

COMPETITION GUIDE
OF THE
ALLEGHENY COLLEGIATE
SKI AND SNOWBOARD
CONFERENCE

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

	Page
Foreword	1
History and Structure	1
Team Membership Policies and Structure	1
Highlights of USCSA Individual Eligibility Rules	2
Conference Competition Schedule Planning	3
Awards	3
Conference Policies and Procedures	4
Schedule -	4
Registration -	5
Skiing Competition Policies -	5
Protests -	7
Seed Changes -	7
Competitor Responsibilities –	7
General Policies -	8
Competition Pre-Registration and Start Orders	9
Competition Day Responsibilities	9
Gatekeeping Responsibilities	11
Scoring Rules of USCSA/ACSC	13
Additional Scoring Rules of ACSC	14
Snowboarding Competition Policies	16
Regional Championships	16
Principles of Sportsmanship and Ethical Conduct	18
Disciplinary Procedure	19
Team Flags	20
Banners	20
Media	20
Fund Raising	20
Complimentary Lift Ticket Policy	21

FOREWORD

This Competition Guide has been prepared for member schools and individual competitors of the Allegheny Collegiate Ski and Snowboard Conference to assist them in understanding the Conference, and how its competition program operates. It contains some general background information relative to the Conference, as well as the specific rules and regulations which dictate how the annual competition program is conducted within the Conference. The Conference Bylaws are published as a separate document. Each team is responsible for retaining a copy of this document, and assuring that its members are aware of the content. For any questions, contact the Conference Office.

HISTORY AND STRUCTURE

The Allegheny Collegiate Ski and Snowboard Conference (ACSC) was formed in 1980 as a member conference of the National Collegiate Ski Association (NCSA), which later became the United States Collegiate Ski Association (USCSA), and most recently the United States Collegiate Ski and Snowboard Association. ACSC includes the states of Pennsylvania, Maryland, West Virginia and Delaware. Under the guidance of ACSC, member schools have an organized administrative structure and a strong team competition format that assures a high quality program for member schools and the student athletes. In 1995 the ACSC voted to appoint a year-round Conference Director to manage the affairs of the conference.

The Allegheny Collegiate Ski and Snowboard Conference is part of the Mid-Atlantic Region (#5) of USCSA. This Region is currently made up of the Allegheny Conference, the New Jersey Conference, and the Southeast Conference. Each conference conducts its own in-season competition within its jurisdiction, ending in a specified number of teams from each conference qualifying for a USCSA Regional Championship event at the end of the season.

TEAM MEMBERSHIP POLICIES AND STRUCTURE

Membership in the Allegheny Collegiate Ski and Snowboard Conference is open to a legitimate skiing or snowboard team representing a college or university within the states of Pennsylvania, Maryland, West Virginia or Delaware, which offers a minimum of an Associate or Bachelor's Degree. NOTE: Institutions which closely border the New Jersey, Southeast, or Allegheny Conferences may request to compete in the bordering Conference. Such request must be made in writing by May 1 and sent to the Conference Coordinators involved and the USCSA Office. Both Conferences involved and USCSA must approve the request by July 1 for the move to be effective for the upcoming season. Once such action is approved, it shall be in effect until there would be a request for a change.

Membership is secured on an annual basis by paying all USCSA and ACSC fees, and completing all institutional and individual forms of both organizations, by the stated deadlines. All member schools have an obligation to provide required attendance at Conference Board of Directors meetings, assume duties and responsibilities delegated, and exhibit conduct suitable to the efficient and effective operation of the Conference.

An ACSC Skiing "A" team consists of three to five members, consisting of the top athletes from each school. There are both men's and women's "A" teams. The top three finishes per team, in each competition, are utilized for scoring (see "scoring" section later). An "individual" may compete for his/her institution, but results are considered only for individual placement at the end of the season.

ACSC also conducts a developmental Skiing "B" team program in conjunction with the primary "A" team competition each weekend throughout the season. These athletes, both men and women, compete on the same course following the "A" competition each day. This is an important part of the ACSC program, and each school is encouraged to bring "B" team members with them to each competition venue.

ACSC Snowboard GS racing operates under the same rules as Skiing competition as listed above. All other Snowboard competition operates under specific rules established by USCSA for the various types of events.

HIGHLIGHTS OF USCSA INDIVIDUAL ELIGIBILITY RULES

Listed below are some important points of the USCSA eligibility rules. This is a partial list, and does **not** cover all of the rules. Each team is responsible for the eligibility of each of its members.

1. Each athlete must be enrolled as a full-time student during the competition season.
2. Each USCSA athlete must maintain a minimum satisfactory GPA. Those requirements follow. Each individual institution may have higher qualifications for its students to participate. Such a local school policy would supersede the USCSA rules, and would be enforced through the USCSA Eligibility Form, which is submitted each year. USCSA minimum GPA policy:
 - 1.6 after the first season of competition
 - 1.8 after the second season of competition
 - 2.0 after the third season of competition
3. Each athlete must have passed 24 semester hours or 36 quarter-hours since the beginning of the last competition season (does not apply to freshmen).
4. Each athlete has ten semesters or fifteen quarters of full-time collegiate enrollment during which to use four years of eligibility. This starts with the initial semester or quarter enrolled in school.
5. Each athlete must be making "normal progress" in a degree program.
6. Freshmen competitors must follow NCAA freshmen sliding rule 14.3.2.1.
7. The amount of financial aid awarded to a student athlete is limited to the value of tuition and fees, room and board, and required textbooks.

8. Transfer students may use only transfer credits accepted by the institution for which they are competing in determining eligibility.

POI: You are allowed one free transfer. The second time you transfer you must sit out one year. See NCAA rules for exceptions.

