



# Chapter 7 USSA Alpine Competition Regulations

**2012 Competition Guide**



[www.ussa.org](http://www.ussa.org)

The following rules and regulations for USSA alpine competition (ACR) capture the specific rules for competition events that are scheduled and sanctioned by USSA as the national governing body for ski sport as identified by the United States Olympic Committee. The FIS International Competition Regulations (ICR) and adjuncts shall govern any and all issues not addressed herein.

For all events scheduled by USSA as FIS events, the rules of the FIS apply. The sport specific rules for FIS events are available through the USSA Membership Department or through your local alpine officials' chair. The FIS rule books are referred to as the ICR.

In cases where regulations that are not addressed by the USSA Competition Regulations for USSA events or by the FIS International Competition Regulations for FIS events, or in cases where the rules must be interpreted, the authority for making decisions will be the responsibility of the technical delegate and competition jury.

The USSA ACR has been organized so that the numbers match those in the FIS ICR. A similar rule will have the same number regardless of which book. As an example, the rules for making a protest are now in section 640 of both books. There may be some difference in language between the two books (from FIS to USSA) but the intent of the rule is the same. When a FIS rule does not apply to USSA, it was left out, so the number of the rules might go 650.1 followed by 650.3. Where there is no corresponding FIS rule, a 'U' is placed at the beginning of the rule number to identify this as unique to USSA.

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## USSA Alpine Competition Regulations

### Section 1: Joint Regulations for all Competitions

#### 200 Joint Regulations for all Competitions

- 200.1 All events in the USSA Calendar must be held under the applicable USSA rules.
- 200.3 Participation  
Competitions listed in the USSA Ski Calendar are only open to competitors who hold a valid USSA participant membership.
- 200.5 Control  
All competitions listed in the USSA Ski Calendar must be supervised by a USSA Technical Delegate.
- 201 Types of Competitions
- 201.1 Competitions with limited participation may be held under special competition rules as approved by USSA. Any such rules must be published in the announcement.
- U201.1.1 USSA may sanction organizers who, through their own fault, prepare competitions so poorly that they have to be canceled by the Jury or the TD.
- U201.1.2 Organizers who hold competitions involving competitors not qualified under articles 203-204.1.7 have violated the USSA Competition Rules and measures are to be taken against them by USSA.
- 201.6 Types of Competitions  
USSA Alpine Ski Competitions consist of:
- 201.6.2 Downhill (DH), Slalom (SL), Giant Slalom (GS), Super G (SG), Combined and Team Competitions
- 202 USSA Ski Calendar
- 202.1.2.3 Homologations  
DH and SG competitions and all championships GS and SL events that appear in the USSA Calendar may only take place on competition courses homologated by USSA or FIS for those disciplines.

- The homologation certificate number must be indicated when applying for the inclusion of an alpine competition in the USSA Calendar.
- 202.1.2.4 USSA will publish the Ski Calendar annually on the USSA website [www.ussa.org](http://www.ussa.org).
- U202.2 A championship GS or SL event is any championship event or any event used for final selection for athletes to regional, national or international events.
- U202.3 A maximum of two scored DH or SG races, or one scored SL or GS race, per gender, may be calendared per day by an organizer.
- U202.3.1 In cases of 'force majeure', where more than two DH or SG races, or more than one SL or GS race, per gender, is conducted in one day and in one place, then the official Program showing inspection times, start times, course reset/redress times and start intervals for both races must be included with the race results packet submitted to USSA.
- U202.3.2 By signature on the Technical Delegate Report, the Technical Delegate confirms that the rules were followed in the execution of this procedure.
- 202.5 Calendar Fees
- 202.5.1 USSA fixes a calendar fee for each event in the Ski Calendar.
- 202.5.2 The actual scale of fees is published by USSA.
- 203 USSA Membership
- 203.1 The USSA membership year begins on July 1 and finishes on June 30 of the following year.
- 203.2 To be eligible for participation in USSA events, all participants (Jury members, Start Referee, Finish Referee, Chief of Course, Course Setters, Competitors, Forerunners, Coaches) must have a valid USSA membership. The validity of a membership can be limited to participation in one or more specific events.  
The USSA membership will only be issued to individuals who have personally signed the USSA Release, in the actual form approved by USSA. All forms from under-age applicants must be counter-signed by their legal guardians.  
All Coaches and Officials who apply for a USSA membership will be required to pass a background screening process prior to that membership being approved. Any Coach or Official who is shown as "pending" or not current on the USSA website must not serve as Jury members, Start Referee, Finish Referee, Chief of Course, Course Setters, Competitors, Forerunners, etc.
- 204 Qualification of Competitors
- 204.1 USSA shall not support or recognize within its structure, nor shall it issue a membership to any competitor who:
- 204.1.1 has been guilty of improper or unsportsmanlike conduct or has not respected or conformed to all aspects of the USSA Code of Conduct,
- 204.1.2 accepts or has accepted, directly or indirectly, any money payments in a way that does not conform to the rules for participation in a competition,
- 204.1.3 accepts or has accepted a prize of a higher value than allowed by USSA,
- 204.1.6 has not signed the USSA Waiver,
- 204.1.7 is under suspension.
- 205 Competitor Obligations and Rights  
Competitors are prohibited from betting on the outcome of competitions in which they are participating.
- 205.1 The competitors are obliged to make themselves familiar with the appropriate USSA Rules and must comply with the additional instructions of the Organizing Committee and the Jury.

- 205.2 Competitors are not permitted to compete while under the influence of drugs or alcohol.
- 205.3 Competitors must follow the USSA rules and regulations and instructions of the Jury.
- 205.4 Competitors who do not attend the prize-giving ceremonies without excuse lose their claim to any prize.
- 205.5 Competitors must behave in a correct and sportsmanlike manner toward members of the Organizing Committee, officials and the public.
- 210 Organization of Competition
- 211 The Organization
- 211.1 The Organizer
- 211.1.1 The organizer of a USSA ski competition is the person or group who makes the necessary preparations and directly carries out the running of the competition.
- 211.1.3 The Organizer must ensure that accredited persons accept the regulations regarding the competition rules and Jury decisions, and is obliged to obtain the signature of all persons who do not have a valid USSA season accreditation on an “Acceptance of Responsibility” form to this effect.
- 211.2 The Organizing Committee  
The Organizing Committee consists of those members (physical or legal) who are delegated by the organizer and by USSA. It carries the rights, duties and obligations of the organizer.
- 212 Insurance  
Information on USSA insurance can be found in Chapter 1 of this Guide.
- 213 Program  
A program must be published by the organizers for each competition listed in the USSA Ski Calendar, which must contain:
- 213.1 date and place of the competitions, information on the competition sites and the best ways to reach them,
- 213.2 technical data on the individual competitions and conditions for participation,
- 213.3 names of principal officials,
- 213.4 time and place for the first team captains meeting and draw,
- 213.5 timetable for the beginning of official training and the start times,
- 213.6 location of the official notice board,
- 213.7 time and place for the prize giving,
- 213.8 final date of entry and address for entries, including telephone and fax numbers and email address,
- U213.9 entry fees.
- 214 Announcements
- 214.1 The Organizing Committee must publish an announcement for the event. It must contain the information required by article 213.
- 214.2 Organizers are bound by the rules and decisions of USSA in limiting the number of entries. Reduction in entries is possible provided it is made clear in the announcement.
- 214.3 Postponements or cancellations of competitions and program alterations must be communicated to the USSA Office, all invited clubs/divisions and the appointed TD.
- 215 Entries
- 215.1 All entries must be sent so that the Organizing Committee receives them before the final date of entry. The organizers must have a final and complete list not later than

- 24 hours before the first draw.
- 215.2 Competitors are not permitted to enter in more than one competition calendared by more than one race organizing committee on the same date.
- 215.3 Every entry should include:
- 215.3.1 USSA number, last name, first name, year-of-birth, club,
- 215.3.2 an exact definition of the discipline for which the entry is made,
- U215.3.3 the entry fee.
- 216 Team Captains Meetings
- 216.1 The time and location of the first team captains meeting and of the draw must be shown in the program. The invitations for all other meetings have to be announced to the team captains at their first meeting. Emergency meetings must be announced in good time.
- 216.2 Representation by a substitute during discussions at team captains’ meetings is not allowed.
- 216.3 The team captains and trainers must be accredited by the organizers according to quota.
- 216.4 Team captains and trainers must obey the ACR and the decisions of the Jury and must behave in a proper and sportsmanlike manner.
- 217 Draw
- 217.1 Competitor starting order for each event and each discipline is decided according to a specific formula by draw and/or point order.
- 217.3 If competitors are not represented at the team captains meeting by a team captain or trainer, they will only be drawn if it is confirmed by telephone or fax by the beginning of the meeting that they will participate.
- 217.4 Competitors who were drawn but were not present during the competition, must be named by the TD in his report, indicating if possible the reasons for absence.
- 217.5 Representatives of all competitors taking part must be invited to the draw.
- 217.6 If a competition has to be postponed by at least one day, the draw must be done again.
- 218 Publication of Results
- 218.1 The unofficial and official results will be published in accordance with the rules for the specific discipline.
- 221 Doping  
Doping is forbidden.
- 222 Competition Equipment
- 222.1 A competitor may only take part in a USSA competition with equipment that conforms to USSA Regulations. Competitors are responsible for the equipment they use (skis, bindings, ski boots, suit, etc). It is their duty to check that the equipment conforms to the USSA specifications and general safety requirements and is in working order. More information regarding the specific regulations can be found in the supplemental rules later in this book.
- 222.2 The term competition equipment encompasses all items of equipment which the competitor uses in competition. This includes clothing as well as apparatus with technical functions. The entire competition equipment forms a functional unit.
- 222.3 All new developments in the field of competition equipment must be approved in principle by USSA. USSA does not take any responsibility for the approval of new technical developments, which at the time of introduction may contain unknown dangers to the health or cause an increase in the risk of accidents.

223 Sanctions

223.1 General Conditions

223.1.1 An offense for which a sanction may apply and a penalty be imposed is defined as conduct that:

- is in violation or non-observance of competition rules, or
- constitutes non-compliance with directives of the Jury or individual members of the Jury in accordance with 224.2, or
- is unsportsmanlike.

223.1.2 The following conduct shall also be considered an offense:

- attempting to commit an offense
- causing or facilitating others to commit an offense
- counseling others to commit an offense.

223.1.3 In determining whether conduct constitutes an offense consideration should be given to:

- whether the conduct was intentional or unintentional,
- whether the conduct arose from circumstances of an emergency.

223.1.4 All USSA-affiliated associations, including their members registered for accreditation, shall accept and acknowledge these rules and all sanctions imposed, subject only to the right of appeal pursuant to USSA statutes.

223.2 Applicability

223.2.1 Persons

These sanction apply to:

- all persons who are accredited either by USSA or the Organizer for an event published in the USSA calendar, both within and without the confines of the competition area and any location connected with the competition, and
- all persons who are not accredited, within the confines of the competition area.

223.3 Penalties

223.3.1 The commission of an offense may subject a person to the following penalties:

- Reprimand - written or verbal
- Withdrawal of accreditation
- Denial of accreditation

223.3.2 All competing competitors may be subject to the following penalties:

- Disqualification
- Impairment of their starting position (no limit)
- Forfeiture of prizes and benefits in favor of the organizer
- Suspension from USSA events
- The accumulation of penalties is permissible

223.3.3 A competitor shall only be disqualified if his mistake would result in an advantage for him with regard to the end result, unless the rules state otherwise in an individual case.

223.4 A jury may impose the penalties provided in 223.3.1 and 223.3.2, however they may not impose a monetary fine or suspend a competitor beyond the USSA event at which the offense occurred.

223.5 The following Penalty decisions may be given verbally:

- reprimands
- the withdrawal of accreditation for the current event from persons who had not been registered with the organizer through their USSA affiliated organization.

- the withdrawal of the accreditation for the current event from USSA - accredited persons
- the denial of accreditation to the current event from persons who are within the confines of the competition area or any other location connected with the competition.

223.6 The following Penalty decisions shall be in writing:

- disqualifications
- impaired starting position
- competition suspensions
- withdrawal of accreditation from persons who had been registered through their USSA affiliated organization
- withdrawal of accreditation of USSA - accredited persons,

223.7 Written Penalty decisions must be sent to the offender (if it is not a competitor), the offender's organization and the USSA Office.

223.8 All disqualifications shall be recorded in the Referee's and/or the TD's Report.

223.9 All penalties shall be recorded in the TD Report.

224 Procedural Guidelines

224.1 Competence of Jury

The Jury at the event has the right to impose sanctions according to the above rules by majority vote. In the case of a tie, the chairman of the Jury has the deciding vote.

224.2 Within the location, especially during training and the competition period, each voting Jury member is authorized to issue oral reprimands and withdraw the accreditation which is issued for the current event.

224.3 Collective Offenses

If several persons commit the same offense at the same time and under the same circumstances, the Jury's decision as to one offender may be considered binding upon all offenders. The written decision shall include the names of all offenders concerned and the scope of the penalty to be assessed upon each of them. The decision will be delivered to each offender.

224.4 Limitation

A person must not be sanctioned if proceedings to invoke such sanction have not been commenced against that person within 72 hours following the offense.

224.5 Each person who is a witness to an alleged offense is required to testify at any hearing called by the Jury, and the Jury is required to consider all relevant evidence.

224.6 The Jury may confiscate objects that are suspected of being used in the violation of equipment guidelines.

224.7 Prior to the imposition of a penalty (except in cases of reprimands and withdrawal of accreditation according to 223.5 and 224.2), the person accused of an offense shall be given the opportunity to present a defense at a hearing, orally or in writing.

224.8 All Jury decisions shall be recorded in writing and shall include:

224.8.1 The offense alleged to have been committed.

224.8.2 The evidence of the offense

224.8.3 The rule(s) or Jury directives that have been violated

224.8.4 The penalty imposed.

224.9 The penalty shall be appropriate to the offense. The scope of any penalty imposed by the Jury must consider any mitigating and aggravating circumstances.

224.9.1 The signatures of each individual jury member, with each individual vote on decisions recorded.

- 224.10 Remedies
- 224.10.1 Except as provided for in 224.11, a penalty decision of the Jury may be appealed in accordance with the provisions in the ACR.
- 224.10.2 If an appeal is not filed within the deadline established in the ACR, the penalty decision of the Jury becomes final.
- 224.11 The following decisions of the Jury are not subject to appeal:
- 224.11.1 Oral penalties imposed under 223.5 and 224.2.
- 224.12 In case of suspensions exceeding one week for all events published in the USSA calendar (including supplementary races), the USSA Alpine Judicial Committee is the only source of appeal.
- 224.13 In all remaining cases, appeals are to be directed to the appropriate appeals committee under rule 1.6 in accordance with rule 647.
- 224.14 The Jury shall have the right to submit to the USSA Alpine Judicial Committee recommendations for suspensions beyond the event in which the offense occurred.
- 224.15 Costs of Proceedings  
Fees and cash expenses, including travel expenses (costs of the proceedings) are to be calculated comparable to costs paid to TDs and are to be paid by the offender. In the case of a reversal of Jury decisions, in whole or in part, the USSA covers all costs.
- 225 USSA Alpine Judicial Committee  
USSA has established procedures and committees for appeals against Jury decisions, disciplinary actions (including Code of Conduct violations) and start rights. See the USSA Rules for Grievances, Suspensions and Appeals in Article IX of the USSA Bylaws.
- 226 Violation of Sanctions  
Where there is a violation of a sanction that has been imposed, the USSA Alpine Judicial Committee may impose such further and other sanctions that it considers appropriate.  
In such cases, some or all of the following sanctions may apply:
- 226.1 Sanctions against individuals involved:
- a written reprimand, and/or
  - a competition or project suspension at the next level of sanction - for example, if a three-month suspension for a doping offense was imposed, a violation of the suspension will cause a two-year suspension; if a two-year suspension for a doping offense was imposed, a violation of the suspension will cause a lifetime suspension, and/or
  - withdrawal of accreditation from individuals involved.

## Section 2 Rules Common to Alpine Events

### 600 Organization

Reference is made to article 211.

- 601 Organizing Committee
- 601.1 Composition  
The Organizing Committee consists of those members (physical or legal) who are delegated by the organizer and USSA. It carries the rights, duties and obligations of the organizer.
- 601.2 Appointments by USSA  
USSA appoints the Technical Delegate for all competitions.

