



## Competition Guide 2023



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## **Section 1 – General Information**

### **USSS Membership Requirement**

#### **(Deadline October 15)**

Amateur ski racing in the United States comes under the organization of the United States Ski and Snowboard (USSS). Any skier wishing to compete in a USSS sanctioned race must first become a member of USSS. This membership must be renewed each year. A USSS membership number is assigned when a skier first joins the organization and does not change as long as the skier retains membership. The racer must input the membership number and full name of the participant at registration very carefully as the NYSSRA system and USSS system must match.

When a competitor pays the fee as a U16-18-21 competitor they are included in the USSS Computerized Competitor Classification System and results will appear on the USSS Points Seeding List. This list is maintained to show racers' national rank in Downhill, Slalom, Giant Slalom, Super G, and Super Combined.

USSS Competition Guides are mailed to Alpine coaches, officials and clubs only. Competition Guides and Directory are posted online to view and download.

USSS Membership is best done online at [www.usskiandsnowboard.org](http://www.usskiandsnowboard.org). All participants in the Alpine program must also agree to several waivers which are part of the online membership process.

Once your USSS membership is processed, you will receive your membership card in the mail from USSS. You may download and print verification of membership from the account you created on [www.usskiandsnowboard.org](http://www.usskiandsnowboard.org).

## **NYSSRA Membership Requirement**

(Deadline October 15 for returning members)

The New York State Ski Racing Association, Alpine, Inc. is the official governing body for competition in the state of New York for the United States Ski and Snowboard (USSS). All competitors wishing to participate in NY ski races must be members of NYSSRA. Eastern Alpine athletes must be a member of only one state organization. NOTE: late fees apply after October 15th. Visit [nyssra.org](http://nyssra.org) to complete membership.

NYSSRA coordinates and is responsible for:

- Scheduling of races in New York State, including all USSS sanctioned races.
- Selection of teams using January 15th membership data to fill State Quotas to regional races.
- Communication and education for racers, officials, and coaches.
- Financial support-Racer Support Fund for NYSSRA racers competing at upper levels of competition.
- Athletic programming, youth development, and divisional governance through our board of directors, development committees, and NYSSRA staff.

## NYSSRA Governance and Board of Directors

	<b>NYSSRA</b>	
	<b>Board of Directors</b>	
<b>President</b>	Todd Glick	<a href="mailto:president@nyssra.org">president@nyssra.org</a>
<b>VP</b>	Aaron Dewey	<a href="mailto:1stVP@nyssra.org">1stVP@nyssra.org</a>
<b>Treasurer</b>	Mark Sertl	<a href="mailto:treasurer@nyssra.org">treasurer@nyssra.org</a> <a href="mailto:secretary@nyssra.org">secretary@nyssra.org</a>
<b>Secretary</b>	Courtney Holt	
<b>Past President</b>	Brad Rauch	
<b>Alpine Officials</b>	Steve Burgart	<a href="mailto:alpineofficial@nyssra.org">alpineofficial@nyssra.org</a>
<b>Coaches Rep</b>	Jeff Jenkins	<a href="mailto:Coaches@nyssra.org">Coaches@nyssra.org</a>
<b>Athlete Rep</b>	Sean Donohue	<a href="mailto:AthleteRep1@nyssra.org">AthleteRep1@nyssra.org</a>
<b>Athlete Rep 2</b>	Kristine Wallace	<a href="mailto:AthleteRep2@nyssra.org">AthleteRep2@nyssra.org</a>
	<b>Staff</b>	
<b>Alpine Sports Director</b>	Stephen Mergenthaler	<a href="mailto:mergs@nyssra.org">mergs@nyssra.org</a>
<b>Administrative Director</b>	Alicia Farone	<a href="mailto:alicia@nyssra.org">alicia@nyssra.org</a>

### **Other appointed members of the association:**

U16, U18, U21 Development Committee Chair	Andy Minier
U14/U12 Children's Committee Chair	Travis Widger
Alpine Officials Education Chair	Steve Burgart
Coaches Committee Representative Chair	Jeff Jenkins
Coaches Education Committee Chair	Kathy Okoniewski

The Assembly of Delegates conducts the business of NYSSRA. The NYSSRA structure creates a committee organization that separates the interests of NYSSRA into focus groups to concentrate on a specific interest. The committees are empowered by the Board of Directors which

runs the business of NYSSRA. All committee members must be current NYSSRA members.

The active committees of NYSSRA and their descriptions are:

Board of Directors	Total Program Organization
Coaches Committee	Oversight of Development Committees
Coaches Education Committee	Education/Development of Coaches
Officials Committee	Implement Officials Program
U16+ Development Committee	Policy/Team Selection/FIS
U14/12/10 Children's Committee	Policy/Team Selection
Awards Committee	Annual Awards Selections
Appeals/Review Committee	Race related appeals, misc.
Racer Support Committee	Allocate funds

Committee membership can be found in the appropriate section of our website at [nyssra.org](http://nyssra.org).

Each committee consists of selected volunteers who have shown initiative and expertise in the respective focus area. Committees submit a report at NYSSRA meetings for approval by the General Assembly.

Proposals, comments, questions, and other NYSSRA business should be routed to the appropriate committee for discussion and consideration. This can be accomplished by passing the information through the council organization to committee chair or by contacting the committee members directly. Attendance is also welcome as meetings are open to all members. Find open meeting links on our website: 'meetings calendar' under the events tab at [nyssra.org](http://nyssra.org).

