

6.9. Radio communication while riding

Communication with a rider during his run with any device (radio, cell phone...) is forbidden. Riders caught communicating during the run will be DQ.

6.10. Mandatory equipment & equipment check

All riders must wear the following mandatory equipment for their run, in case of a loss of mandatory equipment during a run, the rider will get a NS:

- Snowboard/skis (or assimilate: Splitboard, Monoski, Telemark skis ...).
- Helmet.
- Back protection (it should be a CE certified protection). Backpacks with integrated protection are not considered as valid back protections!
- Airbag backpack ready and in working order (with handle and leg/crotch strap on + a full gas canister or full battery for electric fan airbag).
- Probe. (a metallic probe of 240cm or greater is highly recommended).
- Shovel. (a metallic shovel is highly recommended).
- Avalanche transceiver on the body, switched ON and with fresh batteries! ("3 antennas" transceiver is highly recommended).
- RECCO reflector. All riders will receive a RECCO reflector that they will have to wear during all competitions (it is recommended to put the Recco in the boot, between the liner and the shell, as the boot is the less likely equipment to be torn off by an avalanche).

- Helmet-Mounted Action Camera.
- Concussion Baseline Test (link to be sent separately by FWT)
- Mouthguard (only highly recommended)

An avalanche transceiver check of every FWT rider will be made at each event. This check could be done either at the bottom of the hike on the way up to the start or in the pre-start area.

A back protection check, and content of the backpack will be done before the riders start. The airbag backpack must be in working order and ready to be used.

If a rider doesn't have all his mandatory equipment, he will not be allowed to start and be DNS.

If a rider loses a mandatory equipment during his/her run, he will get a NS.

On top of these mandatory equipment listed above, there are some required equipment to enter the FWT. They aren't required at every event and are not mandatory to ride down the venue, but possibly to reach the start of some venues or visual inspection area. The list of the required equipment will be given at each event's riders meeting and could be any of the following:

- Harness with 1 lanyards/slings and 1 carabineer (2 lanyards/slings with energy absorbers and 2 carabineers are recommended).
- Touring equipment like snowshoes, splitboard or touring skis. (FWT Management will work to provide a boot pack in most cases, but touring equipment could still be needed to access the Start or the visual inspection areas).

Finally, all riders must wear their BIB at all times during official happenings such as: opening ceremony, venue inspection, competition, prize giving ceremonies (only for riders on the podium)

Mandatory Equipment: The above-mentioned equipment should be the riders' day-to-day riding equipment, at all times. This equipment should be in proper working condition and actively utilized during at all times and at all stages of the event, including pre-event scoping, traversing freeride areas, reaching the scoping zone, finish, equipment checks, and the start of the competition.

Personal Safety Responsibility: While the FWT Management and its organizers will make every effort to ensure safe events, individual riders should always be attentive to their personal safety before, during, and after the competition. It is the riders' duty to exercise caution and behave responsibly. Moreover, riders should apply the same principle to their line choices during competition.

NOTE: it is forbidden to compete with a GoPro/action camera on a mouth mount.

6.11. Helmet-mounted Action Cameras

All FWT Pro athletes must, upon request, wear a GoPro camera (or another action camera) mounted on their helmet. The camera and mount will be provided by FWT at the beginning of the season and must be worn during all FWT events. No modifications or adaptations to the camera or mount will be permitted.

The FWT will retain full ownership of all footage produced by the cameras and may use, share, or distribute the images with its partners or for promotional and commercial purposes. Athletes who have sponsorship contracts with other action camera brands may be permitted, at the discretion of the FWT, to use their sponsor's camera. This will only be allowed if the athlete and his/her sponsor agree to share the rights to the footage with the FWT, and the FWT and its partners retain the right to use the images as described.

Riders not complying with this rule will face the sanctions mentioned at point 12.1..

6.12. Prize giving ceremony

Riders who made the podium have to be present at the prize giving ceremony in order to receive their money or other prizes. Riders on the podium have to wear their bibs for all prize-giving ceremonies.

