Pennsylvania (PARA) Alpine Officials 2011-2012 Report

*April 30, 2012*

Submitted by Rob Lipton, Alpine Officials Chair

**Ski Racing Season Highlights:**

The 2011-2012 Alpine Ski Racing season in PA was one for the record books; in that the weather did not cooperate at all. There were frayed nerves; sleepless nights by many of the ROC’s wondering if they were going to be able to get their events off at all. It is amazing that we were able to have a ski racing season in PA at all. As usual our PARA ski racing community rose to the occasion AND MOST of the ski races scheduled were eventually held although a few were at different venues than originally scheduled Again the J4/J5 state championship race required the ROC to perform heroic measures to the race venue putting on a first rate event The anxiety/concern by the ROCs on how they could run J1 thru J5 Slalom races were worked out and only caused minor problems.

PARA’s certified gatekeeping program has continue to grow; and has helped to bring consistency to this important and fundamental task in alpine ski racing. The ROC’s have increasingly made use of these certified gatekeepers.

This year the ranks of PARA’s Technical Delegates have once again shrunk. Currently, we have 12 active TD’s. Two of them are new and we do welcome them. The good news is that we now Have 114 certified referees in PARA. That does not include those nominated for this year. Our overall number of Alpine Officials in PARA totals 314; most have at least 1 certification. We have a dedicated alpine official community, and I am proud to represent them. Thank you; for without you there would be no ski racing in PARA.

This year’s USSA initiative, concerning athletes who are suspected of a concussion are not allowed to compete until cleared using the approved process was VERY slow in getting up to speed. The concussion list was not updated in a timely manner. As the season progressed the process did appear to get a little better (more timely). Though, I am recommending that we (PARA) put in place our own process for notifying and listing those athletes who are suspected of a concussion and must first be cleared before competing. This list will be made available to the PARA ROC’s and AO community to be checked against the start list.

**Educational Opportunities:**

This year PARA Alpine Officials provided four general Alpine Officials workshops, geographically dispersed throughout the state. They were held at Roundtop, Wisp, Camelback, Blue Mountain, Whitetail and Seven Springs (128 participants attended). One of the workshops was sponsored by the Eastern Alpine Official’s (EAO) organization and was organized and managed by Dan Chayes. He also was the lead course conductor for the Whitetail AO workshop. John McGregor and I jointly performed the AO update at Blue Mountain and Roundtop. John also conducted a workshop at Seven Springs and at Wisp this year.

I once again used the PARA AO Website [http://scis.nova.edu/~rlipton/para/default.htm](http://scis.nova.edu/~rlipton/para/default.htm%20), the Alpine Officials community in could use this website to retrieve the most recent versions of all USSA forms and documents and to find out about other pertinent updates, rule changes, clarifications and other timely information useful to the AO community. Once again a Google doc was used to schedule the Technical Delegates and Referees for this year’s races. TD’s have editing rights and everyone has Read access to the schedule.

This year, PARA used a Google Docs “document” for scheduling Technical Delegates for the various races. Using Google docs let the TDs schedule their own race preferences and referee’s choice. This worked very well and it also allowed the AO and ROC community to view the staffing assignments and status of the races. You can review the document at [https://docs.google.com/spreadsheet/ccc?key=0Atl1DGe5JRA1dFlEd24zYXhBeGdJeTR1ckV3dzBid2c&hl=en\_US#gid=2](https://docs.google.com/spreadsheet/ccc?key=0Atl1DGe5JRA1dFlEd24zYXhBeGdJeTR1ckV3dzBid2c&hl=en_US%23gid=2)

**Ski Racing Statistics:**

**PARA Calendared Thirty-Eight (37) J1-J5, Master, Senior, (Men & Women) Races. 33 were run.**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Month & Year** | **Number of Races** **Men and Women events counted as one race**  |
| December 2011 | 0 |
| January 2012   | 15 |
| February 2012  | 14 |
| March 2012 | 3 |

**Races Continued:**

**14 - scored
18 - non-scored
 6 - both**

**For the 11-12 Ski Season, PARA has 12 Active Technical Delegates who worked at least one race.**

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| --- |
| 2 TD’s Officiated 5 races  |
| 5 TD’s Officiated 3 races |
| 3 TD’s Officiated 2 races |
| 1TD Officiated 1 race  |

