



Tri-State Alpine Ski Racing Association

TRI-STATE ALPINE SKI RACING ASSOCIATION

Agenda

Mission Statement - Old

The mission of Tri State is to provide a safe, fair ski-racing venue and to promote camaraderie, competitiveness, athleticism and sportsmanship in grass roots programs. We strive to maintain national and international standards through membership in USSS and continual coaches' education.

We envision our athletes becoming solid, productive citizens of the community and leaders of their generation.

We value the elements of individual achievement, teamwork and proper conduct in our athletes.

Proposed New Mission Statement

The mission of TSASRA is to create a positive framework and healthy environment which promotes camaraderie, competitiveness, athleticism, and sportsmanship in grassroots alpine ski racing programs.

“The friendships made in Tri-State last a lifetime.”

General Business

1. BOD Spring Meeting Minutes
2. BOD Meeting Minutes September 23, 2020
3. BOD Meeting Minutes, October 8th, 2020
4. Treasurer's Update
5. Report from Alpine Officials
6. Reports from Competition Chairs
7. Report from Regional Chair
8. ACC Report

Old Business

1. Schedule TBA

MEETING MINUTES

BOD 5-27-2020



Tri-State Alpine Ski Racing Association

**TRI-STATE ALPINE SKI RACING ASSOCIATION
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING**

May 27th, 2020

Telecommunications Via Zoom

TSASRA Board Members

- Mike Kemmer - Tri-State President
- Bruce Diamond – Tri-State VP
- Bob Zuber - Tri-State Treasurer
- Bill Sherpa – Tri-State Secretary
- Mark Coleman – Tristate U19+ Chair
- Gretchen Sonju – Tri-State U16 Chair
- Richard Hanbury- Tristate U10-U14 Chair
- John Higgins – Tri-State Alpine Official
- Kyle McLane – Tri-State CYSL Chair
- Brian McBride- Tri-State Eastern Chair
- Robert Hazen– Tri-State Western Ma Chair (Interim)
- Duane Bass- Tri-State Member at Large
- Jim Pietrovito- Tri-State Collegiate Chair
- Greg Knight – Interclub Chair

Meeting Convened at 7:11pm

Mission Statement

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General Business

S20-G01 The President called the meeting to order.

Motion to accept

2nd Bob Zuber

Discussion

Unanimous Voice

Opposed

Abstain

S20-G02

Motion to accept Meeting Minutes

Bob Zuber

2nd Mark Colman

Discussion

Unanimous Voice

Opposed

Abstain

TREASURER’S REPORT

Motion to accept

Greg Knight
2nd Mark Colman

Discussion

Direct deposit to TSASRA account from Adminskiracing for TSASRA Head Tax. Bnet materials for repair and build fees explained.

Greg Knight suggestion to move monies into savings account.

Mark McCartney discussion cost and budget for each Championships. Again emphasized a breakdown of Championships is broken down. Historically, Championships run at a break even

Unanimous Voice

Opposed

Abstain

TRISTATE ALPINE SKI RACING ASSOCIATION 10/01/2019-05/01/20 Treasurer's Report/Profit and Loss				
<u>Expenses</u>			<u>Income</u>	
Salary/Laura	\$	8,750.00	Int. Income	\$ 8.61
Admin Expenses		1306.43	USSA Trad AP	\$ 36,948.91
Authnet Gateway	\$	105.00	Deposits/Laura	\$ 92,194.00
Office Supplies	\$	428.93	Education Income	\$ <u>400.00</u>
Insurance	\$	1,256.00	Total Income	\$ 129,551.52
Misc Supplies	\$	9,587.05		
B Net Related Expenses	\$	27,777.98		
Donation	\$	1,000.00	Income	\$ 129,551.52
Championship Expenses	\$	70,509.19	Expenses	\$ <u>(126,010.27)</u>
Education Expenses	\$	3,629.69	Net	\$ 3,541.25
Laura (error)/corrected	\$	1,000.00		
Refunds	\$	<u>660.00</u>	Checking Acct. Balance 05/01/20	\$ 134,163.92
Total Expenses	\$	126,010.27	income	\$ (3,541.25)
			Checking Acct. Balance 10/01/20	\$ 130,622.67

Expenses											
Insurance	Laura/Expense	Salary/Laura	Office Supplies	D Net Related	Misc Equip. & Supplies	Authnet Gateway	Donation	Administration	Chairs	Education	Re funds
									\$ 500.00		
									\$ 500.00		
									\$ 11,057.00		
									\$ 8,650.00		
									\$ 15,000.00		
									\$ 792.28		
		\$ 1,250.00			\$ 628.89	\$ 15.00			\$ 2,316.25		
		\$ 1,250.00			\$ 194.15	\$ 15.00			\$ 3,012.65	\$ 185.10	
		\$ 1,250.00	\$ 47.88	\$ 110.98	\$ 7,900.00	\$ 15.00			\$ 7,261.00	\$ 42.59	
		\$ 1,250.00	\$ 97.22	\$ 17,046.00	\$ 276.24	\$ 15.00		\$ 224.80	\$ 1,710.00	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 400.00
		\$ 1,250.00	\$ 21.20	\$ 8,100.00	\$ 14.83	\$ 15.00		\$ 432.00	\$ 17,988.00	\$ 325.00	\$ 120.00
		\$ 1,250.00	\$ 75.84	\$ 21.00	\$ 167.94	\$ 15.00		\$ 490.36	\$ 350.00	\$ 1,827.00	\$ 105.00
\$	1,256	\$ 1,000	\$ 186.79	\$ 2,300.00	\$ 405.00	\$ 15.00	\$ 1,000	\$ 159.27	\$ 472.00	\$ 250.00	\$ 55.00
\$	1,256	\$ 8,750	\$ 428.98	\$ 27,777.98	\$ 9,587.05	\$ 105	\$ 1,000	\$ 1,506.48	\$ 70,509.19	\$ 3,629.69	\$ 660
INCOME											
Deposits	Interest	USSA Trade Aff	ed Income							Total Expenses	\$ 126,010.27
\$	332.00	\$	5,295.00								
\$	256.00	\$	10,821.51								
\$	31,565.00	\$	2,088.26								
\$	79,400.00	\$	7,758.93								
\$	25,690.00	\$	1.11	\$ 2,821.79							
\$	2,163.00	\$	1.15	\$ 4,777.84							
\$	890.00	\$	0.94	\$ 4,710.16							
\$	482.00	\$	1.02	\$ 4,189.06							
\$	414.00	\$	0.99	\$ 2,277.4							
\$	356.00	\$	0.86	\$ 209.40							
\$	316.00	\$	1.36	\$ 75.27	\$ 150.00						
\$	328.00	\$	1.18	\$ 28.95	\$ 250.00						
\$	92,194.00	\$	8.61	\$ 56,948.91	\$ 400.00						
					Total Income						
					\$ 129,551.52						

ALPINE OFFICIAL CHAIR REPORT

Tri-State Alpine Officials Report

May 2020

Season

In between a few early season weather-related postponements and a COVID-19 terminated championship season, Tri-State managed to run a complete race schedule. The addition of three new Tri-State TDs this season greatly improved our ability to cover all of our events (although we did enlist the support of a NHARA TD for a few).

By the Numbers

- 360 USSS registered AOs, 51% hold at least one specialty area certification
- 7 Alpine Official clinics hosted
- 114 Tri-State AOs (32%) attended at least 1 clinic this season
- 15 TDs (13 worked Tri-State events)
- 36 events, 72 race codes calendared (excluding SkillsQuest events)

Alpine Official Clinics

Tri-State hosted 7 Alpine Official clinics in the fall including: 3 Update Clinics, a level 1 Timing clinic (WPI ski team), 2 Referee/Jury Advisor clinics, and a CR clinic. A few Tri-State members attended various out-of-division clinics and/or the FIS TD Update.

Course Homologations

As noted at all Tri-State meetings since May of 2019, Tri-State had 11 venues with race trail homologations expiring this fall (Nov 2020). At least 6 of these venues/clubs have submitted applications for re-homologation in the past year. Three have completed the process, the other three are still 'in-process'. It is important that the five remaining venues get their applications underway if they plan to host sanctioned US Ski & Snowboard events this upcoming season. Homologation and application information can be found here: <https://usskiandsnowboard.org/sport-development/officials-development/alpine-homologation>

Re-homologation Status:

Complete: Blandford, Bousquet, Sundown

In-Process (applications submitted, inspections may be complete): Butternut, Bradford, Thunder Ridge

Unknown: Catamount, Eaglebrook, Nashoba, Southington, Wachusett

Appeal

Tri-State received an appeal of official race results for a U16 event this season. After review, the Appeals Committee granted the appeal and ordered that the race results be recalculated. While the jury could have made this correction on race day, the error was not detected until a day or two later - after the tenure of the jury had expired (601.4.4.2). The only available mechanism to 'correct' an error in the official results was an appeal (647).

AO Education

TD Workshop: The US TD Working Group and AO Education Working Group have identified a need and have

begun to develop a 'TD Workshop' that will become mandatory for all TDs. The workshop is expected to cover a wide range knowledge/skills/issues that TDs commonly face in the preparation for and execution of their TD responsibilities at assigned events. The intent is to ensure that we are maintaining a high level of proficiency amongst all US TDs. This workshop will become part of a continuing education program.

AO Clinic attendance: The biennial AO clinic attendance requirements are expected to become 'bi-seasonal'. AOs, who have not yet attended a continuing education clinic in the 2nd season following their last clinic attendance (i.e. Last Clinic Season + 2), will be ineligible to serve as course setters, TC, RA, jury members, etc. until they fulfill their bi-seasonal clinic requirement - irrespective of any pending credential downgrade.

Tri-State: There are still a number of Tri-State events being staffed by AOs lacking appropriate certifications. It is the responsibility of the Race Organizer (RO) to ensure that that all of their supplied AOs are properly trained and credentialed. Further, TDs should verify this requirement with the RO and verify that their own Referee (and the jury's course setter) appointments are properly credentialed as well.

Alpine Official Credentials

Every alpine official is responsible to monitor his/her own credentials:

- If you attend an AO clinic or take an AO exam outside of Tri-State, you should notify the Tri-State Alpine Officials Chair to ensure that you are properly credited for your clinic attendance/exam.
- If you discover a problem with your credentials as listed on your USSS membership card, check the USSS website (which provides the most up-to-date listing of your credentials). If they are in error, you will need to contact the Tri-State AO chair to have them corrected. Requests to Park City for credential corrections are forwarded to the divisional AO chairs for review and authorization.
- If you believe that you are qualified for an AO credential upgrade (as per the Certification Guidelines found in the Master Packet of Forms), contact/submit any required documentation to the Tri-State AO Chair.
- To maintain your alpine official credentials, you must attend an AO clinic every two years as a minimum or risk loss of your credentials. Annual clinic attendance is strongly suggested.

Discussion

Regarding outstanding TSARA Homologations and contacts

Respectfully,
John Higgins
Tri-State Alpine Officials Chair

COMPETITION CHAIR REPORTS

U19+ Competition Report

2020 Season Review

The season started ominously with several weather-related postponements and then came to an abrupt and unsatisfying end. There were 8 U19+ qualifying races (3 GS, 4 SL and 1 PSL), including 1 event designated as a joint qualifier for U16s. Berkshire East was forced to reschedule the opening races. Wachusett was oversubscribed and some U19s were excluded. The Jiminy two-day series over Super Bowl weekend was again at full capacity, with the entire Williams team coming for the GS on Sunday to race on their home hill in preparation for the

upcoming carnival (and set a penalty near the minimum of 40 points). Sundown was better attended than in prior seasons. While a lack of snow postponed the initial attempt to run a Parallel SL at Blandford, the race a month later was another success. Bousquet closed out the qualifying series with a large field and some of the Williams team showing up. In addition, there was an open U19+ non-qualifier race at Berkshire East in early March to allow 2nd year U14s to score. U16 participation for regular U19+ races ranged from 31-51% of the field (Wachusett was 72% as it was a qualifier). The penalty points for races were a function of the EISA college carnival and FIS schedules.

<u>Date</u>	<u>Day</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Field</u>	<u>Penalty – M</u>	<u>Penalty - W</u>	<u>U16 Partic %</u>
12/31	Tues	Berkshire East	SL	229	95.51	129.87	48
1/5	Sun	Berkshire East	GS	228	159.78	166.01	51
1/26	Sun	Wachusett	GS*	251	173.48	144.47	72
2/1	Sat	Jiminy Peak	SL	233	107.71	138.74	45
2/2	Sun	Jiminy Peak	GS	240	48.57	48.56	45
2/9	Sun	Sundown	SL	161	128.94	163.99	34
2/16	Sun	Blandford	PSL	150	156.51	154.52	41
2/23	Sun	Bousquet	SL	153	81.67	59.57	31
3/8	Sun	Berkshire East	SL**	202	136.49	158.23	33

*Joint Qualifier for U16s & U19s

**Non-Qualifier Open (2nd year U14 Participation 28%)

Athlete Reimbursement Program

A total of 20 entry fees at 4 of the races were comped at a cost to TSASRA of \$1,200. Note that all but 2 of these spots were used by the Williams College team, which appreciated the goodwill gesture but would likely show up anyway for a local training opportunity. The cutoff points were raised to 95 for men and 115 for women, in line with the new USSS system. We promoted the program to VARA clubs, academies and other college teams in Tri-State, but it appears that most athletes at that level are chasing FIS points. The program has expired and will need to be approved for next season.

Eastern U19+ Finals

The decision to cancel all events after March 15th disappointed the 54 Tri-State athletes (quota of 42 plus 12 alternates) set to participate in the Eastern U19+ Finals at Gore. A PSL was planned, justifying its use for qualifying despite not counting for the points list.

FIS

There were 7 men and 8 women from Tri-State who competed in FIS events. This remains a small group, but some of our best and most committed U19 athletes. Tri-State used its 3 automatic quota spots per gender for starts at every Development series race. There were no FIS Devo Finals scheduled this season, reducing some incentive to participate in our U19 qualifying series, which was previously used to select the top 3.

U19+ Competition Rules

The selection criteria for Gore was changed to best 2 of 8 race results (not “one less than half”) due to multiple rescheduled races, field size limitations, conflict with FIS etc. Our FIS quota allocation method had been ambiguous and disadvantaged first years, so we added a provision for the top athletes from the prior season’s U16 qualifying series to have priority for the first FIS Devo series, then to use national points ranking going forward.

Discussion Topics

Renew the reimbursement program with revised point cutoff
Replace Blandford PSL if necessary
Race Entry Guidelines – give priority to U19s due to qualifying, use LIFO for U16s
Inconsistent entry procedures with no late or same day registration at some venues
Remove Wachusett from U19+ qualifying (but keep the GS race open to them)
Add another suitable GS venue
Require one result from each discipline?
Limit field size: 200 GS, 220 SL (none for PSL)
Athletes interested in FIS are expected to double, but 3 quota spots for 30 doesn’t work
Need to adjust quota criteria and manage expectations for large group of YOB ’04
FIS age change proposal – allow starting at 15 instead of 16 years old (college prep)
FIS team coaching – offer athletes additional training and representation at races

TriState Childrens Competition Committee Report – Spring 2020

This past season dealt us some pretty unusual challenges, from extraordinarily warm weather in January, to the Covid-19 virus in March. While all the U14 Eastern Regional post-season events were cancelled (some while people were actually driving to the event), the entire TriState racing season was completed before everything was brought to a halt by USSS around March 20.

