



ALPINE OFFICIALS' MANUAL

CHAPTER XI

ALPINE OFFICIALS' PROGRAM

SEASON 2025

INTRODUCTION	XI/ 2/2025
BENEFITS	XI/ 2/2025
MINOR ATHLETE ABUSE PROVENTION POLICY (MAAPP).....	XI/4/2025
MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION	XI/ 4/2025
U.S. SKI & SNOWBOARD BACKGROUND SCREENING	XI/ 5/2025
SAFESPORT TRAINING	XI/ 6/2025
INTRODUCTION TO AVALANCHES COURSE	XI/ 7/2025
ALPINE OFFICIALS' CLINICS	XI/ 7/2025
CERTIFICATION GUIDELINES MISSION STATEMENT	XI/ 8/2025
CERTIFICATION PROGRAM.....	XI/ 8/2025
APPEAL OF AN OFFICIAL'S FAILING EXAMINATION GRADE.....	XI/10/2025
U.S. SKI & SNOWBOARD ALPINE COMPETITION REGULATIONS (ACR).....	XI/11/2025
FIS INTERNATIONAL SKI COMPETITION RULES (ICR).....	XI/11/2025
ALPINE OFFICIALS' MANUAL (AOM).....	XI/11/2025
EDUCATIONAL PRESENTATION – GATE JUDGES.....	XI/11/2025
ALPINE OFFICIALS' ROSTER	XI/12/2025
TECHNICAL DELEGATES.....	XI/12/2025
ALPINE OFFICIALS' RECOMMENDATION FORM.....	XI/16/2025
PERSONAL ACTIVITY RECORD.....	XI/17/2025

INTRODUCTION

Alpine Officials, whether paid professionals or volunteers, take pride in being the best they can be and affording every competitor a fair and legal competition. This pride and dedication are reflected in their proficiency in various areas of official certification; this benefits the competitors and the general Alpine event program.

Volunteer officials are frequently parents and/or immediate family members of a competitor. Many are individuals whose children no longer compete, but they have stayed involved in order that others may benefit from their experience and knowledge. Professional Certified Officials are involved because it is their chosen profession and, like volunteers, they have discovered the rewards of officiating and contributing to the ski programs providing fair and legal competitions for all participants.

All Certified Officials, both volunteer and professional, are required to stay active as an official and to stay current on procedures and rules. Certification of Alpine Officials by U.S. Ski & Snowboard or FIS is an implied guarantee to sponsoring organizations that the official is qualified to do a professional job.

Advancement to higher officials' certification levels implies increasing recognition of ability, judgment, and service. In cases where officials are not able to fulfill the responsibilities indicated by the certification level(s), the officials' certification levels may be adjusted accordingly, and non-compliant officials may lose their certification(s) as determined by Region/Division Alpine Official Committees.

BENEFITS

Anyone may join the ranks of Alpine Officials by completing the membership documents required by U.S. Ski & Snowboard (Coach membership includes Alpine Official membership) and submitting the membership fee as required in the application process. These officials have no certification designation until they attend an approved Alpine Officials' Clinic and are recognized by the appropriate Region/Division.

Upon joining U.S. Ski & Snowboard and paying the Alpine Officials' membership fee, officials will receive:

- Annual U.S. Ski & Snowboard membership card, if requested
- A subscription to a publication of their choice (may be digital)
- Annual U.S. Ski & Snowboard Alpine Competition Guide (Comp Guide) which includes the Alpine Competition Regulations (ACR)
- Access to organized Alpine Officials' education programs
- Secondary Accident Insurance coverage at U.S. Ski & Snowboard sanctioned events for injuries that occur within the scope of an official's event-related activities
- Listing in the Alpine Officials' Directory/Roster on the U.S. Ski & Snowboard website
- Annual Region/Division Alpine Official membership and activity card, if provided by Region/Division
- Additional benefits according to certification level and current event officiating activity

Regions/Divisions of U.S. Ski & Snowboard may require an additional fee. These additional fees help to defray costs of additional services provided to officials and event organizers in those Regions/Divisions.

In addition to current U.S. Ski & Snowboard membership:

- Technical Delegate **must** be a certified Technical Delegate
- Referee, Assistant Referee, and Course Setter(s) **must** be certified Referees
- Jury Advisors (Start Referee and Finish Referee) **must** be a certified Technical Delegate, Referee, Jury Advisor, or Chief of Race
- Chief of Race **must** be a certified Chief of Race, Referee, or Technical Delegate
- Chief of Course **must** be a certified Chief of Course, Chief of Race, Referee, or Technical Delegate
- Chief of Timing & Calculations and Race Administrator **must** be certified in the applicable specialty area

These requirements apply to all U.S. Ski & Snowboard events – both scored and non-scored.

U.S. Ski & Snowboard members whose status is PENDING on the U.S. Ski & Snowboard website membership roster must not be granted race arena/venue access or allowed to participate in any capacity at any U.S. Ski & Snowboard sanctioned event: appointed to serve as a Jury member, Jury Advisor (Start/Finish Referee), Chief of Course, Course Setter, Chief of Timing & Calculations, Race Administrator, or being allowed to serve as an on-hill coach.

