



UNITED STATES OF AMERICA SNOWBOARD AND FREESKI ASSOCIATION

2018-2019
Official Rulebook



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USASA RULEBOOK

2018-2019 SEASON

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USASA RULE BOOK WINTER 2018 / 2019

PUBLISHED July 1, 2018 BY THE USASA Technical Commission

The competition rules have been established by the USASA, since its inception for the organization, conduct, and judging of our sport. The rules are reviewed every year by the Technical Commission and approved by the Executive Board of Directors in accordance with the USASA bylaws. In translation and interpreting these rules, it is understood that the words "shall", "will", and "must" are mandatory, and the words "should", "can" and "may" are permissive.

FUNDAMENTAL RULES

- A) It shall be the sole responsibility of each competitor to decide whether to start.
- B) A competitor shall compete only by using their speed and skill, by individual effort in compliance with the rules, and in accordance with the principles of fair play and sportsmanship.
- C) Competitors, coaches and officials must be members of the USASA and must familiarize themselves with the USASA rules.
- D) All competitors are required to inform themselves of the time and place of each event. It is their sole responsibility to be aware of any changes or cancellations.
- E) Under no circumstances may the TS, or any other official, modify the rules pertaining to safety, age categories*, or resort obligations. *Age categories may be combined for the efficient running of an event but must remain as stated for results.

100 APPLICATION OF THE USASA RULES

100.01 Official Rulebook

The official version of the Rulebook is the one available from the USASA website. All changes to the printed Rulebook and the website Rulebook will be highlighted in a section named "Changes to the Printed Rulebook" and posted on the USASA website.

100.02 Modifications

The Technical Supervisor (TS) may make any necessary modifications or changes to the rules if conditions or situations develop prior to or during a competition. Fundamental rules must be applied.

100.03 GRANTING A NEW REGIONAL SERIES

- Some of the factors used in granting a new region status are: distance traveled by competitors, number of members, and effect it will have on surrounding series. In order to start a new series, an application must be completed and submitted to the USASA Executive Board for review no later than May 1st prior to the season the new series proposes to starting. Applicants for a new series must be USASA members and new series cannot be started as part of another business or organization.
- Regional Clubs are a critical component in the support of a regional series., USASA competitions are required to have no bias shown to any club members in registration, judging , results or access to any other opportunities that are provided by the USASA.

101 MEMBERSHIP REQUIREMENTS

101.01 Membership

- All members must abide by the laws of the state in which the USASA competition is held.
- All competitors who compete in a USASA sanctioned event must be current members of the USASA.
- The membership year is from July 1st until June 30th of the following year.
- The Executive Board of Directors will set the membership fee for each year.
- Competitive members may register as both a snowboarder and a freeskier. The second member profile including result history and rankings will incur a full price membership fee.
- Athletes must identify with one membership category only (eg youth, open, adaptive, etc.)
- Membership fees are non-refundable.

Every Competitor practicing or competing in any USASA sanctioned event must attain USASA membership prior to participating. Memberships can be purchased online or at an event. There are 6 types of memberships available which are as follows:

A. One Day membership: This membership allows Competitor's to participate in practice and competitions on a single day ONLY, NO

USASA points will be awarded or transferable at a later date.

B. Full membership: This membership is valid for one (1) full membership season at any USASA sanctioned event. Points may be earned toward Regional and National rankings. An athlete may qualify for the USASA National Championship, provided they meet qualification criteria as described in section 103.05. Full members will receive an official membership packet by mail including a membership card, stickers and other benefits.

C. Judge membership: This membership is valid for one (1) full membership season. Not eligible to participate as a competitor.

D. Official membership: This membership is valid for one (1) full membership season. Not eligible to participate as a competitor.

E. Technical Supervisor membership: This membership is valid for one (1) full membership season. Not eligible to participate as a competitor.

F. Coach membership: This membership is valid for one (1) full membership season. Not eligible to participate as a competitor.

101.02 Membership in Regional Series

Members must designate a home series when registering with USASA for the season. Regional Series Championships can only be won by members of that region. Members can compete in any event outside of their home series to accumulate National Ranking points but cannot win the Regional Championship outside of their home series.

101.03 Changing Home Series

Members can change their home series during the season, but will forfeit all Regional and National Ranking points accumulated prior to the home series change. Points earned from the previous year's National Championships will remain in the member's point profile. Members must declare their home series by January 31st of the current season. Members who change series due to change in residence or other extenuating circumstances may petition the USASA National Office for reinstatement of accumulated points.

102 OFFICIAL USASA CATEGORIES

102.01 Discipline Categories

The categories of snowboarding disciplines are:

- Freestyle Judged Events: Halfpipe, Slopestyle, Rail Jam
- Alpine Timed Events: Giant Slalom, Slalom, Parallel Slalom, Parallel GS, *Banked Slalom (Exhibition Event)
- Freeride Events: BoarderCross®
- FreeSki Events: Halfpipe, Slopestyle, SkiCross, Rail Jam, *Banked Slalom (Exhibition Event)

102.02 Gender

The USASA is committed to providing a fair and fun inclusive sporting environment where people of all backgrounds can contribute and participate. People who identify as transgender or transsexual should be treated fairly and with dignity and respect at all times.

Age Class

For the purposes of registration as a USASA competitor, an athlete may register with the gender with which the person identifies, and confirmation sufficient for guaranteeing access shall be satisfied by documentation or evidence that shows the stated gender is sincerely held, and part of a person's core identity. Documentation satisfying the herein stated standard includes, but is not limited to, government-issued documentation or documentation prepared by a health care provider, counselor, or other qualified professional not related to the athlete.

Open Class

At USASA Open class competitions at USASA National Championships members may have the opportunity to represent the United States and participate in international competition. They may therefore be subject to the policies and regulations of the International Olympic Committee (IOC). At regional Open Class competition it is recognized that documentation or evidence that shows the stated gender is sincerely held, and part of a person's core identity may be required upon request.

102.03 Age Categories

Age groups are determined by the age of the competitor on December 31 of the first year of the current season. See above 101.01 for the membership year. The following age categories are recognized by the USASA for both men and women, snowboarders and freeskiers for the season in Slopestyle, Halfpipe, BoarderCross/SkierCross. Snowboarders only in Slalom and Giant Slalom.

Ruggie (7 under)	Grommet (8-9)	Menehune (10-11)
Breakers (12-13)	Youth (14-15)	Juniors (16-17)
Jams (18-22),	Senior (23-29)	Master (30-39)
Legend (40-49)	Kahuna (50-59)	Methuselah (60 & over)
Open Class	Adaptive Snowboard	Adaptive Freeski
ID Snowboard		

The following age categories are recognized by the USASA for both men and women, snowboarders and skiers in Rail Jam & *Banked Slalom

9 & Under	10 to 13	14 & Over	Open Class
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102.04 Open Class Division

Any individual that is a member of USASA is eligible to compete in this division. They can be professional or amateur. It is aimed at bringing the best Competitor's together out of various age groups, and gives the professionals an opportunity to compete in any USASA sanctioned event and National Championships.

Athletes who have accomplished any of the following must compete in Open Class:

- Competed in US Grand Prix, FIS Junior World Championships, FIS World Cup or made finals at an AFP Gold or International event of a similar caliber.
- Top 4 result at a FIS event with at least a 100 point value.
- Competeted in the ESPN X-Games, Winter Dew Tour, Burton Global Open Series events.

Competitors who qualify for the National Championships in their age class may elect to compete in Open Class at the National Championships. Notification must be submitted to the USASA National Office 10 days prior to the start of the National Championships. If a competitor chooses to upgrade to Open Class for the National Championships, they must remain in Open Class for the following season.

102.05 Changing from Age Group Class to Open Class

Competitors who start the season registered in a specific Age Group will be allowed to move up to the Open Class during the same season. Points earned for National qualification in the Age Group class will be eliminated and the competitor will start from zero towards qualifying for the National Championships in the Open Class. Competitors who start out the season in the Open Class or switch to Open Class during the season will not be allowed to move down to an Age Group Class until the following year.

102.06 Adaptive Snowboard Division

This division was established to permit adaptive snowboarders to compete in USASA Regional and National events. The Adaptive Snowboard Division aligns with World Para Snowboard Classification Rules and Regulations. For Regional and National events, adaptive competitors will be registered and compete in the Adaptive Snowboard Class. Regardless of which discipline the athlete attended on a regional level, they will have the opportunity to compete in all disciplines at the National Championship (HP, SS, BX, GS, SL). International adaptive competitors may compete in either the Adaptive Class or Open Class at the National Championship.

102.07 Adaptive Freeskier Division

This division was established to permit adaptive freeskiers to compete in USASA Regional and National events. The Adaptive Freeskier Division aligns with World Para Alpine Skiing Classification Rules and Regulations. For Regional and National events, adaptive competitors will be registered and compete in the Adaptive Freeskier Class. Regardless of which discipline the athlete attended on a regional level, they will have the opportunity to compete in all disciplines at the National Championship (HP, SS, SX). International adaptive competitors may compete in either the Adaptive Class or Open Class at the National Championship.

102.08 Intellectually Disabled (ID) Snowboard Division

Snowboard (ID) was established to support intellectually disabled snowboarders to participate in Slalom and Giant Slalom at USASA Regional and National events. USASA categorizes advanced (ID) snowboard participants, venues and formats as defined by the Special Olympics Rules

and Regulations. Intellectually disabled snowboarders are required to provide their own certified on-hill coaching and/or support staff. Coaches and Support staff must be USASA members.

102.09 Officials, Coaches and Judges

Officials, Coaches, Judges, Series Directors and Executive Board must be members of USASA. Membership fees, if applicable, will be determined by the USASA National Office on an annual basis.

103 EVENTS

103.01 Regional Series Events

Regional Series events are held at the local grassroots level using various USASA age groups. The Regional Series must use the national ranking system as prescribed by the USASA National Office.

- A. All sanctioned Series will be limited to a maximum of 4 events per day. No more than 2 events in a single discipline will be allowed in a single day. Schedules must be established that require more than one day of competition to qualify for the National Championships as the Regional Series winner.
- B. Regional Series Directors cannot determine their own method for naming Regional Series winners in each discipline. They must use the USASA Regional Rankings on usasa.org to determine rankings in a discipline.
- C. All ties that occur in the regional ranking at the end season when determining the Regional Champion will be broken in the following manner.
 - 1. The next best result in that discipline during the current season.
 - 2. If still tied then each Series Director will use their pre-determined regional tie breaking criteria. One "Q" will be awarded per series, per age class, per discipline.
- D. Regional Series can hold a maximum of 6 events in a discipline and a maximum of 24 events in a season. Split discipline events will count as a single event.

103.02 Dual Sanctioned Events

A dual sanctioned USASA event with another organization is not allowed, unless authorized in advance by the USASA Executive Director.