- 601.2.1 The Technical Delegate appoints
- the Referee and
  - for DH, and SG the Assistant Referee
- 601.2.4 By these appointments the above persons become members of the Organizing Committee.
- U601.2.5 An Assistant Referee may be assigned at USSA technical events (SL/GS) for training purposes only. At these events, the Assistant Referee will have neither voice nor vote in Jury Meetings and their names will not appear on official documents.
- 601.3 Appointments by the organizer  
The organizer appoints all other members of the Organizing Committee. The chair or his representative represents the committee in public, leads the meetings and makes decisions concerning all matters that are not made by other persons or groups. Before, during and after the competition the chair works closely with USSA and its appointed officials. He takes on all other duties that are necessary for carrying out the competition.  
The following officials must be appointed by the organizer:
- 601.3.1 The Chief of Race  
The Chief of Race directs all preparation of the competition and supervises the activities in the technical area. The Chief of Race summons meetings for consideration of technical questions and leads the team captains meetings after consultation with the Technical Delegate.
- 601.3.2 The Chief of Course (Section Chief)  
The Chief of Course is responsible for the preparation of the courses in accordance with the directives and decisions of the Jury. The Chief of Course must be familiar with local snow conditions on the terrain concerned.
- 601.3.3 The Start Referee  
The Start Referee must remain at the start from the beginning of the official inspection time until the end of a training/event,
- make sure that the regulations for the start and the start organization are properly observed,
  - determine late and false starts,
  - be able to communicate with the Jury at all times (see 705.5),
  - report to the Referee the names of competitors who did not start and informs the Jury of all infringements against the rules, such as false or late starts or violations against the rules for equipment,
  - ensure that reserve bibs are at the start.
- 601.3.4 The Finish Referee  
The Finish Referee must remain at the finish from the beginning of the official inspection time until the end of a training/event,
- make sure that all regulations for the organization of the finish and the finish in-run and out-run are properly observed,
  - supervise the finish controller, the timing and the crowd control in the finish area,
  - be able to communicate immediately with the start at all times,
  - report to the Referee the names of the competitors who did not finish and informs the Jury of all infringements against the rules.
- 601.3.5 The Chief Gate Judge  
The Chief Gate Judge:
- organizes and supervises the work of the gate judges,

- designates the gates each will supervise and places them in position,
  - at the end of the first run and the end of the race collects the gate judge control cards for delivery to the Referee,
  - distributes, in good time, to each gate judge, the material they need (control card, pencil, start list, etc.),
  - is prepared to offer assistance either to help keep spectators off the course or to help maintain the course, etc.
  - makes sure that the numbering and the marking of the gates are done within the required time.
- 601.3.6 The Chief of Timing and Calculations
- The chief of timing and calculations is responsible for the coordination of officials at the start and finish, including timing and calculations. In SL, he or a special assistant will decide the interval between starts. The following officials are under his direction:
- starter
  - assistant starter
  - start recorder
  - chief timekeeper
  - assistant timekeepers
  - finish controller
  - chief of calculations and his assistants
- 601.3.7 The Race Secretary
- The race secretary is responsible for all secretarial work for the technical aspects of the competition and amongst others for the preparation of the draw. Additionally, the Race Secretary:
- ensures that the official results contain the information required by article 617.3.4,
  - is responsible for the minutes of the technical officials, the Jury and team captains meetings,
  - ensures that all forms for start, finish, timing, calculations and gate-judging are well prepared, and handed over to the officials concerned in good order at the proper time,
  - receives official protests and gives them to those concerned,
  - facilitates the calculation of results by appropriate preparation and ensures that they are duplicated and published as quickly as possible after the completion of the competition.
- 601.3.8 The Chief of Medical and Rescue Services
- The Chief of Medical and Rescue Services is responsible for organizing adequate first aid and medical coverage during the official training periods and the actual competition. The Chief of Medical must work closely with the Jury and particularly the Technical Delegate, keeping them informed as to the nature and disposition of any injury.
- 601.3.9.4 The organizer is authorized to include other officials within the Organizing Committee.
- 601.4 The Jury
- The following members of the Jury, who are members of the Organizing Committee are responsible for technical matters within the closed competition areas:
- the Technical Delegate
  - the Referee

- the Chief of Race
  - the Assistant Referee for DH and SG
- 601.4.2 Appointment of the Jury for USSA races.
- 601.4.2.1 USSA appoints the Technical Delegate.
- 601.4.2.2 The TD appoints
- the Referee
  - in the case of DH and SG, the Assistant Referee
  - substitute Jury members in case of force majeure
- 601.4.2.3 The jury of a ladies' race should, where possible, include a lady.
- 601.4.2.4 The Chief of Race has to belong to the organizing committee.
- 601.4.3 Exclusions
- 601.4.3.1 A competitor cannot be a member of the Jury.
- 601.4.4 Tenure of the Jury
- 601.4.4.1 The appointed Jury members gather for their first meeting prior to the first team captains meeting.
- 601.4.4.2 The active duty of the Jury begins with its first meeting and ends, if no protest is submitted, at the expiration of the protest deadline, otherwise after dealing with all submitted protests.
- 601.4.5 Franchise and Voting
- The TD is the chair of the Jury. He conducts the meetings. Each of the following has one vote in the Jury:
- 601.4.5.2 The TD, Chief of Race, Referee and in the case of DH and SG, the Assistant Referee.
- 601.4.5.3 Decisions are made by simple majority vote of members present and voting (exception article 646.3).
- 601.4.5.4 In the case of a tie, the TD has the casting vote.
- 601.4.5.5 Minutes are to be kept of all meetings and decisions of the Jury and signed by each individual member of the Jury, with each individual vote on decisions recorded, as per article 601.4.5.5.
- 601.4.5.7 In cases where an immediate decision must be made and it is not possible to convene the entire Jury, each member of the Jury has the right, prior to or during the race, to make decisions which according to the rules per se are reserved to the Jury as a whole; but only provisionally with the obligation to have the decision confirmed by the Jury as soon as possible.
- 601.4.6 Duties of the Jury
- The Jury monitors the adherence to the rules throughout the entire race, including the official training.
- 601.4.6.1 From a technical standpoint particularly by:
- Checking the race-course and the set courses
  - Checking the snow conditions
  - Checking the preparation of the course
  - Approving the use of snow compactors and other chemicals.
  - Checking the crowd control systems
  - Checking the start, the finish area and the run-out from the finish
  - Checking the first aid service
  - Appointing the course setters.
  - Fixing the time of course setting
  - Overseeing the work of the course setters

- Spot-checking of the gate flags
- Opening or closing the race courses for training in consideration of the technical preparations and the prevailing weather conditions
- Determining the method of the competitors course inspection
- Jury inspection of the course before the race
- Determining the number of forerunners for each run and setting the start order of the forerunners
- Debriefing the forerunners as necessary
- Changing the start order in consideration of course conditions and in extraordinary conditions
- Changing the start intervals
- Giving instructions to and obtaining information from the gate judges.

For DH:

- Arrangement of an additional competitor's inspection in unusual weather conditions
- Shortening the official training
- Positioning of yellow zones
- Checking on the setting of gates
- Changing the position and distance of the gates or adding extra gates as indicated by the experience gained in the training runs. Following significant changes, the competitors must be allowed at least one more training run on the course.

601.4.6.2 From an organizational viewpoint particularly by:

- Ranking of the competitors for the draw
- Division of the competitors without points into groups according to some determined basis
- Granting of re-runs
- Cancellation of the race (beforehand)
- if snow conditions are unsuitable
- if the recommendations of the Technical Advisor's report have not been carried out
- if the first aid and medical service are inadequate
- if the crowd control is insufficient
- Shortening the course, if snow or weather conditions make this appear necessary
- Interruption of the race if the prerequisites of article 624 are present,
- Termination of the race if the prerequisites of article 625 are present.

601.4.6.3 From a disciplinary viewpoint particularly by:

- Decision on a proposal of the Technical Delegate or a Jury member to exclude a competitor for lack of physical and technical ability
- Limitation of quotas for officials, technicians and medical personnel for admission to the race-course
- Imposition of sanctions
- Decisions on protests
- Issue of particular directives throughout the entire event

601.4.7 Questions not Covered by Rules

In general, the Jury makes decisions on all questions not clarified by the USSA Alpine Competition Regulations.

601.4.8 Radios

At all competitions published in the USSA Ski Calendar, the Jury members plus

start and finish referee must be equipped with radios. These must function on a single reserved frequency and be free of interference.

601.4.9 Duties of the TD for all events

601.4.9.1 Before the race

The TD

- Reviews the homologation file and consults the organizer about the possible existence of a special authorization.

If he establishes that no homologation exists, the Jury must cancel the race (see 650). He reads the TD reports about previous events at the site and checks whether the improvements proposed in these reports have been carried out.

- Has the right, if a SL or GS cannot be carried out on the homologated course because of "force majeure", to move the race to a "substitute course" proposed by the organizer. This is on the explicit condition that the necessary homologation measures can be fulfilled. For DH and SG there is only the possibility of shortening the run on a homologated course. The minimum prescribed vertical drops must, however, be observed in any case

- Inspects the competition and training courses.
- Supervises the compliance with article 704 and U1003.2 concerning the official training.
- Spot checks the gate flags.
- Collaborates in the administrative and technical preparations.
- Checks the official entry lists, including seed points.
- Checks on the presence of sufficient radios with separate frequencies for all members of the Jury.
- Takes note of the accreditation and the authorization for entry to the course.
- Checks over the race courses with regard to preparation, marking, crowd control, as well as the layout of start and finish areas.
- Supervises the course setting together with the Jury.
- Checks on the location of the television towers and sees they are adequately protected if necessary.
- Supervises the locations of the first aid service along the course as well as the organization of the medical care.
- Checks on all technical installations such as timekeeping, hand timing, communications, transport of people, etc.
- Is present in the race area during all official training.
- Takes part in all meetings of the Jury and of the team captains.
- Works closely together with the officials of the Organizing Committee.
- Is the chair of the Jury with a casting vote in case of a tie.
- If necessary, appoints members to the Jury.

601.4.9.2 During the race

The TD

- Must be present in the course area.
- Works closely with the Jury, the team captains and the coaches.
- Observes that the valid rules and directives are obeyed in regard to race equipment.
- Supervises the technical and organizational conduct of the event.
- Advises the organization concerning the observance of the USSA rules and regulations and directives of the Jury.

#### 601.4.9.3 After the race

##### The TD

- Helps with the compilation of the Referee's report.
- Calculates the race and penalty points for the individual races. If the points are calculated by computer, it is the TD's duty to re-check the points and confirm their accuracy with his personal signature. Above all, he checks the correct use of the corresponding F value for each discipline.
- Presents properly submitted protests to the Jury for decision.
- Signs the official result lists established by the race secretary and gives the authorization for the award ceremony.
- Fills out the TD report, including any supplementary reports and is responsible for their dispatch within three days to the USSA Office and the other appropriate places.
- Presents to the USSA Office, any applicable proposals for changes in the competition rules on the basis of practical experience at the event in question.

#### 601.4.9.4 In general

##### The TD

- Decides on questions not covered or insufficiently covered by the USSA Alpine Competition Regulations, in so far as these have not already been decided by the Jury and do not fall within the scope of other authorities.
- Works closely with the Referee and Assistant Referee.
- Has the right to propose to the Jury the exclusion of competitors from participation in the race.
- Has the right to obtain support from the Organizing Committee and all officials under its jurisdiction in all matters necessary to the fulfillment of his duties.

#### 601.4.10 Duties and rights of the Referee

- The referee at USSA Scored events must be a current USSA Coach or Official member and must have a current referee certification.
- Drawing of the start numbers
- Inspection of the course immediately after it is set, alone or accompanied by members of the Jury.
- Changing the course by taking out or adding gates; if the Referee inspects the course alone his decision is final.

The course setter must be informed of such changes if he was not present at this inspection.

- Receiving the reports of the start and finish referees and the race officials about the infractions of the rules and the gate faults at the end of the first run, and again at the end of the race.
- Checking, signing and posting the Referee's minutes immediately after each run on the official notice board and also at the finish hut, a list with the names of the competitors disqualified, the gate numbers where the faults occurred or the rule reference number for other disqualifications, the names of the gate judges or officials who noted the faults leading to the sanctions and the exact time the disqualifications were posted.
- Sending a report to USSA in all special cases or in the event of a difference of opinion among the Jury members or in the case of severe injury to a competitor.

#### 601.4.10.1 Collaboration with the TD

The Referee and the Assistant Referee must work very closely with the TD.

#### 601.4.11 The Technical Advisor

To support the Jury, USSA can appoint technical advisors for all categories of races. The technical advisor has the right to express his opinion within the Jury without the right to vote.

#### 602 The Technical Delegate (TD)

##### 602.1 Definition

##### 602.1.1 The primary duties of the TD

- make sure that the rules and directions of USSA are adhered to
- see that the event runs smoothly
- advise the organizers within the scope of their duties
- be the official representative of USSA

##### 602.1.2 Responsibility

The TD structure comes under the responsibility of the Alpine Sports Committee. The Alpine Technical Delegate Working Group exercises this authority.

##### 602.1.3 Prerequisites

The TD must hold a valid USSA Alpine Officials membership and TD certification (exception see article 602.3).

##### 602.1.4 Development

##### 602.1.4.1 The development for a TD is:

- Applicant - Nomination and two seconds from a level 3 or higher TD.
- Approval of Divisional Alpine Officials Committee.
- Written entrance examination with a passing grade of 75% or better.
- Successful completion of candidacy under a senior TD.
- TD.

##### 602.1.4.2 Each division is responsible for the identification and education of aspiring TD's.

##### 602.1.5 Training

##### 602.1.5.1 The basic training of the applicant is the responsibility of the sponsoring division.

##### 602.1.5.2 To be certified as a Level 1 TD, an official must be certified as a Level 2 Referee and Level 1 Timing and Calculations.

- In the alternative, an official must be certified as a Level 1 Timing and Calculations, Level 1 Chief of Race and Level 2 Jury Advisor.

##### U602.1.5.10 It is strongly recommended that the applicant also maintain Alpine Officials certification as Chief of Race.

##### U602.1.5.11 Advancement of certification level.

- Level 1 to Level 2 - 10 workdays as a TD and favorable written recommendation from two higher level TDs.
- Level 2 to Level 3 - an additional minimum 10 work days as a TD, two written recommendations/evaluations, pass the USSA Level 3 Technical Delegate exam with a score of 80% or higher and be approved by the USSA TD Working Group and the USSA Alpine Officials Committee.
- Level 3 to Level 4 - a minimum of five years of outstanding service as a Technical Delegate, and approval of the USSA TD Working Group and the USSA Alpine Officials Committee.

##### U602.1.8 Participation

##### U602.1.8.1 A USSA Technical Delegate should work as an assigned TD a minimum of two days every season and must work as an assigned TD at least once every two years.

##### U602.1.8.2 USSA TDs are urged to attend a USSA approved seminar or update annually, and required to attend a USSA approved seminar at least biannually.

- U602.1.8.3 Failure to meet the above participation requirements will result in loss of TD certification status.
- U602.1.8.4 If a TD misses an update for 2-years, the TD may be reinstated to the previous level by attending a recognized update.
- U602.1.8.5 If a TD misses an update for three or more years, the TD may be reinstated by passing the appropriate examination, i.e. Level 1 or 2 must pass the Level 1 exam, Level 3 or 4 must pass the Level 3 exam.
- U602.1.8.6 A TD may not violate the update rule for a second time and maintain TD certification.
- 602.2 Appointment
- 602.2.2 For all events the appointment is made by USSA or its designate.
- 602.2.4 A TD cannot be a member of the local organizing association.
- 602.3 TD replacement
- 602.3.4 If the TD is unable to serve, a deputy for the absent TD is to be named on the spot by the team captains. The replacement must likewise meet the requirements of article 602.1.3.
- In an emergency, a TD may also be named who does not meet these requirements, but is competent to ensure the conduct (continuation) of the race. In the choice of this person, stringent criteria are to be used.
- 602.3.5 The replacement TD has the same rights and duties as the TD originally appointed.
- 602.4 Organization of the Assignment
- 602.4.1 The organizer must establish contact with the TD in good time.
- 602.4.2 Cancellations or postponements of events must be announced to the TD and to the USSA Office immediately, taking into account any applicable deadlines.
- 602.4.3 For DH and SG, the TD should arrive at the competition site at least 48 hours before the draw for the first training. In all other events, this should be at least 24 hours before the draw for the event concerned.
- 602.5 Expense Accounts
- The TD has a right to reimbursement for:
- Automobile mileage to the event at IRS guidelines per mile, or in the case of air travel, the cost of coach air fare.
  - Lodging, the cost of a single room for the time period from the first team captains meeting to the end of the event. If organizers provide appropriate volunteer housing, the TD must use it.
  - Meals that are accompanied by invoices. If organizer provides meals, the TD must utilize these.
  - Reasonable out-of-pocket expenses (i.e. postage, telephone, etc.).
- U602.6 Sanctions
- Sanctions can be imposed against TDs.
- 603 Course Setter
- 603.1 Prerequisites
- U603.1.1 Course setters at USSA Scored events must be a current USSA Coach or Official member and must have a current referee certification.
- 603.1.3 For DH, the course setter must be acquainted with the particular race course.
- 603.2 Appointment
- 603.2.3 The appointment is made by the Jury. For competitions in two runs, each run is to be set by a different course setter. One of the two course setters can be named by the organizer.

- 603.3 Supervision of the Course Setters
- 603.3.1 The work of the course setters is supervised by the Jury.
- 603.4 Organization of the assignment
- The assignment is managed by the Jury.
- 603.5 Replacement of Course Setters
- 603.5.2 The Jury names a replacement course setter.
- 603.5.3 The replacement course setter should have the same qualifications as the original course setter.
- 603.6 Rights of the Course Setter
- 603.6.1 To recommend the introduction of changes in the competition terrain and in the safety measures.
- 603.6.2 Availability of a sufficient number of helpers for the setting of the course, so that the course setter can concentrate solely on setting the course.
- 603.6.3 Provision of all necessary materials by the chief of course equipment.
- 603.6.4 Immediate completion of the finishing touches to the race course.
- 603.7 Duties of the Course Setter
- 603.7.1 In order to set the course appropriately, respecting the terrain, the snow cover and the ability of the participating competitors, the course setter conducts a pre-inspection of the race terrain in the presence of the TD, Referee, Chief of Race and Chief of Course.
- 603.7.2 The course setter sets the race course respecting existing course protection measures and course preparation. The course setter must take speed control into consideration.
- 603.7.3 For all events, the course setter has to set gates according to the respective rules.
- 603.7.4 The courses must be set and ready in time so that the competitors are not disturbed during course inspection.
- 603.7.5 The course setters should take care that the difference between the winning times of each run of SL and GS will not be too great.
- 603.7.6 The course setting is a task of the course setter alone. He is responsible for adhering to the rules of the USSA Alpine Competition Regulations and may be advised by members of the Jury, and by the technical advisor in DH and SG, if present.
- 603.7.7 The course setter must participate in all team captains meetings at which a report is to be made about his course.
- 604.2 Rights and Duties of the Team Captains and Trainers
- The team captains and trainers must be accredited by the organizers according to quota. The accreditation gives the following rights and duties:
- to be a member of the Jury,
  - to be nominated as a course setter if these have not been appointed by USSA or if the appointed person is not present,
  - to be issued with a pass or armband during the training or competition (or reimbursement for costs if a lift pass has not been provided),
  - to be issued with a pass or armband stating the function or marked Course.
- 604.2.1 Team captains and trainers must obey the USSA rules and the decisions of the Jury, and must behave in a proper and sportsmanlike manner.
- 604.2.2 A team captain or trainer must fulfill the duties he has accepted as a member of the Jury, or as a course setter.
- 604.3 In accordance with ACR 213.4 and 216 the time and location of the first team captain's meeting and of the draw must be shown in the programme. An actual meeting, attended in person by team captains, jury, and race officials is an

- inseparable part of the competition and is important for communication of jury instructions, support of the OC, OC requests and information as well as a critical element for risk management and liability related matters. ACR 216 and 217 apply in all cases.
- 605 Forerunners
- 605.1 The organizer is obliged to provide at least three forerunners who meet all regulations of USSA, including participant membership. The forerunner is a member of the organizing committee. In DH, the forerunners should participate in all training runs.
- In extraordinary conditions, the Jury may increase the number of forerunners. The Jury may designate different forerunners for each run.
- 605.2 The forerunners must wear forerunner start numbers (bibs).
- 605.3 The nominated forerunners should have the skiing ability to ski the course in a racing manner.
- 605.4 Forerunners are not permitted to start in the competition.
- 605.5 The Jury determines the forerunners and their start order. After an interruption of the race, additional forerunners may be authorized as necessary.
- 605.6 The times of the forerunners may not be published.
- 605.7 Upon request the forerunners shall report to members of the Jury regarding the snow conditions, the visibility and the race line, as the case requires.
- 606 Competitor Outfits
- 606.1 Start numbers (Bibs)
- Shape, size, lettering and attachment method may not be altered. Each figure must be at least 12 cm high and easily legible. The individual letters may not surpass a height of 10 cm.
- 606.3 Ski brakes
- For competitions and official training, only skis with ski brakes may be used. Competitors without ski brakes are not allowed to start.
- 606.4 Helmets
- In all events, all competitors and forerunners are obliged to wear crash helmets that conform to the equipment rules. See specifications as an addendum later in this chapter.
- 606.5 Equipment Rules
- See specifications as an addendum later in this chapter.
- 607 Age Limits
- 607.1 The competition year is July 1 - June 30 of the following year. A competitor's class is determined by their age on December 31 of the competition year.
- 607.3 Classification of USSA competitors:
- SR 20 years of age or older
  - J1 17, 18, or 19
  - J2 15 or 16
  - J3 13 or 14
  - J4 11 or 12
  - J5 9 or 10
  - J6 8 and younger
- U607.4 Regions, divisions and state associations may define additional classes for competitors age 8 or younger.
- U607.5 Regions, divisions and state associations may establish procedures that allow

competitors to compete:

- as a member of a higher level class than that of their chronological age, and/or
- in races that are conducted on courses that exceed the specifications for their class.

