

WESTERN REGION POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

2024-2025



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WESTERN REGION POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

2024-2025

The Western Region is one of three U.S. Ski & Snowboard regions established under the authority of the U.S. Ski & Snowboard **Alpine Sport Committee** (ASC) and responsible for the regulation of the sport of alpine ski competition within the geographical area of the western United States. It consists of the five western divisions: Alaska, Far West, Intermountain, Northern and Pacific Northwest. The Western Region **Alpine Competition Committee** establishes the regional policies, procedures and operating rules for the Western Region.

The region is charged with the design and conduct of all International Ski Federation (FIS) races and Junior Championship competitions in the West for each season. The region fields teams for NorAm Cup races, U.S. Alpine Championships and other events, conducts a series of development projects for regional and divisional athletes, and names a Regional Team. The region assists members of the Western Elite Ski Team (W.E.S.T.) in their development within the athletic pipeline of U.S. Ski & Snowboard.

Mission Statement

The **Mission** of the Western Region Alpine Competition Committee (ACC) is to:

1. Promote elite level alpine competition within the boundaries of the Western Region, recognizing the region's role at the elite level and the division's role at the entry level of the sport;
2. Coordinate the efforts of the five divisions within the Western Region in areas of common interest, concern, and responsibility;
3. Promote the development of elite athletes from the five divisions of the Western Region;
4. Maintain a governance structure that provides for the collective needs of the five western divisions, and represents the five western divisions to the Alpine Sport Committee.

Western Region Governance and Management

The Western Region Alpine Competition Committee (ACC) was formed in Seattle, WA in April of 1981 in order to bring representatives of the five western divisions together to address issues of concern to all and to develop programs which would help all divisions achieve their goals through joint planning and program development. The Western Region ACC first met in Boise, ID on June 5th and 6th, 1981 under the Chairmanship of Lane Monroe, Intermountain Division, of Sun Valley, ID.

In 2016 the Western Region ACC incorporated in the State of Utah as a not-for-profit corporation. The corporation is formed without members. The officers of the Western Region ACC were appointed the initial officers of the corporation.

The specific goal of the ACC is to regulate and conduct the U.S. Ski & Snowboard Championship and FIS competition in the Western United States, and to represent the five western divisions at the national ASC level. The ACC will also develop the best regional competitors by developing and implementing race schedules and series, qualifying procedures, and athlete-training situations, as a region, which will best utilize resources and promote athlete progress.

Operating Rules

The chair and vice-chair of the Western Region ACC will be confirmed by the regional ACC each year at the U.S. Ski & Snowboard Spring Congress. The vice-chair will succeed the chair whenever the chair is vacated or at the end of the chairman's term. The normal term of office for the chair is three years. When the new chairman is named, a new vice-chairman will be elected.

There will be two voting members from each of the five divisions, one voting member from the Rocky Mountain Intercollegiate Ski Association (RMISA), three voting athlete members, one voting past Chair, and a voting representative of the alpine officials. The president and ACC chair (or an equivalent position) from each of the five divisions carry one vote each. Each divisional president and divisional ACC chair must designate one alternate, on an annual basis at the fall meeting (or fall call), who may carry their vote in the normal member's absence for one year. This designee is the only alternate who may represent the ACC member.

The Western Region ACC chair votes only to break a tie. Officers of the Western Region ACC may only vote if they are designated representatives of their division or hold one of the other vote-carrying positions, or they are the designated alternate for a divisional representative. (This excludes the ACC chair.) All Western members of the ASC, or an ASC Sub-Committee or Working Group, are ex-officio members of the committee, but can only vote if designated as one of the two voting members or as an alternate for their division. No proxy votes are allowed; only the voting members or a designated alternate may vote at any meeting.

Voting Entity	Votes
Division (2 per division)	10
Athletes	3
NCAA (RMISA)	1
Past Chair	1
Officials	1
Total	16

A simple quorum of the ACC is required to conduct business. A majority of the voting members present at a scheduled meeting will be required to approve any motion before the committee. All new business at scheduled meetings must be distributed in advance.

The Western Region ACC is responsible for the taking and timely publication of meeting minutes. The chair will annually appoint a secretary to accomplish this task. The secretary will also annually maintain a current roster of ACC members, indicating duration of term and rotation. The chair will also annually appoint a treasurer who will oversee the finances of the region. The treasurer will establish an account(s) to which all-regional head tax fees will be deposited. Disbursements will be made from this account to the Western Region operating account in accordance with grant budgets approved by the Western Region ACC. The treasurer will provide a detailed financial statement and balance sheet at each Western Region ACC meeting. The annual grant budget will not exceed the total head-tax income from the previous year.

The chair, from nominations submitted by the divisions, will appoint the athlete representatives on the committee. Nominees must meet the requirements of the U.S. Amateur Sports Act and should be active as competitors or coaches in the Western Region at the time of the appointment. Athlete members will serve for staggered three-year terms. Athlete members will serve a maximum of two terms. Normally, one athlete member will be appointed each year. When a vacancy occurs in midterm, a replacement will be appointed for the remainder of the term. An athlete appointed to complete the term of another will be eligible for reappointment to two full terms.

ACC Sub-Committees

There are three standing subcommittees: An Executive sub-committee, a Development sub-committee and a Site-Selection sub-committee. The sub-committees should meet prior to each ACC meeting and recommend policy, procedures and rules to the ACC for consideration and action. The chair of each sub-committee is responsible for calling meetings of the group and for communications within the group. The ACC chair confirms sub-committee chairs annually at the spring meeting. A complete roster of committee appointments will be published and maintained in the regional office.

The Executive Sub-committee

Chaired by the ACC chair and is responsible for oversight of the regional budget and funding, liaison to the Western Region Fund held in trust with PNSEF, and representation to the national ASC. The executive sub-committee also includes the vice-chair, past chair, treasurer, secretary, and the regional director. The executive sub-committee may act for the whole committee on issues requiring action between regular meetings and will meet in person or by other means when it is deemed necessary by the ACC Chair.

The Site Selection Sub-committee

Oversees the process of choosing the sites of regional events. The sub-committee will include one member from each of the five western divisions, and will be chaired by the regional director or her/his designee. The sub-committee will recommend procedures and guidelines to be used in the site-selection process at the Congress pre-meeting, and will announce site selections to the full committee each year at the U.S. Ski & Snowboard Congress.

The sub-committee, in conjunction with the Western Region Director will make the final decision on relocating events during the season when this becomes necessary. The regional director is charged by U.S. Ski & Snowboard as being a "Calendar Commissioner" for her/his geographical area for FIS and Junior Championship events and has the responsibility and authority to produce the final annual calendar.

The Development Sub-committee

Chaired by the ACC vice chair and is charged with staff interface for team selection and quota management, regional preparation and competition projects, regional coaching policy, children and youth issues, and representation of Western Region's views to the Development Sub-Committee of the national ASC. Other members are the regional director, the regional coaches and one representative from each division, identified annually at the May meeting.

The ACC vice-chair will receive results from all Western Region selection events and will certify the correctness of the selections for all quota teams. S/he will report on quota team selections annually at the meeting of the Western Region ACC during the U.S. Ski & Snowboard spring meetings.

Western Region Appeals Committee

The Western Region Appeals Committee is the first level of appeal for decisions involving eligibility and selection for Western Region teams to national events (U.S. Alpine Championships, etc.). WR Appeals Committee acts as the 2nd level in the appeals process after divisional appeals board for decisions involving eligibility and selection for divisional teams to Western Region and national events (Western Region Elite FIS Series, Western Region FIS Series, Western Region Junior Championships, U16 Championships, etc.).

This committee also hears appeals to regional disciplinary actions concerning code of conduct and other WEST team agreement violations. Appeals may also be directed directly to the national appeals process from time to time.

The board will consist of up to five members appointed by and serving at the discretion of the ACC chair, however the default membership are the presidents of the five western divisions. When a designated member is not able to participate in a decision, the ACC chair may appoint a replacement. A majority of the board must concur in any decision. A person who served on a lower-level appeals board whose decision is being reviewed may not be a member of the regional board that hears the appeal.

Appeals must be received within 30 days of the sanction being imposed. Appeals, along with a \$150 non-refundable fee, should be addressed to the Western Region ACC Chair, Dan Henry.

Western Region ACC Members

[Roster](#) of ACC members and Western Region representatives on national committees.

Western Region Staff

Western Region staff are employed by U.S. Ski & Snowboard and advocate for western athletes. They are the primary implementers of national and regional policies. They also are charged with formulating and implementing regional programs, management of regional projects, management of regional policies and procedures, and assisting the U.S. Ski & Snowboard sport education department in the development and advancement of western clubs and coaches. The staff represents the interests of members, clubs, divisions, and regional staff formulation and implementation of U.S. Ski & Snowboard efforts. ([Contact Information](#))

Western Region Director	Bill Gunesch	Government Camp, OR
Western Region Elite PG Coach	Randy Pelkey	Underwood, WA
Western Region FIS Coach	Brad Saxe	Hood River, OR
Western Region Youth Coach	Jeff Pickering	Spokane, WA
Western Region Program Manager	Ali Holum	Denver, CO

Western Region Athlete Development System

Western Region Development Philosophy

“An athlete’s genuine commitment to sport will always remain the most important development ingredient.”

Mission & Goal of Western Region Development

Western Region’s development mission, in support of U.S. Ski & Snowboard’s Vision, is to promote development of western athletes to the national team level, meeting and exceeding national team criteria. The Western Region’s development goal is to be the “leader in regional athlete development within the U.S. Ski Team.” This goal will be measured by podium results at national championship events and by successful advancement of western region athletes to the national team. The region will provide elite athlete support and enhanced training opportunities that complement the local opportunities offered by the clubs and academies.

Importance of Ski Clubs

Western Region recognizes that the foundation of athlete development resides with the many ski clubs and academies within the region. These programs, working with their local communities and resorts, attract young skiers and new families to the sport. As young skiers grow, these programs provide the training, education, management, consistency and resources to support athletes as they reach higher competitive levels within the sport. These programs remain the “home base” for athletes, providing communication and coordination with families, schools, funding sources and other resources within the community.

Project-Based Model

Western Region believes in the project-based model of training and competition opportunities, leading the country in collaborative project-based development. This model allows the region to bring together high-achieving athletes of different ages and levels with the region’s most experienced and successful club coaches. The projects provide pace, content and programming that would not be available to these athletes at home. The project-based model allows athletes to be “grounded” at home, surrounded by family and coaches who know them best and believe in them.

Development Responsibilities

The five divisions of the region, along with the clubs, are responsible for development at the entry levels and participation levels of the sport. The region and the clubs are responsible for development at the elite levels of the sport. Where divisional and regional responsibilities meet is fluid and often unique for individual athletes. Cooperation is essential for a smooth development pathway. As always, clubs remain the constant backbone regardless of changes within the development system.

U12 and Younger (Introduction / Sampling Years)

Young skiers, from mostly skiing families, are introduced to the sport. Parents generally encourage their children to engage seasonally in multiple sports and activities. The basis for sport participation: *“fun, belonging, and improvement.”*

Club and divisional responsibility

- Local clubs and divisions share the development responsibility.
- Sound fundamentals and skill development should be the primary focus.
- Competition should be local and/or in-house, secondary to training and learning.
- Development efforts should be broad reaching.
- Any local championship or season finale should include as many athletes as possible.

Regional responsibility

- The region strives to provide coaches education through club visits and clinics.
- The region promotes and supports Skills Quest, hosting Skills Quest training and tournaments throughout the region.

U14 Athletes (Transition Years)

During the middle school years, young athletes and their families become more seriously involved in one or more sports of their choice. The basis for sport participation transitions from *“fun, belonging, and improvement”* to *“performing and achievement.”*

Club and divisional responsibility

- Local clubs and divisions continue to share development responsibility.
- Skill development remains the primary focus, introducing tactics and strategy.
- Training to competing ratios remain high.
- The divisions introduce athletes to scored racing with an appropriate schedule of competitions, including speed events.
- Divisional championships and finales continue to include a broad base of participants.

Regional responsibility

- The region provides coaches education through club visits and clinics.
- The region promotes Skills Quest training and tournaments.
- Top performing 2nd-year athletes are introduced to the Western Region Development System attending a SL and fundamentals summer camp.
- The region hosts a 3-event regional championship that includes a SQ tournament.
- The region supports a U14 Team to the Whistler Cup
- Top-performing athletes are selected to the U16 National Championships, where the region organizes coaching and provides team management.