103.03 Exhibition Disciplines

The USASA, with the approval of the Executive Board, may introduce new disciplines to USASA. At the discretion of the Executive Board, such disciplines may be designated as “exhibition”. The USASA will determine the organization of exhibition disciplines including age groups, divisions, formats, National Championship Qualification and National Championship formats. The USASA Executive Board must vote on the discipline’s inclusion as a full event.

103.04 National Championships

- A. Competition groups and event days will be determined by the USASA Executive Board and/or by special subcommittee established by the Executive Board. Slots for the next year’s the National Championships will be determined by March 1st of each year.
- B. Number of available slots for each competition group and day will be capped at a reasonable number to fair and efficient competition venues at the National Championships.

103.05 National Championships Qualification

- A. Regional Series is allocated one slot for their series winner in each discipline and age/gender group.
- B. Each Sanctioned Regional Series can name their second place finisher in each discipline, gender and age class as an alternate in the event that the first place finisher can’t attend.
- C. Series winner or alternate slots cannot be handed down to the next available Competitor. (i.e. lower than second place)
- D. In the event that neither the Regional Series winner nor alternate is able to attend the National Championships, that spot is forfeited by the Regional Series and will be filled through the National Rankings.
- E. National Champions (PQ) from the previous year in each discipline are pre-qualified for the National Championships provided they are current USASA members in good standing by March 1st.

Previous year's National Champion will be seeded first in that discipline at the current National Championship.

- F. Overall National Champions (OA) from the previous year will be pre-qualified for the National Championships in the events their overall title represents. Overall Champions will be seeded 2nd in each discipline at the current year's National Championship.
- G. National Rankings will be used to seed the remaining positions.
- H. Competitors invited to the USASA National Championship via the US Ski & Snowboard Rev Tour (REV) typically do not have a USASA National Ranking. These competitors will be evenly distributed into the heats to ensure that a heat is not unfairly overloaded with Rev Tour invited athletes.

103.06 National Championship Remaining Qualification

- A. The remaining slots will be awarded based on the National Ranking system.
- B. Halfpipe invitations may be extended to those athletes who have attained a slopestyle invitation if there are remaining positions available at the National Championships. These spots must be petitioned in reference to 103.08..

103.07 National Ranking

- A. Any available slots at the National Championships not filled by Regional Series winners, USASA Junior National Team Members, Pre-Qualified Competitor's from previous National Championships or additional Qualifying Events, (see rule 103.10) will be filled via the USASA National Ranking System.
- B. Regional Series are limited to a maximum of 6 events during a season in a discipline to count towards National Rankings.
- C. Points from Regional Series will use the table outlined in Section 700 with 10 bonus points awarded for each Competitor beaten in that individual event.
- D. Nationals Rankings will consist of a competitors best 3 results from the current season, which may include the previous years National Championships results. Points will be awarded according to Section 700 with 15 bonus points awarded for each Competitor beaten in a National Championship event.

- E. National Ranking Bonus points will not be awarded for a DNS. DNF results are eligible for National Rankings. Disqualifications (DQ's) for gate faults will receive a result, but DQ's for rule violations or unsportsmanlike conduct will not receive any National Ranking points.

103.08 Petitions for National Championship Entry

- A. Competitor's who are unable to compete in the required events for a complete National Ranking due to extraordinary circumstances can petition to the Executive Board or designated subcommittee for entry into USASA National Championships.
- B. Petition requests will be granted based on previous regional or national results, reason for petition, trend in results, available slots, venue caps and any other factor relevant to the decision.
- C. Petitions will be due no later than March 4th and must be signed by the Competitor's Regional Series Director.
- D. All petitions must be accompanied by a non-refundable \$200 deposit. The deposit will be applied towards entry fees if petition is granted. If petition is denied, deposit money will be applied to the USASA Scholarship Fund.
- E. Foreign Competitor's may petition for entry into USASA National Championships based on relevant and exceptional International Competition results. Foreign Competitor granted entry in National Championships under this rule must compete in Open Class.
- F. International Adaptive Competitor's can petition for entry to either the Adaptive or Open Class.

103.09 Foreign Competitors

Foreign competitors who compete in a USASA Regional Series and comply with their home series requirements for the National Championships will be allowed to compete in and receive medals at the National Championships with no restrictions.

103.10 Additional Qualifying Events / Board Additions

Competitors can qualify for USASA National Championships through Additional Qualifying Events sanctioned by other National Governing Bodies. The USASA Executive Board or designated subcommittee will determine annually the Additional Qualifying Events and develop criteria

for admission to USASA National Championships from these events. Criteria will be posted on the USASA website by Jan 1st. All Competitors qualifying through these additional events must compete in Open Class. All Competitors qualifying through Additional Events must be USASA Members to compete in USASA National Championships. If a Competitor qualifies for a discipline through their Regional Series in an age class then subsequently qualifies for another discipline through the additional criteria, they must compete in all disciplines in Open Class if they wish to accept their additional event invitation.

103.11 Overall Snowboard National Champion

The competitor with the most points combined from Halfpipe, Slopestyle, Slalom, Giant Slalom and BoarderCross® in their class will be the Overall National Champion. A competitor must compete and be ranked (DQ's are ranked, DNS are not) in all 5 events to be the Overall National Champion.

103.12 Overall Freeskier National Champion

The competitor with the most points combined from Halfpipe, Slopestyle and SkierCross in their class will be the Overall National Champion. A competitor must compete and be ranked (DQ's are be ranked, DNS are not) in all 3 events to be the Overall National Champion.

103.13 Coaches at The National Championships

Only current certified coaches, USASA, US Ski & Snowboard or those coaches certified by their National Governing Body (NGB) will have access to competition venues at the National Championships. All Coaches must be current USASA members.

103.13.01 Provisional Coaching Certification

In the event a coach / candidate has not received certification at the close of the clinic schedule, the coach may petition the US Coaches Education Committee for provisional access to the event. All prerequisites and background screening must be completed as part of the application process.

The application must be submitted before March 1 and include a non refundable \$100 application fee. This fee does not include clinic materials, USASA membership or additional certification costs.

104 USASA JUNIOR NATIONAL TEAM

The Junior National Team is contingent on sponsor support and may or may not be funded each season. On January 15th of each year the USASA will publish the determination to fund the Junior National Team on the USASA website.

104.01 Junior National Team Description

The USASA Junior National Team represents a unique opportunity to represent the USASA and the brands it associates with as ambassadors of sport. Applications will be made available at the National Championships and must be received within ten days of the distribution date.

104.02 Junior National Team Selection Criteria

The final team announced will represent the top 28 USASA athletes selected via committee based on the following criteria:

- A. Athletic Performance
- B. Academic Achievement
- C. Community Involvement

104.03 Junior National Team Disciplines

The following disciplines will be considered for Snowboard and Freeski:

- Halfpipe
- Slopestyle
- Skiercross
- BoarderCross
- Alpine (Slalom & Giant Slalom)

104.04 Junior National Team Eligibility

- A. Must be an active USASA member in good standing.
- B. Must have been born during the years of 2000-2006
- C. Must have placed in the top four at National Championships
- D. Foreign competitors are not allowed to be members of the team.

104.05 Junior National Team Selection

The team will be selected from the Breaker, Youth and Open Class categories in both snowboard and freeski. Athletes between the ages of 12-16 during the selection period shall be considered. Equal representa-

tion across gender, discipline and sport will be adhered to for assigned team positions and assigned as follows:

Mens & Womens Snowboard		Mens & Womens Freeski	
Slopestyle	4	Slopestyle	4
Halfpipe	4	Halfpipe	4
Boardercross	4	Skiercross	4
Giant Slalom	4		

The final team determination will be open to the USASA Junior National Team selection committee discretion. The committee may name an additional 10% as discretionary positions if needed. The committee shall not name discretionary spots in favor of an assigned team position. Selection for the final team roster will be published May 1st each year. All USASA Junior Nationals Team Members must adhere to the team code of conduct.

104.06 Junior National Team Athlete Obligations

- A. Athletes must participate and support USASA Regional events in their home series, as well as the USASA National Championships, barring extraordinary circumstances.
- B. Athletes must sign a Team Member agreement.
- C. Athletes are responsible for all USASA membership dues.

104.07 Junior National Team Selection Committee

- A. The selection committee will be made up of the USASA Executive Director, the USASA Coaches Representative, the two (2) USASA Competitor Representatives & an at large member (usually reserved for the team sponsor). The committee will serve from April 1st to March 30th of each calendar year.
- B. All committee members, coaches and staff must sign a Team Member agreement.

104.08 Junior National Team Code of Conduct

- A. All USASA Junior National Team members including staff shall be bound by these Code of Conduct guidelines.

- B. The USASA Junior National Team is an elite team of athletes representing the USASA during all team camps, photo-shoots, and competitions and will present themselves appropriately as ambassadors of the USASA at all times.
- C. All team members are to follow the guidelines, requests, and rules set up by the USASA Junior National Team Committee and should treat all USASA Junior National Team staff and fellow members with respect and courtesy.
- D. All USASA Junior National Team members are responsible to respect the laws and customs of the host site and/or country.
- E. There shall be no use of illegal drugs by any member of the USASA Junior National Team or staff.
- F. Alcoholic beverages shall not be consumed by team members.
- G. The USASA National Selection Committee will meet in the event of a suspected Code of Conduct infraction to proceed with due process of determining a resolution or disciplinary action. USASA rules 137 shall apply to all code of conduct infractions not otherwise covered by the Team Member agreement.

105 ORGANIZATION AND CONDUCT

105.01 Event Organization

- A. The USASA
- B. A USASA Sanctioned Series Director
- C. A USASA Certified Technical Supervisor

105.02 Rule Authority

The organizing authority, the USASA Technical Commission, the appeals committee, and all other bodies and persons concerned with the organization, conduct, and judging of an event or series shall be governed by the USASA rules.

The USASA, USASA National Office and USASA Executive Board oversee all USASA Regional Series and personnel.

USASA Regional Series Directors shall not manage a Regional Series as part of another business or organization.

106 ENTRY FEES

106.01 Regional Events

The Regional Series Director shall set the entry fees at these events.

106.02 Higher Level Events

At higher-level events the Organizing Committee shall set the entry fee.

107 INSURANCE & LIABILITY

107.01 USASA Officials as Additional Insured

The Series Director may list all the USASA officials as additional insured on the event liability insurance policy.

107.02 Competitors

Competitors must complete the release and waiver of liability before being permitted to participate at any USASA competition. Competitors must have a current medical insurance policy. Competitors under 18 years of age must have the appropriate release and waiver signed by a parent or guardian.

ADMINISTRATION

120 ENTRY

120.01 Entry Forms

All event entry forms shall contain notification to entrants that USASA membership is compulsory and that USASA dues must be paid prior to the event, or they will not be allowed to enter the event.

120.02 Start Lists

The start lists should contain all required information generated by the software provided by the USASA.

