

J-6 RACE PARTICIPATION PROPOSAL

This past season was the first time a J-6 class has been recognized by USSA and it's late announcement left no time for regions to consider how to handle the new class. In addition, there was no guidance from USSA. As a result, J-6 racers were simply lumped into the 4/5 races. Most clubs did take them into consideration and provide trophies for these young racers as a class. In some cases, the athletes were able to compete with older competitors but generally they were relegated to the back of the field.

For next season we are proposing that J-6 racers be given a separate structure and not race with J-4/5 athletes. In place of these races, they will be given the opportunity to concentrate on developing the skills necessary to compete successfully later in their careers by concentrating on training, not racing. For this to be accomplished they will be scheduled no more than two races during the season. Races will be held within the region or at their home club as determined by each region. At the end of the season (after 4/5 Derby) there will be an opportunity for them to attend a State Carnival which will be a skills based event calculating awards on a team rather than individual basis. There will be no qualifying procedure for this event—participation will be based on desire to attend and recommendations from home coaches. The exact content and location of the Carnival will be determined by a committee appointed by the Exec. Com. of the BOD.

The intent of this proposal is to foster the SKI portion of Ski Racing by reducing the emphasis on racing and encouraging the development of basic skills which will provide the platform from which these young athletes will become successful racers in later years.