USSS Camps - During the season, U14 TriState Athletes attended USSS camps for GS, SL, SG and Parallel. These camps were directed by Kathy Okaniewski with the help of program coaches and Ed Staff who were running Level 200 clinics on-site. Kathy split the genders this season opening up the camps to a larger population. The TriState quota to most of these camps was 5 girls and 5 boys. This was a new concept and it proved synergistic. My personal experience at the U14 Parallel Camp in NJ, I observed that the L200 participants got to practice setting drill courses and see how they ran with actual athletes. The L200 participants also provided added muscle, when it was time to set and break-down the venue and good conversation at lunch.

TriState Speed Camp – Ed Bassett worked very hard to make sure that our TriState Speed Camp returned this year. This years camp was held at Killington Feb. 2 and 3, thanks to a new partnership that Ed forged with KMS and KSC

TriState Championships - Berkshire East hosted a successful U14 Championship and the Mass Region put on another highly successful Banquet at a new location in Pittsfield. The following weekend, Mt. Southington and Ski Sundown hosted the U12 Championships and Banquet, enjoying a firm pisté, despite the late date.

U14 Points Opportunity - A week later BEast hosted an Open Scored SL “points opportunity,” for our second-year U14’s, that was well attended – many thanks to the U19+ committee for putting that together. Feedback was positive.

Champs and Eastern Team Swag – Once again, TriState ran an online store to provide our U14 Eastern Teams with team jackets. Jackets were available for the Eastern Champs Team and the Eastern Finals Team. Due to the early date of U14 Champs, and a ready jacket supply at our online store, the orders were processed in time for the Championships. We also sold Championships Sweatshirts in the online store. Many thanks to John Borwick for taking the point on that effort. As we did last season, TriState purchased custom bibs for the TriState U14 Championships, which the racers kept as mementos. TriState, embroidered patches, were given out at registration to all racers as an added trinket. At the TriState U12 championships, each athlete received a Tristate patch and an embroidered neck warmer. We might want to consider making the bibs a gift at U12 Champs also, since the host mountains don't generally have youth size bibs to distribute - some of the little U12's were swimming in their bibs.

Eastern Regional Events - The Eastern Region Post-Season events, U14 Eastern Championships and U14 Eastern Finals, were both cancelled due to Covid -19 concerns. The communication between our families and the coaches was very good, and every family received email confirmation of the event status well before the official USSS email came from Sam Damon, hopefully saving people some unnecessary travel. Thanks to the coaching team for keeping us all in the loop.

While interest in the new U14 Finals was strong, we will have to wait another year to find out how that event will run. The TriState Quotas for both U14 Eastern Champs and U14 Finals will not change for next season. 15 to Eastern Champs and 44 to Eastern Finals. The New York U12 Future Stars was also cancelled and our quota of 10 boys and 10 girls was filled. TriState was offered additional spots to this event, as the northern states tended not to fill their quotas, but at that late date it was difficult to fill all of those spots.

Upcoming Changes -

There are several new items that came up for discussion at the Eastern Alpine Competition Committee that will affect us in TriState next year, as well as an age bracket change that **may** affect us this year or next year. The Eastern Childrens' Committee received a "health of sport" proposal for discussion that pushed for removing the stress of constant qualifying to qualify. The proposal to eliminate all qualifications for U14 Divisional Championships (like our TriState Champs) was made and was passed by the EACC back in April. There is an amendment to the original proposal waiting for approval, but I do not think its basic tenets will change. At the moment the final draft of the proposal is not known.

While our U12 Championships have never had qualification standards, MASS and CT currently use the results of their regional race series to qualify athletes to the U14 TriState Champs. In the last few years we have increased the field from 120 to 150 racers for the Championships, however there are over 400 registered U14 racers in TriState, and the prospect of a 200 athlete field, split by gender is daunting. In the coming months the Childrens' Committee will discuss ways to host a quality event with no qualifications. It is important to note that results from the U14 TriState Championships will still be used to qualify athletes for U14 Eastern Championships. Ultimately it is expected that U14 Easterns will have no qualification standards. This change will give us the opportunity to rethink our competition schedules, as U14 Easterns is expected to be pushed deeper into March to give more flexibility in our scheduling.

The second item is a potential age class change that will accompany a FIS proposal to be voted on at the fall FIS meeting. I don't know exactly what that will mean for this coming season, if it passes. There are other proposals in the works that might make race points irrelevant to U14's. Stay tuned.

Respectfully Submitted,

Richard Hanbury

Tristate U16 Report Spring 2020

Participation

Chart with the number of boys and girls over the past 3 years.
Breakdown by subdivision.

Regular Season

· We scheduled U16 race series, including the two races which comprise Tristate U16 Championship weekend. The idea was to allow for more training.
There was lots of feedback- some coaches loving the arrangement- others thinking it was too compact and hard on kids.

U16 Tristate Championships were held back to back at Jiminy Peak rather than mixing venues.

Selections

· U16 Eastern Championships – 3 girls and 5 boys.
· U16 Eastern Finals – 11 girls and 13 boys. We received an extra spot from Eastern Office for girls due to a miscalculation in our Eastern Champs on the girls side. Original calculations for the race done by JP used an old points list- when points were updated on USSS- we realized that there was an error. I think in lieu of the absence of the Eastern Championship races in the U19's, U16 and U14 levels, respectfully submit that we should ask the Board to provide a Tristate-wide email, while posting the same to the front pages of the U19's, U16 and Children's webpages an announcement as to accomplishments and the naming of the teams? So for example, VT, NY, NH and Maine provide a listing of the athlete's name, year of birth and club, as a means to honor the athlete and their accomplishments. Some use their point standings, but most simply provide the listing as to which team "they made".

Projects:

Mittersill-MEN TSARA received 3 spots- requested 2 more and all were used-boys said it was a great learning experience

ALL POST SEASON RACES WERE CANCELLED DUE TO COVID 19

Expenses:

See Report

- **Bibs**-\$3012.15 (LS)
- **Awards**- Bob Hazen ordered through Veneto: \$339.69
- **Patches** – \$176.70 (LS)

Course Setting

Please have everyone review role of Ref in the process. Too much input from people following along. Important to have Chief of Race or the home hill "helper" explain the hill a bit- but other than that it should really be a fresh set.

Hosting Guidelines

- Publish the program. Exact time and location of the TCM, inspection, first run start, etc. should be published ahead of time and posted on the Tristate website and should be available at the registration table. The program is a mandatory requirement (ACR 213, 214; MPF 9)
- Suggest staggered timing of TCM and lifts for athletes / inspection. Coaches should have an opportunity to attend the TCM and board the lifts with or ahead of their athletes so that they can properly advise them with regard to method of inspection, etc. Top of the course must be staffed with a start Ref who should be stationed prior to the coaches/athlete lift and who controls the inspection timing (opens and closes inspection) and clearly communicates the method.
 - *If I could add here, host programs should be aware that the last gate, finish line and finish arena are all part of the race course and subject to athletes and coaches purview. Some hosts feel the finish beam should not be broken during inspection, which is not a rule, rather sets up a cross rut and or track adverse to the line of safe passage.*

Second run start orders should be printed and posted at the start and copies should be made available for coaches and placed on Live Timing ASAP; many of us use this as a means to determine 2nd run orders, and while the official line is to use printed copies in lieu of the fact that Live Timing is not “official”, we can still utilize this if we advocate for the use of this more efficient tool.

Program Contacts / U16 Leadership

- Need a single U16 point person for each program.
- Need more leadership driven at the program level.

Post Season Coverage

We worked out a spreadsheet and were covered completely for ALL U16 races if they were to have occurred.

Post Season Jackets

This marked the third year in which Tristate facilitated Eastern Team Jackets and Age Class Championship Hooded Sweatshirts, and the second year using Stadium Systems of Caanan, CT as our licensed provider.

Both clothing lines offered Tristate families the ability to purchase online, in which USSA Tristate did not incur operational or capital expenses other than time and energy expended by U9, U16 and Children’s Committees. The beauty of the online purchasing system eliminated the onus of Tristate to maintain inventory, or manage monies, credits and/or contracts.

The concept of the Championship Sweatshirts were built to celebrate the U16 and U14 Age Class Championships. In addition, it helped provide market impressions to support and quantify donations from our Tristate corporate sponsors. This past year, seventy-nine (79) Sweatshirts were purchased. Additionally, we offered the Eastern Team Jackets available to any U14 athlete who qualified into the Eastern U14 Championships, and further offered to anyone who subsequently qualified into Piche. The Jackets were also available to any U16 who qualified into the Eastern U16 Championships or Eastern U16 Finals. Lastly, the Jackets were also made available to any U19 who qualified into the Eastern U19 Finals. Identical to the Sweatshirts, the Team Jackets were available online as a direct purchase, in which we sold One Hundred and Eleven (111) Jackets this past year.

The benefits of these offers are included herein and above. Mainly, it really highlights an athlete’s season, in which team coats are the standard bearer. Additionally, it goes to highlight our paying sponsors, in which as part of their donation to Tristate, these companies are provided with market impressions, highlighting their brand.

As to the detractors, much rests within the timeline of purchases. For the past three years, we've had to open, close and then reopen the online sales' window. The challenge exists in which families are not timely within their ability to go online and purchase within the stated window. Each time the "store" closes and must be reopened, the timeline for production is pushed, in which quite a few Tristate families ultimately complained about the timeliness of their purchases.

Additionally, challenges reside in the fact that several clubs and parents opt on their own to create their own clothing, yet approach Stadium Systems to execute the work, at our negotiated contract pricing. The issue is not in regards to families who want to do their own thing, yet when they approach and press our clothing partner, to align with our negotiated rates and processes, eliminates the trust between Tristate and one of our market vendors. This breakdown diminishes our aggregate power in negotiating future buying programs. On a last note, and more of a Tristate concern, is within private parties using the registered trademarks of Tristate and USSA logos without authorization.

U16 Standings Methodology

- Described in Tristate U16 Rules.
- USSA point results from races in the Tristate U16 qualifying series only (excluding U19s at Wachusett GS and any U16s from outside the Division).
- Best 3 of 6 results are added.
- Athletes are sorted. Lowest point total is the highest rank.
- This method has been used for 3 years now utilizing USSA Point Results (including penalty); previously we used USSA Race Points.
- Pro: Accounts for strength of field.
- Con: Favors athletes who perform better later in the series (as the penalties decrease).
- Consider using:
 - o Place points
 - o World Cup points
 - o New World Cup points
 - o At least one result from each discipline
 - o Double Board (both internal standings and national points) (Bors) so we have some balance, a lot of the options had been discussed back when we started to score our U16 races, score as in our U16 races were USSA scored point result races. In that time, this committee chaired at the time by Roger Kimball, sought to provide some balance in our scoring, and a level of appropriateness/fairness to the rankings of our athletes. The sentiment of the coaches polled prior to our discussion rested on the quote, "we want to send our best", which had us playout the various options in which to rank our U16's, inclusive of USSA Race Points, USSA Point Results, Place Points and the Old and New World Cup Points. Double board was a system VARA uses, and introduced to this committee in the last two years. There was much discussion on the double board, and at that time, it was determined that it was a good system for Vermont, which had a slew of athletes of the same caliber, yet may not be a great system for Tristate. As for the WC Point system, or any change in the present system of scoring for our U16's, the U16 Committee should meet (albeit meet electronically), to discuss the options and best practices in our conclusions to the Tristate Board.

REGIONAL CHAIR REPORTS

Connecticut Regional Chair Report

The Connecticut Youth Ski League, Inc. (“CYSL”), acting as Tri-State’s Connecticut region for the U10, U12, and U14 age classes, consists of five (5) USSS member clubs: Mohawk Mountain, Mount Southington, Powder Ridge, Ski Sundown, and Thunder Ridge. CYSL will hold its spring Board of Directors meeting on June 4, 2020, remotely via video conference due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic.

1. CYSL 2020 Competition Schedule

Host	Event	Date	Age Classes
Mohawk	GS	January 5 (Sun.)	U10/U12/U14
Mount Southington	SkillsQuest/Parallel	January 12 (Sun.)	U12/U14
Thunder Ridge	Stubby SL	January 26 (Sun.)	U10
Thunder Ridge	SL	January 26 (Sun.)	U12/U14
Mount Southington	SL	February 2 (Sun.)	U10/U12/U14
Sundown	GS (CYSL Finals)	February 8 (Sat.)	U10/U12/U14

CYSL held six (6) events this season as part of its competition schedule. All occurred as scheduled, but not without weather and conditions challenges which have, unfortunately, become the norm. The season began with a GS for all age classes at Mohawk Mountain. The following week Mount Southington hosted an event for the U12 and U14 age classes featuring two components, a SkillsQuest competition and a parallel panel slalom, each with their own scoring and awards. This season marked the fifth season CYSL has hosted its skills-oriented event as part of a continued emphasis on skill development as part of its competitive activities. Special congratulations go to the team at Mount Southington who were able to put forth a tremendous effort to host what I can only assume was the warmest CYSL event in history with the mercury climbing to 68 degrees. Later in the month Thunder Ridge hosted two separate events on the same day, a stubby SL for the U10 age class and a regular (i.e., full gate) SL race for the U12 and U14 age classes. The stubby SL was held first and is scheduled apart from the U12/U14 race to promote skill development by providing an opportunity for U10s to learn SL in a less challenging environment while allowing U12s and U14s to sharpen their SL skills under U14 course setting rules. The following week, all age classes raced together in a SL at Mount Southington. The season concluded with the CYSL Finals GS at Ski Sundown. Saving Sundown—widely considered the most challenging venue on the schedule—for last was a decision, like so many other aspects of the season’s schedule, in part to promote season-long athlete development.

2. 2020 League Participation

In 2020, CYSL had 233 registered athletes across its three age classes which was only two (2) fewer than the previous season. That total number includes 140 boys and 93 girls, representing a ratio split of 60% boys and 40% girls. The charts below provide membership numbers across age classes in 2020 and the previous four seasons (2016-2019):

2020	Boys	Girls	Total
U10	26	23	49
U12	55	27	82
U14	59	43	102
Total	140	93	233

2020	Boys	Girls
U10	53%	47%
U12	67%	33%
U14	58%	42%
Total	60%	40%

2019	Boys	Girls	Total
U10	35	16	51
U12	61	39	100
U14	43	41	84
Total	139	96	235

2019	Boys	Girls
U10	69%	31%
U12	61%	39%
U14	51%	49%
Total	59%	41%

2018	Boys	Girls	Total
U10	37	16	53
U12	54	37	91
U14	42	35	77
Total	133	88	221

2018	Boys	Girls
U10	70%	30%
U12	59%	41%
U14	55%	45%
Total	60%	40%

2017	Boys	Girls	Total
U10	40	25	65
U12	41	37	78
U14	49	32	81
Total	130	94	224

2017	Boys	Girls
U10	62%	38%
U12	53%	47%
U14	60%	40%
Total	58%	42%

2016	Boys	Girls	Total
U10	40	22	62
U12	47	37	84
U14	44	36	80
Total	131	95	226

2016	Boys	Girls
U10	65%	35%
U12	56%	44%
U14	55%	45%
Total	58%	42%

3. Postseason Events in CYSL

CYSL hosted the U12 Tri-State Championships. Mount Southington and Ski Sundown shared the honor of welcoming all Tri-State U12s to Connecticut, with Ski Sundown hosting the Championship GS race on Saturday and Mount Southington hosting the Championship SL race on Sunday. Unlike recent years, the rain stayed away leaving excellent conditions both days which were perfect for racing. A U12 Tri-State Championship banquet was held on Saturday night, with Saturday's GS race awards presented.