121 COMPETITOR'S MEETING

121.01 Purpose

The Competitor's Meeting shall be held, before each competition, and shall include information about the organizational aspects of the competition; including, but not limited to, the weather forecast, the members of the Jury, the time of competition, the location of the competition, the format, and the start order. Official rule changes from the printed rulebook shall also be disseminated.

121.02 Competitor's Attendance at Meetings

All competitors or their representative must attend the Competitor Meeting prior to the competition. It is the sole responsibility of the competitor to know the content of the Competitor's Meeting.

122 RESULTS

122.01 Content of Result Report

The official results report must contain the information generated by the software provided by the USASA, or as required by any other reporting agency. Results must be signed by the certified Technical Supervisor overseeing the event to be included in the National Ranking.

122.02 Official Results

Results are official only when they have been signed by the TS and/or Head Judge. Results communicated over the public address system and on the information boards or via live internet scoring systems are unofficial. At freestyle competitions, the Head-Judge must sign and approve the official scores of the judges and the results list.

123 TIES

123.01 Tie Breaking

Refer to sections: 313.02, 503.05 & 614.01.01 for instructions.

124 COMMUNICATION OF OFFICIAL INFORMATION

124.01 TS Signature

Official information or communications shall be prepared or reviewed by the TS and include his or her signature.

124.02 Information Boards

There can be two official announcement and communications boards at each competition. One will be placed in the Race Office for posting of official communications; official changes from the printed rulebook and announcements from the Competitor's Meetings. The other, for official competition announcements, shall be placed in the arrival area. Other information boards are not official.

124.03 Public Address

When appropriate, official announcements may be made by means of the public address system.

130 DISQUALIFICATION, PROTEST & SANCTION

130.01 Reasons for Disqualification

A competitor shall be disqualified:

- For not wearing a helmet
- If a helmet comes off during a run
- If there is an infraction under, Competitor's Obligations, Competitor's Equipment, Doping, Gate Faults, Provisional Start or False Start.
- If false information is presented to the USASA, the Series Director or the Organizing Committee.
- For un-sportsmanlike conduct
- For using foul or obscene language
- For making foul or obscene gestures toward USASA officials
- For shadowing a competition course, or a coach/parent shadowing a competitor.
- For modifying the setting of a competition area
- For doing anything to disrupt an event by destructive means, such

- as destroying or moving a safety fence or changing a gate setup
- For accepting assistance during a run.
- For not wearing a bib properly during inspection, competition, or official training.
- For competing in a bib other than the bib assigned. No borrowing or lending of bibs.
- For letting another competitor compete for them.
- For not starting properly.
- For not passing the finish line with at least one foot fixed in a binding on the board at Alpine and BoarderCross® / Skiercross races.
- For not respecting the host resort's regulations.
- For being under the influence or in the possession of illegal drugs or alcohol at a competition venue.

130.02 Event vs Rulebook Disqualification

Competitors disqualified from an event for a gate fault are still eligible to receive a finishing result and National Ranking Bonus Points.

Disqualification based on behavioral issues, doping, drug use or unsportsmanlike conduct will not receive a finish result or any National Ranking Points. Further sanctions will be determined at the discretion of the Event TS, Series Director, USASA National Office or USASA Technical Commission.

131 TYPES OF PROTEST

	Deposit US \$	Deadline	Place of Submittal	Communications of the Settlement
The Start List	\$100	Before the end of the Competitor's Meeting	Technical Supervisor	Posted on the official notice boards
The Course	\$100	30 minutes after the start of the inspection	In the timing cabin/ at the judge podium	Announced on the public address system and posted on the official notice board
Disqualification	\$100	15 minutes after the official posting*	In the timing cabin/ at the judge podium	Announced on the public address system and posted on the official notice board

Timing & Calculation	\$100	15 minutes after the official posting*	In the timing cabin/ at the judge podium	Announced on the public address system and posted on the official notice board
Results Lists	\$100	24 hours after the competition	USASA Technical Commission	Communicated by letter or fax
Jury Decisions	\$100	24 hours after the competition	USASA Technical Commission	Communicated by letter or fax

The deposit will be returned to the competitor if the protest is upheld, otherwise it will be forfeited to the sanctioning body. It is understood that this table applies to Regional Series events and the National Championships. All competitors always have the right to appeal to the USASA Technical Commission.

*In BX / SX, DQ and finish place are discussed in the finish coral.

132 FORMS OF PROTESTS

132.01 In Writing

All protests shall be submitted in writing.

132.02 Invalid Protests

A protest that is not submitted in writing within the required period of time or without a deposit shall be invalid when received. A protest against another competitor shall be invalid. An exception exists in rule 611.

132.03 Authorization

Only USASA member competitors or Certified Coaches with current memberships in good standing are authorized to present a protest. If the member is under age 18, the protest may be presented by the member's parent or legal guardian. USASA member competitors or Certified Coaches with current memberships are authorized to present a protest.

132.04 Recipient

At all events, protests shall be directed to the TS.

133 SETTLEMENT OF PROTESTS

133.01 Responsibility

The Jury (see rule 204) has the responsibility to issue a ruling on protests. They shall announce at the Competitor's Meeting the time and place for such determinations.

133.02 Evidence

In making its determination, the Jury shall include statements from officials who worked at the competition and others whom it considers to have pertinent information.

133.03 Final Decision

Only members of the jury will be present when they make a final decision on a protest. The TS will act as chairperson of this meeting. Minutes shall be kept of this meeting and they must be signed by the TS. The decision requires a majority of all voting members of the Jury, whether or not they are present. In case of a tie, the TS's vote shall be the deciding vote.

134 APPEAL

Once a final decision has been rendered on a protest, an appeal can be made to the USASA Technical Commission. The appeal must be filed within 30 days following the initial communication of the settlement. The appeal has to be filed through the USASA National office. Decisions by the Technical Commission will be reviewed by the USASA Executive Board for final resolution.

135 SANCTIONS

135.01 Categories

There are five categories of sanctions:

1. Written warning
2. Monetary fine payable to the USASA
3. Withdrawal of accreditation

4. Suspension from the competition
5. Suspension for a definite or indefinite period of time

135.02 DISCIPLINARY SANCTIONS BY THE JURY

The Jury may impose disciplinary sanctions for the duration of a competition. The TS may impose disciplinary sanctions for the duration of a competition, the event, or the remainder of the season. All sanctions must be communicated in writing to the USASA Technical Commission.

135.03 DISCIPLINARY SANCTIONS BY THE USASA

Based upon the recommendations of the Series Director, Jury, TS or USASA Junior National Team Manager, the USASA Technical Commission may impose disciplinary sanctions against Competitors, Course Setters, Team Captains, Coaches, Judges, Technical Supervisors, Media Representatives, Parents, Organizing Committee Members, or Sponsors.

135.04 Fines

Fines shall be paid before the member can register for USASA Events.

COMMISSIONS

140 USASA TECHNICAL COMMISSION

The USASA Technical Commission is made up of the USASA National Championships Head TS, Head Tabulator and the discipline TS's from the National Championships. The Technical Commission aims to control the quality of USASA events at all levels. This is accomplished through the writing and timely updating of the USASA Rules, the education and certification of officials, the publishing and distribution of guidelines and educational material, the settlement of protests and appeals, and the constant quest to follow the evolution and the development of the sport.

140.01 Duties

The USASA Technical Commission shall be responsible for:

1. Overseeing the preparation, editing and updating of the Rulebook
2. Education and certification of the USASA Technical personnel.

3. Creating and updating educational materials.
4. Preparing a list of USASA Technical Officials qualified for all levels of competition
5. Responding to questions or concerns regarding the USASA Rules.
6. Deciding penalties/sanctions for any violation of the USASA Rules.
7. Hearing appeals

141 USASA Freestyle Commission

The role of the USASA Freestyle Commission is to educate all USASA judges and to select the judges for the National Championships. The USASA Freestyle Commission oversees all judging related activities within the USASA. The Freestyle Commission is comprised of a chairperson as well as 4-6 national educators/regional judge coordinators.

141.01 Duties

The Freestyle Commission shall be responsible for

1. Preparing & editing the Freestyle Manual
2. Education and certification of judges
3. Creating and updating educational materials
4. Providing a list of judges and their level of certification
5. Answering all questions pertaining to judging
6. Assign judges for the USASA National Championships

All material prepared by the Freestyle Commission shall be approved by the USASA Technical Commission.

150 COMPETITOR'S OBLIGATIONS

Each Competitor who competes in an USASA event must:

- Be responsible to contact the resort or the event director to be informed of any changes or cancellations.
- Have the appropriate membership to participate in the event.
- Familiarize themselves with and follow the USASA Rules.
- Comply with special instructions from authorized officials.
- Possess current primary accident and medical insurance coverage.

- Execute the appropriate liability release, waiver and image release.
- Behave in a courteous and polite manner.
- Take responsibility for their physical and mental ability to compete.

151 COMPETITOR'S EQUIPMENT

151.01 Snowboard

A snowboard is equipment, which permits gliding on all snow conditions.

- The bindings must be affixed in a sideways manner on the longitudinal axis of the board.
- The boots cannot overlap each other.
- Snowboards are boards that are usually the width of one's foot lengthwise, with the ability to glide on snow
- Hand held devices to aid with propulsion or balance are not allowed except for adaptive Competitors.

151.02 Skis

A ski is equipment, which permits gliding on all snow conditions.

- All competitors shall use a recognized release DIN binding system and devices to prevent runaway ski(s).

151.03 Safety Equipment

- The use of helmets is mandatory for all USASA events. Helmets shall be specifically designed and manufactured for use in snow sports and shall bear a CE mark and conform to recognized and appropriate standards such as CEE 1077 or US 2040, ASTM 2040.
- Helmet conformity to the rules may be checked at any event, and the lack of an approved helmet is grounds for refusal to allow a competitor to participate in an event.
- The helmet must be attached as per manufacturer's specifications. There are no physical modifications to the helmet are permitted. The use of helmet mounted cameras is not allowed.
- Snowboard retention devices shall be used when mandated by the resort.
- Competitors acknowledge that the sport of snowboarding and freeskiing is a hazardous activity with inherent risks of serious

personal injury, disability and death. It is the sole responsibility of the competitor to select appropriate safety equipment for their event.

151.04 Start Numbers / Bibs

Bibs must be worn correctly and visibly at all times on the competition site, the inspection, and the official training. Bibs must be returned as instructed by the Series Director or the Organizing Committee.

151.05 Forbidden Equipment

Equipment that is worn or used for the purpose of balance, increased weight, or other improper physically enhancing purposes, is strictly forbidden. This rule may be waived for the Adaptive Class. Slalom, Giant Slalom, Boardercross and Skiercross competition suits must be two piece – pants and separate top. Form fitting speed or downhill suits are not permitted.

152 DOPING & MEDICAL EXAMINATION

152.01 Prohibited Substances

The use of dope (reference is made to the official WADA list) by a USASA athlete is strictly forbidden. Tests may be performed upon any athlete to determine the presence of prohibited substances and any such positive result of a doping test may result in the athlete being ineligible from competition.

