



## REFEREE – ALPINE SEASON 2026

### STUDY GUIDE

**This Study Guide is intended as an educational and review aid for individuals interested in alpine officiating. Downloading, printing, and reading the Study Guide must not be substituted for actual attendance at a U.S. Ski & Snowboard-approved clinic or used as a replacement for actual instruction at any U.S. Ski & Snowboard-approved clinic.**

#### REFERENCE PUBLICATIONS:

1. U.S. Ski & Snowboard Alpine Competition Regulations (ACR)
2. ACR Precisions, if published
3. ICR of the FIS, Online Edition
4. ICR Precisions, if published
5. U.S. Ski & Snowboard Alpine Officials' Manual (AOM)

**\*NOTE:** ACR mirrors, when possible, ICR numbering. U.S. Ski & Snowboard exceptions have a “U” preceding the rule number; the “U” is a part of the number.

**The following presentations: “Clean Hill Initiative,” “Clean Hill Initiative Revisited,” Courses,” and “B-Net” are required viewing at U.S. Ski & Snowboard Referee Clinics. Additional information that should be reviewed is posted on the SafeSport resources page ([usskiandsnowboard.org/safesport-athlete-safety/safesport-resources](https://usskiandsnowboard.org/safesport-athlete-safety/safesport-resources)). A summary is included in this Study Guide.**

#### CERTIFICATION EXAMINATION:

Referee Certification Examination will be available at U.S. Ski & Snowboard-approved Alpine Officials' Clinics. Allowed time limit is 2.5 hours. The examination is open-book and, unless an exception is granted by the respective AO Chair, it must be administered only at scheduled clinics. It is NOT A TAKE-HOME EXAM!

***The use of computers to “search” rule books is NOT ALLOWED; the only items that may be carried into the examination are pencils, calculators, rule books, and clinic materials.*** Completed examinations must be retained by the clinic examiners; they are not returned to the individuals taking them. Please refer to Region/Division publications for schedules. ***The Study Guide is not intended as a replacement for taking notes for use during an open book examination at any U.S. Ski & Snowboard-approved Clinic.***

**If you have problems with this Study Guide or have suggestions for improvements, please contact the Chair of the Alpine Officials' Education Working Group: [aoewgchair@gmail.com](mailto:aoewgchair@gmail.com). Thank you.**

**U.S. SKI & SNOWBOARD**  
**REFEREE - ALPINE**  
**SEASON 2026**

**PLEASE NOTE: Procedures that 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.**

**There is much information available to us - no one can possibly know it all. What we SHOULD know is WHERE to find it. Most of the sections of this Study Guide require research by the user. This will aid in the ability to understand the layout of the applicable rule books and publications and will reinforce their content.**

**REFERENCE DOCUMENTS:**

The following reference items can be found at the end of this Study Guide and are placed in the order in which they are referenced. Document numbering is not sequential because it agrees with document numbering in the updated “Master Packet of Forms” (MPF) that can be found on the U.S. Ski & Snowboard website; non-numbered documents are not included in the MPF. It is suggested that forms be printed for easy reference while using the Study Guide.

- 37. Minutes of Jury Decision (With Protest)
- 38. Minutes of Jury Decision (Without Protest)
- 30. Start/Finish Referee Recording Form  
Example of Early and Late (False) Start Disqualifications [613.7]
- 35. Report by the Referee
- 36. Protest Form  
Example of How to Prepare a Second Run Start List [621.11.2]
- 16. Guidelines Equipment Control & Protest – non-FIS  
Practical Jury Problems (for discussion)

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

The following information is only a brief summary of information found in many documents. These documents are updated as required, so please refer to links posted on the U.S. Ski & Snowboard website for access to [complete and current information. \*\*usskiandsnowboard.org/safesport-athlete-safety/safesport-resources\*\*](https://usskiandsnowboard.org/safesport-athlete-safety/safesport-resources).

### 1. MINOR ATHLETE ABUSE PREVENTION POLICY (MAAPP)

MAAPP applies to “In-Program Contact” within the Olympic & Paralympic movement. Its implementation is required for the U.S. Olympic & Paralympic Committee (USOPC), National Governing Bodies (NGB), Member Clubs (also known as Local Affiliated Organizations or LAO), and Paralympic Sport Organizations (PSO).

MAAPP applies to all U.S. Ski & Snowboard employees, contractors, athletes, officials, and members. It also applies to participating nonmembers, e.g., foreign officials, timing companies, volunteers, and any adult participants. MAAPP has three primary components: 1) Education & Training, 2) Required Prevention Policies, and 3) Recommended Prevention Policies. ***MAAPP should be implemented alongside the SafeSport Code.***

### 2. SAFESPORT CODE

U.S. Federal Law requires that adults who have frequent contact with, or who are in positions of authority over athletes, must receive consistent education on prevention and reporting of all allegations of sexual misconduct, bullying, hazing, and abuse of all forms. This impacts all U.S. Ski & Snowboard member clubs, coaches, officials, and Club Volunteer members. All members turning 18 years of age and older during the season are required to complete SafeSport training through the U.S. Center for SafeSport (substitutions are not permitted).

### 3. ADMINISTRATION PER MAAPP & SAFESPORT CODE:

The Local Organizing Committee (LOC), as well as other individuals and entities as set out in the MAAPP and the SafeSport Code, are responsible for monitoring and enforcing all requirements. These requirements include, but are not limited to:

- **Memberships:** Using the U.S. Ski & Snowboard website, the Race Administrator must verify that all individuals who are granted competition arena access: Jury members, Jury Advisors (Start and Finish Referees), Chief of Course, Course Setters, Coaches, Competitors, Forerunners, Chief of Timing & Calculations, Race Administrator, technicians, and medical staff, etc., have current and applicable U.S. Ski & Snowboard memberships. ***Individuals whose memberships are “pending”, or whose names appear either on the Centralized Disciplinary Database or the Pending Membership List must not be issued any access that would allow competition arena access.***
- **Alpine Official Certification Status:** Using the U.S. Ski & Snowboard website, the Race Administrator must verify that all Jury members, Jury Advisors, Chief of Course, Course Setters, Chief of Timing & Calculations, and Race Administrator have appropriate certification as required by their position.
- **Alpine Official Continuing Education (Update & Review) Status:** Using the U.S. Ski & Snowboard website, and with the exception of Technical Delegate, the Race Administrator must verify that the Chief of Race, Referee, Assistant Referee (if required), Chief of Course, Course Setters, and Chief of Timing & Calculations, have attended the required yearly Continuing Education Clinic. Unless excused, Race Administrators and Technical Delegates are required to attend a certification specific workshop every season.
- **Centralized Disciplinary Database:** List of individuals subject to temporary or permanent restrictions pending investigation of violation of SafeSport Code. Names of all persons with credentials or venue access that allows access to the competition arena must be checked against the U.S. Center for SafeSport’s Centralized Disciplinary Database. If listed, presence not allowed.

*Site allows filtering to sport. However, an individual may not be listed under one sport but may be listed under another; searching by name is the best practice. If you have a name match but cannot verify whether or not it is the individual attending the event, please contact Member Services.*

- Volunteer Competition Worker Registration: Completion of a current “Volunteer Competition Worker Registration” is required for any workers/volunteers who are over the age of 18, are not U.S. Ski & Snowboard members, properly credentialed FIS officials, coaches and trainers, or regular employees of Organizer or of Ski Area/Landowner acting within the scope of their employment.
- “Blocks” of coaches’ tickets must not be provided for participating clubs. This practice does not allow the OC to make their best effort to comply with SafeSport requirements. Due to circumstances, it may be necessary to allow one coach to pick up all of a team’s coach credentials/lift tickets. In this case, the coach must list all the names to whom the credentials/lift tickets will be issued. The Race Administrator must verify membership status, non-presence on membership pending lists, and non-presence on Centralized Disciplinary Database for all recipients, and the coach must sign for receipt of the credentials/lift tickets thereby confirming identity of the recipients.

**Please Note:** 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. All this information is available on the U.S. Ski & Snowboard website at [usskiandsnowboard.org/safesport-athlete-safety/safesport-resources](https://usskiandsnowboard.org/safesport-athlete-safety/safesport-resources). The Jury is only 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; e.g., start arena, race course, finish arena.

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, parking lots, warmup areas, or warmup courses, etc., unless rules state otherwise; e.g., U14 regulation which prohibits waxing application on ski area property.*

## SEASON 2026 JURY ADVISOR / REFEREE STUDY GUIDE

### I. The Jury, [601.4 - 601.4.8, U603.1.1, 203.2, U203.2 AOM, Chapter IV- Race Organization] A. Membership & Certification Requirements

1. **U.S. Ski & Snowboard-Sanctioned Non-FIS Events\*** Jury members, Jury Advisors (Start & Finish Referees), Chief of Course, Course Setters, Chief of Timing & Calculations, and Race Administrator must be *current members of U.S. Ski & Snowboard as a Coach or an Official* (“Official” membership is included in “Coach” membership).

The above officials must be appropriately certified for their position and, with the exception of the Technical Delegate and the Race Administrator, they must have attended a yearly Alpine Officials’ Continuing Education Clinic (Update & Review). *Race Administrators and Technical Delegates are required to attend a yearly certification- specific Workshop.*

Competitors are required to have an appropriate competitor’s U.S. Ski & Snowboard membership. Forerunners must have an appropriate U.S. Ski & Snowboard membership,

e.g., Competitor, Coach, Official, Volunteer, Short-Term Alpine, Non-Scored Athlete, Master w/Requirements, 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 vertical drop requirements and equipment regulations apply to all forerunners.*

**Qualified members of foreign federations recognized by FIS must hold a valid U.S. Ski & Snowboard membership in order to take part in any capacity at a U.S. Ski & Snowboard-sanctioned non-FIS event.**

2. **U.S. Ski & Snowboard-Sanctioned FIS Events:** In addition to the above requirements, for U.S. Ski & Snowboard officials, if a foreign FIS Federation lists a coach on their entry form, the Federation is certifying that the coach has the knowledge and ability to fulfill the duties of a Team Captain: e.g., serve as a Jury member or set a course; *this satisfies the “qualified member of foreign federation” requirement for FIS events.* Competitors are required to be FIS inscribed. Eligible U.S. Ski & Snowboard members who are **not** FIS inscribed and who are serving as Forerunners **must** sign the “FIS Athlete’s Declaration.”
3. Coach or Official members whose membership status on the U.S. Ski & Snowboard website is marked “PENDING,” indicates that the member has not completed membership requirements, e.g., SafeSport training and/or background screening, so they must not be granted race arena/venue access or appointed to serve as Jury members, Jury Advisors, Chief of Course, Course Setters, Chief of Timing & Calculations, or Race Administrator.
4. Competitors who are 18 years of age and older who have not completed SafeSport Training and/or background screening will also be designated as “PENDING.” These athletes must not be allowed to forerun or compete in any U.S. Ski & Snowboard event until “ACTIVE” status is achieved.
5. All members, including those who will turn 18 years of age during the competition season, are required to complete background screening. They will be given 45 days from their 18<sup>th</sup> birthday to complete requirement; membership will be deactivated on the 46<sup>th</sup> day and be designated as “PENDING” until the requirement is met.

**\*EXCEPTION:** A limited number of U.S. Ski & Snowboard non-FIS events – CAN-AM’S – allow Canadian competitors to compete without obtaining a U.S. Ski & Snowboard competitor’s membership. This exception does not apply to the coaches accompanying these competitors and wanting to serve as Jury members or Course Setters; they may, however function in the capacity of their team’s coach without obtaining a U.S. Ski & Snowboard Coach membership.

6. If an OC fails to comply with membership requirements, it is jeopardizing the event liability insurance.

## **B. SafeSport Training**

U.S. Federal Law requires that adults who have frequent contact with, or who are in positions of authority over athletes must receive consistent education on prevention and reporting of all allegations of sexual misconduct, bullying, hazing, and abuse of all forms. This impacts all U.S. Ski & Snowboard member clubs, coaches, officials, and Club Volunteer members.

A comprehensive training program is required the first year, with annual refresher training required in subsequent years. All members turning 18 years of age and older during the season

are required to complete SafeSport training through the U.S. Center for SafeSport (substitutions are not permitted).

