



**FAR WEST SKIING
POLICIES &
PROCEDURES
2025-2026**



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Contents

Introduction.....	3
Mission Statement.....	3
Administration.....	3
Governance.....	4
<i>U.S. SKI & SNOWBOARD ALPINE PROGRAM</i>	10
Membership.....	10
Foreign Athlete Membership and Selection Procedures.....	12
FIS Registration.....	12
<i>U.S. SKI & SNOWBOARD/FAR WEST AGE CLASS COMPETITIONS</i>	12
Far West Race Programs.....	12
Tahoe Race Series.....	13
U10 Racing.....	15
U12 Racing.....	17
U14 Racing.....	18
U16 Racing.....	22
Seniors/U21/U18 Racing	25
<i>FAR WEST PAYMENT AND REFUND POLICY</i>	30
<i>MAJOR U.S. SKI & SNOWBOARD COMPETITIONS</i>	30
Western Region Intent to Compete Form.....	30
Nor Am Cup.....	30
Other FIS Races.....	30
<i>RULES GOVERNING FAR WEST COMPETITORS</i>	31
Far West Selection Methods	31
Modified Regional Selection Board Method: U16 Regional Champs	31
International Team Selection (ITS)	31
SRS, US Ski Team Members and athletes with 999 in a discipline – Selection to FIS races.....	32
Entry to Out of Division U.S. Ski & Snowboard Races.....	32
Code of Conduct	32
Far West Policy Concerning Illegal Drugs, Alcohol and Tobacco.....	33
Disciplinary Action.....	33
Parental Code of Conduct	34
Far West Traveling Team Rules.....	34
Far West Appeals Board	35
<i>FAR WEST SKI TEAMS</i>	
<i>Far West Ski Team</i>	36
Far West Pace Team.....	37
Far West Development Teams: U16 and U14	37
Far West Emeritus Ski Team	38
Far West Academic Team.....	38
Far West Special Awards.....	38
<i>FAR WEST SKIING COACHES</i>	39
Coaches Education.....	39
Far West Traveling Team Coaching Staff	40
Selection to Far West Traveling Team Coaching Staff.....	40
Coaches Rosters.....	41

Coaches Code of Conduct	41
<i>RULES GOVERNING FAR WEST COMPETITION.</i>	41
Race Organization.....	41
Race Scheduling	41
Race Preparation	42
Race Announcements	43
Race Entry	43
Entry Deadlines.....	43
Short Term Membership Race Entry.....	43
U.S. Ski & Snowboard/Far West and FIS Entry Fees	43
Entry Refunds.....	44
Seeding System for Scored Races.....	46
Team Captains/Seed Meeting – Racer Representation	46
Head Tax.....	46
Race Results	46
Out of Division Racers in U.S. Ski & Snowboard/Far West Events	46

Introduction

This manual sets forth the general organization and governing rules of Far West Skiing, plus the technical rules and regulations of competition within the Far West, and the bylaws of Far West Skiing.

Far West Skiing is a division and affiliate of U.S. Ski & Snowboard and the U.S. Ski & Snowboard Western Region (WR). Geographically, Far West Skiing (FWS) covers the states of California, Nevada, and Hawaii.

Far West Skiing is the U.S. Ski & Snowboard's sanctioning body for Alpine Ski Competition within the area of its governance. It oversees the scheduling and supervises the various competitive activities of each season. Both U.S. Ski & Snowboard and FWS membership is necessary for each FWS competitor to race in the Far West and to race out of division.

Mission Statement

The Mission of Far West Skiing is to:

1. Promote participation and enthusiasm in alpine competition in the Far West from entry level, club level and elite level to retain competitors and support skiing as a lifelong sport.
2. Provide financial support to athletes, coaches, and development projects.
3. Not benefit or serve the needs of any competitor or ski program, but rather strives to sanction fairly run competitive programs for the benefit of all its members.
4. Maintain a structure that will support the needs of Far West clubs, athletes, coaches, officials, and general membership.
5. Promote the skiing development of young athletes from all clubs in the Far West with the objective of winning races at all levels.

Administration

The Far West Skiing Board of Directors (FWBOD) is responsible for conducting and overseeing the business of Far West Skiing. The administration of alpine competition in the Far West is the responsibility of the Far West Skiing Alpine Competition Committee (FWS ACC). The Alpine Competition Committee (ACC) is a committee of Far West Skiing and as such reports to the FWBOD. Various subcommittees of the FWS ACC, each headed by a chairperson, actively oversee the different competition areas. The subcommittees work out proposals and policies, which are discussed and fine-tuned by the FWS ACC for presentation and approval by the FWS FWBOD.

The FWS ACC and FWBOD meet at least four times a year. An attempt will be made to schedule back-to-back meetings twice a year, to encourage cross-communication. Each year these groups will evaluate the *Far West Skiing Alpine Policies and Procedures Manual* and propose changes for the following season. Once approved by the FWBOD and Far West ACC, the *Far West Skiing Alpine Policies and Procedures Competition Manual* and its rules will take effect in the fall; no changes to the manual or the rules contained in it will occur during the competition season.

Programs in the Far West are designed and implemented by an active volunteer organization of dedicated and knowledgeable people. Further, the Far West has input to Regional and National programs and policies through representatives on the U.S. Ski & Snowboard Board of Directors, the U.S. Ski & Snowboard Alpine Sport Committee, the WR Alpine Competition Committee and various subcommittees and working groups.

FWS maintains an eleven-month office to support the needs of Far West competitors, coaches, officials, volunteers, and clubs. The FWS office coordinates Far West issues, such as dissemination of information to clubs and programs regarding race schedules, racer qualification, selection to traveling teams, coaches', and officials' clinics; support of FWS ACC and FWBOD; FW traveling team arrangements; development projects, Far West Ski Team, Far West website, financial records, fundraising, etc.

For a detailed list of the responsibilities of the FWS office and the U.S. Ski & Snowboard /Western Region (U.S. Ski & Snowboard /WR) office, refer to the *Who to Contact for What listing* on the Far West Website.

NOTE: Unless otherwise specified, the rules contained in this competition manual apply to all participants of amateur alpine competitions in the Far West conducted for SRS to U10 age class athletes. SRS to U10 racers will be referred to as "juniors" for this document. Rules contained in this manual supersede all other published materials, including previous editions of this manual and the Far West section of the current *U.S. Ski & Snowboard Alpine Competition Guide*

Governance

Far West Skiing is a not-for-profit corporation, and none of its assets, income or property can be used for the benefit of any individual group or entity. Far West Skiing is governed by its Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws.

Far West Skiing is governed by a Board of Directors (FWBOD) elected as set forth below (see Elections Section). The FWBOD consists of up to 18 voting members, all who must be members in good standing of both U.S. Ski & Snowboard and FWS, as follows (non-voting*, executive committee**):

President**	Alpine Athlete Representative (2)
Vice President**	At Large North
Treasurer**	At Large Central
Secretary**	At Large South
Immediate Past Chair**	Alpine Competition Committee Chair
Masters Representative	Tahoe Race Series Representative
Communications & Media Chair	Fundraising Chair
Special Interest (2)	Resort Rep
Far West Administrator*	

The role of the FWBOD is to direct and oversee the administrative and operating functions of Far West Skiing. The FWBOD is responsible for conducting the business of FWS. The FWBOD, in meeting the rules of U.S. Ski & Snowboard, has responsibility to:

1. Provide support in interpreting U.S. Ski & Snowboard parameters.
2. Provide administrative support for FWS financial and functional needs.

Specific duties and responsibilities of the Board of Directors are as follows:

PRESIDENT:

The President is the director of Far West Skiing and is responsible for overseeing all the business of FWS. Specifically, the President's duties include, but are not limited to:

1. Assure that all committees are appropriately structured and staffed;
2. Direct the agenda for all FWBOD meetings;
3. Preside over all FWBOD meetings;
4. Make appointments authorized by the Articles of Incorporation and the Bylaws;
5. Represent, or designate someone to represent, FWS at Western Region, U.S. Ski & Snowboard and other meetings;
6. Approve all contracts entered in to by FWS;
7. Oversee communications with the media;
8. Supervise the affairs of FWS;
9. Vote at FWBOD meetings only to break ties;
10. Supervise the fundraising, and competition committees, and such other committees which may, from time to time exist; and
11. At the conclusion of his/her term as President, assist the incoming President to achieve an orderly transition.

VICE PRESIDENT:

The Vice President is a director of FWS. In the absence of the President, it is the duty of the Vice President to oversee the business of FWS, including all the foregoing specific duties. In addition, the Vice President will perform such other duties as the FWBOD and/or President requests.

TREASURER:

The Treasurer is a director of FWS and oversees the following:

1. Accuracy of monthly financial records which are to be made available to any FWBOD or FWS member within 7 days after a request is made by the member;
2. Provide financial statements one week prior to any FWBOD meeting;
3. Supervise the preparation of all FWS income tax returns, sign returns upon completion;
4. Annual reports and financial statements prepared in conjunction with the Far West Administrator.

SECRETARY

The Secretary keeps all FWS nonfinancial records. The Secretary's duties include, but are not limited to:

1. Participate in the distribution of agendas and notices for all FWBOD meetings in compliance with the Far West By Laws;
2. Keep records of attendance of all FWBOD meetings;
3. Keep minutes of all FWBOD meetings, FWBOD Executive committee meetings, and membership meetings;
4. Prepare and distribute FWBOD and membership meeting minutes to FWBOD not later than two weeks following the meeting for which the minutes were taken;
5. Coordinate with the Administrator, a file containing current copies of FWS's Articles of Incorporation, Bylaws, and minutes of all FWBOD, Executive Committee and membership meetings from past two years. This information shall be available if needed at any of the FWBOD and membership meetings.

PAST PRESIDENT

The immediate past president of FWS chairs the nominating committee and performs such other functions as the FWBOD may direct. This is a voting position.

FAR WEST ADMINISTRATOR

The U.S. Ski & Snowboard /FWS Administrator is a director with all the privileges and responsibilities of a director except for voting. The U.S. Ski & Snowboard /FWS Administrator is an ex officio member of the FWBOD and ACC providing administrative support to both the FWBOD and the ACC and participates in meetings and program development. Input from the Administrator will ensure programs and processes meet general U.S. Ski & Snowboard and FWS members' expectations. Further details on the Far West Administrators duties please see 'Administration.'

ALPINE COMPETITION COMMITTEE CHAIR

The Alpine Competition Committee (ACC) is a committee of Far West Skiing. The ACC Chair is to remain an unbiased and equal representative of this committee.

The duties of the ACC Chair include, but are not limited to:

1. To preside over all meetings and proceedings of the committee;
2. To represent the committee at FWBOD meetings;
3. To supervise race scheduling procedures, and preside over annual race scheduling meeting;
4. To appoint members of the competition committee;
5. Establish ACC subcommittees, chairperson or individual assignments;
6. Promote creative participation by all ACC members in program development;
7. Communicate to ACC general guidelines proposed by the FWBOD;
8. Establish FWS Alpine Competition Programs through ACC Committee within parameters determined through FWBOD interaction;
9. Vote within the ACC only to break a tie;
10. Call for special ACC meetings as Chair determines to be necessary, and
11. Assure ACC implements Alpine Competition Programs in a timely manner.

The ACC Chair is selected from within the ACC by ACC members for a two-year term and can be reappointed for no more than two consecutive terms yet may continue past these terms if no one else is willing to take the position. The ACC Chair is a member of the FWBOD.

MASTERS REPRESENTATIVE

This FWBOD seat represents the Far West Master's program to the FWBOD. The Master's program is currently operated separately from FWS and contributes funds and volunteers to FWS on a regular basis.

AT LARGE POSITIONS

Because of its large geographical size, FWS is divided into three subdivisions, North, Central and South. These FWBOD positions represent the interests of the three subdivisions. FWBOD members holding these seats assume additional duties as may be necessary or assigned by the FWBOD or President.

COMMUNICATIONS AND MEDIA CHAIR

Under the direct supervision of the FW Executive Board and in coordination with the current administrator, the Communications & Media Chair has the following responsibilities.

1. To be responsible for setting annual communication targets, contributing to, and monitoring of their implementation through all realms of media;
2. produce and disseminate materials for communicating information about Far West and its programs;
3. coordinate the content of press releases and outreach communications; and
4. maintain updated photo library and database of media related contacts;
5. To report on the progress of the communication work plan including the coordination of the delivery of its outputs;
6. With direction and consultation for the FWBOD, the President of Far West should be the primary spokesperson at conferences, seminars, and other media and or policy events. The CPRC will act as a back in cases where appropriate and directed by the FWBOD;
7. To review and monitor the progress of outreach opportunities and take appropriate follow up actions;
8. Contribute to the planning of and arrangements for FW events, regarding the design and production of printed and marketing materials;
9. Carry out any duties assigned by the Executive Board.

FUNDRAISING CHAIR

This position is charged with seeking to raise funds for FWS. The Fundraising Chair develops and implements a program of corporate and/or individual sponsorships of FWS activities, plans and carries out other fundraising activities, and/or other projects or events as requested by the FWBOD, including marketing, advertising, and outreach.

SPECIAL INTEREST

Due to the many aspects of ski racing, the FWBOD can host special interest positions. These are open positions and take shape based on what the applicants' goals are when applying to be on the board. Some include Tahoe Race Series, Collegiate, Courses, etc.

ATHLETE REPRESENTATIVES

The FWBOD always maintains two athlete representatives. The duties of the athlete reps are to bring forth athlete issues, insight and communication between the board and ski racing community. At least one athlete representative must be a current competing athlete.

FWBOD ELECTION PROCEDURE

In Spring of each season, the notice of any board positions whose terms are up will be posted on the Far West website and sent out via electronic forms of communication. Each position up for re-election, or vacant, will be posted with expectations of that position (see position descriptions above). Any interested party will be asked to submit a letter of interest, and a bio including background and qualifications for this position. Bios and letters will be due by the end of April to the Far West Office and forwarded to the Nominating Committee.

The Nominating Committee will meet and propose a slate of officers to the FWBOD for review 30 days prior to the first scheduled meeting of the new fiscal year. The qualified candidates invited will be asked to attend the first meeting of the new fiscal year and speak upon their behalf. The candidates will be excused while the board votes upon the slate of officers.

The nominating committee will be chaired by Past President. The remainder of this committee is to be made up of two other board members not up for re-election.

FWBOD AND ACC MEETINGS

The FWBOD and ACC shall have at least four meetings per fiscal year, and at such times and places as it may be determined with a minimum 10-day notice of time, place, reason, and agenda (unless emergency) and in accordance with the bylaws of FWS. An attempt will be made to schedule back-to-back meetings twice a year, to encourage cross-communication. Except for Executive and closed sessions, all FWS FWBOD and ACC meetings are open to any member at any time.

All meetings of the FWBOD, ACC and their committees shall be conducted in accordance with Robert's Rules of Order. A member of the FWBOD or ACC shall not vote on any issues before the board where he or she has a conflict of interest.

REIMBURSEMENT OF FWBOD MEMBERS

It is the policy of FWS that the FWBOD and ACC members who incur pre-authorized costs or expenses in the discharge of FWS business will be reimbursed. FWS is a volunteer organization, travel costs incurred by directors or members attending FWS meetings are not reimbursed.