U607.5.1 These procedures must be based on either:

- objective evidence that the competitor can compete successfully within the higher class, or
- careful screening by a disinterested, knowledgeable group that determines that the competitor can compete successfully within the higher class.

U607.5.2 The procedures must require that the competitor and his parents complete and sign the USSA Ski Up Waiver.

610 Start, Finish, Timing and Calculations

611 Technical Installations

611.1 Communications and Cabling

In all competitions, it is highly recommended that there be multiple communication (telephone or radios, etc.) between the start and finish. Voice communication between starter and finish must be assured by fixed wire connection or radio. In case of radio, this must be a separate channel from that used by any other function of the ROC.

611.2 Timing Equipment

- For all national championship races (including regional junior championships), electronic timers, start gates, and photocells homologated by FIS must be used. The list of approved equipment is published on the FIS website. Races using timing equipment other than those on the approved list will not be considered for scoring to the USSA points list.

- For other competitions that are scored to the USSA points list there shall be a primary timekeeping system which generates a permanent printed record of time-of-day at the start and at the finish. The primary timekeeping system shall be shown to meet the requirements of a homologated timing system. Further, there shall be a secondary electronic timing system, preferably reporting time-of-day, and manual timekeeping.

- For USSA scored competitions, it is allowed to use expired (previously FIS homologated) timing devices, with the exclusion of championship events. Devices should be replaced by the 2011-12 season and must be replaced by 2012-13 season.

- For USSA non-scored competitions, it is allowed to use expired (previously FIS homologated) timing devices, with the exclusion of championship events. Devices should be replaced by the 2012-13 season and must be replaced by 2013-14 season.

- A Timing and Data Technical Report form must be completed for each scored competition, and for each non-scored championship competition, and submitted with the results to USSA.

- For other competitions, which are not scored to any points lists, there shall be a primary timekeeping system that is electronically based, preferably measuring time-of-day, and manual timekeeping.

[The phrase "and manual timekeeping", does not mean that manual timekeeping may be a part of the secondary or any other electronic timekeeping system. Manual (hand) timekeeping is totally separate and independent of the electronic timekeeping system and is done with stopwatches or hand-operated battery-powered devices.]

611.2.1 Electric Timing

For all competitions that are scored to the USSA points list, two synchronized

electronically isolated systems operating in time-of-day must be used. One system will be designated System A (main system), the other System B (back-up system) prior to the beginning of the race.

All time of day times must be immediately and automatically sequentially recorded on printed strips to at least the 1/1000th (0.001) precision. Both systems must allow for the calculation of net times by the mathematical comparison of each racer's start time to finish time. The final result is then expressed to 1/100th (0.01) precision by truncating the calculated net time on course.

All times used for the final result must come from System A. If there is a failure of System A, a calculated net time from System B must be used following the same procedure set out in 611.3.2.1. It is not permitted to substitute Time-of-Day times from System B for use with System A for the purpose of net time calculations.

For all scored events, System A must be connected to its respective start gate contact. System B must be separately connected to another electronically isolated start gate contact.

In the same fashion, System A must be connected to the System A photocell and System B must be connected to the System B photocell. Refer to the FIS Timing Booklet for more details regarding cabling and complete wiring descriptions, diagrams and start gate and photocell installations.

All timing equipment and technical installations should be set up or protected in such a way that danger to the competitor is avoided where possible and must be demonstrably functional to the requirements of the rules when disconnected from external devices, e.g. scoring and results computers.

Synchronization of the timing systems must occur within 60 minutes of the Start of each run and must be maintained throughout each run. Timers may not be re-synchronized during any run. Synchronization and the 1-minute wand throw must be performed from the start wand through the system wiring to both timers and their respective recorders.

Non-scored races, other than regional or national championship events, may be timed without wire. (See 611.2.4 ACR)

#### 611.2.1.1 Start Gate

The starting gate should consist of two wooden posts approximately 60 cm apart and extending approximately 60 cm from the surface of the snow. The wooden posts should be 7-10 cm in diameter if they are round or 5-8 cm across if they are square.

The start gate must have separate electronically isolated switch contacts for triggering the start inputs of both system A & B. If a start gate or start wand requires replacement during a run, it must be replaced with identical equipment in the same position.

For non-scored events only, non-homologated start gate, spring –return, “self-return” mechanisms are permitted.

#### 611.2.1.2 Photocells

For all scored events, there must be two photocell system(s) homologated by the FIS installed at the finish line. One is connected to System A. The other is connected to System B.

[Procedures and regulations for start gates and photocells are found in the FIS Timing Booklet.]

#### 611.2.1.3 Start Clock

For fixed interval races, the use of a start clock that provides at least an acoustic countdown signal on the fixed start interval should be used as an aid to race

management.

#### 611.2.2 Hand Timing

Manual (hand) timing, completely separate and independent of the electronic timing, must be used for all competitions listed in the USSA calendar. Stopwatches or hand-operated, battery-powered, timers that are installed at both the start and the finish and capable of expressing times to at least 1/100th (0.01) precision qualify as proper hand timing devices. They must be synchronized prior to the start of each run, preferably with the same time of day as System A and System B. Printed records, either automatic or handwritten, of recorded hand times must be immediately available at the start and at the finish.

#### 611.2.3 Presentation of Times

Organizers shall provide appropriate facilities for continuous presentation of all registered times of all competitors.

#### 611.2.4 Timing without Cable

For non-championship scored races it is permitted to use homologated timing equipment in such a way that hill cable connection between start and finish is not required. Refer to the FIS Timing Booklet for a detailed discussion of how this is possible.

For non-scored races, start times or impulses can be transmitted to a timer at the finish operating in time-of-day mode, or printed instantly at the start. Net times should be calculated in a timely manner.

#### 611.3 Timing

##### 611.3.1 With electronic timing, the time is taken when a competitor crosses the finish line and triggers the beam between the photo cells.

In case of a fall at the finish where the competitor does not come to a full stop, the time can be taken without both of the competitor's feet having crossed the finish line.

For the registered time to become valid, the competitor must immediately completely cross the finish line with or without skis. With hand timing the time will be taken when any part of the competitor crosses the finish line.

The finish controller determines the correctness of passage across the finish line.

##### 611.3.2 In the case of a failure of the main electronic timing system (system A), the results of the electronic back-up system (system B) will be valid as per art. 611.2.1.

In case of a failure in the lines of the timing system between start and finish, this back-up system will allow the calculation of the times to 1/100ths of a second.

In the case that calculated net times from either system A or system B are not available for a competitor, the calculated net manual time as per art. 611.3.2.1 will be considered valid.

##### 611.3.2.1 Utilization of times taken by hand

Hand times may be used in the official results after a correction has been calculated. Calculation of the correction

Calculate the difference between the times taken by hand and the electronic times of the five competitors starting before the missing time and the five starting after or if necessary the 10 nearest competitors.

The sum of the 10 time differences is divided by 10 and rounded up or down to give the correction, which must be applied to the hand time of the competitor without an electronic time.

##### 611.3.3 The official timing strips from the printer will be given to the Technical Delegate for review. They will be kept by the Race Organizer until the official approval of

- the race or after any appeal dealing with timing or race results.  
A Timing Technical Report Form as prescribed by USSA must accompany the race results and must be reviewed and signed by the Chief of Timing and reviewed and signed by the TD as his approval of the race.  
All printed records from System A, System B and hand timing must be retained by the ROC for a period of three (3) months after the competition or after any appeal dealing with timing or race results.
- 611.3.4 When the official printing timer allows manual input or correction of a time, some type of indication (star, asterisk or other) concerning any effected change must be printed on all timing documentation.
- 611.3.5 Computer software calculating net times must use the precision of the time of day as used in the timing device.
- 611.4 Private Timing and Speed Measurement Equipment of the Teams  
Any request to install such equipment has to be made to the Jury by the team captain concerned and the Jury decides concerning approval of the installation.
- 612 Start and Finish Officials
- 612.1 The Starter  
The Starter must synchronize his watch with those of the assistant starter and by telephone or radio with the chief timekeeper within ten minutes of the start. The starter is responsible for the warning signal and the start command as well as for the accuracy of the intervals between these signals. He assigns the supervision of the competitors to the assistant starter.
- 612.2 The Assistant Starter  
The assistant starter is responsible for calling the competitors to the start in their correct order.
- 612.3 The Start Recorder  
The start recorder is responsible for recording the actual start times of all competitors.
- 612.4 The Chief Timekeeper  
The chief timekeeper is responsible for the accuracy of the timing. He synchronizes the watches with the starter as shortly before and after the race as is possible. He must publish unofficial times as quickly as possible (on the score-board, etc.). If the electric timing fails, the chief timekeeper must communicate immediately with the start referee and the TD.
- 612.5 The Assistant Timekeeper  
Two assistant timekeepers operate stopwatches according to article 611.2.2.  
One assistant timekeeper maintains a complete record with the registered times of all competitors.
- 612.6 The Finish Controller  
The finish controller has the following duties:
- Supervision of the section between the last gate and the finish.
  - Supervision of the proper crossing of the finish line.
  - Recording of the order of finishing of all racers who complete the course.
- 612.7 The Chief of Calculations  
The chief of calculations is responsible for quick and accurate calculation of results. He supervises the immediate duplication of unofficial results and the publication of official results after expiration of the protest interval, or after any protests have been dealt with.
- 613 The Start

- 613.1 The Start Area  
The Start Area must be closed off to everyone except the starting competitor, accompanied by only one trainer and the start officials.  
The start area must be protected appropriately against inclement weather. A special roped off area must be provided for trainers, team captains, service personnel, etc., in which they may take care of the waiting competitors without being interrupted by the public. An adequate shelter must be prepared for the competitors waiting for the call to start.  
The competitor enters the defined start hut with both skis attached without any covers on them.
- 613.2 The Start Ramp  
The Start Ramp shall be prepared in such a way that the competitors can stand relaxed on the starting line and can quickly reach full speed after leaving the start.
- 613.3 Start Procedure  
No official or attendant who could possibly give an advantage to or disturb the starting competitor may be behind him. All outside help is forbidden. By order of the starter, the competitor must plant his poles in front of the start line, or where indicated. The starter must not touch the competitor at the start. Pushing off from the start posts or other aids is forbidden and the competitor may start only with the help of his ski poles.
- 613.4 Start Signals  
10 seconds before the start, the starter will tell each competitor "10 seconds". Five seconds before the start, he shall count "5, 4, 3, 2, 1" and then give the start command "Go".  
(For SL see 805.3).  
If possible, an automatic audible signal is to be used. The starter will let the competitor see the start clock.
- 613.5 Start Timing  
The start timing shall measure the exact time the competitor crosses the start line with his leg below the knee.
- 613.6 Delayed Start  
A competitor who is not ready to start on time will be sanctioned. The start referee may however excuse such a delay if, in his opinion the delay is due to "force majeure".  
For example, breakdown of a competitor's personal equipment, or minor sickness of a competitor, does not constitute "force majeure". In case of doubt, the Jury may allow the start provisionally.
- 613.6.1 The start referee makes the decisions after consultation with the Jury (according to 613.6.2 and 613.6.3) and must record the start numbers and names of competitors who were not allowed to start because of late appearance, or who were allowed to start in spite of late appearance, or who were allowed to start provisionally.
- 613.6.2 In the case of fixed start intervals, the delayed competitors may start at the fixed interval after he has reported to the start referee, in accordance with the decision of the Jury. The start referee informs the Jury as to when (after which start number) a delayed competitor is starting.
- 613.6.3 In the case of irregular start intervals, the delayed competitor will start according to article 805.3. The start referee informs the Jury as to when (after which start number) a delayed competitor is starting.
- 613.7 Valid and False Starts

- In competitions with a fixed start interval the competitor must start on the start signal. The start time is valid if it occurs within the following limits: 5 seconds before and 5 seconds after the official start time. A competitor who does not start within that space of time will be disqualified.
- The start referee must inform the Referee of the start numbers and names of the competitors who made a false start or have contravened the starting rules.
- 614 Course and Competition
- 614.1 Course
- 614.1.1 Technical Parts of a Competition Course
- Start and finish installations, television towers, measuring equipment, sponsor advertising equipment, etc. are necessary items for a competition.
- 614.1.2 Course Setting
- 614.1.2.1 Assistance
- Assistance must be provided for the course setter, at a time to be fixed by the Jury, so that he can concentrate on the actual course setting and not be distracted by fetching poles, etc.
- The chief of course equipment must provide enough of the following:
- enough blue and red slalom poles
  - a corresponding number of flags, divided by colors
  - sledge hammers, drills, wedges etc.
  - enough gate numbers
  - coloring substance for marking the position of the poles.
- 614.1.2.2 Marking of the gates
- The positions of the gate poles may be marked with an easily recognizable coloring substance which remains visible throughout the entire race.
- 614.1.2.3 Numbering the gates
- The gates must be numbered from top to bottom of the course. Start and finish are not counted.
- 614.1.2.4 Marking of the course and terrain
- In DH and in SG the course may be marked using:
- small pine needles or similar material spread on the course, and/or
  - colored dye used on vertically from gate to gate as well as horizontally across the course, notably on the approaches indicating changes in terrain, jumps, etc.
- 614.1.2.5 Spare Poles
- The chief of course is responsible for the availability and correct placing of enough spare poles. The poles are to be placed so that they do not mislead competitors.
- 614.1.3 Warm-up slopes
- Appropriate warm-up slopes closed to the public should be made available.
- 614.1.4 Closing and modification of the course
- A course is closed from the time that the course setting begins. Nobody except for the Jury is permitted to change gates, gate flags, markings, etc. or modify the course structure (jumps, bumps, etc.) on a closed course.
- Competitors are not permitted to enter a closed competition course.
- Trainers, servicemen etc., who are allowed on a closed competition course are to be determined by the Jury.
- Photographers and camera teams are allowed into the closed course area for the necessary documentation of the competition. Their total number can be limited by the Jury. They will be located by the Jury where possible and may only remain in

- this area.
- The Jury or the Organizing Committee may close a course or sections of a course to competitors, trainers, media and service personnel outside of the actual competition or inspection times for preparation and maintenance purposes.
- 614.1.5 Non-essential changes
- In cases of immediate non-essential but necessary changes on the course, such as small removals of gates, an additional inspection or training run is not necessary. Details must be communicated to all team-captains and competitors must be informed by the referee at the start.
- 614.2 Competition
- 614.2.1 Passage of the Gates
- A gate must be passed according to article 661.4.1.
- 614.2.2 Interdiction to Continue after a Gate Fault
- If a competitor misses a gate, he may no longer continue through further gates.
- 614.3 Inspection
- 614.3.1 Jury inspection
- On race day, the Jury inspects the course and has to confirm the FIS program for the day. Team Captains may accompany the Jury.
- 614.3.2 Competitor inspection
- The competitor inspection is held after Jury inspection and after the Jury has opened the course and is normally inspected, from top to bottom of the course. The course must be in racing condition from the time the competitor's inspection starts and the competitors must not be disturbed during the inspection by workers on the course or similar. The competitors are authorised to study the final setting of the course by either skiing down at the side of the course at low speed, or side slipping through the gates (inspection). Skiing through gates or making practice turns parallel to those required by gates on the course is not allowed. Competitors must carry their start numbers. Fenced, roped or blocked off sections of the course or gates must be respected. By the end of the inspection time, Competitors have to be outside the race course. Racers are not permitted to enter the course on foot without skis.
- 614.3.3 Jury decision
- The time and duration of the Competitors inspection is determined by the Jury and scheduled at the team captains meeting. If necessary (e.g. because of special weather conditions), the Jury may decide on special methods of competitors inspection.
- 615 The Finish
- 615.1 The Finish Area
- 615.1.1 The finish area should be plainly visible to competitors approaching the finish. It must be wide with a gently sloped smooth run out.
- 615.1.2 In setting the course with gates particular attention should be paid to directing competitors across the finish on a natural line adapted to the terrain.
- 615.1.3 The finish area is to be fenced in. Any unauthorized entry is not allowed.
- 615.1.4 Finish installations and closures should be set up or secured through suitable protection measures.
- 615.1.7 The competitor must leave the finish area through the official exit with all the competition equipment used in the race.
- 615.2 The Finish Line and its Markings
- The finish line is marked by two posts or vertical banners which may be connected

by a horizontal banner. In DH and SG races, the finish must be not less than 15 m wide and in SL and GS not less than 10 m wide. In exceptional cases, the Jury can only decrease this distance on the spot for technical reasons or because of the terrain. The width of the finish is considered to be the distance between the two finish posts or banners. The supports used to mount the timing devices must also be at least this far apart.

The timing supports can usually be placed behind the finish posts or banners, on the downhill side. The finish line must be clearly marked horizontally with coloring substance.

#### 615.3 Crossing of the finish line and recording of the times

The finish line must be crossed:

- on both skis, or
- on one ski, or
- with both feet in case of a fall between the last gate and the finish line. In this case the time is taken when any part of the competitor's body or equipment stops the timekeeping system.

#### 615.4 Report

The finish referee must make a report to the Referee immediately after the race or the official training.

#### 617 Calculation and Announcement of Results

##### 617.1 Unofficial Times

Times taken by the timekeepers shall be considered unofficial times. They shall be posted on a score-board that shall be readily visible from the area provided for the competitors who have finished, and from the press area. Whenever possible, unofficial times should be announced to the public over loud-speakers.

##### 617.2. Announcement of Unofficial Times and Disqualifications

##### 617.2.1 As soon as possible after completion of the race, unofficial times and disqualifications shall be published on the official notice board and also at the finish.

The time limit for protest is counted from the moment of this announcement.