U16 Athletes (Specializing Years)

During their first two high school years, athletes and their parents generally choose the one or two sports in which to specialize. Performance and achievement become more important to both the athlete and the family.

Club and divisional responsibility

- Club responsibilities include more full-time training and management, more attention to equipment, and conditioning, and more financial and academic support.
- The club programs are preparing athletes for a life-investment into the sport.

- Divisions are providing a full calendar of scored events that include access to competitions with older athletes, qualification races for divisional teams, and divisional championship and season finale events.
- Divisions are also hosting training opportunities for high-achieving athletes.

Regional responsibility

- The region provides practical coaches education opportunities for U16 coaches to intern at FIS RTG projects, as well as supporting Skills Quest training and tournaments.
- The region offers several training opportunities for high-achieving athletes including a fundamentals camp and Flight School in the spring, a SL camp in the summer, a race prep camp in the fall, a winter training and competition GS/SG project, and a spring training and competition SL project
- A regional championship brings together the top-performing athletes from the divisions and qualifies athletes to compete in the U16 National Championship.
- The region selects and manages U16 athletes participating in national training and competition projects.

FIS JR Athletes (Competition / Investment Years)

Athletes and families have chosen ski racing as a significant part of their lives. Many athletes are fully invested in year-round training and a full schedule of FIS competitions. Other athletes participate seasonally and may still compete in other sports. Some of these “part-time” athletes choose to compete more locally within a national schedule of races.

Club and divisional responsibility

- Clubs remain the “home base” for FIS-age junior athletes (U19/21 athletes) whether competing on a FIS track or a local track of National racing.
- Divisions host an elite level of divisional racing for athletes on either track, and qualify FIS athletes to regional FIS competition.

Regional responsibility

- Western Region hosts two levels of regional FIS competitions; an Open Series to introduce athletes to FIS racing, and an Elite Series for athletes advancing to NPS, NorAms, national FIS competitions, and national championships.
- The region also hosts a regional junior FIS championship.
- Working directly with the clubs, the region provides additional training opportunities for top-performing FIS athletes during the prep period.
- During the winter, the region coordinates coaching and provides team management to top-performing athletes at national FIS competitions and championships.

Regional Programming

The region’s most important development responsibility is to provide opportunities and content to the region’s top-performing U16 and FIS junior athletes. This additional programming will complement and enhance athletic opportunities already offered by the clubs, and often not possible for individual clubs to offer their elite athletes.

Principles

- Western Region will design and operate programs in cooperation with U.S. Ski Team and major clubs that enhance and complement the overall training program of the athletes.
- Western Region, in collaboration with western clubs and academies, will support athletes at NorAms and National Championships and other national events.
- Training camps will be designed in progression, using annual and multi-year cycles.
- Western developmental level athletes should be developing skills in each of the four alpine disciplines: Downhill, Slalom, GS and Super G
- The program will stress sound fundamentals and skill development at all levels.
- Western Region will support empowerment and engagement through education, training, and development of athletes, coaches, parents, and clubs.
- Western Region will strive to make the program as cost effective and affordable as possible.

Regional Training Group

The Western Region RTG comprises a pool of athletes that annually identify themselves as the region's top performers. These athletes are selected by objective head-to-head criteria and year-end national point ranking.

FIS RTG

- U19 athletes comprise the FIS RTG and are selected each spring using results from the WRC Elite FIS races on the Western Region calendar and year-end national point ranking. Results from the U16 Regional Championships are used to select 1st-year FIS athletes. [Click](#) for RTG criteria.
- Development requests are considered to individual RTG projects.

U16 RTG

- Athletes are selected each spring into the U16 RTG for the coming season using results from the Western Region U16 Championships for 1st-year U16 athletes, and results from the Western Region U14 Championships for 2nd-year U14 athletes. [Click](#) for RTG criteria.
- Development requests are considered to individual RTG projects.

W.E.S.T. Team

The *Western Elite Ski Team* includes regional FIS junior athletes who are on pace to achieving USST national team criteria. These male and female athletes represent the highest achieving junior competitors in the region. Athletes are nominated each spring based on criteria set the prior fall, and officially named to the WEST Team in November after satisfying team objectives and criteria.

Purpose

- Bring together the region's top-performing junior FIS athletes for pace and training opportunities that augment training offered by home clubs.
- Promote a regional team environment that supports elite athletes at NorAm and national championship competition.
- Coordinate individual athlete goals and needs with home club coaches.

Criteria

- Team nominations will be based on head-to-head results from Western Region Cup GS, SL and SG results, and NAC DH Pts.
- All athletes named to the WEST must attend a validated SkillsQuest-Fitness assessment by Oct 31st of the upcoming season and meet the USST benchmarks.
- Development selections may be available. [Click](#) for criteria.

Programming and Content

- The prep period includes regional projects and national projects in the Spring, August, September and October, providing a progression of training and preparation leading to early season competition.
- The summer months are reserved for conditioning and club projects with the expectation that club training will continue the prep period progression.
- Conditioning & testing projects are included during the prep period. Meeting the USST SkillsQuest-Fitness benchmarks is required to be named to the WEST Team. Testing results will be available to athletes and coaches for consideration in the club's conditioning program.

Support

- The Western Region Staff is committed to support WEST Team athletes with the highest quality assistance possible.
- The Western Region Alpine Competition Committee is committed to provide significant financial support to WEST Team athletes at important projects.
- Named WEST Team members are exempt from participation requirements for selection to national championship event.
- Team members are expected to compete in regional competitions when properly supporting their competition schedule.
- Eligibility for support requires a commitment from the nominees to the Western Region and the WEST Team program.

Western Region Program Policies

Western Region Coaching Program

For all major U.S. Ski & Snowboard and FIS national series and events, where the Western Region has the responsibility and authority to organize a team, a coaching staff will be named for each team.

There will be a head coach and assistants for each of the men and women's squads. Additional coaches will be added for events involving downhill. The Western Region Director will determine the number of coaches necessary for a particular project or race series. The Western Region Development Coaches will select club coaches for each project staff.

A regional club coach's responsibility is to the entire team. While divisional/club affiliations mean familiarity with athletes from a home program, the coach has assumed responsibility for working with all of the athletes representing the Western Region. Use of regional projects to recruit athletes away from western clubs and academies is absolutely prohibited. Nomination for inclusion as Western Region staff for events is outlined below.

Coaches Responsibilities

All members of project staff(s) must be current members of U.S. Ski & Snowboard and carry a coach membership. All coaches must be eligible under U.S. Ski & Snowboard rules to serve as a referee and course setter, and should be Level 200 Certified or higher.

All coaches must adhere to and support the conditions of the U.S. Ski & Snowboard Code of Conduct and the Western Region Team agreement. Coaches are required to be prepared and ready to carry out their responsibilities at all times.

Head coaches shall:

1. Implement guidelines for a trip as established by the Western Region ACC and the Western Region Director.
2. Manage the project in accordance with U.S. Ski & Snowboard and regional policies, procedures, and methods.
3. Assist the Western Alpine Program Manager in making travel, housing and financial arrangements as necessary.
4. Carry the medical releases and insurance information for all competitors on the trip.
5. Submit a report to the Western Region Director including race results, disciplinary and organizational problems, assessment of assistant coaches, race sites and race organization, and a financial summary.
6. Record a daily report and submit a project review upon the completion of each project.
7. Provide for appropriate athlete support and supervision during the project from the initial point of contact to the point of departure as identified in the project description.

Assistant coaches shall:

1. Cooperate with, and be responsible to the head coach.
2. Submit a report to the Western Region Director when asked to do so.
3. Carry out coaching assignments to the best of their ability and in a timely manner.
4. Supervise the athletes in a manner that promotes top performance and complies with U.S. Ski & Snowboard and Western Region Team travel policies.
5. Submit expense reports according to Western Region procedures.
6. Sign a Western Region Competition Project Staff Agreement.

Coaches Guidelines

Head Coaches shall be U.S. Ski & Snowboard Level 300 Level Certified, former U.S. Ski Team coach, Canadian certified, or other international level certification. Assistant Coaches shall be U.S. Ski & Snowboard Level 200 Certified or qualified by ability and experience.

Each division may submit a list of nominations for head and assistant coaches for each project; nominations should be made to the Western Region Development Coach through the Western Region office 30 days prior to the project. The nominations will be reviewed by the Western Region Director, Regional Coach, and, in case of controversial nominations/issues, the regional ACC vice-chair.

Announcements of the coaching staff for each project will be made in a timely manner so that the coaches and their “home” programs can plan accordingly. In the event that a coach must withdraw from participation in a particular project, the Western Region Development Coach shall fill the position from the list of nominees. All coaches for regional projects and competition trips will be required to sign a contract indicating that they have read and agree to abide by the Western Region Team Policies.

Diversity Among Coaches

The Western Region recognizes the importance of diversity and inclusion among the region’s leadership, staff and coaches working directly with regional athletes. The region will make a genuine effort to include qualified female and minority coaches as staff members on regional projects.

Western Region Team Policies

The U.S. Ski & Snowboard Code of Conduct, which appears in the Alpine Competition Guide, applies to all Western Region projects, competitions, activities, and teams. Additionally, all athletes, coaches and team members will:

1. Abide by the laws of the United States of America and the individual states therein or foreign countries where the project takes place.
2. Support the coaching staff and other team members in upholding the ideals of fair play, good sportsmanship, and good citizenship.
3. Take no action nor commit any act that infringes on the quality of the experience of another member of the team.
4. Pay project costs prior to departure.
5. Fully participate in the organized accommodations unless excused at the time that the team is named.
6. Attend all team meetings and training activities on time and fully prepared.
7. Observe any curfew established by the coaching staff.
8. Not use or possess illegal drugs.
9. Not illegally use or possess alcohol or marijuana; Not use or possess alcohol or marijuana in the team accommodations, the team vehicles, or in the presence of team members who are not of legal age.

10. Reside in the room to which they are assigned and will share responsibility with their roommates for damages, cleaning charges, and rule violations that occur in the room when it is not possible to establish individual responsibility.
11. Observe additional rules established by the head coach of the project for the good of the project.

Western Region Policy Concerning Conduct

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

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

1. Prior to any action being taken, the Western Region Director and/or the U.S. Ski & Snowboard Development Director will be notified.
2. A panel named by the Western Region Director and/or the Western Region Development Coach will be formed from the coaching staff and any Western Region ACC members present.
3. The chair of the panel will be the Western Region Director, the Western Region Coach, or the designated team leader/head coach.
4. Any coach or leader from the accused's immediate club will recuse themselves from the panel.
5. If disciplinary action is deemed necessary, the following people shall be notified: a) in the case of an athlete, the athlete's coach and parents or guardians; b) in the case of a coach or official, their supervisor; c) the Western Region ACC chair; and d) the appropriate divisional ACC Chair.
6. Any action taken will require the filing of a written report to the Western Region ACC chairman, the Western Region Director and the U.S. Ski & Snowboard national office outlining the charges, facts and findings.
7. If an appropriate course of action cannot be agreed upon, the chair of the panel shall refer the facts and possible courses of action to the U.S. Ski & Snowboard Alpine Development Director and/or the U.S. Ski & Snowboard Chief of Sport..
8. Prior to any competition suspension, the U.S. Ski & Snowboard Alpine Development Director must be notified.

Possible Disciplinary Action

Any action taken shall comply with the USA Ted Stevens Amateur Sports Act and the U.S. Ski & Snowboard Code of Conduct, and any other applicable U.S. Ski & Snowboard rule in place. All actions involving "protected competitions", as defined by U.S. Ski and Snowboard, are subject to the due process provisions contained in the bylaws of U. S. Ski & Snowboard. One or more of the following actions may be imposed:

1. Suspension from training and/or competition
2. Removal from the team, competition trip, or training camp
3. Elimination of coaching, travel, and other benefits
4. Turning the offending party or parties over to the local or state authorities if the offense is a violation of existing laws
5. Any action taken shall be applied fairly and equitably to all parties involved.

Violations of laws resulting in arrest are not the responsibility of a regional project staff to resolve. Should a team member be arrested, a good faith effort to understand the situation and to contact the parent or legal guardian will be undertaken. Resolution of the situation, including arranging for legal representation, bail or other conditions of release, are the responsibility of the athlete's legal guardians, or, in the case of an adult athlete or staff member, the accused person.