A NYSSRA meeting is held annually in the spring. Meeting dates/ times are posted on the NYSSRA website. Due to the yearly cycle of ski racing organizations, timely inputs to NYSSRA should take place in the early spring.

## **COMPETITION CATEGORIES FOR 2022-2023**

U8 Born 2015 and younger

U10 Born 2013, 2014

U12 Born 2011, 2012

U14 Born 2009, 2010

U16 Born 2007, 2008

U18 Born 2005, 2006

U21 Born 2002, 2003, 2004

Note: all based on calendar year of birth

## **Code of Conduct**

NYSSRA members are expected to conduct themselves in a sportsmanlike manner befitting worthy representatives of their families, ski areas/clubs, and in conformity with the best traditions of Alpine Ski Racing in New York State.

**Section 1:** All NYSSRA members, including athletes, coaches, officials, race organizers, and volunteers shall be subject to the jurisdiction of and shall abide by the International Ski Competition Rules (the “ICR”), U.S. Skiing Constitution, bylaws, rules and regulations and NYSSRA Articles of Incorporation, bylaws, NYSSRA code of conduct, and rules and regulations (the “competition rules”).

**Section 2:** While in competitions, going to and from competitions, and while at ski areas hosting competitions, NYSSRA members shall:

1. Maintain high standards of moral and ethical conduct including self-control, responsible behavior, consideration for others’ physical and emotional well-being, restrain from harassment, profane and abusive language, and must use courtesy and good manners in public places and while traveling;
2. Abstain totally from alcohol and illegal use of drugs;
3. While at NYSSRA sponsored events, adhere to all rules; and be knowledgeable of all Competition Rules.

NYSSRA has a no tolerance policy for the above items.

**Section 3:** Failure to comply with any of the above can lead to disciplinary action against NYSSRA members by: 1) the NYSSRA staff with the advice and consent of the NYSSRA Board of Directors; 2) the Race Jury on the recommendation of a member of the Jury; 3) the Technical Delegate; 4) the designated State Team leader.

**Section 4:** Disciplinary action taken can include, but is not limited to:

1. Any disciplinary measure allowed by the Competition Rules.
2. Disqualification from a specific race and/or suspension from future races
3. Withdrawal of future NYSSRA camp invitations

All disciplinary action is to be reported to NYSSRA staff.

Any disciplinary action taken shall be applied fairly and equitably to all parties involved. Any disciplinary action that would prevent a NYSSRA member from participating in competition for a period greater than 21 days will be conducted in accordance with the Due Process procedures set forth by USSS, and held before the NYSSRA Appeals Committee.

## **New York State Team Selection Rule For All Levels of Competition**

This procedure is designed to be used only in rare instances in the selection of NYS Teams. The implementation of the procedure must be accomplished as soon as possible after the necessary results are available.

The designated team quota for both boys and girls, less the final 2 positions in each category, will be filled by the published selection procedure.

One, or both, of the final 2 positions in either the boys or girls may be filled by discretionary choice of the appropriate committees.



All of the following criteria must be met to qualify for a discretionary choice:

1. Injury, illness, or other circumstance beyond the racer's control has prevented the skier from qualifying.
  2. The skier has a record of outstanding performance. This would be defined as race results that would place the individual consistently among the top NY athletes in the same age category.
  3. The skier chosen has clearly exhibited superior potential. This would be defined as race results that indicate this racer could be expected to perform consistently at or above the level of the top NY skiers in the same age category.
- In the event that no racers shall qualify for discretionary choice, the remaining two places will revert to regular team selection procedure.
  - Written petitions for consideration under the Team Selection Rule must be presented by a coach to the NYSSRA staff before the conclusion of the final qualifying race.

## **Section 2**

### **Children's Racing (U8-U14)**

Please review the sportsmanship Code of Conduct.

The key to learning is to ensure a positive first experience that is fun. Fun facilitates learning which in turn motivates the young athlete. When first learning a skill, a relaxed, low-anxiety climate encourages the child to try new things. A young athlete has a natural self-motivated learning aptitude if the situation is suitable and attainable goals are set within his reach. The NYSSRA Youth Development philosophy supports promotion of learning through approval, praise, and encouragement. With empathy, unlimited opportunities can be attained.

It is important for our young races to learn that the only real competition is within themselves. Learning the intrinsic rewards of sport are the most valuable lessons we can teach them. The starting point, center, and end of learning should begin with the young athlete and focus on their growth and development. There are many contributing factors in this process. A young athlete's attitudes, values, and behavior are learned from the people most impressionable to them such as their own parents and coaches. Parents should realize the impact they have on their offspring. The key is not to excessively push your child into sports, but to ensure that the first experience is a positive one.

Parents should always be available with positive reinforcement for their young athlete. Coaches and parents should make sure that each youngster is properly outfitted for maximum results and safety. Make sure to consult your coach, the local ski shops and anyone else you might know who is up-to-date regarding ski equipment. Learn how to properly take care of your equipment.

Both the New York State Ski Racing Association and United States Ski and Snowboard are important organizations to familiarize yourself with as a racer or supporter. Amateur ski racing depends largely upon the efforts of

parents as volunteers. Your participation is critical for successful, fair, and safe events. Please read all Alpine ski related information available on [usskiandsnowboard.org](http://usskiandsnowboard.org).