##### 617.2.2 The announcement of unofficial times at the finish and start, together with written and oral announcement of disqualifications, may replace the publication on the official notice board. In this case, it can be decided that protests can be delivered verbally to the Referee at the finish immediately or, at the latest, within 15 minutes after the announcement of the disqualification and that protests submitted after this are considered null and void. The team captains must be informed beforehand.

##### 617.3 Official Results

##### 617.3.1 Results are determined from the official times of those competitors who have been officially classified.

##### 617.3.2 Combined results are calculated by adding together the race points, or total time, obtained in each discipline of the combined event.

##### 617.3.3 If two or more competitors have the same time or the same number of points, the racer with the higher start number shall be listed first on the official list of results.

##### 617.3.4 The official result list must contain:

- the name of the organizing club or association
- the name of the competition, the site, discipline and category (men or ladies)
- the date of the race
- all technical data such as the name of the course, altitude at start and finish, vertical drop, homologation number and, for DH and SG, the length of the course

- the names and affiliations of the members of the Jury
- for each run, the names and affiliations of the course setter and the forerunners, the number of gates (SL, GS & SG between brackets number of direction changes) and the start time
- the weather, the snow conditions on the course and the air temperature at start and finish areas
- all details concerning the competitors, finish order, start number, code number, name and first name, affiliation, time and race points
- the start number, code number, name, first name and affiliation of those competitors who were not at the start, did not finish or were disqualified in each run
- the names of the official service companies, e.g. timing company, computer service etc.
- Codex and F value
- penalty calculation sheet
- the signature of the Technical Delegate.

##### U617.3.5 The result lists (official and unofficial) as well as the start lists must be printed on white paper:

##### 619 Award Ceremony

The award ceremony may not be held before the completion of the race and not before the Technical Delegate has authorized it.

The organizer has the right to present the probable winners before this time. This presentation is unofficial and is organized at a place different from that of the official award ceremony.

##### 620 Start Order

##### 621 Group Draw and Start Order

##### 621.1 The classification of competitors who are present is made by the Jury

##### 621.2 Except for events for which USSA has approved an alternate method, seed points shall be used for the classification of competitors. If a competitor does not appear in the last valid seed points list, he shall be assigned to that group of competitors without points.

##### 621.3 The starting order of the competitors in all alpine competitions is determined by their seed points (DH, SL, GS and SG). A first group of maximum the 15 best competitors present regardless of affiliation will be drawn.

In case of an equality of points in the 15th rank, the first group can be increased accordingly.

All remaining competitors start in order of their seed points. All competitors without seed points will be drawn in the last group. If in the first 15 competitors present, the point difference between one and the following competitor is too great, the Jury has to decide the number of competitors in the first group. The rest will start in the order of their seed points.

##### U621.3.1 Adaptive athletes competing in regularly calendared USSA competitions with 160 points or less in the discipline, will be seeded in special groups with start order: 16-20... 36-40... 56-60 ... etc. or by seed points, whichever is most favorable. (Placement within groups is by USSA point ranking.)

##### 621.3.2 If the SL run takes place before the DH or SG, competitors who are shown as DNS, DNF or DSQ will start the DH or SG run with their original bib after the last qualified competitor in the SL run.

##### 621.4 If the number without seed points is too great, the Jury must divide them into several groups. In this case, each team announces the groups to which it wishes

- its competitors to belong. Each group is then drawn separately. The Jury shall whenever possible, take into account the observations made during the official DH training and must divide the competitors from several teams fairly between the groups without points. As a rule, each team who has entered competitors without seed points puts one competitor into the first group of competitors without seed points.
- 621.5 The Jury has the right to change the starting order if they consider the condition of the course warrants it.
- 621.6 The draw must take place on the day before the race. For night races, the draw must take place at the latest before noon on the race day.
- 621.7 The first group in DH training must be drawn every day.
- 621.8 The draw (first group and groups without seed points) must be held in a team captains' meeting.  
A double draw is recommended with a simultaneous draw of the start number and the name of the competitor.
- 621.9 The Jury can allow a draw assisted by a computer.
- 621.10 Starting Order in Extraordinary Conditions (Snow Seed)  
In extraordinary conditions, the Jury may change the starting order of a DH race, a GS or a SG (when snowing, etc.). A group of at least six competitors, nominated in advance, start before start number 1. These six competitors are drawn from among the last 20% of the start list. They will start in reverse order of their start numbers.
- 621.11 Starting Order for the 2nd Run
- 621.11.1 Except for events for which USSA has approved an alternate method, in competitions with two runs, the starting order for the second run is determined by the result list of the first run except for the first 30 places.
- 621.11.2 For the first 30 places the starting order is as follows:
  - the 30th in the result list starts 1st
  - the 29th in the result list starts 2nd
  - the 28th in the result list starts 3rd
  - the 27th in the result list starts 4th
  - the 1st in the result list starts 30th
From the 31st onward according to the result list of the first run.  
If more than one competitor is ranked 30th, the competitor with the lowest start number will start first.
- 621.11.3 'Flip/Bibbo 30' format is allowed at all USSA events  
The Jury has the right to decide no later than one hour before the start of the first run whether the reversed order shall be reduced to the first 15 placed competitors from the first run.
- U621.11.3.1 Adaptive athletes who qualify for special seeding in the first run (U621.3.1) will be seeded in special groups with start order: 16-20... 36-40... 56-60... etc. or according to 621.10.2, whichever is most favorable. (Placement within groups will be by the result list of the first run.)  
In the case of a Flip 30 2nd run, the special group starts in the 31st position or in the position immediately following the first run leader when the flip is other than 30.
- 621.11.4 A start list for the second run must be published in good time and made available to the officials at the start for the second run.
- U621.13 Alternate Classification Methods
- U621.13.1 In certain races where both runs are used for scoring purposes, the second run order

- may be determined by special procedures.
- U621.13.2 In non-scored races other rules for determining start order may apply. These must be noted in the race announcement.
- U621.13.3 There are some scored events on the USSA calendar in which modifications to the start order procedures are used. These procedures must be approved in advance by USSA and the divisions involved, and announced in advance. Examples include:
- U621.13.3.1 College and high school team races, where seeding is done on a team basis.
- U621.13.3.2 Certain J1, J2, and J3 events where minimum and maximum representation by seed group are stipulated.
- 622 Start Intervals
- 622.1 Regular intervals  
In DH, GS and SG, competitors will normally start at regular intervals of 60 seconds; for SL see article 805.1. The Jury may fix different intervals.
- 622.2 Special Start Intervals  
The start intervals in DH, SG and if necessary, GS may be changed under the following conditions:
- 622.2.2 The start interval is determined by the Jury.
- 622.2.3 The start interval may not be less than 40 seconds in DH and SG and 30 seconds in GS.
- 623 Re-runs
- 623.1 Prerequisites
- 623.1.1 A competitor who is obstructed while racing must stop immediately after the incident took place and apply to any member of the Jury for a re-run. This claim can also be made by the team captain of the obstructed competitor. The competitor should make his way to the finish along the side of the course.
- 623.1.2 In special situations (e.g. in case of missing gates or other technical failures), the Jury may order a re-run.
- 623.1.3 If a competitor is stopped by a yellow flag, he has the right to a re-run, under the condition that the Jury considers this possible from an organizational point of view. The Jury should ensure that the competitor's re-run takes place before the last competitor on the start list of the race, or training run in the case of DH (see 705.2, 705.3).
- 623.2 Grounds for Interference
- 623.2.1 Blocking of the course by an official, a spectator, an animal or other obstruction.
- 623.2.2 Blocking of the course by a fallen competitor who did not clear the course soon enough.
- 623.2.3 Objects in the course such as a lost ski pole or the ski of a previous competitor.
- 623.2.4 Activities of the first aid service which obstruct the racer.
- 623.2.5 Absence of a gate knocked down by a previous competitor that has not been promptly replaced.
- 623.2.6 Other similar incidents beyond the will and control of the competitor, which cause significant loss of speed or a lengthening of the racing line and, consequently, affect the competitors time.
- 623.2.7 Interruption by an official in a "yellow zone" (see 623.1.3).
- 623.3 Validity of a Re-run
- 623.3.1 In case the Referee or another Jury member is unable to question the appropriate officials immediately or to judge the justification for the re-run he may grant a provisional re-run, to avoid delay for the competitor. This re-run will be valid only

if it is confirmed by the Jury.

623.3.2 If the competitor was already disqualified before the incident entitling him to a re-run, the re-run is not valid.

623.3.3 The provisional or definitively approved run remains valid even if it proves slower than the obstructed one.

623.4 Start Time of the Re-run

623.4.1 In the case of fixed start intervals, the competitor may start at the fixed interval after he has reported to the Start Referee in accordance with the decision of the Start Referee.

623.4.2 With non-fixed start intervals, the procedure is in accordance with the provisions of article 805.3.

624 Interruption of the Run or Training

If an interrupted run cannot be finished on the same day, it is to be treated as a terminated run.

624.1 By the Jury

624.1.1 to allow course maintenance or to allow a fairer and more consistent course for all competitors.

624.1.2 for unfavorable or inconsistent weather and snow conditions

624.1.2.1 The race is to be restarted as soon as the work on the course has finished and if the weather and snow conditions have so changed that a proper competition can be assured.

624.1.2.2 A repeated interruption of the race ordered for the same reason should lead to a termination. A DH, a SG, as well as one run of SL or GS may not last longer than four hours.

624.2 Brief interruption

Each member of the Jury is entitled to order a brief interruption of the run, also on request of a gate judge.

625 Termination of a Competition and Report

625.1 by the Jury

- if the competitors are significantly affected by outside disturbing influences
- if different conditions arise or the proper conduct of the race seems to be no longer guaranteed.

625.2 by the Technical Delegate

- in the case of extraordinary circumstances

626 Report

For all interruption or termination of a competition (Art. 624 and 625), a fully detailed report is to be made by the TD to the USSA. The report has to contain a well-founded recommendation whether the terminated competition is to be taken into consideration for USSA points or not.

627 Not permitted to Start

A competitor will not be permitted to start in any USSA competition who:

627.1 wears obscene names and/or symbols on clothing and equipment or behaves in an unsportsmanlike manner in the start area (205.5),

627.2 violates the USSA rules in regard to equipment (222),

627.4 trains on a course closed for competitors (614.4),

627.5 in training for DH has not participated in at least one timed training run (704.8.3),

627.6 does not wear a crash helmet that conforms to the competition equipment specifications (707, 807, 907, 1007), or does not have ski brakes on his/her skis

(606.3),

627.7 was disqualified (DSQ), did not start (DNS) or did not finish (DNF) in the first run. SC races are exempt from this rule. A competitor who was DSQ, DNS or DNF in the SL can start the speed event. If the speed event precedes the SL run the exemption does not apply. (621.3.3)

627.8 If a competitor has actually started in a competition and is later determined by the Jury to have been in violation of these rules the Jury must sanction the competitor.

628 Penalties

A penalty will be assessed by the Jury where the competitor:

628.1 violates the rules regarding obscene names and/or symbols on clothing and equipment (207.1)

628.2 alters the start number in a way that is not allowed (606.1),

628.3 does not wear or carry the official start number according to the rules. (704.6, 804.1, 904, 1004.1),

628.4 skis through a gate or practices turns parallel to those required by gates on the course or otherwise violates the rules of Competitors inspection (614.3),

628.5 is not ready to start on time or makes a false start (613.6, 613.7, 805.3.1, 805.4, 1106.3),

628.6 violates rules of the start or starts in another manner than is permitted according to the rules (613.3),

628.7 requests a re-run which proves not to be valid (623.3.2),

628.8 continues to race after committing a gate fault (614.2.2),

628.9 fails to pass the finish in accordance with article 615.3,

628.11 does not leave the finish area through the official exit with all the competition equipment used in the race (615.1.7),

628.13 receives outside help during a competition (661.3),

U628.14 continues on a DH or SG course during a training run or race after a fall, stopping, or being overtaken.

U628.15 continues on a course after losing a ski except as allowed by article U629.4.

629 Disqualifications

A competitor will be disqualified if he:

629.1 participates in the race under false pretenses,

629.2 either jeopardizes the security of persons or property or actually causes injury or damage

629.3 does not pass through a gate correctly (661.4), or does not start within the time limits defined by article 613.7.

U629.4 loses a ski more than two gates above the finish in SL, GS or SG or more than one gate above the finish in DH.

This shall be considered a clear disqualification. The competitor may not continue on the course.

640 Protests

640.1 A Jury may only accept a protest if it is based upon physical evidence or eyewitness testimony.

640.2 A Jury is only permitted to re-evaluate its previous opinions where new evidence exists that relates to the original jury opinion.

640.3 All Jury decisions are final except those that may be protested under 641 or appealable under 647.1.1.

641 Types of Protests

- 641.1 Against admittance of competitors or their competition equipment,
- 641.2 Against the course or its condition,
- 641.3 Against a competitor or against an official during the race,
- 641.4 Against disqualifications,
- 641.5 Against timekeeping,
- 641.6 Against instructions of the Jury,
- 642 Place of Submittal  
The various protests are to be submitted as follows:
- 642.1 Protests according to the article 641.1 - 641.6 at the location designated on the official notice board or at a place announced at a team captains' meeting.
- 642.2 Protest according to the article 624 with the appropriate level appeals committee for Jury decisions.
- 643 Deadlines for Submittal
- 643.1 Against the admittance of a competitor: before the draw.
- 643.2 Against the course or its condition:
  - not later than 60 minutes before the beginning of the race.
- 643.3 Against a competitor or competitor's equipment or against an official because of irregular behavior during the competition:
  - within 15 minutes after the last competitor has passed the finish.
- 643.4 Against disqualification:
  - within 15 minutes after the posting or announcement of the disqualification.
- 643.5 Against the timekeeping:
  - within 15 minutes after the posting of the unofficial result list.
- 643.6 Against all instructions of the Jury:
  - immediately and no later than the deadlines for submittal of protest according to the article 643.4.
- 644 Form of Protests
- 644.1 Protests are, as a rule, submitted in writing.
- 644.2 As exceptions, protests according to the article 641.3, 641.4 and 641.5 can be made verbally (617.2.2).
- 644.3 Protests must be substantiated in detail. Proof must be submitted and any evidence must be included.
- 644.4 \$50 must be deposited with the submittal of the protest; \$100 if the protest is against equipment. This deposit will be returned if the protest is upheld; otherwise it goes to the account of the organizer or to USSA.
- U644.4.1 The Jury may set a lesser protest fee.
- 644.5 A protest may be withdrawn by the protesting party before the publication of a decision by the Jury.  
In this case, the money deposit must be returned. A withdrawal of the protest is, however, no longer possible when the Jury or a member of the Jury takes, for reasons of time, an intermediate decision, e.g. a decision "with reserve".
- 644.6 Protests not submitted on time or submitted without the protest fee are not to be considered.
- 645 Authorization  
The following are authorized to submit protests:
  - the participating organizations
  - the trainers and

- team captains.
- 646 Settlement of Protests by the Jury
- 646.1 The Jury meets to deal with the protests at a predetermined place and time fixed and announced by it.
- 646.2 In dealing with a protest against disqualification (661.4), the gate judge and, if needed, also the gate judge of the adjacent gate combinations or other involved officials, the competitor in question and the protesting team captain or trainer shall be invited to attend.  
In addition any other requested evidence such as videotape, photos, films should be checked.
- 646.3 At the vote on the protest, only the Jury members are to be present. The TD chairs the proceedings. Minutes of the proceedings are to be kept and signed by all voting members of the Jury. The decision requires a majority of all voting members of the Jury, not just of those present. In case of a tie, the TD's vote is decisive.  
The principle of a free evaluation of the evidence is maintained. The rules on which the decision is to be based shall be applied and interpreted in such a way that fair proceedings, taking into account the maintenance of discipline, are guaranteed.
- 646.4 The decision is to be made public immediately after the proceedings by posting on the official notice board with the publication time stated.
- 647 Right of Appeal
- 647.1 The Appeal
- 647.1.1 Can be made:
  - against the decisions of the Jury,
  - against the decision of the Jury to terminate a race (625),
  - against the recommendation of the Jury that a terminated competition should count for USSA points,
  - against the official result lists. This appeal has to be directed exclusively against an obvious and proved calculation mistake.
- 647.1.2 Appeals must be submitted to the appropriate level Jury decision appeals committee (642.2).
- 647.1.3 Deadlines
- 647.1.3.1 Appeals against the decisions of the Jury are to be submitted within 24 hours of their publication.
- 647.1.3.2 Appeals against the official results are to be submitted to USSA within 30 days, including the day of the race.
- 647.1.4 The decision concerning appeals are taken by:
  - the appropriate Jury decision appeals Committee
- 647.2 Postponing effect  
The evidence submitted (protest, appeal) may not cause a postponement of the appeal.
- 647.3 Submission  
All evidence must be in writing to be substantiated. Proof and evidence are to be included. Evidence submitted too late, must be declined by the appropriate Appeals Committee.
- 650 Rules about the Homologation of the Courses
- 650.1 General  
All USSA sanctioned events (DH, SG, GS and SL) both scored and non-scored, including Masters, must be run on courses that have been approved by USSA or

- by FIS. Courses not meeting the minimum vertical drops requirements will be registered, and an inspection certificate provided. Registered courses are subject to all rules pertaining to homologated courses.
- 650.1.1 All FIS-homologated trails are automatically accepted as meeting USSA course approval standards.
- 650.1.2 Courses for night competitions  
All courses used for night competitions must be homologated for use with artificial light. The courses must meet the illumination standards of the National Ski Areas Association. The inspection of these courses must be made on snow at night.
- 650.2 Initial Request (application)  
The initial request for the homologation or rehomologation of a course is to be directed to the USSA Alpine Courses Working Group by submitting the application form and appropriate fee to the working group chair.
- 650.3 Completed report package (inspector's report and accompanying documentation)  
The completed report requesting homologation must be submitted to the working group chair and shall include the documents listed below in 650.4 in approved digital format(s).
- 650.3.1 Following review and approval, the chair of the Alpine Courses Working Group will provide signed digital copies of the report and documentation (PDF book) and digital copies of the official certificate to:
- 650.3.1.1 The USSA office
- 650.3.1.2 The organizing club or ski area
- 650.3.1.2.1 The original certificate will be sent to the postal address as indicated on the inspector's report
- 650.3.1.3 The inspector in charge of the examination
- 650.4 Documents  
The request for the homologation of a course must be accompanied by the following six documents or equivalents to the satisfaction of the inspector and the working group chair (individual documents may be combined, provided that all of the required information is included):
- 650.4.1 A description of the course, containing:
- the name of the course
  - the geographical location of the course
  - the start point expressed in meters above sea level
  - the finish point expressed in meters above sea level
  - the vertical drop expressed in meters
  - the surface length (inclined length) of the course expressed in meters
  - the average, maximum and minimum gradients (in percentages)
  - evacuation arrangements for injured competitors
  - possible water supply
  - artificial snowmaking installations
  - a description of access to the start and finish areas - the uphill transport with hourly capacity, (persons)
  - a description of the places requiring nets or other protective installations
  - evacuation distance to the nearest hospital in kilometers
  - Contact address with telephone, fax number, postal and email address.
- 650.4.2 A map in suitable scale, with contour lines and the course drawn on it, and start and finish locations indicated.

