



UNITED STATES SKI & SNOWBOARD ASSOCIATION

2011-2012 REVIEW & UPDATE FOR CONTINUING EDUCATION - ALPINE

The United States Ski and Snowboard Association's competition regulations for domestic alpine ski racing are adopted from the FIS ICR, but are specific to USSA competitions. The Alpine Competition Regulations (ACR) are updated annually, are published in the current Alpine Competition Guide and are available at www.ussa.org. *The FIS International Competition Regulations (ICR) and adjuncts shall govern any and all issues not addressed therein.*

For all events scheduled by USSA as FIS events, applicable rules of the FIS should be considered and applied. In cases that are not addressed by the ACR for USSA 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.

It is the responsibility of every official, coach and competitor to *know, understand and abide* by the rules for the sport. These rules include, but are not limited to, current editions and "Precisions" of the FIS ICR, USSA ACR, and the appropriate supplemental rules, such as Rules of the FIS Points and Rules for the Alpine Continental Cups. The following pages contain a review and clarification of existing USSA and FIS rules. An overview of major rule changes is also included; *this review and update, however, does not contain all rule changes.*

GENERAL REVIEW AND CLARIFICATION – USSA AND FIS:

1. Mandatory Continuing Education (Update) Clinic Attendance:

- a. With the exception of Competition Official (CO) and Data Management, all USSA certified officials are required to attend a bi-annual Continuing Education Clinic in order to retain Technical Delegate, Referee or Jury Advisor certification.
- b. Depending on the requirements of the Region/Division/State, a Continuing Education Clinic does not have to be specialty-area specific; many areas host a general Continuing Education Clinic and accept this as satisfying the requirement.

2. **USSA Ski Up Agreement:** At all USSA events, including training, an athlete who is not "age-eligible" for the vertical drop of the actual course set on the piste may never participate in competition or training as a competitor or forerunner. The USSA Ski Up Agreement allows exceptional athletes to ski-up one class and *authorizes the athlete to compete in the next older age group, but only in the disciplines in which they are normally eligible and only in the specific competitions authorized by the appropriate Regional staff member (September 2001 ASC executive)*. Ski-Up Waivers must be processed by the Regional Office, cannot be applied for on-site, and are not accepted by all USSA regions/divisions/states. A copy of the approved Ski-Up Waiver must accompany the entry. *FIS does not recognize requests to ski-up in class.*

3. **EVENT MEDICAL PLAN:** *An event medical plan must be in place for all USSA-sanctioned events and must be reviewed by the Jury prior to being presented to the Team Captains. Jury Minutes must be generated documenting the review and presentation to the Team Captains; the Jury Minutes must be included in the submitted race result packet.*

4. **FACTORS (F-VALUES):** Current factors used in calculation of race points/penalties for both USSA and FIS events are unchanged; they are:

DH: 1330 SG: 1060 GS: 870 SL: 610 SC: 1130

5. **FORERUNNERS, JURY MEMBERS AND COMPETITORS:** The ROC is obligated to provide qualified forerunners for an event. Not having sufficient qualified forerunners is grounds for the Jury to delay, postpone or even cancel an event--particularly a speed event. Using a Jury member as a Forerunner is not acceptable. In addition, Forerunners are not permitted to have started or be listed on the start list as competitors in an event. *Downhill Training is an integral part of the Downhill event so the Downhill Training forerunners must not be allowed entry as competitors for the applicable event.*

6. **DUTIES OF THE FORERUNNERS:** Forerunners open the track and deliver a report to the Finish Referee. When qualified Forerunners are available, it is not appropriate that a Course Setter or a coach from another team "test"/forerun the course. This does not preclude, however, the Jury's right to request that, after verifying security of the Forerunners, the assigned Forerunners test sections of a downhill track prior to scheduled downhill training.

7. **MINIMUM PENALTIES FOR USSA-SCORED EVENTS:** When a USSA event is submitted for scoring:
- The minimum penalty for a non-FIS USSA race that meets published standards is 15.00. If the calculated penalty is lower than 15.00, the applied penalty shall be 15.00.
 - If the minimum vertical drop requirement is met, then the minimum time requirement does not apply.
 - If the minimum vertical drop requirement is not met, then the greater of the calculated penalty or the minimum penalty of 30.00 shall be applied.
 - If the minimum vertical drop requirement is not met, but the minimum time requirement is, the greater of the calculated penalty or the minimum penalty of 30.00 shall be applied.
 - If the minimum vertical drop requirement and the minimum time requirement are not met, then the greater of the calculated penalty plus the additional penalty as published in the 2012 Alpine Competition Guide, or the minimum penalty of 30.00 shall be applied.
8. **SUBMITTAL OF DOCUMENTS:**
- USSA Technical Delegate Report:** Signed copy of the form is to be mailed to Randy Rogers at the address noted on the form; electronic submittal is acceptable.
 - Timing & Data Technical Report:** A signed copy of this form for all FIS and USSA-scored events and for non-scored Championship events must be submitted to Allen Church. It may be electronically submitted to: abchurch@taosnet.com or mailed to the address provided on Form 53. Distribution of Documents – FIS Events, in the “Master Packet of Forms”.
 - Additional Report of the Technical Delegate – USA & FIS:** These forms are used to request inspection/re-inspection of homologated courses, (there are different forms for FIS and for USSA), and must be submitted to current Chair of the Alpine Courses Working Group. (Current Chair is Bruce Crane). Forms may be submitted electronically to: bcrane@parkcityus.com. The FIS Additional Report of the Technical Delegate will then be forwarded to Walter Trilling (FIS Bureau), as required.
 - Technical Delegate’s Expense Report:**
 - A copy of the USSA TD Expense Report must be submitted to Randy Rogers at the address noted on the form; electronic submittal is acceptable.
 - Regardless of the nationality of the Technical Delegate, a copy of the FIS TD Expense Report for all USSA FIS events must be submitted to Paul Van Slyke (paul@twitchellsportswear.com)
9. **PER DIEM FOR USSA TD’S AND USSA COURSE INSPECTORS:** In addition to normal out-of-pocket expenses, e.g. meals, lifts, lodging, mileage/transportation/rental car, etc., a per diem of \$50 per travel/inspection/training/competition day has been approved for USSA Technical Delegates at all USSA events – both scored and non-scored. The \$50/day per diem also applies to USSA Course Inspectors. *Please note that FIS officials officiating at USSA FIS events are entitled to a higher per diem amount. A FIS Technical Delegate serving as the Technical Delegate at a USSA non-FIS event is only entitled to the USSA per diem of \$50.*
10. **SINGLE POLE SLALOM:** Both FIS and USSA allow single pole Slalom events (804). Some items that should be considered are:
- Where must both outside pole and turning pole be installed? *Start, finish, delay, combinations (hairpin, vertical).*
 - What is the definition of “gate line” for single pole slalom? *Imaginary line from turning pole to turning pole.*
 - What is the definition of “clear passage”? *Natural race line above the turning pole.*
 - How far does a hiking competitor have to hike after missing a double-pole gate? *Back up and across the imaginary line from outside pole to turning pole of the missed gate.*
 - How far does a hiking competitor have to hike after missing a single pole gate? *Back up and around the top of the turning pole?*
11. **USSA’s SCHEDULE AGREEMENT** requires that the Chief of Timing & Calculations be appropriately certified for all USSA-sanctioned events; this requirement carries the responsibility of current USSA-membership. The Chief of Timing & Calculations for National Championship, NorAm Cup and World Cup events should be certified as Level 3 or higher Chief of Timing & Calculations.