SafeSport Training can be completed prior to applying for or renewing your U.S. Ski & Snowboard membership. If it is being completed as part of the membership/renewal process, you may either follow the link to the site or you will receive email notification containing instructions and a time limit for completion of the training. Failure to complete training prior to deadline will result in membership being inactivated.

**Basic instructions for SafeSport training are:**

After applying for/renewing your U.S. Ski & Snowboard membership, if SafeSport training was not completed in advance, use the following instructions:

1. Follow link provided during membership application/renewal or included in SafeSport email notification sent by U.S. Ski & Snowboard.
2. Affiliate account with U.S. Ski & Snowboard and enter your 7-digit membership number. *Do not include your alpha Division designation.*
3. Choose the learning dashboard under your name (on left) and begin the required course/refresher.
4. Complete each required module of the course; all required modules must be completed to earn certificates.

**C. U.S. Ski & Snowboard Background Screening:**

In order to help ensure that minor-age members are in a secure environment, U.S. Ski & Snowboard has implemented a strict policy that is in keeping with the standards of many youth sports organizations, schools, and recreational programs in the US. All U.S. Ski & Snowboard employees, member coaches, and officials are subject to the background screening process.

With exception of Short-Term and Alpine Master (with no regular contact with athletes) memberships, all Alpine Competitor members who are 18 years of age and older must also undergo periodic background screening.

Approximate background screening approval for those residing in the U.S. for 7 years or more can take as long as 2-3 weeks; turnaround for foreign coaches and officials or for those who have lived abroad may take several months.

**D. Composition of the Jury**

1. Technical Delegate (TD): **[601.1, 601.2, 601.4 through 601.4.9.4, 211.2, 602 et seq]**. The Technical Delegate is assigned to an event by the appropriate U.S. Ski & Snowboard Region or Division in accordance with U.S. Ski & Snowboard/FIS directives and is the official representative of the governing body (U.S. Ski & Snowboard). Upon appointment, the Technical Delegate becomes a member of the Organizing Committee (OC).

*A force majeure exception exists but must not be used as a replacement for actual appointment of a certified Technical Delegate.*

The role of the TD is to make sure that the rules and directions of the governing body (U.S. Ski & Snowboard and/or FIS) are observed, to see that the event runs smoothly, to verify that the requirements of the Homologation report - specifically, but not limited to, installation of recommended on-hill competitor security/protection measures - are met, to advise the organizers within the scope of their duties.

2. Referee (RF) **[U601.4.10, 601.4.10.1]**: The Referee is appointed by the Technical Delegate and upon appointment, becomes a member of the OC. The Referee supervises

the draw, receives Start and Finish Referee reports, and posts the signed Report by the Referee which includes breach of rules and disqualifications of competitors to the official notice board after each run. *The Referee is generally considered as the competitors' representative on the Jury and should be a coach present for the event and who has athletes entered in the event.*

3. Assistant Referee - Speed events only [601.2.3, U601.2.5]: The Assistant Referee is appointed by the Technical Delegate and upon appointment, becomes a member of the OC. The Assistant Referee is a voting Jury member and has responsibilities equal to those of the Referee. *The Assistant Referee is also considered as the competitors' representative on the Jury and should be a coach present for the event and who has athletes entered in the event.*
4. Chief of Race (CR) [601.3, U601.3.1]: is the responsible authority for the management of the entire event.

#### **E. Appointment of the Jury – Items to Consider**

1. World Championships and Olympic Winter Games
  - a. Who names the Referee, Assistant Referee, Start and Finish Referees? [601.4.1.1]
  - b. Should gender be considered in Jury appointments? [601.4.1.4, 601.4.2.3, U601.4.2.3]
  - c. Are there special considerations concerning the appointment of members of this Jury? [601.2, 601.2.2, 601.4.1 *et seq*]
2. World Cup Races [601.2, 601.2.1, 601.4.2, *et seq*] and refer to WC Rules
3. Other U.S. Ski & Snowboard and FIS Races
  - a. Who names the Referee for technical events and the Referee and Assistant Referee for speed events? [601.2.3, 601.4.2.2]
  - b. Are the Technical Delegate, Referee, and Assistant Referee also members of the Organizing Committee? [601.4]
  - c. Who names the Start and Finish Referees? [601.3]
  - d. Can the Start and Finish Referees be members of the organizing club?
  - e. Should gender be considered in Jury appointments? [601.4.1.4, 601.4.2.3, U601.4.2.3]
4. Exclusions. Are there any reasons why a person may be excluded from serving on a Jury? [601.4.3.1]
5. Team Captains or Trainers on the Jury
  - a. How does a Team Captain become eligible to serve on a Jury? [604.2]
  - b. What responsibilities could this eligibility include? [604.2]
  - c. Should fulfill accepted duties as member of the Jury or Course Setter [603.2, 604.2.2]
  - d. Can a Jury member be sanctioned? [223.2.1]

#### **F. Meetings, Tenure and Voting – Items to Consider [601.4.4, AOM, Chapter III]**

1. Meetings of the Jury
  - a. When is the first meeting of a Jury? [601.4.4.1]
  - b. Other Jury meetings are usually held:



- 1.) After course inspections
  - 2.) After each run
  - 3.) End of race or in case of race halt
  - 4.) To rule on Protests when appropriate [646 *et seq*]
  - 5.) DH - daily, prior to Team Captains' Meeting
- c. Who is present at a Jury meeting?
- 1.) Witnesses as appropriate [646.2]
  - 2.) Can videotape be used? [646.2, 670]
  - 3.) Does an individual facing a penalty need to be offered an opportunity to present a defense? [224.7, 646.2]
  - 4.) Is eyewitness testimony acceptable? [640.1, U640.1]
  - 5.) Race Secretary or Jury Secretary [601.3.7, U601.3.7]
2. What is considered the “tenure of the Jury”? [601.4.4, 601.4.4.1, 601.4.4.2]
  3. What areas are under the jurisdiction of the Jury? As noted earlier, the Jury is only 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; e.g., start arena, racecourse, finish arena.

A “race arena” is located at a “race venue” which is the entire ski area property and is not required to be inspected/accepted/supervised by the Jury. “Race venue” areas, e.g., parking lot, cafeteria, lift line, terrain parks, public trails, fall within the jurisdiction of ski area management, Ski Patrol, local law enforcement, athletes’ clubs, etc. *Chief of Race should clarify this with ski area management well in advance of an event.*

In addition to noting that sanctions can be applied and a penalty imposed for “actions within (racecourse) and without (start arena, finish arena, etc.) 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, Neither the “closed competition areas” (within or without the fencing) nor “any location connected with the competition” include lift lines, cafeterias, parking lots, warmup areas, warmup courses, etc., **unless rules state otherwise**; e.g., U14 regulation which prohibits waxing application on ski area property.*

*The Jury does not inspect/accept lift areas, parking lots, cafeterias, terrain parks, public trails, meeting rooms, etc., therefore, the Jury does not have jurisdiction over these areas and should not assume the liability for their being acceptable for competitors’ presence.*

**NOTE:** Warmup slopes are not under the control of the Jury and are not governed by the ICR. [223.2.1, 614.1.3]

4. Voting rights and responsibilities of the Jury [601.4.6 *et seq*]
  - a. World Championships and Olympic Winter Games [601.4.1 – 601.4.1.6, 601.4.5.1]
  - b. For U.S. Ski & Snowboard and other FIS races [601.4.5.2]
  - c. What kind of vote is needed to determine a decision of the Jury?
    - 1.) Regular Jury decisions: Simple majority [601.4.5.3]
    - 2.) Protest decision: Majority voting members [646.3]



- d. What happens in case of a tie vote? [601.4.5.4, 646.3]
- e. **Signing** Minutes of Jury Decisions (With Protests) and (Without (Protests) and **indicating vote** [601.4.5.5] (Refer to MPF #37. Minutes of Jury Decision (With Protests) and MPF #38. Minutes of Jury Decision (Without Protests)
- f. When may a Jury member make a decision without consulting other Jury members? What should be done to confirm this decision? [601.4.5.7]
- g. For situations not clearly covered in the rules, how is a decision rendered? [601.4.7]
- h. What is the rule concerning Jury radios? [601.4.8] Why are radios so important?
  - Informing Jury/timing personnel of athletes' status at the start: DNS, NPS
  - Informing Jury/timing personnel of athletes' status on course: e.g., DNF, exited course. (For non-FIS Slalom, "hiking.")
  - Informing all personnel of provisional starts or provisional reruns
  - Informing all personnel of critical situations requiring Stop Start or Stop Start Yellow Flag
  - Informing all personnel of need to address course or gate issue
  - Informing all personnel of Jury decisions, e.g., Program changes, start interval changes.
5. Minutes of Jury Decision – Without Protest; signatures and votes. [601.4.5.5, 646.3]
  - a. Review and acceptance of Event Medical Plan that should include availability/location of "Stop the Bleed" kits
  - b. Inspection of course set and on-hill competitor security installations
  - c. Confirmation of daily Program
  - d. Other decisions, as required; e.g., acceptance of slope condition and on-hill competitor security for a freeski session
6. Minutes of Jury Decisions – Protest/Sanction; signature and votes Minutes of Jury Decision – Protest (Only collective sanctions may be documented on 1 form; all others require individual forms.) *Collective sanctions are same-event situations where identical rule violations with identical circumstances are committed by multiple individuals, and identical penalties are applied.* [224.3] *A collective sanction could also be situation where multiple rule violations are committed by one individual.)* By rule, Minutes of Jury Decisions - Protest must contain the following:
  - Offense alleged to have been committed [224.8.1]
  - The evidence of the offense [224.8.2]
  - The rule(s) or Jury directives that have been violated [224.8.3]
  - The penalty imposed [224.8.4]
  - Minutes must contain signatures of Jury members with record of their vote [601.4.5.5]
7. What is "**due process**"? Due process is "the conduct of formal proceedings according to established rules and principles for the protection and enforcement of private rights, including notice and the right to a fair hearing before a tribunal with the power to decide the case." (Gary Wright, Attorney at Law)

The Jury shall provide the athlete a full and complete opportunity to present the athlete's side of the case before imposing any sanctions. A Jury decision that has not included due process is subject to appeal. [224.7; 224.10.1]

8. What is “*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

**G. Duties of the Jury as a Whole [601.4.6, et seq; AOM, Chapter III – Rules, The Jury, And The Technical Delegate & Chapter IV – Race Organization]**

1. Technical Standpoint [601.4.6.1]
2. On-Hill Security Measures [As you review this section, please refer to the following videos: “Clean Hill Initiative” and “Clean Hill Initiative Revisited.”]

In an attempt to provide good “on-hill security measures” for all athletes, coaches, course workers, and officials, the Jury should verify the following:

  - Verify all Gate Judges, course workers, required officials are in secure locations
  - Verify coaches have placed their gear (packs, loose skis, drills, etc.) outside the field of play (fencing) and away from potential spill zones
  - Verify coaches have their drills “in hand” or in a holster (and if not needed, in their packs outside the field of play)
  - Verify course maintenance equipment (drills, rakes, shovels, etc.) be either “in hand” or outside the field of play (fencing) and away from potential spill zones.
  - Request coaches facilitate course maintenance in their area by enlisting assistance of nearby course workers and officials to avoid or improve course issues

These are only a few items that should be considered when providing a fair and secure field of play. They may not be found in any rule or reference books, but they are important items that need to be considered by all Jury members.

3. Additional Duties for Downhill [601.4.6.1]
4. Organizational Standpoint [601.4.6.2]
5. Disciplinary Standpoint [601.4.6.3]
6. At all U.S. Ski & Snowboard events, including training, an athlete who is **not** “age-eligible” for the vertical drop of the actual course set on the piste must not be allowed to participate in competition or training as a competitor or forerunner.

Regional and Divisional associations may establish rules that allow competitors to compete at a higher or lower age class in races where the vertical drop exceeds that allowed for their chronological age group. [U607.5-U607.5.2] *These athletes are identified as “exceptional athletes”.*

A “U.S. Ski & Snowboard Exceptional Athlete ‘Ski Up’ Assumption of Risk, Release and Indemnity Agreement” allows exceptional athletes to compete in an age group competition one class older than the age group designated by U.S. Ski & Snowboard.