152.02 Personal Responsibility

Competitors are responsible for their medical condition upon taking their start at a USASA event.

152.03 Examination

The jury may request a competitor to undergo a medical examination before or after a USASA Event. The purpose of the examination is to determine whether the athlete is eligible to compete based upon results from doping or medical tests. If illegal substances are present or if the athlete is unable to compete safely for medical reasons, the athlete shall

not compete. A competitor refusing to undergo the examination shall not be permitted to start.

152.04 USASA Concussion Policy

Competitors are required to abide by the USASA Concussion policy. Competitors will be placed on membership hold pending clearance from a licensed health care provider trained in concussion management.

200 EVENT PERSONNEL

200.01 Regional Series Directors

The Regional Series Director is responsible for the management and administration of all events and members in an established USASA Region. Their role in event management is to ensure safe, fair and efficient events that take into account the best interests of all USASA members in their region. The Series Director and or host resort will be responsible for the orderly preparation and conduct of the entire USASA Event. The Series Director and/or host resort shall take all necessary steps and precautions to ensure that athlete safety shall be the number one priority in course design, construction and maintenance. TS or Series Directors acting as TS cannot compete in events that they are supervising. Series Directors will be allowed to compete at National's without qualifying through Regional Series or National Rankings.

200.02 Competition Director

The Competition Director supervises and controls the activity of the resort personnel.

200.03 Head Judge

The Head Judge must be certified by the USASA for the level of the competition he or she is controlling. The Head Judge is responsible for managing the panel of judges.

The Head Judge's duties are:

- To police the judges' stand
- To conduct a judges' meeting prior to the first day of competition

- To communicate and coordinate between the judges
- To provide the judges with necessary materials and supplies
- To organize the work of the judges
- To approve the construction of the freestyle competition area
- To act as a judge, when necessary
- To serve as part of the jury
- To check the time schedule and format with TS and organizer
- To act as a Referee at Regional events
- Communicate with the starter regarding the Competitor's start.
- Prior to the event, check the visibility of the judges' stand and any possible disturbances of the judges view caused by media
- Control judges' scores, give advice for changes, and oversee the end result (certify the results)
- To call the safety patrol when necessary

200.04 Tabulator

The Tabulator coordinates the start, finish, timing, and scoring functions and the personnel performing those functions:

- Starter
- Start referee
- Electronic time-keepers
- Hand timer
- Finish referee
- Score-board writer

At Freestyle events, the Tabulator coordinates the scoring functions and the personnel performing those functions in cooperation with the Head Judge:

- Score-board writer
- Competition secretary
- Public Address/Music

200.05 Freestyle Judges

A USASA judge must be a minimum of 18 years of age, refer to the Freestyle Manual for full guidelines. Judges must attend a USASA judging clinic to become certified. Their level of certification will determine the event level they are allowed to judge. All Regional Series Head Judges should have a minimum of National Level A certification in order to qualify as a Regional Series Head Judge. Upon prior approval from the Free-

style Commission a series may use the next highest certified judge as the Head Judge. Certification is obtained by attending a USASA Sanctioned Clinic. National Level A judges may instruct an approved regional clinic to certify regional judges no higher than National Level B (requires approval from the Chairperson of the Freestyle Commission).

200.06 Number of Judges

For each freestyle discipline, there shall be a minimum of three scoring judges. The Head Judge may be a scoring judge if needed.

200.07 Judging Procedures

Each judge will record the competitor's bib number, score, and the competitor's run in its entirety, from the moment the competitor drops in to the course and up to the moment the competitor exits the course, on specified steno sheets. All judge steno sheets are to be used for verification purposes, but will not be shown to coaches, competitors, or parents, as they are considered confidential proprietary information. No discussion concerning the competitor's results are allowed, except between the judge and Head Judge. Competitors and spectators are not permitted to approach or speak with the judges during the competition. All concerns or issues shall be directed to the TS or Head Judge. The Jury shall oversee the judge panel and Head Judge.

200.08 Judges Duties

The function of a judge is to give a score to each competitor in order to assign ranking. The judges must give scores for each competitor's performance in accordance with the judging criteria. The judges must be fair, without bias, and judge solely based on the performance of the competitor. They shall participate in practice judging conducted by the Head Judge during the practice runs. Judges must assist and be available to the Head Judge during the duration of the event, including practice and to perform other necessary duties. All judges shall articulate any potential conflicts of interest to the Head Judge. The judges, while in their professional capacity, shall refrain from discussing personal viewpoints of the judging to coaches, parents, competitors, media and spectators during and after the course of the competition. A judge shall be discreet and reasonable in all discussions. A judge shall not predict outcomes in ad-

vance. A judge shall accept criticism calmly and maintain composure in all situations. All concerns or issues shall be directed to the TS or Head Judge.

202 GATE JUDGES

The Jury shall determine the number of gate judges and communicate this information to the Technical Supervisor. The Technical Supervisor shall conduct a meeting of the gate judges prior to the competition to review their duties. The Head Gate Keeper shall be included in this meeting.

202.01 Primary Duties of a Gate Judge

The Gate Judge shall decide if a competitor is disqualified or not disqualified and report to the jury. The jury will make the final decision related to DQ's. If there is doubt the decision will favor the competitor.

202.02 Additional Duties of a Gate Judge

The Gate Judge must replace or re-plant gates and flags that have been broken, torn, or dislodged. The replaced gates and flags must be of the same color and in the same location as the removed gate or flag. Race-courses must be cleared of any obstruction, spectators must be kept away from the racecourse, and accredited persons informed that they must not disturb the competitor's visibility or obstruct their run. The Gate Judge must maintain the quality of the race course throughout the competition.

202.03 Head Gate Keeper

The Head Gate Keeper is the coordinator of Gate Judges. Organizes and supervises the work of the gate judges and is responsible for them being on time with the proper materials to perform their task. The Head Gate Keeper shall provide assistance to the Gate Judges as required.

The Head Gate Keeper shall distribute to gate judges:

- Spare poles and flags of both colors.
- Shovel and/or rakes.
- Check cards with pencils.

202.04 Position and Dress

The Gate Judge shall choose a position from which all assigned gates are clearly visible and from which the competitors will not be disturbed. Clothing worn by the Gate Judge shall not be of the same color as the gates and gate panels.

202.05 Check Card and Recording Infractions

Each gate judge receives a check card that must be completed with:

- Name of the Gate Judge.
- Numbers of the gates to be monitored.
- Identification of the run: qualification, 1st, 2nd, men, women, etc.
- Identification of the discipline.

If a competitor does not pass a gate correctly, the gate judge must record the following on the check card:

- Bib number of the competitor.
- Gate number where the fault occurred.
- Diagram showing the competitor's fault

If there is an infraction of Rules 130 disqualification and 262 gate fault, the gate judge shall record this information on the check card. If there is interference on the course and the competitor stops, the details of this interference shall be noted.

202.06 Information to a Competitor

If a competitor is uncertain if a gate has been passed correctly, that competitor may request confirmation from the Gate Judge. The Gate Judge can provide no physical assistance to the competitor. The Gate Judge shall respond clearly and loudly by saying:

- "GO" if the gate passage was correct
- "BACK" if the gate passage was incorrect.

202.07 Duty at the End of the Event

Each Gate Judge who has recorded a disqualifying fault or who has witnessed an incident leading to a re-run, shall remain available to the Jury until after any protest has been settled and released by the Technical Supervisor.

203 MEDICAL SERVICE

At all events, ski patrol must be present during all times of training and competition. They should be available at the top of the course during training and competition. If, due to medical reasons, they must leave the area, another medical team shall replace them. If there is no ski patrol at the course during training or competition the event shall be put on hold. All event resorts must provide an Medical Plan, a copy of which must be kept by the Series Director.

204 JURY

204.01 Composition

The following jury members shall have voting rights:

- SBX / SX & Alpine
 - Finish Referee
 - Technical Supervisor (TS)
 - Chief of Competition / Venue Manager
- Freestyle (SS, HP, RJ)
 - Technical Supervisor (TS)
 - Chief of Competition / Venue Manager
 - Head Judge

The following jury members shall have no voting rights, unless they have been named to one of the above positions in the absence of a primary member.

- Assistant Referee (appointed at Competitor's' meeting) / Assistant TS (Freestyle events)
- Chief of Course (appointed by the Series Director / USASA)
- Start Referee (appointed by the Series Director / USASA)
- Connection Coach (appointed at Competitor's' meeting)
- Nationals Comp Director
- Nationals Head TS

204.02 Decisions

Minutes shall be kept of all meetings and decisions of the jury and shall be signed by the TS and Series Director. Decisions shall be made by simple majority vote of jury members with voting rights. In case of a tie,

the TS has the deciding vote.

If an emergency situation arises during the competition, each jury member has the right to make provisional decisions based upon the rules. The jury shall confirm these decisions as soon thereafter as possible. If critical situations arise, such as issues of security or safety of the competitors, the decision of the TS is binding, even if it is contrary to the votes of the other members of the jury who are entitled to vote. In this case, the TS must submit his decision and reasons for it in writing to the USASA Technical Commission.

204.03 Duties

Inspection of the course:

The jury must inspect the race or freestyle course, prior to the beginning of the official inspection or training, to ensure that the course, security, and setting are in proper condition. The jury may require certain changes to provide proper conditions.

During the event:

- All members of the jury must be in contact by radio during the event. The jury must supervise the technical conduct of the entire competition including inspection, training, and the actual competition. The jury has the right to remove competitors from the competition for violations of the technical regulations or USASA Rules.
- The jury as a whole has the right to interpret the USASA Rules, expand upon their meaning, or, when no rule applies, to make decisions and apply them to particular circumstances in an event.
- The jury has the right to interrupt, postpone, or cancel an event. This decision and reasons for such a decision must be reported immediately in writing to the Series Director, the competitors, and the USASA Technical Commission.
- The jury will determine the number of forerunners for each event.

205 REFEREE & COURSE SETTER

205.01 Duties of Referee

The referee's responsibilities include:

- Notice Board of: the names of disqualified competitors (if any), the names of the officials who noted the faults leading to the disqualifi-

cation, and the exact time the list was posted and the gate number where the fault occurred.

- Review and sign the confirmation form of technical data
- In cases of unusual circumstances during the event or if a difference of opinion exists between the jury members, the Referee may send a report to the USASA Technical Commission.

205.02 Course Setter

The following rights are assigned to the Course Setter:

- To propose safety measures and modifications of the slope (only for safety reasons), to have at least four (4) persons as assistants, and to coordinate with the Competition Director the setting of banners, dye, etc.

The following duties are assigned to the Course Setter:

- Inspect the slope and the course, to insure that USASA course setting specifications are followed,
- Set a course that permits the smooth and fluent motion of competitors in a safe way throughout the event, to provide equivalent race opportunity for all competitors
- Control the setting of banners, dye, etc.

