

**PARA U12 Chair Report
(2022-2023 Season)
Tim Brown, U12 Age Chair**

U12 Derby –

The event took place February 25th and 26th at Big Boulder Ski Resort. The field consisted of a total 89 racers, 50 boys and 39 girls.

The event consisted of three runs of SL on Saturday, followed by three runs of GS on Sunday. Sunday afternoon consisted of an awards ceremony and naming of the state team.

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. Laughs, fun, camaraderie, building life-long friendships and life lessons is what it is all about at this age.

Special thanks to Ben Shirk and his staff at Ski Roundtop, as well as Alice Anderson who acted as the derby chairs prior to the event moving to Big Boulder at the last minute. A big thanks to Dave Bond, Michelle Wilson, the JF/BB race staff, as well as the management team at Big Boulder for pulling off a great event on short notice. Big Boulder was a great venue for this age level. I would also like to thank all the coaches and parents for all their help, both on and off the hill. Special thanks to Bruce Wickersham for being the TD.

The PARA State Team consisted of 10 boys and 10 girls.

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

Boys

1. Evan Petaja	JF/BB
2. AJ Skahan	JF/BB
3. Calvin Ord	BMR
4. Seiji Galperin	SMRT
5. Thomas Kennedy	WTSEG
6. David Ross	JF/BB
7. Anders Miller	SRRC
8. Maximilian Deibert	Elk
9. Austin Ihnat	LMRT
10. Adrian Jan	Blue

Girls

1. Ella McKnight	WPRC
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2. Avery Hodge	WTSEF
3. Flora Wheeler	WTSEF
4. Kesley Glantz	TMART
5. Reagan Ryan	SRRC
6. Olivia Nichols	WPRC
7. Ava Stambaugh	SRRC
8. Brooke Anderson	SRRC
9. Brielle Superszynski	LMRT
10. Aspen Smith	WPRC

Francis Piche Invitational –

The Francis Piche Invitational was to be held at Gunstock Ski Area on March 15th through the 19th. The event consisted of two optional training days, a Dual SL/Team Event, a day of GS and a day of SL. This year's PARA quota originally consisted of a total of 40 racers. This year's quota was allocated as 11 U12 boys, 11 U12 girls, 9 U14 boys and 9 U14 girls.

PARA sent a total of 22 U12 racers.

Top U12 finishes:

GS – Ella McKnight (WPRC) 5th, Evan Petaja (JF/BB) 16th

SL – Kesley Glantz (TMSRT) 10th, Kennedy Thompson (WTSEF) 10th

Special thanks to the PARA coaches, Megan Hersh, Bruce Bedell and Coby Wheeler.