

2024 PNW Presidents Report Submitted By: Karl Wardrop

The PNW Division 2023-2024 year was great for many of our athletes and parents. That said, we did have some challenges. Snow came late and caused the cancelation of several events and a delay to training. We got a large amount of snow in the Spring which made late projects a challenge.

Our clubs hosted many events throughout the challenging winter. Again, this year we need to thank the many Race Organizing Committees that worked to make events a success with many challenges thrown at them. Both Nordic and Alpine had successful events and qualifiers that sent PNW Division athletes to regional and national events. Of special note is a regional West event held at Stevens Pass with athletes from all over the West that went well. Also, thanks to Mission Ridge and their team for the U14 SG training camp. I received many good reports. Mt Bachelor worked very hard to bring the first Nordic event to the athletes in December. Then they provided excellent training facilities to the US National team this spring.

Financially we continue to be strong and in a good place. More on that in the treasures report. We continue to use funds to build our B-net inventory. This is designed to add safety to our events around the Northwest and is supported by our partner PNWSEF. We also want to thank the many Ski Resorts that help so much in the set-up, grooming, providing space and tickets for our volunteers. It sounds like we are also receiving our PNW Ski Area support with the Elite Pass for another year. Ski area visits were up again this year. Concern over weekend events in January and February continues to be a concern on their part. Claudia and I will continue to work with the management teams to keep ski racing front and forward in their minds.

A huge thanks to folks stepping off the board this year.

Steve Maynard has served 4 years on the board and is a great help to me as we work to make the PNW Division stronger. Austin Dean has served 4 years and brought a younger point of view to topics the board considered. John Barnett has served for four years and knows so much about ski racing.

A contingent from PNW attended the USSS congress meeting in Park City a couple of weeks ago where MBSEF received the Development Team award for years of commitment to making better skiers and riders, providing life lessons that will go on for year and creating a lifelong love of sport. It's so cool to see a strong PNW team be recognized in a very public national way.

Thanks to the many folks that I've met at events or had the opportunity to talk with over the year. Your feedback and advice are critical to the success of the PNW Division.



## **2024 Executive Director Annual Report**

It was quite a season – warm weather meant no snow, cold weather meant snow, but it wouldn't stick, and that was followed by more warm weather and rain. Lots of scheduling changes throughout the season. PNW had 13 alpine events on the calendar – 3 were lost, 4 went off as scheduled, and 6 were rescheduled and/or resignted. Nordic lost one race in early Jan. and there was lots of snow shoveling and grooming to get events off in the Methow. The challenges were to resorts, clubs, athletes, and parents, yet in the end, PNW had a full season, and we all became very fluid in our roles. I cannot thank the ROC's enough for all they did during the season to make ski racing happen for our athletes.

Competitor numbers remain consistent within the division. Other divisions are showing steep drop offs in numbers, but PNW continues to keep athletes in the fold. That is due to the strong clubs in the division who are offering great programs for their young athletes.

B-Net continues to be a focus for the division. The past two seasons PNW has spent about \$70,000 retiring and / or repairing B-Net. Thanks to PNWSEF and the Kelly Brush Foundation for grants to help our cause. Safety is key in ski racing and it's great to be part of an organization who works tirelessly to keep our athletes safe. Rob Cravens has spearheaded this project and does an excellent job of getting the division the best prices on the net and accessories.

The PNWSEF PNW U14 Speed Camp has been a huge success the past two seasons. This year the camp was full within 48 hours and there was a waiting list of 30 athletes. Jeff Pickering, Western Region U16 Coach, was on hand for the event. His presentation on how to ski speed kicked off the camp and was a great mental tune-up for the athletes and coaches as they headed out for the first day's training. Day one of the camp involves speed elements – turning, jumping, wave tracks, gliding. The process is slow and deliberate and allows each athlete to learn tactics and technique at their own pace. Day two the intensity and speed ramps up as there are only 2 sections on the hill. Day 3 concludes with timed full-length SG. Watching the athlete's confidence grow during the 3 days is amazing and rewarding. Thank you PNWSEF for making this happen for the young athletes in PNW.

PNW athletes had great success across the board this season. On the alpine side, 4 athletes went to both US Nationals and U18 Nationals, 3 PNW athletes qualified for U16 Nationals and 4 athletes qualified for Whistler Cup. These numbers are starting to trend in the right direction. Peyton Wells, MHRTA, won a Western Region FIS Elite GS – it's been a long dry spell since a PNW athlete has won at that level. Peyton finished 2<sup>nd</sup> overall in the Western Region Cup, is the GS Champion for the Western Region Cup, and the Kyle Warren Memorial JR Champion for the 23-24 season. Great honors for all the hard work he has put in through the years.