Only valid reasons (injury...) will be accepted by the FWT Management to justify not being present at the prize giving ceremony. The FWT Management has to be informed if a rider cannot make it to the ceremony. Without warning, the FWT Management could decide to retain payment or distribution of prizes.

A rider who is announced as Freeride World Tour Champion before the Verbier event must come to Verbier to be at least there at the world champion award ceremony.

7. STARTING ORDER

7.1. BIB draw

A BIB draw will be done at the first riders meeting of each event (unless specified, see 7.2 rule). To make sure any rider will not be starting last or first the entire season in their category, all categories are split into two groups. The two groups will alternate in order, to have one group be the top half of the category and the next time the second half of it.

7.2. Starting order

Taking into consideration light and snow quality, the FWT Management may alternate the starting order of the four categories during the season.

It will be the choice of the FWT Management to alternate categories or riders of the same category on a multiple runs format.

For any event, FWT Management might decide to base the starting order on any other criteria than bib draw (i.e.: leader of overall ranking starting last of their category).

7.3. Missed start

To avoid riders not sticking to their BIB draw order to benefit from a later start, a rider showing up late at the start with no acceptable reason will be penalised as follow:

First time: they will not receive any prize money for that event but will be allowed to ride and score points.

Second time: they will not start, they will be Did Not Start (see above: 6.6. DNS) and they will not receive any prize money.

8. AGE

The minimum age is 18 years old for all FWT Pro events. No exceptions will be made.

9. RIDERS MEETING

Riders meetings are mandatory for all riders. It is mandatory for security reasons, and other points like snow conditions, potential closed areas in the venue, access route to the start, event schedule or potential additional mandatory safety gear (harness...) etc. Riders will also have to draw their BIB during the first riders meeting of the event (For some reasons like for Covid reasons the BIB Draw might be electronically done).

Riders who cannot attend the riders meeting must have a valid reason. They must announce themselves to the organizer and make alternative arrangements for their security briefing. The following points will be presented:

- Weather forecast
- Format of the event
- Accident procedure
- Mandatory equipment
- Venue presentation: Snow conditions, location of the starting gates, finish, end of judging line and judges spot...
- Closed areas
- Competition Day program
- BIB draw

If a rider fails to attend the mandatory riders meeting without valid reason, and without informing the organiser, FWT will sanction them by deducting 200 USD from their prize money.

10. VENUE INSPECTION

Riders will be given sufficient time to inspect the venue on site. The FWT Management will also provide riders with updated pictures of the venue.

A guide/forerunner/judge will ride the venue while the riders are watching during their venue inspection, in order to give them visual information on the size of the features for example and feedback on the snow quality.

10.1. Drone footage / pictures of the venue

As for riding the competition venue, it is forbidden for riders to use personal drones to film the venue 30 days prior to the competition.

Only drone pictures shot by the Organizer could be given to all competitors.

11. JUDGING

The judging panel is composed of four to five judges.

FWT will ensure (to the extent of its possibilities) to have judges representing each region and category. Most judges will be at all events to ensure continuity. Judges cannot be current FWT riders or QUALIFIER riders aiming to compete on the FWT.

The judging system description can be found under “JUDGING RULEBOOK” on the FWT website.

11.1. Judging limits

The starting gate at the top and the FWT arch at the finish are materializing the judging limits. In special cases like for safety reasons for example, a minimum of 1 flag will materialize the top and/or the bottom end of the judging limits.

If not specified differently by the Organizer, the Competition Director or the Head Judge during the riders meeting, the run starts out of the gate and ends at the finish line.

For safety reasons, the end of the judging line may have to be modified throughout the competition. If it happens it will be modified for a whole category. If it has to happen during a category due to force majeure, the judges will take it into consideration. In this case the decision will be communicated to the riders remaining at the summit. When possible, a picture with the new judging line drawn on it will be sent to the starter(s) and all the riders to avoid confusion.

11.2. Judging complains

For FWT live scoring events, riders who wish to file a complaint must contact the FWT Management, uniquely via email to benjamin@freerideworldtour.com, as soon as possible within 24 hours from the end of the competition. Only those complaints will be reviewed by FWT Management and will be addressed a response.

