



Western Region Alpine Competition Committee Meeting

Date: Wednesday, April 16, 2025

Time: 8:30 – 12:30 Pacific Time

Hybrid Meeting:

In Person Alpenglow Room, Village at Palisades

Zoom call in:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86056187591?pwd=q9qV6LT8B493PtnHRbaDcld3tbN6WE.1>

Meeting ID: 860 5618 7591 Passcode: 820658 Dial In +16694449171

AGENDA

1. Welcome and call to order – Dan Henry, Chair
2. Roll call and review of committee membership – Lucy Conklin, Secretary
3. Review and approval of agenda and/or additions
4. Review and approval of minutes from October 8, 2024
5. U.S. Ski and Snowboard Staff Updates –
 - a. Alpine Development Director - Chip Knight/Anouk Patty
 - i. Alpine Development Program (Feb 25.2025 email from Chip)
[2025 National Regional Team Criteria Draft](#)
[Alpine Development February 2025](#)
 - b. Competition Services – Margo and Jeff
6. Western Region Program Updates
 - a. Western Region Director – Bill Gunesch
 - i. Automatic Quotas
 - ii. Calendar 2026
 - b. Western Region Youth Development Coach – Jeff Pickering
 - c. Western Region Head Coach – Brad Saxe
 - d. Western Region Elite FIS Coach – Randy Pelkey
 - e. Western Region Manager – Ali Holum
7. Western Region Committee Reports and Proposals
 - a. Executive Committee Report – Dan Henry
 - b. Treasurer Report – Troy Price
 - i. Regional Coach Funding
 - c. Site Selection Committee – Bill Gunesch
 - d. Development Committee – Devin Gill
 - i. ASC operating procedures



- e. Divisional Managers Reports
 - i. PNW
 - ii. IMD
 - iii. FW
 - iv. ND
 - v. AK
- 8. National Committee Reports –
 - a. Collegiate Report – Sparky Anderson
 - b. U16 and Older Working Group – Todd Brickson
 - c. U14 and Younger Working Group – Jeremy Ueland
 - d. Coaches Education Working Group – Ben Roberts
 - e. Quotas and Selections – Beat Hupfer
 - f. Regional Subcommittee – Bill Brooks
 - g. Officials Update – Roger Root
 - h. US TD Working Group – Brian Hartman
- 9. Old business
 - a. Performance Task Force – Devin Gill
- 10. New business
 - a. Flex Pole Proposal
 - b. Coaches Education tracking proposal
 - c. Quotas to Canada and US Proposal
- 11. Motion to adjourn
- 12. Next meeting: Monday, May 12, 2025, Bison Room 5



ALPINE SPORT COMMITTEE ACTION ITEM PROPOSAL

Date:

For consideration by:

Copy to:

Rule reference:

Reference:

Original Version:

Flex Poles

- All USA FIS and national scored events must use FIS homologated flex poles.
- All poles on a course must be of uniform height and diameter.
- For national scored SL events, women should use FIS type B poles, and men can use FIS type A or FIS type B poles (type B recommended).
- For U16 SL events, poles must be full length; women should use FIS type B poles and men can use FIS type A or FIS type B poles (type B recommended).
- For U14s and younger SL events, poles must be FIS type B and be 60" in height off the snow surface. This applies to events that are exclusive to U14 and younger; it is not applicable to mixed age races which include athletes U14 and older. Stubby poles are allowed for U14 and younger non-scored events.
- In GS, SG and DH, poles should be full height for all age groups and genders. U14s and younger should use FIS type B poles.

Definition – FIS type B poles are 25-28.9 mm in diameter, and FIS type A poles are 29-32 mm in diameter

New Proposal:

Flex Poles

- All USA FIS and national scored events must use FIS homologated flex poles.
- All poles on a course must be of uniform height and diameter.
- For national scored SL events, women should use FIS type B poles, and men can use FIS type A or FIS type B poles (type B recommended).
- For U16 SL events, poles must be full length; women should use FIS type B poles and men can use FIS type A or FIS type B poles (type B recommended).
- For U14s and younger SL events, poles can be FIS type B full length height off the snow surface. This applies to events that are exclusive to U14 U-12 and younger; It is not applicable to mixed age races which include athletes U14 and older. FIS type B 60" in height off the snow surface poles and Stubby poles are allowed for U12 and younger non-scored events.



• In GS, SG and DH, poles should be full height for all age groups and genders. U14s and younger should use FIS type B poles.
Definition – FIS type B poles are 25-28.9 mm in diameter, and FIS type A poles are 29-32 mm in diameter

Health of Sport Tenets addressed (select any that apply):

- Enhance Athletic Development
- Reduce / Lower Cost
- Encourage Participation and/or Improve Retention
- None / Not Applicable

Comments:

As U14 athletes becoming taller, some of them are 5'9, taller than the 60" poles. There is a major safety concern that poles could get stuck in the face guards.

