



#EARN THE FERN

# FINN BILOUS

## FREESKI SLOPESTYLE

Wanaka freeskier Finn Bilous was the flag bearer for the New Zealand Winter Youth Olympic team which competed at Lillehammer 2016. The skier won New Zealand's first ever Winter Youth Olympic Games medal with a silver in the halfpipe and then backed this up with bronze in the slopestyle. The achievement saw him named as a finalist for the Emerging Talent award at the 2017 Halberg Awards.

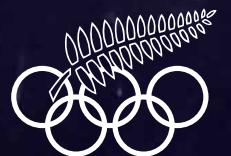
Bilous grew up in Wanaka and is at home in the park and pipe, focussing on the disciplines of halfpipe and slopestyle. He was named to the Snow Sports NZ Freeski High Performance Development Squad in 2014.

Bilous competed in the three-stop 2016 NZ Junior Freeride Tour, winning at The Remarkables and Mt Olympus, and placing second at Mt Ruapehu. As the overall tour winner in the men's ski category Finn qualified to compete at the Freeride Junior World Championships 2017 in Grandvalira,

Andorra. However, already committed to a World Cup Slopestyle event in Mammoth Mountain and with Olympic qualification his priority, Finn had to turn down his invitation.

Bilous was the winner of the 2016 Snow Sports NZ Breakthrough Season Award and was named as one of four finalists for the Emerging Talent Awards at the 54th Halberg Awards.

When skiing and school allow, Finn participates in a variety of sports including running, surfing, mountain biking and adventure racing. He competed in the Queenstown Half Marathon in November 2016 and finished second in the male 16-19 years' division.



PyeongChang 2018



#EARN THE FERN

# NICO PORTEOUS

## FREESKI HALFPIPE

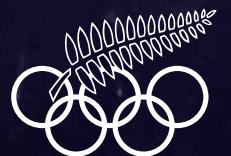
Nico Porteous began skiing at the age of four on a family holiday to France. With Mum, Dad and older brother Miguel already keen skiers, Nico was determined not to miss out. With a solid skill base from race training under his belt, the Christchurch athlete made the switch to freeskiing at the age of nine and quickly began chalking up a string of top level results.

By thirteen Porteous had joined his brother Miguel chasing back to back winters, training and competing in Breckenridge in the USA and Cardrona Alpine Resort in NZ, balancing his sports commitments with school work. As one of the youngest skiers

on the circuit he earned the nickname 'Nipsy' but also the respect of the freeski elite.

The 2015-2016 season saw Nico claim wins in freeski halfpipe at the Copper Mountain Rev Tour and the Calgary NorAM, earning him the overall title in FIS Freeski Halfpipe NorAM for the season.

In 2016, at the age of fourteen, Nico became the first Kiwi and youngest person in the world to land a triple cork 1440.



PyeongChang 2018



#EARN THE FERN

# MIGUEL PORTEOUS

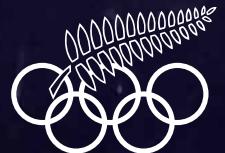
## FREESKI HALFPIPE

Skier Miguel Porteous represented New Zealand in halfpipe and slopestyle at the 2014 and 2015 FIS Freeski Junior World Championships. In 2017 he received an invite to compete at X Games Aspen winning the silver medal on debut.

The Christchurch athlete began skiing at the age of three. From his first lessons at Cardrona Alpine Resort and then inspired

by a video of a Big Air event in Australia given to him by his grandmother, Miguel now spends close to 200 days of the year on snow.

Miguel achieved a career best result at his first halfpipe World Cup in Copper Mountain, USA in 2016, finishing in 6th place





#EARN THE FERN

# JANINA KUZMA

## FREESKI HALFPIPE

Freeskier Janina Kuzma represented New Zealand at the 2014 Olympic Winter Games in Sochi where she placed fifth in the halfpipe.

Prior to her Olympic campaign Kuzma was one of the most versatile female freeskiers in the world, competing in big mountain as well as halfpipe. She has won the NZ Freeski Open Big Mountain event seven times, is a two-time Canadian Freeski Champion and two-time World Heli Challenge Champion.

Following the announcement in 2011 that freeski halfpipe had been added to the Olympic schedule, Janina decided to take a break from the Freeride World Tour and instead followed the FIS World Cup circuit,

competing solely in the halfpipe discipline, as she sought to qualify for the Sochi Olympic Winter Games.