## **Race Entries**

Online race registrations is the only method of race entry. NYSSRA uses [adminskiracing.com](http://adminskiracing.com) for its online entries. Direct links to race entries are available on the NYSSRA website under 'events by date'. You can also go directly to [adminskiracing.com](http://adminskiracing.com) and search under NYSSRA races.

## **USSS and NYSSRA Membership Requirements**

U14 and younger athletes must purchase a USSS Competitor License and a NYSSRA membership for their specific age in order to participate in any NYSSRA training camps, projects, as well as all sanctioned events. The correct age-specific USSS license to purchase is explained as you complete the membership process online at [usskiandsnowboard.org](http://usskiandsnowboard.org).  
NOTE: USSS membership is required to become a NYSSRA member.

The deadline for all returning members is October 15 for USSS and NYSSRA. NYSSRA and USSS renewal memberships processed after October 15th will be subjected to late fees.

For specific questions regarding correct memberships contact your coach or NYSSRA.

## U12 Council Racing

New York is divided into 6 different councils. Club affiliations can be found on the NYSSRA website under the 'clubs' tab. Each athlete can only be a member of one council which is dependent upon the club that is joined.

### West

**Niagara Council:** Buffalo Ski Club, Kissing Bridge, Holiday Valley, HoliMont

**Genesee Council:** Brantling, Bristol, Hunt Hollow, Swain

**Central Council:** Greek Peak, Song, Labrador

### East

**Adirondack Council:** WoodsValley, McCauley, SnowRidge, Oak Mtn, Dry Hill

**Rip Van Winkle Council:** Windham, Hunter, NYSEF-Belleayre, Winter4Kids

**Mountain Council:** NYSEF-Gore, NYSEF-Whiteface, West Mountain

Each council runs events differently. The focus is on skill development. Parents and athletes should communicate with program directors and coaches to get more information on the event schedule that has been established for their club and council. Events that are contested at the council level are GS, Kombi, Panel SL, Stubbi SL, as well as Flight and Skills events. There is no tall pole SL or SG at the council level. Newer to ski racing U14 athletes may choose to race in the council series. U14 athletes who race in council races may not also compete in the Mud, Sweat, n' Gears Cup races, nor in U14 State Championships. Also, councils may choose to purge U14 athletes from results before awards are handed out. These athletes are eligible for the Kandahar Festival Series only.

## **2023 Kandahar Festival and End-of-Season U12 Events**

Kandahar Festivals: Our Kandahar Festivals are two day events and historically have consisted of one day of all mountain events incorporating terrain, untimed duals, scavenger hunt, skills, etc, and one day of Kombi, 2 runs. There are 3 festivals, open to NYSSRA members only. These events are for U10, U12, and U14s not participating in state championships.

### **Kandahar Festivals**

#### **Locations:**

East - NYSEF-Gore Mountain

Central - McCauley

West - HoliMont

#### **Event content:**

2-day event Saturday/Sunday March 18-19, 2023, optional training day March 17.

1. **Optional** training day at organizers discretion
2. Development Day - Event to include Skills Environments with some of the following// Scavenger Hunt, mixed groups, obstacle courses, head to head environments, vertical challenge
3. 3 Skills to be announced at an Event out of 6 potential. Mountains to provide scoring with assistance from NYSSRA Staff and committees.
4. Competition Day - Event to include 3 Run Race.
  - a. Short Sprint Like courses approximately 30 seconds.
  - b. Kombi, Kombi, GS
  - c. Place Points for awards best two finishes

Awards - To include recognition for skills (from Saturday) and competition. Top 10 M/W in each age class. SkiMeister Overall Award.

Events to include some of the following: sense of arrival, recognition of events, swag, gift, banquet, BBQ. Festival atmosphere required.

### Kandahar **Championship** 2023

**Location:** HoliMont

**Event content:** open event, 1st and 2nd Year U12s

2-day event Saturday/Sunday March 25-26, 2023

1. **Optional** training day at organizers discretion - SL Progression to be included if possible for U12s
2. Day 1 // Kombi Race - 3 Run Race
3. Day 2 // GS Race - 3 Run Race
4. Place points for awards, best two finishes.

\*\*Short Sprint Like courses approximately 30 seconds.

Awards - Top 10 U12s M/W age class. Overall award. Skimeister for top finisher across all 6 runs.

Council Cup- for best top finishing council

Event - to Include some of the following: sense of arrival, recognition of event, swag, gift, banquet, BBQ.

### Kandahar Performance Series // SL Camp

**Location:** - TBD

2-day event Saturday / Sunday April 1 & 2  
2nd year U12s ALL things SL

- Tall Pole SL progression camp

## U14 Racing in NY State - Mud, Sweat n' Gears Cup

New York State is divided into 2 geographic regions: east and west. The disciplines included at this level are SL, Dual SL, Giant Slalom, Super G.

