



CHAMPIONSHIP RULES

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1.0 DEFINITION AND ORGANIZATION

The Far West Racing Association (FWRA) championships are conducted annually between the FWRA leagues as a two-day event. The Saturday race course shall be a slalom and the Sunday race course shall be a modified giant slalom. The Chief of Race may change the format of the Championships due to weather.

Participants will represent the best skiers in their skill categories of the various Far West leagues (and councils when a council is not subdivided into leagues). The conduct of the race will be regulated by the FWRA Race Committee and the awards will be provided by the FWRA.

There shall be two divisions: Junior and Adult. The Adult Division shall be further divided into Open and Vet categories.

1.1 RACE RULES REVISION

These rules are subject to revision by the Far West Executive Board which meets (at least) annually at a time mutually agreed on by Executive Board members. The FWRA Executive Board consists of the Far West league and council race chairmen and the officers of the Far West Racing Association. Only league and council race chairmen may vote on rules changes. The name of the designee must be communicated to the FWRA President by the league/council chairman before the rules session. The rules revision sessions will be chaired by the FWRA Rules Chairman. All changes must be approved at least 45 days prior to the championships.

1.2 DATE AND TIME OF RACE

The date of the race shall be set by the FWRA Executive Board. Consideration will be given to the calendars of clubs, leagues and councils.

1.3 GIANT SLALOM INDIVIDUAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

The Sunday race shall be a single run modified giant slalom to determine the individual giant slalom champions in each class.

1.4 POINTS PER RACER START CHAMPIONSHIPS

The points per racer start champion shall be based on the points earned by a league or council from the giant slalom race and the slalom race divided by the number of starters from that league or council.

1.5 SLALOM INDIVIDUAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

The Saturday race shall be a single run slalom to determine the individual slalom champions in each class.

1.5.a FWRA LEAGUE CHAMPIONSHIP

The results of the slalom and giant slalom races shall be combined to determine the FWRA champion among the participating leagues and councils.

1.6 NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS

For the 2002 Championships, this rule is suspended, except the last paragraph regarding collapsing small classes shall still apply.

~~The maximum number of racers per league in the Adult Division is 100; in the Junior Division the maximum number is 42. Up to three racers from each league may earn points in any single class.~~

~~In the Adult Division, each league may enter up to six racers per class, up to the maximum of 100 racers per league. More than six per class would be allowed only in the case of a last minute strike causing a racer who previously qualified for the championships to move to a higher class. (Such upgraded racers may not be replaced in the class from which they were upgraded; the maximum number of racers per league is fixed at 100.) Only each league's top three finishers in each class are eligible to earn points.~~

~~In addition, each league is allowed six potential point-earning "wildcard" racers to go above the normal six maximum per class, but still within the 100 racers per league.~~

~~In the Junior Division, the same system will apply.~~

Classes which have fewer than 5 racers total from all leagues as of the Friday night before the race will be merged with the adjacent class of the same handicap and sex. Adult and Junior classes will not be merged; men and women classes will not be merged. This may result in more than six racers from a league being seeded in the merged class.

1.7 RACE COMMITTEE

The Race Committee shall be composed of league/council race chairmen or their designees, the FWRA Rules Chairman and the FWRA Championship Chairman. The Championship Chairman (or their designee) shall serve as Chairman of the Race Committee. The committee shall rule on all protests or matters of dispute concerning the race. Each league/council shall have one vote. The name of the person representing each league/council shall be submitted to the FWRA Championship Chairman prior to the race. Voting shall be on a simple majority basis; no quorum is required. In the event of a tie, the Championship Chairman shall cast the deciding vote. The function of the Race Committee should not to be confused with the rules revision function of the FWRA Executive Board.

