



## SEASON 2025 UPDATE & REVIEW:

### CONTINUING EDUCATION FOR ALPINE OFFICIALS

U.S. Ski & Snowboard's Alpine Competition Regulations (ACR) for domestic alpine ski racing are based in large part on the FIS International Ski Competition Rules (ICR) but are specific to U.S. Ski & Snowboard competitions. The competition regulations are updated annually, are published in the current [Alpine Competition Guide](#), and are available at [usskiandsnowboard.org](http://usskiandsnowboard.org).

It is the responsibility of every official, coach and competitor to *know, understand, and abide* by the rules for the sport. Coaches, Program Directors, and other club officers are encouraged to provide the time and opportunity to instruct their athletes on the rules for the sport. These rules include, but are not limited to, current editions as well as the "Precisions" of the FIS ICR, U.S. Ski & Snowboard ACR, and the appropriate supplemental rules, such as Rules of the FIS Points, and Rules for the Alpine Continental Cups. The following pages contain an overview of rule changes as well as a review and clarification of existing U.S. Ski & Snowboard and FIS rules. *This update and review, however, does not contain all rule changes.*

For all events scheduled by U.S. Ski & Snowboard as FIS events, applicable rules of the FIS must be considered and applied. In cases that are not addressed by the ACR for U.S. Ski & Snowboard events or by the ICR for FIS events, or in cases where the rules must be interpreted, the authority for making such decisions will rest with the Competition Jury.

**Procedures which impact your event operations and programs must be relayed to all event officials, Team Captains, and competitors. The procedures must – without question – be respected and observed.**

**Alpine Officials' resource materials are prepared to be accurate and in compliance with current rules and procedures while maintaining a nationwide outlook. The content of the material is reviewed by senior Alpine Officials prior to being submitted for acceptance by appropriate U.S. Ski & Snowboard authorities. If an item included in the resource materials appears to be in conflict with current rules and procedures, please contact U.S. Ski & Snowboard Competition Services for clarification and/or interpretation.**

***PLEASE NOTE: This information contained in this document is current as of 01 October 2024. U.S. Ski & Snowboard and/or FIS decisions made in meetings following that date which may affect rules and event operating procedures will be published in Season 2025 Precisions. Please review applicable Precisions upon their publication.***

### **U.S. SKI & SNOWBOARD COMPETITION CONTINUING EDUCATION (UPDATE) SEASON 2025:**

#### **1. MEMBERSHIP – UPDATE & CLARIFICATIONS**

- All coaches, including part-time coaches and coaches for U12 and younger athletes, must be Coach members of U.S. Ski & Snowboard.
- Avalanche Training and Coaching Fundamentals is moving to Sport Education and will be required only for Coach and Junior Coach members.
- Athletes who will turn 18 during the competition season must create their own U.S. Ski & Snowboard Membership Account.
- Junior Coaches must create their own U.S. Ski & Snowboard Membership Account.
- Pursuit of coach certification is required for all coach members, and starting Season 2026, an "active" coach certification will be required in order to register for a U.S. Ski & Snowboard sanctioned competition and be granted race arena/venue access.

For their first season, new coaches who have never been certified, being "in progress" towards their Level 100 certification will meet this requirement.

**For additional details, contact [sporteducation@usskiandsnowboard.org](mailto:sporteducation@usskiandsnowboard.org). In addition, beginning Season 2026, Alpine Officials' Referee Certification may be required for all Level 200 coaches.**

- The Sport Education Academy (SEA) will offer modules for safety training for Alpine Officials. Access to the training is through the Bronze Tier which does not require a SEA registration fee. Training topics include Avalanche, Heads Up Concussion Training, First Aid, CPR, and DEI. This training is only a “recommendation” and is not required in order for an Alpine Official to officiate or be granted race arena/venue access as required by their official duties at any U.S. Ski & Snowboard event. Completion of the modules, however, is required for Level 100 Coaches. For additional details, contact [sporteducation@usskiandsnowboard.org](mailto:sporteducation@usskiandsnowboard.org).
- Race Administrators must verify that coaches’ membership status; e.g., SafeSport Training and background screening is valid (not pending). The Race Administrator must also verify the coaches’ non-presence on the Central Disciplinary List. These verifications are required prior to granting event credentials and race arena/venue access.
- Required certification and continuing education (last clinic: Season 2024 or Season 2025) must be current for Chief of Race, Referee, Assistant Referee, Start Referee, Finish Referee, Course Setters, Chief of Course, and Chief of Timing & Calculations.
- Required certification and continuing education (last clinic: Season 2025) must be current for Technical Delegate and Race Administrator.

## 2. FORERUNNERS – UPDATE & CLARIFICATIONS

U.S. Ski & Snowboard event: Forerunners must hold a current U.S. Ski & Snowboard membership; e.g., Competitor, Coach, Official, Volunteer, Master w/Requirements, Non-Scored Athlete, Short-Term Athlete, or General.

**NOTE:** *Coach, Official, and Volunteer memberships may be accepted in order for an individual to serve as a forerunner. Coaches must take note, however, that forerunning may not be included in the duties outlined in their club employment contract. In addition, regardless of the type of membership, an event’s equipment regulations apply to all forerunners.*

FIS event: Forerunners must hold current U.S. Ski & Snowboard membership and FIS inscription or membership in a foreign federation recognized by FIS. In cases of *force majeure*, where a sufficient number of FIS-inscribed forerunners are not available, an eligible U.S. Ski & Snowboard member may forerun after signing a FIS Athlete’s Declaration. [605.1]

**NOTE:** FIS Athlete Declaration requires a parent or legal guardian’s signature for an athlete who is not of legal age.

