

RULES GOVERNING FAR WEST COMPETITIONS

Race Organization

Far West Skiing is forever grateful to the race organizers and ski resorts that continue to generously support junior ski racing in the Far West by holding junior alpine races. To qualify for USSA insurance coverage of a calendared event, all race organizers must:

1. Be club members in good standing of USSA and FWS
2. Pay FWS club dues prior to Oct 15
3. Fulfill all USSA and FWS race officials' education requirements no later than the FWS Fall Meetings
4. Attend the officials' clinics at the FWS Fall Meetings

In early fall, race organizers will be sent blank USSA Alpine Schedule Agreements, with supporting documentation and instructions, to be completed for each of their races and returned to the USSA/WR office by the indicated deadline. This should, include payment of USSA club dues and calendaring fees (make one check payable to USSA). By signing the schedule agreement, a race organizer acknowledges and agrees to abide by the rules of USSA and FWS.

Organizers must be prepared to present a current homologation/registration certificate, when applicable, to race officials on site. Race organizers failing to meet the above-listed requirements will not be granted their USSA race sanction(s) and the affected race(s) will be re-sited or canceled.

Race Scheduling

The Scheduling Committee will consist of the ACC Chair, Vice Chair, Officials Chair and the Age Class Chairs. This committee will prepare a schedule for all races. The basic calendar for the following season will be presented to the ACC at the spring/summer meeting for the following season for approval. The bid packets and general calendar will be mailed out to the race organizers in the fall for the following year. The calendar will be completed with input from the Scheduling Committee as soon as possible, accommodating the ski areas and their event calendars.

Beginning with the FWS Fall ACC meeting and continuing through December, the Age Class Committees will prepare a set of sites for the Junior Olympic qualifying races for the following season. These predetermined event sites will be contacted no later than January for acceptance of the new race calendar. These sites will be presented to the Scheduling Committee.

Under ideal conditions, the complete calendar with sites will be presented at the spring meeting of the ACC for acceptance. The status of the calendar will be a continuing ACC agenda item until it is completed for that season.

Rescheduling of events will be conducted through the Scheduling Committee and the appropriate Age Class Committees affected. The Age Class Committee most impacted by a site change will have the majority of the input in selecting a new site for the benefit of the largest group of athletes affected by the change. The best combination of venue quality and calendar constraints will be considered in the rescheduling process. The Scheduling Committee will work diligently to maintain the event at the original host site. However, the Committee will operate for the benefit of the athletes of Far West as their primary focus.

Chronological Steps of the Bid Process

Interested sites should follow these steps in preparing a bid for FW races. This assumes that the race organizer has been a successful divisional race host and has a demonstrable superior track record at the USSA level.

1. Contact the FWS Scheduling Committee to express an interest in future events. Obtain guidelines and documents. Confirm USSA/FIS homologation for course and timing appropriate to the event and level of racing of interest.
2. Review calendar blocks for the coming season(s) to determine site compatibility with available events or series blocks.
3. Prepare bid forms and supporting documentation. Submit to the Far West ACC scheduling chair and Far West office. In the event of multiple bids for the same events the Scheduling Committee prioritizes bids and passes them on to the ACC. In the case of traditional sites the bids may be submitted directly to the ACC.
4. Scheduling Committee review and recommendation.
5. Submit proposed calendar to FW ACC Calendar Working Group
6. ACC ratification
7. USSA FIS calendar submitted to FWS and/or FIS by April 15 annually

Calendar Construction Considerations

The Far West is committed to supporting the USSA calendar initiatives of 1997 and 2000 as expressed in the USSA Calendar Working Group white paper "Principles of Calendaring". Specifically this means that the calendar of regional competitions is produced to follow these guidelines:

1. A structured definitive calendar that allows for distinct training, competition, and recovery periods
2. The calendar should allow competitors to focus on the appropriate level of competition and provide for fluid upward mobility as well as participation in events of secondary importance
3. A calendar that conducts competitions in time period blocks
4. Venues must be capable and/or experienced with running multiple race events
5. A calendar that is athlete based that supports the achievement of athletic competence by providing the possibility of achievement of the ideals expressed in the *USSA Alpine Athlete Competencies*
6. The calendar will consist of a variety of race venues with geographic diversity
7. A calendar that utilizes the highest quality venues and race organizers available while encouraging the development of new venues for a variety of competition experience
8. A calendar that considers the monetary cost of ski racing and attempts to mediate the effects of those costs to participants.