1.8 CHAMPIONSHIP CHAIRMAN

The Championship Chairman shall be responsible for:

- a) Making arrangements with the area operator for course location, course setting, poles and flags.
- b) Selecting and organizing personnel and equipment necessary to run the race.
- c) Appointing the on-hill jury of race officials, consistent with the needs of safety and requirements of insurance.
- d) Providing for timing, start, finish, gate keeping, registration, award presentation, bib disbursement and bib collection. Gate keeping will include written bib-by-bib records and diagrams of disqualifications.
- e) Posting disqualifications, and scoring, listing, posting, and publication of the race results. The DSQ/TDQ list shall be posted at a time and location determined by the Championship Chairman not less than 30 minutes prior to the protest meeting on Saturday and Sunday.

2.0 ELIGIBILITY

Anyone entering a FWRA Championships race must be a member in good standing of the league/council which he/she represents and have a current FWRA classification. Eligibility for all classes has a further requirement that a racer must have completed at least three races with valid runs during the rating period (see section 3.1), with at least two races within the current season (starting Nov. 1). Races on "beginner" courses do not apply.

Junior racers shall be 17 years of age or younger, Open racers shall be 18 years of age or older, and Vet racers shall be 45 years of age or older. For the purposes of the foregoing, the age of a racer shall be his/her age as of November 1st preceding the FWRA Championships.

2.1 EXCEPTIONS

Exceptions to the eligibility rule may be granted by the FWRA President for an individual who, due to unusual circumstances, does not have the required number of races during the current season, so long as he/she has the required number of races during the rating period. Requests for such exceptions must be received in writing at least 2 weeks prior to the FWRA Championships.

2.2 EXCLUSIONS

Persons who have, during the rating period, raced as a professional in a pro circuit race, or been a member of the US Ski Team or National Training Group, are ineligible to compete in the FWRA Championships.

2.3 RACERS PARTICIPATING IN MULTIPLE LEAGUES

Racers who have raced in more than one league or council during the current season must have declared a home league. If a racer is selected for the championships by his/her designated home league, he/she cannot race for any other league in the championship race. If a racer has designated more than one home -league for the current season, he/she will be ineligible to compete in the FWRA championships.

2.4 QUALIFYING RACES

In addition to League races, the Far West Ski Week and USRSA Ski Week Slalom and Giant Slalom races shall count as races during the rating period, provided the ski week races are conducted in accordance with George Eachus' 1993 memo, included as Appendix A.

2.5 SNOWBOARDS

There shall be two snowboard classes at the Far West Championships. There will be an "upper" and a "lower" course. This will be a demonstration event, with no planned awards nor points for snowboarders. To be eligible, a snowboarder must have completed at least two races with valid runs during the current season.

3.0 RACER CLASSIFICATION

A racer's classification is based on his/her two best Far West handicaps as calculated from his/her performance in races within the FWRA during the rating period. All league, council, regional and championship races will be included. Handicaps from "beginner" courses will be excluded. Racers racing in more than one FWRA league will be classified based on their handicaps from all leagues 'Combined. Racers at the FWRA Championships may not race in a class which is slower than any class they have raced in during the current season, but they may, at the option of their League Race Chairman, race in a class faster than their classification. Racers that receive a double strike in the Saturday race shall race in the higher class on Sunday.

3.1 RATING PERIOD

The rating period shall commence with the FWRA Championship Races two (2) years previous and shall end with the last scheduled league, council or regional race prior to the current Championships.

3.2 HANDICAP

A racer's handicap is a number, computed as provided below, which expresses the percentage by which his/her time in a particular race exceeds Zero Par Time:

$$H = (T / Z - 1) \times 100$$

H = Racer's Handicap
T = Racer's Time
Z = Zero Par Time

3.3 ZERO PAR TIME

Zero Par Time, computed as provided below, is the theoretical time that a racer with zero (0.00) FIS points in the giant slalom would ski any given course on any given day. Zero par for a course will be computed using the average of the lowest cluster of the pacesetter's zero pars, provided that each of their runs falls within their normal performance. In the case of an inordinate number of racers on a given course receiving strikes, zero par may be adjusted for that given course. Zero par adjustments must be made by course, not by class.

$$Z = P / (1 + R / 100)$$

Z = Zero Par Time
 P = Pacesetter's Time
 R = Pacesetter's FWRA Rating

For the purpose of establishing zero par time for each FWRA championship course, a minimum of six pacesetter's shall be used.