To apply for reimbursement for costs and expenses incurred, the person incurring the expenses must submit a written request for reimbursement within 60 days of the date that the cost or expense was incurred, together with an explanation of the costs or expenses and a receipt. Reimbursement in excess of \$200 for any one month must be approved by the FWBOD. Failure to request reimbursement within the time limit will result in expenses not being reimbursed.

THE PURPOSE OF THE ALPINE COMPETITION COMMITTEE

is established and organized to support the goals of U.S. Ski & Snowboard, WR and the FWBOD in guiding FWS, and to establish operating rules, requirements, and activities within the FWS Alpine Competition Program.

FWS ACC Membership:

Chair (WR ACC Rep), Vice Chair, Secretary, U10 Chair, U12 Chair, U14 Chair, U16 Chair, U18/U21/Sr Chair, North Chair, Central Chair, South Chair, Officials Chair, 2 athlete representatives, plus the FW Administrator(non-voting)

Each member will hold a 4-year term. FWS ACC members may hold up to 2 consecutive terms in the same chair position.

Nomination process:

All member clubs of Far West Skiing, in good standing in the Far West Division and U.S. Ski & Snowboard, will provide one representative, to be determined by their own club leadership, to sit on the nomination committee. This committee will convene every other year. The nominating committee will be co-chaired by a member of the FWBOD and FWS Administrator. The nominating committee will put forth nominations for the following Subcommittee Chairs of the FWS ACC and submit to FWBOD for approval.

U10 Chair*

U12 Chair*

U14 Chair*

U16 Chair*

U18/21/SR Chair*

North Chair*

Central Chair*

South Chair*

Officials Chair*

Nominations will also be accepted for the following positions, yet do not have a working group. Secretary *

Athlete Reps (2) *

Nomination Cycle:

Every 4 years: The nominations for specific categories are accepted every 4 years. The following will be nominated during the first cycle season (ex: season 2027, 2031, etc.) U10, U14, U18/21/SR, Central, 1 athlete rep, and Officials.

The following will be nominated during the second cycle (season 2029, 2033, etc.) U12, U16, 1 athlete rep, North, and South.

Nomination of Chair and Vice Chair

The above listed FWS ACC membership will vote in the following Executive positions from within the ACC Sub Committee Chairs. To be completed during the first cycle season.

FWS ACC Chair, which may not hold any other SC chair positions. This is a 4-year term.

FWS ACC Vice Chair, which may not hold another SC voting position. This is a 4-year term. The Vice Chair will succeed the Chair whenever the Chair is vacated or the end of the Chairmans term(s).

Far West ACC Membership is approved by the Far West Board of Directors.

Executive Committee of the FWS ACC

Chair, Vice Chair, Secretary, and one Athlete Representative.

FWS ACC Working Groups (non-voting)

Each Subcommittee Chair will name a working group of three to five members from different programs. These will be reported to the FWS ACC Chair and FWS Administrator.

Subcommittee chairs are responsible for submitting minutes from their Working Group meetings to the FWS ACC Chair and FWS Administrator for record keeping.

The Far West Administrator is to attend all FWS ACC meetings (not working groups), provide communication between FWS Member Clubs, ACC, and FWBOD. The FWS Administrator has no voting rights.

The FWS ACC has the responsibility of:

1. Update ongoing annual FWS Alpine Competition Programs
2. Review and incorporate FWBOD recommendations within operating plans
3. Implement and conduct FWS Alpine Competition Programs, within established plans
4. Document FWS Alpine Competition Programs, within established plans.
5. Establish a competition schedule in coordination with the U.S. Ski & Snowboard and WR Schedules for the upcoming race season.

FAR WEST SKIING BUSINESS AND FINANCES

Far West Skiing has been incorporated in the state of California as a not-for-profit 501c3 corporation since June of 1996.

Income to Far West Skiing comes in the form of Head Tax from U.S. Ski & Snowboard sanctioned junior alpine ski races, membership dues, sponsorships and donations, grants and from miscellaneous fund-raising projects. All accounting is operated on a cash basis.

The business checking account of FWS is with Bank of America, Truckee, California. This account is used to pay all bills and expenses of FWS. All income is deposited to this account, and the Far West Administrator is responsible for keeping the books, writing checks, and paying bills. All bills that are authorized via the budget approval process are paid. Expenses that the treasurer feels are excessive or have not been authorized by the FWBOD will be presented via email or at the next FWBOD meeting for approval. Current signatories on the account are the Administrator, the President, and the Treasurer.

Far West Skiing has one credit card and owns filing cabinets, a laptop and an all-in-one printer/copier, banners, and radios for coaching use. All equipment is in the FWS office or in storage unit. The FWS office is located at the home of the Far West Administrator.

The fiscal year for FWS is June 1 through May 31 of each year. The budget is presented and approved by the FWBOD at the Summer Board Meeting of the new fiscal year.

Financial accounts are kept on a computer accounting program, and monthly financial reports are distributed for review by the Treasurer.

DUE PROCESS

The U.S. Ski & Snowboard Alpine Competition Guide, the US Skiing's Code of Conduct, federal and state laws, as well as common decency all requires that disputes be resolved using procedures which are fair and consistent. To protect the rights of athletes, coaches, officials, and other people affected, all disputes within FWS shall be heard on reasonable notice of the FWBOD, and open to the public (except in circumstances involving privacy issues). The FWBOD will generally schedule grievances to be heard at their next regular Board meeting but may schedule a special meeting if deemed necessary.

The parties to any dispute shall be afforded the right to confront and question any evidence and/or witnesses against him or her and the assistance of such other person or counsel as such party may choose. Specific description of procedures followed by the U.S. Ski & Snowboard and FWS are found in the U.S. Ski & Snowboard and FWS Alpine Competition guides under the headings "Far West Policy Concerning Conduct."

POLICY OF NON-DISCRIMINATION

FWS has a strict policy of non-discrimination based upon any person's age, gender, disability, marital status, race, religion, national origin, or sexual orientation. Any FWS member found to have willfully violated this policy is subject to discipline by the FWBOD.

SEXUAL HARASSMENT

It is the strict policy of FWS to prohibit harassment of any kind based upon a person's' gender or sexual orientation. Sexual harassment will not be tolerated at any level or in any activity relating to the FWS. Equal Opportunity Employment Commission and California Department of Fair Employment of Housing define sexual harassment in two ways:

1. Any unwelcome verbal or physical gesture, sign or act including touch, joking, the display of pictures or materials, relating to the gender or sexual orientation of a person; and
2. Any request, explicit or implicit in which the consent of a person to unwanted sexual conduct is made a condition of continued employment or participation or in which such consent is made a condition of advancement in the sport or employment.

Any of the foregoing conduct violates Federal and State law and should be immediately reported by the victim to any competent adult who must then convey said information immediately to the FW President.

An investigation will immediately be made, and report prepared with recommendations to the FWBOD for further action if appropriate. The consequences of a violation of this policy shall be determined by the FWBOD, and may include permanent exclusion from FWS activities, if warranted.

U.S. SKI & SNOWBOARD ALPINE PROGRAM

Age Classification is based on your age as of December 31, 2025

Age class	Age	Year of Birth		Age Class	Age	Year of Birth
Srs	21 and older	2004 and under		U14	12, 13	2012-2013
U21	18, 19, 20	2005-2007		U12	10, 11	2014-2015
U18	16, 17	2008-2009		U10	9 & under	2016 over
U16	14,15	2010-2011				

Membership

All Far West Competitors, coaches and officials involved in U.S. Ski & Snowboard junior racing must be member in good standing of FWS and U.S. Ski & Snowboard in order to participate in any U.S. Ski & Snowboard or FIS race. Coaches, officials, volunteer memberships and alpine competitors that are 18 years of age are subject to background screening and safe sport compliance.

Membership is run through U.S. Ski & Snowboard and their website under one billing and will receive a digital card, indicating U.S. Ski & Snowboard and FWS membership status.

Be aware that U.S. Ski & Snowboard and FWS each charge a penalty for memberships not received by October 15. FIS registration is completed through U.S. Ski & Snowboard also, and the cutoff deadline for on time registration is August 15th. For further details on deadlines please see www.usskiandsnowboard.org.

Competitor license that have not been completed by the October 15th deadline will not appear on the November U.S. Ski & Snowboard points list and, consequently, will be seeded 999.00 in all U.S. Ski & Snowboard races until the next points list. Points cannot be reinstated or confirmed between lists and there will be no retroactive posting of results acquired between lists.

Athletes need to be able to present their current U.S. Ski & Snowboard card at any race event for age class verification.

Membership dues structure for 2025-2026

Domestic & Foreign

FIS Membership	By 8.15	After 8.15
FIS Membership	\$85	\$155
must be 16 years old		
must be members of U.S. Ski and Snowboard (see membership fees below)		

U.S. Ski & Snowboard Alpine Memberships

	National Fees***	Far West Fees	FW late fees*
U12 Competitor (12 & under)	\$108	\$40	\$20
U14 Competitor	\$133	\$55	\$20
U16 Competitor	\$226	\$55	\$20
Non-Scored Student^	\$103	\$0	\$0
Alpine Coach**	\$154	\$40	\$20
Jr Coach (15-17 yrs. old)	\$77	\$40	\$20
Alpine Official**	\$82	\$40	\$20

*Late fees apply to above memberships after October 15th

^ non-scored for athletes 14-21 years of age

**18 years and older

*** U.S. Ski & Snowboard has their own set of late fees, please see the USSkiandSnowboard.org website for details

	National Fees	Far West Fees
Short Term ***	\$36/day	\$5/day
*** available for 1 one purchase per season		
General Membership	\$41	\$12
not eligible to compete with a general membership		
Alpine Volunteer	\$67	\$12

includes background screening and safe sport compliance course

	National Fees	Far West Fees
Ski Team Dues	Check National Website	\$150*
Race Organizer Dues	Check National Website	\$150*
*Billed from Far West Skiing		

***Foreign Athlete Membership and Selection Procedures**

'X' numbered athletes must notify the Far West Divisional Manager, the Far West ACC Age Class Chair, and the Far West ACC chair of their intention to be selected for U14 Regional Jr Championship, the U16 Regional Jr Championships, Far West Camps, or U.S. Ski & Snowboard sanctioned championship events (U10.12.14) and meet all deadlines and follow all Far West Rules and Regulations.

Questions regarding membership, please contact U.S. Ski & Snowboard's membership department directly at membership@usskiandsnowboard.org or 435.647.2666

FIS Registration

Entry into FIS races are by selection only. Athletes selected and intending to compete must be age-eligible U.S. Ski & Snowboard, FIS and FWS members in good standing.

Any competitor 16 years and older, as of December 31, is eligible to apply to race FIS, which allows an athlete to participate, if selected, in FIS races in the US. The form entitled "Athletes Declaration for an International (FIS) License" (CAN/USA) must be completed annually and submitted to the U.S. Ski & Snowboard members services prior to racing in FIS events. This can be done through online registration at the same time as completing U.S. Ski & Snowboard and Far West Memberships.

FIS registration means the competitor will appear on the FIS list for the season. All athletes that will compete at the Divisional, Regional, National, or international level in FIS competitions must have a Far West, U.S. Ski & Snowboard and FIS membership completed annually. The registration must be received by June 1 to appear on the July to May lists; by August 15th to appear on the November to May lists. Late fees are incurred after August 15th.

Except for USST athletes, USA racers must make advanced applications and be approved for international licensing and entry to FIS races outside of North America. Itineraries are approved to avoid conflicts. Athletes or coaches interested in foreign projects should contact U.S. Ski & Snowboard at jeff.weinman@usskiandsnowboard.org and /or their respective regional competition director and provide a list of athletes and proposed itinerary.

More information can be found in the 'USA Athletes Competing in Another Country' section of the U.S. Ski & Snowboard comp guide.

U.S. SKI & SNOWBOARD/FAR WEST AGE CLASS COMPETITIONS

Far West Race Programs

FWS race programs and race series allow skiers of all ages an opportunity to compete. The ladder of ski racing is designed so that beginning, novice racers can easily get involved with the sport, and the experienced, elite racers can advance on to National and International competitions. For a complete list of races and race dates, see the website www.fwskiing.org

Tahoe Race Series

The Tahoe Race Series is designed to be an accessible, cost effective, development steppingstone to life- long fun and friendship in ski racing. All races in this series are held in the Tahoe Basin.

Tahoe Race Series are non-scored U.S. Ski & Snowboard sanctioned events, and all athletes will be required to hold a valid U.S. Ski & Snowboard and Far West competitors or Alpine Non-Scored Student license (Alpine Non-Scored Student available for ages 14+), or a temporary competitor's membership. Athletes compete amongst their age class U8, U10, U12, U14, U16+. A team draw will take place in the Fall by the Far West Office in conjunction with the Tahoe Race Series Chair. There will also be a draw for 'other' teams that may be joining the Tahoe Race Series. (all 'other' teams must follow the Tahoe Race Series rules for entry) The league will be split into thirds and competition weekends will rotate in thirds. A separate random draw will be completed for the Tahoe Race Series Championships.

Requirements:

At all Tahoe Race Series events, athletes are only allowed the use of one pair of skis within the race arena, which is defined as the area between the fences and including the start and finish areas.

Fluorinated wax is not allowed at any U.S. Ski & Snowboard competitions for any age group. No wax benches are allowed in the U14 and younger race arena.

Application of wax is not allowed at the U14 and under competition venue, which is defined as the ski resort property.

Non-compliance may result in NPS or depending on circumstance, DSQ (proven violation after start)

Hard ear helmets are required for all athletes and forerunners as listed in the U.S. Ski & Snowboard ACR.

For U14 and older: athletes must use helmets that meet the FIS standards.

No chin bars allowed except when racing dual slalom.

Please see the ACR for the most up to date specifications on helmet requirements.

Rules

Tahoe Race Series will race with the following parameters:

For general event rules and guidelines, reference the ACR.

U10's and younger race on Sunday and will always race Parallel

U12 and older race on Saturday with a course set of SL, GS, or Parallel. See TRS schedules page on the FW website for specifics. SL race will be set to full length poles.

There will be 3 race weekends, plus one weekend of Championships, athletes MUST participate in one regular race in order to qualify for the Championships.

- First race will be a Parallel course set
- Second race will be a Parallel course set
- Third race will be Dual SL course set
- Championships will be a Parallel course set

All Parallel races will be set at 10-20m, all GS/SL will be set as listed in the U.S. Ski & Snowboard Course Setting Guidelines. All competitors are allowed to start the 2nd run in their starting spot, including those that did not finish (DNF) or were disqualified (DSQ) in the first run.

Team bibs, assigned by the team admin, will be required for participation

USE OF INTERNET-BASED TIMING/RESULT PLATFORMS (U612.4.1)

Any event that includes U14 and younger athletes is not allowed to post "real-time" results or times on an internet-based timing/result platform during the race. Competitor lists: e.g., Club entries, Start Lists, Results, Referee Reports, may be posted, and standings/times should be updated at the conclusion of the event.

Race Registration

Entry process for Tahoe Race Series matches that of all other Far West Race Series Races. Please see entry fee prices and deadlines as listed later in this document and posted on each Race Organizers Race Announcement.