U14 Geographic Regions - (schedules available at [nyssra.org](http://nyssra.org))

The U14 Mud, Sweat n' Gears Cup has two regions in New York State: east and west. The councils that make up these two regions are as follows:

Western NY Division - Niagara, Genesee, Central

Eastern NY Division - Mountain, Rip Van Winkle, Adirondack

## U14 Speed Training

Each Council hosts a sanctioned flight camp and sanctioned speed training day. **All U14 athletes wishing to be eligible for open state championships must participate fully in two speed training days** (i.e flight camp and one regional speed training day). U14 Skills Events are recommended at U14 Mud, Sweat n' Gears races.

**U14 Equipment Requirements:** U14 athletes are required to ski and race on skis that meet current USSS equipment requirements (see [nyssra.org](http://nyssra.org), or [usskiandsnowboard.org](http://usskiandsnowboard.org)). All other USSS equipment rules apply.

## U14 Mud Sweat n' Gears State Championships

Super G and SL/GS is an open five day event. However, there are requirements that need to be met:

- U14's are to attend two days of speed related training prior to state championships.
- participate in two tech, Mud Sweat n' Gears races.

Seeding for open states:

- **SG:** There will be two seeds, A and B, for each gender. Council athletes will be ranked, best 2 of 6 results from the January council SL/GS races and then split between A and B seeds.

- **SL/GS:** There will be 4 seeds for SL/GS States. Athletes will be ranked best 5 of 13 results of January and February races.
  - All athletes are sorted randomly within their seed for the first run of each race. The 2nd run will be Bibbo Flip 30. (Seeding may be adjusted per Children's Committee by February 1st).

## **Course Setting at the U14 State Championships**

The course setters for Mud Sweat n' Gears U14 State Championships will be determined by the Children's Committee with approval of the NYSSRA Executive Committee. Each division may submit five names to be considered for selection. 10 course setters (2SG, 4GS, 4SL) will be selected from the names submitted. Course setters must have current USSS Referee license and must be a USSS certified coach and NYSSRA member coach. Coaches must follow USSS/NYSSRA course setting guidelines.

Note: 60"/27 mm SL poles are required for all single pole U14 SL events.

## **Eastern U14 Regional Championships - Whiteface**

The Mud, Sweat n' Gears New York State Team will be named at the conclusion of racing at the NY State Championships. Selection is based on the best 3 of 7 possible results for GS & SL plus SG using simple place points. Ties are broken by using the best result followed by the next best result until the tie is broken. If a tie still exists, it will be broken using the athlete's best Race Points. NYS Team Selection Rule applies: the last two positions are left for discretionary selection. Seeding at U14 States will be by Total Random System (TRS).

*The Eastern Childrens Committee (ECC) has adopted this for U14 Eastern Championships (not scored) this season.*



**Looks like this:**

*Run 1 Random seeded within gender*

*Run 2 First run start list reversed within gender*

*Run 3 (May be same day or next day) Starts with second half of first run order within gender  
and continues with second half of first run order*

*Run 4 Start order for the third run reversed within gender.*

*Example:*

*Run 1 1-2-3-4-5-6-7-8-9-10*

*Run 2 10-9-8-7-6-5-4-3-2-1*

*Run 3 6-7-8-9-10-1-2-3-4-5*

*Run 4 5-4-3-2-1-10-9-8-7-6*

**Eastern U14 Finals - West Mountain, March 25-26, 2023**

U14 Eastern Finals at West Mountain is an open event available to all U14 athletes NOT going to regional championships.

Events to be contested are SL, GS, and paneled parallel SL.

Kandahar Festivals are still an option for any U14 that chooses not to participate in U14 States.

## **Section 3**

### **Scored Racing U16, U18, U21, SR**

Please review and understand the NYSSRA Code of Conduct located in the previous pages.

USSS races provide a base for NYSSRA U16-21 and senior athlete development. These USSS sanctioned and scored events are open to all current USSS & NYSSRA U16, U18, U21 and Senior racers.

### **NYSSRA Sports Page Cup Series**

A USSS sanctioned and scored race series with SL, GS and SG races. The Sports Page Cup Series is open to all U16, U18, U21 and Senior racers. Sports Page Cup Series races are also open to members of other State associations although NYSSRA members receive preference if races are full. East athletes must race regionally in the east and West athletes must race regionally in the west. Racers must be current NYSSRA and USSS members at least 5 days prior to the race to be counted in the overall rankings which are available at [nyssra.org](http://nyssra.org). The Sports Page Cup races are located in different areas around the State to cut down on travel expenses and allow racers to stay closer to their home programs. Please visit [www.nyssra.org](http://www.nyssra.org) for schedule information and more details.

Awards at all NYSSRA U16/U18 races are given to the top 5 racers regardless of category, plus the top U16 man and woman. In addition, there will be a Hard Charger awarded for each gender to the athlete who moves up the most from their starting position to the overall results (athletes in top 15 start list are not eligible).

### **NYS Team Selection Process**

If an event is lost due to weather or force majeure circumstances the Development Committee may modify the selection process as required.

Athletes **MUST** commit to racing in at least 2 of the events to hold their spot on the NYS team.

Athletes named to a NYS team must confirm their spot within 24 hours via the online confirmation process available on [nyssra.org](http://nyssra.org). Any unconfirmed athletes will forfeit their spot on the team and alternates will be selected using the next ranked athlete(s).

Any athlete named to a NYS team who is unable to attend after they have confirmed with NYSSRA must notify the NYSSRA office no later than 48 hours prior to the first Team Captain's meeting of the event. Athletes who fail to do so may be declared ineligible for selection to future NYS teams.