9. No recruiting from existing collegiate programs is allowed without permission from the school involved. All inquiries from students at other schools must be reported to the school from which the student desires to transfer.

10. All participants must retain amateur status at all times.

11. The following referenced NCAA Div. II rules also apply:

Operating Bylaw Article 12 Amateurism

Operating Bylaw Article 13 Recruiting

Operating Bylaw Article 14 Eligibility: Acad. and General Requirements

Operating Bylaw Article 15 Financial Aid

Operating Bylaw Article 16 Awards, Benefits & Exp's. for Enrolled Student Athletes

Operating Bylaw Article 17 Playing & Practice Seasons

Constitution Article 2.3 The Principle of Ethical Conduct

Article 2.10 The Principle Governing Financial Aid

Constitution Article 5.2.2 Operating Bylaws

Operating Bylaw Article 10.1 Unethical Conduct

Article 10.4 Disciplinary Action

Operating Bylaw Article 11.1.1 Standards of Honesty & Sportsmanship

Operating Bylaw Article 18.4.1 Eligibility for Championships - Student Athlete Elig.

Admin. Bylaw Article 32.3.6 Disclosure of Purpose of Interview

CONFERENCE COMPETITION SCHEDULE PLANNING

Planning for the annual competition schedule for the Conference is begun in the spring of each year, following the completion of the competition season. This is done by the Conference Director. All contacts and commitments with areas are the responsibility of the Conference Director.

Competition locations are planned each year to provide the best experience for Conference members, keeping in mind the quality of the area staff and terrain, as well as costs to the individual athletes.

In general, locations are chosen to provide an even geographical distribution. There are five Conference competition weekends per season, the last of which is the Conference Finals, after which the Teams and individuals are determined who are eligible to go to the Regional Championships.

AWARDS

1. Four trophies/plaques are currently awarded annually by the Conference:

- Governor's Cup - this is awarded each season to the school with the best combined men's and women's record. It is engraved with the names of the top men's and the top women's teams for the season, and the best combined men's and women's record...
- Paul Tabolt Trophy - this is awarded each season to the school with the best combined men's and women's results at the opening weekend competitions.

- Dave Garner Trophy - this is awarded each season to the school with the best combined men's and women's results at the Conference Finals competitions.
- Gonder Award - this is awarded each season to the person or persons chosen to have given outstanding service to the Conference and/or shown outstanding sportsmanship each season. Annual selection shall be by a committee appointed by the Conference Director.
- Hetrick Leadership Award – this is awarded annually to recognize outstanding leadership qualities. Annual selection shall be by a committee appointed by the Conference Director.

** Plaque of Appreciation – this may be awarded from time to time by the Director to an individual or organization, as appropriate, for outstanding service to the Conference.

**The Director will purchase awards and will have them appropriately engraved. These awards will be displayed at Conference Finals and kept at the Conference Office.

2. Individual competitor awards in skiing for each weekend will be presented at the Conference Finals Awards Ceremony. .

Twenty-four individual certificates will be awarded to both "A" and "B" Team Members for each weekend, as follows:

- * the first three places
- * both men and women
- * both slalom and GS

The certificates will state finish place, competition site, year, and (SL) or (GS).

A similar awards program will be followed for snowboard competition, based upon the types of events held.

3. Year-end awards in skiing are given for:

- a) Men's Combined Team Champion
- b) Women's Combined Team Champion
- c) Combined Men and Women Overall Team Champion
- c) Men's Individual Combined Champion
- d) Women's Individual Combined Champion
 - e) All-Conference Men's and Women's Teams - this is the top ten (10) men and the top ten (10) women for the season, scored according to the Individual scoring procedures found elsewhere in this manual.
 - f) The top five "B" Team Men and Women. To qualify for a "B" Team year-end award, the competitor must have competed in 8 "B" Team competitions, or 80% of "B" Team competitions, whichever is higher.

A similar awards program will be followed for snowboard competition, based upon the types of events held.

CONFERENCE POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

NOTE: All policies listed below that are not skiing-specific apply to snowboarding as well. See page 16 for snowboarding policies.

Schedule

The following schedule is outlined for a 9:00am start of competition. If the pre-announced time is different for a specific competition, then these times will vary accordingly. Competitions in skiing typically will be SL-Sat. and GS-Sun., as directed by the Board of Directors for logistical reasons. If there is a

change in this format it will be announced in advance. Teams need to be aware that Regionals and Nationals are GS first day and SL second day.

7:00am - Conference Staff and Host School personnel arrive at Registration site to set up and begin tasks.

7:30am to 9:00am - Registration (Registration desk closes at 9:00am)

8:00am to 9:00am – Ski Race Course inspection.

8:50am - Gatekeepers and Start/Finish personnel in place on skiing hill.

8:55am - Forerunners go (ski racing course)

9:00am - First woman ski racer goes - Men start following completion of women's runs. Second runs begin approximately 1 1/2 hours after first runs end.

After final run - Coaches/Captains meeting at scoreboard --> Saturday only.

Registration time will be the same for Snowboarding, but the competition schedule will be determined each weekend by the type of events being held, and will be announced in advance.

Registration

One representative from each team (2 or 3 for larger teams) will report to the Registration desk to register his/her team, and to pay any fees that are due. Checks are to be made out to "ACSC". Bibs will also be picked up at this time. Gatekeeping materials will be picked up at approximately 8:50 at the top of the race hill from the head gatekeeper

It is expected that all competitor registrations will be completed by 9:00am. The registration desk will officially close at 9:00am, and no registrations will be accepted after that time.

Competitors are required to purchase a two-day lift ticket and pay two-day competition fees each weekend.

