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2010 ALPINE COMPETITION GUIDE





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2010 USSA ALPINE COMPETITION GUIDE

ON THE COVER

U.S. Ski Team member Ted Ligety
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Current calendars can be found on the USSA website www.ussa.org and the FIS website www.fisski.com.

USSA KEY CONTACT DIRECTORY

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Sprint Snow News Hotline 435.649.6666

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Alpine Field Contacts

Field offices and contacts are the closest service point to all USSA members. Contact them for information on local and divisional alpine programs. In cases where there is not a regularly staffed divisional office, the divisional chairman or volunteer administrator is listed as the contact.

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ALPINE IMPORTANT DATES

April 30 Deadline for FIS injury protection
 June 15 Deadline for corrections to USSA points and USSA injury protection
 Aug. 15 FIS Inscription - late fee applies after this date
 Oct. 15 USSA membership renewal - late fee applies after this date
 Nov. 15 Schedule agreements due - late fee applies after this date

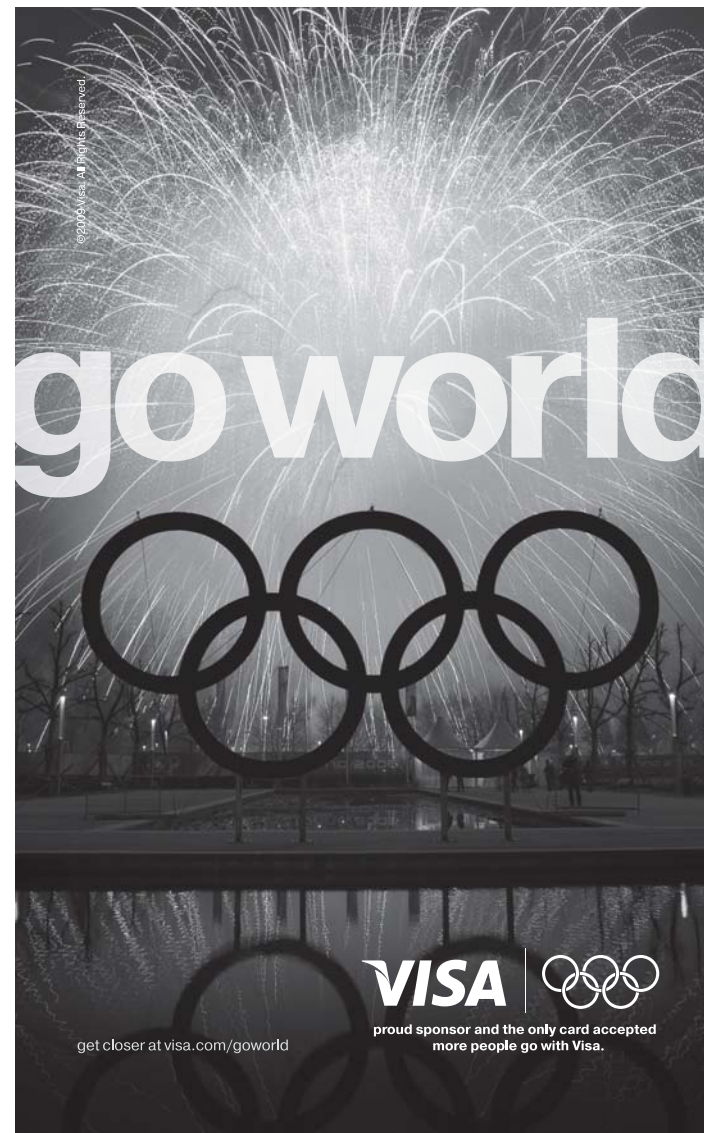
2009-10 Alpine Points List Dates

	FIS		USSA	
	Close	Valid	Close	Valid
1	June 30	July 1	June 30	July 1
2	Aug. 30	Sept. 3	Sept. 6	Sept. 10
3	Oct. 18	Oct. 22	Oct. 25	Oct. 29
4	Nov. 8	Nov. 12	Nov. 15	Nov. 19
5	Nov. 29	Dec. 3	Dec. 6	Dec. 10
6	Dec. 20	Dec. 24	Dec. 27	Dec. 31
7	Jan. 10	Jan. 14	Jan. 17	Jan. 21
8	Jan. 31	Feb. 4	Feb. 7	Feb. 11
9	Feb. 21	Feb. 25	Feb. 28	Mar. 4
10	Mar. 14	Mar. 18	Mar. 21	Mar. 25
11	Apr. 4	Apr. 8	Apr. 11	Apr. 15
12	May 16	May 20	May 23	May 27
13			June 1	June 2

Important information on list dates and registrations:

To assure that your membership is processed before any list, your membership materials must be received by USSA at least seven days prior to any closing date. Registrations are not considered received until they are complete. USSA is not responsible for late, lost or misdirected mail. It is the athlete's responsibility to ensure that his or her USSA and/or FIS membership/registration is received; you can contact USSA member services to check the status of your application 435.647.2666 or membership@ussa.org.

Athletes with a valid USSA competitor membership may register with USSA for FIS at any time during the season. A fee of \$70 will be added to the FIS registration fee for any registration received after Aug. 15 of the competition season. Athletes will appear on the next available FIS list after their registration is received and processed.





CHAPTER 1

Getting Started

2010 Competition Guide



www.ussa.org

GETTING STARTED

Welcome to the USSA. You have joined one of the most fun and exciting sports organizations in the United States. The USSA provides opportunities for athletes to develop their skiing or snowboarding skills in a competitive and educational environment. Use this guide as a roadmap to USSA programs, rules and rankings.

The U.S. Ski and Snowboard Association (USSA) is an Olympic sports organization and parent body for the U.S. Ski Team and U.S. Snowboarding. It is driven by a vision to be best in the world in Olympic skiing and snowboarding with an emphasis on building character through personal values. The USSA's mission is to provide strong leadership that establishes and supports athletic excellence in accordance with the USSA core values.

The USSA's programs provide education, skill development and competition opportunities for young athletes with grassroots USSA club programs up through national teams and the Olympic Winter Games.

The USSA provides athletic programs in six unique sports including alpine skiing, cross country, disabled alpine/cross country, freestyle, ski jumping/nordic combined, and snowboarding. Programs are implemented through a national network of over 400 USSA Clubs. The USSA has 30,000 members, including over 22,000 athletes, with over 50,000 fans and donors providing ongoing support.

Services provided by the USSA are based around the three "R's": rules, races and rankings. Rules are established to ensure a consistent and fair playing field for all athletes. Races, or competitions, are the backbone of the USSA's programs, providing competitive programs for athletes. Rankings are a means of evaluating performance in competitions to determine advancement on the USSA's athlete development pipeline, or to assist in determining start positions in specific competitions.

The USSA provides educational resources to key constituent groups. Education is provided to athletes, parents, officials, coaches and clubs in areas such as sport technique, fitness and exercise, sport science and sports medicine. The USSA's new state-of-the-art training and education facility, the Center of Excellence, is open and preparing our athletes for the Olympic Winter Games in Vancouver this season. The Center of Excellence will allow the USSA to record and distribute best practices to athletes, coaches, clubs, officials and parents.

USSA regions and divisions/states are volunteer-run programs which implement USSA programs within small, multi-state geographic areas, including scheduling of divisional competitions, selection of divisional teams and training of competition officials.

Local USSA Clubs make up over 400 professional coaching outlets for athletes and logistical support for competitions. USSA clubs, with both professional staffs and local volunteers, are the backbone of the USSA supporting individual athletes and managing most of the USSA's over 4,000 domestic competitions.

Athletic Advancement

Now that you're a USSA member, you have access to compete in sports both in your home area and nationally. The following are steps you can take to make the most out of your competitive skiing or snowboarding experience.

Join a USSA Club - Linking up with a USSA club will allow you access to the best professional coaching and logistical support. A complete club directory is available at

www.usssa.org.

Compete - Pick the proper competition programs for your age and ability. Contact the event organizer or your local USSA club for entry information. The USSA's programs offer both introductory non-scored events for youth athletes to promote skill development and fun and scored competitions to improve ranking.

USSA Ranking - Compete in USSA scored competitions to gain a USSA ranking, which will be used for advancement up the USSA athlete development pipeline. You can monitor your USSA ranking at www.usssa.org.

FIS Competition - As you advance up the pipeline with your USSA ranking, you may be eligible for ranking on the International Ski Federation (FIS) ranking list. Check with your club coach or divisional contact for more information. FIS registration is managed through the USSA. You can monitor your FIS ranking or print a FIS registration form at www.usssa.org.

Team Selection - As you continue to advance, your USSA ranking may qualify you for a regional/state or divisional team. This includes the Junior Olympics, U.S. Championships and all the way up to the U.S. Team.

In addition to these tips towards advancement, each of the USSA's sports has a specific development pipeline with defined action tips designed to educate athletes in every age group as they progress in their sport. Please see the development pipeline for your particular sport by logging on to www.usssa.org and clicking on your sport in the drop-down menu and scrolling to the advancement tab.

Where to Find More Information

As you continue competitive skiing or snowboarding, you might have questions along the way. The following are helpful resources to guide you on your path to success.

USSA Web Site - www.usssa.org is the best source of member information. Simply click on your sport on the home page. There you will find contact information, criteria and advancement protocol on your sport as well as the latest in national news from your sport.

USSA Competition Guide - This handbook is a guide for athletes, parents, coaches and officials that provides a roadmap to USSA programs. Here you can find information on rules and rankings for your sport.

Local USSA Club - Over 400 USSA Clubs are the heart of the sport. These organizations have the background and knowledge to help answer most of your questions. Check your local USSA Club for information on schedules and qualifying procedures within your division or state.

Regional/Divisional/State Contact - Each region, division and state for your sport has a contact person who can help you answer questions. Your divisional contact appears in the front of this Comp Guide and may also be found at www.usssa.org.

USSA National Office - Every USSA sport has full-time staff in the USSA national office in Park City, UT. Contact the office at 435.647.2666 with national membership or ranking questions. For a quicker response, please send an email to the email links found at www.usssa.org.

Magazines - USSA members will receive a subscription to their choice of *Ski Racing Magazine* (both hard copy and electronic), *SkiTrax* or *Snowboarding Magazine* to stay informed on sport news.

USSA Membership Categories

The USSA offers a variety of membership opportunities depending on your area of interest. Take a look at the options below to select the best fit for you.

USSA Youth - An entry-level, non-scored membership designed for athletes 12 years old and younger (based on Dec. 31 age). USSA Youth membership allows participation in selected divisional or state competitions but is not scored on the USSA ranking lists.

USSA Student - The USSA Student membership offers athletes 13 and older (based on Dec. 31 age) entry into a wide range of USSA competitions but does not include scoring on the USSA ranking lists.

USSA Competitor - The primary USSA membership for athletes 13 and older (based on Dec. 31 age) to gain entry into the full range of USSA competitions and scoring on USSA ranking lists. This membership is required for athletic advancement in this age group.

USSA Masters - For athletes 21 years of age and older who are no longer racing for points but still want to compete. Complete information on Masters, including membership requirements, can be found in the Alpine Masters Competition Guide or at www.usssa.org.

Volunteers - The USSA club system exists because of the help and dedication of volunteers including parents of competitive athletes. Opportunities for young athletes are available because of the volunteerism of parents and other dedicated individuals. You can become a volunteer by getting involved with your local club. The USSA also provides membership for officials and professional coaches, plus a low-cost associate membership for parents, volunteers, and other supporters exists to allow continued support even after your competitive career is over.

PARENTS

Your son or daughter is on their way to growing their career in skiing or snowboarding. Supporting them in their endeavors is the number one way to help them achieve success. However, there are other ways to participate along the way to enhance the experience of competitive skiing and snowboarding.

Become a volunteer - A great way to be a part of the team is to become an official. Parents may attend officials clinics and work out of town competitions so that they will be better able to help with races at their own competition venues.

Another way to be involved is to serve on steering committees and competition committees for a sport. Contact your USSA athletic sport director for more information.

Education - The USSA provides a variety of educational opportunities for parents. Through www.usssa.org, local clubs and USSA produced educational resources, parents can gather information to help support their child in their quest towards victory. The Successful Sports Parenting DVD, produced in partnership with USA Swimming, featuring Deborah Phelps, mother of Olympic and World Champion swimmer Michael Phelps, is a suggested guide to lead you through tips to support the development and success of young athletes. Find more information at educationshop.usssa.org.

Stay involved in your child's club - Ask questions to club leaders, look at annual reports and attend orientation if offered. These activities will help you better understand your child's club and the USSA development pipeline.

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CHAPTER 2

Program Information

2010 Competition Guide



www.ussa.org

ALPINE PROGRAM INFORMATION

USSA alpine competitions are organized into general program categories based on the needs of racers at every level. Programs may overlap or be identified differently in some divisions. Details on these programs are found in the *Regional, Divisional and State Programs* chapter and at www.ussa.org, as well as in regional, divisional and state handbooks.

Competition Categories

Youth (non-scored)	Ages 12 and younger
Student (non-scored)	Ages 13 and older
Competitor (scored to USSA)	Ages 13 and older
FIS Competitor (scored to USSA and to FIS)	Ages 15 and older
Masters Racing	Ages 21 and up*

* A racer born 1989 or earlier may compete in either masters or seeded competition or both, depending on the rules of a specific region. He or she must have a competitor and a masters membership in order to participate in both programs.

Age Classes

Juniors

J6	Ages 8 and younger (born 2001 or later)
J5	Ages 9-10 (born 1999, 2000)
J4	Ages 11-12 (born 1997, 1998)
J3	Ages 13-14 (born 1995, 1996)
J2	Ages 15-16 (born 1993, 1994)
J1	Ages 17-19 (born 1990, 1991, 1992)

Adults or Seniors

SR	Ages 20 (born 1989 and older)
----	-------------------------------

NOTE: Racers should check with their local program, or with their local office regarding details or exceptions that may apply. Some regions, divisions or states may recognize other age categories below the J5 class.

Medical/Accident Insurance

All USSA event participants (athletes, coaches and officials) are required to have valid and sufficient medical/accident insurance coverage for duration of membership year and to accept full responsibility for provision of coverage as a condition of participation in official training and competition. The participants must carry proof of primary insurance and have it available at each event so that prompt medical/hospital care can be authorized, if ever needed. USSA provides all properly registered USSA participant members with secondary participant accident coverage, which provides insurance coverage in excess of the participant member's primary coverage. The coverage is in place while participating in a USSA sanctioned or registered event, including official training at such events. This coverage also includes training supervised or directed by a USSA member club and/or USSA member coaches.

Code of Conduct

A condition of USSA membership is the agreement to abide by the USSA Code of Conduct including provisions regarding drug testing. The Code of Conduct can be found as an addendum to the chapter USSA Alpine Competition Regulations.

Regional and Divisional/State Rules and Procedures

Each region and division/state has additional rules and procedures that apply in its

respective geographic area. An introduction to those areas can be found in the *Regional, Divisional and State Programs* chapter and at www.ussa.org. More detailed information is available in regional, divisional and state handbooks, at www.ussa.org and on regional, divisional and state websites. Particularly note membership requirements in divisional or state organizations and participation requirements for selection to regional, divisional and state teams and quotas.

Alpine Ski Racing Disciplines

In the early days of alpine ski racing, athletes competed in only two events: downhill and slalom. Giant slalom was added to the lineup in 1950 and super G in 1983. Downhill and super G are generally grouped together as “speed” events, with slalom and giant slalom grouped as “technical” events. Skiers generally compete in either speed events or technical events, although the trend among U.S. coaches is to develop skiers on a broader base, skiing all disciplines. All race courses must meet strict standards established and monitored by officials of the FIS and USSA.

Following is a brief outline of the alpine ski racing events. For complete and specific rules on each, please obtain a FIS ICR (rule book) from USSA Membership Customer Service, or see the rules chapter of this guide.

Slalom (SL): Slalom is a timed event requiring the execution of many short, quick turns through two different courses. Slalom is staged in two runs with times added together to determine the final finish order. Often times the top of the first-run finish order is reversed in seeding for the second run, including World Cup competition. The vertical drop of the course determines the number of gates in a GS course. The competitors are required to pass between all the gates, alternate red/blue pairs of poles. The course is made up of various gate combinations designed to test a skier’s skill and strategy. The vertical drop on World Cup SL courses is 180-220 meters for men and 140-200 meters for women.

Giant Slalom (GS): Giant Slalom is characterized as the discipline that requires the most technical skill; skiers race down the mountain through a faster and more open course than in SL. As in SL, skiers often are seeded in the first run start order by their points ranking. The vertical drop of the course determines the number of gates in a GS course. The FIS World Cup requires that all GS races be run on courses with vertical drops of 300-450 meters for men and 300-400 meters for women. Giant slalom is staged in two runs with the times added together to determine the final finish order.

Downhill (DH): Perhaps the most exciting event in alpine ski racing is the DH. Racers attempt to record the fastest time during a single run on a course with a minimum number of control gates. Speeds in DH often exceed 70 mph on major courses. The FIS World Cup requires that men’s and women’s courses have minimum vertical drops of 800 meters and 500 meters respectively.

Super G (SG): Super G is the newest of the alpine disciplines combining the elements of speed as in DH while integrating high-speed technical turns as in GS. Super G is contested in a single run format; courses are set utilizing terrain variations with the number of gates being a function of a specific percentage of the vertical drop. Both men’s and women’s SG courses must have a vertical drop of at least 400 meters.

Combined (K): At some major events, a combined competition is held. The combined event involves the addition of times from designated SL and DH races, or all four events in some cases.

TAKING PART IN A RACE

In order to participate in USSA non-FIS sanctioned competitions, a racer must be a member of USSA and be eligible for competition as defined by FIS and USSA. To participate in a USSA FIS competition, a racer must be eligible for competition as defined by FIS and USSA and either be a member of USSA and FIS or be a member of a foreign federation and FIS. USSA membership applications are available from any USSA alpine office and from many key volunteers. Applications can also be downloaded from www.ussa.org.

Possession of the USSA membership card, or other proof of membership from USSA, is essential to compete.

The sanction of races (official calendaring by FIS and/or USSA) is the only assurance that events will be run according to the rules of FIS and USSA.

The responsibility for confirming the race organizer’s acceptance of an entry belongs to the entrant. USSA strongly encourages, but does not require, race organizers to notify racers whose entries have not been accepted.

Many alpine events require qualification criteria that must be achieved for entry eligibility. Refer to specific national, regional and divisional or state rules.

Race Entry Procedure

Entry Materials

Entry to all scored USSA races should be made according to the race organizer’s specific instructions or on a copy of the USSA entry card, printed in the back of this competition guide. These entry cards should be copied and used throughout the season.

Note: Increasingly, competition organizers, especially for ‘bigger’ events, prepare entry and registration materials by computer. Some of these organizers may not use the USSA entry card, but may ask for registration in an alternate form specific to their needs, such as team roster.

When filling out the entry cards, write clearly with pen. Be sure that all the information you provide is readable. Be especially careful with your USSA number. This is the seven-digit number that appears on your membership card. It is the key to your identification for points and seeding; use all seven digits. If your number doesn’t have seven digits, it’s the wrong number. Check your card.

Send the completed entry information to the address listed under race contact for that event in the schedule chapter prior to the entry deadline and with the entry fee.

Entry Fees

Entry fees must accompany all entries. Entry fees for scored competitions include a head tax, which is collected on behalf of USSA and forwarded by the race organizers.

Entry Limits, Conditions and Invitational Events

In order to control and organize the sport, USSA, regional, and divisional or state competition committees may impose entry restrictions and requirements on various events. Please see the Series section later in this Guide for more information. Race organizers and competition juries may also limit the number of entries in the interest of fairness, as is provided for in the rules.

Foreign Competitors in USA Races

FIS Races

According to the FIS rules governing competitor license (FIS ICR), a competitor may represent only one country – that of his or her citizenship (or primary residence,

in the case of those with dual citizenship). Therefore, foreign competitors living in or attending school in the U.S. and racing here must be licensed with their own nation.

These competitors may participate in FIS races in the USA to the degree permitted by their license (different licenses allow for different access), subject to FIS rules on quotas, point cutoffs, and entry procedures, and subject to written notification by their own federation. Foreign racers entering FIS events in the USA must make arrangements with their own national federation for proper entry into such events as the U.S. Alpine Championships, NorAms and Junior Olympics. Suitable documents must be on file with USSA authorizing entry into other USA FIS races, if managed by the team coach or other designated person.

USSA Races

The entry of foreign racers participating in USA programs into non-FIS USSA events is subject to approval by USSA, regional, divisional or state, and local organizations and may be on an individual or quota basis, or as special guests.

These foreign racers must be members of USSA, to compete in non-FIS USSA events. Submission of all items and payment is the responsibility of the athlete, not of USSA.

In order to properly seed foreign athletes in USSA scored competitions, USSA will assign foreign athletes an 'X-number'. Foreign athletes with an 'X-number' and a valid USSA Competitor membership, shall be given initial USSA points equal to their points on the valid FIS points list. Athletes who do not appear on the FIS points list shall be assigned maximum USSA points.

At a USSA Scored race, foreign athletes who are not current with USSA may have their FIS points used for seeding and to determine the race penalty as long as all USSA membership requirements have been met (the athlete must join as an Alpine Competitor), including membership form, proof of insurance, signature(s) and payment of money due.

Foreign competitors who have current USSA points, and either appear on the current USSA points list, or have been given a USSA points confirmation from the USSA rankings manager, must be seeded with those USSA points and those USSA points must be used in the penalty calculation.

All foreign athletes must join USSA as 'X-number' members. This categorizes them as foreign. USSA 'X-number' members are subject to all rules and procedures of USSA, its regions, divisions and states.

NOTE: No competitor may enter FIS events on an international license or represent a nation other than USA and also enter USSA races on a non-"X-number" USSA competitor membership.

Foreign National Team Status - Waiver of Fees

Competitors entering FIS events in the USA as members of national teams must be prepared to show evidence of such membership; a valid international license does not automatically give national team status and privilege. USSA reserves the right to allow organizers to charge entry fees and lift tickets to foreign athletes in both USSA and FIS races in the USA subject to minimum personal qualifications based on FIS points and/or rankings.

Generally, members of foreign national teams who are properly entered by their national federation, and who are ranked in the top 350 in the world in one of the disciplines being contested will be provided with complimentary lifts and entries.

USA Athletes Competing in Another Country

According to the FIS ICR, to be eligible to enter and compete in international ski events, a competitor must have a specific 'license' issued by his or her own national association. In the USA, this is referred to as an 'international license.'

Except for U.S. Ski Team athletes, USA racers must make advance application and be approved for international licensing and entry to FIS races outside of North America. Itineraries are approved to avoid conflicts. Athletes or coaches interested in foreign projects should contact USSA at aanderson@ussa.org and/or their respective regional competition director and provide a list of athletes and proposed itinerary.

Participation in international competitions outside the United States of America is a privilege of USSA and FIS membership, subject to athletic achievement and consideration of current and future appropriateness of an individual's representation of the USA in such competition(s).

USA competitors without a valid international license who enter, or attempt to enter, events under conditions where USSA requires such license are subject to disciplinary sanction including revocation of USSA membership and forfeiture of results for points scoring, ranking for team selection, etc. Further, such competitors will not be registered by USSA with the FIS for a period of one full season.

These rules and procedures will be reviewed and approved by the Alpine Sport Executive Committee after this book went to print. Any changes will be published to the USSA website.

Eligibility Procedures and Considerations

Access & Eligibility

- By virtue of team status, officially named U.S. Ski Team A, B & C athletes are 'internationally licensed' and have protected status in all international competitions, they can race whenever and wherever they want. No athlete ranked higher than 1,000 may replace an athlete ranked under 350 in the discipline being contested.
- Athletes must be USSA alpine competitor members in good standing.
- Athletes must be FIS inscribed and appear on the valid FIS list during the period of selection and competition.
- Entries for Olympic Winter Games, World Ski Championships, World Junior Ski Championships, World University Games, World Cup, Europa Cup and World Junior Championships are managed by the U.S. Ski Team and are exempt from these procedures.

Procedures

- Itineraries and athlete rosters are controlled through USSA. Itineraries and rosters must be received by USSA 30 days in advance of the first race in the itinerary.
- USSA will make every effort to communicate with groups competing outside of the USA to keep them informed of conflicts and changes to protected projects.
- Itineraries will be approved based on avoiding conflicts.
- Itineraries are approved based on anticipated available slots.
- In the case that an event is over-subscribed, priority is based on the following:
 1. All USST A, B, C & D team members start per U.S. Ski Team coaches' discretion
 2. Remaining slots are allocated by:
 - a. 50% by FIS points in discipline
 - b. 50% in order of priority

- 1) U.S. Ski Team “special invitees”
- 2) National Development System (NDS) projects or discretion
- 3) Regional development projects (RDP)
- 4) Club/academy projects

NOTE: If there are an odd number of remaining spots available, then the extra start will go to FIS points.

- Typically USSA will directly enter USA athletes in foreign competitions. In some circumstances USSA may write an authorization letter allowing someone else to make the entry on behalf of USSA.
- Entries for Continental Cup and National Championship events will be made by USSA. Entries subject to Continental Cup rules.
- FIS quotas for the USA will be expanded only at authority of USSA.
- USA competitors residing in Europe can also apply for approved itineraries, in which case they can receive protected status. If those athletes do not apply, they will have secondary status for entry access when teams and projects on approved itineraries are in attendance.
- USSA’s Alpine Competition Director (ACD) may make modifications to these procedures based on circumstances that effect USST D team or ‘high potential’ athletes where such modifications favor a long-range development strategy of USSA. Under extraordinary conditions the ACD may exercise discretionary placement or replacement of up to 10% of any quota.
- NDS will be allocated protected status for NDS projects in international competitions in up to two series in a FIS calendar year.
- USA Team Captains will be assigned based on the level of project attending (USST, NDS, RDP, Club/Academy). This Team Captain will facilitate above procedures. USST/USSA staff acting in the capacity of team captains may use discretionary entry designation for up to 10% of any quota for any team or group member (other than USST A, B, C and D who are otherwise described). Additionally, team captains may agree on alternative methods if they have unanimous consent of the attending USA coaches.

Canadian FIS Competitions

For FIS races in Canada, international licensing is deemed to be in order when USSA or properly named team captains make entries, and this license is limited to the specific races entered. Although the specific application for international license is not required at this time, all requests for entry to Canadian FIS races must be made through the alpine offices within the following time frames:

NorAm	32 days
Canadian Nationals	32 days
Canadian FIS	32 days

Projects will be managed for USSA athlete development; selection of interested athletes will be both objective and subjective.

Note: Refer to the Series and Selections chapter in this book for more information.

By agreement with Alpine Canada Alpine (ACA), certain events and series will be subject to minimum individual qualifications. This may mean circumstances where the respective quotas are not completely utilized. Development selections by USSA national and regional staff may be possible per the agreement with ACA.

Selections are done using an NTSM of FIS points in the discipline(s) to be contested.

Certain guidelines and requirements apply to entry into these events. Details and instructions are available from regional or divisional offices.

Thank You

to the following partners of the
U.S. Ski Team and U.S. Snowboarding.





CHAPTER 3

Points, Rankings and Selection Systems

2010 Competition Guide



www.ussa.org

POINTS AND THE POINTS LISTS

Ski racers are: 1) scored by total points for each seeded competition in which they finish without disqualification, 2) ranked nationally and internationally according to their earned total points, and 3) seeded in subsequent competitions according to their total points earned in previous events. Thus, in ski racing, things are done 'by the numbers'.

Points are used in ski racing because of the unique character of the sport: there is no precisely defined standard field, track, or course for the competition. To compensate for courses of different length, on widely varying terrain, and on snow surfaces that can differ considerably, the FIS legislated 1) guidelines, such as minimum vertical drop, minimum and maximum number of gates, and gate dimensions, for the setting of courses, and 2) formulas for assigning points by relating a racer's time to the winner's time.

FIS (International) & USSA (National) Points Systems

There are actually two related systems used to 'score' alpine races, rank competitors, and establish start orders. The FIS maintains a system that includes racers registered internationally and competing in FIS-calendared events. The FIS points lists show all racers who are properly registered prior to the deadline for that list, and assigns the top World Cup skiers to the first places on the FIS lists, adjusting all other competitors accordingly. Only FIS calendared events are scored to the FIS list.

The USSA points list ranks athletes with a valid USSA competitor membership who compete in any USSA event that is scored in the system. These events include most races for ages 13 and up. The USSA and the FIS points systems are based on the same formula for scoring. The top racers in USSA will be ranked as the top USA racers in the FIS lists, as well. However, the two point lists differ. The lists are produced on different schedules, resulting in slight differences during the season. The most important difference is that the FIS system integrates the World Cup rankings. Nonetheless, in both systems lower points reflect better results.

Competitors who should be concerned with FIS (International) points are those who will be competing in a significant number of FIS events in the current season. For these racers, progress on the FIS points list is important. For racers who are not yet ranked at the top of their age group in their geographic region, FIS points mean little more than USSA points. In either system, the good ski racer will show points progress parallel to achievement, while the less-accomplished competitor can only progress points-wise with the development of improved skiing skills.

How Points are Scored

Race Points + Penalty = Racer's Result

While the winner of any seeded race is given zero (0.00) 'race points,' a penalty is calculated for every event and added to each racer's points to produce the racer's results for that event. The magnitude of the penalty depends upon: 1) the seed points of the best five racers who start, 2) the seed points of the best five racers among the top ten finishers and 3) whether the times of those five racers are clustered near the winner's time or relatively widely dispersed (for FIS races only, a factor is added [or subtracted] to adjust the penalty according to the rules for the Integrated List, incorporating FIS and World Cup points/rankings).

This procedure allows the scoring of different races on different slopes and different days, each with different levels of competition, to be based on a common scale. In theory, every racer in a seeded event can compare themselves against Lindsey Vonn or Ted Ligety and against the best racer in the state, as well as other competitors in a given event. For FIS races, the “Z” factor adjustment of the penalty up (or down) maintains relative value among the different FIS race categories of World Cups, Continental Cups, National Championships, and FIS races.

The average of a racer’s two best results in each of the four scored disciplines becomes the basis for that racer’s ranking among other racers. Published lists of such rankings, ‘seed lists’, provide the data by which race organizers and race juries can seed or establish the start order for subsequent events. Thus, the circle continues: from seed list to race result to seed list; with one aim being lower points, and better start positions, and better results.

Of course, in order to gain better start positions by lower seeding points, competitors also must improve their skills, strength and tactics and then prove this on the hill. It is a basic concept of the sport that skiers must ski well to improve their points.

Calculation of ‘Race points’

The FIS point system of scoring the results of ski races was developed in order to recognize the better performance of finishing fourth in one race with a time one second behind the winner, as opposed to finishing second in another race with a time two seconds behind the winner.

Race points are determined by comparing the winner’s time and the individual racer’s time. The formula for points makes this comparison and produces points in each discipline according to the ratio of the racer’s time to the winner’s time.

The formulas for the determination of points can be worked easily on a calculator. The formulas incorporate changes in the CM values (constants based on the average spread of race results, excluding ‘stragglers’) in order to make the points earned in the various disciplines more equal for purposes of combined event scoring and team selections.

In its simplest form, the formula can be stated as follows:

$$P = ((Tr / Tw) - 1) \times F$$

Where:

P is race points
 Tr is the racer’s time, in seconds
 Tw is the winner’s time, in seconds
 F is a constant, different for each discipline,
 based on the CM according to the equation:
 $F = 60/(CM-1)$

‘F’ values as set by FIS are as follows:

Downhill	1320	Giant Slalom	880
Slalom	600	Super G	1060
Super Combined	1240		

For example, if the winning time in SL (F=600) were 98.36 seconds (Tw), a racer with a time of 102.58 seconds (Tr) would receive 26.17 race points (P). These same times produce race points of 57.92 in DH, 37.76 in GS and 44.19 in SG.

Calculation of ‘Penalty Points’

In calculating penalty points for a race, the results (times) are listed in ascending order for everyone of the same sex who competed on the same race course. Even if competitors of different ability or age classes participated, ranking of race results must always be used to calculate FIS and/or USSA race points and penalty points. Penalty points are calculated for each race as follows:

- Using the most recent seed list, (either FIS or USSA as is appropriate for the event) determine which five racers who started the race have the best seed points in the particular discipline. Add the seed points of these five racers (see “B” below).

Best five at the start

from Current List	Seed Points	Race Result
VONN, Lindsey	3.69	11
MANCUSO, Julia	9.28	2
STIEGLER, Resi	9.92	1
SCHLERPER, Sara	18.50	DNF
KELLEY, Jessica	19.37	9
	60.76	= B

- Again using the most recent seed list, determine which five of the top ten placing racers have the best points in the discipline. Add the seed points of these five racers (see “A” below). Add together the race points of these five racers then subtract the best points of those racers finishing in the top ten (see “C” below).

