

NORDIC GUIDELINES AND PROCEDURES

1. The Nordic Competition Committee (NCC)

A - NCC Membership - is comprised of one representative from each PNSA member club, a Chairperson, officers, and heads of Sub-committees. If the chairperson, an officer or Sub-committee head are a club member they will serve as the club representative unless the club designates someone else.

B - Role of the NCC – is to be responsible for divisional oversight for PNSA Nordic skiing. These responsibilities include, but are not limited to, creating a yearly budget, scheduling, athlete selection, coach selection, planning and other activities necessary to support divisional Nordic competition.

C - NCC Chair – is selected by the PNSA Board's Executive Committee with input from the NCC. The NCC Chairperson's responsibility is to facilitate discussion within the Nordic Committee and the Nordic Community as a whole and lead the NCC to resolution on issues it needs to address. The Chairperson provides timely and accurate assessment of matters that affect Nordic skiing in the PNSA, facilitating discussion and promoting resolution for the general good of the division, and is the divisional representative to the USSA. The NCC Chair has a term length of 4 years and terms may be renewed at the PNSA Board's discretion.

D - Voting & Appeals - Each NCC member club has one vote. (Members must be current with PNSA membership dues and a club representative must be present to vote.) The NCC Chair votes as a tiebreaker.

1. Any decision made by the NCC can be appealed to the NCC Chair.
2. Any decision made by the NCC Chair can be appealed to the PNSA EC.

2. Athlete Selection

A - Junior National Team –

1. Date/Time – selection is to be made directly following last JN Qualifier event
2. Process - select automatic qualifiers first, then review petitions, vote on petitions.
 - a. Automatic qualifying standards are in attachment A– PNSA Junior National Team Selection Criteria
 - b. Petition Process is initiated by submission of a PNSA Junior National Petition Checklist (attachment B) to the NCC within ½ hr of completion of last JNQ competition. Petitions are accepted or rejected through ballot voting.

B - General Selection Guidelines -

1. Athletes ranked in the top 20 of the USSA point list in any one discipline in their respective age group.

3. Coaches Selection

A - Trip Leader / Head Coach –

1. Date/Time - Trip Leader for JN's is to be selected at the spring meeting.
2. Process - selected by the NCC Chair from recommendation of the NCC.

B - Additional Coaches –

1. Process - selected by Trip Leader and NCC Chair from recommendation of the NCC. Coach selections reflect, in order of importance: representation of athletes traveling, experience & talents needed, reaching out to new coaches.
2. Date/Time -
 - a. Three to four coaches will be selected at the fall meeting.
 - b. Any additional coaches may be selected at the final JN selection meeting based on need and funding availability.

4. PNSA Nordic Trips and Projects –

- A. Trips and Projects - are activities that are sanctioned by PNSA and managed by the PNSA office.
- B. Process
 - 1. All monies must flow through the PNSA office.
 - 2. A budget must be submitted to the NCC Chair for review.
 - 3. Invoices, expense receipts and prepayment requests must be submitted to the NCC Chair for approval before payment by PNSA.

5. PNSA Nordic Ventures & Opportunities

- A. Ventures – are activities approved by NCC but not sanctioned by PNSA.
- B. Process –
 - 1. Proposals for ventures must be submitted to the NCC for approval.
 - 2. Proposals must include financial request, budget, description, goals, estimated # of participants, targeted athletes/audience, etc.
 - 3. Acceptance is through NCC voting process.

6. Definitions

Attachment A

PNSA Junior Nationals Team Selection Criteria

Automatic Qualifying Standard

Athletes whose race time is under 8% of the average of the top 3 finishers' time in 5 of 6, or 6 of 8, of the designated Junior National (JN) qualifying competitions, depending on the number of qualifiers, automatically qualify to be a member of the PNSA Junior National Team. In situations where qualified skiers exceed the published USSA quota, selection will be based on the Intermountain point selections system. Athletes who qualify in the top 5 of the World Juniors selection criteria and guest skiers from foreign countries or other USSA divisions will not be used in the percent back/JN selection equation.

