

## 6 - RULES GOVERNING PNSA MEMBERS, TRAVEL AND CONDUCT

### Financial Responsibility

Any athlete who is not in good standing with PNSA, including any past due balance, is not allowed to enter NW Cup, Evergreen Cup or any events held by a PNSA member club.

### Race Entry Out of Division

No competitor, coach or parent may enter races in another division without proper approval. The philosophy of PNSA is to discourage unnecessary travel out of the division. The following policy will apply:

1. All requests to race out of division must be submitted to the PNSA office, in writing, 21 days prior to the competition. The PNSA office will seek permission from the division involved. If permission is granted and approved by PNSA, PNSA will authorize the competitor's coaches to make the appropriate entry with the race organizer.
2. Out-of-Division races will only be considered when PNSA is not sponsoring a race of equal caliber, at or about the same time.
3. Exceptions may be applied for through the PNSA office and will be considered by the Alpine Competition Committee or ACC Alpine Development Sub-Committee.
4. Competitors not following this policy may be subject to sanction by the PNSA.

See the USSA Alpine Competition Guide for more information on racing in other divisions, regions, and out of the country.

### Code of Conduct

The USSA Code of Conduct shall apply to all PNSA competitors, coaches and officials at all levels of PNSA racing, and when representing PNSA as part of an official team or as an individual. All competitors, coaches and officials should read and be familiar with the USSA Code of Conduct. The USSA Code of Conduct can be found online in the [USSA Alpine Competition Guide](#).

#### US Olympic Committee COACHING ETHICS CODE

All coaches are encouraged to read and comply with the USOC Coaching Ethics Code. The code is available on the [coaches' page of the PNSA website](#).

#### PNSA Policy Concerning Illegal Drugs and Alcohol

It is the position of PNSA that ski racing requires dedication, training, perseverance, physical conditioning and emotional stability. These requirements, and the safety of participants in a challenging and demanding competitive sport, are not compatible with the use of drugs or alcohol and their adverse effect upon the emotional and physical being of the users. In addition to what is stated in the USSA Code of Conduct, PNSA endorses the following policy regarding the illegal use of drugs and alcohol:

- PNSA does hereby declare its opposition to the use of illegal drugs and the illegal consumption of intoxicating beverages.
- Absolutely no possession or use of illegal drugs, or narcotics will be tolerated.
- Absolutely no illegal possession or illegal use of alcoholic beverages will be tolerated.

#### Parental Code of Conduct

- Parents, guardians, and others who have athletes competing in PNSA sanctioned events are expected and required to conduct themselves in a sportsman like manner. Adults are expected to act as role models for children.

- Sportsman like conduct includes, but is not limited to, respect for all athletes, officials, volunteers, resort employees, other skiers and snowboarding individuals
- Parents and others are highly encouraged to volunteer to help a race organization. Parents are expected to familiarize themselves with the rules of the sport.
- Parents and others are expected to refrain from the use of profane or abusive language or disruptive behavior. PNSA and the race organization reserve the right to exclude parents from the race venue, including the competition arena.

### **Racer Responsibility Guidelines**

1. Bindings must be in good condition and properly adjusted for the conditions.
2. Unbreakable sunglasses and goggles are essential.
3. Warm up for training and racing sessions. Stretch for at least five minutes before skiing. Warm up gradually on snow, skiing various radius turns, before skiing at racing speed.
4. Always carefully inspect a course before running it. Follow the inspection rules for the training session or race. Do not cross or go onto closed courses at competitions, and always be certain that practice courses are clear before proceeding.
5. If you fall and are unhurt, immediately signal that you are OK and move a safe distance away from the course. Collect your gear and reorganize away from the active course.
6. While attending a race event, stand far enough from the course to allow a racer on course full visibility, room to recover, and room to come to a stop without hitting you.
7. Always remain still while there is a racer on course, and never free-ski on or near a closed course except as allowed by the established inspection procedure.
8. If a gate pole is knocked out or broken and presents a danger, place it outside the course, preferably totally to the side of the slope or as directed by the coaches.
9. Be sure to communicate with your coach when tired, ill, uncertain or afraid, if the course is too difficult or rough, or if visibility is poor.
10. Always stop below your coach or training group - never attempt to stop above any skier or group. Always leave room to take "evasive action" should your coach or others in your training group move unexpectedly.
11. When your run is complete, move immediately out of the finish area or away from the course. Make sure you have an adequate finish area and safe room outside all courses.
12. Never jump or ski fast into an uncontrolled "blind spot".
13. When free-skiing outside race and training areas you must be aware of others and ski in full control at all times. Respect other skier's rights to a safe and pleasant skiing experience.