3.4 STRIKE SYSTEM / RECLASSIFICATION

A racer whose handicap is faster than his/her class barrier shall receive a strike. A handicap exceeding multiple barriers results in multiple strikes. For the Skill 2 class, the secondary barrier shall be 5 points into the Skill 1 class.

A racer's strike count is based upon all races (excluding "beginner" courses) within the FWRA during the rating period. Strikes from all leagues shall be combined. A racer accumulating two or more strikes within the rating period will be reclassified to the next higher class. After reclassification, the racer's strike count will be recalculated with respect to his/her new class to determine if further reclassification is warranted, and/or if any strikes are to be retained.

3.5 CLASS DEFINITIONS

There shall be ten classes of Junior Men, ten classes of Junior Women, ten classes of Open Men, ten classes of Open Women, ten classes of Vet Men, and ten classes of Vet Women. The class names and lower handicap (HDCP) barriers shall be as follows:

<u>Class Name</u>	<u>Lower HDCP Barrier</u>
Skill 1	0
Skill 2	26.00
Skill 3	33.00
Skill 4	40.00
Skill 5	50.00
Skill 6	60.00
Skill 7	70.00
Skill 8	80.00
Skill 9	90.00
Skill 10	105.00+

4.0 DISQUALIFICATION

All disqualifications must be documented at the time of the infraction.

4.1 DEFINITION OF A VALID RUN

A valid run is a run in which the racer skis the entire course without disqualification and receives a valid time. Races on "beginner" courses do not apply; valid runs must be on the same courses used by regular classes (i.e., Skills 1 through 10) to accumulate FWRA handicaps.

4.2 AUTOMATIC DISQUALIFICATION

- a) A racer is disqualified for missing one or more gates or the finish line. A racer shall be disqualified for missing a gate if BOTH feet and the tips of BOTH skis do not all pass through the imaginary line between the poles, except during the last four gates, if the racer has lost a ski, then both feet and one ski tip must pass through the gate.
- b) A racer shall be disqualified if he/she loses a ski during a race, except in the last four gates (last three gates and finish line gate) where the skier shall be allowed to complete the course with one ski. In this case, the tip of the remaining ski and BOTH feet must pass through the gate.
- c) A racer shall be disqualified for jumping the start (i.e. boots crossing the imaginary line before the starter's signal) at the discretion of the starter, in those races not electronically timed where the timing equipment is actuated upon visual or audible signal from the starter.
- d) A racer shall be disqualified for failure to return a bib issued by the host agency as described in section 5.5.
- e) A racer shall be disqualified if, at the time of the championships, he/she has designated more than one FWRA league as his/her home league.

4.3 DISQUALIFICATION SUBJECT TO RACE COMMITTEE DECISION

- a) Racers are allowed to inspect the course only by climbing on skis or by slowly skiing alongside the course during the time authorized by the Championship Chairman or his/her designated Chief of Course. Racers may ski up to a gate to view the course, but may not pass through the gate, nor may they practice turns parallel with those required by the course. This rule applies to all races at the Championships, including the pacesetters' races.
- b) Course preparation, either by side slipping or snowplowing is only allowed under explicit instruction of the Championship Chairman or his/her designated Chief of Course.
- c) Racers must wear their race bib with the number easily visible, both during course inspection and during their run on the course.
- d) A racer can be disqualified for unsportsmanlike conduct at the discretion of the Race Committee.
- e) If a racer misses their starting position, they shall run at the end of their class. If a racer misses their entire class, they shall run at the end of their course. If they miss their course, they shall not be permitted to race unless a provisional run is granted by a race official and such run will be accepted or rejected by the Race Committee. An example for allowing the run would be if the chair broke down for a prolonged period of time. Racers granted a provisional run shall race at the end of the currently running class.
- f) In the event both a disqualification action and a timing malfunction occur in the same run, the disqualification takes precedence.
- g) Refusal to work on the race.
- h) Overtaking (two racers on the course at the same time) - the overtaking racer shall ski off the course and be granted a provisional re-run based on interference. The race committee may disqualify the overtaken racer if that racer blatantly caused the overtaking situation (e.g., by skiing off the course, and getting back in the course in front of the overtaking racer).
- i) Not signing individual race entry release form.
- j) Failure of the League Race Chairman to provide data substantiating the racer's classification at the Race Committee protest meeting.

