

UNITED STATES COLLEGIATE SKI & SNOWBOARD ASSOCIATION
(USCSA)

TEAM AND INDIVIDUAL ELIGIBILITY RULES

USCSA Membership	1.00 – 1.02
Enforcement of USCSA General Eligibility Rules	2.00 – 2.04
General Policies for Member Schools	3.00 – 3.04
USCSA Eligibility Requirements for Regional And National Championships	4.00 – 4.02
Procedural Regulations for Submitting USCSA Team and Individual Registration and Eligibility Forms	5.00 – 5.04
Protests and Appeals Concerning Eligibility	6.00 – 6.03
Referenced NCAA II Rules	7.00 – 7.02

1.00 USCSA MEMBERSHIP:

- 1.01 An institution must be an active member of an affiliated USCSA ski & snowboard conference. To participate in any USCSA conference, regional or national championship event, the institution or individual must be a member in good standing of the USCSA national organization. All rules, regulations and policies of the national organization must be adhered to by teams vying for the opportunity to race in such championship events.

Team registration fees: \$ 125.00 Institutional Fee
 \$ 125.00 per Discipline Fee

Late fees*:
 \$ 50.00 per Institution late fee after deadline
 \$ 150.00 after December 15
 \$ 200.00 after January 1
 \$ 400.00 after February 1
 \$ 800.00 at USCSA Nationals
 Sanctions after USCSA Nationals

For individuals without a team

1 competitor - \$50
2 competitors: \$100
3 or more competitors: \$125.

Men's alpine, women's alpine, men's nordic, women's nordic, men's snowboard and women's snowboard are each considered a separate discipline.

- 1.02 The USCSA shall not grant membership to a Secondary or Development team of any institution that fields either a USCSA or NCAA club or varsity team. *(This is to include any teams that had been under a grand-fathered clause.)*

O.I.: Membership is not to be granted to more than one team at an institution. If a school has already joined the NCAA, then that is the team of record, and no additional squad can be recognized from that school. Similarly if a school registers a team with USCSA, no additional squad may be registered with the USCSA. Only schools with a multiple campus setup may register more than one squad. This is only possible if

ALL of their athletic teams compete independently. (U Cal, Berkeley, UCLA, UC Long Beach etc..)

Secondary or Development team to include any additional squad at an institution formed to produce multiple levels of competition at that institution. Specifically, but not limited to Schools which field NCAA Varsity teams and want to register additional squads to compete in USCSA. This is to include NAIA, Independent, and USCSA members wishing to register a "second squad" within the USCSA organization.

While we do not accept membership from secondary teams, and therefore they are not eligible for the championships, they may exist as "guest" members of conferences and compete at the conference level.

Per the approval of the Board of Directors the following exceptions have been "grand-fathered" to Regional's.

Grand-fathered: University of Colorado, University of Denver and Montana State University will from this time on, be the only secondary schools that will be permitted this accommodation. The Western Region is directed to adjust the field size up to 19 teams to accommodate up to three guest/secondary teams (CU, DU, MSU) who finish in the Rocky Mountain Conference in the top five (5) and in the Grand Teton Conference in the top three (3) to participate at the regional's as guest teams.

O.I.: Each of the aforementioned programs (3) may send up to 5 individuals per gender, if so qualified as per elsewhere, to the Alpine Events. They will be listed as "individuals" from those programs and seeded, 3 after the USCSA member individuals running at the end of seed one, with the remaining racer allocated 3 at a time following each of the remaining four "team" seeds. They will appear on all results as individuals in the same manner as other individuals at these races, and as there is no mention of team score from the USCSA individuals, neither shall there be mention of team score from these "GUEST INDIVIDUALS". Additionally, as these racers are not members of USCSA, but invited guests, they may not advance to Nationals.

2.00 ENFORCEMENT OF USCSA GENERAL ELIGIBILITY RULES:

- 2.01 The Academic Affairs Committee is a Permanent Standing Committee, consisting of a chairperson and three members, independent of the Competition Committees.
- 2.02 The Academic Affairs Committee of the USCSA will investigate and enforce all governing rules pertaining to the USCSA Competition Divisions. The Academic Affairs Committee is empowered by the BOD to impose and enforce sanctions applicable to violations.
- 2.03 All member institutions must provide any documentation requested by the USCSA Academic Affairs Committee.

2.04 Member schools must monitor their athletes' eligibility.

3.00 GENERAL POLICIES FOR MEMBER SCHOOLS:

3.01 Definitions Applicable to Eligibility Regulations

a) Licenses

1. **REGULAR LICENSE.** All current USCSA rules and referenced rules from the NCAA II rule book adopted by the BOD and all forms must be maintained. Competitors registered in this manner shall be eligible to **compete in ALL USCSA races, including post season Regionals and Nationals.** (Rule V., A,B,C,D.)