### **Your Responsibility Code (This is a partial list)**

Skiing can be enjoyed in many ways. At ski areas you may see people using alpine, snowboard, telemark, cross country or other specialized snowsport equipment such as that used by disabled or other skiers. Regardless of how you decide to enjoy the slopes, always show courtesy to others and be aware that there are elements of risk in skiing that common sense and personal awareness can help reduce. Observe the code listed below and share with other skiers the responsibility for a great skiing experience.

1. Always ski in control and be able to stop or avoid other people or objects.
2. People ahead of you have the right of way. It is your responsibility to avoid them.
3. You must not stop where you obstruct a trail or are not visible from above.
4. When entering a trail or starting downhill, yield to other skiers.
5. Always use devices to help prevent runaway equipment.
6. Observe all posted signs and warnings. Keep off closed trails and out of closed areas.
7. Prior to using any lift, you must have the knowledge and ability to load, ride, and unload safely.

**Know the code. It's your responsibility.**

Officially endorsed by:  
**National Ski Areas Association**

# PNSA Traveling Team Rules

PNSA Traveling Team Rules govern all team members. "Team members" refers to all racers, coaches, officials, and other individuals who officially represent PNSA at a race or other competition event. Members of PNSA traveling teams are required to abide by the USSA Code of Conduct, the USOC Coaches Code of Conduct, and the PNSA Policy Concerning Illegal Drugs and Alcohol. Additionally, members are:

1. Required to supply PNSA with all required forms and fees by the established deadline.
2. Required to be in good financial standing with PNSA. Racers with unpaid fees by the payment deadline will not be included on the race entry form.
3. To refrain from the use or possession of alcohol in vehicles used for team purpose.
4. Not to consume alcoholic beverages anywhere in the presence of a minor team member.
5. Required to attend all team meetings, team training, and race events unless excused by the PNSA Traveling Team head coach and by PNSA.
6. Required to observe the curfew established by the head coach.
7. Required to remain with the team or in the vicinity of the team's housing, except with the knowledge and permission of the PNSA Traveling Team head coach and PNSA.
8. Required to observe any additional rules established by the PNSA Traveling Team head coach and PNSA.
9. A racer, who drops out of a PNSA Project after fees have been paid to the race organizer and for housing, may receive a refund only if PNSA can recover funds.
10. Racers who are in violation of PNSA traveling team rules are not eligible for a refund, and may be ineligible for future PNSA Projects.

PNSA will normally arrange for coaching, travel, and housing for WR Championship races (U19-21, U16 and U14), and certain other events, known collectively as PNSA "Projects", where the Western Region does not make such arrangements, except as noted. Racers who qualify and attend such Projects will go as members of a PNSA traveling team except as noted. PNSA racers who travel as members of any PNSA traveling team are expected to stay with the PNSA team at the housing arranged for them by PNSA.

## PNSA Project Staff

Coaches who desire to act as PNSA traveling team coaches shall apply to the Coaches Committee to be selected for the PNSA traveling team coaching staff. A club that has "opted-out" of the PNSA traveling team may be required by the Coaches Committee to designate one of their coaches to serve as the PNSA head coach with all incumbent duties and responsibilities. All coaches who desire to act as a PNSA traveling team coach must be a participant member of USSA as a coach or as an official and shall also hold a current PNSA Coach card and shall be Referee certified by USSA. See Chapter 11 for a more complete list of traveling team coach responsibilities.