Best ten finishers	Seed Pts. current list	Best five seed Pts.	Race Pts. of these five
1. MCJAMES, Megan	9.92	9.92	0.00
2. MANCUSO, Julia	9.28	9.28	1.63
3. STIEGLER, Resi	20.90	20.35	3.10
4. COOK, Stacy	34.92		
5. SMITH, Leanne	40.18		
6. MIELKE, Kristen	29.77	29.77	8.04
7. KELLEHER, Keely	35.92		
8. ROSS, Laurene	46.03		
9. KELLEY, Jessica	19.37	19.37	11.07
10. HAMMOND, Courtney	34.55		
		88.69 = A	23.84 = C

- Add the total of A and B, then subtract C; divide the result by ten, rounding to 100th of a point (0-4 down, 5-9 up) - $(A + B - C) / 10 = \text{Penalty}$
 So, in this example... $(88.69 + 60.76 - 23.84) / 10 = 12.561$; the race penalty = 12.56.

FIS Penalty Calculation

To this point, the penalty calculation for a FIS race is identical to the calculation for a USSA race. However, for FIS races of all categories the penalty is then adjusted by the addition (or possibly subtraction) of a value to reflect returning the best point holder to 0.00 points, the integration of the top World Cup-ranked into the top FIS list positions, and the application of category adders/minimums. This “Z” value is calculated by the FIS for each sex/discipline with each FIS points list and is published with the list.

A complete explanation is printed in the ‘Rules of the FIS Points’ available from USSA Member Services for a fee.

Rules for USSA Race Penalty Calculations

The following rules apply for the determination of USSA race penalties under particular circumstances.

Fewer than Ten Racers Finishing

When fewer than ten racers finish a USSA sanctioned event and their results are submitted for scoring, the minimum race penalty shall be DH - 180.00 points, SL - 80.00, GS - 110.00, or SG - 135.00, regardless of the mathematically calculated penalty. Example: a DH with eight finishers and a calculated penalty of 142.17 would have an official penalty - 180.00.

Racers in First Five have USSA Points in Excess of Discipline Max

When at least five racers finish and have valid USSA points, but one or more of the five best racers by USSA points has points over the maximum (DH-820.00; SL-360.00, GS-530.00, SG-660.00), first determine the racers with the five best (lowest) valid USSA points. Then assign points at the maximum for the discipline to all of those racers whose points exceed the maximum. Next calculate the penalty according to the formula using these values.

Fewer than Five Racers Finish

When fewer than five racers finish a USSA sanctioned event and their results are submitted for scoring, the race penalty shall be calculated as follows:

- 1. Insert ‘ghost’ racers as necessary to bring the total of actual finishers and ‘ghost’ racers to five.
- 2. Assign each ‘ghost’ racer seed points of DH-820.00; SL-360.00; GS-530.00; SG-660.00.
- 3. Assign each ‘ghost’ racer race points equal to those of the lowest ranked (worst time) finisher.
- 4. Calculate the penalty according to the formula using these assigned values.
- 5. No race penalty can be calculated when there are fewer than three finishers.

Fewer than Five Racers in First Ten with Valid Seed Points

When there are fewer than five racers with valid points who finish in the first ten - or in the first nine, eight, etc. when there are nine, eight, etc. finishers - the race penalty shall be calculated as follows:

- 1. Assign points of DH - 820.00, SL - 360.00, GS - 530.00, or SG - 660.00 to the worst ranked competitor(s), finishing in the first ten - or nine, eight, etc. - in order to bring the total of racers with points to five including both those with valid points and those with assigned points.
- 2. Calculate the penalty according to the formula using these values.

Two or more Competitors are Ranked 10th

In the event where two or more competitors are ranked 10th in the race, they shall all be taken into consideration for the penalty calculation, as long as they are included in the five with the best points.

Two or more Competitors have the Fifth best Points

If two or more competitors have the fifth best points, which should be taken into consideration for the penalty calculation, the competitor with the higher race points will be considered for the penalty calculation. Reason: Better penalty.

USSA Application of Vertical Drop, Minimum Time and Minimum Penalty

When a USSA sanctioned event is submitted for scoring:

- A.The minimum penalty for a non-FIS USSA race is 25.00. If the calculated penalty is lower than 25.00 the applied penalty shall be 25.00,
- B.If the minimum vertical drop requirement is met, then the minimum time requirement does not apply,
- C.If the minimum vertical drop requirement is not met, then the greater of the calculated or minimum penalty of 50.00 shall be applied,
- D.If the minimum vertical drop requirement is not met, but the minimum time requirement is, the greater of the calculated or minimum penalty shall be applied,
- E.If the minimum vertical drop requirement and the minimum time requirement are not met, then the greater of the calculated penalty plus the additional penalty or the minimum penalty shall be applied.

Data by Discipline

Event	Min VD	Alternate Minimum Time	Add Penalty
DH	400 m	60 seconds combined/max 2 runs (3.1.6.2.2)	26.00
SL	100 m	50 seconds combined for 2 runs (3.2.1.1.3)	12.00
GS	250 m	50 seconds combined for 2 runs (3.3.1.1.3)	17.00
SG	300 m	40 seconds for 1 run (3.4.1.1.3)	21.00

Examples

- 1. A GS meets VD requirements, has a total time of 49.98 seconds, and has a calculated penalty of 4.35, the applied penalty is 25.00 (the minimum non-FIS USSA penalty is applied).
- 2. A GS does not meet VD requirements, has a total time of 65.28 seconds, and has a calculated penalty of 12.90: the applied penalty is 50.00 (minimum penalty).
- 3. A SG does not meet VD requirements, has a total time of 38.12 seconds, and a calculated penalty of 16.23: the applied penalty is 50.00 (minimum penalty).
- 4. A SG does not meet VD requirements, has a total time of 38.12 seconds, and a calculated penalty of 45.45: the applied penalty is 66.45 (calculated penalty and additional penalty for SG).
- 5. A DH does not meet VD requirements, has a 2 run total time of 64.98 seconds, and a calculated penalty of 18.95: the applied penalty is 50.00 (minimum penalty).

Technical standards must be entered accurately in the electronic version of the results submitted to USSA to ensure that races are scored properly.

Penalty Manipulation

Any competitor, official or coach clearly involved in artificially affecting penalty points may, on the recommendation of the technical delegate/jury and following review by regional/national offices and staff, Classification Working Group and perhaps the Alpine Sport Committee, be disqualified or sanctioned. Competition staff can withhold from scoring any race results that have the appearance of deliberate distortion. The USSA Ranking Manager shall be notified and such races held for review and action by the Classification Working Group at the annual meeting. Coaches and Officials may be sanctioned by their respective organizations.

Points List

- The basic purposes of the points list are:
1. Measure the relative performances of all competitors in the classification system
 2. Serve as a tool to seed (organize) the start order of a race
 3. Provide a method of team selection.

As noted earlier, there are two seeding lists that concern USSA racers, the USSA Points Lists and the FIS Points Lists. The USSA Points List is published seven times during the season (fall, five mid-season updates, and spring). All valid USSA Youth, Students and Competitor members appear on the USSA points list. Only Competitor members are eligible for USSA points. An athlete is listed with 990.00 until they earn of better (lower) points.

In the Eastern region, 13 year-old skiers do not earn points, and 14 year-old skiers can only earn points at specific events.

How the Points List Works

In most cases, the average of the best two results in the current season, in each discipline (DH, SL, GS and SG) constitute the seed list points. As previously stated, the total points of a race are figured by adding the race points of the racer to the penalty points for the race.

The periods for evaluation are: Nov. 15 - Apr. 30 for N. Hemisphere and July 1 - Oct. 15 for S. Hemisphere for FIS, and Nov. 15 - Apr. 30 for USSA.

The points, as published in the Fall List (fall points) are used as a competitor's current seed points (or as one of his or her best results) until two races produce average points lower than the fall points. When this happens, fall points are no longer used to calculate current seed points.

In the case of a new competitor with no fall points, a double penalty is added to the first result to arrive at current seed points. For example, a new competitor earns a first result of 193.00 points in a GS race. The penalty in this case is 20 points, doubled is 40 points. 193.00 points plus 40.00 points gives current seed points of 233.00. When a second result is obtained the average of the two (with the penalty removed) will then appear as the current points even if the average is greater than the best result plus penalty.

“Base Points”

There are five calculations to determine the points at the end of the season: 1) if there are at least two results, the two best results from the season are averaged; or 2) if there is one result, a double penalty is added to that result; or 3) if there are no results, a double penalty is added to the previous fall points; or 4) points per 1, 2, and 3 are compared to select the better of ‘normally’ calculated points, or, previous fall points plus double penalty, or 5) a competitor is credited with the better of their FIS or USSA points for USSA ranking, even when individual FIS race results have not been submitted for scoring to the USSA point system.

These become the new base points. Base points, plus penalties, are used only when there are no current season results, as will be the case at the beginning of the following season, on the November (or Fall) USSA points lists.

Zeroing of USSA lists to FIS

The USSA lists are ‘zeroed’ each fall to bring them in line with the FIS points list - so that FIS and USSA points for a competitor appearing on both lists will be roughly

equivalent. This is done by comparing the FIS and USSA points of the top USA-FIS racers in each sex/discipline. The zeroing factors shall be such that the average of the USSA points of these representative competitors, after the factors have been added, approaches the average of the FIS points of these competitors. The adders are applied to every USSA racer's points.

Results of Non-USA Races

Results of non-USA FIS races are entered into the USSA Athlete Points System with the release of each FIS list.

PENALIZATION OF POINTS

“Non-activity” Adders and Point Penalization

There is no such thing as a ‘point freeze.’ The rules of the FIS and USSA points apply adders or penalties on ‘old’ points regardless of injury situations, calendar opportunities, etc. so that rankings do not remain static when prior point holders do not compete and thereby protect or do not ‘expose’ their points to others.

There are different levels of adders with single penalization applicable in case of injury or other specific situations when athletes have been prevented from competing; or double penalization when no such situation exists.

Single or Double Penalties

At the end of the season, the points earned from a single result in a discipline are subject to a double penalty, unless a single penalty is requested and approved. Likewise, in the absence of any results in a discipline, a double penalty is applied to previous base or fall points, unless a single penalty is requested and approved.

Formula for Determining Penalty Adders

The formula for determining the single adder (or ‘non-activity’ penalty) is based on a set percentage of the previous points, with minimum and maximum adders according to disciplines. Except for single penalties, this adder is then doubled.

Discipline	Minimum	Percentage	Maximum
Downhill	4	22%	26
Slalom	4	22%	14
Giant Slalom	4	22%	20
Super G	4	22%	20
Super Combined	4	22%	18

Examples of ‘double penalties’:

1. Single result of 45.00 points, 22% of 45.00, twice, equals 64.80
2. Base points of 12.57, plus minimum of 4.00, twice, equals 20.57
3. Base GS points of 123.45, plus 20.00 (max. adder) twice, equals 163.45

Single Penalization Situations (sickness, injury, other obligations)

Competitors who are unable to compete in sufficient scored events to maintain their seed points because of injury or illness, studies, military obligations, or church commitments may protect their points through single penalization. Single penalization cannot be requested for lack of calendar opportunities.

USSA and FIS membership must be renewed every year in order to maintain points, even when an athlete has single penalty protection for sickness, injury or other obligations. FIS membership must be renewed by June 1 to appear on the first FIS list and maintain FIS points.

Injury or Illness

Single penalization for FIS is updated every list. Documentation of injury with inability to compete information should be submitted immediately to the USSA assistant national competition director.

In order for a competitor to obtain a single penalization on a points list, he or she must submit the FIS and/or the USSA Single Penalty Request forms, which include:

1. Name and address of the injured.
2. Time/Date and place of the accident.
3. Type of injury.
4. Athletes signature with date.

A separate Medical Certificate from the athlete's physician detailing the injury and length of inability to compete is also required.

Inability to compete for more than one year, due to injury or illness, will result in a single penalty each year if requested by the athlete. Single penalization will be in addition to any general zeroing adders or other adjustments to the total list, and will be predicated on upkeep of USSA competitor membership and FIS registration. Medical certificates must be submitted by April 15 for FIS and by June 15 for USSA.

Professional, Educational, Military, or Religious Obligations

Applications for single penalization due to professional obligations must be submitted prior to the beginning of the period indicated. Later applications will not be considered.

Single Penalization for injury - Special Rules (USSA only)

When a racer is injured and out of racing for the season prior to the closing deadline for the second USSA list and has only one valid result in a discipline, points on the Spring USSA List shall be the better of:

1. That single result with a single penalty added, or
2. The previous Fall list points with the single penalty added. Racers must submit documented requests for single penalty prior to the June 15 deadline.

Approval of Single Penalty Requests (USSA only)

Single penalty applications are not automatically approved. Approval depends on timing of injury or illness, duration of inability to compete, the number of results and/or starts actually made - two finishes or three starts in DH or SG or five starts in SL or GS normally disqualify single penalty requests.

Consideration and approval of USSA single penalty requests and forwarding of FIS requests is the responsibility of the national alpine competition manager, whose decisions are subject to appeal in writing to the chairman of the Alpine Classification Working Group.

FIS AND USSA POINTS LIST DISTRIBUTION

Schedule

A schedule of list closing and valid dates is located at the front of this book under "Alpine Important Dates".

General Information

Both FIS and USSA lists are available for download from www.ussa.org. Individual points records may be viewed and ranking lists may be requested by various parameters including divisional affiliation and year of birth on the website as well.

Lists are posted as soon as possible and may be available prior to the valid date.

Race Organizers and the Points Lists Results and the USSA List Closing Dates

Every effort will be made to include all possible races on the points list, up to and including those run on the closing date, however, USSA must receive complete and valid results to be able to include them.

Results must be postmarked within five business days of event completion or a \$50 per race per gender fine will be assessed to the race organizer.

Results must be submitted electronically FIS/USSA approved XML format or a \$50 per race per gender fine will be assessed to the race organizer.

Results must be submitted by email in the approved XML format and by hard copy mailed to USSA for processing.

Results received after the deadline, and results that cannot be promptly processed because they are illegible, missing information, etc., will be processed as time permits and may not be included in the new list. Any results not included will be scored and reflected only in the next list published after completion of the result package and input processing.

Results and the FIS List Closing Dates

Race organizers are responsible to ensure that results and signed TD reports are received at the FIS office in Europe before the closing date.

Late results will be included in the next published list.

Racers who register with FIS through USSA will be inscribed to the next list, and results after registration will be credited to the next published list.

ALTERNATE SEEDING SYSTEMS

Instead of using the USSA or FIS ranking list, USSA Non-Scored and some USSA Scored races are seeded using approved Alternate Seeding Systems. These alternate systems must be presented to and approved by the Alpine Sport Committee on a quadrennial basis.

Approved systems include, but are not limited to: random, team seeding, TRS, Golden Rule, eastern modified bibbo and the Turton system.

PLACE POINT SCALES

World Cup & Continental Cup Points Scale

World Cup points are referred to frequently in ranking/selection procedures. According to the scale adopted by the FIS, points are awarded by place to the first thirty finishers according to the following scale.

In case of a tie (identical times), each tied racer receives the points for that place, according to the schedule. Following racers receive points according to their place.

Note: Ties will result in one, or more, vacant place(s). For example, a two-way tie for third means no 4th place points are awarded; next points go to fifth place. A three-way tie for first would mean next place points awarded are for fourth place.

There may be departures from this point scale, but following the same general principles.

Place Points		Place Points		Place Points	
1st	100	11th	24	21st	10
2nd	80	12th	22	22nd	9
3rd	60	13th	20	23rd	8
4th	50	14th	18	24th	7
5th	45	15th	16	25th	6
6th	40	16th	15	26th	5
7th	36	17th	14	27th	4
8th	32	18th	13	28th	3
9th	29	19th	12	29th	2
10th	26	20th	11	30th	1

Regional FIS Races and Other Designated Series

Also referred to as the 'old' World Cup points scale, the scale operates similarly to the 'new' World Cup scale, except that points from 25 down to 1 are awarded by place from the winner to 15th as follows:

Place Points		Place Points		Place Points	
1st	25	6th	10	11th	5
2nd	20	7th	9	12th	4
3rd	15	8th	8	13th	3
4th	12	9th	7	14th	2
5th	11	10th	6	15th	1

COMMON SELECTION SYSTEMS

Selection boards will not be reranked to reflect purged athletes due to scratches, illness, injury, etc.

National Team Selection Method (NTSM)

Names of competitors in contention are organized by appropriate points or rankings, FIS or USSA, but not mixed, in each discipline of the meet or series for which a team is to be selected (or according to national/regional/divisional/state policies). Each discipline is ranked in a separate vertical column, lowest points or best ranking on top

to higher points on bottom. Duplications of the same athlete in more than one column are listed.

Selection is accomplished by proceeding across each horizontal row, choosing the lowest points/ranking in the first row, second lowest points/ranking in that row, third and fourth, if appropriate, before moving down all columns to the next row. As racers are selected in one column they are crossed out in all columns; however, lower listed racers do not move up in their columns when duplicated names are crossed out. Example, for three-event selection, using points in DH, SL and GS:

DH		SL		GS		NTSM Ranking Order
A	2.50	B	17.12	C	5.21	A
C	23.40	C	23.75	A	17.12	C
B	24.87	D	28.95	E	25.93	B
F	25.33	A	42.74	A	26.66	E
D	32.00	G	43.14	D	30.04	D
E	35.70	F	44.00	G	32.75	F
G	38.95	H	46.55	H	33.40	G

If the selections were for SL and GS only, then the ranking order would be: C, B, A, E, D, G, F. Or if for GS and DH only, then: A, C, B, E, F, D, G. If selections included SG, then a SG column would be included in the same fashion.

International Team Selection (ITS)

ITS differs slightly from NTSM in that the order of selection from each row is fixed, determined by the order of columns, rather than according to lower/lowest points or ranking in the row.

The order of each event is arranged into separate vertical columns, best on top, last on the bottom. The columns are arranged normally from left to right: DH, SL, GS, SG. Selection is accomplished by taking the top row of names (DH, SL, GS, SG) then going to the second person in the first column. Continue on across columns. If a name comes up a second (or more times) it is skipped. Always skip across from left to right, not down for repeats.

Example:

DH	SL	GS	SG	ITS Ranking Order
A	E	D	C	A
B	A	B	B	E
C	B	C	A	D
D	C	E	E	C
E	D	A	D	B

International Team Selection Method can be expanded to columns ordered by points, by discipline ranking, and by combination of results and points and/or ranking, as well (see Regional Selection Board Method following).

Regional Selection Board Method

The Regional Selection Board Method is similar to NTSM and ITS methods, except that it uses both place points and seeding points to build its selection tables. Details may vary for each team or series entry selection.

Rocky Mountain and Western Regions frequently use this general method to fill quotas for major events.

Setting up the Boards

Two selection boards are used, as follows:

1. One board is composed of ranking by place points earned in specified races/series in each discipline involved. A column is established in each discipline with the ranking racer in that discipline at the top of the column. The columns shall be arranged as prescribed by the policy for each event, division or region.
2. The second board is composed from the valid points list, FIS or USSA. A column is established for each discipline with the low point athlete in that discipline at the top of that column. The columns shall be arranged as prescribed by the policy for each event, division, or region, and considered in order.

Selection Procedures

Selection will be made by going across both boards choosing the best ranked racer in every column of each row of both boards before moving on to the next row. When a competitor appears who has already been selected in a previous row, selection continues across the same row, but skipping that competitor, until the end of the row is reached, before moving to the next row. For example:

Downhill standings in order: A, G, R, T

Slalom standings: B, D, Z, Q

Giant slalom standings: E, Q, D, B

Super G standings: D, E, Q, M

Downhill points: A, F, Z, T

Slalom Points: X, E, M, D

Giant slalom points: D, X, Q, L

Super G points: C, Z, D, Q

World Cup Point Board

DH	SL	GS	SG	DH	SL	GS	SG
A	B	E	D	A	X	D	C
G	D	Q	E	F	E	X	Z
R	Z	D	Q	Z	M	Q	D
T	Q	B	M	T	D	L	Q

Seed Point Board

Selection for a 12 person, four-event team would be:

A, B, E, D, X, C, G, Q, F, Z, R, M, T, L

Selection for a SL, GS Team would be:

B, E, X, D, Q, Z, M, L

More information on specific selection procedures used in your region, division or state appears in the Regional and Divisional Programs section of the Guide or in your regional, divisional or state handbook.

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CHAPTER 4

Series and Selections

2010 Competition Guide



www.ussa.org

This supplement to the USSA Skiing Competition Guide provides general information on the major events and series, many of which are invitational or only open to skiers qualifying by previous race record.

More details on the programs organized below the international and championship level may be found in the regional section of the Competition Guide or on regional, divisional and state websites.

For events and series where particular qualifications apply, the entry criteria, field size and design of the programs themselves have been carefully developed within USSA to provide programs to encourage involvement by many skiers and to provide opportunities for talented racers to reach their full athletic potential in alpine ski racing. Coaches and competitors are advised to check regional, divisional and state rules.

OLYMPIC WINTER GAMES

The Olympic Winter Games will be held Feb. 12-28, 2010 in Vancouver, Canada. Schedule information can be found on the VANOC website www.vanoc.org. Selection criteria is available at www.ussa.org.

FIS WORLD ALPINE CHAMPIONSHIPS

The FIS conducts Alpine World Ski Championships in every odd-numbered year. The 2011 Championships will be held in Garmisch-Partenkirchen, Germany.

Team selection criteria will be available at www.ussa.org in the Fall of 2010.

FIS ALPINE WORLD CUP

In contrast to the many sports where an Olympic medal serves as the only symbol of achievement, international alpine ski racers also look to the World Cup as the measure for determining the best over a full season of racing.

World Cup winners are named at the end of every season and are determined by the number of points accumulated in World Cup events in all four alpine disciplines and combined.

In addition to overall and individual discipline awards, a Nations' Cup is awarded to the national team that accumulates the most points over the course of the season, counting individual point totals of all team members.

Schedule information for the FIS Alpine World Cup can be found on the FIS website www.fisski.com.

NORAM CUP

The NorAm Cup is the most prestigious and important North American race series. The 'original' Continental Cup and parallel to the European Cup, only a notch below the competition of the World Cup circuit, this series has proven to be an excellent training and testing ground for both top national racers and for developing U.S. and Canadian athletes.

The U.S. and Canadian Ski Teams are represented at all NorAm events. Foreign racers, including World Cup contenders, often compete in these events raising the level of competition even more. The remainder of the participants are the best competitors from the regions and colleges of Canada and the U.S.

NorAm Cup winners are named in each of the individual disciplines based on points accumulated over the season according to the World Cup point scale. The overall winners are determined by adding the points scored in all disciplines. Discipline winners become individually qualified for World Cup participation in the discipline in the following season and are entitled to special start positions in other Continental Cup races in discipline.

Current NorAm calendars can be found on the FIS website www.fisski.com.

Eligibility

For consideration to the NorAm quotas, racers must be registered to appear on the FIS points list and must be current USSA competitor members in good standing with USSA and their home region. For the December NorAm technical events, men must have 80.00 or fewer FIS points in any discipline and women must have 100.00 or fewer FIS points in any discipline; for all other NorAm events, athletes must have 120.00 or fewer FIS points in any discipline in order to apply for selection. Development nominations are exempt from these limitations.

Quotas

	All except	Finals
USA events	50*	40
CAN events	30*	40

If either the USA or CAN does not fill its national quota, the other nation may use those unfilled spots; quotas are not always filled.

* At men's competitions that include a DH, an additional quota of 20 starts is available for the host nation.

Selection Procedures for all NorAms

- Nominations:** For each event, Eastern, Rocky/Central, Western, and Collegiate will submit a list of eligible athletes wishing to compete 32 days prior to the first team captains meeting.
- Ranking:** All athletes submitted will be ranked by NTSM in the discipline(s) to be contested using the most current FIS points list.
- Canadian and Other Foreign Entries:** The Canadian Ski Team and Canadian provinces collectively are entitled to quotas of 30 men and 30 women in the NorAm races staged in the USA.

Foreign competitors, properly entered by their own national federations, may compete in the NorAm Cup according to the FIS rules for Continental Cups. The

national federations must make entries to NorAm Cup races directly.

4. FIS Field Size Limits, International Quotas: Should the official entry list for any U.S. NorAm Cup event exceed the FIS maximum of 140 racers, the competition jury and USSA staff, shall select those U.S. racers who shall not be drawn to start, in order to reduce the field to the limit of 140 as necessary. In this case, the minimum USA entry quota is 30 and the maximum is 50, even if there should be unfilled Canadian quota slots.

5. Regional Selection Procedures: Each USSA Region fills its entry quota according to its own rules. The various procedures used by each region are elaborated in the respective regional chapter and website.

6. College Quota and Selection Procedures: Team-roster varsity collegiate athletes fill the college quota according to procedures established by the USSA Collegiate Skiing Working Group. Athletes must apply through their respective regional director for consideration. If selected, the college athlete will be entered and managed by the respective regional director or regional team leader.

7. Development Quota: Athletes may be invited by USSA staff to be entered on the development quota. Nominations for use of this quota must be made via the regional competition directors to the national competition director. Objective rankings, advancement history, other discretionary evaluation and athlete management factors will all be considered. The development quota is to be used primarily for junior athletes. The development quota is not intended to compensate for inflexible or inadequate regional procedures.

USA Events

	Men	Women
1. USST A, B, C and D Teams	25	22
2. Athletes with 400 or more NorAm points from prior or current season		
3. Collegiate (by collegiate ranking)	4	4
4. Eastern (by regional procedures)	4	4
5. Western (by regional procedures)	4	4
6. R/C (by regional procedures)	4	4
7. Up to 20% of the USA quota will be reserved for development consideration.		
8. Any remaining spots revert to the NTSM ranking list.		
9. Any remaining spots will revert to the host region within the final eight days prior to the event.		

* The Aspen speed series will include the U.S. National Championships for DH. Because of this designation, special selection rules are being developed and will be posted to the USSA website when they are completed.

CAN Events

- USST up to 20 athletes
- Athletes with 400 or more NorAm points in the current or immediate past season as defined by FIS CoC Rules.
- First six athletes from the NTSM list.
- Up to 20% of the USA quota will be reserved for development consideration.
- Any remaining spots revert to the NTSM ranking list.
- Any remaining spots will revert to development within the final eight days prior to the event.

Finals

1. USST A & B Teams
2. Athletes with 400 or more NorAm points in the current season
3. Ten athletes will be selected based on an NTSM of current NorAm standings in the discipline(s) to be contested utilizing all NorAm events contested prior to the finals.
4. All remaining spots, except four, selected based on the NTSM of FIS points in the discipline(s) to be contested.
5. Up to 20% of the USA quota will be reserved for development consideration.
6. Any spots that become available will revert to the NTSM of FIS points ranking.
7. Any remaining spots will revert to development within the final eight days prior to the event.

U.S. ALPINE CHAMPIONSHIPS

The U.S. Alpine Championships have long been a premier event on the calendar of alpine ski racing events. The entire U.S. Ski Team participates, and the events can attract top-level racers from Canada and Europe as well as the best regional and collegiate skiers.

The 2009 championships were conducted at Alyeska Resort, AK; the 2010 championships will take place at Lake Placid, NY from Mar. 20-23, 2010 for all disciplines except DH. A special DH championship will be held in conjunction with the Aspen NorAm speed series.

An exciting feature begun at the 1990 championships is the 'Regions' Cup', awarded to the regional team amassing the greatest total number of 'World Cup' points in all of the national championship races and combined. In 2005 the Regions Cup was renamed the Tom Garner Cup in memory of Tom Garner, former Rocky/Central Director and long time supporter of alpine ski racing. Only USA skiers participate on regional teams. USST members score points for their home region. USA collegiate athletes score points for the region in which the school exists.

In addition to individual titles in all disciplines, a combined champion is identified using the sum of times from SG and SL. National Junior Champions are recognized for 1st, 2nd and 3rd in all disciplines and combined.

Coaching staffs from each region are limited to ten individuals (not including regional directors).

USA Quotas (in order)

	Men		Women	
	SG	SL/GS	SG	SL/GS
USST	All	All	All	All
Collegiate ¹ & ³	6	13	5	10
Western ¹	13	13	10	10
Rocky/Central ¹	13	13	10	10
Eastern ¹	13	13	10	10
Development ²	X	X	X	X

¹ Maximum total team size, all disciplines: 18 men, 15 women

² Up to 12 to accommodate development nominations. Development quota should not be used to add events for specialists.

³ The top combined U.S. male and female athletes from the NCAA and USCSA National Championships will be selected to the technical events at the U.S. National Alpine Championships. NCAA athletes are selected by accumulated race points in SL plus GS. Ties will be broken by taking the best individual finish place in either SL or GS. The USCSA athletes are selected by purging foreign athletes from results then assigning new World Cup Points (100 to 1) for each event. The athlete with the greatest number of accumulated points will be selected. In the case of a tie, the skier with the lowest USSA points result in either the SL or GS, foreign athletes removed prior to penalty calculations, will be selected. If an athlete declines their position, the selection will revert to the NTSM of collegiate intents. These athletes will take the first positions on the college quota; the college quota is not expanded from previous rules. These athletes are not subject to the top 100 national ranking nor the 32-day intent provision as outlined in the college section of this guide.

All USA athletes must be registered to appear on the FIS Points Lists in order to be entered in the U.S. Alpine Championships.

Note: When circumstances warrant, the USSA Alpine Sport Committee, on recommendation of USSA staff, may apply objective qualification standards, or may otherwise further limit entry quotas, for the DH and SG events of the U.S. Alpine Championships, due to organizational and safety considerations. Such additional restrictions will consider athlete opportunities, performance in other disciplines, combined scoring, and other factors, and will be announced through the regions as much in advance as possible.

Foreign Entries

Up to 25 foreign competitors per race may enter. All foreign entries, including those for athletes attending USA colleges, universities, schools and academies, must be properly made by the athlete's national federation directly to USSA.

Regional Selection Procedures

Each USSA Region fills its entry quota according to its own rules, which are available on the respective websites.

Regional racers entered on development quota shall represent their regions and function as part of their regional group; they shall not be counted against their region's quota.

College Quota

Team-roster varsity collegiate athletes according to procedures established by the USSA Collegiate Skiing Working Group fill the college quota. Athletes must apply through their respective regional director for access to the college quota. If selected, the college athlete will be entered and managed by the respective regional director or regional team leader.

FIS ALPINE WORLD JUNIOR CHAMPIONSHIPS

The annual FIS World Junior Alpine Championships provide a unique opportunity for the best 15-19 year-olds of the skiing world to compete together. The 2010 World Junior Championships will be held in Mont Blanc, FRA Jan. 30 - Feb. 6. The World Junior Championships are important competitions in the development of future World Cup contenders, and World Cup skiers are usually found on the official entry lists.

Team Selection Criteria

Selection criteria stresses current season performance and is available at www.ussa.org.

FIS-UNIVERSITY RACES

Additional opportunities for international collegiate competition are available through the events of the FIS-Uni (International University Ski Federation). Although these events are university competitions, the rules provide for limited non-university participation.

The rules for FIS-U competitions allow entry by up to 30 USA men and 30 USA women who are not FIS-U eligible, plus an additional two USA men and two USA women who are 16 to 18 years of age and in a regular program leading to a high school diploma within two years. For more information, refer to the FIS rulebook “Rules for FIS-Uni Competitions (edition 2008)”.

Quotas and Entries

The USSA Collegiate Working Group and the Alpine Sport Committee have established entry priorities in order to hold the field size for FIS-U races to that allowed by the FIS rules and organizational considerations.

1. Varsity teams, as defined by the college conferences
2. Eligible foreign university team members
3. USA quota for non-collegiate athletes (30 + 2)
 - a. Any athlete interested in competing must express interest at least 21 days in advance of the competition to their home region director.
 - b. Athletes who have expressed interest will be ranked using an NTSM of FIS points in the discipline to be contested. The athletes will be notified of their start rights as soon as possible after the ranking has been done.
 - c. Up to 20% of the USA quota may be used for development to be managed by the host regional director.
 - d. The additional 2/2 slots may be filled by competition directors according to their own procedures. Athletes interested in the non-University quota must apply to their regional office at least three weeks in advance; athletes to be entered will be announced two weeks in advance.
 - e. FIS-U events calendared in the USA must include at least ten men and ten women who are non-collegiate athletes.
4. Other FIS-U eligible athletes including non-student foreign athletes as entered by their federation adhering to FIS quotas.
 - a. Each visiting nation may enter up to four non-student athletes per gender as part of their maximum quota of 12 per gender.

FIS-University Series

The FIS-U series uses a modified Continental Cup starting order. All rules for the Alpine Continental Cups, Section 3. ‘Starting Order’ and Section 4 ‘Points’, shall apply, with the following exceptions:

- 3.1.4 Validity of the Basic List, “After the second third race in that discipline in the current season the basic list will be deleted.”
- 3.2.1 Special Group, “Competitors who have accumulated at least 200 400 Cup points in the overall classification of the Continental Cup may start as number 16 in all disciplines in that Cup only, unless they have a right to start in the first 15.”
- 3.3 does not apply.

REGIONAL FIS SERIES

In addition to the major national events like the NorAms, U.S. Alpine Championships, and the USSA Junior Olympics, USSA conducts local races.

Each region structures its series within the framework of FIS and USSA policy. Most events are open to racers from other regions and divisions per quotas and also are open to foreign skiers, depending on the particular entry rules. In order to control the size of the fields in these events, the regional competition committees establish quotas and selection procedures per USSA ASC policies. Most regions incorporate the results of these circuits into their selection procedures for higher-level competitions.