Start time for the first run of the Women's "A" skiing competition will be 9:00-9:30am. If there is any variation in this it will be as requested by the area. However, Conference registration will be administered to meet this policy.

Snowboard start times will be determined by the events being held, and will be announced in advance.

Skiing Competition Policies

1. ACSC competitions are conducted according to USCSA rules, and generally follow USSA rules and procedures. Any exception to USSA rules must be approved by the Jury or the Conference Director.
2. Seedings are random within each seed and each gender.
3. On second runs each day, the top 15 individuals will be reversed ("bibo").
4. Course will be officially opened and closed for inspection by competition officials. Course is always closed after competition has started.
5. A competitor cannot make a second run in a competition if the competitor got a "DSQ", "DNF" or "DNS", in the first run.
6. Course maintenance should be done between seeds, when possible, but more often if judged by Chief of Race/competition officials to be a safety issue. There can be no course maintenance by Competitors or coaches, unless approval is given by a competition official.
7. Course inspection is by USSA/FIS rules. (See "Competitor Resps." #2)

8. After competition has started, the course is closed. No course maintenance may be done unless so instructed by the Race Jury.
9. A central scoreboard will be maintained at competitions, and will include all times, DSQs, DNFs, and DNSs.
10. "B" Team (i.e. Developmental Team) members will run in a separate seed after all "A" Teams have run, by gender.
11. ACSC will not enforce the USSA Ski Length rules for Conference competitions, but strongly recommends that Competitors abide by the rules during the season in preparation for Regional and National Championships. ACSC will not prevent a team from advancing to the Regional Championships if a competitor(s) is not on legal equipment. These regulations are found in the USSA Rulebook at the USSA website.
12. No ACSC member competitor will be permitted to do any forerunning at any time (incl. after a DSQ, DNF, or DNS in first run on competition day).
13. All Competitors must have been registered at the Conference Registration Desk on competition day. All registered Competitors must have a valid ski area lift ticket for the day, and must have paid the Conference competition fee for the day.
14. For a team to qualify for Regionals, they must be present at Conference Finals, unless a schedule change has caused them to be absent.

POI: The above is not the full set of competition rules. These can be found in the USCSA & USSA Rulebooks.

Competition Run Cancellation

This policy will apply in the situation where the second run of a competition is cancelled *after having completed the first run*:

- The competition will be ruled to be a “One-Run Competition”, and all results will be entered into the ACSC statistics.
- Competitors registered for the cancelled run will not receive any refund or credit for competition fees paid (the Conference is still obligated to pay competition fees to the ski area for the competition).
- This policy applies whether the run had started prior to the cancellation or not. Competitors who may have made a start in a run that is ultimately cancelled prior to completion will not have their time recorded.

Full Competition Cancellation

This policy will apply in the situation where *both runs of a competition must be cancelled*:

- The competition will be entered into the statistics as cancelled, and any starts completed in the first run, prior to cancellation, will not be recorded.
- A decision will be made by Conference Officials, in concert with the Board Officers, regarding whether or not to reschedule the event.
- Any competition fees paid by a competitor prior to cancellation of the competition will be applied to a future competition. If the cancellation occurs in the final competition of the season, the fees will be refunded (skiing and snowboarding).

POI: For Competition Run Cancellation or Full Competition Cancellation decisions, each segment is considered its own competition. There are four segments: Men's A, Women's A, Men's B, and Women's B. Each can be completed or cancelled separate from the others.

Protests

The DSQ/DNF/DNS list will be posted at the scoreboard shortly after conclusion of each run (1st & 2nd). A protest may be filed verbally or in writing with the referee at the scoreboard location. Protests must be filed within 15 minutes of official posting. A \$25.00 protest fee is required upon filing. The fee will be returned if the protest results in a reversal of the action.

Seed Changes

Any changes to a Saturday Skiing Start Order can be by exception only. To approve such a request, the Timing and Calculations Official must receive a "yes" vote from 2/3 of the captains of all teams competing in that Saturday's competitions. This process must be completed by 8:30am on Saturday. Unlimited seed changes may take place at the Saturday afternoon Coaches/ Captains meeting for Sunday's runs.

Competitor Responsibilities

1. Be at the start area before your number is called. A competitor who misses his/her start will go at the end of the "A" or "B" Competitors (as appropriate by his/her seed). If a competitor misses the "A" or "B" seed, he/she will run at the end of all Competitors in his/her gender for that run. If a competitor misses the end of the competition, it will be a DSQ. (These are ACSC rules. IMPORTANT: If you miss the initial call at Regionals or Nationals, normally you will miss the run.)

2. Use proper course inspection procedures, staying within stated policies.

Course Inspection Procedure (according to FIS and USSA rules):

- Competitor may side slip the course on the path a competitor would take during the competition.
- At no time may a competitor move through the gates in such a manner to be interpreted as "skiing".
- Shadowing the course is not permitted. This consists of skiing at or near competition speed next to the course while turning with the rhythm of the course, or turning at the approximate location of each gate.
- You may walk up the course with skis on.

3. Stay out of the course area at all times not officially permitted, such as: during course setting, prior to official time of inspection, after course venue has been closed. Policy:

Only controlled minimal movement is permitted in the competition arena after a competition run begins. The only skiing permitted within the competition arena after a competition begins is for necessary gatekeeping positioning, or by conference officials. Free skiing within the competition venue during a competition is not permitted. Transporting of clothing from top to bottom is not permitted within the competition venue during a competition. Entering the competition arena under false gatekeeping pretenses will result in disqualification for the day's competition. Switching gatekeepers between gender runs is permitted.

