

2019-2020 USSMA RACE DIRECTOR GUIDELINES



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Introduction

This document outlines the rules and regulations for Ski Mountaineering events, as well as guidelines for the administration of events, and is written for race directors and referees alike. All forms of ski mountaineering practiced are described here, as are the best practice guidelines for the creation and marking of a ski mountaineering course and the process of administering an event. Additionally, the rules and regulations for racers are defined here, and sample penalty forms can be found in the appendix.

Race Director Requirements and Expectations for USSMA Sanctioned Events

Organization:

1. A webpage exists for each event, including all relevant information (Race formats, schedule, venue, course maps, rules, required equipment, etc.) and a link to registration.
2. **A pre-race meeting should be either required or available to racers, covering race rules, course descriptions, schedule, etc.**
3. Registration open to athletes 60 days prior to event date (if registration is day-of only, this must be clearly expressed on the event webpage).
4. Registration fee consistent with USSMA standards (\$75 for single-day event, teams and long course races on a case-by-case basis). This is a baseline fee for an event that does not provide a lift ticket or food. Entry fee charged may be lower, or higher if additional services (e.g. a lift ticket, food after event, etc) are provided.
5. ***** NEW FOR 2019-2020 Season *****
All USSMA sanctioned events MUST provide discounted registration to USSMA members
The discount is 10% off of the race entry fee. This applies across all age groups (Cadet, Junior, Espoir, Open, Masters) and all race divisions (Race, Recreation, Long, Short, Heavy Metal, etc).
6. All USSMA Sanctioned Events must carry a liability insurance policy with a minimum \$1,000,000 liability coverage You must provide a copy of your insurance certificate along with your sanctioning request, naming USSMA as an additional insured.
7. All relevant permits obtained (e.g. USFS).
8. **Race directors must collect USSMA racer license numbers in registration (online and in person).** A race director may provide the opportunity for a racer to purchase a USSMA membership during the registration process. The membership and license program is integral to the successful operation of the USSMA.
9. **Race results that include all participants and their associated license numbers, in each USSMA division, must be provided to the USSMA point's coordinator within 3 days after the race.**
10. **USSMA fee must be paid at least 30 days prior to event date.**

Press and Media

1. USSMA logo present on event webpage.
2. **Make visible the discounted USSMA membership entry and provide a link to the USSMA membership webpage.**
3. Preliminary results available to athletes, press, coaches within 1 hour of race finish.
4. Official results submitted to USSMA ranking manager within 3 days of event completion.

Checkpoints:

1. Checkpoints marked as described in race director packet.
2. Checkpoint staff provided with course map, directions, and communication to race headquarters (e.g. radio **AND** secondary mechanism such as phone numbers).
3. Staff briefed on regulations for checkpoints.
4. Sufficient numbers of volunteers at each checkpoint- ideally a minimum 2 per transition.

Race Course (Also see the Race Specifications below)

1. Course fully marked per regulations and **two** skin tracks set. Unless weather or venue prohibits, this should be complete one day prior to the event (except for vert and sprint).
2. Start/Finish set up 1 hour prior to start per regulations outlined in race director packet.
3. Beacon (DVA) check in place, checked athletes prohibited from exiting start area.
4. Finish must feature >10 meters of skating, or set up to minimize speed into finish corral.

