

USSA/FAR WEST COMPETITIONS

Far West Race Programs

FWS race programs and race series allow skiers of all ages an opportunity to compete. The ladder of ski racing is designed so that beginning, novice racers can easily get involved with the sport, and the experienced, elite racers can advance on to national and international competitions. For a complete list of races and race dates, see the FWS Alpine Race Schedule in the *Appendix*, or Internet site www.fwskiing.us.

J4/5 Racing

The J4/5 program is for racers ages twelve and under. Eleven and twelve year old athletes race as J4s; those 10 and under compete as J5s. J4/5 races in the Far West are non-scored USSA-sanctioned events.

J4s and J5s compete in the same races. The J4s and J5s are maintained as separate fields with their own start lists and are run separately. The starting order is determined by one random draw per weekend, which is reversed for the second day and again for the second run in GS and SL races. All competitors are allowed to start the second run in their starting spot, including those who did not finish (DNF) or were disqualified (DSQ) in the first run. Awards will be given for each age class and gender. It is required to use Hero gates for all J5 Slalom events.

J4/5 Racing Contd....

In order to minimize travel, the program is divided into three geographic areas within the Far West: North (Tahoe, Mammoth, Shasta, Northern Nevada); Central (western slope of the Sierra); and South (Southern California, Southern Nevada). Each of the three geographic areas runs a season-long series. The North, Central and South series consists of three slaloms (SL), three giant slaloms (GS) and two Super-G's (SG) for J4 athletes; and three slaloms (SL), three giant slaloms (GS) and two giant slaloms (with minimum gates and maximum length) for J5 athletes. Any variations in the schedule will need to be approved by the Far West ACC. In addition, there are three races (SL, GS, SG for J4s; SL, GS, one run GS or two run GS for J5s) at the divisional championships. There are also non-series races for J4/5 athletes. J4 Super-G racing: A training run on the actual racecourse must be provided to all competitors. Training runs may be run in team order. Any J4/5 Kombi race will require a training run per course.

The philosophy behind the scheduling of J4/5 races is to encourage racing in each athlete's own geographical series by scheduling the same events in each geographical area on the same weekend. Series races are scheduled to allow time for skill development, using GS as the base event.

Far West J4/5 Championships

Athletes from all three geographic areas will meet at the end of the ski-racing season for the Far West J4/5 Championships, consisting of one (1) SL, one (1) GS and one (1) SG for J4s; one (1) SL, one (1) GS and one (1) two run GS/Big G. for J5s. A fourth special event, such as a dual slalom or Kombi, may also be held but will not count towards the season overall standings.

The Championships are open only to current age-eligible members of FWS and USSA. Competitors from out-of-division are not allowed to participate in these races.

J4/5 Camp

The camp goal is to bring together J4/J5 athletes from the Far West Division and give them the opportunity to improve their skiing skills and to introduce our athletes and coaches to each other and foster a healthy Far West environment. Athletes will have to be current members of USSA and Far West Skiing for the 2009/2010 season. Location will change from year to year.

J4/5 Awards

For the individual overall season awards, J4/5 series races will be scored by age class using current "Old World Cup Points." A racer may win a series award in only one geographic area (North, Central or South). The results from the championships shall be scored separately. The best results from the scheduled series races (regardless of discipline) are used to calculate the series awards. A tie is broken by a racer's best GS score(s), until the tie is broken. If conditions force the cancellation of a series race, the FWS ACC J4/5 subcommittee determines and publicizes any necessary changes in scoring.

Maury Rasmussen Team Series Award

The Maury Rasmussen Team Series Award (a perpetual trophy) goes to the top team in each of the three geographic areas within Far West. There is no maximum number of competitors per team. For scoring, the top fifteen (15) J4 finishers and top fifteen (15) J5 finishers of the respective geographic area will count. The top three (3) boys and the top three (3) girls from any one team will be scored per race. All series races held will be scored. Scoring will be by "Old World Cup Points." This series is named after Maury Rasmussen, the developer of Bear Valley/Mt. Reba and a strong supporter of Far West junior racing.

Allan Cup

Brendan Allan was a talented athlete who skied all of his life. This cup was named in memory of his love for the sport and achievements in his racing career. The Allan Cup is given to the best J4 boy and girl finishing the SL, GS and SG races at the Far West J4/5 Championships, using “Old World Cup Points”. Ties are broken by adding the times from all three races, with the best combined time winning.

Richmond Cup

Bryan Richmond was a talented athlete who skied all of his life. This cup was named in memory of his love for the sport and achievements in his racing career. The Richmond Cup is given to the best J5 boy and girl finishing the SL, GS and one-run GS or two-run GS races at the Far West J4/5 Championships, using “Old World Cup Points.” Ties are broken by adding the times from all three races, with the best combined time winning.

Jeff Todd Sportsmanship Award

Jeff Todd was a long time coach with the Mammoth Mountain Ski Team and has a long history of supporting, coaching and organizing events for the Far West J4/5 group. The Jeff Todd “Sportsmanship Award” is an award to be given to the athlete who displays a love for skiing, competition and his/her fellow competitors. This athlete may have had to overcome some special physical or emotional adversity while competing at the J4/J5 Championships. The J4/J5 ACC Age Class Chair will take nominations from coaches prior to the awards banquet and, with the help of the race officials; select the winner of the award. The award will be presented during the annual Dinner and Dance awards banquet at the Championships.

Far West J4/5 Development Team

The J4/5 Development Team recognizes athletes who have excelled in their specific age groups. Four (4) J4 boys and four (4) J4 girls, as well as four (4) J5 boys and four (4) J5 girls, will be selected by the total of “Old World Cup Points” from the Far West J4/5 Championships (SL, GS, SG).