4. Assist your Team with gatekeeping responsibilities, when possible.
5. Bibs: Individual Competitors and Team Coordinators are expected to take proper care of assigned bibs, and return them to the designated person/site when finished. A fee of \$10.00 is charged for a lost bib. A team can be prevented from registering for a future competition if a lost bib is not returned or penalty paid.

6. Bib switching is not permitted. A competitor will be disqualified for the run and for the day's competition if found to have switched bibs, no matter the reason.
7. Course setting shall always be guided by USSA rules to the extent that terrain and conditions permit.

8. **Behavior:** Competitors (skiing and snowboarding) are expected to exhibit proper behavior and courtesy at all times while at the competition venue, or at facilities related to the competition experience (such as lodging facilities). This includes, but is not limited to, interaction with fellow Competitors, Conference personnel, competition officials, friends and relatives, area guests, area personnel, lodging management, etc. This includes unacceptable behavior resulting from the use and/or abuse of alcoholic beverages or drugs, and/or violations of any area, Conference, or other rules and regulations (see p. 16 for details on behavior policies). Violations of rules and/or exhibiting unacceptable behavior can result in sanctions against or expulsion of individuals or teams (See "Disciplinary Procedures", p. 17).

9. Assigned bib with assigned number must be carried during official course inspection, and visible during official runs.
10. Must wear approved racing helmet in all events (see USSA helmet rules).

General Policies

1. For a Team to register to competition, it must have completed all forms according to all applicable policies and deadlines, and made all payments to ACSC and USCSA. This includes Institutional Fees, Team Fees, and ACSC Admin. Fees for all team members ("Individual" Competitors are exempted from Admin. Fee in first year). For a competitor to register to competition, the ACSC Roster, Waiver/Admin. Fee form and payment, and USCSA validated membership (completion of Comp. Form and Eligibility Form) must have been completed and confirmed.

2. Seedings (start orders) will be posted at competitions in locations easily accessed by the teams (e.g.: start, and/or finish, and/or lodge).
3. Competition results will be available to each team when ready following each competition.
4. Refund Policy: Lift ticket fees cannot be refunded once the ticket is issued to the individual or team coordinator. Competition fees paid by a competitor who does not then start that day will be refunded only if the Conference Director (or designee in charge) is informed by the end of that competition day.

NOTE: All decisions regarding DSQ'ing of a competitor for violation of a rule will be done by the full Jury (action will be according to majority vote), or by the Conference Director.

COMPETITION PRE-REGISTRATION & START ORDERS

Each Team is responsible to insure that start orders are received by the ACSC Office or assigned Official by **Noon on the Thursday immediately preceding each competition**. This is best done by e-mail. The name and phone number/e-mail address will be provided each season. The start order must include all Competitors who will be registering from each school for Saturday's competition, not just the "A" Team. If the deadline is missed, but the start order is called in on Friday, Competitors will go at the end of the "A" or "B" Competitors (as appropriate). If the order is not called in at all, all Competitors will go at the end of all other Competitors in their gender.

In the absence of pre-registered "A" Team Competitors, a school may substitute seeded "B" Team times for vacant "A" Team scores. "B" Team Competitors will remain in their bib order for the first run, and will be seeded in "A" Team "bibo" order.

Start order changes for Sunday may be made **only** at the Coaches & Captains meeting Saturday afternoon following the first day's competition. It is required that all teams be represented at the Coaches & Captains Meeting to be aware of any changes for Sunday. A Coaches/Captains meeting will be held at the scoreboard area (or other location, if announced) approximately 20 minutes after the end of the second run on Saturday, and after DSQs are posted.

Any changes to a Saturday Start Order can be by exception only. To approve such a request, the Timing and Calculations Official must receive a "yes" vote from 2/3 of the captains of all teams competing in that Saturday's competitions. This process must be completed by 8:30am on Saturday.

When a team preregisters for competitions, it is expected that they will be present, will complete registration for both competitions, and will be present to compete in both competitions for the weekend. If a team registers for a competition and does not fulfill its responsibility to competition:

- 1) They will receive the penalty of the number of teams present plus five (5) points.
- 2) The competition will be counted as a competition attended under "Additional Scoring Rules of ACSC" - #1 (p.13).
- 3) The competition cannot be dropped as one of the competitions dropped for the year.
- 4) A team is defined under "Scoring Rules of USCSA/ACSC" - #1 (p. 13).

NOTE: For a team to qualify for Regionals, they must be present at Conference Finals, unless a schedule change has caused them to be absent.

COMPETITION DAY RESPONSIBILITIES

Registration

Registration will be conducted by the Conference Director, or as delegated by the Conference Director.

Bibs

Bibs will be sorted, assigned, and collected by the Host Schools each competition weekend. Host Schools are assigned at the Fall Board Meeting.

Officials' Positions

Primary officials are chosen at the Fall Board Meeting, and include:

Technical Delegate ("TD") - Must be filled by a qualified licensed USSA Official not racing that day.

Chief of Competition - Must be filled by a qualified licensed USSA Official not racing that day.

Referee - Must be filled by a qualified licensed USSA Official not racing that day.

(THE ABOVE OFFICIALS CONSTITUTE THE "JURY" FOR THE COMPETITION)

Chief Gate Judge

Chief of Course - usually someone from the area

Start Referee

Finish Referee

Chief of Timing and Calculations

Timing/Equipment Assistant (If applicable - may not be appointed for all competitions.)

Gatekeepers

Gatekeeping location assignments are made by the Board at the Fall Meeting.

All teams are expected to provide gatekeepers at every competition.

Other positions

TOD Start, TOD Finish, and Start and Finish coordination positions will be assigned by the Board of Directors at the fall meeting.

TOD (Time of Day) top and bottom - responsible for back up timing, as necessary.