12. **REVIEW OF TIMING DATA TECHNICAL REPORTS (TDTR):** Following a review of Timing Data Technical Reports (TDTR), the following timing issues have been identified as problems. Officials must familiarize themselves with proper procedures in order to eliminate these problems:
- a. The TDTR is a FIS form that is used for both FIS and USSA-scored events and for USSA non-scored Junior Championship events (e.g. Non-scored J3, J4, J5 Junior Championships). Its requirements include name, version and publication date of race result software and verification that timing data agrees with the timing tapes.
 - b. Please note the only permissible way to install photocells is on wooden posts which have been cut partially through on the uphill side to facilitate breakage if impacted by a racer. Rules do not permit the use of metal tripods, etc., to install photocells. (Please refer to the FIS Timing Booklet for proper setup of photocells.)
 - c. Timekeeping equipment must be synchronized no more than one hour before the start of each run. If more than one hour has elapsed since synchronization, the process must be repeated.
 - d. For any event, re-synchronization of the timekeeping equipment must take place before start of the second run.
 - e. Proper synchronization and “synchronization plus one minute” procedures require that the start wand be opened. This action verifies that the entire system is operating properly.
 - f. At “synchronization plus one minute”, the timekeeping equipment must be within .005 second. If this degree of accuracy has not been obtained, the process must be repeated to ensure proper synchronization.
 - g. Proper synchronization can only be done to the Whole Minute (8:40). It is not possible to synchronize clocks to thousandths of a second (8:40:28.789). If the TDTR lists thousandths of a second as the time of synchronization, it is clear that proper synchronization procedures were not followed and the Technical Delegate must notify the state/division Alpine Officials Chair so the issue can be addressed.
 - h. All time-of-day (ToD) data on the TDTR must be to at least the thousandth of a second (.000) and all net times must be truncated to the hundredths of a second (.01).
 - i. The Technical Delegate and the Chief of Timing and Calculations must compare the **actual timing tapes** to the information supplied on the TDTR.
 - j. The Technical Delegate and the Chief of Timing and Calculations must provide current contact information and both of them must sign the TDTR.
 - k. Rules allow for the use of wireless timing in some situations, but this is a difficult process and should only be undertaken by high-level, experienced TC staff. Information regarding installation and use of wireless timing should be directed to the USSA Timing Working Group; contact USSA for regional members’ contact information.
 - l. A provisional rerun due to malfunction of the timekeeping system is at the discretion of the Jury (623.1.2). A calculated replacement time using manual/hand timekeeping is preferred.
13. **PROVISIONAL STARTS OR RERUNS:** When making a determination on the validity of a provisional rerun, the Jury must evaluate the following, many of which are included in the very clear provisions of 623:
- a. Did the competitor cross the finish line?
 - b. If obstructed while racing, did the competitor stop immediately and apply to any member of the Jury for a rerun?
 - c. Does the claimed obstruction meet the requirements of 623.2 – Grounds for Interference?
 - d. Did the claimed obstruction cause significant loss of speed or lengthening of the racing line and consequently affect the competitor’s time?
 - e. Was the competitor’s request for a rerun not valid because they had committed a fault (gate fault or start procedure fault) prior to the obstruction/interference? (628.7)
 - f. Does the Gate Judge have any comments or notes? (666.1)
 - g. Any competitor who is granted a “provisional” start or run must be reminded of its provisional nature. Granting a “run”/”start” and not clarifying its “provisional” nature will not allow the Jury to address the validity of the competitor’s request.

h. The Jury is not obligated to provide provisional reruns. It may be that an athlete will be denied a rerun due to situations outside of the control of the Jury (e.g.: granting a rerun to a late running competitor would cause a considerable extension of the competition by allowing them to return to the start for their rerun).

i. Only the Jury can validate a provisional start or run.

There are no provisions in USSA/FIS rules that allow for the penalization of a competitor who is having a slow run and who is subsequently granted a provisional rerun because of an obstruction as defined by the rules.

14. **RERUNS REQUIRED BY BROKEN GATES:** Every case must be checked individually; the Jury on site is the only group that can decide, based on the particular and detailed circumstances, if interference occurred.