Tahoe Race Series Coaches and Jury

Each race must have a jury. The Tahoe Race Series Jury will follow U.S. Ski & Snowboard guidelines with the addition of two, non-voting assistant referees. This is an officiating development opportunity and eyes of the jury for Parallel events. Each coach must hold the correct U.S. Ski & Snowboard coach's membership and current referee certification in order to ref or set.

Each participating coach in the Tahoe Race Series must hold a valid Alpine Coaches Membership with U.S. Ski and Snowboard and Far West Skiing. This ensures that all coaches have completed basic membership requirements: Safesport and background check.

Team Captains (Coaches) Meeting

At least one representative from each participating team must attend the team captains meeting. There will be a TCM virtually on Friday for the events to be held on Saturday and Sunday. If there is a need for a separate TCM for Sunday's race due to changing conditions or other factors the OC will inform the team captains and they will meet based on the request of the OC (Saturday after the race or Sunday morning) Coaches will meet again after the completion of the race to review the unofficial results (this could be at the finish shack or at another designated location, please confirm with the OC).

Racing Age Classes

U8, U10, U12, U14, U16+

Start Order

Start order will be a team draw, all age classes randomized within the team draw. Second run will be reverse order from first run. For the scheduled race series 1 and 3 the women will start first, and for race 2 and the Championships men will start first.

Awards:

Awards will be given for each race, championships, and overall standings

U16+ Top 3 men and women

U14 Top 5 men and women

U12 Top 5 men and women

U10 Top 5 men and women

U8 Top 5 men and women

Championships will include race day awards

Overall Season Standings and Awards

For the individual overall season awards, Tahoe Race series events will be scored by age class using current "World Cup Points" (*see Rules Governing Far West Competitors Section of this document*). All results from the contested series races are used to calculate the series awards. A tie is broken by a racer's next best "World Cup" result(s), until the tie is broken. If conditions force the cancellation of a series race, the FWS ACC Tahoe Race Series subcommittee determines and publicizes any necessary changes in scoring.

Championships

To participate in the Tahoe Race Series Championships, an athlete must compete in at least one Tahoe Race Series event during the regular season.

U10 Racing

The U10 program is for racers aged nine and under. U10 races in the Far West are non-scored U.S. Ski & Snowboard sanctioned events.

U.S. Ski & Snowboard U.S. Ski & Snowboard Equipment and wax Rules are in affect:

U12 and Under athletes are allowed the use of only one pair of skis within the race arena, which is defined as the area between the fences and including the start and finish areas.

Fluorinated wax is not allowed at any U.S. Ski & Snowboard U.S. Ski & Snowboard competitions for any age group. No wax benches are allowed in the U14 and younger race arena.

Application of wax is not allowed at the U14 and under competition venue, which is defined as the ski resort property.

USE OF INTERNET-BASED TIMING/RESULT PLATFORMS (U612.4.1)

Any event that includes U14 and younger athletes is not allowed to post "real-time" results or times on an internet-based timing/result platform during the race. Competitor lists: e.g., Club entries, Start Lists, Results, Referee Reports, may be posted, and standings/times should be updated at the conclusion of the event.

A team draw will take place in the Fall and be posted on the Far West website. There will also be a draw for the 'out of division/series' start position in each North, Central and South.

The North series teams will be split into thirds, and the team rotation is to be done in thirds. Central/South Series will rotate by one team for each event. The rotation is good for the entire event (weekend). The team order for each event will be posted on the Far West Skiing U10.U12 schedule page by November. Team draw will be used for SL, GS and Big G. 2nd run start order will be reverse order of the first run which is reversed for the second day and again for the second run in GS and SL races. Women will run first on day one of each event weekend and men will run first on day two of each event weekend.

A separate Championships Team draw will take place at the Championships opening team captains meeting. The rotation will be split into thirds, to be rotated per discipline. The 2nd run start order will be reverse order of the first run.

All competitors are allowed to start the second run in their starting spot, including those who did not finish (DNF) or were disqualified (DSQ) in the first run. Awards will be given for each gender.

It is required that U10's use stubby gates for slalom events.

In order to minimize travel, the U10 program is divided into three geographic areas within the Far West: North (Tahoe, Mammoth, Shasta, Mt. Ashland, Northern Nevada); Central (Western Slope of the Sierra); and South (Southern California, Southern Nevada). Each of the three geographic areas runs a season-long series.

The philosophy behind the scheduling of U10 races is to encourage racing in each athlete's own geographical series by scheduling the same events in each geographical area on similar weekends. Series races are scheduled to allow time for skill development, using GS as the base event.

Far West U10 Divisional Championships

Athletes from all three geographic areas will meet at the end of the ski-racing season for the Far West Divisional U10 Championships. The Championships will consist of 3 days: 1SL, 1GS, and Kombi. All three race events will count towards the Championship overall standings. These events will be awarded 1st-5th place per gender, per age class. The South/Central series teams will be combined into one team for the Divisional Championships team draw. A separate Championships Team draw will take place at the Championships opening team captains meeting. The rotation will be split into thirds, to be rotated per event. The 2nd run start order will be reverse order of the first run. Women will start first in the first event; men will start first in the second event and continuing the alternate starting order throughout the Championships.

All competitors are allowed to start the second run in their starting spot, including those who did not finish (DNF) or were disqualified (DSQ) in the first run.

The U10 Far West Divisional Championships are open only to current age-eligible members of FWS and U.S. Ski & Snowboard. Competitors from out of division are not allowed to participate in these races. The OC may utilize a Championship Bib at a reasonable cost to the participants.

U10 Awards

North series: awarded 1st-5th place; 6th – 10th place to be called up and announced.

Central/South Series: awarded 1st- 5th place.

For the individual overall season awards, U10 series races will be scored by age class using current “World Cup Points” (see *Rules Governing Far West Competitors Section of this document*). A racer may win a series award in only one geographic area (North/Central/South). The results from the Championships shall be scored separately. All results from the scheduled series races (regardless of discipline) are used to calculate the series awards. A tie is broken by a racer’s best GS “World Cup” points(s), moving to Slalom until the tie is broken. If conditions force the cancellation of a series race, the FWS ACC U10 subcommittee determines and publicizes any necessary changes in scoring.

The Rasmussen Cup – U10 Team Series Award

The Maury Rasmussen Team Series Award (a perpetual trophy) goes to the top team in each of the three geographic areas within the Far West. There is no maximum number of competitors per team. For scoring, the top thirty U10 finishers, per gender, of the respective geographic area will count. The top three men and the top three women from any one team will be scored per race. All series races held, and the four disciplines of the championship series will be scored. Scored with “World Cup Points.”

Richmond Cup (U10 age class cup)

Bryan Richmond was a talented athlete who skied all of his life. This cup was named in his memory and his love for the sport and achievements in his racing career. The Richmond Cup is given to the best U10 man and woman competing at the Far West U10 Championships, using “World Cup Points.” Ties will be broken by using the best finish in the GS, followed by SL, then Big G. The athlete does not have to complete all races in the series.

Jeff Todd U10 Sportsmanship Award

Jeff Todd was a long-time coach with the Mammoth Mountain Ski Team and has a long history of supporting, coaching and organizing events for the Far West U10/U12 age groups. The Jeff Todd “Sportsmanship Award” is an award to be given to the athlete who displays a love for skiing, competition, and his/her fellow competitors. This athlete may have had to overcome some special physical or emotional adversity while competing at the U10 Championships. The U10 ACC Age Class Chair will take nominations from coaches prior to the awards, with the help of the race officials; select the winner of the award. The award will be presented at the determined awards ceremony at the Championships.

U12 Racing

The U12 program is for racers ages ten and eleven. U12 races in the Far West are non-scored U.S. Ski & Snowboard sanctioned events.

U12 and Under athletes are only allowed the use of one pair of skis within the race arena, which is defined as the area between the fences and including the start and finish areas.

Fluorinated wax is not allowed at any U.S. Ski & Snowboard competitions for any age group. No wax benches are allowed in the U14 and younger race arena.

Application of wax is not allowed at the U14 and under competition venue, which is defined as the ski resort property.

The U12 Start list will be a random draw for the first run and the second run will be in reverse order, the second day will be the reverse order followed by the original first run order. The OC may allow alternate gender start order for each day of the event throughout the season.

U12 Super G racing: The SG start order will be a Team draw for training runs and a random draw for the race. A training run on the actual racecourse is required for all competitors. This training run is held the day prior to the race in the North Series.

USE OF INTERNET-BASED TIMING/RESULT PLATFORMS (U612.4.1)

Any event that includes U14 and younger athletes is not allowed to post "real-time" results or times on an internet-based timing/result platform during the race. Competitor lists: e.g., Club entries, Start Lists, Results, Referee Reports, may be posted, and standings/times should be updated at the conclusion of the event.

All competitors are allowed to start the second run in their starting spot, including those who did not finish (DNF) or were disqualified (DSQ) in the first run. Awards will be given for each age class and gender. It is required by FWS that U12 Slalom's be contested with 60" tall gates exclusively.

In order to minimize travel, the U12 program is divided into three geographic areas within the Far West: North (Tahoe, Mammoth, Shasta, Mt. Ashland, Northern Nevada); Central (Western Slope of the Sierra); and South (Southern California, Southern Nevada). Each of the three geographic areas runs a season-long series.

The philosophy behind the scheduling of U12 races is to encourage racing in each athlete's own geographical series by scheduling the same events in each geographical area on similar weekends. Series races are scheduled to allow time for skill development, using GS as the base event.

Far West U12 Divisional Championships

Athletes from all three geographic areas will meet at the end of the ski-racing season for the Far West Divisional U12 Championships. The Championships will consist of 1SL, 1GS, 1SG TR and SG race. All three events will count towards the Championship overall standings. These events will be awarded 1st-5th place per gender, per age class. Each event will be a random draw, the 2nd run start order will be reverse order of the first run. The OC may allow alternate gender start order for each day of the event. SG training will be run via a team draw, with a random draw for the race.

All competitors are allowed to start the second run in their starting spot, including those who did not finish (DNF) or were disqualified (DSQ) in the first run.

The U12 Far West Divisional Championships are open only to current age-eligible members of FWS and U.S. Ski & Snowboard. Competitors from out of division are not allowed to participate in these races. The OC may utilize a Championship Bib at a reasonable cost to the participants.

U12 Awards

North series: awarded 1st-5th place; Central/South Series: awarded 1st- 5th place.

For the individual overall season awards, U12 series races will be scored by age class using current "World Cup Points" (see *Rules Governing Far West Competitors Section of this document*). A racer may win a series award in only one geographic area (North/Central/South). The results from the Championships shall be scored separately. All results from the scheduled series races (regardless of discipline) are used to calculate the series awards. A tie is broken by a racer's best GS "World Cup" score(s), moving to Slalom until the tie is broken. If conditions force the cancellation of a series race, the FWS ACC U12 subcommittee determines and publicizes any necessary changes in scoring.

The Poulsen Cup- U12 Team Series Award

The Poulsen Team Series Award (a perpetual trophy) goes to the top team in each of the three geographic areas within the Far West. There is no maximum number of competitors per team. For scoring, the top thirty U12 finishers, per gender, of the respective geographic area will count. The top three men and the top three women from any one team will be scored per race. All series races held and the four disciplines of the championship series will be scored. Scored with "World Cup Points."

Allan Cup (U12 age class cup)

Brendan Allan was a talented athlete who skied all his life. This cup was named in his memory and his love for the sport and achievements in his racing career. The Allan Cup is given to the best U12 man and woman competing at the Far West U12 Championships, using "World Cup Points." Ties will be broken by using the best finish in the GS, followed by SL, then SG. The athlete does not have to complete all races in the series.

Marco Sullivan U12 Sportsmanship Award

The Marco Sullivan "Sportsmanship Award" is an award to be given to the athlete who displays a love for skiing, competition, and his/her fellow competitors. This athlete may have had to overcome some special physical or emotional adversity while competing at the U12 Championships. The U12 ACC Age Class Chair will take nominations from coaches prior to the awards, with the help of the race officials; select the winner of the award. The award will be presented at the determined awards ceremony at the Championships.

U14 Racing

The U14 program is for racers aged twelve and thirteen years of age. All Far West U14 athletes may compete in the California Challenge Series (qualifying series for the Western Region U14 Championships). Start lists are seeded by U.S. Ski & Snowboard points and scored to the U.S. Ski & Snowboard points list.

Competitors who did not finish (DNF) or were disqualified (DSQ) in the first run can start the second run with their original bib after the last qualified competitor (U621.11.3.1) Awards will be given for each gender. The Central/South will host U14/U16 scored events.

California Challenge Series

The U14 only series includes three SL, three GS, and three SG and these WR U14 Jr Champs qualifying races are open to all Far West U14 athletes.

U14 Leader Bib

The overall CA Challenge Series Leader will be tracked for the entire season. The CA Challenge Series will have season-long leader bibs at each Qualifier. The men and women's leaders will wear the bib during the race. The athlete would remain on the start list with ROC assigned start/bib number and wear the FW provided Leader Bib. If the overall leaders are not at the race, the leader bib will not be worn. The

first day of wear will be the second day of the first CA Challenge Series Qualifying race based on results from day one of competition. In the case of a tie, total race time within the CA Challenge Series qualifying races will be used.

The overall CA Challenge Series Race winners will keep their bibs at the end of the season. The season long calculations will be based on assigning World Cup points (100-1) to the top 30 competitors. Out of division athletes will be purged from the standings.

A training run on the actual racecourse is required for all competitors in a U14 SG (U1256.4). This training run will be held the day prior to the race in the California Challenge Series.

USE OF INTERNET-BASED TIMING/RESULT PLATFORMS (U612.4.1)

Any event that includes U14 and younger athletes is not allowed to post "real-time" results or times on an internet-based timing/result platform during the race. Competitor lists: e.g., Club entries, Start Lists, Results, Referee Reports, may be posted, and standings/times should be updated at the conclusion of the event.

SLALOM POLES (U680.2.1.1)

Slalom poles must be contrasting, alternating colors; turning pole must be a flex pole. For scored U14 events, 72" gates may be allowed.

U.S. Ski & Snowboard Equipment and wax Rules are in effect:

Fluorinated wax is not allowed at any U.S. Ski & Snowboard competitions for any age group.

No wax benches are allowed in the U14 and younger race arena.

Application of wax is not allowed at the U14 and under competition venue, which is defined as the ski resort property.

Open Series start opportunities for U14'S:

All Far West U14's will be allowed to participate in the Far West SG Finals; a SG training run is mandatory for all U14's. An Open Series tech weekend might be scheduled in March.

U14 Western Region Jr Championships – Mt Bachelor OR March 19-22, 2026

Quota: Men: 18 Women: 19

The U14 Regional Championships bring together U14 athletes from the five divisions of the Western Region (Alaska, Northern, Pacific Northwest, Intermountain and Far West). This provides them with the opportunity to improve their skiing skills and to introduce our athletes and coaches to each other and foster a healthy Regional environment. Athletes must be members in good standing of U.S. Ski & Snowboard and Far West Skiing for the 2025-2026 season, including any (X) foreign athletes.