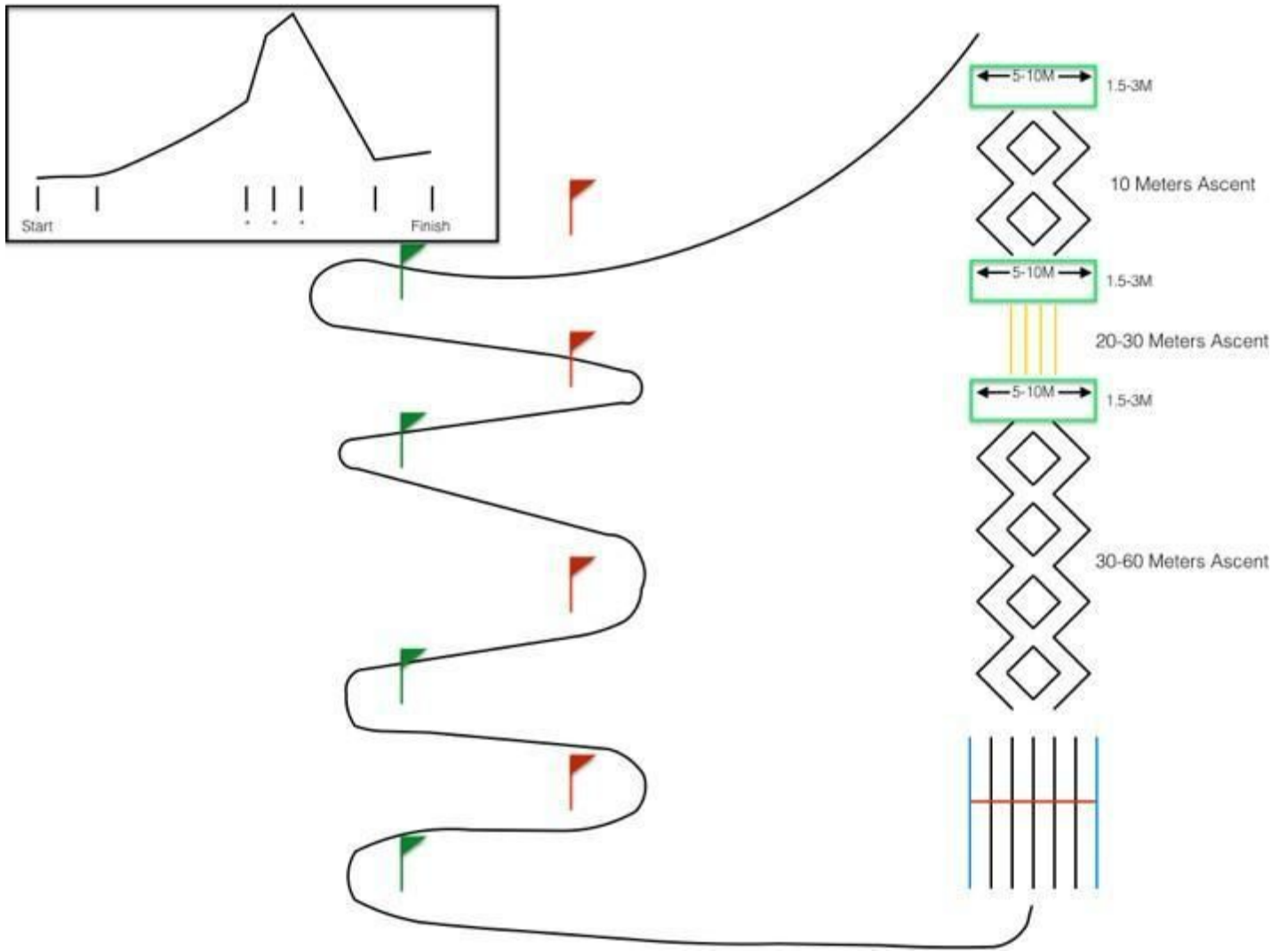
Race Types

Sprint Race

The sprint race is a short-format event consisting of a skin section, a booting section, and a clearly marked gate descent. Racers qualify based on staggered individual starts, with the top 6, 12, 18, or 24 athletes (based on timed finish) going forward to quarter final, semi-final, and final rounds in which 6 racers start en masse. The finish time for the fastest athletes should be 3:30 ± 30 seconds.

The sprint event is broken down into 5 parts:

1. Skis on ascent: from the start line, there should be a distance of 100-200 meters (350-700 feet) of flat or low slope angle, then an ascent of 30-60 meters (100-200 feet) at an angle that is skinnable. This area should be wide enough for 3 racers in each lane, with lanes clearly marked by ribbon. At the end of the first ascent, there should be a transition area wide enough to accommodate 6 racers at once (1.5-3 meters deep, 5-10 meters wide, 5-9 feet deep, 15-30 feet wide).
2. On-foot ascent: from the transition area, racers transition from skis to foot, and skis must be attached to the backpack. The on-foot (booter) ascent should ascend 20-30 meters (60-100 feet), and should have a minimum of three parallel boot paths. At the end of the booter section, a second transition zone of similar size is required.
3. Skis-on ascent: from the transition area, racers remove skis from their backpack and return to on-ski ascent. This second on-ski ascent should total 10 meters (30 feet) of elevation gain, and terminate in a transition zone.
4. Descent on skis: From the transition zone, skiers remove skins and lock into bindings. Descent is marked by red and blue panel gates (giant slalom spacing- tight enough to limit speed by sufficiently wide to provide a challenging ski). Racers must pass through all gates.
5. Finish: Circuit must finish on a flat or slight ascent forcing racers to skate across the finish line (this can be accomplished by forcing racers around a gate set behind the finish, slowing them sufficiently to require skating).



*Sprint Race Schematic. Inset figure shows rough elevation profile, with transitions marked by asterisk.
 (*)*

Vertical Race

The vertical race is a single ascent, entirely completed on skis using skins. Vertical gain should be 500-700 meters (1600-2300 feet) for men and women, and 400-500 meters (1300-1600 feet) for juniors.

Individual Race

The individual race must have a minimum of three ascents and descents for men and women, and 2 for juniors. The longest ascent should not account for more than 50% of the total elevation gain of the event. Race times vary depending on the event, but top racers should complete the event in 1.5-2 hours, with a minimum elevation gain of 1300 meters (4500 feet). The individual race should also contain at least one section on-foot (skis on pack). Concessions to elevation requirements and on-foot sections will be addressed on a case-by-case basis taking account of descent difficulty, historical course layout, and inability of terrain supporting longer courses.

