

Purpose:

The ISSCA sponsors an annual Prep School Championship among the independent schools of New England with the goal of encouraging boys and girls' team competition in both the Alpine and Nordic disciplines. New England independent schools are invited to join the ISSCA and compete at the appropriate level.

GENERAL ORGANIZATION of the ISSCA

1. Meetings of the ISSCA shall be held twice during each school year. The first meeting will be held on Thursday of the week following the week of the Columbus Day holiday. The second meeting shall be held on the third Thursday of April.
2. To remain members in good standing of the ISSCA and remain eligible to participate in championship events, schools must:
 - a. Send a representative, preferably a ski coach, to at least one meeting every year, and
 - b. Submit annual dues to the organization using the form posted on the website www.prepskiing.org, and
 - c. When submitting dues, provide the following information: coaches' names, a team roster and the name of the league in which the school skis.
3. Officers of the organization shall consist of a President, Secretary and Treasurer.
 - a. The President shall preside over all meetings of the ISSCA. Prior to the meeting, among other duties, the president shall secure a location for the meeting and solicit agenda items for discussion at the meeting.
 - b. The Secretary shall keep an accurate written record of the points discussed and decisions reached at each regular meeting, and present such minutes of the prior meeting in writing to the membership at the next regular meeting of the membership for review and acceptance by the membership. These minutes should be posted on the www.prepskiing.org website no later than one month after the meeting. The Secretary shall also keep an accurate list of the names of member schools, and coach and athletic director names and contact information for each member school.
 - c. The Treasurer shall solicit dues from member schools, inform race host committees of schools' dues status in a timely manner and provide semi-annual financial reports to the membership at the group's regularly scheduled meetings. The Treasurer shall work with the Awards Secretary to ensure timely payment of the invoice for championship awards and related expenses, such as postage.
4. There shall be a Competition Committee consisting of six coaches – two from each of the three classes – and the ISSCA President and Treasurer. The six members hold voting rights, while the President may vote to break a tie.

The term of office on the Competition Committee shall be two years, beginning with selection at the spring meeting in odd numbered years.

If a coach's school moves to a different class during that coach's term of office, that coach will continue to serve his or her term on the Competition Committee. At the next scheduled election of Competition Committee members, the membership will be rebalanced to include two coaches from each of the three classes.

An Awards Secretary shall be elected or volunteer. The Awards Secretary shall be responsible for ordering, receiving and distributing individual medals, team medals, plaques and/or other such awards so that they are in the hands of the championship hosts in time for the championship races.

SCHOOL CLASSIFICATION

1. The authority to make adjustments to class membership (which class – A, B, or C – member schools participate in) rests with the Competition Committee. At the spring meeting in even-numbered years, the Competition Committee may propose moving a school/schools between classes based upon recent past performance. Data from the past three seasons will be used to determine whether a school is asked to move to a different class. In making decisions regarding movement between classes, the Competition Committee will strive to adhere to the following principles:

2. For a school having both a boys' and girls' team, both such teams would move together. No school would be split between two classes unless initiated by that school. In considering teams with a disparity of performance level, the stronger of the two gender teams would dictate class membership.
3. If a school is historically dominant within its class it should move up to the next class. Conversely, teams that consistently finish near the bottom of the class should move down.
4. Coaches are welcome to petition the Competition Committee to change classification prior to May 1.

Commentary on classification; not a bylaw:

Coaches are encouraged to welcome movement to a new class if past performance warrants it (especially moving up into a more challenging class). The spirit of this rule is that each school should be in a class in which it is competitive but not consistently dominant, nor consistently at the bottom.

Historically, the ISSCA has done well in satisfying coaches'/schools' desires with regard to classification, and petitions for movement have been approved and subsequent results have justified these movements. The Competition Committee should continue to work with coaches, both operating in good faith, to see that this trend continues.