J3 Racing

The J3 program is for racers ages thirteen and fourteen. All Far West J3 athletes may compete in the WILD WEST SERIES (qualifiers for the Junior 3 Olympics (J3 JOs) and the OPEN SERIES.

WILD WEST SERIES: This J3-only series includes three (3) SL, three (3) GS and three (3) SG J3 JO qualifying races open to all Far West J3 athletes. When possible, there will be additional events in this series. All racers may participate in the second run of SL and GS events in J3-only competitions. Racers who did not finish or were disqualified in the first run are allowed a second “fun” run; their times will be posted on the unofficial posting board in the finish area but WILL NOT appear on the results. First-run DSQ and DNF racers will take their second “fun” run after all qualified racers and reruns have been completed; run order will be in reverse order of their first-run start.

FAR WEST FINALS: SL, GS, DH and SG races are open to all J3s.

Far West J3 Development Team

The J3 Development Team recognizes athletes who have excelled in their specific age group. The team consists of the top four (4) girls and the top four (4) boys from the Junior Olympic qualifying list. A J3 competitor who is selected to the current-season Far West Ski Team is automatically a member of the Development Team and does not count against the quota. Any J3 athlete that is invited to and participated in National Team or USSA Development Program projects or race events is an automatic to the J3 Development Team. The J3 Development Team is listed in the *Appendix*.

Bobby Mehrhof Award

The Bobby Mehrhof Award is to be given to the J3 Boy and Girl who values friendships and displays a love for the sport. The Far West J3 Chairman will take nominations for the Bobby Mehrhof Award. The J3 committee will recommend the recipients to the Far West ACC for approval for naming.

Middle, J1 and J2 Racing

Middle (also called “Mid” or “A”) racers are aged 20 and older; J1s are 17, 18 and 19 years old; J2s are 15 and 16 years old. There are four levels of competition in the Far West for these age groups.

The GRAND PRIX is the elite series in the Far West for all J1’s and J2’s. Participants to Western Region Elite, Open FIS and WRJR Champs events are partially selected from these races.

The FAR WEST CHAMPIONSHIPS and OPEN SERIES are open to all racers in these age groups.

Overall champions from the Grand Prix Series will be awarded the following:

Overall champion – Mid/J1 Men/Women; J2 Men/Women: \$300 scholarship

2nd place – Mid/J1 Men/Women; J2 Men/Women \$150scholarship

3rd place – Mid/J1 Men/Women; J2 Men/Women \$100 scholarship

These scholarships will be available for use the following season towards racing expenses.

The calculations are done using total, cumulative World Cup Points (WCP) earned in every race of the Grand Prix Series. The series includes the Far West Divisional FIS (SL, GS and SG) and all four disciplines in the mid-J3 Far West Finals.

The places are determined by adding up the total World Cup Points earned during ALL the races listed above. Each race is scored by separating the field by gender into mid-J1 and J2 classes. Foreign, out of division and J3 participants in each race are removed and results are sorted by class prior to assigning WCP's for each race.

USSA/Far West Race Series

Following are specifics of all USSA/Far West race series. All racers must be members in good standing of FWS and USSA and qualified as noted below:

Grand Prix Series (Divisional FIS & Far West Finals)

Events: Slalom, Giant Slalom, Super-G, Downhill

Awards: Cumulative season Mid-J1/J2, Men/Women scholarships for following season (see Middle, J1 and J2 Racing section)

Divisional FIS Racing

Events: Slalom, Giant Slalom, Super-G

Who can race: All FIS registered Mid-J2 athletes

Qualifier for: Western Region Junior Championships (FIS)

Awards: Trophies 1st – 5th, Mid-J1, J2, Men/Women, each race (Race Organizer)

Far West Finals

Events: Slalom, Giant Slalom, Super-G, Downhill

Who can race: All Mid-J3 athletes

Awards: Trophies 1st – 5th, Mid-J1, J2, J3 Men/Women, each race (Race Organizer)
Hard charger medals – J3 one (1) per gender per race SL, GS & SG only (Far West Provided)

Open Series

Events: Slalom, Giant Slalom, Super-G

Who can race: All Mid, J1, J2 and J3 athletes

Awards: Trophies 1st – 5th, Mid-J1, J2, J3, Men/Women, each race (Race Organizer)

Wild West Series

- Events: Slalom, Giant Slalom, Super-G
- Who can race: J3 athletes only
- Qualifier for: USSA Junior 3 Olympics
- Awards: Trophies 1st-5th, Men/Women, each race (Race Organizer)
Hard charger medals – one (1) per year of birth per gender per race (Far West provided)
Season overall 1st – 3rd, Men/Women (total WCPs from all WILD WEST races) (Far West provided)

J4/J5 North, Central, and South Series—Based on 1/4th of field

- Events: Slalom, Giant Slalom, Super-G (J4); Slalom, Giant Slalom, One Run Giant Slalom (J5) – in each geographical area
- Who can race: All J4s and J5s
- Awards: Trophies 1st – 3rd, J4 and J5, Boys/Girls, each race (Race Organizer)
Medallions 4th – 10th, J4 and J5, Boys/Girls, each race (Central/South) (Far West provided)
Medallions 4th – 15th, J4 and J5, Boys/Girls, each race (North) (Far West provided)

Far West J4/5 Championships

- Events: Slalom, Giant Slalom, Super-G (J4); Slalom, Giant Slalom, (J5); Dual Slalom
- Who can race: All Far West J4s and J5s
- Awards: Trophies 1st – 15th, J4 and J5, Boys/Girls, each race (Race Organizer)
Allan Cup; Richmond Cup (see J4/5 Racing section) (Private Donors)

J4/5 Year end awards—Based on 1/4th of field

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| North Series | 1 st -15 th | Far West Provided |
| South and Central Series | 1 st -6 th | Far West Provided |