Consult each regional website and rules for details of the various regional FIS race series’ including the Banknorth Eastern Championships and Banknorth Eastern Cups, Central Mid-America Series, Surefoot Colorado Ski Cup, and Western Region FIS Series.

Regional FIS Quotas, Selections, Entries

Quotas

U.S. Ski Team	All
Foreign entries	Per FIS ICR
Visiting regions	10 men/10 women per region
Host region	70
Development	5 men/5 women

The concerned regions may agree on additional quotas for specific events.

Racers wishing to enter FIS events out of their own region must have fewer than 120.00 USSA points in any discipline to be considered (except Alaska men and women and Northern women). Host regions may relax the above quotas or points level requirements. Athletes must be entered by their home regional office.

In order to insure that out-of-division racers are competitive in the field that they are entering, regional directors may use discretion to further restrict the entry of racers from their region into out-of-division events, especially when there is no defined qualification procedure.

In regional FIS races, the appropriate regional/divisional offices must confirm all out-of-region quotas 21 days prior to the first seed meeting for the event. Official entries, with fees, will be due 48 hours prior to the first seed meeting.

Regional/divisional offices may establish procedures to collect appropriate funds from the individual competitors entered by that region. In the event of mitigating circumstances, ‘force majeure’, the USSA regional director concerned will determine if and how any exceptions to these policies should be allowed, on a case-by-case basis.

If all divisions and regions are within quota(s) and a Regional FIS race is oversubscribed, all USA athletes in the race are subject to being pulled from the seeding board. The USA athletes who will be pulled are those with the highest seeding points in the race until the subscription limit is reached. Eastern region has its own procedure when a race is over-subscribed. No USA athlete will be pulled from a second race in an event/series until all USA athletes have been pulled from one race in the event/series.

For events where the field size must be restricted to a total of fewer than 140, for example, events with men’s and women’s DHs on the same venue, the host region

determines the acceptable field size, reducing the host region entries accordingly. (Any necessary reduction below this announced 'target' field would be made as in the preceding paragraph.)

Racers who enter out-of-division events and fail to either attend or to formally withdraw their entries, via the USSA alpine office serving the location of race, should expect disciplinary sanction from their own region and may be barred from future entry to out-of-division events including NorAms, U.S. Alpine Championships, national FIS Races, and USSA Junior Olympics events. Entries should be withdrawn as soon as racers are aware of their change of plans.

USSA JUNIOR OLYMPIC PROGRAM

USSA, in cooperation with the regions and sites, has organized the Junior Olympic or junior national program into a highly competitive junior championship event in all of our USSA snow sports.

The Alpine Junior Olympic Program will include 6 events providing a championship incentive for junior athletes from 11-19 years of age. These events are organized on a regional basis for the younger racers and on a national basis for the older juniors.

Eligibility

Event	USSA	FIS
Jr. 2 Olympics	Competitor	Registered
Jr. 3 Olympics	Competitor	NA
Jr. 4 Festivals	Youth	NA

Quotas

Each USSA region fills its entry quota according to its own rules, subject to national guidelines. Please consult the regional chapter and handbooks for more information.

Junior 1 Olympics (17-19)

Junior 1 athletes (17-19) will be recognized as the top performing juniors at the U.S. National Alpine Championships. The top 3 juniors (15-19) in each discipline and combined will be crowned as the National Junior Champions at the Nationals.

Junior 2 Olympics (15-16)

Athletes will be selected to the J2 National Championships by membership on the USST or by their home Regions. This event will help focus development efforts on the top 15 and 16 years olds in an effort to ensure sustained performance at the World Junior Championships.

The J2 Championships includes a regions cup. This regions cup will be calculated like the FIS World Junior Championship nations cup where the top 10 finishers in each event are awarded place points. The region with the highest total place points at the end of the Championship will be awarded the regions cup.

The accredited coaching and staff delegation from each region will not exceed 15 individuals.

Quotas

1. USST Automatic
2. World Junior Championship Team Automatic

3. 20 Men and 15 Women per Region

4. 20 Men and 15 Women reserved for Development. Development considerations should include first year J2 athletes as appropriate.

Junior 3 Olympics (ages 13-14)

The USSA Junior Olympics program for racers age 13 and 14 culminates in three regional USSA Championships. The top finishers at each of these events will have the opportunity to compete at the International Children's event at Whistler, Canada.

Each USSA region fills its entry quota according to its own rules. The various procedures used by each region are elaborated in the respective regional chapters and handbooks. Please consult these areas for further details.

Junior 4 Festivals (ages 11-12)

At this level the focus is on skill development and the opportunity to ski with their peer group rivals from other states and divisions. The respective regions manage quotas for the J4 Festivals. More information is available on the regional websites.

Procedures

Athletes are eligible to compete only in the Junior Olympic event of their USSA Region. Athletes are not entitled to compete in more than one Junior Olympic event.

Contacts

The USSA regional directors manage and oversee the USSA Junior Olympic program. Contact your respective regional staff for more information.

CANADIAN EVENTS

Alpine Canada Alpin (ACA) and its provincial components organize a program of competitions annually including national championships and regional FIS competitions. USSA does not encourage travel to Canadian events as a matter of common practice.

Details of major Canadian events may be found in the FIS International Race Calendar at www.fisski.com.

Access for U.S. athletes to Canadian events is through the regional offices for provincial events and the national office for national events. Special international licenses are not required for U.S. racers competing in Canada, but current FIS registration is mandatory. All entries are made by USSA.

Access to Canadian FIS race projects will be managed for USSA athlete development; selection of interested athletes will be both objective and subjective.

Additional guidelines and requirements apply to entry into these events. Complete details and instructions are available from your regional/divisional offices. As a general rule, the U.S. may claim a quota of up to 15 men and 15 women in Canadian competitions, FIS and national, subject to the approval of the Canadian officials involved. By agreement with ACA, certain FIS events in each country may be subject to specific, more rigorous, objective qualifications even if this results in quota slots not being fully utilized. Development selections by USSA national and regional directors may be possible per the agreement with ACA. In general, athletes who have not qualified for a series in their own country will not be eligible to participate in the equivalent series across the border if these events have been identified for higher

objective qualification standards. (Examples: USA and Canadian Spring Series).

Should more USA racers wish to enter a Canadian FIS competition than can be accommodated, racers will be ranked as follows:

1. U.S. Ski Teams,
2. By NTSM of FIS point rankings in the contested disciplines
3. 20% of the available slots may be reserved for development selections.

In order to enter FIS events in Canada, USSA competitors must be registered to appear on the FIS points lists and have 120.00 FIS points or better in any discipline; or they must be participating in a nationally or regionally-approved development activity. Requests for development consideration must be submitted a minimum of 32 days in advance. Regional director approval is mandatory. Guidelines and forms will be provided on request to the regional offices.

For races in eastern Canada, the USSA Eastern office will coordinate and confirm entries. For races in western Canada, the USSA Western office will handle entries. Entries are only to be made by these offices or the USSA national office.

Racers entered in Canadian FIS competitions must be properly represented at all Team Captains' meetings, or otherwise accounted for according to the FIS ICR, or they will be pulled from the board. Racers entered in Canadian FIS competitions who fail to withdraw in a timely manner, and/or who fail to start in races to which they have been entered, are subject to sanction/discipline including prohibition from entry into future Canadian FIS events.

INTERNATIONAL CHILDREN'S RACING

The USSA, through the National Development System, will select, enter and field a team of boys and girls in the J3 category (year of birth 1995-1996) in two FIS international children's competitions. Those events are the Trofeo Topolino in Italy and the Whistler Cup in Canada. Athletes will qualify for these events based on regional procedures. For more information contact your regional director.

These are the only FIS international children's competitions which are authorized for USA athletes by the Alpine Sport Committee.

U.S. ALPINE SKI TEAM

The U.S. Ski Team represents the highest level of competition in the USA. The Team is comprised of the best skiers who compete annually in races around the globe. Top athletes from the Ski Team take part in Olympic and World Championship competition.

The Team consists of athletes who all had their start years ago in local ski programs. They have advanced through local races to divisional/state and regional junior competitions, to international events in North America and then overseas and, ultimately, qualifying through published criteria for the Ski Team.

The Ski Team trains and fields athletes in international competitions to achieve sustained international excellence. The Team's successes are gauged by Olympic and

World Championship medals, top three places in World Cup races, and season-long World Cup titles. Success in these events is the focus and primary goal of the USST.

The National Development System (NDS) is the stepping-stone between USSA club programs and the Ski Team. The NDS has coaches and coordinators in key locations around the U.S. to produce development projects and to assist emerging athletes and coaches with more advanced training and competition opportunities.

Criteria for nomination to the Ski Team is reviewed yearly. The nominating criteria looks at success in international competitions and how the athletes are ranked against all other athletes in the world.

Nomination criteria for the U.S. Alpine Ski Team is available at www.ussa.org.

U.S. ADAPTIVE SKI TEAM

Event and team criteria are available at www.ussa.org. More information on adaptive racing can be found at both the USSA website and at www.paralympic.org.



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CHAPTER 5

Regional and Divisional/State Programs

2010 Competition Guide



www.ussa.org

This chapter of the USSA Alpine Competition Guide provides information on alpine competition programs within each USSA region and division/state. Contact information for USSA's alpine field staff is in the front of the guide. A complete listing of regional and divisional/state committees is in the USSA Directory which can be found on the USSA website.

EASTERN REGION

USSA alpine competition programs in the Eastern region are conducted within the framework of USSA programs, rules and procedures, as modified by the regional alpine competition committee and its technical subcommittees. Within the USSA Eastern region, state racing associations offer programs in conjunction with USSA to provide training situations and race series for all levels.

Contact information for Eastern Regional staff and office is at the front of the Alpine Competition Guide.

USSA Eastern Region Alpine Pipeline

The USSA alpine competition program in the Eastern region is organized under three general categories: junior development, seeded competition, and masters competition. Appropriate USSA membership fees are required for all Eastern programs.

All competitors must carry their membership card at every race.

Eastern Region Rules and Procedures

The following modifications and definitions of FIS and USSA rules and procedures have been adopted in the USSA Eastern Region.

Membership

Appropriate membership in USSA is mandatory for all participants in the alpine programs of the Eastern Region. Eastern J3 Competitors are required to hold a USSA competitor membership to participate in races used as qualifying events leading to state championships and Junior Olympic events. Competitors must carry their membership card to every race. Be aware that membership processing and return mail can take up to two weeks after receipt of application in Park City.

Valid and sufficient medical/accident insurance is mandatory. Proof of insurance must be carried with the racer and available at each race.

Membership in a state racing association is required. A competitor may only belong to one state association. A racer shall race for the state and region in which he/she resides or in which they are attending school and/or training on a long-term basis. The decision, which must be made at the start of the season, must be based on where the racer spends the greatest part of his/her ski training and it must be abided by for the entire season, unless there are extraordinary circumstances. Competitors must join their State Associations by December.

Race Entries

The standard deadline for fully paid entries for all USSA races to be received by the race organizer is five days prior to the start of the first event or official training. Entries received after the deadline and/or not accompanied by payment of full entry fee, can be considered late entries. Late entries may be charged up to 150% of the entry fee. Competitors may withdraw entries without forfeiture of any entry fees paid until 5:00

p.m. two days before the race or the start of official training. After that time, the race organizer is obligated to refund entry fees only if the entrant can prove that his or her inability to compete was due to force majeure (circumstances beyond the racer's control).

For any USSA Eastern Region competition in which the field is composed in part or wholly of quotas of various competition organizations, the competition organization must enter its complete quota prior to the established entry deadline. Competitors entered under an Eastern, state, or foreign quota are not required to pay entry fees until the race registration and cannot be charged a late entry fee.

For Eastern regional FIS events, competitors qualifying through a regional, state, or development quota must confirm or deny their participation in the event with the Eastern USSA staff and their state chairperson, prior to the entry deadline. The field will be finalized at a published team captain's meeting at which all athletes must be represented. **Once the draw is complete, failure to attend the event, for reasons other than force majeure, may result in revocation of the right to compete at the FIS level on a USA quota for specified future events.**

Out of Region Travel

As a member of a team named by USSA Eastern, for designated out-of-division races which are organized and staffed by the Eastern Region office, staff may arrange for all ground transportation, lodging, entries and coaching. In most cases, competitors will be required to make their own airline reservations. Each competitor may be charged a package price, payable before departure.

USSA J4 and first year J3 athletes who are registered as Eastern competitors (identified by an E# USSA Competition Membership) are not eligible to earn USSA points out of region. Eastern J3's and J4's may race out of region with permission of the Eastern regional staff. Any Eastern J4 or first year J3 athlete who does race out of region will not be credited with any USSA points from these races. 'Eastern Children's Point Waiver' forms are available through the Eastern office. A signed (by parent or guardian) form must be returned to the Eastern Office prior to departure for the race. The Eastern Office makes all out of Region entries.

For out-of-division regional FIS series, the East usually has a quota of 10 men and 10 women. Qualified competitors who wish to be considered for entry into an event on the Eastern quota must submit a request in writing to the Eastern Region office **received no later than 21 days prior to the first seed meeting of the first event in the schedule.** USSA Regional staff will make selections. Individual FIS Series may be designated for development purposes in lieu of standard selection procedure and requirements.

It is the competitor's responsibility to confirm their place on an Eastern quota. Likewise, it is the competitor's responsibility to notify the Eastern Office immediately if they wish to be withdrawn from the quota.

For out-of-division USSA Races, please contact the Eastern Region office for authorization and coordination of entry into non-Eastern events.

For Canadian races: the U.S. usually has a quota of 15 men and 15 women. The USSA regional director must approve regional, divisional and/or local club entries into Canadian FIS races in advance, in writing. **Names for Canadian competitions must be submitted to the Eastern office 32 days in advance for entries to be considered. Inclusion on the valid FIS list is required for entry into Canadian FIS races.**

While the regional office will authorize and submit the official entries, every racer is responsible for their own arrangements. Do not send payment to the office unless specifically instructed to do so; **be prepared to pay organizers directly in cash (Canadian) or some other form of guaranteed funds.**

Selections and Standings

For Information on Selection to Regional events, Eastern Regional Team, updated Standings, and Camp information, please go to the Eastern Link on the USSA web site www.ussa.org.

EASTERN STATE ASSOCIATIONS

Much of the lower level of Eastern competition is organized through state racing associations. Membership in one state association is required. See the Eastern Regional Rules and Procedures for more details. State associations may set rules, require membership, develop schedules and series, and fill quotas subject to USSA approval. All racers are responsible for being properly registered to compete and qualify for events.

Competitors must be members in good standing with their respective state association in order to be eligible for the following state association programs: qualifying series, quota-based invitational and Eastern region events, state teams and Junior Olympics, scored series, and state awards.

Racers and coaches should be familiar with their state's program. Many state associations publish newsletters or guides of their own which explain in detail their specific programs. The following list of state associations each provides key contacts if you need more information.

New Jersey Ski Racing Association - NJSRA

NJSRA membership renewals are automatically invoiced through USSA. New NJSRA members should indicate New Jersey as their state affiliation and enclose the appropriate NJSRA dues along with their USSA fees. The New Jersey Ski Racing Association organizes alpine competition in New Jersey, selects racers to represent the state in regional competition, and awards a SL, GS and Governor's Cup to J1 and J2 competitors. A Garden State Award is presented to the top Masters competitor.

The NJSRA membership fee is \$30 for racers and \$10 for coaches. Members are to renew and/or join NJSRA with their USSA membership. Renewing members are to sign up no later than Oct. 15th to avoid USSA and NJSRA late fees. Following Oct. 15 NJSRA membership fees will be \$50. All memberships include a calendar/competition guide. The calendar contains information on eligibility, state team quotas and selection criteria, state awards and race dates. Additional calendars may be purchased for \$10 each. For additional membership information and a New Jersey Comp Guide contact: New Jersey Ski Racing Association, Box 265, McAfee NJ 07428.

Maine Alpine Racing Association - MARA

MARA membership renewals are automatically invoiced through USSA. New MARA members should indicate Maine as their state affiliation and enclose the appropriate MARA dues along with their USSA fees. Foreign competitors may indicate their affiliation with Maine and include MARA dues with USSA dues for processing, or, may send MARA dues directly to MARA, 141 Jed Martin Rd, Rumford Point ME 04276.

The MARA membership fee is \$30 for coaches and for SR, J1, J2, J3, and J4 racers, and \$10 for J5 racers. Renewing MARA members (except J5's) should add a \$20 late fee for renewals postmarked after Oct. 15. Active TD's receive complimentary MARA membership. MARA welcomes contributions from officials, parents, and other supporters of alpine racing in Maine.

For further information, please visit the MARA website at www.skimara.org - or write to MARA, 141 Jed Martin Rd, Rumford Point ME 04276 tel. 207.332.2565, fax 888.713.3350, email darlene@skimara.org or info@skimara.org.

New Hampshire Alpine Racing Association - NHARA

Membership in the New Hampshire Alpine Racing Association is open to competitors of all ages and abilities and to coaches, officials, parents, and supporters with an interest in alpine ski racing. The state program is outlined in the NHARA Handbook. NHARA membership applications must be submitted by Dec. 1 of the competition season to avoid a late fee. Schedules and qualifying information will be mailed to all members and NHARA clubs in the fall. For information and membership applications contact: Laurie Stevens, NHARA, Box 1402, Campton NH 03223, tel. 603.726.7578 email lauriestevens@roadrunner.com or Emily Crane, 1892 River Rd, Plymouth NH 03264, tel. 603.968.4429 email etcrane@metrocast.net or visit the NHARA website at www.nhalpine.org.

New York State Ski Racing Association - NYSSRA

The New York State Ski Racing Association welcomes all people interested in the sport of alpine ski racing. Membership application forms are available at www.nyssra.org. Applications must be submitted by Oct. 15 to avoid a late fee.

The New York Alpine Competition Manual is mailed to the families of all competitors, coaches and races officials when they join each year. An online manual is available at www.nyssra.org.

For additional information contact Connie Webster – conniew@nyssra.org

Pennsylvania Alpine Racing Association - PARA

The Pennsylvania Alpine Racing Association is open to competitors of all ages and abilities, coaches, officials, parents, and supporters with an interest in alpine ski racing. Membership applications, programs, rules, qualification procedures, race schedules, and links to online race registration may be found at www.paracing.org.

The PARA individual membership fee is \$35 - racers and members-at-large; \$5 – coaches and alpine officials. Membership renewals must be received no later than Oct

15, 2009 to avoid late fees.

For additional information and membership applications see the PARA website at www.paracing.org or contact PARA Membership Chair Sheila Nickle tel. 908.850.1130 email membership@paracing.org.

Southern Alpine Racing Association - SARA

The Southern Alpine Racing Association is open to all residents of Virginia, West Virginia, North Carolina, and South Carolina, Georgia and people in surrounding areas who enjoy skiing in our area. SARA welcomes any person with an interest in the sport of alpine ski racing. Parents of racers and volunteers are also encouraged to join. For more information about SARA and to apply for membership, visit our website at www.skisara.org. You may also contact John Patrick email skierjohnp@charter.net, tel. 423.863.1890.

Tri-State Alpine Racing Association (MA, CT, RI)

The Tri-State Alpine Racing Programs are open to all residents of MA, CT and RI according to regional rules. For more information regarding Tri-State membership, programs, rules and qualifying procedures, contact Laura Sullivan, Tri-State Administrator, PO Box 239, Cummington MA 01026, tel. 413.634.8036 fax 413.634.5046 email LauraSullivan@Tristateskiracing.org or visit the Tri-State website, www.tristateskiracing.org. Membership fees are: SR/J1/J2/J3/J4 - \$25; J5 - \$10; coaches and officials - \$15; parent or sponsor membership \$15.

Vermont Alpine Racing Association (VARA)

The Vermont Alpine Racing Association is open to persons of all ages and abilities. Competitors, coaches, Vermont clubs/programs/academies and alpine officials are required to join VARA. Parents and volunteers are encouraged to join VARA as supporting members. New applicants and renewals may request membership forms from VARA, PO Box 82, Cavendish VT 05142, tel. 802.226.8188 fax 802.226.7117. Please visit www.vara.org for more information.

Eastern Amateur Ski Educational Foundation

The Eastern Amateur Ski Educational Foundation (EASEF) is a fund that has been established to benefit the development of competitive skiing. It is a non-profit organization that supports alpine, cross country, jumping, freestyle and snowboard development programs in the Eastern Region. A special alpine account has been set up to benefit our eastern athletes. Specifically, funds raised for alpine are spent to directly reduce the costs to the athletes, by supporting competitor travel to national and international events, and to training camps and similar opportunities.

EASEF relies entirely on contributions for the support it provides our athletes and programs. If you want to help Eastern alpine competitors, we guarantee that any contribution earmarked "Alpine" will do just that.

Eastern skiers need your help more than ever. EASEF can make a difference for those who have the ability to ski, not necessarily the ability to pay. From Junior 3's and 4's to Junior Olympic and NorAm racers, our skiers need financial support. Make your contributions to: EASEF, PO Box 1720 Station A, Rutland VT 05701.

ROCKY/CENTRAL REGION

The USSA Rocky Mountain/Central Region is comprised of the Rocky Mountain and Central divisions. The Rocky/Central Alpine Competition Committee (ACC) is the governing body for the region. Regional selection procedures, championship events, regional development programs, and regional scheduling are designed and approved by the Rocky/Central ACC. Regional development programs are designed to assist the top athletes in the region at each age level.

Rocky/Central Regional Staff

Regional Director - Terry DelliQuadri, tdelliquadri@ussa.org, tel. 435.640.8504

Rocky Manager - Darlene Nolting, dnolting@ussa.org, tel. 435.647.2088

Central Manager - Brewster McVicker, bmcvicker@ussa.org, tel. 435.714.9243

Rocky/Central Alpine Competition Committee

Dave Waller	Central	Chair
Pat Callahan	Rocky	Vice-Chair
Jeff Bruggeman	Central	
Casey Charlson	Central	
Bob Dart	Rocky	
Darryl Landstrom	Central	
Jon Nolting	Rocky	
Roger Perricone	Rocky	
Bill Slattery	Central	
Anje Worrell	Rocky	

For comprehensive information on Rocky/Central Regional policies and procedures and other regional information such as: selection procedures, forms, race calendars and teams, please see the Regional website via the "links" on the USSA website, www.ussa.org.

ROCKY/CENTRAL DIVISIONS

Central Division

The Central Division of the U.S. Ski and Snowboard Association (USSA) is part of the Rocky/Central Region. The mission of USSA Central is to provide the highest quality racing and training opportunities for Central athletes that will help them achieve their highest potential as individuals and ski racers. The Central Division supports the vision of the USSA to become the best in the world in ski racing. USSA Central will achieve its mission by creating and maintaining comprehensive athlete development programs to support clubs with their emerging athletes, and by organizing world-class events with recognition for achievement and participation.

Membership Requirements

Central Division racers must first complete their USSA membership and designate Central on the registration form. Forms may be obtained from the USSA Membership office by calling 435.647.2666. Central athletes must then register with their respective regions (see below). Regional registration materials will be sent by the regional offices

to returning members in the fall. New members must contact their regional administrator for information.

Central Division Boundaries

The Central Division alpine racing program is divided into four local regions. They are:

Region 1: Minnesota; North and South Dakota; Iowa west of Route 63

Region 2: Upper Peninsula of Michigan west of Route 77; Wisconsin; Iowa east of Route 63; Illinois and Missouri

Region 3: Lower Peninsula of Michigan; Upper Peninsula of Michigan east of Route 77; Indiana

Region 4: Ohio and Kentucky

Athletes must compete in the region where they reside and train. If there are extenuating circumstances that prevent an athlete from competing in the region in which they reside and train, that athlete must petition the division for change in regional affiliation.

Regional Contacts

Region 1

Elaine Kolkman
9573 Xylon Ave S
Bloomington MN 55438
T: 952.943.1214
F: 952.943.1226
ekolkmann@mn.rr.com
www.skifast.com

Region 3

Cathy Janowiak
1920 Blossom Tr
Manistee MI 49660
T: 231.723.7512
F: 231.723.9367
cathy@region3cussa.org
www.region3cussa.org

Region 2

Jerry and Peggy Acosta
1109 2nd Ave W
Ashland WI 54806
T: 715.682.0480
F: 715.682.2050
jerryacosta@charter.net
www.region2cussa.com

Region 4

Sandy Waller
11570 Blackberry Lane
Chesterland OH 44026
T: 440.729.3859
halcyondes@aol.com
www.region4cussa.org

For information on governance, schedules, rules and regulations please refer to the Central Division website - www.centralussa.org.

Rocky Mountain Division

The purpose of the USSA Rocky Mountain program is to provide the best opportunities possible for all competitors to ski race and pursue personal athletic goals. One of USSA Rocky's main objectives as a division includes improving the quality of competition in the USA and the Rocky Mountain region. The program is structured to allow flexible administration of competitions and competitors with special consideration given to race location, travel, education coordination, ability and age classifications and economics.

For comprehensive information on the Rocky Mountain Division policies and procedures and other divisional information such as: selection procedures, forms, race calendars and teams please refer to the Divisional website at www.rmdussa.com.

WESTERN REGION

The USSA Western Region is one of three USSA regions established under the authority of the Alpine Sport Committee and responsible for the regulation of the sport of Alpine Ski Competition within the geographical area of the Western United States. It consists of the five western divisions: Alaska, Far West, Intermountain, Northern and Pacific Northwest. The Western Region Alpine Competition Committee establishes the regional policies, procedures and operating rules for the Western Region. The region schedules all FIS races and Junior Olympic competitions in the West for each season, fields teams for NorAms, the U.S. Alpine Championships, and other events, conducts a series of development projects for regional and divisional athletes, and names a Regional Team, the Western Elite Ski Team (W.E.S.T.) for who's members the region assists in their development within the athletic pipeline of USSA and the National Development System.

Mission Statement

The Mission of the Western Region ACC is to:

1. Promote elite level alpine competition within the boundaries of the Western Region, recognizing the region's role at the elite level and the division's roles at the entry level and club levels of the sport.
2. Coordinate the efforts of the five divisions within the Western Region in areas of common interest, concern, and responsibility.
3. Promote the development of elite athletes from the five divisions of the Western Region.
4. Maintain a governance structure that provides for the collective needs of the five western divisions, and represents the five western divisions to the Alpine Sport Committee for Alpine as a subcommittee of that committee.

Western Web Site

The complete policies and procedures for Western Region Programs appear on the Western website that can be reached via the "links" feature on the USSA Alpine Web page. Included are sections on:

- Western Region Governance
- Officers and Alpine Sport Committee Members
- Operational Rules
- Western Region Appeals Committee
- Regional Programs
- Western Region Team
- Western Race Events
- Western Quotas and Selection Procedures
- Junior Olympic Procedures
- Regional Awards
- Regional Automatics
- Project information and registration forms
- All Regional Forms such as Intent to Compete Declaration, Medical Release, Team Agreement, etc.
- FIS and JO series results

For more Information

Staff

Regional Alpine Director - Lester Keller, lkeller@ussa.org tel. 435.647.2035
Regional Coach - Jeff Pickering, jpickering@ussa.org tel. 406.471.0928
Regional Manager - Jennifer Stielow, jstielow@ussa.org tel. 406.425.1201

Officers

Chair - Craig Krueger, ckrueger@aboutmontana.net
Vice Chair - Karen Korfanta, kkorfanta@pcski.com
Treasurer - Bill Gunesch, bgunesch@centurytel.net
Secretary - Curtis Schuck, cshuck@portvanusa.com
Past Chair - Curt Hammond, curt.hammond@morganstanley.com

WESTERN DIVISIONS

Alaska Division

Ski competition within the Alaska Division is administered by the Alaska Alpine Competition Committee (ACC), which is comprised of representatives from each USSA member club. The ACC coordinates race schedules and development programs, establishes competition guidelines, and makes team selections for regional and national events.

Divisional Rules and Procedures

Membership: All competitors are required to be current members of USSA and hold a current USSA alpine competitor membership in order to compete in USSA scored races. YSL or student membership is recommended for all non-scored events. All Alaska USSA "competitor" members must pay Alaska Division dues. Alaska Division alpine competition is organized according to USSA age categories

Out-of-Division Travel

Athletes wishing to travel to any out of division races must notify the coaches working group chair, via their club coach, a minimum of 30 days before the event. Only these athletes will appear on the NTS board, which will be used to make the selections 25 days before the event. Selected athletes will have 48 hours to accept their selection, at which time a \$250 deposit is due. This deposit is non-refundable except in the event of injury or illness. The balance of the cost is due before the start of the event. The division will be responsible for collecting the cost of the trip from athletes. Athletes not in good standing with Alaska as of travel day of all divisional quota events are subject to immediate sanctioning. Good standing is defined as current USSA and Alaska Division membership and no outstanding debts owed the division. Send a check for the cost of the trip to the divisional administrator. Contact: Darcy Davis, email darcyd@pci.net, 134 Pacific View Dr, Anchorage AK 99515.

Finances

An athlete's divisional and national financial obligations must be paid prior to the athlete's departure for out-of-division or championship competition.

Far West Division

Alpine ski competition in the Far West, including California, Nevada and Hawaii is organized and conducted by Far West Skiing (FWS). Far West competitors are subject to the guidelines of the USSA and FIS.

FWS originally developed out of the need for uniformity in all phases of alpine ski racing: the eligibility and qualification of racers, standards and certification for coaches and officials, and clinics and training programs. As a division of USSA and the USSA Western Region, FWS plays a key role in U.S. alpine competition. FWS competition programs are the first step for local racers to national and international alpine ski competition.

Divisional Rules and Procedures

Membership in USSA is a requirement for participation in all Far West races. An additional FWS membership is required of all athletes, coaches and officials in Far West and is available for \$35 except for Mid-J3 competitors in which dues are \$50. After Oct. 15 the fee is \$60 except for Mid-J3 competitors which is \$75.

The complete rules and procedures governing the conduct of USSA Far West programs is in the current Far West Skiing Alpine Competition Manual published by FWS annually and available through the FWS office. The FWS Manual is posted on the Far West website, www.fwskiing.us.

Administration

The administration of alpine competition in the Far West is the responsibility of the Far West Skiing Alpine Competition Committee (FWS ACC), which in turn is responsible to the Far West Skiing board of directors (FWS BOD). Various subcommittees of the FWS ACC, each headed by a chairperson, actively oversee the different competition areas. The subcommittees work out proposals and new policies, which are discussed and fine-tuned by the FWS ACC and presented to the FWS BOD for approval.

FWS maintains a divisional office to support the needs of Far West competitors, coaches, officials, volunteers and clubs. The office disseminates important information regarding race schedules, racer qualification, selection to traveling teams, coaches and officials clinics, etc. All pertinent information, including schedules, selection lists and the manual, is posted on the Far West website at www.fwskiing.us. For questions or further information, please see the Far West website or contact the FWS administrator Lucy Schram email lucy@fwskiing.org tel. 530.559.4130.

Intermountain Division

The Intermountain Division (IMD) of the USSA involves alpine teams or programs from Utah, southern Idaho and southwestern Wyoming. IMD is structured into the Northern Section, teams from Idaho and Wyoming, and the Southern Section, teams from Utah. Within the two sections, junior racing events may differ in age group involvement, access, and quota selections for IMD wide events. This structure allows for more local racing at the grass roots level and divisional events for the more competitive levels. IMD fields single quotas to Western Regional events including Junior Olympics and FIS competitions.

Access to IMD races for out of division athletes and access for IMD athletes to out of division races, beyond those where an IMD quota is selected, requires permission of

the IMD Director and the governing USSA body in the other region, division, or state.

IMD is organized and conducted by the IMD Board of Directors and the IMD Alpine Competition Committee, in conjunction with the Western Region of USSA and the USSA Sport Committee. IMD competitors are subject to the applicable rules and guidelines of the USSA and the FIS.

Intermountain maintains a divisional office to support the needs of divisional membership. For questions regarding IMD policies, programs and general information refer to the IMD Handbook posted on the IMD website at www.ussa-imd.org or contact the Divisional Director, Carma Q. Burnett at carma@ussa-imd.org tel. 208.412.8565 or contact Steve Bounous, IMD ACC Chairman at sbsef@aol.com tel. 801.550.2426. The USSA/IMD Office mailing address is: 1770 W. State St. #343, Boise, Idaho 83702.

Membership Requirements

Membership in USSA is required for participation in all IMD races. A USSA alpine competitor membership is required for participation in USSA scored races. A youth membership is available for ages 12 and under, participating in non-scored races. A student membership is available for ages 13 and over not participating in scored races. In addition to a USSA membership, an IMD membership is required for all IMD athletes who wish to participate in IMD sanctioned events. USSA and IMD membership applications are available through the USSA Member Services at tel. 435.647.2666 or at info@ussa.org.

IMD Membership Fees

Class	Until Oct.15	After Oct. 15
Alpine Youth	\$20	\$20
Alpine Student	\$25	\$40
Alpine Competitor	\$50	\$65

Northern Division

Alpine competition in Montana, Yellowstone National Park, and in the northern Wyoming counties of Park, Hot Springs, Big Horn, Washakie, Sheridan, Johnson, Campbell, Crook Weston, Converse, and South Dakota west of the Missouri River is organized by USSA Northern Division within the framework of USSA, FIS and Western Region programs, procedures and rules. The USSA Northern Division board of directors, through its Alpine Competition Committee, coordinates and supervises activities in the area. For the name of the ski program in your area contact the Northern Division website at www.northernussa.org.

