

**PARA U12 Chair Report  
(2015-2016 Season)  
Tim Brown, U14 Age Chair**

**U12 Derby –**

The Derby took place February 26<sup>th</sup>-February 28<sup>th</sup> at Tussey Mountain. The field consisted of a total 84racers, 45 boys and 39 girls.

The event consisted of Friday Skills Quest event, followed by three runs of GS on Saturday and three runs of SL on Sunday.

Saturday evening consisted of a banquet and a raffle. Sunday afternoon consisted of an awards ceremony.

As both the age chair and a coach I had the opportunity to spend the majority of my time on the slope. I was very impressed with the behavior and sportsmanship exhibited by all the racers. Congratulations to all the racers who attended. I found that the quality/level of the field to be representative of what I would expect at a state championship event.

I personally would like to thank Jeff Brock, Eric Updegrove, the Tussey Mountain Alpine Race Club and the entire staff of Tussey Mountain for all their hard work pulling off this event. Special thanks to Jeff Brock for acting as the derby chair and all his help assisting with the awards ceremony. Thanks to Joe Bender and Sandy Stefanic for all their help with timing and calculations. I would also like to thank all the coaches and parents for all their help, both on and off the hill.

The PARA State Team consisted of 6 boys and 6 girls.

The following racers qualified for the PARA State Team based on their results at the derby.

**Boys**

- |                     |               |
|---------------------|---------------|
| 1. Preston Bolus    | Blue Mt.      |
| 2. Benjamin Cook    | Blue Mt.      |
| 3. Case Robbins     | Blue Mt.      |
| 4. Michael Finnerty | Jack Frost/BB |
| 5. Nicholas Warren  | SRRC          |
| 6. Shane Carpenter  | Elk Mt.       |

**Girls**

- |                       |       |
|-----------------------|-------|
| 1. Maiwenn Marzin     | SRRC  |
| 2. Marcella Altman    | SRRC  |
| 3. Katherine Sarkisov | WTSEF |

- |                     |      |
|---------------------|------|
| 4. Grayson Honig    | WPRC |
| 5. Julia Bennett    | SRRC |
| 6. Allison Mitchell | SRRC |

### **Francis Piche Invitational –**

The Francis Piche Invitational was held at Gunstock Ski Area on March 9<sup>th</sup> through the 13<sup>th</sup>. This year's PARA's quota consisted of a total of 36 racers. This year's quota was allocated as 10 U12 boys, 10 U12 girls, 8 U14 boys and 8 U14 girls.

PARA sent a total of 20 U12 racers. The event consisted of two optional training days on Wednesday and Thursday, a training day on Friday, GS race on Saturday and a slalom race on Sunday.

Lee Gonder, Jim Pottinger, Sarah Johnston and Tom Yen attended as the PARA coaches. Special thanks to all the coaches for their efforts communicated with and organizing such a large group of racers and families.

#### Girls

- |                       |          |
|-----------------------|----------|
| 1. Maiwenn Marzin     | SRRC     |
| 2. Marcella Altman    | SRRC     |
| 3. Katherine Sarkisov | WTSEF    |
| 4. Grayson Honig      | WPRC     |
| 5. Julia Bennett      | SRRC     |
| 6. Allison Mitchell   | SRRC     |
| 7. Summer Saifee      | WPRC     |
| 8. Carolyn Mole       | WPRC     |
| 9. Dahlia Saifee      | WPRC     |
| 10. Molly Strohl      | Blue Mt. |

#### Boys

- |                     |               |
|---------------------|---------------|
| 1. Preston Bolus    | Blue Mt.      |
| 2. Benjamin Cook    | Blue Mt.      |
| 3. Case Robbins     | Blue Mt.      |
| 4. Michael Finnerty | Jack Frost/BB |
| 5. Nicholas Warren  | SRRC          |
| 6. Shane Carpenter  | Elk Mt.       |
| 7. James Dougherty  | Blue Mt.      |
| 8. Rhys Dillingham  | Blue Mt.      |
| 9. Torin Pottinger  | WPRC          |
| 10. Bryce Gonder    | SRRC          |

### **Future Stars Festival –**

NYSSRA had planned a two day event to be held at Windham Mountain, NY. The event, which was to be skills based, was open to a total of 100 athletes from NYSSRA, SARA, Tri-State, NJSRA and PARA. Details of the event and curriculum were not provided prior the event being cancelled due to weather/snow condition. PARA was to be allotted 20 quota slots. Prior to the event being cancelled PARA had commitments from approximately 19 racers. The quota was filled with the next 10 male/female racers after those qualifying for the Piche event.

As the U12 age chair I would like the input from the PARA board as to whether this is an event, going forward, we should support and field a team of racers to attend. If so, any input on as how the field should be awarded. Can PARA budget coaches to attend? If so, how many?