Discretionary selection to NYS teams is via the procedure outlined on page 11 of this guide. In the event that no racer shall qualify for the discretionary selection the next ranked athlete will be used to fill the NYS team quota.

## **U16 Specific Projects, Camps, and Procedures**

U16 athletes will compete in the Sports Page Cup Series, but will be ranked only with other U16 athletes when it comes to qualifying for U16 specific events and projects.

### **U16 Fundamentals and Prep Camp**

Fundamental Camps are an open event on a first come first serve basis, based on the number of athletes staff can support for that season. Additional project information is available on the NYSSRA website.

## Eastern Region U16 Projects

Information is available on the Eastern Region site at [usskiandsnowboard.org](http://usskiandsnowboard.org)

### **Seeding for Open and Sports Page Cup Series**

As these races are Scored races, seeding for most races will be per USSS rules using the most current USSS points list.

*\*Please note that the first two Sports Page races this season (U16+, and possibly State Championships) will be seeded with the Total Random Sort (TRS).*

*This will still be a scored race for the U16/18's, but Seeding will take a different look. This is direction from the Eastern Development Committee (EDC) which has asked all Eastern Divisions to accomplish this in a few, or all races, this season.*

#### **Looks like this:**

*Run 1 Random seeded within gender*

*Run 2 First run start list reversed within gender*

*Run 3 (May be same day or next day) Starts with second half of first run order within gender and continues with second half of first run order*

*Run 4 Start order for the third run reversed within gender.*

*Example:*

*Run 1 1-2-3-4-5-6-7-8-9-10*

*Run 2 10-9-8-7-6-5-4-3-2-1*

*Run 3 6-7-8-9-10-1-2-3-4-5*

*Run 4 5-4-3-2-1-10-9-8-7-6*

### **Empire State Winter Games (EWG)**

There is no specific quota for U16s or U18s to the Empire State Winter Games.

*Ranking is done via results from the January Sports Page Cup Series. Selection is done using place points on the best 2 of 5 results, using only one Super-G result. Field size is set at 150, 75 Women, 75 Men.*

*Whiteface Mountain will host the EWG on February 2-5, 2023.*

*Selections will be announced after the last series of qualifying Sports Page Cup Races.*

## **Sports Page U16 NY State Championships**

The U16 Sports Page NY State Championships will be held at Whiteface Mountain, March , 2023. Only U16 athletes may compete at the Sports Page U16 NY State Championships. This three event race series is an Open Race Series. The only requirements to participate in this event are that the athlete must have either competed in at least 2 Sports Page Cup Series Races in December, January, or February OR have less than 90 USSS points in either GS or SL for Men, or less than 105 USSS points in either GS or SL for Ladies on the #16 list. USSS points list #17 will be used for seeding at states.

## **U16 NYS Champion**

Upon completion of the Sports Page U16 NYS State Championships overall Men's and Ladies champions will be named using lowest total place points for all events contested. Athletes must compete in all events used for scoring.

## **Non-NYSSRA Athletes to Sports Page U16 NYS Championships**

Up to 6 out-of-state U16 athletes may participate. Non-NYSSRA athletes are removed from the results when making team selections. Requests must be submitted to NYSSRA staff through State Chairs 10 days prior to the series.

## **Qualifying to USSS Eastern Region U16 Championships and Finals**

At the Sports Page U16 NY State Championships the best 1 of 3 possible results will be used to select the NY State Team to the USSS Eastern Region U16 Championships and Finals. (Final results from SG, GS, SL) At the State Championships, NYSSRA will announce the team to represent NY at the Eastern Region Championships and Finals based on the quota we receive from Eastern Region plus 3 alternates. If there is a tie for the final quota spot, it will be broken using the athlete's best result at the State Championships then the next best, etc., until the tie is broken. If a tie still exists it will be broken using the athlete's best race points in the selection races. Athletes must commit to racing in at least 2 of the events being contested at Eastern Championships or Finals to hold their spot.

\*Note: final 2 spots on each team are subject to discretionary rule per the team selection.

## **U18, U21, SR Program Information**

For all selections, athletes must be current USSS and NYSSRA members at least 5 days prior to an event to be considered for scoring. For selections to FIS events through NYSSRA quota athletes must be USSS, FIS, and NYSSRA members at least 5 days prior to selection deadline.

## **NYS Sports Page Cup Series**

Sports Page cup Series - A USSS sanctioned and scored race series with SL, GS and SG races. The Sports Page Cup Series is open to all U16, U18, U21, and Senior racers. Sports Page Cup Series races are also open to members of other State associations although NYSSRA members receive preference if races are full. Racers must be current NYSSRA members at least 5 days prior to the race to be counted in the overall rankings which are available at [nyssra.org](http://nyssra.org). The Sports Page Cup races are located in different areas around the State to cut down on travel expenses and allow racers to stay closer to their home programs. Please visit [www.nyssra.org](http://www.nyssra.org) for schedule information and more details. Overall Sports Page Cup Champions will be named at the conclusion of the season. Scoring is done by adding results from all races using New World Cup Points.

## **Empire State Winter Games**

There is no specific quota for U16 or U18+ to the Empire State Winter Games. Ranking is done via results from the January Sports Page Cup Series. Selection is done using place points on the best 2 of 5 results, using only one SuperG result. 150 total athletes: 75 Men/ 75 Women.