Mohawk Mountain once-again hosted the Tri-State U10 Festival. Like last season, this was a one-day event, with a GS race in the morning, followed by a SkillsQuest competition in the afternoon. In all, 68 athletes (36 boys and 32 girls) from across Tri-State participated in the event.

Faithfully submitted,



Kyle McClain
Connecticut Regional Chair



TSASRA Zoom Board Meeting, May 27, 2020

Memo to the board prepared by Bob Hazen, Western MA Chair

- Season 2019/2020 went well aside from the abrupt close. I still can't get over how quickly things changed for our athletes and families.
- MAASRA u12/14 TSASRA qualifiers started with well received dual Parallel event at Butternut.
- We hosted a u14 Only Qualifier SL at Eaglebrook, also well received.
- Many thanks to our long list of volunteers and host venues.
- U14 Champs held at Berkshire East was a success. Good weather, decent conditions.
- Despite larger than ideal field sizes, our TSASRA qualifiers were managed well and finished on the early side of the afternoon which is a testament to how well run our races are.
- New seeding system was well received. We moved away from the ABCD system entirely.
- Butternut Race Team and Club received a well deserved award from USSS as noted here. Congrats Butternut Race Team and Club. It is an interesting list of clubs across North America. Well done!
- USSS's Eastern division and ECC have announced that an all inclusive championships of upwards of 400 u14s is a wise move. This will most definitely increase costs for families. It will add scheduling complexities too. If you don't like the concept, bring to the attention of USSS. Speak your mind as a USSS member.
- Let's hope and pray that we will all be ski racing in 2020/21, and as prep for next year's ski racing season, take a look at Doug and Kelly Lewis' fitness program called "Dig Deep". One thing our athletes can control is their fitness. I highly recommend following the Elite Team fitness routine. <https://elitem.com/summer-online-training-program/>
- U14 Champs P&L included.

USSS CLUB DEVELOPMENT

Congratulations to the following 13 clubs that achieved podium level certification or recertification this season:



- Butternut Race Club (Great Barrington, MA)
- Cooper Spur Alpine Team (Hood River, OR)
- Gould Academy (Bethel, ME)
- Heiliger Huegel Race Team (Hubertus, WI)
- Meadows Race and Big Mountain Team (Hood River, OR)
- Sky Tavern Race Team (Reno, NV)
- Smugglers' Notch Ski & Snowboard Club (Jeffersonville, VT)
- Team Utah Mountain Sports (Park City, UT)
- Telluride Ski & Snowboard Club (Telluride, CO)

INTERCLUB REPORT

Interclub Report 2020
End of Season Recap

Dear Tri-State Board:

2019-2020 was another successful year. Our numbers are still very strong as we continue to be the primary feeder program for Western Massachusetts Tri-State. This past year we had right around 350 racers from U7-U14 age groups.

We continue to have 5 races during the season. Looking forward that number may decrease to 4 races with the closure of Blandford. There are many coaches I have talked to that want more training days because the season is so short.

Skillsquest is still an important element of the league as the first race also incorporates 3 drills, (hockey stops, pole jumping, and inside ski drills) that are judged.

Finally we need to work on getting more of our coaches referee certified. We have done a much better job of getting coaches level 100 certified over the past few years but we still need referees and race officials. At most of our races, we have 2 maybe 3 of us who are always the referee at each race. I will be reaching out to John Higgins for help in the Fall to get more coaches Ref Certified.

Looking to 2021 season we do not know how this coronavirus pandemic will effect the ski industry, ski racing and the Interclub program. We hope that it will have minimal effect but need to be prepared for the worst as we plan ahead.

Be safe and healthy.

Sincerely,

Greg Knight
President

EACC, CONGRESS, FIS NOTES

Membership U.S Ski & Snowboard

1. Avalanche Awareness training for all members turning 18 and older (this is in addition to Safesport, Background check)
 - a. Early registration for membership will need to pay attention to the Safesport Refresher
2. Membership Card will only display members where all requirements have been met.
3. FIS registrations will be active one US Ski and Snowboard memberships are complete
4. Suggestion: register 3 weeks prior to participation

Fees

1. Masters \$12 to-\$135
2. Competitor
 - a. U12 under \$75 to \$90
 - b. U16 & over \$170 to \$185
 - c. Short Term \$30 to \$35
 - i. Short Term restricted to age 17 and younger
 - ii. May only be used for 1 event per season

Club

1. New Deadline of December 31, 2020. \$50 late fee will apply
2. Club Directories – only current clubs will appear

Congress, US Ski & Snowboard

Still waiting for official minutes on the following:

1. Possible change with minimum penalty and Max value points and GS vertical drop from 250 to 200
2. Junior Coach must take Coaching Fundamentals (along with Safesport, etc)
3. Fluoride Wax removed from all competition
4. Wax/ tuning tables U12-U14 removed from race venue and surrounding areas of the mountain.
5. One Ski restriction clarification – the race venue.

Confirmed

1. Alpine Officials Education Technical Delegates: Continuing education workshop for Technical Delegates every season. L
2. Level 4 clarification wording. Min 5 years of outstanding service
3. TD candidates' shadow and final must be at different venues with different TD's

FIS

Task force in place to review moving Ski Cross to Alpine and Ski Cross at FIS level at Alpine.

Eastern ACC

New proposed amendment below (3rd amendment) as of 5/27/2020. Vote of the ACC will be June 5th, 2020

The proposal that passed on 4/25:

"The ECC mandate that the divisions of the Eastern Region implement an all-inclusive divisional U14 championships during the 2020-2021 season. The purpose of this mandate is to enhance the development opportunities for our U14 athletes in the Eastern Region. The ECC believes that eliminating council or any other qualification for divisional championships will reduce the amount of stress on athletes during the main competition season, enable greater flexibility in race schedules, allow for productive training blocks, and provide opportunities to be more creative in elevating the level of competition available to our athletes."

TSASRA would like to amend this proposal to read as follows:

"Alpine ski racing in the Eastern Region minimizes use of "qualification ladders" for athletes U14 and under. Divisions are expected to reduce or remove qualifications for races throughout the season for U14 and under athletes.

All divisional U14s will be allowed to participate in their division's qualifying races to the U14 Eastern Championships and Finals.

U12s and under will not have qualification ladders. If there is a U12 divisional championship, it will be open to all divisional U12 competitors who wish to compete."

OLD BUSINESS

Bylaws

To: TSASRA Board of Directors
Date: May 15, 2020
From: Bylaws Committee
Re: Recommendations

First and most importantly, we hope you and your families are well in these unprecedented times. While the prospect of a physical meeting of members (and thus any vote to actually amend the bylaws) is extremely unlikely this spring, the committee thought a status report at the one-year anniversary would be helpful to stimulate discussion and make sure we weren't skiing off course.

As a reminder, this special committee was tasked at reviewing the TSASRA bylaws, governance and organization structure. During our assessment, we attempted to preserve what was working and improve what wasn't. Our primary objective was to make the Board less dysfunctional and more efficient in its decision making. The question Bob Brigham posed nearly 2 years ago was: How can we better and more effectively deliver the service that our mission charges us with? Attached are Bob's original "Thoughts for Going Forward," a summary of our recommendations, mission statement, operating procedures, an organization chart and the draft of the revised bylaws. If you only have time to read one document, please focus on the mission statement and provide any suggestions on how to improve it. If you want to wade through the entire package, we hope you'll notice the important (along with some trivial) changes. We truly appreciate your thoughts, will respond to comments and take no pride of authorship in this process. We recognize that this work is never really complete or perfect, but it seems like time for the Tri-State Board to plan for the future and make some recommendations to the membership.

At some point, life will return to a new normal, along with the sport we love and organization that helps deliver it.

Respectively Submitted,

Bob Brigham
Mark Colman
Bruce Diamond
Mark McCaughey
Kyle McClain
Bob Zuber

Bylaws Committee

5/15/20

Goals:

- Strengthen Executive Committee for leadership and decision making
- Refine Mission Statement to capture spirit of TSASRA

Recommendations:

- Align with most recent USSS (NGB) Bylaws (and make it rebranding-proof)
- Move age-groups and other provisions to Operating Procedures (future-proof)
- Each officer will chair a specific Committee to increase responsibilities and engagement
- Reduce unwieldy Board size (9 votes instead of current 14)
- Simplify voting process with only 2 elections for director positions per year
- Appoint single Competition Chair to head Competition Committee and sit on BoD
- Move Age Group, Collegiate and Interclub chairs from BoD to Comp Comm
- Clarify selection process for 3 Regional Chairs (give programs specific nominating ability)
- Remove Member-at-Large position due to Regional representation
- Officer roles subject to term limits of 3 2-year slots (Class C & D directors are appointed)
- Include Immediate Past President for continuity
- Removed requirement for 20% athlete representation on BoD (compliance impractical)
- Create standing Finance Committee, with explicit powers
- Create standing Education & Development Committee (replaces special Coaches Ed)
- Updated duties of officers, and added for Administrator and IPP
- No proxy vote for Board, as Bylaws permit telephone participation (and ballots)
- Removal from Board for good cause – need 2/3, can't serve again for 2 years
- Expand membership categories and voting criteria
- Added Force Majeure provision for postponing meetings

Amendment Process (Current Bylaws):

- BoD meeting notice must state that bylaws will be considered for recommendation
- Notice 3 weeks prior to members meeting must contain the proposed amendments
- Approval requires affirmative vote of two thirds of the members present at a meeting
- "At any such meeting a member must be physically present to vote" (Art. V, C.)
- Amendment becomes effective 45 days after approval by the Board of the Corporation

The Mission Statement for TSASRA

Current Bylaws:

The **mission** of the Tri-State Alpine Ski Racing Association, Inc. is to support the mission, vision and values of USSA by Tri-State Alpine Ski Racing Association, Inc.

Current Meeting Minutes:

The mission of Tri State is to provide a safe, fair ski-racing venue and to promote camaraderie, competitiveness, athleticism and sportsmanship in grass roots programs. We strive to maintain national and international standards through membership in USSS and continual coaches' education. We envision our athletes becoming solid, productive citizens of the community and leaders of their generation. We value the elements of individual achievement, teamwork and proper conduct in our athletes.

Proposed Bylaws:

The **mission** of TSASRA supports the vision of the NGB by providing safe and fair ski racing venues which will encourage our athletes to reach their full potential. We seek to create a positive framework and healthy environment which promote camaraderie, competitiveness, athleticism, and sportsmanship in grassroots programs. TSASRA members comply with all standards for membership in the NGB. We envision our athletes becoming well-rounded, productive citizens of the community, and leaders of their generations. TSASRA values the elements of individual achievement, teamwork, and proper conduct in our athletes. We hope that our clubs, coaches, officials, parents, volunteers, and fans will strive to set the tone for these values to flourish.

“The friendships made in TSASRA will last a lifetime”

TRI-STATE ALPINE SKI RACING ASSOCIATION, INC.
COMMITTEE OPERATING PROCEDURES
[DRAFT May 15, 2020 for approval]

In accordance with ARTICLE VI, Par. F. of the Bylaws, the TSASRA Board of Directors (“the Board”) may delegate responsibilities to standing committees or special committees designated “as it deems necessary and proper” by resolution. The Board establishes authority and limits of responsibility for each committee and selects members based on their special expertise and knowledge in the functional area of the committee. This document provides additional operating guidelines for currently established committees.

In addition to the requirements in ARTICLE VII of the Bylaws, each committee chair is expected to submit reports, minutes of all committee meetings and budgets if applicable to the Administrator at least one week prior to board and member meetings. Proposals for consideration should be submitted by members to the appropriate committee at least 30 days prior to meetings.

The functions of current committees fall into one or more of the following areas: Governance, Finance, Race Administration and Athlete Development.

Standing Committees:

Executive Committee – the President shall be the chair of the committee. The Executive Committee provides leadership in policy making and decision approval, and as such will prepare a Strategic Plan and is expected to hold meetings in advance of board or general meetings.

Nominating Committee – the Secretary shall be the chair of the Committee. Recommendations and nominations for elected positions whose terms are expiring should be presented to the Board at least 30 days prior to the annual voting meeting for vetting purposes. In accordance with ARTICLE VI, Par. E, announcement of nominees for such elected positions will be posted on the TSASRA website three weeks prior to the meeting, and any member in good standing may also be nominated from the floor of the annual meeting. Designated regional representative groups from each of the 3 geographical regions shall present their selections for any vacant Regional Chair to the Committee.

Finance Committee – the Treasurer shall be the chair of the Committee. The Committee will execute financial transactions based on the following guidelines:

- Banking and checkbook authorization are limited to the President and Administrator
- A budget will be prepared for review and approval prior to Board Meetings
- Annual financials will be reviewed by an independent agency selected by the Board
- Non-budgeted expenses in excess of \$2,500 require Board approval
- Proposals to include expenses in the budget must be submitted in writing

- Requests for athlete scholarship support must be submitted in writing
- Sponsorship funding proposals will be reviewed in advance of meetings
- Reimbursement for creation and homologation of race trails will be \$1,500 per year, conditional on submission of valid receipts for expenses

Competition Committee – the Board will appoint one of the following to act as chair: the U19/21 Alpine Chair, the U16 Alpine Chair and the U14/U12/U10 Alpine (Youth) Chair. The Committee will coordinate a unified schedule among age groups and regions, and present a draft schedule in advance of the fall Board Meeting. The Committee will include representatives for Collegiate and Interclub racing. Each sub-committee will continue to present to the Board its own recommendations regarding policy, competition rules and event selection procedures. Representatives of Tri-State serving on committees of USS&S or the Eastern Region should consult with this Committee and be guided by its policies.

Appeals Committee – the Alpine Officials Chair shall be the chair. Meeting minutes and the resolution of any appeals for each season shall be submitted at the Spring Board Meeting for review and comment. Written guidelines for the appeals process shall be made available to appellants upon request.

Education and Development Committee – the Vice President shall be the chair. The Committee will promote athlete development and seek to improve the knowledge of coaches through programming and training opportunities. Scholarship (formerly Foundation) support activities will be considered. The Committee will prepare written procedures for coaches or athletes requesting funding, and propose an annual contribution amount in the budget.