Start Position - Responsible for:

- * start banner, start list and second run order

- * organize Competitors at start

Finish position - Responsible for:

- * finish banner, controlling finish area and assuring PA system is adequate

- * maintaining score sheet (sheets, markers, tacks, etc.)

Host Schools

Assigned at the Fall Board Meeting. Responsibilities include:

- * Saturday: sort and organize bibs, distribute to teams. Sunday: collect at end of competitions, account for all bibs at the end of competitions, and put into numerical order for the next competition day.

- * assist Competitors with any questions or needs at the site.

- * assist the Conf. Director/Officials with any needs at the site, before or during the competitions.

- * assist with course setting and tear down (if requested), and organizing of Conference equipment.

- * display banners, as required.

Course Maintenance

Only certain specified Competition day Officials have the authority to determine if and when course maintenance is required. Competitors are expected to assist with side slipping, when requested. A sideslip will be done between seeds when possible.

Policy – Failure to Meet Responsibilities

At the Fall Board Meeting each year all ACSC teams are assigned specific responsibilities for the upcoming season. These include: Competition Official, Gatekeeping, TOD, Start, Finish, Host School.

All of these responsibilities involve reporting times and specific tasks. It is critical to the successful and professional operation of the Conference that all teams and individuals meet their assigned responsibilities. In the event that any of the above responsibilities are not met according to the assigned tasks and the assigned time, the following will apply:

Competition Official

If an assigned Student Athlete Competition Official is not present and in place at the assigned time, he/she may be immediately replaced in that assignment for the day. If this occurs more than once, he/she will be replaced for the remainder of the season.

Gatekeeping, TOD, Start and Finish

If a team/individual is not present at the assigned location by the assigned time, that team's Competitors will all run at the end of their official start order (A or B) for that run.

Host School

If a host school has not satisfactorily completed its work of organizing the bibs by the normal time that teams are ready to obtain the bibs, that team's Competitors will all run at the end of their official start order (A or B) for the first run of the day. If a host school has not satisfactorily collected all bibs at the end of the competition day, and put all bibs in order, that team's Competitors will all run at the end of their official start order (A or B) for the first run of the next competition day.

GATEKEEPING RESPONSIBILITIES

The ACSC requires that all schools provide gatekeeping services at all competitions. The specific assignment locations are made by the Board of Directors at the Fall Board meeting and will be permanent for the season. Because protests about gatekeeping decisions can occur, gatekeepers are required to be available at the scoreboard area until the protest period is over. Each member team must insure that its respective gatekeepers understand gatekeeping rules and properly record all gatekeeping activities.

Experience indicates that effective training of gatekeepers is essential. The ACSC will provide training information for team leaders, and the appropriate USCSA and USSA procedures for gatekeeping will be used as reference material. Team Coaches/Captains are responsible for supporting the ACSC in training their staff in gatekeeping procedures.

Gatekeeping Responsibilities and Policies:

1. All gatekeepers are expected to be in position at the close of inspection for the gender participating. Be sure to wear clothing that will maintain comfort throughout your assignment.
2. Only controlled minimal movement is permitted in the competition arena after a competition run begins. The only skiing permitted within the competition arena after a competition begins is for necessary gatekeeping positioning, or by conference

officials. Free skiing within the competition venue during a competition is not permitted. Transporting of clothing from top to bottom is not permitted within the competition venue during a competition. Entering the competition arena under false gatekeeping pretenses will result in disqualification for the day's competition. Switching gatekeepers between gender runs is permitted.

3. Each team will be assigned a specific area on the hill, in line with assignments made at the Fall Board meeting, and the needs of the specific course. Be sure you are in position to see all your gates, and to take action to repair course.
4. All cards will be collected at the scoreboard location at the end of the first and second runs. Keep clipboard and blank cards after the first run for use for the second run. Then give the clipboard to the Chief of Gatekeepers at the end of the runs.
5. At protests, the involved gate judge is required to be present at the protest hearing until dismissed by the Jury.

Gatekeeping Procedures:

1. List your school, the date of the competition, your location of the competition, men's or women's run, and first or second run.
2. List the weather.
3. Maintain and repair competition course as needed, and reset poles in your general area. Replace broken poles in exact position, and keep poles vertical. Tie loose flags back into place. Keep spectators, other competitors, photographers, and others clear of the course.
4. Check all "faults" and "OK's" immediately. If an "F", draw a diagram for the competitor missing the gate or going off course, and sign your name legibly under the picture. Be prepared to explain all faults. Do not discuss the fault with anyone except the Chief Gatekeeper or Jury members. Check at the scoreboard area after each run to see if there are any protests regarding any F's you have assigned. If so, be prepared to attend the Jury meeting. (For examples of F's, see Attachment "A").
5. Denote first or second run and bib number of competitor.
6. A gate is passed correctly when both feet and ski tips of the competitor cross the imaginary line between the two poles of a gate. The feet of a competitor may cross the line from any direction. (For examples, see "Gatekeeping Examples" on website.
7. Giving Information to a Competitor:
On the one hand a competitor him/herself, in the case of an error or a fall, can turn to the gate judge and question him/her. On the other hand, the gate judge, where possible, must inform a competitor if he/she has committed a fault that would lead to disqualification.
In either case, with a clear, decisive voice, the gate judge answers the competitor's question or informs him/her with one of the following words:
 - "Go!" if the competitor should expect no disqualification, since the gate judge has ruled the gate passage as correct.
 - "Back!" if the competitor may expect disqualification.No other reply or signal shall be given.
The competitor him/herself is fully responsible for his/her action and, in this respect, he/she cannot hold the gate judge responsible.
8. Avoid any actions that may be a distraction to Competitors. Avoid interference of any kind with a competitor. Concentrate on your job!
9. Be available after the competition for a period of time to be able to provide evidence to the Jury in case of a protest.
10. Record on the card the circumstance of any interference to a competitor's run.
11. Remain in place until notified that the competition is over.