Team Race

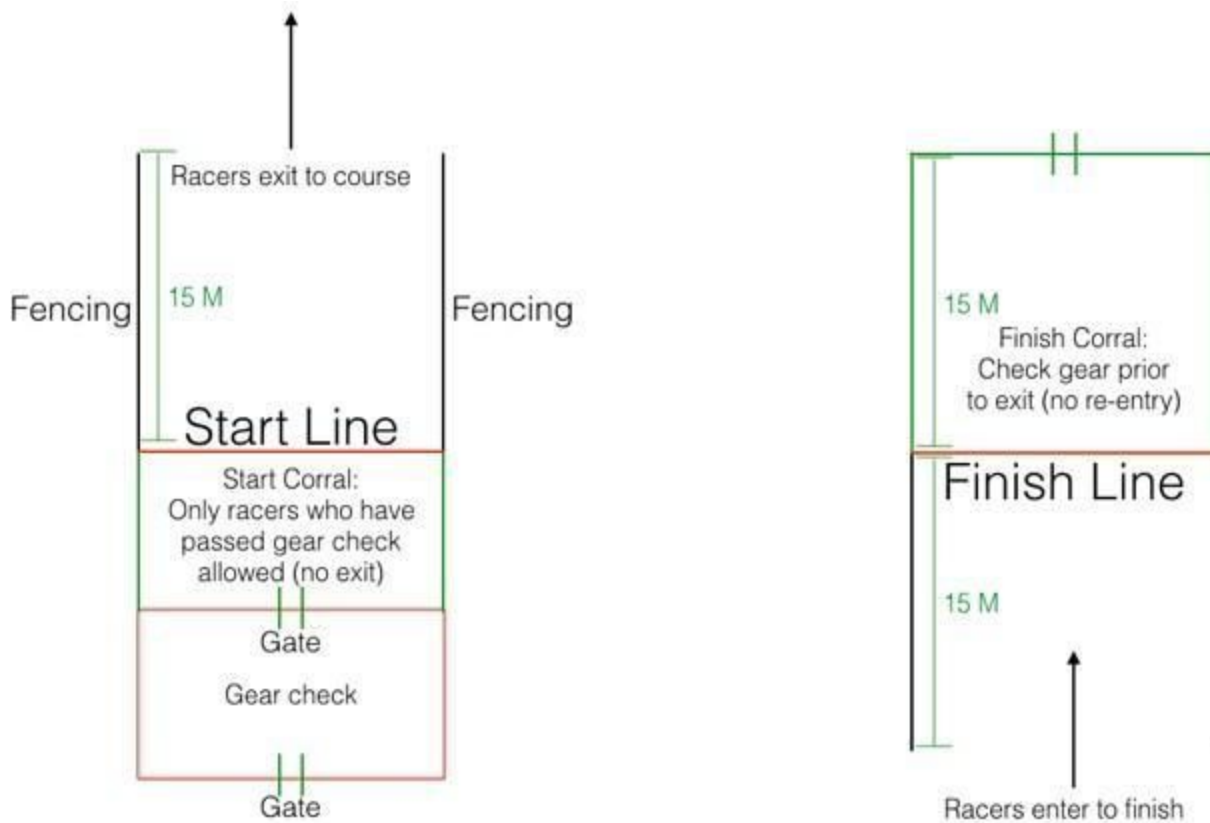
Similar to the Individual race, but of greater length and must be completed with a partner. Total elevation gain should be at least 2100 meters (7000 feet), and finish times should be 3-3.5 hours for the top team. In the team event, a team (composed of two racers) must at all times race together, and must finish together. During ascents, team members must not be separated by more than 30 seconds, and during descents no more than 10 seconds. Team members must leave all checkpoints and transitions together, and must finish within 5 seconds of each other.

Race Specifications

Start and Finish Area

The start and finish areas must have restricted access and should be delineated by barriers or nets when possible:

1. Fencing/nets should separate the start/finish from other areas, and should extend 15 meters from the start (as the racers exit the start) and finish (as the racers enter the finish).
2. The start area should have a separate fenced space separated by a gate (or gap in the fence) to separate racers for beacon check. As racers are checked, they pass through the gate into the starting arena.
3. Gear and beacons should be checked upon entering the race corral.
4. A clearly marked start line. This can be colored chalk, paint, or anything that clearly delineates the starting line.



Start and Finish Schematic

Course Marking

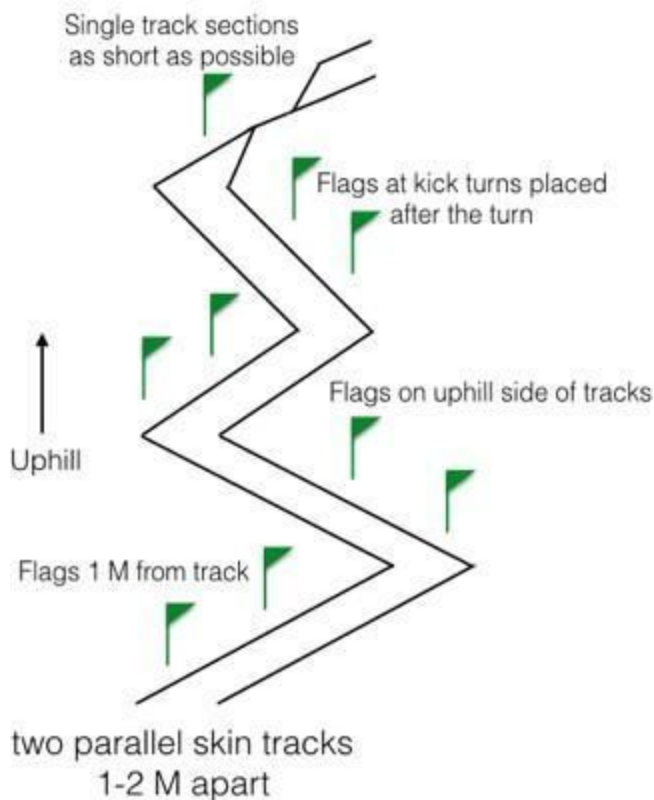
1. All ascents must have 2 parallel skin tracks, unless terrain prohibits (single track areas should be kept as short as possible, long sections of single skin track should indicate that the ascent should be moved). Two skin tracks are required to handle multiple skiers. Intermittently, there

should be tracks connecting the parallel tracks to facilitate passing.

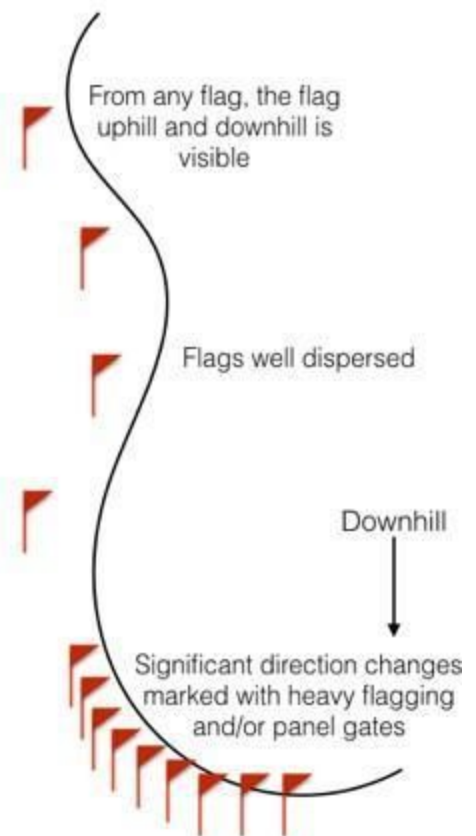
2. Skin tracks should be approximately 12 degrees (a rough approximation is that skin tracks should be set without the use of heel risers- race bindings only have two elevator settings: flat and low). Steep skinning should be avoided through alternate course routing, or through the addition of kick turns.
3. **Courses should be marked thoroughly and thoughtfully to avoid having racers being confused, lost, or disqualified for going the wrong way. Poorly marked courses can ruin individual races or an entire event! Remember that many racers will not be familiar with the venue and need to be guided through the course.**
4. Ascent tracks are marked with green flags set on the **uphill** side of the skin track, 1 meter (3 feet) from the skin track (if closer, they will be taken out by poles). Flagging should be set so that racers can always see the uphill (next) flag. On switchbacks, place the flag **after** the switchback, as flags placed on the corners are often taken out as the corner widens. Flag spacing will depend on visual obstructions- in open areas, flagging spacing may be widened (as the open terrain allows for longer sight lines to the next flag), and in situations such as dense trees, flagging will be closer together. Use of longer and more robust (e.g. tomato stake flags instead of pin flags) may increase the flag spacing, as these types of flags are larger and easier to see at a distance. Green surveyor tape/flagging can also be attached to trees and other fixed objects.
5. Descents are marked with red flags. Flagging should be set so that from each red flag, racers can see the previous flag as well as the downhill flag. Changes in course direction and intersections should be clearly marked. As with the green flagging for skinning, consider a variety of red flagging types for descents. You may want to try approaching alpine race programs for discarded broken-off red race gate shafts that can be modified with red surveyor tape/flagging for additional prominence.
6. On-foot (booter) sections are marked with yellow flags.
7. Transition areas are marked with blue paint, dye, chalk, or flagging (spray paint is best). Transition areas should be of sufficient size to accommodate a large number of racers- we recommend a minimum area of 10 x 10 meters, unless terrain prohibits. We suggest that course setters or transition zone personnel walk out box of a minimum of 20 paces or 6 ski lengths on each side, then mark this area. If mountain operations (e.g. grooming) prevent marking, the transition should be located in an area that naturally indicates a transition, and minimizes risk of collision. You may want to try approaching alpine race programs for discarded broken-off blue race gate shafts that can be modified with blue surveyor tape/flagging for additional prominence.
8. The finish should ideally have a short skate to slow the racers down. Alternatively, a flat finish is sufficient. Avoid straight downhill sections into the finish, as you will have racers entering at a very high speed!

Course Flagging

Ascent Marking



Descent Marking



Race Guidelines

1. **Race rules and required equipment should be clearly stated on the race website and covered in the pre-race meeting.**
2. Race and checkpoint volunteers can require racers to put on jackets at any time (as dictated by weather).
3. Racers must start **and** finish with the required equipment. We recommend that all racers be checked at the start, and also that racers be checked at the finish (as much as possible- even spot checks are sufficient). Failure of racers to comply requires disqualification.
4. Race directors can dictate additional gear requirements as needed. For example, icy or technical booter ascents may require crampons. Technical rope sections require a harness, via ferrata kit, and ascender. Cold or adverse weather may require additional clothing layers.
5. Race directors can dictate required equipment for vert and sprint races (helmets and packs are always required for sprint, but avalanche equipment may be forgone at your discretion. Helmets, packs, and avalanche equipment may be forgone for the vert at your discretion).
6. Race division should always start first to avoid interference with other divisions. Other divisions should be started after race division (at least 5 minutes later). As an alternative, junior, senior, and recreation divisions may be started simultaneously with race division if race division athletes are segregated to the front of the pack.
7. **We strongly recommend that races develop a detailed emergency and rescue plan for both medical, weather, and avalanche emergencies.** Plan ahead- simple planning and having alternate race routes (or amended- e.g. shortened) can be the difference between a cancelled

event or not in case of poor weather or dangerous avalanche conditions.