GENERAL CHAMPIONSHIP PARTICIPATION RULES

1. To compete, all dues, registration fees, and team rosters must be turned in at designated times. Schools wishing to compete are to state their intention to do so to the ISSCA in writing prior to or during the October meeting of the competition year.
2. Each boys and girls team is expected to compete at the appropriate level of competition in each event.
3. To be eligible to compete, each skier must participate in the following number of league (interscholastic) races representing his or her school:
 - a. If an even number of league races has been held prior to the championship, the skier must participate in $n/2$ races.
 - b. If an odd number of races has been held prior to the championship, the skier must participate in $(n+1)/2$ races.
4. **ELIGIBILITY INFRACTIONS**
 1. Teams are encouraged to bring some evidence of their skiers' league participation to the championship event.
 2. Host school can ask for the number of league race starts on the championship entry form
 3. Race day infraction questions will be decided upon by the race jury. If the question of a skier's eligibility cannot be reconciled in a timely fashion, then the issue moves to the Competition Committee. Eligibility questions that arise after the championships have been held will be ruled upon by the Competition Committee.
 4. Consequences of eligibility infraction include:
 - a. Team Disqualification (by gender)
 - b. Individual Disqualification
 - c. Other team individuals remain eligible for individual awards.
 - d. All results will be recalculated
5. Once a school's running order has been submitted, changes in the running order can only be made if the student skier is subject to school disciplinary action, becomes sick or is injured (either prior to or during the championship). Even in the event of injury or equipment failure, no changes can be made for the second run of an individual Alpine event.
6. To qualify for entry into an event, a team must enter and start a minimum of three racers in the alpine and cross country events and four racers in the cross country relay events. Each school can enter a maximum of five skiers in the alpine and cross country events, and four skiers in the relay.
7. **Scoring**
 - a. For the individual alpine and individual cross country events, the team score will be determined by the cumulative positions (places) of the best 3 members of each team. If a team does not have 3

finishers, they will take as a score (n+1) where (n) is the number of starters in the event. Scoring for the relay will be in 10 point increments with the first place team receiving 10 points, the second 20 points, etc. A team disqualified in the relay will receive a score of (n+10).

- b. To determine the final team standings in the combined Alpine events, the team scores from the Giant Slalom and Slalom events are added together.
 - c. In the event of a tie, the total cumulative time for the top three finishers for each team in the two events will be reviewed. The team with the lowest combined time for all 12 runs will win the tiebreaker.
8. Awards will be given to the first 10 finishers in each individual event with no duplications. (That is, a tie for third place results in the next award being given for fifth place.)
 9. Plaques will be awarded to the top three teams in alpine combined and x-c combined.
 10. The top ten finishers in each event will be named to an honorary All-New England Team, and will receive certificates from the secretary of ISSCA.

RACE JURY AND ORGANIZATION - ALPINE CHAMPIONSHIPS

1. A Technical Delegate – someone from outside the organization and who is a certified USSA Technical Delegate for each Alpine and Nordic event -- will oversee each event.
2. The host school race organizer will appoint a race jury, consisting of the TD, Chief of Race, and Referee. Ideally, the boys' and girls' alpine races should each have a designated Referee and TD. The referees should be selected from the group of attending coaches, and should preferably have experience as USSA certified referees as well as a thorough knowledge of ISSCA/NEPSAC rules and procedures.
3. A head gatejudge will be assigned for each gender and is responsible for ensuring that the gatejudges are properly instructed regarding their duties. It is crucial that competent, trained gatejudges are in place for each run, and that they fully understand principles of correct passage, how to properly document and diagram a fault, instructions to give to racers, etc.
4. Other points of emphasis:
 - a. Jury members must be equipped with radios, and coaches should be informed of how to contact jury members during the race.
 - b. Backup hand timing is required.

ALPINE RULES

All events will generally be run by USSA rules, except as modified by this organization. It is the responsibility of coaches to ensure that their racers are informed regarding these rules.