The intention of the authorization is to accommodate the very top athletes nationally, ***but only in the events in which they are normally eligible and only in the specific competitions authorized by the U.S. Ski & Snowboard National Development Director.***

In addition to being allowed to “ski up” in class, some Divisions allow athletes to “ski down” in class. All Ski Up/Ski Down Agreements must be processed by the respective Regional Office, cannot be applied for onsite, and are not accepted by all U.S. Ski & Snowboard Regions/Divisions. A copy of the approved Agreement must accompany the entry. *FIS does not recognize requests to ski up in class.*

**NOTE: There are currently 2 types of “Ski Up Agreements” available: one is event specific while the other encompasses the entire season. Contact Chip Knight, U.S. Ski & Snowboard Alpine Development Director, for details.**

7. General Jury Responsibilities

a. Forerunners [U605.1, 605 *et seq*, 601.4.6 *et seq*]

- 1.) Number of forerunners [U605.1, 605.1, 601.4.6.1]
- 2.) Forerunner requirements [605.2 - 605.4]
- 3.) When appointed, are members of the Organizing Committee [U605.1, 605.1]
- 4.) Jury determines the forerunners and their start order [605.5, 601.4.6.1]
- 5.) Additional forerunners [U605.1, 605.1, 605.5]
- 6.) Times of the forerunners [605.6]
- 7.) Report to Jury [605.7, 601.4.6.1]
- 8.) Forerunners are not permitted to start in the competition [605.4]
- 9.) Forerunners should have the ability to ski the course in racing fashion [605.3]
- 10.) Forerunners must adhere to equipment rules [606.3, U606.4]

**NOTE: Downhill forerunners should start all training runs. [605.3]**

**NOTE: Forerunners’ names are noted above the footer on the last page of the Start List. If names are not listed (Condensed Start List), a list of approved Forerunners must be included in the Start Referee’s packet. Individuals who are not named as Forerunners must not be allowed to participate until the Race Administrator confirms eligibility; e.g., membership status, non-presence on Pending list, Membership Hold list, Central Disciplinary List.**

b. Course Specifications

- 1.) Downhill [700]
- 2.) Slalom [800]
- 3.) Giant Slalom [900]
- 4.) Super G [1000]
- 5.) Alpine Combined [1100]
- 6.) Youth Kombi [U1259]
- 7.) Parallel [1220]

**NOTE: For CURRENT course specifications, including maximum vertical drop, for U.S. Ski & Snowboard events are based on types of gates, distance between successive gates, and distance from turning pole to turning pole. Refer to current “Course Setting Specifications (Scored and Non-Scored) on the website [usskiandsnowboard.org](http://usskiandsnowboard.org) or in the current Alpine Competition Guide. For FIS events, refer to “Check List for Vertical Drop (VD), Number of Gates (NG, and Number of Direction Changes (DG)” in the current ICR or its current Precisions.**

c. Downhill Training

- 1.) Qualified competitors entered for the competition must have been entered *and drawn* in all official training runs [704.1]
- 2.) 3 days should be scheduled [704.2]
- 3.) In case of *force majeure* may be reduced to less than 3 days [704.2.1]

- 4.) Must training be held on consecutive days? [704.2.2]
- 5.) *Participation?* Must “participate” in at least one timed training run [704.8.3]
- 6.) “Special Training Runs”: Every training run must have a U.S. Ski & Snowboard race code (FIS events also require a FIS codex); this is verification event liability insurance is in effect. If one or more athletes have not participated in at least one timed training run, and the Jury wishes to allow them to race, the following procedure must be followed:
  - a) U.S. Ski & Snowboard must be contacted; if required, will contact FIS
  - b) Race transmittal numbers/codex numbers must be assigned
  - c) Program must be prepared to allow the staging of additional training run
  - d) ALL athletes must be afforded the opportunity to start in the additional training run
  - e) ALL training-related documents: XML file, Program, Jury Minutes must be filed as required
- d. Course Inspection [603.7.3, 603.7.4, 614.1.5, 614.3.2]; *All Team Captains are invited to attend*
  - 1.) Downhill [603.7.4, 614.1.5, 703.2.3, 704, 704.2, 705.1]
  - 2.) Slalom [603.7.4, 614.1.5]
  - 3.) Giant Slalom [603.7.4, 614.1.5]
  - 4.) Super G [603.7.4, 614.1.5]

***Team Captains who do not attend course inspection or who do attend but do not voice any concerns regarding course setting, on-hill competitor security installations, and/or course condition to the Jury have, by their lack of action, accepted the course set, the on-hill competitor security installations, and the course condition.***
- e. Inspection Procedure [614.3.2]
  - 1.) Downhill
  - 2.) Official Training
  - 3.) Slalom
  - 4.) Giant Slalom
  - 5.) Super G
- f. Reruns [623 *et seq*]
  - 1.) Who is empowered to allow a rerun?
  - 2.) How can a racer get a rerun? [623.1 *et seq*]
  - 3.) Racer can request a rerun if their run is hindered/interfered with as follows:
    - a.) Blocking of the racing line by: [623.1.1, 623.2 *et seq*]
      - Official, spectator, animal, or other object
      - Fallen competitor who does not clear course
      - Broken or detached pole caused by the competitor
    - b.) Racer must stop immediately [623.1.1]
    - c.) Racer must report to nearest Gate Judge, member of the Jury, or Jury Advisor [623.1.1]
    - d.) Racer's coach may also make the request [623.1.1]
  - 4.) Provisional until approved by Jury [623.3.1]
  - 5.) Validity of a Rerun [623.3 *et seq*]
    - a.) What factors determine the validity of a rerun? [623.3.1 - .3]
    - b.) Penalty for unjustified request for rerun? [628.7]
  - 6.) If a “rerun” – not a “provisional rerun” – is granted, and the Jury finds the competitor had committed, and the Jury finds the competitor had committed a

fault (disqualification) before the incident entitling the competitor to a rerun, **the rerun is not valid.** [623.3.2]

- 7.) What is the start time for a rerun? [623.4 *et seq*]
  - a.) Regular (fixed) interval starts [623.1.3, 623.4.1, 705.2, 705.3]
  - b.) Irregular (non-fixed) starts [623.4.2, 805.3]

**NOTE: Jury member/advisor should remind competitors being allowed a provisional start/run of their “provisional” status. Only the Jury can confirm the validity of a provisional start/run, and failure to identify the start/run as “provisional” is automatic acceptance.**

## II. JURY ADVISORS

“Jury Advisor” is a U.S. Ski & Snowboard distinction used to recognize two officials who, with the exception of high-level events such as World Championships and Olympic Winter Games, are not voting members of the Jury but who have the duty to supervise a necessary portion of the race arena.

*The term “Jury Advisor” is not found in the ICR and is not to be confused with the “Eyes of the Jury.”*

The “Eyes of the Jury” are Connection Coaches, or other qualified individuals with race arena access, who are appointed to assist the Jury for Downhill and Super G. Depending on the terrain and the course set, they may also be appointed for Giant Slalom. Current U.S. Ski & Snowboard rules allow a Jury, with the support of the Organizing Committee, to assign Connection Coaches and Eyes of the Jury for gate passage control (Gate Judges) for Downhill, Downhill Training, Super G, Super G Training, and Giant Slalom events. ***Gate Judges are required for non-FIS Slalom and all FIS events.***

In addition to appropriate U.S. Ski & Snowboard membership, Jury Advisors for all U.S. Ski & Snowboard events – scored and non-scored – must either be a certified Technical Delegate, Referee, Jury Advisor, or Chief of Race. They must have also attended a yearly Continuing Education Clinic (Update & Review).

### A. Technical Advisor

The Committee for Alpine Skiing may appoint a Technical Advisor for all categories of races. This official supports the Jury, has the right to express an opinion within the Jury, but has no vote. [601.4.11] *Although the Technical Advisor must be a member of U.S. Ski & Snowboard, there are no specialty-area certifications required in order to serve in this position.*

### B. The Start Referee as a Jury Advisor in the Start Area [U601.3.3, 601.3.3, 613 *et seq*, **AOM**, Chapter III – Rules, The Jury, And The Technical Delegate]

The Start Referee is authorized to allow provisional starts for delayed competitors in cases of *force majeure* but defers to the Jury in cases of doubt. Both Jury Advisors notify the Jury when situations arise that may require provisional reruns and report violations of rules that may result in sanctions. (At high-level events such as World Championships and Olympic Winter Games, the Start Referee and the Finish Referee are members of the Jury ICR 601.4.1.1, 601.4.5 and do have a vote.)

1. When does a Start Referee begin and end their duties? [601.3.3, U601.3.3]
2. Does the Start Referee have radio contact with the Jury? [601.4.8]
3. What are the general duties of the Start Referee? [601.3.3, U601.3.3] (Refer to MPF #30. Start/Finish Referee Recording Form)
4. When is an athlete not permitted to start? [627, U627.6, U627.8]
5. When is a forerunner not permitted to start? [605.4, 606.3, U606.4]

**NOTE: Ski Patrol assigned to the start should be present at the start; not just in the vicinity of the start.**

**NOTE: *Reserve bibs are to be available at the Start as replacement bib(s) for competitor(s) who do not have their assigned bib(s).***

**C. The Finish Referee as a Jury Advisor in the Finish Area [601.3.4, U601.3.4, 615; AOM, Chapter III – Rules, The Jury, And The Technical Delegate]**

1. When does a Finish Referee begin and end their duties. [601.3.4]
2. Does the Finish Referee have radio contact with the Jury and the start area? [601.4.8, 601.3.4, U601.3.4]
3. What are the general duties of the Finish Referee? [601.3.4, U601.3.4]
4. Finish Regulations [615]
  - a. Removal of skis prior to crossing “red line” [ICR 628.10]
  - b. Unusual finishes – binding release [611.3.1, 615.3]
    - 1.) U.S. Ski & Snowboard Fall in the immediate finish area
      - a.) Less than 2 gates above the finish in SL, GS or SG
      - b.) Less than one gate above the finish in DH
      - c.) In above situations, Finish line must be crossed
        - On one ski, or
        - On both skis
        - Or with both feet
      - d.) U.S. Ski & Snowboard clear disqualification after losing a ski [U629.4]
        - More than two gates above the finish in SL, GS or SG
        - More than one gate above the finish in DH
      - e.) FIS - finish line must be crossed:
        - On both skis, or
        - On one ski, or
        - In case of a fall at the finish where the competitor does not come to a full stop, the time can be taken without both of the competitor’s feet having crossed the finish line
        - In order for the registered time to become valid, the competitor must immediately cross the finish line with or without skis. [611.3.1] FIS has further defined “at the finish” to be between the last gate and the finish line. [615.3]
  5. Finish Controller is usually only assigned at upper-level events (WSC, OWG, and WC) and decides correctness of passage across the finish line. *For events where a Finish Controller is not assigned, the Finish Referee assumes the duties of the Finish Controller.*
  6. Competitor must leave finish area through official exit with all competition equipment used in race [ICR 615.1.7, ACR 615.1.6], and a penalty may be assessed for failure to comply. [628.11] *Common sense dictates that this does not include a competitor who inadvertently loses equipment, e.g., goggles, gloves, or ski pole(s) during their run.*
  7. Responsibilities at the end of the race [601.3.4, U601.3.4, 615.4]
    - a. Report to the Referee the start numbers and names of the competitors who did not finish.
    - b. Report to the Jury the start numbers and names of the competitors who violated finish regulations.

- c. Remain available until released by the Jury
  - 8. Specific requirements for the Finish area [615]
    - a. Preparation [615.1.1]
    - b. Fencing & Protection [615.1.4]
    - c. Finish Line and its Markings [615.2]
      - 1.) DH and SG finish line dimensions – no less than 15 m\*
      - 2.) SL and GS finish line dimensions – no less than 10 m\*
      - 3.) Line is marked horizontally with a coloring substance
      - 4.) Timing equipment/competitor security installation
- \*Distance is between finish posts/banners not length of finish line. Timing posts must also adhere to these minimum measurements.
- d. Exceptions [615.2]

**NOTE: If a competitor misses a gate prior to crossing the finish line, the competitor is disqualified. There is no provision in the rules that allows a competitor to cross back over the line to complete passage of a missed gate.**

**However, in extreme cases, a competitor may encounter interference in close proximity to the finish, and their racing speed will not allow them to stop prior to crossing the finish line. The Jury, after evaluation of the situation, may allow a rerun. (If actual interference is witnessed by a Jury member or Jury Advisor, a rerun – not a provisional rerun – should be allowed.)**

- D. “Start Stop” And Its Procedures [705.5]** Information regarding “start stop” commands is found in the yellow flag section of DH rules; yellow zones may also be found on SG courses. “Start Stop” commands are applicable at all levels of competition.