Adult Forerunners – Minor Participants: Adult (18+) forerunners at events that include minor participants (U18 and younger) are required to be in good standing with a membership that includes SafeSport training and background screening. *The “Alpine Master” and “Short-Term Alpine Master” memberships do not meet this requirement and are not allowed.*

Masters Events: U18 and younger forerunners, including those with General and Short-Term Memberships, at Masters events where competitors may have the “Master” or “Short-Term Alpine Master” memberships that do not include SafeSport Training and background screening must be accompanied by a parent or legal guardian or at least two (2) U.S. Ski & Snowboard members with a membership that includes SafeSport training and background screening (e.g., Coach w/Official, Official, Volunteer, Masters w/requirements).

As with all U18 and younger events, if U18 athletes will be forerunning a Masters event, a communication pertaining to athlete safety policies must be sent to all participants, and the QR code must be posted at the registration area.

*A list of approved Forerunners must be provided for the Start Referee. This is critical if a Condensed Start List is being generated or the race result software does not provide enough space to list the names of all approved Forerunners.*

## 3. JURY COMPOSITION

**U601.4.2.3:** The Jury should, where possible, include one person of a different gender.

## 4. TIMING

- **U611.2.1:** For all events sanctioned by U.S. Ski & Snowboard, two synchronized electronically isolated systems operating in time-of-day must be used. (All other sections of U611.2.1 remain in effect.)
- **U611.2.2:** Printed records, either automatic, handwritten, or memorized electronically of recorded hand times must be immediately available at the start and at the finish.

## 5. MASTERS SUPER G

2-run Super G has been approved for Masters events calendared in the Central Division only.

## 6. RANDOM SEEDING – TRS (BUTTERFLY) - UPDATE & CLARIFICATION

TRS (Butterfly) seeding has been approved for scored and non-scored, multi-day races. The approved system is as follows:

- Day 1/Run 1: Randomize athletes within gender/age group to create the initial start list.
- Run 2: Reverse (flip) Run 1 start order.
- Day 2/Run 3: Divide each group by two and move bottom group to top of start order. (Example: 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5.)
- Run 4: Reverse (flip) Run 3 start order.

### NOTES:

- DNS, DNF, or DSQ athletes stay in their original position for all runs. (They are not moved to the end of class/field.)
- Age Groups are typically started in order of youngest to oldest.
- If one of the events is speed (Downhill or Super G), a new randomization is typically done.
- If required from an athletic standpoint, Team Captains may request that the Start Referee increase the interval prior to an individual athlete's start. (Start Referee must announce any start interval changes over the Jury radio channel.)

### INSERTIONS FOR SECOND DAY OF A MULTI-DAY SCORED OR NON-SCORED EVENT (Run 3)

When new athletes need to be inserted in an existing seed, the following procedure shall be followed:

- New athletes will be inserted after the racer whose position is 1/2 of the start order for Run 3.
- The list will be expanded to include all new entries to the first half of the list.
- The second half of the draw will remain the same.

**Example:** Field is 20 athletes; first group is 10 athletes; 3 new athletes will be added at positions 11, 12, and 13.

## 7. GOLDEN RULE - UPDATE & CLARIFICATION

- Events using TRS (Butterfly) Seeding:

Athletes who have been granted Golden Rule Seeding will be seeded 16th+ in all runs or races of the same series unless original start list preparation/flip/butterfly affords them a more favorable (earlier) start position.

- Events not using TRS (Butterfly) Seeding:
  - For all events, First Run U621.3.1: Adaptive athletes will be seeded in special groups with start order: 16-20, 36-40, 56-60, etc., or by seed points, whichever is more favorable. (Placement within groups is by national point ranking.)
  - Second Run with Flip 30 U621.11.3.2: Adaptive athlete groups will start in the 31st position unless first-run time affords a more favorable (earlier) start position. (Placement within groups will be by the results of the first run.)
  - Second Run with Flip 15: Adaptive athlete groups will start in the 16th position unless first-run time affords a more favorable (earlier) start position. (Placement within groups will be by the results of the first run.)
  - Adaptive athletes who are shown as DNS, DNF, DSQ, or NPS in the first run can start in the second run with their original bib immediately after the last qualified competitor has completed their run.
- Athletes who have been granted Golden Rule seeding may compete using the equipment appropriate to their disability.
- Adaptive athletes who are visually impaired will be accompanied by a guide. The guide provides verbal instructions to the athlete and is accorded the same consideration as the athlete. Start Referee should skip a minimum of one start interval following the start of a visually impaired athlete and their guide.

## 8. TIMING & DATA TECHNICAL REPORT (TDTR) - UPDATE & CLARIFICATION

A Timing Data Technical Report (TDTR) is required for all levels of competition, and the FIS TDTR software is used for preparing and submitting the report for all events, both non-FIS and FIS. *Software is available for Windows 10, 11, and macOS 10.14+; it is updated as required.*

The Chief of Timing & Calculations – not the Race Administrator or other official – is responsible for the preparation and filing of the Timing & Data Technical Report (TDTR) for all events. (The U.S. TDTR in the MPF is only intended for gathering data for entry into the FIS TDTR software.)

*If an event requires calculation of a replacement time (EET), copies of all calculations must be included in the PDF “Event Document Packet.”*

*The calculations must also be included with the XML copy of the TDTR submitted to: [tdtr@usskiandsnowbord.org](mailto:tdtr@usskiandsnowbord.org).*

## 9. KOMBI - UPDATE & CLARIFICATION

- **U1259** and the course setting matrix will be expanded to include specifications for GS/SG Kombi. Please refer to current Alpine Competition Guide for complete details.
- Kombi events must be set using appropriately homologated/approved hills. Hills homologated/approved for Giant Slalom may be used for Slalom/Giant Slalom Kombi as well as Giant Slalom/Super G Kombi.
- With the exception of specific rules applying to course setting, rules are those that apply to the faster portion of the event: e.g., Slalom/Giant Slalom events are governed by Giant Slalom rules. Giant Slalom/Super G events are governed by Super G rules; e.g., Start commands and start intervals.