Nordic Jr. Nationals in Lake Placid, NY had some great PNW results as well. Caroline Menna, U16 from Plain Valley Nordic Team had top 10 results in all 4 events entered. Other top 10 results were had by U16 Men Aidan Sands and Ben Kaufman of Methow Valley Nordic Team and U16 Female Frey Leitheiser. Quinten Koch and Silas D'Atre had top 10 finishes in several U18 races. The Nordic community in PNW is strong and building. This year they started a series known as the PNW Cup. This is to encourage more athletes to race and to stay engaged throughout the season rather than just focusing on Junior National Qualifying events. The hope is this program will energize Nordic youth ski racing across the Northwest.

All in all, as tricky as the season was due to weather, the PNW racing community emerged strong and vibrant. Looking forward to a reset and starting the 2024-25 season strong.



## Director of Alpine Annual Report June 2024

## 2023-2024 Season Review:

This past season was once again marred by many weather and snow condition challenges. December started extremely warm and resorts were way under average snowfall at this point. The struggles continued into January and February, causing many postponements, re-sites, and cancellations of events. By mid February and March, things seemed to settle down and the snow came in feet, and we once again ended the season with plenty of snowpack through the end of April. With the trend seeming to go in this way for the past ten years, I continue to wonder why we start racing at the Regional level so early in December when snowpack is so unpredictable, versus shifting the entire calendar back 2-4 weeks. With the snowpack in the High Cascades, we can continue to race into May most seasons. With Mother-Nature always a factor, we still need to stay vigilant in our calendaring, and strive to create a schedule that helps us retain athletes as well as our coaches who need to work other jobs, while not losing sight of athlete development. This means sizable training blocks of two to three weeks in a row at various times throughout the season, and it means we need to race on weekends. We must continue to press the resorts to understand that weekend racing is healthy for the growth of the sport, which in turn creates and retains more life-long skiers, which in turn supports the resorts for decades to come. Many thanks to every ROC who hosted a PNW event this past season.

### WR FIS Racing:

The WR Devo/Elite system with expanded quotas and designated U18 nationals qualifier events seemed to run relatively smoothly last season, save for the scheduling challenges due to the low snow for the first half of the season. We did lose the Speed Series at Schweitzer which reduced the already limited speed starts for PNW and WR athletes, but the remaining starts were otherwise accounted for by season's end.

### **Championship Events and Projects:**

Western Region U14, U16 and U18/U21 Championships were late enough in the calendar so as to not be affected by the lack of snowpack that plagued the first half of the season. U14 Champs was held at Grand Targhee, U16 Champs rotated back to Alyeska, while WRJC's came back to PNW for the first time in a while, hosted by SPAC at Stevens Pass. Please reference the reports from the Age Group Chairs for more details from these events.

**PNW/FW U14 Spring Select** - In its second year as a bi-divisional project between FarWest and PNW, we once again sent a group down to Sugar Bowl in late March. PNW sent fewer athletes than the season prior, and the feedback from club coaches and Program Directors seemed to be the challenge of staffing and supporting so many potential events at the U14 age class in late March/early April. Nonetheless, the event was a positive experience for those athletes and coaches who attended, providing our second tier of U14's who didn't make the Championship, a big event feel, with travel to California and skiing with and against U14's from FarWest. The intention is for this event to now rotate up to our Division in the 24/25 season. You can view project Head Coach, Ian Lambert's report here:

### **PNW Events:**

**The NWC Series** has remained an integral part of our athlete development pathway for our U16 athletes, and our upcoming U14 athletes that get the chance to ski up at NWC Finals byway of WR U14 Champs qualification or Evergreen Cup Finals qualification. The challenge with this series over the past 5 years or so has been in the ability for us to have pace to keep athletes seeing speed and continuing an upward trajectory. This series has largely become the U16 series in PNW, with higher level U18 and U21 FIS athletes needing to spend more of their time racing in WR FIS in order to qualify for upper level national events. In an effort to make the NWC series more meaningful to Devo FIS level athletes in our Division, it was voted in the Fall Meeting that WRJC qualification would require 3 starts in the NWC series, Regional Automatics notwithstanding. Maintaining a high level of competition in the NWC series, and providing pace for our upcoming U16 and U14 athletes is integral to the health of PNW alpine racing. PNW born and raised athletes need to know that they can succeed from their home clubs in our Division, have high level racing in the Pacific Northwest, and qualify to upper level regional and national competitions.