*ANY Jury member, Eyes of the Jury or Jury Advisor **MAY** call a “Start Stop” when necessary to address critical situations. No other official is authorized to call a “Start Stop.” Failure to comply may result in a “walk over,” effectively impairing the Start Referee’s ability to receive the transmission.*

**NOTE:** It is important that the Technical Delegate confer with the Chief of Race and respect area-Specific race crew radio protocol; e.g., “Copy,” “Acknowledged,” or “Confirmed.”

1. The command “Start Stop” is called via radio by a Jury member, Eyes of the Jury (a coach positioned at a yellow flag zone), or Jury Advisor when it is necessary to control the departure of the next racer – usually because the preceding racer has fallen and the racer or racer’s equipment is blocking the course. When this command is issued, the Start Referee must immediately close the start.
2. The command “Start Stop Yellow Flag” is called via radio by the Jury member, Eyes of the Jury, or Jury Advisor who called the “Start Stop” when it is necessary to control the departure of the next racer and also to “Yellow Flag” (stop) a racer who is already on course – again, because the preceding racer may have fallen, and the course may be blocked. When this command is issued, the Start Referee must immediately close the start.
3. The Start Referee must immediately, and in a concise manner, respond via radio:
  - a. That the start is closed, and
  - b. Must state the start number of the last competitor to have started as well as
  - c. The start number of the competitor held at the start.

**Example: “start stop confirmed, number 23 on course, number 24 at the start.”**



**(Additional verbiage is discouraged because the Jury channel must be kept clear.)**

4. When “Start Stop” or “Start Stop Yellow Flag” is called, Ski Patrol assigned to the event and in radio contact with the Jury, is on alert medical assistance may be required.
5. If the Jury/Eyes of the Jury/Jury Advisor call for medical assistance:
  - a. Ski Patrol assigned to the event first verifies that the course is clear, e.g., no racer is on course!
  - b. Once Ski Patrol assigned to the event has verified that it has a clear course, it responds to the call for medical assistance.
  - c. SKI PATROL ASSIGNED TO THE EVENT - NOT COACHES/TRAINERS/OFFICIALS/PARENTS / OTHER COMPETITORS - ARE THE FIRST RESPONDERS! [Art. 1.3.2; FIS Medical Guide; 2020]
6. The individual (Jury member, Eyes of the Jury, or Jury Advisor) who called the “Start Stop” or “Start Stop Yellow Flag” is responsible for releasing the course hold.
7. The course is reopened at the direction of the Jury: either from top to bottom, bottom to top, or from the position where the incident requiring the “Start Stop” occurred.
8. Technical Delegate is responsible for confirming all Jury members, Eyes of the Jury, and Jury Advisors have reviewed and are aware of “Start Stop” and “Start Stop Yellow Flag” procedures.

**NOTE: Only the members of the Jury, Jury Advisors, and Eyes of the Jury (Connection Coaches) are authorized to call a “START STOP.”**

**“START STOP” is the verbiage in the rule. However, depending on circumstances, an area may actually use “START STOP / START STOP” (double command). It is imperative that all event personnel authorized to call a stop start are made aware of an area's existing radio protocols.**

## **RADIO COMMUNICATION PROTOCOL**

The following protocol is intended for review and use as a working document to be enhanced and revised in an effort to promote the clearest, most expedited communication for races. The Technical Delegate should establish with the Organizing Committee who is ‘leading’ calls, or if they want the Technical Delegate to lead.

**Note:** *At some resorts, a “Course Clear” is controlled by the Chief of Race or Start Referee. This often depends on the level of experience these officials may or may not have. A long course hold generally requires a clear from the bottom up; a short one (gate/panel repair) may clear from the “start stop” position.*

### **Course Clear**

#### **Example**

- Chief of Race - “CR to the eyes of the Jury, clear the hill from the bottom up.”
- Finish Referee - “Finish Referee, clear.”
- Referee - “Referee on coaches’ knoll, clear.”
- Technical Delegate - “TD, clear on Upper Peak.”
- Start Referee - “Start Referee, clear.”
- Chief of Race - “CR to Start and Timing, course is clear, send the first forerunner (or next racer on next interval if this was a long hold). Out.”

**NOTE:** *Depending on circumstances, a clear from the bottom up should include Timing.*

## **Start Stop NO YELLOW FLAG**

### **Example (slalom event)**

- Technical Delegate - *“Start Stop.”*
- Start Referee - *“Copy, Start Stop confirmed, number 33 on course, number 34 at the start.”*
- Technical Delegate - *“This is the TD, racer 33 is a DNF, equipment blocking the course.”*
- Start Referee - *“Copy.”*
- Technical Delegate - *“Course clear, Start Start. (or resume Start) Clear to send #34, out.”*
- Start Referee - *“Copy, Start Start, racer 34 in gate.”*
- Start Referee - *“Racer 34 on course, Out.”*

## **Start Stop YELLOW FLAG**

### **Example (GS or Speed Event) Includes Jury Member/Eyes Jury/Jury Advisor**

- Jury Member- *“Start Stop, Start Stop, Yellow Flag, @ “ (Identify Flag location, or the assigned Yellow Flag #)!!*
- Start Referee - *“Copy, Start is stopped. Racer 56 on course, holding 57. Yellow flag 56!”*
- Eyes of Jury @ Yellow Flag location - *“Yellow Flag out, 56 is stopped. Racer 56 will return to start for a rerun.”*

If Medical is not required

- Jury Member - *“Racer 55 is a DNF. Continue hold for B-net/ course repair.”*
- Start Referee - *“Copy, holding 57 at start for course repair.”*

If Medical is required - *“Medical required at (location).”*

- Start Referee - *“Medical notified; in route to (location).”*

After athlete is transported and repairs are complete

- Jury Member - *“Athlete being transported. Repair is complete. (location) is clear. Resume start.”*
- Start Referee - *“Confirm (location) is clear. Finish (or nearest exit location) please notify when medical exits the course.”*
- Finish Referee (or nearest exit location) - *“Medical is clear.”*
- Start Referee - *Confirm course is clear. Please clear from the finish up. Timing?” (Each Jury member/Eyes of the Jury/Jury Advisor clears their section moving up the hill).*
- Start Referee - *“Start is clear, resuming with racer 57 on next interval.”*

## **E. Other Necessary and Planned Interruptions**

### **1. Course Maintenance**

Most course maintenance issues do not require a start/stop. An exception is if a broken gate or other material poses interference to competitors on the course. Otherwise, experienced race crew members can operate within the start interval.

When it is necessary to have a hold for an extended period of time for course maintenance, the Chief of Course or another Jury member can inform the Start Referee to interrupt the race to complete the task. On fixed interval events, it is common to indicate the requested amount of time in terms of number of intervals - “We will need a 4-interval hold for maintenance.”

2. **Timing Hold**

Timing hold information is passed along to the jury and others by the Start Referee by radio to Jury positions along the course and by voice communication to those in the immediate start area.

3. **Start Interval**

The designated start interval for “fixed interval” events GS/SG/DH is the time planned between consecutive racer starts. The start interval duration is listed on the program as it is critical for course workers and officials to know when it is clear to work or communicate between racers.

4. **Start Interval Changes**

*Force majeure* may require changes to start intervals. Particularly in events where Start Lists were prepared using random seeding, Team Captains may request that the Start Referee increase the interval between individual competitor’s starts. ***All changes to start intervals must be communicated via Jury radio, as required; e.g., Jury, timing, Connection Coach(es), course crew.***

5. **Finish Interval**

A finish interval is a decision to start one racer after the completion of the run by the previous racer. The use of a finish interval, though not required, for the last few remaining athletes on the start list may help eliminate unnecessary delays by minimizing the interference of an athlete due to occurring issues on course prior to their start.

6. **START STOP: Important Reminders**

It is important to remember that “Start Stop” is called when necessary to address critical situations by:

- ANY Jury member
- ANY Eyes of the Jury (Connection Coach, Chief of Course)
- ANY Jury Advisor (Start Referee or Finish Referee)

No other official is authorized to call a “Start Stop,” and failure to comply may result in a “radio walk-over” effectively impairing the Start Referee’s ability to receive the transmission.

E. **Start regulations [601.3.3, U601.3.3, 613 et seq]**

1. Basic regulations

- a. No advantage
- b. No outside help
- c. Must plant poles in front of the start line, or where indicated
- d. Cannot push off with start posts or other aids

2. Valid/False Starts [613.6, 613.7, 805.1, 805.3, 805.4]

- a. Starts for **regular interval** events – DH, SG, and GS. (Refer to Valid/False Starts) Regular interval starts that do not occur within the prescribed 10-second start window (5 seconds before and 5 seconds after the “GO” command) will result in disqualification.

- b. Starts for **irregular interval** event – SL. Irregular interval starts that do not occur within about the prescribed 10 seconds after the start command will result in disqualification.
  - c. **Delayed start** rules apply to any event where the competitor is **not ready to start on time** (not present when called to the start/not in the starting gate). By rule, this competitor is subject to sanction that could, depending on circumstances (delayed start provided an advantage due to weather, course condition, visibility, etc.), include disqualification. [613.6]
3. Equipment violations [606 *et seq*; MPF #16. Ski & Snowboard Equipment Control & Protest Guidelines in MPF]
- a. Ski brakes required [606.3]
  - b. Skis & Boots, including rigid shin pads either inside or outside the boot [3.5.4; FIS Specifications for Alpine Competition Equipment]
  - c. Plomb or label on competition suits – **UPPER-LEVEL FIS ONLY** [ICR 606.2.2]
  - d. Not using an airbag – **UPPER-LEVEL FIS SPEED EVENTS** [3.5.2.4; FIS Specifications for Alpine Competition Equipment]
  - e. Not wearing cut-resistant undergarment pants – **ALL FIS UPPER-LEVEL FIS EVENTS** [3.5.3.4; FIS Specifications for Alpine Competition Equipment]
  - f. Helmets [606.4, 707, 807, 907, 1007; FIS Specifications for Alpine Competition Equipment]
  - g. Helmets with spoilers or edges that stick out (e.g., chin bars), are not permitted. **Protective features integral to the event being contested, such as chin guards on Slalom helmets are permitted.** Helmets with soft ear protection are only allowed in Slalom and Parallel. [707, U707, 807, U807, 907, U907, 1007, U1007] (*Parallel helmet rules are the same as Slalom helmet rules.*)
  - h. Helmet-mounted cameras or their mounts are not allowed for use by either competitors or forerunners in U.S. Ski & Snowboard or FIS events [U606.4, 707, U707, 807, U807 907, U907, 1007, U1007; FIS Equipment Rules] *Exception would be a media POV person who starts prior to the first named forerunner.*
4. A competitor is “Not Permitted to Start” (NPS) [627] who:
- a. Wears obscene names and/or symbols on clothing and equipment [627.1]
  - b. Behaves in an unsportsmanlike manner in the start area [627.1]
  - c. Violates the rules in regard to the competition equipment and commercial markings [627.2]
  - d. Trains on a course closed for competitors [627.4, 614.1.4]
  - e. In training for Downhill has not participated in at least one timed training run [627.5]
  - f. Does not wear a crash helmet that conforms to the Specifications for Competition Equipment [606.4, 627.6, U627.6], or
  - g. Does not have ski brakes on their skis [627.2, U627.6, 222, 606.3],
  - h. Does not wear or carry an official start number\* according to the rules [627.6, U627.6]

*\*An “official start number” refers to any bib issued by the local event organizer; this includes replacement bibs furnished by the Start Referee.*