Due to the rapidly changing nature of the sport, officials certified as Referee, Jury Advisor (Start and Finish Referees), Technical Delegate, Chief of Race, Chief of Course, Chief of Timing & Calculations, and Race Administration are encouraged to attend an approved Continuing Education Clinic (Update) every season. With the exception of Technical Delegate and Race Administration, ***these officials must attend one biennially (every other season) prior to being allowed to serve in the respective position.***

Unless an exception is granted by the respective AO Division/Region Chair, Technical Delegates are required to attend a Technical Delegate Workshop every season, and Race Administrators are required to attend a Race Administration Workshop every season; current membership and applicable certification are still required. Failure to meet all seasonal continuing education requirement may result in loss of certifications.

NOTE: For U.S. Ski & Snowboard sanctioned FIS events, Jury members, Jury Advisors, Chief of Course, Course Setters, Chief of Timing & Calculations, and Race Administrator must be current, appropriately certified members of U.S. Ski & Snowboard as either a coach or an Alpine Official *or members of a foreign federation recognized by FIS*. U.S. officials must also have attended required Continuing Education Clinics (Updates/Workshops) prior to being allowed to serve in the respective position. ***Chief of Race for Continental Cup events (Nor-Am) should be a member of the host nation.***

For U.S. Ski & Snowboard sanctioned FIS events, if a foreign FIS Federation lists a foreign coach on their entry form, the foreign federation is certifying that the coach has the knowledge and ability to fulfill the duties of a Team Captain, e.g., serve as a Jury member or set a course. With this certification, the named coaches are recognized as being a qualified member of a foreign federation recognized by FIS.

Individuals – coaches, technicians, medical personnel, etc. – listed on a U.S. Ski & Snowboard entry must have a current, appropriate U.S. Ski & Snowboard membership (one which required background screening), in order to be granted race arena/venue access or participate in any capacity

– including on-hill coaching – at any U.S. Ski & Snowboard sanctioned event: FIS/non-FIS; scored/non-scored.

NOTE: Referee certification in order to serve as a Team Captain is not currently required in order to be granted race arena/venue access; it is only required for Jury positions and Course Setters.

MINOR ATHLETE ABUSE PREVENTION POLICY (MAAPP)

MAAPP applies to “In-Program Contact” within the Olympic & Paralympic movement. Its implementation is required for the U.S. Olympic & Paralympic Committee (USOPC), National Governing Bodies (NGB), Member Clubs (also known as Local Affiliated Organizations or LAO), and Paralympic Sport Organizations (PSO).

MAAPP applies to **all** U.S. Ski & Snowboard employees, contractors, athletes, officials, and members. It also applies to participating non-members, e.g., foreign officials, timing companies, volunteers, and any adult participants. The MAAPP has three primary components:

1. Education & Training for certain Adult Participants
2. Required Prevention Policies that focus on limiting one-on-one interactions between Adult Participants and Minor Athletes (implemented to prevent abuse)
3. Recommended Prevention Policies

Federal law requires the Center for SafeSport to conduct regular and random audits of NGB’s to ensure compliance with the MAAPP. Event organizers must be familiar with the requirements of the “Minor Athlete Abuse Prevention Policy (MAAPP)” and “SafeSport Code” and be committed to due diligence in their application. Adult Participants also have an independent responsibility to comply with the MAAPP. *Violations of the MAAPP can result in sanctions under the SafeSport Code.*

The above is only a brief overview of information found in many documents; these documents will be updated as required. For access to complete and current information related to the MAAPP and SafeSport Code, please refer to links posted on the U.S. Ski & Snowboard website:

usskiandsnowboard.org/safesport-athlete-safety/safesport-resources

U.S. SKI & SNOWBOARD MEMBERSHIP

U.S. Ski & Snowboard membership applications or renewals are filed online using the U.S. Ski & Snowboard Membership Tool. The procedure is:

1. Apply for or renew your membership online at usskiandsnowboard.org. Create (new members) or access your “User Account” and select all requested memberships, e.g., Coach/Official, Competitor – Alpine, U.S. Ski & Snowboard Club Volunteer, U.S. Ski & Snowboard Club Participant, Snowboard, Freestyle, Masters, etc.

NOTE: Athletes who will turn 18 during the competition season must create their own membership account. Junior Coaches must also create their own membership account.