## **Sports Page New York State U18 State Championships**

The U18/U21 Sports Page NY State Championships will be held at Bristol Mountain, March 2023. This event is an open event and the only requirements to participate are that an athlete must be a U18 or older and must have participated in at least 2 Sports Page Cup Series Races during December, January, and February, OR have less than 90 USSS points in

SL or GS for Men or less than 105 USSS points in SL or GS FOR Ladies.  
USSS points list #18 will be used for qualification and seeding.

## **U18+ NYS Champion**

Upon completion of the U18+ Sports Page NYS Championships overall Men's and Ladies champions will be named using Place Points for all three events. Must finish in all three events.

## **Selection Procedures to USSS U18+ Finals**

NYSSRA uses the following selection procedures to name NYSSRA teams for the USSS Eastern Finals. Selection is made from Sports Page U18+ NYS. State Championships using place points from the best 1 of 3 possible results. (SG, GS, SL - eligible athletes.) The top athletes will be named to the USSS Finals Team based on the quota received from the Eastern Region Office. Ties will be broken using the athlete's best result followed by the next best result, etc., until the tie is broken. If a tie still exists, Best Race Points from the selection races will be used to break the tie. Team selection rules will apply.

\*note: final 2 spots on each team are subject to discretionary rule per the team selection.

If an event is lost at U18 and up State Championships due to weather or Force Majeure the Development Committee may modify this selection process as required.

Athletes **MUST** commit to racing in at least 2 of the events to hold their spot on the NYS team.

Athletes named to a NYS Team must confirm their spot within 24 hours via the online confirmation process available on [nyssra.org](http://nyssra.org). Any unconfirmed athletes will forfeit their spot on the team and alternates will be selected using the ranking system above.



Any athlete named to a NYS team who is unable to attend after they have confirmed with NYSSRA must notify the NYSSRA office no later than 48 hours prior to the first Team Captain's meeting of the event. Athletes who fail to do so may be declared ineligible for selection to future NYS teams. Discretionary selection to NYS teams is via the procedure outlined on page 11 of this guide. In the event that no racer shall qualify for the discretionary selection the next ranked athlete will be used to fill the NYS team quota.

NYS team quota will be announced when it is available.

## **FIS Information**

FIS (Federation of International Skiing) is the international governing body for ski racing. Just like USSS sanctioned events all around the country, the FIS sanctions events worldwide. The following is a quick overview of FIS racing for NYSSRA athletes. It's important for interested athletes and coaches to learn about USSS, NYSSRA, and FIS race policies and procedures pertaining specifically to FIS racing. Please make yourself familiar with the Eastern website and place yourself on their mailing list so projects and event news you receive will be current. Go to this link:

[Eastern Region Resources](#).

### **General FIS Rules**

This is not a complete list. Athletes and Coaches must understand all the rules set forth in the FIS ICR and the Eastern region handbook.

1. An athlete submitted to any FIS race series must have an active FIS license. All names that are submitted must commit to participate in all races of the designated series. For more detailed information, see specific series information on the NYSSRA website.
2. Team Captain's Meetings (TCM): There is a mandatory TCM the day before each FIS race. Time and location will be listed on the race announcement. The TCM includes race schedule/updates, other guidelines and the athlete roll call. TCMs are important to attend as race updates and other important race related news in addition to the athlete roll call are reviewed. All athletes must be represented by a

current licensed USSS coach at all TCMs. If you need assistance finding a coach, contact NYSSRA for updated lists of participating coaches. Arrangements must be made with the representative coach prior to the TCM in question.

3. Non-represented Athletes: Failure to be represented during the roll call will result in removal from the start list. Any NY racer selected to a FIS level race who finds they are unable to attend the race must notify the NYSSRA office at least 48 hours prior to TCM. Failure to notify the NYSSRA office within 48 hours prior to TCM may cause the racer to be declared ineligible for the next FIS Series.
4. No-Shows: It is unacceptable when you have properly been represented at a TCM to not be present for the race start. No-shows run the risk of sanction by the TD, USSS, and NYSSRA for future FIS events.
5. Coaches and families need to take the responsibility to know the rules and guidelines in the FIS ICR and USSS Eastern Region Handbook.

Selection to FIS events is made in the following 3 ways:

1. USSS point ranking via NTSM selection processed through the USSS Eastern Office. Consideration for selection per Eastern Region Handbook.
2. Eastern USSS Development Quota processed through the USSS Eastern Office. (See Eastern Region handbook for guidelines)
3. NYSSRA Quota when applicable to some events.

NYSSRA is not part of the intent and confirmation process for NorAm, FISU, U18 Nationals, US Alpine Championships, any out of region or out of country FIS events. Please contact the Eastern Office for more information.

All foreign athletes qualify for FIS races through their home Federation.  
(Add to website)

## College Students-Ski Racing with NYSSRA

New York State college students are encouraged to continue racing in the New York series of races. If a racer is enrolled in a school located in

another state, he/she must transfer their membership to that state association. The racer will continue to be welcomed back as an alumnus if they meet race entry criteria.

College students with USSS Competitors license attending college in New York are welcome. All students need to thoroughly familiarize themselves with NYS Team Selection Procedures found in this manual. Racers may affiliate with only one State Association. Per Eastern Region Handbook, all Eastern competitors must have a state affiliation.