15. **RACE RESULT SOFTWARE SOLUTIONS:**

a. Verify that you are using an up-to-date version of the software. Delete previous seasons' Points Lists.

b. If required for reference purposes, store previous seasons' races on an external storage device (hard drive, CD or thumb drive).

c. If software "freezes", verify that you do not have an excessive number of programs running in the background. If you do have additional programs open, start shutting them down until your software starts responding again.

d. If it is necessary to load a corrected Points List, accessing USSA's ftp points list site and reloading the lists will not be adequate. When you request a download, the ftp site checks your computer, recognizes that the list is already loaded and does not overwrite the previous points list file. It will be necessary to delete the original version before downloading the current list.

e. When deleting points lists, it is important to remember that the lists may be stored in more than one area.

1) If not sure of actual storage locations, use "SEARCH" function, identify storage locations and delete the lists.

2) For USSA Race Software (Split Second), use the "online load points list" option and load required list only when the USSA ftp site says the list is not already loaded.

3) After reloading required lists, refresh competitors' points and verify them against the appropriate source.

4) If you are having problems retrieving both USSA and FIS data for the same competitor, rekey the competitor's last name.

f. The USSA and FIS Points Lists found on the USSA website can be accessed and downloaded through a function in the software. *The FIS Points List located on the FIS website, although capable of being downloaded into the USSA software is not formatted for this purpose and eliminates the link between USSA competitor data and FIS competitor data. However, competitors' names/data for USSA FIS events must be verified against and must agree with competitors' names/data on the FIS website version of the Points List.*

g. Insertion of Competitors: If the Jury allows a competitor to be inserted in the field, assign an out-of-sequence bib number and the correct start number. Reassign start numbers for all subsequent competitors; this will create an offset from bib number to start number. Assigning a numeric plus an alpha character start number (e.g. 15A) for an insertion following the fifteenth racer can result in unexpected and possibly wrong outcomes. The start number is used for sorting and since an Alpha character is not a number, it will always be treated as a zero. (Geoff Elder, USSA Race Software)

h. If all screen selections are not visible, e.g. both *Official Results and Unofficial Results* or both *USSA Results and FIS Results*, you may need to adjust the DPI (dots per inch) or screen resolution on your computer. These options are available in the "Display" section on the "Control Panel".

i. It is strongly suggested that Snow Seed designations be removed from the race file immediately after Jury decides that the Snow Seed will not be used or immediately after these competitors do start.

16. **ATHLETE REPRESENTATION:** An athlete must be 18 or older in order to represent themselves at a Team Captains' Meeting or event. *A competitor may not be a member of the Jury or a Forerunner.*

17. **APPOINTMENT OF REFEREE AND ASSISTANT REFEREES:** Appointment of Referee and Assistant Referee is the responsibility of the Technical Delegate. This appointment is from among the most qualified, appropriately certified (Referee) individuals present. Inasmuch as these individuals are the competitors' representatives on the Jury, however, whenever possible, coaches should be appointed to serve as the Referee and Assistant Referee.

18. **JURY INSPECTION:** Jury must inspect course set and final installation of on-hill competitor security measures for all USSA-sanctioned events and confirm the daily Program (schedule); Team Captains are encouraged to attend inspection. Jury Minutes must be generated to document inspection and *approval by Jury and Team Captains* as well as the confirmation of Program (schedule). The Jury Minutes must be included in the submitted race result packet.
19. **HELMETS:** Helmets are compulsory for all USSA and FIS alpine events. Helmets used in FIS events shall bear a CE mark and conform to recognized and appropriate standards such as CEH, Din 1077, ASTM F2040, SNELL S98 or RS98 etc. Helmets with soft ear protection are only allowed in Slalom. **Effective November 2011: For alpine speed events (DH/SG), the helmets must fulfill additional requirements and must bear a specific label/markings on the outside shell stating “DH/SG”. This marking confirms that the additional requirements have been met.** *Please refer to current USSA and FIS rules for additional information. (“Precisions” to the ICR, 2012)*
20. **COMPETITOR’S OFFICIAL TIME:** Time is taken when a competitor crosses the finish line and triggers the beam between the finish cells. (611.3.1) Rules do not allow a competitor who misses a gate adjacent to the finish line, crosses the finish line and triggers a finish to hike up and complete passage of the missed gate. Disqualification of the competitor is mandatory under these circumstances.
21. **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." The Jury shall provide the athlete a full and complete opportunity to present his or her side of the case before imposing any sanctions. Failure to allow due process will open the decision to appeal.
22. **DOWNHILL EVENT:** An organizer is required to have the entire venue race-ready by the first day of official training. This includes, but is not limited to, availability of Forerunners and all required officials, including Start Referee, Finish Referee, medical personnel, Gate Judges and manual (hand) timekeepers. In addition, Downhill training is an integral part of the competition. All competitors and forerunners should be available and have the right to participate in all training runs. **USSA and FIS assign transmittal/codex numbers for all Downhill training runs; the assignment of these numbers is verification of liability insurance. “Special Training Runs” outside of the official training runs do not have USSA/FIS transmittal /codex numbers and must not be staged for forerunners or competitors that have not been able to participate in at least one timed training run prior to the actual event.**
23. **USSA MEMBERSHIP REQUIREMENTS:**
- USSA-SANCTIONED NON-FIS EVENTS:** Jury members, Jury Advisors (Start & Finish Referees), Chief of Course and Course Setters are required to be *participant members of USSA* as a Coach or Official. Competitors are required to have an appropriate competitor’s USSA participant membership. **USSA Associate members are not “participant members”**. Forerunners must have an appropriate USSA participant membership: competitor, masters, student or youth. **Qualified members of foreign federations recognized by FIS must hold a valid USSA membership in order to take part in any capacity at a USSA-sanctioned non-FIS event.**
 - USSA-SANCTIONED FIS EVENTS:** Jury members, Jury Advisors (Start & Finish Referees), Chief of Course and Course Setters are required to be *participant members of USSA* as a Coach or Official *or must be qualified members of foreign federations recognized by FIS*. 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. Age-eligible USSA participant members who are **not** FIS inscribed and who are serving as Forerunners **must** sign the “FIS Athlete’s Declaration”.
 - If a USSA Coach or Official member’s membership number on the USSA website membership roster is highlighted, this indicates that USSA has received the completed membership application. If the status, however, is PENDING, this is an indication that the member has not completed required background screening, and they must not be appointed to serve as Jury members, Jury Advisors, Chief of Course or Course Setters.*
 - USSA TEMPORARY REGISTRATION POLICY:** The Temporary Registration is primarily used to introduce new members to USSA programs with the goal of converting these individuals to full membership. However, other uses may also be appropriate. See examples below.
 - One time introductory opportunity for new athlete members for use as a recruiting tool
 - Grand Prix Junior Jam (Snowboard)

