

2007/2008 J3 CHAIR REPORT

ERS

PARA sent three racers to the J3 Elite Race Series held in late January at Lake Placid, NY (Whiteface Mountain). Coach Bill Dunstan from Blue Mountain represented the athletes. All quota spots were not filled because several of the qualifying racers declined attendance and filling their spots would have meant dropping too deep into the field to fill the spots.

STATE CHAMPIONSHIP

Despite a very 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 appeared to have little or no affect on the event itself. Racers in the additional quota spots did fall in the bottom of the results for all three disciplines. The weather and snow conditions for the Super G and SL events were excellent. The weather was tolerable for the GS. Course conditions and the course set for GS proved to be challenging for the racers and course maintenance. Many thanks to all the race workers (race officials, coaches and parents) who helped make this event successful and memorable to our racers. Congratulations to this years' male and female State Champions, Alex Clayton from WPRC and Heather Derr from Tussey Mountain. The 2008 J3 State Team is as follows:

J3 Mens State Team

Alex Clayton
Anthony Persinski
Chance Snyder
Ryan Baker
Thomas Steinbach
Artem Talanov
Matthew Martell
Marc Blanchard
Mackenzie DeCarle
James Critchfield
Kyle Wakeen
Tyler Harold
Stepper Hall
Gregory Fazekas
Shane Connors

J3 Womens State Team

Heather Derr
Kendall Cresswell
Kylee Turko
Molly Broom
Katherine Birmingham
Taylor Broom
Jordan Doubledee
Hannah Beville

POST SEASON EVENTS

PARA sent nine racers to the J3 JO's (quota is five men and three women). An additional racer, Molly Broom, qualified from J3 Finals to attend the JO's. All positions for Finals were filled. Only one athlete opted to attend Piche's. The remaining quota

spots for Piche were given to the J4's. Racers attending JO's faired only adequately. Lack of experience in hill length, steepness and speed was apparent in most of the racers. With the exception of one female qualifying from Finals for Jo's, PARA racers at Finals only faired adequate as well. There was a noticeable difference in results of the PARA athletes at post season events from years' past.

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. Attempt again to schedule an open GS or some kind of Super G training for PARA J3 racers. Based on the current PARA quota, the six second year J3's qualify for next years' ERS are Kendall Creswell, Taylor Broom, Thomas Steinbach, Marc Blanchard, Mackenzie DeCarle and Stepper Hall.

Lisa Clayton
PARA J3 Age Chair