For questions contact the Northern Division Manager at the telephone number listed below and on the Northern Division website. Volunteers working with USSA staff in the Western Regional office conduct USSA Northern programs. Information and rules on Northern Division can be found on the web at www.northernussa.org.

Questions regarding Northern Division can be directed to the Northern Division President, Rick Duncan rduncan@pchs.dl.k12.mt.us or Sherri Hale nodivmanager@centurytel.net.

Membership

Membership in USSA is a requirement for participation in all Northern Division Races. A USSA alpine competition membership is required for all competitors participating in USSA scored races. Racers must have a USSA membership before they

will be able to purchase a Northern membership.

Membership applications are available from the Northern Alpine Competition Committee or on the USSA website at www.ussa.org.

USSA Northern Membership Fees

Class	Until Oct. 15	After Oct. 15
A-J3	\$25	\$40
J4 and younger	\$20	\$30

The complete rules and procedures governing the conduct of USSA Northern Division programs are in the current Northern Division Handbook available on the Northern Division web site.

Northern Division Administrator

Sherry Hale tel. 406.871.7429 email nodivmanager@centurytel.net.

Pacific Northwest Division

Ski competition in the Pacific Northwest area of the USA, including Oregon, Washington and Western Idaho is organized and conducted by the Pacific Northwest Division (PNSA) under the guidelines of FIS, USSA and Western Region programs, policies and procedures.

PNSA divisional rules apply to A through J3 and USSA Youth competitors. For more specific information about PNSA rules, procedures, and policies, please refer to the PNSA Alpine Competition Manual which can be found, along with more information, on the PNSA website at www.pnsa.org (also linkable through the USSA web page).

Questions regarding PNSA can be directed to the Executive Director, Paul Mahre, email pnsa@pnsa.org.

Membership

Membership in USSA is a requirement for participation in all PNSA races. In addition to USSA membership, the PNSA membership fee is \$30 for Competitors, \$15 for Masters and \$10 for Youth Competitors and Students. PNSA membership is not required for coaches and officials.

Out of Division Racers in PNSA Events

Racers from other divisions are welcome to compete in PNSA races to the extent compatible with field size restrictions. Western Region racers should contact their divisional office at least two weeks prior to the race. Racers from outside the Western Region will need the permission of their regional director and the Western Region director at least three weeks (21 days) before contacting PNSA. The racer must meet qualifications of the PNSA race series being entered.

Thank You

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CHAPTER 6

Collegiate, Masters and Adaptive Racing

2010 Competition Guide



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COLLEGIATE COMPETITION

Collegiate ski competition is an important part of the sport in the USA and has made great contributions to the development of and participation of athletes in alpine skiing. Top international racers have emerged from various collegiate programs. College competition remains a viable part of the USSA athlete development pipeline. Collegiate team skiing provides tremendous opportunities for USSA junior competitors to continue ski racing while pursuing goals in education.

College circuits have been as competitive as major USSA events, in some years rivaling even national championships for public attention. There are two national collegiate programs: the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) and the U.S. Collegiate Ski & Snowboard Association (USCSA). Both intertwine with USSA working through its USSA Collegiate Skiing Committee.

The NCAA offers the traditional college carnival circuit in the East (EISA-Eastern Intercollegiate Ski Association) and in the Rocky's (RMISA-Rocky Mountain Intercollegiate Ski Association) leading to the NCAA Skiing Championships. NCAA skiing has long been tied to USSA regional/divisional programs, and top NCAA athletes are among the top racers in their regions and in the country as a whole.

The USCSA offers programs from full-varsity teams to club sports teams. Organized into 11 conferences, the USCSA provides opportunities for athletes to qualify to one of the five regional championships leading to the USCSA Championships.

College athletes who are competitor members, have access to the USSA points list, and many college meets are scored for USSA points. Some college meets are organized as FIS-University events, where FIS points and international rankings may be achieved.

The various college leagues are independent organizations, running ski races under their own authority and organization. In order to coordinate activities, representatives of college and school groups have been invited to join the policy-making process of USSA at many levels.

USSA Scoring

Collegiate events can be scored to the USSA points list. To be scored to that list, they must follow the same procedures as any other USSA event, including calendaring, calendar fees, head tax, and result submission. Colleges wishing to have races scored should contact the respective USSA alpine office.

College Quota

USSA provides special opportunities for top collegiate skiers to participate in major USSA events such as the NorAms, and the U.S. Alpine Championships. The field for these races includes a 'College Quota'.

The college quota is available only to athletes on an official collegiate team roster, recognized by NCAA, USCSA and USSA, with a valid USSA competitor membership. FIS registration is required for NorAms and the U.S. Alpine Championships. Athletes must be ranked in the top-100 USA athletes on the FIS points lists used for the selection in the discipline(s) to be contested.

An athlete in the top-100 in SL is eligible for both SL and GS. An athlete in the top-100 in GS is eligible for SL, GS and SG. An athlete in the top-100 in SG is eligible for SG, SG and DH. An athlete in the top-100 in DH is eligible for DH and SG.

College skiers who are interested in these opportunities must express this interest to the respective regional director at least 32 days prior to the event. Selections for each

event will be made according to procedures established by the USSA Collegiate Skiing Committee. The current selection procedure is to rank athletes by FIS points using an NTSM system for both a tech group and a speed group.

The top combined U.S. male and female athletes from both the USCSA and the NCAA National Championships will be automatic to the technical events at the U.S. National Alpine Championships. The selection procedure for these athletes is outlined in chapter 4 in the section 'U.S. Alpine Championships'. These athletes will take the first positions on the college quota; the college quota is not expanded from previous rules.

See chapter 4 of this Guide for further information.

FIS-University Quotas, Entries, Calendar

Information on quotas, entries and calendars for the FIS-University series of events is now located in the Series and Selection chapter. USA racers eligible according to FIS-U rules may compete in events in Europe. These competitions are listed on the FIS calendar and are scored for FIS points.

National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA)

The NCAA's purpose is to initiate, stimulate and improve intercollegiate athletics programs for students and to promote and develop educational leadership, physical fitness, athletics excellence and athletics participation as a recreational pursuit, and to cooperate with other amateur athletic organizations in promoting and conducting national and international athletic events.

The NCAA Championships are held annually. Eight events are currently contested in each NCAA meet, four for men and four for women. The two alpine events are SL and GS while cross country skiers compete in an individual skating and mass start classical race. The points earned by both the male and female skiers are combined to determine the order of team finish. This makes the male and female skiers equal, a rare occurrence in sports today. This season's NCAA championships will be Mar. 10-13, 2010 in Steamboat Springs, CO and hosted by the University of Colorado, Boulder.

Team skiing is emphasized in all NCAA meets with a school's best three (out of three) racers counting for team points. However, qualifying for the NCAA Championships is done on an individual basis by earning top result in ones respective Eastern or Western collegiate circuit.

All NCAA ski teams are varsity level sports sponsored by each school's respective athletic department. Many teams provide scholarship aid to their athletes, a budget that pays for travel expenses, and the highest level of professional coaching. Most NCAA coaches are members of, and have received education through USSA. All NCAA events are scored for USSA points and these events traditionally have USSA point penalties second only to the U.S. Alpine Championships and NorAms.

For athletes planning on attending school it is very important to be aware of NCAA eligibility rules. For more info on NCAA eligibility and requirements contact any college coach, the NCAA rules compliance officer at most colleges and universities, call the NCAA Eligibility Hotline at 800.638.3731, or check out www.ncaa.org.

U.S. Collegiate Ski & Snowboard Association (USCSA)

The United States Collegiate Ski & Snowboard Association is the sports federation for collegiate team ski racing and snowboarding in America. You can be part of a team at any college in the United States. The USCSA has an alpine, cross country or snowboard collegiate competition program for you. If your college does not have a team, we can assist you in getting one started.

The USCSA assures that student/athletes, of all levels and abilities should have access to a quality and exciting venue of competition. The USCSA also recognizes that for athletes to be truly successful individuals, academics should take priority over skisport competition. To help foster this, the USCSA stresses education first and offers a variety of academic based awards.

In excess of 178 colleges from coast to coast, field some 4,700 men and women, alpine, cross country and snowboarding athletes in over 200 race events annually. Competition takes place across three progressive tiers. Conference qualifiers determine the participants at the five USCSA Regional Championships. The Regionals are the last step on the road to the annual U.S. Collegiate Skiing and Snowboard Championships, the showcase event in college ski and snowboard competition.

Team performance is emphasized within the USCSA, a departure from the typical individual or world cup scoring format in skiing. Teams field five racers with the top three performances being used for the team score. Most former USCSA athletes agree that the USCSA's team orientation has been the seed for developing and nurturing a team approach in other aspects of their lives and careers.

Overall team performance is considered separately for each discipline, so a college can field any single or combination of a women's alpine, men's alpine, women's cross country, men's cross country, women's snowboarding, men's snowboarding.

USCSA competition takes place across three progressive tiers, first on the Conference level, progressing to the Regional Championship level and culminating with the showcase events, the U.S. Collegiate Skiing Championships and the U.S. Collegiate Snowboard Championships. The 2010 Championships will be held Mar. 1-6 at Sunday River, ME.

The USCSA actively promotes the development of new collegiate programs. If your school does not have a competition program, the USCSA will assist you in developing one at your school. For a FREE brochure and college directory, contact the USCSA National Office.

Collegiate Contacts

To access more information on collegiate programs visit the following websites:

www.ncaa.org

www.uscsa.com

www.eisaskiing.org

Mark Sullivan
Collegiate Working Group Chair
Tel: 413.634.5766
skicoach@wpi.edu

Laura Sullivan
USCSA Executive Director
Tel: 413.634.0110
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laurasullivan@uscsa.com

MASTERS SKI RACING

USSA's alpine masters program is ski racing's next step. After the pipeline, when the urge to compete is still alive, masters make racing a social experience. Athletes with a Competitor or Student membership, who are 18 to 24 years old, may participate in masters events; however, they are not eligible for masters regional or national championships. Athletes with a Coaches membership who are 39 and younger may participate in local masters competitions; to compete in the Regional and National Championships, they must hold a Masters membership. Athletes who are 21 and older, and who hold a Masters membership, may participate in those championship events.

Masters compete in regional programs across the nation, for divisional and national titles. Masters class 1 allows racers 21 to 29 to compete as a group, those 30 and over divide themselves into five-year categories through class 14 for racers 90 and over. Masters is the largest organized body for adult competition in the country, competing at the highest level available. There are over 230 masters races held annually.

Masters racing is a social gathering on the race hill. Competitors come from diverse backgrounds, with a common interest: ski racing. Masters racing offers the opportunity to compete against pioneers and players in the ski industry, former world cup, national team, and Olympic racers, college athletes, captains of industry, and seasoned expert skiers, all looking to reach the pinnacle of skiing success.

Each master racer brings his or her own goals and initiative to the slopes. Many ski areas have extensive programs surrounding the masters, including regular training, and club activities. Those new to the program find the exceptional abilities of the participants disconcerting. Class four and five, representing racers between 40 and 50 years old, frequently earn the best times, with no handicapping!

USSA organizes masters programs through an invaluable network of committed volunteers across the country who manage regional masters competition programs. In house, USSA supports a full-time, year-round masters service department for the benefit of its members. USSA processes memberships, basic fulfillment, specific program endorsement, bodies of rules, coordination of competition sanctioning, provision of liability insurance for organizers and officials, and the generation of information and communication.

Competitors receive regular newsletters, a competition guide, special offers from suppliers, and the opportunity to become involved in ski racing as a coach or official.

Masters compete within designated regions, although USSA membership allows participation in other regions. Masters also have the opportunity to compete in international events as a part of the FIS International Masters Cup.

The 2010 USSA Alpine Masters National Championships for SG, SC, GS and SL will be held Mar. 29 - Apr. 2 at Sun Valley, ID. A DH championship will be contested Feb. 14 in Aspen, CO.

Individuals interested in masters ski racing may contact USSA at www.ussa.org, or call masters racing manager Bill Skinner tel. 435.647.2633 for more information.

ADAPTIVE SKI RACING

Adaptive skiing started in pre-World War II Europe and is now highly developed throughout the world. Adaptive skiing involves persons with mobility impairments, including, amputees, paraplegics, post-polio, and individuals with visual impairments, even total blindness.

Adaptive skiing began as a rehabilitation/recreation program that evolved into well-organized national and international competitions with corresponding organizations to administer the sport. Elite level racing for adaptive skiers has existed in the states since 1972 and internationally since 1974.

Adaptive Organization

The U.S. Adaptive Ski Team has been an integrated part of the USSA structure since 1986. The USSA Committee for Adaptive Skiers provides guidance and recommendations concerning the Team and adaptive skiing. USSA supports an alpine and cross country staff to administer respective programs, with Sandy Metzger as program director.

Adaptive skiing was an exhibition sport in the 1984 and 1988 Winter Olympic Games. Today the major events internationally are the World Championships and the Paralympic Winter Games.

Further information on adaptive ski racing, including competition rules and selection criteria to the U.S. Adaptive Ski Team, the 2010 Paralympics and other adaptive events can be found at www.ussa.org and at www.paralympic.org.



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CHAPTER 7

Officials and Coaches Education

2010 Competition Guide



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USSA competition programs provide aspiring athletes with an opportunity for fun, excitement and a chance to achieve a dream. The success of athletes is enhanced by the manner in which those competitions are conducted, and the training and support athletes receive from coaches and officials.

Education of coaches, athletes, competition officials, and parents is of utmost importance to the future success of U.S. athletes. This chapter of the USSA Alpine Competition Guide takes a brief look at USSA officials, coaches' education, programs and sport science program.

ALPINE OFFICIALS' PROGRAM

Ski race officiating is a service function, benefiting the general program, the ski club and the individual competitors. The rewards are similar to those of other volunteer groups, the satisfaction of accomplishment and a feeling of well being from having added to a program that would not exist without the dedicated help of hundreds and thousands of volunteer officials.

Certification of an alpine official by FIS or USSA implies that an official is qualified, thoughtful, and conscientious. The listing of an alpine official at the more advanced levels does not constitute a progression through proficiency tests or merit badges, but rather it represents recognition of proven judgment, ability and service.

New officials will have no designation until promoted by the USSA Alpine Officials Committee or its representatives. Some divisions/states of USSA require additional membership fees. These fees help defray the costs of additional services provided to officials and race organizers in those regions, according to the programs established by the divisional AO committees.

Code of Conduct

Alpine ski race officials are generally volunteers, giving freely of their time, often at personal expense. Nonetheless, high standards of judgment and competence are expected of certified officials whose actions set an example for others in the sport.

The hallmarks of good officials are promptness, fairness and justice, tempered by tact and consideration. All actions and behavior will reflect on the entire sport.

Technical delegates and referees are charged with seeing that the rules are followed. They must exercise reasonable judgment and discretion, insisting upon compliance with major issues, especially those concerning competitor protection.

Alpine officials should use restraint; suggest rather than order, use tact and persuasion rather than force. Knowledge and experience should support the position of the official.

Alpine officials represent all levels of USSA to the ski area, the sponsoring organization, the racers, coaches, parents and the public. Their words and behavior should be tempered to create the best possible impression of fairness, competence and knowledge, thereby assuring a rewarding and enjoyable competition for all.

USSA officials, like athletes and coaches, should know and understand the USSA Code of Conduct, which may be found later in this Guide.

Race Organization

The organizing committee of the sponsoring club or association is responsible for the overall conduct of an event. For high-level events, the FIS ICR (rule book) notes that the organizing committee should have a chairman, a secretary and various subcommittees, each in charge of a particular aspect of the meet. Finances, board and lodging, traffic control, press relations, ceremony and prizes, medical service and police are some of the non-technical areas of concern at a major FIS event. These functions are often combined and handled as a matter of course at races below the FIS calendar level. Actual race functions are the responsibility of the race committee.

All events shall have the most qualified officials available. For scored events, at least one member of the Race Jury must be certified as Level 3 or above.

Please consult the FIS ICR for the specific description of the relationships among the FIS (for FIS competitions), the national federation, and the local organizing committee.

Race Committee

Other members as designated by the club or sponsoring organization. The actual running of the race is the function covered by the race committee, whose chief or chairman would be a part of the organizing committee. Note that the race committee is very different from the race jury.

Start and finish referees are appointed by the race committee and are non-voting jury advisors. The race committee appoints other chief officials, assistants and crews.

The race committee, subject to approval of the team captains and race jury, if not previously assigned by FIS or USSA, may nominate course setters. The technical delegate, chief of course, course setters, referee, and assistant referee must be a member of USSA.

Chief of Race (also a Jury Member)	Chief of Course
Chief of Timing and Calculations	Chief Gate Judge
Race Administrator	Start Referee*
Finish Referee*	* Non-voting Jury advisors

Race Jury

The jury is responsible for all decisions pertaining to the race, for the arbitration of protests, and for upholding the rules. The jury and technical delegate must collaborate closely with the race committee through the chief of race. Other members of the race committee, such as the chief of course, chief gate judge or the chief of timing, may be called upon to present information to the race jury, but they are not Jury members. For non-FIS events, jury members must be members of USSA. For FIS events, jury members must be members of USSA or another national skiing federation that is a member of the FIS.

Technical Delegate (Chairman of the Race Jury)
Referee
Assistant Referee (speed events only*)
Chief of Race (also on Race Committee)

* Assistant Referee can be appointed as a non-voting Jury member at USSA technical events for training.

Officials' Manual

The USSA Alpine Officials Education Working Group has assembled a comprehensive manual for alpine officials (AO's). The manual is available on the USSA website. This manual is a guide to race organization, the rules, and duties of officials, timing and calculations, and other subject areas important to Alpine Officials throughout the country.

It is intended to be as thorough as possible with updates and revisions produced as necessary. However, it is not meant to be a step-by-step 'cookbook' with definitive procedures for every race situation.

Officials' Educational Videos

USSA, in cooperation with the Salt Lake Organizing Committee produced a revised gate judge video that became available fall 2001. Copies of the video are available by calling USSA Members Services at 435.647.2666. The video can be downloaded at www.ussa.org > judges/officials > education/training.

Alpine Officials Certification

A comprehensive certification program has been developed by the USSA AO Working Group and is in place on a nationwide basis. The program recognizes officials at six different levels and in a variety of specialty areas.

The program is handled on a divisional/state basis according to nationally established guidelines, with certification at Level 4 based on divisional/state nomination and national AO Working Group approval. FIS technical delegates are certified only by FIS after national federation nomination and successful completion of the FIS examination and training program.

New officials, without certification credentials, but with USSA AO membership, will appear on the roster with no designation.

A USSA alpine official membership does not assume certification. Rosters of officials are available through the alpine department at USSA and at www.ussa.org. Rosters are managed by Divisional/State Chairs and submitted to USSA for update in the USSA database.

Certification Levels

The Alpine Officials Working Group has reviewed and modified the criteria for Alpine Officials advancement; the criteria is competency based. This new criteria can be found on the USSA website by going to www.ussa.org, then clicking on 'Alpine' and then clicking on 'Officials'.

NOTE: See sections Technical Delegate and FIS Technical Delegate

USSA Alpine Officials who are certified as Technical Delegate, Referee, Jury Advisor, Chief of Race, Chief of Course, Timing and Calculations and Race Administration are required to attend an update/clinic at least every two years to maintain certification.

- If an official has missed an update for two years, he or she may be reinstated to the previous level by attending a recognized update.
- If an official has missed an update for three or more years, he or she may be reinstated by passing the appropriate examination, i.e. Level 1 or 2 must pass the Level 1 exam, Level 3 or 4 must pass the level 3 exam.
- An official may not violate the update rule for a second time and maintain certification.

Alpine Officials Specialty Areas

Officials are recognized in eight specialty areas, reflecting different responsibilities, abilities and experience:

- Technical Delegate	TD
- Referee	RF
- Chief of Race	CR
- Chief of Course	CC
- Chief of Timing and Calculations	TC
- Race Administrator	RA
- Jury Advisor	JA (for Start and Finish Referees)
- Competition Official	CO
- Data Management	DM

Some USSA divisions may not recognize all categories at all levels, according to their own needs and circumstances. All officials should attend annual refresher seminars and work at least four days per year at USSA sanctioned events.

Officials Seminar Program

A variety of seminars or clinics for alpine officials are held annually in each geographic division of USSA. Seminars range from those designed as mandatory refresher for FIS-certified technical delegates and other senior officials to introductory sessions for those officials with little or no experience. Topics may include timing and calculation, rules, gate judging, course preparation, paperwork and the race secretariat, press relations and data management. There is an emphasis on fairness, competitor protection and respect for the rules in all courses. Attendance at recognized seminars may be required for certification and for maintaining certification. Certification exams are offered at many seminars, according to divisional/state needs; exams are generally 'open-book' but must be taken at a seminar. Retesting of a failed Alpine Officials exam may only occur after a revision of the applicable exam become available. Exams shall be revised annually.

Seminar schedules are published in Ski Racing, regional/divisional and state publications and at www.ussa.org.

Technical Delegates

Technical Delegates (TDs) are the 'senior' officials in ski racing. FIS and USSA assign them to alpine ski competitions, and they act as representatives of the sanctioning bodies of ski racing at these competitions. While the actual conduct of the race remains the responsibility of the sponsoring race organization, the TDs are expected to be valued and positive contributors to the event, drawing on both their knowledge and experience. They consult race organizers on procedures and rule interpretation. The TD chairs the competition jury, and has primary authority in matters of competitor protection.

The USSA AO Committee has reaffirmed its long-standing policy that, under normal circumstances, TDs will only be assigned to races where there can be no question as to their independence from the organizing committee and the host ski area. The expenses of the TD are the responsibility of the organizing group, including room and board at the competition and transportation to and from the race site.

The position of TD requires knowledge and experience in all phases of ski competition, and competency in on-hill as well as off-hill functions. Skiing ability, good judgment and a sound knowledge of courses are also necessary.

Certification of USSA Technical Delegates

The USSA TD Working Group has specified certification procedures for USSA TDs:

1. To be certified as a Level 1 TD, an official must first be certified as a Level 2 Referee and have a knowledge of timing and calculations evidenced by one of the following: Level 1 or higher timing and calculation certification or attendance at a Timing and Calculation seminar and/or passing grade on the USSA Timing examination. It is strongly recommended that an official also be certified as Chief of Race and/or Chief of Course. They must also pass the Level 1 TD Exam with a grade of 75% or better.
2. It is recommended that a minimum of one assignment as a 'candidate' under the supervision of a senior TD be completed prior to Level 1 certification. The senior TD will submit a written evaluation of the candidate's knowledge and performance. This service does not count towards the ten-day requirement for advancement to Level 2.
3. Seminar attendance: every USSA division is urged to conduct annual seminars for TDs.
 - a. Level 1 and 2: attendance per divisional requirement
 - b. Level 3 and 4: annual attendance at a TD seminar per division
 - c. All: annual attendance at an update every two years in order to maintain certification.
 - 1) If a TD has missed an update for 2 years, he or she may be reinstated to the previous level by attending a recognized update.
 - 2) If a TD has missed an update for 3 or more years, he or she may be reinstated by passing the appropriate examination, i.e. Level 1 or 2 must pass the Level 1 exam, Level 3 or 4 must pass the level 3 exam.
 - 3) A TD may not violate the update rule for a second time and maintain TD certification.
4. Advancement: at each level, the approval of the applicable Alpine Officials Committee is required, plus:
 - a. Level 1 to Level 2: ten workdays as a TD and favorable written recommendations from two higher level TDs.
 - b. Level 2 to Level 3: an additional minimum ten workdays as a TD plus two additional written recommendations/evaluations. Pass level 3 TD exam with a score of 80% or higher. Also requires approval of the USSA TD Working Group and the Alpine Officials Committee.
 - c. Level 3 to Level 4: a minimum of five years outstanding service as a TD. Also requires approval of the USSA TD Working Group and the Alpine Officials Committee.
5. A USSA TD should work as an assigned TD a minimum of two days every season and must work as an assigned TD at least once every two years in order to maintain certification levels.

FIS Technical Delegate

FIS certified Technical Delegates are named by the FIS after the USA FIS-TD Working Group has nominated those qualified individuals. Those individuals must successfully complete the FIS entrance examination and the apprentice phase of on-hill assignments before they are nominated. All current FIS TDs and candidates are expected to attend the annual update seminar. This mandatory seminar is a requirement for maintaining the TD certification. Likewise, every FIS TD is expected to perform at least one FIS assignment annually in addition to assisting the USSA officials program.

FIS TDs are responsible for proper overall conduct of the competition, with particular emphasis on competitor protection. They are responsible for ensuring fair

racing conditions for all competitors. TDs must inspire teamwork and cooperation between the organizers, team leaders and other officials. They must be managers who lead by example, effectively helping others.

Nominees successfully passing the FIS entrance examination are considered as candidates. Understudy assignments as candidate TDs must be performed at three FIS calendared events, encompassing three different disciplines including downhill.

General Criteria for Selection of FIS TD Candidates

1. Candidates should be a USSA level 3 or 4 TD and should have performed satisfactorily as a level 3 or 4 TD for approximately five years. If candidate is a coach or an ex-coach, referee level 3 credentials with at least level 2 coaching credentials for a similar period of time is required.
2. The candidate shall have maintained active membership in USSA for this same five year period (extenuating circumstances may apply) and shall be a member in good standing at the time of nomination.
3. Language fluency in German or French is highly desirable and, while not an international requirement, may be a 'tie-breaker' should there be otherwise equal candidates.
4. Candidates should not have any physical limitations which would preclude active work on the hill during adverse conditions.
5. Candidates should ideally possess strong leadership and diplomatic skills. A candidate must have consistently demonstrated sound judgment and dependability.
6. While candidate selection is not age-discriminatory, relative youth in candidates is much sought after.
7. An individual who meets the above criteria may be nominated for FIS TD candidacy either through the USA FIS TD Working Group (WG) or the USSA TD WG.
 - a. The FIS TD WG requires that candidates demonstrate active participation in seminars and out-of-division competitions. Individuals who have these credentials and who are recommended as candidates must have a nomination and two seconds on the prescribed nomination forms from current FIS TD's (members of the USA FIS TD WG are excluded). At least one of these must be from outside of the prospective candidate's division. One second from a Canadian or European TD is acceptable. Complete documentation of nominations and seconds must be in the national office by Apr. 1 of the appropriate year. Nominations will not be accepted after Apr. 1.
 - b. To be nominated through the USSA TD WG, the individual must be nominated by his/her divisional or regional AO chairperson or committee. The nomination must be accompanied by a resume which should include (but is not necessarily limited to) current USSA official's credentials, documentation of officiating experience with particular emphasis on the past three years, additional skiing, racing, coaching and leadership experience. The nomination of the individual must be seconded by two current level 4 or 6 TD's (members of the USA FIS TD WG are excluded). The current FIS TD nomination forms must be used by the nominator and seconders. Forms are available from the US alpine office. All of the documents will be sent by the division to the Alpine Official's Coordinator no later than April 1. When these documents have been received, the forms will be circulated to the USSA TD WG members for comment and/or confirmation. If the USSA TD WG favors the nomination of an individual as a candidate, the

individual's name and supporting documentation will be forwarded to the USA FIS TD WG for its consideration.

8. The nominating papers, whether originating from the USSA TD WG or the USA FIS TD WG, request specific information on the prospective candidate's background and performance. This includes current USSA official's credentials, documentation of officiating experience as a national TD (or referee, if a coach) and in other positions; documentation of seminar participation as attendee or trainer; evaluation of candidate's knowledge and demonstrated application of FIS rules for all disciplines; and evaluation of the candidate's skiing ability. Personal factors evaluated included dependability, ability to get along with people, enthusiasm for officiating ski racing and judgment under pressure.
9. When the nominating documents have been received by the chairman of the USA FIS TD WG or the USSA TD WG and the national office the forms will be circulated to the WG members for comment and/or confirmation. If the USA FIS TD WG approves the selection of an individual as a candidate, the individual will be notified and will be required to attend one of the two FIS seminars offered in October/November and take the FIS entrance examination before he/she is accepted as a candidate.
10. For officials accepted as FIS TD candidates, an understudy assignment phase will begin with the current season. It generally takes two seasons to complete the candidacy process. Please contact the USA FIS TD WG for more information on the understudy assignment phase.

SPORT EDUCATION

Educated, experienced, and certified coaches are the keys to the enjoyment of the sport, successful athlete development and competitive results at all levels. Whether an athlete is just beginning or has reached the U.S. Ski Team, everyone desires to reach his or her full potential, while enjoying the excitement of competition. The more knowledgeable and experienced the coach, the greater will be the opportunity for all athletes to fulfill their dreams.

The USSA Sport Education Department supports the vision of the USSA to be the best in the world and will help to drive this mission. It all starts at the entry level and continues throughout all stages of an athlete's and coach's development.

A major goal of the USSA Sport Education Department is to service the needs of all levels of coaches and athletes, from weekend to career coaches. USSA Sport Education is committed to assisting alpine, adaptive, nordic, freestyle and snowboarding coaches in their efforts to improve the coaching and training offered to their current and future athletes, by making available to its members educational clinics, seminars, CDs, DVDs, publications, and other informational materials. The USSA provides its member coaches a challenging educational curriculum in conjunction with a national certification program. Education and Certification Program.

For a complete description of all current levels of certification, clinic schedules, publications, manuals, CDs, and DVDs, please go to the USSA website at <http://athletics.ussa.org> or www.ussa.org > member > coaches, or call 435.647.2050. The ussa.org/members/coaches site contains all the information needed for both an entry-level coach and a coach seeking a full-time professional career in coaching.

Coaches Education continues to make dramatic progress in developing innovative educational resources. There are currently 19 educational CD-ROMs and DVDs available at the <http://educationshop.usssa.org/store> website. These CDs/DVDs are in most cases the curriculum for a large number of clinics and courses offered through USSA. They are organized under the following domains:

- Alpine - Alpine Ski Fundamentals I & II (featuring over 35 teaching drills, USST teaching philosophy, etc.), Level 200 Introduction to Alpine Tactics, and Level 200 Alpine Training Environment (Course setting and use of the ski environment to teach skiing). Level 300 Slalom Technique and Tactics, and Level 300 Speed (new for 2009-10).
- Cross-Country - X-C Technique Fundamentals.
- Snowboarding - Theory of Revolution DVD (half-pipe tricks).
- Elite Performance Series: Sport Nutrition, Sport Psychology, Strength & Power Training, Successful Sports Parenting, Physical Assessment, and Competitive Core Training.
- World Cup Winning Runs DVDs - season 2008-09 is out, featuring 168 winning runs, including additional U.S. Ski Team athletes.

USSA Center of Excellence and Online Education

With the opening of the Center of Excellence, USSA's new headquarters, Sport Education has dramatically enhanced the delivery of educational resources. The Center has become a focal point for sport education across all USSA disciplines. The Center has a new web technology feature utilizing the latest analysis tools of Dartfish.tv. Each USSA sport, plus the USSA departments of Sport Science, Sports Medicine, and Sport Education, has their own online video collection site. Each collection will contain valuable athlete development information and sport specific clips enabling our members to view and analyze, for example, the latest in technique or tactics, the latest drill teaching skill, or the most current information on sports nutrition. Coaches, athletes and parents are urged to visit the online sport education site weekly to view the newest educational postings. Throughout the season, each collection will add dozens of new, high quality and valuable educational content to further all our members athletic and coach development. These are exciting times for the USSA, as the company becomes a national center for athlete, coach, and club training.

The USSA continues to also expand the content and resources available through its monthly eNewsletters, dedicated to enhancing communications between the USSA and its key stakeholders: clubs, coaches, athletes, officials, members, and parents. Each month, the eNewsletter is distributed to each of the above parties with helpful information and educational content designed to improve everyone's alpine developmental programs for a better overall skiing experience. Again, all parties are urged to visit the usssa.org website on a regular basis, all eNewsletters are archived.

Welcome to the 2009-10 Olympic season coaches, another wonderful opportunity to improve your teaching skills and to share your passion for skiing and competition with the next generation of alpine skiers. The Education Department, with everyone's support from USSA, is committed to implementing a program to serve the needs of all coaches across all USSA sports. All member coaches are encouraged to be a part of an educational program that will assist them and their athletes in reaching their competitive dreams.

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down the world's toughest runs like Steven Nyman you share one thing in common: the need for up-to-the-minute conditions. So maybe you should start relying on SnowZone from Sprint. Just like Steven does.

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CHAPTER 8

USSA Alpine Competition Regulations

2010 Competition Guide



www.ussa.org

The following rules and regulations for USSA alpine competition (ACR) capture the specific rules for competition events that are scheduled and sanctioned by USSA as the national governing body for ski sport as identified by the United States Olympic Committee. The FIS International Competition Regulations (ICR) and adjuncts shall govern any and all issues not addressed herein.

For all events scheduled by USSA as FIS events, the rules of the FIS apply. The sport specific rules for FIS events are available through the USSA Membership Department or through your local alpine officials' chair. The FIS rule books are referred to as the ICR.

In cases where regulations that are not addressed by the USSA Competition Regulations for USSA events or by the FIS International Competition Regulations for FIS events, or in cases where the rules must be interpreted, the authority for making decisions will be the responsibility of the technical delegate and competition jury.