5. Start Referee's responsibilities at the end of the race. [601.3.3, U601.3.3, 613.6.3, 613.7, 805.3.1, 805.4]
  - a. Report to the Referee the start numbers and names of the competitors who did not start [601.3.3, U601.3.3]
  - b. Reports to the Jury the start numbers and names of the competitors who:
    - 1.) Were not permitted to start [601.3.3, U601.3.3, 627]
    - 2.) Had early or late (false) starts [601.3.3, U601.3.3, 613.7]
    - 3.) Had provisional starts [613.6 *et seq*, 805.3.1]
  - c. Remain available until released by Jury
6. What are the specific requirements for the Start Area? [613]
  - a. Roped off and protected
  - b. Adequate shelter for competitors [613.1]
  - c. Start gate specifications [current FIS Alpine Skiing Timing Booklet; 611.2.1, 611.2.1.1]
  - d. Start ramp shall be prepared how? [613.2]
  - e. Start procedure [613.3]
    - 1.) Start Intervals [622 *et seq*]
      - a.) Regular (fixed) interval races and DH training [622.1, 704.7]
      - b.) Irregular (non-fixed) interval races [805.1]
      - c.) There are minimum start intervals [622.2.3]
      - d.) Exceptions? [622.1, **Jury may fix different intervals.**]
      - e.) Downhill Training [704.7 **DH training intervals must be maintained**]
    - 2.) Start Signals
      - a.) Regular interval races [613.4, U613.4, 613.7]
      - b.) Irregular interval races [805.3, 805.4]

**NOTE:** U613.4 clarifies the use of a start clock does not replace verbal start commands.

- 3.) Valid and False Starts [613.7, 805.4] is not to be confused with delayed start [613.6]. Valid/False start violation occurs when a competitor is in the start gate and does not start within the required time frame with respect to the start command – “GO”! Valid/False start violations require DSQ.
  - a.) Valid start [613.7, 805.3, 805.4]
    - 1.) Regular (fixed) interval races [613.7]
    - 2.) Irregular (non-fixed) interval races [805.3, 805.4]
  - b.) Delayed start [613.6] is not to be confused with Valid/False start. A “delayed” competitor is one - *in any event* - who is not present in the start area or who is not ready to step into the start gate when called. In cases where a provisional start is allowed by the Start Referee (*force majeure*) or the Jury (doubt), delayed starts require SANCTION that may or may not include DSQ.
    - c.) Provisional run [613.6, 805.3.1]
- 4.) Late Start
  - a.) *Force majeure* [613.6, 805.3.1]
  - b.) Regular start intervals races [613.6.1]
  - c.) Irregular interval races - [805.3.1, 613.6.3]

**G. The Role of the “Connection Coach”**

1. One or two are appointed depending on type and level of event
2. Serve as liaison between all Team Captains and the Jury
3. Serve as on-hill “Eyes of the Jury”
4. May supervise yellow flag zones in DH and SG
5. Depending on course set and terrain, may be appointed for GS
6. Has voice but no vote in Jury matters/decisions

**III. The Referee and Assistant Referee (for Speed Events) [601.2.3, U601.2.5, U601.4.10]**

**A. Appointment**

1. By Technical Delegate
2. Represent the competitors and the coaches so should be a coach
3. **Should** be most qualified, properly certified (Referee) available; *however, do not allow this to limit on-hill experience for less-experienced officials.*
4. Upon appointment, they become members of Organizing Committee

**B. Specific Duties and Rights [U601.4.10]**

1. Approval of Draw/Seed Board [U601.4.10]
  - a. Jury determines competitors are properly ranked. [601.4.6.2]
  - b. Check Draw/Seed Board. Race Administration is responsible for preparation for the Draw [601.3.7, U601.3.7]; however, check for:
    - 1.) Errors with names, country/club codes
    - 2.) Errors in point order (or points) [621.3]
  - c. Special groupings for consideration
    - 1.) Ties in points
    - 2.) Reasonable point spread for first group
    - 3.) Non-point holders [621.2 - 621.3]
    - 4.) Snow seed, if appropriate [621.10]
    - 5.) Adaptive competitors' seeding [U621.3.1, U621.11.3.3; "Golden Rule" is for U.S. Ski & Snowboard **non-FIS** races only]
    - 6.) Draw for Downhill training [621.7]
    - 7.) Seeding competitors in a U.S. Ski & Snowboard scored event:

All competitors and forerunners in a U.S. Ski & Snowboard event must be current U.S. Ski & Snowboard members. Foreign athletes with **current** FIS inscriptions who want to compete in U.S. Ski & Snowboard events **must** complete U.S. Ski & Snowboard membership requirements.

      - Foreign competitors who **do not have** current U.S. Ski & Snowboard points are seeded with their FIS points; the FIS points are used for seeding and Penalty calculation.
      - Foreign competitors who **have** current U.S. Ski & Snowboard points must be seeded with U.S. Ski & Snowboard points; the U.S. Ski & Snowboard points must be used in Penalty calculation.
      - Foreign competitors who have neither U.S. Ski & Snowboard points or FIS Points must be seeded with U.S. Ski & Snowboard Maximum Value Points.
    - 8.) Alternate or Special Seeding for U.S. Ski & Snowboard **non-scored and scored** events as confirmed by Divisional and/or Regional Offices
    - 9.) FIS-U and/or Collegiate Seeding - ***SEE APPLICABLE RULE BOOKS***

10.) World Cup Point holders - ***SEE WORLD CUP RULES***

11.) NorAm Point holders - ***SEE NOR-AM CUP RULES***

**NOTE:** U.S. Ski & Snowboard points may only be corrected/changed upon presentation of a document signed by U.S. Ski & Snowboard. FIS Points may only be corrected/changed upon presentation of a document signed by FIS. Corrections may be submitted by letter, fax or email; email must have National or FIS Office email address depending on type of points being corrected. Confirmed FIS points posted on the FIS website will be designated with a “C; this designation eliminates the requirement for a FIS points confirmation letter.) **Season 2026 FIS Base Points must not be used for seeding or penalty calculation purposes!**

12.) Withdrawal of racers

13.) Addition of racers

d. Use of Electronic Seed/Draw Boards

Electronic seed boards should have the capability to simultaneously and legibly display the entire competition field. Simultaneous display of all competitors allows all Team Captains and officials to verify the overall accuracy as well as additions and deletions to the starting order in “real time.” *Using the race result software to display portions of the competition field is not acceptable.*

### **C. The Draw**

According to U.S. Ski & Snowboard and FIS rules, the draw must be conducted (or confirmed) at a Team Captains' Meeting. A Team Captains' Meeting, attended in person or online by Team Captains, Jury, and race officials is an inseparable and mandatory part of the competition and is important for communication of Jury instructions, support of the OC (Organizing Committee), as well as conveying OC requests and information. It is also a critical element for risk management and liability-related matters. **[621.8, 604.3]**

With the approval of the Jury and at a time and place announced to all Team Captains, and where a computer-assisted draw has been approved or is not required (e.g., YSL where TRS by class and gender is used to determine the start order), an informational meeting is still required but may be held either early in the morning prior to the race or immediately after the completion of a race for the next day's event.

All athletes entered in an event must be represented at the Team Captains' Meetings for all U.S. Ski & Snowboard sanctioned events – both scored and non-scored – regardless of where and when they occur. An Attendance List must be available documenting names/signatures of those attending the meeting, and copies of the Event Medical Plan and race-day program/schedule must be available for distribution and review. Minutes of the meeting must be generated and must be included in the submitted race result packet.

1. First Group of top 15 racers **[621.3, 621.8]**

a. If tie occurs for 15<sup>th</sup> place, the draw is increased with no effect on bibbo **[621.3]**

b. If wide point range exists among the first group, the Jury may decrease the Draw. **[621.3]** A first-seed decrease has no effect on the number of competitors included in the second-run flip (bibbo).

2. Snow Seed **[621.10]**

a. Under what circumstances is a snow seed used?

b. What events use a snow seed?

c. When does the snow seed start?

3. Procedures for a Draw **[621 et seq]**



- a. A “Double Draw” is the simultaneous drawing of the competitor number (the place they hold on the seed board) and the bib number by the Referee(s). [621.8]
- b. Computer-Generated Draw – non-FIS events: The Jury may authorize that the starting positions for first-seed competitors be determined by computer-generated draw in lieu of Double Draw. [621.9]
- c. Computer-Generated Draw – FIS events: Team Captains’ acceptance is required; a signed (submitted) entry form is considered acceptance of a computer-generated draw at a FIS event. [621.9]

**NOTE:** It is important to remember that computer-generated draws are governed by a random identifier, and unless this identifier is changed prior to each draw, results of a draw involving the same competitors may only have minimal changes. *Only the software writer has the access required to change the random identifier.*

- d. Special group Draws (equal or no points) may be done with a simple draw, for example, shuffling the cards and drawing start positions
  - e. Race Administrator records actions taken in performance of the draw. [601.3.7]
4. “Golden Rule” [Adaptive Competition Rules; 2026 U.S. Ski & Snowboard Alpine Competition Guide]
- a. The “Golden Rule” is a U.S. Ski & Snowboard rule that allows special seeding for adaptive athletes competing in U.S. Ski & Snowboard events. Its intent is to encourage adaptive athlete participation in able-bodied events while allowing them a cleaner track upon which to compete. [U621.3.1, U621.11.3.2]
  - b. Adaptive athletes are allowed to compete using the equipment appropriate to their disability.
  - c. “Golden Rule” seeding applies to both first and second runs. [U621.11.3.2]
  - d. “Golden Rule” seeding also applies to first-run DNS, NPS, DNF, DSQ athletes who wish to take a second run in a non-FIS event.
  - e. “Golden Rule” seeding is **not valid** for FIS events.

**NOTE:** 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. The Start Referee should skip a minimum of one start interval following the start of a visually impaired athlete and their guide.

**NOTE:** In events for which TRS seeding has been approved, adaptive athletes will start 16+ for all runs unless the initial start list preparation (random sort)/flip/butterfly procedures affords them an earlier start position.

#### **D. The Course**

1. The Chief of Race directs all preparation of the competition and supervises the activities in the technical area. [601.3.1, U601.3.1]
2. The Chief of Course is responsible for the preparation of the courses in accordance with the directives and decisions of the Jury. [601.3.2, U601.3.2]
3. The Chief Gate Judge is available to help keep spectators off the course and to assist with course maintenance [601.3.5]
4. The Jury is responsible for checking the course preparation, snow condition and the course set [601.4.6.1]

5. The Referee must be prepared to report the number of actual gates and direction changes to the Jury, timing personnel, and the Head Gate Judge. *These counts (gates/direction changes) are confirmed by the Technical Delegate.*

**NOTE: The individual counting or confirming gate/direction change counts must remember:**

- **Start gate is not included in the gate count [614.1.2.3]**
- **Finish line is not included in the gate count [614.1.2.3]**
- **Delays are not counted as direction changes**

6. The Technical Delegate checks over the race course with regard to preparation, marking, crowd control and supervises the course setting together with the Jury **[601.4.9.1]**
7. Course setting is the sole task of the Course Setter. He is responsible for adhering to the rules; may be advised by members of the Jury and in Downhill and Super G, by the Technical Advisor. **[603.7.6; 614.1.5 states only the Jury may change a course]**.
8. There are many other duties related to course preparation, maintenance and/or access by spectators, service personnel, media, etc. In upper-level events, these duties are assigned to a designated “Chief;” e.g., Chief Steward, Chief of Course Equipment.

In most events, these duties are shared by the Chief of Course, the Chief of Race, and their respective race crews under the direction of the Jury.

**E. Additional Duties of the Jury: Inspection of the Course [601.4.6.1: Checking the racecourse: e.g., checking the set courses, checking snow conditions, checking course preparation, checking crowd control systems, etc., prior to an event.]**

Homologation Inspector(s)’ minimum suggestions for placement of on-hill competitor security are included in the homologation report. The Jury may, while inspecting the course, decide that additional security measures are required. The Referee and the Assistant Referee (when appointed), must work very closely with the Technical Delegate. **[601.4.10.1]** *Special care should be taken to identify situations that go beyond the inherent risks of the sport.*

**NOTE:** Homologation files are available for review on the following websites. Inasmuch as paper copy files may be outdated due to natural or artificial changes, changes in regulations, and/or changes in technical requirements, these are the only valid sources for verification of a course homologation. ***A new inspection of an existing course (FIS or National) voids the previous homologation of an existing course.***

**FIS course homologations supersede U.S. Ski & Snowboard course approvals. If a FIS course homologation is declared void, any existing U.S. Ski & Snowboard course approval is also void.**

[media.usskiandsnowboard.org/CompServices/Homologation/](http://media.usskiandsnowboard.org/CompServices/Homologation/)

(Login is required: **User ID = homologation; Password = Allout2022!**)

[fis-ski.com/DB/alpine-skiing/homologations.html](http://fis-ski.com/DB/alpine-skiing/homologations.html)

(Maps, photos, reports, etc. not accessible at this site.)