Western Region Payment & Refund Policy for Athlete Projects

All fees associated with participation in regionally conducted training and/or competition projects are due in the regional office prior to the start of the project. No services will be rendered to athletes who have not made payment prior to the beginning of any project. Applicable fees are published at the time the invitation list or quota is announced. Western Region will provide on-line registration for each project and request that all invited athletes provide payment on-line.

No athlete will be invited to the next Western Region project who maintains an outstanding balance to U.S. Ski & Snowboard or to the Western Region.

Full or partial refunds may be granted for withdrawal from projects or competition trips, or for partial attendance due to injury, illness, or family emergency. The Western Region staff will determine the amount of any refund. Direct costs will be refunded if available.

Western Region Selection and Intent Procedures for National and International Races

Western Region has quotas for the various national events; U.S. Alpine Championships, U18 National Championships, NPS events, national events and out-of-region FIS races. The Western Region ACC has established procedures for filling these quotas. To be considered for any of these events, racers must declare their interest in the events according to the region's Intent to Compete procedure.

Only current **U.S. Ski & Snowboard** members, who have the proper membership and are Western Region athletes as defined in the **U.S. Ski & Snowboard** bylaws, will be eligible for these events. See the [National Championship](#) section for U.S. Alpine Championship and U18 National Championship for additional criteria and exceptions.

Eligibility for quotas has prerequisites. Racers who wish to be included in some or all of these quota selections must meet these prerequisites. Racers are responsible for knowing and meeting these requirements. They include but are not limited to being current in financial standing for regional and national projects.

Requests to participate in another regions' FIS races must be intended on the U.S. Ski & Snowboard intent site 21 days out from the first team captain's meeting. Confirmation is due 16 days prior to the first team captain's meeting via the confirmation board. Entry fees are the responsibility of the individual competitor, or team captain of a divisional development trip, and must be paid according to the policies of the division or region hosting the event.

Intent to Compete Declaration Method

Intents will be used to construct regional selection boards for:

- NorAm Cup competitions (national quota)
- US National Championship (national & regional quota)

- Canadian FIS competition (national quota)
- Canadian National Championships (national quota)
- Rocky-Central FIS competitions (regional quota)
- Eastern Region FIS competitions (regional quota)
- FISU competition (regional & national quota)
- Foreign competition outside North America (national quota)

Intents will be [submitted](#) on the U.S. Ski & Snowboard website. Please refer to the website for instructions. Intents may be declared on the first day of the month prior to the competition and are due 21 days prior to the first team captain's meeting. Intents must be confirmed 16 days prior to the first team captain's meeting. There is a calendar on the website with Intent Deadlines clearly marked.

Intents may be submitted for multiple race series for any given dates within a period. All quotas in Canada are national and determined by national rank using FIS points by the national office. Selected athletes must be confirmed on the intent site 16 days prior to the first team captain's meeting. Athletes can only be confirmed to one race or event on any given day.

For regional quotas, ranking lists will be constructed for selection purposes based on the National points list valid on the date the intents close. Athletes may also be selected for a regional quota based on head-to-head competition, recent results, or discretionarily selected. Selected athletes: the deadline to confirm will be published on the intent site 16 days from the first TC meeting of the series. Unconfirmed athletes will be pulled.

Only those athletes who intend 21 days prior to the first TC meeting will be ranked on the selection board. Confirmed athletes who want to attend the event must go to the designated payment portal and pay race entries. Payment must be received by the 16-day confirmation deadline or athletes will be pulled.

Western Region Team

Western Region Training Group (RTG)

FIS Regional Training Group

The FIS Regional Training Group will comprise 15 U19 male and 15 U19 female athletes for a total of 30 athletes. The RTG will be named in the spring of each year based on past season performance and the future plans of the athlete. All WEST Team nominees are automatically members of the FIS RTG in addition to the group size of 15.

The selection process for 2nd-year and 3rd-year athletes uses a [Double Selection Board](#) that credits head-to head results from Western Region races as well as National Point ranking. Athletes will receive Place Pts from the **Western Region Cup** FIS races on the Western Region calendar. An athlete's best two results in each discipline will be added together and placed on the board. The national points side of the board will use points from List 21. For a racer to be included on the National Pts board the racer must have competed in at least one Western Region Cup race in that discipline during the current season. If a tie exists in national points the racer ranked higher on the Place Pts board of the same event will be ranked first.

1st-year FIS athletes will be named to the FIS RTG who earned at least one top-5 result at the U16 NPS or the U16 National Championship. Discretionary spots to all projects are available for athletes who are not named to the RTG.

U16 Regional Training Group

The U16 Regional Training Group is named each spring based on past season performance and future plans of the athlete. 16 male athletes and 16 female athletes will be named for a total of 32 athletes. Up to four 1st-year men and up to four 1st-year women will be named. A minimum of 12 men and 12 women will be named from 2nd-year U16 athletes.

1st-year U16 athletes who rank in the top four of the U14 Whistler Cup selection will be named to the U16 RTG.

2nd-year U16 athletes will be selected from a [Double Selection Board](#) using World Cup Points from the U16 Western Region Championship, and National Points from List 20. The columns of the double board are modified to include in order GS, SL & SG for place points, and GS & SL only for national points (no SG points column). If a tie exists in national points the racers ranked higher on the Place Pts board of the same event will be ranked first.

The Open SG at the U16 Championship will not be considered for Place Points. Foreign athletes who are active members of Western Region clubs will be included and are eligible for RTG selection. Discretionary spots to all projects are available for athletes who are not named to the RTG.

See [RTG Criteria](#) in the appendix.

Western Elite Ski Team

The **Western Elite Ski Team** (W.E.S.T.) was established in 1994. The team is designed to provide appropriate training and preparation for athletes who are on track to qualify for U.S. Ski Team selections. The goal of the team is to enhance future performance through the application of proper planning and training. Additionally, the team gives recognition to the best club racers from the region.

[2025 WEST Team](#)

Team Size

The number of team athletes is generally 5 per gender, but can include more or less depending on eligible athletes. Team members may also be named subjectively based on an agreement between the Western Region staff and the ACC Vice-chair.

Criteria

WEST Team 2025 [eligibility and criteria](#) can be found in the appendix.

Selection

WEST Team members will be nominated from a ranked list in April, prior to the start of the region's summer preparation period. Members will be named in early November at the conclusion of the preparation period. Team membership is in effect through April 30th of the current competition season. Naming will be based on the objective criteria. A selection group made up of the regional coaches, the regional director, and the ACC vice-chair may name team members subjectively. Subjective selections may be up to two athletes per gender.

Benefits

- WEST Team members will have priority for participation in regional preparation period projects.
- Team members will have priority for discretionary selection to regional quotas for races that are part of their competition plan.
- Team members will be excused from any regional and/or divisional participation requirements that conflict with sound athletic preparation. The regional coaches and home program coach will collaborate on the plan, which is to be reviewed by the regional director and appropriate divisional representative. Deviations from the plan that would impact participation must be discussed with, and approved by, the regional director.
- Team members will receive a uniform signifying their membership on the team.
- Team members will receive financial support from the Western Region ACC at important preparation and competition projects.
- Team members will also receive complimentary entry fees and lift tickets for the Western Region Cup Elite FIS series.

Western Region Selection Board

The Western Region uses a double selection board for the U.S. Alpine Championships, the U18 National Championships, advancement to the Western Region Cup, RTG selection and other national events. (An example of a 4-event double selection board is found on page 36 of the 2024 Alpine Competition Guide.)

Setting up the Board

The board has two parts. The first part is composed of World Cup points ranking (1st = 100 points, 2nd = 80 points...30th = 1 point) earned in identified selection races specific to the event. The second part of the board is based on U.S. Ski and Snowboard seed points from the National Points list valid on the selection date.

A column is established for each event on each part of the board. The columns will be listed in the order of GS and SL; which will be the order of selection. The World Cup points portion of the board will be first, followed by the seed-points portion of the board.

When SG is contested a SG column will be added to the first part of the double board following the GS and SL columns; World Cup points ranking. A SG seed point ranking will not be included in the second part of the double board.

World Cup Points (Place Points)

World Cup Points are used to determine Place Points. In calculating WC points, results will be purged of all foreign and non-Western Region competitors. Results will also be purged of USST athletes and athletes who are not of the birth years targeted for the selection. All remaining Western Region competitors will be included when calculating place points. The top 30 competitors will receive place points (100, 80, 60, 50, 45, 40, 36, 32, 29, 26, 24, 22, 10, 18, 16, 15, 12, 11, 10, 9, 8, 7, 6, 5, 4, 3, 2 and 1). In the case of a tie for one of the top 30 places, each tied racer receives the points corresponding to that position. The following racers receive the points for their finish position. (e.g., a tie for 2nd: racer 1 - 100 points, racers 2 and 3 - 80 points each, racer 4 - 50 points, etc.)

Only half of the races contested per event may be used in calculating each racer's total place points in that event. If an odd number of races are held in an event, the number of races that may be counted will be rounded up to the next whole number (e.g. - three slaloms contested, each racer counts their best 2). In speed events (DH and SG), if only two races are held, both will be counted. Should "special opportunity" races be run in conjunction with regular Western Region FIS competitions, these will not be considered in scoring place points.

If a tie in World Cup points exists between two or more racers in a discipline, a racer's single best WC point result will be considered to break the tie. If a tie still exists, a racer's 2nd best WC point result will be used to break the tie. This process will continue through all results of the event. If a tie remains after all results have been considered, a racer who started the series with higher seed points (worse points) in the event will be ranked in front of racers who started the series with lower seed points in the event.

Selection Procedure

Selection proceeds left to right on each row starting with place points and ending with seed points. When a racer who has already been picked is encountered in a column, the column is skipped, and selection continues with the next column in the same row. When the last column in a row is reached,

selection continues with the first column in the next row. For example, consider the following selection board:

***World Cup Point Board**

GS	SL	SG
A	B	E
G	D	Q
R	Z	D
T	Q	B

***National Seed Point Board**

GS	SL
A	X
F	E
Z	M
T	D

Selection for a 12-person, 3-event team would be:

A, B, E, X, G, D, Q, F, R, Z, M, T

Selection for a 7-person, SL and GS team would be:

A, B, X, G, D, F, R

*DH is currently excluded from the region's selection boards

Alternate Selections

Alternates are selected by continuing the procedure described above. An exception to this procedure is used for the U.S. Alpine Championships after four alternate women and four alternate men are selected. See the section on the U.S. Alpine Championships below for details.

Partial Slots

When quota slots become available for multi-event competitions (e.g., the U.S. Alpine Championships), as a result of a team member declining to participate in all events, the partial slot will be filled by the next person on the selection board in the event(s) that the slot becomes available. For example, if a member of the U.S. Alpine Championships team participates in the SG only, the available slot in SL and GS would be filled by the next person on the selection board in SL or GS. An exception to this procedure for the U.S. Alpine Championships is described below.

Selections in Exceptional Circumstances

When selections for a competition are made before December and January races are completed, or if some or all of the races in these events have been canceled, the place-points portion of the board will be based on any races that have been held. If a team is selected before any races have been held, then the selection will be based entirely on the seed point portion of the board.

Policy for All Western Quota Teams - Shared Cost

For all competitions that Western Region is responsible for, or has the authority to, under U.S. Ski & Snowboard policy, make entries or field a team, any athletes placed on the FIS entry form and entered in the race will share in the cost of supporting the staff that manages the participation of the West in that series.

National Championships

2025 U.S. Alpine Championship (U18, U21, and Seniors)

The 2025 U.S. Alpine Championship will be hosted at Vail, CO. The championships will include Super-G, GS and Slalom events.

Eligibility

Only those competitors who have participated in at least one race of the Western Region Cup races (***Snow King*** in January – GS, SL; and ***the Snowbird/UOP*** in February – SG, GS & SL) in a particular event, are eligible to be included on the selection board in that event. Competitors who are unable to attend the qualifying races because of participation in a conflicting USST, NDG, or WR project will not be ineligible as a consequence. Members of W.E.S.T. have an exception; see the section describing the regional team.