2. **RESTRICTED LICENSE.** Athletes on teams so registered shall be eligible to **compete only in conference races. Regional and National competitions are prohibited.**

b) Season: A season commences with the beginning of practice following team tryouts and ends with the final regularly scheduled ski & snowboard meet prior to any post-season competition to begin the process of qualifying for the United States Collegiate Skiing and Snowboard Championships.

NOTE: Regularly scheduled ski & snowboard meets may be held after the conference/regional qualifying process. These ski & snowboard meets will be counted for injury exemption.

c) Ski & snowboard meet: A ski & snowboard meet is a competition held at a ski area regardless of the number of events (slalom, giant slalom, boardercross, half-pipe and/or nordic).

d) Scrimmage: A scrimmage is a competition between two teams who agree it is not an official ski & snowboard race. A scrimmage: (1) is not a ski & snowboard meet, (2) does not count on a team's win-loss record, (3) does not count towards participation in a majority of the ski & snowboard meets, (4) shall not be used in determining eligibility in the case of injury, and (5) does not have published results.

e) A competitor must appear on the Regular or Restricted License List at the time of race registration to be allowed to participate in a USCSA meet as a member of a scoring team, or as an individual eligible for USCSA scoring purposes. Competitors who do not appear on the Regular or Restricted License List may compete at an event as a guest competitor at the event organizers discretion.

f) For USCSA eligibility regulations, each one of the following are considered separate ski & snowboard teams: Men's Alpine, Women's Alpine, Men's Nordic, Women's Nordic, Men's Snowboard and Women's Snowboard.

3.02 Policies for Member Schools

- a) An intercollegiate ski & snowboard team may not compete in a closed ski & snowboard meet or scrimmage with or against any public or private high school team.
 - 1. Intercollegiate team members may participate in an open competition in which high school students participate, but the event may not be sponsored by the college or university, nor by any USCSA Conference.
 - 2. Appeals for waiver may be made to the Chairperson of the USCSA Academic Affairs Committee.
- b) A USCSA intercollegiate ski & snowboard team may not compete as a team in any event, collegiate or otherwise, unless the event is part of an USCSA conference or has been approved by the USCSA Executive Board.
 - 1. All events must meet USCSA eligibility rules.
 - 2. This does not affect individual competitors except for the requirement for maintaining amateur status.
 - 3. As no race events were proposed to the Academic Affairs committee, for exemptions for prize money to be won; the NCAA rules of amateurism will remain in force. Therefore no race events will be exempt.

3.03 Canadian Team participation In the United States Collegiate Ski & Snowboard Association.

- a) USCSA competition is coordinated and sanctioned exclusively through United States based Collegiate Conferences.
- b) Canadian college ski & snowboard teams may hold membership and participate in a U.S. USCSA based affiliated conference.
- c) Canadian teams must solicit membership via the USCSA conference in which they wish to participate and such team(s) must meet all other USCSA eligibility requirements in order to participate on a conference level.

3.04 Snowboard Individual Eligibility Requirements.

The athlete must be a full-time student and in good academic standing as required by their institution.

4.00 USCSA ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS FOR REGIONAL AND NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS:

All the regulations listed under Eligibility Requirements for Student-Athletes apply to individuals and teams qualifying for USCSA regional and national championships. In addition, the following regulations apply.

4.01 Regulations For Participation In Championships

- a) A student-athlete may participate in the respective USCSA-United States Collegiate Skiing and Snowboard Championships no more than a total of FOUR (4) times.

- b) A skier is eligible for the USCSA national championships if he/she has a Regular Competitors License, and for the USCSA regional championship if he/she has a Regular or Restricted Competitors License. The skier must also have been a member of the institution's intercollegiate ski & snowboard team during the majority of its most recent season, which includes a majority of these intercollegiate season practices, and a majority of required conference race events.
1. To be eligible for post-season events (Regional's and Nationals), a racer must have participated in a minimum of two conference events, (in separate meets).
 - O.I.:** (Official Interpretation): Separate meets means on two separate weekends.
 - O.I.:** The availability and/or injury waivers, indicates that if an athlete is not participating in ski & snowboard competition anywhere else, that he/she can be moved up without an appeal, if he/she does not fulfill the minimum requirement of the two conference events (in separate meets).
- c) A skier is eligible to compete in an USCSA conference, regional or national championship if his/her name appears on the Affidavit of Eligibility, holds a Regular competitors License, has participated in the majority of the practices, and has been eligible and available to be a substitute if called upon for a majority of the meets prior to post-season ski & snowboard meets.
- O.I.:** Available, means available to race.
 - O.I.:** A student matriculating for a degree (graduate and under-graduate) in his/hers 6th academic year, may petition to participate, provided he/she has not competed in more than three years of college ski & snowboard.
- d) A skier is not eligible to participate in a regional or national championship on any ski & snowboard team unless eligible and available to participate in 2 conference events and Regional qualifying meets leading towards the national championships..
- e) Any individual or team must qualify for attendance at the national championship through a USCSA regional championship. Only those individuals and teams who so qualify are eligible for the United States Collegiate Skiing and Snowboard Championships.
- f) Any college ski & snowboard team switching to USCSA national affiliation (from NCAA, NJCAA, etc.) shall wait out one year prior to becoming eligible to participate in the United States Collegiate Skiing and Snowboard Championships, unless granted an exception by the USCSA conference to which the team is applying for membership. Waiver for sitting out one (1) USCSA national championship shall be made to the conference of applicant and