## Staff Drug Testing

All traveling staff coaches may be subject to random drug testing. The PNSA President or Vice-President may randomly select PNSA traveling team coaches for drug testing. If a PNSA traveling team coach, who is affiliated with a PNSA club that has a drug testing policy, is required to submit to a drug test, the PNSA President or Vice-President may utilize the coach's club program for random drug testing. Otherwise, all drug testing shall be as directed by the PNSA President or Vice-President in a location convenient for the coach. The drug test results shall be confidential, however, if a coach does test positive for illegal drugs then the test results shall be referred to the PNSA disciplinary chair for action. The procedures to be followed for any disciplinary action against a traveling team coach shall be essentially the same procedures utilized for a racer as stated below.

## Procedure for Violations of Rules and Conduct Standards

Violations of the USSA Code of Conduct, the USOC Coaches Code of Conduct, Racer's Responsibility Code, PNSA traveling team rules, or the Your Responsibility Code established by the National Ski Areas Association (Collectively "Codes of Conduct") may give rise to sanctions to be imposed by the competitor's

sponsoring organization, PNSA, and USSA. It is PNSA's policy that, if a competitor, coach, official or parent/guardian violates any of these, immediate resolution of the violation best serves the competitor, PNSA, USSA, and the sport of skiing. As such, PNSA adopts the following procedure to handle violations.

### **Procedure**

The handling of violations and sanctions, if any, will be handled at three levels. Level I is an on-site and immediate resolution; Level II is more formal, involving the Disciplinary Chairperson and the competitor, coach, official or parent/guardian; Level III is the formal PNSA appeal with the Chairperson and two members of the PNSA Appeals Board.

#### LEVEL I (Venue Resolution)

If a competitor, coach, official or parent/guardian has violated, or allegedly violated the Codes of Conduct, the violation shall be called to the attention of the individual. The appropriate coach or official shall follow Due Process, and propose an immediate resolution or sanction. The individual shall have the opportunity to accept the sanction as a final resolution for the claimed violation. If the individual accepts the sanction, then no further sanctions shall be imposed against the individual. The appropriate coach or official shall report, in writing, to the PNSA office and the Disciplinary Chairperson, the incident and resolution. If the proposed resolution is not accepted, the violation will be referred to the PNSA office for Level II processing.

#### LEVEL II (Administrative Resolution)

A violation of the Codes of Conduct by a competitor, coach, official or parent guardian shall be reported to the PNSA Office in writing. Upon receipt of the reported violation, the PNSA office shall refer the claimed violation to the Disciplinary Chairperson. The Disciplinary Chairperson shall contact the accused person(s) by telephone and discuss the claimed violation with the accused person(s), offering Due Process. The Chairperson shall also take such other action and investigation as they deem appropriate and then propose a sanction to the accused person(s). The accused person(s) shall have the opportunity to accept or reject the sanction. In the event that the accused person(s) accepts the sanction, the violation and sanction shall be fully resolved and final. If the accused person(s) rejects the sanction or proposed resolution, then the Disciplinary Chairperson shall refer the claimed violation to the Chairperson of the Appeals Board for administration as per Level III.

#### Level III (Formal Disciplinary Action)

The chairperson of the PNSA Appeals Board shall act as the Level III committee chairperson and shall select two other members of the Appeal's Board to sit as the Level III committee. This three-person Disciplinary Committee shall generally conduct its business using the following procedures:

1. The competitor, coach, official or parent/guardian shall be given sufficient notice, preferably in writing, outlining the nature and extent of the claimed rules violations.
2. The competitor, coach, official or parent/guardian will be given reasonable time in which to prepare a response to the claimed violation.
3. The competitor, coach, official or parent/guardian will have the opportunity to be assisted in presenting their side of the incident at the hearing and, also, can employ the assistance of an attorney, if so desired, at their expense.
4. The chairperson of the Disciplinary Committee shall conduct the hearing, and the hearing shall either be in person or by conference call, and handled in such a way as to give the Disciplinary Committee and the competitor, coach, official or parent/guardian an opportunity to hear both sides of the claimed violations.
5. Immediately following the hearing, the Disciplinary Committee shall discuss and reach a decision in respect to the claimed violation, including whether or not the violation has been committed and the sanction to be imposed.
6. The competitor, coach, official or parent/guardian will be provided with a written decision of the Disciplinary Committee, and, upon request, an audio copy of the hearing.
7. The Disciplinary Committee hearing, not including the deliberations of the Disciplinary Committee, may be recorded if the competitor, coach, official or parent/guardian requests that a recording be made of the disciplinary hearing.