PNW U14 Series/Evergreen Cup Finals - The U14 series had its challenges this past season due to the volatile start, which affected many PNW resorts well into January. When it was concluded we were able to scramble and find back up ROC's to host the rescheduled races due to lack of snow. U14 #2 was originally slated for Mt. Spokane, but due to the resort closing just two weeks prior to the event, it was re-sited to Mt. Bachelor in the South zone. This ended up distributing the gualifier series evenly across all three zones, with #1 in the East at Schweitzer, #2 in the South at Mt. Bachelor, and #3 in the West at Mission Ridge. Voted in the Fall Meeting was a motion to distribute the U14 Qualifier series evenly amongst the three zones starting in the 24-25 season, and it just so happened that this came to be this season due to rescheduling. The Evergreen Cup/U14 Finals also fell victim to the snow situation, and had to be pushed back into early April and re-sited to Schweitzer. Originally, the ACC voted to get 49 Degrees North back into the game by awarding the EGCF to FAST. The Division was excited to get back to this great race hill, with upgraded lifts and snowmaking. Unfortunately the warm weather up north just didn't give the FAST ROC the confidence that they would have enough snow depth to be able to run all the events, namely the Super-G which requires a lot of B-net installation. Thanks to FAST for giving it a go, and we hope to be able to get back to 49 again soon. Thanks to MBSEF for picking up the rescheduled U14 #2 and to SARS for picking up the EGCF. Once again, we are forced to stay water in our sport.

**PNW U14 Speed Camp** - another great camp was held at Mission Ridge the week prior to the U14 #3 SG's. Huge thanks to PNWSEF for a 10k grant to help us put this event on in Division to support speed development at the U14 age group. As we move forward, and the calendar seems to continue to be ever-increasingly packed in the last third of the season, and the strain of travel at the U14 level has been noted as a challenge point by coaches, parents and clubs, I wonder if there is a way to get creative with this speed camp, and somehow combine the camp elements with the SG qualifiers, so we condense the travel into one week. I would love to see the ACC think outside the box here to see if we can 1. reduce the cost to run the camp, and 2. reduce the travel days for the U14 age class.

**Buddy Werner Champs** - this season the BWC rotated to the West, and Mission Ridge was selected as the site. Thanks to MRST for hosting a great event. See YSL Chair, Lindsay Davisson's report for more details on the BWC.

#### **YSL Annual Meeting:**

This season the coaches forum was held via Zoom earlier this month. Please see YSL Chair, Lindsay Davisson's report for detailed notes.

### PNW Calendar 2024-2025:

The new competition calendar is shaping up well. U18/U21 Chair, Jamie Landwehr, has helped me put this year's calendar together with a lot of input from Program Directors. As always, the Western Region Calendar plays a big role in where our Divisional events land, and their race sighting timeline will affect our race sighting as well. At Convention, the 24/25 Calendar blocks will be approved and bidding will be opened, with a due date of about a week later, as we have to wait for the WR races to be sited. An exact due date will be announced to all ROC's at the Convention.

Respectfully submitted,

Justin Rackley PNW Director of Alpine



## 2023/2024 - U18 &U21 Working Group:

- Chair Jamie Landwehr East
- Kent Towlerton South
- Dave Lyon West

### Season Summary:

2023 /2024 was another super busy season. Due to a slow start to winter throughout the West, the first half of the season was filled with schedule changes, venue changes and forced selection modifications. Races were relocated, modified, and in some circumstances cancelled all together. Fortunately, by the time February came around winter had arrived. A huge thanks to the Regional Staff, PNW ACC, and Claudia for managing all of the weather-related changes. This presented a ton of extra work that required some quick thinking and decision making to navigate. It's also worth recognizing those clubs and resorts that stepped up to take on events that weren't on their original calendar.

From a **Divisional perspective**, many of our clubs with FIS teams opted to work together out on the road. This continues to be one of our strengths in the PNW for a number of reasons. Much like competing at the NorAm and regional levels, we need each other to succeed at the FIS level, plus the athletes enjoy the team camaraderie.

The new **regional staff** and structure just wrapped up their first season working together. We now have proven leaders working at the various levels that we participate in. Pick with the 16's, Brad with the 18's and Randy taking the lead with the PG / NorAm athletes. The various layers with outstanding leadership should certainly help athletes climb the ladder from the club level. Next season the WR will have a PG group.

Finally, and most importantly, **great job to the athletes** this year! PNW had strong representation at the WR FIS level this year as shown below. A season highlight was the elite FIS tech win by Payton Wells. It's been a handful of years sense a PNW athlete has won an Eltie FIS tech race! Also, a huge thanks to those Elite level FIS athletes for coming back and competing in a NWC or two when their schedules enabled them to do so. Giving back to the next generation while also having the seldom opportunity to compete for podium finishes is beneficial for all involved.

