



EVENT PLAN

THE CARDRONA NZ FREESTYLE NATIONALS

28th SEPTEMBER – 2nd OCTOBER 2026

CARDRONA ALPINE RESORT

DESCRIPTION

The Cardrona Freestyle NZ Nationals awards age division national championship titles in U12, U10 and U8 divisions and provides premier points & rankings for U16 and U14 overall national titles. The 4-day event includes Ski and Snowboard-cross, Slopestyle, Halfpipe and a park rail event. National Titles based on the Snow Sports NZ National Park and pipe series rankings and points from the Cardrona Freestyle NZ Nationals will be awarded at the afterparty on the last day of competition. For more information on freestyle national points and ranking please visit Snow Sports NZ.

HOW TO ENTER

All Entries close 5pm Wednesday 23rd September 2026. Late entries will not be accepted. In the event of cancellations entries will be fully refunded minus a \$3 admin fee.

EVENT ENTRY & LIFT PASSES:

Individual event entry - \$55

Competitor Child lift passes - \$70

Coach (1:6 ratio) - \$0

All Disciplines entry - \$195.

Competitor Adult Lift Pass - \$135

Event parent passes - \$135

AGE DIVISIONS - Year of Birth

U8 2019,2020

U10 2017, 2018

U12 2015, 2016

U14 2013, 2014

U16 2011, 2012

NZ titles are calculated by combined rankings from Cross, Slopestyle, halfpipe and street style.

TEAM CAPTAIN'S MEETINGS & BIB COLLECTION

The Team Captains meeting will be held in the Matukituki room at Apres, at 6pm on Sunday 29th September. Apres (The Cardrona and Treble Cone Wanaka Office) is located at 50 Cardrona Valley Road, Wanaka. The NZ Freestyle National Championship competitor briefing will be recorded and uploaded onto the Freestyle Nationals Facebook event page and Snow Sports NZ.

Competitors will be able to collect their bibs and lift passes from Sunday 27th September from 12pm – 4pm, or at Slope Side guest services on the mountain (providing they have pre-registered for the event.). Competitor bibs will be assigned to athletes for the entire event Any bibs that are not returned will incur a \$40 replacement fee. Competitor bibs can also be collected from slopeside guest services in the morning.

EVENT SCHEDULE

Sat 26th and 27th Sep

Unofficial Training

Sunday 27th Sep

Team Captains Meeting & Bib Collection (6pm Apres)

Monday 28th Sep

Snowboard-cross (SBX) & Ski Slopestyle

Tuesday 29th Sept

Ski Cross (SX) and Snowboard Slopestyle (SS)

Wednesday 30th Oct

Half Pipe (U8 – U12 international pipe)

Thursday 1st Oct

Rail Jam (U8 – U16 divisions only)

Thursday 2nd Oct

Weather Day | After Party and Overall Awards

DAILY EVENT SCHEDULE

6.00am Snow reports & event update

8.30am Lifts open for everyone



8.45am	Competitor briefing top of course
9.00am	Courses open for competitor inspection
9.45am	Start of competition &/or training
3.30pm	Results & Awards Presentation (Cardrona Courtyard)

Sun 27th Sept

12pm – 4pm	Bib collection on mtn in Slopeside guest services
6pm	All Age Divisions Team Captains Meeting Apres Wanaka

Mon 28th Sept

Ski SLOPESTYLE – U8,U10, U12, U14, U16 competitors

6:00am	Snow report online
8:30am	McDougall's Chairlift & Lil bucks course open for competitors only
8:45am	U8 - U10 competitors briefing top of course (Lil Bucks)
8.50am	Start of training
9am	U12 – U16 competitor briefing top of course (Stag Lane/Antlers)
9.05am	Stag antlers open for training (1.5 hours)
9.30am	Start of judged runs for U8 – U10 (Lil Bucks)
11:15am	Stag / Antlers scheduled maintenance
11:30am	U12 – U14 – U16 Judge run 1 (Stag/Antlers)
12pm	Stag Antlers scheduled maintenance
12.15pm	U12 – U14 – U16 Judge run 2
<i>Awards ceremony in Courtyard approx. 1 hour after competition finishes</i>	

