

# SOUTHERN CONFERENCE 2016 Rules of Competition

## **Article I - Membership Procedure and Guidelines**

Sec. 1: Membership in the Southern Conference (SC) is open to teams from high schools in the southern counties of the State. Current SC high school membership includes: Madison West, Madison Memorial, Edgewood, Madison East, Middleton, Verona, Waunakee, DeForest, Mt. Horeb, Portage, Oregon, McFarland, River Valley, Stoughton, and Sun Prairie.

Sec. 2: Teams consisting of racers in grades 9 through 12 from accredited high schools within the Southern Conference of the Wisconsin High School Ski Racing Association may apply for membership in the SC at the regularly scheduled Fall SC meeting. Each team must have an advisor who is a racer's parent or a teacher at the associated high school or an adult team administrator or a high school administrator.

Sec. 3: High schools may sponsor a men's team, a women's team, or both. Co-ed teams are prohibited. Each team shall consist of a minimum of six racers (skiing); the number of team members for Snow Boarding will be determined by the board on an annual basis. All team members must attend the same school except as provided under the following subsection D.

Sec. 4: If a school cannot form a team of six racers, the board will create a cooperative (co-op) team comprised of other SC schools.

Sec. 5: If there is an insufficient number of participants to field a team of at least six racers, each school may apply for co-op status. The Board will consider the application but will discourage forming co-op teams consisting of members from more than two high schools.

Sec. 6: Approval for co-op team status will be made annually in December by the Board. Determination shall be made after the required registration materials have been received but before the race season racing begins. Qualification criteria, Article XI, for co-op team membership shall be reviewed and discussed annually by the Board.

## **Article II - Competition Committee**

Sec. 1: The competition committee will be composed of nine members to include either parents, team parent representatives and/or coaches. The competition committee will be appointed by the Board. Any rules or changes to our race operations will be approved by the board. In addition to responsibilities for determining race rules members will also be assigned to: (1) volunteer coordinator, (2) communications of racing events and updates, (3) Bib allocation; (4) organization of Conference Championships, (5) State Championship communications and other race responsibilities.

## **Article III - Code of Conduct**

Sec. 1: The SC and all member schools shall enforce the USSA Code of Conduct, the SC Code of Conduct and their individual school's Code of Conduct. WIAA Code of Conduct will be the standard followed by the Board.

Sec. 2: No racer shall consume any alcoholic beverage or any controlled substance. Faculty advisors and related type personnel should be encouraged to do likewise.

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Sec. 3: Smoking by any racer, parent, worker, coach or advisor at any SC event is prohibited.

Sec. 4: Unsportsmanlike conduct, including foul or inappropriate language or gestures, on the part of any coach, team staff, racer, parent or spectator shall be reported to a Board Member by any coach or race worker observing the conduct. The Board Member will investigate the complaint and determine if a penalty is appropriate. The decision of the Board Member may be appealed to the Race Jury by a coach, team advisor, other team representative, or the subject of the complaint. Any decision of the Race Jury is final.

Sec. 5: The Board President may convene a Conference Committee to determine the severity of the infraction and determine whether the racer/racers will be sanctioned from participation in SC races for the remainder of the year.

Sec. 6: Penalties for unsportsmanlike conduct may include:

- a. Adding 5 seconds to the team total for that run. This penalty may be cumulative, if multiple violations of the Code of Conduct have occurred.
- b. Disqualifying any racers involved in unsportsmanlike conduct or disqualification of the team(s) of any racers involved, for one or more runs or an entire event.
- c. Disqualifying any racers involved in such conduct from one or more future race.

### **Article IV - Pre-meet Considerations and Procedures**

Sec. 1: Inclement weather can potentially cause a race to be cancelled. However, the standard rule is: if the host facility is open for business, the race is on. This may be overruled by participating schools being closed causing all athletic activities to be cancelled.

Sec. 2: The SC Board has the authority to cancel a race due to unsatisfactory or unsafe conditions, extreme weather, or any other hazardous circumstance. The SC Board may cancel the race anytime before noon the day of the race. The Board President will diligently attempt to contact all Board Members to achieve a quorum to make a decision regarding the race.

Sec. 3: The designated Chief of Race will be responsible for approving the safety and acceptability of all race event courses.

Sec. 4: Parents are encouraged to assist in course setting but, they will not be allowed to drill or determine the location of turning gates.

Sec. 5: Parents and volunteers are also required to assist with timing, scoring, announcing, gate keeping, lining up, starting and in setting up and taking down netting, and any other duties that may be required to properly conduct a race.

Sec. 6: All gatekeepers should be stationed on the same side of the course. Spectators who wish to observe the race are not to be on the gatekeeper side of the course. Spectators are also required to remain a safe distance from the course while observing the race.

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Sec. 7: Gatekeepers should be identified by their position on the same side of the course and by some identifiable marking. Racers are also advised that gatekeepers alone are authorized to give the “go” or “back” command. Gatekeepers are encouraged to help racers by offering instructions.

