

November 28, 2020

To: Western Region FIS & Championship Race Committees  
From: Bill Gunesch

RE: 2021 Specific Event Guidelines

First of all, thank you for accepting the challenge of hosting a regional event during these difficult times. It is important that we all work together, and we all try our best, to provide an exciting, rewarding and safe ski racing experience for our young athletes, even around all the uncertainty. Here are important considerations and/or expectations you should know.

### **Covid-19**

Everyone should be aware of the restrictions US Ski & Snowboard is placing on domestic racing this year, due to Covid-19. Examples include: Virtual TC meetings and awards ceremonies, issue bibs only once, limited assembly of athletes and coaches at the start, on the hill or at the finish, and coordinated entry times to allow for proper distancing during course inspection.

Here are links to important documents prepared by US Ski & Snowboard - [Covid-19 Domestic Competition Guidance](#), and [Covid-19 Alpine Domestic Competition Guidance](#).

Additionally, the Western Region Alpine Competition Committee adopted the Western Region [Covid-19 Alpine Competition Cancellation Guidance](#). Here are specifics and a description of the process we will follow.

- A. Cancellation due to Covid-19 will be based on specific circumstances, *some* of which include:
  1. High rate of infection positivity at the resort or in the resort's lodging community
  2. Lack of available hospital beds and ICU beds in case of a severe injury during the race  
(ROCs should update their Event Medical Plan)
  3. Severe weather forecasted, either extremely cold or extremely wet
- B. If necessary, cancellation will be decided by a 3- or 4-person committee consisting of the Regional Director, the Chief of Race, the Covid Coordinator, and a resort representative if the coordinator does not work for the resort.
- C. The Chief of Race will make sure the Covid Coordinator and the resort representative, if required, are available for all video conference calls. The Covid Coordinator will provide all necessary information needed for consideration, i.e., local health authority data, hospital data, weather forecasts, etc.
- D. The first conference call will be five days before the first race (per gender), or 4 days before the first TCM (per gender), at 1:00pm MST. Angie or Bill will set up the video call and send connection information to the Chief of Race.
- E. In case of cancellation prior to the first TCM due to Covid-19 the ROC will be allowed to keep a portion of the entry fee income to help defer setup and preparation expenses.
  1. All national and regional head taxes must be refunded to the athletes
  2. All speed training fees must be refunded to the athletes
  3. The club may keep up to half of the club's portion of the entry fee, the remainder must be refunded to the athletes
- F. Event cancellation unrelated to Covid-19, or cancellation beginning with the first TCM, will follow the procedure outlined in the [2021 Western Region Policies and Procedures](#).

### **Athlete and Coach Event Registration**

While ROC's are encouraged to utilize Athlete Event Registration for entry and payment, many have other preferred methods. That said, please enforce the Covid-19 policy for coaches attending your race to register through Athlete Event Registration. Coaches simply log into their My.USSA account, select your race on Event Registration, and click the **Attend** button.

The athlete and coach information available for download from the platform will be extremely useful for contacting and informing participants remotely. Also, mass emails can be generated directly from the platform. Here are samples of the updated [athletes](#) list and [coaches](#) list.

### **Other Considerations**

**WEST Team** athletes receive complimentary entries and lifts (if needed) at Western Region **Elite** Series races. The region will reimburse the ROC for national and regional head taxes paid on behalf of attending WEST Team athletes. This benefit applies to the Snow King Tech Series, Big Sky Speed Series (SG only), Utah Tech Series and Alpine/Squaw Spring Series. ROCs are also encouraged to help WEST Team athletes at Open/Devo events. Here is a [roster](#) of the 2021 WEST Team and a [listing](#) of the Western Region calendar.

**Race Results** need to be sent electronically to Bill for every regional FIS and Championship race. Please attach the Split Second file with the extension “.NatFIS”. This is the admin file used at the race, not the XML file sent to FIS. If using Vola or other race software, please attach a full “.csv” file with all race data. Daily transmission is appreciated, especially near the end of a series for scoring overall ranking, or near the end of the season when calculating RTG teams.

Thanks again, everyone. Good luck this season.  
Bill