Divisions

Race

- a. Cadet (U17):** shortened course, with a maximum age of 17 years.
- b. Junior (18, 19, 20):** full distance race course with a maximum age of 20 years.
- c. Espoir (21, 22, 23):** full distance race course with a maximum age of 23 years
- d. Open:** open category for all men and women 21 years old and older, full course.
- e. Masters:** full course, minimum age is 45 years.

For the sports season N-1/N (e.g. 2019/2020), the age taken into account is the age of December 31 of year N (e.g. 2020)

Recreation: Recreation: reduced distance/vert category.

Note: Cadet, Junior, Espoir, and Masters are scored categories, but do not require prizes for the podium (e.g. a single prize can be provided for the winner in each category, but none is required). Scoring will be calculated by the USSMA, so birthdates are required for all racers. Also, it is possible for an athlete to obtain points in their age category as well as podium in the open category (e.g. win the Espoir, but also place in the open).

Racer Rules

1. Boots and bindings **MUST** be locked on all downhill (red flagged) portions of the course.
2. Poles **MUST** be on the flat on the ground (not attached to the hand, or held) in transition areas. (Racers who hold their poles risk stabbing others in the transition area!)
3. Broken skis and poles may be swapped at any point on the course. However, if a racer breaks a pole or ski, the broken pole or ski must not be left on the course (e.g. if a pole is broken, the broken pole must be carried until it can be traded for a non-broken pole).
4. Skis **MUST** be attached at two points to the backpack during booter sections. (Example: race packs usually have a lower loop through which the tails are placed, and a hook or lasso attachment above the binding.)
5. Skins **MUST** be fully tucked into the race suit/pack/jacket PRIOR to leaving the transition area (may still be partially visible). Racers who attempt to leave the transition area should be called back to the transition area to fully secure skins, or be penalized according to the penalty table.
6. All transitions must be carried out within the marked transition area only.

Required Gear

Skis	Minimum length: women = 150cm, men = 160cm Minimum combined weight ski + binding: women = 700g, men = 750g
Bindings	Toe and heel piece must be same brand Must have both lateral and forward release functions
Boots	Rubber sole must cover 100% of boot bottom Minimum weight: women = 450g, men = 500g
Poles	Of maximum diameter 25mm, and with non-metallic baskets.
Skins	At least 1 pair, must cover at least 50% of the surface area of the ski and 50% of the length of the ski
3 upper body layers	1 layer must be a windproof layer 1 layer must be short or long sleeved (no tank tops)
2 lower body layers	1 layer must be a windproof layer
Helmet	Must meet skiing EN 1077, climbing UIAA 106 or climbing EN 12492. National Championships, must meet both a skiing and a climbing spec.
Beacon	Must transmit on 457 kHz, with three search antennas. May not be required if race is entirely within a resort that has no active avalanche control/mitigation work.
Shovel	Must have separate blade and shaft with handle, i.e., no snow claws. Minimum total length 50 cm. Not required if beacons are not required.
Probe	Must be a dedicated sectional probe, i.e., no probe poles. Minimum 240cm. Not required if beacons are not required.
Gloves	That cover the entire hand up to the wrist - to be worn the duration of the race.
Pack	With sufficient carrying capacity to hold all of the equipment required by the regulations, with two rear and/or lateral fastening straps for carrying skis. In the event of cooperation between teammates, the carrier's pack must have two independent sets of fastening straps. If the pack has an independent crampon pouch, the pouch must be securely fastened to the back of the pack. Crampons must be secured in the appropriate compartment of the pack worn on the back.
Eyewear	A second set of eyewear may be required by the Organiser (goggles and sunglasses).
Other optional equipment as required by the race	

Administration of Penalties

1. Penalties should be recorded by race director, course officials, and if present USSMA referee.
2. After the race, any racer with penalties should be notified by the referee (or race director). Racer has the option to dispute the penalty and provide an explanation or justification for the infraction **at the time of notification (racer must dispute the infraction at the time of disclosure)**.
3. If disputed, the justification is weighed by the race director, referee, and course official who noted the infraction (if present). The committee then decides if the justification is sound and there is reasonable and sound cause for clearing the racer. If there is no reasonable and sound cause for clearing the racer, the racer is penalized according to the penalties listed above (appropriate time is added to their finishing time, or the racer is disqualified).