### **Article V - Race Rules and Procedures**

Where not identified in this Article, Wisconsin Interscholastic Alpine Racing Association (WIARA) competition rules shall apply. If WIARA rules do not apply, the issue shall defer to the United State Ski and Snowboard Assn. Rules of Competition.

Sec. 1: Only eligible students, grades 9-12, from SC member schools and approved co-op teams will be allowed to compete in SC meets.

Sec. 2: Promoting fair and equitable competition is a fundamental goal of the Board. One of the principal ways to encourage fairness and equity is careful management of the start order. The following guidelines will be used for determining start orders for Southern Conference races:

- a. Each team’s coach/parent leader will be responsible for preparing the running order for each team, for each race.

Sec. 3: Unless otherwise directed by the Board, changes to the run order must be submitted to conference officials by the Thursday preceding the next Monday’s race night. Substitutions among seed racers in the same event are not allowed.

Sec. 4: Failure to report at the starting gate in seed order results in a racer being bumped to the end of the scheduled seed and if the racer misses their seed they will race at the end of all seeds.

Sec. 5: All racers must be properly attired, as determined by the Board. Racing bibs must be worn and clearly visible during all racing events. Rules for helmet and other protective equipment will be determined by the board at the start of each season. Consideration in developing protective equipment policy will be derived after consultation with the State Championship committee and USSA regulations.

#### Skiing specific rules:

1. Over the ear protection helmets is required for slalom and giant slalom events
2. Slalom guards mounted on helmets shall not be worn during giant slalom events
3. Skiers wearing shorts, short sleeved shirts and other clothing exposing skin will not be allowed to compete.

#### Snowboarding specific rules:

1. XXX

Sec. 6: There will be no more than two forerunners. In select circumstances the referee may request additional forerunners. Forerunners shall not be a competitor in the race and will wear proper attire as outlined in section 5. All forerunners need to sign Southern Conference and Venue waivers prior to the event.

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Sec. 7: Changes requested for course safety and lack of conformance to course setting rules will be presented to the Technical Delegate and/or Referee no less than 30 minutes before the race start (before inspection). The Referee may ask the course setter to reset or a Jury member may reset the offending portion of the race course. No appeals based on course set may be made after the race has begun with the exception of appeals based on safety.

Sec. 8: The referee shall have race management rights when the course has been open for inspection until the last racer has finished. These rights include but are not limited to postponing the race, racer disqualification, running racers in differing orders, course adjustments up to one meter, and others.

Sec. 9: Races will begin promptly at the designated start time. It is the racer's responsibility to check the run order and be at the start on time.

Sec. 10: Each school or individual's parents will be assigned to volunteer for at least one race. Races shall not be held without an appropriate number of race workers.

Sec. 11: Course inspection shall close 15 minutes prior to the scheduled race starting time. The course may be inspected by snowplowing or side-slipping. There shall be no shadowing or skiing through the gates.

Sec. 12: Race officials will be appointed by the Competition Committee or designee. Prior to each race the Competition Committee or designee shall also appoint a Race Jury consisting of three qualified individuals. A separate Jury will be chosen for each skiing and snowboarding.

Sec. 13: The Competition Committee is responsible for the coordination of the race and upon completion of a race shall provide the Head of Timing with race results as soon as reasonably possible.

Sec 14: Unless the Board or designee determines that time constraints or weather conditions dictate otherwise, each SC meet will consist of two runs of either slalom or giant slalom for skiers and either giant slalom or boarder-cross for snowboarders. All events shall be run at the SC conference Championship unless extenuating circumstances prevent.

Sec 15: If a racer believes they deserve a re-run, the racer must leave the race course immediately and request a re-run from a member of the Jury. A jury member may grant a provisional re-run if they determine the request has arguable merit. After the race, the Race Jury will make a final determination regarding allowance of the time from the provisional re-run. Any racer who completes his/her run is automatically ineligible for a re-run.

Sec. 16: If a racer crosses the starting plane they have begun and race and cannot ask for a rerun. If a racer loses a ski prior to the second to the last gate, the racer is disqualified. A racer losing a ski at or after the second to the last gate may finish on one ski. A snowboarder must finish a race with at least one foot secured in a binding.

Sec. 17: If a racer wishes to protest a disqualification, the protest must be made to a Jury member through a team representative within 10 minutes of the disqualification postings. The protest will be reviewed by the Jury in consultation with any gatekeeper, course official who

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witnessed the incident in question, or others. The Jury shall make the final determination of the protest.

Sec. 18: USSA Rules will be suspended with regard to ski length and radius. USSA Rules pertaining to hiking will not be followed, hiking is allowed.

Sec. 219 If a team does not obtain four race finishes a ghost time will be applied. This time equals the slowest time of all racers on the course.

### **Article VI - Point System**

Sec. 1: The point system used at all SC races and used to determine team and racer standings for the season shall be as set forth herein.

