

The season was off to a difficult start with Mother nature not cooperating. We still have snow issues, but we are in full race mode around the region. Thank you to everyone who has sent in the Race Quality report. We have read and reviewed all submitted reports and have created this summary. If you have not sent in your report, please do so, your thoughts and comments can be educational and beneficial to all in the region.

Race Quality Report 2016 Mid Year Summary:

There has been 15 events so far in 2016.

Race quality reports have been received from the majority of jury members

Overall Comments:

Very good communication from COR to jury members in advance of the race

Races are being well organized

There are many shadows of officials at each event, this is great to see.

Course Setting:

For challenging gate combinations for younger age groups, good inspection is very important and remember, coaches take extra time with your athletes.

Coaches who are setting must come prepared with drill and tape/range finder and know what the setting rules are.

Hill Preparation:

Start blocks: Ensure start blocks for skiers poles are adequately installed: no gaps and firmly installed in start ramp

Course Maintenance:

Course crew and side-slippers should not carry ski poles. They pose a hazard if dropped and complicate course maintenance when both hands are needed.

Safety:

Installation of easy-fence versus b-netting: It is the responsibility of the jury to decide on safety for the course and what safety equipment needs to be erected. Ensure proper b-netting installation and that it is at appropriate level to the snow.

SAFETY ISSUE: Athletes taking up b-netting on the chairlift after tear down. Very dangerous and should not be allowed anywhere.

Radio Protocol:

Avoid delays and confusion by reviewing radio protocol with Start, Finish Ref and Jury prior to the race. The correct terminology now is: Start-Stop. Start Referee acknowledges that the Start has been stopped.

Course crew often on Jury radio, creating too much radio traffic, the jury needs a secure Channel.

Rules/Decisions/ DSQ/Protests:

A Racer who comes to a complete stop in GS can not continue (ICR 614.2.3, 614.2.2)

Racers citing obstruction/interference, must stop immediately to request a re-run (ICR 667.3)

If a gate in Slalom is missed, the racer must hike up and go around the missed gate (ICR 804.3)

In slalom, if a racer is hiking and will interfere with the following racer, they must be called off the course and not permitted to finish (ICR 614.2.3)

If a Gate judge DSQs an athlete, but Jury member had different view and observed a different passage: Jury member should discuss with Gate judge their observation and discuss (ICR 662.4)

Self-disqualification: Racer is not DQ'ed by gate judge or jury member. Athlete and coach should self-disqualify if knowingly committing an infraction. The jury should accept this as a DSQ. Good sportsman behavior.

Gate judge cards must contain a picture of the DSQ (ICR 661.2.1)

Submission of protests: Protests are to be submitted in writing unless agreed that Verbal protests will be accepted. (ICR 617.2.2) They should be followed "shortly afterward" by a written protest and \$50.

Jury does not need to oversee the completion/posting of the referee report, this is the job of the referee (ICR 601.4.10). The TD or COR can perform this duty if decided that the ref would be more beneficial on the hill during course set.

For racers having a rerun, they are permitted to re start when "they" are ready. Do not rush them. Remember they cannot be the last racer, they must go down before the last racer (ICR 623.1.3).

Timing of Medals:

Awards: The SQA and regional goal is to have awards 30min after tear down or last racer. When there are many DSQ's that may delay the results. Consider finalizing top 5 racers to facilitate awards.

Additional Comments:

Race run should remain closed to public until all b-netting and equipment and racers are off the run during tear down

Ensure 2nd last racer completes entire run before sending last racer down.

Injured athlete and Patrollers: Ski patrollers have a defined protocol when dealing with fallen/injured athletes. For the safety and treatment of the athlete, this protocol takes time. Discuss procedure in advance with patrols.

A reminder to the athletes of the schedule will ensure they are ready at the start of the race and on time.

Thank you for being part of the ski racing world. Your time and commitment to the sport is what makes racing possible.

If you have anything to add, please contact Ben or myself, have a great rest of the season

Cheers, Julie and Ben