For ROC's it **has become more** difficult to find forerunners for U14 SL events when running with 60" poles. With the U14 max vertical drop being 160m and the U12 max vertical drop being 120m, it leaves a gap in which a club might not have any U12/14 athletes that can safely forerun a U14 event. At the same time due to athlete development and safety concerns, U16 coaches are not allowing U16 athletes to forerun on the 60" gates.

Submitted by:

Contact Person:



ALPINE SPORT COMMITTEE ACTION ITEM PROPOSAL

Date:

For consideration by:

Copy to:

Rule reference:

Reference:

Original Version:

From Coaches Academy Email dated Feb 26, 2025
Preparation for 2025-26 Coach Certification Rule

Summary: All U.S. Ski & Snowboard Coach Members will be required to hold an ACTIVE Coach Certification status in order to register for U.S. Ski & Snowboard sanctioned competitions. This requirement will go into effect at the start of the **2025-26** season, 07/01/2025.

Any not-yet-certified Coach Member has the duration of **two full seasons** to earn their Level 100 Coach Certification. **This two-season timeline begins during the 2024-25 season**, meaning: any not-yet-certified Coach Member with a 2024-25 season membership has until the end of the 2025-26 season (06/30/2026) to obtain their Level 100 certification.

Note that coaches who are working towards their Level 100 certification may earn the IN PROGRESS certification status, which is regarded as an "active" status for competition registration for the duration of two seasons. See details below.

New Proposal:

We are requesting that the list of items for an Organizing Committee, especially the RA, need to track does not increase. Organizing Committees and Alpine Community already need to confirm membership status, centralized database list, and official's certification status for each coach. The Coaches active/inactive/pending should not be added to the items of the RA/OC duties.

Health of Sport Tenets addressed (select any that apply):

- Enhance Athletic Development
- Reduce / Lower Cost
- Encourage Participation and/or Improve Retention (of officials and coaches)
- None / Not Applicable

Comments:

How can a coach's certification be tracked alongside their membership? No active coaching status = not an active membership?

Submitted by:

Contact Person:



ALPINE SPORT COMMITTEE ACTION ITEM PROPOSAL

Date:

For consideration by:

Copy to:

Rule reference:

Reference:

Original Version:

USA-CAN Quota Agreement

As a country group (Rules for the FIS Alpine Points 7.1.7), the USA and Canada are allowed to race up to 30 competitors in the other countries' FIS competitions.

However, the two nations have a working agreement to limit the number of competitors to 15 in each other's FIS competitions unless the nations have come to prior agreement to expand beyond 15.

As a joint agreement between USA and CAN, this quota limit supersedes Rules for the FIS Alpine Points 7.2 - Quota Rule for Women.

There are some competitions where the USA and Canada have asked for and been granted an exception to the country group of 30 men and 30 women where they can fill the total to 140 respecting other nations quotas.

The organizer or Jury does not have the authority to change the entry limit; this can only be done by agreement of the two federations. In other words, if the entry includes 20 competitors (15 as per the agreement plus 5 alternates) the organizer or Jury cannot accept those other 5 without the authority of the two Federations.

New Proposal:

As a country group (Rules for the FIS Alpine Points 7.1.7), the USA and Canada are allowed to race up to 30 competitors in the other countries' FIS competitions.

~~However, the two nations have a working agreement to limit the number of competitors to 15 in each other's FIS competitions unless the nations have come to prior agreement to expand beyond 15.~~

~~As a joint agreement between USA and CAN, this quota limit supersedes Rules for the FIS Alpine Points 7.2 - Quota Rule for Women.~~



There are some competitions where the USA and Canada have asked for and been granted an exception to the country group of 30 men and 30 women where they can fill the total to 140 respecting other nations quotas.

~~The organizer or Jury does not have the authority to change the entry limit; this can only be done by agreement of the two federations. In other words, if the entry includes 20 competitors (15 as per the agreement plus 5 alternates) the organizer or Jury cannot accept those other 5 without the authority of the two Federations.~~

Health of Sport Tenets addressed (select any that apply):

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Enhance Athletic Development |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Reduce / Lower Cost |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Encourage Participation and/or Improve Retention |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | None / Not Applicable |

Comments:

The one size fits all is not encouraging to our athletes and programs. This request is for Western Region athletes to Western Canadian events and Western Canadian athletes to Western Region FIS event. Each Region should have the right to limit to 15 if agreed upon due to field size management. Based on health of sport it is better for our athletes to be able to travel 4 to 6 hours for an event versus having to travel 14 plus hours for an event. By traveling less distance for events the athletes will be able lower travel costs (often cutting one day each way of hotel and travel time), remain in school longer, and provide a rest/train/compete model. These items will increase retention as we encourage athletes the opportunity to compete.

Submitted by:

Contact Person: