

COMPETITION GUIDE
OF THE
ALLEGHENY COLLEGIATE
SKI CONFERENCE

As Amended and Approved to October, 2008

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FOREWORD

This Competition Guide has been prepared for member schools and individual competitors of the Allegheny Collegiate Ski Conference to assist them in understanding the Conference, and how its race 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 race 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 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, and West Virginia. 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 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 Conference is open to a legitimate skiing organization representing a college or university within the states of Pennsylvania, Maryland, and West Virginia, which offers a minimum of an Associate or Bachelor's Degree. Institutions that closely border the New Jersey, Southeast or Allegheny Conferences may elect the conference within which they will compete during the regular season. This decision must be made by the end of their Conference's fall meeting. Both the organizer of the Conference they are joining and the Conference they are leaving must be advised in writing of such decision. Any such geographical decisions must be approved by both Conferences, and will be binding for the entire upcoming season.

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 "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 race, are utilized for scoring (see "scoring" section later). An "individual" may race for his/her institution, but results are considered only for individual placement at the end of the season.

ACSC also conducts a developmental "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" race 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 race venue.

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.

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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
- Constitution Article 2.10 The Principle Governing Financial Aid
- Constitution Article 5.2.2 Operating Bylaws
- Operating Bylaw Article 10.1 Unethical Conduct
- Operating Bylaw Article 10.4 Disciplinary Action
- Operating Bylaw Article 11.1.1 Standards of Honesty & Sportsmanship
- Operating Bylaw Article 18.4.1 Elig. for Championships - Student Athlete Elig.
- Admin. Bylaw Article 32.3.6 Disclosure of Purpose of Interview

CONFERENCE RACE SCHEDULE PLANNING

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

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

In general, locations are chosen to provide an even geographical distribution. This normally results in at least: one race in the northeastern Pennsylvania area, one in the central to south central Pennsylvania area, one in the southwestern Pennsylvania area, and one in the MD and/or West Virginia area. There are five Conference race weekends per season, the last of which is the Conference Finals at which the Teams and individuals are determined who are eligible to go to the Regional Championship.

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 races.

- 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 races.
- 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.

** 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 trophies/plaques and will have them appropriately engraved. The three trophies will be kept at the Conference Office.

2. Individual racer awards will be presented each Saturday afternoon after the day's race, beginning with the second weekend. These awards will be for the previous weekend's races. At the final race of the year, the awards will be given at the general awards and conference finals results meeting Sunday afternoon, and will be for the previous weekend, and the final weekend. There will not be an awards meeting Saturday afternoon at the Conference Finals race.

Twenty-four individual medals will be awarded to both "A" and "B" Team Members each weekend for:

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

The medals will be male and female specific, gold, silver and bronze, and will state finish place, race site, year, and discipline (SL or GS).

3. Year-end awards 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 racer must have competed in 8 "B" Team races, or 80% of "B" Team races, whichever is higher.

CONFERENCE POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

Schedule

The following schedule is outlined for a 9:00am start for first run. If the pre-announced time is different for a specific race, then these times will vary accordingly. Races 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.

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

7:30am to 8:30am - Registration (Registration desk closes at 9:30am)

8:00am to 9:00am - Course inspection

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

8:55am - Forerunners go

9:00am - First woman 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.

4:00pm (est.) Saturday. Awards ceremony for previous race weekend. Sunday at Conf.

Finals. Site will be announced.

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. Bibs and gatekeeping materials will also be picked up at this time. Checks are to be made out to "ACSC".

All racer registrations are to be completed by 8:30am each raceday. The registration desk will officially close at 9:30am, and no registrations will be accepted after that time.

Racers are required to purchase a two-day lift ticket and two-day race fees each race weekend.

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

Race Policies

1. ACSC races 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 race officials. Course is always closed after race has started.
5. A racer cannot make a second run in a race if the racer 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 to be a safety issue. There can be no course maintenance by racers or coaches, unless approval is given by a race official.
7. Course inspection is by USSA/FIS rules. (See "Racer Resps." #2)
8. After race 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 races, 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 races, but strongly recommends that racers abide by the rules during the season in

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preparation for Regional and National Championships. ACSC will not prevent a team from advancing to the Regional Championships if a racer(s) is not on legal equipment. These regulations are found in the USSA Rulebook at: (<http://www.ussa.org/PublishingFolder/assets/Files/alprulesequipment.pdf>).