The U.S. Ski & Snowboard Western Region U14 Jr Championships is a championship event for U14s by Year of Birth only, from the five Divisions of the Western Region. Under no circumstance will a U12 by Year of Birth be eligible to participate. For U14 athletes to participate in the Far West selection procedures (California Challenge Series) they must hold a U14 Alpine Competitor Membership. Foreign Athletes: For "X" numbered athletes to participate in selection procedures they must hold a Far West Foreign U14 Alpine Competitor membership, petition to the U14 Age Class Chair and Far West ACC Chair prior to the first qualifying series and follow all Far West rules and regulations. A maximum of 2 "X" number per gender, will be allowed to compete at the Regional Championships per season. Once the maximum number of X membership athletes is selected, each consecutive X number athlete within the selection criteria will be skipped. Athletes selected for Regional Championships are required to participate in all races as scheduled.

Selection Procedures:

The quota is filled using "World Cup Points" (WCP) (see Rules Governing Far West Competitors Section of this document), scored in the U14 Jr Championships qualifying events (California Challenge Series). There are three weekends contesting SL, GS, and SG. Each competitor's **best 5 of 9** WCP scores from all the qualifying races count, regardless of discipline. **If any of the qualifiers are canceled, then five counts from seven or eight, four from five or six, three from four, two from two or three, and one from one count.** In special circumstances, a one run race may be scored for Jr Championship qualifying purposes, if approved by the team captains at the event. In the event of a tie, the athlete's best result using WCPs is used even if that was previously applied in their original qualifying score.

Example:

Racer A: 100, 80,60,50,50

Racer B: 80, 80,80,50,50

In the example above both athletes have a best of 5 total of 340 points. Racer A would be the higher rank due to the higher WCP finish. If a tie still exists, the next athlete selected will be the racer with the next best WCP score and so on until the tie is broken in any of the U14 Series events.

Travel and Payment regulations for U14 Jr Championships

1. All athletes, including alternates, must respond by the prescribed deadline listed at www.fwsking.org. There will be a 72-hour response window. Payment in full will be due at this time.
2. An alternative housing agreement must be on file with the Far West office, a minimum of fourteen (14) days before the trip in question in order for an athlete to stay with parents instead of the team. **For Championships held in Alaska an athlete may not opt out of the team travel program.**
3. Refunds for U14 Jr Champs will be made only for recoverable costs, and on a case-by-case basis.

The Far West U14 Jr Championship Team is seeded by a ranking list per event, using the following criteria:

1. Racers ranked by their total WCP from the California Challenge series qualifying list. 20%
2. Racers ranked by their U.S. Ski & Snowboard points, from the most recent list available; list #19 valid Mar 12, for that event. 30%
3. Racers ranked by their WCP from the California Challenge series qualifying list in that event. 50%
4. In the event of a seeding tie, the tie will be broken by the athlete with the higher WCP from the California Challenge series overall qualifying list.

Western Region U14 Spring Speed Project – April 23-26, 2026 Palisades Tahoe CA

Divisional Quota: W: 13 M: 13

The Western Regional U14 Spring Project 2026 is for racers aged 12 and 13 years old from the five divisions of the Western Region (2011 and 2012 year of birth). The event consists of Super G tactics and technique. For "X" numbered athletes to participate in the Far West selection procedures they must hold a Far West Foreign membership, petition to the Age Class Chair and ACC Chair prior to the first qualifying event and follow all Far West rules and regulations. A maximum of 1 "X" numbers per gender will be allowed per season.

Quota spots will be filled using "World Cup Points" (WCP) (see Rules Governing Far West Competitors Section of this document), scored from the overall U14 California Challenge Series.

U14 Far West/PNW Spring Select – Invitation Only March 19-22, 2026 Sugar Bowl CA

The Spring Select brings together U14 athletes from the Far West Division and the PNW Division that are not participating in the U14 Regional Championships. The project objective is to provide athletes with the opportunity to improve their skiing skills while introducing athletes and coaches to each other to foster a healthy skiing environment. Athletes must be members in good standing of U.S. Ski & Snowboard and Far West Skiing for the 2025/2026 season, including any (X) foreign athletes. Athletes selected for Divisional Projects are required to participate in all events as scheduled.

The total quota will not exceed 68. Far West athletes (22 males and 22 females) plus 44 PNW athletes (based on their distribution rules). Quota distribution for the Far West U14's will be 24 athletes (California Challenge Series: 10 m/f, Central/ South: 3 m/f) selected from the continuation of the U14 Regional Championships Boards. The Central/South quota will be filled from their series races for SL and GS. The project will rotate throughout the Far West/PNW, it will include three days – tech event based training/racing and skills quest. Programs are required to send coaching staff to work this development project. Athletes will have 72 hours to respond with registration once selections are open. This will be a Far West Development Project, without team lodging.

Far West U14 Divisional Championships

Athletes from all three geographic areas will meet at the end of the ski-racing season for the Far West Divisional U14 Championships. The Championships will consist of SG TR, SG, GS and SL. These events will be awarded 1st-5th place per gender, per age class. Start lists are seeded by U.S. Ski & Snowboard points and bibbo for second run if applicable. Competitors who did not finish (DNF) or were disqualified (DSQ) in the first run can start the second run with their original bib after the last qualified competitor if Jury and Race Organizer allow (U621.11.3.1).

The U14 Far West Divisional Championships are open only to current age-eligible members of FWS and U.S. Ski & Snowboard. The OC may utilize a Championship Bib at a reasonable cost to the participants.

U14 Awards

Awarded 1st-5th place per race and overall standings/per gender.

For the individual overall season awards, U14 series races will be scored by age class using current "World Cup Points" (see *Rules Governing Far West Competitors Section of this document*). The results from the Championships shall be scored separately. All results from the scheduled series races (regardless of discipline) are used to calculate the series awards. A tie is broken by a racer's best GS "World Cup" score(s), moving to Slalom until the tie is broken. If conditions force the cancellation of a series race, the FWS ACC U14 subcommittee determines & publicizes any necessary changes in scoring.

McKinney Cup (age class cup)

Tamara McKinney is a former member of the US Ski Team. She won four World Cup season titles, most notably the 1983 overall. With 18 World Cup victories and World Championship Gold, Tamara is a positive influence on all our racers in the Far West. The McKinney Cup is given to the best U14 woman competing at the Far West U14 Championships, using "World Cup Points." Ties will be broken by using the best finish in the GS, followed by SL, then SG. The athlete does not have to complete all races in the series.

Rahlves Cup (age class cup)

Daron Rahlves is considered one of the most accomplished speed skiers (Downhill, Super G) in American History, Rahlves is also the 2008 WX gold medalist in Skier Cross. 12 World Cup victories and a World Championship Gold are part of the reason he loves to share his passion for skiing. This cup is named for his love of the sport and achievements in his racing career. The Rahlves Cup is given to the best U14 man at the Far West U14 Championships, using "World Cup Points." Ties will be broken by using the best finish in the GS, followed by SL,- The athlete does not have to complete all races in the series

Andrea Mead Lawrence Sportsmanship Award

Andrea Mead Lawrence was an American alpine ski racer. She competed in three Winter Olympics and

was the first American alpine skier to win two Olympic gold medals.

The Andrea Mead Lawrence “Sportsmanship Award” is an award to be given to the athlete who displays a love for skiing, competition, and his/her fellow competitors. This athlete may have had to overcome some special physical or emotional adversity while competing at the U14 Championships. The U14 ACC Age Class Chair will take nominations from coaches prior to the named awards ceremony and, with the help of the race officials, select the winner of the award.

Alex Cushing Team Series Award

This series is named after Alex Cushing, the developer of Squaw Valley and responsible for bringing the 1960 Winter Olympic Games to the Far West.

The Alex Cushing Team Series Award (perpetual trophy) goes to the top team in the Far West. There is no maximum number of competitors per team. All the U14 Jr Champs qualifying events (California Challenge Series) will be scored by all Far West Teams. For scoring, the top thirty U14 finishers will count, men’s and women. The top three men and the top three women from any one team will be scored per race. Scoring will be by “World Cup Points.” The award is presented during the Far West Speed Finals.

U14 Development Team

The top 4 men and women from the California Challenge Series season overall standings will be selected. The team will be posted on the Far West website on the Far West Teams page. This team receives website recognition only. The team is announced on the Far West website each spring.

U16 Racing

The U16 program is for racers ages 14 and 15 years of age. All Far West U16 athletes may compete in the Wild West Series (qualifying series for the U16 Championships), Open Series Races, and the Far West Finals. Start lists are seeded by U.S. Ski & Snowboard points and scored to the U.S. Ski & Snowboard points list. Competitors who did not finish (DNF) or were disqualified (DSQ) in the first run can start the second run with their original bib after the last qualified competitor (U621.11.3.1) Awards will be given for each gender.

Wild West Series

The U16 only series includes three SL, three GS, and three SG and these WR U16 Jr Champs qualifying races are open to all Far West U16 athletes.

U16 Leader Bib

The overall Wild West Series Leader will be tracked for the entire season. The WW will have season-long leader bibs at each WW Qualifier. The men and women’s leaders will wear the bib during the race. The athlete would remain on the start list with ROC assigned start/bib number and wear the FW provided Leader Bib. If the overall leaders are not at the race, the leader bib will not be worn. The first day of wear will be the second day of the first WW Qualifying race based on results from day one of competition. In the case of a tie, total race time within the WW qualifying series will be used.

The overall Wild West Series Race winners will keep their bibs at the end of the season. The season long calculations will be based on assigning World Cup points (100-1) to the top 30 competitors. Out of division and U18+ athletes will be purged from the standings.

NPS Regional head to Head Competition

Sean Nurse NPS Qualifier – Snow King; December 20-23, 2025; 2 SL 2 GS

Selection boards of 2010's only 8m/8w: two-sided board will be created:

Left side- using the top two results from SL and GS 2025 WW Qualifiers, WCP will be re-assigned.

Right side – 2026 season points list #10 athletes will be selected the first time they appear on the boards in the discipline of Slalom and GS

A list of up 10m/10w will be listed, 8m/8w will be selected and 2m/2w will appear as alternates using the continuation of the selection boards. *the first 5m/5w selected will be marked as athletes that can earn WCP towards the NPS criteria. The remaining 3m/3w will be invited to race as a development opportunity. Ties will be broken using the higher WCP result. If a tie still exists, the best race point result will be used from 2025 SL and GS wild west series.

Selection of 2m/2w YOB 2011: The first two Far West selections on the 2025 Regional Selection boards to Whistler Cup will be selected. An additional 1m/1w will be listed as alternates.

Foreign athletes are welcome to race but must qualify to NPS through foreign policy/their nation.

U16 Western Region Jr Championships – Palisades Tahoe – Alpine CA March 12-15, 2026

The U.S. Ski & Snowboard U16 Jr Championships is a championship event for racers ages 14 and 15 years old only, from the five divisions of the Western Region. Each of the three regions of U.S. Ski & Snowboard (Western/Rocky-Central/Eastern) conducts its own U16 Regional Jr Championships. The event consists of 2 SG, 1 GS, 1 SL races.

For "X" numbered athletes to participate in selection procedures they must hold a Far West Foreign membership, petition to the Age Class Chair and ACC Chair prior to the first qualifying event and follow all Far West rules and regulations. A maximum of 3 "X" numbers per gender will be allowed per season. Athletes selected for Regional Championships are required to participate in all races as scheduled.

Quota: Men: 26 Women: 28

The quota is filled using "World Cup Points" (WCP) (*see Rules Governing Far West Competitors Section of this document*), scored in the U16 Jr Championships qualifying events (WILD WEST SERIES). There are three weekends contesting SL, GS, and SG. Each competitor's **best 5 of 9** WCP scores from all the qualifying races count, regardless of discipline. **If any of the qualifiers are canceled, then five count from seven or eight, four from five or six, three from four, two from two or three, and one from one count.** In special circumstances, a one run race may be scored for Jr Championship qualifying purposes, if approved by the team captains at the event. In the event of a tie, the athlete's best result using WCPs is used even if that was previously applied in their original qualifying score.

Example:

Racer A: 100, 80,80,60,50,30,22,0,0

Racer B: 80, 80,80,80,50,30,22,0,0

In the example above both athletes have a best of 5 total of 370 points. Racer A would be the higher rank due to the higher WCP finish. If a tie still exists, the next athlete selected will be the racer with the lowest U.S. Ski & Snowboard race point results in any of the Wild West Series events.

Automatic Status-

NPS athletes and terms of qualification for regionals

1. All athletes that qualify and participate in NPS Series shall participate in all remaining divisional qualifiers. Athletes that qualify (NPS) and participate in national Europe projects may become automatic status to regional championship events; athletes will count towards the divisional quota.
2. Athletes that participate in an NPS event may qualify for regional championships by using the Wild West qualifying method (5 of 9 races are counted) Athletes that are selected and participate in an NPS event and miss the entirety of a qualifier still has 6 schedule races to start in, (if any of the qualifiers are canceled, then five count from seven or eight, four from five or six, three from four, two from two or three, and one from one count).
3. Athletes must qualify for NPS through regional and national criteria

(No discretionary athletes). The Western Regional U16 Championships is seeded by a ranking list per event, using the following:

1. Racers ranked by their total WCP from the Wild West Series qualifying list. 20%
2. Racers ranked by their U.S. Ski & Snowboard points, from the most recent list available list #18 valid Feb 26, for that event. 30%
3. Racers ranked by their WCP from the Wild West Series qualifying list in that event. 50%
4. In the event of a seeding tie, the tie will be broken by the athlete with the higher WCP from the Wild West Series overall qualifying list.

Travel and Payment regulations for U16 Jr Championships

1. All athletes, including alternates, must respond by the prescribed deadline listed at www.fwskiing.org. There will be a 72-hour response window. Payment in full will be due at this time.
2. An alternative housing agreement must be on file with the Far West office, a minimum of fourteen (14) days before the trip in question in order for an athlete to stay with parents instead of the team. **For Championships held in Alaska an athlete may not opt out of the team travel program.**
3. Refunds for U16 Jr Champs will be made only for recoverable costs, and on a case-by-case basis.

The US winners of each discipline race and the combined at the U.S. Ski & Snowboard /Western Region U16 Junior Championships will be named to the U.S. Ski & Snowboard JR Championships Team and be automatics to the following seasons Far West Ski Team.

Awards

Wild West Series events, 1st- 3rd place will be awarded plus one Hard Charger per gender, The Hard Charger is designed to award the athlete who moves up the largest number of spots in each race. Season Overall Standings (Wild West Season Winners): 1st -3rd place, per gender; total World Cup Points from all nine Wild West Series Races.

Open Series and Far West Finals (SL, GS, SG): 1st -3rd place, per gender, plus one hard charger.

Wild West Team Series Scoring System

This Team Series award goes to the top team in the Far West. There is no maximum number of competitors per team. All the U16 Jr Champs events (Wild West Series) will be scored by all Far West teams. For scoring, the top 15 U16 finishers will count, men's and women. The top three men and the top three women from any one team will be scored per race. Scoring will be by "World Cup Points."