- 650.4.3 A profile indicating the vertical drop and length of the course, approximately in the same scale as the topographical map 650.4.2. (Vertical to horizontal ratio of the profile preferred to be approximately 1:1).
- 650.4.4 A photograph with adequate resolution on which the course is marked. It must be a genuine photograph, preferably digital, and not a graphic representation from a prospectus. The photograph should be provided for a normal size of 8"x10" when printed. The photograph should be taken preferably from an opposite slope. If that is not possible, then an oblique aerial photograph will be acceptable. Appropriate images from online sources are acceptable.
- 650.4.5 A sketch of the entire course in suitable scale with all details and data indicated, such as lift towers, groups of trees, snowmaking hydrants, snow fences, steep sections, curves, trail intersections, etc. and information on elevations, section and resort names. The purpose of the sketch is primarily to provide the inspector with condensed information on the actual state of the course, any improvements planned and also the location of protective installations (nets, etc.).
- 650.5 Appointment of an Inspector  
The chair of the USSA Alpine Courses Working Group will review the homologation application and appoint an inspector to examine the course.  
The inspector for DH courses must not belong to the organization requesting a first homologation, or be from the same state.  
The courses proposed for homologation must comply with the technical requirements of articles 701, 801, 901 and 1001 (and/or according to the valid rules for registered courses not meeting minimum vertical drop according to these articles).  
Sufficient space must be provided on DH, GS and SG courses, or on an emergency track or road or on the competition course itself, for the evacuation of competitors injured during the competition.
- 650.6 Homologation Procedure
- 650.6.1 The Applicant  
The applicant club or organizer will send the application requesting homologation to the chair of the USSA Alpine Courses Working Group.  
The homologation fee of \$150 per USSA course should be submitted with the application. This sum covers the administrative costs. The inspector's daily per diem, travel and living expenses must be paid to him directly by the applicant (club or ski area).
- 650.6.2 Refer to 650.6.6.1 and 650.6.6.2 regarding duration of validity of homologations according to event.
- 650.6.3 The Inspector  
After the request for homologation has been received by the chair of the USSA Alpine Courses Working Group, the chair will appoint an inspector. The inspector promptly contacts the applicant about the time for the inspection. The inspector will request a copy of the required documentation part of the inspection package. After the inspection, he/she writes the inspection report, noting any required improvements, marking these on the course plan. After checking all other documents, he/she sends the complete set of documents to the chair of the USSA Alpine Courses Working Group. The latter will examine and ratify them and send a copy and a certificate to each of the following:
- the USSA office
  - the applicant

- the inspector
- Normally, initial inspections of a course should be done in the summer or fall. It is left to the discretion of the inspector to decide whether, in addition to the summer inspection, a second inspection in winter will be necessary in consideration of different conditions in winter. This applies especially to protection recommendations and the placing of nets and other devices. Rehomologations, when there are no changes made, may be done on-snow.
- 650.6.3.1 Ratification of the inspection report and documentation  
The chair of the USSA Alpine Courses Working Group will ratify the inspection report and attached documentation by signature and date. The chair may require correction of any errors or request clarification or additional documentation by the inspector or place prior to ratification.
- 650.6.4 Issue of the USSA Homologation Certificate  
If the inspection report is affirmative and no further work is needed, the chair of the USSA Alpine Courses Working Group will send the original of the homologation certificate to the applicant and a digital copy to the USSA Office.  
The homologation certificate itself sets out the name and type of the course and its technical data.  
For all courses, the expiry date is indicated.  
The homologation certificate will only be issued if all fees, including inspector expenses, are paid.
- 650.6.5 Expiration of the Application  
If work requested has not been completed within five years after the inspection is carried out and the homologation cannot be granted, the site (course) in question will be deleted from the list of pending homologation applications. For further consideration a new application, with fee, is required.
- 650.6.6 Validity of the Homologation Certificate
- 650.6.6.1 For DH and SG courses (both approved and registered) the certificate is valid for five years from the date of issue. After that a new application for rehomologation must be made.
- 650.6.6.2 For GS and SL courses (both approved and registered) the certificate is valid for ten years from the date of issue. After that a new application for rehomologation must be made.
- 650.6.6.3 For all Disciplines  
Homologation certificates are valid (within periods in article 650.6.6.1) as long as no natural or artificial changes or changes in the regulations or technical requirements have occurred.  
Natural changes can consist of:
- erosion, landslides or the terrain becoming overgrown.
- Artificial changes are:
- the construction of buildings, lifts,
  - the construction of shelters, parks, roads or tracks etc.,
  - the installation of snowmaking hydrants, snow retention fences or other significant hardware,
  - significant increasing or decreasing of the elevation(s) of start and/or finish location(s).
- 650.6.7 Compulsory Report  
The applicant must report to the inspector and to the USSA Alpine Courses

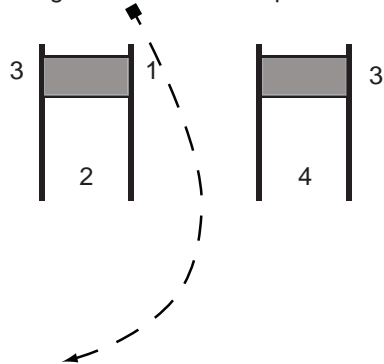
Working Group chair when required improvements have been carried out.

#### Supplementary Reports

USSA Technical Delegates should submit the Supplementary Report of the TD to indicate that reinspection may be needed in cases of changes per 650.6.6.3. This report is to be submitted directly to the working group chair copy to the organizing club (only).

- 650.6.8 Publication  
The USSA Office publishes the official list of all homologated and registered courses.
- 650.6.9 Relationship Between Homologation, Snow and Weather as well as Special Conditions  
An organizer should not depend entirely on the homologation of a course by USSA, but also take note of the prevailing snow and weather conditions (e.g. a DH course homologated by USSA may be unsuitable for holding DH races when there is insufficient snow depth, unfavorable surface snow conditions, dense fog, heavy snow fall, storm or rain).
- 660 Gate Judge Instructions
- 661 Control of Passage (Explanation) - see diagram next page
- 661.1 Each gate judge must receive a check card along with weatherproof covering where necessary, for each run that will show:
- name of the gate judge
  - number(s) of the gate(s) for which he is responsible and
  - designation of the run (1st or 2nd)
- 661.2 If a competitor does not pass a gate (or gate marker) correctly according to article 661.4 the gate judge must immediately and clearly mark on the check card:
- the (bib) start number of the competitor
  - the gate number where the fault was made
  - a drawing of the fault committed is essential
- 661.3 The gate judge must also observe that the competitor accepts no outside help (e.g. in the case of a fall) (628.1.3). A fault of this nature must likewise be entered on the check card.
- 661.4 Correct Passage
- 661.4.1 A gate has been passed correctly when both the competitors' ski tips and both feet have passed across the gate line. If a competitor loses a ski without committing a fault, e.g. not by straddling a SL pole, then the tip of the remaining ski and both feet must have passed the gate line.  
This rule is also valid when a competitor has to climb back up to a gate.
- 661.4.1.1 The gate line in DH, GS and SG, where a gate consists of two pairs of poles holding gate flags between them, is the imaginary shortest line between the two inner poles at snow level (661).
- 661.4.1.2 The gate line in SL is the imaginary shortest line between the turning pole and the outside pole.
- 661.4.1.3 If a competitor removes a pole from its vertical position before both the competitor's ski tips and both feet have passed the gate line, the ski tips and feet must still pass the original gate line (marking in the snow). This is also valid in the case of a missing turning pole (or gate).
- 661.4.2 In Parallel SL, the passage is correct when both ski tips and both feet have passed outside the gate marker in the direction of the turn (661).

Fig A Giant Slalom/Super G/Downhill



- 1. Turning Pole
- 2. Turning Gate
- 3. Outside Pole
- 4. Outside Gate

Fig B Parallel

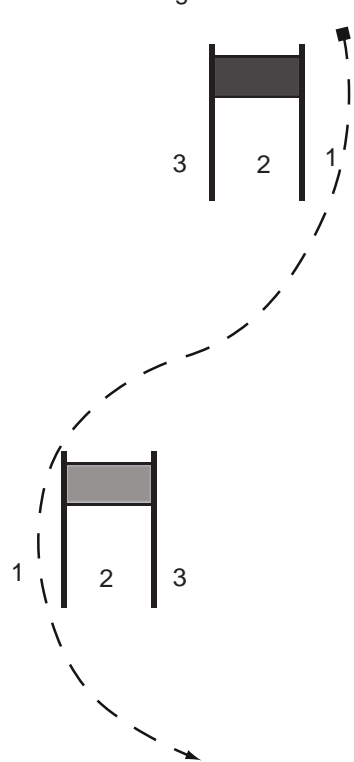
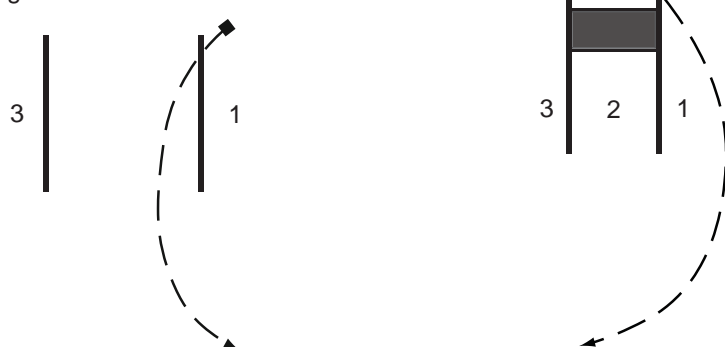


Fig C Slalom



662 Importance of the Task of the Gate Judge

- 662.1 Each gate judge should have a thorough knowledge of the competition rules.
- 662.2 The gate judge is required to follow instructions from the Jury.
- 662.3 The decision handed down by the gate judge must be clear and unbiased and the gate judge must declare a fault only when he is convinced that a fault has been committed.

662.4 The gate judge can consult the adjacent gate judge in order to confirm notes. He can even demand via a member of the Jury that the race be briefly interrupted, so that a check can be made of the tracks on the course.

662.5 When an adjacent gate judge, a member of the Jury, or an official video controller makes a report concerning a competitor which differs from the notes of the gate judge in question, the Jury may freely interpret these notes in view of a possible disqualification of a competitor or of a decision concerning a protest.

663 Giving Information to a Competitor

663.1 A competitor, in the case of an error or a fall, is permitted to ask the gate judge if a fault was committed, and the gate judge, where possible, must inform a competitor if he has committed a fault that would lead to disqualification.

U663.1.1 In either case with a clear, decisive voice, the gate judge answers the competitor's question or informs him with one of the following words:

U663.1.2 "Go!" if the competitor should expect no disqualification, since the gate judge has ruled the gate passage as correct,

U663.1.3 "Back!" if the competitor may expect disqualification.

663.2 The competitor himself is fully responsible for his action and, in this respect, he cannot hold the gate judge responsible.

664 Immediate Announcement of Disqualifying Faults

664.1 Particularly in SL the decision can be made that the gate judge will signal a disqualifying fault immediately.

664.2 The immediate indication of a disqualifying fault can be made in the following ways:

664.2.1 In good visibility by raising a flag of a particular color.

664.2.2 In bad visibility or fog, by a sound signal.

664.2.3 By other means as provided by the organizers.

664.3 The immediate announcement does not relieve the gate judge from recording on his check card.

664.4 The gate judge is required to give information to the Jury members on request.

665 Duties of the Gate Judge on completion of the 1st and 2nd run

665.1 The chief gate judge (or his assistant) is required to collect all the check cards immediately after each run and to pass them on to the Referee in the finish.

666 Duties of the Gate Judge at the Conclusion of the Race

666.1 Each gate judge who has recorded a disqualifying fault or who has been witness to an incident leading to a re-run must be available to the Jury until after the settlement of any protests.

666.2 It is the responsibility of the Technical Delegate to dismiss a gate judge who is waiting to be called by the Jury.

667 Supplemental Duties of the Gate Judge

667.1 The gate judge may be asked to perform other duties after he performs his required function, including the replacement of gate poles and torn or missing banners.

667.1.2 He should assist in keeping the course clear and removing any markings made on the course by competitor or third parties.

667.2 A competitor who is obstructed during his run, must stop immediately and report this to the nearest gate judge. The gate judge must enter the circumstances of the incident on his check card and have this available for the Jury at the end of the 1st or 2nd run.

668 Location and Support of the Gate Judge

- 668.1 The gate judge must be so placed that he can properly observe the terrain or the gates and course sections which he is to oversee, near enough to be able to take prompt action, but distant enough not to hinder the competitor.
- 668.2 Organizers are obliged to outfit the gate judges so that they are readily identifiable. The method of identification or clothing should be of such color as not to be confused with a gate flag.
- 668.3 The gate judge should be in their location well before the start of the run. It is advisable for the organizers to provide some form of nourishment during the run.
- 668.4 Any equipment necessary to permit the gate judge to perform his assigned duties should be provided.
- 669 Number of Gate Judges
- 669.1 The organizer is responsible for having a sufficient number of competent gate judges available who are able to fulfill their duties.
- 669.2 The organizer must inform the Jury of the number of gate judges available for the training and particularly for the race.
- 670 Video control
- When the organizer has the technical installation for an official video control, the Jury will appoint an official video controller. The duties of the video controller are to observe the competitors passage on the course.
- 680 Poles
- All poles used in the alpine disciplines are described as slalom poles and are subdivided into rigid poles and flex poles.
- 680.1 Rigid Poles
- Round, uniform poles with a diameter between a minimum of 20 mm and a maximum of 32 mm without joints are allowed as rigid poles. They must be of such a length that when set, they project about 1.80 m out of the snow and they must be made of a non-splintering material (plastic, plasticized bamboo or material with similar properties).
- For DH a maximum diameter of 50 mm (Rigid poles) and Flex poles (max 35 mm) is allowed.
- 680.2 Flex poles
- Flex poles are fitted with a spring loaded hinge. They must conform to FIS specifications.
- 680.2.1 Use of Flex poles
- Flex poles must be used for all alpine competitions except DH. The use of flex-poles may be requested by the Jury for DH.
- 680.2.1.1 SL
- The slalom poles must be colored red or blue. The turning pole must be a flex-pole.
- 680.2.1.2 GS and SG
- In GS and SG two pairs of slalom poles are used, each pair carrying a gate flag. The banners should be fixed or tied so they should tear or break away from one pole. The turning pole(s) must be flex-pole(s).

### Section 3 Particular Rules for the different Disciplines

#### 700 Downhill (DH)

- 701 Technical Data
- 701.1 Vertical Drop for scored competitions  
- 400 m - 700 m

- 701.2 Course Length
- The course length has to be measured by a measuring tape, wheel or GPS and printed on the start and the results list.
- 701.3 Gates
- 701.3.1 A DH gate consists of four slalom poles and two flags.
- 701.3.1.1 Courses are marked with red or blue gates (701.3.2).
- 701.3.1.2 If men and women use the same course, the additional gates for women must be blue.
- 701.3.2 For flags rectangular cloth panels are to be used, approximately 0.75 m wide by 1 m high. They are to be fastened on the poles, so that they can be recognized as easily as possible by the competitors. In place of red cloth a luminous orange color may be used. In the event that the safety netting is the same color as the gate flags (usually red or blue), where the gates cannot be seen properly against the backdrop of the safety netting, an alternative color for the gate flags (usually blue or red) may be used on those gates.
- 701.3.3 The width of the gates must be at least 8 m.
- 702 The Courses
- 702.1 Joint Regulations for DH Courses
- 702.2 General Characteristics of the Courses
- A DH is characterized by the six components of technique, courage, speed, risk, condition and judgement. It must be possible to ski the DH course from the start to the finish with different speeds. The athlete adapts speed and performance to his ski technical skills and to his individual self-responsible judgement.
- 702.3 Particular Regulations for the Course Layout
- Courses should normally be approximately 30 m wide. The inspector assigned for course homologation decides whether this width is sufficient and if necessary may order widening. He can also permit a width of less than 30 m depending on the line and terrain requirements, as long as the areas of the course before and after the narrow part permits this. Fall zones should be planned, where necessary, on the outside of curves. Possibilities to control speed should be made specifically for the approach to lips, drop offs and jumps.
- Not all parts of the course need necessarily to be skied at full speed.
- Surfaces may be left in their natural state.
- Obstacles against which competitors may be thrown by leaving the course should be as well protected as possible with high safety nets, safety fences, pads or similar means if necessary, together with slip-sheets.
- The function of safety installations must withstand weather conditions typical for alpine skiing.
- 702.4 Means of Transport
- Access to the start must be provided by lifts or shuttle service.
- 703 Course Setting
- 703.1 Setting of the Gates
- 703.1.1 Gates shall be set to delineate the desired racing line.
- 703.1.2 Before difficult jumps and difficult passages the speed should be controlled by appropriate course setting where possible.
- 703.1.3 At places where the outside gate must be removed, in exceptional cases decided by the Jury, the turning gate serves as a gate.
- 703.2 Preparation and Inspection of the Course

- 703.2.1 For all DH competitions listed in the USSA calendar, the race course should be completely prepared and race-ready before the first Jury inspection. It should be available with all of the installations as set out in the technical advisor's or homologation report, or as agreed between the organizer and TD prior to the arrival of the teams.
- 703.2.2 Before the start of the training on the first official training day, there must be an inspection by the Jury with the technical advisor, if present and generally also in the presence of the team captains or trainers.
- 703.2.3 Before the start of the first official training the competitors shall conduct a complete inspection of the course.
- 703.2.4 The members of the Jury shall be available at the finish to receive requests and suggestions regarding the course, training, etc. from the competitors and trainers.
- 704 Official Training
- 704.1 Obligation to Participate  
The official training forms an inseparable part of the competition. The competitors are required to participate in the training.  
If substitutes are authorized, they must take part in the official training.
- 704.2 Duration  
Three days are scheduled for the inspection and official training.
- 704.2.1 In general a race shall be postponed or canceled if article 704.2 cannot be observed. A reduction to two training days or at least two training runs can be decided on by the Jury.
- 704.2.2 The official training need not necessarily be on consecutive days.
- 704.3 Race-ready Preparation  
The entire facilities (start, course, and finish area) must be completely prepared as for racing by the first official training day.
- 704.3.1 All crowd control barriers must be completed.
- 704.4 First Aid and Medical Service  
The first aid and medical services must be completely operational during all training times.
- 704.6 Training Numbers  
For all official training runs the competitors have to wear the training numbers (bibs) as for racing.
- 704.7 Starting Order  
The start referee, or an official appointed by the Jury, shall verify from a start list that the competitors start the training in the order of the training numbers, and further that start intervals of at least 40 seconds are maintained.
- 704.8 Timed Training
- 704.8.1 During at least one of the last two training days the times must be taken.
- 704.8.2 The recorded times for the different runs of a training day must be announced by the publication of training result lists or by loud speaker. The scoreboard can be put to use. The times however, must be given to the team captains at the latest at the team captains meeting.
- 704.8.3 A competitor must participate in at least one timed training run.
- 704.8.4 In case of a fall, or stopping, or being overtaken during a training run, the competitor must leave the race course. Continuing on the DH course during the current training is not permitted. He may, however, move along the edge of the course to the finish.