- 3) Foreign athletes competing in a USSA-sanctioned non-FIS event
- 4) USCSA National Championships
- 5) Alpine Masters – may purchase one temporary registration in a season
- 6) Other proposed uses – management approval required

The Temporary Registration is not a “membership” and does not come with any benefits other than the opportunity to participate/compete in the event in question. Provided the individual carries primary insurance, a temporary registration includes secondary accident insurance during the event. *Temporary Registration is not available for participation as a coach or official.*

Temporary Registrations are event specific (excluding Masters) and available to specified/pre-approved events only. A Temporary Registration may be issued for a time period not to exceed seven consecutive days, but is generally used for a weekend event. Use of this recruiting tool must be approved annually even if the event in question was granted use of a Temporary Registration in a previous season.

The current price of a Temporary Registration is \$25. The \$25 may be applied to the price of an athletic membership in the same sport in the same competition season.

Temporary Registrations are issued by the Member Service Department. Inquiries for Temporary Registrations will be directed to the Sport Director or Manager for the particular event and/or sport in question. Together the Member Service and Sport Directors will assess the athletic need and financial viability for the Temporary Registration.

NOTE: Temporary Registrations cannot be processed on-site. Please allow a minimum of two weeks for the registration approval and document preparation prior to an event.

24. NON-USSA ENTRY REQUIREMENTS FOR USSA-SANCTIONED FIS EVENT: Only National Ski Associations are entitled to make entries for international competitions. If a National Ski Association issues an entry authorization (travel) letter, USSA allows non-USSA athletes training with USSA clubs or attending USA schools/colleges/universities to be entered by their coaches. Due to issues controlling the entry into USA FIS events of some non-USA athletes, USSA is changing its policy regarding entry authorization (travel) letters.

- a. Every non-USA athlete’s authorization letter must be sent to Jeff Weinman (jweinman@ussa.org).
- b. Letters must be submitted directly by the respective National Ski Association; they will not be accepted if forwarded by the coach or the athlete.
- c. USSA will create a summary of these authorizations and will post that summary on the USSA website so Race Administrators and Technical Delegates can be confident of their validity.
- d. Foreign entries that are not submitted by the actual National Ski Association and for whom no authorization letter has been submitted to USSA for verification must not be accepted.*
- e. Authorization letters will only be recognized for FIS category and below. Entries for Nor-Am Cup and National Championships must be submitted directly by the respective National Ski Associations.
- f. *Alpine Canada Alpin (ACA) does not issue authorization (travel) letters; all Canadian entries must originate from ACA.*

*There is a possibility that small groups of foreign athletes may be training in North America and may seek entry into USSA FIS events. These athletes will be represented by coaches from their National Ski Associations and are authorized to submit entries. Because the athletes are not members of a USSA club or are not attending USA schools/colleges/universities, their authorization letters may not be on file with USSA. Please contact Competition Services prior to denying entry.

25. USSA ONLINE MEMBERSHIP APPLICATIONS: USSA membership registration may be completed online through a link on the USSA website.

- a. Registration must be submitted only by those 18 & older. Parent or legal guardian must submit registration for those under 18.
- b. Registration must be submitted by the authorized membership card holder.

- c. A User Account must be established; *multiple memberships can be associated with and managed by one User Account.*
- d. Insurance information will be required or the individual will have to complete an online “Medical Exception Agreement”.
- e. “Assumption of Risk & Release of Liability” will have to be reviewed and accepted.
- f. “*USSA Concussion Policy*” will have to be reviewed and accepted.
- g. Individuals whose membership registration requires background screening will be directed to a link that will initiate the screening process upon acceptance of the registration by USSA. *Approximate background screening approval turnaround is increasing. For those residing in the U.S. for 7 years or more it can take as long as 2-3 weeks; turnaround for foreign coaches and officials or for those who have lived abroad can take several months.*
- h. Members whose membership requires background screening will be listed as “PENDING” in the membership category on the USSA website. Officials whose status is “PENDING” must not be appointed to serve as a Jury member, Chief of Course, Jury Advisor (Start or Finish Referee) or Course Setter at a USSA-sanctioned event.
- i. Rush fees and/or late fees will be automatically applied to the credit card transaction.
- j. When USSA receives a ‘green light’ on the background screening from NCSI, membership card can be printed from the website.
- k. If background screening is not required, membership will be finalized immediately and the USSA website will be updated. A USSA membership card can be printed from the website or saved to your computer.
- l. *Due to privacy concerns, Member Tools, including Club roster, Member Lookup, Member List, Card Print, etc., will require login access.*
- m. *Chat support will be provided within online registration.*
- n. The following membership registrations cannot be accepted online; they must be processed with hard copy applications.
 - Registration for Associate Members
 - Registration for foreign competitors (X-membership) wishing to compete in USSA non-FIS events
 - Registration for Lifetime Members

26. **MEDICAL EXCEPTION AGREEMENT:** USSA members are required to obtain and maintain primary medical and accident insurance. Under special circumstances, a member may ask for an exception to this requirement. In this instance, the Medical Exception Agreement must be completed and filed with member’s membership application. (Parent/guardian signature required; please refer to form.)

27. **TEAM CAPTAINS’ MEETING AND THE DRAW:** According to USSA and FIS rules, draw must be conducted (or confirmed) at a Team Captains' Meeting. An actual meeting, attended in person 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 ROC, as well as conveying ROC requests and information. It is also a critical element for risk management and liability-related matters. (Refer to 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 on the morning of the race (preferably as early as possible) or immediately after the completion of a race for the next day's event.