Bobby Mehrhof Award Outstanding U16

Presented to a male and female U16 for their outstanding performance during the current season internationally, nationally, or regionally as well as within the division. This award was named in memory of Bobby Mehrhof, a Mammoth Mountain Ski Team member that enjoyed ski racing throughout his life. Nominations submitted to U16 Chair to the FW ACC and the Far West Divisional Manager.

U16 Development Team

The top 8 men and women from the Wild West season overall standings will be selected. The team will be posted on the Far West website on the Far West Teams page. This team receives website recognition only. The team is announced on the Far West website each Spring.

Seniors/U21/U18 Racing

Seniors are racers aged 21 and older; U21's are, 18-, 19- and 20-year-old, and U18's are ages 16 and 17. These age classes are eligible to race at the U.S. Ski & Snowboard /Far West level (Open Series, Grand Prix U.S. Ski & Snowboard Series, and Far West Finals) and qualify for FIS level (WR FIS, WR JR Champs, Elite Series and beyond). To compete at the FIS level these athletes must hold a FIS license (see the FIS membership section for further details). All athletes must be members in good standing of Far West Skiing, U.S. Ski & Snowboard, and FIS if applicable.

U.S. SKI & SNOWBOARD Racing U18 and Older

Far West Open Series

Races are open to all athletes registered with U.S. Ski & Snowboard and Far West ages U16 and Older. Start lists are seeded by U.S. Ski & Snowboard points and scored to the U.S. Ski & Snowboard points list. Event Awards: 1st-3rd place per gender, per age class, Seniors and U21's will be combined into one age class for awards. There will be one Hard Charger award per gender.

Grand Prix: (U.S. Ski & Snowboard racing)

For the 2026 season the Grand Prix series will consist of designated U.S. Ski & Snowboard /Far West events plus the Far West Finals Tech and SG Finals. The U21/U18 Discretionary/Development Committee representing different teams will designate the specific Open Series events as Grand Prix events, avoiding any conflicts with Western Region FIS events if possible. The Grand Prix series is scored for U18's as a series to qualify for scholarships to be used for the following season. The places are determined by adding up the total World Cup Points earned during ALL the races listed in the Grand Prix series for that season. Each race is scored by separating the field by gender into U18 classes. Foreign, out of division, current USST and U16 participants in each race are removed and results are sorted by class prior to assigning WCP's for each race. Athletes must have competed in at least 1/3 of the contested Grand Prix races to qualify for the scholarships.

In the event of a tie, the award amounts shall be totaled together and divided equally between the places i.e. tie for first place; 1st place and 2nd place award amounts will be combined and split equally with 3rd place remaining in their position.

Overall Champions from the Grand Prix Series will be awarded the following:

1 st place – U18 men/women	\$1800 Scholarship
2 nd place – U18 men/women	\$900 Scholarship
3 rd place – U18 men/women	\$600 Scholarship

Awards

Jinny Glass Award Outstanding Jr U21/U18

Presented to a male and female Junior (U21/U18) for their outstanding performance during the current season internationally, nationally, or regionally as well as within the division. In addition to their outstanding performance these athletes (one male and one female) demonstrated a willingness to 'give back' to the division.

Nominations submitted to U21/U18 Chair to the FW ACC and the Far West Administrator.

Jill Kinmont Outstanding SR Athlete

Presented to a male and female for their outstanding performance during the current season internationally, nationally, or regionally as well as within the division. In addition to their outstanding performance these athletes (one male and one female) demonstrated a willingness to 'give back' to the division. Jill Kinmont was an up-and-coming ski racer out of the Mammoth area in the 1950's.

Nominations submitted to Academic Chair to the FW ACC and the Far West Administrator.

Western Region FIS Series - FIS Racing U18 and Older

The Western Region of the U.S. Ski & Snowboard is comprised of five divisions: Alaska, Northern (Montana), Intermountain (Utah, Wyoming, and Eastern Idaho), Far West (California, Nevada, and Hawaii), and Pacific Northwest (Oregon, Washington, and Western Idaho; referred to as PNW). The Western Region (WR) is the home of two levels of FIS racing, WR FIS (Open FIS), and Elite FIS series. From these regional races competitors can qualify for National events such as Nor Am's, National Performance Series and US Alpine Championships.

Far West uses a variety of selection methods to determine eligible athletes for WR Devo FIS and WR JR Championship races. Quota and general procedures are listed for each series in this section. Selection methods are listed with each series below. Starting in the 2022 season athletes will qualify for WR FIS Devo-Wrangler Cup series from a Far West Selection method, and athletes will qualify for WR Elite FIS-WR Cup series based on a Regional Selection method.

Entry

Entry to Western Region FIS and Western Region Jr Championship races must be submitted by the Far West Administrator (NOT INDIVIDUALS OR COACHES) on official FIS entry forms. Western Region Elite Series entries will be submitted by the Western Region Manager.

Racers will be charged entry for events they are listed on the official FIS entry form. An athlete must be pulled from the boards at the team captains' meeting by the coaches to not be charged for an event. A racer, who is unable to compete in all races in an event due to injury or illness, documented by his/her physician, will receive a refund for those races from which he/she is removed from the board. It is the racers' responsibility to notify his/her coach of injury or illness; it is the coaches' responsibility to remove the athlete from the seed board at the team captain's meeting for the affected race(s).

Western Region Refund policy for cancelled events: (Please see the WR Policies and Procedures for specific refund table)

For events canceled prior to the first scheduled team captains' meeting there will be a complete refund of all paid entry and speed training fees.

1. For technical events canceled or terminated by the jury on the day of competition there will be an entry fee refund of ½ the organizers portion, ½ the regional head tax, and the full U.S. Ski & Snowboard head tax. The region's ½ portion is remitted to the region. Any unpaid head tax is refunded to the athlete.

2. For speed event(s), including speed training, canceled or terminated anytime during the official program dates by the jury, there will be an entry refund of ½ the regional head tax, the full U.S. Ski & Snowboard head tax and the training fee if no training was conducted. The organizer retains the organizer's portion provided the organizer and ski area make all possible efforts to hold the event, as assessed and reported in the event evaluation report by the jury members (3) consisting of the TD, the referee and the assistant referee. The region's ½ portion is remitted to the region. Any unpaid head tax is refunded to the athlete.

3. Organizer will be obligated to refund entries in the case of injury and illness. If an athlete is sick or injured on the day of the race, the athlete's coach must notify the race organizer, prior to race start, in order to get a refund if the athlete is a DNS.
4. For any athlete that is listed on the official results as a DNS all national and regional head tax must be refunded. The athlete forfeits the remainder of the entry fee, including the training fee at a speed event, except for illness or injury as stated above.

Western Region FIS Devo Series WRangler Cup- Far West fills the quota

WRangler Cup Devo FIS Zone 1 Mammoth Mountain, CA 2 GS, 2 SL –December 16-19, 2025

Quota: Men: 56 Women: 42

1. Two column U.S. Ski & Snowboard points board using list #11 valid Nov 20; selected in the ITS method until the quota is filled using SL and GS points.
2. An alternate list of up to twenty-five men and twenty-five women will be established.
3. All athletes, including alternates, must respond by the prescribed deadline listed at www.fwsking.org, with all registration paperwork, mountain liability forms and payment in order to be considered for the entry sheet.
4. This event is a qualifier for WR Elite FIS series

WRangler Cup FIS Devo 2 SL, 2 GS Sugar Bowl CA January 5-8, 2026

Quota: Men: 30 Women: 19

1. Two column U.S. Ski & Snowboard points board using list #13 valid Dec 18; selected in the ITS method until the quota is filled using SL and GS points.
2. An alternate list of up to twenty-five men and twenty-five women will be established.
3. All athletes, including alternates, must respond by the prescribed deadline listed at www.fwsking.org, with all registration paperwork, mountain liability forms and payment in order to be considered for the entry sheet.
4. This event is a WR Elite FIS qualifier

WRangler Cup Speed Series–2 SG, 2 DH, 2 DHT; Schweitzer ID, February 1-6, 2026

Quota: Men: 35 Women: 22

1. Two column U.S. Ski & Snowboard points board using list #15 valid Jan 15; selected in the ITS method until the quota is filled using DH and SG points.
2. An alternate list of up to twenty-five men and twenty-five women will be established.
3. All athletes, including alternates, must respond by the prescribed deadline listed at www.fwsking.org, with all registration paperwork, mountain liability forms and payment in order to be considered for the entry sheet.
4. This event is a WR Elite FIS qualifier

WRangler Cup Devo FIS; 2 GS/2 SL; Mission Ridge WA, March 17-20, 2026

Quota: Men: 30 Women: 19

1. Two column U.S. Ski & Snowboard points board using list #18 valid Feb 26; selected in the ITS method until the quota is filled using SL and GS points.
2. An alternate list of up to twenty-five men and twenty-five women will be established.

3. All athletes, including alternates, must respond by the prescribed deadline listed at www.fwsking.org, with all registration paperwork, mountain liability forms and payment in order to be considered for the entry sheet.

WRangler Cup Devo FIS; 2 GS/2 SL; Sun Valley ID, March 28-31 2026

Quota: Men: 30 Women: 19

1. Two column U.S. Ski & Snowboard points board using list #19 valid March 12; selected in the ITS method until the quota is filled using SL and GS points.
2. An alternate list of up to twenty-five men and twenty-five women will be established.
3. All athletes, including alternates, must respond by the prescribed deadline listed at www.fwsking.org, with all registration paperwork, mountain liability forms and payment in order to be considered for the entry sheet.

Spring Speed; 2DHTR/ 2DH/S2G; Bachelor, OR; April 10-15, 2026

Quota: Men: 35 Women: 22

1. Two column U.S. Ski & Snowboard points board using list #20 valid March 26; selected in the ITS method until the quota is filled using DH and SG points.
2. An alternate list of up to twenty-five men and twenty-five women will be established.
3. All athletes, including alternates, must respond by the prescribed deadline listed at www.fwsking.org, with all registration paperwork, mountain liability forms and payment in order to be considered for the entry sheet.

Western Region ELITE FIS WR Cup

For 2025-2026 there will be three Western Region Cup events scored toward series standings. Refer to the WR Handbook for race locations and qualifying criteria.

Quotas and Field Size

The total Western Region field size to a Western Region Cup race is 80 men and 80 women. Elite Automatics are entered first into the field. Then western athletes qualified through the WRangler Cup Series fill the field up to 80-athletes/gender. The Western Region Director controls a development quota of up to 15 men and 15 women for the series. The host club has a quota of 1 man and 1 woman. The U.S. Ski Team, the other regions, and foreign countries have quotas for the races. These quotas are in addition to the Western Region field size of 80.

Elite Automatics

Elite Automatics are qualified to compete in Western Region Cup events. They do not need to qualify at WRangler Cup selection races. These athletes use the WRC as their “home series” and strive to qualify for national levels of competition, becoming competitive at those levels.

An initial group of Automatics is selected in the Fall using the first NAT Points list that becomes valid in November. A single selection board of SG, GS and SL points is used. The selection identifies 30 active U21 and U18 Western Region athletes from each gender, skipping over USST members, SR athletes and college athletes. All athletes, including those skipped, are considered Elite Automatics.

Additional Western Region athletes will become Elite Automatics during the season. An athlete who is the top ranked Western Region finisher at a WRangler Cup selection race, and who is not already an Automatic, will become an Elite Automatic for the remainder of the season. Each selection race will qualify a new Automatic.

Also, any Western Region athlete who is not already an Elite Automatic, and who finishes within 5% of the fastest Western Region athlete at a Western Region Cup race, will become an Elite Automatic for the remainder of the season. USST athletes, foreign athletes and college athletes are not considered when determining the fastest Western Region athlete.

Advancement to Western Region Cup

The WRangler Cup Series is used as selection races to the Western Region Cup. The 2025-2026 WRangler Cup races used for WRC selection are identified on the calendar in the appendix of the Western Region Handbook. A double selection board following the procedure explained in the Western Region Selection Board section, above, will be used.

WRangler Cup results are cumulative throughout the season. Athletes who were injured or ill during a qualification series may have an exemption or may be able to enter the WRC through the Director's Quota.

The following events follow the selection method above. All selections and responses will be available on the Western Region Intents page. There will be a total of 80 men and 80 women at each of these events with no quota expansion opportunity.

WR Cup Elite FIS #1 – 2SL, 2GS; Snow King, WY January 14-17, 2026

WR Cup Elite FIS #2 - 2 SL; Snowbird, UT February 17-18, 2026

2GS, 2SG; Utah Olympic Park February 19-20, 2026

WR Cup Elite Spring Series 2SL, 2GS; Palisades Tahoe, CA April 4-7, 2026

Western Region Junior Championships 2 SG, 2 SL, 2 GS; Grand Targhee WY March 3-8, 2026

Quota: Men: 30 Women: 23

There is open qualifying amongst all U21 and U18's; no one is protected. Selections will be based on the RSBM as follows:

1. Up to a three-column board, with best U.S. Ski & Snowboard points from the designated points list by discipline (SL, GS, SG).
2. U.S. Ski & Snowboard points from list #17 valid Feb 5; will be used
3. Ten percent of the divisional quota may be filled through discretionary selection. To be selected by the U21/U18 Discretionary/Development Committee, representing different teams.
4. Alternate list of 30 men and 30 women.
5. All athletes, including alternates, must respond by the prescribed deadline listed at www.fwskiiing.org with all registration paperwork, mountain liability forms and payment. All athletes, including alternates, will be removed from the selection list, and will not be considered for discretionary selection, if any of the above-mentioned requirements are not met by the prescribed response deadline.
6. The selection opening date will be posted on the U18+ schedules page of the Far West Skiing website.

FAR WEST PAYMENT AND REFUND POLICY

Selected Junior Championship athletes will have 72 hours to accept their selection, at which time payment in full is due. Payment is validation of entry, not verbal or written communication. Athletes must complete registration as listed with each event, this may be via online registration, depending on the event and organizing committee, information will be posted with each event communications.

Late entries or race withdrawal refunds may not be guaranteed if outside the prescribed entry time limits. Regional rules must also be followed in these cases. Athletes not in good standing with the Far West as of travel day of all division quota events are subject to immediate sanctioning. Good standing is defined as current U.S. Ski & Snowboard and Far West Divisional membership, and no outstanding debts owed the division.

Race series withdrawal within 72 hours of the team captains meeting must go through the athlete's coach. Refunds are not guaranteed, and an athlete that appears on the start list will be charged as they must be pulled from the seed board.

Refunds will be made on a case-by-case basis and will only be recoverable costs if any.

MAJOR U.S. SKI & SNOWBOARD COMPETITIONS

Western Region Intent to Compete Form

The Western Region requires that all eligible competitors for Nor Am's, US National Alpine Championships, Canadian FIS, and out of region FIS races must complete an "Intent to Compete" online by the designated deadline(s). Intents will open for the first of the month preceding the race i.e. Nov 1st for all races in December. Deadline to intend is 21 days before the first team captains meeting of the series. Confirmations are due 16 days prior to the TC meeting via the confirmation board. Intents must be electronically submitted by the primary club coach or club director for all club members. It is recommended that this be a collaborative effort by the athlete, parent(s), and coach(es) to plan the athletes' competitive season. Further information may be found in the Western Region Policies and Procedures manual, available at <https://usskiandsnowboard.org/sport-programs/regions-divisions/western-alpine-region>

US Alpine Championships and U18 Nationals

Once each year the top racers in the United States come together for approximately six days to compete for the National titles of Alpine Ski Racing. Racers from the US Ski Team, top collegiate racers and the best regional racers are in attendance. For many young racers, this is the opportunity to prove themselves against our country's best. Far West competitors can only enter these races as part of the Western Region quota. An "Intent to Compete" must be submitted through the U.S. Ski & Snowboard intents page by the prescribed deadline.