Equipment Offenses	Individual/Team Race	Vertical/Sprint Race
Missing pole or ski at finish line	1 min/pole or ski	15 sec/pole or ski
Missing skin at the finish line	1 min/skin	15 sec/skin
Missing article of clothing	1 min/article	15 sec/article
No beacon or beacon no working	Disqualification	Disqualification
No helmet	Disqualification	Disqualification
No Shovel	Disqualification	Disqualification
No Probe	Disqualification	Disqualification

Race Offenses	Individual/Team Race	Vertical/Sprint Race
False Start	30 seconds	30 seconds
Missing a checkpoint	Disqualification	N/A
Missing a slalom gate during sprint race	N/A	1 minute
Transitioning outside of a marked transition zone	1 min	15 sec
Not placing poles on ground during transition	1 min	15 sec
Leaving a transition zone without skins fully tucked into race suit	1 min	15 sec
Booting on a non-boot ascent	3 min	1 min
Skiing down a section marked as boot descent	Disqualification	Disqualification
Not using crampons when required	Disqualification	Disqualification
Deviating from marked course	Disqualification	Disqualification
Skis not attached to pack in 2 locations	1 min	15 sec
Not yielding to overtaking racer	1 min	15 sec
Not rendering assistance to a person in distress or in danger	Disqualification	Disqualification
Receiving outside equipment help except for changing broken ski or pole	10 minutes	10 minutes
Receiving outside food or drink except in designated area	Disqualification	Disqualification
Receiving help during skin changes	Disqualification	Disqualification
Littering (including trash and gear)	Disqualification	Disqualification
Rude behavior to anyone participating in the race (racer, spectator, organizer, etc)	Disqualification	Disqualification
Not being properly attached to a fixed rope	Disqualification	Disqualification
Crampons not properly attached	5 min	N/A
Crampons on outside of pack	5 min	N/A

Team Race Offenses	Individual/Team Race
Team members not leaving a checkpoint together	2 min
Team member not carrying their own equipment	Disqualification. Exception for carrying teammates skis, as per ISMF 6.1 C-2.
Team members separated by more than 30 seconds on ascents and 10 seconds on descents	3 min
Interval of more than 5 seconds between competitors crossing the finish line	1 sec penalty for each second over 5 seconds between the racers



USSMA Race Penalty Form

Required Gear

Skis	Minimum length: women - 150cm, men - 160cm Minimum 750g Ski/Binding for men and 700g for women
Bindings	Toe and heel piece must be same brand
Boots	Rubber sole must cover 75% of boot bottom Minimum weight 500g for men and 450g for women
Poles	
Skins	at least 1 pair
3 upper body layers	1 layer must be a wind proof layer 1 layer must be short or long sleeved (no tank tops)
2 lower body layers	
Helmet	Must meet skiing EN 1077, climbing UIAA 106, or climbing EN 12492 standards. For National championship events, helmet must conform to UIAA 106 and EN 1077 standards, or EN 12492 and EN 1077 standards.
Beacon	Beacon that transmits on 457 kHz frequency. For 2017/2018 season beacon must have a 3-antenna transmission system
Shovel	No snow claws. Minimum length 50 cm.
Probe	No probe poles. Minimum 240cm
Gloves	
Pack	
Sunglasses	
Other optional equipment as required by the race	

United States Ski Mountaineering Association

USSMA Event Application

APPENDIX 1: Application form for registering events in the USSMA calendar

EXACT NAME OF THE EVENT LOCATION WEBSITE	

EVENT LEVEL (check one)	TYPE OF RACE & COMPETITIVE DIVISIONS (check as many as apply)										
National Points Series	Individual	<input type="checkbox"/>	Open	<input type="checkbox"/>	U17	<input type="checkbox"/>	U20	<input type="checkbox"/>	45+	<input type="checkbox"/>	Shorter Recreational
National Cup Series	Sprint	<input type="checkbox"/>	Open	<input type="checkbox"/>	U17	<input type="checkbox"/>	U20	<input type="checkbox"/>	45+	<input type="checkbox"/>	Shorter Recreational
National Championships	Vertical	<input type="checkbox"/>	Open	<input type="checkbox"/>	U17	<input type="checkbox"/>	U20	<input type="checkbox"/>	45+	<input type="checkbox"/>	Shorter Recreational
North American Championships	Relay	<input type="checkbox"/>	Open	<input type="checkbox"/>	U17	<input type="checkbox"/>	U20	<input type="checkbox"/>	45+	<input type="checkbox"/>	Shorter Recreational
	Long Distance Team	<input type="checkbox"/>	Open	<input type="checkbox"/>	U17	<input type="checkbox"/>	U20	<input type="checkbox"/>	45+	<input type="checkbox"/>	Shorter Recreational

PROPOSED DATES (Please indicate which days if your event has more than one race)

1st choice	//	to	//	2nd choice	//	to	//	3rd choice	//	to	//
Please, indicate which race on which date (A-E, F, G, H, I, J, K, L, M, N, O, P, Q, R, S, T, U, V, W, X, Y, Z):											

LOC / Race Director Contact and details		Town / Resort contact and details	
NAME			
ADDRESS	Ud^oAA ZQWJ/•oA & a^AA V[, }AA Ô[~}d^AA	Ud^oAA ZQWJ/•oA & a^AA V[, }AA Ô[~}d^AA	
PHONE	+		+
EMAIL			