2. All members must review and accept “Assumption of Risk and Release of Liability.” (Read carefully before accepting.)

3. All members must review and accept “Athlete Safety & Legal Acknowledgements”. (Read carefully before accepting.)
4. All members must review and accept “U.S. Ski & Snowboard’s Concussion Policy and Action Plan”.
5. All members must provide primary medical/accident insurance information.
6. Site will provide membership fee total.
7. Credit card holder must provide current credit card information.
8. Member will be directed to DocuSign site to e-sign releases and acknowledgements.
9. Upon receipt and processing of an application, if either background screening and/or SafeSport training is required, U.S. Ski & Snowboard will direct you to a link that will initiate the required process; you may also be contacted via email with instructions on how to proceed. Until all requirements are met, “PENDING” will be noted on your membership dashboard. Failure to complete requirements in a timely manner will result in membership being inactivated.
NOTE: Introduction to Avalanches Course and Coaching Fundamentals Course are required for Coaches and Junior Coaches. Requirement is no longer under Membership; it is being monitored by Sport Education.
10. Until “PENDING” status is cleared and full membership status is in effect, a Coach or Official must not be granted race arena/venue access or allowed to participate in any capacity at any U.S. Ski & Snowboard sanctioned event, e.g., appointed to serve as a Jury member, Jury Advisor (Start/Finish Referee), Chief of Course, Course Setter, Race Administrator, Chief of Timing & Calculations. *Coaches who are shown as “PENDING” are also not allowed to serve as an on-hill coach. Competitors who are shown as “PENDING” must not be allowed to compete or forerun in an event.*
11. If there are no “PENDING” requirements, membership will be finalized immediately and the U.S. Ski & Snowboard website will be updated.

U.S. SKI & SNOWBOARD BACKGROUND SCREENING

In order to help ensure that our members are in a secure environment, U.S. Ski & Snowboard has implemented a strict policy that is in keeping with the standards of many youth sports organizations, schools and recreational programs in the US. Any member of U.S. Ski & Snowboard who is appointed to a position of authority over, or who has regular contact with athletes must clear background screening; e.g., employees, member coaches, competitors, 18 years of age or older, officials, etc. (For more information, refer to: usskiandsnowboard.org/safesport-athlete-safety/background-screening.)

NOTE: With the exception of Short-Term and Alpine Master (with no regular contact with minor athletes) memberships, all Alpine Competitor members who are 18 years of age and older must undergo periodic background screening.

Background rescreening will be required every two (2) years for all U.S. Ski & Snowboard employees, competitors 18 years of age or older, coaches, and officials. Approximately 1/2 of the

membership will be rescreened during any one-year period with the remaining re-screening completed during the next one-year period.

Approximate background screening approval for those residing in the U.S. for 7 years or more can take as long as 2-3 weeks. The turnaround for foreign coaches and officials or for those who have lived abroad may take several months.

SAFESPORT TRAINING

U.S. Federal Law requires that adults who have frequent contact with, or who are in positions of authority over athletes, must receive consistent education on prevention and reporting of all allegations of sexual misconduct, bullying, hazing and abuse of all forms. This impacts all U.S. Ski & Snowboard member clubs, coaches, officials, competitors 18 years of age and older, and Club Volunteer members.

U.S. Ski & Snowboard membership is not required prior to initiating SafeSport Training. However, individuals are encouraged to include their U.S. Ski & Snowboard membership number and affiliate with U.S. Ski & Snowboard.

After completion of membership application/renewal, you will receive email notification containing instructions and a time limit for completion of training. Failure to complete training prior to deadline will result in membership being inactivated.

A comprehensive training program is required the first year, with annual refresher training required in subsequent years. SafeSport training must be completed through the U.S. Center for SafeSport (substitutions are not permitted).

After applying for/renewing your U.S. Ski & Snowboard membership, if SafeSport training was not completed in advance, use the following instructions:

1. Follow link provided during membership application/renewal or included in SafeSport email notification sent by U.S. Ski & Snowboard.
2. Affiliate account with U.S. Ski & Snowboard and enter your 7-digit membership number. *Do not include your alpha Division designation.*
3. Choose the learning dashboard under your name (on left) and begin the required course/refresher.
4. Complete each required module of the course; all required modules must be completed to earn certificates.

Due to length of this course, an applicant may choose to complete one module at a time. They may log in and out at their convenience.

Some of the benefits available to an Alpine Official are:

- Receive directed content based on your sport and area of interest
- Have access to discounts from U.S. Ski & Snowboard partners and suppliers
- Receive a subscription to a top ski or snowboard magazine
- Have access to Center of Excellence TV

- Have access to additional U.S. Ski & Snowboard educational materials through the U.S. Ski & Snowboard Education shop
- Have excess participant accident insurance if injured in the performance of the scope of your duties during U.S. Ski & Snowboard sanctioned events

Program is more fully explained on the U.S. Ski & Snowboard website at usskiandsnowboard.org.

INTRODUCTION TO AVALANCHES COURSE

This course was developed through a partnership between the Utah Avalanche Center, BRASS, and U.S. Ski & Snowboard. The purpose of this course is to make you aware of avalanche and snow safety and to make you think twice before going off piste or entering the backcountry without the proper gear and training.

Coach and Junior Coach members are required to complete the Introduction to Avalanches Course in order to activate membership. Other requirements such as SafeSport Training, background screening, and Coaching Fundamentals may also apply.

