

Proposal 1 - Recognize athletes who qualified for Piche at the U14 and U12 PARA Derbies as members of the State Team.

We have not really looked at this since the J to U age classes. Below is the current data on the percent of State Team members and the athletes in each age group (data of the derby quotas).

- U19&U21 - 85 Athletes - 17 State Team = 20%
- U16 - 147 Athletes - 24 State Team = 16%
- U14 - 192 Athletes - 10 State Team = 5%
- U12 - 169 Athletes - 12 State Team = 7%

As can be seen this percent is VERY low for the U14s and U12s compared to the U16 and higher. If we included all the Piche athletes in U12 and U14 as qualified as PARA Derbies then the new percentages are seen below:

- U14 - 192 Athletes - 27 State Team = 14%
- U12 - 169 Athletes - 20 State Team = 12%

The only "cost" to PARA is sweatshirts for an additional 25 racers as we are already sending coaches to the post season events.

Proposal 2 – Change from the current Quota method used to determine championship field to an approved percentage of racers in each division.

For the last couple of year there had been a lot of issues (and stress) with the publishing of a quota list (based on various issues). The PARA Board has approved the percent of racers for each championship/derby for U12 (40%), U14 (40%) and U16 (50%). Each region chair will then use these percentages on their age group standings (active racers - registered in PARA and to a team in region) to determine the number of athletes allowed to attend derbies. This will remove the need for a separate quote document. NOTE: I think we should round up the selections but this in the implementation.

Ex. 37 boys U12 = $37 * .4 = \text{Round}(14.8) = 15$ or 22 girls U14 = $23 * .4 = \text{Round}(9.2) = 9$

Proposal 3 – Awards at all the PA Cup races are for the combined U21/U19 age group. In addition, there should only be one PA Cup (overall) award for the U21/U19 for men and women and no separate one for U19 only.

At last year's Spring Board Meeting there was a discussion that the U21s never hang around for the awards and there are not many of them either, so some are getting awards for just staying on their feet. Some of the race host then stated they weren't giving awards to the U21s (it turned out they all did that this season). Next thing that happened was that the U18 age group was raised to the U19. This means that there were even less U21s, only 1 versus 14, if we had stayed with the U18 age group. Since these athletes weren't recognized at the awards ceremony, some thought they should be excluded from the PA Cup standings but this would go against the "PARA Rules, Procedures and Qualifying Criteria" Nov 2014. Also this document needs to be updated for the U19 age group. Note that 6 of the 17 state team members would have been U21s if the U18 age group was not changed.

Proposal 4 – Implement a scored U16 race circuit similar to PA Cup (or use it) that is used to qualify for the U16 Derby

We are really doing a disservice to this age group by not requiring specific U16 races. Many of the qualifying events are running on U12 or U14 race course. Given the size of these racer and their equipment it would be preferable to have specific races just for this age group. Currently Elk, Jack Frost and Blue have U16 only races. I hope other mountains would support these athletes and a separate race circuit.

Proposal 5 – PARA to identify early season races for scored State Team Members and send Coaches as a way to inject points into PA Cup and U16 PARA event

This sometimes happens on a per club basis but we could lower our base points for all of our races if we worked together. I propose invite our best scored racers (State Team Members) to a few selected races in NH/VT with PARA represented coaches. Similar to what we do for post season races. This should lower the points for these racers and therefore the calculated racer penalty. Also we should include U14 State Team+Piche that aged into U16s for these preseasong races.

Proposal 6 – Add a scored SG race to PA Cup Circuit and/or Speed Camp

PARA has done a lot to introduce SG events into the U14 and U16 age groups but nothing is being done at the U19. As a result, many of our State Team members go to post season SG races with 999.99 points (late starts) and little to no experience as we don't have a Speed Camp or race for them in PARA. For the U19s State Team

men 6 out of 9 had 999.99 SG points and women had 6 out of 7 with 999.99 SG points. There are 5 male racers with under 225 points.

Thanks,

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