Nor Am Cup

The Nor Am (Continental Cup) Series is the premier race series in North America. These Continental Cup races are the final step for the US athletes to the World Cup, skiing's top level of international competition. Top racers from the US, Canada and other countries compete in the US and Canada for the Nor Am Titles. Far West competitors can only enter these races as part of the Western Region quota. An "Intent to Compete" must be submitted through the U.S. Ski & Snowboard intents page by the prescribed deadline.

Other FIS Races

Access to Canadian FIS, Central FIS, Rocky FIS, and Eastern FIS races is a part of the National quota only. Age-eligible athletes who are members of U.S. Ski & Snowboard and FIS who want to be considered for selection to any of these races must indicate that desire on the "Intent to Compete" website on or before the applicable deadline to the Western Region Office. Please check current quotas with the Western Region Director or Manager.

RULES GOVERNING FAR WEST COMPETITORS

Far West Selection Methods

All Far West selections utilize the "World Cup Point" (WCP) system and/or the U.S. SKI & SNOWBOARD points list. Each race series will specify the selection method and points system(s) to be used. Selection methods are defined below:

World Cup Point System

Place	Points	Place	Points	Place	Points	Place	Points	Place	Points
1st	100	7th	36	13th	20	19th	12	25th	6
2nd	80	8th	32	14th	18	20th	11	26th	5
3rd	60	9th	29	15th	16	21st	10	27th	4
4th	50	10th	26	16th	15	22nd	9	28th	3
5th	45	11th	24	17th	14	23rd	8	29th	2
6th	40	12th	22	18th	13	24th	7	30th	1

Old World Cup Point System

Place	Points	Place	Points	Place	Points	Place	Points	Place	Points
1st	25	4th	12	7th	9	10th	6	13th	3
2nd	20	5th	11	8th	8	11th	5	14th	2
3rd	15	6th	10	9th	7	12th	4	15th	1

Modified Regional Selection Board Method:

The Regional Selection Board Method is similar to the NTSM and ITS methods, except that it uses both place points and seeding points to build its selection tables.

Two selection boards are used as follows:

1. One board is composed of ranking by place points earned in the specified races/series in each event involved. A column is established in each event with the ranking racer in that event at the top of the column. The columns shall be arranged as prescribed by the policy for each event.
2. The second board is set up using the valid points list, FIS or National. A column is established for each event with the low point athlete in that event at the top of that column. The columns shall be arranged as prescribed by the policy for each event in that order.

Selections will be made by going across both boards choosing the best-ranked racer in every column of each row of both boards before moving on to the next row. When a competitor appears, who has already been selected in a previous row, selection continues across the same row, but skipping that competitor, until the end of the row is reached, before moving to the next row.

International Team Selection (ITS)

In the ITS method, each discipline is ranked in a separate vertical column, lowest points on top to higher points on bottom. The columns are arranged normally from left to right: DH, SL, GS, SG. Athletes will be selected from left to right, top to bottom. Duplications of the same athlete in more than one column are listed. If a name comes up again, it is skipped, and selection continues across from left to right and not down for repeats.

SRS, US Ski Team Members, and athletes with 999 in a discipline – Selection to FIS races

All current US Ski Team members will not appear on any Far West selection boards. Current US Ski Team members are encouraged to race in any Far West or Western Region races that their schedules permit. They will be given first priority in the discretionary selection procedure.

Any athlete that has 999 U.S. Ski & Snowboard points in a discipline will not be included in that disciplines' points column on the selection board.

Far West does not include athletes who have turned 25, on or before December 31st of the current season, on selection boards unless the athlete notifies the Far West office in writing of their intent to compete 7 days prior to the publishing date for the points list used to make the selections. It is Far West policy that no SR will be selected to FIS events as an alternate.

Discretionary and Development Selection to FIS and Championship Teams

Discretionary selections will be made by the Discretionary/Development selection committee. Those selections will be made to best support the goals of each race series. All Discretionary/Development nominations must be submitted by the athletes' coach within 24 hours of the closing of the selection boards to the Far West Skiing office. Upon approval from the Far West office will notify the programs/athletes of their entry into the race.

The Discretionary/Development Committee is made up of the U21/U18 Chair plus 4 more coaches from different programs.

Selection Committees

The following will make selections to the Far West quota for JR Championship events:

1. Initial quota is filled by selection boards completed by Far West Divisional Manager and one person appointed annually by the FWS ACC, overseen by the U21/U18 chair.
2. Discretionary and Development spots will be filled by the process listed in previous paragraph.
3. Coaching selections: This will be decided upon by the age class chairmen.

The Western Region Selection Committee makes selections to out of region FIS, Canadian FIS, National FIS, Nor Ams, US Alpine Championships and Canadian Alpine Championships.

Entry to Out of Division U.S. Ski & Snowboard Races

No one (competitor, coach, parent, legal guardian) may enter an athlete in a race in another division/region without prior approval from the Far West office. The philosophy of the Far West is to discourage unnecessary out of division travel. The following policy will apply:

1. All requests must be made by the athlete's coach.
2. All requests must be submitted to the Far West office, in writing (email is fine), 7 days prior to the team captain's meeting.
3. Racers must meet all qualifications of the host division/region
4. Out of Division races will only be considered when the Far West is not sponsoring a race of equal caliber with conflicting race days
5. Exceptions may be applied through the FWS office and will be considered by the FWS ACC
6. If a request is granted, entries and fees must be submitted to the race organizer before the established deadline.
- 7.

Code of Conduct

The U.S. Ski & Snowboard Code of Conduct can be found in the U.S. Ski & Snowboard Alpine Competition Guide (www.usскиandsnowboard.org)The entire Code shall apply to all Far West competitors, coaches, officials, and volunteers at all levels of U.S. Ski & Snowboard, Western Region and Far West racing, and when representing the U.S. Ski & Snowboard and/or Far West as part of an official team or as an individual. All competitors, coaches, officials, and volunteers must read, acknowledge, and

abide by the U.S. Ski & Snowboard Code of Conduct.

Far West Policy Concerning Conduct

All coaches, officials and athletes representing the Western Region/Far West are bound by the U.S. Ski & Snowboard Code of Conduct and by other guidelines properly established by the Far West ACC and the Far West coaching staff. Violations of the Code of Conduct and/or rules and guidelines brought to the attention of the Far West coaching staff at races and/or training camps will be discussed with the coaching staff to decide an appropriate course of action.

The following are guidelines that will be followed by the Far West to decide upon a proper course of action:

1. Prior to any action being taken, the FW ACC Chair and the FW President will be notified.
2. A panel named by the FW ACC Chair and/or the FW head coaches will be formed by the coaching staff and any FW ACC members present.
3. The chairman of the panel will be the FW ACC Chair, or the designated team leader/head coach.
4. If disciplinary action is deemed necessary, the following people shall be notified:
 - a. In case of an athlete, the athlete's coach and parent(s) or guardian
 - b. In the case of a coach or official, their supervisor and home club/program
5. Any action taken will require the filing of a written report to the FW ACC Chair, the WR director and the U.S. Ski & Snowboard National Office outlining the charges, facts, and findings.
6. If an appropriate course of action cannot be agreed upon, the chairman of the panel shall refer the facts and possible courses of action to the WR Director and/or the U.S. Ski & Snowboard National Office for advice and guidance.
7. Prior to any competition suspension, the WR Alpine Director must be notified.

Any action taken shall comply with the USA Ted Stevens Amateur Sports Act and the U.S. SKI & SNOWBOARD Code of Conduct, and any other applicable U.S. Ski & Snowboard rules in place. All actions involving "protected competitions" as defined by U.S. Ski & Snowboard are subject to the due process provisions contained in the Bylaws of U.S. Ski & Snowboard.

Far West Policy Concerning Illegal Drugs, Alcohol and Tobacco

Far West Skiing strongly endorses the U.S. Ski & Snowboard Code of Conduct. It is the position of FWS that ski racing requires dedication, training, perseverance, physical conditioning, and emotional stability. These requirements and the safety of participants in a challenging and demanding competitive sport are not compatible with the use of drugs or alcohol and their adverse effect(s) upon the emotional and physical well-being of the users.

1. Absolutely no possession, or use, or being in the presence of illegal drugs or narcotics as stated in the U.S. Ski & Snowboard code of conduct.
2. Absolutely no illegal possession, or illegal use, or being in the presence of alcoholic beverages or tobacco as stated in the U.S. Ski & Snowboard code of conduct.

Disciplinary Action

Any action taken shall comply with the U.S. Ski & Snowboard Code of Conduct. Possible actions include:

1. Suspension from the FWST team and no future team participation.
2. Loss of support from FWS, Western Region, U.S. Ski & Snowboard
3. Elimination of coaching, travel, and other benefits.
4. Race sanctions
5. Reimbursement of Far West subsidies to Far West
6. When a code of conduct violation has been determined the Far West Board of Directors has the authority to suspend and/or eliminate funding allocated by the Far West Board regardless of the type or source of divisional funding and/or remove the athlete from Far West teams.
7. Surrender of the offending party or parties to the local or state authorities if the offense is a violation of existing laws of the land.

Any action taken by the panel that denies a competitor access to competition shall not be for a period of more than 21 days.

Parental Code of Conduct

Far West and participating ski teams and clubs strive to make the sport of ski racing a positive experience for athletes, coaches, and family members alike.

All athletes, coaches, and alpine officials who are members of Far West Skiing and U.S. Ski & Snowboard are subject to codes of conduct. Within the code of conduct, membership and participation is a privilege and not a right. The following represents the Far West Skiing's Parental Code of Conduct.

-Parents, guardians, and others who have athletes competing in Far West Skiing sanctioned events are expected and required to conduct themselves in a sportsman-like manner. Adults are expected to act as positive role models for children.

-Sportsman-like conduct includes, but is not limited to, showing respect for **all** athletes, race officials, volunteers, resort employees, spectators, skiers, and snowboarders.

-Parents are expected to familiarize themselves with the rules of the sport.

-Specifically, parents and spectators must refrain from criticizing, name-calling, or use of abusive language or gestures directed toward the coaches, officials, athletes, or other spectators.

Home Ski Team or Club may impose sanctions against any parent determined to be violating this Code of Conduct, including the following:

-Suspension for a day from spectating or participating in any race or training event

-Suspension for multiple days from one or more races or training events

-Permanent suspension from races or training events

-Disqualification of child from one or multiple races

Any parent who is sanctioned may appeal the sanctions decision according to the following procedure:

The Parental Sanction Appeals Board for the Far West shall consist of five members: one senior official, two coaches, one current member of the FWS ACC and the FWS President (who shall chair the parental sanction appeals board). The Far West ACC Chair shall make recommendations to the FWS Board of Directors. The FWBOD shall make the final selection of members to the Parental Sanction Appeals Board. If a conflict of interest arises, that Parental Sanction Appeals Board member(s) is/are required to disqualify him/herself from the case.

Members of the home team or club that levied the parental sanction may not be included in the appeals board.

The parent appealing a sanction shall deliver notice of appeal in writing, with a \$150 appeals board fee, to the FWBOD President and FW ACC Chair within three business days after the sanction was levied.

If the appeal is successful, the appeals filing fee shall be refunded.

The hearing group must restrict its examination to consideration of whether or not protocol was followed, rules were applied properly, the parent was offered rebuttal opportunity, etc. The hearing group must not "retry" the case in terms of the facts found by team that levied the sanction at the time. However, the hearing group can find that the facts were clearly disregarded in issuing the sanction.

The determination of any parental sanction appeal shall be considered final.

Far West Traveling Team Rules

For all FIS racing the Far West Office will organize the selections. All Far West Teams will travel on their own, working together with FW radios when possible. All other travel expenses will be handled by teams. The U14 Regional Championships, U16 Regional Championships and FW Development Camp Projects*: The Far West Office will organize the full trip of entries, lifts, lodging, named meals, team clothing and limited travel arrangements. A head coach will be assigned by the U14/U16 committees.

*The U12/U14 Speed Project is exempt from divisional travel, lodging, meals, and entry.

Far West racers who qualify for an event and attend will go as members of the Far West Traveling Team (FWTT).

All FWTT “members” including racers, coaches, officials, chaperones, and other individuals who officially represent FWS as part of a Far West Traveling Team at U14/U16 Jr Championships are governed by FWTT rules.

FWTT rules are as follows:

1. Team members must be current members of FWS and appropriately licensed by U.S. Ski & Snowboard and FIS, if applicable
2. Team members are required to sign the Far West Traveling Team Agreement before departing for the trip
3. Team members are required to submit a completed Far West Medical Release before departing for the trip
4. Team members are required to abide by the U.S. Ski & Snowboard Code of Conduct, Far West Policy Concerning Conduct and Far West Policy Concerning Illegal Drugs, Alcohol and Tobacco
 - a. Attend all team meetings and team training sessions unless excused by the FWTT head coach
 - b. Observe the curfew established by the FWTT head coach and FWTT head chaperone
 - c. Remain with the FWTT or in the vicinity of the FWTT’s housing, except with permission of the FWTT head coach or FWTT head chaperone
 - d. Observe any additional rules established by the FWTT head coach, FWTT head chaperone or the FWS ACC
5. After being selected, Far West competitors have 72 hours to inform the FWS office that they accept or decline the selection verbally and turn in registration paperwork; after that time, the quota spot is offered to the next alternate. All athletes, including alternates, will be removed from the selection list, and will not be considered for discretionary selection, if any of the above mentioned requirements are not met by the prescribed response deadline.
6. Competitors must submit payment by the deadline indicated on the “Trip Information Sheet” or forfeit the quota spot to the next alternate
7. All FWTT members are expected to stay with the FWTT in the housing arranged by FWS. Competitors with extenuating circumstances may appeal in writing to the FWS ACC via the FWS office for an exception to the provision, not later than 14 days prior to the event. (Plan ahead if you think you might be selected!)
8. Racers on the FWTT are required to supply the FWS office with all required fees and forms by the published deadline (including alternates), including but not limited to, Far West Medical Release, FWS Waiver and release of liability, FWTT Agreement
9. For Championship Events, athletes are required to wear Divisional Team Apparel.
10. Racers who drop off the traveling team after fees have been paid to the race organizer and for housing may receive a refund only if funds can be recovered by the FWS office (see Far West Refund Policy)
11. Racers who are in violation of FWTT rules are not eligible for a refund and may be ineligible for future Far West Traveling Teams.