	NAME	PHONE	Email @
LOC Contact			
Race Director			
Town Contact			
Resort Contact			

GENERAL INFORMATION

Overall budget for the competition	
Main partners/sponsors	
Max. number of competitors/teams	Senior : _____ Youth : _____
Athlete registration deadline	
Accommodations contact	
Athlete Registration fees (advanced/day-of registration):	
Senior categories	\$ \$
Youth categories	\$ \$
Distance from accommodation to start/finish areas	
Will the RD/LOC be providing a required race briefing?	YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/>

History of the race Has it ever been a sanctioned USSMA race?	Year 1 st edition: Number of prev. editions: YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> if yes, details
Name of the LOC media contact	
For National Champs, please indicate the prize money if there are some (equity M/W is compulsory for the podium)	
Will anti-doping test be carried out?	YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> if yes, how many?
Will the race be photographed, filmed, or televised?	YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> if yes, details

The following documents must be attached to the application form. Incomplete applications will be rejected.

1	Route map (for all categories) on a 1:24 scale map. Official colors must be used (green, red, yellow)	
2	Profile (for all categories) with distance, ascent/descent heights, foot parts, crampons, ropes and check points	
3	List of supplementary equipment if there are some (see ISMF sporting rules)	

OTHER (any specificity or remark which could be important in the candidacy assessment (extra pages may be attached))

By submitting this document, the RD / LOC agrees to abide by agreed upon USSMA / ISMF rules and regulations and has received the Race Director / Local Organizing Committee Info Packet and will comply with its contents.

Date: Print Name: Signature:

The race director / president of the Local Organization Committee (name – signature)

Decision taken by the USSMA

Accept

Accept with Minor revisions indicated Return

for major revisions and reevaluation Reject

Revisions required:

Accepted competition date(s):

If rejected, the USSMA should explain why the candidacy has been rejected :

USSMA Race Promotion Form

The following information should be provided by Race Directors to Racers and USSMA when promoting a USSMA sanctioned race.

Race Info	Details
Race Name	
Race Website	
Location Name and Link	
Registration Website	
Race Date & Time	
Registration Open Date	
Registration Close Date and Time	
Registration Cost	
USSMA License integrated into results sheet: must agree to list USSMA license numbers in results (Required for all race divisions/ not required for rec).	
Race Format(s) (Individual, Team, Sprint, Vertical)	
Race Specifications (Course Markings, Course Descriptions, Maps, etc.)	
Race Divisions (Race/Open, Recreation, Heavy Metal, Juniors, Masters)	
Race Rules & Penalties	
Required Gear	
Safety (Snow/Avalanche conditions, emergency protocol, etc)	
Sponsorship	
Special Info, Mentions, Instruction	

USSMA Event Application Info

Thank you for your interest in sanctioning your Ski Mountaineering event with the United States Ski Mountaineering Association.

As a USSMA sanctioned event you can take advantage of the benefits currently available to sanctioned events and your participation in our sanctioning program will help us to add more benefits to sanctioned races in the years to come.

A USSMA sanctioned event has a sanctioning fee. All applications and payment must be submitted in their entirety at least 30 days prior to the event date. No application will be accepted if not submitted 14 days prior to the event date. The fee must be paid by check, made payable to; United States Ski Mountaineering Association or by Zelle to ram@ussma.org (First Bank).

- USSMA Sanctioning Fee: \$50 (\$100 if submitted between 14 to 30 days prior to event)
 - USSMA Cup Sanctioning Fee: \$100 (\$150 if submitted between 14 to 30 days prior to event)
 - USSMA National Championship Sanctioning Fee: \$250 (\$350 if submitted between 14 to 30 days prior to event)
- There will be no additional sanctioning fee for sanctioning of multi-day events so long as the additional events are unique disciplines and on consecutive calendar days.

Please use the Event Sanction Application Checklist to help you through the sanctioning process.

Mandatory Items:

- Event Information
- Race Director Information
- Event Description
- Agreement Form
- Proof of Insurance

Personal Checklist:

- Copy of the sanction application for my records?
- Included the USSMA Waiver in my Race Entry Form?
- Turning in my application at least 30 days prior to my event?
- Please send signed USSMA Event Application along with proof of insurance to:
USSMA
222 Idlewild Drive
Dillon, CO 80435

*All USSMA Sanctioned Events must carry a liability insurance policy with a minimum \$1,000,000 liability coverage. You must provide a copy of your insurance certificate along with your sanctioning request, naming USSMA as an additional insured.

United States Ski Mountaineering Association Event Sanction Agreement

Below is the contract between the United States Ski Mountaineering Association (USSMA) and the race director. Please read carefully, fill in the appropriate names at the beginning of the contract, sign and return it to USSMA. The business entities signature section applies to situations where a party other than the race director owns the event. In all cases the race director will sign the agreement. By signing this contract, you are warranting that your race will meet the minimum race sanctioning requirements as outlined in the Race Director Guidelines document and the USSMA Event Application.