## **Possible Disciplinary Action**

Any sanctions imposed by PNSA under Levels I, II or III shall comply with the USSA Code of Conduct. Possible sanctions include the following:

1. Suspension from the team and loss of future team participation.
2. Loss of support from PNSA and/or PNSEF.
3. Suspension from training and/or competitions or access to race venues as a volunteer or spectator.
4. Elimination of coaching, travel and other benefits.
5. Turning the offending party or parties over to the local or state authorities if the offense is a violation of existing laws.

Any sanctions to be posed under Levels I or II shall not be for a period of more than 21 days.

Any appeal of a Level III decision shall be taken to USSA. It is PNSA's intent, in adoption of the foregoing procedure, to provide the competitor, coach, official or parent/guardian with Due Process. Due Process is explained in the section "Athlete's Code of Conduct" in the [USSA Alpine Competition Guide](#).

Disciplinary Chairperson for Level I and Level II, nominated by the ACC/NCC/SCC/FCC, and approved by the PNSA Board of Directors is:

Kevin McCarthy  
48933 US Hwy 12  
White Pass, WA 9893  
Phone: 509-672-3101  
email: [kevin@skiwhitepass.com](mailto:kevin@skiwhitepass.com)

## **PNSA Appeals Board**

The USSA and federal Amateur Sports Act mandate that all disciplines assure that appeal boards and procedures for jury decisions and team selections be instituted at all levels of competition within the USSA. The Appeals Board for the PNSA shall consist of five members. The competition committees (Alpine and Nordic) shall make recommendations to the Board of Directors of the PNSA. The Board shall make the final selection of the members to the Appeals Board. The committee shall consist of one senior official, one coach, one competitor, one current member of the respective competition committee, and the Vice President of the PNSA who shall chair the committee.

## **Appeals Procedure Policy**

Members of the involved jury may not be included in the appeals board. Any individual, who has served in an appeals board which has reviewed an appeal, may not be part of any board reviewing the same appeal at a higher level. If the Disciplinary Chair or the Appeals Board Chair has been involved in a Jury decision or Level I process, the PNSA President shall appoint a temporary Disciplinary or Appeals Board Chair.

Notice of appeal must be delivered in writing with the appropriate fee to the Appeals Board chairperson within three business days after the jury decision took place. It is desirable to use the USSA standard appeals form available from the PNSA office. Individuals filing appeals must pay the full fee required. If the appeal is successful, then the monies that have been submitted shall be refunded.

The hearing group must restrict its examination to consideration of whether protocol was followed, rules applied properly, athlete offered rebuttal opportunity, etc. The hearing group must not "retry" the case in terms of the facts found by the jury at the time, unless such a re-examination reveals the facts were clearly disregarded in the outcome of the jury deliberation. In such a case, finding the facts were clearly disregarded in the outcome of the jury deliberation, the hearing group may take appropriate steps to review the facts and/or gather new facts.

Filing Fees

Competition Jury Appeals           \$100.00  
Team Selection Appeals           \$100.00

Please contact the USSA office for rules and procedures to appeal to higher levels.

	<b>Alpine Appeals Board</b>	<b>Nordic Appeals Board</b>
Vice President	Curt Hammond	Curt Hammond
Athlete	R Minam Cravens	Dakota Blackhorse-von Jess
Sr. Official	Karl Wardrop	Al Pokorny
Competition Committee Member	Dave Lyon	Dan Simoneau
Coach	Claudia Ney-Yamamoto	Jeff Hashimoto