Far West Appeals Board

The U.S. Ski & Snowboard and the Amateur Sports Act mandate that all sports assure that appeals boards and procedures for jury decisions and team selections be instituted at all levels of competition. The Appeals Board for the Far West shall consist of five members: one senior official, one coach, one competitor, one current member of the FWS ACC and the FWS President (who shall chair the appeals board). The Far West ACC Chair shall make recommendations to the FWS Board of Directors. The FWBOD shall make the final selection of members to the Appeals Board. If a conflict of interest arises, that Appeals Board member(s) is/are required to disqualify him/herself from the case. Members of the involved race jury may not be included in the appeals group. Any individual who has served in an appeals group that has reviewed an appeal may not be part of any group that reviews the same appeal at a higher level.

Notice of appeal must be delivered in writing, with the appropriate fee, to the appeals group chairperson (FWBOD President and FW ACC Chair) within three business days after the jury decision took place.

Individual filing appeals shall pay the full fee required (Competition Jury Appeals \$150.00; Team Selection Appeals \$150.00). If the appeal is successful, the appeals filing fee shall be refunded.

The hearing group must restrict its examination to consideration of whether or not protocol was followed, rules were applied properly, the athlete was offered rebuttal opportunity, etc. The hearing group must not “retry” the case in terms of the facts found by the jury at the time. However, the hearing group can find that the facts were clearly disregarded in the outcome of the jury deliberation.

FAR WEST SKI TEAMS

Far West Ski Team

The Far West Ski Team (FWST) recognizes the top racers in the Far West. The FWST has a maximum size of twelve. The 2025-2026 FWST is comprised of 7 men, and 5 women. This gender split will be adjusted annually based on SR, U21 and U18 gender population from the last membership list from the prior season received by the Far West office from U.S. Ski & Snowboard.

To be eligible to the FWST, a competitor must:

1. Fulfill all U.S. Ski & Snowboard, FWS and FIS (if age eligible) membership requirements by September 1.
2. Have an F number
3. Have competed in U.S. Ski & Snowboard /Far West and Western Region FIS races or Nor Am or have attended the U16 Junior Championships in the previous season, as a Far West member.
4. College athletes who are members of their school’s team are not eligible for the FWST.
5. Must be participating with a full-time program registered with the Far West.
6. Srs must submit intent to compete to the Far West office by September 1st to be eligible for the FWST.
7. Have less than 90 points in two disciplines, if a male competitor
8. Have less than 100 points in two disciplines, if a female competitor

Automatic qualifiers for the FWST

If an athlete is the winner of a discipline title or overall champion at the WR Jr Championships.

Athletes must complete a contract commitment by the response deadline, as prescribed by the Far West office.

Using modified International Team Selection Board method, the FWST is selected from the June 2025 U.S. Ski & Snowboard points list, the last published list for 2025 season. Eligible competitors are listed by points in each discipline. Going from left to right, and top to bottom on the list, a competitor is selected for the FWST when he/she shows up the second time. Current US Ski Team members (A, B, C and Development) are not eligible for the FWST.

Additional automatic qualifiers to the FWST: U16 Jr Championship discipline or overall winners from the previous season are additionally named to the team of twelve.

All FWST members must submit a signed “Far West Ski Team Contract,” supply a coach’s contact that is registered with a Far West program and a jpeg photo by the designated deadline in order to receive the following FWST benefits:

1. Free lifts at all U.S. Ski & Snowboard /Far West races
2. Free entries at all U.S. Ski & Snowboard /Far West races
3. FWST swag
4. FWST Pass for free skiing at all participating Far West Ski areas
5. FWST members will receive a day for day credit for races attended from designated U.S. Ski & Snowboard towards entries to the Western Region FIS Elite Spring Series (Up to 6 races)

Note: The above rules are for the selection of the 2025-2026 FWST only. Due to factors outside the control of the Far West, such as publication dates for future year’s U.S. Ski & Snowboard membership and point’s lists, the selection procedure is reviewed, revised if necessary, and approved by the FW ACC in the summer for inclusion in each year’s manual.

Far West Pace Team

The Far West Pace Team (FWPT) is designed to encourage low points racers to attend Far West/U.S. Ski & Snowboard races. An athlete may be a member of both the FWST and the FWPT. The FWPT has a maximum size of 12, for the 25-26 season this will be 7 men and 5 women. This gender split will be adjusted annually based on SR, U21 and U18 gender population from the last membership list from the prior season received by the Far West office from U.S. Ski & Snowboard.

To be eligible for the FWPT, a competitor must:

1. Fulfill all U.S. Ski & Snowboard, FWS and FIS membership requirements by September 30.
2. Have an F or X number
3. Must be participating with a full-time program registered with Far West.
4. Srs and all X competitors must submit "Intent to Compete" to the Far West Office by September 15th to be eligible for the FWPT.
5. Have less than 85 points in one discipline, if a male competitor
6. Have less than 105 points in one discipline, if a female competitor

Athletes must complete a contract commitment by the response deadline, as prescribed by the Far West office. This contract will include a commitment to race in at least 4 U.S. Ski & Snowboard /Far West races.

The ACC, using a modified International Team Selection Board method, selects the FWPT from the October 2025 U.S. Ski & Snowboard points list, the #8 published for the 2025-2026 season. Foreign competitors with an X license will be added to this selection only if they have submitted intent to Compete to the divisional office by September 15th and have completed their U.S. Ski & Snowboard /FW and FIS membership requirements. Eligible competitors are listed by points in each discipline. Going from left to right, and top to bottom on the list, a competitor is selected for the FWPT when he/she shows up on the boards the first time. Current US Ski Team members (A, B, C and Development) are not eligible for the FWPT.

All FWPT members must submit a signed "Far West Pace Team Contract," signed "Credit Card Authorization," supply a coach's contact that is registered with a Far West program, and a jpeg photo by the designated deadline in order to receive the following FWPT benefits:

1. Free lifts at all U.S. Ski & Snowboard /Far West races
2. Free entries at all U.S. Ski & Snowboard /Far West races
3. FWPT Pass for free skiing at all participating Far West Ski areas
4. FWPT members will receive a day for day credit for races attended from designated U.S. Ski & Snowboard or Far West Divisional FIS races, towards entries to the Western Region FIS Elite Spring Series (up to six races)

Note: The above rules are for the selection of the 2025-2026 FWPT only. Due to factors outside the control of the Far West, such as publication dates for future year's U.S. Ski & Snowboard membership and point's lists, the selection procedure is reviewed, revised if necessary, and approved by the FW ACC in the summer for inclusion in each year's manual.

Far West Development Teams: U16 and U14

U 16 Development Team

The top 8 men and women from the Wild West season overall standings will be selected. The team will be posted on the Far West website on the Far West Teams page.

U 14 Development Team

The top 4 men and women from the California Challenge Series season overall standings will be selected. The team will be posted on the Far West website on the Far West Teams page. This team receives website recognition only.

Far West Emeritus Ski Team

The Far West Emeritus Ski Team is composed of recently retired US Ski Team athletes from the Far West. Team members receive complimentary lift tickets and entry fees to all U.S. Ski & Snowboard/Far West races to encourage their participation.

Far West Honorary Ski Team

The Far West Honorary Ski Team honors athletes from the Far West who are current members of the US Ski Team.

Far West Academic Team

The Far West Academic Team recognizes current Srs – U16 athletes in the Far West whose GPA for the previous season's Spring Semester was a 3.5 or better. The athletes must be registered Sr-U16 during the spring academic period. Athletes are invited to send a legible copy of the spring report card to the FWS office by September 15, in order to be named to the Far West Academic Team. The Far West Academic Team is announced on the FWS website.

Far West Special Awards

The procedure for selection of the below listed Far West Special Award recipients will be as follows:
Nominations: Can be made by any current Far West member of the U.S. Ski & Snowboard, with nominations being solicited via email in the middle of March. All nominations must be accompanied by a brief bio of the nominee and include the qualifications and/or reasons for the nomination and sent to the respective Committee Chair specified in the award descriptions below and the Far West office.
Votes will be taken via email/fax at the end of March/first week of April at the latest. All Far West Special Awards will be presented at the awards ceremony during the Far West Speed Finals.
Voting: Each club and race organizer, current in the Far West and each Alpine Competition Committee member will have one vote per award category by ballot distributed by the Far West office by the posted deadline. Any ties will be distributed to the FW ACC for a tie break vote.

Jill Kinmont: Outstanding Senior Athlete

Presented to a male and female SR for their outstanding performance during the current season internationally, nationally, or regionally as well as within the division. In addition to their outstanding performance this athlete (one male and one female) demonstrated a willingness to 'give back' to the division. Jill Kinmont was an up-and-coming ski racer out of the Mammoth area in the 1950's. Nominations submitted to Academic Chair to the FW ACC and the Far West Administrator

Jinny Glass: Outstanding Junior Athlete (U21/U18)

Presented to a male and female Junior (U21/U19) for their outstanding performance during the current season internationally, nationally, or regionally as well as within the division. In addition to their outstanding performance this athlete (one male and one female) demonstrated a willingness to 'give back' to the division. Nominations submitted to U21/U18 Chair to the FW ACC and the Far West Administrator

Bobby Mehrhof: Outstanding U16 Athlete

Presented to a male and female U16 for their outstanding performance during the current season internationally, nationally, or regionally as well as within the division. This award was named in memory of Bobby Mehrhof, a Mammoth Mountain Ski Team member that enjoyed ski racing throughout his life. Nominations submitted to U16 Chair to the FW ACC and the Far West Administrator

Stanley Walton: Outstanding Official

Presented to the outstanding official for the current season. Nominations submitted to the Officials Chair to the FW ACC and the Far West Administrator.

Bill Mackey: Outstanding Race Organizer Committee

Presented to the most outstanding Race Organizer and organizing Committee for the current season. Nominations submitted to the Officials Chair to the FW ACC and the Far West Administrator

Dave McCoy: Outstanding Coach

Presented to the most outstanding coach for the current season. Nominations submitted to the Far West Administrator.

Far West Volunteer of the Year

Presented to an individual/group that have gone above and beyond by volunteering time to the Far West Skiing junior's community. This award is only voted upon by the Far West Board of Directors.

Nominations submitted to the Far West Administrator.

All Far West Special Awards will be presented at the awards ceremony during the Far West Fall Convention.

A list of the previous season's award recipients and a multi-year recipient listing on the Far West Website, www.fwsking.org

Far West Masters Scholarship

The Far West Masters raise money annually, which they award to Far West junior racers with talent, an exemplary work ethic and financial need. To ensure the money is used for ski racing expenses, the funds are deposited in the FWS checking account to be drawn from for that athlete's expenses.

Far West Master's Scholarship requirement and application can be downloaded at www.fwsking.org after July 1 of each year. Master's Scholarship applications are due by September 15th annually. Scholarship applications are reviewed and awarded by the Far West Master's program.

FAR WEST SKIING COACHES

Coaches Education

All U.S. Ski & Snowboard Coach Members are required to obtain (10) continuing education credits each year to maintain an "Active" Coach Certification status, where 1 credit is equal to 30 minutes of educational activity, for a total of 5 hours.

U.S. Ski & Snowboard requirements to be a certified coach:

1. Register for a U.S. Ski & Snowboard coaches' membership.
2. Complete the U.S. Ski & Snowboard mandated background screening.
3. Complete Safety Modules.
5. Complete Sport Fundamentals Course.
6. Complete Sport Specific on-line modules.

For the most up to date information on coaches' education please visit the U.S. Ski & Snowboard website Sport Development section.

A Coach with the "In Progress Active" Certification status does not have to complete Continuing Education. They also do not need to complete Continuing Ed during the season in which they earn their Level 100 Coach certification

All coaches need to renew Safety Requirements on an annual basis regardless of certification level. No coaches will need to repeat Coaching Fundamentals except in extenuating circumstances.

Far West Traveling Team Coaching Staff

1. For all FIS racing, the Far West Office will organize the selections. All Far West Teams will travel on their own, working together with FW radios when possible. All other travel expenses will be handled by teams. A head coach will be assigned by the U21/U18 committee.
2. The WR U16 Jr Championships – The Far West Office will organize the full trip of entries, lifts, lodging, named meals, team clothing, and limited travel arrangements. A head coach will be assigned by the U16 committee. Athletes will provide their own wax.
3. The WR U14 Jr Championships – The Far West Office will organize the full trip of entries, lifts, lodging, named meals, team clothing and limited travel arrangements. A head coach will be assigned by the U14 committee. Athletes will provide their own wax. All coaches will assist athletes in waxing suggestions during the event.

Selection to Far West Traveling Team Coaching Staff

Selection to a FWTT coaching staff is based on the following criteria:

1. All coaches shall be current members of FWS, a U.S. Ski & Snowboard Alpine Coach and referee certified. Referee certification is required to be a jury member, jury advisor and/or be a course setter.
2. Far West coaches wishing to represent FWS at U16 Jr Championships must notify the FWS Office and FWS ACC Age Class Chair in writing a minimum of 4 weeks prior to the event. Program Directors and Head Coaches may make nominations. Names may be substituted in a timely manner.
3. All selected coaches are required to read, sign, and abide by the FW Traveling Coaches contract.
4. Qualified coaches from clubs' programs with the higher number of competitors attending the specified event will have priority for selection to that event. Selection of a qualified female coach is desirable, subject to availability.
5. The Selection Committee may choose, on occasion, a coach who does not have any competitors on a specific trip, to further ensure that all competitors will be treated equally
6. FWS may send adult chaperones as needed, with a desirable 1:8 ration to the U.S. Ski & Snowboard U14/U16 Jr Championships.
7. The age class chair will work with the Far West Office and the age class committee to aid in selection of the coaching staff of the U14/U16 Jr Championships event.

All Coaches shall:

1. Be responsible to the team as a whole and work with all athletes representing the Far West
2. Uphold and abide by the U.S. Ski & Snowboard Code of Conduct, and U.S. Ski & Snowboard SafeSport Guidelines.
3. Uphold and abide by the FW Skiing Recruiting Guidelines
4. Represent the Far West as an official, course-setter (always as a two-person team set) or jury member to the best of his/her ability.

The Head Coaches Shall:

1. Work with the Far West Administrator on project arrangements (travel dates, lodging, etc.)
2. Carry medical releases and insurance information for all competitors on the trip
3. Represent Far West athletes at all team captain's/seed meetings or designate other FWTT coach(es) to do so
4. Implement guidelines as established by the FWS ACC/FWBOD
5. Manage the trip in accordance with divisional policies and procedures
6. Submit a travel report to the FWS office within 10 days of returning

Assistant Coaches shall:

- A. Cooperate with and be responsible to the Head Coach.
- B. Carry out work assignments to be the best of his/her ability in a timely and professional manner
- C. Supervise athletes in a manner that promotes top performance

FWTT head coaches and assistant coaches who fail to fulfill these responsibilities are subject to suspension from future FWTT participation as well as other possible disciplinary action.

Far West Skiing Recruiting Guidelines

Far West Skiing and member clubs support and aim to foster the highest ethical standards in terms of athlete recruitment. All clubs and individuals representing clubs shall adhere to the following guidelines during any recruiting process.

- A. Initial contact should be made through a mass media effort or contact by the prospect. The program contacted should encourage the athletes to notify and communicate their interest with their current home coach.
- B. Undue pressure should not be applied to the athlete. Parents should be involved in all aspects of the communication process.
- C. Athletes of the recruiting club should not be enlisted to pursue prospects.
- D. Marketing communication should be based upon merit rather than negative comparisons.
- E. No contact made at any event.