Quota

The Western Region quota is 14 men and 14 women. The quota is filled using the Western Region Selection [procedure described](#) above:

- A 3-event, 5-column board will be constructed using GS, SL & SG in that order
- 20% of the quota, rounded up (or at least one slot), will be reserved for discretionary selection. This (these) slot(s) may be filled by the Western Region director for development purposes.
- NAT Point List #18 will be used.

Athletes named to discretionary slots will not be considered in naming alternates to the team. In the case that a discretionary selection does not attend the competition, s/he will be replaced by the next alternate. Additional discretionary selections will not be made.

Racers must notify the Western Region office by confirming on the selection board by the specified deadline if they are interested in participating in this competition. The selection boards for this competition will only include eligible Western Region athletes who have intended.

[See appendix](#) for quotas to the U.S. Alpine Championship

U.S. U18 National Junior Championship (YOB 2007 & 2008)

The 2025 U18 National Junior Championships will be hosted at Aspen, CO. The junior championship will consist of a Slalom, GS, Super G and Downhill events.

Eligibility

Only those competitors who have participated in at least one race of the Western Region Cup races (***Snow King*** in January – GS & SL; ***Schweitzer Speed Series*** in January – SG; and ***Snowbird/UOP*** in February – SG, GS & SL), in a particular event, are eligible to be included on the selection board in that event. Competitors who are unable to attend the qualifying races because of participation in a conflicting USST, NPS, or WR project will not be ineligible as a consequence. Members of W.E.S.T. have an exception; see the section describing the regional team.

Quota

Western Region has a regional quota of 20 women and 20 men to the Junior Championship, of which a minimum of six men and six women YOB 2008 will be selected. The quota is filled using the Western Region Selection [procedure described](#) above:

- A 3-event, 5-column board will be constructed using GS, SL & SG in that order.
- 20% of the quota, rounded up (or at least one slot), will be reserved for discretionary selection. This (these) slot(s) may be filled by the Western Region director for development purposes. If they are used, the discretionary slots will be filled at the time the team is named.
- NAT Point List #16 will be used.

Athletes named to discretionary slots will not be considered in naming alternates to the team. In the case that a discretionary selection does not attend the competition, s/he will be replaced by the next alternate. Additional discretionary selections will not be made.

Racers must notify the Western Region office by confirming on the selection board by the specified deadline if they are interested in participating in this competition. The selection boards for this competition will only include eligible Western Region athletes who have intended.

U16 National Championship (YOB 2009 & 2010)

The 2025 U16 National Championship will be held at Sugarloaf, ME. Athletes will be selected to the U16 National Championship through performance at the Western Region U16 Junior Championship.

Selection

1. A ranking list will be made by adding the World Cup points of the best two results from SG, GS or SL at the WR U16 Junior Championship.
2. If one or more regional championship competitions are canceled, the ranking will be made by adding World Cup points from the remaining contested competitions.
3. Ties will be broken using the single best result. If a tie still exists, the next best result will be used, and this process will continue until the tie is broken.
4. There are development spots available if needed. These spots are a quota expansion. Request must come from the regional staff and coaches to the Regional Director.

Quota

Western Region has a quota of 15 women and 15 men to the U16 National Championship. Athletes qualified and attended a national European project are automatics to the NC and will not count toward the region's quota. Foreign athletes who qualify within the quota of 15, according to the selection procedure above, are eligible to compete. Foreign athletes do not count toward the region's total quota and are not eligible for discretionary selection.

Advancement Opportunity

Up to 3 women and 3 men, born 2010, will be invited to join the WEST/RTG project in Chile in September 2024. Athletes will be ranked using World Cup points earned from the GS races at the Burke NPS, both SG races and the GS race from the U16 Regional Championship at Schweitzer, and the SG and GS races from the U16 National Championship at Sugarloaf. Results will be purged of athletes from other regions and athletes born 2009.

Western Region Championships

Regional Championship Quotas

The quotas are established through calculations via the “**Corrock and Price Method**”. This method is based on a philosophy of awarding achievement while respecting the participation needs of each division. An average of population and performance is used to determine Regional Championship quotas.

- The population data for the next year will be derived from the divisional memberships on the National points list valid April 1st, using the birth years of the upcoming Championship event. Foreign athletes will not be included in the population data.
- The performance allocation will be based on the prior year's performance by each division for the respective championship. All races contested are included in the equation. Those competitors finishing within the top 30 overall of each event will be included in each division's performance percentage. Foreign athletes will be included if they utilize their divisional quota selection to enter the championship event. Senior athletes, if competed, will be pulled from the WRJC results prior to determining the top 30.
- Formula: $((\% \text{ of Population}) + (\text{Average } \% \text{ of Performance}))/2 = \% \text{ of Quota}$
 - Take the percentage of population plus the average percentage of performance from all starts at last year's championships, divided by 2 to determine the percentage of quota.
 - Then multiply that percentage by the field size for the gender to determine the raw quota.
 - All rounding should review to the thousandth.
 - No division will have a quota of less than 4 women and 4 men. Adjustments will be based objectively from the raw quota to ensure the minimum quota is provided to each division

Western Region Junior Championship (U18 and U21)

The championship format for the 2025 Western Region Junior Championship includes three disciplines, contesting 2SL, 2GS and 2 SG for U18 and U21 athletes. In 2025 the event will be held at Mission Ridge, WA. Foreign U.S. Ski & Snowboard members who are full time members of a western club will not be counted against divisional quotas. Foreign athletes must enter through their ski federation.

Quotas ([see appendix](#))

The divisions fill the field. The divisions establish their own procedures for making their selections. The quotas are established through calculations via the “Corrock and Price Method” described above. The Western Region Director controls a development quota of up to 15 men and 15 women for the series.

There is no set quota by gender. The field size is held constant at 170 athletes, but the number of women and men, as a percentage of that total field will fluctuate as a function of both population and performance on a divisional basis.

Seeding

Per FIS rules

Awards

There will be awards for at least the top three places of each race and the 3-way overall result at this event. The overall winners will be the sum of Race Points from the best result in each discipline contested at Championships. Racers must complete at least one race in each discipline to be considered for the overall award.

Advancement Opportunity

One man and one woman will be selected to the U.S. National Championship from the Western Region Junior Championships based on overall ranking, if not already qualified by national quotas or the regional selection system described above.

Alan Hayes Divisions Cup

Dr. Alan B. Hayes (1945 – 2019) was a successful computer engineer, influential in the development of the computer mouse and the solid-state hard drive. Alan was also a very passionate and generous supporter of ski racing and an advocate for the Western Region. He cared deeply about the success of western athletes at either end of the result list. Alan was passionate about the Western Region JR Championship, an event that gave many athletes the opportunity to enjoy championship success. The Alan Hayes Divisions Cup is an annual trophy awarded each year to the winning division from the Junior Championships.

Scoring: The NCAA 40 Point Team Scoring method will be used; 1st = 40, 2nd = 37, 3rd = 34, 4th = 31, 5th = 29, 6th = 27, 7th = 25, 8th = 23, 9th = 22, 10th = 21 ...30th = 1. Each division counts their best three scores in each event. Unused scores will not be purged. A division's total is the sum of points earned from all events contested at the Junior Championship. If a tie exists between divisions' totals, the tie will be broken by the number of top-3 podiums each division received. If a tie still exists, the division with the most 1st place podiums will be ranked first.

Western Region U16 Junior Championship (YOB 2009 & 2010)

The Western Region U16 Junior Championship moves between the Western Region divisions. A bid evaluation process exists for this event. Starting in the spring of 2024, the event will be set on a divisional rotation and will be provisionally assigned two years in advance to give ROCs ample time to secure sponsorship, etc. in order to keep the overall cost reasonable for the athletes. The event has been held at many different ski resorts throughout the five western divisions. In 2025 the championship will be held at Schweitzer Mtn., ID.

2026 Far West
2027 Northern
2028 Intermountain
2029 Alaska

Quotas (see [appendix](#))

The base field size for this event is 170 total athletes from both genders. The quotas are established through calculations via the "Corrock and Price Method" [described above](#).

There is no set quota by gender. The field size is held constant at 170 but the number of women and men, as a percentage of that total field will fluctuate as a function of both population and performance on a divisional basis. Foreign athletes count against a division's quota.

Seeding

The WR ACC has approved a special seeding procedure for this event known as the "5-Seed Method". There will be 5 seeds, taking the divisional quota divided by 5 to determine each division's

quota per seed. If the quota is not divisible by 5 then the first seeds are increased by one more until the quota is complete. All divisions have a minimum of two athletes per gender in the first seed. The [Seeding Chart](#) is shown in the appendix.

A random draw for the divisional order will be held for each seed in each event by the ROC, with the participation of the Technical Delegate(s) and the Regional Director. The divisions place their quota into each seed for each event in the order they choose, by their own selection methods. The five divisional offices then enter their own quota to the ROC by the entry deadline. Modifications to the entered seeding may only be made for injury, illness, or other extenuating circumstances with the approval of the appropriate divisional office.

Beginning in 2019, the Super-G training run at the U16 Junior Championship was replaced with an additional Super-G race. The 2nd contested Super-G race is used as the championship event and included in the overall award, unless only one SG is held. Both SGs at the U16 Championships will utilize the championship seeding method, however each race will be drawn separately to determine the running order.

Automatics to the U16 Junior Championship

Western Region athletes selected to, and participating in, a national competition project (U16 NPS, Europe project, etc.) that conflicts with their divisional qualification to the regional U16 championship may become automatics to the Western Region U16 Junior Championship. Athletes must still attempt to participate in their divisional qualifying series and qualify for the regional championship through their divisional process.

Qualified automatics will not count against divisional quotas. Quotas will be expanded appropriately and the seeding matrix will be recalculated. Divisions are still responsible for the seeding order.

Selection Procedures

This is the regional championship event for U16s from the five divisions of the Western Region. Participation is restricted to U16 (by year of birth) competitors. There is no foreign quota for this event. Foreign U16 competitors living in the U.S. may attend as part of the quota of the division in which they are competing. Foreign competitors must hold the proper membership with U.S. Ski & Snowboard and their division, along with qualifying under their division's rules. U14s are not allowed to participate in this event under any circumstances. Each division is responsible for establishing qualification procedures for filling its quota.

Course Setters and Jury Members

Course Setters, and Jury members must be members of U.S. Ski & Snowboard. The Western Region Director, working with the Divisional Manager, the Divisional AO chair of the host division, and the ROC, appoints the Technical Delegate(s) (TD) for these events. The TDs must be national level 3 TDs or higher.

An effort will be made to apportion course setting and jury assignments among the coaches of the five participating divisions. However, at a championship event it is not always possible to be completely equitable. The U.S. Ski & Snowboard commissioner for the event, along with the TD(s), will assign the jury and course setters.

Coaches Passes

See stated [policy](#), below.

Head Tax

The U16 Regional Junior Championship event is subject to U.S. Ski & Snowboard head tax and a \$6.00 WR head tax.

Awards

The awards for U16 Junior Championships will be for at least the top three finishers in each event and the overall winner of the series. The overall award is determined by summing an athlete's World Cup Place Points from all three events. The racer with the highest sum of World Cup Points is the winner. If only two events are contested the overall award will be determined using both. If only one event is contested no overall is awarded.

A tie in calculating the overall winner will be broken as follows:

- by highest World Cup Points in a single race
- by the second highest World Cup Points in a single race
- by the lowest race points in a single race
- by the second lowest race points in a single race

Advancement Opportunity

[Refer to the U16 National Championship section](#)

Western Region U14 Junior Championship (YOB 2011 & 2012)

The first Western Region U14 Junior Championship was held in 2016 at Jackson Hole Resort, WY. The 2025 U14 Junior Championship will be held at Mammoth Mt., CA.

Quotas (see [appendix](#))

There is no set quota by gender. The field size is held constant at 120 but the number of women and men, as a percentage of that total field will fluctuate as a function of both population and performance on a divisional basis. The quotas are established through calculations via the "Corrock and Price Method" [described above](#). No division will have less than four women and four men. Foreign athletes count toward a division's quota.

Seeding

The WR ACC has approved a special seeding procedure for this event known as the "5-Seed Method". There will be 5 seeds, taking the divisional quota divided by 5 to determine each division's quota per seed. If the quota is not divisible by 5 then the first seeds are increased by one more until the quota is complete. All divisions have a minimum of two athletes per gender in the first seed. The [Seeding Chart](#) is shown in the appendix.