Reasons to Declare a Fault:

1. Competitor trains on a course closed to competitors.
2. Competitor alters the course.
3. Competitor behaves in an unsportsmanlike manner.
4. Competitor trains and/or inspects contrary to Jury instructions.
5. Competitor fails to give way to an overtaking competitor at the first call from an Official or Gatekeeper.
6. Competitor fails to pass through the gate line with both feet and both ski tips, from any direction.
7. Competitor does not comply with safety regulations.
8. Competitor accepts outside help in any form.
9. Competitor is hiking and is overtaken.

Watch the Ski Tips and Feet:

At each gate BOTH SKI TIPS AND BOTH FEET must cross the imaginary line joining the bases of the inside poles. They may cross from any direction to any direction (forward, backward, left, right, in and out the same side, etc.) and at any distance above the snow. See USSA rules for single pole slalom.

As long as BOTH SKI TIPS AND BOTH FEET cross the imaginary line, it is OK, even though:

- 1) Competitor knocks down one or all poles of a gate;
- 2) Competitor slides through the gate on some part of his/her body other the feet;
- 3) Competitor hikes back up to a gate;
- 4) Competitor enters and exits from the same side;
- 5) Competitor passes through gates out of their numerical order.

SCORING RULES OF USCSA/ACSC

Alpine Scoring

1. Team positions in Alpine competitions shall be determined by the sum of the times of the fastest three Competitors from each team. **A school must have three Competitors competing to be considered a “team” for scoring purposes.**
2. Should a team not finish three Competitors, 110 percent of the slowest time used by any team in the competition shall be the dummy alpine score. Dummy place point = one plus amount of finishes.
3. In each Alpine competition, one point shall be awarded to the winning team, two points for second, etc.; that is, points awarded according to numeric finish (finish points).
4. The Alpine combined is determined by adding team finish points in slalom to that of GS, with low total the winner.

USCSA Rules and Competition Guide

Copies of the USCSA Rule Book are available through the USCSA office and the USCSA website (www.uscsa.com). It is each team's responsibility to know all rules which apply to the ACSC program.

It is also advisable to obtain a USSA Competition Guide and FIS Rule Book, available through USSA or USCSA. ACSC competition events generally

follow the FIS rulebook competition rules, except where USSA or USCSA rules may differ. Then, the USSA and/or USCSA rules apply.

ADDITIONAL SCORING RULES OF ACSC

Scoring at Conference Finals:

1. Teams

- 6-7 competitions - drop one score, either SL or GS.
- 8-9 competitions - drop one score from each discipline (SL & GS).
- 10 or more - drop one score from each discipline, plus the next worst score from either SL or GS.
- If 8 or more competitions, score at least three competitions in each discipline. Must drop two competitions when 8-9, and three competitions when 10 or more.
- Teams not present for a competition receive 5 points, plus the number of teams (i.e., 3 or more Competitors) present.

POI: Scores to be dropped must be from competitions run, not from the plug number for absence.

NOTE: For a team to qualify for Regionals, they must be present at Conference Finals, unless a schedule change has caused them to be absent.

NOTE: If an athlete with an ineligible status competes on an “A” team, and the ineligibility has not been resolved prior to the Conference Finals weekend, all results for that athlete will be removed from the team’s year-end results prior to determination of teams qualifying for Regionals.

Tie-Breaker for Conference Year-end Finishes (From USCSA Policies)

If, after calculating the team Finish Points for all teams for the year, there is a tie between or among teams to determine qualification to advance to the Regional Championships, the following process will apply. These tie breaking calculations utilize the same competitions that were used to determine the initial final standings. Use tie breaking only for the teams to qualify for Regionals. If a tie exists for places beyond that, it remains a tie.

Step 1: First-level Tie-Breaker (also applies at Regional Championships*)

The sum of the “Place Points” for the year for the three (3) best individual team members on each of the teams involved in the tie will be used to break the tie.

POI: This means the three best individual team members at year-end using all of the competitions that have been used to determine year-end standings.

Place Points will be applied as follows:

1st Place - one point, 2nd Place - two points, 3rd Place - three points, etc.

The team with the lowest Place Point sum wins the tie-breaker.

In the situation where a team did not have at least three team members finish, use the total number of finishers plus "1", as the Place Points scored by each non-finishing team member.

In the case of events where individual competitors were present, they shall be removed from the results before calculating the Place Points. Competitors that are not members of teams shall not displace points in the tie-breaking calculation.

**POI: At Regionals this step applies to that event.*

Step 2: Second-level Tie-Breaker (Conferences only)

If a tie continues after Step 1 above, conferences may use the sum of the top three competitor's times for each competition used for this tie-breaker.

POI: This means the top three competitors at year-end in each of the competitions that have been used to determine year-end standings.

NOTE: If a tie is still not broken using Step 1 above at the **USCSA Regional Championships or the USCSA National Championships**, the next step is to use the calculation of USSA Competition Points (not penalty points) for the top three competitors in each event. This process utilizes the USSA "f" factor. For details of this process and how it is to be used, and for the formula, refer to the USSA Alpine Competition Guide. In the absence of three competitors, the Competition Points shall be assumed to be 990 for the non-finishers.

