

PARA 2025 Coaches' Chair Report

May 2, 2025

This season we managed the post season coaching assignments and budget with a committee of Bruce Newman, Dan Chayes, and Rudi Riet.

All postseason coaching positions were filled proactively. The trend continues with coaches expressing interest in coaching at events where their athletes are participating. Finding “neutral” coaches continues to be an issue, one that isn’t likely to resolve itself.

Additionally, staffing needs should be considered for any postseason event that features a speed component (e.g. super-G race). These events are best covered with at least three coaches present, and at least one coach with speed coaching experience.

Furthermore, it’s vital that PARA coaches at postseason events have official certification to assist with these events (e.g. referee, course setter).

We were able to staff all the post season events, including limited support and most coaches were able to officiate at events (even if they weren’t selected to do so). Thank you to all the coaches who made themselves available to go north with our athletes, giving their time and service to PARA.

An “assistant coach” was assigned to help support the U18 Finals, with a large field and a speed event. This expense incurred a overrun on the U18 line-item budget by \$1,109. As such we’re asking for approval for this expense.

Of note is that a PARA athlete qualified for U16 National Championships at Sugarloaf, Maine, and finished 4th in the Super G. A request to provide limited support, \$1,000, to help defray the costs of providing a coach for this athlete was supported by this committee. As this was not a budgeted line item we’re asking for approval for the of this expense.

Overall expenses were 15% below the entire coaching budget of \$40,600.

Items for consideration:

- The proposed budget does not provide a coach for U14 Eastern Finals. This is an “open event”, qualification is not required. We’ve had minimal participation at this event and believe if athletes plan on attending they will need to seek appropriate representation.
- We’re proposing an addition to the budget to allow an “assistant coach”, covered for the “per-diem” only for up to three days, at U18 Finals, U16 Championships and U16 Finals if they include a speed component.
- Including discretionary funding for cases where a PARA athlete (or athletes) qualifies for age-class national championships (which won’t always be as geographically friendly as they were this season). We’d propose a \$1,500 budget

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item to support a qualified coach for athletes attending a national championship or U14 Can-Am.

- Remind all coaches that official coaching positions at postseason events must be vetted by the Coaching Committee so that budgets are kept in check.

Respectfully Submitted

Bruce J. Newman, Dan Chayes, and Rudi Riet

Events Staffed

Eastern High School Championships

U18 Finals

U16 Championships

U16 Finals

U14 Championships

U14 Finals

Piches – U14

Piches – U12

U16 Nationals – limited support