Coaches Rosters

Programs (and representatives of independent racers) are required to register their coaches' roster via online event registration no later than the close of registration for coach/official ticket access.

Coaches Code of Conduct

The U.S. Ski & Snowboard Code of Conduct, which can be found in the U.S. Ski & Snowboard Alpine Competition Guide and all FWST policy stated in the Rules Governing Far West Competitors section of this policies and procedures manual, shall apply to all Far West coaches at all levels of Far West racing, and when representing FWS as part of an official team or as an individual. Coaches must abide by the USOC coaching ethics code.

RULES GOVERNING FAR WEST COMPETITION

Far West racing is governed by the rules of the FIS <http://www.fis-ski.com> and U.S. Ski & Snowboard <http://alpine.usskiteam.com/alpine-programs/officials/resources> Further divisional rules are listed throughout this Policies and Procedures to guide in selections, development and race organization.

Race Organization

Far West Skiing is forever grateful to the race organizers and ski resorts that continue to generously support junior ski racing in the Far West by hosting junior alpine races. To qualify for U.S. Ski & Snowboard insurance coverage of a calendared event, all race organizers must:

1. Be club members in good standing of U.S. Ski & Snowboard and FWS
2. Pay U.S. Ski & Snowboard and FWS Club dues prior to October 15
3. Complete online schedule agreements through U.S. Ski & Snowboard
4. Attend and fulfill all U.S. Ski & Snowboard and FWS race official's education requirements no later than December 15th.

Race Scheduling

1. Upon the completion of May Congress, the ACC Chair and the Age Class Chairs will create a competition calendar structure for the upcoming season.
2. The full ACC will meet each spring to discuss the calendar and confirm dates.
3. Bid packets will be emailed out to all race organizers within a week after the ACC meeting. Deadline for packet return will be included in this process.
4. All bid packets need to be completed online at fwskiing.org by the prescribed date. The ACC will meet to go over all bids for each event and vote. Some events may be assigned, and not voted upon, in consideration of athlete development, travel and recommendation of the age class chairs.
5. The calendar will be finalized and posted on the Far West website by July 1st of each year.

6. To host one U14 or U16 qualifier (California Challenge or Wild West Qualifier) race in the South/Central Series per season. The location will be determined two seasons in advance, perpetually, through the annual Far West division calendar bid process.
7. Rescheduling of events will be conducted with open communications between the race organizer, the ACC Chair, and the age class chair in which it affects. If the race in question is a Divisional Championship race, representatives from each series will also be included in the vote. All efforts will be made to maintain the original host site; however, the decision will be made with the Far West athletes as their primary focus.
8. Once a site has been awarded a race, they must complete all U.S. Ski & Snowboard scheduling agreement steps outlined in the online scheduling agreement process.
9. Snow Control Procedure
 - 14 days out OC's will contact the FW Administrator and confirm the status of the event
 - If the event is in question the FW Administrator will notify the ACC Chair and Age Group Chair and solicit interest from potential Race Organizers to take over the event
 - 10 days out the original OC must make a final decision
 - If the event needs to be re-sited the FW ACC Executive committee plus the Age Group Chair will make the decision no later than 8 days out.

Far West Regional Bid Selection Committee.

This committee approves all bids coming from the Far West to the Western Region for U14, U16, and U18 Championship events.

- Committee will be made up of ACC Chair, ACC Vice Chair, and U18/16/14 Chairs.
- Committee approves bids coming from the Far West for WR U14 Championships as needed and WR U16 Championships on Far West rotation year.
- Committee approves bids for WR Jr. Championships
- Committee will help ensure ROC's have resources needed for WR U14/16 Regional bids won.

Race Preparation

Race Trails

All races, scored and non-scored, must be held on a U.S. Ski & Snowboard /FIS homologated trail. All trail homologations must be completed prior to bid submission. In the case of speed events on courses that have not been used for regional races, or for courses in the first year of re-homologation, a copy of the inspector's report is to be submitted. Snow coverage at the time of the event and snowmaking capabilities for the time of the proposed event must be included.

Experienced Leadership

The event organizer must have a proven history and an appropriate amount of experience. Prior event evaluations for new FIS sites are required. A list of certified officials and planned manpower is required.

Timing

Race organizer must have a good record, and a list of FIS homologated timing equipment available.

Ski Area Support

A written endorsement from the area showing management, and grooming support.

Volunteers: If a volunteer (gatekeeper, line up personnel, course worker, etc.) is not a member of U.S. Ski & Snowboard then they must complete the non-member U.S. Ski & Snowboard worker form for each event.

Race Administration

Proven ability/experience from divisional races or prior FIS races.

Race Supply

Race organizers must have enough equipment to host the event (gates, panels, fences, etc.) In the case of speed events the safety system/protection is to be correlated with the homologation report. In the case of children's competitions, the number of proper diameter flex gates and hero gates should be noted.

Race Announcements

Each race organizer is required to Email a race announcement (fact sheet) to the FWS office, for Far West events, and the U.S. Ski & Snowboard /WR office, for FIS events. Announcements must be sent 30 days prior to the entry deadline. Sample fact sheet can be found in the U.S. Ski & Snowboard Master Packet of Forms or at www.fwsking.org in the forms section.

Race Entry

Race entry is organized via online registration using AdminSki Racing. Full entry fees must accompany all submissions as well as the appropriate waiver. Visit adminskiracing.com for registration links and how-to videos.

Entry Deadlines

Race entries must be received by the race organizer on or before the entry deadline, five days prior to the competition. Late entries are subject to a late fee and will always be the first cut from a race when field size is an issue. Late entries do not guarantee the competitor entry to the race. It is the racer's responsibility to check with the race organizer to see if a late entry has been accepted. It is up to the race organizer to determine whether to allow late entries at the team captains' meeting. All deadlines reflect dates of receipt; postmarks will not be considered.

Short Term Membership Race Entry

The Short-Term Membership* must be completed no later than 24 hours prior to the first Team Captains meeting and is completed on the U.S. Ski & Snowboard website under membership.

Short term membership race entries are subject to the posted entry deadline, five days prior to the competition, late fees apply after this time. All short-term membership entries must be received by the organizing committee no later than 24 hours prior to the first Team Captain's meeting. Short Term Membership receipt from U.S. Ski & Snowboard must accompany the entry.

Athletes must be represented at the Team Captain's meeting.

U.S. Ski & Snowboard/Far West and Western Region FIS Entry Fees

Entry fees for the 2025-2026 Season:

Scored SL & GS	\$ 55.00 per start	Non-scored SL/GS/PL	\$ 38.00-per start
Scored Speed	\$ 60.00 per start	Non-scored Speed	\$ 43.00 per start
Scored Speed Training	\$ 45.00-per day	Non-scored Speed Training	\$ 35.00-per day
FAR WEST LATE FEE	\$40 per race		
WR FIS Tech	\$60 per start		
WR FIS Speed	\$64 per start		
WR FIS Speed Training	\$60 per day		

Far West Entry Refunds

Weather and snow conditions can at times cause the cancellation of a race or training day. Also, a racer may have to cancel his/her entry because of illness, injury, etc. For refunds non-injury or non-illness related, or if cancellation occurs, the following examples may apply:

1. For events cancelled prior or during the first scheduled team captain's meeting there will be a complete refund of paid entry and speed training fees.
2. For scored technical events cancelled by the jury on the day of competition the organizer will be able to keep \$17.25. This is equal to 100% of the head tax being refunded and 50% of the OC's portion.
3. For scored speed event(s) cancelled anytime during the official program dates by the jury the organizer will be able to keep \$19.25. This is equal to 100% of the head tax being refunded and 50% of the OC's portion.
4. For non-scored technical events cancelled by the jury on the day of competition the organizer will be able to keep \$16.75. This is equal to 100% of the head tax being refunded and 50% of the OC's portion.
5. For non-scored speed event(s) cancelled anytime during the official program dates by the jury the organizer will be able to keep \$18.25. This is equal to 100% of the head tax being refunded and 50% of the OC's portion.

It is the racer's responsibility to inform the race organizer in writing, by fax or email, that he/she will not be able to take part in the race(s). The last chance to remove a racer from the field is at the team captain's meeting, held the afternoon/evening before the race. Racers who appear on the start list and do not take part in the race(s) will forfeit the OC portion of the fees; 100% of the head tax must be refunded.

Late fees may be kept by the event organizer.

Event Awards

Open Series/Grand Prix Series and Far West Finals	<u>Men/Women</u> 1st-3rd, Srs/U21 1st-3rd, U18 1st-3rd, U16 1st-3rd, U14 Hard Charger: One/Gender/Race SL.GS and SG only	OC Provides OC Provides OC Provides OC Provides FW Provides
Wild West Series - U16's only	<u>Men/Women</u> 1st-3rd Hard Charger: One/Gender/Race	OC Provides FW Provides
Wild West Overall Season Awards	<u>Men/Women</u> 1st-3rd	FW Provides
Team Event - all age classes	Team Cup	FW Provides
U14 North, Central, South	<u>Men/Women</u> 1st-5th	OC Provides
U14 Divisional Championships	<u>Men/Women</u> 1st-5th per age class Age Class Cups	OC Provides FW Provides
U14 Overall Season Awards	1st-5th North Series 1st - 5th Central and South	FW Provides FW Provides
U10/U12 North, Central, South	<u>Men/Women</u> 1st-5 th	OC Provides
U10/U12 Divisional Championships	<u>Men/Women</u> 1st-5th per age class Age Class Cups	OC Provides FW Provides
U10/U12 Overall Season Awards	1st-5th North Series 1st - 5th Central and South	FW Provides FW Provides
Tahoe Race Series & Champs	U16+ Top 3 M/W U14 Top 5 M/W U12 Top 5 M/W U10 Top 5 M/W U8 Top 5 M/W	OC Provides OC Provides OC Provides OC Provides OC Provides
Tahoe Race Series Overall Season Awards	Above listed classes	FW Provides

Seeding System for Scored Races

The Far West uses the U.S. Ski & Snowboard points list for seeding. All entered competitors are ranked by their points in the contested discipline, lowest points (highest ranked) to highest points (lowest ranked). There are two acceptable procedures for establishing the run order for the first seed of competitors, usually top 15, in a scored race:

1. Athletes start position can be double drawn by hand
2. Athletes start position can be computer random drawn

This method will be determined at the seed meeting by the team captains. The remainder of the field runs in points order, lowest to highest. Athletes with 999 in the discipline being contested will run in a random computer draw.

Racers are ranked according to their first-run finish with the top-seed finishers running in reverse order, that is 30th (15th if decided upon at least one hour prior to the first run) fastest time from the first run will start first and the fastest time starts 30th (or 15th). All others race in first-run finish order. Athletes that DNF or DSQ in a U.S. Ski & Snowboard scored race may start at the end of the field in bib order. For further information please consult the U.S. Ski & Snowboard Competition Guide.

For details on start orders for non-scored (U12/10 race) see the U10/12 section under U.S. Ski & Snowboard /Far West Competitors.

Team Captains/Seed Meeting – Racer Representation

All entered athletes must be represented at the team captains' meeting (seed meetings) for the event. Representation must be made by a properly credentialed professional coach who is able to enter the race arena and is willing to take responsibility for conveying safety information, program of the day and other instructions of the Race Jury to the athlete(s) represented. Self-representation of unattached ADULT athletes is acceptable under current rules. If not properly represented, the Race Jury may remove an athlete from the start list and not allow him/her to race.

Head Tax

A portion of the entry fees for race events are remitted to U.S. Ski & Snowboard, the Western Region (WR) and Far West Skiing (FWS) for head taxes per start according to the grid below. Head tax will be deducted via the online registration system.

	U.S. Ski & Snowboard Scored Event	U.S. Ski & Snowboard non-scored	TRS	WR FIS
U.S. Ski & Snowboard	\$12	\$0	\$0	\$12
WR	\$6	\$3	\$3	\$14
FWS	\$2.50	\$2.50	\$0	\$0

Race Results

Please review the Master Packet of Forms for full details on U.S. Ski & Snowboard and FIS race packet submission (<https://usskiandsnowboard.org/sport-development/officials-development/alpine-officials>). Daily results, in pdf format, are to be emailed to the Far West Skiing Office for each codex.

Out of Division Racers in U.S. Ski & Snowboard/Far West Events

Racers from other divisions are welcome to compete in U.S. Ski & Snowboard /Far West races to the extent compatible with field size or other printed restrictions. The racer must meet the qualifications of the Far West race series being entered. Racers from outside the Far West will need permission from their

Regional or Divisional Director and the FWS ACC Chair (via the FWS office.) Contact should be initiated at least one week (7 Days) before the event. Race organizers will not allow entry by out-of-division racers unless informed by the FWS office that this process has been completed.

Coaches Credentials

Race organizers in the Far West are required to adopt the following policy as a minimum standard concerning granting of coaches' credentials at U.S. Ski & Snowboard /FWS races:

# Of Athletes	# Of Coaches Comp Tickets
1-4	1
5-10	2
11-18	3
19-26	4
27+	1 ticket/8 athletes

Coaches must present their current U.S. Ski & Snowboard /Far West membership card confirming them as an Alpine Coach.

Far West Alpine Officials

Licensing of an alpine official by FIS or U.S. Ski & Snowboard is an implied guarantee to sponsoring organizations that an official is qualified, thoughtful, and conscientious, and will do a good job for the club or race organizer that uses him or her. Designation as an advanced level alpine official does not indicate a progression through proficiency tests or merit badges, but rather it represents recognition of proven judgment, ability, and service. Alpine officials are expected to be active and up-to-date, or they could lose their level of certification for inactivity.

The FWS officials program follows the rules requirements set forth by the Alpine Officials Education Working Group. For details, consult the U.S. Ski & Snowboard Alpine Competition Guide, the officials page of the U.S. Ski & Snowboard website and the official's page on the FWS website. Resources are housed on the Far West Officials page such as, certification guidelines, TD assignments, current official's certification levels, Alpine Officials Manual, clinic dates, etc. All officials education study guides are posted annually on the U.S. Ski & Snowboard site. Officials' education materials expire on June 1 of each year.

FWS holds annual updates and certifications meetings for alpine officials and race organizers to maintain their officials' license. Alpine officials are required to attend an update annually to maintain certification, current membership does not mean up to date certification. It is mandatory for Technical Delegates (TD) and Race Administrators (RA) to attend an annual area specific workshop to maintain certification and to receive assignments. Coaches must be a current referee to be a referee or a course setter at any sanctioned U.S. Ski & Snowboard or FIS event. All membership requirements set forth by U.S. Ski & Snowboard are required prior to coaches and officials' participation in any event. Please consult your 'myussa' account for compliance.

Any coach or official moving into, or out of, the Far West Division needs to obtain a copy of their official's certification levels to submit to their new division/region. Officials Certifications are tracked by the officials' chair of each division, not by U.S. Ski & Snowboard.

The FWS Alpine Officials Chair will make TD assignments for all U.S. Ski & Snowboard /Far West races. TD assignments are posted on the Far West Skiing Officials page for Organizing Committees to review.