subsequently confirmed by the USCSA Executive Board which should then be guided by that conference's wishes.

- g) Any athlete holding a Restricted Competitors License is not eligible to participate in a Regional or National Championship event.

4.02 Special Regulations Concerning Participation At Championships

- a) If the institution does not have an intercollegiate ski & snowboard team, an individual skier is eligible to participate in the conference races and regional's or national championships if otherwise qualified.
- bc) One competitor from a Restricted License team may obtain a Regular Competitors License which will allow one athlete to pursue qualification for the Regional and National events. Application includes all documentation required of a Regular Competitors License, including submittal by the Tuesday prior to Thanksgiving Day.

O.I.: An athlete who participates in a study abroad or off campus program and is thus unable to participate in a majority of practices and to be available as a substitute for a majority of the meets prior to the post-season shall still be eligible for post-season competitions.

5.00 PROCEDURAL REGULATIONS FOR SUBMITTING USCSA TEAM AND INDIVIDUAL REGISTRATION AND ELIGIBILITY FORMS:

5.01 USCSA Ski & Snowboard Team and Institutional Membership Applications

- a) All participating teams must register annually with the USCSA by submitting a Ski & Snowboard Team Membership Application, and the USCSA Institutional Membership application, mailed to the USCSA National Office no later than **the Tuesday prior to Thanksgiving Day**, accompanied by a payment of a designated annual institutional and per discipline USCSA dues.
- b) Penalty for Non-Compliance: Teams not submitting the Ski & Snowboard Team Membership and USCSA Institutional Membership Applications by the indicated (November) date will be issued a Restricted License and will be considered ineligible to compete in a regional or national event.

5.02 Individual Competitor Registration and Liability Release

- a) Each USCSA race participant is required to complete, sign and submit to the USCSA national office an Individual Competitor Registration and Liability Release form. The completed form should be submitted through their team officer, before the Tuesday prior to Thanksgiving Day. This form will include a liability release statement on behalf of the USCSA, the USSA, hosting ski areas, and all related personnel and officials.

- b) **Penalty For Non-Compliance:** individual competitors, who do not complete, sign and submit the required Individual Competitor Registration and Liability Release form before the Tuesday, prior to Thanksgiving Day shall be considered ineligible to race and shall remain ineligible until the time a completed form is received by the National Office. At that time, only a Restricted License will be issued.

O.I.: Individual. Where it says, 'a restricted license for' and 'individual competitor', this refers to individuals trying to compete outside of the team. (When there is only one person and they don't have a team.) There is a differentiation on licenses for athletes, outside that scenario. If an athlete is added to a team, he/she comes under whatever the team's license is.

5.03 Ski & Snowboard Team Eligibility Forms

- a) The Ski & Snowboard Team Eligibility Form, listing all ski & snowboard team members, requested License Type, and requested items of information concerning academic eligibility is required for validation of institution (college) registration and athletic eligibility for all individuals wishing to participate on a college ski & snowboard team competing under the auspices of the USCSA. Certification of the athlete's eligibility on this form is from September to September. This form will be available from the USCSA national office or from each conference headquarters. It is the responsibility of each team to secure this form, supply accurate and complete information where requested, submit it to the proper authorities for additional information, verification and signature, and file one copy with the USCSA national office no later than the Tuesday prior to Thanksgiving Day of each year. *Additions to team forms are permissible prior to the completion of the midpoint race of a team's qualifying season.* Added competitors may not compete on a scoring team or be included in scoring for individual qualifying to regional championships without a completed eligibility form and a USCSA Competition License. An athlete may compete as a guest in the event at the discretion of the event organizer before USCSA eligibility is established, but cannot be included in the scoring for regional qualifications retroactively once eligibility is established.

- b) **Penalty For Non-Compliance:** A Team that has not submitted a **completed and signed Team Eligibility Form, accompanied with the Individual Liability and Release Form for each athlete named on the Team Eligibility Form prior to the Tuesday before Thanksgiving Day:**

1. Will **automatically be issued a Restricted Competitor License only.** Therefore **no** Team member will be eligible to participate in the Regional or National events.
2. A team may only apply for an extension of the November deadline, when the following criteria is met:
 - A. **All liability forms must be completed and turned into the national office before the Tuesday prior to Thanksgiving day.**

B. Written proof, with an institution's registrar's stamp, that a team's eligibility form has been submitted to the institution prior to the November date.