12. No ACSC member racer will be permitted to do any forerunning at any time (including after a DSQ, DNF, or DNS in first run on raceday).

13. All racers must have been registered at the Conference Registration Desk on race day. All registered racers must have a valid ski area lift ticket for the day, and must have paid the Conference race 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 race rules. These can be found in the USCSA & USSA Rulebooks.

Race Run Cancellation

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

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

Full Race Cancellation

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

- The race 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 race fees paid by a racer prior to cancellation of the race will be applied to a future race. If the cancellation occurs in the final race of the season, the fees will be refunded.

POI: For Race Run Cancellation or Full Race Cancellation decisions, each segment is considered its own race. 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.

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Seed Changes

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 races. 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.

Racer Responsibilities

1. Be at the start area before your number is called. A racer who misses his/her start will go at the end of the "A" or "B" racers (as appropriate by his/her seed). If a racer misses the "A" or "B" seed, he/she will run at the end of all racers in his/her gender for that run. If a racer misses the end of the race, 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):

- Racer may side slip the course on the path a racer would take during the race.
- At no time may a racer 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 race 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 race arena after a race run begins. The only skiing permitted within the race arena after a race begins is for necessary gatekeeping positioning, or by conference officials. Free skiing within the race venue during a race is not permitted. Transporting of clothing from top to bottom is not permitted within the race venue during a race. Entering the race arena under false gatekeeping pretenses will result in disqualification for the day's race. Switching gatekeepers between gender runs is permitted.

4. Assist your Team with gatekeeping responsibilities, when possible.

5. Bibs: Individual Racers 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 lost bibs. A team can be prevented from registering for a future race if "lost bib" penalties are not paid.

6. Bib switching is not permitted. A racer will be disqualified for the run and for the day's race 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:** Racers are expected to exhibit proper behavior and courtesy at all

times while at the race venue, or at facilities related to the race experience (such as lodging facilities). This includes, but is not limited to, interaction with

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fellow racers, Conference personnel, race officials, friends and relatives, ski area guests, ski 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 ski 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 race, 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" racers are exempted from Admin. Fee in first year). For a racer to register to race, 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 races in locations easily accessed by the teams (e.g.: start, and/or finish, and/or lodge).

3. Race results will be available to each team when ready following each race.

4. Refund Policy: Lift ticket fees cannot be refunded once the ticket is issued to the individual or team coordinator. Race fees paid by a racer 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 raceday.

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

RACE PRE-REGISTRATION & START ORDERS

Each Team is responsible to insure that start orders are received by the ACSC Timing and Calculations Official by 11:00 PM on the Thursday immediately preceding each race. 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 racers who will be registering from each school for Saturday's race, not just the "A" Team. If the deadline is missed, but the start order is called in on Friday, racers will go at the end of the "A" or "B" racers (as appropriate). If the order is not called in at all, all racers will go at the end of all other racers in their gender.

In the absence of pre-registered "A" Team racers, a school may substitute seeded "B" Team times for vacant "A" Team scores. "B" Team racers 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 race. It is required that all teams be represented at the Coaches/Captains Meeting to be

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aware of any changes for Sunday. Coaches/Captains meetings will be held at the scoreboard area 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 races. This process must be completed by 8:30am on Saturday.

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

- 1) They will receive the penalty of the number of teams present plus five (5) points.
- 2) The race will be counted as a race attended under "Additional Scoring Rules of ACSC" (p.14, # 1).
- 3) The race cannot be dropped as one of the races dropped for the year.
- 4) A team is defined under "Scoring Rules of USCSA/ACSC" (p. 13, # 1).

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.

RACE DAY RESPONSIBILITIES

Registration

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

Bibs

Bibs will be sorted and assigned by the Host School each Saturday and Sunday. The Host Schools are assigned at the Fall Board of Directors 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 Race - 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 RACE)

Chief Gate Judge

Chief of Course - usually someone from the ski area

Start Referee

Finish Referee

Chief of Timing and Calculations

Timing/Equipment Assistant

Gatekeepers

Gatekeeping location assignments are made by the Board of Directors at the Fall meeting. All teams are expected to provide gatekeepers at every race.