For all Team Captains’ Meetings for all USSA-sanctioned events, both scored and non-scored, (and regardless of where and when the meetings occur), an Attendance List must be available and signed by everyone attending the meeting and Team Captains’ Meeting Minutes must be generated and must be included in the submitted race result packet. The Event Medical Plan must be reviewed at the meetings and the Team Captains’ Meeting Minutes must reflect the review of the plan and its presentation to the Team Captains. *It is recommended that the ROC maintain the Team Captains’ Meeting as an alcohol-free event.*

28. **REPRESENTATION AT TEAM CAPTAINS’ MEETINGS:** Competitors who are not represented or whose entry has not been confirmed by telephone, e-mail or facsimile will not be drawn and shall be removed from the board.

[217.3] Team Captains representing competitors who are not members of their clubs must acknowledge this representation. *Clubs or athletes represented by a Team Captain from another club must acknowledge, in writing, receipt of a copy of Team Captains' Meeting Minutes and Program.*

29. **COMPUTER-GENERATED DRAW:** FIS rules require that a representative of each nation must sign the team entry at the Team Captains' meeting indicating their acceptance of a computer-generated draw. USSA rules, however, state that the *Jury can, with the approval of the Team Captains present for the event*, allow a draw assisted by computer. Only exception to USSA rule would be USSA non-scored events, e.g. YSL, where Start Lists are prepared according to TRS (random draw within class and gender).
30. **ELECTRONIC SEED BOARDS:** Electronic seed boards must 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.*
31. **USING THE 3 ACCIDENT REPORT FORMS:** The Jury, or an individual appointed by the Jury, must notify USSA of injuries at *all* USSA-sanctioned events (both non-FIS and FIS), where injury claims may result.
 - a. The American Specialty First Report of Accident (ASI) is used only for USSA members who are injured at either non-FIS or FIS events. The form has been updated for easier use and is available in the "Master Packet of Forms" on the USSA website. Regardless of level of the event, the ASI form must not be submitted to the FIS Bureau.
 - b. Regardless of the nationality of the competitor, all reportable injuries at USSA-sanctioned FIS events must be reported on the FIS "Notice of Injury" form. This is an online form and a copy must be made available for required, limited distribution.
 - c. Accidents that fit the "Guidelines for Serious Accident", whether non-FIS or FIS, also require the additional filing of the TD Accident Report.
 - d. Which Injury Report Form and When:
 - e. If an injury occurs during official training or competition to a USSA member at a non-FIS event, the ASI First Report of Accident is required. If the injury fits the "Guidelines for Serious Accident", both the ASI and TD Accident Report must be submitted.
 - f. If an injury occurs during official training or competition to a USSA member at a FIS event, both the ASI First Report of Accident and the FIS Online Report are required. If the injury fits the "Guidelines for Serious Accident", all 3 reports – ASI, FIS Online Report and TD Accident Report must be submitted.
 - g. If an injury occurs during official training or competition to a foreign competitor at a FIS event, only the FIS Notice of Injury is required. If the injury fits the "Guidelines for Serious Accident", both the FIS Online Report and the TD Accident Report must be submitted.
32. **AUTO SCORING OF MULTI-CATEGORY EVENTS:** In order for multi-category events sanctioned and administered as an event for each involved category, e.g. Ladies' and Men's J1, J2, J3 and Youth to be accepted by USSA's auto scoring system, results must be submitted individually and in xml format. A separate, assigned race code must be used for each gender and each category: Scored, Non-Scored and Masters. Youth events that consist of two one-run races must have *separate results and separate race codes* for each of the one-run races. The system will advise the sender of transmission errors.

USSA COMPETITION CONTINUING EDUCATION (UPDATE) 2011-2012:

1. USSA CONCUSSION POLICY:

- a. Any USSA athlete under the age of 18 years suspected of having sustained a concussion must be removed immediately from participation in USSA sporting event (e.g. sanctioned training, practice, camps, competitions or tryouts), by the Technical Delegate or USSA member coach overseeing such sporting event. The minor athlete will be prohibited from further participation until evaluated and cleared in writing to resume participation in USSA sporting events by a qualified health care provider trained in the evaluation and management of concussive head injuries. The health care professional must certify to USSA in the clearance letter that he/she has successfully completed a continuing education course in the evaluation and management of concussive head injuries within three years of the day on which the written statement is made.
- b. Upon removal of a minor athlete from participation for a suspected concussion, the USSA TD or member coach making the removal must inform USSA Competition Services. Athletes who have subsequently been medically cleared to resume participation must provide such medical clearance (as described above) to USSA Competition Services in order to be permitted to participate in USSA sporting events. (*A “Head Injury Evaluation” is available in the “Master Packet of Forms”.*)
- c. For all athletes competing in a FIS event, refer to current edition of the “USSA Concussion Policy” and the “FIS Medical Guide containing Medical Rules and Guidelines”.
- d. The USSA Concussion Policy requirements must be followed. However many states have also enacted head injury laws that may include additional requirements/restrictions. Please review the law for your state and, if required, contact USSA for direction. Additionally, if working in another state, you may wish to discuss with the Head Coach or Chief of Race, how the local club usually handles head injuries. This is a developing area of responsibility and it is important to be aware that USSA may provide further guidance in the future.
- e. Additional USSA Concussion Policy information is available at:
<http://www.ussa.org/magnoliaPublic/ussa/en/formembers/clubs/resourcecenter/concussion.html>

2. SINGLE GATE GIANT SLALOM has been approved for USSA competitions. Following is from the ICR Precisions; USSA ACR rules will mirror, when possible, rules of the FIS:

904 Single Gate Giant Slalom All rules of the ICR are valid, except as follows:

904.1 Single Gate Giant Slalom is permitted only in FIS level Competitions (see art 201.3.4, 201.3.4 and 201.3.6).

904.2 A Single Gate Giant Slalom has no outside gate, except for the first and the last gate and delayed gates.

904.3 Where there is no outside gate, both feet and ski tips must have passed the turning pole of the turning gate on the same side, following the natural race line of the Giant Slalom. If the racer has not correctly passed the imaginary line from turning pole to turning pole and does not follow the natural race line, then he has to climb back up and pass around the missed turning gate. Where there is an outside gate (first and last gate, delayed gate) art. 661.4.1. is valid.