Snowboard – CROSS

8.15am	McDougalls opens for competitors (must be wearing bib)
8:30am	Competitor briefing top of the Gravity-cross course
8:35am	Course inspection - 1 slow slip lap followed by 1 speed inspection (youngest to oldest)
9.15am	Seeding run (single timed run to determine pairings & lane choice)
10am	Qualification results & eliminations pairings posted, top of course
<i>Awards ceremony in Courtyard approx. 1 hour after competition finishes</i>	

Tue 29th Sept

Snowboard SLOPESTYLE – U8 – U10, U12 – U16 competitors

6:00am	Snow report online
8:30am	McDougall's Chairlift & Lil bucks course open for competitors only
8:45am	U8 - U10 competitors briefing top of course (Lil Bucks)
8.50am	Start of training
9am	U12 – U16 competitor briefing top of course (Stag Lane/Antlers)
9.05am	Stag antlers open for training (1.5 hours)
9.30am	Start of judged runs for U8 – U10 (Lil Bucks)
11:15am	Stag / Antlers scheduled maintenance
11:30am	U12 – U14 – U16 Judge run 1 (Stag/Antlers)
12pm	Stag Antlers scheduled maintenance
12.15pm	U12 – U14 – U16 Judge run 2
<i>Awards ceremony in Courtyard approx. 1 hour after competition finishes</i>	

Ski – CROSS –

8.15am	McDougalls opens for competitors (must be wearing bibs)
8:30am	Competitor briefing top of the Gravity-cross course
8:35am	Course inspection - 1 slow slip lap followed by 1 speed inspection (youngest to oldest)
9.15am	Seeding run (single timed run to determine pairings & lane choice)
10am	Qualification results & eliminations pairings posted, top of course

Awards ceremony in Courtyard approx. 1 hour after competition finishes

Wed 30th Sept

Age Division HP U8 – U12 – International Half Pipe –

6.00am	Snow report
8.15am	Start of training
9am	Course maintenance if required
9.10am	Start of judged run 1
10.15am	Course Maintenance if needed
10.15am	Start of judged run 2

Age Division HP U14 – U16 – Olympic Half Pipe –

12.15pm	Athletes to the top of Half Pipe
12.20pm	Start of training
12.50pm	Course slip and salt
1pm	Start of judged runs

Awards ceremony in Courtyard approx. 1 hour after competition finishes

Thurs 1st Oct

Junior Street Style

Jam style rail event. Format and schedule to be confirmed after entries on 5pm Wednesday 23rd September 2026

**Daily schedules are subject to change – please always check the WhatsApp group for updates the night before and the morning of.*

DAILY COMMUNICATION

Communication during the event for daily schedules and changes will be through the NZ Freestyle Nationals WhatsApp Group. Link and QR code below

https://chat.whatsapp.com/ExhP678y4aO8y75HJtdBeg?mode=gi_t

EVENT FORMATS & RULES

Slopestyle: Two judged runs best score counts (straight finals).

SX/SBX: run time trial qualifier to seed riders for ¼, Semis or Final rounds. (No race suits)

Half Pipe: Two judged runs best score counts (straight finals).

Park Rail Jam: Jam format within each age division. 1st to 3rd place receive podium awards and prizes.

For full event rules follow this link: [Snow Sports New Zealand - National Park & Pipe Series](#)

AWARDS

There will be a daily awards presentation held in the Cardrona Courtyard at the conclusion of each event, NZ titles will be awarded to 1st – 3rd in each age division & discipline. Overall NZ Titles will be announced at the After-party scheduled for 6:30pm, Friday 2nd October at Apres.

WEATHER POSTPONEMENTS

If an event is postponed, it will move to the postponement day and the dates for the remaining disciplines will remain the same. In the event of multiple postponements an athletes/coaches meeting will be scheduled after the awards to discuss any schedule changes. Please check the whatsapp group for weather updates/changes.

MEDIA

We will be filming and photographing throughout the event to create content and celebrate the Freestyle Nationals. If you do not wish to be filmed or photographed, please email media@snowsports.co.nz before entries close on 5pm Wednesday 23rd September 2026