206 START & FINISH PERSONNEL

206.01 Start Officials

Start Referee

- Ensure that the regulations for the start are properly observed.
- Immediately communicated to the appropriate jury members;
 - Any malfunction of the start gate
 - Improper use of equipment or wearing of a bib
- Records failure to start, late and false starts, checking helmets
- File a report with the referee listing the names of competitors who violated any such rules at the conclusion of the competition.

Starter:

- Directs the starting signals and the accuracy of the intervals between actual starts.
- At Freestyle events the Starter is responsible for communicating with the Head Judge according to the communication protocol. The

Starter will only send Competitors in the course when he receives the Head Judges permission.

- Assistant Starter: Calls the competitors to the start in their correct order and ensures the smooth flow of an event by making sure that a certain number of Competitors are always ready to enter the start area.
- Start Referee: Records all start procedures: actual start time, late and false starts, re-runs and no shows.

206.02 Finish Officials

Finish Referee:

- Must ensure that the regulations for the finish are properly observed. Any malfunction of or improper use of equipment must immediately be communicated to the appropriate jury members.
- The Finish Referee supervises: the finish controller, timing, and crowd control in the finish area. At the end of each event a report of those competitors who did not finish in accordance with the Gate Fault rule 262 must be submitted to the referee.
- Records information including finish times, disqualifications, DNS. For timed events, serve as member of the jury.
- Provides security for the competitors and their belongings in the finish area.

207 TECHNICAL SUPERVISOR (TS)

A certified Technical Supervisor must be present for all USASA events. At Regional Series events, the TS will be assigned and approved by the Regional Series Director. For higher level events, a Head TS will be assigned by the National Event Director. The Head TS and National Event Director will select and assign the individual discipline TS's.

207.01 Duties

The TS shall enforce the rules and directives of the USASA, ensure the fairness of the event, protection of the competition venue, advise event organizers, and serve as the official representative of the USASA. USASA Trainer's division must certify all Regional Series TS's.

A Regional Series Director will often perform the task of TS but may delegate this to a designated TS. TS's or Series Directors acting as TS's cannot compete in events that they are supervising.

- Before the event, the TS shall review all insurance certificates from the organizing resort, review competitor listings and verify licenses of the officials.
- During the event, the TS shall lead the jury, supervise and direct the event and take appropriate action when infractions of the rules occur.
- After the event, the TS shall assist the Referee with the disqualification report, review and confirm the decisions of the jury concerning protests, review the results list and sign the official document, confirm the calculation of the USASA points of the competition, prepare and submit the event results and the report on the event to the USASA National Office within 48hrs of the completion of the event. Results sent to the National Office must be signed by the TS to be considered for the ranking.

All official documentation must be shared with the Series Director and shall be kept on file and provided to the Technical Commission on request. All injuries must be reported on the required form and submitted with the results

207.02 Rights

The Series Director shall make initial contact with the TS as soon as possible. The TS shall control the proper operation of the technical systems and if necessary, appoint members of the jury; maintain safe conditions; modify the event schedule, location, or operation as may be required. The Series Director shall reimburse the TS for all necessary expenses, including all travel and accommodations incurred in relation to the event.

208 CONTROVERSIAL MATTERS

During the event, the TS shall make all final decisions regarding matters that cannot be resolved under the present rules. The TS's decisions must be submitted for review at the next meeting of the USASA Technical Commission.

209 FORERUNNERS

The TS may select the forerunners of each competition. Forerunners must be current USASA members. The jury, during the Competitor meeting, shall determine the number of forerunners. Forerunners must sign a liability waiver, wear a bib and a helmet.

210 RIGHTS & DUTIES OF CERTIFIED COACHES

Certified Coaches are USASA members who have met the prerequisites as outlined by the US Coaches Education Committee. In order to achieve Certified status, a coach must hold a current and recognized certification, and be a current USASA member.

210.01 Rights

- To be elected as Assistant-Referee for an event.
- To submit protests to the jury during the competition.
- To be issued credentials during the competition, which permits the Team Captain/Coach to enter all official sites.

210.02 Duties

- To be registered with, approved and certified by the USASA.
- To be responsible for the registration of team members.
- To attend all Competitor's' meetings.
- To disseminate information and bibs received at registration or Competitor meeting to team members.
- To be familiar with and uphold the official USASA Rulebook, Code of Conduct and Ethics Policy.
- To wear a helmet during inspection of the course.

250 COMPETITION AREAS

250.01 Preparation / Arrival Area

The arrival area shall be fenced or enclosed, to provide security for the competitors, and access shall be limited to competitors and accredited

persons only. Outside access shall be available through a single opening, approximately one meter wide.

The arrival area may be divided into:

- A place for the competitors to safely leave their belongings.
- A place for the announcer and results board.
- A place for accredited persons.

250.02 Start Area and Drop In

The start area shall be at least 1 meter wide and 2 meters long. It must be flat and Level. Starting poles of wood or metal must protrude out of the snow approximately 80 centimeters and be separated by a distance of approximately 60 centimeters (In Freestyle minimum of 80 centimeters).

The only people permitted to enter the start area are the Starter, Assistant Starter, Jury members and a maximum of 6 competitors and their coaches. This area must be separated from the preparation area.

The Start Area shall permit the competitor to prepare to drop into the course. The Drop In must allow the Competitor to have adequate speed for the first feature.

250.03 Finish Area

The Finish Area must be level and big enough to allow the competitor to come to a safe stop away from the initial slope of landing of the final feature when exiting the course. The Finish Area may be fenced off completely and the fencing should be laid out in a way that there is maximum visibility for officials, media and spectators. The finish area is to be enclosed to ensure maximum security and comfort for the competitors. It may be as flat and wide as possible to permit stopping safely and easily at the end of the course. The finish line must be easily visible and be at least 6 meters wide for each course. An exit measuring approximately one meter wide shall be set in the fencing to access the arrival area.

251 JUDGING PODIUM

251.01 SIZE AND STRUCTURE

The size and structure of the podium varies depending on the resort and the level of the competition. An enclosed podium, with electricity, is the goal whenever possible. This allows for the computer and printer to be

with the judges, and therefore aids in the timely posting of results. If an enclosed structure is not available a tent may substitute, but the space should provide the judges with ample room for tables and chairs. The structure must be sufficient enough to keep the judges and their supplies safe from inclement weather. In order to avoid distractions, it is of the utmost importance that the judging podium and all the officials are isolated from athletes, coaches, parents, press, and spectators. The separation between officials and the public must be sufficient enough to inhibit conversations made amongst the officials. This may be done by using fencing, banners, ropes, bamboo, etc. Only the designated officials are allowed past this barrier.

251.02 Visibility / Podium Location

The judges must be able to clearly view the entire course and judge the full run of each competitor.

Halfpipe Events

The Judging Podium may be situated at the bottom or at the top of the course, providing a clear view of the entire course is the only requirement. In case of fog or limited visibility, the judges may judge from either wall at the middle of the half pipe.

Slopestyle Events

The Judging Podium may be situated on an elevated platform in the middle of the course. The requirement is that the judges can observe the entire run of any competitor regardless of the choice of obstacles. If any of the landings are out of view, the judges should place a "spotter" with flags or radio to signal the execution of the landing. A Split Panel format may be used when it is not possible to judge the course in its entirety.

Rail Jam Events

The Judging Podium will be situated to ensure a complete view of the features. A Split Panel format may be used when it is not possible to judge the course in its entirety.

252 COURSE

252.01 Restricted Access

The course must be closed to any and all public access by the use of fencing or other means.

252.02 Preparation

The course must be closed to the public before the competition. It may be groomed to provide a flat and compacted surface from the start to the finish. The use of artificial means such as salt or water is permitted. The host resort in accordance with the jury shall install protective fencing, padding, or any other safety measures it deems necessary to ensure the safety of the public, the Competitor's and all those involved in the event.

252.03 Maintenance

The course shall be maintained in the best possible condition throughout the competition. It (may) be side-slipped as necessary, by snowboarders or preferably by skiers. Proper maintenance equipment including drills, rakes, and shovels must be available. Snow cats may be used in poor conditions in between the training, qualification, and final runs.

PREPARATION & RUNNING OF DISCIPLINES

260 START & DELAYED START

For Start Cadence refer to disciplines rules 312 & 608

260.01 Delay

In single races, the starter shall determine if a start after missed interval is excused for reasons of force majeure. Racer's equipment malfunction or sickness is not a reason for an excused delay.

A competitor with an equipment malfunction may, by TS or Starter decision, start at the end of his starting group.

260.02 Provisional Start

The Start Referee shall determine if circumstances surrounding a delayed

start need further investigation and may grant a provisional start to that competitor. The Jury may determine when a provisional run can be made.

260.03 False Start by a Competitor

A competitor must immediately stop their run when the Starter signals a false start.

260.04 Heavy Snowfall

If prior to or at the beginning of the event heavy snowfall conditions exist, the Jury may decide to send the last six competitors on the start list before the first person on the list.

261 RE-RUNS

261.01 Reasons

- Obstructions of any kind (apart from snow) in the competition venue, which interfere with the competitor. Except in BoarderCross®, see rule 612 Obstructions.
- A gate out of position which causes an obstruction (see above point). Except in BoarderCross®, see rule 612
- Failure of hand timing, back-up timing and the main timing system.
- Judges missing a run
- Course Malfunction

261.02 Required Actions

- Competitor shall immediately stop their run and alert an official of an obstruction and exit the course. Athlete must not cross the finish line.
- Competitor must immediately ask the closest gate judge to record the situation on the check card.
- Competitor must fulfill these conditions or the right to a re-run is forfeited.

At Freestyle events, the competitor must stop immediately, lift one hand up to signal, and go directly to the finish area and report to the TS, Head Judge or the Finish Referee. Under the direction of the TS, head judge and starter the competitor may have the option of a re-run.

261.03 Validity

- The TS or Head judge may authorize a provisional re-run if the Jury is not available to make the decision.
- Only the Jury shall officially declare a re-run.
- If a re-run is official, the result of that re-run will be the official result.

262 GATE PASSAGE

262.01 Gate Faults in Boardercross

A gate has been passed correctly when the competitor has at least the front foot fixed in the bindings on the board and the entire board crosses the gate line. In case of a fall, the competitor must pass through the turning gate line. The gate line in Slalom, Parallel Slalom, Giant Slalom, Parallel Giant Slalom, & Boardercross is the extension of the line past the turning pole which connects the two points at the base of the banner.



262.02 Gate Faults in SkierCross

A gate has been passed correctly when both the competitor's ski tips and both feet have passed across the gate line. If a competitor loses a ski, without committing a fault, e.g. not straddling a gate, then the tip of the remaining ski and both feet must have passed the gate line. The gate line in Skier Cross is the extension of the line past the turning pole which connects the two points at the base of the banner.

263 TIMING EQUIPMENT

Timing equipment shall be used for all Alpine disciplines, Banked Slalom

SkierCross and BoarderCross® time trials.