## **Section 4**

### **Rules / Procedures for Athletes, Parents, and Coaches**

#### **Race Entries**

**Online race registration is the only method of race entry. NYSSRA uses [adminskiracing.com](http://adminskiracing.com) for its online entries. Direct links to race entries are available on the NYSSRA website under 'calendars'. You can also go directly to [adminskiracing.com](http://adminskiracing.com) and search enter NYSSRA races.**

Race Withdrawal-Competitors may withdraw entries without forfeiture of entry fees until 4pm two days before the race date of the beginning of official training. After that time, the race organizer is obligated to refund entry fees only if the entrant can prove that their inability to compete was due to force majeure (circumstances beyond the athlete's control).

NO Shows-the athlete has the responsibility to notify the race organizer if they are not going to compete. Just now showing up is unacceptable and causes many problems for the organizer and will forfeit the race entry fee.

### **NYSSRA Racer Support**

These funds are used to partially reimburse top athletes in the different age categories for the extraordinary expenses they incur at a high level of racing which involve travel to out of region and national races. The committee also reserves the right to recommend assistance for various development activities. Coaches may also apply for support funds if they attend out of region national coaches clinics. Funds may also be used to promote coaches' education within New York State. The level of support is dependent upon the amount of funds set aside by the Board of Directors each year. The primary source of these funds is the NYSSRA head tax applied to race starts at NY races. The Racer Support Committee members are: NYSSRA Alpine Sports Director, NYSSRA President, Treasurer, Athlete Reps, and U16+ Development Committee Chair. For more details contact NYSSRA staff.

## **Section 5**

### **Coaches and Officials Info**

Memberships-All Coaches and Officials need to be current members of USSS and NYSSRA. USSS conducts periodic background screening for all coaches and officials. All coaches and officials are re-screened each year and must initiate the process within 10 days of notification after you renew your USSS membership. In addition, Safesport Training is required annually, as well as Coaching Fundamentals, for non-certified coaches.

All officials must attend update clinics at least every other year to maintain their current certifications. Coaches must earn at least 8 USSS coaches education credits every two years to stay current. Many NYS coaches' education projects are recognized by USSS for credit.

In order to participate/register as a coach in a USSS/NYSSRA sanctioned event, training project, or education clinic, USSS and NYSSRA memberships are required.

Ratios of coaches/athletes per event is recommended to be 1:5 per gender.

## **Committees**

For details on these committees see the NYSSRA website for all committee information.

### **NYSSRA Appeals Committee**

The NYSSRA Appeals Committee deals with decisions relating to selection, the Race Jury, the Technical Delegate and disciplinary action taken pursuant to the Code of Conduct. The Appeals and Due Process procedures as set forth in the USSS Competition Guide shall apply except as modified hereafter.

Appeals must be submitted within 48 hours after the announcement/publication of the decision from which the appeal is being taken.

All applicants shall be filed with NYSSRA % the NYSSRA staff.

On appeal, factual issues shall be overturned only if it is found that the decision concerned was an abuse of discretion; issues relating to the interpretation and application of the Competition Rules, as that term is defined in the Code of Conduct, shall be reviewed de novo.

Members of the NYSSRA Appeals Committee are:

- NYSSRA staff
- Current AO Chair
- 1 NYSSRA athlete rep (U14-or U16+ as appropriate to athlete's age)
- Appropriate Development Committee Chairperson (U14-or U16+ as appropriate to athlete's age)
- NYSSRA President

Any committee member will designate an alternate in the event of a conflict of interest.

## **Discretionary Request Committee**

This committee visits requests from coaches on behalf of their athletes for discretionary selection to an event. The committee members are:

- NYSSRA staff
- 1 NYSSRA Athlete Rep (U14-or U16+ as appropriate, dependent on athlete age)
- Appropriate Development Committee Chairperson (U14-or U16+ as appropriate, dependent on athlete age)
- Coaches Committee Chairperson
- NYSSRA President in an advisory position

Any committee members will designate an alternate in the event of a conflict of interest.

## Section 6

### Racer Recognition and Awards

NYSSRA recognizes and rewards athletes for accomplishments at all levels of ski racing. Alpine Elite Team members are strongly encouraged to give back to NYSSRA and participate in 2 Sports Page Cup Series races. For 2022-2023 Elite Team members are named from 2021-2022 results. To be eligible for this honor, athletes must be NYSSRA members in good standing (October 15, 2022) and have participated in two Sports Page Cup or other NYSSRA races during the competition season.

#### **Criteria for 2022-2023 Elite Team Selection (Mens and Ladies)**

##### **State Level**

Top 5 Men and Top 5 Women are selected from overall Sports Page Series races by New World Cup Points. (All Sports Page Cup races excluding State Championships)

### **2022-2023 NYSSRA Adminskiracing Elite Team**

<b>Men</b>	
<b>Hudson</b>	Proia
<b>Colin</b>	Cotter
<b>Benjamin</b>	Wojcik
<b>Michael</b>	Stevens
<b>Garrett</b>	Goetz
<b>Women</b>	
<b>Francesca</b>	Ferrara
<b>Emily</b>	Balduzzi
<b>Mary Catherine</b>	Mangan
<b>Carissa</b>	Dunlap
<b>Cara</b>	Dempsey

### **Sally Davis Scholar Athlete Award**

The annual Sally Davis Scholar /Athlete Award is presented to those racers who 1) maintain a 90 average in the term prior to the current season (for 2021-2022) and 2) qualify to compete in the Empire State Winter Games. Please submit requests to be considered for Sally Davis award by February 15th to [alicia@nyssra.org](mailto:alicia@nyssra.org).