**F. Gate Judges: [U669.3]** Gate Judges: At non-FIS events, the Jury along with the support of the Organizing Committee may opt to not use Gate Judges for DH, DH Training, SG, SG Training, and GS, provided they take measures to cover the entire course with sufficient Jury members, Jury Advisors, additional Eyes of the Jury, and Connection Coaches. **[U669.3]**

Slalom requires regular assignment of Gate Judges. For Slalom, and if Gate Judges are being assigned for Giant Slalom, Super G, Parallel, etc., estimate 2-3 gates per Gate Judge. For Downhill, 1 gate per Gate Judge is preferred. [669 - requires “sufficient number”]

***FIS rules require that Gate Judges be assigned for all events.***

**G. Checking the Gate Judge Cards [U601.4.10] (Refer to MPF #60. & MPF #61. “Fault Only” Gate Judge Card/Instructions and MPF #62. & MPF #63. “Fault/No Fault” Gate Judge Card)**

A properly marked gate judge card with a diagram of the fault committed is required in order to substantiate a racer’s fault. [661.2] The “Fault Only” card is recommended for speed events (DH/SG). The “Fault/No Fault” card is recommended for use at technical events (GS/SL) where bib numbers (second run) are not sequential. Both forms are available on the U.S. Ski & Snowboard website.

*Gate Judges must enter details of any reported incident that resulted in the Jury’s granting of a provisional rerun.*

**H. The Report by the Referee [U601.4.10] (Refer to MPF #34. Report by the Referee)**

1. Report must contain the Bib # for all NPS, DNS, and DNF competitors.
2. Report must contain Bib #, name/nation of DSQ competitor, and reason for the DSQ
  - a. Gate where fault occurred or
  - b. Rule number of infraction (Outside Help, Valid/False start, etc.)
3. Report must contain the Bib #, name and nation for any NPS competitor and the rule number of the infraction that prevented the athlete from starting.
4. Report by the Referee must be reviewed by competitors’ Team Captains regardless of their coaches’ belief in the status of their competitors.

**NOTE:** Timing crew should record bib numbers of all NPS, DNS, and DNF competitors on the Report by the Referee form. In some cases, the Technical Delegate may need to complete, sign, and post the Report by the Referee. A Report by the Referee signed by the Technical Delegate is a valid document. *If another official completes, signs, and posts the Report by the Referee at the direction of the Technical Delegate, the Report by the Referee is considered valid.*

**I. Work closely with the Technical Delegate [601.4.10.1]**

**J. Two Races/Same Day/Same Field.** A maximum of two scored SL, GS, SG, or DH races per day, per gender, may be calendared per day by an organizer. 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. [U202.2 – U202.2.2]

**IV. Discussion of General Duties and Responsibilities Relevant to a Referee**

**A. Sanction**

1. What sanctions are available? For all persons, there may be: [223.1 – 223.4]
  - a. Reprimand
  - b. Withdrawal of accreditation
  - c. Denial of accreditation
  - d. Monetary fine [ACR 223.4 prohibits monetary sanctions at U.S. Ski & Snowboard events; ICR 223.4 limits monetary amount FIS Jury may impose.]
2. In addition, for competing athletes, there may be: [223.3.2]
  - a. Disqualification [223.3.2]
  - b. Impairment of their starting position (with no limits)
  - c. Forfeiture of prizes and benefits for the benefit of the organizer

- d. Suspension from competition [223.3.2, 223.4]
- 3. Items to Consider Regarding Sanctions
  - a. Follow Procedural Guidelines [224]
  - b. Accused has the right to be heard
  - c. All facts must be available and presented
  - d. Jury should consider/discuss all options
  - e. Sanction should fit the “crime”
  - f. With the exception of verbal sanctions and withdrawal of accreditation, the Jury decision must be documented
  - g. Minutes must contain Jury members’ signatures and record of their vote [601.4.5.5]

**B. Protests [640] (Refer to MPF #36. Protest Form)**

Jury members must remember competitors have the right to “due process.” It is the responsibility of the protesting party to be aware of the rules regarding filing a protest, to accurately complete and sign the required form and to file it with the appropriate individual or office.

- 1. Rules of Protest
  - **640.1** A Jury must only accept a protest if it is based upon physical evidence. U.S. Ski & Snowboard U640.1 has supplemented with the addition of: “or eyewitness testimony.”
  - **640.2** A Jury is only permitted to re-evaluate its previous decisions where new evidence exists that relates to the original Jury decision.
  - **640.3** All Jury decisions are final except those that may be protested under **641** or appealable under **U647.1.1, 647.1.1**
- 2. **641.6** Against instructions of the Jury. Reasons for Protest? [641]
- 3. Protests may be submitted at: [642]
  - a. Official Notice Board or a place announced at the Team Captains’ Meeting [642.1]
  - b. Referee at Finish [617.2.2]
  - c. Oral protests are acceptable [644.2]. *Protest form and protest fee are still required.*
- 4. Deadlines for submittal vary depending on type of protest [643]
- 5. Who can submit Protests? [645]
  - a. National Associations
  - b. Trainers and Team Captains
- 6. Protests can be withdrawn [644.5]
- 7. Settlement of a Protest by the Jury [646]
- 8. Filing a Protest [644]
  - a. The basis for the protest must be noted, e.g., a protest against disqualification is based on **641.4**. Protests against competitors, competitors’ equipment, timekeeping, etc., are identified by other rules.
  - b. Additional information noted on the Protest should be concise and accurate. Documenting “the competitor did gain an advantage” when you meant to write “the

competitor **did not** gain an advantage,” will require Jury to uphold the disqualification.

9. Important Points to Remember Regarding Protests

Although a Jury may re-evaluate a previous decision, new evidence that relates to the original Jury decision must exist. [640.2]

- a. Decisions subject to protest deadlines are not generally subject to the Jury’s re-evaluation.
- b. Report of the Referee does not constitute a Jury decision, and its contents are not subject to re-evaluation by the Jury.
- c. Protest deadlines must be observed and respected! [643]
- d. Tenure of the Jury expires at the end of the Protest Period(s) or after all submitted protest(s) settled! [601.4.4.2]
  - 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.
  - Jury decisions are final except those that may be protested [641] or appealed. [647]
  - Jury Minutes must provide an accurate and factual record of the proceedings. If they are not accurate, do not contain a factual record of the proceedings, the decisions could be overturned on appeal.

C. **Appeals [225, 647]** Procedure is available for filing appeals; contact U.S. Ski & Snowboard Competition Services for details.

*Please note that U.S. Ski & Snowboard’s Appeals Commission has the right to decide against hearing a filed appeal.*

V. **Jury Considerations** when meeting to solve a problem may include the following:

A. **Does the action allow a gain or an unfair advantage?**

A competitor shall only be disqualified if the competitor’s mistake would result in an advantage for the competitor 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, 613.7, 805.4]

B. **Does the action place other racer(s) at a disadvantage?**

C. **Was the action offensive to the good of the sport or against the Code of Conduct?** This could apply to competitors, coaches, and officials.

D. **Did the action occur within the confines of the “race arena”?**

1. **Race Arena** or **Competition Arena** is clearly defined as area between the fences, including the Start area and the Finish area. The area reserved at the Start for competitors and the area officially reserved at Finish including the official exit is included in this definition.
2. Incidents taking place inside this “**arena**” fall into the following sanction category: These sanction guidelines apply to all infractions committed by persons accredited for a U.S. Ski & Snowboard event within, but not limited to, the confines of the competition event, or any other place connected with the competition by location or subject matter. Also subject to these sanctions are all persons without accreditation who are within the confines of the competition area. [223.2.1]

In addition to noting that sanctions can be applied and a penalty imposed for “actions within (racecourse) and without (start arena, finish arena, etc.) 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, parking lots, warmup areas, warmup courses, etc. The Jury does not inspect/accept lift areas, parking lots, cafeterias, terrain parks, public trails, meeting rooms, etc., therefore, the Jury does not have jurisdiction over these areas and should not assume the liability for their being acceptable for competitors’ presence.*

**NOTE:** Warm up slopes are not under the control of the Jury and are not governed by the ICR. [223.2.1, 614.1.3]

**E. Is the sanction being considered applicable to the level of the event?**

## UPDATE & REVIEW FOR CONTINUING EDUCATION

The following section contains a major portion of the “Season 2026 Update & Review for Continuing Education.” If this section - which is included in the Referee PPT - is utilized, it should address the requirement for attendance at a Continuing Education Clinic.

Please refer to the following for additional educational information: 2026 edition of U.S. Ski & Snowboard ACR, online edition of current FIS ICR and, if applicable, current Precisions to the ACR and ICR].

### U.S. SKI & SNOWBOARD COMPETITION UPDATE: SEASON 2026

The following changes are only applicable for non-FIS events:

#### 1. SLALOM POLES (U680.2.1.1)

- Slalom poles must be contrasting, alternating colors; turning pole must be a flex pole.
- For scored U14 events, 72" gates are allowed.

#### 2. USE OF INTERNET-BASED TIMING/RESULT PLATFORMS (U612.4.1)

Any event that includes U14 and younger athletes is not allowed to post "real-time" results or times on an internet-based timing/result platform during the race. Competitor lists: e.g., Club entries, Start Lists, Results, Referee Reports, may be posted, and standings/times should be updated at the conclusion of the event.

#### 3. TECHNICAL DELEGATE’S DAILY ALLOWANCE AND MILEAGE

The amount of the daily allowance for which a Technical Delegate may submit an invoice has been increased to \$150 per race arena inspection/training/competition day. If multiple tasks are completed in one day, e.g., travel and race arena inspection, only 1 daily allowance may be invoiced. In addition, an actual “travel day” is considered to be a one-way trip of five or more hours; two one-way trips of less than five hours only equal one day. Current IRS-approved mileage is \$.70 per mile, but it may be adjusted January 1; please verify and calculate mileage based on the current IRS-approved amount.

#### 4. ALPINE OFFICIALS’ CONTINUING EDUCATION (UPDATE & REVIEW) REQUIREMENT

Certified Alpine Officials are required to attend an approved yearly Continuing Education Clinic (Update & Review) or certification-specific Workshop prior to being appointed to officiate at any U.S. Ski & Snowboard sanctioned event.

### FIS COMPETITION UPDATE: SEASON 2026

The following are only applicable at FIS events:

#### EQUIPMENT SPECIFICATIONS

**3.5.2.4 Airbags:** With the exception of Nor-Am Cup, Far East Cup, and Junior World Championships, where it is strongly recommended, competitors must use an airbag for all FIS Level 0 and Level 1 speed events. (FIS Specifications for Alpine Competition Equipment)

**3.5.3.4 Cut-Resistant Undergarment Pants:** With a minimum protection level of 3 Stars, cut-resistant undergarment pants are required for all Level 0 and Level 1 events (technical and speed). Use of the undergarment is strongly recommended at other levels of competition. Please note: *“Cut-resistant undergarment is intended to provide supplementary protection and not infinite cut protection.”* (FIS Specifications for Alpine Competition Equipment)

**3.5.4 Shin Pads (Carbon Shin Shells):** No additional rigid parts are allowed to be worn as shin pads inside the boot. To treat medical issues, additional protection pads, as soft padding, can be approved by FIS. Those pads must be made of soft material (e.g., gel, foam) and be flexible in all directions. Additionally, they cannot have a preformed, curved shape adapted to the leg, and their size must not exceed the height and width of the ski boot tongue. (FIS Specifications for Alpine Competition Equipment)



## NOTE ABOUT COMPETITION EQUIPMENT

The term “competition equipment” implies:

- All items of equipment used by athletes in competitive skiing.
- This includes all clothing and implements that serve a technical function.
- *Equipment is the responsibility of the individual competitor and, if applicable, their parents/legal guardians.*

***This applies to all U.S. Ski & Snowboard sanctioned events: non-FIS and FIS.***

## **U.S. SKI & SNOWBOARD & FIS UPDATES: SEASON 2026**

**The following are applicable to both Non-FIS and FIS events:**

### **1. TIMING & DATA TECHNICAL REPORT (TDTR)**

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.