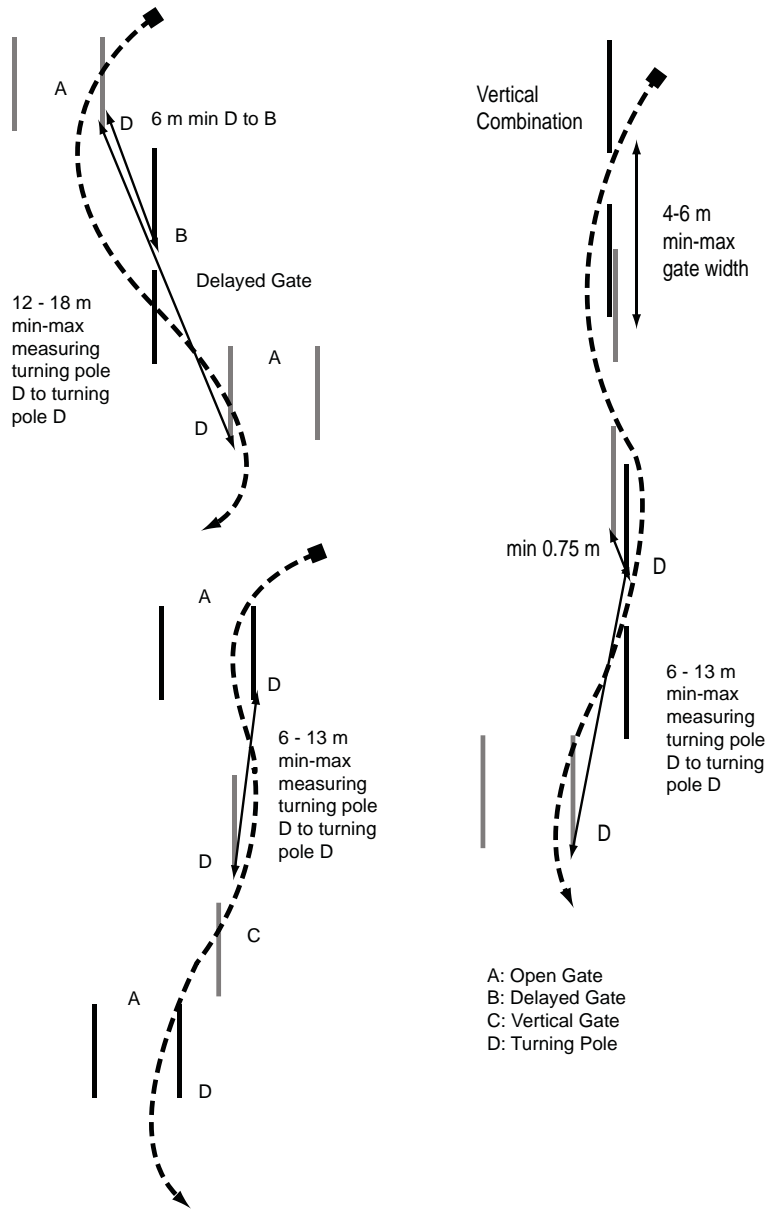
- 704.8.5 In case of atmospheric changes (snowfall etc.) between the last training day and the day of the race, an inspection of the course can be organized for the competitors on the day of the race accompanied by the members of the Jury.
- 704.8.6 Whenever possible, one training should take place at the same time as that scheduled for the race.
- 705 Yellow Zones
- 705.1 Inspection  
The Jury may, if required, establish yellow zones for the training and for the race. These must be equipped with yellow or yellow/black flags that can be waved to alert the following competitor. The zones must be designated before the first inspection and should be recognizable by the competitors.
- 705.2 Training  
When a competitor is stopped in training within the yellow zone, he has the right to re-start from the point where he has been stopped.  
At the request of the competitor, the respective Jury member may allow him a re-run if this is possible from the point of view of the organization and the necessary delay. In this case it is the responsibility of the competitor to present himself to the start referee before the last competitor has started, otherwise this authorization will be withdrawn.
- 705.3 Race  
When a competitor is stopped during the race he has the right to a re-run under the condition that the Jury considers it possible from an organizational point of view. The Jury should ensure that the competitor's re-run takes place before the last competitor on the start list of the race.
- U705.3.1 In case of being stopped, a fall, or being overtaken (in either a race or a training run), the competitor must leave the race course. Continuing on the course is not permitted. The competitor should move along the edge of the course to the first available exit.
- 705.4 Obligation  
When a competitor is waved down by a yellow flag he must stop immediately.
- 705.5 Commands  
On the command "start stop!" the start referee must close the start. On the command "start stop, yellow flag stop!" the start referee must close the start. The start referee must respond immediately via radio that the start is closed, and state the start number of the last competitor to have started as well as the start number of the competitor held at the start ("start stop confirmed, number 23 on course, number 24 at the start").  
The Jury member who called the "start stop" is furthermore responsible for requesting yellow flag(s) that are necessary to stop competitor(s) on course.
- 706 Execution of the DH
- 706.1 Downhill in One Run  
A DH will be carried out in one run.
- 706.2 Downhill in Two Runs
- 706.2.1 If the topography of a region does not permit a DH with the required vertical drop, a DH in two runs can be organized.
- U706.2.1.1 The combined time of the two runs must be a minimum of 60 seconds.
- 706.2.2 The result will be determined by the addition of the two runs.  
The rule "Starting order for the 2nd run" (621.10) will be used.
- 706.2.3 All the rules for the DH are valid for the race in two runs. The Jury will rule in case

- of problems caused by the course, the training and the two runs.
- 706.2.4 The two runs should be run on the same day.
- U706.2.6 In instances where the vertical drop requirements cannot be met, but the total time is sufficient for scoring, the TD must indicate in the report and on the race transmittal sheet that the race should be scored despite the vertical drop deficiency.
- 707 Helmets  
All competitors and forerunners are obliged to wear a helmet that conforms to the competition equipment specifications. This is valid for the official training as well as for the race. See specifications as an addendum later in this chapter.
- U708 Participation  
J3 competitors may compete in DH on courses that meet the standards for children's courses (U1253).

## 800 Slalom (SL)

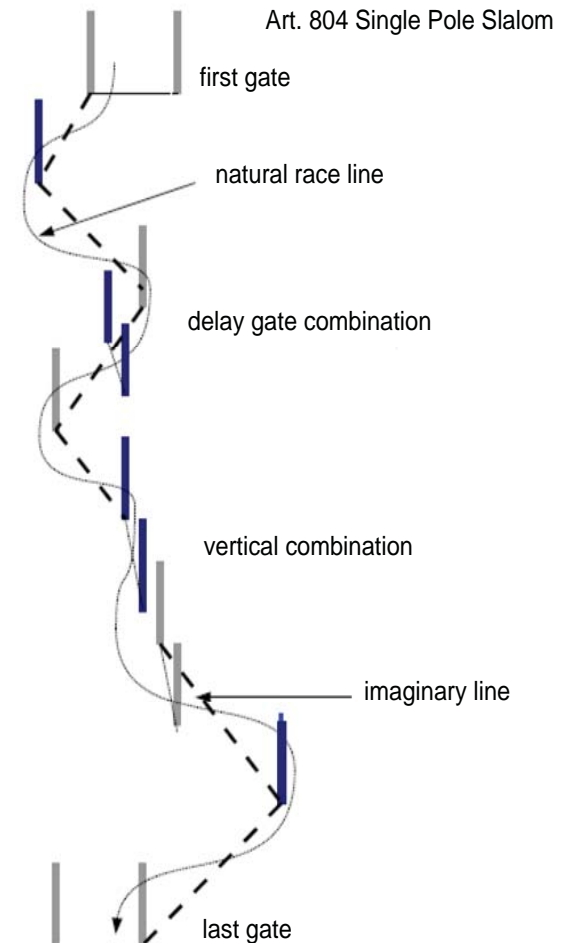
- 801 Technical Data
- 801.1 Vertical Drop
- 801.1.1 Men's Courses
- 100-220 m
- 801.1.2 Ladies' Courses
- 100-200 m
- U801.1.3 If the topography of a region does not permit a SL with the required vertical drop, a shorter course may be used. The combined time of the two runs must be a minimum of 50 seconds.
- U801.1.4 In instances where the vertical drop requirements cannot be met, but the total time is sufficient for scoring, the TD must indicate in the report and on the race transmittal sheet that the race should be scored despite the vertical drop deficiency.
- 801.2 Gates
- 801.2.1 A SL gate consists of two slalom poles (680).
- 801.2.2 Consecutive gates must alternate in color.
- 801.2.3 A gate must have a minimum width of 4 m and a maximum of 6 m.  
The distance from turning pole to turning pole of successive gates must not be less than 6 m and not more than 13 m (exception Children's competitions - not more than 12 m, recommended 10 m).  
The distance between gate combinations (hairpin or vertical) must not be less than 0.75 m and not more than 1 m. The gates in hairpin or vertical combinations must be set in a straight line. Delayed gates must have a minimum distance of 12 m and a maximum distance of 18 m from turning pole to turning pole (the distance from turning pole to the top of a delay must be a minimum of 6 m).
- 801.2.4 Number of Direction Changes:  
30% to 35% of the vertical drop, +/- 3 direction changes
- 802 The Courses
- 802.1 General Characteristics of the Course
- 802.1.1 The course must be set on slopes with a gradient of approximately 33% to 45%. It may even be below approximately 33%, but may exceed approximately 52% only in very short parts of the course.
- 802.1.2 The ideal SL course, taking into consideration the drop and the gradient specified above, must include a series of turns designed to allow the competitors to combine speed with neat execution and precision of turns.

- 802.1.3 The SL should permit the rapid completion of all turns. The course should not require acrobatics incompatible with normal ski technique. It should be a technically clever composition of figures suited to the terrain, linked by single and multiple gates, allowing a fluent run, but testing the widest variety of ski technique, including changes of direction with very different radii. Gates should never be set only down the fall line, but so that some full turns are required, interspersed with traverses.
- 802.1.4 Preparation of the Course  
SL competitions must be raced on a course surface that is as hard as possible. If snow falls during the race, the chief of course must ensure that it is stamped or, if possible, removed from the course.
- 802.2 Width  
The course should normally be approximately 40 m wide, if two runs are set on the same terrain.
- 803 Course Setting
- 803.1 Course Setters
- 803.1.1 Pre-inspection  
This inspection must be carried out by the course setter before he sets the course. The SL should correspond to the average ability of the first 30 competitors.
- 803.2 Number of Gates and Combinations of Gates  
A SL must contain horizontal (open) and vertical (closed) gates as well as a minimum of one and a maximum of three vertical combinations consisting of three to four gates and at least three hairpin-combinations. It must also contain a minimum of one and a maximum of three delay combinations.
- 803.3 Gates and Combinations of Gates - see image next page  
The most important types of gates and combinations of gates are: horizontal (open) gates, vertical (closed) gates, vertical combinations, hairpin-combinations and delay gate combinations.
- 803.4 Setting  
In setting a SL the following principles should be observed:
- 803.4.1 Avoidance of monotonous series of standardized combinations of gates.
- 803.4.2 Gates, which impose on competitors too sudden sharp braking, should be avoided, as they spoil the fluency of the run without increasing the difficulties a modern SL should have.
- 803.4.3 It is advisable before difficult combinations of gates to set at least one gate that allows the competitor to ski through the difficult combination under control.
- 803.4.4 It is not advisable to set difficult gate passages either right at the beginning or end of the course. The last gates should be rather fast, so that the competitor passes the finish at a good speed.
- 803.4.5 The last gate should not be too close to the finish where possible. It should direct competitors toward the middle part of the finish. If the width of the slope necessitates it, the last gate can be common to both courses, provided the prescribed alternation of blue and red gates is maintained.
- 803.4.6 The slalom poles should be fixed (screwed) in by the chief of course or his assistants immediately after they have been set, so that the course setter can supervise the operation.
- 803.5 Checking the SL Course  
The Jury must check that the course is ready for racing once the course setter has set it, paying special attention that:
- The slalom poles are firmly fixed (screwed) in.



- The gates are in the right color order.
- If necessary, the position of the poles is marked.
- The numbers are in the right order on the outside poles.
- The poles are high enough above the snow.
- The two SL courses are far enough from each other to avoid misleading the competitors.

- The reserve poles are correctly placed not to mislead the competitors.
  - Start and finish are in accordance with article 613 and 615.
- 804 Single Pole SL  
All rules of the ACR are valid, except as follows:
- 804.1 Single pole SL is permitted in USSA competitions.
- 804.2 A single pole SL has no outside pole, except for the first and the last gate, delay gates and combinations (hairpin vertical).
- 804.3 Where there is no outside pole, both feet and ski tips must have passed the turning pole on the same side, following the natural race line of the SL. If a competitor loses a ski, without committing a fault, e.g. not by straddling a pole, then the tip of the remaining ski and both feet must have passed the natural gate line. If the racer has not correctly passed the imaginary line from turning pole to turning pole and does not follow the natural race line, then he has to climb back up and pass around the missed turning pole. Where there is an outside pole (first and last gate, delay gate and combinations - hairpin, vertical) art. 661.4.1 is valid. (see also U629.4)



- 805 The Start
- 805.1 Start Intervals  
The start takes place at irregular intervals in SL. The chief of timing and calculations or his assistant tells the starter when each competitor should start, in agreement with the Jury. The competitor on the course need not have passed the finish line before the next competitor starts.
- 805.2 Starting Order
- 805.2.1 In the first run according to the start numbers.
- 805.2.2 For the second run see article 621.10.
- 805.3 Start Signal  
As soon as the starter has received the order for the next start, he gives the competitor the warning “Ready” and a few seconds later the start signal “Go!”. The competitor must start within about 10 seconds after this order.
- 805.3.1 A competitor must appear at latest one minute after being called by the official. Advanced start times caused by the non-arrival of preceding competitors have to be taken into account. The start referee may however, permit a delay that in his opinion is due to “force majeure”. In doubtful cases he may allow the competitor a provisional start, inserted in the normal starting order. The start referee will make the necessary decisions.
- 805.4 Valid Start and False Start  
Each competitor must start according to the article 805.3, otherwise he will be disqualified.
- 806 Execution of the SL
- 806.1 Two runs  
A SL must always be decided by two runs on two different courses. Both courses must be used one after the other in the order decided by the Jury. Division of the competitors into two groups starting simultaneously on both courses is not allowed. Whenever possible, both runs should be held on the same day.
- 806.2 Limitations in the Second Run  
The Jury has the right to reduce the number of competitors in the second run to half, provided that notice was given in the invitation or on the official notice board before the race started, and at the team captains’ meeting before the draw.
- 806.3 Video and Film Control  
A video or film control is recommended.
- U807 Helmets  
All competitors and forerunners must wear a helmet for official training as well as for the race that meets the FIS Equipment Specifications. See specifications later in this chapter.
- U808 Participation  
J3 and younger competitors may compete in SL on courses that meet the standards for children’s courses (U1254).

## 900 Giant Slalom (GS)

- 901 Technical Data
- 901.1 Vertical Drop
- 901.1.1 Men’s Courses  
• 250-450 m
- 901.1.2 Ladies’ Courses

- 250-400 m
- U901.1.3 If the topography of a region does not permit a GS with the required vertical drop, a shorter course may be used. The combined time of the two runs must be a minimum of 50 seconds.
- U901.1.4 In instances where the vertical drop requirements cannot be met, but the total time is sufficient for scoring, the TD must indicate in the report and on the race transmittal sheet that the race should be scored despite the vertical drop deficiency.
- 901.2 The Gates
- 901.2.1 A GS gate consists of four slalom poles (690) and two flags.
- 901.2.2 The gates must be alternately red and blue. The gate flags are to be approximately 75 cm wide and approximately 50 cm high. They are fastened between the poles so that the lower edge of the flag is approximately 1 m above the snow and should be capable of tearing or breaking away from the pole. (also 690)
- 901.2.3 The gates must be at least 4 m and at most 8 m wide. The distance between the nearest poles of two successive gates must not be less than 10 m.
- 901.2.4 The GS has to be set as follows:  
• 11-15% of the vertical drop in meters = number of direction changes by rounding up or down of the decimals.  
The minimum number of gates counts only those requiring change of direction.
- 902 The Courses
- 902.1 General Characteristics of the Courses  
The terrain should preferably be undulating and hilly. The course should normally have a width of approximately 40 m.  
The inspector authorized to homologate the course decides whether this width is adequate and if necessary can order it to be widened. He can also permit a width of less than approximately 40 m depending on the line and terrain requirements, as long as the areas of the course before and after the narrow part enable this.
- 902.2 Preparation of the Course  
The course must be prepared as for the DH race. The parts of the course where gates are set and where competitors have to turn must be prepared as for a SL.
- 903 Course Setting
- 903.1 Setting  
In setting a GS the following principles should be observed:
- 903.1.1 Both runs can be set on the same course but the second run must be re-set.
- 903.1.2 The skilful use of the ground when setting a GS is, in most cases, even more important than for a SL, since combinations play a less important role owing to the prescribed width of the gates and the greater distances between them. It is therefore better to set mainly single gates, while exploiting the ground to the utmost. Combinations can be set, but mainly on uninteresting terrain.
- 903.1.3 A GS consists of a variety of long, medium and short turns. The competitor should be free to choose his own line between the gates. The full width of a hill should be used wherever possible. At places where the outside gate must be removed, in exceptional cases decided by the Jury, the turning gate serves as a gate.
- 904.3 Where there is no outside gate, both feet and ski tips must have passed the turning pole of the turning gate on the same side, following the natural race line of the GS. If a competitor loses a ski, without committing a fault, e.g. not by straddling a pole, then the tip of the remaining ski and both feet must have passed the natural gate line. If the racer has not correctly passed the imaginary line from turning pole to turning pole and does not follow the natural race line, then he has to climb back up

- and pass around the missed turning gate. Where there is an outside gate (first and last gate, delayed gate) art. 661.4.1 is valid. (see also U629.4)
- 905 The Start
- 905.1 In the first run according to the start numbers (621.3 and 622).
- 905.2 Starting order for the second run see article 621.10.
- 906 Execution of the GS
- 906.1 A GS must always be decided by two runs (men and ladies). The second run may be held on the same course, but the gates must be reset. Whenever possible, both runs should be held on the same day.
- 906.2 Video Control  
Article 806.3 is applied - if possible - also for GS.
- 907 Helmets  
All competitors and forerunners are obliged to wear a helmet that conforms to the competition equipment specifications. This is valid for the official training as well as for the race. See specifications as an addendum later in this chapter.
- 908 Participation  
J3 and younger competitors may compete in GS on courses that meet the standards for children's courses (U1255).