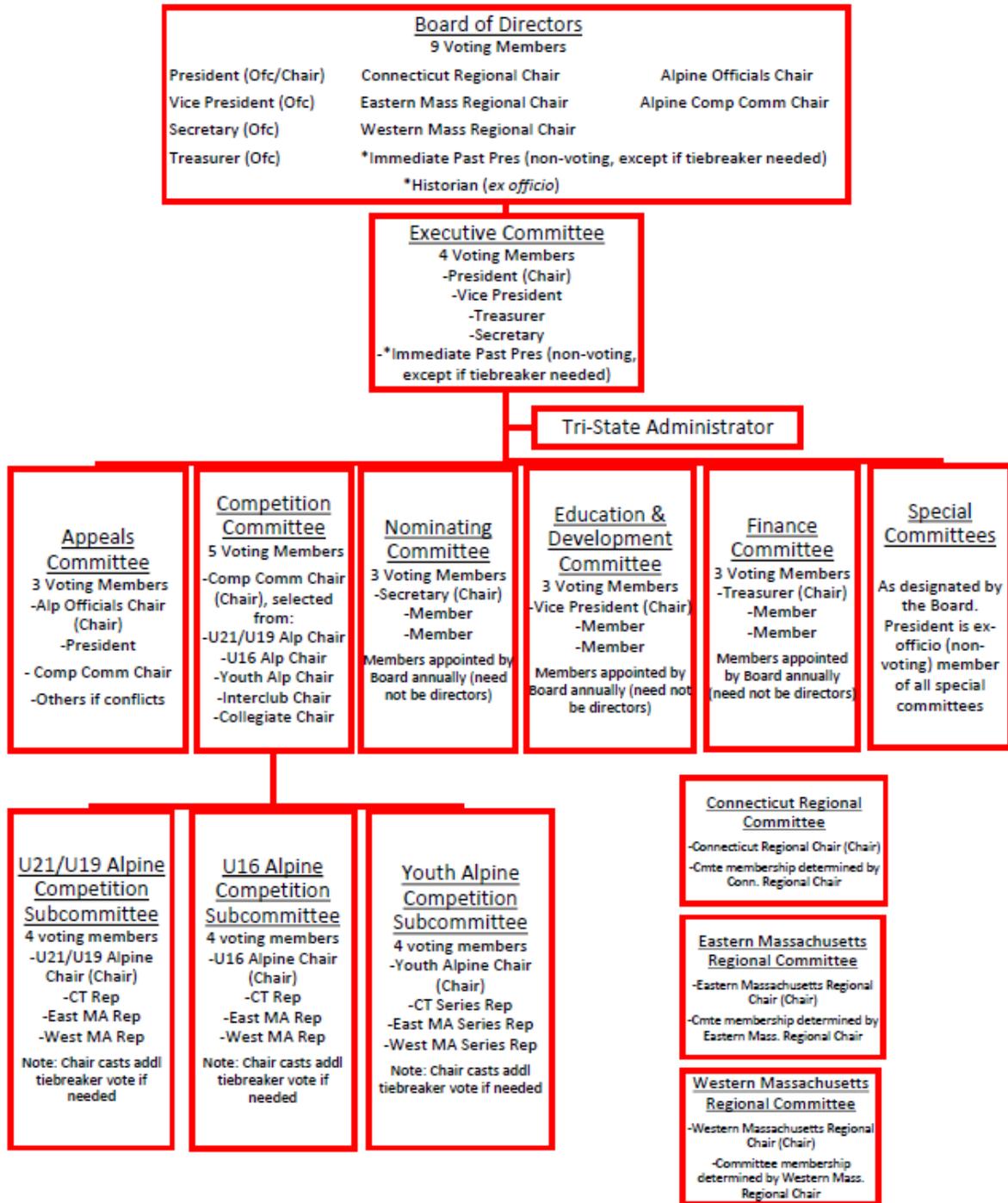
Special Committees:

Bylaws – established by the Board on May 1, 2019 to review current TSASRA Bylaws and recommend any changes to governance procedures. This Committee will be chaired by the Historian (non-voting) and will remain in place until the Spring 2020 Annual Meeting of Members or such time as amended Bylaws are voted upon by the membership.

B-net Fence Committee – previously established by the Board and will remain in place until dissolved. The Committee manages the organization's B-net assets. Management includes facilitating that the B-net is: tracked, stored, shipped, used, inspected, repaired, retired and replaced in accordance with the manufacturers' recommendations. The Committee shall present to the TSASRA Board an annual recommended plan/budget for the ongoing management of B-net assets in a manner that will meet the needs of the organization going forward.

Tri-State Alpine Ski Racing Association, Inc. Organizational Chart

(Proposed Revision 2020 v.5)



SOME THOUGHTS FOR GOING FORWARD – 19 MAY 2019

For those who know me well, you know that I am a collector of quotes. The two that follow, seem to fit where we are today as an organization:

“One cannot connect the dots unless the you collect the dots.” St. Anonymous

“Resilience is born out of the challenges we choose to meet. We all have limitations but also great potential.” Enes Kanter

Though I have attended several of the TSARA BOD and General Meetings since retiring back to Sheffield in the Fall of 2009, I had not been immersed into the “politics” until the called meeting of last June. Since that time, and especially after the last BOD meeting, it is my feeling that our organization is acting like a very “dysfunctional family.”

Attached is a document that in very broad strokes outlines a strategic planning process which would provide the platform to effectively address the Bylaws. For an organization to move forward it needs to have a good understanding of where it is presently, how it functions, and how it is perceived both internally and externally. TSARA has many praiseworthy attributes. Recognizing these will allow us to address honestly the future -- To answer the question: “How can we better and more effectively deliver the service that our mission charges us to deliver?”

Here are my recommendations to begin this process:

Prior to the Wednesday meeting, BOD via email could vote to process with this process.

If that is approved, to have a motion made at the meeting, for vote by the BOD, to suspend elections for new officials for one year. Reasoning is to keep in office those who have had the most recent experience.

If appropriate then, at the beginning of the Wednesday meeting, I could give a very brief description of the process. I am willingly to assist as a facilitator. There should be named a small Strategic Planning Committee (SPC) – not more than four including a chair. You will note that much of the initial work can be accomplished by email. The SPC will determine how the outlined process proceeds.

I. Make a thoughtful review of the Mission Statement

The mission of TSARA is to provide a safe, fair ski-racing venue to promote camaraderie, competitiveness, athleticism and sportsmanship in grass roots programs. We strive to maintain national and international standards through membership in US Ski and Snowboard Association and continual coaches’ education.

We envision our athletes becoming solid, productive citizens of the community and leaders of their generation.

We value the elements of individual achievement, teamwork and proper conduct in our athletes.

The Mission statement sets high standards not only for the athletes and coaches, but for the leadership of the organization as well. To say that the leadership should “model” the Mission is an understatement. As the *Alpine Comp Guide* has a Code of Conduct. Perhaps TSARA should consider developing an agreed upon “Code of Ethics” for its leadership. Many organizations have such a document. I know that independent schools have their own version of these.

II. *There should then be a thorough evaluation of the “workings” of the organization.*

The following are some of the exercises that the organization should undertake:

- 1) To determine what the job descriptions (and/or duties) are for each of the positions represented on the BOD. The first run through must be completed by the people presently occupying those positions. In other words, list what one is doing and why. This starts by just listing, not in any particular order, and without any justifying as to why they do what they do. This first part of the exercise is to merely to “catalog” the duties.

The second part of this assignment is to put these duties on a timeline from July 1 to June 30.

The third part of this assignment is to make a Pro’s and Con’s List => Those aspects of one’s duties that are easy and those that have more difficulty associated with them. Again, give no lengthy commentaries, just to the point statements.

Note: this assignment can be accomplished in the “privacy of your own home.” Provided the BOD and Executive Committee approve going forward, I will set up an email to collect the assignments. Then to collate them for our further efforts.

Note: this next exercise cannot be accomplished unless the BOD members are together. It cannot effectively happen tagged at the end of an evening meeting. If there are to be meaningful results from this exercise, it would require a full morning or afternoon. Understanding that we are all volunteers, have busy “other lives,” and we do not have a surplus of time, it should be stated that in my humble opinion TSARA will not move forward unless this is done. My sense that over the recent few years and reaching a definite crescendo at the last BOD (and with mini eruptions along the way), cliques have been formed as well as perceived “power centers,” distrust and out right animosity has been fostered, so that the “camaraderie” called for in our Mission has taken some very hard hits. Our organization cannot continue in this fashion. It should be stated that anyone who is committed to continue “carrying the ‘Stones of Burden’ in their backpack,” might not be able to enter this process with the right attitude.

- 2) In this exercise the organizational hierarchy must be reviewed. The following are questions to be considered (not necessarily to be completed in the order given). Wish that I was better with using graphics on the computer.

Note:

In its simplest form, organizational hierarchy could be reduced to the organizational chart. But in the career environment from where I came, organizational hierarchy takes on a more global meaning – What is the information flow, both internally and externally? What is necessary, what is not? What enhances the flow, what gets in the way? What is the information needed in both

directions between the BOD, the regions that TSARA represents, and with USSA? What is the flow to our members – coaches, athletes, parents, officials, etc.? What information do they need? How do we let our membership evaluate how the organization is doing things? As we work on this exercise together, more questions will arise.

During the period of time that these “assignments” are being accomplished, a small subcommittee should develop several survey instruments. These would be developed for distinct groups: Program Directors, Alpine Officials, Coaches, and Membership. Yes, there would be crossover. The underlying question to be determined is how the organization is perceived. Although the word “service” does not appear in our Mission, we are a “Service Organization.”

Now after some deep breathing.

These Proposed Recommendations were written in August 2018 and reflect thoughts at that time. After the above work has been completed and reviewed, “new” recommendations could be made.

- I. To review the Bylaws to make sure everything is legally correct with USSA, accounting practices, and any other organized required.
- II. To determine how the TSARA Bylaws relate from a liability standpoint to the various "umbrella regions" that TSARA represents --Western MA, CYL, or others (i.e., Interclub, Eastern MA, etc.) in order words where does the final buck stop – to consider the legal issues, the finances, and athletic/parent concerns.
- III. To strengthen the role of the Executive Committee --
 - a. Create the position of Alpine Competition Chair -- the role would be to oversee the coordination the Competition events -- all regions, and age group chairs. The position would serve a very important role. This new position of Alpine Competition Chair would coordinate the work of the age-class comp committees, the Regional Chairs, and The Youth Committee. The Alpine Comp Chair would lead (chair) the “competition report section the BOD/Fall/Spring meetings. This would take some of the meeting “chairing” pressure from the President. There would be an expectation that the person holding this position would be a member of the ACC or at least attend those meetings as a visitor. This position would ensure reports would all have the same format.
 - b. The Treasurer would be a member.
 - c. The Alpine Official would be a member.
 - d. The Executive could review all decisions prior to the final OK.
- IV. To review the voting and nomination procedures to ensure that the most qualified people fill these positions. To review the rotation of blocks of positions to ensure continuity of leadership. The Bylaws might give the job qualifications.
- V. There should be minutes of all committee minutes.

- VI. To review the accounting procedures: the accounting of income and expenses need closer attention – to break down each of the income and expenses sources. A proposed Budget should be finalized at the Fall meetings.
- VII. To establish or reestablish The TSARA Ski Educational Foundation -- assets of \$90,000 are not in the spirit of a non-profit. This Foundation should have its own Bylaws and BOD. The Chair of this group would be a member of the BOD.
- VIII. To establish a committee to review TSARA Organizational Operating Procedures. This committee would also have the charge for Strategic Planning in three or five-year increments.

Strategic Planning would also provide the data to answer the following questions:

- a. **Where are we now?**
- b. **Where would we like to be in the determined interval?**
- c. **What metrics would we use to determine if we arrive at our goal?**

Recommendation: The Chair and members of this committee should be from the General membership. The chair would be a non-voting member of the BOD and/or Executive meetings

- IX. To review the sequence of Executive Committee, BOD, and General membership for both the Fall and Spring to make the best use of time and best for the finalization of decisions.
- X. Recommend that either the Fall or Spring Membership Meetings (might call these meetings the Spring/Fall TSARA Congress) be a Day Meeting – with time general meetings and for breakout sessions for Committee work, etc. and a picnic with an opportunity to Celebrate -- perhaps starting a tradition of having several “awards” to honor those who give so much to TSARA. Opportunities to Celebrate can help to alleviate the tensions that often appear in any organization. Each year the TSARA Congress would go to a different venue.

Submitted by Bob Brigham

TSASRA ELECTIONS

Mark Colman
Motion to suspend TSASRA Elections
 2nd Bob Hazen

Discussion

Unanimous Voice

Opposed

Abstain

Motion to Adjourn
 Mike Kemmer
 2nd Mark Colman

Discussion

Unanimous Voice

Opposed

Abstain

MEETING MINUTES
BOD 9-23-2020
BOD 10-8-2020



Tri-State Alpine Ski Racing Association

**TRI-STATE ALPINE SKI RACING ASSOCIATION
BOARD OF DIRECTORS BYLAW MEETING**

September 23rd, 2020

Telecommunications Via Zoom

TSASRA Board Members

- Mike Kemmer - Tri-State President
- Bruce Diamond – Tri-State VP
- Bob Zuber - Tri-State Treasurer
- Bill Sherpa – Tri-State Secretary
- Mark Coleman – Tristate U19+ Chair
- Gretchen Sonju – Tri-State U16 Chair
- Richard Hanbury- Tristate U10-U14 Chair
- John Higgins – Tri-State Alpine Official
- Kyle McLane – Tri-State CYSL Chair
- Brian McBride- Tri-State Eastern Chair
- Robert Hazen– Tri-State Western Ma Chair (Interim)
- Duane Bass- Tri-State Member at Large
- Jim Pietrovito- Tri-State Collegiate Chair (Not in attendance)
- Greg Knight – Interclub Chair
- Bob Brigham – Tri-State Historian

Meeting Convened at 7:08pm

General Business

F B20-G01 The President called the meeting to order.

Motion to accept

2nd Mark Colman

Discussion

Unanimous Voice

Opposed

Abstain

FB 20-OB

Motion to accept proposed TSASRA Bylaws and Mission Statement

Mark Colman

2nd

Discussion

Post to website. Set up Town Hall Meeting discussion

Unanimous Voice

Opposed

Abstain

Motion to Adjourn

2nd Bob Zuber



Tri-State Alpine Ski Racing Association

**TRI-STATE ALPINE SKI RACING ASSOCIATION
BOARD OF DIRECTORS BYLAW MEETING**

October 8th , 2020

Telecommunications Via Zoom

TSASRA Board Members

- Mike Kemmer - Tri-State President
- Bruce Diamond – Tri-State VP
- Bob Zuber - Tri-State Treasurer
- Bill Sherpa – Tri-State Secretary
- Mark Coleman – Tristate U19+ Chair
- Gretchen Sonju – Tri-State U16 Chair
- Richard Hanbury- Tristate U10-U14 Chair
- John Higgins – Tri-State Alpine Official
- Kyle McLane – Tri-State CYSL Chair
- Brian McBride- Tri-State Eastern Chair
- Robert Hazen– Tri-State Western Ma Chair (Interim)
- Duane Bass- Tri-State Member at Large (Not in attendance)
- Jim Pietrovito- Tri-State Collegiate Chair (Not in attendance)
- Greg Knight – Interclub Chair
- Bob Brigham – Tri-State Historian

Meeting Convened at 7:02pm

General Business

FB20-G01 The President called the meeting to order.

Motion to accept

2nd Bob Zuber

Discussion

Unanimous Voice

Opposed

Abstain

Motion to accept Reimbursement Program for 2021 season

2nd Greg Knight

Discussion

Unanimous Voice

Opposed

Abstain

Coaches Educational Committee Bruce Diamond

Clinic Domestic Guidelines from US Ski & Snowboard might change some of the itinerary with the details of the proposal. Goal of the proposal is to develop more clinic leaders, certified coaches within TSASRA and compensate current clinicians Budget is from \$6100-8500 the goal was to get more certified coaches at low to no cost.

Bruce will get more information on sanctioning of these events and come back to the board with the findings and details that might need to change with new guidelines.