263.01 Electronic Timing

Electronic-timing systems, which measure results to the nearest one-one thousandths (1/1000) of a second, are required. Timing capability to the thousandth (1/1000) of a second shall be used to break ties. If competitors are still tied then the higher seeded competitor receives the higher place.

263.02 Backup Timing

Two separate backup timing systems are recommended. One shall be a separate electronic timing system and the other shall be a hand timing system. All back-up timing systems must have a separate and entirely independent means of communication between the start and finish from that of the primary electronic timing system. At the National Championships, there must also be a secondary electronic timing system as a backup to the primary system. Hand timers will also be used to ensure accuracy of timing.

263.03 Start and Finish

The start gate must be placed in such a way that all starts will initiate the timing measurement. Photocells on each side of the finish line shall be placed in such a height that a competitor finishing normally cuts the beam with the lower half of his legs, between the ankle and the knee.

263.04 System Failure

If there is a malfunction or failure of the electronic timing system, then the backup timing shall be used for the official time. To verify the accuracy of the back-up system, the average difference between the primary timing and back-up timing of ten other competitors may be taken. These results may be from the five competitors who competed before and the five who competed after the failed result. The start or finish referee must immediately inform the jury when a failure occurs. In the case of failure of all timing systems, the competitor(s) shall re-run.

264 SETTING OF THE GATES

264.01 Definition of a gate

A gate is composed of a pole, stubbie and a panel.

264.02 Panels of a gate

- Triangular, or in Banked Slalom, rectangular panels may be used. They must be designed for ease of attachment and for instant release from the pole(s) upon moderate impact.
- Panel colors must be in clear contrast with the white snow.
- Colors shall either alternate every other turn or be the same on all turns.
- The base & vertical sides of triangular panels shall measure between 100 and 140 cm.

264.03 Setting of gates

- The use of horizontal, vertical, delayed, and slanting gates is permitted.
- If a long gate is not visible, because of natural obstacles, it shall be extended.
- The location of the gates may be marked with spray paint or dye.
- The use of wedges or water is permitted.

265 SETTING OF THE COURSE

The TS will make available all necessary personnel to assist the Course Setter in performing the duties of that position. The TS is assigned to provide appropriate items to the course setter, such as long and stubby poles; triangular or rectangular panels in designated colors; hammers, shovels, rakes, and drills; wedges and water; paint or dye to mark the positions of the gates; and string or ropes to measure the settings.

265.01 Change of setting

The TS and/or the Jury may require a change to the course prior to the racers' inspection. Any such change must be coordinated with the course

setter. If necessary, the inspection or training must be delayed.

ALPINE EVENTS

300 GENERAL GUIDELINES FOR ALPINE EVENTS

- There may be rhythm changes, rollers, jumps, or delays.
- The course may be reset between 1st and 2nd runs.
- Combined time of 1st and 2nd run shall be used for results.
- KO refers to the Knock Out system of elimination

301 RACE COURSE GIANT SLALOM / SLALOM

- Vertical drop is recommended to be a minimum of 90 meters.
- Racecourse shall be at least 20 meters wide
- Slalom - the distance between turning poles must be between 10 - 14 meters
- Giant Slalom - the distance between turning poles must be between 20 - 27 meters
- If visibility on the course deteriorates, the use of small flags or dye is recommended.
- Equipment shall conform to the Rules 250 to 252 Competition Areas

302 LAYOUT OF THE COURSE

Refer to the USASA Course Setters Manual

303 INSPECTION

- Course inspection shall only occur during the official time specified unless otherwise specified by the TS.
- Inspection shall be conducted as designated by the TS.

304 START INTERVAL

The start interval between competitors should be no less than 30 nor

more than 120 seconds. The start interval shall be announced during the Competitor's meeting. A competitor may start before the previous competitor has completed the course.

304.01 Start Cadence

The Starter shall prepare competitors for their start. Beginning five seconds prior to the start, the Starter shall announce in a smooth-flowing manner the start cadence;

- Red course ready
- Blue course ready
- Attention
- Go

A competitor must start within a window of time, from 5 seconds prior to 5 seconds following the starter's call of "Go". A start before or after this window is grounds for disqualification.

305 FINAL RANKING

- The combined times of both runs shall determine their final ranking.
- The finalists who DNF, DQ, or DNS will be ranked at the end of these competitors according to their results of their combined runs

306 DISQUALIFICATION

A competitor shall be disqualified if:

- The competitor does not stop when the starter gives the signal for a false start.
- The opponent is obstructed by a competitor in a parallel format race
- The competitor does not pass a gate correctly.

307 PARALLEL SLALOM / PARALLEL GIANT SLALOM

307.01 RACE COURSE

- Vertical drop: Parallel Slalom recommended minimum of 80 meters
- Vertical drop: Parallel GS recommended minimum of 135 meters

- Width: Parallel Slalom minimum 20 meters
- Width Parallel GS minimum 35 meters

308 LAYOUT OF THE COURSE

Refer to the USASA Course Setters Manual

309 INSPECTION

- Course inspection shall only occur during the official time specified unless otherwise specified by the TS.
- Inspection shall be conducted as designated by the TS.

310 STARTING SYSTEM

A Parallel starting system with starting gates that allow simultaneous-synchronized departure should be used.

311 START CADENCE

Prior to giving the start command, which may be an audio or visual cue, or other appropriate means, the starter shall ensure that the competitors are ready. Approximately five seconds before the start, the starter shall prepare the racers by announcing the following:

- Red course ready"
- Blue course ready
- Attention

312 False Start

- A competitor must immediately stop their run when the Starter signals a false start.
- If a competitor false starts during the first run of the KO Final, they will receive the maximum allowable time differential for that run. If the competitor false starts during the second run of the KO Final, the Competitor loses that round of the Final.
- If the second false start occurs during the Semi-finals, the competitor will move on to the Consolation Final. During the Consolation and Final, an additional false start per Round (2 runs) will be allowed.

313 QUALIFIER

313.01 Qualification:

Start order shall be as follows: seed 1 against 2; 3 against 4; and so on. Odd seeds (1,3,5) shall start on the right course (looking down from the start area). Even seeds (2,4,6) shall start on the left course (looking down from the start area). Competitors may make only one run. The 16 (or 8) fastest competitors on the left course and on the right course will be qualified for the 2nd Qualification. OR All competitors may make one run on the right course and one run on the left course. The 16 (or 8) fastest competitors will be qualified for the Final based on their combined times. The number of competitors qualified for the 2nd Qualification may be changed at the 'Competitor's'/ Team Captains meeting based on participation levels but must not exceed 32 competitors.

313.02 Ties

In qualification, if a tie cannot be broken to 1000th of a second, the competitor starting the latest in the event, will appear first, in relationship to those they are tied with on the result list. If the tie occurs at 8 or 4 women and 16 or 8 men the first 8/4 and 16/8 appearing on the Official Qualification Results will advance to the final. In the KO Final, if a tie occurs, the winner will be determined by the results of the 2nd run.

314 FINAL

- The Final shall be organized using the KO-System
- A "Round" consists of two runs: once on the right course, once on the left course
- Time difference between the two competitors shall be measured to 1000th of a second
- Penalty time applied to the first runs shall be shown to 1000th of a second.
- The Final will be run according to the Single Elimination with Consolation Final.

315 PENALTY TIME

Penalty time is used with the KO-System as follows:

- In Parallel Slalom the penalty time equals 4 % of the fastest time on the first run of the day, but cannot be greater than 2 seconds.
- In Parallel GS the penalty time equals 4% of the fastest time on the first run of the day, but cannot be greater than 1.5 seconds.

During the first run:

- The penalty time shall be used for a disqualified competitor or when the time difference between two competitors is greater than the penalty time.

During the second run:

- There is no penalty time during the second run, the normal time difference shall be used.
- If both competitors are DQ'd, the competitor who passes the highest (greatest) number of gates will be qualified for the next round. If both competitors are DQ'd at the same gate, then it shall be considered a tie for this run and the winner of the first run shall be then qualified for the next round.
- If the penalty time attributed to one Competitor in the first run equals the actual time difference attributed to the other Competitor in the second run, the winner will be determined by the results of the 2nd run.

316 FINAL RANKING

- The official results from the Qualification shall determine the final ranking for Competitors not qualifying for the Final.
- Competitors who DNF, DQ or DNS will be listed at the end.

The finalists will be ranked as follows:

- 1-2-3-4 according to their results in the Final and Consolation Final, 5 to 8 according to the combined time from the Qualification, 9 to 16 according to the combined time from the Qualification.
- Likewise, competitors who DQ or DNF during the KO Final, will be ranked according to the combined time from the Qualification.
- A Competitor who DNS in the KO Finals will be ranked after all other Competitors who reached the same stage in the competition.

400 BANKED SLALOM

401 COURSE

- The recommended vertical drop shall be a minimum of 50 meters and a maximum of 300 meters.
- The minimum length of the course should ensure that it cannot be completed in less than 30 seconds and not more than 90 seconds for the fastest Competitor.
- It is recommended that the berms be a minimum of 2 meters wide but may be as wide as needed to control speed.
- The track shall conform to rules 250
- The use of dye to improve course visibility is required

402 COURSE LAYOUT

- Banked Slalom will consist of a recommended minimum of 10 berms (shaped turns) designed to control speed and permit a fluid run.
- Start area should allow easy entry into the first turn.
- The start ramp should have an inclination of 20 - 30 degrees and offer solid posts to pull from, and a clean entry and view to the first turn
- First gate or berm should be a maximum of 15 meters from the start area, (but not less than 5 meters) to provide a quick entrance into the course.
- It is recommended that the course not favor goofy or regular Competitors.
- It is recommended that the distance between gates shall be between 15 meters (min.) 25 meters (max).
- It is recommended to have a variety of turn shapes (30-200 degrees) but to establish a consistent turn radius using variety when terrain allows.
- Where applicable between turns course may have a maximum of two rollers in a row to generate speed.
- There may be a maximum of three roller sections in an entire course.
- Course should flow and should be designed in a way to keep Competitors on the ground.
- It is recommended that the finish line be clearly marked and occur

across the fall line either in or as an exit to the final berm.

- Course shall be set with stubbie gates and panels consistent with 264
- Only the TS and Jury members shall decide if it is necessary to change the setting of the course. Upon course completion, Jury shall meet to approve the course.
- The course setting should not be changed after the Competitors have completed training.
- The course shall be set in accordance manner that allows the Competitors to stay high in the berms with a flat board to generate speed.
- When possible hand work should be done to maintain the course to allow for natural lines in the berms and enhance the flow of the course.