- k) Racers may not race in a class slower than their classification, nor slower than any class they have raced in during the current season.

4.4 RE-RUNS

All re-runs shall be allowed as soon as feasible, regardless of the class and shall be permitted for the following reasons:

- a) False Start: It is the starter's obligation to call back the racer before he/she passes through the second gate (after the starting gate). Only one false start is allowed per racer.
- b) Timer Malfunction (either human or mechanical): In the event of a start time malfunction, an attempt should be made to stop the racer before he/she completes the course.
- c) Outside Interference to Racer: In the event of interference, the racer must ski off the course immediately and report to the nearest race official for a re-run.

4.5 PROTESTS

- a) Precise agreement of all timers and clocks cannot be guaranteed.
- b) All malfunctions and discrepancies under protest shall be reported to the FWRA Championship Chairman as soon as possible and be recorded immediately.
- c) When a provisional run is granted, the race committee shall determine if the provisional run will be accepted.
- d) All protests must be reported in writing to the Race Committee before the conclusion of the protest meeting on the day of the race.

5.0 REGISTRATION AND PROCEDURES

5.1 REGISTRATION

All racers shall register in person for each race at the time and location as specified by the FWRA Championship Chairman. At the discretion of the Championship Chairman, registration may not be required on Sunday. In any event, it is the responsibility of the racer to obtain the location of the race.

5.2 START ORDER

The FWRA Championship Chairman with the concurrence of the Race Committee will determine the number of courses to be used and which classes will race on each course. The total number of courses is dependent on the number of anticipated starters. The running order of classes shall be determined by the FWRA Championship Chairman.

First starter in each class will be assigned on a rotating basis by league. (e.g., If there were three leagues with starters in Elite I Women, League A would have first starter, League B would have second, League C would have third. In Elite I Men, League B would have first starter, League C would have second, and League A would have third.)

Within each class, once the first seeds from all leagues have been assigned a start order, the start order for second seeds in the class should be reversed until all second seeds have been assigned. The start order within the class should continue to be reversed each time a seed level is exhausted. (e.g., If Leagues A, B and C each had three seeds in a class, the start order by league would be A, B, C, C, B, A, A, B, C.)

When classes have been merged (see section 1.5), all first seeds from all leagues from both classes will be seeded before any second seeds, etc.

5.3 RESPONSIBILITY OF EACH LEAGUE/COUNCIL RACE CHAIRMAN/DESIGNEE

- a) Pre-registration as per mailed instructions from the FWRA Championship Chairman.
- b) Informing each individual racer of the FWRA rules and responsibilities.
- c) Attendance at all meetings of the FWRA Race Committee.
- d) Being prepared to present at registration or any meetings, either procedural or protest, any and all documentation substantiating the categorization of each of his/her league's racers entered in the championships.
- e) Forwarding all league race results, Zero Par Time calculations, strike and classification information, as well as the standardized FWRA Zero Par Time and Strike Summary Form, to the FWRA Championship Chairman within two weeks of each race during the year. For races held within two weeks prior to the championships, a strike and bump list must be delivered to the Championship Chairman no later than the Friday night before the race.

5.4 RACE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

The Race Committee shall meet prior to the registration of racers for the Championship race. They will meet again, immediately after completion of each race to rule on problems such as handicapping, disqualifications, provisional runs, etc. The Committee shall decide on all protests.