12. RIDERS RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES

FWT riders have to respect the hosting country's rules and laws.

12.1. Riders Code of conduct

Additionally, riders who are seen using recreational drugs, whether they are legal or illegal in the hosting country, within 100 metres of all official areas such as: start, finish, inspection points, prize giving ceremonies, official happenings and hotels may face FWT sanctions.

FWT riders are expected to behave properly towards Hosting resorts, Tour partners, Riders, FWT employees and organisation. The spread of derogatory messages towards FWT, QUALIFIERS and JUNIORS athletes, FWT hosts, organisers, partners, Judges, FWT employees and organisation may be sanctioned.

Sanctions for not complying with all the above will be decided by the FWT Management and presented to the PFB, FWT will then take action against the rider(s). Sanctions could be anything from a fine, a disqualification, event(s) suspension organised by the FWT organisations including

QUALIFIERS, CHALLENGERS, and other sister events... (see also point: “NS, DNF, DNS, DNA and DQ”).

Moreover, the below list of sanctions can be applied towards athletes for any infraction to the rules mentioned in this rulebook:

- disqualification from the event
- disqualification for more than one event
- membership cancellation
- Forbidden area/zone/feature in the venue
- start last of his/her category

12.2. Coaches Code of Conduct

All members of an athlete’s entourage (coaches, agents, etc) commit to conduct themselves in a manner that honours the sport and demonstrates respect to competition officials, resort employees, fellow FWT Pro competitors and employees, the skiing and snowboarding public, the resort facilities and operating procedures, as well as any run closures, rope lines, or boundaries.

Moreover, the below list of sanctions can be applied towards coaches for any infraction to the rules mentioned in this rulebook:

- Banned from the official event areas such as riders meeting, start, finish, prize giving area and any other official happening.
- Banned for more than one event.
- Disqualification of his/her team rider
- Basically all rider sanction

12.3. Fair and Safe Sport

Riders are to follow the World Anti-Doping Agency’s (WADA) rules concerning anti-doping, a rider will face sanctions if he/she doesn’t respect these rules. This includes the [WADA Prohibited List](#) (Prohibited Substances and Methods). International Safeguarding principles are to be respected and are outlined in the [FIS Snow Safe Policy](#).

12.4. Mental health and Wellbeing

Awareness and Support on Mental Health: The Freeride World Tour (FWT) recognizes the importance of mental health and acknowledges the potential impact it can have on athletes. FWT is committed to promoting awareness, understanding, and support for the mental well-being of all participants. Any information shared by athletes regarding their mental health will be treated with utmost confidentiality. Athletes can seek assistance or share concerns without fear of judgement or repercussions.

12.5. Concussion

All FWT athletes must familiarise themselves with the [Concussion Guidelines](#) and are responsible for their own wellbeing and recovery. However, FWT will reinforce the following supportive actions:

1. Baseline test: All FWT riders should complete a Concussion Baseline test at the beginning of each season to assess their conditions and be able to compare the results with a test made after a suspected concussion. Self-evaluation must always be followed by medical diagnosis. The [ImPACT Baseline test](#) will be highly recommended and offered by FWT to all Riders.