**Upgrades and Promotions** *(By the Numbers)*

314 Alpine Officials Registered in PA (Decrease of 20 over last year)

15 Exams Administered

12 Referee

2 Timing & Calculations Level 1 (2 Passed)

1 Chief of Race (3 Passed)

1 Chief of Course

4 Race Administrator

2 Technical Delegates 1

There are 19 PARA Alpine Officials recommended for promotion to a level 1 or 2 for 2011-2012 year

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| --- | --- |
| **Classification**  | **Number of Requests** |
| **CC** : CHIEF OF COURSE | 0 |
| **CO** : COMPETITION OFFICIAL | 3 |
| **CR** : CHIEF OF RACE | 3 |
| **DM** : DATA MANAGEMENT | 2 |
| **JA** : JURY ADVISOR | 14 |
| **RA** : RACE ADMINISTRATOR | 2 |
| **RF** : REFEREE | 14 |
| **TC** : TIMING AND CALCULATIONS | 4 |
| **TD :** TECHNICAL DELEGATE | 1 |
| **Total** | **43** |
| **USSA ID** | **Official Name** | **Season** | **CC** | **CO** | **CR** | **DM** | **JA** | **RA** | **RF** | **TC** | **TD** |
| **4321063** | **C J Baltz** | **2012** |  |  |  |  | **1** |  | **1** |  |  |
| **4514162** | **Bruce Bedell** | **2012** |  |  | **3** |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **5344064** | **Joe Bender** | **2012** |  | **3** |  |  | **3** |  |  |  |  |
| **4974846** | **Jonathan Bowser** | **2012** |  |  |  |  | **1** |  | **1** |  |  |
| **6252007** | **Michael Burr** | **2012** |  |  |  |  | **1** |  | **1** |  |  |
| **6413723** | **Scott Camerlo** | **2012** |  |  |  |  | **1** |  | **1** |  |  |
| **5270897** | **John Delong** | **2012** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | **1** |  |
| **5962121** | **J William Filling** | **2012** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **5224803** | **Samuel Ganow** | **2012** |  |  | **3** | **4** | **3** |  |  | **4** | **4** |
| **4863890** | **Andrew Goldberg** | **2012** |  |  |  |  | **1** |  | **1** |  |  |
| **5862339** | **Danny Griffin** | **2012** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | **1** |  |
| **6273560** | **David Kingston** | **2012** |  | **1** | **1** |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **4781340** | **Timothy Kunkel** | **2012** |  |  |  |  | **2** |  |  |  |  |
| **4998274** | **Reece McGregor** | **2012** |  |  |  |  | **2** |  | **2** |  |  |
| **6250400** | **Tim Mckinney** | **2012** |  |  |  |  | **1** |  | **1** |  |  |
| **5163571** | **Jacek Nowakowski** | **2012** |  |  |  |  |  | **1** |  |  |  |
| **6287363** | **Eric Olsen** | **2012** |  |  |  |  | **1** |  |  **1** |  |  |
| **4895165** | **Peter Scheetz** | **2012** |  |  |  |  |  |  | **1** | **1** |  |
| **5278353** | **Jan Smilek** | **2012** |  |  |  |  | **1** |  | **1** |  |  |
| **5543897** | **Callan Space** | **2012** |  |  |  |  | **1** |  | **1** |  |  |
| **6255538** | **Sandra Stefanic** | **2012** |  | **2** |  | **2** |  | **2** | **1** |  |  |
| **6339831** | **Rick Stone** | **2012** |  |  |  |  | **1** |  | **1** |  |  |
| **6412056** | **Benjamin Streeter** | **2012** |  |  |  |  | **1** |  | **1** |  |  |

**Level 3 or 4 PARA AO Upgrades Requested 2011-2012**

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| --- | --- |
| **Classification**  | **Number of Requests** |
| **CO : COMPETITION OFFICIAL** | **1** |
| **CR : CHIEF OF RACE** | **1** |
| **DM : DATA MANAGEMENT** | **1** |
| **JA : JURY ADVISOR** | **1** |
| **TC : TIMING AND CALCULATIONS** | **1** |
| **TD : TECHNICAL DELEGATE** | **1** |

**Issues and Concerns - on the Horizon**

* **Athletes Concussion List (process and procedure)**
* **Age class changes (AO staffing)**
* **Equipment Changes**
* **Youth rule changes (especially in SL when running multiclass races)**
* **Race venue education (athlete and parent education)**

**Respectfully Submitted - April 30, 2012**

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