Adjusting Team Scoring Following Breaking of a Tie

Once the team scoring tie has been broken by the above procedure(s), the losing team shall have half-a-point added to their previously calculated score. Ex: Team results would be reported as shown in the following example for a tie for second place, successfully broken with the above procedures:

1st Place Team = 40 Points, 2nd Place Team = 42 Points, 3rd Place Team = 42.5 Points

POI: This is strictly a paperwork notation to show final results in the official competition results, and is not part of the tie-breaking process.

2. Individuals

*Scored by World Cup Points earned in slalom and giant slalom.
place points place points place points*

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

NOTE: Snowboarding Competition Policies

1. ACSC snowboarding competitions are conducted according to USCSA rules, and are administered by the ACSC Snowboard Coordinator. They will vary according to the event held. See USCSA Snowboard Rules for details, available on the USCSA website.

2. Snowboard racing rules for GS events will follow skiing rules above.

NOTE: All policies listed above that are not skiing-specific apply to snowboarding as well. Any additional, specific ACSC Snowboarding Competition Policies will be added to this manual as they are developed and adopted.

REGIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

The Allegheny Collegiate Ski and Snowboard Conference competes within the Mid-Atlantic Region (#5) of USCSA. The Region is made up of the Allegheny Conference, the New Jersey Conference, and the Southeast Conference.

General Rules for the Regional Championships

The Regional Championships should be held at least one-and-a-half weeks before the National Championships, and the hosting of Regionals should rotate annually among the three conferences. The site will be agreed upon by the three conferences.

Skiing Qualifications for Regionals

1. The qualifying male teams and the qualifying female teams (the number qualifying is set by agreement among the three conferences) from institutions within each of the three conferences in the Mid-Atlantic Region shall be invited to attend the Regional Championships. (e.g.: Total of 30 teams if 5 teams each gender. Total of 24 teams if 4 teams each gender. Etc.)

3. The top overall male and female individual competitor from each conference within the Mid-Atlantic Region will be invited to attend the Regional Championships – total of six individuals. If such top individuals are already on an invited team qualifying for the Regional Championships, then the next best male and next best female individual whose team is not going will be selected.

4. The top male and top female teams from the Mid-Atlantic Regional Championships (number is determined by the Mid-Atlantic Region's allocated berths to the National Championships) will advance to the National Championships.

5. The top overall male and female individual competitor from the Mid-Atlantic Regional Championship will be invited to attend the National Championships – total of two individuals. If such top individuals are already on an invited team qualifying for the National Championships, then the next best male and next best female individual whose team is not going will be selected.

Snowboard Qualifications for Regionals (as Compiled 1/26/10 after consultation with USCSA)

1. Decisions regarding qualifying for the Regional Snowboarding Championships in each Conference is up to each conference coordinator. If the conference has a qualifying process that is as tight as Alpine, then they will send the top x number of teams in each gender, plus the top individual in each gender not going with a team. However, if the qualifying process is not that tight, the conference will send all people who want to go, without any qualifying process.

2) The only qualification for an athlete to advance from Regionals to Nationals is to be at Regionals and start the Regional event. There are no performance standards that have to be met. All athletes that start at Regionals may attend Nationals. NOTE: Only team members who attend Regionals and started qualify to go on to Nationals. (For instance, if a school has 20 members on their snowboard team, but only 5 come to Regionals and start, only those five qualify to go on to Nationals.) Having competed only in the Conference during the regular season and not attending Regionals will NOT qualify them for Nationals.

POI: At Nationals there is no number stipulation regarding what constitutes a "team". The National policy for National Championships is that "...all organizations are a team. 20 is a 'team', 1 is a 'team'... Team results are scored using the top 3 results. If a "team" does not have 3 members competing, a ghost score/time is applied to missing members. For example, if 1 person attends, 2 ghost scores/times are applied to the team score and they will be shown in team rankings.)

3. All athletes attending the Regional Snowboarding Championships must be an approved member of their conference and of USCSA. No one may attend Regionals - and USCSA will not accept any snowboarder competitor to Nationals - who has not become a member of his/her Conference and joined USCSA during the season.

Specific ACSC Rules regarding Regional Championships

1. Skiing Representation from the ACSC at the Regional Championship will be based upon cumulative team place points from ACSC "A" Team scheduled events as determined by the ACSC Scoring Procedures found elsewhere in this manual. "Individuals" from the ACSC will be invited to the Regional Championship in accordance with *World Cup Points* for the season, as outlined in the ACSC Scoring Procedures found elsewhere in this manual.

2. If a team or a qualifying individual (skiing or snowboarding) cannot follow through on qualification to attend and compete in Regional Championships, they must inform the ACSC Conference Office by noon on Tuesday following Conference Championships (the final ACSC competition of the season). If a team or a qualifying individual does not give such notice, and does not follow through on qualification to attend and compete in Regional Championships, that Team or individual, as the case may be, cannot qualify to go to Regionals (or Nationals) the next season. They can compete in the ACSC schedule the next season.

Appeal Process: A team or individual may appeal to the Board Executive Committee for a reversal of the penalty noted in this policy. Final decision to overturn will be reached by the Executive Committee, and it must be by unanimous vote. In the case of a stalemate, the original decision stands.

3. In the case of appropriate notification that a qualifying team or individual cannot attend Regionals, the Conference will then move in order through the next qualifying teams (or individuals), until a replacement is found. Each team or individual so contacted will have 24 hours (from the time of the contact) to respond. The conference will go as deep as necessary to get team or individual participation at Regionals, limited only by the stated deadlines.

4. In the case of snowboarding competitors to qualify for regionals e to regional championships snowboard athletes must start in 50% of events and attend the final meet weekend unless a schedule change prevents attendance.

PRINCIPLES OF SPORTSMANSHIP AND ETHICAL CONDUCT

The official USCSA guidelines on this topic will be followed, and can be found in the USCSA Bylaws, as follows:

In order to fulfill the mission and purposes of the Association the rigid observance of a set of “principles of conduct” is required.