**U1259.10 clarifies** in Kombi competitions, athletes must use the helmets designed for Giant Slalom, Super G, or Downhill. Athletes U14 and older must use helmets that meet the FIS standards.

## 10. COURSE SETTING SPECIFICATIONS FOR MULTIPLE AGE CLASS COMPETITIONS and U10 MAXIMUM VERTICAL DROP CHANGES - UPDATE & CLARIFICATION

For multiple age class competitions, course setting specifications for Super G, Giant Slalom, and Slalom events are based on one class older than the youngest age class competing, e.g., U16, U14, U12, and U10 events will follow U12 specifications. Downhill event course setting is based on the youngest age class competing. U8, although recognized by U.S. Ski & Snowboard, as well as additional classes for younger competitors are established for the purpose of awards and are subject to U10 course setting specifications.

These specifications only apply to course setting; they do not apply to maximum vertical drop. Athletes are not permitted to compete in events where the vertical drop exceeds the allowance for their actual age group.

*Example: Giant Slalom field consists of U16, U14, U12, and U10 athletes, U12 course setting specification will apply. The maximum vertical drop for U10 athletes must be respected. (There is currently no difference between U10 and U12 Giant Slalom vertical drop. However, this does not mean the competition Jury is allowed to skip to the U14 vertical drop.)*

The following maximum vertical drops have been approved for competitions including U10 and younger athletes. They are as follows:

SL – 120m

GS – 250m

SL/GS Kombi – 180m

## 11. WAIVED ENTRY / LIFT FEES

**Named members of the U.S. Ski Team (A, B, C, or D) and the U.S. Paralympic National Alpine Skiing Team (A, B, C, or D)**, are entitled to waiver of entry and lift fees at all U.S. Ski & Snowboard events. No head tax will be due for these athletes. In addition, please note the following:

- Named members of foreign national teams who are properly entered by their national federations and who are **ranked 200 or better** in the world in one of the events being contested should be provided with complimentary entries and lifts. No head tax will be due for these athletes.

- At pre-determined events (e.g., Nor-Am and U.S. Alpine National Championships), or at the discretion of the OC for other events, regardless of national affiliation or national team status, athletes who are **ranked 100 or better** in the world in one of the events being contested should be provided with complimentary entries and lifts. If applicable to the level of event, head tax will not be due for these athletes.
- **NAC ONLY:** Named members of foreign national teams who are **ranked 350 or better** in the world in one of the events being contested are entitled to complimentary entries and lifts. In addition, foreign athletes enrolled in North American schools, clubs, or universities will be entitled to complimentary entries and lifts if they are **ranked 100 or better** in the world in one of the events being contested, regardless of their national team status. (NAC 2.4.2) Previous season's Continental Cup event winners are also entitled to complimentary entries and lifts. (NAC 2.4.2.1)

**NOTE:** Some organizers may not be able to provide complimentary lift tickets as they are passing along costs from the host resort.

## 12. TWO EVENTS / SAME DAY

**U202.2:** A maximum of two scored SL, GS, SG, or DH races per day, per gender, may be calendared per day by an organizer.

**U202.2.1:** In cases where 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 U.S. Ski & Snowboard.

## 13. EVENT REGISTRATION and HEAD TAX CALCULATION/VERIFICATION/PAYMENT

U.S. Ski & Snowboard does not provide an online Event Registration platform. Race Organizers are encouraged to use systems currently being provided by private vendors; (e. g., skireg.com or adminskiracing.com). Regardless of whether or not the registration system of choice calculates and submits required Head Tax, the Organizing Committee is responsible for calculation, verification, and payment of all National, Regional, and Divisional Head Taxes.

If the registration system of choice does not calculate and submit required Head Tax, the calculation forms and required payments must be submitted to Competition Services; copies should be retained in the Organizing Committee's event file. If the system does calculate and submit the required Head tax, the calculation forms should be retained in the Organizing Committee's event file.

*Applicable head taxes must be submitted in a timely manner. Organizers who fail to submit head taxes risk loss of Club Certification and the ability to host other competitions until coming into compliance.*

## 14. FIS EVENT ENTRY AUTHORIZATION LETTERS (TRAVEL LETTERS)

- Only National Ski Associations (Federations) are entitled to make entries for international competitions.
- Some foreign federations may issue an entry authorization (travel) letter which allows foreign athletes training with U.S. Ski & Snowboard clubs or attending USA schools/colleges/universities to be entered by their coaches.
- Several nations, e.g., Austria, Canada, Great Britain, and Spain currently do not issue authorization (travel) letters; entries for competitors from these nations must originate from the respective Federation; cover email should be retained in the Organizing Committee's event file.
- Entries submitted by the foreign Federation must list the names of all personnel accompanying the athlete(s) and for whom race arena/venue access is requested; e.g., coach, trainer, ski technician, etc.

Due to issues controlling the entry of some non-USA athletes into USA FIS events, U.S. Ski & Snowboard adopted the following policy regarding entry authorization (travel) letters.

- **U.S. Ski & Snowboard will only manage authorization letters for foreign athletes who are also competitor members of U.S. Ski & Snowboard.**
- Authorization letter must be sent to [chip.knight@usskiandsnowboard.org](mailto:chip.knight@usskiandsnowboard.org) *it must also be sent to the Regional Manager for the Region where the athlete is training.*
  - Letters must be submitted directly by the respective National Ski Association.
  - A list of U.S. Ski & Snowboard foreign athlete members (X membership) for whom authorization letters have been received is available at [usskiandsnowboard.org/competition/points/alpine-points](http://usskiandsnowboard.org/competition/points/alpine-points). This site will provide a link to the google doc which is updated as information is received.