ALPINE OFFICIALS' CLINICS

A variety of Alpine Officials' Clinics are held in each of U.S. Ski & Snowboard's geographic divisions. Clinics range from those designated as mandatory continuing education clinics for previously certified officials to introductory sessions for novice officials. These clinics address the entire range of officiating and event organization. Topics include Competition Official which is required prior to attending any specialty-area clinic and is available online. Specialty-area clinics are also available: Chief of Race, Chief of Course, Race Administration, Referee which includes Jury Advisor – Start and Finish Referee, Timing & Calculations, and Workshops specifically prepared for Technical Delegates and Race Administrators; *these Workshops may be by invitation only.*

With the exception of Competition Official which requires a one-page quiz that may be completed online, written examinations are offered for those officials who wish to either become certified in a specialty area or to upgrade level(s) of proficiency.

Specialty-area examinations are "open book", must be proctored, and must be taken at scheduled times. They are NOT "take-home" examinations and may NOT be administered either electronically or by correspondence. Using computers during any of the specialty-area examinations is not permitted; calculators are permitted for the calculation portions. Time limits have been adopted for each of the specialty-area examination, but they may be extended at the discretion of the examiner(s), in order to accommodate individuals with special needs. *All examinations and applicable Study Guides expire annually on June 1.*

For clinic schedules, contact the Alpine Officials' Committee representative for your Region/Division or the U.S. Ski & Snowboard office listed on the respective website. Available clinic schedules will be published in "Ski Racing," announced in Region/Division newsletters/websites, and also listed on the U.S. Ski & Snowboard website.

Basic Timing & Calculations, Chief of Course, Chief of Race, Race Administration, Referee and Jury Advisor (may be part of Referee) Clinics require passing a written exam with a grade of 75% or higher prior to certification in the respective category.

In addition to fulfilling other requirements, a Technical Delegate Applicant/Candidate must pass the

respective exam with a grade of 75% or higher. Level 2 Technical Delegates who have fulfilled all requirements and who wish to advance to Level 3 must pass the respective written exam with a grade of 80% or higher. (Refer to Technical Delegate Applicant/Candidate in this Chapter.)

Certified Timing & Calculations Officials who meet current requirements and who desire to upgrade their proficiency level to Level 3 must pass the applicable exam with a grade of 75% or better.

Level 3 or above Timing & Calculations Officials are considered for positions at upper-level events, and all events should use the most qualified officials available. *The Chief of Timing & Calculations and other senior officials must be appropriately certified U.S. Ski & Snowboard members. The Chief of Timing & Calculations for National Championship, Nor-Am Cup, and World Cup events should be a certified Level 3 or higher Chief of Timing & Calculations.*

When an individual receives a grade lower than that required by current requirements, retesting may occur only after the annual revision of the applicable exam is available.

CERTIFICATION GUIDELINES MISSION STATEMENT

It is the mission and the goal of the U.S. Ski & Snowboard Alpine Officials to strive for excellence in event officiating and provide quality competitions for all athletes.

The U.S. Ski & Snowboard Alpine Officials Certification Guidelines have been developed to illustrate the pathway for Alpine Officials to develop and progress through the system. These guidelines are suggested competency-based criteria. An individual's experiences and opportunities should be considered when considering promotion. Ultimately, advancement should recognize proven judgment, ability, and service.

CERTIFICATION PROGRAM

The U.S. Ski & Snowboard Alpine Officials' community has developed a comprehensive certification program, which is in place on a nationwide basis and is amended by U.S. Ski & Snowboard as needed. The program is reviewed on an annual basis and recognizes officials at six levels in a variety of categories.

Officials are recognized at Levels 1 - 6 in eight different specialty areas, reflecting different responsibilities, abilities and experience. These are:

- Competition Official (available online) CO (Prerequisite for specialty-area certifications)
- Chief of Race CR
- Chief of Course CC
- Jury Advisor (Start/Finish Referee) JA (Included in Referee education)
- Race Administrator RA
- Referee RF
- Technical Delegate TD
- Timing & Calculations TC

Requirements for advancement from Level 1 through Level 4 vary for each area of certification. Refer to Certification Guidelines for more information. Certification levels for Alpine Officials are:

- **Level 1 - Apprentice or Associate**
- **Level 2 - Divisional**
- **Level 3 - National**

- **Level 4 - National Gold**

Specialty areas may have additional requirements, but the basic requirements for advancement to Level 4 are:

- Minimum of 5 years of outstanding service as Level 3 in the specialty area
- Annual clinic participation per division requirements, preferably as an instructor
- Nomination by Division Alpine Officials' Committee
- With exception of Level 3 and Level 4 Technical Delegate, approval is required from U.S. Ski & Snowboard Alpine Officials' Education Working Group. Approval must be ratified by the U.S. Ski & Snowboard Technical Subcommittee and the Alpine Sport Committee; *approval and ratification are only available at Spring Congress.*
- Level 3 and Level 4 Technical Delegates must be approved by the U.S. Ski & Snowboard Technical Delegate's Working Group and must be ratified by the U.S. Ski & Snowboard Technical Subcommittee and Alpine Sport Committee; *approval and ratification are only available at Spring Congress.*
- **Level 5 - Honor Role** is awarded to retired and emeritus officials who maintain U.S. Ski & Snowboard Alpine Officials' membership
- **Level 6** is reserved for FIS Technical Delegates

When officials serve at an event, their member number, name, and official position will – if properly entered in the software – be noted in their record on the U.S. Ski & Snowboard website. This creates a trackable record and allows for verification of days served when submitting their “Alpine Official’s Personal Activity Record” in support of required recommendations for advancement (“Alpine Officials’ Recommendation Form”).