A random draw for the divisional order will be held for each seed in each event, including the SG training run, by the ROC, with the participation of the Technical Delegate(s) and the Regional Director. The divisions place their quota into each seed for each event in the order they choose, by their own selection methods, and the five divisional offices then enter their own quota to the ROC by the entry deadline. Modifications to the entered seeding may only be made for injury, illness, or other extenuating circumstances with the approval of the appropriate divisional office.

Selection Procedures

This is the regional championship event for U14s from the five divisions of the Western Region. Participation is restricted to U14 (by year of birth) competitors. There is no foreign quota for this event. Foreign U14 competitors living in the U.S. may attend as part of the quota of the division in which they are competing. Foreign competitors must hold the proper membership with U.S. Ski &

Snowboard and their division, along with qualifying under their division's rules. U12s are not allowed to participate in this event under any circumstances. Each division is responsible for establishing qualification procedures for filling its quota.

Course Setters and Jury Members

Course Setters, and Jury members must be members of U.S. Ski & Snowboard. The Western Region Director, working with the Divisional Manager, the Divisional AO chair of the host division, and the ROC, appoints the Technical Delegate(s) (TD) for these events. The TDs must be national level 3 TDs or higher.

An effort will be made to apportion course setting and jury assignments among the coaches of the five participating divisions. However, at a championship event it is not always possible to be completely equitable. The U.S. Ski & Snowboard commissioner for the event, along with the TD(s), will assign the jury and course setters.

Coaches Passes

See stated [policy](#), below.

Head Tax

The U14 Regional Junior Championship event is subject to U.S. Ski & Snowboard head tax and a \$6.00 WR head tax.

Awards

The awards for U14 Junior Championships will be for at least the top three finishers in each event and the overall winner of the series. The overall award is determined by summing an athlete's World Cup Place Points from all three events. The racer with the highest sum of World Cup Points is the winner. If only two events are contested the overall award will be determined using both. If only one event is contested no overall is awarded.

A tie in calculating the overall winner will be broken as follows:

- by highest World Cup Points in a single race
- by the second highest World Cup Points in a single race
- by the lowest race points in a single race
- by the second lowest race points in a single race

Western Region U14 Whistler Cup

Beginning in 2018, the Western Region selects a U14 Whistler Cup Team to compete against athletes of their age from other countries. The event is held each year in Whistler, B.C. and consists of a SL GS, and Paveled Dual SL.

Quota

6 men and 6 women from the Western Region

Team Selection

1. A ranking list will be made by adding the World Cup points of an athlete's best two results from SG, GS or SL at the WR U14 Junior Championship. If only two events are contested both scores will be used to rank athletes. A single score will be used if only one event is contested. No athletes will be purged from the results when assigning World Cup points. World Cup points will be awarded to the top 30 finishers using the 100-point system.

2. Using the ranking list from the WR U14 Junior Championship, the top 6 athletes per gender will be selected, skipping over foreign athletes and athletes that have been selected to attend the U.S. Ski & Snowboard U16 National Championships.
3. If a tie exists, the single-best WC point results will be used. If necessary, the next best WC point result will be used, and this process will continue until the tie is broken. If a tie still exists after considering all results, the tie will be broken using GS race points earned at the Junior Championship.
4. No development requests will be considered.
5. An alternate list of 6 athletes per gender will follow the same selection criteria.

The team will be announced within 48 hours after the completion of the U14 Junior Championship. Families and coaches will receive project details with the announcement. Invited athletes will need to confirm by the announced deadline. Alternates will be invited if unfilled spots become available per item 5 above.



Western Region Race Series

The Western Region is responsible for scheduling FIS competitions within the western states of U.S. Ski & Snowboard. Western Region is also responsible for controlling field size, distributing quotas to the five western divisions, and monitoring foreign race entries and entries from the other regions.

In 1982, the series started with a December DH series and a January technical series. In 1983 the Spring Series was added, and the races were FIS sanctioned for the first time. 1985 saw the addition of SG to the series and in the early 1990s a second technical series, the Devo Series, was added.

Beginning in 2022, Western Region changed its FIS Series qualification to support the “2-Tier System” for FIS racing adopted at the 2021 U.S. Ski & Snowboard Annual Congress. The System supports key Health of Sport principles including appropriate levels of competition for athletes, a clear advancement path, access to the sport and retention of athletes. FIS athletes generally compete at three levels of competition:

- Home Series - where athletes are developing and moving toward the top of the results
- Reach Series - advancing from Home Series via performance, experiencing next level of competition and striving to become competitive
- Championship level - one-time competition to perform at one's highest level

Regional Rank Quota Method

100 men's and 100 women's slots are allocated among the five western divisions based on each division's percentage of the total number of Western Region athletes on the U.S. Ski and Snowboard age ranking lists valid on May 1 from the prior year.

- The number of ranked competitors from each division in the top 100 of the U.S. Ski & Snowboard lists for each year of birth of the upcoming year's FIS-age juniors will be determined by summing the number of each division's junior athletes appearing on the ranking list in SL, the number appearing in GS and the number appearing in SG.
- An athlete who is age-ranked in two or three disciplines will be counted each time they are ranked in the top 100 by YOB.
- The Western Region total will be the sum of the division totals and the percentage of 100 of the totals will determine each division's base number of competitors.
- The divisional quotas calculated using the Rank Quota Method will be used of all WRangler Cup tech events, including tech events with SG. The total quota for a speed series remains at 115M and 115W.—See [Appendix](#) for divisional quotas.

WRangler Cup Series (Devo Series)

The WRangler Cup Series is the introductory level where athletes from the five western divisions begin FIS racing and develop FIS experience. Athletes qualify to the Wrangler Cup through their division's selection process. Divisions are assigned quotas based on the **Regional Rank Quota**

Method, described above. Divisional quotas may be expanded, as field size allows, at the discretion of the regional director. The minimum divisional quotas are 6 men and 6 women.

WRangler Cup races are “Open Races” that include athletes from all five western divisions. Certain identified WRangler Cup races are “selection” races that offer athletes advancement opportunity to the Western Region Cup Series (Elite Series). (See [appendix](#) for selection races.)

Elite Automatics at WRangler Cup Races

Named Elite Automatics will qualify for WRangler Cup races on their division’s quota and through their division’s selection procedure. Automatics do not need to intend for WRangler Cup races on the regional Intent Site, however, will respond to their Division by the divisional deadline.

See [Appendix](#) for the 2024-25 calendar and divisional quotas to the WRangler Cup Series.

Western Region Cup Series (Elite Series)

The 2024-2025 Western Region Cup events scored toward series standings include: the ***Tech Series at Snow King*** in January– 2GS & 2SL; the ***Schweitzer Speed Series*** in January – 2SG; the ***Bryce Astle Series at UOP/Snowbird*** in February – 2GS, 2SL & 2SG; the ***Spring Speed Series at Mammoth*** in April 2SG; and the ***Spring Series at Palisades Tahoe*** in April – 2GS & 2SL races.

Quotas and Field Size

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

Elite Automatics

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

An initial group of Automatics is selected in the Fall using the first NAT Points list that becomes valid in November. A single selection board of GS and SL points is used. The selection identifies 40 active U21 and U18 Western Region athletes from each gender, skipping over USST members, SR athletes and college athletes. All athletes, including those skipped, are considered Elite Automatics.

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

Any Western Region athlete who is not already an Elite Automatic, and who finishes within 6% of the fastest Western Region athlete at a Western Region Cup race, will become an Elite Automatic for the remainder of the season. USST athletes, foreign athletes and college athletes are not considered when determining the fastest Western Region athlete.

Advancement to Western Region Cup

The WRangler Cup Series is used as selection races to the Western Region Cup. The 2024-2025 WRangler Cup races used for WRC selection are identified on the [calendar](#) in the Appendix. WRangler Cup results used for advancement to the Western Region Cup are cumulative throughout the season. A double selection board following the procedure explain in the **Western Region Selection Board** [section](#), above, will be used. There is no participation requirement for athletes to be included on the WRC advancement board.

See the [Appendix](#) for quotas and identified selection races.

Other Policies Governing Western Region FIS Races

The following section describes policies and procedures that are common to all FIS competition within the Western Region.

Western Region FIS Series Awards

The minimum requirement for awards at all Western Region Cup, WRangler Cup and Speed Series FIS races is top-3 places for U18 per gender, and top-3 places for Overall per gender.

Regional Director's Quota

The Western Region Director will have a quota of up to 15 men and up to 15 women for all races in the Western Region Junior Championship and the Western Region Cup Series. This quota will be used for development purposes and/or field enhancement. The respective divisional office in conjunction with the divisional ACC chair or other individuals designated by the division to perform this function may make nominations.

The Director's quota will not be used if:

1. The regional director, in consultation with the ROC, determines that the resulting field size would be too large.
2. The "development" purpose of this quota is being abused. The purpose of the quota is to deal with exceptional circumstances, not as a field or quota expansion device. However, in extraordinary circumstances, the director, with the agreement of the Western Region ACC chair and the event organizer, may expand the quota.

The Western Region Director, in consultation with the Western Region Coach(es) and/or Manager, will have final authority for naming athletes, including athletes that have not been nominated by their divisions, to the development quota.

Additional Quotas

The U.S. Ski Team quota for these events will be all members of the A, B, C and D teams. Out-of-region and foreign quotas for these events are as follows:

	Eastern	Rocky/Central	Canada	Other Countries
Men	10	10	15(30)	Per FIS ICR
Women	10	10	15(30)	Per FIS ICR

For details on the exact allocation of the Canadian quota for a particular series, contact the Western Region office. All Canadian and other foreign entries must be made through U.S. Ski & Snowboard. Only the Canadian national office enters Canadian athletes into FIS races. The Western Region director or U.S. Ski & Snowboard staff will forward these entries to race organizers. By agreement between Canada and the USA, the normal quota of 30 is restricted to 15 per gender

unless the regional or provincial (Canada) offices in consultation with the ROC, expands the quota to the other country. This is done on a per-race series basis.

Out-of-region U.S. entries must come from the respective regional offices and be confirmed by the Western Region office. Regions are required to confirm their participation in each other's FIS races 16 days prior to the first team captain's meeting for each race series.

Host Quota

The host club(s) for a FIS series will each have a quota of 1 man and 1 woman in every race of the series, exclusive of the regional championship events. The quota is limited to age eligible racers who have the proper membership and are members of the host club. A host club quota slot may be split between multiple athletes.

Field Size Limitations

If a race is oversubscribed, Western Region athletes will be pulled from the race beginning with those with the highest points in order of a) athletes on quota expansions beyond normal quotas, b) subjective selections, i.e., regional director's quota when used for development, and c) divisional selections. No Western Region athlete will be pulled from a second race in a series until all western athletes have been pulled from one race in the event.

Minimum Divisional Quotas

The minimum divisional quota in all Western Region FIS races is 6 men and 6 women.

Divisional Selection Procedures

Each division is responsible for establishing procedures for filling its divisional quota to the WRangler Cup Series and to all Regional Junior Championships. Each division may fill 20% of its quota (min 1 man/1woman) for an event on a discretionary basis. Divisions may restrict all or a portion of their quota for an event to juniors. When a WRangler Cup Series race is used as a qualifying competition for any National Championship event, the region encourages that

- * 50% of any divisional quota be allocated and offered to the age group that is qualifying for the championship event.
- *Divisional quota expansion may or may not be restricted to an age category by the regional director.
- *Regional director's quota is not restricted by any age category.

Entry Fees, Entry Deadlines and Head Tax

The entry deadline for events in all Western FIS series is **7 days** prior to the first event for USA athletes. All other FIS eligible foreign athletes may enter according to FIS rules. The organizer must receive the official FIS entry forms and full entry fees by this deadline. Copies of the official entry forms are to be sent to the Western Region office at the same time as they are sent to the organizer. Entries may be accepted from the five divisions of the Western Region, Eastern Region, Rocky/Central Region, USST, and foreign ski associations for FIS events. Western Region Championship events have age and region-specific restrictions. (See [Western Region Championships](#)).

The entry deadline for western divisions is the normal 7 days; however, the divisional managers will be communicating on entries 28 days in advance to facilitate quota management. In the case of over subscription, the field size management system described above (**Field Size Limitations**) will be used to reduce the field to the FIS maximum allowable number of competitors.