If an event requires calculation of a replacement time (EET), copies of all calculations must be included with the Timing & Data Technical Report (TDTR):

- Submitted to [results@fis-ski.com](mailto:results@fis-ski.com) or [janez.flere@fis-ski.com](mailto:janez.flere@fis-ski.com)
- Submitted to [tdtr@usskiandsnowboard.org](mailto:tdtr@usskiandsnowboard.org)
- Included in the PDF “Event Document Packets”

### **2. HEAD TAX CALCULATION/VERIFICATION/PAYMENT**

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 within **14 days (2 weeks)** after the event. **All late payments to U.S. & Snowboard shall accrue interest at a rate of one and one-half percent (1.5%) per month, or the maximum rate permitted by law, whichever is less, until paid in full. Organizers who fail to submit head taxes risk loss of Club Certification and the ability to host other competitions until coming into compliance.**

### **3. REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT TEAMS – FEE WAIVERS**

Named members of the U.S. Regional Development Teams are entitled to waived event fees (entry and lift). These athletes are exempt from payment of U.S. Ski & Snowboard National Head Tax. (Refer to MPF 52: Head Tax Waived Athletes, September 2025.)

### **4. U.S. SKI & SNOWBOARD FIRST REPORT OF ACCIDENT**

- Required for all injuries involving athletes, coaches, officials, etc.:
  - regardless of national federation affiliation
  - regardless of whether or not the accident/injury occurred within or without the race arena fencing
  - regardless of whether or not Ski Patrol evacuation was required

Online filing is required; reporting form and instructions can be found under “Participant Accident” at [usskiandsnowboard.org/sport-development/club-development/club-insurance](http://usskiandsnowboard.org/sport-development/club-development/club-insurance).

- ***First Report(s) of Accident for named U.S. Ski Team members will be filed by U.S. Ski & Snowboard staff.***

### **5. ELECTRONIC TIMING**

Time of day times must be immediately and automatically sequentially recorded on printed strips **or memorized electronically**. (U611.2.1; 611.2.1 adds “for level 3 and 4, is acceptable.”)

### **6. CHIEF TIMEKEEPER**

The Chief Timekeeper must publish unofficial times as quickly as possible (on the scoreboard, etc.) If the electric timing fails, the Chief Timekeeper must communicate immediately with the Start Referee and the TD. **The equivalent Electronic Time report must be prepared. The Jury must control and approve it. The report may also be shown to the representative of the nations concerned.** (U612.4; 612.4 requires Jury control and approval.)

## 7. INTERDICTION TO CONTINUE

If a competitor's **skis** come to a complete stop, they must no longer continue through previous or further gates. If a competitor continues without their skis coming to a complete stop, they must not interfere with the run of the next competitor or be passed by the next competitor. (614.2.3)

## 8. GROUNDS FOR INTERFERENCE

Blocking of the course has been replaced by blocking of the **“racing line”** in both articles. (623.2.1 and 623.2.2)

**Clarification of the intent of Art. 623.2.3:** Blocking of the racing line by a broken or detached pole caused by the competitor. This applies to all non-FIS events as well as FIS Level 1, 2, 3, 4 events.

## 9. CANCELLATIONS OR POSTPONEMENT - Clarification

Observing applicable deadlines, postponements must have a future date, otherwise the event is considered canceled.

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

### 1. VERIFICATIONS: MEMBERSHIP, ETC.: Required prior to granting race arena/venue access.

- The Race Administrator must verify that membership status for all named officials, coaches, course setters (if not a coach), forerunners, and competitors is current and not “Pending.”
- The Race Administrator must verify that all named officials and course setters (if not a coach) are appropriately certified for their position.
- The Race Administrator must verify that the “Last Clinic Season” for all named officials, coaches, and course setters (if not a coach), is **“Season 2026.”**
- The Race Administrator must verify the non-presence of all named officials, coaches, course setters (if not a coach), and adult forerunners on the Centralized Disciplinary List.
- The Race Administrator must verify the non-presence of all athletes on the Membership Hold List.

### 2. ADDITIONAL COACH REQUIREMENTS

- Pursuit of coach certification is required for all coach members, and **“Active”** coach certification is required in order to register for a U.S. Ski & Snowboard sanctioned competition and be granted race arena/venue access.
- For coaches who have never been certified, being **“In Progress”** towards Level 100 certification will meet the requirement.
- Level 200 Coaches will be required to be a certified Referee.
- Sport Education CE (continuing education) completion is separate from required yearly attendance at an Alpine Officials' Continuing Education (Update & Review). Attendance at both is required.

For additional details, contact [sporteducation@usskiandsnowboard.org](mailto:sporteducation@usskiandsnowboard.org).

### 3. FORERUNNERS

**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 and vertical drop regulations apply to all forerunners.*

**FIS event:** Forerunners must hold either a current U.S. Ski & Snowboard membership and FIS inscription or inscription 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 including minor participants (U18 and younger) must 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.*

#### 4. GOLDEN RULE

- Events using TRS (Butterfly) Seeding:  
Athletes who have been granted Golden Rule Seeding will start 16th+ in all runs or races of the same series unless original start list preparation (random sort)/flip/butterfly affords them a more favorable (earlier) start position.
- Events not using TRS (Butterfly) Seeding:
  - All events, First Run U621.3.1: Adaptive athletes will be seeded in special groups with start order: 16-20, 36-40, 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; Jury must be notified of any changes to start interval.

**NOTE: The Golden Rule is not valid for FIS events.**

#### 5. RACE ARENA versus 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)
- **without** (start area and finish arena) the confines of the competition area
- 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
- parking lots
- cafeterias
- terrain parks, public trails, team meeting rooms, warmup area and warmup courses, 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., unless rules state otherwise; e.g., U14 regulation which prohibits waxing application on ski area property.*

## **6. SPLIT SECOND / VOLA INTERFACE**

If the event data is being managed with Split Second, 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 exported from VOLA timing and imported to Split Second. If athletes’ names are imported, verify that athletes who have double last names: e.g., “VAN HORN, Eric” transfer from VOLA in the original format: VAN HORN, Eric not VAN, HORN Eric. The misplaced comma will result in FIS and U.S. Ski & Snowboard autoscore systems rejecting the XML file.

## **7. 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, physical therapists, medical staff.

## **8. RESULT PROCESSING – XML FILE and EVENT DOCUMENT PACKETS**

- Individual event XML race result files are uploaded at [race-results.usskiandsnowboard.org/](https://race-results.usskiandsnowboard.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.

**NOTE:** An error has been discovered only in the upload process for Event Document Packets. IT is currently working on implementing a patch, but if they are not successful, the above upload option will not be available, and all Event Document Packets will have to be emailed to [resultpackets@ussa.org](mailto:resultpackets@ussa.org).

- 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 to access the upload platform. If an official is unable to log in, contact Competition Services for assistance.

## 9. 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.

- **Split Second** 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:

- **Split Second:** inserting an athlete after the first group and assigning 15A will affect Split Second's tie breaking capability because Split Second 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.)

## 10. 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]

**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.

## 11. 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.

## 12. RESULT PROCESSING FOR NON-TIMED TRAINING RUNS

In order to provide a record of participants in a Non-Timed Training Run insured through the U.S. Ski & Snowboard provider and to capture the names of the officials, complete the following:

- With all participants' status classified as DNS, submit an XML result file to [race-results.us skiandsnowboard.org/](http://race-results.us skiandsnowboard.org/).
- Notify Jeff Weinman of any athletes that actually were DNS.

Submit an Event Document Packet containing documents listed in the MPF "05 Non-FIS Event Document Packets."

## 13. 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 ([us skiandsnowboard.org/index.php/sport-programs/skillsquest](http://us skiandsnowboard.org/index.php/sport-programs/skillsquest)) must be submitted to [jeff.weinman@us skiandsnowboard.org](mailto:jeff.weinman@us skiandsnowboard.org).

#### 14. 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.pltiming@gmail.com](mailto:matt.pltiming@gmail.com)) for details.

#### 15. 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.

#### 16. 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 documenting the decision.
- Notify affected parties. (FIS Office will address sanctions that involve a monetary sanction.)

#### 17. 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.
- 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.

#### 18. 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 offender.

Decision will be delivered to each offender.

## 19. 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.

*Mandate is not intended to preclude 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."

## 20. 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.

## 21. 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.
- A Jury may re-evaluate a previous decision (Art. 640.2) but only if tenure has not ended (Art. 601.4.4.2).

## 22. JURY MEMBERS AND THEIR VOTES

Start and Finish Referees are voting members of the Jury only for OWG and WSC. 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.*

## 23. 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.



## MINUTES OF JURY DECISIONS (WITHOUT PROTESTS)

Site				Nation			Codex	
Date		Category			Gender		Event	
Jury members present								
Function	Surname, First Name			NAT	Vote		Signatures	
Technical Delegate					YES	NO		
Referee					YES	NO		
Assistant Referee					YES	NO		
Chief of Race					YES	NO		
Start Referee*					YES	NO		
Finish Referee*					YES	NO		
Note: * Jury members with voting right (see ICR Art. 601.4)								
Others present at the meeting								
Summary of decisions taken							ICR References	
Time published	Date		Signature of TD (Please sign and print)					

## MINUTES OF JURY DECISIONS (WITH PROTESTS)

Site				Nation			Codex	
Date		Category		Gender		Event		
Jury members present								
Function	Surname, First Name			NAT	Vote		Signatures	
Technical Delegate					YES	NO		
Referee					YES	NO		
Assistant Referee					YES	NO		
Chief of Race					YES	NO		
Start Referee*					YES	NO		
Finish Referee*					YES	NO		
Note: * Jury members with voting right (see ICR Art. 601.4)								
Others present at the meeting								
Summary of reasons for protest							ICR References	
Summary of decisions taken								
Time published	Date		Signature of TD (Please sign and print)					





## START/FINISH REFEREE RECORDING FORM

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_ PAGE: \_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_

MARK ONE:      START ☐      FINISH ☐

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

1<sup>st</sup> RUN ☐ 2<sup>nd</sup> RUN ☐

WOMEN ☐      MEN ☐

DH ☐      GS ☐      SL ☐

SG ☐      AC/K ☐      P ☐

BIB #	REMARKS

BIB #	REMARKS

BIB #	REMARKS

EARLY AND LATE (FALSE) START DISQUALIFICATIONS  
[613.7]

THIS EXAMPLE REFERS TO REGULAR (FIXED) INTERVALS STARTING ON THE MINUTE:

**CLOCK READS:**

10:10:54.9900 = Competitor's Start / EARLY START?

. \*

10:10:55.0000 \*

\*

10:10:56.0000 \*

\*

. \*

10:10:57.0000 \*

\*

. \*

10:10:58.0000 \*

\*

. \*

10:10:59.0000 \*

\*

. \*

10:11:00.0000 \* START

\*

. \*

10:11:01.0000 \*

\*

. \*

10:11:02.0000 \*

\*

. \*

10:11:03.0000 \*

\*

. \*

10:11:04.0000 \*

\*

. \*

10:11:05.0000 \*

\*

. \*

10:11:05.0100 = Competitor's Start / LATE START?

[illegible]

RF.Season 2026

## PROTESTS

Place		Country		Codex	
Name of event				Date	
Category		Gender		Event	
Reasons for protest				ICR References	
				<b>Name of protester</b>	
Function	Surname, First Name	Team	Date and time of submission	Payment of deposit	
<b>Protest and deposit received by</b>					
Function	Surname, First Name	Signature			
Date	Signature of protester				

## 2nd RUN START LISTS

[617.3.3, 621.11.2]

In competitions with two runs, the starting order for the second run is determined by the result list of the first run. A standard second-run start list reverses the fastest 30 competitors from the first run; this is the “bibbo.” **The Jury may choose to reverse 15 but they must announce this 1 hour prior to the start of the first run.**

The following steps should be followed in order to create a correct Second Run Start List:

1. Rank all first run competitors in time order.
2. Remove DSQ competitors from the field unless they are being given a provisional second run.
3. Break all ties, regardless of where they occur, by ranking the tied competitor(s) with the higher bib number(s) before the tied competitor(s) with the lower bib number(s).
4. Verify the number of competitors that are to be reversed (bibbo).
5. Check for a tie at the reversal position.
6. Reverse correct number of competitors including ties, if applicable.