2. Recommended equipment: All FWT Riders are highly recommended wearing a mouthguard during competition and training. Mouthguards reduce lips, teeth and jaw trauma and are proven to reduce the risk of concussion.
3. Medical Support on event: If an athlete suspects they have sustained a concussion during training, competition, or any related activities, it is their responsibility to follow the concussion protocol and immediately report it to the designated medical personnel. FWT will provide medical staff on event and all athletes strongly recommended to consult them in those situations. In cases the rider loses consciousness, they will be immediately removed from competition and evaluated by medical staff.
4. Off Event Concussion: If an athlete receives a commotion to the head away from a FWT event i.e., a fall at home or vehicle accident and is diagnosed with concussion, it is their responsibility to follow the concussion protocol and immediately report it to the FWT medical personnel.
5. Evaluation: Where an injury event with the potential to cause a head injury or concussion occurs, the athlete will have to be examined by a professional, and will be subject to a full [SCAT5](#) assessment, or similar. Under suspected concussion and before evaluation, the riders won't be allowed to resume competition (e.g.: in case of two runs).
6. Diagnosis: If a rider is diagnosed with concussion by the present medical staff, FWT will be informed, and the athlete will NOT be allowed to compete and should immediately stop activity until certified suitable by medical staff. The rider will receive a DNS for the missed competition(s).
7. Return-to-play: After a concussion, the athlete should have physical rest and relative cognitive rest for a few days to allow their symptoms to improve or in some cases worsen. The athlete should follow the concussion protocol. The athlete should not return to play/sport until their concussion-related symptoms have resolved. Athletes will only be allowed back on competition venues once they send FWT a medical certificate certifying their ability to return to competition, such as a negative Scat5 assessment.
8. Frozen points: If an athlete wishes, they can request their points to be frozen on the seeding list following a concussion. As for any other injury, athletes must submit a medical certificate to FWT. Moreover, FWT riders can request an [injury Wildcard](#).

12.6. Sustainability

In response to the growing environmental challenges the world is facing, FWT is willing to take actions and fight this urgent issue that is threatening first and foremost the quality of our lives and, to a smaller scale, the snow sports industry.

FWT's commitment is to engage in a continual improvement process based on a robust sustainable strategy using the "PLAN-DO-CHECK-ACT" approach. In the long term, the success in achieving that strategy and implementing lasting changes will not only rely on the FWT's level of commitment but also on a strong involvement of all stakeholders (staff / volunteers, partners, riders, media) and sanctioned events.

This is why all riders are asked to commit to a sustainable behaviour towards other riders, event staff, the community, the environment and think sustainably in every step they take.

Behaviour in the mountains: leave the mountains as good or better than you found it (no littering, trash picking...leave no trace)

Mobility: we are travelling all around the world to compete, try to have the lowest impact possible while travelling to events. Use public transportation and carpooling as much as possible.

Safety: we are promoting an extreme sport involving risks related to avalanches, mountains... Keep in mind that you are an inspiration to a large community of freeriders and skiers / snowboarders in general, it is your responsibility to carry a safety related message in your communication would that be on social media, interviews or in your daily life.

12.7. Gender Equality & Inclusivity

Sports is one of the most powerful platforms for promoting gender equality and shaping norms and stereotypes of women and men. As leaders in our sport and communicators within the sports movement, we can set the tone as to how women in sports, and athletes – globally – should be pictured, described, talked about, represented, portrayed, across all forms of media and communication channels. Any prejudicial gender-based comments or behaviour will be sanctioned.

13. POINTS SYSTEM

13.1. SKI MEN

Place	Points 5 first stops	Points Final
1	10000	12000
2	8800	10550
3	7920	9500
4	7200	8650
5	6560	7875
6	6000	7200
7	5520	6625
8	5120	6150
9	4760	5700
10	4420	5300
11	4100	4925
12	3800	4550
13	3520	4225
14	3260	3900
15	3020	3625
16	2800	3350
17	2600	3125
18	2420	2900
19	2260	2700
20	2120	2550
21	2000	2400
22	1900	2275
23	1820	2175
24	1760	2100
25	1720	2075
26	1680	2025
27	1640	1975

28	1600	1925
29	1560	1875
30	1530	1835
31	1495	1800
32	1465	1750
33	1430	1725
34	1400	1675
35	1370	1650

13.2. SKI WOMEN, SNOWBOARD WOMEN & SNOWBOARD MEN

Place	Points 5 first stops	Points Final
1	10000	12000
2	8000	9600
3	6400	7675
4	5120	6150
5	4095	4900
6	3275	3925
7	2620	3150
8	2095	2500
9	1675	2000
10	1340	1600
11	1070	1300
12	855	1025
13	685	825
14	550	650
15	440	525
16	350	425
17	280	325