



## SCHOOL PROGRAM

# THE PERFORMANCE

## THE OLYMPIC MOGULS TEAM

(Grade 6 and up)



### SPORT DESCRIPTION

Moguls athletes ski over large bumps at a fast pace. As they race through a bumpy course, they must perform two tricks in the air. They are judged on their turns and their two tricks. Their time also counts as part of the overall score. The competition starts with a qualifying round and then to the final three rounds. The field is cut each round until it is just the top six skiers left to battle for the medals.

Canada is one of the best countries in the world at mogul skiing. We have won 6 gold medals and 3 silvers.



## ABOUT THE ATHLETES

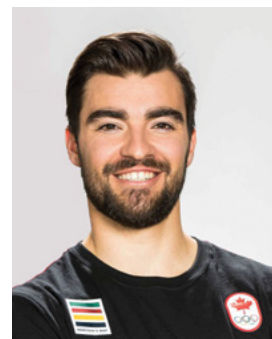
### ANDI NAUDE, MIKAËL KINGSBURY AND PHILIPPE MARQUIS



**Andi Naude**  
Freestyle Skiing



**Mikaël Kingsbury**  
Freestyle Skiing



**Philippe Marquis**  
Freestyle Skiing

*"We often think of excellence as only the result. But I think it's important to see it in the little wins along the way, says Philippe."*



# THE STORY

## THE OLYMPIC MOGULS TEAM

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It doesn't matter how long you've dreamed of gold. It doesn't matter how much you've trained to be number one. On the day of the Olympic final, you must perform big! Everything depends on your performance on the biggest sporting stage in the world.

Mikaël Kingsbury was only nine years old when he started dreaming competing at the Olympics in the moguls. He drew a picture of the Olympic rings on a piece of paper and wrote, *"I will win."* This hung over his bed until this year, a constant reminder that one day he would have to perform at his best on race day.

Mikaël wasn't the only Canadian aiming for moguls gold at the 2018 PyeongChang Olympic Winter Games. His teammates Philippe Marquis and Andi Naude also hoped for the performances of their lives. But success came in different shapes and sizes for these three athletes.

Andi is a moguls skier who is known for her skill and daring. For Andi, performance meant taking the risks others are too terrified to take. She always attempts the most difficult tricks in competition. *"I am trying to push the boundaries by doing harder tricks than the other girls,"* she says.

At the 2018 Olympics, she began the finals in first place. Andi decided to try a difficult backflip and she landed it perfectly. But then she lost her balance and missed a mogul and skied off course. She was disqualified.

*"I couldn't believe it,"* she says. Still, she has no regrets of doing the most difficult routine. She believes in striving to do her very best. For Andi, performance meant being true to her courageous self. *"I wouldn't have taken the easier road,"* she says. *"I wouldn't be happy with myself any other way."*

For Philippe Marquis disaster struck one month before the Olympics. While competing at an event in Utah, he tore his ACL. It's a very serious knee injury that sidelines most athletes for many months. But Philippe was determined. *"I am a bit of an optimist,"* he says. *"This became a new challenge."* He wrote positive messages on his ski equipment. On his glove straps he wrote, *"Keep fighting,"* and *"What ACL?"* Incredibly, just weeks after his terrible injury Philippe made it all the way to the mogul finals in PyeongChang. *"It was a bit of a miracle to make the final,"* he says. *"I always focused on the possible. The others didn't believe I could do it, but I always believed."*

16 years after writing his *"I will win"* message, Mikaël Kingsbury had experienced a lot of success in moguls skiing. He won an Olympic silver medal at the Sochi Olympic Winter Games in 2014. But he still wanted gold. He was the leader in the qualification round in PyeongChang, before slipping to fourth in the first run of the finals. On his third and final run Mikaël moved back into first. The final competitor could not beat his time. After years of

dreaming of gold, he had finally won the Olympics. *"I just realized my dream today and it's the best day of my life,"* Kingsbury said.

All three teammates supported each other as they made their big performance. 2018 Olympic success was different for each of them. For Mikaël it was achieving a childhood dream to win gold. For Philippe, it was proving he could accomplish what others felt was impossible. For Andi, it was being courageous and not playing it safe.

*"You can't be afraid of making mistakes,"* says Andi. *"If you fall that's just another learning experience. If you have a goal and it's doing what you love in the end it will pay off. I feel quite proud of myself that I went out there and did what I had to do. I would not change that for anything."*

It is the pursuit of high performance that motivates these Olympians. *"We often see excellence as the final result, but I think it's important to see it as little morsels,"* says Philippe. *"Excellence for us is to be the best we can be."*