Entry Fees for Western Region Cup (Elite), WRangler (Devo) and Western Region FIS Junior Championships

- FIS Entry Fees for all Western FIS races will be limited to a maximum of \$60.00 per Slalom or GS start, and \$64.00 per Super-G or Downhill start.
- Training fees for speed events will be limited to a single charge of \$60.
- Organizers may require a series entry fee. This may be split when speed events are scheduled with technical events in the same block.
- Organizers will be obligated to refund entries only in the case of injury and illness, as long as the athlete is pulled from the seed board.
- An organizer may, but is not obligated to, accept entry fees at the first Team Captain's Meeting. The date entry fees are due must be stated on the race announcement. A penalty may be applied that is up to 50% of the entry fee to be paid if they are not PAID IN FULL 7 days prior to the first Team Captain's Meeting of the series.

Entry Fee for U16 and U14 Junior Championships

The maximum entry fee for the Western Region U16 and U14 Junior Championships is \$52 per Slalom & GS start, and \$56 per Super-G start.

Entry refunds for canceled events

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

1. For technical events canceled or terminated by the jury on the day of competition there will be an entry fee refund of ½ the organizers portion, ½ the regional head tax, and the full U.S. Ski & Snowboard head tax. The region's ½ portion is remitted to the region. Any unpaid head tax is refunded to the athlete.
2. For speed event(s), including speed training, canceled or terminated anytime during the official program dates by the jury, there will be an entry refund of ½ the regional head tax, the full U.S. Ski & Snowboard head tax and the training fee if no training was conducted. The organizer retains the organizer's portion provided the organizer and ski area make all possible efforts to hold the event, as assessed and reported in the event evaluation report by the jury members consisting of the TD, the referee and the assistant referee. The region's ½ portion is remitted to the region. Any unpaid head tax is refunded to the athlete.
3. Organizer will be obligated to refund entries in the case of injury and illness. In the event that an athlete is sick or injured on the day of the race, the athlete's coach must notify the race organizer, prior to race start, in order to get a refund if the athlete is a DNS.
4. For any athlete that is listed on the official results as a DNS all national and regional head tax must be refunded. The athlete forfeits the remainder of the entry fee, including the training fee at a speed event, except for illness or injury as stated above.

Western Region's Portion of Event Entry Fees - AKA 'Head tax'

The Western Region receives a portion of the entry fee for all nationally scored and non-scored U.S. Ski & Snowboard events, FIS, and FISU races run in the divisions of the Western Region. The region does not receive head tax for a first run DNS. No entry fee portion is due Western Region for named U.S. Ski Team members. (See [Appendix](#) for head tax table.)

The region will collect a \$6.00 head tax, per athlete per start, on all divisional races scored to the National Points List, and a \$3.00 head tax, per athlete per start on all non-scored divisional races. The region will collect head tax of \$14, per athlete per start for any regional FIS race in the Western Region.

TD Expense Reimbursement

The OC of a Western Region FIS event may request reimbursement for TD expenses up the daily FIS TD Per Diem allotment charged by the event TD. A copy of the FIS TD's Expense Report must accompany the OC's request for reimbursement. The OC is still responsible for all other TD expenses including meals, accommodation and travel.

Coaches Passes

The organizer will provide complementary lift passes for coaches listed on the back of the FIS entry forms received at least 7 days before the first team captains' meeting of the event according to FIS rules. Event organizers will provide complementary lift passes at regional championships for coaches officially listed on the entry submitted from the divisional managers.

Coaches for the regional/divisional quota teams and college teams must be member coaches of U.S. Ski & Snowboard. Each team will be entitled to 1 coach per gender plus 1 coach for each 10 competitors or portion thereof. Racers will not be eligible for coaches' passes.

Coaches who are not included on the entry forms, who are in excess of a team's quota, or who do not meet the membership requirements, will be able to purchase tickets at the racers' price.

Course Setters

The Western Region Director and/or the Western Region Coach(es) may designate the course setters, in conjunction with the jury (603.2.3) for all races in the Western Region FIS series and all regional championship events. A list of approved course setters will be generated by the region from lists supplied by the divisions of those setters each division identifies as appropriate course setters at the FIS and championship level of racing.

Divisions are responsible for ensuring that identified course setters are present at the event in order to set. Mentor-setters from the home division must accompany any setter not on the regional list if such a setter is nominated and accepted at a regional event.

Course setters must be active members of U.S. Ski & Snowboard and must hold a U.S. Ski & Snowboard current referee license or be a member coach and licensed official of another national ski federation and listed on the foreign nations entry sheet.

WR Snow Control Protocol

Western Region uses an impartial system to evaluate competition sites ensuring adequate snow and snow surface for competition and producing a clear approval or disapproval of the site. The venue must be **competition ready** a minimum of 7 days prior to the first team captain's meeting.

Western Region Event and Site Selections

Calendar Construction Considerations

The calendar of regional competitions is produced following these guidelines:

1. A periodized calendar that allows for distinct training, competition, and recovery blocks.
2. A calendar that is coordinated with the next level of competition opportunity, allowing for focused athletic purpose. The calendar should allow competitors to focus on the appropriate level of competition and provide for fluid upward mobility as well as participation in events of secondary importance for various reasons.
3. A calendar that supports the highest quality of competition appropriate to the level of regional FIS competition and Junior Championship events.
4. A calendar that utilizes the highest quality venues and race organizers available while encouraging the development of new venues for a variety of competition experiences.
5. A calendar that considers the monetary cost of ski racing and attempts to mediate the effects of those costs to participants.

Procedures for hosting a FIS or Junior Championship Event

Under U.S. Ski & Snowboard policy, Regional Development Directors act as calendar commissioners and are charged with the final responsibility for the production of FIS and Junior Championship races within their areas of operation. This is one of the most important responsibilities of the regions. In Western Region, the ACC plays a crucial role in this process. Issues of calendar construction are examined, considered and agreed upon by the full committee and the regional director. All issues in regard to the calendar construction, implementation, and evaluation are meant to be transparent and subject to review for adherence to the above guidelines.

In the West, sites for these events are discussed and determined each spring by the Site Selection Committee and presented to the Western Region ACC for approval. Organizers wishing to host an event are asked to submit a bid to the regional office following the Western Region ACC Congress meeting each spring. The Site Selection Committee will present a calendar of events along with event hosts for approval at the June Western Region ACC meeting.

Bids for the U16 Regional Championship are on a divisional rotation, and will be accepted and awarded two years in advance to give the host club and host resort ample time to secure sponsorships and other methods that will reduce athlete costs. If the awarded ROC has not shown progress by the next summer's ACC meeting, marking one year out, the Site Selection Committee has the right to reassign the championship to another club/resort.

Chronological Steps of the Bid Process

Interested sites should follow these steps in preparing a bid for a regional FIS race or Junior Championships. This assumes that the race organization has been a successful divisional race host and has demonstrated a superior track record at the national level. Of course, race organizers who have been traditional FIS sites may have any number of these steps accounted for based on continued race activity at the FIS level.

Race Site Requirements

The Western Region Cup, Wrangler Cup, and WR Junior Championships are FIS races. The race hills must be FIS homologated. Additionally, the venue should be reasonably challenging, but not so difficult as to produce low finish ratios. The WRC series are qualifying events for U.S. Alpine Championships and the U.S. Junior Championships. The WR Junior Championships, the U16 Junior

Championships and the U14 Junior Championships are championship events. The venues should reflect this.

The WRC Series, including the Spring Series, typically involve very large fields - 130+ men and 90+ women. Separate race hills must be available for the men and women for the technical events with fields of this size. For the Junior Championship the field sizes are smaller, but separate race hills are still desirable. Separate sites or separate hills at the same site may be used.

FIS rules limit the number of races at a site *[per homologation]* in any five-day period to a maximum of two starts per gender in each event. Where multiple sites are used for an event, they should be reasonably close. Additionally, the Elite Tech Series is our specific interface with the RMISA conference of NCAA competition.

The U16 and U14 Junior Championships are nationally scored events for the top 14 and 15-year-old athletes and the top 12 and 13-year-old athletes, respectively, in the Western Region. Most of these athletes will have participated in some of the races of their division's top race series. Courses should be comparable. The events contested are children's SG, GS, and SL for each age category.

Housing

A housing package is no longer required at any regional event. However, it is still the organizer's responsibility to make housing arrangement possibilities known. This can consist of a complete housing and meal package for the event or distributing a list of hotels and motels to the divisions in a timely manner. If a housing list is distributed, the organizer should have contacted the hotels to get the best possible prices, ensure that adequate ski tuning facilities are available, and make certain that the management is willing to cooperate with the age group and is aware of the age group with which it will be dealing.

When a deposit is required to reserve housing, adequate advance notice must be supplied to the divisions and the Western Region office. This should be part of the bid package and race announcement.

Site Selection Considerations

The regional director acts as the calendar commissioner and may solicit bids from traditional sites. Otherwise, it is the responsibility of the divisions to assemble bids from the prospective sites and submit them to the Western Region director, prioritized in order of divisional recommendation.

Other items considered by the Site Selecting Committee in making recommendations will include:

- Snow coverage and snowmaking capabilities at the time of the proposed event must be included.
- Access to appropriately priced lodging and transportation.
- Experienced Leadership: Who is the organizer of the event? What is the recent history in hosting events? Prior event evaluations for new FIS sites are required. A list of certified officials and planned manpower is required.
- Timing: Does the race organization have a good record? A list of FIS homologated timing equipment available is required.
- Ski Area Support: A written endorsement from the area showing management/grooming support and commitment to the racer ticket price included on the bid form.
- Race Administration: Proven ability/experience from divisional races or prior FIS races.
- Race Supply: Does the race organizer have enough equipment to host the event? (Poles, fence, etc.) In the case of speed events, the safety system/protection is to be correlated with the homologation report.

Western Region Policies and Procedures 2024 – 2025

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Western Region Contact Information

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Western Region Alpine Competition Committee

Executive Committee

Dan Henry	Chairman
Devin Gill	Vice Chairman
Troy Price	Treasurer
Lucy Conklin	Secretary
Tim Hinderman	Past Chair

Competition Committee

Jheren Svoboda	Alaska	Karl Wardrop	PNW
Connor McDonald	Alaska	Justin Rackley	PNW
Beat Hupfer	Far West	Sparky Anderson	RMSIA
Mike Ginsberg	Far West	Roger Root	Officials
Bridger Call	Intermountain	Brennen Rubie	Athlete Rep
Kristin Waddle	Intermountain		Athlete Rep
Roy Loman	Northern	Hilary Lindh	Athlete Rep
LaRue Seitz-Dettori	Northern		

US Ski & Snowboard ASC Sub-Committees and Working Groups

Bill Brooks	Regional Sub-Committee; Chair, ASC
Dan Henry	Regional Sub-Committee, ASC
Devin Gill	Regional Sub-Committee, ASC
Beat Hupfer	Quotas and Selections WG; Chair
Troy Price	Quotas and Selections WG
Will Brandenburg	Quotas and Selections WG
Todd Brickson	U16 & Older WG; Chair
Devin Gill	U16 & Older WG
Aaron Atkins	U16 & Older WG
Jeremy Ueland	U14 & Younger WG; Chair
Jim Hudson	U14 & Younger WG; Past Chair
Dan Henry	U14 & Younger WG
Bo Maciejko	U14 & Younger WG
Robert Cravens	U.S. TD WG
Brian Hartman	U.S. TD WG
Jake Treadwell	U.S. TD WG At Large
Ben Roberts	Coaches Education WG
Ron Kipp	Coaches Education WG Vice Chair
Marco Sullivan	Coaches Education WG
Lucy Conklin	AOEWG; Chair
Roger Root	AOEWG
Gil Dennis	AOEWG
Mike Murgatroy	AOEWG
Brian Hartman	AOEWG

Western Region Awards

Kyle Warren Memorial Trophy

The Kyle Warren Memorial Trophy is awarded each year to the top junior Western Region male and female based on old World Cup points earned in the Western Region Elite FIS. The scoring system will be similar to that used for quota team selection. The score in a single event is the sum of the racer's four highest result points scored. Racers' standings will be determined by adding together their point totals in each discipline.