This year the USSA ACR has been reorganized so that the numbers match those in the FIS ICR. Now, a similar rule will have the same number regardless of which book. As an example, the rules for making a protest are now in section 640 of both books. There may be some difference in language between the two books (from FIS to USSA) but the intent of the rule is the same. When a FIS rule does not apply to USSA, it was left out, so the number of the rules might go 650.1 followed by 650.3. Where there is no corresponding FIS rule, a 'U' is placed at the beginning of the rule number to identify this as unique to USSA.

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USSA Alpine Competition Regulations

Section 1: Joint Regulations for all Competitions

- 200 Joint Regulations for all Competitions
- 200.1 All events in the USSA Calendar must be held under the applicable USSA rules.
- 200.3 Participation
- Competitions listed in the USSA Ski Calendar are only open to competitors who hold a valid USSA participant membership.
- 200.5 Control
- All competitions listed in the USSA Ski Calendar must be supervised by a USSA Technical Delegate.
- 201 Types of Competitions
- 201.1 Competitions with limited participation may be held under special competition rules as approved by USSA. Any such rules must be published in the announcement.
- U201.1.1 USSA may sanction organizers who, through their own fault, prepare competitions so poorly that they have to be canceled by the Jury or the TD.
- U201.1.2 Organizers who hold competitions involving competitors not qualified under articles 203-204.1.7 have violated the USSA Competition Rules and measures are to be taken against them by USSA.
- 201.6 Types of Competitions
- USSA Alpine Ski Competitions consist of:
- 201.6.2 Downhill (DH), Slalom (SL), Giant Slalom (GS), Super-G (SG), Combined and Team Competitions
- 202 USSA Ski Calendar
- 202.1.2.3 Homologations
- DH and SG competitions and all championships GS and SL events that appear in the USSA Calendar may only take place on competition courses homologated by USSA or FIS for those disciplines.
- The homologation certificate number must be indicated when applying for the inclusion of an alpine competition in the USSA Calendar.
- 202.1.2.4 USSA will publish the Ski Calendar annually on the USSA website www.ussa.org.
- U202.2 A championship GS or SL event is any championship event or any event used for final selection for athletes to regional, national or international events.
- U202.3 A maximum of two scored DH or SG races, or one scored SL or GS race, per gender, may be calendared per day by an organizer.
- U202.3.1 In cases of 'force majeure', where more than two DH or SG races, or more than one SL or GS race, per gender, is conducted in one day and in one place, then the official Program showing inspection times, start times, course reset/redress times and start intervals for both races must be included with the race results packet submitted to USSA.
- U202.3.2 By signature on the Technical Delegate Report, the Technical Delegate confirms that the rules were followed in the execution of this procedure.
- 202.5 Calendar Fees
- 202.5.1 USSA fixes a calendar fee for each event in the Ski Calendar.
- 202.5.2 The actual scale of fees is published by USSA.
- 203 USSA Membership
- 203.1 The USSA membership year begins on July 1 and finishes on June 30 of the

following year.

- 203.2 To be eligible for participation in USSA events, all participants (Jury members, Start Referee, Finish Referee, Chief of Course, Course Setters, Competitors, Forerunners, Coaches) must have a valid USSA membership. The validity of a membership can be limited to participation in one or more specific events.
- The USSA membership will only be issued to individuals who have personally signed the USSA Release, in the actual form approved by USSA. All forms from under-age applicants must be counter-signed by their legal guardians.
- All Coaches and Officials who apply for a USSA membership will be required to pass a background screening process prior to that membership being approved. Any Coach or Official who is shown as "pending" or not current on the USSA website must not serve as Jury members, Start Referee, Finish Referee, Chief of Course, Course Setters, Competitors, Forerunners, etc.
- 204 Qualification of Competitors
- 204.1 USSA shall not support or recognize within its structure, nor shall it issue a membership to any competitor who:
- 204.1.1 has been guilty of improper or unsportsmanlike conduct or has not respected or conformed to all aspects of the USSA Code of Conduct,
- 204.1.2 accepts or has accepted, directly or indirectly, any money payments in a way that does not conform to the rules for participation in a competition,
- 204.1.3 accepts or has accepted a prize of a higher value than allowed by USSA,
- 204.1.6 has not signed the USSA Waiver,
- 204.1.7 is under suspension.
- 205 Competitor Obligations and Rights
- Competitors are prohibited from betting on the outcome of competitions in which they are participating.
- 205.1 The competitors are obliged to make themselves familiar with the appropriate USSA Rules and must comply with the additional instructions of the Organizing Committee and the Jury.
- 205.2 Competitors are not permitted to compete while under the influence of drugs or alcohol.
- 205.3 Competitors must follow the USSA rules and regulations and instructions of the Jury.
- 205.4 Competitors who do not attend the prize-giving ceremonies without excuse lose their claim to any prize.
- 205.5 Competitors must behave in a correct and sportsmanlike manner toward members of the Organizing Committee, officials and the public.
- 210 Organization of Competition
- 211 The Organization
- 211.1 The Organizer
- 211.1.1 The organizer of a USSA ski competition is the person or group who makes the necessary preparations and directly carries out the running of the competition.
- 211.1.3 The Organizer must ensure that accredited persons accept the regulations regarding the competition rules and Jury decisions, and is obliged to obtain the signature of all persons who do not have a valid USSA season accreditation on an "Acceptance of Responsibility" form to this effect.
- 211.2 The Organizing Committee
- The Organizing Committee consists of those members (physical or legal) who are

- delegated by the organizer and by USSA. It carries the rights, duties and obligations of the organizer.
- 212 Insurance
- 212.1 USSA will provide some insurance coverage for USSA events that are properly calendared (including signed schedule agreement and payment of appropriate fees) and follow the regulations as set forth herein and in other USSA documentation. Details of applicable coverage and any restrictions are available upon request from USSA.
- 212.4 All racers participating in USSA events must carry accident insurance in sufficient amounts to cover accident, transport and rescue costs that result from ski racing. Competitors must be able to show proof of the respective insurance coverage at any time on request of USSA, one of its representatives or the Organizing Committee.
- 213 Program
- A program must be published by the organizers for each competition listed in the USSA Ski Calendar, which must contain:
- 213.1 date and place of the competitions, information on the competition sites and the best ways to reach them,
- 213.2 technical data on the individual competitions and conditions for participation,
- 213.3 names of principal officials,
- 213.4 time and place for the first team captains meeting and draw,
- 213.5 timetable for the beginning of official training and the start times,
- 213.6 location of the official notice board,
- 213.7 time and place for the prize giving,
- 213.8 final date of entry and address for entries, including telephone and fax numbers and email address,
- U213.9 entry fees.
- 214 Announcements
- 214.1 The Organizing Committee must publish an announcement for the event. It must contain the information required by article 213.
- 214.2 Organizers are bound by the rules and decisions of USSA in limiting the number of entries. Reduction in entries is possible provided it is made clear in the announcement.
- 214.3 Postponements or cancellations of competitions and program alterations must be communicated to the USSA Office, all invited clubs/divisions and the appointed TD.
- 215 Entries
- 215.1 All entries must be sent so that the Organizing Committee receives them before the final date of entry. The organizers must have a final and complete list not later than 24 hours before the first draw.
- 215.2 Competitors are not permitted to enter in more than one competition calendared by more than one race organizing committee on the same date.
- 215.3 Every entry should include:
- 215.3.1 USSA number, last name, first name, year-of-birth, club,
- 215.3.2 an exact definition of the discipline for which the entry is made,
- U215.3.3 the entry fee.
- 216 Team Captains Meetings
- 216.1 The time and location of the first team captains meeting and of the draw must be shown in the program. The invitations for all other meetings have to be announced

- to the team captains at their first meeting. Emergency meetings must be announced in good time.
- 216.2 Representation by a substitute during discussions at team captains' meetings is not allowed.
- 216.3 The team captains and trainers must be accredited by the organizers according to quota.
- 216.4 Team captains and trainers must obey the ACR and the decisions of the Jury and must behave in a proper and sportsmanlike manner.
- 217 Draw
- 217.1 Competitor starting order for each event and each discipline is decided according to a specific formula by draw and/or point order.
- 217.3 If competitors are not represented at the team captains meeting by a team captain or trainer, they will only be drawn if it is confirmed by telephone or fax by the beginning of the meeting that they will participate.
- 217.4 Competitors who were drawn but were not present during the competition, must be named by the TD in his report, indicating if possible the reasons for absence.
- 217.5 Representatives of all competitors taking part must be invited to the draw.
- 217.6 If a competition has to be postponed by at least one day, the draw must be done again.
- 218 Publication of Results
- 218.1 The unofficial and official results will be published in accordance with the rules for the specific discipline.
- 221 Doping
- Doping is forbidden.
- 222 Competition Equipment
- 222.1 A competitor may only take part in a USSA competition with equipment that conforms to USSA Regulations. Competitors are responsible for the equipment they use (skis, bindings, ski boots, suit, etc). It is their duty to check that the equipment conforms to the USSA specifications and general safety requirements and is in working order. More information regarding the specific regulations can be found in the supplemental rules later in this book.
- 222.2 The term competition equipment encompasses all items of equipment which the competitor uses in competition. This includes clothing as well as apparatus with technical functions. The entire competition equipment forms a functional unit.
- 222.3 All new developments in the field of competition equipment must be approved in principle by USSA. USSA does not take any responsibility for the approval of new technical developments, which at the time of introduction may contain unknown dangers to the health or cause an increase in the risk of accidents.
- 223 Sanctions
- 223.1 General Conditions
- 223.1.1 An offense for which a sanction may apply and a penalty be imposed is defined as conduct that:
- is in violation or non-observance of competition rules, or
 - constitutes non-compliance with directives of the Jury or individual members of the Jury in accordance with 224.2, or
 - is unsportsmanlike.
- 223.1.2 The following conduct shall also be considered an offense:
- attempting to commit an offense

- causing or facilitating others to commit an offense
 - counseling others to commit an offense.
- 223.1.3 In determining whether conduct constitutes an offense consideration should be given to:
- whether the conduct was intentional or unintentional,
 - whether the conduct arose from circumstances of an emergency.
- 223.1.4 All USSA-affiliated associations, including their members registered for accreditation, shall accept and acknowledge these rules and all sanctions imposed, subject only to the right of appeal pursuant to USSA statutes.
- 223.2 Applicability
- 223.2.1 Persons
- These sanction apply to:
- all persons who are accredited either by USSA or the Organizer for an event published in the USSA calendar, both within and without the confines of the competition area and any location connected with the competition, and
 - all persons who are not accredited, within the confines of the competition area.
- 223.3 Penalties
- 223.3.1 The commission of an offense may subject a person to the following penalties:
- Reprimand - written or verbal
 - Withdrawal of accreditation
 - Denial of accreditation
- 223.3.2 All competing competitors may be subject to the following penalties:
- Disqualification
 - Impairment of their starting position (no limit)
 - Forfeiture of prizes and benefits in favor of the organizer
 - Suspension from USSA events
 - The accumulation of penalties is permissible
- 223.3.3 A competitor shall only be disqualified if his mistake would result in an advantage for him with regard to the end result, unless the rules state otherwise in an individual case.
- 223.4 A jury may impose the penalties provided in 223.3.1 and 223.3.2, however they may not impose a monetary fine or suspend a competitor beyond the USSA event at which the offense occurred.
- 223.5 The following Penalty decisions may be given verbally:
- reprimands
 - the withdrawal of accreditation for the current event from persons who had not been registered with the organizer through their USSA affiliated organization.
 - the withdrawal of the accreditation for the current event from USSA - accredited persons
 - the denial of accreditation to the current event from persons who are within the confines of the competition area or any other location connected with the competition.
- 223.6 The following Penalty decisions shall be in writing:
- disqualifications
 - impaired starting position
 - competition suspensions

- withdrawal of accreditation from persons who had been registered through their USSA affiliated organization
 - withdrawal of accreditation of USSA - accredited persons,
- 223.7 Written Penalty decisions must be sent to the offender (if it is not a competitor), the offender's organization and the USSA Office.
- 223.8 All disqualifications shall be recorded in the Referee's and/or the TD's Report.
- 223.9 All penalties shall be recorded in the TD Report.
- 224 Procedural Guidelines
- 224.1 Competence of Jury
- The Jury at the event has the right to impose sanctions according to the above rules by majority vote. In the case of a tie, the chairman of the Jury has the deciding vote.
- 224.2 Within the location, especially during training and the competition period, each voting Jury member is authorized to issue oral reprimands and withdraw the accreditation which is issued for the current event.
- 224.3 Collective Offenses
- If several persons commit the same offense at the same time and under the same circumstances, the Jury's decision as to one offender may be considered binding upon all offenders. The written decision shall include the names of all offenders concerned and the scope of the penalty to be assessed upon each of them. The decision will be delivered to each offender.
- 224.4 Limitation
- A person must not be sanctioned if proceedings to invoke such sanction have not been commenced against that person within 72 hours following the offense.
- 224.5 Each person who is a witness to an alleged offense is required to testify at any hearing called by the Jury, and the Jury is required to consider all relevant evidence.
- 224.6 The Jury may confiscate objects that are suspected of being used in the violation of equipment guidelines.
- 224.7 Prior to the imposition of a penalty (except in cases of reprimands and withdrawal of accreditation according to 223.5 and 224.2), the person accused of an offense shall be given the opportunity to present a defense at a hearing, orally or in writing.
- 224.8 All Jury decisions shall be recorded in writing and shall include:
- 224.8.1 The offense alleged to have been committed.
- 224.8.2 The evidence of the offense
- 224.8.3 The rule(s) or Jury directives that have been violated
- 224.8.4 The penalty imposed.
- 224.9 The penalty shall be appropriate to the offense. The scope of any penalty imposed by the Jury must consider any mitigating and aggravating circumstances.
- 224.9.1 The signatures of each individual jury member, with each individual vote on decisions recorded.
- 224.10 Remedies
- 224.10.1 Except as provided for in 224.11, a penalty decision of the Jury may be appealed in accordance with the provisions in the ACR.
- 224.10.2 If an appeal is not filed within the deadline established in the ACR, the penalty decision of the Jury becomes final.
- 224.11 The following decisions of the Jury are not subject to appeal:
- 224.11.1 Oral penalties imposed under 223.5 and 224.2.

- 224.12 In case of suspensions exceeding one week for all events published in the USSA calendar (including supplementary races), the USSA Alpine Judicial Committee is the only source of appeal.
- 224.13 In all remaining cases, appeals are to be directed to the appropriate appeals committee under rule 1.6 in accordance with rule 647.
- 224.14 The Jury shall have the right to submit to the USSA Alpine Judicial Committee recommendations for suspensions beyond the event in which the offense occurred.
- 224.15 Costs of Proceedings
Fees and cash expenses, including travel expenses (costs of the proceedings) are to be calculated comparable to costs paid to TDs and are to be paid by the offender. In the case of a reversal of Jury decisions, in whole or in part, the USSA covers all costs.
- 225 USSA Alpine Judicial Committee
USSA has established procedures and committees for appeals against Jury decisions, disciplinary actions (including Code of Conduct violations) and start rights. See the USSA Rules for Grievances, Suspensions and Appeals in Article IX of the USSA Bylaws.
- 226 Violation of Sanctions
Where there is a violation of a sanction that has been imposed, the USSA Alpine Judicial Committee may impose such further and other sanctions that it considers appropriate.
In such cases, some or all of the following sanctions may apply:
- 226.1 Sanctions against individuals involved:
- a written reprimand, and/or
 - a competition or project suspension at the next level of sanction - for example, if a three-month suspension for a doping offense was imposed, a violation of the suspension will cause a two-year suspension; if a two-year suspension for a doping offense was imposed, a violation of the suspension will cause a lifetime suspension, and/or
 - withdrawal of accreditation from individuals involved.

Section 2 Rules Common to Alpine Events

- 600 Organization
Reference is made to article 211.
- 601 Organizing Committee
- 601.1 Composition
The Organizing Committee consists of those members (physical or legal) who are delegated by the organizer and USSA. It carries the rights, duties and obligations of the organizer.
- 601.2 Appointments by USSA
USSA appoints the Technical Delegate for all competitions.
- 601.2.1 The Technical Delegate appoints
- the Referee and
 - for DH, and SG the Assistant Referee
- 601.2.4 By these appointments the above persons become members of the Organizing Committee.
- U601.2.5 An Assistant Referee may be assigned at USSA technical events (SL/GS) for

training purposes only. At these events, the Assistant Referee will have neither voice nor vote in Jury Meetings and their names will not appear on official documents.

- 601.3 Appointments by the organizer
The organizer appoints all other members of the Organizing Committee. The chair or his representative represents the committee in public, leads the meetings and makes decisions concerning all matters that are not made by other persons or groups. Before, during and after the competition the chair works closely with USSA and its appointed officials. He takes on all other duties that are necessary for carrying out the competition.
The following officials must be appointed by the organizer:
- 601.3.1 The Chief of Race
The Chief of Race directs all preparation of the competition and supervises the activities in the technical area. The Chief of Race summons meetings for consideration of technical questions and leads the team captains meetings after consultation with the Technical Delegate.
- 601.3.2 The Chief of Course (Section Chief)
The Chief of Course is responsible for the preparation of the courses in accordance with the directives and decisions of the Jury. The Chief of Course must be familiar with local snow conditions on the terrain concerned.
- 601.3.3 The Start Referee
The Start Referee must remain at the start from the beginning of the official inspection time until the end of a training/event,
- make sure that the regulations for the start and the start organization are properly observed,
 - determine late and false starts,
 - be able to communicate with the Jury at all times (see 705.5),
 - report to the Referee the names of competitors who did not start and informs the Jury of all infringements against the rules, such as false or late starts or violations against the rules for equipment,
 - ensure that reserve bibs are at the start.
- 601.3.4 The Finish Referee
The Finish Referee must remain at the finish from the beginning of the official inspection time until the end of a training/event,
- make sure that all regulations for the organization of the finish and the finish in-run and out-run are properly observed,
 - supervise the finish controller, the timing and the crowd control in the finish area,
 - be able to communicate immediately with the start at all times,
 - report to the Referee the names of the competitors who did not finish and informs the Jury of all infringements against the rules.
- 601.3.5 The Chief Gate Judge
The Chief Gate Judge:
- organizes and supervises the work of the gate judges,
 - designates the gates each will supervise and places them in position,
 - at the end of the first run and the end of the race collects the gate judge control cards for delivery to the Referee,
 - distributes, in good time, to each gate judge, the material they need (control card, pencil, start list, etc.),

- is prepared to offer assistance either to help keep spectators off the course or to help maintain the course, etc.
 - makes sure that the numbering and the marking of the gates are done within the required time.
- 601.3.6 The Chief of Timing and Calculations
- The chief of timing and calculations is responsible for the coordination of officials at the start and finish, including timing and calculations. In SL, he or a special assistant will decide the interval between starts. The following officials are under his direction:
- starter
 - assistant starter
 - start recorder
 - chief timekeeper
 - assistant timekeepers
 - finish controller
 - chief of calculations and his assistants
- 601.3.7 The Race Secretary
- The race secretary is responsible for all secretarial work for the technical aspects of the competition and amongst others for the preparation of the draw. Additionally, the Race Secretary:
- ensures that the official results contain the information required by article 617.3.4,
 - is responsible for the minutes of the technical officials, the Jury and team captains meetings,
 - ensures that all forms for start, finish, timing, calculations and gate-judging are well prepared, and handed over to the officials concerned in good order at the proper time,
 - receives official protests and gives them to those concerned,
 - facilitates the calculation of results by appropriate preparation and ensures that they are duplicated and published as quickly as possible after the completion of the competition.
- 601.3.8 The Chief of Medical and Rescue Services
- The Chief of Medical and Rescue Services is responsible for organizing adequate first aid and medical coverage during the official training periods and the actual competition. The Chief of Medical must work closely with the Jury and particularly the Technical Delegate, keeping them informed as to the nature and disposition of any injury.
- 601.3.9.4 The organizer is authorized to include other officials within the Organizing Committee.
- 601.4 The Jury
- The following members of the Jury, who are members of the Organizing Committee are responsible for technical matters within the closed competition areas:
- the Technical Delegate
 - the Referee
 - the Chief of Race
 - the Assistant Referee for DH and SG
- 601.4.2 Appointment of the Jury for USSA races.

- 601.4.2.1 USSA appoints the Technical Delegate.
- 601.4.2.2 The TD appoints
- the Referee
 - in the case of DH and SG, the Assistant Referee
 - substitute Jury members in case of force majeure
- 601.4.2.3 The jury of a ladies' race should, where possible, include a lady.
- 601.4.2.4 The Chief of Race has to belong to the organizing committee.
- 601.4.3 Exclusions
- 601.4.3.1 A competitor cannot be a member of the Jury.
- 601.4.4 Tenure of the Jury
- 601.4.4.1 The appointed Jury members gather for their first meeting prior to the first team captains meeting.
- 601.4.4.2 The active duty of the Jury begins with its first meeting and ends, if no protest is submitted, at the expiration of the protest deadline, otherwise after dealing with all submitted protests.
- 601.4.5 Franchise and Voting
- The TD is the chair of the Jury. He conducts the meetings. Each of the following has one vote in the Jury:
- 601.4.5.2 The TD, Chief of Race, Referee and in the case of DH and SG, the Assistant Referee.
- 601.4.5.3 Decisions are made by simple majority vote of members present and voting (exception article 646.3).
- 601.4.5.4 In the case of a tie, the TD has the casting vote.
- 601.4.5.5 Minutes are to be kept of all meetings and decisions of the Jury and signed by each individual member of the Jury, with each individual vote on decisions recorded, as per article 601.4.5.5.
- 601.4.5.7 In cases where an immediate decision must be made and it is not possible to convene the entire Jury, each member of the Jury has the right, prior to or during the race, to make decisions which according to the rules per se are reserved to the Jury as a whole; but only provisionally with the obligation to have the decision confirmed by the Jury as soon as possible.
- 601.4.6 Duties of the Jury
- The Jury monitors the adherence to the rules throughout the entire race, including the official training.
- 601.4.6.1 From a technical standpoint particularly by:
- Checking the race-course and the set courses
 - Checking the snow conditions
 - Checking the preparation of the course
 - Approving the use of snow compactors and other chemicals.
 - Checking the crowd control systems
 - Checking the start, the finish area and the run-out from the finish
 - Checking the first aid service
 - Appointing the course setters.
 - Fixing the time of course setting
 - Overseeing the work of the course setters
 - Spot-checking of the gate flags
 - Opening or closing the race courses for training in consideration of the technical

preparations and the prevailing weather conditions

- Determining the method of the competitors course inspection
- Jury inspection of the course before the race
- Determining the number of forerunners for each run and setting the start order of the forerunners
- Debriefing the forerunners as necessary
- Changing the start order in consideration of course conditions and in extraordinary conditions
- Changing the start intervals
- Giving instructions to and obtaining information from the gate judges.

For DH:

- Arrangement of an additional competitor's inspection in unusual weather conditions
- Shortening the official training
- Positioning of yellow zones
- Checking on the setting of gates
- Changing the position and distance of the gates or adding extra gates as indicated by the experience gained in the training runs. Following significant changes, the competitors must be allowed at least one more training run on the course.

601.4.6.2 From an organizational viewpoint particularly by:

- Ranking of the competitors for the draw
- Division of the competitors without points into groups according to some determined basis
- Granting of re-runs
- Cancellation of the race (beforehand)
- if snow conditions are unsuitable
- if the recommendations of the Technical Advisor's report have not been carried out
- if the first aid and medical service are inadequate
- if the crowd control is insufficient
- Shortening the course, if snow or weather conditions make this appear necessary
- Interruption of the race if the prerequisites of article 624 are present,
- Termination of the race if the prerequisites of article 625 are present.

601.4.6.3 From a disciplinary viewpoint particularly by:

- Decision on a proposal of the Technical Delegate or a Jury member to exclude a competitor for lack of physical and technical ability
- Limitation of quotas for officials, technicians and medical personnel for admission to the race-course
- Imposition of sanctions
- Decisions on protests
- Issue of particular directives throughout the entire event

601.4.7 Questions not Covered by Rules

In general, the Jury makes decisions on all questions not clarified by the USSA Alpine Competition Regulations.

601.4.8 Radios

At all competitions published in the USSA Ski Calendar, the Jury members plus start and finish referee must be equipped with radios. These must function on a single reserved frequency and be free of interference.

601.4.9 Duties of the TD for all events

601.4.9.1 Before the race

The TD

- Reviews the homologation file and consults the organizer about the possible existence of a special authorization.

If he establishes that no homologation exists, the Jury must cancel the race (see 650). He reads the TD reports about previous events at the site and checks whether the improvements proposed in these reports have been carried out.

- Has the right, if a SL or GS cannot be carried out on the homologated course because of "force majeure", to move the race to a "substitute course" proposed by the organizer. This is on the explicit condition that the necessary homologation measures can be fulfilled. For DH and SG there is only the possibility of shortening the run on a homologated course. The minimum prescribed vertical drops must, however, be observed in any case
- Inspects the competition and training courses.
- Supervises the compliance with article 704 and U1003.2 concerning the official training.

- Spot checks the gate flags.

- Collaborates in the administrative and technical preparations.

- Checks the official entry lists, including seed points.

- Checks on the presence of sufficient radios with separate frequencies for all members of the Jury.
- Takes note of the accreditation and the authorization for entry to the course.
- Checks over the race courses with regard to preparation, marking, crowd control, as well as the layout of start and finish areas.
- Supervises the course setting together with the Jury.

- Checks on the location of the television towers and sees they are adequately protected if necessary.
- Supervises the locations of the first aid service along the course as well as the organization of the medical care.
- Checks on all technical installations such as timekeeping, hand timing, communications, transport of people, etc.
- Is present in the race area during all official training.

- Takes part in all meetings of the Jury and of the team captains.

- Works closely together with the officials of the Organizing Committee.

- Is the chair of the Jury with a casting vote in case of a tie.

- If necessary, appoints members to the Jury.

601.4.9.2 During the race

The TD

- Must be present in the course area.

- Works closely with the Jury, the team captains and the coaches.

- Observes that the valid rules and directives are obeyed in regard to race equipment.
- Supervises the technical and organizational conduct of the event.
- Advises the organization concerning the observance of the USSA rules and regulations and directives of the Jury.

601.4.9.3 After the race

The TD

- Helps with the compilation of the Referee's report.
- Calculates the race and penalty points for the individual races. If the points are calculated by computer, it is the TD's duty to re-check the points and confirm their accuracy with his personal signature. Above all, he checks the correct use of the corresponding F value for each discipline.
- Presents properly submitted protests to the Jury for decision.
- Signs the official result lists established by the race secretary and gives the authorization for the award ceremony.
- Fills out the TD report, including any supplementary reports and is responsible for their dispatch within three days to the USSA Office and the other appropriate places.
- Presents to the USSA Office, any applicable proposals for changes in the competition rules on the basis of practical experience at the event in question.

601.4.9.4 In general

The TD

- Decides on questions not covered or insufficiently covered by the USSA Alpine Competition Regulations, in so far as these have not already been decided by the Jury and do not fall within the scope of other authorities.
- Works closely with the Referee and Assistant Referee.
- Has the right to propose to the Jury the exclusion of competitors from participation in the race.
- Has the right to obtain support from the Organizing Committee and all officials under its jurisdiction in all matters necessary to the fulfillment of his duties.

601.4.10 Duties and rights of the Referee

- The referee at USSA Scored events must be a current USSA Coach or Official member and must have a current referee certification.
- Drawing of the start numbers
- Inspection of the course immediately after it is set, alone or accompanied by members of the Jury.
- Changing the course by taking out or adding gates; if the Referee inspects the course alone his decision is final.

The course setter must be informed of such changes if he was not present at this inspection.

- Receiving the reports of the start and finish referees and the race officials about the infractions of the rules and the gate faults at the end of the first run, and again at the end of the race.

- Checking, signing and posting the Referee's minutes immediately after each run on the official notice board and also at the finish hut, a list with the names of the competitors disqualified, the gate numbers where the faults occurred or the rule reference number for other disqualifications, the names of the gate judges or officials who noted the faults leading to the sanctions and the exact time the disqualifications were posted.

- Sending a report to USSA in all special cases or in the event of a difference of opinion among the Jury members or in the case of severe injury to a competitor.

601.4.10.1 Collaboration with the TD

The Referee and the Assistant Referee must work very closely with the TD.

601.4.11 The Technical Advisor

To support the Jury, USSA can appoint technical advisors for all categories of races. The technical advisor has the right to express his opinion within the Jury without the right to vote.

602 The Technical Delegate (TD)

602.1 Definition

602.1.1 The primary duties of the TD

- make sure that the rules and directions of USSA are adhered to
- see that the event runs smoothly
- advise the organizers within the scope of their duties
- be the official representative of USSA

602.1.2 Responsibility

The TD structure comes under the responsibility of the Alpine Sports Committee. The Alpine Technical Delegate Working Group exercises this authority.

602.1.3 Prerequisites

The TD must hold a valid USSA Alpine Officials membership and TD certification (exception see article 602.3).

602.1.4 Development

602.1.4.1 The development for a TD is:

- Applicant - Nomination and two seconds from a level 3 or higher TD.
- Approval of Divisional Alpine Officials Committee.
- Written entrance examination with a passing grade of 75% or better.
- Successful completion of candidacy under a senior TD.
- TD.

602.1.4.2 Each division is responsible for the identification and education of aspiring TD's.

602.1.5 Training

602.1.5.1 The basic training of the applicant is the responsibility of the sponsoring division.

602.1.5.2 To be certified as a Level 1 TD, an official must be certified as a Level 2 Referee and Level 1 Timing and Calculations.

- In the alternative, an official must be certified as a Level 1 Timing and Calculations, Level 1 Chief of Race and Level 2 Jury Advisor.

U602.1.5.10 It is strongly recommended that the applicant also maintain Alpine Officials certification as Chief of Race.

U602.1.5.11 Advancement of certification level.

- Level 1 to Level 2 - 10 workdays as a TD and favorable written recommendation from two higher level TDs.
- Level 2 to Level 3 - an additional minimum 10 work days as a TD, two written recommendations/evaluations, pass the USSA Level 3 Technical Delegate exam with a score of 80% or higher and be approved by the USSA TD Working Group and the USSA Alpine Officials Committee.
- Level 3 to Level 4 - a minimum of five years of outstanding service as a Technical Delegate, and approval of the USSA TD Working Group and the USSA Alpine Officials Committee.

U602.1.8 Participation

U602.1.8.1 A USSA Technical Delegate should work as an assigned TD a minimum of two days every season and must work as an assigned TD at least once every two years.

U602.1.8.2 USSA TDs are urged to attend a USSA approved seminar or update annually,

and required to attend a USSA approved seminar at least bi-annually.

U602.1.8.3 Failure to meet the above participation requirements will result in loss of TD certification status.

U602.1.8.4 If a TD misses an update for 2-years, the TD may be reinstated to the previous level by attending a recognized update.

U602.1.8.5 If a TD misses an update for 3 or more years, the TD may be reinstated by passing the appropriate examination, i.e. Level 1 or 2 must pass the Level 1 exam, Level 3 or 4 must pass the Level 3 exam.

U602.1.8.6 A TD may not violate the update rule for a second time and maintain TD certification.

602.2 Appointment

602.2.2 For all events the appointment is made by USSA or its designate.

602.2.4 A TD cannot be a member of the local organizing association.

602.3 TD replacement

602.3.4 If the TD is unable to serve, a deputy for the absent TD is to be named on the spot by the team captains. The replacement must likewise meet the requirements of article 602.1.3.

In an emergency, a TD may also be named who does not meet these requirements, but is competent to ensure the conduct (continuation) of the race. In the choice of this person, stringent criteria are to be used.

602.3.5 The replacement TD has the same rights and duties as the TD originally appointed.

602.4 Organization of the Assignment

602.4.1 The organizer must establish contact with the TD in good time.

602.4.2 Cancellations or postponements of events must be announced to the TD and to the USSA Office immediately, taking into account any applicable deadlines.

602.4.3 For DH and SG, the TD should arrive at the competition site at least 48 hours before the draw for the first training. In all other events, this should be at least 24 hours before the draw for the event concerned.

602.5 Expense Accounts

The TD has a right to reimbursement for:

- Automobile mileage to the event at IRS guidelines per mile, or in the case of air travel, the cost of coach air fare.
- Lodging, the cost of a single room for the time period from the first team captains meeting to the end of the event. If organizers provide appropriate volunteer housing, the TD must use it.
- Meals that are accompanied by invoices. If organizer provides meals, the TD must utilize these.
- Reasonable out-of-pocket expenses (i.e. postage, telephone, etc.).

U602.6 Sanctions

Sanctions can be imposed against TDs.

603 Course Setter

603.1 Prerequisites

U603.1.1 Course setters at USSA Scored events must be a current USSA Coach or Official member and must have a current referee certification.

603.1.3 For DH, the course setter must be acquainted with the particular race course.

603.2 Appointment

603.2.3 The appointment is made by the Jury. For competitions in two runs, each run is to

be set by a different course setter. One of the two course setters can be named by the organizer.

603.3 Supervision of the Course Setters

603.3.1 The work of the course setters is supervised by the Jury.

603.4 Organization of the assignment

The assignment is managed by the Jury.