## 1000 Super G (SG)

- 1001 Technical Data
- 1001.1 Vertical Drop
- 1001.1.1 Men's Courses  
• 300-650 m
- 1001.1.2 Ladies' Courses  
• 300-600 m
- U1001.1.3 If the topography of a region does not permit a SG with the required vertical drop, a shorter course may be used. The time of the run must be a minimum of 40 seconds.
- 1001.2 Length of the Course  
The length of the course must be measured with either a measuring tape, wheel or GPS and has to be published on the start list and the results.
- 1001.3 Gates
- 1001.3.1 A SG gate consists of four slalom poles (690) and two flags.
- 1001.3.2 The gates must be alternately red and blue. The gate flags are to be approximately 75 cm wide and approximately 50 cm high. They are fastened between the poles so that the lower edge of the flags is approximately 1 m above the snow and should be capable of tearing or breaking away.
- 1001.3.3 The gates must be at least 6 m and at most 8 m wide from inner pole to inner pole for open gates and at least 8 m and at most 12 m for vertical gates. The gate flags are fastened in such a way so they should tear or break away. (also 690)
- U1001.3.4 The SG has to be set as follows:  
Seven percent (7%) of the vertical drop equals the minimum number of direction changes.  
The distance between the turning poles of two successive gates must be at least 25 m (exception: 1003.1.1).  
Children's competitions: minimum 8%, maximum 10% direction changes of the vertical drop.

- 1002 The Courses
- 1002.1 General Characteristics of the Courses  
The terrain should be undulating and hilly if possible. The course should normally have a width of approximately 30 m.  
The inspector authorized to homologate the course decides whether this width is adequate and if necessary can order it to be widened. He can also permit a width of less than approximately 30 m depending on the line and terrain requirements, as long as the areas of the course before and after the narrow part enable this.
- 1002.2 Preparation of the Course  
The course must be prepared like a DH course. The course sections on which there are gates and where the competitors alter their directions must be prepared like in SL.
- 1002.3 Free-skiing on the Competition Hill  
The competitor should be given the opportunity to free ski on the closed competition hill before the course is set if possible.
- 1003 Course Setting
- 1003.1 Setting  
In setting a SG the following principles should be observed:
- 1003.1.1 It is recommended to set the gates to make the best use of the terrain. Gate combinations according to article 803.3 are allowed only in small numbers. The distance between the successive turning poles can in this case be less than 25 m, but must be at least 15 m.
- 1003.1.2 A SG should contain a variety of long and medium turns. The competitor should be absolutely free to choose his own line between the gates. It is not permitted to set only down the fall-line of the slope. Where the terrain allows it jumps may be set.
- 1003.1.3 At places where the outside gate must be removed, in exceptional cases decided by the Jury, the turning gate serves as a gate.
- U1003.2 Official Training
- U1003.2.1 Courses that involve jumps should be preceded by at least one run on a training course set on the course used for the actual competition. The training course should be similar to the intended race course.
- U1003.2.2 The jury may waive this training requirement if conditions warrant; for example if there is a DH immediately preceding on the same course in which all competitors participate.
- 1005 Start  
Starting order and start intervals according to article 621.3 and 622.
- 1006 Execution of the SG  
A SG will be carried out in one run.
- 1007 Helmets  
All competitors and forerunners are obliged to wear a helmet that conforms to the competition equipment specifications. This is valid for the official training as well as for the race. See specifications as an addendum later in this chapter.
- 1008 Yellow Zones  
Article 705 also applies.
- U1009 Participation  
J3 and J4 competitors may compete in SG on courses that meet the standards for children's courses (U1256).

## Section 4 Special Rules

### U1200 Competitions under Artificial Light

- U1200.1 The running of competitions under artificial lights is permitted.
- U1200.2 The lighting must meet the following specifications. Competitions under artificial light must only be run on courses that are homologated for night competition.
- U1200.2.1 Courses must meet the lightning standards of the National Ski Areas Association. Lighting should be as uniform as possible so that excessively bright and dark areas may be avoided.
- U1200.2.2 The lights must be placed so that the light does not alter the topography of the course. The light must show the competitor the exact picture of the terrain and must not alter the depth perception and precision.
- U1200.2.3 The lights should not cast the competitor's shadow into the racing line and should not blind the competitor by glare.
- U1200.3 The TD together with the Jury must check ahead of time that the lighting conforms to the rules.
- U1200.4 The TD must submit a supplementary report on the quality of the lighting.

### U1210 Combined Competitions

- U1210.1 Alpine Combined
- U1210.1.1 A combined competition represents the final result of several similar or different disciplines, for example, of two DHs, two SLs, a DH and a SL, etc., or of any four races.  
"The Triple Combined" is the result of the three special events of DH, SL and GS.  
A "Quadruple Combined": DH, SL, GS and SG is also possible.
- U1210.1.2 Sequence of the Races  
The sequence of the different races to be combined can be decided by the organizers. It must be announced in the program.
- U1210.1.3 Qualification  
In a combined competition, the result of one race can serve as a qualification for the next. In this case the organizing association, club or the Jury must announce in advance how many competitors in one race can be entered for the next.
- U1210.1.4 Starting Order  
If it does not count as a qualification race, the start order is determined for each discipline according to article 621.
- U1210.1.5 Calculation of Combined Results  
The combined results shall be calculated by adding the race points which correspond to the results of the various races.

### U1220 Team Competitions

- U1220.1 The staging of team competitions is permitted.

### U1250 Children's (J3 and younger) Non-scored Competitions

- U1251 General Regulations
- U1251.1 The following titled events must meet the following set forth guidelines.
- U1251.2 The age limits in these competitions are according to article 607.3.
- U1252 Regulations for Organization
- U1252.1 In the choice of courses, attention must be given that one is dealing with competitors who are children in their growing years during their physical development and these factors must be given appropriate importance.
- U1252.2 The course setter in setting the course should take particular consideration of the physical ability of the competitors.

- U1252.3 Flex poles shall have a maximum diameter of 27 mm.
- U1252.4 J4 and younger SL events should use flex poles of 25-27 mm with a minimum gate height of 54 inches from the snow surface to the top of the pole.
- U1253 J3 Downhill (DH)
- U1253.1 Only J3s may take part in DH races. The maximum vertical drop is 400 m (300 m if contested in two runs). The maximum inclined length is 2000 m.
- U1253.2 Course Setting

Downhill for J3s consist of training or racing on variable terrain, which will provide gliding sections, some jumping and enough width and terrain to permit speed control with course setting consideration to fit the average J3's ability and skill level. The maximum distance between gates is 50 m.

- U1253.3 Number of direction changes 8% of vertical drop.
- U1253.4 Except as specifically modified, the rules for DH (700) also apply to non-scored DH for J3s.

### U1254 J3 and younger Slalom (SL)

#### U1254.1 Maximum Vertical Drop

J3:	140 m
J4:	120 m
J5 and younger:	100 m

The course should have no special technical difficulties. The SL is conducted in one or two runs.

#### U1254.2 Maximum distance between gates

	Combination	Open	Delay
J3:	6 m	10 m	18 m
J4:	6 m	9 m	15 m
J5 and younger:	5 m	9 m	15 m

#### U1254.3 Additional requirements

- J3: 3-5 hairpins, 1-2 vertical combinations and at least one delay gate
- J4: 2-3 hairpins, one vertical combination and one delay gate
- J5 and younger: 2-3 hairpins, one vertical combination and one delay gate

#### U1254.4 When using flex poles, protective clothing is recommended.

#### U1254.5 Except as specifically modified, the rules for SL (800) also apply to non-scored SL for J3s and younger.

### U1255 J3 and younger Giant Slalom (GS)

#### U1255.1 Maximum Vertical Drop Maximum Distance Between Gates

J3:	300 m	27 m
J4:	250 m	22 m
J5 and younger:	200 m	22 m

GS for children may be conducted in one or two runs.

#### U1255.2 Additional requirements

A minimum of one delay gate must be set and a variety of terrain is suggested.

#### U1255.3 Except as specifically modified, the rules for GS (900) also apply to GS for J3s and younger.

### U1256 J3 and J4 Super G (SG)

#### U1256.1 Maximum Vertical Drop Number of Direction Changes

J3:	350 m	8%-10% of vertical drop
J4:	300 m	8%-12% of vertical drop

- The minimum number of gates counts only those requiring change of direction.  
The distance between the gates of a SG should be 25-40 m.
- U1256.2 J3 SG should include at least one jump. All children's non-scored SGs should be set using a variety of terrain.
- U1256.3 For SG, based upon hill topography and field ability, the Jury may increase the gates to a maximum of 14% of vertical drop (counting only those requiring change of direction).
- U1256.4 Official Training for children's SG will encompass at least one SG training run prior to the first competition. Training times are not to be posted. Official training for USSA children's SG events is an integral part of the competition, and all entrants are required to participate according to the competition jury's decision.
- U1256.5 Except as specifically modified, the rules for SG (1000) also apply to non-scored J3 and J4 SG.
- U1257 Starting Order
- U1257.1 Regions, divisions and state associations may use the procedures of article 621 or they may adopt special rules for determining the start order for the first run in these competitions.
- U1258 Starting Order for the 2nd Run  
In the second run, the thirty best finishers of the first run start in reverse order, the remaining competitors in the order of their first run placing.
- U1258.1 Regions, divisions and state associations may adopt special rules for determining the start order of the second run in lieu of 1258.
- U1259 Children's Kombi  
The children's Kombi consists of a mixture of standard turns and gates. The event meets developmental needs for this age group, creating a tactical awareness by blending sections of different gates in a flowing, rhythmical, constantly changing pattern. Results may be determined by combined times of each run, or each run may be classified separately. The Jury must indicate the method in advance.
- U1259.1 Course Setting
- U1259.1.2The Course Setter and Jury are to provide an interesting but safe course.
- U1259.1.3The racer's speed must be controlled when transitioning from one section to a different section and the course setting should allow skiers a smooth transition from jumps or waves back into the course.
- U1259.1.4Common course characteristics and recommendations
- The course should test the skier's ability to react and adapt to an ever changing rhythm and radius, but allow the competitors smooth transition between the various sections of gates.
  - Building terrain is optional but not necessary as the course itself should apply enough demand. Use creativity with available terrain.
  - Include a minimum of one jump.
  - Avoid gates that cause sudden braking and deceleration.
  - Use the entire slope and natural terrain and skiing across the fall line as often as possible.
  - The first and last gates should lead the skier comfortably.
  - Forerunners or course testers should be available for course setting.
- U1259.1.5Gates
- Gates may consist of one or two poles. If outside gate is used, it must be the same type as turning gate (stubby gate with stubbie gate, SL gate with SL gate, GS panel

- with GS panel).
- Consecutive gates must alternate in red and blue.
- U1259.2 Kombi Design  
There can be two different forms of the Kombi:
- SL/GS format (technical orientation) - setting with stubbies, SL gates and GS gates or colored ground indicators, and
  - GS/SG format (speed orientation) - setting with GS and SG gates or colored ground indicators.
- The selected race style must be announced on the race notice prior to the race and again at the first team captains meeting.
- U1259.3 SL/GS Kombi: Technical Data  
SL skis are recommended to be used for SL/GS Kombi.
- U1259.3.1Maximum Vertical Drop
- J3 maximum 200 m
  - J4 maximum 180 m
  - J5 and younger maximum 150 m
- U1259.3.2Distance between gates
- SL turning gate to turning gate distance 6-10 m.
  - GS turning gate to turning gate distance 12-20 m.
- U1259.3.3Course characteristics and recommendations:
- Recommended minimum of 30 turns.
  - Recommended to have a minimum of five different sections.
  - It is recommended to use only a single pole for vertical combinations.
  - There should be at least one section of stubby gates.
- U1259.4 GS / SG Kombi: Technical Data  
GS skis are recommended to be used for GS/SG Kombi.
- U1259.4.1Maximum Vertical Drop  
All categories maximum 250 m
- U1259.4.2Distance between gates
- GS turning gate to turning gate distance 12-20 m
  - SG turning gate to turning gate distance 18-28 m
- U1259.4.3Course characteristics and recommendations:
- Recommended to have 3-5 different sections.
- U1259.5 Kombi Inspection  
A normal one run inspection, with a set inspection time is suggested. The concept is to test reaction and adaptability from a standard amount of inspection time.
- U1259.6 Number of runs  
The Jury should decide on the number of runs by the first team captains meeting. Depending on weather and course conditions it is recommended that entries up to 140 competitors should be two runs and entries over 140 competitors should be one run.
- U1259.7 Rules  
The ACR SL and GS rules apply for running of the Kombi race except as modified in U1259.
- U1259.8 Starting order  
See U1257.

## **.U1260 USSA Race Points**

- U1260.1 The formula for the calculation of the race points permits the translation into points of the time differences between the winner and all other classified competitors.
- U1260.2 The formula for the calculation of the race points is the following:  
$$P = ((F \times Tr) / Tw) - F \text{ or } P = ((Tr / Tw) - 1) \times F$$
  
P: Race points  
F: A constant, different for each discipline, based on the CM according to the equation:  $F = 60 / (CM - 1)$   
Tr: Time of the classified competitors in seconds  
Tw: Time of the winner in seconds
- U1260.3 The F values of the different events (DH, SL, GS, SG, SC) are published by USSA for the actual season.
- U1260.4 The race points are needed to establish the ranking for a race in connection with the USSA points of the competitors, for determining the race penalty.

## **U1270 USSA Points**

- U1270.1 The USSA points of the competitors registered with USSA are established according to the rules laid down by the Alpine Classification Working Group.
- U1270.2 The USSA points lists based on these rules form the basis for the division of the competitors according to points. The corresponding commentary (Rules of the USSA Points) is part of these competition rules and will be renewed annually.
- U1270.3 Use of the USSA Points  
The USSA points are used particularly for:
- establishing the quotas at competitions
  - as a basis for the grouping and draw of the competitors at races and in training
  - establishing the race penalty (in connection with the race points)
  - establishing the penalties for injury status and because of professional obligations etc.
  - establishing the qualifications for the existing competition categories.

## **Additional USSA and FIS Regulations**

### **FIS Starts for 15 year olds**

First year age eligible FIS athletes are limited to a maximum of 25 FIS starts in SL and GS for the competition year (July 1 - June 30).

### **FIS Registration**

All athletes wishing to compete in FIS events, must be inscribed to the FIS points list. Registrations will be made on the list closing date (see calendar of important dates at the beginning of this book) with FIS numbers available on the valid date.

### **Meet Financial Obligations**

Competitors who have outstanding debts with USSA may be subject to disciplinary sanction, including exclusion from competitions. Outstanding debts, as established by law, to competition organizations, ski areas, food and lodging establishments, retail shops, etc. may be considered as violations of the Code of Conduct as well as being subject to civil and criminal actions.

## **Geographic Affiliation/Designation**

A racer shall race in the region/division/state in which he/she resides, or in which he/she is attending school and/or training on a long-term basis. The choice (designation) should be based on where the racer spends the greatest part of his/her ski season. The designation must be made at the start of the season, and must be abided by the racer, for the entire season. Any conflicts must be resolved before participation; contact the regional office.

Requests for in-season changes of affiliation must be made in writing to the national competition director. Such in-season changes may result in loss or default of regional/divisional/state qualifying status.

## **Helmets**

Helmets designed and manufactured for the particular discipline of ski racing being contested are required for all competitors and forerunners in all USSA events and official training. Helmets must bear a CE mark and conform to recognized and appropriate standards such as CEH.Din 1077, ASTM F2040, SNELL S98 or RS 98.

Helmets must cover the head and ears. Helmets with spoilers or edges that stick out are not permitted. Protective features integral to the discipline being contested, such as chin guards on slalom helmets are permitted. Soft ear protection is only permitted for helmets used in slalom.

USSA does not specify nor recommend nor make any warranties as to the fitness for use of any particular ski helmet design or brand name. USSA undertakes no responsibility, liability or duties to any competitor in connection with the requirement that helmets be utilized. It is the sole responsibility of the competitor to select an appropriate helmet for accident protection in ski racing.

Caution: Age and use affect the protective qualities of all safety helmets. Some older helmets and any helmets that have been damaged either in a racing fall or from other impact may no longer provide sufficient protection – even if there are no visible indications of damage.

## **Ski Brakes**

Regardless of standheight within these limits, ski brakes which are functional with the actual ski/plate/binding in use are required and are the responsibility of the respective producers and the athletes. Any and all ski brakes used by competitors in all events, including master's events, must be functional and comply with all related FIS requirements.

## **Flex Poles**

USSA FIS and USSA Scored events must use homologated flex poles. Poles for children's races (J3 and younger non-scored) are limited to type B ( $\geq 28.9$  mm) poles. For J4 and younger SL, flex poles must be 25-27 mm in diameter and have a minimum gate height of 54 inches from the snow surface to the top of the pole.

## **Gate Flags**

All FIS competitions must use currently certified (homologated) gate flags; there will be no exceptions. Gate flags for USSA races may be required to be certified in the future and are recommended for use now.