C. An institution has paid its membership.

3. Extensions are accepted at the discretion of the Academic Affairs Committee.

5.04 Deletion of Athlete Names from Eligibility Forms

Individual athlete names may be deleted from the affidavit of eligibility, based upon the following:

- a) Request for removal should be submitted to the USCSA Academic Affairs Committee prior to the USCSA Competition and Rules Committees' meeting (Spring of each year).
- b) Racer has participated in no intercollegiate ski & snowboard events for that institution in said year.
- c) When a racer is injured during the season and has competed in no more than one-quarter of the school's season of practices and meets prior to the injury. Documentation covering such injury must be presented at the time the request is made, including a statement of attending physician.

6.00 PROTESTS AND APPEALS CONCERNING ELIGIBILITY

6.01 Protests which cannot be handled at the conference level must be lodged with the USCSA Academic Affairs Committee by an identified representative of a USCSA institution and be accompanied by substantiating evidence.

6.02 Any institution disqualified for failure to comply with eligibility requirements shall have the right to appeal the ruling to the USCSA Academic Affairs Committee.

6.03 Decisions made by the USCSA Academic Affairs Committee may be appealed to the USCSA Executive Board.

7.00 REFERENCED NCAA II RULES:

7.01 The United States Collegiate Ski & Snowboard Association voted in May 1988 to adopt, **by reference, the following** NCAA II rules:

- a) Operating Bylaw, Article 12, Amateurism
- b) Operating Bylaw, Article 13, Recruiting
- c) Operating Bylaw, Article 14, Eligibility: Academic and General Requirements
- d) Operating Bylaw, Article 15, Financial Aid
- e) Operating Bylaw, Article 16, Awards, Benefits & Expenses For Enrolled Student Athletes

- | | | |
|----|---|---|
| f) | Operating Bylaw, Article 17, | <u>Playing & Practice Seasons</u> |
| | O.I.: | When the NCAA uses the term 'dates', they mean 'events', something covering two days. Therefore 16 dates means 32 days. |
| g) | Constitution, Article 2.3,
Article 2.10, | <u>The Principle Of Ethical Conduct</u>
<u>The Principle Governing Financial Aid</u> |
| h) | Constitution, Article 5.2.2, | <u>Operating Bylaws</u> |
| i) | Operating Bylaw, Article 10.1,
Article 10.4, | <u>Unethical Conduct</u>
<u>Disciplinary Action</u> |
| j) | Operating Bylaw, Article 11.1.1, | <u>Standards Of Honesty & Sportsmanship</u> |
| k) | Operating Bylaw, Article 18.4.1, | <u>Eligibility For Championships -</u> |
| l) | Administrative Bylaw, Article 32.3.6, | <u>Student Athlete Eligibility</u>
<u>Disclosure Of Purpose Of Interview</u> |

O.I. Pertaining to NCAA Season of competition 14.2.4.2.3

Proof of expenses paid by athlete will be required for eligibility

7.02 Date Of Rule Adoption And USCSA Corollaries:

The afore *referenced* NCAA II rules that were adopted by the USCSA shall become effective May 15, 1988, date of adoption. The following USCSA corollaries shall apply:

- a) In all instances in which current reading of NCAA rules refer to NCAA, please substitute USCSA for a more accurate understanding of the ruling.
- b) In all instances in which current wording refers to NCAA Academic Requirements Committee or Council, please substitute the words USCSA Academic Affairs Committee.
- c) All institutions shall operate under the standards, set forth in the NCAA Division II rules, **as cited above**.
- d) When referring to pertinent NCAA rules, two-year institutions shall substitute the words 2 years where the text reads 4 years, and the words 3 years for the words 5 years wherever they appear in the text.

In addition, two-year institutions shall substitute the words 6 semesters where the text reads 10 semesters and 9 quarters where the text reads 15 quarters.
- e) For an institution that does not require SAT or ACT scores, a high school GPA of 2.0, in the core curriculum, as defined by the NCAA Division II, will suffice as eligible.

NOTE: Copies of the NCAA Division II Rules Manual may be obtained from
NCAA,
Publishing, PO Box 781046, Indianapolis, IN 317.917.6222 www.ncaa.org

10. Operating Bylaw, Article 11.1.1, Standards Of Honesty & Sportsmanship
11. Operating Bylaw, Article 18.4.1, Eligibility For Championships - Student Athlete Eligibility
12. Administrative Bylaw, Article 32.3.6, Disclosure Of Purpose Of Interview