**NOTE: Due to space constraints, reverse 15 is illustrated.**

<u>1st RUN TIMES</u>		<u>1st RUN RESULTS</u>			<u>2ND RUN START LIST</u>		
<b>BIB</b>	<b>TIME</b>		<b>PL</b>	<b>BIB</b>	<b>TIME</b>	<b>ST</b>	<b>BIB 1<sup>st</sup> RUN TIME</b>
1	52.11	***	1	7	49.63	<b>1</b>	<b>12 52.56 \</b>
2	51.56		2	4	49.71	<b>2</b>	<b>17 52.56 / TIE AT 15TH POSITION</b>
3	52.52		3	8	50.30	3	3 52.52
4	49.71		4	9	50.51	4	10 52.20
5	51.48		5	11	51.15	5	1 52.11
6	51.46		6	15	51.20	6	2 51.56
7	49.63		7	16	51.45	7	13 51.51
8	50.30		8	6	51.46	8	5 51.48
9	50.51		9	5	51.48	9	6 51.46
10	52.20		10	13	51.51	10	16 51.45
11	51.15		11	2	51.56	11	15 51.20
12	52.56		12	1	52.11	12	11 51.15
13	51.51		13	10	52.20	13	9 50.51
14	51.31 <b>DSQ</b>		14	3	52.52	14	8 50.30
15	51.20		<b>15T 17</b>	<b>52.56</b>		15	4 49.71
16	51.45		<b>15T 12</b>	<b>52.56</b>		<b>16</b>	<b>7 49.63 - FASTEST 1ST RUN TIME</b>
17	52.56		17	19	52.57	17	19 52.57
18	53.47		18T 20	53.47		18	20 53.47 \
19	52.57		18T 18	53.47		<b>19</b>	<b>18 53.47 / TIE OUTSIDE OF BIBBO</b>
20	53.47						

\*\*\* NOTE that this is the racer's place not the racer's bib number!



### Guidelines Regarding Equipment Control and Equipment Protests at non-FIS Events

U.S. Ski & Snowboard has equipment standards that are imposed at all alpine events. Competition Equipment Rules can be found in the current Alpine Competition Guide and on the U.S. Ski & Snowboard website.

Equipment violations are subject to disqualification and other sanctions as determined by the Jury. The sanction may be against the individual competitor, or the competitor's coach if it is determined that he/she is complicit in the use of equipment known to be in violation of the rules.

1. Skis must be marked by the manufacturer with both the length and the radius. Unmarked skis will be grounds for disqualification.
2. At U.S. Ski & Snowboard scored alpine events, competition equipment will be subject to unannounced control.
3. At U.S. Ski & Snowboard non-scored technical events (GS and SL), equipment control will be dealt with only on a protest basis. However, the Jury cannot ignore obvious infractions.
4. In the case of all speed events (SG and DH, scored and non-scored) where the Jury has allowed control of equipment at the start for compliance, the athlete will not be allowed to start if their equipment does not meet the current marked specifications.
5. Unless a clear violation of equipment rules exists, e.g., no helmet, attached helmet camera, helmet camera mount, missing or broken ski brakes, missing or broken basket on a ski pole, etc., the Start Referee must not refuse an athlete's right to start. An athlete in a non-FIS event is allowed to personalize their helmet with the application of bling, stickers, glitter, etc. *The helmet shall have no spoilers nor protruding parts.*
6. The Start and Finish Referees' responsibility to monitor equipment and communicate to the Jury is critical in this process and should be reviewed by the TD at each event. TD instructions to these individuals must be clear. It is essential that the Start and Finish Referee communicate with and report their findings to the competition Jury.

Guidelines for Equipment Protests at any non-FIS event: The specifics for handling an equipment protest will be subject to TD and Jury protocol. Instructions must be clearly conveyed to the Team Captains.

1. The athlete must compete or intend to compete on the suspect equipment.
2. The Coach or Team Captain who observes the equipment that is suspect must alert the Start Referee of their imminent intention to protest the equipment being used by that competitor.
3. The Coach or Team Captain must formalize the protest, at the end of the run, with the written protest and the \$100 (one hundred USD) protest fee.
4. If the athlete has started, the Start Referee alerts the Finish Referee and the Jury, that there is a pending protest against equipment. The equipment must be evaluated or confiscated for evaluation when the competitor arrives in the finish.
5. Finish Referee should stop the competitor with suspect equipment and confiscate the suspect equipment pending the filing of the formal protest and Jury review. Confiscation should be witnessed, and third-party access to the confiscated equipment must be avoided.
6. Equipment protests cannot be considered or accepted if the suspect equipment has left the finish area.
7. If approved testing devices are available, or compliance can be confirmed by checking the manufacturer's marks, the Jury will then evaluate the equipment and render a decision regarding the equipment. The decision of the Jury shall be final.
8. If approved testing devices are not available, or the Jury is unable to reach a consensus, the Jury must seal and ship the equipment to the U.S. Ski & Snowboard National Office for evaluation. U.S. Ski & Snowboard's decision shall be final.
9. The Jury will use the \$100 (one hundred USD) protest fee to cover the initial shipping costs. The losing party will be charged by U.S. Ski & Snowboard for all expenses related to shipping and testing. Reimbursement must be submitted within 10 (ten) working days of notice of U.S. Ski & Snowboard's decision.

Acceptable equipment control devices for non-FIS event alpine equipment evaluation include:

- Reliable Racing stand height calipers
- FIS-approved equipment-testing devices



**JURY PROBLEMS – ALPINE**  
***DECISIONS MUST BE SUPPORTED BY RULE REFERENCES***

1. A U14 athlete is several gates from the finish line and sees a pole in the track ahead of him. He stops, pulls out of the course and after confirming the identity of the Finish Referee, goes down to the finish and asks him for a rerun. Because there is no exit gate, the racer had to cross the finish line. Otherwise, he would have to go through fencing, go down and around the finish arena and then come back up to the Finish Referee's position.

The Jury denies the request based on the facts that the racer crossed the finish line and that another racer had successfully completed the run in spite of the gate being in the track (racer went wide to avoid it).

How should the Jury have handled this situation?

2. Due to connectivity issues, several teams are not represented at the online Team Captains' Meeting. How must the Jury address this issue? In addition, during the competition, the OC finds it is unable to connect to the online Official Notice Boards (e.g., WhatsApp & Live-Timing). How must the Jury address this issue?
3. The coach for a group of U12 competitors inadvertently distributes bibs 42 & 45 to the wrong athletes. One athlete does not finish, and a discussion escalates as to the status of the other one. Is she a DSQ? Some items that should be considered are: What is the definition of "official start number?" What is the definition of "participate under false pretenses?" Should intent be considered, e.g., was bib switch intentional? Did the competitor who finished gain an advantage?
4. Two male athletes are not present when called to their Slalom start, are allowed provisional starts, and are inserted in the normal running order. Although extenuating circumstances are not present, the Jury confirms the starts. Two female athletes then commit the same infraction during their run, and the Jury discusses making them wait 20 start positions instead of being inserted in the normal running order. Do the provisions of "collective offences" apply? Can making the female athletes wait to start be considered a sanction? Are the provisions of "due process" being respected?
5. An athlete misses the required Super G training run and requests an exception in order to compete. Should the athlete be allowed to fulfill the training run requirement by freeskiing on the race hill prior to the event the following day? What option is available to the Jury? How should this particular request be handled?
6. The Jury for a GS/SL Kombi are informed approximately one-fourth of the competitors only have soft ear helmets. In addition, none of the U14 competitors have FIS-approved helmets. What options are available to the Jury?
7. Prior to the start of the second run of a Giant Slalom, lightning is seen on a nearby mountain peak. What options are available to the Jury?
8. The Technical Delegate arrives the day before a non-FIS Super G. A coach for the organizing club has set the course and the Chief of Race provides the homologation information based on a just-completed re-inspection: Elevations, vertical drop and certificate number. At the end of the day, the Jury is informed the homologation process was never completed. What are the homologation requirements for Super G? What issue will the Jury face? What is the only valid source for homologation data?
9. A U.S. Ski & Snowboard-scored Slalom is complete, official results have been signed and the Technical Delegate's Report has been completed and submitted. The morning after the event, film is being circulated on social media showing one of the podium finishers straddling a gate. What options are available to the Jury? What options are available to the Technical Delegate? What if the Jury received notice of a first-run straddle while the second run was being contested?
10. A member of the Jury is advised several athletes are allegedly engaging in illegal activities in the ski area parking lot. What options are available to the Jury? What if the activities are taking place in the training/warm-up area? What if the actions are taking place in the lift line? Does due process need to be considered?
11. Women's and Men's first runs have been completed; second run courses have been set and inspected. Women are running first in the afternoon; both genders have full fields. It is necessary to stay on schedule in order to complete the event during lift-operation hours, however, during the Women's second run, a 45- minute delay occurs. The Women complete their second run, but the Men do not. What option is available to the Jury? If a portion of the Men's field has started prior to lift closure, how could this affect the Jury's decision?

12. A competitor misses a Slalom gate just before crossing the finish line but quickly stops, hikes back up, completes passage and crosses the finish line a second time. What is the competitor's status? What if the competitor makes an attempt to stop *prior* to crossing the finish line but is unsuccessful? What should the Finish Referee do? What should the manual timekeepers do? What is the decision of the Jury? If the event was a Giant Slalom, would this affect the Jury's decision?
13. Several low-point competitors are entered and represented for both the first and second day of Downhill Training. Due to *force majeure*, they do not participate in at least one timed training run and are ultimately forced to withdraw from the event. All other competitors and forerunners have participated in at least 1 timed training run. Team Captains note that three of the six forerunners have points equal to or lower than the competitors who have withdrawn, so they ask the Jury to change the status from forerunner to competitor for those three individuals. What should the Jury consider when addressing the request?
14. At a scored non-FIS event, Team Captains have been advised that competitors who did not finish or who were disqualified in the first run will be allowed to take a second run at the end of the field; there are a total of 15 competitors who fall into these categories and they are listed on the Second Run Start List. During the second run, numerous delays occur and adequate daylight is now an issue. What can the Jury do? Do they "cancel" the second run? Or do they "terminate" the second run after all first run qualifiers have started?
15. At a last-chance qualifier, the Team Captains and athletes stay on the hill to roll fencing and B-net; the Official Notice Board is also dismantled. The Referee finalizes the Report by the Referee, writes down names of disqualified competitors but apparently documents Start #'s instead of Bib #'s. The names of the disqualified athletes are announced; information is relayed to the Team Captains as best as possible. No protests are filed.  
  
Race Administrator receives the original Report of the Referee and immediately notices the inconsistency and contacts the Technical Delegate for guidance: What do I use - Start # or Bib #? The Technical Delegate tells the Race Administrator to use the Start #'s which changes the names of the disqualified athletes. The following day, the results are posted online and the Team Captains immediately notice the discrepancy between what was announced and what has been documented. What option is available to the Jury? What options are available to the Team Captains for the affected competitors? What option is available to the Technical Delegate?
16. During the competition, the wind increases and the panels are blowing up the hill. What are the appropriate methods for dealing with this problem?
17. Both Women's and Men's Slalom courses are set, but due to the width of the finish, the last gate is common to both courses. The OC has 5 forerunners available; 3 of them miss the last gate and continue out of the arena without stopping. The Technical Delegate (at the finish) and the Chief of Race (mid-point) discuss the issue over an open Jury channel; all conversations are audible in the start area. The decision is made to smooth the incorrect track and start the event. Several first-seed racers are noticed to be hesitating upon approach and subsequently taking the wrong gate line; they are marked for disqualification. What steps may have been missed? What could the Technical Delegate have done? Are any options available to the Jury?
18. You arrive at a venue and find the Race Organizers have 3 types of B-Net available: Barry, Alpina Sheer Pole and Reliable. Describe the best way to install each type of net. Which of these types of net would best be placed on the inside (closest to the race line)? Why? How much overlap should there be on each type? Can the rows of B-Net be closer than the standard 2 meters?

**PLEASE DISCUSS SPECIFIC PROBLEMS THAT HAVE OCCURRED IN YOUR AREA.**