## Course Setting Specifications for Scored Events

Discipline ↓	Competition →	Scored Sr/A, J1, J2	Scored J3
<b>DH</b> Downhill (700)	F VD DC	400 m - 700 m as required	450 m max as required
	M DC VD	as required 400 m - 700 m	as required 450 m max
<b>SL</b> Slalom (800)	F VD DC	100 m - 200 m 30% - 35% ( $\pm 3$ )	160 m max 30% - 35% ( $\pm 3$ )
	M DC VD	30% - 35% ( $\pm 3$ ) 100 m - 220 m	30% - 35% ( $\pm 3$ ) 160 m max
<b>GS</b> Giant Slalom (900)	F VD DC	250 m - 400 m 11% - 15%	350 m max 11% - 15%
	M DC VD	11% - 15% 250 m - 450 m	11% - 15% 350 m max
<b>SG</b> Super G (1000)	F VD DC	300 m - 600 m 7% min	400 m max 8% - 10%
	M DC VD	7% min 300 m - 650 m	8% - 10% 400 m max

VD = Vertical Drop DC = Direction Changes

## Competition Equipment Rules

Alpine FIS and USSA Equipment Rules 2011-12 final		World Cup, Continental Cups and World Junior Championships		FIS/ENL and USSA 15 yrs and older		USSA Junior 3 and younger 14 yrs and younger		Masters *	
Minimum Ski Radius	Minimum Ski Length	Men	Women	Men	Women	Boys & Girls	Men & Women	Men & Women	Men & Women
DH	DH	215 cm	210 cm	210 cm	205 cm	no rule	no rule	no rule	no rule
SG	SG	205 cm	200 cm	USSA - may use SG skis 200 cm	195 cm	no rule	no rule	see note below	see note below
GS	GS	185 cm	180 cm	180 cm	175 cm	no rule	no rule	see note below	see note below
SL	SL	165 cm	155 cm	165 cm (155 cm for J2 men)	155 cm	no rule	no rule	see note below	see note below
DH	DH	45 m		45 m		no rule		50 mm	
SG	SG	33 m		USSA - may use SG skis 33 m		no rule		50 mm	
GS	GS	23 m		21 m **		no rule		50 mm	
SL	SL	no rule		no rule		no rule		see note below	
DH	DH	67 mm		60 mm **		no rule		see note below	
SG	SG	65 mm		50 mm		no rule		50 mm	
GS	GS	63 mm		50 mm		no rule		50 mm	
SL	SL	50 mm		43 mm		no rule		45 mm	

Maximum Binding Stack Height  
Measurement includes ski + plate + binding  
Maximum Boot Height  
Measurement from sole to top of foot bed

\* USSA Masters rules conform to the FIS Masters equipment rules. USSA recommends that competitors in USSA Masters events compete on equipment designed for the particular discipline (DH, SL, GS, SG), but does not make any recommendations in regards to ski length.

\* For FIS Masters Competitions, equipment rules are recommendations with the following exception: in SG races, the ski length may not be less than 185 cm for men and 180 cm for women (GS skis may be used for SG). For the FIS recommendations for ski length, ski radius and ski waist width see the current FIS Specifications for Competition Equipment.

\*\* Rules for minimum GS ski radius and all the minimum ski waist widths are specific to USSA. **FIS and ENL must meet the same requirements as World Cup, Continental Cup and World Junior Championships** as listed in the first set of columns for these specific rules.

## Course Setting Specifications for Non-Scored Events

Train to Race Ratio (strongly recommended minimum)  (maximum allowed)	Race Days	J5 and younger			J4			J3		
		Distance between gates Vertical drop Direction changes	Max: 12 Division/State or organized, all events	6:1 (days)	Max: 6 m combination, max: 9 m open, max: 15 m delay Max: 100 m	Max: 14 Division/State organized, all events	6:1 (days)	Max: 6 m combination, max: 9 m open, max: 15 m delay Max: 120 m	Max: 18 Division/State organized, all events	5:1 (days)
<b>Downhill (DH)</b> U1253		Distance between gates Vertical drop Direction changes		X		X				
<b>Slalom (SL)</b> U1254		Distance between gates Vertical drop Additional requirements	Max: 5 m combination, max: 9 m open, max: 15 m delay Max: 100 m  2-3 hairpins, 1 vertical combination and 1 delay gate		Max: 6 m combination, max: 9 m open, max: 15 m delay Max: 120 m  2-3 hairpins, 1 vertical combination and 1 delay gate		Max: 6 m combination, max: 10 m open, max: 18 m delay Max: 140 m  3-5 hairpins, 1-2 vertical combinations and at least 1 delay gate		8% of vertical drop 400 m max. 50 m max.	
<b>Giant Slalom (GS)</b> U1255		Distance between gates Vertical drop Additional requirements	Variety of terrain suggested Max: 22 m Max: 200 m Min. of 1 delay		Variety of terrain suggested Max: 22 m Max: 250 m Min. of 1 delay		Variety of terrain suggested Max: 27 m Max: 300 m Min. of 1 delay		Max: 27 m Max: 300 m Min. of 1 delay	
<b>Super G (SG)</b> U1256		Distance between gates Vertical drop Direction changes Additional requirements	X		8-12% of vertical drop * Max: 300 m Min. of 1 delay		8-12% of vertical drop * Max: 350 m Min. of 1 jump		8-12% of vertical drop * Max: 350 m Min. of 1 jump	
<b>Parallel</b>		Distance between gates Maximum vertical drop	10-15 m 60 m		Variety of terrain suggested 15-20 m 100 m		Variety of terrain suggested 15-20 m 100 m		Variety of terrain suggested 15-20 m 100 m	
<b>Kombi - SL/GS</b> U1259		Distance between gates Maximum vertical drop	SL 6-10 m, GS 12-20 m 150 m		SL 6-10 m, GS 12-20 m 180 m (SL skis)		SL 6-10 m, GS 12-20 m 200 m (SL skis)		SL 6-10 m, GS 12-20 m 200 m (SL skis)	
<b>Kombi - GS/SG</b> U1259		Distance between gates Maximum vertical drop	GS 12-20 m, SG 18-28 m 250 m (GS skis)		GS 12-20 m, SG 18-28 m 250 m (GS skis)		GS 12-20 m, SG 18-28 m 250 m (GS skis)		GS 12-20 m, SG 18-28 m 250 m (GS skis)	
<b>Other Events</b>			All of above plus SkillsQuest events		All of above plus SkillsQuest events		All of above plus SkillsQuest events		All of above plus SkillsQuest events	
<b>SKI Recommendation (strongly encouraged)</b>			Length - skill/size appropriate 1 pair - Multi-event		Length - skill/size appropriate 2 pair - SL, GS		Length - skill/size appropriate 3 pair - SL, GS, SG		Length - skill/size appropriate 3 pair - SL, GS, SG	

\* Per USSA ACR U1256.2, based upon hill topography and field ability, the Jury may increase the gates to a maximum of 14% of vertical drop (counting only those requiring change of direction).  
J5 and younger starts include a recommendation for competing in SkillsQuest events, parallel and kombi.  
Crossover between age categories for SL, GS, Kombi and SkillsQuest events is encouraged. In races where multiple age classes are competing, course setting guidelines will be based on the guidelines for one class older than the youngest class (for example, race has J5, J4 and J3 racers, should use J4 guidelines). NOTE: This does not apply for speed events.

## ADAPTIVE COMPETITION RULES

Complete adaptive competition rules, including classes for competitors and factors are available at [www.usparalympic.org](http://www.usparalympic.org).

### The “Golden Rule”

In order to encourage adaptive athlete participation in regular-calendared USSA competitions, the USSA Alpine Competition Committee has adopted a special seeding rule applying to adaptive competitors participating in regular sanctioned alpine races. The “Golden Rule”, so called because Adaptive World Champion Diana Golden first proposed it to USSA on behalf of adaptive alpine ski racers, authorizes a special start order for athletes with USSA points within the normal USSA seed and draw as follows:

1st Run: Seeding in special groups with start order: 16-20... 36-40... 56-60.... etc. or by USSA points, whichever is more favorable. Placement within groups by USDST ranking among the impaired athletes entered.

2nd Run: Seeding in the same special groups or by normal Bibbo order, whichever is more favorable. Placement within groups according to first run finish order among impaired athletes.

2nd Run Bibbo other than 15: In the case of a “flip-30” 2nd run, the special group starts in the 31st position or in the position immediately following the first run leader when the flip is other than 30.

Note: Entry requirements and eligibility criteria are based on published rules for all competitor members. In addition, individual race organizers and the responsible regional, divisional and state committee may invite physically impaired athletes to USSA events for which these racers otherwise might not be eligible.

### Handicap Factor System

This system for comparing the various handicapped classes ‘on par’ applies to adaptive competitions only. It is not applied to adaptive competitors participating in ‘able-bodied’ races. Except for the specific application of the Golden Rule, adaptive competitors participating in able-bodied races do so according to the rules, procedures and scoring of those races.

To find your factored time take your real time, look up your adaptive factor on the factor sheet published. Multiply raw time by your disability factor to get your “unofficial factored time”.

Racer	Class	1st Run		Disability 1st Run	
		Real Time	X	Factor	Time
J. Doe	L2	56.38	X	.9175758 =	51.73
J. Doe	L4	56.39	X	.9820047 =	55.37

Second run start order is calculated using factored times with first 15 racers reversed.

Disability factors will be updated annually. They include results from World Championships, World Cups, Paralympics and major North American races. Factor sheets and other information can be obtained from at [www.usparalympic.org](http://www.usparalympic.org).

## HOMOLOGATED TIMING EQUIPMENT

The current list of homologated timers, startgates and photocells tested by the FIS timing working group and approved by the FIS rules committee can be found on the FIS website [www.fisski.com](http://www.fisski.com).

# COURSE APPROVALS

Ski areas and race organizers interested in pursuing homologation should review the information on the USSA web site at <http://www.ussa.org/magnoliaPublic/ussa/en/formembers/officials/education/homologations.html>, and complete and submit the application found at the link located on that page, or from any USSA alpine office, or from USSA Alpine Courses Working Group chair Bruce Crane or Jeff Weinman at the USSA national office.

## FIS Course Homologation

All requests for FIS course homologation or rehomologation shall be made by submitting the application to the alpine courses working group chair no later than July 15 each year – and preferably prior to May 15. Completed reports with appropriate payment should be submitted to the chair by September 15 each year.

All FIS races must be held on a FIS homologated trail, inspected and approved in advance of calendaring by members of the FIS Alpine Courses Committee. U.S. members of that committee are Bruce Crane, Bob Calderwood, Ted Sutton, Paul Mahre and Tom Winters.

The homologation process for FIS trails involves assembling a report on the technical aspects of the course prior to inspection by the FIS representative. (For new DHs a qualified person from outside the U.S. must make the inspection.)

FIS DH and SG courses must be re-inspected every five years, FIS SL and GS courses every ten years, or sooner if major alterations are made in the course or related facilities, and to assure that they meet safety standards, according to FIS competition regulations and as set forth in the inspection report.

The purpose of the homologation and inspection is four-fold:

- the inspection indicates that the course involved meets FIS standards - when properly prepared and with 'protection' in place according to the instructions of the inspector and, in some cases, a FIS technical advisor.
- the inspection confirms that the course meets the technical requirements as described in the report.
- the report itself provides valuable data to the FIS and is used to confirm that calendared races do, in fact, meet the required standards.
- finally, but certainly not least important, the inspection offers the opportunity for an expert to make suggestions to the ski area operator and race organizer regarding preparation and use of the facility.

Information on the intended use of the trail, ski area/race organizer relations and current stage of development will be requested in order to assure that homologation can be carried out in a well-coordinated manner.

The necessary forms and other information, including information on costs involved, will be provided. On receipt of a completed application and the corresponding fees by the chairman, an inspector will be assigned and appointments made for the inspection. Following a satisfactory inspection, the USA representatives to the FIS Alpine Courses Subcommittee will transmit the completed report and required documentation to the FIS.

## USSA Course Approval

All scored USSA calendared (sanctioned) alpine events must be conducted on USSA (or FIS) homologated courses. 'Protective' measures and course setting must conform to the inspection report, parallel to FIS requirements.

All USSA scored events must be conducted on a homologated course and meet minimum vertical drop requirements. (Exception: registered courses with penalty adjustments – additional and minimum penalties).

Non-scored USSA events must be conducted on a homologated course or on a registered

course. A registered course is one that does not meet the vertical drop requirements but does comply with course setting and other regulations. Application, inspection and report are required for the approval process for registered courses as well as for homologated courses.

All FIS-homologated trails are automatically accepted as meeting USSA course approval standards specific to discipline provided that reinspections are current.

USSA schedule agreements are not to be executed in the absence of a FIS or USSA homologation, or USSA registration, for that course and discipline, subject to waiver for courses for which homologation applications have been submitted.

Requests for USSA course homologation, registration or rehomologation/registration shall be made by submitting the application to the alpine courses working group chair no later than August 15 each year – and preferably prior to May 15. Completed reports with appropriate payment should be submitted to the chair by October 15 each year.

## Homologation and Course Approval Maintenance

All homologated DH and SG courses, FIS and USSA (both approved and registered) must be re-inspected and re-homologated/re-approved/registered every five years.

All homologated GS and SL courses, FIS and USSA (both homologated and registered) must be re-inspected and re-homologated/re-approved/registered every ten years.

FIS and USSA courses not re-inspected by the end of the 5-year, or 10-year interval are dropped from FIS and USSA listings of approved courses.

The re-inspection process requires an on-site inspection and completion of the appropriate inspection form, FIS or USSA. The inspector will determine whether improvements are necessary.

Homologation and registration are specific to discipline. For example, the setting of a SG course on many existing DH trails may require additional technical and safety considerations. In some situations it may not be possible to establish a SG course on an existing DH trail that cannot be altered to fit the technical requirements of the SG (i.e. turning gates).

## Homologation Fees and Inspectors' Expenses

- FIS homologation or re-homologation \$250 per event/discipline  
(Covers USSA homologation, same event/discipline same course)
- USSA homologation, registration or re-homologation \$150 per event/discipline  
Exception: USSA GS and SL on same trail, single report \$150 per course
- Replacement copy of FIS or USSA homologation files \$25 per file/course
- Artificial light inspection \$150 per course

Men's and women's courses for the same event/discipline on one trail are to be homologated on the same report; a single fee applies.

USSA GS and SL on one trail can be homologated on a single report, and a single fee applies. Data and other information for each of GS and SL must be reported, and separate numbers and certificates will be issued.

All fees for both FIS and USSA homologation are payable to 'USSA - Alpine Course Approvals' and should be submitted with the application when forwarded to the chairman.

### Inspectors' Expenses - FIS and USSA

Course inspectors' expenses, for both FIS and USSA homologation and re-homologation, are reimbursed directly by the requesting or responsible area, club or race organization, as indicated on the application requesting homologation, to the inspector upon presentation of an expense statement and/or voucher. In addition to expenses (travel, meals, etc.) inspectors are paid a daily rate of \$100 per day for FIS inspections and \$50 per day for USSA inspections. Inspectors are paid for travel days as well as inspection days.

# CODE OF CONDUCT

Membership in the United States Ski and Snowboard Association is a privilege, not a right. All USSA members (athletes, coaches, and officials) when participating in any USSA activity must agree to conduct themselves according to USSA's core values of Team, Loyalty, Integrity, Respect, Perseverance, and Accountability and abide by the spirit and dictates of this Code of Conduct. All members must agree to comport themselves in a sportsmanlike manner, and are responsible for their actions while attending or participating in all USSA activities (including but not limited to camps, competitions, and projects).

Sportsmanlike conduct is defined as, but is not limited to: respect for competition officials, resort employees, and the skiing and snowboarding public, respect for facilities, privileges and operating procedures, the use of courtesy and good manners, acting responsibly and maturely, refraining from the use of profane or abusive language, and abstinence from illegal or immoderate use of alcohol and use of illegal or banned drugs.

While participating in any USSA activity:

1. USSA members shall be subject to the jurisdiction of the International Ski Federation Statutes, the United States Olympic Committee Bylaws, the USSA Bylaws, and the USSA Code of Conduct.
2. USSA members shall conduct themselves at all times and in all places as befits worthy representatives of the United States of America, the United States Olympic Committee, USSA, their region, division, state or club and in accordance with the best traditions of national and international competition.
3. USSA members are responsible for knowledge of and adherence to competition rules and procedures. Members are also responsible for knowledge of and adherence to the rules and procedures of the USSA national teams, camps or other projects when participating in such.
4. USSA members shall maintain high standards of moral and ethical conduct, which includes self-control and responsible behavior, consideration for the physical and emotional well-being of others, and courtesy and good manners.
5. USSA members shall abide by USSA rules and procedures while traveling to and from and participating in official USSA activities.
6. USSA members shall abstain from illegal and/or immoderate consumption of alcohol. Absolutely no consumption of alcohol is permitted for those individuals under the age of 21. Members under 21 years of age shall not participate in gatherings involving consumption of alcohol unless it is an official USSA or event organizer function.
7. No USSA member shall violate the customs, travel or currency regulations of a country while traveling with a USSA group or on a USSA ticket.
8. No USSA member shall commit a criminal act.
9. No USSA member shall engage in any conduct that could be perceived as harassment based upon gender, age, race, religion or disability.
10. USSA members will avoid profane or abusive language and disruptive behavior.
11. USSA members agree to abide by anti-doping rules and procedures established by WADA, USADA, and/or FIS.

Failure to comply with any of the above provisions may lead to disciplinary action by the appropriate team or competition leader. Disciplinary action may include:

- Removal from the team trip or training camp.
- Suspension from training and/or competition.
- Elimination of coaching, travel, and other benefits.
- Forfeiture of USSA membership.

USSA is committed to principles of fairness, due process and equal opportunity. Members are entitled to be treated fairly and in compliance with USSA's Bylaws, policies and procedures. Members are entitled to notice and an opportunity for a hearing before being prevented from participating in protected competition as that term is defined by the USOC Bylaws. Information on the processes for grievances, suspensions and appeals is available at [www.usssa.org](http://www.usssa.org).

Nothing in this Code shall be deemed to restrict the individual freedom of a USSA member in matters not involving activities in which one could not be perceived as representing USSA. In choices of appearance, lifestyle, behavior and speech while not representing USSA, competitors shall have complete freedom, provided their statements and actions do not adversely affect the name and reputation of the USSA. However, in those events where one is representing or could be perceived as representing USSA, USSA demands that its members understand and agree to behave in a manner consistent with the best traditions of sportsmanship and USSA's core values.

Last revised May 18, 2008

# CONCUSSION CHECKLIST

## Signs and Symptoms

Athletes who experience one or more of the signs and symptoms listed below after a bump, blow, or jolt to the head or body may have a concussion.

Signs Observed by Coaches / Officials	Symptoms Reported by Athlete
Appears dazed or stunned	Headache or "pressure" in head
Moves clumsily	Nausea or vomiting
Answers questions slowly	Balance problems or dizziness
Loses consciousness (even briefly)	Double or blurry vision
Shows behavior, or personality changes	Sensitivity to light or noise
Can't recall events prior to hit or fall	Feeling sluggish, hazy, foggy or groggy
Can't recall events after hit or fall	Concentration or memory problems
	Does not "feel right"
	<b>Confusion</b>

## Action Plan

If you suspect that an athlete has a concussion

1. Remove the athlete from training and competition.
2. Provide athlete/family with USSA concussion parent information and medical evaluation forms.
3. Notify the USSA of suspected concussion - [jweinman@ussa.org](mailto:jweinman@ussa.org).
4. The athlete will be placed on USSA medical hold until the completed medical evaluation form is received with the signature of a medical professional who has been trained in concussion management within the past three years.

## More Information

[www.cdc.gov/ConcussionInYouthSports](http://www.cdc.gov/ConcussionInYouthSports)