U.S. Ski & Snowboard's policy regarding entry authorization (travel) letters for foreign athletes who **are not** competitor members of U.S. Ski & Snowboard is as follows:

- Authorization letter provided by the foreign federation allowing a club/school/university coach to enter an athlete must accompany the official FIS entry.
- Official FIS entry must include the names of all personnel accompanying the athlete(s) and for whom race arena/venue access is requested; e.g., coach, trainer, ski technician, etc.
- Authorization letter must be accompanied by the cover letter from the foreign Federation.
- Accuracy of the following information in the authorization letter must be verified.
  - Date of letter
  - Name, gender, nation, FIS inscription code for athlete
  - Date of applicable season
- Authorization letters will only be recognized for FIS category and below. *Entries for World Cup, Nor-Am Cup, and National Championships must be submitted directly by the respective National Ski Associations.*

#### NOTES:

- Foreign entries not submitted by actual National Ski Association and for whom no authorization letter has been submitted to U.S. Ski & Snowboard must not be accepted.
- There is a possibility that small groups of foreign athletes may be training in North America and may seek entry into U.S. Ski & Snowboard FIS events. These athletes will be represented by coaches from their National Ski Associations and, because they are not members of U.S. Ski & Snowboard and training with USA clubs/schools/colleges/universities, authorization letters will not be on file with U.S. Ski & Snowboard. *You must contact U.S. Ski & Snowboard Competition Services prior to refusing any FIS entry.*

#### 15. RESULT PROCESSING – XML FILE and EVENT DOCUMENT PACKETS - UPDATE & CLARIFICATION

- Individual event XML race result files are uploaded at: [race-results.us skiandsnowboard.org/](http://race-results.us skiandsnowboard.org/).
- Following successful uploading of the XML race result file, if the PDF “Event Document Packet” has been completed, it may be uploaded during the same access window as the corresponding XML race result file.
- If the PDF “Event Document Packet” is not completed until after the XML race result file is uploaded, or you are unable to successfully utilize the upload function, the PDF “Event Document Packet” must be emailed to [resultpackets@ussa.org](mailto:resultpackets@ussa.org). *The U.S. Ski & Snowboard transmittal number must be used as the email's subject.*

**NOTE:** Login for clubs hosting sanctioned events or a previously-approved login for individuals who do not have access to the club login will be required in order to access the upload platform. If an official is unable to log in, contact Competition Services for assistance.

#### 16. ALPINE OFFICIALS' CERTIFICATION MATRIX CHANGES - UPDATE & CLARIFICATION

- **Technical Delegate:** In addition to other requirements, in order to advance from Level 2 to Level 3, a minimum of one of the required work days should be outside of Division/Region or at an event assigned by the respective Alpine Officials Chair. Recommendations for advancement must be submitted from two (2) Level 4 or FIS Technical Delegates.  
  
Submitted recommendations for advancement must be current: Technical events should be within two (2) seasons of submittal; Speed events should be within three (3) seasons of submittal.
- **Race Administrator:** In addition to other requirements, recommendations for advancement from Level 1 to Level 2 must be submitted by two (2) higher level Race Administrators, Level 3 or Level 4 Technical Delegates, or FIS Technical Delegates.
- **Referee:** There has been no change for the requirement that a minimum of one (1) shadow assignment must be successfully completed under the supervision of a U.S. Ski & Snowboard Level 3 Alpine RF or TD (minimum Level 2 RF/TD), or FIS TD. *An AO recommendation form must be submitted to the respective Divisional AO chair in order to verify fulfillment of this requirement.*

## 17. START NUMBER or BIB NUMBER

**617.3.3** If two or more competitors have the same time or the same number of points, the competitor with the higher start number must be listed first on the official list of results.

- **SplitSecond** breaks a tie in time by defaulting to an athlete's actual "start number."
- **VOLA** interprets the "start number" to be the "bib number" and breaks a tie in time by defaulting to an athlete's actual "bib number."

Refer to these defaults when inserting an athlete in a start order or assigning an out-of-sequence bib:

- **SplitSecond**: inserting an athlete after the first group and assigning 15A will affect SplitSecond's tie breaking capability because SplitSecond will not accept the start number + alpha character.
- **VOLA**: assigning an out-of-sequence high value bib number to replace a missing bib; e.g., Start 6 wearing Bib 106 will affect VOLA's tie breaking capability should a tie in time occur, for example, between Start 6 Bib 106 and Start 20 Bib 20; (Bib 106 will be ranked before Bib 20 regardless of the earlier start.)

## **FIS COMPETITION CONTINUING EDUCATION (UPDATE) SEASON 2025:**

### 1. COMPOSITION OF THE JURY

- **ICR 601.4.1.4**: The Jury must include at least one person of a different gender (applicable at OWG and WSC).
- **ICR 601.4.2.3**: For international races, the Jury should include one person of a different gender.

### 2. TIMING

- **ICR 611.2.2**: Printed records, either automatic, handwritten, or memorized electronically of recorded hand times must be immediately available at the start and at the finish.
- If an event requires calculation of a Replacement Time (EET), copies of all calculations must be submitted as an attachment to the Timing & Data Technical Report (TDTR).

### 3. FIS REPORTS: TD REPORT and INJURY REPORT (ISS)

FIS Alpine events require that the Report of the Technical Delegate be filed online. The FIS Injury Report (ISS) has been incorporated into the online report, so paper copy filing of this document is no longer required for most FIS events.

- A paper copy of the FIS Report of the Technical Delegate will be required for:
  - FIS Masters
  - FIS PARA
  - FIS Children
  - Some canceled FIS events (as requested by FIS)
- A paper copy of FIS Injury Report (ISS) is also required If an injury occurs at any of the following:
  - FIS Masters
  - FIS PARA
  - FIS Children
  - FIS Alpine event that is terminated or canceled (e.g., Downhill event canceled, but an injury occurred in DH Training). There is no result XML file submitted for terminated or canceled events, so an online Report of the Technical Delegate incorporating the FIS Injury Report (ISS) is not available.