Advancement as a Competition Official (CO) is available to certified, member officials who serve as an Assistant to the Chief of Race, Chief of Course, Race Administrator, or Chief of Timing & Calculations, e.g., Gate Judge, course maintenance worker, Jury Secretary, Assistant Starter, manual timekeeper, etc. However, these positions are not recorded by the software and are not noted in an official’s record on the U.S. Ski & Snowboard website. Officials wishing advancement in this category must maintain their records using the “Alpine Official’s Personal Activity Record”, and submit it to the appropriate Alpine Officials’ Chair. *Recommendations for advancement must still be submitted as required.*

Advancements are handled on a division basis according to nationally established guidelines. With the exception of advancement to Level 3 and Level 4 Technical Delegate, the U.S. Ski & Snowboard Alpine Officials’ Education Working Group, approves nominations to Level 4 certifications received from Division/Region Alpine Officials’ Committees. These approved nominations are then forwarded to the U.S. Ski & Snowboard Technical Subcommittee and the Alpine Sport Committee for ratification; *approval and ratification are only available at Spring Congress.*

- Nominations for advancements to Level 3 and Level 4 U.S. Ski & Snowboard Technical Delegate must be submitted for approval to the U.S. Ski & Snowboard Technical Delegates Working Group. These approved nominations are also forwarded to the U.S. Ski & Snowboard Technical Subcommittee and the Alpine Sport Committee for ratification; *approval and ratification are only available at Spring Congress.*

FIS Technical Delegates (TD - 6) may only be recognized by FIS after national federation nomination, successful completion of written and oral examinations, and successful completion of a three-part on-hill candidacy program.

U.S. Ski & Snowboard Coaches Sport Education program has a separate/additional system of certification and education through the Sport Education Academy. A certified U.S. Ski & Snowboard Coach is also an Official because of U.S. Ski & Snowboard's membership structure but is not necessarily a certified official. **For additional details, contact sporteducation@usskiandsnowboard.org.**

Effective Season 2026, with the exception of entry-level coaches, coaches, regardless of their level of coach certification, must be "active" in order to be provided with race arena/venue access. Entry-level coaches working towards Level 100 coach certification status on the U.S. Ski & Snowboard website will be noted as being "in progress" and may also be provided with race arena/venue access.

In addition, Referee certification will be required for coaches certified at Level 200 and above.

NOTE: Coaches serving on a competition Jury as Referee or Assistant Referee or serving as a Course Setter(s) at all U.S. Ski & Snowboard sanctioned events, both scored and non-scored, must be certified Referees and must have attended a biennial (every other season) Continuing Education Clinic (Update) prior to being appointed/serving on a competition Jury or setting a course.

A Directory/Roster of U.S. Ski & Snowboard Alpine Officials is available on the U.S. Ski & Snowboard website listing levels of certification and membership status. This Roster may be used to assist Technical Delegates and organizers in their selection of Officials. New officials, without further credentials but with a U.S. Ski & Snowboard Alpine Officials' membership, appear in the roster with no designation. [Refer to **ALPINE OFFICIALS' DIRECTORY/ROSTER** in this Chapter for further information.]

NOTE: It is each individual's responsibility to review and verify the information (membership status/certifications/update status) posted in the Alpine Officials' directory/roster on the U.S. Ski & Snowboard website and notify the appropriate Region/Division Alpine Official Chairperson if a correction is required.

APPEAL OF AN OFFICIAL'S FAILING EXAMINATION GRADE (As revised 08 April 2011)

The policy for appeal of an official's failing examination grade as previously adopted has been revised as follows:

If after consultation with the examiner and/or the applicable Division Alpine Officials' Chairperson, a candidate wishes to file an appeal of a failing examination grade, the following procedure must be followed:

1. An appeal of the failing examination grade shall be presented to the applicable Division Alpine Officials' Chairperson. This appeal must be presented in writing within thirty (30) days of written notification of the failure. The appeal must include a cashier's check or money order in the amount of \$50.00 which represents the appeal fee. This fee is refundable if appeal successful.

2. The Division Alpine Officials' Chairperson shall remove the name of the appellant. An appeal identification number shall be inserted, and copies of all examination documents shall be forwarded to the U.S. Ski & Snowboard Alpine Officials' Education Working Group Chairperson.
3. The U.S. Ski & Snowboard Alpine Officials' Education Working Group Chairperson shall review the examination and forward copies of the examination documents to two (2) additional alpine officials outside of the appellant's Division/Region who are qualified to administer/evaluate the examination in question.
4. Appellant and applicable Division Alpine Officials' Chairperson will be notified in writing of the decision reached by these parties.
5. Decision will be final and no further appeal will be accepted.