In exceptional cases, coach's' discretion by the NCC can be used to decide about qualifications of skiers.

Petitions for Junior Nationals

An athlete, who has not met the automatic qualifying standard, may submit a petition to be included on the Junior National team. Petitions will be considered by the JN coaching staff at a meeting following the final JN qualifying race. To be considered, a written petition must be delivered to the head coach prior to the meeting and the petition must fit one of the following categories:

1: Outstanding Results at JN Qualifying Races

To grant a petition under this category, JN coaching staff must conclude that, in addition to meeting the minimum criteria, there is a reasonable expectation that the athlete will place in the top 1/3 of the field at Junior Nationals.

Minimum Criteria for outstanding results at JN qualifying races

Based off the automatic qualifying calculations, the athlete was: a) less than 7% back of the respective age class winner in at least three of the JN qualifying races or, b) the athlete was less than 5% back of the respective age class winner in the last two qualifying races.

2: Injury, Sickness and Other Circumstances beyond the Athlete's Control

To grant a petition under this category, JN coaching staff must conclude that in addition to meeting the minimum criteria, the athlete would have met the automatic qualifying standard if injury, sickness or other circumstances beyond the athlete's control did not prevent the athlete from doing so.

Minimum Criteria for circumstances

- A. The athlete finished no less than 8% back in all JN qualifying races where injury, sickness or other circumstances beyond the athlete's control did not apply.
- B. A combination of sickness, injury or other circumstances beyond the athlete's control is the only reason for not meeting the automatic qualifying standard.
- C. The athlete informed his decision to miss a JN qualifying race prior to the start of the race. The athlete informed the head coach that a situation occurred that prevented the athlete from either competing in or finishing a JN qualifying race.
- D. There is reason to believe that the athlete improved during the season and/or there is reason to believe the athlete is one of the better skiers in the division.

For the purposes of considering a petition, the phrase "circumstances beyond the athlete's control" means that events occurred, such as a car accident or equipment breakage, that prevented the athlete from competing in or finishing a JN qualifying race despite the athlete's best efforts to compete.

3: Out-of-Division Skier

To grant a petition under this category, JN coaching staff must conclude that, in addition to meeting the minimum criteria, the athlete would have met the automatic qualifying standard had the athlete raced within the division, and that there is a reasonable expectation that the athlete will place within the top half of the field at Junior Nationals.

Minimum Criteria for Out-of-Division skier

- A) The athlete declared his/her intentions to ski for PNSA prior to the season, but competed out of the division.
- B) The athlete must submit convincing results. If the athlete does not have convincing results from national or collegiate level competitions, results from at least two division level races must be submitted. One of the races where results are submitted must have occurred in the latter part January or later in the season. The athlete should submit a brief explanation as to why the results are convincing.
- C) Athlete who skis out of division yet attempts to ski in at least one JNQ will be considered in favorable light.

Attachment B

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PNSA Junior National Petition Checklist

Athlete Name: _____

Submitted by: _____

Reason for Petition (Pick one of four clauses)

Outstanding Results

Minimum criteria:

_____ 7% back of first place in 3 races or 5% back of first place in two qualifying races
If so, which races:

_____ Would likely place in the top 1/3 of field of JN

Injury, Sickness and Other Circumstances Beyond Athlete's Control

Minimum criteria:

_____ 8% back in all JN qualifying races entered, list races:

_____ Sickness, injury and other circumstances beyond athlete's control is the only reason for not meeting qualifying standard.

_____ Athlete informed decision to miss a JN qualifying race prior to event.

_____ Athlete is improving during the season,
and/or

_____ **Athlete is one of the better skiers in the division.**

Out-of-Division skier

Minimum criteria:

_____ Athlete declared intent to ski for PNSA prior to the season but raced out of the division.

_____ Provide convincing results during current season.

_____ Athlete would likely place in the top one half of field at JN.

_____ Athlete skied in at least one PNSA JNQ.

Other reasons and considerations – attach a separate sheet if additional space is needed