Kyle Warren of Big Bear Lake, California, was a nationally ranked downhill racer and top in his age group when he lost his life in a tragic automobile accident. During his career, Kyle raced for the Big Bear Ski Club and the Sun Valley Ski Team. The Kyle Warren Memorial Trophy was conceived to honor Kyle's memory, and to give recognition to the top junior competitors in the Western Region each season.

Women

2023-24	Brooke Brown
2022-23	Annaliese Frohlich
2021-22	Mia Hunt
2020-21	Tea Kiesel
2019-20	Sophia Tozzi
2018-19	Lauren Macuga
2017-18	Brynne Hitchcock
2016-17	Haley Cutler
2015-16	Haley Cutler
2014-15	Teagen Palmer
2013-14	Madeline Johnson/Samantha Busby
2012-13	Jacqueline Wiles
2011-12	Jacqueline Wiles
2010-11	Sydney Staples
2009-10	Brooke Wales
2008-09	Rose Caston
2007-08	Geordie Lonza
2006-07	Lauren Eder
2005-06	Amy Harris
2004-05	Katie Lyons
2003-04	Megan McJames
2002-03	Jilyne McDonald
2001-02	Anna Kelly
2000-01	Gretchen Glaser

Men

Peyton Wells
Kai Subith
Finnigan Donley
Hunter Eid
Bennett Snyder
Jeremy Mathers
Jordan Cashman
Jordan Cashman
Alex Birkner
Ty Sprock
Erik Arvidsson
Sam Dupratt
Sam Dupratt
Mark Engel
Mark Engel
Keith Moffat
Miles Fink-Debray
Andy Phillips
Shane Collins
Arman Serabrakian
Tim Jitloff
Jacob Dudek
Todd Ligare
Todd Ligare

1999-00	Crystal Wright	Jason Foster	1991-92	Shana Sweitzer	Jeremiah Thompson
1998-99	April Mancuso	Robert Saunders	1990-91	Lisl Hager	Tyler Ferris
1997-98	April Mancuso	Mike Prado	1989-90	Christl Hager	David Kong
1996-97	Sabrina Lawrence	Brian Friedman	1988-89	Stephanie Palmer	Skip Merrick
1995-96	Jonna Mendes	Scott McCartney	1987-88	Picabo Street	Tommy Moe
1994-95	Jonna Mendes	Justin Johnson	1986-87	Heidi Scheiblehner	Reggie Crist
1993-94	Liz Watkins	Christian Questad	1985-86	Kristin Krone	Toni Standteiner
1992-93	Kjersti Bjorn-Roli	Michael Reed	1984-85	Heidi Dahlgren	Greg Norton

2023-2024 Kyle Warren Event Champions

	Women	Men
Slalom	Brooke Brown	Karsten Schillinger
GS	Julia Cunningham	Peyton Wells
SG	Brooke Brown	Stefan Brennwald

Western Region Champions

The Western Region FIS Series Champion's titles are awarded annually to the top male and female participants based on old World Cup points earned in the Western Region Elite FIS Series. Individual event scores are the sum of the four best results scored using the old World Cup scoring method. The overall score is achieved by summing the racer's four result scores for all disciplines contested.

	Women	Men
2023-2034	Brooke Brown	Harry Hoffman
2022-2023	Annaliese Frohlich	Finnigan Donley
2021-2022	Mia Hunt	Andreas Smith
2019-2020	Nellie Muldrew	Bennett Snyder
2018-2019	Lauren Macuga	Esten Riise Falksete
2017-2018	Ainsley Proffit	Jordan Cashman
2016-2017	Haley Cutler	Justin Alkier
2015-2016	Haley Cutler	Andraz Reich-Pogladic
2014-2015	Sofija Novoselic	Andy Trow
2013-2014	Samantha Busby	Erik Arvidsson
2012-2013	Anna Kobal	Thomas Biesemeyer
2011-2012	Jacqueline Wiles	Bryce Bennett
2010-2011	Sydney Staples	Mark Engel
2009-2010	Stacey Cook	Miles Fink-Debray
2008-2009	Stacey Cook	Jared Goldberg
2007-2008	Angel Collinson	Ryan Wilson
2006-07	Hailey Duke & Will Brandenburg	1997-98 April Mancuso & Mike Prado
2005-06	Jennifer Van Wagner & Robin Sarchett	1996-97 Marcella Biondi & Uros Pavovcic
2004-05	Katie Lyons & Carl Rixon	1995-96 Jonna Mendes & Uros Pavovcic
2003-04	Caitlin Ciccone & Jesse Marshall	1994-95 Anik Demers & V.T. Hernandez
2002-03	Gretchen Glaser & Jacob Dudek	1993-94 Amber Guaraglia & Michael Reed
2001-02	Gretchen Glaser & Rune Nielson	1992-93 Amber Guaraglia & Spencer Eccles
2000-01	Gretchen Glaser & Justin Johnson	1991-92 Shana Sweitzer & Toni Standteiner
1999-20	Katerina Tichy & Rune Nielson	1990-91 Lisl Hager & Karl Fritz Schlopy
1998-99	April Mancuso & Marco Sullivan	1989-90 Christl Hager & Tim Hanson
		1988-89 Julie Parisian & Kyle Rasmussen

2023-2024 Western Region Event Champions

	Women	Men
Slalom	Elise Hitter/Carlotta Marcora	Matej Vidovic
GS	Keely Cashman	Payton Wells
SG	Sara Stiel	Stefan Brennwald/Akel Kitt

Western Region FIS and Championship Calendar 2024 - 2025

	Date	Event / Location	Selection List
	Dec 12-15, 2024	WRangler Cup Big Sky MT	M&W 2GS/2SL
³	Jan 3-6, 2025	Western Region Cup Snow King WY	NAT #13 M&W 2GS/2SL
	Jan 14-17, 2025	WRangler Cup Mt. Bachelor OR	M&W 2GS/2SL
^{1,3}	Jan 27-Feb 1, 2025	WestReg Speed Series Schweitzer ID	M&W 2SG/2DH
	Feb 3 & 4, 2025	FISU Bridger Bowl MT	M&W GS/SL
	Feb 7-9, 2025	FISU Utah Olympic Park UT	M&W 2GS/SL
³	Feb 11 & 14, 2025	Western Region Cup Snowbird UT	NAT #15 M&W 2SL
^{1,2,3}	Feb 11-14, 2025	Western Region Cup UOP UT	NAT #15 M&W 2SG/2GS
	Feb 19-22, 2025	FISU Alyeska AK	M&W 2GS/2SL
	Feb 24-27, 2025	WRangler Cup Palisades Tahoe	M&W 2GS/2SL
	Feb 25-Mar 3, 2025	U18 National JR Championship Aspen CO	NAT #16 M&W 2DH/SG/GS/SL
	Mar 12-17, 2025	WR FIS JR Championship Mission Ridge WA	M&W 2GS/2SL/2SG
	Mar 18-21, 2025	WR U16 JR Championship Schweitzer Mtn. ID	M&W 2SG/GS/SL
	Mar 27-30, 2025	WRangler Cup Mission Ridge WA	M&W 2GS/2SL
	Mar 27-30, 2025	WR U14 JR Championship Mammoth Mtn. CA	M&W SG/GS/SL/SQ
	Mar 29-Apr 1 2025	U.S. Alpine Championships Vail CO	NAT #18 M&W SG/GS/SL
	Apr 1-4, 2025	U16 National Championship Sugarloaf ME	M&W SG/GS/SL/SQ
³	Apr 3-8, 2025	WestReg Spring Speed Mammoth Mtn. CA	NAT #19 M&W 2SG/2DH
³	Apr 10-13, 2025	WRC Elite Spring Series Palisades Tahoe, CA	NAT #19 M&W 2GS/2SL

WRangler Cup - qualifiers to Western Region Cup

Western Region Cup - qualifiers to U18 NJC & U.S. Alpine Championship

¹ SG qualifiers for U18 NJC

² SG qualifiers for U.S. Alpine Championship

³ WRC events scored to WRC Champions and Kyle Warren Champions (excluding DH races)

National Events 2024-2025

National and Regional Quotas

Regions = quota per region

		USST	NTSM	Devo
NorAm	Women	20	20	20
	Men	20	20	20

		USST WJC Team	Top 100 World Rank	NorAm	College	Regions (each)	Nat'l Devo
U.S. Alpine Championship	Women	All	All	9	13	14	<=10
	Men	All	All	9	13	14	<=10

		USST	with NAC Pts	Regions 2008	Regions 07 & 08	Nat'l Devo
U18 National Championship	Women	All	All	min 6	20 Total*	<=10
	Men	All	All	min 6	20 Total*	<=10

*Total quota/region not to exceed 20 athletes, including regional USST members and regional athletes w/ NorAm points

		Nat'l Quota	Regions	Nat'l Devo
U16 NPS	Women	6	7	<=3
	Men	6	7	<=3

		Nat'l U16 EU Project	Regions 09 & 10
U16 National Championship	Women	*All	15
	Men	*All	15

*Qualified athletes attending Europe project are automatics and do not count toward region quotas

Regional Events 2024-25

Divisional Quotas

		AK	FW	IM	ND	PN	Total
WRangler Cup / Devo Series Tech events & Tech events including SG	Women	6	19	40	12	23	100*
	Men	6	28	40	9	17	100*
Western Region FIS Speed Series Schweitzer & Mammoth	Women	6	24	48	14	23	115
	Men	6	32	46	10	21	115
Western Region JR Championship Stevens Pass	Women	4	23	26	10	24	87
	Men	4	30	28	5	16	83
Western Region U16 Championship Alyeska	Women	8	30	23	8	17	86
	Men	4	29	22	7	22	84
Western Region U14 Championship Grand Targhee	Women	4	20	17	4	15	60
	Men	4	18	17	6	15	60

*Quotas to WRangler Cup events will be expanded as necessary and as field size allows.

Western Region Cup / Elite Series Quotas and Field Size:

Minimum Divisional Quota (Automatics and Selection Board) - 6 men & 6 women

Double selection board up to a total of 80 WestReg athletes including Elite Automatics

Spring Series - Double selection board using all Wrangler Cup qualifiers up to 100 WestReg athletes including Elite Automatics

Western Region U14 & U16 Junior Championships 2024 Divisional Seeding Chart

Western Region U14 Junior Championship

WOMEN	Quota		1st seed*	2nd seed	3rd seed	4th seed	5th seed	Total
AK	4		2	1	1			4
FW	20		4	4	4	4	4	20
IMD	17		4	4	3	3	3	17
ND	4		2	1	1			4
PNW	15		3	3	3	3	3	15
Total	60		15	13	12	10	10	60

MEN	Quota		1st seed*	2nd seed	3rd seed	4th seed	5th seed	Total
AK	4		2	1	1			4
FW	18		4	4	4	3	3	18
IMD	17		4	4	3	3	3	17
ND	6		2	1	1	1	1	6
PNW	15		3	3	3	3	3	15
Total	60		15	13	12	10	10	60

Western Region U16 Junior Championship

WOMEN	Quota		1st seed*	2nd seed	3rd seed	4th seed	5th seed	Total
AK	8		2	2	2	1	1	8
FW	30		6	6	6	6	6	30
IMD	23		5	5	5	4	4	23
ND	8		2	2	2	1	1	8
PNW	17		4	4	3	3	3	17
Total	86		19	19	18	15	15	86

MEN	Quota		1st seed*	2nd seed	3rd seed	4th seed	5th seed	Total
AK	4		2	1	1			4
FW	29		6	6	6	6	5	29
IMD	22		5	5	4	4	4	22
ND	7		2	2	1	1	1	7
PNW	22		5	5	4	4	4	22
Total	84		20	19	16	15	14	84

*1st seed minimum 2 athletes

Western Region Entry Fees and Entry Refunds

Western Region FIS Entry Fees and Refunds

	NAT Head Tax	WR Head Tax	ROC Portion	Entry Fee/ Refunds	DH/SG Training
Entry Fee - Tech	\$12.00	\$14.00	\$34.00	\$60.00	
Entry Fee - Speed	\$12.00	\$14.00	\$38.00	\$64.00	\$60.00
Refunds					
Athlete Pull	\$12.00	\$14.00	\$34 / \$38	\$60 / \$64	\$60.00
Athlete DNS	\$12.00	\$14.00	\$0.00	\$26.00	\$0.00
Race canceled prior to 1st TCM (2)	\$12.00	\$14.00	\$34 / \$38	\$60 / \$64	\$60.00
Canceled on race day - tech	\$12.00	\$7.00(1)	\$17	\$36	n/a
Canceled on race day - speed	\$12.00	\$7.00(1)	\$0.00	\$19.00	\$0.00

(1) \$7.00 is remitted to Western Region

(2) \$60.00 training fee is refunded only if all training runs are canceled

Western Region U14 & U16 JR Championship Entry Fees and Refunds

	NAT Head Tax	WR Head Tax	ROC Portion	Entry Fee/ Refunds	DH/SG Training U14 only
Entry Fee - Tech	\$12.00	\$6.00	\$34.00	\$52.00	
Entry Fee – Speed	\$12.00	\$6.00	\$38.00	\$56.00	\$30.00
Refunds					
Athlete Pull	\$12.00	\$6.00	\$34 / \$38	\$52 / \$56	\$30.00
Athlete DNS	\$12.00	\$6.00	\$0.00	\$18.00	\$0.00
Race canceled prior to 1st TCM (2)	\$12.00	\$6.00	\$34 / \$38	\$52 / \$56	\$30.00
Canceled on race day – tech	\$12.00	\$3.00(1)	\$17 / \$19	\$32 / \$34	n/a
Canceled on race day - speed	\$12.00	\$3.00(1)	\$0.00	\$15.00	\$0.00

(1) \$3.00 is remitted to Western Region

(2) \$30.00 training fee is refunded only if training run is canceled

Western Region Head Tax

NAT Scored Race = \$6.00

NAT Non-scored Race = \$3.00

Divisions may charge head tax when hosting regional events. See divisional handbook for details.

