

# ALASKA DIVISION

Ski competition within the Alaska Division is administered by the Alaska Alpine Competition Committee (ACC), which is comprised of representatives from each USSA member club. The ACC coordinates race schedules and development programs, establishes competition guidelines, and makes team selections for regional and national events.

## Divisional Rules and Procedures

### Membership

All competitors are required to be current members of USSA and hold a current USSA alpine competitor membership in order to compete in USSA scored races. YSL or student membership is recommended for all non-scored events. All Alaskan USSA competition licensed members are also required to pay an Alaska Division membership.

Entrants in the Alaska Division 12 - Under State Championships must hold a current Alaska Division/USSA membership license.

### Age Groups

Alaska Division alpine competition follows the USSA ages. Classification ages are based upon the age of the racer as of Dec. 31 of the current season. Some restrictions apply to specific age groups.

### Finances

An athlete's divisional and national financial obligations must be paid prior to the athlete's departure for an out-of-division or championship competition.

### Entry Deadlines and Entry Fees

Race entries, accompanied by entry fees, must be received by the host club by the entry deadline as listed on the Alaska race calendar or as noted by host club race announcement. Maximum entry fee: \$30/start. Late entries may be accepted depending on the sponsoring club's published policy.

### Entry Refunds

If a racer wishes to withdraw from a race, entry fees will be refunded only when notice is given to the race secretary prior to the draw at the team captain's meeting of the race in question. If a DH or SG is canceled, the organizing club may keep the entire training fee if a training fee has been set and noticed in the race announcement. If a SL or GS is canceled, the organizer will refund the entire entry fee. Refunds will be mailed out within 30 days.

### Out-of-Division Travel

Athletes wishing to travel to any out of division races must notify the coaches working group chair, via their club coach, a minimum of 30 days before the event. Only these athletes will appear on the NTS board, which will be used to make the selections 25 days before the event. Selected athletes will have 48 hours to accept their selection, at which time a \$250 deposit is due. This deposit is non-refundable except in the event of injury or illness. The balance of the cost is due before the start of the event. The division will be responsible for collecting the cost of the trip from athletes. Athletes not in good standing with Alaska as of travel day of all divisional quota events are subject to immediate sanctioning. Good standing is defined as current USSA and Alaska Division membership and no outstanding debts owed the division. Send a check for the cost of the trip to the divisional administrator.

### Race Announcements

All host clubs will be responsible for sending out pertinent race information such as the schedule, field size limits, lift fees and area releases to all USSA Alpine clubs within Alaska, no less than 30 days prior to the scheduled event.

### Racing Bibs

The host club will issue racing bibs. The host club may charge a bib deposit at race registration or a fee for a lost bib or a bib returned late.

### Race Results

Host clubs of divisional qualifiers will generate overall results that include the age group and second run times for each racer. Overall results will be posted to the Alaska Division web site within 72 hours of the completion of that event or series.

## Quotas, Team Rules and Selection Procedures Western Region FIS Races

Racers will be selected to attend these events according to the policy for out-of-division travel. Selections will be made 25 days prior to the event, and athletes will have 48 hours to accept

their selection. All USSA membership requirements must be met prior to published selection dates for an athlete to be eligible for out-of-division races.

## **Selection Procedures for FIS Races**

Selection is based on the National Team Selection Board (NTSB) using USSA seed points from the most current list on the selection date. Western Region automatics will not appear on the board. For Speed Series a modified NTSB board will be used, in that GS will always be the last pick on any line. Athletes must meet Alaska eligibility rules. Selection Boards will include only the events to be held at the Series, with the exception that Speed Events Series boards will also include GS.

### **Discretionary Selections**

Up to 20 percent of any Alaska divisional quota may be allocated to discretionary selections. The use of this discretionary quota shall be the decision of the ACC. Petitions for exceptions must be made in writing, including supporting documentation, to the Coaches Working Group by the protest period of the final selection race. Approval of exception and inclusion into the quota shall be made by a majority vote of the ACC. Appeals to the petition procedure must be made in writing with supporting documentation to the ACC Appeals Board.

## **Junior Olympics**

### **Alaska Junior Olympic Selection Method**

Racers must have competed in at least 50% of the qualifying runs in the Jr. Olympic Qualifier Series to be included on the selection boards with the following exceptions:

- Racers who participate by invitation in a U.S. Ski Team or regional development camp, or other national project that conflicts with the divisional qualifying races.
- Racers who are injured, or ill and have been under a physician's care.
- Racers who are new to the division but otherwise meet all other selection criteria.

Ranking will be made on the basis of each "run's" finish order, with no more than two "runs" counted in each discipline. Finish points will be awarded based on World Cup Points. In qualifying GS and SL races, racers that are not ranked after the first run will be allowed to run at the end of their respective seeds (groups of 15) in reverse bib order.

For purposes of filling the quota, the racer with the highest number of points based on their three best finishes will be ranked first. Each racer thereafter will be ranked in accordance with the number of total points accumulated in the best three "runs". Ties in ranking will be broken by using the next best finishes per discipline, not to exceed using more than two "runs" in any one discipline.