403 TRAINING / INSPECTION

- Course inspection shall only occur during the official inspection time.
- During the inspection period Competitors must slip the course in a controlled manner with no linked turns.
- It is recommended that up to two practice runs be provided before the timed runs begin.
- It is permissible to offer additional practice runs on the course for one day prior to the event.
- The additional practice session must be published on series web site one week in advance and it must open to all competitors.
- If the course is open prior to the published additional practice day the race line must be reset to represent a new course for additional practice times.
- All safety and security measures must be in place before the start of official inspection, practice or training, and approved by the jury

404 GATE JUDGES

An adequate number of gate judges shall be placed to offer a combined view of the entire course. Gate judges must report gate faults on designated cards. Judges shall use flags or hand signals to indicate course holds. Rules 202 through 209 apply to Banked Slalom.

405 START INTERVAL

The start interval between competitors shall not be less than 30 seconds, unless shorter interval approved by the Jury. The start interval shall be announced during the Team Captains'/Competitor's' meeting. A racer may start before the previous racer has completed the course.

406 START CADENCE

The Starter shall prepare competitors for their start. Beginning five seconds prior to the start, the Starter shall announce in a smooth- flowing manner the start cadence.

A competitor must start within a window of time, from 5 seconds prior to 5 seconds following the starter's call of "Go". A start before or after this window is grounds for disqualification.

407 DISQUALIFICATION

A racer is disqualified if:

He /she does not correctly pass all gates in the course.

- A Competitor disqualified for missing a gate in their first run shall be allowed take a second run.
- Once a Competitor has disqualified in a run for missing a gate, the Competitor must exit the course.
- If a Competitor continues down the course after knowingly missing a gate the Competitor will not be allowed to take a second run.
- All rules from section 262 apply to Banked Slalom.

408 PROTESTS

- Protests shall follow existing Rules 130 through 135.
- Second run times may be protested within 30 minutes after the final awards. All other protests not related to timing must be submitted in accordance with section 130.

409 RESULTS AT THE FINISH

- Competitor times shall be announced and posted from the first run at the designated scoreboard in the finish arena.

410 OBSTRUCTIONS

Rule section 612 apply to Banked Slalom.

Obstructed competitor must stop and cross arms and not continue down course to be considered for a provisional re-run. A Competitor finishing the course without stopping shall not be eligible for provisional re-run.

411 FORMAT

- Each competitor will start individually.
- Competitors may have as many runs as possible for practice in the allotted time.
- Race format shall be two, timed runs.
- The start order for both runs shall be the same.
- The fastest single run time counts for final ranking.
- If weather or other time constraints are a factor, first run results may be used to determine final ranking as long as all Competitors complete first run.

412 TIES

In the timed runs, if a tie cannot be broken amongst the tied competitors to 1000th of a second, the tie will be broken by review of the other timed run. The racer with the fastest other time, will be declared the winner of the tie. If neither tied Competitor completed two runs, the competitor starting the latest in the event, will appear first, in relationship to those he/she tied with on the result list. All 260 Rules apply without exception to Banked Slalom

500 HALFPIPE / SLOPESTYLE / RAIL JAM

501 FREESTYLE VENUE REQUIREMENTS

Freestyle venues must meet the required course construction specifications. Adequate space shall be made available for a start and preparation area, as well as, an arrival and finish area. Course construction and fencing, should be finished before the start of the first practice sessions.

501.01 Course Design

The Halfpipe must be of adequate size for the level of competition.

The Slopestyle course must contain at least three features, including at least one jump feature and one rail feature, and must be of adequate size for the level of competition.

The Rail Jam course must contain an adequate number and size of features for the level of competition.

502 INSPECTION / PRACTICE

Inspection / Practice sessions are recommended. There may be a special starting order for the practice sessions. The competitors may be divided into practice groups if there are a large number of competitors. During the Competitor's Meeting, the TS or Head Judge will announce the schedule and procedure for Inspection / Practice sessions. Bibs must be worn and visible during official Inspection / Practice sessions. Practice is subject to competition rules.

502.01 INSPECTION / PRACTICE PROCEDURE

All competitors must inspect the course prior to commencing their practice runs. It is recommended that the course be fenced on all sides with only one or two entry gates at the top. Competitors must enter into the course from the Start Area and Drop In. A starter shall be present at the top of the course to control entry and regulate the flow. Competitors are allowed to drop into the course, once the previous competitor has hit the first feature. The TS or Head Judge leads the practice session and can disqualify a Competitor that does not respect the venue rules.

503 JUDGED RUNS

503.01 Judged Run / Scored Run

A judged run begins when the competitor exits the start area and enters the course. A judged run ends when the competitor completes their final maneuver and exits the course. After the completion of the run, the competitor will receive a score which is used to assign ranking.

503.02 Adaptive

Judging criteria for Adaptive Freestyle disciplines will reflect the same

high standards for able-bodied athletes.

503.03 DNF : Did not finish

Barring an injury during the competitors judged run, the judges will stop judging and in place of a score, a competitor will receive a DNF, only for that particular run, if the competitor:

- Removes both feet from their board/skis and proceeds to exit the course.
- Exits the competition area prior to completing their run.
- Stops their run for more than 30 seconds.

503.04 Re-Runs

If a competitor is called back by the TS, Head Judge or Starter for a re-run, the Competitor must return to the Start Area immediately. While that Competitor is returning, the Starter may send the next Competitors in order to maintain the flow of the competition. A re-run may be issued due to:

- Obstructions in the course which interfere with the execution of the competitor's run. Snow conditions do not constitute an obstruction.
- It is the competitor's responsibility to alert the TS or Head Judge of a possible obstruction.
- Judge's view of the run was obstructed and resulted in judges missing the competitor's run.
- Competitor was sent by starter when the judges were not ready and resulted in judges missing the competitor's run.

503.05 Ties

Ties are to be broken by comparing the highest scored run by each competitor. The Competitor with the highest Overall Impression score in the tied run shall be declared the winner. If there is still a tie, then the second highest Overall Impression score in the tied run shall be declared the winner. If there is still a tie, then the third highest Overall Impression score shall be declared the winner. This will continue as necessary. If the tie-breaking systems have failed to break a tie between two or more competitors, they shall all be awarded the same highest finish place.

504 JUDGING FORMAT

504.01 Overall Impression

Overall Impression judging evaluates the maneuvers individually and as a sequence. The criteria for judging freestyle competitions using the Overall Impression system are Difficulty, Amplitude, Variety, and Execution. Run scores are determined by evaluating the run's overall precision and the execution of the maneuvers. The emphasis is to evaluate the whole run with all elements of the criteria, but not placing a major emphasis on any one single facet..

504.02 Scoring

- There shall be a minimum of three scoring judges
- When three or four judges are scoring, all scores will count
- When five or more judges are scoring, the highest and the lowest scores may be thrown out and the remaining scores will be used to determine the competitor's score.

Slopestyle and Halfpipe

- Scores shall be given to provide a ranking to all competitors.
- All scores should be posted after each run
- Judges will use a 100 point scoring system. This is accomplished by using a 1 – 100 range.

Rail Jam

- Competitors will be ranked accordingly and points will be awarded for place in ranking at Regional Series events.
- When there is a finals at USASA National Championships Rail Jam events the athletes progressing to the finals will be ranked based on their performance in the final.
- Competitors not making the final at the USASA National Championships Rail Jam events will all receive the next highest ranking available outside of finals as well as its associated points.
- Competitors who participate in an event at the USASA National Championships that does not have a final will be ranked through the final competitor and receive the associated points for the place assigned.

505 COMPETITION FORMATS

Competition Formats used at the Nationals are set by the Technical Commission and are communicated to the National and Regional educators. If there are any changes during the season the Regional Directors will be informed as well as the clinicians. At the regional level flexibility becomes very important, the following formats are the basic ones to build upon. Competition formats are at the discretion of the event organizer, Series Director, TS or Head Judge. Whichever format is used, each age category must compete entirely in the same format. The TS or Head Judge will announce which competition format system will be used during the Competitor's Meeting /Judges Information Meeting (J.I.M.). For further Information refer to the USASA Freestyle Judging Manual

505.01 Heat System

Competitors in large groups are divided into Heats. Each heat shall include a manageable number of competitors. Practice sessions directly before each heat are recommended. A Double Up system may be used to run two Heats at the same time. The Double Up system can only be used if there are an adequate number of judges per heat group. Competition runs will be a best run format, where the highest scoring run is used to determine ranking.

505.02 Split System

Split format is used when it is not possible to judge the course in its entirety. Judges are split into judging panels along the course in order to evenly weigh features. Competition runs will be a best run format, where the highest scoring run is used to determine ranking.

505.03 Jam System

Competitors are given a set amount of competition time, instead of a predetermined number of runs. Multiple competitors may be on course at any given time. Competition runs may either be a best run format or an overall impression format in order to determine rankings.

600 BOARDERCROSS® / SKIERCROSS

601 COURSE

- The recommended vertical drop shall be a minimum of 80 meters and a maximum of 300 meters and the minimum length of the course should ensure that it cannot be completed in less than 30 seconds and not more than 75 seconds for the fastest Competitor.
- It is recommended that the course be a minimum of 30 meters wide.
- The track shall conform to rules 250 & 252

602 COURSE LAYOUT

- Separation features are recommended between the start and first turn.
- Track width must be start gate plus 4m minimum (2m on each side) up to the first turn, unless the distance to the first turn is over 100m.
- 15 to 20 degrees Inclination at the start until first turn is preferable.
- The first terrain feature should be a maximum of 20m beyond the start gate. This feature should be built to separate the Competitors.
- The track should be in the fall line until the first turn.
- It is recommended that the course be wide enough to allow passing in two or more sections.
- Course should have tables, jumps, rollers, banked turns, hips, overtaking sections.
- The jury shall decide if the course needs to be changed

603 EQUIPMENT

- Recommended that Competitors select appropriate body protection
- Snowboards with square tails or pointed tips are not allowed.
- Poles are allowed in Skiercross
- Boardercross & Skiercross competition suits must be two piece – pants and separate top. Form fitting speed or downhill suits are not permitted

604 TRAINING / INSPECTION

- The training can be divided into two or more groups (men / women and the very young Competitor's should train separately from the adults whenever possible), to be determined by the TS.
- Course inspection shall only occur during the official time unless otherwise specified by the TS.
- It is recommended that there be two training runs before the Time Trials.
- One training session before the Time Trials
- Training can be single Competitor's or groups of up to four Competitor's.

605 SPECIAL EQUIPMENT

605.01 Start Gate

A parallel starting gate with simultaneous departure (manually or mechanically) for 4 competitors shall be used. Each competitor shall have individual hand positions for starting.

605.02 Finish Video Control

When possible the finish referee should establish video control for all finishes. Video review should be placed in a manner to offer a clean line of site for each finish. All close heats should be reviewed and confirmed by the finish referee.

606 COURSE JUDGES

An adequate number of judges shall be placed on course. The judges are responsible to communicate any disqualification, injury, course damage & obstructions immediately on the race channel to the Finish Referee. Judges should use flags to signal competitors.

607 START INTERVAL

The start interval between competitors cannot be less than 30 seconds. The start interval shall be announced during the Competitor's meeting. A

racer may start before the previous racer has completed the course.