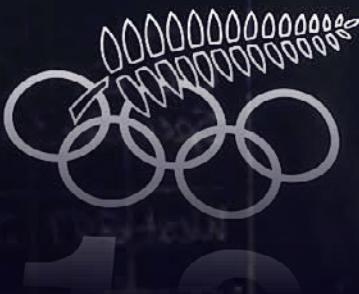
Her career continues to go from strength to strength. A solid 2014/2015 northern hemisphere season saw Janina claim the overall Sprint US Grand Prix series title for women's halfpipe and finish second overall on the FIS Freeski World Cup tour.

Janina was named Central Otago Sportswoman of the Year and Supreme Winner for her achievements in 2014 and 2015.



PyeongChang 2018

#EARN THE FERN



# TIARN COLLINS

## SNOWBOARD SLOPESTYLE, BIG AIR

Tiarn Collins represented New Zealand in snowboard halfpipe and slopestyle at the 2016 Youth Olympic Winter Games in Oslo. He achieved career best performances in both disciplines, finishing fourth in slopestyle and fifth in halfpipe.

Collins spent the 2016/2017 Northern Hemisphere winter following the World Cup circuit and. He finished 6th in Slopestyle at the World Cup in Kreischberg, Austria in January 2017. He placed 17th in Big Air World Cups at Copper Mountain, USA

(December 2016) and Moscow, Russia (January 2017). The highlight of the season came in the very last competition when Collins won a bronze medal in slopestyle at the Junior World Championships in the Czech Republic.

He spends NZ winters training at Cardrona Alpine Resort and when not competing is based in Breckenridge, USA for the Northern Hemisphere season.



PyeongChang 2018



#EARN THE FERN

# ZOI SADOWSKI -SYNNOTT

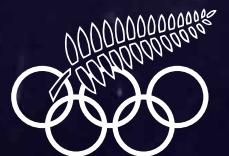
## SNOWBOARD SLOPESTYLE, BIG AIR

Snowboard slopestyle athlete Zoi Sadowski-Synnott learnt to ski as a pre-schooler and switched to snowboarding at the age of nine, joining in on her older sister's lesson at SnowPark NZ and encouraged by her brothers and dad.

With her family keen to teach her the tricks of the trade, her competitive nature kicked in and Sadowski-Synnott began to enjoy the energy and excitement of event

days and the challenge of putting down big tricks in front of a crowd.

At the World Champs in March 2016, Sadowski-Synnott finished fourth in Big Air and claimed a silver medal in slopestyle. She went on to claim World Cup gold in slopestyle in Spindleruv Mlyn two weeks later, and at 16 is the youngest woman to win gold in snowboard slopestyle.



PyeongChang 2018



# JAMIE PREBBLE

## SKI CROSS

Ski cross racer Jamie Prebble burst onto the international scene in 2015, posting a career best result with a sixth place finish at the Audi ski cross World Cup races in Are, Sweden. The Canterbury raised athlete won the Snow Sports NZ Breakthrough Season Award for 2015.

Prebble closed out 2016 with another PB, finishing 5th in the World Cup held at Arosa in Switzerland. His 2017 northern hemisphere season ended on a high with Jamie winning a silver medal finish at the World Championships in Sierra Nevada, Spain.

#EARN THE FERN



PyeongChang 2018



# CARLOS GARCIA KNIGHT

## SKI CROSS

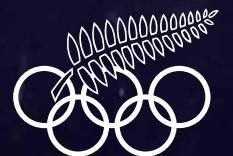
Snowboarder Carlos Garcia Knight competes in slopestyle, halfpipe and big air.

2015 was a standout year for Garcia Knight who emerged onto the international competition stage by winning a silver medal in slopestyle at the FIS Snowboard Junior World Championships and claiming fourth place at the slopestyle World Cup at the Winter Games NZ.

In 2016 he achieved a fourth place finish at the Burton Open, one of the oldest and most prestigious snowboarding events on the international calendar.

Garcia Knight again performed at home in 2017, claiming bronze in the men's slopestyle at the Winter Games NZ World Cup.

#EARN THE FERN



PyeongChang 2018



#EARN THE FERN

# RAKAI TAIT

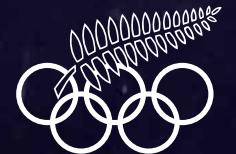
## SNOWBOARD HALFPIPE

Snowboard halfpipe and slopestyle athlete Rakai Tait represented New Zealand at the 2016 Youth Olympic Winter Games where he finished sixth in halfpipe and 13th in slopestyle.

Based in Vail, Rakai is half Kiwi, half American and competes for New Zealand.

He is a regular on the Rev Tour stops in halfpipe and slopestyle.

He spent time living in Switzerland as a child and it was there he first learnt to snowboard, at the age of 7.



PyeongChang 2018