2025 Western Elite Ski Team

W.E.S.T Team

Women



USST	Mollin, Allison	2004	TPT
USST	Bocock, Elizabeth	2005	RM
USST	DeHart, Paige	2005	SVSEF
WEST	Brown, Brooke	2006	RM
PG WEST	Brown, Cheyenne	1999	TPT
WEST	Cunningham, Julia	2007	TPT
PG WEST	Falter, Sophia	2007	SVSEF
PG WEST	Gowe, Natalie	2006	SVSEF
PG WEST	Griffin, Bobbi Jo	2005	TPT
WEST	Guay, Dyllan	2007	PCSS
WorldCup	Cutler, Haley	1997	SVSEF

Men

USST	Hanna, Colin	2004	SVSEF
USST	Donley, Finnigan	2005	SVSEF
PG WEST	Meucci, Max	2006	SVSEF
PG WEST	Ottosson, Carl	2006	SBSTA
WEST	Schillinger, Karsten	2006	RM
WEST	Schrady, Jack	2006	SBSTA
WEST	Wells, Peyton	2005	PCSS
WEST	Wilson, Mattias	2005	JHSC

Western Elite Ski Team 2026 Criteria*

*2025 criteria remain in place for 2026. However, criteria may change when USST announces the new development structure for 2026. WEST Team criteria will be updated.

- 1 U21/U18 athletes for the 2026 season will be eligible
- 2 Total Team Size – 10 athletes (approximately 5W/5M)
- 3 Discretion - Up to 2W/2M may be named by WR staff
- 4 Objective Criteria:
 - 1 SL, GS and SG results from the Western Region Cup Series will be considered
 - a. Regional Cup Pts will be awarded, purging USST, foreign athletes and SR athletes
 - b. Athletes count their best 50% of results available in each discipline, plus one or rounded up
 - 2 All NAC Pts earned in DH for the season will be considered
 - 3 Athlete's rank includes their GS Pts, plus their next best Pts from one of the other 3 disciplines
 - 4 A tie will be broken using Pts earned from the next best discipline (3rd discipline), etc.
 - 5 A validated summer or fall SkillsQuest-Fitness score that surpasses the USST benchmark is required – 550 for women and 700 for men
- 5 A ranked list of athletes will be published in the spring
- 6 The team will be named from the ranked list in early November based on athlete's prep period commitment and intention to participate in the Western Region for the coming season
- 7 Athletes competing on a collegiate ski team will not be eligible

Western Region Training Group (RTG) 2026 Criteria

The Western Region RTG represents regional athletes who identify themselves based on the criteria, below. There are two RTG groups; **FIS RTG** and **U16 RTG**, selected in April each year. RTG athletes are invited to Western Region projects throughout the summer and fall. Additional athletes may join individual RTG projects based on coaches' development requests.

FIS RTG – 15 U19 Women / 15 U19 Men

All nominated members of the WEST Team are automatic members of the RTG in addition to the 30 selected athletes.

YOB 2007 & 2008

- 10W / 10M selected from a Double Selection Board using GS, SL & SG
- An athlete's best 50% World Cup Point results, rounded up, in each discipline from all Western Region Cup Elite FIS races will be used on the Place Pts side of the board
- Points from List #21 will be used on the National Points side of the board
- Athletes must compete in at least four Western Region Elite FIS races to be included on the National Points side of the board
- Results from the Western Region Junior Championship are not considered

YOB 2009

- Athletes selected with a top-5 finish result in SG, GS or SL at the U16 National Championship
- Athletes selected with a top-5 finish result in GS or SL at the U16 NPS
- Development spots will be available at all U16 projects for yob 2009 athletes

U16 RTG – 16 U16 Women / 16 U16 Men

YOB 2010

- A minimum of 12W /12M selected from a Double Selection Board using GS, SL & SG
- World Cup Point results in each discipline from the Western Region U16 Championship will be used on the Place Pts side of the board
- Points from List #20 will be used on the National Points side of the board, GS & SL only

YOB 2011

- A maximum of 4W / 4M named to the U16 RTG
- Athletes ranked in the top 4 of the U14 Whistler Cup Team selection

2025-26 Western Region Prep Calendar

The 2026 Project Calendar will be available after the new USST development structure is announced.



Course Setting Specifications

2025 U.S. Ski & Snowboard Alpine Course Setting Specifications (Scored and Non-Scored)				
	U10 and Younger	U12	U14	U16 and Older
Downhill (DH) 700 and U1253	X	X	Max. 50 m Max. 350 m As required	As required Max. 500 m ¹ As required
Slalom (SL) 800 and U1254		Combination 4-6 m; Open 6-10 m; Delay 1-14 m Max. 120 m Max. 2 hairpins; Max. 1 vertical combination (Max. 3 gates); Max. 1 delay gate	Combination 4-6 m; Open 7-11 m; Delay 12-15 m Max. 160 m 2-4 hairpins; 1-2 verticals (3-4 gates); 1-3 delays	Max. 160 m ¹ 3-6 hairpins; 1-3 verticals (3-4 gates); 1-3 delays
Giant Slalom (GS) 900 and U1255		Open 15-22 m; Delay min. 8 m between successive gates and max. 30 m from turning pole to turning pole Max. 250 m	Open 15-25 m; Delay min. 10 m between successive gates and max. 35 m from turning pole to turning pole Max. 350 m	Open 15-27 m; Delay min. 10 m between successive gates and max. 35 m from turning pole to turning pole Max. 350 m ¹
Super G (SG) 1000 and U1256	X	Open 22-35 m; Delay min. 10 m between successive gates and max. 45 m from turning pole to turning pole Max. 300 m Training run required (U1256.4) ³	Open 25-40 m; Delay min. 15 m between successive gates and max. 50 m from turning pole to turning pole Max. 350 m Min. of 1 jump recommended	Open 25-45 m; Delay min. 15 m between successive gates and max. 55 m from turning pole to turning pole Max. 450 m ¹ Min. of 1 jump recommended Training run recommended (U1003.2.1)
Parallel			10-20 m ² 100 m	
Kombi - SL/GS U1259		180 m	SL 6-10 m, GS 10-20 m	200 m
Kombi - GS/SG U1259	X		GS 10-20 m, SG 15-28 m 250 m	

¹ In U18 and Older only competition, maximum vertical drop may be expanded to DH: 700 m, SL: 200 m, GS: 400 m for women and 450 m for men, SG: 600 m

² Distance between courses should be 8-12 m.

³ U1256.4 – Official training for U12 and U14 SG must include at least one SG training run prior to the first competition. Official training for U12 and U14 SG events is an integral part of the competition and all athletes are required to participate. In exception cases, a Jury decision can authorize a controlled free-ski run in lieu of an official training run. The Jury decision can only be made after a discussion with all representatives at the Team Captains Meeting and must be documented in the Jury minutes. If racing with U16 athletes, U1256.4 applies: U14 and younger athletes must be provided a training run as provisioned in this rule.

* Crossover between age categories for SL, GS, SG, Kombi and SkillsQuest is encouraged. Where multiple age classes are competing, course setting specifications will be based on the specifications for one class older than the youngest class (for example, if a race has U10, U12 and U14 racers, it should use the U12 course setting specifications) except in DH where course setting specifications will be based on the youngest class participating.

** These specifications only apply to course setting; they do not apply to maximum vertical drop. Unless an athlete is competing with a "Ski Up Agreement", they are not permitted to compete in events where the vertical drop exceeds the allowance for their chronological age group. Example: GS field consists of U16, U14, U12, and U10 athletes, U12 course setting specification will apply, but the maximum vertical drop of 200 m for U10 athletes must be respected.

Competition Equipment Rules

NOTE: The Jury is empowered to prevent an athlete from starting if equipment is deemed inappropriate for the event being contested.
There are no changes to these rules from the 2024 season.

U18 and Older Equipment

Description	Event	FIS	National
Ski Length Ski length measurement tolerance +/- 1 cm ** -5 cm tolerance for FIS/ENL competition * -10 cm tolerance for Men U18 first-year athletes	DH Women	210 cm min. **	183 cm min.
	DH Men	218 cm min. **	183 cm min.
	SG Women	205 cm min. **	183 cm min.
	SG Men	210 cm min. **	183 cm min.
	GS Women	188 cm min. **	No rule
	GS Men	193 cm min. **	No rule
	SL Women	155 cm min.	130 cm min.
	SL Men	165 cm min. *	130 cm min.
Radius Profile width in front of Binding	DH Women & Men	50 m min.	30 m min.
	SG Women	40 m min.	30 m min.
	SG Men	45 m min.	30 m min.
	GS Women & Men	30 m min.	17 m min.
	SL Women & Men	No rule	No rule
	DH Women & Men	95 mm max.	No rule
	SG Women & Men	95 mm max.	No rule
	GS Women & Men	103 mm max.	No rule
	SL Women & Men	No rule	No rule
Profile width under Binding	DH Women & Men	65 mm max.	No rule
	SG Women & Men	65 mm max.	No rule
	GS Women & Men	65 mm max.	No rule
	SL Women & Men	63 mm min.	No rule
Stand Height (ski / plate / binding)	all events	50 mm max.	50 mm max.
Boot Height (from sole to top of foot bed)	all events	43 mm max.	43 mm max.

U16 Equipment

Description	Event	FIS	National
Ski Length Ski length measurement tolerance +/- 1 cm	DH Women & Men	No rule	183 cm min.
	SG Women & Men	183 cm min.	183 cm min.
	GS Women & Men	188 cm max.	No rule
	SL Women & Men	130 cm min.	130 cm min.
Radius	DH Women & Men	No rule	30 m min.
	SG Women & Men	30 m min.	30 m min.
	GS Women & Men	17 m min.	17 m min.
	SL Women & Men	No rule	No rule
Profile width under binding	SG Women & Men	65 mm max.	No rule
	GS Women & Men	65 mm max.	No rule
Stand Height (ski / plate / binding)	all events	50 mm max.	50 mm max.
Boot Height (from sole to top of foot bed)	all events	43 mm max.	43 mm max.

U14 Equipment

Description	Event	FIS	National
Ski Length Ski length measurement tolerance +/- 1 cm	DH Women & Men	No rule	No rule
	SG Women & Men	No rule	No rule
	GS Women & Men	188 cm max.	No rule
	SL Women & Men	130 cm min.	130 cm min.
Radius	DH Women & Men	No rule	17 m min.
	SG Women & Men	No rule	17 m min.
	GS Women & Men	17 m min.	17 m min.
	SL Women & Men	No rule	No rule
Profile width under binding	SG Women & Men	65 mm max.	No rule
	GS Women & Men	65 mm max.	No rule
Stand Height (ski / plate / binding)	all events	50 mm max.	50 mm max.
Boot Height (from sole to top of foot bed)	all events	43 mm max.	43 mm max.