904.4 *All rules and regulations dealing about the width of the course should be considered, as if there would be an imaginary outside gate.*

3. CERTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS FOR USSA NON-SCORED EVENTS:

- a. Referee, Assistant Referee and Course Setter must be certified Referees in order to officiate in the respective capacities at all USSA-sanctioned events – both scored and non-scored.
- b. Technical Data & Timing Report (TDTR) is required for non-scored USSA Championship events, e.g. J3, J4 Championships, etc.
- c. A flex pole standard of 25-27mm in diameter and a minimum gate height of 54 inches from the snow surface to the top of the gate shall be used for USSA J4 and under Slalom events.

4. HOMOLOGATED TIMING DEVICES:

- a. An extension of time has been granted for USSA non-scored competitions. With the exclusion of championship events, they may use expired (previously FIS homologated) timing devices. Devices should be replaced by the 2011-2012 season and must be replaced by the 2012-2013 season.

- b. An extension of time has been granted for USSA scored non-FIS competitions. With the exclusion of championship events, they may use expired (previously FIS homologated) timing devices. Devices should be replaced by the 2011-2012 season and must be replaced by the 2012-2013 season.
- c. USSA-FIS events must use currently homologated timing devices for all events.

FIS COMPETITION CONTINUING EDUCATION (UPDATE) 2011-2012:

1. **AVAILABILITY OF ICR:** Updated version will continue to be posted on the FIS website; Precisions may still be published.
2. **DOWNHILL TRAINING RESULTS:** Training results (TRA) in XML format must be submitted to FIS and to USSA. *Do not submit either a Technical Delegate Report or a Technical Data Timing Report (TDTR).* (Luessy; FIS Bureau.)
3. **FACTORS (F-VALUES):** Current factors used in calculation of race points/penalties are:
 DH: 1330 SG: 1060 GS: 870 SL: 610 SC: 1130
4. **FIS AGE REQUIREMENT:** For seasons 2011-2012, competitors entered in FIS competition must be 15 on or before 31 December of the respective season. Effective 2012-2013, competitors will have to be 16 on or before 31 December 2012.
5. **FIS TIMING BOOKLET:** Updated version FIS Timing Booklet 2.45 is available on the FIS website.
6. **SUPER COMBINED:** If the Slalom run takes place before the DH or SG, competitors who DNS, DNF or DSQ will start in the DH or SG run (with original bib) after the last competitor who qualified in the SL run. (Refer to ICR article 621.3.3; this is not valid for OWG, WSC, WC and EC)
7. **FIS POINTS LIST CALCULATION & INJURY PROTECTION:**

4.2 FIS Points / 4.2.1 Base FIS Points list (BL) The Base FIS Points list (BL) will be published middle of June.

4.2.1.1 The average of the best two results in each event during the past season will be used for the calculation of the BL list.

4.2.1.2 For a competitor who has obtained only one result in any of the alpine events (Downhill, Slalom, Giant Slalom, Super G or Super Combined), during the past season period, 20% (+) of his result will be added to the result.

4.2.1.3 For a competitor who has not obtained results in any of the alpine events (Downhill, Slalom, Giant Slalom, Super G or Super Combined), during the past season period, 50% (>) will be added to the previous BL points.

4.2.1.4 If the status as injured is approved, and a competitor has not started more than five (5) times in one event and/or fifteen (15) times across all events during the valid season 10% (#) will be added to the competitor's BL if the current points are not better than the protected points.

4.2.1.6 If a competitor drops out of the top 30 of the WCSL at the time of the BL calculation he will receive his real FIS Points (min. 6 FIS Points).

4.2.1.7 Correction Value (z): Before the allocation of points for the top 30 WCSL takes place at the beginning of the season a correction (z) will be made to all FIS points which comprises the difference between the points of the 31st competitor and 6 FIS points for the BL. **[FIS Council Meeting, Ljubljana SLO, June 2011]**

4.2.2 Normal FIS Points list (NL): The list number one will be published 1st July based on the BL.

4.2.2.1 The NL will reflect the average of a competitor's best two results in each event during the current period if the points are better as the BL.

4.2.2.2 If a competitor drops out of the top 30 of the WCSL during the current period he will receive his real FIS points if the calculated points are better than the BL (min.6 FIS Points).

4.2.2.3 Only One Result: With BL points: this result will be added to his BL points and divided by two. Without BL points: 20% will be added to his result.

4.2.3 Anti-Doping Rule violation: An athlete subject to an anti-doping rule violation will have previously achieved FIS points deleted, according to article 10.1.2 FIS Anti-Doping Rules.

4.2.5 Validity Period: The validity period of the results is the current season.

4.3 Integration of the World Cup Starting List (WCSL). The top 30 competitors on the WCSL will be allocated FIS points between 0 and 5.99.

