



FIS and USSA Alpine Update Summer 2007

Following are some of the major decisions made during the 2007 FIS Calendar Conference in Slovenia and the 2007 USSA Congress in Park City this Spring.

Athletes, coaches and officials are urged to review the FIS precisions and the USSA Competition Guide as well as the respective websites for more detail.

Schedule of Upcoming Meetings

Sept. 25-30, 2007	FIS Fall Meetings	Zurich
Sept. TBA, 2007	Alpine Executive Committee	Teleconference
Oct. 26-28, 2007	Western FIS TD update	Vancouver
Nov. 2-4, 2007	Eastern FIS TD update	Lake Placid
Nov. 29 – Dec. 2, 2007	USSA Board and Foundation	Beaver Creek
April 14-25, 2008	USSA Athletic Staff Summit	Park City
May 14-18, 2008	USSA Congress 2008	Park City
May 25-31, 2008	FIS Congress	Cape Town, SA

Staff Update

- Brewster McVicker, Central Division Development and Competition Manager. Brewster replaces Kristian Saile who has moved to the Women's D Team staff. Brewster will be based out of his home in Harbor Springs, MI.
- Rich Smith, Eastern Region Assistant Coach. Rich replaces Mike Kenney who has retired in order to spend more time with his family. Rich will be based out of his home in NH.
- Jenny Murano, Education Coordinator replaces Erin Bordley who has retired to pursue her ambitions in professional equitation. Jenny is based at the USSA Training Center in Park City.
- Pete Korfiatis from Mammoth Mountain, CA has joined the Men's Europa Cup staff.
- Andrew Cesati has recently accepted a position in Crested Butte, CO creating a vacancy on the Men's Europa Cup staff.

Information Resources

- USSA Rules: ussa.org > alpine > rules
- USSA Rankings: ussa.org > quick tools
- USSA Alpine Officials Resources: ussa.org > alpine > officials
- USSA National Development System: ussa.org > alpine > development
- FIS: fisski.com
- USSA members should look for the Alpine Competition Guides during the first week of October.

United States Ski and Snowboard Association



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Updating Alpine Competition Rules and Regulations

USSA staff and key volunteer leadership will carefully review new and modified FIS rules and regulations for inclusion in the USSA rules as appropriate. These inclusions will appear in your 2008 Alpine Competition Guide.

USSA Alpine Congress Update

- Beginning in season 2007-08 USSA TDs at USSA Scored events and USSA Course Inspectors are allowed a \$50 per diem per day in addition to expenses.
- The USSA athlete SkiUp form should be used for the rare exceptional athlete, not for groups of athletes.
- For the 2007-08 season, the Alpine Courses Working Group will homologate courses for USSA GS and SL competitions for J3 championships and higher. This is in addition to its customary work on rehomologation of FIS courses (all events) and USSA DH and SG courses, as well as new homologations, FIS and USSA, as requested.
- For NorAm and FIS-U races, up to 20% of the quota may be used for development/discretion selections.
- For season 2007-08, individuals serving as referees and course setters at USA Scored events must be current USSA coach or official members and should be certified as Referees. Beginning in season 2008-09 those individuals will be required to be certified as Referees.
- USSA has developed a system for automatically processing USSA Alpine race results when they are emailed to USSA. This system will process USA FIS, USSA Scored and USSA Non-Scored races when they are submitted using the appropriate xml format. Each race result will need to be submitted in an individual email and a reply will be sent with a confirmation of processing or an explanation of problems if there are any.

FIS Alpine Update

Classification

- FIS registration without points (Provisional Registration) is no longer an option. Athletes will either be registered and allowed to compete or they will not be registered and so not allowed to compete.
- The USA proposal for FIS list on 21-day frequency was approved.
- The USA ENL minimum penalty proposal is being reviewed by FIS staff to ensure that ENL races could not qualify athletes directly to the World Cup.

Courses

- Electronic course reporting resources are being explored for use by inspectors.

Alpine TDs

- TD per diem has been increased to \$82 per day in addition to expenses.
- TDs assigned to all WC, NorAm and FIS in North America are exempt from the travel guidelines as set forth in section 602.5 as amended in the FIS ICR.
- *Key alpine USA TD assignments:*
 - *2009 FIS Alpine World Ski Champs, Val d'Isere – Jill Firstbrook, jury position.*
 - *2010 Olympic Winter Games, Vancouver – Greg Johnson, Men's TD*

World Cup

- The 2007-08 World Cup schedule was adopted with Men's SC/DH/SG/GS in Beaver Creek and Women's DH/SG/SL in Aspen.
- The procedure for seeding World Cup downhill was changed; The top 1-7 will be drawn between 16-22; 8-15 will be drawn between 8-15. Racers in 16-30 positions will be drawn from among the remaining positions.

Continental Cup

- NorAm Cup rules regarding seeding in super combined were updated/clarified.
- Adopted calendar with several remaining sites TBD.
- Continental Cup men's DH vertical drop proposed to be reduced from 650 vertical meters to 550 vertical meters. Decision pending further review.