608 START CADENCE

608.01 Time Trials Start Cadence

The Starter shall prepare competitors for their start. Beginning five seconds prior to the start, the Starter shall announce in a smooth-flowing manner the start cadence. A competitor must start within a window of time, from 5 seconds prior to 5 seconds following the Starter's call of "Go". A start before or after this window is grounds for disqualification.

608.02 Heat Racing Start Cadence

The Starter shall prepare competitors for their start. Beginning five The start shall be given by: "Racers ready ... attention!" The Starter will open the gates and/or give the signal between 0 and 5 seconds after the attention command.

609 FALSE START

- A false start may involve a Competitor jumping over the start gate before the Starter's signal.
- A Competitor who makes a false start in the Finals shall be disqualified.
- A competitor must immediately stop their run when the Starter signals a false start.

610 DISQUALIFICATION

Disqualification of Position:

A competitor is disqualified if:

- The competitor makes a false start in the Finals.
- The competitor does not correctly pass all "sections" of the course. A "section" shall be identified by a flag, pole or feature.
- A competitor disqualified for missing a gate or not finishing the course in the Semi Finals will be allowed to run in the Consolation Round and seeded last in the consolation.

- The leading competitor shall have the right to choose his line on the course and through the corners. When on a straight section of the course, a competitor shall not intentionally block another competitor from passing.
- A competitor is not allowed to bring their arm leg, ski pole in front of another competitor's body to avoid being passed. Blocking by intentional movement of the body or leaving the natural racing line is not allowed.
- The natural racing line is defined as the fastest way between the features and around the gate line. All blocking infractions will be at the discretion of the gate judges and the jury.
- This type of blocking infraction will result in a disqualification from the position gained in the heat only and will be scored last in the heat they were disqualified from.

Disqualification from an Event

A competitor is disqualified:

- For being flagged for multiple (2) blocking infractions during an event.
- For intentional contact by pushing , pulling or holding another competitor's arm, leg or pole or other means, which causes another competitor to slow down, fall or exit the course. All contact infractions will be at the discretion of the gate judges and the jury.
- A competitor disqualified (for intentionally pushing, holding, or hitting) will not be allowed to start in the next event of the same level or above
- A competitor disqualified (for pushing, holding, or hitting) will not be allowed to advance to a further round at this race and may be sanctioned.
- A competitor disqualified (for pushing, holding or hitting) will not receive any rank or points at the race in which the infraction occurred. If this occurs during a Finals the competitor will be listed at the end of all other competitors in the Finals but with 0 rank and 0 points.
- In the eventuality of a competitor being disqualified for "pushing, holding, or hitting" the heat in which the infraction occurred can be re run only if the infraction changed the outcome of those advancing.

611 RESULTS AT THE FINISH LINE

- Finish line results shall be announced to all competitors competing in that race (1st to 4th)
- Competitors shall not leave the finish area until they have received and accepted the official result.

- Competitors lose their right to protest the result once they have left the finish area.

612 OBSTRUCTIONS

Fallen competitors, fallen gates, gates out of place, and safety netting out of place are not considered obstructions and are not reasons for re-runs in BoarderCross® or SkierCross

613 FINISHES

A racer finishes the course when any part of his body board or ski crosses the designated finish line. Racers must cross the finish line with at least one foot fixed in the bindings. In a case where more than one competitor does not complete the course nor cross the finish line, the rankings in that heat will be based on the location where the competitor(s) have completed the course. The competitor that has made it further down the course will receive the higher rank.

614 FORMAT

One of the following formats must be used to establish a seeding order for heat racing: 614.01, 614.02, 614.04 or 614.04. Cuts to field size based on place of finish in seeding may not be made, except at the National Championships as required. Format must be announced in the official event announcement and confirmed at the riders meeting.

614.01 Time Trials

There are two (2) timed qualification formats.

- Qualification – One Run: -- all competitors take one (1) timed run.
- Qualification – Two Runs – all competitors take two (2) timed runs – the best time one (1) run out of two runs timed runs determines the qualification ranking.

Each competitor will start individually. Competitors who did not start (DNS) finish (DNF) or were disqualified DQ in qualification run one (1) can participate in qualification run two (2). At the National Championships

competitors may be eliminated by the time trials. Time Trials alone should not be considered as qualification to the the National Championships.

614.01.01 Ties in Time Trials

In Time Trials, if a tie cannot be broken amongst the tied competitors to 1000th of a second, the competitor starting the latest in the event will be seeded ahead of the competitor they are with tied with.

614.02 National Ranking

The athletes will be seeded according to their national ranking within their respective age groups. Those ranked athletes will be seeded first according to rank and those without rank will be arranged in random order after the ranked athletes. Ties in the National National ranking seeding will be broken by using the competitors two best results.

614.02.01 Ties in National Ranking

Seeding for competitors with a tied National Ranking will be broken by random selection by the tabulator and seeded accordingly.

614.03 Round Robin

A random seed order will be created for EACH race and the athletes will race against their age group three times. Place at finish will be recorded and ranking points will be awarded as follows for each race.

- First = 5 points
- Second = 3 points
- Third = 2 points
- Fourth = 1 point

Points from all three races will be added and the ranking order / results will be established based on the finish order of the Round Robin results.

614.03.01 Ties in Round Robin

If there is a tie athletes will run an additional heat to finalize seeding

614.04 Heat Racing

- Once a seeding order has been established using one of the three approved seeding methods. It is recommended that the USASA Single
- Elimination Boardercross® / Skiercross ladder with Consolation finals

be used.

- The rider with seed 1 (rank1 from Time Trials will be placed in the ladder as Seed 1 and so on.
- It is recommended that competitors choose the gate in each race according to the Time Trial Results. (i.e. best seed in the race chooses his gate first, second best seed in the race chooses second...).
- Up to 4 Competitors may start together in each race.

614.04.01 Ties in Heat Racing

- If a tie occurs in the Heats, ties will be broken, unless otherwise decided by the TS, by comparing tied competitors seeding order .
- If four or more competitors are disqualified whilst competing in one of the Semi Final races, the rider who successfully completed the most distance in the course before being disqualified shall advance to the Final, and the other three Rider's shall advance to the Consolation Final.
- If this is not possible to determine, the race shall be rerun with all the disqualified competitors, starting in the same gates as the original race.

615 Final Ranking

1. For the non-finalists, the official result of the Time Trials shall determine the final ranking. After each round in the Final the eliminated competitors will be ranked by comparing all tied Time Trials result (comparing all 4th places together, all 5th places together, all 6th places together).
2. Rider's who DNF or DQ will be ranked after these Rider's.
3. Ties between two or more Rider's who DNF or DQ shall be broken by comparing their Time Trials result.
4. Rider's who DNS will be ranked after all other Rider's and ties. In the KO Final the remaining 8 Rider's (races of 4) shall race for their final ranking.
5. The Series Director may combine age categories to give the athletes a chance to experience riding "in traffic" and be prepared for the the National Championships. The final results shall remain divided by the official age categories.

700 POINT SYSTEMS

The table below will be used to award points by place at all Events.

1. 1000	13. 400	25. 160	37. 100	49. 40
2. 900	14. 375	26. 155	38. 95	50. 35
3. 800	15. 350	27. 150	39. 90	51. 30
4. 750	16. 325	28. 145	40. 85	52. 25
5. 700	17. 300	29. 140	41. 80	53. 20
6. 650	18. 275	30. 135	42. 75	54. 15
7. 600	19. 250	31. 130	43. 70	55. 10
8. 550	20. 225	32. 125	44. 65	56. 9
9. 500	21. 200	33. 120	45. 60	57. 8
10. 475	22. 190	34. 115	46. 55	58. 7
11. 450	23. 180	35. 110	47. 50	59. 6
12. 425	24. 170	36. 105	48. 45	60> 5

701 REGIONAL SERIES POINTS

All Regional Series will use the same ranking system throughout the nation. Refer to section 103.07 C for bonus points calculation.

702 NATIONAL RANKINGS

The National Ranking and Selection System will be communicated by the National Office, and will be the basis for filling the extra openings at the National competition. Refer to rule 103.04 thru 103.10.

USASA Regional Series

Visit usasa.org for current contact information

Adirondack Series	Emily Jackson & Adam Shova
Appalachian Series	Dennis Carmody & Jason Crawford
Aspen Snowmass Series	Jason Cook & Mike Attwood
Big Alaska Snow Series	Alison & Glen Sterley
Big Mountain West	Kim Raymer
Catskill Mountain Series	Bob Basil
Central Oregon Series	Adam Brown
Grand Canyon Series	Scott Sawyer & Josh Nelson
Great Lakes Snow Series	Greg Flowers & Jeff Vagg
Idaho Mountain Freeride Series	Mike Teschner
Inland North West Series	Chris Ralph
Maine Mountain Series	Bill & Chrissy Hamel
Massachusetts Series	John Friends
Mid Atlantic Series	Bill & Rebecca Van Gilder
Mid West Best Series	Dana & Brian Wilson
Mt Hood Series	Mike Fitzsimons
New Hampshire Series	Joshua Nicolaisen
North Tahoe Series	Gregg Janecky
Northern Vermont Series	Kyle & Meghan Ksiazek
Raging Buffalo Series	Tiffany Patterson & Keith Duck
Rocky Mountain Series	Paul & Amy Krahulec
SnowOhio Series	Mike & Julie Ferrell
South Eastern Series	Andy & Stephanie McDaniel
South Tahoe Series	Bridjet & Joey Orr
Southern California Series	Shawn Hill & Cynthia Rivera
Southern Vermont Series	Ross Powers & Paul Kelly
Southwest Colorado Series	Ryan Bono & Brian Bolan
Southwest Freeride Series	Tony & Tiffany Hinojosa
The Unbound Series	Ben Wisner
Upper Midwest Snow Series	Joel & Lauren Erickson
Western New York Series	Andrew Boorman
Western Washington Series	Jesse & Brandy Murphy

USASA EXECUTIVE BOARD

Visit usasa.org for current contact information

President:	Miah Wheeler
Vice President:	Kim Raymer
Vice President:	Bob Basil
Secretary:	Scott Sawyer
Treasurer:	Brian Wilson
Series Director Representative:	Greg Flowers
Snowboard Coaches Representative:	Jeff Juneau
Freeski Coaches Representative:	Tony Lodico
Adaptive Athlete Representative:	Daniel Gale
Freeski Athlete Representative:	Abi Zagnoli
Snowboard Athlete Representative:	Chuck Gerry

Staff - National USASA Office

Executive Director:	Mike Mallon
Administration Director:	Linda Neil
Marketing Manager:	Tricia Byrnes
Operations Director:	Paul Krahulec

USASA National Championship Lodging Discount

Individual participants will be required to call PCM's reservations department in order to make lodging arrangements at group rates. In order to take advantage of group rates please advise guests to adhere to the following process:

- Copper Lodging toll-free conference/groups reservation line at **866-837-2996**
- Reference Group Code, "**3056 USASA Nationals**"