Alaskan Western Region automatics will also be automatic selections to the Alaskan Junior Olympic Team in their age group, provided they compete in at least 1 qualifying series. These athletes will not appear on the selection board, and will not receive World Cup points in the qualifying races.

Selections will be made as described above until each quota, including alternates, is filled. Selections will be made by the CWG and ratified by the ACC.

Programs or independent athletes will be notified of team selections no more than 24 hours after they are determined. Athletes must notify their club of their intent to participate on the Junior Olympic team, with payment, within 48 hours after selections are announced.

Seeding for the J3 Championships and the J4 Festival will be determined by adding the best 2 qualifying results in each of technical events, and using the best result in SG. Athletes will be ranked in each discipline from highest to lowest. Athletes with less than 2 results in technical events, or 1 result in SG, will count a zero in the place of each missing result. Ties will be broken by the next best result, then by the best race point differential.

## **Junior Olympic Qualifier Series**

### **J1-J2 Jr. Olympics Qualifiers**

Qualifying series shall be the Alaska Marine Lines series at Eaglecrest in Juneau and the Alyeska Cup series at Mt. Alyeska in Girdwood. Qualifying races for J1's and J2's shall consist of two DH, two SG, two SL, and two GS. Each run will count for qualifying purposes. Final selections will consist of two dh runs, 2 sg runs, 4 gs runs and 4 sl runs.

### **J3 J4 Jr. Olympic Qualifiers**

For the 2001-2002 season the qualifiers shall be the Alyeska Cup series in Girdwood, and the Alaska Marine Lines in Juneau. Each run of each race shall be considered a qualifying race. J3 qualifiers shall consist of two runs of SG, 4 runs of GS and 4 runs of SL. J4 qualifying will consist of 4 runs of gs and 4 runs of sl.

Note: At all JO qualifiers, if more than one race in a discipline is hosted at a site, then the first race within that discipline will be the designated qualifier. Should an area be

unable to host the scheduled qualifier races, (they will be made up at another scheduled site whenever possible).

### **Amendment to Alaska Division Junior Olympic Selection Method:**

All rules remain unchanged with the following exception.

#### Qualification Procedures for Jr Championships, Junior Olympics and J4 Festival

- 1) J1s and J2s will use race results (as opposed to individual run results) for the State qualifying races. J3s and J4 will continue to use individual "run" results.
- 2) In the event that qualifying races have to be reduced to 4 or less events qualification will be done using each "run" vs. "race."
- 3) Events used for qualifying purposes to the Jr Championships will be limited to those events scheduled at the Championship event. *Example: There were no speed events scheduled for the 2006 J1/2 Jr Championships therefore the DH and SG events held in Anchorage and Juneau did not count toward qualification.*

## **Alaska Race Highlights & Teams**

### **Alaska Marine Lines Series**

This race series is sponsored by Alaska Marine Lines and hosted by the Juneau Ski Club at the Eaglecrest Ski area. This four-day event will consist of two SG's, one GS, and one SL. Series race awards are given to the top-three racers in each junior age class (men & women) in each discipline. Awards are also given to the top-five overall combined female and male racers, based on World Cup points scored in all the races, with only racers finishing all events being eligible to win.

### **Alyeska Cup**

The Alyeska Cup Series is held at Mt. Alyeska, and consists of both technical and speed events. The first race of each speed event is the qualifier for the Alyeska Cup. WC points are awarded for each of the four races (1DH, 1SG, 1GS, 1SL), and only athletes that finish all four events will be eligible to win.

### **Alaska State Championships**

The winner of the first event in each discipline at the Alyeska Cup will be designated the Alaska state champion in that discipline.

### **Alaska J4/J5 State Championships**

This event is generally held in late March or early April and rotates each year from Anchorage, then Juneau, and then Fairbanks. Races include one GS and one SL that are non-scored.

Entrants in the Alaska Division 12 - Under State Championships must hold a current Alaska Division/USSA membership license.

## **Team Alaska (updated November 2003)**

"Team Alaska" is for those Alaska Division alpine competitors whom have achieved a high level in ski racing and are recognized for their efforts. Being named to Team Alaska is one of the highest honors that an athlete can achieve within the Alaska Division.

**Criteria for Team Alaska A Team:** Top 3 finish at a JO or J4 Festival event and/or National top 15 ranking in year of birth in any discipline by the May points list. In addition to this the athlete must participate in a USSA Fitness Evaluation. Benefits: Team Alaska A Team members are provided entry into all Alaska Division USSA scored races and camps at no cost. Members receive certificates of accomplishment from the Alaska Division and a Divisional patch.

**Criteria for Team Alaska B Team:** Regional top 15 ranking in any discipline in year of birth and participation in a USSA Fitness Evaluation. Benefits: Team Alaska B Team members receive certificates of accomplishment from the Alaska Division and a Divisional patch.

**Academic Team Alaska:** The Alaska Academic Team is comprised of athletes enrolled in junior high school or high school representing a racing program in Alaska who maintained a 3.5gpa or higher for the entire academic year. Benefits: Alaska Academic Team members receive certificates of

accomplishment from the Alaska Division and a Divisional patch. We have traditionally asked for kids report cards in June – they would be named to the academic team the following season.

Team Alaska membership is an award for results or academic achievements from the prior season.