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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 racers 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:

- * sort and organize bibs, distribute to teams, and collect at end of race each day; account for all bibs at beginning and end of each day, and put into numerical order for the next race day.
- * assist racers with any questions or needs at the site.
- * assist the Conf. Dir/Officials with any needs at the site, before or during the races.
- * assist with course setting and tear down (if requested), and organizing of Conference equipment.
- * display banners, as required.

Course Maintenance

Only certain specified Raceday Officials have the authority to determine if and when course maintenance is required. Racers are expected to assist with sideslipping, when requested. A sideslip will be done between seeds.

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: Race 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:

Race Official

If an assigned Student Athlete Race 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 racers 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 racers 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 raceday, and put all bibs in order, that team's racers will all run at the end of their official start order (A or B) for the first run of the next raceday.

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GATEKEEPING RESPONSIBILITIES

The ACSC requires that all schools provide gatekeeping services at all races. 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 race arena after a race run begins. The only skiing permitted within the race arena after a race begins is for necessary gatekeeping positioning, or by conference officials. Free skiing within the race venue during a race is not permitted. Transporting of clothing from top to bottom is not permitted within the race venue during a race. Entering the race arena under false gatekeeping pretenses will result in disqualification for the day's race. 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 race, your location of the race, men's or women's run, and first or second run.
2. List the weather.
3. Maintain and repair race 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 racer

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").

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5. Denote first or second run and bib number of racer.
6. A gate is passed correctly when both feet and ski tips of the racer cross the imaginary line between the two poles of a gate. The feet of a racer may cross the line from any direction. (For examples, see Attachment "A")
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 racers. Avoid interference of any kind with a racer. Concentrate on your job!
9. Be available after the race 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 racer's run.
11. Remain in place until notified that the race is over.

Reasons to Declare a Fault:

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

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

- 1) Racer knocks down one or all poles of a gate;
- 2) Racer slides through the gate on some part of his/her body other the feet;

- 3) Racer hikes back up to a gate;
- 4) Racer enters and exits from the same side;
- 5) Racer passes through gates out of their numerical order.

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SCORING RULES OF USCSA/ACSC

Alpine Scoring

1. Team positions in Alpine races shall be determined by the sum of the times of the fastest three racers from each team. **A school must have three racers competing to be considered a “team” for scoring purposes.**
2. Should a team not finish three racers, 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 race, 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 race 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 races - drop one score, either SL or GS.
- 8-9 races - 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 races, score at least three races in each discipline. Must drop two races when 8-9, and three races when 10 or more.
- Teams not present for a race receive 5 points, plus the number of teams (i.e., 3 or more racers) present.

POI: Scores to be dropped must be from races 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.

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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 races that were used to determine the initial final standings. Tie breaking is to be used only for the first four team placings. If a tie exists for places beyond fourth, they will remain as ties.

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 races 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 race used for this tie-breaker.

POI: This means the top three competitors at year-end in each of the races 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 Race 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 Race 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 race results, and is not part of the tie-breaking process.

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2. Individuals

Scored by World Cup Points earned in slalom and giant slalom.

<u>place</u>	<u>points</u>	<u>place</u>	<u>points</u>	<u>place</u>	<u>points</u>
<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>

REGIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

The Allegheny Collegiate Ski 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

1. 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.
2. 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 racer 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 racer 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.

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Specific ACSC Rules regarding Regional Championships

1. 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 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 race 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.

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.

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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 (www.ussa.org). 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 race 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 race 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 (www.ussa.org). 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 races. 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 races 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 raceday, the raceday being from registration to the end of the protest period after the second run.

NOTE: All decisions regarding DSQ'ing of a racer 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 race weekend. If violation continues.....

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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

It is requested that each school supply their school team flag at each race. 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 racer, 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 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 race results on a

regular basis to the USCSA National Office, and to appropriate publications, newspapers, etc. The Conference Director may utilize local team contacts to assist with this promotion.

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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 race. 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 Race 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 Race Officials for the day, as approved by the Board of Directors and/or the Conference Director, to include:
 - Technical Delegate
 - Chief of Race
 - Referee
 - Chief of Timing & Calculations
 - Chief Gate Judge
 - Start Referee
 - Finish Referee
 - Timing/Equipment Assistant
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 race, the Conference Director will determine the most appropriate distribution of these tickets.