If these documents are required, using the FIS-assigned codex number as the email subject, please submit in scanned/PDF format to: (Forms are available in the MPF – Additional FIS Documents.)

[flere@fis-ski.com](mailto:flere@fis-ski.com)

[jeff.weinman@usskiandsnowboard.com](mailto:jeff.weinman@usskiandsnowboard.com)

**NOTE: Additional documents (e.g., Jury Minutes, etc.), may also need to be submitted.**

- FIS Technical Delegates, regardless of their national affiliation, are only responsible for the accuracy and submittal of FIS documents. The accuracy and submittal of any additional documentation required by the NGB, e.g., Results/Penalty based on National Points, U.S. First Report of Injury, etc., are the sole responsibility of the Race Administrator and/or the Organizing Committee.

#### 4. CARRY or WEAR START NUMBERS (BIBS) [614.3.2]

Discussion at FIS meetings resulted in the following clarification: “Carry” means the athletes only need to have the bibs with them; there is no need for the athletes to wear the bibs during course inspection. *This interpretation is also valid for non-FIS events.*

### GENERAL REVIEW AND CLARIFICATION - U.S. SKI & SNOWBOARD AND FIS:

#### 1. MINOR ATHLETE ABUSE PREVENTION POLICY (MAAPP) & SAFESPORT CODE

- MAAPP should be implemented alongside the SafeSport Code.
- The responsibility for communication and enforcement of MAAPP and SafeSport policies is the responsibility of the Local Organizing Committee (LOC) as well as other individuals and entities as set out in the Competition Administration Summary, the MAAPP, and the SafeSport Code.
- Administration of MAAPP and the SafeSport Code applies – but is not limited to – events, participation requirements, membership requirements, officials’ certification and continuing education requirements, race arena access, volunteers, etc.
- In order to ensure compliance, all requirements must be continually monitored and completed for same-day participants, and they must be informed of the provisions of MAAPP and the SafeSport Code. This can be accomplished by posting a QR code which, when scanned, provides required information.
- At least one non-FIS competition will be audited by the Center for SafeSport during the 2025 season. U.S. Ski & Snowboard may receive only minimal advance notice of the audit, so it is imperative that organizers know, understand, and follow the MAAPP and SafeSport documentation available on the U.S. Ski & Snowboard website.

Please refer to links posted on the U.S. Ski & Snowboard website for access to current information and links: [usskiandsnowboard.org/safesport-athlete-safety/safesport-resources](https://usskiandsnowboard.org/safesport-athlete-safety/safesport-resources).

#### 2. RACE ARENA vs RACE VENUE

The Jury is responsible for technical matters within the closed competition areas. [601.4] The closed competition areas are defined as the “race arena” which is accepted as being those areas which the Jury inspects and accepts as being suitable for competitors’ presence:

- **within** (the side-to-side fencing) and
- **without** (start area and finish arena) the confines of the competition area and
- any location connected with the competition [223.2.1]

The Jury does inspect and accept:

- the start and finish areas as well as the ingress and egress to these areas
- the racecourse
- the type and placement of the on-hill competitor security

The Jury does not inspect or accept:

- lift areas
- parking lots
- cafeterias
- terrain parks, public trails, team meeting rooms, etc.



In addition to noting that sanctions can be applied and a penalty imposed for “actions within and without the competition area,” **223.2.1** includes conduct within “any location connected with the competition.” These locations include, but are not limited to the following areas that are required for the orderly conduct of an event: Team Captains’ Meetings, Jury meeting areas, timing building, equipment control area. *Neither the “closed competition areas” (within or without the fencing) nor “any location connected with the competition” include lift lines, cafeterias, or parking lots, etc.*

### 3. SPLITSECOND / VOLA INTERFACE

If the event data is being managed with SplitSecond, but your Chief of Timing & Calculations is timing with VOLA, it is possible to transfer data between the systems. However, it is recommended that only bib #'s and times be imported from VOLA timing to SplitSecond data. If athletes’ names are imported, please verify that any athletes who have double last names: e.g., “VAN HORN, Eric” transfer back from VOLA in the original format: VAN HORN, Eric and not VAN, HORN Eric. The misplaced comma will result in FIS and U.S. Ski & Snowboard autoscore systems rejecting the XML file.

### 4. HELMET RULES

Soft ear protection is only permitted for helmets used in Slalom. *Soft ear protection is not allowed in Parallel events.* [U707, U807, U907, U1007, U1233, Helmet Rules]

U1233 has been edited as follows: In the case of issues or items not covered in Art. 1220-1233, the rules for Slalom (Art. 800) or Giant Slalom (Art. 900) must be considered.

**Reminder:** For all events, (FIS, non-FIS scored and non-scored), helmet-mounted cameras and/or their mounts are not allowed for use by either competitors or forerunners. The helmets shall have no spoilers nor protruding parts.

### 5. U.S. SKI & SNOWBOARD FIRST REPORT OF ACCIDENT

Lockton Companies is the insurance carrier for U.S. Ski & Snowboard; the actual insurers are SiriusPoint America Insurance Company and Zurich. All injury reporting forms and procedures can be found at [usskiandsnowboard.org/sport-development/club-development/club-insurance](http://usskiandsnowboard.org/sport-development/club-development/club-insurance) under Participant Accident.

Online filing is preferred, and a copy of the completed First Report of Accident can be printed for inclusion in the required PDF Event Document Packet. If online filing is not an option, the site also includes a 2-page First Report of Accident in PDF format. (*The First Report of Accident in PDF fill-in format is available in the Master Packet of Forms*).