Along those same lines it was really cool to have Tommy Ford home for NWC finals, forerunning and giving out awards to the next generation. And Luke Winters competing and working on course crew at the Golden Rose. Big thanks to these guys for their support of the PNW!

## Post Covid Stats and Trends from 2022, 2023, and 2024.

#### Starts in PNW and WR

	WR Tech	WR Speed	NWC tech	NWC Speed
22/23	38	10	8	5
23/24	28	*6	9	5
24/25 Calendar	28	10	9	5

\*lost Schweitzer Speed Series in 2024

## Licenses and Races Started for PNW U18 and Older athletes

--Boys are pretty consistent – Girls are trending up.

	22 Girls	23 Girls	24 Girls	22 Boys	<u>23 Boys</u>	<u>24 Boys</u>
USSS Licenses	56	50	55	58	63	55
<b>FIS Licenses</b>	38	39	46	39	46	51
Started a FIS	26	36	38	27	42	39
Started a NWC	?	44	42	?	54	34

### **U18 National Selections**

	Girls	Boys
2022	4	1
2023	3 (only one attended)	4 (only one attended)
2024	3	2



## 2024 PNW U16 Annual Report YOB 2008-2009

#### 2024 U16 Working Group:

- Chair Mike Graves West
- Nils Eriksson South
- Alan Lauba West

#### PNW Division USSS Licensed U16s:

#### 2024 U16 USSS Licenses

- Boys 86
- Girls 86 Total 172

**Prior years:** 

- 2022 169 (98 girls, 71 boys)
- **2021** 151 (85 girls, 66m)
- **2020** 136
- **2019** 137

# Season Summary:

#### 2023 U16 USSS Licenses

- Boys 72
- Girls 81 Total 153

It was a slow start to winter with a low snowpack affecting training and racing for U16s. Five GS and three SL start opportunities were a loss in December. NWCup #1 was rescheduled for two weeks later. Thanks to SARS for adapting quickly to the conditions. The rescheduled NWCup #1 was followed quickly by the remaining NWCup races/qualifiers for U16 champs in Alyeska. End of season Finals and Goldenrose provided great racing and good point opportunities

#### Race Starts:

The PNW calendar provides a good balance of race starts during a normal season. Cancellations forced a decrease in starts, particularly in GS. Continue the emphasis on calendaring GS events.

U16 Starts	NW Cup	EG Cup/Open	Totals
SL STARTS - 2023 > 4, 10, 14	4	8	12
GS STARTS - 4, 6, 10	4	2	6
SG STARTS - 3, 2, 5	3	1	4
DH STARTS - 2, 0, 2	2	0	2
TOTAL STARTS - 13, 18, 31	13	11	24

#### Regional/National results:

Western Region Championships at Alyeska, AK Performance highlights:

- Annabel Webster 4<sup>th</sup> in SG
- Jonas Strohlein 5<sup>th</sup> in GS

U16 Nationals at Vail CO

• Attended by 3 PNW racers: Jonas Srohlein, Henry Roberts and Annabel Webster.

Congratulations to these 6 PNW U16 athletes selected for the 2025 U16 RTG:

- 10- FRETWELL Molly 2009 MRST
- 11- RIZVI Maya 2009 MHRTA

- 3- ROBERTS Henry 2009 MHRTA
- 5- JONES Perry 2009 CMAC
- 16- HART Brichton 2010 CMAC
- 11- LANDWEHR Dakota 2009 SARS

(last year - 3 selected)

#### Next Season:

- Continue the positive momentum currently in the division
- Choose scheduling decisions that support development
  - Ex. providing the best venue selection for this age group
    - Working towards hard, fast and steep
- Continue to provide U16s racing opportunities they could get in other divisions \teams so they are confident to race in this division
- Creative and strategic calendaring of U16 events outside of NWCup qualifiers
  - o Ex. Goldenrose, EGCup Finals, Interdivisional projects

Respectfully Submitted, Mike Graves - PNW U16 Chair



## 2024 U14 Annual Report

**The Year:** Over the past few years I haven't heard much regarding changes needed or wanted regarding the U14s and this year even less so. I think we are in a comfortable groove right now with the U14s. Which if history is any indicator, it will be time to try and reinvent the wheel soon and turn things over in the snow globe and shake it up.

### U14 Speed Camp:

I was not able to attend this year but the feedback I heard was excellent. Thank you, Mission, and PNWSEF for making that happen.