5.5 BIB DISTRIBUTION AND COLLECTION

- a) Bibs will be assigned to a name on the starting list and said racer will be responsible for turning the bib in.
- b) Racers will turn in bibs immediately at the finish of their course on Sunday.
- c) Immediately after Sunday's courses are closed, the bibs will be taken to the registration area to be sorted. At that time, missing bibs will be checked against the start sheets to determine the assigned racer. Any racer not turning in his/her assigned bib shall be disqualified unless a fee for replacement is paid.

6.0 LEAGUE CHAMPIONSHIP RESULTS CALCULATION

Points shall be awarded based on the finish within each class according to the table below. Classes with more than 20 point-eligible starters will allocate points the same as classes with exactly 20.

	Point-Eligible Starters																			
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
1	3	6	7	8	9	9	9	9	9	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10
2			2	3	4	5	6	7	7	8	8	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9
p	3				1	2	3	4	5	6	6	7	7	8	8	8	8	8	8	8
l	4						1	2	3	3	4	4	5	5	6	6	7	7	7	7
a	5								1	1	2	3	4	4	5	5	6	6	6	6
c	6										1	1	2	3	3	4	4	5	5	5
d	7												1	1	2	3	3	4	4	4
e	3														1	1	2	2	3	3
	9																1	1	2	2
	10																		1	1
Total																				
Points	3	6	9	11	14	16	19	22	25	28	31	34	38	40	44	46	50	52	55	55
Points	3.0		2.7		2.7		2.7		2.8		2.8		2.9		2.9		2.9		2.8	
Per		3.0		3.0		2.8		2.7		2.8		2.8		2.9		2.9		2.9		2.9
Starter																				

6.1 TIES

In case of a tie, the combined total points for the tied position and the ones following it will be shared equally by the tying racers. The number of tied positions for which the points are shared will equal the number of tying racers. (The total number of points awarded in a class will not change as a result of a tie.)

7.0 AWARDS

7.1 FWRA CHAMPIONSHIP INDIVIDUAL AWARDS (SATURDAY AND SUNDAY)

Individual awards will be presented for both Saturday and Sunday races. The minimum number of awards will be determined by the number of starters in each class as follows:

Number of starters	1-3	4-6	7-9	10-12	13+
Minimum number of awards	1	2	3	4	5

There will be an award for each class based upon combined time from the Slalom and Giant Slalom races.

7.2 FWRA CHAMPIONSHIP LEAGUE/COUNCIL TROPHIES

The league/council champion in the Adult and Junior Divisions shall be presented with the Far West Racing Association Championship trophy for their division. There shall be three divisions for the Championship trophy. The divisions shall be A (1-35 racers), AA (36-75 racers), and AAA (76 or more racers). The numbers are based on the number of registered racers as of Friday night before the Championships.

7.3 ROMA McCOY TROPHY

The Roma McCoy Trophy shall be presented to the league or council which wins the points per racer start championship. The Roma McCoy perpetual trophy shall remain on display at the Mammoth Mountain Ski area. A plaque shall be presented to the winning league or council for their permanent display. To be eligible for the Roma McCoy Trophy, a League must have a minimum of 10 racer starts each day. Snowboarders and Juniors don't count as starters for the Roma McCoy Trophy.

7.4 ANNOUNCING OF RESULTS

Unofficial League Champion and Roma McCoy Trophy standings will be announced at the Saturday party and after Sunday's race. The official results will not be available until the Far West Ski Association convention held in the spring after the championships.

8.0 COURSE SETTING GUIDELINES

8.1 RELATIONSHIP TO OTHER RULES

FWRA rules tend to follow USSA and FIS rules, but with exceptions. Notable areas that differ include homologation (not required for FWRA), course length and vertical drop (not as big for FWRA), number of gates (no mandatory minimum or maximum for FWRA).

8.2 REFERENCES:

1. FIS Competition Rules Book IV, 1996 edition
2. USSA Alpine Competition Guide 2000
3. United States Ski Coaches Association 1996-1997 Level 1 Clinic Handbook"

8.3 PURPOSE

To provide guidelines for course setters for FWRA races so that competitors have an enjoyable racing experience, while being appropriately challenged.