*The PDF First Report of Accident requires a name and contact information for the “Technical Director.” Please note this information should be for an individual who is on site and who has access to all injury-related documents; e.g., OC Representative or Chief of Race.*

*If a First Report of Accident is required for named U.S. Ski Team members, it will be filed by U.S. Ski & Snowboard staff; a copy should be provided for the OC’s files.*

### 6. U14 AND YOUNGER COMPETITION POLICY

- U14 and younger athletes wishing to compete out of their Region must have their home club coach obtain permission from their home Regional Director and the Director of the Region in which they wish to compete
- U14 and younger athletes wishing to compete out of their home Division must have their home club coach get permission from their home Division Director and the Director in the Division in which they wish to compete.

### 7. U12 and U14 SUPER G TRAINING RUN

Official training for U12 and U14 Super G must include at least one Super G training run prior to the first competition. Official training for these age groups is an integral part of the competition, and all athletes are required to participate. In exceptional cases, a Jury can authorize a controlled freeski run in lieu of an official training run. The Jury decision must be documented in Jury Minutes. If racing with U16 athletes, ACR U1256.4 applies, and a training run must be calendared.

All sanctioned speed training runs/camps – Downhill or Super G – require that a full Jury be empaneled. In addition, they must also carry either liability insurance coverage through the U.S. Ski & Snowboard provider or through the Organizing Committee’s provider.

### 8. INTERDICTION TO CONTINUE

Non-FIS Slalom

U.S. Ski & Snowboard ACR Arts. U614.2.3, U661.4.1, U804.3 are designated as “U” (non-FIS) rules to indicate competitors in non-FIS Slalom may hike to continue passage of a missed gate and continue on course after coming to a stop.

**FIS Slalom** (FIS rules do not allow hiking/continuing on course in any event.)

- **614.2.3:** If competitors come to a complete stop (e.g., after a fall), they must no longer continue through previous or further gates.

## 9. SKILLSQUEST

- The Jury members for a sanctioned SkillsQuest Tournament are: Technical Delegate, Referee, and Chief of Race. (*The Chief of Race may also be serving as the SkillsQuest Tournament Director.*)
- A SkillsQuest Technical Delegate’s Checklist for U.S. Ski & Snowboard sanctioned SkillsQuest events is available in the Master Packet of Forms.
- Roster of Participants and SkillsQuest Score Card ([usskiandsnowboard.org/index.php/sport-programs/skillsquest](http://usskiandsnowboard.org/index.php/sport-programs/skillsquest)) must be submitted to [jeff.weinman@usskiandsnowboard.org](mailto:jeff.weinman@usskiandsnowboard.org).

## 10. SKI CROSS

Ski Cross was approved to move from Freeski to Alpine. Coordination for events is the responsibility of USASA and the Hole Shot Freeski Tour.

## 11. WIRELESS TIMING

Wireless timing has been approved for U.S. Ski & Snowboard non-championship events. FIS further restricts its use to FIS Level 3 and FIS Level 4 only. An application for the use of wireless timing at U.S. Ski & Snowboard events has been drafted, and a link to the application is available in the Master Packet of Forms (MPF). Please contact John Jett ([jjett@cjtiming.com](mailto:jjett@cjtiming.com)) or Matt Howard ([matt.p1timing@gmail.com](mailto:matt.p1timing@gmail.com)) for complete details.

## 12. MANUAL TIMEKEEPING VERIFICATION SUGGESTIONS

- **Take the time to verify manual devices are still synchronized.** A countdown over the radio and a request for the display reading can be done prior to the start. Another option is requesting the manual time for the first forerunner. Completion of the TDTR requires the hand time for the first athlete, but verification prior to the start of Bib 1 allows time to address any issues.
- **If electronic timekeeping systems fail**, immediately verify hand times are available for the racer for whom an electronic time is not available. *This immediate action will indicate whether or not manual timekeeping has validity so you will either be able to calculate a replacement time or authorize a rerun.*

Two suggestions: Neither one will take much effort, but they may be the difference between a race result or a disappointed athlete for whom no time is available.

## 13. FIS ALPINE SKIING TIMING BOOKLET

A new FIS Alpine Skiing Timing Booklet has been published. *Please refer to current edition of FIS Alpine Skiing Timing Booklet.*

## 14. COLOR OF SUPER G GATE PANELS (Also applicable at non-FIS events.)

The gates must be alternately red and blue. In special circumstances, where a panel color cannot be seen properly against the backdrop, (e.g., netting), the Jury can decide to use an alternative color for the gate panel for that specific gate to improve visibility.

## 15. DISTANCE BETWEEN GATES WITHIN TURNING POLES (Also applicable at non-FIS events.)

The distance between the gates within a delayed combination must not be less than 0.75m from either turning pole. [801.2.3]

## 16. COMPETITOR TIES IN FIS PARALLEL EVENTS

- In case of a tie in both runs, the competitor with the lower bib will advance to the next round. [1232.4]
- If both competitors are tied after the second run in the Final and/or the Small Final, competitors will be ranked equally (tied). They will be ordered by descending bib number. [1232.5]

## 17. HOMOLOGATION FILES

Homologations for Giant Slalom and Slalom courses are valid for 10 seasons. Homologations for Super G and Downhill courses are valid for 5 seasons. New homologations will expire on July 1 of the 10th/5th season of homologation.

**Note:** The only accurate sources for course homologation data verification are the U.S. Ski & Snowboard and FIS websites. In addition, a new inspection of an existing course (FIS or National) voids the previous homologation of an existing course.

Homologation files may be accessed at: [media.usskiandsnowboard.org/CompServices/Homologation/](https://media.usskiandsnowboard.org/CompServices/Homologation/) (Login is required: **User ID = homologation; Password = Allout2022!**)

Files may also be accessed at: [fis-ski.com/DB/alpine-skiing/homologations.html](https://fis-ski.com/DB/alpine-skiing/homologations.html); maps, photos, reports, etc., are not available at this site.