603.5 Replacement of Course Setters

603.5.2 The Jury names a replacement course setter.

603.5.3 The replacement course setter should have the same qualifications as the original course setter.

603.6 Rights of the Course Setter

603.6.1 To recommend the introduction of changes in the competition terrain and in the safety measures.

603.6.2 Availability of a sufficient number of helpers for the setting of the course, so that the course setter can concentrate solely on setting the course.

603.6.3 Provision of all necessary materials by the chief of course equipment.

603.6.4 Immediate completion of the finishing touches to the race course.

603.7 Duties of the Course Setter

603.7.1 In order to set the course appropriately, respecting the terrain, the snow cover and the ability of the participating competitors, the course setter conducts a pre-inspection of the race terrain in the presence of the TD, Referee, Chief of Race and Chief of Course.

603.7.2 The course setter sets the race course respecting the existing course protection measures and course preparation. The course setter must take speed control into consideration.

603.7.3 For all events, the course setter has to set gates according to the respective rules.

603.7.4 The courses must be set and ready in time so that the competitors are not disturbed during course inspection.

603.7.5 The course setters should take care that the difference between the winning times of each run of SL and GS will not be too great.

603.7.6 The course setting is a task of the course setter alone. He is responsible for adhering to the rules of the USSA Alpine Competition Regulations and may be advised by members of the Jury, and by the technical advisor in DH and SG, if present.

603.7.7 The course setter must participate in all team captains meetings at which a report is to be made about his course.

604.2 Rights and Duties of the Team Captains and Trainers

The team captains and trainers must be accredited by the organizers according to quota. The accreditation gives the following rights and duties:

- to be a member of the Jury,
- to be nominated as a course setter if these have not been appointed by USSA or if the appointed person is not present,
- to be issued with a pass or armband during the training or competition (or reimbursement for costs if a lift pass has not been provided),
- to be issued with a pass or armband stating the function or marked Course.

604.2.1 Team captains and trainers must obey the USSA rules and the decisions of the Jury, and must behave in a proper and sportsmanlike manner.

604.2.2 A team captain or trainer must fulfill the duties he has accepted as a member of

- the Jury, or as a course setter.
- 604.3 In accordance with ICR 213.4 and 216 the time and location of the first team captain's meeting and of the draw must be shown in the programme. An actual meeting, attended in person by team captains, jury, and race officials is an inseparable part of the competition and is important for communication of jury instructions, support of the OC, OC requests and information as well as a critical element for risk management and liability related matters. ICR 216 and 217 apply in all cases.
- 605 Forerunners
- 605.1 The organizer is obliged to provide at least three forerunners who meet all regulations of USSA, including participant membership. The forerunner is a member of the organizing committee. In DH, the forerunners should participate in all training runs.
In extraordinary conditions, the Jury may increase the number of forerunners. The Jury may designate different forerunners for each run.
- 605.2 The forerunners must wear forerunner start numbers (bibs).
- 605.3 The nominated forerunners should have the skiing ability to ski the course in a racing manner.
- 605.4 Forerunners are not permitted to start in the competition.
- 605.5 The Jury determines the forerunners and their start order. After an interruption of the race, additional forerunners may be authorized as necessary.
- 605.6 The times of the forerunners may not be published.
- 605.7 Upon request the forerunners shall report to members of the Jury regarding the snow conditions, the visibility and the race line, as the case requires.
- 606 Competitor Outfits
- 606.1 Start numbers (Bibs)
Shape, size, lettering and attachment method may not be altered. Each figure must be at least 12 cm high and easily legible. The individual letters may not surpass a height of 10 cm.
- 606.3 Ski brakes
For competitions and official training, only skis with ski brakes may be used. Competitors without ski brakes are not allowed to start.
- 606.4 Helmets
In all events, all competitors and forerunners are obliged to wear crash helmets that conform to the equipment rules. See specifications as an addendum later in this chapter.
- 606.5 Equipment Rules
See specifications as an addendum later in this chapter.
- 607 Age Limits
- 607.1 The competition year is July 1 - June 30 of the following year. A competitor's class is determined by their age on December 31 of the competition year.
- 607.3 Classification of USSA competitors:
- | | |
|----|--------------------------|
| SR | 20 years of age or older |
| J1 | 17, 18, or 19 |
| J2 | 15 or 16 |
| J3 | 13 or 14 |
| J4 | 11 or 12 |

- | | |
|----|---------------|
| J5 | 9 or 10 |
| J6 | 8 and younger |
- U607.4 Regions, divisions and state associations may define additional classes for competitors age 8 or younger.
- U607.5 Regions, divisions and state associations may establish procedures that allow competitors to compete:
- as a member of a higher level class than that of their chronological age, and/or
 - in races that are conducted on courses that exceed the specifications for their class.
- U607.6 These procedures must be based on either:
- objective evidence that the competitor can compete successfully within the higher class, or
 - careful screening by a disinterested, knowledgeable group that determines that the competitor can compete successfully within the higher class.
- U607.6.1 The procedures must require that the competitor and his parents complete and sign the USSA Ski Up Waiver.
- 610 Start, Finish, Timing and Calculations
- 611 Technical Installations
All provisions of ICR 611 apply except references to Olympic Winter Games, FIS World Championships and FIS World Cup (OWG/WSC/WC) or as further noted.
- 611.1 Communications and Cabling
In all competitions, it is highly recommended that there be multiple communication (telephone or radios, etc.) between the start and finish. Voice communication between starter and finish must be assured by fixed wire connection or radio. In case of radio, this must be a separate channel from that used by any other function of the ROC.
- 611.2 Timing Equipment
- For all national championship races (including regional junior championships), electronic timers, start gates, and photocells homologated by FIS must be used. The list of approved equipment is published on the FIS website. Races using timing equipment other than those on the approved list will not be considered for scoring to the USSA points list.
 - For other competitions that are scored to the USSA points list there shall be a primary timekeeping system which generates a permanent printed record of time-of-day at the start and at the finish. The primary timekeeping system shall be shown to meet the requirements of a homologated timing system. Further, there shall be a secondary electronic timing system, preferably reporting time-of-day, and manual timekeeping.
A Timing and Data Technical Report form must be completed for each scored competition and submitted with the results to USSA.
 - For other competitions, which are not scored to any points lists, there shall be a primary timekeeping system that is electronically based, preferably measuring time-of-day, and manual timekeeping.
- [The phrase "and manual timekeeping", does not mean that manual timekeeping may be a part of the secondary or any other electronic timekeeping system. Manual (hand) timekeeping is totally separate and independent of the electronic timekeeping system and is done with stopwatches or hand-operated battery-powered devices.]*
- 611.2.1 Electric Timing

For all competitions that are scored to the USSA points list, two synchronized electronically isolated systems operating in time-of-day must be used. One system will be designated System A (main system), the other System B (back-up system) prior to the beginning of the race.

All time of day times must be immediately and automatically sequentially recorded on printed strips to at least the 1/1000th (0.001) precision. Both systems must allow for the calculation of net times by the mathematical comparison of each racer's start time to finish time. The final result is then expressed to 1/100th (0.01) precision by truncating the calculated net time on course.

All times used for the final result must come from System A. If there is a failure of System A, a calculated net time from System B must be used following the same procedure set out in 611.3.2.1. It is not permitted to substitute Time-of-Day times from System B for use with System A for the purpose of net time calculations.

For all scored events, System A must be connected to its respective start gate contact. System B must be separately connected to another electronically isolated start gate contact.

In the same fashion, System A must be connected to the System A photocell and System B must be connected to the System B photocell. Refer to the FIS Timing Booklet for more details regarding cabling and complete wiring descriptions, diagrams and start gate and photocell installations.

All timing equipment and technical installations should be set up or protected in such a way that danger to the competitor is avoided where possible and must be demonstrably functional to the requirements of the rules when disconnected from external devices, e.g. scoring and results computers.

Synchronization of the timing systems must occur within 60 minutes of the Start of each run and must be maintained throughout each run. Timers may not be re-synchronized during any run. Synchronization and the 1-minute wand throw must be performed from the start wand through the system wiring to both timers and their respective recorders.

Non-scored races, other than regional or national championship events, may be timed without wire. (See 611.2.4 ACR)

611.2.1.1 Start Gate

The starting gate should consist of two wooden posts approximately 60cm apart and extending approximately 60cm from the surface of the snow. The wooden posts should be 7-10 cm in diameter if they are round or 5-8 cm across if they are square. The start gate must have separate electronically isolated switch contacts for triggering the start inputs of both system A & B. If a start gate or start wand requires replacement during a run, it must be replaced with identical equipment in the same position.

For non-scored events only, non-homologated start gate, spring –return, “self-return” mechanisms are permitted.

611.2.1.2 Photocells

For all scored events, there must be two photocell system(s) homologated by the FIS installed at the finish line. One is connected to System A. The other is connected to System B.

[Procedures and regulations for start gates and photocells are found in the FIS Timing Booklet.]

611.2.1.3 Start Clock

For fixed interval races, the use of a start clock that provides at least an acoustic countdown signal on the fixed start interval should be used as an aid to race management.

611.2.2 Hand Timing

Manual (hand) timing, completely separate and independent of the electronic timing, must be used for all competitions listed in the USSA calendar. Stopwatches or hand-operated, battery-powered, timers that are installed at both the start and the finish and capable of expressing times to at least 1/100th (0.01) precision qualify as proper hand timing devices. They must be synchronized prior to the start of each run, preferably with the same time of day as System A and System B. Printed records, either automatic or handwritten, of recorded hand times must be immediately available at the start and at the finish.

611.2.3 Presentation of Times

Organizers shall provide appropriate facilities for continuous presentation of all registered times of all competitors.

611.2.4 Timing without Cable

For non-championship scored races it is permitted to use homologated timing equipment in such a way that hill cable connection between start and finish is not required. Refer to the FIS Timing Booklet for a detailed discussion of how this is possible.

For non-scored races, start times or impulses can be transmitted to a timer at the finish operating in time-of-day mode, or printed instantly at the start. Net times should be calculated in a timely manner.

611.3 Timing

611.3.1 With electronic timing, the time is taken when a competitor crosses the finish line and triggers the beam between the photo cells.

In case of a fall at the finish where the competitor does not come to a full stop, the time can be taken without both of the competitor's feet having crossed the finish line. For the registered time to become valid, the competitor must immediately completely cross the finish line with or without skis. With hand timing the time will be taken when any part of the competitor crosses the finish line.

The finish controller determines the correctness of passage across the finish line.

611.3.2 In the case of a failure of the main electronic timing system (system A), the results of the electronic back-up system (system B) will be valid as per art. 611.2.1.

In case of a failure in the lines of the timing system between start and finish, this back-up system will allow the calculation of the times to 1/100ths of a second.

In the case that calculated net times from either system A or system B are not available for a competitor, the calculated net manual time as per art. 611.3.2.1 will be considered valid.

611.3.2.1 Utilization of times taken by hand

Hand times may be used in the official results after a correction has been calculated.

• Calculation of the correction

Calculate the difference between the times taken by hand and the electronic times of the 5 competitors starting before the missing time and the 5 starting after or if necessary the 10 nearest competitors.

The sum of the 10 time differences is divided by 10 to give the correction, which must be applied to the hand time of the competitor without an electronic time.

611.3.3 The official timing strips from the printer will be given to the Technical Delegate

for review. They will be kept by the Race Organizer until the official approval of the race or after any appeal dealing with timing or race results.

A Timing Technical Report Form as prescribed by USSA must accompany the race results and must be reviewed and signed by the Chief of Timing and reviewed and signed by the TD as his approval of the race.

All printed records from System A, System B and hand timing must be retained by the ROC for a period of three (3) months after the competition or after any appeal dealing with timing or race results.

611.3.4 When the official printing timer allows manual input or correction of a time, some type of indication (star, asterisk or other) concerning any effected change must be printed on all timing documentation.

611.3.5 Computer software calculating net times must use the precision of the time of day as used in the timing device.

611.4 Private Timing and Speed Measurement Equipment of the Teams
Any request to install such equipment has to be made to the Jury by the team captain concerned and the Jury decides concerning approval of the installation.

612 Start and Finish Officials

612.1 The Starter

The Starter must synchronize his watch with those of the assistant starter and by telephone or radio with the chief timekeeper within ten minutes of the start. The starter is responsible for the warning signal and the start command as well as for the accuracy of the intervals between these signals. He assigns the supervision of the competitors to the assistant starter.

612.2 The Assistant Starter

The assistant starter is responsible for calling the competitors to the start in their correct order.

612.3 The Start Recorder

The start recorder is responsible for recording the actual start times of all competitors.

612.4 The Chief Timekeeper

The chief timekeeper is responsible for the accuracy of the timing. He synchronizes the watches with the starter as shortly before and after the race as is possible. He must publish unofficial times as quickly as possible (on the score-board, etc.). If the electric timing fails, the chief timekeeper must communicate immediately with the start referee and the TD.

612.5 The Assistant Timekeeper

Two assistant timekeepers operate stopwatches according to article 611.2.2.

One assistant timekeeper maintains a complete record with the registered times of all competitors.

612.6 The Finish Controller

The finish controller has the following duties:

- Supervision of the section between the last gate and the finish.
- Supervision of the proper crossing of the finish line.
- Recording of the order of finishing of all racers who complete the course.

612.7 The Chief of Calculations

The chief of calculations is responsible for quick and accurate calculation of results. He supervises the immediate duplication of unofficial results and the publication of official results after expiration of the protest interval, or after any

protests have been dealt with.

613 The Start

613.1 The Start Area

The Start Area must be closed off to everyone except the starting competitor, accompanied by only one trainer and the start officials.

The start area must be protected appropriately against inclement weather. A special roped off area must be provided for trainers, team captains, service personnel, etc., in which they may take care of the waiting competitors without being interrupted by the public. An adequate shelter must be prepared for the competitors waiting for the call to start.

The competitor enters the defined start hut with both skis attached without any covers on them.

613.2 The Start Ramp

The Start Ramp shall be prepared in such a way that the competitors can stand relaxed on the starting line and can quickly reach full speed after leaving the start.

613.3 Start Procedure

No official or attendant who could possibly give an advantage to or disturb the starting competitor may be behind him. All outside help is forbidden. By order of the starter, the competitor must plant his poles in front of the start line, or where indicated. The starter must not touch the competitor at the start.

Pushing off from the start posts or other aids is forbidden and the competitor may start only with the help of his ski poles.

613.4 Start Signals

10 seconds before the start, the starter will tell each competitor "10 seconds". Five seconds before the start, he shall count "5, 4, 3, 2, 1" and then give the start command "Go".

(For SL see 805.3).

If possible, an automatic audible signal is to be used. The starter will let the competitor see the start clock.

613.5 Start Timing

The start timing shall measure the exact time the competitor crosses the start line with his leg below the knee.

613.6 Delayed Start

A competitor who is not ready to start on time will be sanctioned. The start referee may however excuse such a delay if, in his opinion the delay is due to "force majeure".

For example, breakdown of a competitor's personal equipment, or minor sickness of a competitor, does not constitute "force majeure". In case of doubt, the Jury may allow the start provisionally.

613.6.1 The start referee makes the decisions after consultation with the Jury (according to 613.6.2 and 613.6.3) and must record the start numbers and names of competitors who were not allowed to start because of late appearance, or who were allowed to start in spite of late appearance, or who were allowed to start provisionally.

613.6.2 In the case of fixed start intervals, the delayed competitors may start at the fixed interval after he has reported to the start referee, in accordance with the decision of the Jury. The start referee informs the Jury as to when (after which start number) a delayed competitor is starting.

- 613.6.3 In the case of irregular start intervals, the delayed competitor will start according to article 805.3. The start referee informs the Jury as to when (after which start number) a delayed competitor is starting.
- 613.7 Valid and False Starts
In competitions with a fixed start interval the competitor must start on the start signal. The start time is valid if it occurs within the following limits: 5 seconds before and 5 seconds after the official start time. A competitor who does not start within that space of time will be disqualified.
The start referee must inform the Referee of the start numbers and names of the competitors who made a false start or have contravened the starting rules.
- 614 Course and Competition
- 614.1 Course
- 614.1.1 Technical Parts of a Competition Course
Start and finish installations, television towers, measuring equipment, sponsor advertising equipment, etc. are necessary items for a competition.
- 614.1.2 Course Setting
- 614.1.2.1 Assistance
Assistance must be provided for the course setter, at a time to be fixed by the Jury, so that he can concentrate on the actual course setting and not be distracted by fetching poles, etc.
The chief of course equipment must provide enough of the following:
- enough blue and red slalom poles
 - a corresponding number of flags, divided by colors
 - sledge hammers, drills, wedges etc.
 - enough gate numbers
 - coloring substance for marking the position of the poles.
- 614.1.2.2 Marking of the gates
The positions of the gate poles are to be marked with an easily recognizable coloring substance which remains visible throughout the entire race. If the poles are fixed using large wooden or plastic bases (bucket bases) no coloring substance is required.
- 614.1.2.3 Numbering the gates
The gates must be numbered from top to bottom of the course and the numbers attached to the outside pole or where there is no outside pole (single pole SL) the number will be attached to the turning pole. Start and finish are not counted.
- 614.1.2.4 Marking of the course and terrain
In DH and in SG the course may be marked using:
- twigs stuck in the snow on the inside and/or outside of the racing line before and after the gate, and/or
 - small pine needles or similar material spread on the course, and/or
 - colored dye used on vertically from gate to gate as well as horizontally across the course, notably on the approaches indicating changes in terrain, jumps, etc.
- 614.1.2.5 Spare Poles
The chief of course is responsible for the availability and correct placing of enough spare poles. The poles are to be placed so that they do not mislead competitors.
- 614.1.3 Warm-up slopes
Appropriate warm-up slopes closed to the public should be made available.

- 614.1.4 Closing and modification of the course
A course is closed from the time that the course setting begins. Nobody except for the Jury is permitted to change gates, gate flags, markings, etc. or modify the course structure (jumps, bumps, etc.) on a closed course.
Competitors are not permitted to enter a closed competition course.
Trainers, servicemen etc., who are allowed on a closed competition course are to be determined by the Jury.
Photographers and camera teams are allowed into the closed course area for the necessary documentation of the competition. Their total number can be limited by the Jury. They will be located by the Jury where possible and may only remain in this area.
The Jury or the Organizing Committee may close a course or sections of a course to competitors, trainers, media and service personnel outside of the actual competition or inspection times for preparation and maintenance purposes.
- 614.1.5 Non-essential changes
In cases of immediate non-essential but necessary changes on the course, such as small removals of gates, an additional inspection or training run is not necessary. Details must be communicated to all team-captains and competitors must be informed by the referee at the start.
- 614.2 Competition
- 614.2.1 Passage of the Gates
A gate must be passed according to article 661.4.1.
- 614.2.2 Interdiction to Continue after a Gate Fault
If a competitor misses a gate, he may no longer continue through further gates.
- 614.3 Inspection
- 614.3.1 Jury inspection
On race day, the Jury inspects the course and has to confirm the FIS program for the day. Team Captains may accompany the Jury.
- 614.3.2 Competitor inspection
The competitor inspection is held after Jury inspection and after the Jury has opened the course and is normally inspected, from top to bottom of the course. The course must be in racing condition from the time the competitor's inspection starts and the competitors must not be disturbed during the inspection by workers on the course or similar. The competitors are authorised to study the final setting of the course by either skiing down at the side of the course at low speed, or side slipping through the gates (inspection). Skiing through gates or making practice turns parallel to those required by gates on the course is not allowed. Competitors must carry their start numbers. Fenced, roped or blocked off sections of the course or gates must be respected. By the end of the inspection time, Competitors have to be outside the race course. Racers are not permitted to enter the course on foot without skis.
- 614.3.3 Jury decision
The time and duration of the Competitors inspection is determined by the Jury and scheduled at the team captains meeting. If necessary (e.g. because of special weather conditions), the Jury may decide on special methods of competitors inspection.
- 615 The Finish
- 615.1 The Finish Area
- 615.1.1 The finish area should be plainly visible to competitors approaching the finish. It

- must be wide with a gently sloped smooth run out.
- 615.1.2 In setting the course with gates particular attention should be paid to directing competitors across the finish on a natural line adapted to the terrain.
- 615.1.3 The finish area is to be fenced in. Any unauthorized entry is not allowed.
- 615.1.4 Finish installations and closures should be set up or secured through suitable protection measures.
- 615.1.7 The competitor must leave the finish area through the official exit with all the competition equipment used in the race.
- 615.2 The Finish Line and its Markings
The finish line is marked by two posts or vertical banners which may be connected by a horizontal banner. In DH and SG races, the finish must be not less than 15 meters wide and in SL and GS not less than 10 meters wide. In exceptional cases, the July can only decrease this distance on the spot for technical reasons or because of the terrain. The width of the finish is considered to be the distance between the two finish posts or banners. The supports used to mount the timing devices must also be at least this far apart.
The timing supports can usually be placed behind the finish posts or banners, on the downhill side. The finish line must be clearly marked horizontally with coloring substance.
- 615.3 Crossing of the finish line and recording of the times
The finish line must be crossed:
- on both skis, or
 - on one ski, or
 - with both feet in case of a fall in the immediate finish area. In this case the time is taken when any part of the competitor's body or equipment stops the timekeeping system.
- 615.4 Report
The finish referee must make a report to the Referee immediately after the race or the official training.
- 617 Calculation and Announcement of Results
- 617.1 Unofficial Times
Times taken by the timekeepers shall be considered unofficial times. They shall be posted on a score-board that shall be readily visible from the area provided for the competitors who have finished, and from the press area. Whenever possible, unofficial times should be announced to the public over loud-speakers.
- 617.2 Announcement of Unofficial Times and Disqualifications
- 617.2.1 As soon as possible after completion of the race, unofficial times and disqualifications shall be published on the official notice board and also at the finish. The time limit for protest is counted from the moment of this announcement.
- 617.2.2 The announcement of unofficial times at the finish and start, together with written and oral announcement of disqualifications, may replace the publication on the official notice board. In this case, it can be decided that protests can be delivered verbally to the Referee at the finish immediately or, at the latest, within 15 minutes after the announcement of the disqualification and that protests submitted after this are considered null and void. The team captains must be informed beforehand.
- 617.3 Official Results
- 617.3.1 Results are determined from the official times of those competitors who have been

- officially classified.
- 617.3.2 Combined results are calculated by adding together the race points, or total time, obtained in each discipline of the combined event.
- 617.3.3 If two or more competitors have the same time or the same number of points, the racer with the higher start number shall be listed first on the official list of results.
- 617.3.4 The official result list must contain:
- the name of the organizing club or association
 - the name of the competition, the site, discipline and category (men or ladies)
 - the date of the race
 - all technical data such as the name of the course, altitude at start and finish, vertical drop, homologation number and, for DH and SG, the length of the course
 - the names and affiliations of the members of the Jury
 - for each run, the names and affiliations of the course setter and the forerunners, the number of gates (SL, GS & SG between brackets number of direction changes) and the start time
 - the weather, the snow conditions on the course and the air temperature at start and finish areas
 - all details concerning the competitors, finish order, start number, code number, name and first name, affiliation, time and race points
 - the start number, code number, name, first name and affiliation of those competitors who were not at the start, did not finish or were disqualified in each run
 - the names of the official service companies, e.g. timing company, computer service etc.
 - Codex and F value
 - penalty calculation sheet
 - the signature of the Technical Delegate.
- U617.3.5 The result lists (official and unofficial) as well as the start lists must be printed on white paper:
- 619 Award Ceremony
The award ceremony may not be held before the completion of the race and not before the Technical Delegate has authorized it.
The organizer has the right to present the probable winners before this time. This presentation is unofficial and is organized at a place different from that of the official award ceremony.
- 620 Start Order
- 621 Group Draw and Start Order
- 621.1 The classification of competitors who are present is made by the Jury
- 621.2 Except for events for which USSA has approved an alternate method, seed points shall be used for the classification of competitors. If a competitor does not appear in the last valid seed points list, he shall be assigned to that group of competitors without points.
- 621.3 The starting order of the competitors in all alpine competitions is determined by their seed points (DH, SL, GS and SG). A first group of maximum the 15 best competitors present regardless of affiliation will be drawn.
In case of an equality of points in the 15th rank, the first group can be increased accordingly.
All remaining competitors start in order of their seed points. All competitors

- without seed points will be drawn in the last group. If in the first 15 competitors present, the point difference between one and the following competitor is too great, the Jury has to decide the number of competitors in the first group. The rest will start in the order of their seed points.
- U621.3.1 Adaptive athletes competing in regularly calendared USSA competitions with 160 points or less in the discipline, will be seeded in special groups with start order: 16-20... 36-40... 56-60 ... etc. or by seed points, whichever is most favorable. (Placement within groups is by USSA point ranking.)
- 621.4 If the number without seed points is too great, the Jury must divide them into several groups. In this case, each team announces the groups to which it wishes its competitors to belong. Each group is then drawn separately. The Jury shall whenever possible, take into account the observations made during the official DH training and must divide the competitors from several teams fairly between the groups without points. As a rule, each team who has entered competitors without seed points puts one competitor into the first group of competitors without seed points.
- 621.5 The Jury has the right to change the starting order if they consider the condition of the course warrants it.
- 621.6 The draw must take place on the day before the race. For night races, the draw must take place at the latest before noon on the race day.
- 621.7 The first group in DH training must be drawn every day.
- 621.8 The draw (first group and groups without seed points) must be held in a team captains' meeting.
A double draw is recommended with a simultaneous draw of the start number and the name of the competitor.
- 621.9 The Jury can allow a draw assisted by a computer.
- 621.10 Starting Order in Extraordinary Conditions (Snow Seed)
In extraordinary conditions, the Jury may change the starting order of a DH race, a GS or a SG (when snowing, etc.). A group of at least 6 competitors, nominated in advance, start before start number 1. These 6 competitors are drawn from among the last 20% of the start list. They will start in reverse order of their start numbers.
- 621.11 Starting Order for the 2nd Run
- 621.11.1 Except for events for which USSA has approved an alternate method, in competitions with two runs, the starting order for the second run is determined by the result list of the first run except for the first 30 places.
- 621.11.2 For the first 30 places the starting order is as follows:
- the 30th in the result list starts 1st
 - the 29th in the result list starts 2nd
 - the 28th in the result list starts 3rd
 - the 27th in the result list starts 4th
 - the 1st in the result list starts 30th
- From the 31st onward according to the result list of the first run.
If more than one competitor is ranked 30th, the competitor with the lowest start number will start first.
- 621.11.3 'Flip/Bibbo 30' format is allowed at all USSA events
The Jury has the right to decide no later than one hour before the start of the first run whether the reversed order shall be reduced to the first 15 placed competitors from the first run.

- U621.11.3.1 Adaptive athletes who qualify for special seeding in the first run (U621.3.1) will be seeded in special groups with start order: 16-20... 36-40... 56-60... etc. or according to 621.10.2, whichever is most favorable. (Placement within groups will be by the result list of the first run.)
In the case of a Flip 30 2nd run, the special group starts in the 31st position or in the position immediately following the first run leader when the flip is other than 30.
- 621.11.4 A start list for the second run must be published in good time and made available to the officials at the start for the second run.
- U621.13 Alternate Classification Methods
- U621.13.1 In certain races where both runs are used for scoring purposes, the second run order may be determined by special procedures.
- U621.13.2 In non-scored races other rules for determining start order may apply. These must be noted in the race announcement.
- U621.13.3 There are some scored events on the USSA calendar in which modifications to the start order procedures are used. These procedures must be approved in advance by USSA and the divisions involved, and announced in advance. Examples include:
- U621.13.3.1 College and high school team races, where seeding is done on a team basis.
- U621.13.3.2 Certain J1, J2, and J3 events where minimum and maximum representation by seed group are stipulated.
- 622 Start Intervals
- 622.1 Regular intervals
In DH, GS and SG, competitors will normally start at regular intervals of 60 seconds; for SL see article 805.1. The Jury may fix different intervals.
- 622.2 Special Start Intervals
The start intervals in DH, SG and if necessary, GS may be changed under the following conditions:
- 622.2.2 The start interval is determined by the Jury.
- 622.2.3 The start interval may not be less than 40 seconds in DH and SG and 30 seconds in GS.
- 623 Re-runs
- 623.1 Prerequisites
- 623.1.1 A competitor who is obstructed while racing must stop immediately after the incident took place and apply to any member of the Jury for a re-run. This claim can also be made by the team captain of the obstructed competitor. The competitor should make his way to the finish along the side of the course.
- 623.1.2 In special situations (e.g. in case of missing gates or other technical failures), the Jury may order a re-run.
- 623.1.3 If a competitor is stopped by a yellow flag, he has the right to a re-run, under the condition that the Jury considers this possible from an organizational point of view. The Jury should ensure that the competitor's re-run takes place before the last competitor on the start list of the race, or training run in the case of DH (see 705.2, 705.3).
- 623.2 Grounds for Interference
- 623.2.1 Blocking of the course by an official, a spectator, an animal or other obstruction.
- 623.2.2 Blocking of the course by a fallen competitor who did not clear the course soon enough.
- 623.2.3 Objects in the course such as a lost ski pole or the ski of a previous competitor.

623.2.4 Activities of the first aid service which obstruct the racer.

623.2.5 Absence of a gate knocked down by a previous competitor that has not been promptly replaced.

623.2.6 Other similar incidents beyond the will and control of the competitor, which cause significant loss of speed or a lengthening of the racing line and, consequently, affect the competitors time.

623.2.7 Interruption by an official in a “yellow zone” (see 623.1.3).

623.3 Validity of a Re-run

623.3.1 In case the Referee or another Jury member is unable to question the appropriate officials immediately or to judge the justification for the re-run he may grant a provisional re-run, to avoid delay for the competitor. This re-run will be valid only if it is confirmed by the Jury.

623.3.2 If the competitor was already disqualified before the incident entitling him to a re-run, the re-run is not valid.

623.3.3 The provisional or definitively approved run remains valid even if it proves slower than the obstructed one.

623.4 Start Time of the Re-run

623.4.1 In the case of fixed start intervals, the competitor may start at the fixed interval after he has reported to the Start Referee in accordance with the decision of the Start Referee.

623.4.2 With non-fixed start intervals, the procedure is in accordance with the provisions of article 805.3.

624 Interruption of the Run or Training

If an interrupted run cannot be finished on the same day, it is to be treated as a terminated run.

624.1 By the Jury

624.1.1 to allow course maintenance or to allow a fairer and more consistent course for all competitors.

624.1.2 for unfavorable or inconsistent weather and snow conditions

624.1.2.1 The race is to be restarted as soon as the work on the course has finished and if the weather and snow conditions have so changed that a proper competition can be assured.

624.1.2.2 A repeated interruption of the race ordered for the same reason should lead to a termination. A DH, a SG, as well as one run of SL or GS may not last longer than four hours.

624.2 Brief interruption

Each member of the Jury is entitled to order a brief interruption of the run, also on request of a gate judge.

625 Termination of a Competition and Report

625.1 by the Jury

- if the competitors are significantly affected by outside disturbing influences
- if different conditions arise or the proper conduct of the race seems to be no longer guaranteed.

625.2 by the Technical Delegate

- in the case of extraordinary circumstances

626 Report

For all interruption or termination of a competition (Art. 624 and 625), a fully

detailed report is to be made by the TD to the USSA. The report has to contain a well-founded recommendation whether the terminated competition is to be taken into consideration for USSA points or not.

627 Not permitted to Start

A competitor will not be permitted to start in any USSA competition who:

627.1 wears obscene names and/or symbols on clothing and equipment or behaves in an unsportsmanlike manner in the start area (205.5),

627.2 violates the USSA rules in regard to equipment (222),

627.4 trains on a course closed for competitors (614.4),

627.5 in training for DH has not participated in at least one timed training run (704.8.3),

627.6 does not wear a crash helmet that conforms to the competition equipment specifications (707, 807, 907, 1007), or does not have ski brakes on his/her skis (606.3),

627.7 was eliminated from first run (605.4),

627.8 If a competitor has actually started in a competition and is later determined by the Jury to have been in violation of these rules the Jury must sanction the competitor.

628 Penalties

A penalty will be assessed by the Jury where the competitor:

628.1 violates the rules regarding obscene names and/or symbols on clothing and equipment (207.1)

628.2 alters the start number in a way that is not allowed (606.1),

628.3 does not wear or carry the official start number according to the rules. (704.6, 804.1, 904, 1004.1),

628.4 skis through a gate or practices turns parallel to those required by gates on the course or otherwise violates the rules of Competitors inspection (614.3),

628.5 is not ready to start on time or makes a false start (613.6, 613.7, 805.3.1, 805.4, 1106.3),

628.6 violates rules of the start or starts in another manner than is permitted according to the rules (613.3),

628.7 requests a re-run which proves not to be valid (623.3.2),

628.8 continues to race after committing a gate fault (614.2.2),

628.9 fails to pass the finish in accordance with article 615.3,

628.11 does not leave the finish area through the official exit with all the competition equipment used in the race (615.1.7),

628.13 receives outside help during a competition (661.3),

U628.14 continues on a DH or SG course during a training run or race after a fall, stopping, or being overtaken.

U628.15 continues on a course after losing a ski except as allowed by article U629.4.

