

2008/2009 J3 AGE CHAIR REPORT

ELITE RACE SERIES (ERS)

PARA sent six racers to the J3 Elite Race Series held in late January at Lake Placid, NY (Whiteface Mountain). Five male athletes and one female athlete attended. Those athletes attending were Kendall Creswell, Thomas Steinbach, Marc Blanchard, Mackenzie DeCarle, Stepper Hall and Gregory Fazekas. All PARA quota spots were filled. Coach Rolf Mair of Bear Creek Race Team represented the athletes. Results were only fair for the racers.

STATE CHAMPIONSHIP

Despite the ever present short window of time between the last state qualifiers and the J3 Derby, the three day event went smoothly. The increased quota to 80 racers continues to have little or no affect on the event itself. However, racers in the additional quota spots fall in the bottom of the results for all three disciplines. Filling the discretionary spots for some of the regions is proving challenging with the increased quota, as some of the athletes lower down on the lists have not attended more than a couple of races during the entire season and show little interest in higher levels of racing. The weather and snow conditions for all three event days was excellent. Course conditions were excellent and all course sets were appropriate and challenging. For the first time, one TD was assigned to the event for all three days. This resulted in smooth running races and a good understanding between course officials, coaches, and all involved in general. Many thanks to the TD, Bill Dunstan, for his time and continued support to PARA. Many thanks also to all the race workers (race officials, coaches and parents) who helped make this event successful and memorable to our racers. A huge thanks to Kim Wright and Deb Dix, who did an excellent job in their first year as the J3 Derby Co-Chairs. Congratulations to this years' male and female State Champions, Thomas Steinbach of SNO Mtn. and Katie Benjamin of WPRC. The 2009 J3 State Team is as follows:

J3 Mens State Team

STEINBACH, Thomas	SNO	1994
PYKE, Geoffrey	BLUE	1995
CONNORS, Shane	ELK	1994
FAZEKAS, Gregory	BLUE	1994
DE CARLE, Mackenzie	TMART	1994
DIX, Daniel	WPRC	1994
HALL, Stepper	ELK	1994
TINDALL, Bergen	ELK	1994
KLEIN, Daniel	SRRC	1994
HOFFMAN, Cameron	WTSEF	1994
FIELD, Robert	WTSEF	1994
BRAUN, Owen	SRRC	1995
DETWILER, Dakota	SRRC	1995
CALLAGHAN, Evan	SNO	1994
BEVILLE, Ryan	BLUE	1995

J3 Womens State Team

BENJAMIN, Katie	WPRC	1994
JOYCE, Kailey	WPRC	1995
BRACKUP, Julia	BLUE	1994
ROWLAND, Kelly	PASEF	1994
KING, Relly	SRRC	1995
LEGRO, Liza	SRRC	1995
HOFFMAN, Tori	WPRC	1994
CRESSWELL, Kendall	ELK	1994

POST SEASON EVENTS

PARA sent eight racers to the J3 JO's (quota is five men and three women). All 15 positions for Finals were filled. Only six J3 athletes opted to attend Piche's (five female and one male athlete). The remaining quota spots for Piche were deferred to the J4's. Racers attending JO's had better than average results. PARA racers at Finals and Piche's finished above the past trend as well. There was a noticeable difference in results of the PARA athletes at post season events over the past few years. The current field of athletes are taking advantages of opportunities to attend developmental camps and have gained experience on the longer, steeper hills in New England.

Thank you to the post season coaches:

J3 JO Coaches: Bruce Bedell and Curt Schramm

J3 Final Coaches: Bill Dunstan and Tripp McHenry

Piche Coaches: Curt Schramm and Jim Dibiase

LOOKING AHEAD TO NEXT SEASON

In an effort to provide adequate time to select discretionary spots, notify racers and parents, and prepare start lists for the Derby, all attempts should be made to complete all regional qualifiers, leaving as much time as possible between the last qualifying race and the Derby. Based on the current PARA quota, the six second year J3's who qualify for next years' ERS are Kailey Joyce, Relly King, Geoffrey Pyke, Owen Braun, Dakota Detwiler and Ryan Beville.

After shadowing the position for the past year, Jamie Joyce of WPRC will be taking over as the J3 Age Chair. It has been my pleasure to serve as the J3 Age Chair for the past six years. I wish continued success to the J3 racers and all those involved in the age events.

Lisa Clayton
PARA J3 Age Chair