**The races**: Punting and rescheduling and making the wheel go round and round. It's what we do.

**U14 Champs**: Targhee—Shana was the head coach for that—good staff—good chemistry—the no cell phone thing was awesome. Thank you for that Shana.

### NW Cup Finals and Evergreen Cup Finals:

The ski up form has been a useful workaround to the training run and makes hosting those events much more palatable. No change there. Our method to qualify for NW Cup Finals is fairly solid now and I would recommend no change there as well.

### Changes for next season?

I recommend none..... But I am sure someone will want to pull a spoke or two and flatten a tire.

Respectfully,

Matt Morrell U14 Chair



## 2024 U12 Annual Report

The 2023/2024 season was another productive season for the U12 age group. We learned to be even more flexible with ever changing schedules due to low snow early season and variable weather for much of the year.

The USSS membership requirement for U12 licensing (required by February 1) for those attending Buddy Werner Champs was in place for the third year. There were a few who missed the deadline, but there were not any major issues.

2024 Buddy Werner Champs were at Mission Ridge this year. We had good weather and positive feedback on the event. 106 men and 122 women registered for the three-day event. The event schedule was:

- Friday: Women's GS, Men's Skills Quest
- Saturday: Men's GS, Women's Skills Quest
- Sunday: SL for both genders

Skills Quest participation was lower than race participation. This event fell on Easter weekend this year and we received some feedback that it would be good to avoid that holiday conflict in the future. Next year Easter is April 20, so it will not be an issue for BW Champs. Awards were presented per the updated list of awards as voted on last year at our ACC meeting.

On May 9, we held a virtual U12 coaches meeting. Ten coaches attended. Topics discussed included:

 Proposal to change the team scoring system to allow only seeds 1-7 (excluding 8<sup>th</sup> seed) to count towards the team awards. Mary Gunesch presented this motion with the desire to give smaller teams more of an opportunity to be competitive with the team awards. The motion did not pass.

- There was a request for more divisional races for the U12 age group with a team points system. It was noted that some parts of the division do have a series, while the western part of the division does not have a formal series.
- We discussed using hero gates (stubbies) for SL races in the U10 and under age groups. White Pass did this for Bantam Cup and there was positive feedback from coaches regarding skills development.

Chloe Lavelle has moved out of our division, so we will be working to add a new member to the U12 subcommittee in the next few months.

At this time, we do not have any motions for to present for this age group at the June 1-2, 2024 ACC meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

PNW U12 Working Group

Lindsay Davisson Chloe Lavelle Dusty Hanchett



### 2024 PNW Coaches Committee Annual Report

The PNW Coaches Committee names head coaches for PNW Divisional projects, coordinates PNW team travel and staffing, develops coaches' education opportunities and priorities, develops PNW Divisional training camps, and maintains an approved course setters list for Northwest and Evergreen Cups.

#### **PNW Travel Teams**

This year the Coaches Chair named the head coach for U16 Champs, U14 Champs, and U14 Performance Project at Palisades. All three projects were PNW team travel trips.

#### U16 Western Region Champs

The U16 Western Region Champs in Alaska was held as scheduled. The athletes' results were better than last year. The trip was well organized, and the staff worked well together.

#### U14 Western Region Champs

The U14 Western Region Champs at Grand Targhee resulted in 4 PNW athletes qualifying for Whistler Cup and many top 10 and top 15 in both genders, with better than average results. Feedback from the named staff indicated coaching staff and athletes came together as a team and it was a good experience.

Athlete phones were taken at room check and returned once athletes returned from the hill. Below are the listed benefits. It is proposed this become PNW team travel policy.

- Athletes more organized and on time
- Athletes were more engaged and focused on the hill.
- Athletes engaged more with fellow PNW athletes.
- Athletes went to sleep earlier and better than they would if phones were in the rooms at "lights out."

#### U14 Far West/PNW Performance Project

The trip was for 2nd tier U14 athletes who did not qualify for Western Region U14 Champs. PNW athletes shared rooms with other PNW athletes and ski groups were mixed between Far West and PNW athletes. The trip provided high value with regard to athlete engagement and retention of athletes into the U16 age class.

The timing of the project resulted in very few clubs having experienced coaching staff available to attend, this was true in Far West and PNW. PNW was able to provide qualified coaches, but it was difficult, and the quota had to be cut short. It is recommended that PNW get commitment from teams early in the season that they will or will not participate in the project, assuming athletes from their team qualify.

#### **PNW Training Camps**

#### SL Camp June 31 - August 3, 2023, Timberline

PNW hosted a SL Day camp model in August. The camp had 23 athletes, mostly made up of U14s. Numbers were down considerably from years previous. This is a factor of cost and the day camp model.