## 18. SUPPLEMENTARY REPORT or an ADDITIONAL REPORT OF THE TECHNICAL DELEGATE

- A Supplementary Report is filed by the Technical Delegate to document event anomalies. Under some circumstances, the Referee may also be required to file a Supplementary Report.
- An Additional Report of the Technical Delegate is used to address issues that may or may not require re-homologation of a racecourse.

## 19. NO ADVANTAGE – NO DISQUALIFICATION

**223.3.3** states: “Competitors shall only be disqualified if their mistake would result in an advantage for them with regard to the end result; unless the Rules state otherwise in an individual case.”

Rules that address grounds for disqualification are:

- **629.2** – jeopardizes the security of persons or property or causes actual injury or damage.
- **629.3** – does not pass through a gate correctly in accordance with Art.661.4.
- **629.3** – does not start within the time limits defined by Art. 613.7.

*Please note unsportsmanlike behavior is subject to sanction which may or may not include disqualification. [Art. 223.1.1; Art. 223.3.2]*

## 20. DUE PROCESS [224.7]

Prior to the imposition of a penalty (except in cases of verbal reprimands and withdrawal of accreditation), the person accused of an offense shall be given the opportunity to present a defense at a hearing, verbally or in writing. Defense can include, but is not limited to the following:

- Being advised of infraction.
- Hearing and considering all testimony and other evidence.
- Questioning all witnesses upon whose testimony the Jury relies.

Considering information from a witness who is unavailable for questioning by the accused would create a serious issue. It is also unwise for Jury members to discuss a situation and consider possible penalties prior to considering all evidence.

The Jury must adhere to the following policy:

- Consider infraction
- Question witnesses – including athlete, coach, Gate Judge, etc. – upon whose testimony the Jury relies.
- Hear and consider all testimony and other evidence.
- Allow accused person the opportunity to present a defense and review all evidence (question witnesses, etc.)
- Deliberate
- Make a fair decision
- Review, vote, and sign prepared Jury Minutes of decision
- Notify affected parties

## 21. VALID STARTS, FALSE STARTS [613.7, 805.4] and DELAYED STARTS [613.6, 805.3.1]

- A “false start” violation occurs when a competitor is in the start gate and does not start within the required period with respect to the start command – “GO!”
- Course workers and officials must have a reasonable expectation of when a competitor may be approaching their position. Competitors who either start early or late can minimize this expectation and potentially create an environment that is not secure. For these reasons, false (early/late) start violations require DSQ. [613.7, 805.4]
- A “delayed” competitor is one who is not present in the start area or who is not ready to start when called. [613.6, 805.3.1]
- A provisional start may be allowed by the Start Referee (*force majeure*) or the Jury (in case of doubt).
- Athletes who are given provisional starts are subject to SANCTION, which *may or may not* include DSQ. However, provisions of Art. 223.3.3 must be met.

## 22. PROVISIONAL STARTS – IMPORTANT POINTS

- An athlete who is granted a provisional start that is later found to be unjustified is subject to “sanction.”
- Depending on circumstances, the sanction may include a DSQ. Prior to imposing the DSQ, Jury must decide whether or not the competitor’s later start provided an unfair advantage, e.g., improved weather conditions, etc.
- A competitor shall only be disqualified if their mistake would result in an advantage for them with regard to the end result, unless the Rules state otherwise in an individual case, e.g., gate fault; false (early/late) starts. [223.3.3]
- If a provisional start is not approved, the competitor’s status must not be changed to DNS. The only available option is DSQ, but then only if the provisions of Art. 223.3.3 have been met.

## 23. COMPETITION EQUIPMENT – PROTECTORS

The term “competition equipment” implies all items of equipment used by athletes in competitive skiing, including clothing and implements that serve a technical function. *Competition equipment is the responsibility of the individual competitor and, if applicable, their parents/legal guardians.*

- Competitors are allowed to protect all parts of the body with so called protectors in all events.
- It remains in the athlete's/NSA's discretion and responsibility to individually decide about the use of protectors.
- In Downhill, protectors may not be integrated into the competition suit itself.
- In all events these protectors must be worn underneath the conforming competition suit. [3.5 FIS Specifications for Alpine Competition Equipment]

The only exception is forearm protection used in Super G, Giant Slalom and Slalom and shin protection used in Slalom. *There is no exception for knee braces; they must be worn underneath the competition suit.*

## 24. COLLECTIVE OFFENSES [224.3]

In accordance with Art. 224.3, a “collective offense” occurs when several persons:

- Commit the same offense
- At the same time
- Under the same circumstances

When addressing sanctions related to collective offenses:

- Jury’s decision as to one offender may be considered binding upon all offenders.
- Written decision shall include:
  - Names of all offenders concerned
  - Scope of the penalty to be assessed upon each of them

Decision will be delivered to each offender.

## 25. GATE JUDGES

The Jury along with the support of the Organizing Committee may opt to not use Gate Judges for Downhill, Downhill Training, Super G, Super G Training, and Giant Slalom, provided they take measures to cover the entire course with sufficient Jury members, Jury Advisors, Eyes of the Jury, and Connection Coaches [U669.3] Slalom requires regular assignment of Gate Judges.

*Please note U669.3 is a non-FIS rule. FIS rules require that Gate Judges be present for all events.*

## 26. TEAM CAPTAINS' MEETINGS

An actual meeting, attended in person or online 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. Art. 216 and 217 apply in all cases. [604.3]

## 27. FIS PENALTY WITH LESS THAN FIVE COMPETITORS: MAXIMUM VALUE

If there are less than five competitors with FIS points among the first ten of the result list, or there are not five competitors who started with FIS points, then those competitors without FIS points will receive the maximum value as noted in Rules of the FIS Points.