629 Disqualifications

A competitor will be disqualified if he:

629.1 participates in the race under false pretenses,

629.2 either jeopardizes the security of persons or property or actually causes injury or damage

629.3 does not pass through a gate correctly (661.4), or does not start within the time limits defined by article 613.7.

U629.4 loses a ski more than two gates above the finish in SL, GS or SG or more than one

gate above the finish in DH.

This shall be considered a clear disqualification. The competitor may not continue on the course.

640 Protests

640.1 A Jury may only accept a protest if it is based upon physical evidence or eyewitness testimony.

640.2 A Jury is only permitted to re-evaluate its previous opinions where new evidence exists that relates to the original jury opinion.

640.3 All Jury decisions are final except those that may be protested under 641 or appealable under 647.1.1.

641 Types of Protests

641.1 Against admittance of competitors or their competition equipment,

641.2 Against the course or its condition,

641.3 Against a competitor or against an official during the race,

641.4 Against disqualifications,

641.5 Against timekeeping,

641.6 Against instructions of the Jury,

642 Place of Submittal

The various protests are to be submitted as follows:

642.1 Protests according to the article 641.1 - 641.6 at the location designated on the official notice board or at a place announced at a team captains' meeting.

642.2 Protest according to the article 624 with the appropriate level appeals committee for Jury decisions.

643 Deadlines for Submittal

643.1 Against the admittance of a competitor: before the draw.

643.2 Against the course or its condition:

- not later than 60 minutes before the beginning of the race.

643.3 Against a competitor or competitor's equipment or against an official because of irregular behavior during the competition:

- within 15 minutes after the last competitor has passed the finish.

643.4 Against disqualification:

- within 15 minutes after the posting or announcement of the disqualification.

643.5 Against the timekeeping:

- within 15 minutes after the posting of the unofficial result list.

643.6 Against all instructions of the Jury:

- immediately and no later than the deadlines for submittal of protest according to the article 643.4.

644 Form of Protests

644.1 Protests are, as a rule, submitted in writing.

644.2 As exceptions, protests according to the article 641.3, 641.4 and 641.5 can be made verbally (617.2.2).

644.3 Protests must be substantiated in detail. Proof must be submitted and any evidence must be included.

644.4 \$50 must be deposited with the submittal of the protest; \$100 if the protest is against equipment. This deposit will be returned if the protest is upheld; otherwise it goes to the account of the organizer or to USSA.

U644.4.1 The Jury may set a lesser protest fee.

644.5 A protest may be withdrawn by the protesting party before the publication of a decision by the Jury.

In this case, the money deposit must be returned. A withdrawal of the protest is, however, no longer possible when the Jury or a member of the Jury takes, for reasons of time, an intermediate decision, e.g. a decision "with reserve".

644.6 Protests not submitted on time or submitted without the protest fee are not to be considered.

645 Authorization

The following are authorized to submit protests:

- the participating organizations
- the trainers and
- team captains.

646 Settlement of Protests by the Jury

646.1 The Jury meets to deal with the protests at a predetermined place and time fixed and announced by it.

646.2 In dealing with a protest against disqualification (661.4), the gate judge and, if needed, also the gate judge of the adjacent gate combinations or other involved officials, the competitor in question and the protesting team captain or trainer shall be invited to attend.

In addition any other requested evidence such as videotape, photos, films should be checked.

646.3 At the vote on the protest, only the Jury members are to be present. The TD chairs the proceedings. Minutes of the proceedings are to be kept and signed by all voting members of the Jury. The decision requires a majority of all voting members of the Jury, not just of those present. In case of a tie, the TD's vote is decisive.

The principle of a free evaluation of the evidence is maintained. The rules on which the decision is to be based shall be applied and interpreted in such a way that fair proceedings, taking into account the maintenance of discipline, are guaranteed.

646.4 The decision is to be made public immediately after the proceedings by posting on the official notice board with the publication time stated.

647 Right of Appeal

647.1 The Appeal

647.1.1 Can be made:

- against the decisions of the Jury,
- against the decision of the Jury to terminate a race (625),
- against the recommendation of the Jury that a terminated competition should count for USSA points,
- against the official result lists. This appeal has to be directed exclusively against an obvious and proved calculation mistake.

647.1.2 Appeals must be submitted to the appropriate level Jury decision appeals committee (642.2).

647.1.3 Deadlines

647.1.3.1 Appeals against the decisions of the Jury are to be submitted within 24 hours of their publication.

647.1.3.2 Appeals against the official results are to be submitted to USSA within 30 days,

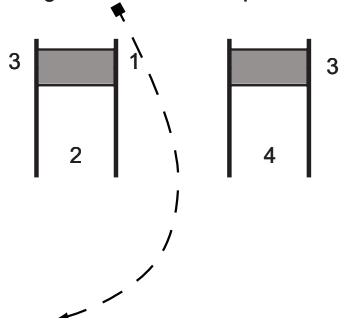
- including the day of the race.
- 647.1.4 The decision concerning appeals are taken by:
- the appropriate Jury decision appeals Committee
- 647.2 Postponing effect
- The evidence submitted (protest, appeal) may not cause a postponement of the appeal.
- 647.3 Submission
- All evidence must be in writing to be substantiated. Proof and evidence are to be included. Evidence submitted too late, must be declined by the appropriate Appeals Committee.
- 650 Rules about the Homologation of the Courses
- 650.1 General
- All DH and SG events (both scored and non-scored) may only take place on courses that have been approved by USSA. Homologation of SL and GS courses is required for all championship events (2008-2009 season) {all scored and J3 events: 2009-10 season; all sanctioned events including masters events: 2010-11 season} Courses not meeting the minimum vertical drops will be registered, and an inspection certificate provided. Registered courses are subject to all rules pertaining to homologated courses.
- 650.1.1 All FIS-homologated trails are automatically accepted as meeting USSA course approval standards, as are DH courses that were previously homologated by FIS but now lack the required vertical drop due to FIS rule changes - provided that USSA re-inspections are current.
- 650.1.2 Courses for night competitions
- All courses used for night competitions must be homologated for use with artificial light. The courses must meet the illumination standards of the National Ski Areas Association. The inspection of these courses must be made on snow at night.
- 650.2 Request
- The request for the homologation of a course is to be directed to the USSA Alpine Courses Working Group.
- 650.3 Recipients
- The request must be accompanied by the following documents in quadruplicate, or as a multipage PDF, and one copy each sent or given to the inspector for:
- 650.3.1 The chair of the Alpine Courses Working Group
- 650.3.2 The USSA office
- 650.3.3 The organizing club or ski area
- 650.3.4 The inspector in charge of the examination
- 650.4 Documents
- The request for the homologation of a course must be accompanied by the following six documents:
- 650.4.1 A description of the course, containing:
- the name of the course
 - the geographical location of the course
 - the start point expressed in meters above sea level
 - the finish point expressed in meters above sea level
 - the vertical drop expressed in meters
 - the surface length of the course expressed in meters

- the average, maximum and minimum gradients (in or percentages)
 - transport possibilities for injured competitors outside the course
 - possible water supply for a SL course
 - possible helicopter landing sites
 - artificial snowmaking installations
 - A description of the access facilities to the start and finish areas, and of the uphill transport with hourly capacity, (persons)
 - A description of the start and finish areas including details of the terrain, aspect and facilities for journalists, radio and television commentators, and spectators, and description of the shelters for the competitors at the start and finish
 - A description of the places requiring safety nets
 - indications of the locations of the loudspeakers
 - A description of the possibilities for auxiliary courses for the technical services, technical personnel, etc.
 - Evacuation distance to the nearest hospital in miles
 - A description of the communication system and the available number of lines preferably with a circuit diagram showing:
 - underground cables
 - permanent air cable
 - temporary air cable
 - cross-section of lines
 - number of outlets along the course
 - connections between the finish area and the race office
 - connections between the finish area and the press center
 - details about available radio apparatus
 - connections between start and finish area
 - Contact address with telephone and fax numbers.
- 650.4.2 A map, minimum scale 1:25,000, with contour lines and the course drawn on it.
- 650.4.3 A 1:5,000 profile indicating the vertical drop and length of the course (contours at the same scale).
- 650.4.4 A large and comprehensive photograph or drawing on which the course is marked. The size of the photograph shall be at least 8x10 inches.
- 650.4.5 A sketch of the entire course (1:5000) with all details and data indicated, such as lift towers, groups of trees, snowmaking hydrants, snow fences, steep sections, curves, trail intersections, etc. and information on elevations, section and resort names. The purpose of the sketch is primarily to provide the inspector with condensed information on the actual state of the course, any improvements planned and also the location of safety nets.
- 650.5 Appointment of an Inspector
- The chair of the USSA Alpine Courses Working Group will study the homologation request and appoint an inspector to examine the course.
- The inspector for DH courses must not belong to the state requesting a first homologation.
- The courses proposed for homologation must comply with the technical requirements of articles 701, 801, 901 and 1001.
- Sufficient space must be provided on DH, GS and SG courses, or on an

- emergency track or road or on the competition course itself, for the evacuation of competitors injured during the competition.
- 650.6 Homologation Procedure
- 650.6.1 The Applicant
- As soon as the required documents in quadruplicate or in pdf format are ready, the applicant club will send the request for homologation to the chair of the USSA Alpine Courses Working Group.
- A homologation fee of \$150 per homologation (\$250 if the request is submitted after Oct. 1) must accompany the application. This sum covers the administrative costs. The inspector's daily per diem, travel and living expenses must be paid to him directly by the applicant (club or ski area).
- 650.6.2 Homologation is valid for ten years beginning in the 2009-10 season.
- 650.6.3 The Inspector
- After the request for homologation has been received by the chair of the USSA Alpine Courses Working Group, the chair will appoint an inspector. The inspector immediately contacts the applicant about the time for his inspection. The inspector will receive four copies, or a pdf copy, of the homologation papers before his inspection. After his inspection, he writes his inspection report and marks the required improvements in red on the course plan. After checking all other documents, he sends the complete set of documents to the chair of the USSA Alpine Courses Working Group. The latter will examine and ratify them and send a copy and a certificate to each of the following:
- the USSA office
 - the applicant
 - the inspector
- It is left to the discretion of the inspector to decide whether, in addition to the summer inspection, a second inspection in winter will be necessary in consideration of different conditions in winter. This applies especially to safety regulations and the placing of nets.
- 650.6.4 Issue of the Homologation Certificate
- If the inspection report is affirmative and no further work is needed, the chair of the USSA Alpine Courses Working Group will send the original of the homologation certificate to the applicant and a copy to the USSA Office. The homologation certificate itself sets out the name and type of the course and its technical data.
- For all courses, the expiry date is indicated.
- The homologation certificate will only be issued if all fees, including inspector expenses, are paid.
- 650.6.5 Expiration of the Application
- If work requested has not been completed within five years after the inspection is carried out and the homologation cannot be granted, the site (course) in question will be deleted from the list of pending homologation applications. For further consideration a new application is required.
- 650.6.6 Validity of the Homologation Certificate
- 650.6.6.1 For DH and SG courses the certificate is valid for five years from the date of issue. After that a rehomologation must be made.
- 650.6.6.2 For GS and SL courses the certificate is valid for ten years from the date of issue. After that a rehomologation must be made. {beginning in season 2009-10}.

- 650.6.6.3 For all Disciplines
- Homologation certificates are valid (within periods in article 650.6.6.1) as long as no natural or artificial changes or changes in the regulations or technical requirements have occurred.
- Natural changes can consist of:
- erosion, landslides or the terrain becoming overgrown.
- Artificial changes are:
- the construction of buildings, lifts,
 - the construction of shelters, parks, roads or tracks etc.,
 - the installation of snowmaking hydrants, snow retention fences or other significant hardware.
- 650.6.7 Compulsory Report
- The applicant must report to the USSA Alpine Courses Working Group when any required improvements have been carried out.
- Supplementary Reports
- The USSA Technical Delegates should submit the Supplementary Report to indicate that reinspection is needed in cases of such changes.
- 650.6.8 Publication
- The USSA Office publishes a list of all homologated courses.
- 650.6.9 Relationship Between Homologation, Snow and Weather as well as Special Conditions
- An organizer should not depend entirely on the homologation of a course by USSA, but also take note of the prevailing snow and weather conditions (e.g. a DH course homologated by USSA may be unsuitable for holding DH races when there is insufficient snow depth, unfavorable surface snow conditions, dense fog, heavy snow fall, storm or rain).
- 660 Gate Judge Instructions
- 661 Control of Passage (Explanation)
- 661.1 Each gate judge must receive a check card along with weatherproof covering where necessary, for each run that will show:
- name of the gate judge
 - number(s) of the gate(s) for which he is responsible and
 - designation of the run (1st or 2nd)
- 661.2 If a competitor does not pass a gate (or gate marker) correctly according to article 661.4 the gate judge must immediately and clearly mark on the check card:
- the (bib) start number of the competitor
 - the gate number where the fault was made
 - a drawing of the fault committed is essential
- 661.3 The gate judge must also observe that the competitor accepts no outside help (e.g. in the case of a fall) (628.1.3). A fault of this nature must likewise be entered on the check card.
- 661.4 Correct Passage
- 661.4.1 A gate has been passed correctly when both the competitors' ski tips and both feet have passed across the gate line. If a competitor loses a ski without committing a fault, e.g. not by straddling a SL pole, then the tip of the remaining ski and both feet must have passed the gate line.

Fig A Giant Slalom/Super G/Downhill



1. Turning Pole
2. Turning Gate
3. Outside Pole
4. Outside Gate

Fig C Slalom

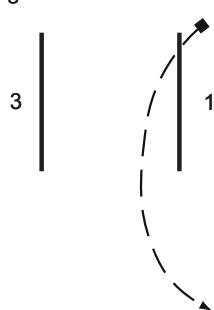
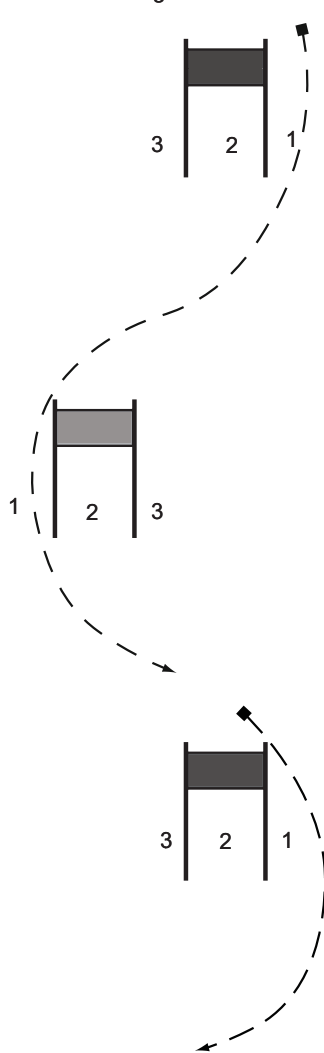


Fig B Parallel



Where there is no outside pole (single pole SL), both feet and ski tips must have passed the turning pole on the same side following the natural course of the SL.

This rule is also valid when a competitor has to climb back up to a gate or by stepping up the racer must climb up to the level of the turning pole, horizontally to the fall line.

661.4.1.1 The gate line in DH, GS and SG, where a gate consists of two pairs of poles holding gate flags between them, is the imaginary shortest line between the two inner poles at snow level (661).

661.4.1.2 The gate line in SL is the imaginary shortest line between the turning pole and the outside pole or where the outside pole have been removed, it is the imaginary shortest line from the turning pole where the fault occurred to the turning pole immediately above..

661.4.1.3 In the event that a competitor removes a pole from its vertical position before both the competitor's ski tips and both feet have passed the gate line, the ski tips and feet must still pass the original gate line (marking in the snow).

661.4.2 In Parallel SL, the passage is correct when both ski tips and both feet have passed outside the gate marker in the direction of the turn (661).

662 Importance of the Task of the Gate Judge

662.1 Each gate judge should have a thorough knowledge of the competition rules.

662.2 The gate judge is required to follow instructions from the Jury.

662.3 The decision handed down by the gate judge must be clear and unbiased and the gate judge must declare a fault only when he is convinced that a fault has been committed.

662.4 The gate judge can consult the adjacent gate judge in order to confirm notes. He can even demand via a member of the Jury that the race be briefly interrupted, so that a check can be made of the tracks on the course.

662.5 When an adjacent gate judge, a member of the Jury, or an official video controller makes a report concerning a competitor which differs from the notes of the gate judge in question, the Jury may freely interpret these notes in view of a possible disqualification of a competitor or of a decision concerning a protest.

663 Giving Information to a Competitor

663.1 A competitor, in the case of an error or a fall, is permitted to ask the gate judge if a fault was committed, and the gate judge, where possible, must inform a competitor if he has committed a fault that would lead to disqualification.

U663.1.1 In either case with a clear, decisive voice, the gate judge answers the competitor's question or informs him with one of the following words:

U663.1.2 "Go!" if the competitor should expect no disqualification, since the gate judge has ruled the gate passage as correct,

U663.1.3 "Back!" if the competitor may expect disqualification.

663.2 The competitor himself is fully responsible for his action and, in this respect, he cannot hold the gate judge responsible.

664 Immediate Announcement of Disqualifying Faults

664.1 Particularly in SL the decision can be made that the gate judge will signal a disqualifying fault immediately.

664.2 The immediate indication of a disqualifying fault can be made in the following ways:

664.2.1 In good visibility by raising a flag of a particular color.

664.2.2 In bad visibility or fog, by a sound signal.

- 664.2.3 By other means as provided by the organizers.
- 664.3 The immediate announcement does not relieve the gate judge from recording on his check card.
- 664.4 The gate judge is required to give information to the Jury members on request.
- 665 Duties of the Gate Judge on completion of the 1st and 2nd run
- 665.1 The chief gate judge (or his assistant) is required to collect all the check cards immediately after each run and to pass them on to the Referee in the finish.
- 666 Duties of the Gate Judge at the Conclusion of the Race
- 666.1 Each gate judge who has recorded a disqualifying fault or who has been witness to an incident leading to a re-run must be available to the Jury until after the settlement of any protests.
- 666.2 It is the responsibility of the Technical Delegate to dismiss a gate judge who is waiting to be called by the Jury.
- 667 Supplemental Duties of the Gate Judge
- 667.1 The gate judge may be asked to perform other duties after he performs his required function, including the replacement of gate poles and torn or missing banners.
- 667.1.2 He should assist in keeping the course clear and removing any markings made on the course by competitor or third parties.
- 667.2 A competitor who is obstructed during his run, must stop immediately and report this to the nearest gate judge. The gate judge must enter the circumstances of the incident on his check card and have this available for the Jury at the end of the 1st or 2nd run.
- 668 Location and Support of the Gate Judge
- 668.1 The gate judge must be so placed that he can properly observe the terrain or the gates and course sections which he is to oversee, near enough to be able to take prompt action, but distant enough not to hinder the competitor.
- 668.2 Organizers are obliged to outfit the gate judges so that they are readily identifiable. The method of identification or clothing should be of such color as not to be confused with a gate flag.
- 668.3 The gate judge should be in their location well before the start of the run. It is advisable for the organizers to provide some form of nourishment during the run.
- 668.4 Any equipment necessary to permit the gate judge to perform his assigned duties should be provided.
- 669 Number of Gate Judges
- 669.1 The organizer is responsible for having a sufficient number of competent gate judges available who are able to fulfill their duties.
- 669.2 The organizer must inform the Jury of the number of gate judges available for the training and particularly for the race.
- 670 Video control
- When the organizer has the technical installation for an official video control, the Jury will appoint an official video controller. The duties of the video controller are to observe the competitors passage on the course.
- 680 Poles
- All poles used in the alpine disciplines are described as slalom poles and are subdivided into rigid poles and flex poles.
- 680.1 Rigid Poles
- Round, uniform poles with a diameter between a minimum of 20mm and a

maximum of 32mm without joints are allowed as rigid poles. They must be of such a length that when set, they project about 1.80m out of the snow and they must be made of a non-splintering material (plastic, plasticized bamboo or material with similar properties).

For DH a maximum diameter of 50mm (Rigid poles) and Flex poles (max 35mm) is allowed.

680.2 Flex poles

Flex poles are fitted with a spring loaded hinge. They must conform to FIS specifications.

680.2.1 Use of Flex poles

Flex poles must be used for all alpine competitions except DH. The use of flex-poles may be requested by the Jury for DH.

680.2.1.1 SL

The slalom poles must be colored red or blue. The turning pole must be a flex-pole.

680.2.1.2 GS and SG

In GS and SG two pairs of slalom poles are used, each pair carrying a gate flag. The banners should be fixed or tied so they should tear or break away from one pole. The turning pole(s) must be flex-pole(s).

Section 3 Particular Rules for the different Disciplines

700 Downhill (DH)

701 Technical Data

701.1 Vertical Drop for all scored competitions 400m - 700m

701.2 Course Length

The course length has to be measured by a measuring tape, wheel or GPS and printed on the start and the results list.

701.3 Gates

701.3.1 A DH gate consists of 4 slalom poles and 2 flags.

701.3.1.1 Courses are marked with red or blue gates (701.3.2).

701.3.1.2 If men and women use the same course, the additional gates for women must be blue.

701.3.2 For flags rectangular cloth panels are to be used, approximately 0.75m wide by 1.0m high. They are to be fastened on the poles, so that they can be recognized as easily as possible by the competitors. In place of red cloth a luminous orange color may be used. In the event that the safety netting is the same color as the gate flags (usually red or blue), where the gates cannot be seen properly against the backdrop of the safety netting, an alternative color for the gate flags (usually blue or red) may be used on those gates.

701.3.3 The width of the gates must be at least 8m.

702 The Courses

702.1 Joint Regulations for DH Courses

702.2 General Characteristics of the Courses

A DH is characterized by the five components of technique, courage, speed, risk and condition. It must be possible to ski the DH course from the start to the finish with different speeds.

702.3 Particular Regulations for the Course Layout

Natural unevenness of the ground may be left in place. The approaches to lips and

- drop-offs that lead to jumps should follow gradually where possible. On the outside of curves, fall zones and/or safety installations should be planned if necessary.
- These courses should normally be approximately 30m wide. The inspector assigned for course homologation decides whether this width is sufficient and if necessary may order widening. He can also permit a width of less than 30m depending on the line and terrain requirements, as long as the areas of the course before and after the narrow part enable this.
- Obstacles against which competitors may be thrown by leaving the course should be as well protected as possible with high safety nets, safety fences, pads, snow walls, straw in sacks, or similar appropriate means if necessary, together with slip-sheets.
- Unprotected, bound straw bales may not be used.
- 702.4 Means of Transport
Access to the start must be provided by lifts or shuttle service.
- 703 Course Setting
- 703.1 Setting of the Gates
- 703.1.1 Gates shall be set to delineate the desired racing line.
- 703.1.2 Before difficult jumps and difficult passages the speed should be controlled by appropriate course setting where possible.
- 703.1.3 At places where the outer poles must be removed the inner pole serves as a gate.
- 703.2 Preparation and Inspection of the Course
- 703.2.1 For all DH competitions listed in the USSA calendar, the race course should be completely prepared and race-ready before the first Jury inspection. It should be available with all of the installations as set out in the technical advisor's or homologation report, or as agreed between the organizer and TD prior to the arrival of the teams.
- 703.2.2 Before the start of the training on the first official training day, there must be an inspection by the Jury with the technical advisor, if present and generally also in the presence of the team captains or trainers.
- 703.2.3 Before the start of the first official training the competitors shall conduct a complete inspection of the course.
- 703.2.4 The members of the Jury shall be available at the finish to receive requests and suggestions regarding the course, training, etc. from the competitors and trainers.
- 704 Official Training
- 704.1 Obligation to Participate
The official training forms an inseparable part of the competition. The competitors are required to participate in the training.
If substitutes are authorized, they must take part in the official training.
- 704.2 Duration
Three days are scheduled for the inspection and official training.
- 704.2.1 In general a race shall be postponed or canceled if article 704.2 cannot be observed. A reduction to two training days or at least two training runs can be decided on by the Jury.
- 704.2.2 The official training need not necessarily be on consecutive days.
- 704.3 Race-ready Preparation
The entire facilities (start, course, and finish area) must be completely prepared as for racing by the first official training day.
- 704.3.1 All crowd control barriers must be completed.

- 704.4 First Aid and Medical Service
The first aid and medical services must be completely operational during all training times.
- 704.6 Training Numbers
For all official training runs the competitors have to wear the training numbers (bibs) as for racing.
- 704.7 Starting Order
The start referee, or an official appointed by the Jury, shall verify from a start list that the competitors start the training in the order of the training numbers, and further that start intervals of at least 40 seconds are maintained.
- 704.8 Timed Training
- 704.8.1 During at least one of the last two training days the times must be taken.
- 704.8.2 The recorded times for the different runs of a training day must be announced by the publication of training result lists or by loud speaker. The scoreboard can be put to use. The times however, must be given to the team captains at the latest at the team captains meeting.
- 704.8.3 A competitor must participate in at least one timed training run.
- 704.8.4 In case of a fall, or stopping, or being overtaken during a training run, the competitor must leave the race course. Continuing on the DH course during the current training is not permitted. He may, however, move along the edge of the course to the finish.
- 704.8.5 In case of atmospheric changes (snowfall etc.) between the last training day and the day of the race, an inspection of the course can be organized for the competitors on the day of the race accompanied by the members of the Jury.
- 704.8.6 Whenever possible, one training should take place at the same time as that scheduled for the race.
- 705 Yellow Zones
- 705.1 Inspection
The Jury may, if required, establish yellow zones for the training and for the race. These must be equipped with yellow or yellow/black flags that can be waved to alert the following competitor. The zones must be designated before the first inspection and should be recognizable by the competitors.
- 705.2 Training
When a competitor is stopped in training within the yellow zone, he has the right to re-start from the point where he has been stopped.
At the request of the competitor, the respective Jury member may allow him a re-run if this is possible from the point of view of the organization and the necessary delay. In this case it is the responsibility of the competitor to present himself to the start referee before the last competitor has started, otherwise this authorization will be withdrawn.
- 705.3 Race
When a competitor is stopped during the race he has the right to a re-run under the condition that the Jury considers it possible from an organizational point of view. The Jury should ensure that the competitor's re-run takes place before the last competitor on the start list of the race.
- U705.3.1 In case of being stopped, a fall, or being overtaken (in either a race or a training run), the competitor must leave the race course. Continuing on the course is not permitted. The competitor should move along the edge of the course to the first

	available exit.
705.4	Obligation When a competitor is waved down by a yellow flag he must stop immediately.
705.5	Commands On the command “start stop!” the start referee must close the start. On the command “start stop, yellow flag stop!” the start referee must close the start. The start referee must respond immediately via radio that the start is closed, and state the start number of the last competitor to have started as well as the start number of the competitor held at the start (“start stop confirmed, number 23 on course, number 24 at the start”). The Jury member who called the “start stop” is furthermore responsible for requesting yellow flag(s) that are necessary to stop competitor(s) on course.
706	Execution of the DH
706.1	Downhill in One Run A DH will be carried out in one run.
706.2	Downhill in Two Runs
706.2.1	If the topography of a region does not permit a DH with the required vertical drop, a DH in two runs can be organized.
U706.2.2	The combined time of the two runs must be a minimum of 60 seconds.
706.2.3	The placing will be determined by the addition of the two runs. The rule “Starting order for the 2nd run” (621.10) will be used.
706.2.4	All the rules for the DH are valid for the race in two runs. The Jury will rule in case of problems caused by the course, the training and the two runs.
706.2.5	The two runs should be run on the same day.
U706.2.6	In instances where the vertical drop requirements cannot be met, but the total time is sufficient for scoring, the TD must indicate in the report and on the race transmittal sheet that the race should be scored despite the vertical drop deficiency.
707	Helmets All competitors and forerunners are obliged to wear a helmet that conforms to the competition equipment specifications. This is valid for the official training as well as for the race. See specifications as an addendum later in this chapter.
U708	Participation Only class SR, J1 and J2 competitors can participate in DH races. (U1253 - J3 DH.)
800	Slalom (SL)
801	Technical Data
801.1	Vertical Drop
801.1.1	Men’s Courses • 100-220 m
801.1.2	Ladies’ Courses • 100-200 m
U801.1.3	If the topography of a region does not permit a SL with the required vertical drop, a shorter course may be used. The combined time of the two runs must be a minimum of 50 seconds.
U801.1.4	In instances where the vertical drop requirements cannot be met, but the total time is sufficient for scoring, the TD must indicate in the report and on the race

	transmittal sheet that the race should be scored despite the vertical drop deficiency.
801.2	Gates
801.2.1	A SL gate consists of two slalom poles (680) or where there is no outside pole (single pole SL) the gate will consist of a turning pole.
801.2.2	Consecutive gates must alternate in color.
801.2.3	A gate must have a minimum width of 4m and a maximum of 6m. The distance between gates within combinations (hairpin or vertical) may not be less than 0.75m. The distance from turning pole to turning pole of successive open or closed gates may not be less than 6m and not more than 13m. Delayed turns must have a minimum distance of 12m and a maximum distance of 18m from turning pole to turning pole.
801.2.4	Number of Direction Changes: 30% to 35% of the vertical drop, +/- 3 direction changes
802	The Courses
802.1	General Characteristics of the Course
802.1.1	The course must be set on slopes with a gradient of approximately 33% to 45%. It may even be below approximately 33%, but may exceed approximately 52% only in very short parts of the course.
802.1.2	The ideal SL course, taking into consideration the drop and the gradient specified above, must include a series of turns designed to allow the competitors to combine speed with neat execution and precision of turns.
802.1.3	The SL should permit the rapid completion of all turns. The course should not require acrobatics incompatible with normal ski technique. It should be a technically clever composition of figures suited to the terrain, linked by single and multiple gates, allowing a fluent run, but testing the widest variety of ski technique, including changes of direction with very different radii. Gates should never be set only down the fall line, but so that some full turns are required, interspersed with traverses.
802.1.4	Preparation of the Course SL competitions must be raced on a course surface that is as hard as possible. If snow falls during the race, the chief of course must ensure that it is stamped or, if possible, removed from the course.
802.2	Width The course should normally be approximately 40m wide, if two runs are set on the same terrain.
803	Course Setting
803.1	Course Setters
803.1.1	Pre-inspection This inspection must be carried out by the course setter before he sets the course. The SL should correspond to the average ability of the first 30 competitors.
803.2	Number of Gates and Combinations of Gates A SL must contain horizontal (open) and vertical (closed) gates as well as a minimum of one and a maximum of three vertical combinations consisting of three to four gates and at least three hairpin-combinations. SL must also contain a minimum of one and a maximum of three delayed turns.
803.3	Gates and Combinations of Gates

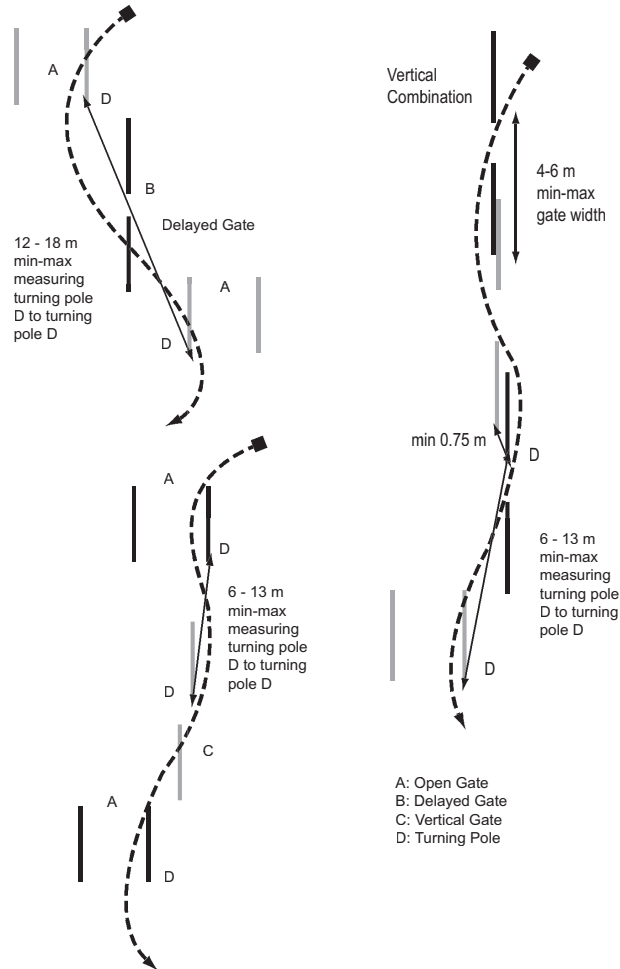
The most important types of gates and combinations of gates are: open gates, closed vertical gates, vertical combinations, hairpin-combinations and delayed turns.

803.4 Setting

In setting a SL the following principles should be observed:

803.4.1 Avoidance of monotonous series of standardized combinations of gates.

803.4.2 Gates, which impose on competitors too sudden sharp braking, should be avoided, as they spoil the fluency of the run without increasing the difficulties a modern SL should have.



803.4.3 It is advisable before difficult combinations of gates to set at least one gate that allows the competitor to ski through the difficult combination under control.

803.4.4 It is not advisable to set difficult gate passages either right at the beginning or end of the course. The last gates should be rather fast, so that the competitor passes the finish at a good speed.