Formal feedback from athletes and coaching staff indicated a productive camp. Camp assessment went out with each athlete at the end of camp. Coaching staff believes assessments provide good value and closure to athletes and parents. Big thanks go out to Ted McNamara for leading the camp and the coaches who participated.

As costs rise and snow conditions deteriorate there is current discussion if the PNW's SL camp is worth hosting. Currently it costs +- \$275 a day, without food, lodging, or transportation. This per day cost seems excessive for athletes at the U14 and U16 level and does not support continued participation in the camp or sport.

For summer of 2025 the Coaches Chair proposes PNW host an overnight dryland camp. The camp would teach athletes off hill progressions for gaining strength, agility, and mental tools that are essential for on-hill success. The camp would also allow for athletes to stay together and gain important social connections that are essential for retention in our sport. An overnight dryland camp is not expected to cost more than \$125 a day per athlete.

#### **PNW Course Setters List**

The PNW course setters list is updated every fall. PNW currently has 36 approved course setters to set at Evergreen Cups and NW Cups. To be approved for the course setters list a coach must have experience setting quality courses at YSL and Evergreen Cup races. Each zone in the division has a zonal representative that recommends approval to the course setters list. The representatives are as follows:

West Zone -Alan Lauba (CMAC)East Zone -Dan Henry (SSRA)South Zone -Nils Erickson (MBSEF)

Respectfully Submitted,

Shana Sweitzer Coaches Committee Chair



# Pacific Northwest Ski Association A Division of U.S. Ski & Snowboard

## **Officials Committee Report for Season 2024**

Committee Members: Roger Root, Bill Brooks, Gillian Esson, and Craig Panos.

**Duties:** The education and training of officials; Maintaining and updating the records of PNSA Officials; Assigning of Technical Delegates; Providing support and assistance to race organizers; Help coordinate the PNSA Concussion testing program; Review document packets and TTDRs for alpine races held in PNSA.

**Duties:** The education and training of officials; Maintaining and updating the records of PNW Officials; Assigning of Technical Delegates; Providing support and assistance to race organizers; Help coordinate the PNW Concussion testing program; Review document packets and TTDRs for alpine races held in PNW.

### Clinics this season:

Update clinics: The majority of update clinics were virtual. The virtual updates used Zoom as the communication platform. Each session started with a presentation that covered the mandated material. Additionally, most of the updates included breakout rooms for focused discussions. The breakout rooms had a coordinator and a brief agenda. Breakout rooms were RF/JA/CR/CC; RA; TC; CR/CC. The feedback from the participants was positive. They liked the format and the breakout rooms. PNW also hosted an online update for USCSA officials. This update met the requirements for US Ski and Snowboard officials (except Technical Delegates and Race Administrators) along with a review and discussion of USCSA rules and issues. (Note: Most USCSA events are not US Ski and Snowboard sanctioned events.)

New Certification Clinics: The division hosted three zonal clinics for new officials. These, in person clinics, were held in Seattle, Portland and Coeur d'Alene, ID. Each of these zonal clinics included Race Administration, Chief of Race, Timing and Calculation and Referee classes. The Seattle area clinic was hosted by Microsoft on their Redmond Campus, Portland by the Multnomah Athletic Club and the Coeur d'Alene clinic by the University of Idaho. These sites provide high quality meeting rooms which have multimedia capability, white boards and conference style seating. These amenities allow us to take full advantage of the available educational materials.

## Statistics:

Season	Alpine Officials (Excluding coaches)	Coaches Only
2024	144 (24 TDs)	420
2023	181 (26 TDs) (42 Women)	396 (120 Women/276 Men)
2022	182 (28 TDs) (37 Women)	354 (103 Women/251 Men)
2021	172 (25 TDs) (45 Women)	352 (104 Women/248 Men)
2020	173 (30 TDs) (44 Women)	351 (103 Women/247 Men)
2019	175 (29 TDs)	338
2018	181 (29 TDs)	285
2017	169 (25 TDs)	266
2016	163 (35 TDs)	234
2015	166 (27 TDs)	240

**B-Net:** The division purchased approximately 50 new Barry Nets and approximately the same number of SPM nets. Grants from the Kelly Brush Foundation and the PNW Foundation allowed the division to meet its goal of adding net to both its inventory of SPM and Barry net.