Race Preparation

Race Trails

Beginning with the 2010-2011 season all scored and non-scored races must be held on a USSA/FIS homologated trail. All trail homologation must be completed prior to bid submission. In the case of speed events on courses that have not been used for regional races, or for courses in the first year of re-homologation a copy of the inspectors report is to be submitted. Snow coverage at the time of the event and snowmaking capabilities for the time of the proposed event must be included.

Experienced Leadership

The event organizer must have a proven history and an appropriate amount of experience

Prior event evaluations for new FIS sites are required. A list of certified officials and planned manpower is required.

Timing

Race organizer must have a good record

A list of FIS homologated timing available is required.

Ski Area Support

A written endorsement from the area showing management/grooming support.

Race Administration

Proven ability/experience from divisional races or prior FIS races.

Race Supply

Race organizer must have enough equipment to host the event (poles, fence, etc.)

In the case of speed events the safety system/protection is to be correlated with the homologation report

In the case of children's competitions the number of proper diameter flex gates should be noted.

Race Announcements

Each race organizer is required to E-mail a race announcement "fact sheet" to the FWS office, and the USSA/WR office. Announcements should be sent out in good time, at least thirty days prior to the entry deadline.

Entry and Entry Fees

Race organizers may allow entry via online registration but must also accept one other entry method (i.e. fax or mailed in). Individual race entries must be made on an official "USSA Timing and Entry Card" (see *Appendix* for form). One entry card per race must be completely filled out on the spaces provided for the racer's use. Full entry fees (separate check for each race for each athlete) must accompany all entries. Race organizers are prepared to accept Team Entries if accompanied by full payment of entry fees due (see *Appendix* for form). Entries should be mailed to the race organizer's address (refer to the *Appendix*), not the USSA or FWS offices.

USSA/Far West Entry Fees

USSA/FWS entry fees for the 2011/2012 season are:

Mid-J3 SL and GS	\$30 per start	J4/5 SL & GS races	\$22 per start
FIS	\$38 per start	J4 SG races	\$25 per start
Mid – J3 SG and DH	\$38 per start	J4/5 Speed Training Runs	\$12 per start
Speed Training Runs	\$20 per start	Kombi Race	\$25 per start
FW Late fee per race	\$15		

Head Tax

A portion of the entry fees for race events are remitted to USSA, the Western Region (WR) and Far West Skiing (FWS) for head taxes per start according to the grid below.

	USSA Scored Event	USSA non-scored	Divisional FIS	WR FIS	FISU
USSA	\$6	\$0	\$6	\$6	\$0
WR	\$2	\$1	\$2	\$12	\$2
FWS	\$2.50	\$2.50	\$2.50	\$0	\$0

Please remit payment directly to each location accompanied by the head tax form located in the Master Packet of Forms.

Entry Deadlines

Race entries must be received by the race organizer on or before the entry deadline, five days prior to the competition. Late entries are subject to a late fee and will always be the first cut from a race when field size is an issue. Late entries do not guarantee the competitor entry to the race. It is the racer's responsibility to check with the race organizer to see if a late entry has been accepted. It is up to the race organizer to determine whether or not to allow late entries at the team captains' meeting. All deadlines reflect dates of receipt; postmarks will not be considered.

Entry Refunds

Weather and snow conditions can at times cause the cancellation of a race or training day. Also, a racer may have to cancel his/her entry because of illness, injury, etc. If cancellation occurs, the following policy will apply:

- A. For events cancelled prior or during the first scheduled team captain's meeting there will be a complete refund of paid entry and speed training fees.
- B. For technical events(SL&GS) cancelled by the jury on the day of competition there will be a refund of all head tax. The organizer will be able to keep \$5.00 for J4/5 races (non-scored) and \$7.00 for Mid-J3 (scored) from the remaining organizers portion.
- C. For speed event(s) cancelled anytime during the official program dates by the jury there will be a refund of all head tax and training fee if no training was conducted. The organizer will be able to keep \$10.00 for J4 races (non-scored) and \$14.00 for Mid-J3 races (scored) from the remaining organizers portion.
- D. It is the racer's responsibility to inform the race organizer in writing, by fax or email, that he/she will not be able to take part in the race(s). The last chance to remove a racer from the field is at the team captain's meeting, held the afternoon/evening before the race. Racers who appear on the start list and do not take part in the race(s) will forfeit the entry fee(s).

Seeding System for Scored Races

The Far West uses the USSA seed points list (CCCS). All entered competitors are ranked by their points in the contested discipline, lowest points (highest ranked) to highest points (lowest ranked.) There are two acceptable procedures for establishing the run order for the first seed of competitors, usually top 30 or top 15, in a scored race: athletes' start positions can be double-drawn by hand or random-drawn by computer. The method used will be determined at the seed meeting by the team captains. The remainder of the field runs in points order, lowest to highest.