8. **ELECTRONIC SUBMITTAL OF FIS RACE RESULT DOCUMENT PACKET:** Due to the short duration of time between FIS Lists and in an attempt to reduce paper use, FIS is requiring online submittal of FIS Race Result Document Packets and has also adjusted their reporting requirements.
- a. If the Technical Delegate files an online Technical Delegate Report, submit the following:
 - 1) Official, signed Timing & Data Technical Report (TDTR), signed by Technical Delegate and Chief of Timing. (*When online completion of this document is available, scanned/PDF submittal will not be required.*)
 - 2) Injury Reports (Serious accidents require filing of both forms.)
 - a. FIS Notice of Injury for minor injuries
 - b. TD Accident Form for injuries that meet Guidelines for Serious Accidents
 - 3) Official, signed with record of votes, Jury Minutes related to protests and/or sanctions
 - 4) Official Entry for 1st-run DNS competitor(s) where Technical Delegate cannot confirm injury/illness
 - b. If the Technical Delegate cannot complete the online Technical Delegate Report, submit the following:
 - 1) Signed Official Results
 - 2) Signed Penalty calculation – either the controlled penalty calculation made by computer or the approved form
 - 3) Official, signed Technical Delegate Report
 - 4) Official, signed Timing & Data Technical Report (TDTR)
 - 5) Injury Reports (Serious accidents require filing of both forms.)
 - a. FIS Notice of Injury for minor injuries
 - b. TD Accident Form for injuries that meet Guidelines for Serious Accidents
 - 6) Official, signed with record of votes, Jury Minutes related to protests and/or sanctions.
 - 7) Official Entry for 1st-run DNS competitor(s) where Technical Delegate cannot confirm injury/illness
 - c. Preparation for the above must include:
 - 1) Scan documents
 - 2) Save as PDF
 - 3) Compile PDF documents (in listed order) as a PDF booklet using the nation + FIS-assigned codex as booklet name (e.g. USA1234)
 - 4) Using the nation + FIS-assigned codex as e-mail subject (e.g. USA1234), attach individual race file booklets and send to: luessy@fiski.com as well as to assigned Technical Delegate. Verification of receipt/read of transmission(s) should be obtained and provided to Technical Delegate.
 - 5) If e-mail is not successful the documents can be faxed to the FIS Bureau at +41 33 244 6171.
 - d. Full race result document packets, containing the above documents as well as Start List, Referee Report(s), all Jury Minutes, Programs and Team Captains Minutes must still be electronically submitted to USSA fispackets@ussa.org. **The Technical Delegate should be copied with the transmission and for nations other than USA, the packets must also be sent to the Technical Delegate's TD Commissioner and the Technical Delegate's federation.**
 - e. Effective 2011-2012, per diem for FIS Technical Delegates increases to \$120 per travel/inspection/training/competition day; mileage allowance remains at \$.50 per mile. Technical Delegates' Expense Reports for all USSA-sanctioned FIS events, regardless of nationality of the Technical Delegate, must be e-mailed to USA FIS TD Commissioner Paul Van Slyke paul@twitchellsportswear.com. *The Commissioner will forward them to FIS in compliance with their request.*
 - f. Submittal of documents required for events scored to both USSA and FIS Points List as well as those required by respective divisions/regions are still in place.

- g. For complete instructions, refer to “FIS Race Result Document Packet” and “Distribution of Documents – FIS Event”, located on the USSA website in the updated “Master Packet of Forms”.
9. **COURSE SPECIFICATIONS:** Refer to current Precisions to the ICR for minimum/maximum vertical drop and gate count requirements for FIS events.
10. **COMPETITION EQUIPMENT:** Refer to current “FIS and USSA Equipment Regulations for Season 2011-2012” and/or current edition of FIS Specifications for Competition Equipment. Children I and Children II measurements will be enforced at all international children’s races. Athletes competing in the Whistler Cup and at Topolino must adhere to these as well as additional equipment specifications. There are no international children’s races scheduled by USSA. The responsibility for equipment remains with the athletes!

NOR-AM CUP AND WORLD CUP RULES: Rules have been revised; please refer to current rule books.

ALPINE OFFICIALS' INFORMATION:

1. **CERTIFICATION GUIDELINES:** Certification Guidelines have been updated; please refer to current edition as posted on the USSA website.
2. **MASTER PACKET OF FORMS:** Due to the many procedural changes for both USSA non-FIS and USSA FIS events, many forms have been updated. Please only use the forms included in the 2011-2012 “Master Packet of Forms” located on the USSA website.
3. **ADDITIONAL AO EDUCATION MATERIALS:** In addition to the “Timing Workshop” provided last season, a presentation addressing correct radio protocol will be available for review. A presentation addressing the challenges of correct passage for a missed single pole/single gate will also be available. Both presentations will be posted on the USSA website.
4. **CHIEF OF TIMING & CALCULATIONS:** This official supervises, documents and enforces quality control of timing operations. With the exception of lower-level events (e.g. YSL), where staffing might require it, the Chief of Timing & Calculations should not also be the individual operating the timekeeping equipment or the timing/race result software. Effective 2010-11, the Chief of Timing & Calculations for National Championship, NorAm Cup and World Cup events should be certified as Level 3 or higher Chief of Timing & Calculations. In addition, USSA’s Schedule Agreement requires that the Chief of Timing & Calculations be appropriately certified for all USSA-sanctioned events; this requirement carries the responsibility of current USSA-membership.
5. **ONLINE ALPINE OFFICIALS’ CLINIC STUDY GUIDES:** Study Guides for each specialty area are posted on the USSA website. Clinic attendees may download, print and read the applicable Study Guide prior to attending a USSA-approved Clinic, however, *downloading, printing and reading the Study Guide must not be substituted for actual attendance at a USSA-approved Clinic; it must not be used as a replacement for actual instruction at any USSA-approved Clinic.*
6. **CO & DM STUDY GUIDES:** Study Guides for Competition Official (CO) and Data Management (DM) remain in effect until updates are available and posted on the USSA website. Other specialty area Study Guides will expire and will be removed from the USSA website on June 1.
7. **EXAMINATION EXPIRATIONS:** Specialty-area examinations expire on June 1 of the of the respective competition year. Results from expired examinations are void and will not be accepted for certification.
8. **SECURITY OF EXAMINATIONS AND KEYS:** These documents, either current or from previous years, must not be made available for general study prior to actual testing. *Misuse, when documented, will result in non-acceptance of examination results.*
9. **DISPOSAL OF COMPLETED EXAMINATIONS:** Completed examinations are to be retained by the Clinic examiners; *they are not returned to the individuals taking them.*
10. **MATERIAL FOR EXAMINATIONS:** Examinations are open-book format. Allowing use of computers for calculations, 2nd Run Start List preparation, Penalties, article research and location, etc., defeats the purpose of having to KNOW how to perform the function and is strongly discouraged. *The Study Guide is not intended as a replacement for notes used during an open-book examination at any USSA-approved Clinic.*

