



SEASON 2026 UPDATE & REVIEW:

CONTINUING EDUCATION FOR ALPINE OFFICIALS

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

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

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

"Clean Hill Initiative Revisited" and "B-Net" (PowerPoint presentations) are a mandatory part of Continuing Education. These – as well as other important presentations - can be found on the Officials' section of the U.S. Ski & Snowboard website. (usskiandsnowboard.org/sport-development/officials-development/alpine-officials)

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

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

PLEASE NOTE: This information contained in this document is current as of 15 September 2025. U.S. Ski & Snowboard and/or FIS decisions made in meetings following that date which may affect rules and event operating procedures will be published in Season 2026 Precisions. Please review applicable Precisions upon their publication.

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 may be 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 travel/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)

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 or janez.flere@fis-ski.com
- Submitted to 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, or spectators where an insurance claim may be filed:

- Regardless of national federation affiliation.
- Regardless of whether or not Ski Patrol evacuation was required.

- Report should be completed as fully as possible. It should only contain facts; speculation should be avoided.
- Injuries/accidents that occur within the competition arena (including Start and Finish areas) should be submitted by the Technical “Director” or an event official.
- Injuries/accidents that take place outside of the competition arena must be submitted by a coach, parent, or the respective athlete.
- Report must be filed online; instructions and required reporting form may be found under “Participant Accident” at usskiandsnowboard.org/sport-development/club-development/club-insurance.
- Copies of the filing instructions as well as a sample of the reporting form are available in the Master Packet of Forms. The sample of the reporting form is intended only for gathering required data prior to online filing.
- A copy of the submitted report will be emailed to the filing individual; confirmation of approval or denial of the claim will be provided when available.

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

NOTE: FIS Technical Delegates, regardless of their national affiliation, are only responsible for the accuracy and submittal of FIS documents. The accuracy and submittal of any additional documentation required by the NGB are the sole responsibility of the Race Administrator and/or the Organizing Committee; e.g., Results/Penalty based on National Points, U.S. First Report of Accident (as noted in the filing instructions).

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

- The responsibility for communication and enforcement of MAAPP and SafeSport policies is the responsibility of the Local Organizing Committee (LOC) as well as other individuals and entities as set out in the Competition Administration Summary, the MAAPP, and the SafeSport Code.
- Administration of MAAPP and the SafeSport Code applies – but is not limited to – events, participation/membership requirements, officials’ certification and continuing education requirements, race arena access, volunteers, etc.
- In order to ensure compliance, all requirements must be continually monitored and completed for same-day participants, and they must be informed of the provisions of MAAPP and the SafeSport Code.

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

2. 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.

3. 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.

4. 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.

5. 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.

6. 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
- 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.*

7. 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.

8. 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.

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

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

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

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

NOTES:

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

9. RESULT PROCESSING – XML FILE and EVENT DOCUMENT PACKETS

- Individual event XML race result files are uploaded at 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.

- 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. *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.

10. FIS REPORTS: TD REPORT and INJURY REPORT (ISS that is used only for FIS events!)

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

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

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

janez.flere@fis-ski.com and jeff.weinman@usskiandsnowboard.com

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

11. 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.)

12. 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.

13. 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.

14. 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.usskiandsnowboard.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."

15. SKILLSQUEST

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

16. 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) or Matt Howard (matt.p1timing@gmail.com) for details.

17. MANUAL TIMEKEEPING VERIFICATION

- **Take the time to verify manual devices are still synchronized.** Verification prior to the start of Bib 1 allows time to address any issues.
- **If electronic timekeeping systems fail**, immediately verify hand times are available for the racer for whom an electronic time is not available.

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

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

19. 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.)

20. 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.

21. 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.

22. 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 an athlete using a different pair of skis to freeski while not in the race arena.

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

23. FORCE MAJEURE

In Alpine competitions, "force majeure" describes those uncontrollable/unexpected events such as extreme weather or extreme surface conditions that are not the fault of any party and that make it difficult or impossible to stage 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.

24. 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).

25. JURY MEMBERS AND THEIR VOTES

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

26. EVENT RELATED DOCUMENTS

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

ALPINE OFFICIALS' INFORMATION

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