US Ski and Snowboard level 100 certification, there is support to have Divisions tap into their resources. We are subsidizing education and try to keep fees nominal. Suggestion to have a proposal and budget brought back. Consideration to mix clinics around the region.

Season Schedule Discussion and Review of draft

- Review of what programs are open to hosting events including local, mountain management, risk management and COVID-19 guidelines from US Ski and Snowboard and their Practise guidelines from US Ski & Snowboard for training
- Review of 100 max competitors for events, and split gender
- Western Ma: Bob Hazen reviewed the events currently on the schedule, but will need to revisit some of the programs. Bousquet willing to host. Eaglebrook is not able to provide event since the school maintaining a pod. Butternut check that their event can move forward
- CYSL: has 8 viable weekends in scheduled. Knowing if there are championships will move the season schedule and would have limits. Focus
- U16 and U19 schedule had changed and waiting for confirmation with Jiminy.

U14 Championships

Childrens Committee did not support Championship. Please confirm and get back with final with March 13th and 14th.

Meeting TSASRA FALL 2020 Town Hall Meeting, Wednesday September 28th, 2020

- Memberships who are allowed to vote are members in good standing, with US Ski and Snowboard and TSASRA 18 and older.
- The meeting is open to anyone who registers to attend
 - Mark C set up google doc for question and ballot to be sent
- Invitation will be posted to website and sent out with reminder to register and send in questions
- Have information regarding championships and what is happening with regional championship
- Have a materials and agenda organized for the membership
- Reports from officers submitted and virtual approval
- No BOD elections only bylaws

AO Clinics

- AO Clinics will be virtual, no exams except CO. Challenges are with monitor questions and fall back clinitiain incase the host loses their connection.
- Attendance requirements have changed. Must attend before attending competition as an official
- New, the TD Workshop will be presented this season. TD are required to attend TD Workshop every season.
- Check Homologations that are still outstanding before scheduling events
- Jury members must be certified, utilize the resources

Eastern ACC

- Discussion, TSASRA proposal is asking for the EACC to implement previous ECC

Treasurers' Report

Financials need to be approved before the 20th

Motion to Adjourn

Mike Kemmer
2nd Greg Knight

Discussion

Unanimous Voice

Opposed

Abstain

TREASURER'S REPORT

<p style="text-align: center;">TRISTATE ALPINE SKI RACING ASSOCIATION 05/01/2020-10/01/2020 Treasurer's Report/Profit and Loss</p>					
Expenses		Income			
Salary/Laura	\$ 6,250.00			Int. Income	\$ 5.32
AdminSports	\$ 990.00			USSA Trad AP	\$ 5,147.31
Authnet Gateway	\$ 75.00			Deposits/Laura	\$ 2,342.00
Office Supplies/Postage	\$ 360.07			Total Income	\$ 7,494.63
Championship Expenses	\$ 7,844.00				
Refunds	\$ 70.00				
Total Expenses	\$ 15,589.07				
				Income	\$ 7,494.63
				Expenses	\$ 15,589.07
				Net	\$ (8,094.44)
				Checking Acct. Balance 05/01/20	\$ 134,163.92
				income	\$ (8,094.44)
				Checking Acct. Balance 10/01/20	\$ 126,069.48

Motion to accept Treasure's Report

2nd Gretchen Sonju
Discussion

Unanimous Voice

Opposed

Abstain

Motion to accept Coaches Education Budget, Bruce Diamond with amendment

2nd Bob Zuber
Discussion

Details of items to be covered in the budget must be approved by Executive Committee

Approved

Opposed

Abstain 1 (Bruce Diamond)

ALPINE OFFICIALS

Tri-State Alpine Officials Report

October 2020

Alpine Official Clinics

- U.S. Ski & Snowboard is requiring that all AO education clinics be held on a virtual platform this season regardless of current CDC and/or local health authority COVID-19 guidelines.
- No Alpine Official exams have been published and none will be administered this season except for **on-line CO** (CO1)
- Links to the details can be found on the AO clinics page on the Tri-State website: <https://tristateskiracing.org/officials/clinics>

In conformance with these guidelines, Tri-State is hosting the following clinics this fall:

Date	Time	Location	Clinic(s)	Fee
Nov 7	8:30 AM	On-line (via Zoom)	TD Workshop	\$5.00
Nov 11	6:00 PM	On-line (via Zoom)	Update	\$5.00
Nov 14	9:00 AM	On-line (via Zoom)	Update	\$5.00
Nov 15	1:00 PM	On-line (via Zoom)	Update	\$5.00

(Additional AO clinics and clinic information: <https://tristateskiracing.org/officials/clinics>)

The **Update Clinics** are being run in the approximate time frames as the in-person clinics have run in past years. Because there is no travel involved this year, AOs will have the opportunity to attend a clinic on-line at a time and date that is most convenient (Wed. evening, Sat. morning, or Sun. afternoon). **Update Clinics** fulfill all* AO clinic/continuing education requirements.

* New for this season is the **TD Workshop** which has been developed by the AOEWG to "provide US TDs with a forum for the review of current updates, past year's issues, and best practices". Annual attendance at the **TD Workshop** has become mandatory for TDs and fulfills their AO clinic/continuing education requirements.

A change has been made to the "bi-seasonal" clinic attendance requirement: If you are due to attend an AO clinic this season to maintain your credentials, you must attend the clinic prior to serving this season at any U.S. Ski & Snowboard sanctioned event as a Course Setter, Chief of Course, Chief of Race, Referee, Assistant Referee, Jury Advisor (Start or Finish Referee), Chief of Timing & Calculations, or Race Administrator.

COVID-19 Impacts for Race Organizers

Race Organizers (ROs) will be impacted in significant ways this season. The Tri-State website has established a **COVID-19 Information Hub** here: tristateskiracing.org/covid-19-information-hub with links to many federal, state, local, and NGB documents/websites. Be sure to familiarize yourself with the US Ski & Snowboard COVID Committee directives and event guidelines. Conformance to these guidelines will require multiple changes to both pre-race day and race day procedures. Many of these requirements will be identified at the fall Update clinics. Every RO will also be responsible to appoint a COVID Coordinator to ensure that specific

US Ski & Snowboard and local COVID requirements are clearly communicated and followed.

I expect that Tri-State will mandate attendance at a COVID-related requirements meeting later in the fall for all ROs planning to host an event this season. Failure to plan for and meet the US Ski & Snowboard COVID-related requirements could lead to a cancellation or postponement of your event by the race jury. Be prepared!

Course Re-Homologation Status

Below is an October 2020 summary of Tri-State race trails that required re-homologation prior to the start of the 2021 competition season. If you have an open homologation application, be sure that you stay in contact with your course inspector and/or the Alpine Courses Working Group to ensure that your re-homologation will be completed in time for your first event. Remember, a course with an expired homologation cannot be used to run a US Ski & Snowboard sanctioned event. [202.1.2.3, U650.1]

Venue	Course	GS	SL	Status
Blandford	Upper & Lower Broadway	U2524/11/20	U2525/11/20	Complete
Bousquet	Easy Rider - Grand	U2333/07/20	U2334/07/20	Complete
Bradford	Wasp Run	U738/12/10	U739/12/10	In process
Butternut	Main Street	U668/11/10	U669/11/10	In process
Catamount	Catamount Trail	U746/12/10	U747/12/10	Unknown
Eaglebrook	Amy's Run	U674/11/10	U675/11/10	In process
Nashoba	Bull Run - Chief	U692/12/10A	U693/12/10A	Unknown
Southington	Thunderbolt	U2340//07/20	U2341//07/20	Complete
Sundown	Gunbarrel	U2526/11/20	U2527/11/20	Complete
Thunder Ridge	The Face		U2347/07/20	Complete
Wachusett	Smith-Walton	U694/12/10	U695/12/10	In process

AOEWG Project Support

On request, I supported the AOEWG TD Workshop development project for about 18 weeks this summer/fall. The resulting narrated video content offers a mix of traditional and non-traditional educational materials supporting a goal to raise TD “proficiency and confidence” levels.

Respectfully submitted,

John Higgins
Alpine Officials’ Chair

SEASON 2021 AOEWG CLINICS U.S Ski & Snowboard

On September 21, regardless of current CDC and local health authority COVID-19 guidelines, it was confirmed that all meetings - including education clinics - may only be held on a virtual platform.

In addition, if a meeting (e.g. for an exam), is required, it has to be limited to 25 or less attendees (proctors must be included in total), and must be held outdoors.

This last edict directly impacts our ability to administer certification exams in an acceptable environment and eliminates the options contained in a previously distributed Clinic Plan.

Your health and well-being and the ability to provide you with quality officials' education are our primary concerns. Based on these concerns, together with the inability to provide you with a secure environment to complete upgrades or specialty-area certification requirements, the following changes to Alpine Officials' Education are being implemented for Season 2021:

- 1) Online Competition Official (CO) certification will be available. Required quiz is available and must be emailed to applicable division AO Chair
- 2) Continuing Education (Update & Review) will be available for online presentation. Document and PowerPoint presentation will be available for use; additional PowerPoint presentations must also be viewed. (Officials whose last clinic attendance was Season 2019 must attend a Continuing Education Clinic prior to officiating during Season 2021. No exam is required for CE.)
- 3) U.S. Technical Delegate Workshop will be available for online presentation. (Technical Delegates are required to attend a Workshop every season. No exam is required.)
- 4) No additional clinics and/or exams; e.g. those required for update to Level 3 TC or Level 3 TD, or specialty area certifications for new coaches and officials, will be provided until Season 2022

Inasmuch as the COVID-19 landscape is extremely fluid, please be assured the AOEWG is ready to adapt and respond as dictated by updated guidelines and protocols.

All education materials will be posted on the U.S. Ski & Snowboard website and will also be made available in the Alpine Officials' Dropbox. We encourage current and future officials to review the available materials in preparation for a non-COVID-19 future.

We are ski race officials. We are resilient, we are strong-minded, we are tough...we will survive!

Lucy Schram, AOEWG Chair

COMPETITION CHAIRS

TSASRA Fall General Membership Meeting
October 28, 2020
U19+ Competition Report

2021 Season Preview

Proposal to keep January races as U19+ only mixed gender events with a 100-athlete cap, and then in February move to single gender events and open them to all U16s (or just 2nd years).

Athlete Reimbursement Program

The entry fee reimbursement program for low-point racers was renewed by the Board.

U19+ Competition Rules

Unclear if the Eastern U19+ Finals (Gore) will be held, but selection criteria may need to be adjusted from “one less than half” depending on number of qualifying races held.

FIS

Based on field size reduction from 140 to 100, divisions will receive only 2 (down from 3) automatic quota spots per gender for starts at Eastern Development Series races.

Nearly 30 U19 athletes (including large group of male YOB '04s) have expressed interest in FIS events, which will make selection and participation difficult.

Our FIS quota allocation method had been ambiguous and disadvantaged first years, so we gave the top athletes from the prior season's U16 qualifying series priority for the first FIS Devo series, then used national points (NTSM) ranking going forward.

FIS age change proposal rejected – would allow starting at 15 instead of 16 years old.

FIS team coaching concept – offer athletes additional training and representation at races.

Due to travel concerns, Divisional/State FIS race series proposed with 80 reserved spots.

	<u>Race</u>	<u>Field</u>	<u>U19</u>	<u>U16</u>	<u>%U19</u>	<u>% U16</u>	<u>U14</u>	<u>%U14</u>
BE SL M		121	64	57	53%	47%		
BE SL W		108	55	53	51%	49%		
Total		229	119	110	52%	48%		
BE GS M		124	64	60	52%	48%		
BE GS W		104	48	56	46%	54%		
Total		228	112	116	49%	51%		
WMRT M		138	36	102	26%	74%		
WMRT W		113	34	79	30%	70%		
Total		251	70	181	28%	72%		
JP SL M		129	70	59	54%	46%		
JP SL W		104	58	46	56%	44%		
Total		233	128	105	55%	45%		
JP GS M		131	70	61	53%	47%		
JP GS W		109	61	48	56%	44%		
Total		240	131	109	55%	45%		
SUN M		94	62	32	66%	34%		
SUN W		67	44	23	66%	34%		
Total		161	106	55	66%	34%		
BLA PSL M		85	48	37	56%	44%		
BLA PSL W		65	40	25	62%	38%		
Total		150	88	62	59%	41%		
BSQ M		85	58	27	68%	32%		
BSQ W		68	48	20	71%	29%		
Total		153	106	47	69%	31%		
BE Open SL M		113	44	38	39%	34%	31	27%
BE Open SL W		89	34	29	38%	33%	26	29%
Total		202	78	67	39%	33%	57	28%
Average M		113	57	53	51%	46%		
Average W		92	47	42	51%	46%		
Average Total - all races		205	104	95	51%	46%		
Average - w/o WMRT & BE Open		199	113	86	57%	43%		

TriState Youth Committee Fall Meeting Report 2020

In the spring of 2020, TriState held three successful season ending events: The U14 and U12 TriState Championships, and the U10 Festival. Engaging banquets were held at the U12 and U14 championships. 15 TriState athletes qualified for the U14 Eastern Championships, but did not get the chance to compete, as the event was cancelled out of an abundance of caution. Days later all ski racing in the USA ended abruptly. This resulted in the cancellation of the U14 Eastern Finals, the U12 Future Stars Festival. All athletes, who qualified for the U14 Eastern Champs and Finals, had the opportunity to purchase team jackets.

US Ski and Snowboard Covid regulations/guidelines will make 2020-21 season challenging for everyone in the Eastern Region, and TriState is no exception. The Mass series and the CT series of races must conform to a 100-athlete maximum at each event. This will require additional event sites, and necessitate additional event dates, to provide the same level of racing as in previous years. The 100-athlete maximum has virtually eliminated the possibility of holding an open 2021 U12 Championships, as there is no way to limit the field size to 100. The youth committee has recommended cancelling both the U12 and U14 TriState Championships for this season. If there is to be a U14 Championships, each region will need to decide what criteria to use for its qualifications. During its spring meetings, the Youth Committee agreed to increase the field for this year's U14 Championships to 180 athletes (up from 150). A U14 Championships, with a split gender format, could accommodate this larger field size, while conforming to the 100-athlete limit, however if conditions necessitate a mixed gender event over a single weekend the field size would need to be reduced to 100 total athletes. For scheduling purposes, removing the championships would allow the regional race series' in Mass and CT to extend into March, allowing more flexibility in the calendar and the potential for makeup dates.

There are many options open to the Mass and CT series, and each region is exploring creative ways to service their constituents, while adhering to CDC, National Ski Areas Assoc, and US Ski and Snowboard social distancing regulations. The possibility of running two events in one day, holding evening races, splitting genders at different resorts, and keeping each age classes isolated throughout the season are options that have been suggested. Each region will need to create acceptable procedures to handle, course inspection, starting orders, ticket distribution, bib distribution, race registration, awards, and the appointment of a COVID Coordinator for each race. There is abundant guidance from US Ski and Snowboard to address these issues.

Given all the uncertainty surrounding future State regulations and potential travel restrictions, each region will need to create a tentative schedule of planned events ending around March 14. This will allow for a potential U14 Championships, whose qualification procedures will probably not be known until January. There will be no banquets planned for any TriState Youth Championship. There will be no U14 Eastern Championships, U14 Eastern Finals or U12 Future Stars held this season. There is also a pending Eastern Region motion, affecting the ability of second year U14s to race for points, which will be decided on October 17 at the EACC meeting.