11. **EXAMINATION FAILURE:** An official who does not earn the points required to pass an examination is NOT allowed to retake the failed examination until an updated version is available the following season.
12. **REFEREE, ASSISTANT REFEREE AND COURSE SETTER CERTIFICATION:** For all USSA-sanctioned events, these officials must be USSA-certified Referees. Jury Advisors (Start/Finish Referees) must either be certified Jury Advisors (JA) or certified Referees (RF). *For USSA-sanctioned FIS events, when a foreign FIS Federation lists a coach on their entry form, that 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.*
13. **OTHER CERTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS:**
 - a. In order to serve as a Chief of Race (CR) at a scored event (USSA or FIS), an individual must be, at a minimum, certified as a Level 1 Chief of Race (CR), Referee (RF), or Technical Delegate (TD).
 - b. USSA Schedule Agreement requires the Jury members, Course Setters, Chief of Timing & Calculations and *other key officials* be appropriately certified, USSA members.
14. **USING ONLINE RACE REGISTRATION SYSTEMS:**

Race Administrators/Data Management personnel who wish to use online race registration systems or who receive a master race file and download it for event are primarily responsible for competitors' data. All competitors' data must be verified against the original source: USSA for USSA non-FIS events and FIS website versions of FIS List for USSA FIS events.
15. **USSA TECHNICAL DELEGATE NOMINATION AND EVALUATION FORMS:** Forms are available in the "Master Packet of Forms".

USSA MODIFICATIONS TO ICR:

The following modifications do not apply to FIS events.

1. **TIMING RULES:** There are differences between the ICR and the ACR regarding timing. Please review section 611.
2. **COMPUTER-GENERATED DRAW:** ACR 621.9 states the Jury can allow a draw assisted by computer. ICR 621.9 requires that the Team Captains sign their entry before the draw is conducted by computer.
3. **PLOMBS:** ICR 606.2.1 requires a "plomb" on DH, GS and SG suits certain FIS events; USSA does not.
4. **MONETARY SANCTIONS:** ICR 223.3.1 allows for monetary sanction at FIS events. ACR 223.4 prohibits monetary sanction at USSA events. It also prohibits the Jury at a USSA event from imposing a sanction that lasts longer than the event for which they are the Jury.
5. **ACCUMULATION OF PENALTIES:** ACR 223.3.2 allows the accumulation of penalties; ICR does not.
6. **VALID FINISHES:** ICR 615.3 states Finish line must be crossed on both skis, or on one ski, or with both feet. ICR 611.3.1 further states that 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. For the registered time to become valid, the competitor must immediately completely cross the finish line with or without skis. **USSA** states that a binding release more than 2 gates above the Finish line in SL, GS or SG or more than 1 gate above the Finish line in DH shall be considered as a clear DSQ. [U628.1.5, U629.4]
7. **PROTESTS:** ACR U640.1 adds "eyewitness testimony" as a supplement to the requirement for physical evidence.
8. **PENALTY POINT CALCULATIONS:** **USSA penalty point calculation** differs from **FIS** in that no "correction value" (adder) or "Z value" is added/subtracted from the basic calculation. In addition, "**Rules of the FIS Points**" states that at least five competitors have to be classified. **USSA** allows for the insertion of "ghost" racers/points and states that at least three competitors have to be classified. (*Refer to appropriate section of current Alpine Competition Guide.*)
9. **USSA APPLICATION OF VERTICAL DROP, MINIMUM TIME AND MINIMUM PENALTY:** When a USSA-sanctioned, scored event is submitted:
 - a. The minimum penalty for a non-FIS USSA race is 15.00; if penalty calculates lower, 15.00 must be applied.

- b. If the minimum vertical drop requirement is met, then the minimum time requirement does not apply.
- c. If the minimum vertical drop requirement is not met, the greater of the calculated penalty or the minimum penalty of 30.00 shall be applied.
- d. If the minimum vertical drop requirement is not met, but the minimum time requirement is, then the greater of the calculated penalty or the minimum penalty of 30.00 shall be applied.
- e. If the minimum vertical drop requirement and the minimum time requirement are not met, then the greater of the calculated penalty plus the additional penalty or the minimum penalty of 30.00 shall be applied.

FIS requires that, unless an exception is granted by the FIS Bureau, all vertical drop requirements must be met or the event will not score; there is no minimum time standard for FIS events.

10. **MINIMUM VERTICAL DROP PER RUN, ALTERNATE MINIMUM TIME STANDARDS AND ADDITIONAL PENALTY:** Minimum vertical drops, alternate minimum times and additional penalty adders when neither the minimum vertical drop requirement nor the minimum time requirement are met are fully explained in **CURRENT Competition Guide - Alpine; “Rules for Special USSA Race Penalty Calculations, Race Fails to Comply with Minimum Technical Standards”; “Application of Vertical Drop, Minimum Time and Minimum Penalty in Scoring a USSA Alpine Race.”**

11. **SEEDING:**

- a. **Adaptive seeding:** USSA allows for special seeding or by USSA points, whichever is more favorable in order to encourage Adaptive athlete participation in regularly calendared USSA competitions. This “Golden Rule” applies to Adaptive athletes competing in regularly calendared USSA competitions with 160 points or less in the discipline. They are to be seeded in special groups with start order: 16-20...36-40...56-60...etc., or by seed points whichever is most favorable. (Placement within groups is by USSA point ranking.) [U621.3.1, U621.10.3.1]
- b. **Additional seeding methods:** Special seeding formats can be used if currently approved by the Alpine Sport Committee and announced in advance of the competition. These include, but are not limited to, team seeding and TRS. Refer to current USSA Competition Guide for additional information.

12. **GATE JUDGES:** ICR eliminated “GO” and “BACK” responses to a competitor who has missed a gate. These commands --“GO” and “BACK”-- are included in ACR U663.1.2.

13. **USSA COURSE SPECIFICATIONS and USSA CHILDREN’S RULES:** These specifications differ from FIS; please refer to current edition of USSA ACR.

14. USSA J4 and younger is FIS Children I. USSA J3 is FIS Children II. These designations will be revised for the 2012-2013 season.