**Level 1 TDs:** PNW has five TD candidates working their way through the requirements.

### **Observations:**

- AdminSkiRacing was the race registration platform used by most of the ROCs. There were some problems initially but as the season went on most of the race administrators, parents and coaches figured out how to use the system.
- The Admin Ski Racing platform has some weaknesses and we are encouraging our ROCs to communicate their observations and concerns to the divisional office.
- Virtual Team Captains' meetings were the norm and seemed to work well.
- The use of electronic communication platforms, like WhatsApp, has become almost universal and functioned very well. Posting start orders, programs and other information on these platforms.
- We were able to complete a number of shadow assignments for new referees this season.

## **Recommendations:**

- ROC's should continue to have the option of using virtual, hybrid (virtual combined with in-person) and in-person Team Captain's meetings.
- The use of online platforms for both updates and clinics should continue to be an option. The online certification clinics are not the best option given

the need for a proctored test and the complexity of the material but they can be a viable option in some situations.

• US Ski and Snowboard should annually provide a pre-recorded overview of the annual Update and Review. The overview could be used as part of a more comprehensive update.

### **PNW Plan for Season 2025**

- Offer update clinics virtually with continued emphasis on focused agendas for specific certifications. The plan is to offer a greater number of update clinics and be more proactive in notifying officials and clubs of who is due for an update.
- Resume the monthly TD Zoom meetings throughout the season.
- Offer a series of Zoom meetings for other AO groups such as Race Administrators and Chiefs of Timing and Calculation pre-season and during the season and in the off season.
- Offer several Zoom meetings during the off season for specific groups to share knowledge and build community.

### Season 2025 Clinic Dates

- The tentative dates for certification clinics are: October 27 2024 Portland; November 3, 2024 Seattle and November 17, 2024 Coeur d'Alene, ID.
- Beginning in the fall of 2024 Update Clinics will be free. The update clinics will be via Zoom and will be offered frequently during the last two months of the year.

Respectively submitted:

Roger Root PNW AO Chairperson



To: PNW ACC From: John Rust, RULES & TECHNICAL SUB-COMMITTEE, Chair RE: 2024 ACC Report

2024 Highlights from Congress (PNSA members are encouraged to review Congress Minutes)

- 1. Alpine Sport Committee Restructure passed
- 2. Outside Gates in SG Failed
- 3. Alternate Seeding / TRS Passed with DQ and DNF maintaining their running order, The Golden rule is athletes run 16th or if the draw is better in that position.
- 4. Athletes Competing in other countries passed
- 5. Start Dates for FIS racing tabled
- 6. Kombi course Specs Passed
- 7. Course setting specs for U10's passed
- 8. Timing Rule 611.2.1 Passed
- 9. Master's 2 run SG Passed
- 10. Gate judges required for GS races Failed
- 11. ASC Operating Tabled until fall
- 12. Move Health of Sport to a working group from task force I can't remember
- 13. Regional U14 & U16 Championships, and U16 National Championships will be seeded by TRS failed.

\*Thank you, Claudia. The minutes of the meeting are not yet posted.

PNW Rules Decisions (codification):

a. Ski Up Agreement - The consensus is the Ski Up for U14's at the NWC finals allows them to compete "AS" U16s and therefore the U16 rules apply to them for the period specified by the Ski Up (no training run is required for U16s)

Coach Cert Changes - L100 - TBD - changes are coming all the way through

Motions deferred from Fall ACC

2023 – 2024 ACC Motion Deferred: Motion for Zonal representation with rotation for the ACC age class chairpersons in a 3-year term limit - McCadam Motion: Seth McCadam. Second: Roger Taggart. Motion was deferred after presentation and discussion for a future meeting. 1329 Section Avenue –Quincy– WA 98848 Phone: 509-445-4454 Website: www.pnwdivision.org email: pnsa@pnsa.org Page 7 of 8 -

Document: PNW ACC Motion Form 2023\_TermLimits\_McCadam - Discussion: Having been on the EC for a long time, it's a good idea, but should stagger with 1 new per year, so there isn't a whole new crew at one time. Institutional knowledge is good, but clarification of each zone represented. Rotation on Board of Directors in general require 2 years before moving into head chair. There might not be enough people within the division and on our ACC already to make that requirement. We should be careful not to limit someone to come in who would be good as a chair that hasn't been on the ACC already. It was pointed out that this is related to the Age Class chairs. Does this need to be approved by the PNW board or can the ACC decide this? Karl will look this up. This is a big change and we should discuss it further and vote on it in the spring. - Next Steps: Karl to confirm the need for PNW board to approve this or not. Continue to review this before bringing it to official motion.