*U.S. Ski & Snowboard AOEWG Chair as noted on the U.S. Ski & Snowboard website.

U.S. SKI & SNOWBOARD ALPINE COMPETITION REGULATIONS (ACR)

These regulations are published annually on the U.S. Ski & Snowboard website and in the U.S. Ski & Snowboard Alpine Competition Guide. U.S. Ski & Snowboard sanctioned events are conducted in accordance with these regulations. "Precisions" to the Alpine Competition Guide, if required, will be published on the U.S. Ski & Snowboard website. *The FIS International Ski Competition Rules (ICR) and adjuncts shall govern any and all issues not addressed therein.*

FIS INTERNATIONAL SKI COMPETITION RULES (ICR)

The FIS ICR governs international ski competition and is available on the FIS and U.S. Ski & Snowboard websites. Rule changes and clarifications – "Precisions" – are published twice: once in early summer for the Southern Hemisphere and again in November for the Northern Hemisphere. The Precisions are published on the FIS and U.S. Ski & Snowboard websites.

ALPINE OFFICIALS' MANUAL (AOM)

The Manual is a comprehensive guide to event organization, rules, and duties of the various officials, procedures for timing and calculations, and other subject areas important to Alpine Officials. It is intended as a resource for clinic instructors as well as a reference tool for officials. The information it contains does *not* supersede the current rules of the ACR, the ICR, or their respective Precisions.

Although intended to be thorough, the Manual is not a step-by-step instruction book with definitive procedures for every event situation. The Manual identifies what is ultimately required and what resources are available to reach that end without necessarily dictating the specific how-to directions. The Manual is updated yearly and is available on the U.S. Ski & Snowboard website.

EDUCATIONAL PRESENTATION - GATE JUDGES

A presentation covering the primary area where new officials can begin to participate in ski event officiating – Gate Judging – is available on the U.S. Ski & Snowboard website. The presentation may be used by event organizers for pre-event training and review at event sites, as an educational tool at Clinics, or for general club use.

ALPINE OFFICIALS' ROSTER

U.S. Ski & Snowboard Alpine Office publishes an "Alpine Officials' Roster" on the U.S. Ski & Snowboard website. The roster lists U.S. Ski & Snowboard member number, membership status, credentials (certification levels and specialties), etc., for member Alpine Officials. Membership status is updated continually; certification levels are updated as information is received from Region/Division Alpine Officials' Chairpersons; verification of accuracy is the responsibility of the individual official.

TECHNICAL DELEGATES

Technical Delegates (TD's) are the "chief" officials in ski racing and, depending on the level of competition, are assigned by Region/Division representatives either of U.S. Ski & Snowboard or FIS. Upon appointment, they become the representatives of the sanctioning bodies of ski racing as well as members of the Organizing Committees for these competitions.

While the actual conduct of the event remains the responsibility of the sponsoring event organization, Technical Delegates are expected to draw on their knowledge and experience and be valued and positive contributors to the event. The Technical Delegate counsels event organizers on procedures, interprets application of the rules, appoints the Referee for technical events, appoints both the Referee and Assistant Referee* for speed events, chairs the competition Jury, has the tiebreaking vote in matters requiring a Jury decision, and in collaboration with the Jury, decides on questions which are not covered or are *insufficiently covered* by the rules in so far as these questions do not fall within the scope of other authorities; e.g., Rules of the FIS Points, Equipment Specifications, etc.

NOTE: The Referee and Assistant Referee should be appointed from the most qualified, properly certified (Referee) individual present. Inasmuch as the Referee and Assistant Referee are the Jury representatives for the competitors and coaches, they should be appointed from among the coaches present for and with athletes entered in the event.

*The Technical Delegate may appoint an Assistant Referee for U.S. Ski & Snowboard technical events (SL/GS) for training purposes only. In this case, the Assistant Referee participates with the Jury but is not a member of the Organizing Committee, has neither voice nor voting rights in Jury decisions and is not named on any of the official event documents. *An Assistant Referee may also be appointed for a Parallel event if assistance is required for control of the event, and if so appointed, they become members of the Organizing Committee with voice but no vote at Jury meetings.*

Promotion to Technical Delegate ranking requires knowledge and experience in all phases of ski competition and competency in on-hill functions as well as off-hill functions. Skiing ability, good judgment, and a sound knowledge of courses and their preparation is also necessary.

The U.S. Ski & Snowboard Alpine Officials' Committee has reaffirmed its long-standing policy that, under normal circumstances, Technical Delegates will only be assigned to events where there may be no question as to their independence from the Organizing Committee and the host ski area.

A Technical Delegate's expenses for all U.S. Ski & Snowboard sanctioned events: travel to and from the event site, meals, lodging, etc., as well as a daily allowance for each travel/inspection/training/competition day, are the responsibility of the organizers.