Richard Hanbury
TriState Youth Committee Chair

Tristate U16 Report FALL 2020

Participation

Chart with the number of boys and girls over the past 3 years.
Breakdown by subdivision.

Regular Season

· We scheduled a 6 race series, including the two races which comprise Tristate U16 Championship weekend. The idea was to allow for more training. There was lots of feedback- some coaches loving the arrangement- others thinking it was too compact and hard on kids.

U16 Tristate Championships were held back to back at Jiminy Peak rather than mixing venues.

For the 2021 season we are looking at having Boys and Girls at separate venues based on the same day or at least the same weekend.

We have also touched upon the idea of a “superbowl” weekend U16-U19 series between Bousquet for SL and JP for GS.

Selections

· U16 Eastern Championships – 3 girls and 5 boys.
· U16 Eastern Finals – 11 girls and 13 boys. We received an extra spot from Eastern Office for girls due to a miscalculation in our Eastern Champs on the girls side. Original calculations for the race done by JP used an old points list- when points were updated on USSS- we realized that there was an error.

Projects:

Mittersill-MEN TSARA received 3 spots- requested 2 more and all were used-boys said it was a great learning experience

Proctor- Women TSARA 3 spots were given and only one girl went- she however did not stay for the race

Tri-State did have 5 females race in the project USSA race- 3 U19’s and 2 U16’s.

ALL POST SEASON RACES WERE CANCELLED DUE TO COVID 19

Expenses:

See Report

- Bibs- 3012.15
- Awards- Bob Hazen ordered through Veneto: \$339.69
- Patches 176.70

Course Setting

Need to have a conversation about the role of Ref in the process.

Too much input from people following along. At some hills such as Wachussett and JP it might be important to have a home hill “helper” to explain the hill a bit- but other than that it should really be a fresh set.

Hosting Guidelines

- Publish the program. Exact time and location of the TCM, inspection, first run start, etc. should be published ahead of time and posted on the Tristate website and should be available at the registration table. [The program is a mandatory requirement \(ACR 213, 214; MPF 9\)](#)
- Suggest staggered timing of TCM and lifts for athletes / inspection. Coaches should have an opportunity to attend the TCM and board the lifts with or ahead of their athletes so that they can properly advise them with regard to method of inspection, etc. Top of the course must be staffed with a start Ref who should be stationed prior to the coaches/athlete lift and who controls the inspection timing (opens and closes inspection) and clearly communicates the method.
 - *host programs should be aware that the last gate, finish line and finish arena are all part of the race course and subject to athletes and coaches purview.*
 - Second run start orders should be printed and posted at the start and copies should be made available for coaches and placed on Live Timing ASAP; many of us use this as a means to determine 2nd run orders, and while the official line is to use printed copies in lieu of the fact that Live Timing is not “official”, we can still utilize this if we advocate for the use of this more efficient tool.
- TCM should be run by Chief of Race
- TCM sign in sheet is not the same as the coach ticket list at registration.

Program Contacts / U16 Leadership

- Need a single U16 point person for each program.
- Need more leadership driven at the program level.

Post Season Coverage

We worked out a spreadsheet and were covered completely for ALL u16 races if they were to have occurred.

Post Season Jackets

This marked the third year in which Tristate facilitated Eastern Team Jackets and Age Class Championship Hooded Sweatshirts, and the second year using Stadium Systems of Caanan, CT as our licensed provider.

Both clothing lines offered Tristate families the ability to purchase online, in which USSA Tristate did not incur operational or capital expenses other than time and energy expended by U9, U16 and Children’s Committees. The beauty of the online purchasing system eliminated the onus of Tristate to maintain inventory, or manage monies, credits and/or contracts.

The concept of the Championship Sweatshirts were built to celebrate the U16 and U14 Age Class Championships. In addition, it helped provide market impressions to support and quantify donations from our Tristate corporate sponsors. This past year, seventy-nine (79) Sweatshirts were purchased. Additionally, we offered the Eastern Team Jackets available to any U14 athlete who qualified into the Eastern U14 Championships, and further offered to anyone who subsequently qualified into Piche. The Jackets were also available to any U16 who qualified into the Eastern U16 Championships or Eastern U16 Finals. Lastly, the Jackets were also made available to any U19 who qualified into the Eastern U19 Finals. Identical to the Sweatshirts, the Team Jackets were available online as a direct purchase, in which we sold One Hundred and Eleven (111) Jackets this past year.

The benefits of these offers are included herein and above. Mainly, it really highlights an athlete's season, in which team coats are the standard bearer. Additionally, it goes to highlight our paying sponsors, in which as part of their donation to Tristate, these companies are provided with market impressions, highlighting their brand.

As to the detractors, much rests within the timeline of purchases. For the past three years, we've had to open, close and then reopen the online sales' window. The challenge exists in which families are not timely within their ability to go online and purchase within the stated window. Each time the "store" closes and must be reopened, the timeline for production is pushed, in which quite a few Tristate families ultimately complained about the timeliness of their purchases.

Additionally, challenges reside in the fact that several clubs and parents opt on their own to create their own clothing, yet approach Stadium Systems to execute the work, at our negotiated contract pricing. The issue is not in regards to families who want to do their own thing, yet when they approach and press our clothing partner, to align with our negotiated rates and processes, eliminates the trust between Tristate and one of our market vendors. This breakdown diminishes our aggregate power in negotiating future buying programs. On a last note, and more of a Tristate concern, is within private parties using the registered trademarks of Tristate and USSA logos without authorization.

U16 Standings Methodology

- Described in Tristate U16 Rules.
- USSA point results from races in the Tristate U16 qualifying series only (excluding U19s at Wachusett GS and any U16s from outside the Division).
- Best 3 of 6 results are added.
- Athletes are sorted. Lowest point total is the highest rank.
- This method has been used for 3 years now utilizing USSA Point Results (including penalty); previously we used USSA Race Points.
- Pro: Accounts for strength of field.
- Con: Favors athletes who perform better later in the series (as the penalties decrease).
- Consider using:
 - Place points
 - World Cup points
 - New World Cup points
 - At least one result from each discipline
 - Double Board (both internal standings and national points)

REGIONAL REPORTS

**Tri-State Alpine Ski Racing Association (TSASRA)
Fall General Membership Meeting
October 28, 2020**

Connecticut Regional [Subdivision] Chair Report

Submitted: October 20, 2020

The Connecticut Youth Ski League, Inc. ("CYSL"), acting as TSASRA's Connecticut subdivision for the U10, U12, and U14 age classes, consists of five (5) United States Ski & Snowboard member clubs: Mohawk Mountain, Mount Southington, Powder Ridge, Ski Sundown, and Thunder Ridge. CYSL held its most recent regular biannual Board of Directors meeting virtually on October 19, 2020.

At the meeting, the Board of Directors conducted its traditional preseason meeting business including reviewing its Treasurer's report and recent and planned expenses, including a new league race administrator laptop, bibs, medals & awards, Vola subscription, insurance, and corporate filings. Race fees will remain at \$55 for single race events, and for special two-race events planned this year, will be \$70. The Board also received reports from the CYSL race administrator, TSASRA Connecticut Regional [Subdivision] Chair, TSASRA Connecticut U14/U12/U10 Committee Representative Report, and Gunstock Coordinator's Report.

The majority of the meeting was spent discussing the upcoming season and the challenges and differences caused by the current COVID-19 global pandemic, including the U.S. Ski & Snowboard Competition Guidelines, and the Connecticut Ski Areas Association, Inc.'s Operational Guidelines (attached). Most importantly, the Board approved a preliminary 2021 Competition Schedule that is intended to comply with the relevant operational requirements/guidance (see below), with the primary concern being U.S. Ski & Snowboard's limitation to 100 athletes for sanctioned events this season. The schedule reflects an intent to meet that requirement/guideline by hosting separate events for each age class but keep genders together (note: last year CYSL's registered athlete numbers were 49 U10s, 82 U12s, and 102 U14s). With that intention and considering early and late season weather challenges and peak (holiday) weekends, instead of CYSL's usual seven event schedule held on five league competition days, the schedule consists of twelve events held on seven league competition days. It includes two giant slalom races and two slalom races for each age class. All races will be two runs but will have no (or limited) reset for the second run in order to more closely align with COVID-19 protocols and to run events faster and alleviate host mountain operational concerns. U.S. Ski & Snowboard guidelines will be followed (e.g., there will be no in-person awards ceremonies) as well as the CT Ski Area Association's guidelines (e.g., one parent per race family) and any applicable New York state requirements/guidelines when racing at Thunder Ridge. CYSL will forego its usual league SkillsQuest competition (most recently paired with a parallel race) for COVID-19-related reasons.

Connecticut Regional [Subdivision] Chair Report – Page 2

In general, the schedule avoids hosting back-to-back competition days on the same weekend where possible so as not to overburden clubs (i.e., coaching coverage) or parents, while 'doubling-up' separate races on slalom competition days with one race for one age class in the morning and another for another age class in the afternoon. All participants in the first race will be required to leave before the afternoon race to comply with the 100 athlete requirement. Additionally, two competition days for U10s is planned with both a giant slalom and slalom race on each day because the U10 class is the smallest, as well as additional considerations such as that U10s are recommended to use the same equipment for both disciplines, and that limiting U10 race days to two days during the season aligns with the developmental goal for that age class of limiting competition and maximizing training.

With at least a preliminary schedule approved, the Board agreed to meet again on November 18, 2020, to follow-up on certain matters discussed over the course of the meeting and to discuss and hopefully finalize consistent season-long and event-day procedures and to communicate information about the season to clubs and parents early and often. The Board also agreed that the schedule may be subject to change based on Tri-State event scheduling and additional U.S. Ski & Snowboard or state requirements/guidance or change in mountain operational requirements/preferences related to COVID-19.

PRELIMINARY CYSL 2021 Competition Schedule

Host	Event	Date	Age Classes
Mt. Southington	SL	January 10 (Sun.) AM	U12
Mt. Southington	SL	January 10 (Sun.) PM	U14
Powder Ridge	GS & Stubbie SL (2 races)	January 24 (Sun.)	U10
Mohawk	GS	January 24 (Sat.)	U14
Mohawk	GS	January 25 (Sun.)	U12
Thunder Ridge	SL	February 7 (Sun.) AM	U14
Thunder Ridge	SL	February 7 (Sun.) PM	U12
Ski Sundown	GS	February 20 (Sat.)	U14
Ski Sundown	GS	February 28 (Sun.)	U12
Mohawk	GS & SL (2 races)	March 13 (Sat.)	U10

Faithfully submitted,



Kyle McClain
Connecticut Regional [Subdivision] Chair



**2020-2021 Season
Covid-19
Operational Guidelines**

****These guidelines will supplement existing ski area procedures to address the challenges of the Covid-19 Pandemic.****

Introduction

The Connecticut Ski Areas Association, comprised of Connecticut's four Alpine Ski Resorts, is working together to ensure that skiing and riding is available to families and outdoor enthusiasts throughout the 2020-2021 winter season. The guiding principal in crafting this document is to create a set of guidelines and procedures that will enable us to offer the most Covid-responsible access to outdoor winter recreation for the entire winter season. While some procedures may seem repetitive, severe, or extreme, they are intended to provide us with a roadmap that allows for continuous resort operations for the long haul while also being Covid-responsible. Once we open for the season, we want to stay open. This will require the attention and cooperation of our employees and guests collectively.

The responsibility for our success will be shared between us and our guests. As a rule, we are not destination resorts. This means that most of our guests reside within 60 miles of our respective Resorts. Success in attaining the goal of Covid-responsible, sustained resort operations will only be possible if everyone (Resort Management, Resort Employees, and Guests) commits to the shared responsibility of the guidelines outlined herein. In large part, this will mean adhering to social distancing, consistently wearing face masks, and following increased cleaning protocols.

The Connecticut Ski Areas Association is following the lead of the National Ski Areas Association (NSAA). Its "Ski Well, Be Well – Ski Area Operations Best Practices" program provides support for opening this season and offers a guide to how we will operate.¹ Both the NSAA document and this document were created through exhaustive research and discussion looking at current science, guidelines, and best practices from Federal, State, and local agencies, industry organizations, and organizations that are operating responsibly and successfully around the world.

For the safety of our employees and guests, we will be requiring face coverings, promoting physical distancing, and enforcing health screenings when physical distancing may not be possible, such as in ski and ride school.

The risk of contracting Covid-19 has become a risk inherent in everyday life. When people choose to leave their homes, they necessarily accept some level of exposure risk. The following is a general overview of the measures we will be taking this season to protect against the spread of Covid-19:

Personal Responsibility – Guests & Staff

It is the shared responsibility of both employees and guests to refrain from coming to our ski areas under any of the following circumstances:

1. If they feel symptoms that may be suggestive of Covid-19;
2. If they have been tested for Covid-19 and are awaiting results;
3. If they have tested positive for Covid-19 at anytime within the prior 14-day period;
4. If they have been exposed to, or believe they may have been exposed to, someone else who has tested positive for Covid-19 within the prior 14-day period;
5. If they are at higher risk for contracting Covid-19 due to a pre-existing health condition;
6. If they simply do not want to take the risk of potentially being exposed to Covid-19 by being in the public domain.

To this end, our Covid Responsibility Code will be posted at our ski areas to remind employees and guests that protecting against the spread is a shared responsibility. We have attached the Code to this document for reference.

Face Coverings

We will be requiring employees and guests to wear face coverings in every part of our operations, which includes loading and using chairlifts and surface lifts; when inside all buildings; during all ski and snowboard lessons, and throughout our ski area properties. **No one will be permitted on the mountain without a face covering.** Being safe and successful this season will require everyone's cooperation, and we believe face coverings are essential to make that possible.

Physical Distancing on Snow

We will be promoting physical distancing throughout our operations, including on our chairlifts and surface lifts, to help provide a Covid-responsible experience. In order to make this a reality and also make it an enjoyable experience, we must manage the number of people at our ski areas. Accordingly, our daily guest capacity will be reduced.

As such, this season our ski areas will be implementing reservation systems, which will vary to some degree by resort. With so many uncertainties, we believe it is prudent to have this system in place.

- Lift tickets will be available for a specific day, and pre-purchasing tickets online is strongly encouraged – our ticket windows will utilize contactless payment systems wherever possible.
- At this time, Season Pass holders will not be required to make a reservation before arriving at the mountain.

We believe this approach will help support a Covid-responsible experience for everyone.

We recognize that most days of the season it will not be necessary to manage the number of people at our ski areas. However, our goal is to be prepared for as many contingencies as possible to strive to give our guests peace of mind knowing they will have the space they need to physically distance and enjoy their time on the slopes.

Physical Distancing on Chairlifts and Surface Lifts

To maintain physical distancing on our chairlifts and surface lifts, we will only be seating related parties (guests skiing or riding together), or two singles on opposite sides of a three-person lift. We will also accommodate for any guest who prefers to use a lift alone.

Using a chairlift is an outdoor experience, while moving and taking a relatively short amount of time, and many of our skiers have inquired as to why we need distancing at all, given the requirement for guests to wear face coverings. While all of this may be true, in the current environment, we do not believe it is appropriate to seat guests from different parties directly next to each other, given the dynamics during loading and unloading, during chair stoppages, and due to the proximity between guests as they use the lifts, speak to each other, speak on the phone, eat, and adjust their clothing. We believe a conservative approach is the best way to be responsible in this operating environment.