Scoring procedure

***Add the scoring procedure here.***

### **Points Schedule for Southern Conference Ski Races**

#### **For Individual Racers**

1st Place	30 points
2	25
3	20
4	15
5	12
6	10
7	9
8	8
9	7
10	6
11	5
12	4
13	3
14	2
15	1

#### **Team Points**

**(Men's and Women's Standings are kept separately)**

1st place	12 points
2	10
3	8
4	7
5	6
6	5
7	4
8	3
9	2
10	1

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## **Article VII - Standings and Post Season Races/Awards**

Sec. 1: Season standings will be determined and recorded separately among the men's teams and among the women's teams and separately among the ski teams and the snowboard teams.

Sec. 2: The team and individual standings will be determined using the aforementioned point system.

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Sec. 3: If, at the end of the season there is a tie:

- a. The school that placed higher in team standings the most times will be awarded the decision.
- b. In the event that the above teams are still tied, the team with the most first place finishes will be awarded the decision.
- c. If the teams are still tied, both individuals shall qualify as all-conference.

Sec. 4: Trophies and Awards

- a. At the end of the season the first place men's and women's teams will receive the Conference Traveling Trophy for the year. The first, second, and third place teams will each receive trophies.
- b. The first, second, and third place men's and women's teams will each receive trophies that are to be kept permanently by the team.
- c. The Men's and Women's Most Valuable Racer will receive traveling and permanent trophies. The MVRs will be the individual racer that scores the most points throughout the season.
- d. An All-Conference Team will be selected at season's end. Members of the All-Conference Team will be determined by total points earned individually throughout the season. The all conference team will be comprised of 15 skiers (each men's/women's) and 10 boarders (each men's/women's).
- e. Other awards/trophies/recognition may be permanent as determined by the Board.

Sec. 5: Rules and procedures for the State Meet are determined by the State Board.

### **Article VIII - Qualifiers for State Meet**

Sec. 1: The current SC allotment of qualifying teams for the State Meet will be determined by the board at the annual Co Op meeting. The number of Snowboard team qualifiers will be determined annually between the Southern Conference and the State Meet organizers.

Sec. 2: The top three individual men and individual women skiers not on a State-qualifying team will qualify for the State Meet as individuals. The number of individual snowboard qualifiers will be determined annually by the State Board. In any event any skier who achieves all conference status (top 15) will be qualified for state regardless of whether his/her team attends or not.

Sec. 3: The SC allotment of State qualifiers may change from year to year as determined by the State Board but will be based on these conditions: fifty percent of all men's and women's teams shall represent the SC at the State meet.

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Sec. 4: This quota may be modified by the approval of the Board at the Fall Meeting, with the quota being set for the upcoming season.

### **Article IX - Team Composition**

Sec. 1: All racers shall race with their home school's team. If a racer attends a school that does not sponsor a team, they may be placed on a co-op team as defined in Article XI. (To clarify, we do not race individuals, all individuals must be part of a Co Op team.

Sec. 2: Each school will be limited to one men's varsity team of and one women's varsity team.

Sec. 3: Member schools are permitted to enter up to three Junior Varsity teams, but these - teams are to be limited to not more than two men's Junior Varsity teams or two women's Junior Varsity teams.

### **Article X - Co-op /Combined High School Race Teams**

Sec. 1: To qualify for a co-op race team, a member school must demonstrate that it cannot form a team from its own student body. The preferred unified team size is six skiers and four boarders. Ski teams can for as unified with 4 or 5 racers utilizing ghost times where needed. Boarder numbers to be reviewed annually. To apply for consideration as a co-op team, the schools must demonstrate they have made attempts to promote student interest in Alpine Racing.

Sec. 2: Exhausting these means to attract numbers from their own student body allows the school to apply for consideration for co-op team status. If a school can field a full team from its own student body, they should not be given co-op status, unless otherwise determined necessary by the Board.

Sec. 3: After careful consideration, the Board will annually create co-op teams, which may change from year to year. The Board will act in a fair and unbiased manner when forming co-op teams to avoid creating any competitive advantage. To reduce the potential of a competitive advantage co-op teams will endeavor to not exceed more than two schools on a team.

Sec. 4: The maximum number of snow boarders on a co op team will be determined by the board on an annual basis.

Sec. 5: Teams must apply for co-op status through the Board each fall.

Sec. 6: Independent racers will not be allowed to join teams which already meet the six racer requirements for a varsity team.

Sec. 7: All schools wishing to compete as co-op teams must promote ski racing in the SC High School league at the Middle school level to help generate future interest and awareness of this sport's availability to all interested racers.



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Sec. 8 Individual schools may terminate co-op status by submitting a written request to the Board at least ten days prior to the first race.

Sec. 9: It is the hope of the Southern Conference to have as many schools as possible compete as unified teams. Reasonable efforts will be made to accommodate those racers whose schools are unable to form a unified team as long as they are within the guidelines outlined above and as stated within the SC Rules of Competition, bylaws and amendments.

Sec 10: The co-op teams will be determined by the Co Op committee who will recommend team assignments to be approved by the Board of Directors.