Alpine Youth and Children

- World Junior Championships Calendar Plan:
 - Formigal, Spain – 2008
 - Garmish, Germany – 2009
 - World Juniors 2010 in Chile will include YOB 90-94 and will be conducted Sept. 2-12, 2010.
- Topolino – International Children's Competition: Feb. 29 – Mar. 3, 2008.
- Whistler – International Children's Competition: April 4-6, 2008

Course setting

- 801.2.4 Children's Slalom course setting 30%-35% of the vertical drop +/- 3 gates is number of direction changes with a maximum measurement of 12m from turning pole to turning pole.
- 801.2.3 Test in Southern Hemisphere summer 2007 (under review for adoption in fall 2007).
 - The distance between gates within combinations (hairpin or vertical) may not be less than 0.75m.
 - The distance from turning pole to turning pole of successive open or closed gates may not be less than 6m, not more than 13m (valid for all categories/levels).
 - Delayed turns must have a minimum distance of 12m and a maximum distance of 18m from turning pole to turning pole.
 - 803.2 Slalom must contain a minimum of one and maximum of three delayed turns.

Equipment Notes

- Slalom ski length for 15-16 year old boys: 10 cm tolerance for slalom was supported for FIS and ENL competition (155 cm now valid for slalom).
- Equipment rules for **masters racing**
 - The present specifications as to the length and the radius of skis are changed to be recommendations (Exception: The ski length in Super-G may not be less than Men 185 cm and Ladies 180 cm).
 - Rules concerning the maximum height of ski/plates are recommended. The heights are reduced as follows:
 - Maximum distance from bottom to boot sole: 50 mm
 - Maximum distance from boot sole to base of foot: 45 mm
- The Ski Racing Suppliers (SRS) recommended postponing the equipment rules for one year at the CoC level, the committee supported this recommendation. This rule has been recommended by the Alpine Committee and will be reviewed by the FIS Council in the Fall. The attached table anticipates approval of this postponement.
- Equipment manufacturers expressed concern that equipment modifications are being demanded by the FIS that are very expensive, yet have very little effect on controlling speed. It was pointed out that the most effective and economical way to reduce speed is to modify course setting rules.
- SRS stressed enforcement of current equipment rules prior to initiating further modifications.

F.I.S. & USSA Equipment Rules 2007/2008

2007-2008 Rules changes noted in bold



	World Cup & Europa Cup ** Men	World Cup & Europa Cup ** Women	FIS and USSA 15 yrs old + Men	FIS and USSA 15 yrs old + Women	Children 2 FIS 13-14 yr old International race only Boys & Girls	Children 1 FIS 11-12 yr old International race only Boys & Girls	Junior 3 and younger USSA 14 years and younger Boys & Girls	Masters Men	Masters Women	Masters: Men over 70 & Women over 60	
Minimum Ski Length	DH	215 cm	210 cm	210 cm <small>USSA only may use SG skis for DH</small>	205 cm <small>USSA only may use SG skis for DH</small>	no rule	no rule	no rule	215 cm <small>USSA only may use SG skis for DH</small>	205 cm <small>USSA only may use SG skis for DH</small>	no rule
	SG	205 cm	200 cm	200 cm	195 cm	175 cm	no rule	no rule	200 cm	195 cm	no rule
	GS	185 cm	180 cm	180 cm	175 cm	130 cm	130 cm	no rule	180 cm	175 cm	no rule
	SL	165 cm	155 cm	165 cm (10 cm tolerance for Jr 2 men)	155 cm	130 cm	130 cm	no rule	165 cm	155 cm	no rule
Minimum Ski Radius	DH	45 m	45 m	45 m <small>USSA only may use SG skis for DH</small>	45 m <small>USSA only may use SG skis for DH</small>	no rule	no rule	no rule	45 m	45 m	no rule
	SG	33 m	33 m	33 m	33 m	27 m	n/a	no rule	33 m	33 m	no rule
	GS	27 m	23 m	21 m	21 m	17 m	14 m	no rule	21 m	21 m	no rule
	SL	no rule	no rule	no rule	no rule	no rule	no rule	no rule	n/a	n/a	no rule
Minimum Ski Waist Width	DH	67 mm	67 mm	60 mm	60 mm	60 mm	60 mm	no rule	60 mm	60 mm	60 mm
	SG	65 mm	65 mm	60 mm	60 mm	60 mm	60 mm	no rule	60 mm	60 mm	60 mm
	GS	65 mm	65 mm	60 mm	60 mm	60 mm	60 mm	no rule	60 mm	60 mm	60 mm
	SL	63 mm	63 mm	60 mm	60 mm	60 mm	60 mm	no rule	60 mm	60 mm	60 mm
Maxium Binding Stack Height <small>Measurement includes ski + plate + binding</small>	50 mm	50 mm	55 mm	55 mm	50 mm	50 mm	50 mm	50 mm	50 mm	50 mm	
Maxium Boot Height <small>Measurement from sole to top of foot bed</small>	43 mm	43 mm	45 mm	45 mm	45 mm	45 mm	45 mm	45 mm	45 mm	45 mm	

** Postponement of the ski length, radius and waist width rules as well as stack height and boot height for NorAm Cup are pending FIS Council approval.

Upcoming rule changes for 2008-2009 Season affecting all F.I.S. and USSA races

			2007-2008	2008-2009
Radius min.	GS	men	21 m	27 m
		women	21 m	23 m
Ski waist width min.	DH		60 mm	67 mm
	SG		60 mm	65 mm
	GS		60 mm	65 mm
	SL		60 mm	63 mm

		2007-2008	2008-2009
Ski/Plate/Binding Height max.	men	55 mm	50 mm
	women	55 mm	50 mm
Boot Height ma.	men	45 mm	43 mm
	women	45 mm	43 mm

This chart prepared in cooperation with Thor Verdonk of Rossignol