2023 – 2024 ACC Motion Deferred: Motion to assign additional representation to the PNW ACC Calendar Committee – Rust Motion: John Rust. Second – Seth McCadam. Motion was deferred after presentation for a future meeting. - Document: PNW Calendar Committee Motion 2023 PNW ACC Motion Form 2023.docx - Presentation: This would add an asterisk to the calendar process to ensure each zone is represented. - Discussion: As this is related to other ACC structure motions that were deferred and in acknowledgement of limited time remaining, this was deferred. 2023 – 2024 ACC Motion Redacted: Motion to revise the PNW ACC Committee Structure – Landwehr Motion was redacted as related motions were deferred. - Documents: PNW By-Laws Attachment A-ACC Committee Structure Revision\_PNW ACC Motion Form 2023.docx • PNW ACC structure 2022/2023 Update.docx - Next Steps: All – please review this prior to the spring convention. You can find it on the PNW home page – scroll to by-laws and look for Attachment A from 2014. Filling out of Coaches, Officials, and Rules/Tech sub-committees.



## **2024 PNW MASTERS REPORT to PNW ACC**

Membership is stable nationwide and in PNW. PNW picked up a few new members from other divisions and new racers to the sport. The PNW website is working and forwarding interested athletes to us for info requests. We did lose a few members who didn't renew. This is primarily due to injuries or moved on to eternally smooth courses, severely clear skies and fast times.

Masters' events delivered this season 2023/2024 by SPARC, SARS and MBSEF. Thank you!

2024/2025 Nationals is scheduled for rotation to the Eastern Region this season, however we are past the deadline and the West may file a bid. 2023/2024 Nationals were held at Granite Peak, Wisconsin. Central Division did an amazing job hosting their first ever Nationals. An exception was granted to deliver SG in two runs (combined times). Carolyn Phillips (PNW) continues to dominate the field in the U-85 age class.

Masters' participation is up in training opportunities with several PNW clubs. Shout out to Mission Ridge, SARS and MBSEF.

MBSEF delivered our PNW Masters finals series. 4-day event (SG Training, SG/SG (National Speed Series), GS, SL). The weather and surface conditions were very good. Good participation. Masters' tailgater BBQ with PNWSEF presentation. Thank you, Amy Tarnow, Nils/Kent the MBSEF crew and PNWSEF BOD.

National Master's committee meetings attended throughout the year via zoom calls. The National ASR Masters race registration system is still creating some challenges.

Ryan Fuller (Central Division) is providing great leadership as the National Masters Chair. Ryan was the past Central Division Masters Chair. Solid organizational leadership and leading us forward in many areas.

PNW Masters financial accounts (checking and savings) are reported/accounted for monthly to PNW office.

Wy'East Cup is scheduled for June 21,22,23. GS and SL events, at Timberline, on the Mile. Willy Camp is hosting this event. Coaches can upgrade USSA membership to include Masters License at no charge. Good fun, lots of swag.

More individual PNW Masters are stepping up and supporting PNWSEF. We will be moving our training grants from PNW individuals to PNW project support (divisional Speed Camps and/or SL Camps).

Respectfully Submitted, Rob Cravens -PNW Masters Chair



The 2024 race season was another successful one for the Northwest College Ski Conference (NWCSC). Despite a challenging season in terms of snow, NWCSC was able to pull off all four weekends (8 days) of qualifier races as planned, with 150-200 athletes in attendance each day. We returned to repeat venues including Silver Mountain (GS), Lookout Pass (SL), Brundage Mountain (GS), and Snoqualmie Pass (SL).

The conference currently has eight member universities and three "guest" universities (who regularly attend NWCSC races), many of whom have experienced growth in the past five years:

Member Schools (Approx. # Athletes)	Guest Schools
University of Washington (25)	Rocky Mountain College (20)
Washington State University (15)	University of Utah (30)
University of Oregon (20)	Montana State University (25)
Whitman College (30)	
College of Idaho (20)	
University of Idaho (20)	
University of British Columbia (25)	
Oregon State University (10)	

We also welcomed PNW athletes from LPRT, SMART, and CMAC at our races at Lookout, Silver, and Snoqualmie.

Given strong participation from member and guest schools over the past few seasons, the conference is in excellent financial standing, and continues to make investments in new timing and other race equipment.

The NWCSC is entirely volunteer run, with all volunteers and officials participating on an unpaid basis. Nonetheless, we have an excellent volunteer base, with veteran technical delegates, referees, and timing and calc officials training new volunteers (typically recent NWCSC alumnus) each season.

In conclusion, NWCSC continues to offer inclusive, competitive ski racing to college students in the Northwest region. We are looking forward to the 2025 season.

Respectively Submitted: Rachel Urban 5/7/2024