If less than three competitors with FIS points are ranked within the five or at least three competitors without FIS points are classified, the competition will be considered for FIS points with a double of the maximum value (of the respective event) as minimum penalty. [4.4.4 Rules of the FIS Points]

## 28. MINIMUM PENALTIES: NON-FIS EVENTS

If event does not meet required minimum vertical drop (MVD), the greater of calculated penalty, the calculated penalty plus the addition (for events that also do not meet minimum time), or minimum penalty of 60.00, will be applied.

If an event meets required minimum vertical drop (MVD), the greater of the calculated penalty or the minimum penalty of 40.00 shall be applied.

## 29. DOCUMENTS AND SIGNATURES

Rules require signatures on many documents including, but not limited to the Technical Delegate Report, Timing & Data Technical Report, Jury Minutes, Team Captains' Meeting Minutes, Report by the Referee, Protests. Signatures confirm that rules and procedures were followed; original, signed documents may be required in a legal review.

If the Technical Delegate agrees to the use of electronic signatures on certain documents, s/he must verify availability of legally-acceptable document signing software, e.g., DocuSign, eSign, etc., which certify signatures with time and date, etc.

*Copying and pasting a facsimile of a signature is not legally acceptable.*

## 30. U12 and U14 AGE GROUP RULES

- U12 and under competitors are only allowed to use one (1) pair of skis in the race arena as required for an event's inspections and competition.

*This mandate is not intended to preclude an athlete using a different pair of skis to freeski while not in the race arena.*

- Wax benches are not allowed in U14 and younger race arenas.
- Wax application is not allowed at a U14 and younger competition venue. A "competition venue" is defined as the "ski resort property."

## 31. FORCE MAJEURE

In Alpine competitions, "force majeure" describes those uncontrollable/unexpected events (such as extreme weather, extreme surface conditions) that are not the fault of any party and that make it difficult or impossible to carry out an event. *Force majeure is "uncontrollable and unexpected;" it is not "planned."*

- An unexpected weather occurrence that requires a program/course/assignment change.
- A last-minute ski area management decree.

## 32. TENURE OF THE JURY

In accordance with Art. 601.4.4.2, the active tenure of the Jury begins with its first meeting and ends, if no protests are submitted, at the expiration of the protest deadlines as noted in Art. 643 (Deadlines for Submittal). If protests are submitted, the tenure of the Jury ends after settlement of all submitted protests.

- If the Jury is no longer empaneled, they may not re-evaluate a previous decision.
- If the Jury is no longer empaneled, they may not alter an athlete's status; e.g., assign/unassign DSQ based on previously unavailable video, etc.
- Jury decisions are final except those that may be protested (641) or appealed (U647.1.1, 647.1.1).
- A Jury may re-evaluate a previous decision (Art. 640.2) but only if tenure has not ended (Art. 601.4.4.2).

## 33. JURY MEMBERS AND THEIR VOTES

Start and Finish Referees are voting members of the Jury only for Olympic Winter Games and World Ski Championships. For other events, they **must not** be listed as "Jury Members Present," as they have no vote; they do not sign Jury Minutes. *Marking "NO" indicates a "NO" vote; it does not mean an official does not have voting rights.*

## 34. EVENT RELATED DOCUMENTS

For events with no issues (injuries or accidents), it is recommended all event-related documents be kept on file for one (1) year. In the case of an event with serious injury/accident as defined by the Guidelines for Serious Accidents, the Technical Delegate must immediately contact Jeff Weinman, U.S. Ski & Snowboard Competition Services for instructions. The Technical Delegate must coordinate with the Ski Patrol and verify the information contained in the 4-page TD Accident Report.

### ALPINE OFFICIALS' INFORMATION

1. **CONTINUING EDUCATION REQUIREMENT:** With the exception of Technical Delegates and Race Administrators, biennial attendance at a Continuing Education Clinic (Update) is required in order to maintain certification and officiate at events. In order to remain current, yearly attendance is strongly recommended. Unless excused, Technical Delegates and Race Administrators must attend a certification specific Workshop every season in order to maintain certification and officiate at events.
2. **CHIEF OF TIMING & CALCULATIONS:** This official supervises, documents and enforces quality control of timing operations. With exception of lower-level events (e.g., YSL), where staffing might require it, Chief of Timing and Calculations should not be operating the timekeeping equipment or the timing/race result software. In addition, the Chief of Timing & Calculations – not the Race Administrator or other official – is the official responsible for preparing and filing the Timing & Data Technical Report (TDTR).
3. **RACE ADMINISTRATOR:** Due to requirements for preparation of accurate event documentation (these are documents that may be required in a legal review), it is strongly recommended that the Race Administrator not also assume the duties and critical event responsibilities of the Chief of Timing and Calculations.
4. **ALPINE OFFICIALS' CLINIC STUDY GUIDES:** Study Guides for each specialty area are posted on the U.S. Ski & Snowboard website and should be downloaded and reviewed prior to attending a U.S. Ski & Snowboard approved clinic; *they should be printed for use at the respective Alpine Officials' Clinic*. Competition Official ("Introduction to Ski Racing") is a pre-requisite for Alpine Official certification and may be completed online. *Education materials expire on June 1; they are updated prior to every season.*
5. **MATERIAL FOR EXAMINATIONS:** Examinations are open-book format and must be administered in person. Allowing use of computers for calculations, Second Run Start List preparation, Penalties, article research, and location, etc., is not allowed.  
*With the exception of the Competition Official Quiz, specialty-area examinations via an online platform are prohibited.*
6. **EXAMINATION FAILURE:** An official who does not pass an examination is NOT allowed to retake the failed examination within the same competition year. A retake cannot occur until an updated version of the examination is available the following season. An appeal of a failing examination may be filed; refer to "Appeal of an Official's Examination Grade" contained in Chapter XI. Alpine Officials' Program in the Alpine Officials' Manual, for detailed information.