Please note, “Travel Day” = one-way trip of 5 or more hours. Two one-way trips of less than 5 hours = 1 travel day.

U.S. Ski & Snowboard Technical Delegates are entitled to \$120.00 per day; FIS Technical Delegates are entitled to a higher rate. (Refer to current FIS TD Expense Report for these amounts.) *The daily allowance for both U.S. Ski & Snowboard and FIS Technical Delegates is paid in addition to all allowable expenses. A FIS TD officiating at a U.S. Ski & Snowboard non-FIS event is only entitled to U.S. Ski & Snowboard TD daily allowance of \$120.00 per travel/inspection/training/competition day.*

A U.S. Ski & Snowboard Technical Delegate should work as an assigned Technical Delegate at a U.S. Ski & Snowboard sanctioned event a minimum of two days every season and must work as an assigned Technical Delegate at least once every two years in order to maintain certification levels.

Technical Delegate Workshops have been established to serve as reviews of rules and procedures as well as the responsibilities and duties of an event’s Technical Delegate. If a Technical Delegate has missed attending a Technical Delegate Workshop for two (2) years, the Technical Delegate may be reinstated to the previous level by attending a recognized Technical Delegate Workshop. If a Technical Delegate has missed a Technical Delegate Workshop for 3 or more years, the Technical Delegate may be reinstated by passing the appropriate examination, e.g., Level 1 or Level 2 must pass the Level 1 (TD Applicant) examination; Level 3 or Level 4 must pass the Level 3 examination. A Technical Delegate may not violate the requirement to attend a Technical Delegate Workshop for a second time and maintain Technical Delegate certification.

NATIONAL (NON-FIS) TECHNICAL DELEGATE APPLICANTS/CANDIDATES

Certification requirements for U.S. Ski & Snowboard Technical Delegate Applicants include:

1. Level 1 Timing & Calculations and Level 2 Referee, or
2. Level 1 Timing & Calculations, Level 1 Chief of Race and Level 2 Jury Advisor, or
3. Level 1 Timing & Calculations, Level 2 Chief of Race and Level 1 Jury Advisor.
4. Nomination and 2 seconds from an upper-level Technical Delegate (“Non-FIS TD Candidate Nomination” form available in the “Master Packet of Forms” (MPF) posted on the U.S. Ski & Snowboard website.)

In addition to the above requirements, a Technical Delegate “Applicant” must:

1. Attend a Level 1 Technical Delegate Clinic (if offered)
2. Pass the Technical Delegate Applicant (Level 1) exam with a score of 75% or better.
3. Shadow at two U.S. Ski & Snowboard sanctioned events – 1 technical and 1 speed – under the supervision of a Level 3 or Level 4 U.S. Ski & Snowboard Technical Delegate or FIS Technical Delegate. All shadow assignments must be completed at different venues and under different supervising Technical Delegates. *
4. Prepare and file U.S. Ski & Snowboard event document packet for each shadow assignment with respective AO Chair. (Race penalties, if required, must be hand calculated.)

5. Receive favorable written evaluations (“Non-FIS TD Candidate Evaluation” form available in the “Master Packet of Forms”), by each supervising Technical Delegates.

** There are reasons why a Technical Delegate Candidate is not allowed to take advantage of a two-gender, two-event competition in order to fulfill their Candidacy requirements. The education achieved by shadowing Technical Delegates with different management styles and observing and cooperating with different OC’s is an invaluable experience. In the same vein, the final evaluation must be administered by an independent Technical Delegate who can arrive at an evaluation unbiased by previous experience with the Candidate.*

After completing shadow assignments, the Applicant, under the supervision of a different Level 3 or Level 4 U.S. Ski & Snowboard Technical Delegate or FIS Technical Delegate must:

1. Perform actual duties of a Technical Delegate at a U.S. Ski & Snowboard sanctioned event (final evaluation).
2. Prepare and file U.S. Ski & Snowboard event document packet with respective AO Chair. (Race penalty, if required, must be hand calculated.)
3. Receive a favorable written recommendation (“U.S. Ski & Snowboard TD Candidate Evaluation” form), from the supervising Technical Delegate.

U.S. Ski & Snowboard Level 2 Technical Delegates who have fulfilled all requirements and who wish to advance to Level 3 must:

1. Pass the respective written exam with a grade of 80% or higher. The examination covers all aspects of event organization and documentation.
2. Shadow a Level 3 or Level 4 U.S. Ski & Snowboard Technical Delegate or FIS Technical Delegate at a speed event (DH or SG).
3. Prepare and file U.S. Ski & Snowboard event document packet with respective Alpine Officials’ Chair. (Race penalty, if required, must be hand calculated.) Receive a favorable written evaluation from the supervising Technical Delegate

The approval of the applicable Alpine Officials' Committee is required at each level of advancement. *Advancement to Level 3 or Level 4 also requires the approval of the U.S. Ski & Snowboard Technical Delegates Working Group.*

When a Technical Delegate Candidate is assigned to an event, the Candidate should:

1. Initiate contact with the supervising Technical Delegate
2. Initiate contact with the Organizing Committee
3. Initiate contact with the Race Administrator

The OC (Organizing Committee) must provide the Candidate with a Jury radio and lift access. The OC is not responsible for the Technical Delegate Candidate’s travel, housing, meal or miscellaneous expenses; the Technical Delegate Candidate is not entitled to the U.S. Ski & Snowboard Technical Delegate daily allowance.