Physical Distancing in Lodges

We are committed to opening our lodges at a reduced capacity and for limited purposes this season. To allow for physical distancing, we will be managing the number of people in our restaurants/dining areas in accordance with current public health requirements and will monitor guests coming in and out of restaurants/dining areas at the entrances. Lodge and building capacities will be limited to comply with current State and local regulations and executive orders.

Food options will be modified. We will be spacing tables in seating areas as well to allow for physical distancing while eating. We will also be maintaining as much outdoor seating as we can. Given these limitations, we recommend that guests adjust their schedules and try to eat earlier or later to avoid the peak lunch rush.

Unattended bags will be removed from tables.

Finally, all transactions in our restaurants/dining areas, and elsewhere at our ski areas, will be contactless wherever possible.

Restrooms

Restrooms will be open and operational with an increased cleaning and disinfecting schedule to be supervised by ski area staff. All guests must wear a mask or face covering while in the base area and inside any building, including restrooms.

Physical Distancing in Ski & Snowboard Rental Locations

We are striving to provide a Covid-responsible experience throughout each part of our ski area, and that includes our ski and snowboard rental shops – which we plan to have open this winter. We will be managing the number of people inside of the shops, in accordance with local regulations, and setting them up to allow for physical distancing and appropriate guest flow. **Guests and employees will be required to wear face coverings, and for the portions of the process that require close interactions with our technicians, our employees will take additional precautions, including wearing eye protection and gloves.** Equipment will be fully sanitized between each guest use.

Health Screenings within Ski and Ride School

All of our employees will be required to undergo health screenings before they arrive at work given their interaction with guests and other employees at our resorts.

We will be limiting the class size of all of group and multi-week programming.

Pre-purchasing lessons is strongly encouraged. However, contactless payment systems will be utilized on site wherever possible.

Resort Staff

All resort staff members will be screened daily upon arrival to work. Staff screening data will be stored for use by local health officials for contact tracing purposes only. Staff will be required to wear resort approved face coverings at all times. Cohort scheduling will be used where practical and applicable.

Designated staff areas will be designed to enforce social distancing and discourage mingling. We have established contact with our local health administrators to establish a procedure for Covid-19 reporting. We will report any Covid-19 cases immediately to our local health administrators and will follow their guidance.

All Ski Area employees will receive training with respect to the correct way to clean, disinfect and sanitize both porous and non-porous materials.

Ski Patrol

Ski Patrol will operate this season, following guidance provided by the National Ski Patrol, as well as the State of Connecticut Department of Health.

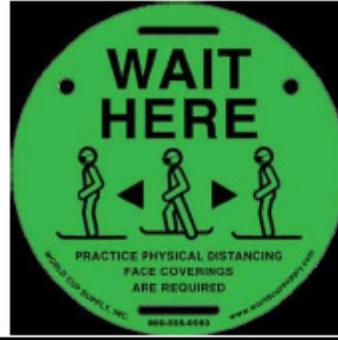
Tubing

For ski areas that operate tubing, tubing capacity will be reduced to accommodate social distancing. Face coverings will be required for all tubers. Beanies, balaclavas, or skull cap hats will be recommended for all guests using helmets. Tubing helmets will be disinfected between each session. The surface lift lines will be managed to keep 6 feet of separation between individuals. Guests will be spaced at least 6 feet apart on the surface lifts.

Signage

The NSAA has developed Covid-19 related signage specifically for use at ski areas across North America. In addition, the State of Connecticut and CDC have developed Covid-19 specific signage. The Connecticut ski areas will utilize this signage. Some examples of currently available NSAA, signage are as follows (Please see fn 2 for examples of State of Connecticut and CDC signage)²:





Next Steps

We continue to work closely with state and local authorities to review the details of our winter plans and to ensure we remain aligned in our collective approach to the season.

While we have designed our winter operating plans to comply with, and at times exceed, all applicable laws, regulations, and executive orders, our operations will remain subject to same. Please understand that these directives may change at any time, either ahead of or during the ski season, and that any such changes will be beyond our control. We will endeavor to communicate any changes – and how they might impact our operations – as soon as we are made aware of them.

Think snow!





COVID-19 RESPONSIBILITY CODE

- Keep Your Distance

Maintain a minimum 6-foot distance from others when possible. Please do not congregate.

- Cover Your Face

Wear a face covering to protect yourself and others.

- Wash and Sanitize

Wash and sanitize your hands routinely.

- Hands to Yourself

Avoid handshaking, high-fiving or other unnecessary physical contact.

- Feeling sick? Stay Home

Be responsible and respect others. If you feel unwell or are experiencing a fever, cough, muscle aches and pains, sore throat, shortness of breath, or sudden changes in taste or smell, please stay home.

- Stop the Spread

Sneeze and cough into a tissue, cloth, elbow, or sleeve, not into your hands.

Eastern Tri-State 2020 Fall Update

Eastern Tri-State, like much of the ski racing community is preparing for an unpredictable training and race season. All aspects of our training and race activities are being scrutinize for the implementation, maintenance, and policing of "Masking and Social distancing". Many of the policies and protocols remain to be developed as the Massachusetts ski areas and the State of Massachusetts have not reached a final agreement on the operational guidelines of the ski area.

The WMRT BOD has created a position of "Covid Coordinator" to develop and manage the protocols necessary to insure the safety of all participants (Coaches, Officials, Volunteers, Racers, etc.) in its training and race day activities.

Wachusett Mountain is anticipating that there will be a substantial increase in winter activities at their venue this season due to the elimination of indoor entertainment/athletic options in the region. They just recently put a halt to the sales of any further Season passes.

Early discussions with Wachusett Mountain indicated that race training activities will have to be curtailed. This will result in a shorten training day (7:30-11:30 vs 7:30-2:30) and minimal trail closure for gate training. It is anticipated that the U-14,16 and 19s will have to travel to other venues to get GS gate training.

Wachusett mountain is not allowing the East to run the traditional December Skillsquest, Tri-State U-16 Qualifier nor the MASRA U-14/U-12 Qualifier. They have given permission to run a U-12 race in January.

To finish on a positive note, registrations for participants in the East appears to be ahead schedule and we anticipate a healthy representation in Tri-state this season.

Submitted by Mark McCaughey

Eastern Representative Tri-State

REPORTS OF THE EASTERN ACC

Eastern Development Committee report to the EACC

October 17, 2020

The Development Committee has been very active through the summer and fall. With many large challenges to our current systems of seeding and selection at the u16 and older age groups, we have been working to put together a system and calendar that has the most potential to provide appropriate competition opportunities. We would like to thank the Eastern Staff, Sam, Kathy, Nate and Paige for the excellent work over the past year, it has been a very productive and collaborative effort, and the committee feels that the region is heading in a good direction.

Bringing FIS series in line with the US Ski and Snowboard Covid-19 guidelines will have a big impact on the Eastern Cup and Devo FIS series. Most of the men's races have had close to full fields of 140. The current limit of 100 participants means that 40 athletes will potentially be displaced, from Eastern Cup to Devo, which will push a large part of the Devo FIS field out. Sam and the EDC have worked to create a 3rd layer of FIS racing to make sure that athletes will still be able to have a robust race season in light of field size and travel restrictions. The committee supports the creation of Divisional FIS races, with a large portion of the field to be filled by divisional selection.

We also have looked at the impact of the field size limitation on the age group quotas at the different levels and have adjusted those quotas. We do not feel that we need to adjust selection methods, as the current methods seem to be capturing the athletes we want. A further challenge is the impact on the race venues, with many of the sites asking for races to be held mid-week as opposed to weekend. We have run through several different calendar scenarios and have tried to maximize race opportunities while minimizing travel by scheduling 2 races in a day for SL and SG events, and trying to site events as centrally as possible to allow as much day trip racing as possible while still keeping high caliber events. The committee feels that it is still very important to have our top athletes racing together, even though we may not have a US Nationals to qualify for. We have kept the structure of Eastern Cup, Development FIS, and open FIS events.

With the 2020 US Nationals being made up this November (16-22) we also looked at the selections to this event.

On the U16 front, while there will not be U16 NPS events, but we will still try to run the U16 RPS, and feel that it is important to run the Eastern U16 Champs and finals, as they are an essential part of the U16 season. We are currently working on adjusting Divisional quotas to reflect the new target field size of 80 and are looking at recalculating the population/Performance ratios to determine divisional quotas. We recognize the time crunch and hope to approve a calculation and new quotas in the next week.

We have the following items to present to the EACC:

2020 Regional Calendar

Approved calendar version "Plan B2"

<https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/11GmgXGCy3tDKm5tcCCQ7IDIS7cm2fSA5uqEpbMmJxC0/edit#gid=1618366069>

2020 US Nationals Selection

*Eastern region quota for the 2020 US Alpine Championships will be selected as follows: Men: 6 - Using 3-event (GS/SL/SG) NTSM of intended athletes from FIS list 7, 2 - Regional development (Priority for regional development spots will be given to athletes participating in the November 2020 NDG project). Women: 3 - Using 3-event (GS/SL/SG) NTSM of intended athletes from FIS list 7, 2 - Regional development (Priority to be given to athletes participating in the November 2020 NDG project) **Unanimous.***

EASTERN CUP SELECTIONS

Quotas

CURRENT:

- 10 Athletes R/C, 10 Athletes West
- 8 Eastern YOB 2004 - Chosen by a YOB NTSM of National SL, GS and SG points
- 7 Eastern YOB 2003 - Chosen by a YOB NTSM of National SL, GS and SG points
- 5 Eastern YOB 2002 - Chosen by a YOB NTSM of National SL, GS and SG points
- Foreign athletes as per FIS quota
- Up to 10 spots for regional discretion

PROPOSED:

- 5 R/C, 5 West
- 5 Eastern YOB 2004 - Chosen by a YOB NTSM of National SL, GS and SG points
- 5 Eastern YOB 2003 - Chosen by a YOB NTSM of National SL, GS and SG points
- 5 Eastern YOB 2002 - Chosen by a YOB NTSM of National SL, GS and SG points
- Foreign athletes as per FIS quota
- Up to 10 Regional discretionary spots
- Remainder of the field is filled using the rankings described below.

Eligibility:

CURRENT:

All Eastern USA athletes with a valid FIS license, U.S. Ski & Snowboard membership, and divisional membership are eligible for participation in the Eastern Cup series.

PROPOSED (no change):

All Eastern USA athletes with a valid FIS license, U.S. Ski & Snowboard membership, and divisional membership are eligible for participation in the Eastern Cup series.

Ranking:

CURRENT:

Ranking for selection will be done using a 2-event NTSM of FIS SL and GS points. The points list/ranking list for any given event is the list that is current when registration opens. The Eastern office has the option to fill unused quota spots with race winners from Development FIS series races or development selections. (Please note: Development FIS series race winners are allowed entry into the next Eastern Cup series race. Consideration of calendar timing will be made).

PROPOSED (no change):

Ranking for selection will be done using a 2-event NTSM of FIS SL and GS points. The points list/ranking list for any given event is the list that is current when registration opens. The Eastern office has the option to fill unused quota spots with race winners from Development FIS series races or development selections. (Please note: Development FIS series race winners are allowed entry into the next Eastern Cup series race. Consideration of calendar timing will be made).

Development FIS Series - Devo FIS

Quotas:

CURRENT:

- 10 Athletes R/C 10 Athletes West
- 24 Divisional Quotas - 3 per division
- 20 Eastern YOB 2004 - Chosen by a YOB NTSM of National SL, GS and SG points ^
- 10 Eastern YOB 2003 - Chosen by a YOB NTSM of National SL, GS and SG points
- Up to 20 Regional discretionary spots
- Foreign FIS quotas

^ 20 YOB 2004 athletes for the December Development series are reserved for the 10 qualifying athletes out of the 2019 Ronnie Berlack U16 Eastern Championship Grand Prix and 10 from a beginning of season 3-event NTSM ranking of National SL, GS, and SG points.

PROPOSED:

- 5 R/C, 5 West
- 16 Divisional Quotas - 2 per division
- 15 Eastern YOB 2004 - Chosen by a YOB NTSM of National SL, GS and SG points
- 10 Eastern YOB 2003 - Chosen by a YOB NTSM of National SL, GS and SG points
- Up to 10 Regional discretionary spots
- Foreign athletes as per FIS quota
- Remainder of the field is filled using the rankings described below.

Eligibility:

CURRENT:

All Eastern USA athletes on the Eastern FIS Ranking List with 45 or more FIS points in the event to be contested are eligible for Development FIS in that event. Athletes with under 45 FIS points in the discipline to be contested are not eligible for Development FIS in that discipline.

PROPOSED (no change):

All Eastern USA athletes on the Eastern FIS Ranking List with 45 or more FIS points in the event to be contested are eligible for Development FIS in that event. Athletes with under 45 FIS points in the discipline to be contested are not eligible for Development FIS in that discipline.

Ranking:

CURRENT:

The ranking for Development FIS will be by 3-event NTSM (SL, GS, SG) using National points.

PROPOSED (no change):

The ranking for Development FIS will be by 3-event NTSM (SL, GS, SG) using National points.

Divisional FIS Series

Quotas:

- Minimum 10 Athletes from out of division
- Foreign athletes as per FIS quota
- Up to 5 Regional discretionary spots
- Remainder of field is filled by host division selection method
- Unused quotas revert to host division

- Foreign athletes as per FIS quota
- Up to 5 Regional discretionary spots
- Remainder of the field is to be filled by the host division selection method. A minimum of 10 spots must be allocated to out of division athletes.
- Unused quotas revert to host division

2020-21 EASEF Budget

Approved the budget that Sam presented.



Report to the EACC

October, 2020

Kathy Okoniewski

Eastern Youth Development Coordinator

SUMMARY SINCE LAST REPORT:

During the spring, summer and fall months, I have been busy planning for the 2020-21 season. The COVID-19 global pandemic has been a challenge as we have gone from planning, to not planning, back to planning, in what feels like an "un-planable" season. The challenges we all are facing have been a true lesson in flexibility and resiliency. We have met as a staff a number of times and worked daily and weekly on our modified Regional and National strategy and goals, all the while pursuing a balance of what we can accomplish as the Alpine Development Staff in this climate. I have continued to reach out to our clubs throughout the Region, just to check in and offer ways to collaborate during this difficult time.

I want to acknowledge the amazing people in our Region who have worked tirelessly throughout spring, summer and fall to prepare their divisions, clubs, members, and athletes for a meaningful and safe season. Their great work and constant ability to be flexible is a model of what dedicated teamwork looks like at it's best. There may be some silver linings here for us in the East, and for sure, Divisional, Club, and Coach collaboration/sharing of ideas and solutions is one of them. The energy for a season of "return to training" is gaining momentum.

Work overview:

- Congress and ECC - massive amount of discussion, calls, zoom meetings,
- Strategic Planning Meetings - Eastern Region with Eastern Staff, National Staff.
- Apollo Seminar - Sport Education for Eastern Region coaches in collaboration with Sport Education
- Division and Club Calls to review the COVID Guidelines
- Diversity and Inclusion Education, Suicide Prevention Training
- Program Visit Calendar
- National Project Selections and Regional Organization
- Glossary of Terms - Sport Education - collaboration with Development Staff

New for this season:

- Program and Divisional Visit Calendar - optimistic plan
 - Sport/Coaches Education
 - Educational environments
 - Support and follow up for USOPC "Plan, Do, Review" process
 - Language locker, cueing, consistency across programming, and developing connections with athletes during the Covid 20-21 season.
 - Club Development
 - Collaboration with Ellen Adams and Sport Education's Club Development platform, sharing of resources
 - Divisional Mini-projects
 - Calendar 1 day projects in geographical locations supporting local travel.
- RPS Mini training - U16
 - One day training projects that are geographically diverse, allowing for local travel.
 - Opportunity to create pace, exposure to competition and camaraderie during the season.