For scored SL and GS, two-run events, only those racers who legally finish the first run are allowed a second run (exception: J3-only Far West races; see *J3 Racing* section.) Racers are ranked according to their first-run finish with the top-seed finishers running in reverse order; that is, the thirtieth (or fifteenth) fastest time from the first run starts first and the fastest time starts thirtieth (or fifteenth). All others race in first-run finish order. This applies to all Mid - J3 competitions. For further information, please consult your USSA Competition Guide.

For details on start orders for J4/5 races, see *J4/5 Racing* section under *USSA/Far West Competitions*.

Team Captains/Seed Meeting – Racer Representation

All entered athletes must be represented at the team captains' meetings (seed meetings) for the event. Representation must be made by a properly credentialed professional coach who is able to enter the race arena and is willing to take responsibility for conveying safety information, program of the day and other instructions of the Race Jury to the athlete(s) represented. Self-representation of unattached ADULT athlete is acceptable under current rules. If not properly represented, the Race Jury may remove an athlete from the start list and not allow him/her to race.

Race Results

Official hard copy race results packets must be RECEIVED in the USSA/Alpine and Far West Skiing offices not later than five business days following a race. The Far West Office only needs the TD report, Head Tax form and a Timing Tech report for each race. A fifty-dollar (\$50.00) fine will be imposed after the lapse of the five business days for lack of results.

Race organizers must do all humanly possible to insure that the race they have just held will be scored to the next USSA point's list update. FWS may require race organizers not meeting the five-day deadline for race packet submission to refund all competitor entry fees.

For each USSA/Alpine race, the results packet must include:

- *Transmittal Sheet" (corrected, if necessary, with the race code number for that race)
- *start list
- *Official results signed by the TD
- *TD Report.
- *penalty calculation form (scored events only)
- *Timing and Calculations form
- *Jury minutes
- *Head tax payment in full to USSA, Western Region and Far West must accompany results.

In addition to sending hard copy of official results to the USSA/Alpine and FWS offices, all results must be submitted electronically to USSA/Alpine in a USSA-approved format. Race organizers will be provided with instructions from USSA/Alpine for submitting official results for scoring. As of 1997/98, USSA imposes a fifty-dollar (\$50.00) penalty for each race that was not properly submitted ready for entry into the scoring system.

All Far West scored and non-scored race results need to be submitted electronically to lucy@fwskiing.org. Results will be sorted by class for each separate race and posted at www.fwskiing.us in that format.

Home Quota

This is a special quota, of three (3) men and three (3) women, for the home team putting on a GRAND PRIX SERIES race. Mid – J2s who are paid members of the home program and in good standing with USSA and Far West are eligible. The home quota must be approved by the race jury at the team captains' meeting.

Out-Of-Division Racers in USSA/Far West Events

Racers from other divisions are welcome to compete in USSA/Far West races to the extent compatible with field size or other printed restrictions. The racer must meet the qualifications of the Far West race series being entered. Racers from outside the Far West will need permission from their Regional or Divisional Director and the FWS ACC Chair (via the FWS office.) Contact should be initiated at least three weeks (21 days) before the event. Race organizers will not allow entry by out-of-division racers unless informed by the FWS office that this process has been completed.

Foreign Athlete Selection Procedures and Far West Registration Regulations

“X” numbered athletes affiliated with a Far West program must pay Far West membership dues to the Far West office in order to be selected for and participate in any USSA Junior Olympics, Far West Camps, or USSA sanctioned championship event. The “X” numbered athlete must notify the Far West ACC Age Class Chair and ACC chair of their intention to be selected for that event and meet all deadlines and follow all Far West rules and regulations.

Coaches Credentials

Race organizers in the Far West are required to adopt the following policy as a minimum standard concerning granting of coaches' credentials at USSA/FWS races:

1. One (1) to four (4) athletes per team – one (1) coach's ticket per team
2. Five (5) to ten (10) athletes per team – two (2) coaches' tickets per team
3. Eleven (11) to eighteen (18) athletes per team – three (3) coaches' tickets per team
4. Nineteen (19) to twenty-six (26) athletes per team – four (4) coaches' tickets per team
5. Twenty-seven (27) or more athletes per team – one (1) coach's ticket per eight (8) athletes
6. Coaches must present their current USSA/Far West membership card confirming them as an Alpine Coach
7. Coaches must be current USSA/Far West Skiing members
8. Coaches must be on the Far West official coaches roster for the particular team