All official documents for shadow and final evaluation events must carry the name of the assigned, Technical Delegate. The Candidate must obtain copies of all required documents and insert the Candidate's name and U.S. Ski & Snowboard membership number, as required. The Candidate then must affix their signature, as required.

FIS TECHNICAL DELEGATES

Following successful completion of written and oral examinations, an apprenticeship, and U.S. Ski & Snowboard recommendation, USA FIS Technical Delegates are recognized by the FIS Office.

The FIS has adopted a set of standards for FIS Technical Delegates to assure that the best service is given to the sport. Standards include skiing ability, behavior and demeanor both on the hill and off the hill, a willingness to assist organizers, knowledge of the rules, and the ability to exercise good judgment. A Technical Delegate's status may be repealed for repeated failure to maintain these standards.

Procedure for nomination, apprenticeship, examination, and approval of FIS Technical Delegates is usually a two to three-year process and includes the following steps:

1. Nomination with 2 seconds by current FIS TD's; background and evaluation of credentials must be included.
2. Attendance at required FIS Technical Delegate's Clinic or symposium.
3. Successful completion of the FIS Technical Delegate written and oral entrance examinations.
4. Assignment as a Technical Delegate Candidate at two FIS events - one technical event and one downhill. A third event is assigned to the candidate where the Candidate functions as the Technical Delegate. This on-hill examination under the guidance of a senior FIS Technical Delegate Examiner (not from USA) will be a technical event. The three events are usually assigned over a two-year period.
5. National Federation's recommendation presented by the U.S. Ski & Snowboard FIS Technical Delegate Commissioner to the FIS Office.

For complete details, contact U.S. Ski & Snowboard Chairperson of either the U.S. Ski & Snowboard Technical Delegates Working Group or the FIS Technical Delegates Working Group listed on the U.S. Ski & Snowboard website.

FIS Technical Delegates are required to officiate annually, as assigned, and to attend an annual FIS Technical Delegate Clinic or symposium (biennial attendance allowed upon request).

The USA FIS Technical Delegate Working Group issues invitations to FIS clinics or symposiums to all FIS Technical Delegates, Organizing Committee members and other interested officials.



ALPINE OFFICIAL'S RECOMMENDATION FORM

Use a separate sheet for each recommendation and return to applicable Division AO Chair.

RECOMMENDATIONS WILL ONLY BE ACCEPTED FOR TECHNICAL EVENTS OCCURRING WITHIN THE PAST 2 (TWO) SEASONS. RECOMMENDATIONS FOR SPEED EVENTS MUST BE WITHIN PAST 3 (THREE) SEASONS.

Official's Name: _____ Member #: _____ is being
(Please print Official's name.)

recommended for advancement from Level ___ to Level ___ in the following specialty area:

- Chief of Course, Chief of Race, Competition Official, Jury Advisor, Race Administrator, Referee, Timing & Calculations, Technical Delegate, Rate on scale of 5 to 1: 5 - Outstanding, 4 - Excellent, 3 - Good, 2 - Average, 1 - Needs Improvement, NA - Not Applicable

Based on performance at _____
(List Race Name, Location, Date)

TECHNICAL EVENT (within 2 Seasons) [] SPEED EVENT (within 3 seasons) []

This Official:

- 1. Has a good working knowledge of race operations as a whole.
2. Is knowledgeable about this position and its responsibilities.
3. Is capable of handling this position unsupervised.
4. Explains duties clearly to other race workers.
5. Is confident and shows initiative in this position.
6. Communicates well with other race workers.
7. Works well with other people.
8. Is well organized and accomplishes assigned tasks in a timely manner.
9. Completes all duties required by this position.
10. (For TC/TD only) is capable of performing all calculations required by this position

Comments - REQUIRED:

Official Capacity of Recommending Official: _____ Level _____

Signature of Recommending Official (Please Print Name Legibly) Recommendation Date

THIS INFORMATION WILL BE KEPT CONFIDENTIAL. THANK YOU.



ALPINE OFFICIAL'S PERSONAL ACTIVITY RECORD

For your personal record, enter every race you officiate at and every clinic you participate in either as a student or as an instructor. When applying for advancement as an Alpine Official, a copy of this Personal Activity Record can be used in preparing your request. This record does not replace any Activity Card issued by your Region/Division or by U.S. Ski & Snowboard.

Name: _____

U.S. Membership #: _____

Date (s)	Name/Location of Race/Clinic	# of Days	DH SL GS SG AC KP	Position or Assignment