Report to the EACC

October, 2020

Richard Smith

Eastern Development Coach

SUMMARY SINCE LAST REPORT:

Since my last report was many years ago, I am very excited and honored to be the Regional Coach again. As all of us face a different landscape of ski racing this season, I hope my position can help elevate the athletes and staff of our Region. I look forward to a successful season, no matter what comes our way. We will find this season that adversity and patience will be our greatest friends. But being from the East, we can handle anything tossed our way.

Projects for 2021 season:

July/August - D-team Men SL Camp Mt. Hood

October/November - NDG Men Copper Colorado

December-April - NorAms, Eastern FIS events, training/pace days, program visits

HIGHLIGHTS -

- Eastern Athletes NDG
- Working with Staff of both the Region and National Team
- Create a relationship with Athletes of the Region
- Facilitate Training opportunities for our Region
- NJC continuity - a genuine team effort
- Being able to work across multiple age groups

One of my goals this season will be to bring athletes together for training projects on different venues throughout our region. The cross pollination of athletes from different programs to elevate pace outside of the race arena will be a positive experience for all. I have done this in the past and it worked very well with comradery when we traveled as a region.

Athletes in our region have been selected for the upcoming D-Team and NDG projects at Copper Mountain. As a region, the East had the highest number of men picked overall for the project. Athletes in attendance:

Chloe Aust - BMA

Carly Elsinger - GMVS

Gwen Wattenmaker - Dartmouth

Gray Flanagan - GMVS

Dan Gillis - BMA

Justin Bigatel - BMA

Aidan Robin - BMA

Nico Richeda - BMA
Axel Bailey - BMA
Oliver Morgan - BMA
Preston O'Brien - Dartmouth
Luke Kearing - Holderness
Nolan Sweeney - BMA

CHALLENGES - THINGS TO THINK ABOUT:

I feel we are going to be very open minded this season. Many new challenges will be ahead of us in the coming months, none of us have ever experienced the way the world is right now and we will need to adjust sometimes on the fly. The leaders of our region have been working extremely hard to create the most positive and safest race and training environments for the stakeholders of our great sport. As stated above, we need to be very patient with the season ahead, I really believe that if we all work together we will see a very positive season for the athletes and staff of our programs. Challenge is a good thing, it will make us look at our sport in a different light, if we accept it in a positive way, the athletes will gain success with their individual goals.

LOOKING AHEAD:

I look forward to the Region continuing to be a powerhouse for the development of our great sport. We as a region have great athletes, coaches, volunteers and parents which I want to support. I hope I will be able to reach out to as many programs as possible this season. As we move closer to snow hitting the hills, good things will come our way! I wish all of our region success and good health this season. Again, be ready for whatever comes your way and the season will be a ride to enjoy,

Thanks,
Rich



Alpine Development Staff Meeting Report
October, 2020
Paige Roberts
Eastern Competition Manager

SUMMARY SINCE LAST REPORT:

Since my last report, we've had a lot of discussions about how we will proceed with the upcoming season. Of course, it's not going to be "normal" by any means, but we are trying our best to plan for what might happen, and make accommodations ahead of time to prevent hiccups. So much of what's to come is unpredictable, but I think we've done a good job as a staff and as a region at maintaining a positive outlook and open mind. I know that we will adapt to whatever happens; we have an awesome and supportive bunch of people here in the East! I am continuously grateful to be part of this region and am looking forward to the year ahead—challenges and all!

HIGHLIGHTS:

- **Trying to make plans for the winter** — Still working on that.
- **FIS Race Announcement Template Updates** — We've made some minor adjustments to the FIS race announcement template for this upcoming year based on RA feedback and the changes we will experience in the year ahead amidst COVID-19.
- **Race Registration Task Force** — I was part of the race registration task force this summer, which was comprised of Chip, Sam, me, and the other regional directors and managers. We really stripped down the registration procedure for our national level FIS events and identified the strengths and weaknesses of each registration system and discussed over the course of several weeks how we should move forward. It was determined that any national-level event registration would remain on the Google Sheet/U.S. Ski & Snowboard Event Registration platform, while Eastern region races will continue on SkiReg. This doesn't change much from last year, though we did do FISU registrations on SkiReg last year, and they will switch back to being managed on Google Sheets/U.S. Ski & Snowboard Event Registration platform.
- **Handbook** — I made the necessary updates to the handbook to reflect the changes and event postponements for this upcoming season due to COVID-19. We still have a few minor changes to make before it's complete, but it should be wrapped up fairly soon.
- **SkiReg Updates** — Apart from the Race Registration Task Force discussions, Sam and I sat down with the developers at SkiReg at the end of last season and identified some areas in need of improvement and made some development requests. Some of the most relevant updates for the users are:
 - Improvements to the payment profile to make it easier for ROCs to input and save their payment information.
 - Some added clarity on the "Who's Registered?" page in terms of athletes who are accepted into the race but remain on the pending list due to credit card payment issues.
 - Some changes in the display on the "Who's Registered?" page to include points and quota information.
- **Interview with Schone Malliet** — Sam and I sat down via Zoom with Schone Malliet from Winter4Kids and discussed racial equity both within our sport and our society. I am

eternally grateful to have had the opportunity to not only get to know Schone a little better but also gain answers to some tough questions that Sam and I were able to ask in an open and understanding environment.

MOVING INTO THE SEASON:

I feel that some of the individual initiatives I've pursued in my role (such as marketing and fundraising opportunities) need to be put temporarily on hold as we navigate through this season. I think what's most important is the task at hand; we are going to have a very different season with expected and unexpected challenges ahead and I am prepared to give my full-attention to that and do what needs to be done to have a successful season.

Eastern Alpine Officials Committee

Report to the Eastern ACC

October 17th, 2020

On Saturday, October 10th, a member of the clinics Official community BB Baker passed away. BB was diagnosed with cancer in an elevated stage three weeks ago and he put up a good fight. Recently appointed Alpine Official Chair for VARA, BB was heavily involved with the Eastern AO community as a Technical Delegate, Timer, and Homologation Inspector. Chuck Hughes spoke for all of us when he stated that BB will be remembered for his great smile, laugh, and spiritual presence.

Eastern Alpine Officials Committee

The Committee is scheduled to host its third zoom call since last May, on Thursday, October 15th. The purpose of Thursdays meeting is for discussion and questions on this season AO Education Materials.

Previous meeting action items are as follows:

- Eastern Alpine Official of the Year, Stephen Rodman
- Burkett Dodge Award, Patricia Nichols
- Membership positions will remain in place until Spring 2021

In addition to these action items, several proposals and AO upgrades were brought to the AOEWG

- Level 4 AO redefined and clarification
- Support of annual TD Workshop Proposal

Fall 2020 US Ski & Snowboard Alpine Officials Education update:

On September 21, U. S. Ski and Snowboard confirmed that all meetings, including education clinics, may only be held on a virtual platform.

In a normal year the Eastern Division AO Clinic Schedule, would have been published mid-September. The new normal with COVID-19 requires for all of us to dig deep for additional patience and flexibility. The late release of the US Ski & Snowboard meeting guidelines forced our AO Educators to reschedule their calendars and integrating clinics into virtual platforms. A new schedule will be posted soon.

A big **THANK YOU** to the AO Eastern Committee Members our Eastern Division AO Educators!

Season Clinic and Exams:

- AO Materials have been posted to Dropbox for educators. **Except for Competition Official, no exams are available for this season**
 - Online Competition Official (CO) certification will be available. Required quiz is available and must be emailed to applicable division AO Chair.
 - Continuing Education (Update & Review) will be available for online presentation.
 - Document and PowerPoint presentation will be available for use; additional PowerPoint presentations must also be viewed.

- No additional clinics and/or exams, e.g. those required for update to Level 3 TC or Level 3 TD, or specialty area certifications for new coaches and officials, will be provided until Season 2022
- **Attendance:** Officials whose last clinic attendance was Season 2019 must attend a Continuing Education Clinic prior to officiating during Season 2021. No exam is required for CE. Technical Delegate **MUST** attend TD Workshop every season

NEW! U.S. Technical Delegate Workshop

U.S Ski and Snowboard Technical Delegates are required to attend a TD Workshop every season. No exam is required. For this first years' Workshop introduction, and in anticipation of COVID-19 restrictions, the material will be available online, fully narrated in an MP4 format. While each section is presented in video form, time is allocated for Divisions to discuss further the material presented as well as Division specific challenges.

There are several sections to the Workshop, including an introduction by Tiger Shaw: Courses, Race Day, TD Documentations, The Clean Hill Initiative, COVID-19 Best practices, TD Review and Update and Resources for the Technical Delegate. The body of material was developed over a series of 20 meetings this past Summer. The following six members of the AO Community were involved: Paul VanSlyke, Thelma Hoessler, Carl Gunzel, Curt Hammond, John Higgins and me, Laura Sullivan.

US Ski & Snowboard plans to introduce the TD Workshop to the divisional AO chairs next week.

Respectfully Submitted,



Laura Sullivan,
Eastern Alpine Official Chair

EACC College Report

John Dwyer

EISA / NCAA

13 Alpine Programs

Vermont:

Middlebury College, St. Michaels College, University of Vermont

New Hampshire:

Colby Sawyer College, Dartmouth College, Plymouth State University, University of New Hampshire

Massachusetts:

Boston College, Harvard University, Williams College

Maine:

Bates College, Colby College

New York:

St. Lawrence University

22 FIS- UNI races

MacConnell Division / USCSA

10 Programs

Babson College, NCAA

Brown University, NCAA (Women Only)

Castleton State College, NCAA

Clarkson University, NCAA

New England College, NCAA

St. Anselm, NCAA

Smith College, Club

M.I.T., Club

Univ. of Connecticut, Club

UMass, Club

8 FIS-UNI Races

USA FIS UNI Series Summary:

This could be a challenging year for Collegiate racing, already the NESCAC has cancelled winter competition with more colleges projected to follow. We are still planning to have a season with the remaining teams and will adjust protocols to follow USSS Covid guidelines. Women and men racing on opposite days with two races on each day. If it comes to it, we will do state racing with qualification to NCAA Championships TBD.

The NCAA is weighing to cut NCAA skiing spots from 180 to 90. Leaving just 11 spots per gender to qualify for NCAA Championships from the east. We have requested they consider alternative cost saving plans to maintain the integrity of the championship.

St. Lawrence and Dartmouth have been selected to host the 2023 and 2025 NCAA Championships.

EISA will continue to adopt a fluor ban regardless of FIS's recent announcement of rolling back the guidance

Eastern ACC Division Reports

NHARA Report to the EACC, Fall Meeting October 17, 2020

This season promises to be a challenging one. NHARA is committed to providing the best alpine programming for all our age groups, and levels of competition. Given the new guidelines we will need to follow we have taken the necessary steps to allow for a successful and safe season.

The NHARA Children's committee and our U16 working group have done a great job in maximizing race opportunities, being mindful of the overall racer start limitations and ensuring equity amongst each group. Ultimately this means fewer overall competitions—but also means more time at home training.

Overall, scored USSS races for our U16 and older ages will be fewer largely due to all December races being cancelled. Working closely with the Eastern Region NHARA has begun to populate a healthy calendar of divisional FIS races. This will not only keep our developing U19 athletes active with the given field sizes limitations, but what I am sure will show that FIS racing can be "local", available to all, and not of great expense.

Keeping our sport moving along with excitement, ensuring continued accessibility for all ages everywhere, is essential to the overall health of sport. Being innovative with our planning, staying as open minded as possible, and reinforcing the fun factor of skiing will ensure we take away the best from challenging times.

Respectfully,
Andrew Gannon

VARA EACC REPORT FALL 2020 **Julie Woodworth**

MEMBERSHIP

Currently, membership is just under half of what it was last year at this time. 1392/669 Competitors registered are mostly U14-U12 - U16 -U19 -U10 in that order.

SCHEDULE

We have a tentative scored and non scored schedule for U16 and up and U14.

U12's at this time are training and doing creative development at the home site and will begin a structured schedule after March 1.

VC - the schedule is set for 4 sl and 4 gs - racing separate genders at separate sites and mostly on weekdays with the exception of some Sundays. VC will be used for scoring for qualifying for states.

FIS - FIS events added to the VT schedule

GTS- Events are scheduled for late Feb through mid-March.

U14 council events. VARA Children's Committee is recommending a reduced council schedule of 3-4 events. We have a spring inclusive event on the schedule for the last week of March and two tri-council events.

U10 and under will be home-based.

VARA Children's Committee is recommending clubs join forces and to do combined training, skills, and all-mountain challenges for 14's and under.

Additionally:

Created a template for clubs to use or not for their members to sign saying they will adhere to state, uss, ski area protocols, and the VARA pledge.

Early in summer, the VARA CDC created a task force to write up a VARA Technical statement. The group was made up of Sue Kramer/BOC, Lori McClallen/Pico, Naga Kusumi/SMS, Julie W and Chaired by Diann Roffe. The result was a very appropriate document which USS is interested in additionally, the document has a graphic that USS also wants to use for its coaches' education material. We are very proud of this work.

DEVO Committee:

Worked on Calednaring including an additional 10 + FiS events.

VARA Pledge

A COVID committee task force created a VARA Pledge that all members must accept when they join VARA. It is posted on the [VARA Announcements](#).

Academies seem to have their COVID protocols and operations in order. Clubs are dealing with and trying to determine the best way to manage a program within all the cross-state travel restrictions and not lose all their members.

We have been holding club director CIVID update calls which have proven to be very useful and help programs talk things and share information.

Our mantra has been that if we get to train and ski and our clubs get to operate then that is a WIN. Racing will be a bonus. This can be the best development year ever.

Tri-State Alpine Ski Racing Association

TSASRA

Eastern ACC Division Report

October 17th, 2020

The TSASRA Board of Directors hosted multiple meetings via telecommunications over the Summer. The focus and purpose were twofold; the redirection of the organization via the development of new Bylaws and how to best serve our membership in the upcoming season within the current landscape of COVID-19.

In addition to U.S Ski & Snowboard guidelines, establishing a competition schedule requires TSASRA to meet multiple state, local, and mountain management restrictions. However, the BOD remains optimistic regarding the options in the upcoming season. Flexibility, patience, and the ability to adapt to a new norm are key. Our

Competition Chairs have various plans for the season schedule including night options that are available within the Division.

Several homologations have been processed over the summer, supported by the TSASRA program that offers financial support. Bousquet Ski area was recently purchased by a local capital investment group that is interesting in restoring and keeping one of the country's oldest ski area operational. New management have been working through the summer on updating the resort's infrastructure. Unfortunately, Blandford Ski area, a resort that has provided TSASRA with many great competitors and hosted multiple events has closed permanently.

Looking forward, TSASRA recognizes the season offers a unique opportunity in the development, training and education for our athletes, officials, and coaches. Hopefully, we will continue to focus on what we can do and not on what we cannot.

Respectfully Submitted,

Laura Sullivan

TSASRA Administrator