8.4 GENERAL

1. Safety first
2. Each course should be appropriate for the skill levels competing on the course
3. Control speed, but facilitate carrying speed across flats
4. Finish rate should be over 80%
5. Courses should be rhythmical but not monotonous
6. Avoid gate combinations which require sudden braking
7. Avoid extremely tight gates over blind knolls
8. Avoid tricks
9. The last gate should direct racers towards the middle of the finish line
10. Fencing should be used to protect racers from obstacles in slide zones
11. The finish area should allow all competitors to stop safely
12. Consult with FWRA officials when in doubt, and err on the side of safety

8.5 SLALOM

1. Vertical drop should ideally be 120 to 200 meters, but other distances are acceptable, and less advanced skill classes will often use less. Winning S1 times of 40 to 50 seconds per run are typical.
2. A SL gate consists of 2 poles. The turning poles shall be "break-away's."

3. A gate must have a width of 4 to 6 meters. The distance between turning poles of gates must be from 0.75 meters (in combinations) to 15 meters.
4. There must be between 0 and 3 flushes (vertical combinations of 3, or in rare cases 4, gates).
 - a. Courses which include S1 racers should have at least 2 flushes.
 - b. Courses which include S10 racers should have at most 1 flush.
5. There must be between 2 and 4 hairpin combinations (vertical combinations of 2 gates).
 - a. Courses which include S1 racers should have at least 3 hairpins.
 - b. Courses which include S10 racers should have at most 2 hairpins.
6. The course should allow rapid completion of all turns. It should allow a fluent run, while testing a wide variety of technique, including turns of varying radii.

8.6 GIANT SLALOM

1. FWRA does not impose GS course length requirements, although it is expected that GS courses will generally be longer than slalom courses, and winning S1 times of over 50 seconds per run are desirable.
2. A GS gate consists of 4 poles and 2 flags. The flags must be capable of pulling away from the poles.
3. The gates must be 4 to 8 meters wide. Delay gates should use the full 8 meter width. The distance between the turning poles of two successive gates must be at least 10 meters.
4. Delay gates are allowed.
5. The number of turning gates should equal about 11 to 15 percent of the vertical drop in meters (e.g.: a 200 meter course should have 22 to 30 gates).

8.7 PACESETTER RACES

Since a large portion of the participants in the pacesetters' races are not S1 nor S2 level racers, getting too technical will increase the number of DNFs to an unacceptable level. Ninety to 95% should complete the slalom courses, and 95-100 % should complete the giant slalom courses. To complete 3 SL and 3 GS races in one day, there is not the time nor the terrain available to set the courses as if all racers were S1.

APPENDIX A, SANCTIONING FWSA SKI WEEK RACES

August 16, 1993

T0: Far West Ski Association
FROM: Far West Race Association
SUBJECT: Sanctioning FWSA Ski Week Races

For FWRA to consider sanctioning the FWSA ski week races the following must be met:

1. Races to be insured through FWRA.
2. USSA official present at all races (courses).
3. Use of 6 FWRA pacesetter per course. (4 could be accepted, based on circumstances.)
4. FWRA recommends all Slalom and GS courses be two (2) pole events with the appropriate technical difficulty according to the ability level running the course.
5. FWRA race rules apply. Exceptions to the rules must be approved by FWRA prior to the event.
6. Race Chairman (Chief of Course) and race staff to be approved by FWRA prior to the event.
7. Race results and ZP calculations to be sent to all leagues and FWRA president within two (2) weeks after the conclusion the ski week.

The following are other factors to consider:

1. It should be noted, not all leagues are in favor of sanctioning FWSA ski week races.
2. FWRA suggests not calendaring the qualifier.
3. FWRA also strongly recommends seeding established racers in their highest class. Use the qualifier for "First Time Racers" only.

1994 Ski Week races will NOT be sanctioned. This was voted on at the FWRA summer meeting July 24, 1993. However, if sanctioning is desired for 1995, the 1994 races should be run as close as possible to the above guidelines.

George K. Eachus
President, FWRA