803.4.5 The last gate should not be too close to the finish where possible. It should direct competitors toward the middle part of the finish. If the width of the slope necessitates it, the last gate can be common to both courses, provided the prescribed alternation of blue and red gates is maintained.

803.4.6 The slalom poles should be fixed (screwed) in by the chief of course or his assistants immediately after they have been set, so that the course setter can supervise the operation.

803.5 Checking the SL Course

The Jury must check that the course is ready for racing once the course setter has set it, paying special attention that:

- The slalom poles are firmly fixed (screwed) in.
- The gates are in the right color order.
- The position of the poles is marked.
- The numbers are in the right order on the outside poles.
- The poles are high enough above the snow.
- The two SL courses are far enough from each other to avoid misleading the competitors.
- The reserve poles are correctly placed not to mislead the competitors.
- Start and finish are in accordance with article 613 and 615.

804 Inspection of the Course

804.1 See article 614.3.

804.2 A prepared warm-up slope nearby to the course is desirable.

805 The Start

805.1 Start Intervals

The start takes place at irregular intervals in SL. The chief of timing and calculations or his assistant tells the starter when each competitor should start, in agreement with the Jury. The competitor on the course need not have passed the finish line before the next competitor starts.

805.2 Starting Order

805.2.1 In the first run according to the start numbers.

805.2.2 For the second run see article 621.10.

805.3 Start Signal

As soon as the starter has received the order for the next start, he gives the competitor the warning "Ready" and a few seconds later the start signal "Go!". The competitor must start within about 10 seconds after this order.

805.3.1 A competitor must appear at latest one minute after being called by the official. Advanced start times caused by the non-arrival of preceding competitors have to be taken into account. The start referee may however, permit a delay that in his opinion is due to "force majeure". In doubtful cases he may allow the competitor a provisional start, inserted in the normal starting order. The start referee will make the necessary decisions.

805.4 Valid Start and False Start

	Each competitor must start according to the article 805.3, otherwise he will be disqualified.
806	Execution of the SL
806.1	Two runs A SL must always be decided by two runs on two different courses. Both courses must be used one after the other in the order decided by the Jury. Division of the competitors into two groups starting simultaneously on both courses is not allowed. Whenever possible, both runs should be held on the same day.
806.2	Limitations in the Second Run The Jury has the right to reduce the number of competitors in the second run to half, provided that notice was given in the invitation or on the official notice board before the race started, and at the team captains' meeting before the draw.
806.3	Video and Film Control A video or film control is recommended.
U807	Helmets All competitors and forerunners are obliged to wear a helmet that conforms to the competition equipment specifications. This is valid for the official training as well as for the race. See specifications as an addendum later in this chapter.
U808	Participation J3 and younger competitors may compete in SL on courses that meet the standards for Children's courses (U1254 J3-J5 SL).
900	Giant Slalom (GS)
901	Technical Data
901.1	Vertical Drop
901.1.1	Men's Courses • 250-450m.
901.1.2	Ladies' Courses • 250-400m.
U901.1.3	If the topography of a region does not permit a GS with the required vertical drop, a shorter course may be used. The combined time of the two runs must be a minimum of 50 seconds.
U901.1.4	In instances where the vertical drop requirements cannot be met, but the total time is sufficient for scoring, the TD must indicate in the report and on the race transmittal sheet that the race should be scored despite the vertical drop deficiency.
901.2	The Gates
901.2.1	A GS gate consists of 4 slalom poles (690) and 2 flags.
901.2.2	The gates must be alternately red and blue. The gate flags are to be approximately 75 cm wide and approximately 50 cm high. They are fastened between the poles so that the lower edge of the flag is approximately 1m above the snow and should be capable of tearing or breaking away from the pole. (also 690)
901.2.3	The gates must be at least 4m and at most 8m wide. The distance between the nearest poles of two successive gates must not be less than 10m.
901.2.4	The GS has to be set as follows: • 11-15% of the vertical drop in meters = number of direction changes by rounding up or down of the decimals. The minimum number of gates counts only those requiring change of direction.

902	The Courses
902.1	General Characteristics of the Courses The terrain should preferably be undulating and hilly. The course should normally have a width of approximately 40m. The inspector authorized to homologate the course decides whether this width is adequate and if necessary can order it to be widened. He can also permit a width of less than approximately 40m depending on the line and terrain requirements, as long as the areas of the course before and after the narrow part enable this.
902.2	Preparation of the Course The course must be prepared as for the DH race. The parts of the course where gates are set and where competitors have to turn must be prepared as for a SL.
903	Course Setting
903.1	Setting In setting a GS the following principles should be observed:
903.1.1	Both runs can be set on the same course but the second run must be re-set.
903.1.2	The skilful use of the ground when setting a GS is, in most cases, even more important than for a SL, since combinations play a less important role owing to the prescribed width of the gates and the greater distances between them. It is therefore better to set mainly single gates, while exploiting the ground to the utmost. Combinations can be set, but mainly on uninteresting terrain.
903.1.3	A GS consists of a variety of long, medium and small turns. The competitor should be free to choose his own line between the gates. The full width of a hill should be used wherever possible.
904	Inspection of the Course See article 614.3.
905	The Start
905.1	In the first run according to the start numbers (621.3 and 622).
905.2	Starting order for the second run see article 621.10.
906	Execution of the GS
906.1	A GS must always be decided by two runs (men and ladies). The second run may be held on the same course, but the gates must be reset. Whenever possible, both runs should be held on the same day.
906.2	Video Control Article 806.3 is applied - if possible - also for GS.
907	Helmets All competitors and forerunners are obliged to wear a helmet that conforms to the competition equipment specifications. This is valid for the official training as well as for the race. See specifications as an addendum later in this chapter.
908	Participation J3 and younger competitors may compete in GS on courses that meet the standards for Children's courses (U1255 J3-J5 GS).
1000	Super-G (SG)
1001	Technical Data
1001.1	Vertical Drop
1001.1.1	Men's Courses

- 300-650 m
- 1001.1.2 Ladies' Courses
 - 300-600 m
- U1001.1.3 If the topography of a region does not permit a SG with the required vertical drop, a shorter course may be used. The time of the run must be a minimum of 40 seconds.
- 1001.2 Length of the Course

The length of the course must be measured with either a measuring tape, wheel or GPS and has to be published on the start list and the results.
- 1001.3 Gates
 - 1001.3.1 A SG gate consists of four slalom poles (690) and two flags.
 - 1001.3.2 The gates must be alternately red and blue. The gate flags are to be approximately 75 cm wide and approximately 50 cm high. They are fastened between the poles so that the lower edge of the flags is approximately 1m above the snow and should be capable of tearing or breaking away.
 - 1001.3.3 The gates must be at least 6m and at most 8m wide from inner pole to inner pole for open gates and at least 8m and at most 12m for vertical gates. The gate flags are fastened in such a way so they should tear or break away. (also 690)
- U1001.3.4 The SG has to be set as follows:
 - Seven percent (7%) of the vertical drop equals the minimum number of direction changes.
 - The distance between the turning poles of two successive gates must be at least 25m (exception: 1003.1.1).
 - Children's competitions: minimum 8%, maximum 10 % direction changes of the vertical drop.
- 1002 The Courses
 - 1002.1 General Characteristics of the Courses

The terrain should be undulating and hilly if possible. The course should normally have a width of approximately 30m.

The inspector authorized to homologate the course decides whether this width is adequate and if necessary can order it to be widened. He can also permit a width of less than approximately 30m depending on the line and terrain requirements, as long as the areas of the course before and after the narrow part enable this.
 - 1002.2 Preparation of the Course

The course must be prepared like a DH course. The course sections on which there are gates and where the competitors alter their directions must be prepared like in SL.
 - 1002.3 Free-skiing on the Competition Hill

The competitor should be given the opportunity to free ski on the closed competition hill before the course is set if possible.
- 1003 Course Setting
 - 1003.1 Setting

In setting a SG the following principles should be observed:
 - 1003.1.1 It is recommended to set the gates to make the best use of the terrain. Gate combinations according to article 803.3 are allowed only in small numbers. The distance between the successive turning poles can in this case be less than 25 m, but must be at least 15m.
 - 1003.1.2 A SG should contain a variety of long and medium turns. The competitor should be absolutely free to choose his own line between the gates. It is not permitted to

- set only down the fall-line of the slope.
- 1003.1.3 Where the terrain allows it jumps may be set.
- U1003.2 Official Training
 - U1003.2.1 Courses that involve jumps should be preceded by at least one run on a training course set on the course used for the actual competition. The training course should be similar to the intended race course.
 - U1003.2.2 The jury may waive this training requirement if conditions warrant; for example if there is a DH immediately preceding on the same course in which all competitors participate.
- 1004 Inspection of the Course

See article 614.3.
- 1005 Start

Starting order and start intervals according to article 621.3 and 622.
- 1006 Execution of the SG

A SG will be carried out in one run.
- 1007 Helmets

All competitors and forerunners are obliged to wear a helmet that conforms to the competition equipment specifications. This is valid for the official training as well as for the race. See specifications as an addendum later in this chapter.
- 1008 Yellow Zones

Article 705 also applies.
- U1009 Participation

J3 and younger competitors may compete in SG on courses that meet the standards for Children's courses (4.4.6).

Section 4 Special Rules

1200 Competitions under Artificial Light

- 1200.1 The running of competitions under artificial lights is permitted.
- U1200.2 The lighting must meet the following specifications. Competitions under artificial light must only be run on courses that are homologated for night competition.
 - U1200.2.1 Courses must meet the lightning standards of the National Ski Areas Association. Lighting should be as uniform as possible so that excessively bright and dark areas may be avoided.
 - 1200.2.2 The lights must be placed so that the light does not alter the topography of the course. The light must show the competitor the exact picture of the terrain and must not alter the depth perception and precision.
 - U1200.2.3 The lights should not cast the competitor's shadow into the racing line and should not blind the competitor by glare.
- 1200.3 The TD together with the Jury must check ahead of time that the lighting conforms to the rules.
- 1200.4 The TD must submit a supplementary report on the quality of the lighting.

1210 Combined Competitions

- 1210.1 Alpine Combined
 - 1210.1.1 A combined competition represents the final result of several similar or different disciplines, for example, of two DHs, two SLs, a DH and a SL, etc., or of any four races.

- “The Triple Combined” is the result of the three special events of DH, SL and GS.
A “Quadruple Combined”: DH, SL, GS and SG is also possible.
- 1210.1.2 **Sequence of the Races**
The sequence of the different races to be combined can be decided by the organizers. It must be announced in the program.
- 1210.1.3 **Qualification**
In a combined competition, the result of one race can serve as a qualification for the next. In this case the organizing association, club or the Jury must announce in advance how many competitors in one race can be entered for the next.
- 1210.1.4 **Starting Order**
If it does not count as a qualification race, the start order is determined for each discipline according to article 621.
- 1210.1.5 **Calculation of Combined Results**
The combined results shall be calculated by adding the race points which correspond to the results of the various races.
- 1220 **Team Competitions**
- 1220.1 The staging of team competitions is permitted.

U1250 Children’s (J3, J4 and J5) non-scored Competitions

- U1251 **General Regulations**
- U1251.1 The following titled events must meet the following set forth guidelines.
- U1251.2 The age limits in these competitions are according to article 607.3.
- U1252 **Regulations for Organization**
- U1252.1 In the choice of courses, attention must be given that one is dealing with competitors who are children in their growing years during their physical development and these factors must be given appropriate importance.
- U1252.2 Flex poles shall have a maximum diameter of 27mm.
- U1253 J3 Downhill (DH)**
- U1253.1 Only J3s may take part in DH races. The maximum vertical drop is 450m for boys and girls (300m if contested in two runs). Maximum inclined length 2000m.
- U1253.2 **Course Setting**
Downhill for J3s consist of training or racing on variable terrain, which will provide gliding sections, some jumping and enough width and terrain to permit speed control with course setting consideration to fit the average J3’s ability and skill level.
- U1253.3 Except as specifically modified, the rules for DH (700) also apply to DH for J3s.
- U1254 J3-J5 Slalom (SL)**
- U1254.1

Maximum Vertical Drop (VD)	Number of Direction Changes
J3: 160 m	30% - 35% of the VD
J4 & J5: 140 m	30% - 35% of the VD

The maximum distance from turning pole to turning pole is 12m.
The course should have no special technical difficulties. The SL is conducted in one or two runs.
- U1254.2 When using flex poles, protective clothing is recommended.
- U1254.3 Except as specifically modified, the rules for SL (800) also apply to J3, J4 & J5 SL.
- U1255 J3-J5 Giant Slalom (GS)**

- U1255.1

Maximum Vertical Drop	Number of Direction Changes
J3: 350 m	11%-15% of the vertical drop
J4 & J5: 300 m	13%-15% of the vertical drop

The minimum number of gates counts only those requiring change of direction.
GS for children may be conducted in one or two runs. The course setter in setting the course should take particular consideration of the physical ability of the competitors.
- U1255.2 Except as specifically modified, the rules for GS (900) also apply to J3 J4 & J5 GS.
- U1256 J3-J4 Super-G (SG)**
- U1256.1

Maximum Vertical Drop	Number of Direction Changes
J3: 400 m	8%-10% of vertical drop
J4: 350 m	8%-12% of vertical drop

The minimum number of gates counts only those requiring change of direction.
- U1256.2 For J4 SG, based upon hill topography and field ability, the Jury may increase the gates to a maximum of 14% of vertical drop (counting only those requiring change of direction).
- U1256.3 Official Training for Children’s SG will encompass at least one SG training run prior to the first competition. Training times are not to be posted. Official training for USSA children’s SG events is an integral part of the competition, and all entrants are required to participate according to the competition jury’s decision.
- U1256.4 Except as specifically modified, the rules for SG (1000) also apply to J3 & J4 SG.
- U1257 Starting Order**
- U1257.1 Regions, divisions and state associations may use the procedures of article 621 or they may adopt special rules for determining the start order for the first run in these competitions.
- U1258 **Starting Order for the 2nd Run**
In the second run, the thirty best finishers of the first run start in reverse order, the remaining competitors in the order of their first run placing.
- U1258.1 Regions, divisions and state associations may adopt special rules for determining the start order of the second run in lieu of 1258.

U1260 USSA Race Points

U1260.1 The formula for the calculation of the race points permits the translation into points of the time differences between the winner and all other classified competitors.

U1260.2 The formula for the calculation of the race points is the following:

$$P = ((F \times Tr) / Tw) - F \text{ or } P = ((Tr / Tw) - 1) \times F$$

P: Race points

F: A constant, different for each discipline, based on the CM according to the equation: $F = 60 / (CM - 1)$

Tr: Time of the classified competitors in seconds

Tw: Time of the winner in seconds

U1260.3 The F values of the different events (DH, SL, GS, SG, SC) are published by USSA for the actual season.

U1260.4 The race points are needed to establish the ranking for a race in connection with the USSA points of the competitors, for determining the race penalty.

U1270 USSA Points

U1270.1 The USSA points of the competitors registered with USSA are established according to the rules laid down by the Alpine Classification Working Group.

U1270.2 The USSA points lists based on these rules form the basis for the division of the competitors according to points. The corresponding commentary (Rules of the USSA Points) is part of these competition rules and will be renewed annually.

U1270.3 Use of the USSA Points

The USSA points are used particularly for:

- establishing the quotas at competitions
- as a basis for the grouping and draw of the competitors at races and in training
- establishing the race penalty (in connection with the race points)
- establishing the penalties for injury status and because of professional obligations etc.
- establishing the qualifications for the existing competition categories.

USSA Application of Vertical Drop, Minimum Time & Minimum Penalty See Chapter 3 Points and Rankings

Checklist for Vertical Drop (VD) and Number of Direction Changes (DC)

Discipline ↓	Competition →	Scored		Scored and Non-Scored	Non-Scored	
		Sr/A J1-J2		J3	J4	J5
DH Downhill (700)	F	VD	400m – 700m	450m max	X	
		DC	as required	as required		
	M	DC	as required	as required		
SL Slalom (800)	F	VD	100m – 200m	160m max	140m max	
		DC	30% - 35 % (+3)*	30% - 35 % (+3)	30% - 35 % (+3)	
	M	DC	30% - 35 % (+3)*	30% - 35 % (+3)	30% - 35 % (+3)	
GS Giant Slalom (900)	F	VD	250m – 400m	350m max	300m max	
		DC	11% – 15%*	11% – 15%*	13% – 15%*	
	M	DC	11% – 15%*	11% – 15%*	13% – 15%*	
SG Super-G (1000)	F	VD	300m – 600m	400m max	350m max	X
		DC	7% – 10%*	8% – 10%*	8% – 12%*	
	M	DC	7% – 10%*	8% – 10%*	8% – 12%*	
		VD	300m – 650m	400m max	350m max	

* the minimum gates counts include change of direction only

Additional USSA and FIS Regulations FIS Starts for 15 year olds

First year age eligible FIS athletes are limited to a maximum of 25 FIS starts in SL and GS for the competition year (July 1 - June 30).

FIS Registration

All athletes wishing to compete in FIS events, must be inscribed to the FIS points list. Registrations will be made on the list closing date (see calendar of important dates at the beginning of this book) with FIS numbers available on the valid date.

Meet Financial Obligations

Competitors who have outstanding debts with USSA may be subject to disciplinary sanction, including exclusion from competitions. Outstanding debts, as established by law, to competition organizations, ski areas, food and lodging establishments, retail shops, etc. may be considered as violations of the Code of Conduct as well as being subject to civil and criminal actions.

Geographic Affiliation/Designation

A racer shall race in the region/division/state in which he/she resides, or in which he/she is attending school and/or training on a long-term basis. The choice (designation) should be based on where the racer spends the greatest part of his/her ski season. The designation must be made at the start of the season, and must be abided by the racer, for the entire season. Any conflicts must be resolved before participation; contact the regional office.

Requests for in-season changes of affiliation must be made in writing to the national competition director. Such in-season changes may result in loss or default of regional/divisional/state qualifying status.

Helmets

Helmets designed and manufactured for the particular discipline of ski racing being contested are required for all competitors and forerunners in all USSA events and official training. Helmets must bear a CE mark and conform to recognized and appropriate standards such as CEH.Din 1077, ASTM F2040, SNELL S98 or RS 98.

Helmets must cover the head and ears. Helmets with spoilers or edges that stick out are not permitted. Protective features integral to the discipline being contested, such as chin guards on slalom helmets are permitted. Soft ear protections are only allowed for slalom events.

USSA does not specify nor recommend nor make any warranties as to the fitness for use of any particular ski helmet design or brand name. USSA undertakes no responsibility, liability or duties to any competitor in connection with the requirement that helmets be utilized. It is the sole responsibility of the competitor to select an appropriate helmet for accident protection in ski racing.

Caution: Age and use affect the protective qualities of all safety helmets. Some older helmets and any helmets that have been damaged either in a racing fall or from other impact may no longer provide sufficient protection – even if there are no visible indications of damage.

Ski Brakes

Regardless of standheight within these limits, ski brakes which are functional with the actual ski/plate/binding in use are required and are the responsibility of the respective producers and the athletes. Any and all ski brakes used by competitors in all events, including master's events, must be functional and comply with all related FIS requirements.

Flex Poles

World Cup, World Ski Championships and Olympic Winter Games must use homologated (larger) poles, all other categories may use type B poles (≥ 27 mm). Poles for children's races are limited to type B poles.

Gate Flags

All FIS competitions must use currently certified (homologated) gate flags; there will be no exceptions. Gate flags for USSA races may be required to be certified in the future and are recommended for use now.

Competition Equipment Rules

Alpine FIS and USSA Equipment Rules 2009-10 final	World Cup, Continental Cups and World Junior Championships		Men		Women		FIS/ENL and USSA		15 yrs and older		Boys & Girls 13-14 yr old International races		Boys & Girls 11-12 yr old International races		Boys & Girls 14 yrs and younger		Masters *	
	Men		Women		Men		Women		Men		Boys & Girls		Boys & Girls		Boys & Girls		Men & Women	
	DH	SG	GS	SL	215 cm	205 cm	200 cm	180 cm	210 cm	205 cm	no rule	175 cm	no rule	no rule	no rule	no rule	see note below	see note below
	Minimum Ski Length				185 cm	185 cm	180 cm	165 cm	USSA may use SG skis	USSA may use SG skis	no rule	130 cm	no rule	no rule	no rule	no rule	see note below	see note below
					155 cm			(J2 men)	45 m	33 m	no rule	130 cm	no rule	no rule	no rule	no rule	50 mm	45 mm
Minimum Ski Radius	DH	SG	GS	SL	45 m	33 m	23 m	no rule	USSA may use SG skis	21 m **	21 m **	27 m	17 m	no rule	no rule	no rule	50 mm	43 mm
Minimum Ski Waist Width (Profile)	DH	SG	GS	SL	67 mm	65 mm	63 mm	60 mm **	60 mm **	60 mm **	60 mm **	50 mm	43 mm	no rule	no rule	no rule	50 mm	43 mm
Maximum Binding Stack Height	DH	SG	GS	SL	50 mm	43 mm	43 mm	43 mm	50 mm	43 mm	50 mm	43 mm	50 mm	43 mm	50 mm	43 mm	50 mm	43 mm

* For FIS Masters Competitions, equipment rules are recommendations with the following exception: in SG races, the ski length may not be less than 185 cm for men and 180 cm for women (GS skis may be used for SG). For the FIS recommendations for ski length, ski radius and ski waist width see the current FIS Specifications for Competition Equipment.

* USSA Masters rules conform to the FIS Masters equipment rules. USSA recommends that competitors in USSA Masters events compete on equipment designed for the particular discipline (DH, SL, GS, SG), but does not make any recommendations in regards to ski length.

** Rules for minimum GS ski radius and all the minimum ski waist widths are specific to USSA. FIS and ENL must meet the same requirements as World Cup, Continental Cup and World Junior Championships as listed in the first set of columns for these specific rules.

ADAPTIVE COMPETITION RULES

Complete adaptive competition rules, including classes for competitors and factors are available at www.ussa.org.

The “Golden Rule”

In order to encourage adaptive athlete participation in regular-calendared USSA competitions, the USSA Alpine Competition Committee has adopted a special seeding rule applying to adaptive competitors participating in regular sanctioned alpine races. The “Golden Rule”, so called because Adaptive World Champion Diana Golden first proposed it to USSA on behalf of adaptive alpine ski racers, authorizes a special start order for athletes with USSA points within the normal USSA seed and draw as follows: **1st Run:** Seeding in special groups with start order: 16-20... 36-40... 56-60..., etc. or by USSA points, whichever is more favorable. Placement within groups by USDST ranking among the impaired athletes entered.

2nd Run: Seeding in the same special groups or by normal Bibbo order, whichever is more favorable. Placement within groups according to first run finish order among impaired athletes.

2nd Run Bibbo other than 15: In the case of a “flip-30” 2nd run, the special group starts in the 31st position or in the position immediately following the first run leader when the flip is other than 30.

Note: Entry requirements and eligibility criteria are based on published rules for all competitor members. In addition, individual race organizers and the responsible regional, divisional and state committee may invite physically impaired athletes to USSA events for which these racers otherwise might not be eligible.

Handicap Factor System

This system for comparing the various handicapped classes ‘on par’ applies to adaptive competitions only. It is not applied to adaptive competitors participating in ‘able-bodied’ races. Except for the specific application of the Golden Rule, adaptive competitors participating in able-bodied races do so according to the rules, procedures and scoring of those races.

To find your factored time take your real time, look up your adaptive factor on the factor sheet published. Multiply raw time by your disability factor to get your “unofficial factored time”.

Racer	Class	1st Run Real Time		Disability Factor	1st Run Time
J. Doe	L2	56.38	X	.9175758 =	51.73
J. Doe	L4	56.39	X	.9820047 =	55.37

Second run start order is calculated using factored times with first 15 racers reversed.

Disability factors will be updated annually. They include results from World Championships, World Cups, Paralympics and major North American races.

Factor sheets and other information can be obtained from at www.paralympic.org.

HOMOLOGATED TIMERS, STARTGATES AND PHOTOCELLS

The current list of homologated timing equipment tested by the FIS timing working group and approved by the FIS rules committee can be found on the FIS website www.fisski.com.

HOMOLOGATION AND COURSE APPROVALS

FIS Course Homologation

Ski areas and race organizers interested in pursuing FIS homologation should contact the USSA Alpine Courses Working Group chair Bruce Crane, or Jeff Weinman at the USSA national office.

All requests for FIS course homologation must be placed with the alpine course approval chair no later than July 15 each year and completed reports with appropriate payment must be submitted to the chair by Sept. 1 each year.

All FIS races must be held on a FIS homologated trail, inspected and approved in advance of calendaring by members of the FIS Alpine Courses Committee. U.S. members of that committee are Ted Sutton, Paul Mahre, Bruce Crane and Bob Calderwood.

The homologation process for FIS trails involves assembling a report on the technical aspects of the course prior to inspection by the FIS representative. (For new DHs a qualified person from outside the U.S. must do the inspection.)

FIS DH and SG courses must be re-inspected every five years, FIS SL and GS courses every ten years, or until major alterations are made in the course or related facilities, and to assure that they meet safety standards, according to FIS competition regulations and as set forth in the inspection report.

The purpose of the homologation and inspection is four-fold:

- the inspection guarantees that the course involved meets FIS safety standards - when properly prepared and with ‘protection’ in place according to the instructions of the inspector and, in some cases, a FIS technical advisor.
- the inspection confirms that the course meets the technical requirements as described in the report.
- the report itself provides valuable data to the FIS and is used to confirm that calendared races do, in fact, meet the required standards.
- finally, but certainly not least important, the inspection offers the opportunity for an expert to make suggestions to the ski area operator and race organizer regarding preparation and use of the facility.

Information on the intended use of the trail, ski area/race organizer relations and current stage of development will be requested in order to assure that homologation can be carried out in a well-coordinated manner.

The necessary forms and other information, including information on costs involved,

will be provided. When initial paperwork is prepared, an inspector will be assigned and appointments made for the inspection. Following a satisfactory inspection and payment of the required fees, the USA representatives at the next meeting of the Alpine Courses Committee will transmit the completed application to the FIS.

USSA Course Approval

All scored USSA DH and SG events must be conducted on USSA (or FIS) homologated courses. Safety measures and course setting must conform to the inspection report, parallel to FIS requirements.

Homologation or registration of courses for USSA GS and SL events is required beginning with the 2008-09 season, as follows:

2008-09: all championship events (as defined by USSA ACR)

2009-10: all scored events and all J3 events

2010-11: all sanctioned events (including masters events)

All USSA scored events must be conducted on a homologated course and meet minimum vertical drop requirements.

Non-scored USSA events must be conducted on a homologated, or certified/registered course. A registered course is one that does not meet the vertical drop requirements but does comply with course setting and safety regulations. Inspection and report are required.

All FIS-homologated trails are automatically accepted as meeting USSA course approval standards specific to discipline provided that reinspections are current. Events run on these courses must meet the minimum standards in order to be scored in the USSA seed list.

USSA schedule agreements cannot be executed in the absence of a FIS or USSA homologation, or USSA registration/certification, for that course and discipline.

Requests for USSA course homologation, safety inspection and registration/certification, must be placed with Alpine Course Approval Chair Bruce Crane no later than Aug. 15 each year. Completed reports must be submitted no later than Oct. 1 each year.

Homologation and Course Approval Maintenance

All homologated DH and SG courses, FIS and USSA (both approved and registered) must be re-inspected and re-homologated/re-approved every five years.

All homologated GS and SL courses, FIS and USSA (both homologated and registered) must be re-inspected and re-homologated/re-approved every ten years (for USSA GS and SL courses, beginning with the 2009-2010 season).

Both FIS and USSA courses not re-inspected by the end of the 5-year, or 10-year interval are dropped from FIS and USSA listings of approved courses.

The re-inspection process requires an on-site inspection and completion of the appropriate inspection form, FIS or USSA. The inspector will determine whether improvements are necessary.

Homologation and registration/certification are specific to discipline. For example, the setting of a SG course on many existing DH trails may require additional technical and safety considerations. In some situations it may not be possible to establish a SG course on an existing DH trail that cannot be altered to fit the technical requirements of the SG (i.e. turning gates).

Homologation Fees and Inspectors' Expenses

FIS homologation or re-homologation \$250 per discipline

(Covers USSA homologation, same discipline same course)

USSA homologation, registration or re-homologation \$150 per discipline

Late fee, FIS and/or USSA - after Oct. 1 add \$100 per discipline

Replacement photocopy of FIS or USSA homologation files \$25 per file/course

Artificial light inspection \$150 per course

USSA GS & SL on same trail, single report \$150 per course

Men's and women's courses for the same discipline on one trail can be homologated on the same report; a single fee applies.

USSA GS & SL on one trail can be homologated on a single report, and a single fee applies. Data and other information for each of GS and SL must be reported, and separate certificates will be issued.

All fees for both FIS and USSA homologation are payable to 'USSA - Alpine Course Approvals' and must accompany homologation reports forwarded to the chairman.

Inspectors' Expenses - FIS and USSA

Course inspectors' expenses, for both FIS and USSA homologation and re-homologation, are paid directly by the requesting or responsible area, club or race organization to the inspector upon presentation of an expense statement and/or voucher. In addition to expenses (travel, meals, etc.) inspectors are paid a daily rate of \$84 per day for FIS inspections and \$50 per day for USSA inspections. Inspectors are paid for travel days as well as inspection days.

CODE OF CONDUCT

Membership in the United States Ski and Snowboard Association is a privilege, not a right. All USSA members (athletes, coaches, and officials) when participating in any USSA activity must agree to conduct themselves according to USSA's core values of Team, Loyalty, Integrity, Respect, Perseverance, and Accountability and abide by the spirit and dictates of this Code of Conduct. All members must agree to comport themselves in a sportsmanlike manner, and are responsible for their actions while attending or participating in all USSA activities (including but not limited to camps, competitions, and projects).

Sportsmanlike conduct is defined as, but is not limited to: respect for competition officials, resort employees, and the skiing and snowboarding public, respect for facilities, privileges and operating procedures, the use of courtesy and good manners, acting responsibly and maturely, refraining from the use of profane or abusive language, and abstinence from illegal or immoderate use of alcohol and use of illegal or banned drugs.

While participating in any USSA activity:

1. USSA members shall be subject to the jurisdiction of the International Ski Federation Statutes, the United States Olympic Committee Bylaws, the USSA Bylaws, and the USSA Code of Conduct.
2. USSA members shall conduct themselves at all times and in all places as befits worthy representatives of the United States of America, the United States Olympic

Committee, USSA, their region, division, state or club and in accordance with the best traditions of national and international competition.

3. USSA members are responsible for knowledge of and adherence to competition rules and procedures. Members are also responsible for knowledge of and adherence to the rules and procedures of the USSA national teams, camps or other projects when participating in such.

4. USSA members shall maintain high standards of moral and ethical conduct, which includes self-control and responsible behavior, consideration for the physical and emotional well-being of others, and courtesy and good manners.

5. USSA members shall abide by USSA rules and procedures while traveling to and from and participating in official USSA activities.

6. USSA members shall abstain from illegal and/or immoderate consumption of alcohol. Absolutely no consumption of alcohol is permitted for those individuals under the age of 21. Members under 21 years of age shall not participate in gatherings involving consumption of alcohol unless it is an official USSA or event organizer function.

7. No USSA member shall violate the customs, travel or currency regulations of a country while traveling with a USSA group or on a USSA ticket.

8. No USSA member shall commit a criminal act.

9. No USSA member shall engage in any conduct that could be perceived as harassment based upon gender, age, race, religion or disability.

10. USSA members will avoid profane or abusive language and disruptive behavior.

11. USSA members agree to abide by anti-doping rules and procedures established by WADA, USADA, and/or FIS.

Failure to comply with any of the above provisions may lead to disciplinary action by the appropriate team or competition leader. Disciplinary action may include:

- Removal from the team trip or training camp.
- Suspension from training and/or competition.
- Elimination of coaching, travel, and other benefits.
- Forfeiture of USSA membership.

USSA is committed to principles of fairness, due process and equal opportunity. Members are entitled to be treated fairly and in compliance with USSA's Bylaws, policies and procedures. Members are entitled to notice and an opportunity for a hearing before being prevented from participating in protected competition as that term is defined by the USOC Bylaws. Information on the processes for grievances, suspensions and appeals is available at www.ussa.org.

Nothing in this Code shall be deemed to restrict the individual freedom of a USSA member in matters not involving activities in which one could not be perceived as representing USSA. In choices of appearance, lifestyle, behavior and speech while not representing USSA, competitors shall have complete freedom, provided their statements and actions do not adversely affect the name and reputation of the USSA. However, in those events where one is representing or could be perceived as representing USSA, USSA demands that its members understand and agree to behave in a manner consistent with the best traditions of sportsmanship and USSA's core values.

Last revised May 18, 2008

duplicate form for each entry

USSA ALPINE ENTRY CARD									
Last Name		First Name		USSA #					
Sex		Date of Birth		Age Class		Club (if any)			
M F									
Mailing Address		City		State		Zip			
Telephone				Email					
Date of Race		Name of Race		Location		Discipline(s) (circle)			
						DH SL GS SG SC/K			
For organizer use									
Fee Paid \$		Date Rec'd		Comments					

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