To enable USCSA programs and events to promote the character and development of participants, enhance the integrity of higher education, promote fair and safe competition, and promote civility in society, all student-athletes, coaches, and all others associated with USCSA programs and events shall adhere to such fundamental values as respect, fairness, civility, honesty and personal responsibility. These values should be manifest not only in specific USCSA programs and events, but also in the broad spectrum of activities involved with and affecting the USCSA programs.

To maintain the desired level of sportsmanship and ethical conduct, it is the responsibility of each member program to:

- Be aware of and adhere to their institution’s policies regarding sportsmanship and ethical conduct in intercollegiate athletics, to include applicable NCAA rules.
- Be aware of and adhere to the USSA “Code of Conduct”, by which all participants, to include athletes, coaches, and all others associated with USCSA programs and events, are governed.
- Educate, on a continuing basis, all members of their program about the policies referred to in this section.

Language and behavior issues are covered in the USSA “Code of Conduct”, under which we operate. Supplementary ACSC policy follows:

To insure the professional operation of the Conference, there is a need to assure civility in the language and behavior throughout the competition arena. In a case of violation of the USSA “Code of Conduct” regarding profane language and unacceptable personal behavior, the individual(s) involved may be DSQ’d for the run. In addition, if such behavior continues the individual(s) will be asked to leave the competition arena and may not be permitted to compete in any additional runs that day or for the weekend. This will apply to the individual(s) involved and not the total team.

Alcohol and drug issues are covered in the USSA “Code of Conduct”, under which we operate. Supplementary ACSC policy follows:

In a case of the use of, or being under the influence of alcohol or illegal drugs on any property of the ski area, the individual(s) involved will be immediately asked to leave the property, will be DSQ'd for the day, and will not be permitted to compete in the next weekend's two competitions. This will apply to the individual(s) involved and not the total team. In the case of this occurring the last weekend of the season, this penalty will carry over to the first two competitions of the next season. This will not affect attendance at Regionals, if qualifying.

POI: This will not apply to alcohol legally served and consumed in a bar of the ski area after the conclusion of the competition day, the competition day being from registration to the end of the protest period after the second run.

NOTE: All decisions regarding DSQ'ing of a competitor for violation of a rule will be done by the full Jury (action will be according to majority vote), or by the Conference Director.

DISCIPLINARY PROCEDURE

In a situation where disciplinary or corrective action is deemed necessary with an individual or a team, the following three-step progressive process will be followed (this process may span consecutive seasons):

Step 1: The Conference Director (or designee) will meet with the individual(s) or team involved and will issue a verbal warning. If violation continues.....

Step 2: The Conference Director (or designee) is authorized to issue a short-term sanction, suspending the individual(s) or the team for one competition weekend. If violation continues.....

Step 3: The Conference Director (or designee) may invoke Article IV of the Conference Bylaws (“Censure and Expulsion”), under which a long-term sanction can be issued against the individual(s) or team, including longer suspension, or expulsion of the individual or team from the Conference.

NOTE: The Conference Officers (Executive Committee) will be informed by the Conference Director when any action has been taken under numbers 1 or 2 above.

Appeal Process: A team or individual(s) may appeal to the Executive Committee for a reversal of a penalty under number 2 above. Final decision to overturn must be by a unanimous vote of the Executive Committee. Any violation deemed serious enough to warrant immediate invoking of Article IV of the Bylaws can be immediately referred to that process by the Conference Director, or by a member of the Executive Committee.

TEAM FLAGS

Each school is encouraged to supply their school team flag at each competition. This should be done in good taste, and is best done on a pole for display. It is acceptable to have the flag at any location on the hill, so long as it does not distract any competitor, or provide any type of safety hazard. Those flags not on a pole can be displayed at the finish area on the fencing, etc.

BANNERS

The Conference will be responsible for obtaining any banners for placement at the start and finish areas - and appropriate banners for inside the lodge - to promote the Conference in a professional manner. With prior approval of the Conference Director, team sponsor banners may be displayed in the finish area.

MEDIA

The Conference will be responsible for maintaining contact with various media sources throughout the season, and this will be the sole responsibility of the Conference Director. The Conference Office will supply competition results on a regular basis to the USCSA National Office, and to appropriate websites, publications, newspapers, etc. The Conference Director may utilize local team contacts to assist with this promotion.

FUND RAISING

The Conference Director is solely responsible for all fund raising for the Conference, working closely with the Executive Committee and the Board of Directors. No other persons are authorized to make official contacts in behalf of the Conference, or to accept donations to the Conference. All contacts are to be referred to the Conference Director.

COMPLIMENTARY LIFT TICKET POLICY

Decisions regarding the distribution of complimentary lift tickets will be made by the Conference Director or his/her designee at each competition. In general, these are available only to:

1. Officially appointed non-racing coaches. Limit one per school. In such cases, these individuals are expected to contact the Chief of Competition to determine if assistance is needed throughout the day. To be "official", such coach's name is to be given to the Conference Office at the beginning of the season.

2. Certain Conference Competition Officials for the day, as approved by the Board of Directors and/or the Conference Director, to include:
 - Technical Delegate
 - Chief of Competition
 - Referee
 - Chief of Timing & Calculations
 - Chief Gate Judge
 - Start Referee
 - Finish Referee
 - tant (If applicable - may not be appointed for all competitions)

3. Conference Officials.

4. Others only as otherwise deemed necessary or appropriate by the Conference Director.

In the case of an inadequate number of complimentary lift tickets at any competition, the Conference Director will determine the most appropriate distribution of these tickets.