Modifications from USSA Rules

1. Start orders: Each school's position within the seed will be drawn at random, and there should be separate draws for each race (hence, four draws: boys' SL and GS, girls' SL and GS). The same order should be followed for each of the five seeds. For example, if School A runs 8th in the first seed, they should run in that same spot for the second through fifth seeds for that event. (Because some schools may not have five entrants, the seeding spots in the fourth and fifth seeds may be slightly different. However, the order of schools will remain the same as it is in the first, second and third seeds.)
2. The running order will be reversed within each seed for the second run.
3. DSQs should be posted at the conclusion of the second run (for both runs). Normal USSA protest procedures apply (for example, the protest period is 15 minutes), except that there is no protest fee.
4. The race organizer (host school) will determine and announce prior to the race whether first-run DNFs will be permitted a second run. The race jury has the right to make this final determination (for example, if time or course conditions dictate not permitting those racers to take a second run).
5. Racers who miss their start shall run at the end of the order, following the final racer for that gender.
6. The USSA slalom rule regarding resuming after coming to a stop, and yielding to oncoming racers, shall be valid for both slalom and giant slalom events. (See USSA Competition Guide, rule 614.2.3, page 99 of 2014 rulebook.) A racer who has come to a stop (with both skis still on) may hike back through gates (if necessary)

and resume on the course as long as he/she has not been passed and does not interfere with or impede the progress of a following racer. If a following competitor approaches the stopped racer, the stopped racer must pull out and yield, and may not continue. Coaches and officials should actively manage safety considerations to avoid collisions between racers (for example, if a racer is hiking on the backside of a knoll and is not visible to the oncoming racer, the hiking racer should be instructed to pull out as the oncoming racer approaches, to avoid a dangerous situation.)

7. There are no ski equipment regulations regarding ski length, turning radius, etc. in force for NEPSAC races.

Points of Emphasis

While USSA rules apply except as noted above, there are some particular points to emphasize:

1. Helmets are required in both slalom and giant slalom. For GS, the helmet must have a hard ear covering.
2. A racer who loses a ski may not continue on the course unless this occurs within the final two gates of the course.
3. Proper gate passage for single-pole courses applies for both slalom and giant slalom. See below* for details.
4. The race jury has authority over race day procedures, ruling on disqualifications or other sanctions, modifications to procedures, etc.
5. If interfered with, a racer must immediately stop and request a re-run. If the racer continues beyond the point of interference, he/she loses a right to a re-run. Provisional re-runs are granted by the race jury, and the status is only provisional, and final determination of validity will be ruled upon by the jury, and is based upon the same criteria as specified in the USSA Competition Guide.

***Single Pole Slalom – correct passage when hiking**

USSA rules excerpt:

661.4 Correct Passage

661.4.1 A gate has been passed correctly when both the competitors' ski tips and both feet have passed across the gate line. If a competitor loses a ski without committing a fault, e.g. not by straddling a SL pole, then the tip of the remaining ski and both feet must have passed the gate line.

Where there is no outside pole (single pole SL), both feet and ski tips must have passed the turning pole on the same side following the natural course of the SL.

This rule is also valid when a competitor has to climb back up to a gate or by stepping up the racer must climb up to the level of the turning pole, horizontally to the fall line.

661.4.1.2 The gate line in SL is the imaginary shortest line between the turning pole and the outside pole or where the outside pole have been removed, it is the imaginary shortest line from the turning pole where the fault occurred to the turning pole immediately above.

Correct passage of a single pole slalom gate requires that the boots and ski tips cross the gate line (defined in 661.4.1.2) **and that the boots and ski tips pass the turning pole on the same side of the pole as the "natural course" of the slalom (661.4.1).**

When hiking/climbing back up to a missed turning pole, the only way the competitor can fulfill both requirements is by passing around the missed turning pole. See the diagrams in the attached file that help to further illustrate this point.

Single Pole Slalom Hiking Examples

per USSA 661.4.1 on 29 Dec 2009 rev B

