

PARA U14 Chair Report
2023-2024 Season
Michael Clarke
U14 Age Chair

U14 State Championship

The event took place February 24th - 25th at Seven Springs Resort. Once again, mother nature did not cooperate with our region for most of us and there were some concerns leading up to the event that Seven Springs Resort would not be able to host. However, unlike last year the mountain crew was able to take advantage of some colder temperatures leading up to the event and get enough snow on the race hill to pull it off. The field consisted of a total 86 athletes, 50 male and 36 female. The event included three runs of Slalom on Saturday followed by an athlete banquet and three runs of GS on Sunday followed by the awards ceremony to wrap up the Championship.

As I have stated each year that I have been the U14 age chair and coach, I am always amazed at the level of competition and the overall vibe of this event. The athletes come to compete but are always supportive of each other. Each athlete should be extremely proud of their accomplishments this season and deserve congratulations. Special thanks to Rachel Greenier for acting as the U14 State Championship chair and all her hard work making arrangements with the resort for the banquet and awards ceremony, handling bib pickup, and assisting with the awards ceremony. I would also like to thank all the coaches and parents for their help, both on and off the hill.

The PARA U14 State Team consisted of 10 male and 10 female athletes.

The following athletes qualified for the PARA U14 State Team based on their results at the U14 State Championship.

Male:

- | | |
|---------------------|-------|
| 1. Jacob Pianalto | WTSEF |
| 2. Ty Millett | EMSC |
| 3. Jack Hodgkinson | WTSEF |
| 4. Tyler Kunkel | SRRC |
| 5. Cameron Rai | BMRA |
| 6. Trent Bray | DCWST |
| 7. Luca Loverich | TMART |
| 8. Dmytri Sandursky | BMRA |
| 9. Clay Shatt | BMRA |
| 10. Noah Schacher | EMSC |

Female:

- | | |
|-------------------------|-------|
| 1. Abigail Gillespie | EMSC |
| 2. Kesley Glantz | TMART |
| 3. Ella McKnight | WPRC |
| 4. Brielle Superczynski | LMRT |
| 5. Clara Drahnak | HVRC |
| 6. Madylin Carlozzii | WTSEF |
| 7. Jooha Kim | SRRC |
| 8. Reagan Ryan | SRRC |
| 9. Olivia Yurek | WPRC |
| 10. Flora Wheeler | WTSEF |

Post Season Events

● **U14 Eastern Championships**

The USSA U14 Eastern Championships were held at Sugarbush, VT on March 16th through 19th. Twelve (12) athletes were selected to represent PARA at the event. Ty Newman (EMSC) and Brigid Baldwin (LMRT) were selected as coaches to represent the PARA athletes. The event included a SL race on Saturday, GS race on Sunday followed by a family friendly apres ski and social event, SG training and SkillsQuest on Monday followed by an apres ski awards party, and finally a SG race on Tuesday followed by awards on Tuesday.

PARA Athlete Representatives

Male

- Jacob Pianalto WTSEF
- Ty Millett EMSC
- Jack Hodgkinson WTSEF
- Tyler Kunkel SRRC
- Cameron Rai BMRA
- Trent Bray DCWST

Female

- Abigail Gillespie EMSC
- Kesley Glantz TMART
- Ella McKnight WPRC
- Brielle Superczynski LMRT
- Clara Drahnak HVRC
- Madylin Carlozzii WTSEF

- **U14 Eastern Finals**

The USSA U14 Eastern Finals were originally scheduled to be held at Catamount, NY on March 23rd through 24th. However, due to weather concerns and a lack of snow the race was moved to Berkshire East (sister mountain of Catamount). Instead of issuing quota spots for Eastern Finals, USSS made the event open to all Eastern region athletes that did not qualify for Eastern Championships. Due to weather/snow concerns and the last minute change of venue only five (5) PARA athletes registered for the event. Bruce Bedell was selected as the coach to represent the PARA athletes. The event included an optional Panel SL and SL on Saturday and then a GS race on Sunday.

PARA Athlete Representatives

Male

- Trent Bray
- Troy Bray

Female

- Isla Norrington
- Natalie Hekiert
- Brynn Hipp

- **Francis Piche Invitational**

The Francis Piche Invitational was held at Gunstock Ski Area on March 13th through the 17th. Twenty (20) athletes accepted invitations to represent PARA at the event. Michael Carlozzi and Bri Cioffi offered to represent the PARA athletes. The event included an optional 2 days of SL and GS training, a Dual SL Team race Friday, a SL race Saturday, and a GS race on Sunday.

PARA Athlete Representatives

Male

- Dmytri Sandursky
- Clay Shatt
- Noah Schacher
- Jack So
- Teddy Wentz
- Doyoon Kim
- Victor Kruler
- John Kintzer
- Austin Ihnat
- Gavin Ries
- Calvin Ord
- Miles Mestemaker

Female

- Jooha Kim

- Reagan Ryan
- Olivia Yurek
- Flora Wheeler
- Lauren Craft
- Ailsa Gilmour
- Darcy Turner
- Gabriella Caetano

Notes:

- Due to the overwhelming interest year-over-year perhaps PARA should reconsider providing coaching support for Piches. Over the past two years interest in Eastern Finals has been on a steady decline. This year there were only 5 PARA athletes that attended Eastern Finals while 20 athletes attended Piches. Perhaps it is time to support the events that the athletes are interested in versus those that are backed by USSS.