2022 recipients are:

Johannes Aubrecht	Victoria Czoch	Kellen Gradwell	Hannah Nolette
Gabrielle Avallone	Cara Dempsey	Carly Hack	Lincoln Norfolk
Emma Baltrusaitis	Carissa Dunlap	Charlotte Harter	Rowen Norfolk
Teagan Banyard	Sophia Engelen	Rose Heagney	Tanner Olin
Iris Boerman	Anna Farone	Ashley Hubert	Zach Paton
Charlotte Branscombe	Louis Farone	Wyatt Kelley	Kirsten Phang
Emily Cain	Gianna Ferrara	Lorenzo Lizzeri	Iris Polly
Ryan Cain	Francesca Ferrara	Alyssa Lundberg	Charleigh Priestman
Emmylu Carls	Benjamin Fox	Sarah MacFarlane	Charlotte Prior
Camille Collins	William Fraser	MaryCatherine Mangan	Hudson Proia
Colin Cotter	Hannah Goetz	Matt Moeckel	Buck Rathbun

Jane Rathbun	Jacob Temes		
Lilli Rauch	Ronan Turkovich		
Riley Raymond	Cole Van Etten		
Nate Rodriguez	Ava Villiere		
Rory Sauereisen	Evelyn Walcott		
Dasha Scaminaci	Teegan Wardlaw		
Luke Seplaki	Gavin Weinstein		
Preston So	Luke Weisiger		
Samuel Steinberg	Ben Wojcik		
Nicholas Steurys			
Isabella Stringer			



**NYSSRA Awards Selection Committee:** NYSSRA staff, NYSSRA President, NYSSRA Vice President, AO Chair, and relevant Development Committee Chair. Nominations for awards must be submitted to NYSSRA by March 31st.

NYSSRA ANNUAL AWARDS		2022 Recipient
award	description	
<b>Don Jugle Memorial Award</b>	This annual award is presented to an outstanding individual/organization who exhibits hard work, dedication, unselfishness, and/or sponsorship to preserve fairness in ski racing in order that those racers who start at the end have as equal a chance as those starting first.	Niagara Council
<b>NYSSRA Coach of the Year</b>	Through dedication to athletes, perseverance and an ongoing interest in coaches education, this person has demonstrated excellence in coaching alpine ski racing in New York.	Martin Biedermann
<b>U16 Horst Weber Award</b>	This award goes to the U16 New York racer who best reflects unselfish sportsmanship and has shown these traits by their ski results, dedication, determination and accomplishment in the sport of ski racing.	Gavin Ebert
<b>NYSSRA Council Cup Award</b>	Each year this permanent Cup is passed to the winning council at U14 State Championships. Highest total points from each council's top 3 finishers in each run using Team Points Scoring method.	Mountain Council
<b>U16 Most Improved Award</b>	The recipients, one boy and one girl, are elected for significant improvement over a two year period based primarily on race results while they are a U16 athlete.	Charlie Howe
<b>Jan Burnap U16 Combined Award</b>	During the U16 State Championships one boy and one girl are named for this combined event award using simple place points. Best GS race, best SL race and SG#1 are used for scoring.	Lily Fischer Lincoln Norfolk

<b>Don Cushing U14 Skimeister Award</b>	During U14 State Championships the top boy and girl are selected based on simple place points from all runs during the weekend.	Hudson Montgomery Anja Robertson
<b>Hal Evans Award</b>	Hal Evans, from Lake Placid, was a friend of ski racing. This award is given to the man and woman who have the lowest combined race points at Empire Winter Games SG and GS. The permanent plaque remains at Whiteface.	Gavin Ebert Cara Dempsey
<b>Sports Page Cup Skimeister</b>	These awards are presented to the overall winners, man and woman, with the lowest total race points at the NYS U18 (SG,GS,SL)	Mary Catherine Mangan Matt Moeckel
<b>Sports Page Cup Series Award</b>	This award goes to the top 3 U18 Men and 3 U18 Women with the Best total Running Score in the Empire Cup Series.	Emily Balduzzi Hannah Goetz Mary Catherine Mangan  Colin Cotter Luke Weisiger Sean Bodner
<b>Drexler Memorial Award</b>	This memorial award for Joe and Brett Drexler is awarded to the man and woman who has the lowest combined race points at the Empire Winter Games GS and SL.	Carissa Dunlap Ivan Dudjak
<b>Lynn Brown Award</b>	This award is given annually to the U19 New York racer who best reflects unselfish sportsmanship and who has shown these traits by their actions, dedication, determination and accomplishment in the sport of ski racing.	Colin Cotter
<b>Connie Webster Volunteer Award</b>	Congratulations to those who are recognized within their councils with leadership skills and a generous spirit towards all of our racers in NYSSRA. Our volunteers are the backbone of ski racing in our state. Thank you for your contribution to alpine ski racing in New York State.	John Norton