This sanction agreement ("Agreement") is made between the following entities: United States Ski Mountaineering Association ("USSMA"); _____, the race promoter(s) or director(s) of the _____ (the "Event"); and all other persons or entities connected with the production of the Event and appearing as signatories to this Agreement. (All such race promoter(s), race director(s), and other signatories are referred to herein individually and collectively as "Race Director.") In consideration of the mutual concerns and promises set forth below, the adequacy of which is hereby acknowledged, USSMA and Race Director agree as follows: (Please initial each item)

1. Race Administration. Race Director agrees, covenants, warrants, and represents that Race Director shall follow and ensure that the Event complies with all USSMA's management criteria, safety guidelines, rules, regulations, policies, directives, decisions, and all procedures set forth in the current USSMA sanction packet "United States Ski Mountaineering Association Event Sanctioning Application." Race Director shall collect, as trustee on behalf of USSMA, all required membership fees, release forms, and race results, and shall deliver such items to USSMA by either UPS or certified mail, return receipt requested, within the time period set forth in this sanction application.
2. Limited Use of USSMA Trademark. Race Director shall be permitted to use USSMA's Trademark, consisting of USSMA's name and primary logo, for the limited purpose of advertising and promoting the Event. Any use of USSMA's name and trademark shall cease immediately after the Event or upon termination of the Event's sanction.
3. Prize Money. Race Director shall distribute any prize monies equally to all qualified men and women participants and shall pay, in full, the amount of all prize monies promoted.
4. Rules. Race Director shall uphold and comply with all of USSMA's Rules, as they may be amended from time to time, and shall ensure that the Event complies with all such Rules. Race Director warrants that any request for additions or exceptions to the Competitive Rules have been submitted in writing to USSMA.
5. Safety Guidelines. It is expressly understood and acknowledged by Race Director that the requirements, standards, and guidelines established by USSMA are intended to provide for the orderly administration of the Event and are not intended to guarantee the safety of participants. Race Director acknowledges that safety considerations may or may not require that additional precautions or measures be taken beyond the minimum requirements established by USSMA, and Race Director agrees to take such measures to promote and conduct the safest event possible.
6. Legal Claims and Event Records. Race Director hereby covenants and agrees to cooperate in good faith with USSMA, its insurer, and their agents in the event of any personal injury claims or other legal actions arising out of the Event and to maintain adequate business records for the Event for a period of at least six (6) years after the Event and to provide USSMA access to such records. Business records include, but are not limited to, participant waiver forms, facility use agreements, vendor certificates of insurance, race participant census data, and accounting records.
7. No Warranties or Agency. It is understood and agreed that USSMA makes no warranties, express or implied, to the Race Director, or other race promoters, sponsors, participants, volunteers, spectators, or any other person or entity related in any way to the Event. Under no circumstances shall Race Director act as the agent of USSMA. There is no intent to create an agency, partnership, or joint venture relationship between USSMA and the Race Director of the Event.
8. Media Release. Race Director hereby agrees to give USSMA the right to use Race Director's and Event's name on any written, photographic, audio, or videotaped materials relating to the Event for advertising, promotional, commercial, educational, or other purposes, and Race Director hereby waives any right to additional consideration or compensation with respect to any such use.
9. Warranty of Information. Race Director warrants that all the minimum race sanctioning requirements for sanctioning with USSMA will be complied with and that all information listed under Event Description of the Sanctioning Application is true and correct. Falsifying or misrepresenting information in the Sanctioning Application will result in voiding the insurance coverage or discount made available to the Race Director or Event as part of

USSMA's sanctioning of the event. If any statement set forth in the sanction application or any representation made to USSMA in connection with the sanction application subsequently becomes untrue prior to the competition of the Event, Race Director shall immediately notify USSMA in writing of the change in circumstances.

10. Indemnification. Each Race Director, personally, and on behalf of all affiliated or related entities connected in any way with the promotion or administration of the Event, hereby, jointly and severally, indemnifies and agrees to defend and hold harmless the United States Ski Mountaineering Association, its officers, directors, sponsors, employees, and agents for and against any and all claims, liabilities, demands, obligations, debts, costs of litigation, attorney's fees, or other expenses related to or arising out of the organization or conduct of an Event that does not meet the minimum sanctioning requirements outlined in the United States Ski Mountaineering Association Event Sanctioning Application and agreed to under Paragraph 1, "Race Administration" of this Agreement.
11. Grant of Sanction. Provided that the Race Director and the Event comply with all the terms and conditions of this Agreement, USSMA shall sanction the Event. USSMA may terminate the Event's sanction at any time if a Race Director or the Event fails to comply with any of the terms of this Agreement.
12. Insurance. It is expressly understood that USSMA is not acting as an insurer or insurance agent. USSMA makes no representations or warranties with respect to the insurance coverage, and Race Director shall read and be bound by the written terms of the insurance policy and certificates of insurance.
13. Modifications. This Agreement represents the entire agreement between both parties with respect to the sanctioning of the Event. No modification or amendment of this Agreement or waiver of any provision of this Agreement shall be valid unless it is set forth in writing and signed by all parties.
14. Governing Law. This Agreement shall be governed by and interpreted under the laws of the State of Colorado.
15. Waiver. At NO time is the United States Ski Mountaineering Association waiver to be modified. Additionally, any found alterations may place you responsible for any legal ramifications caused by this modification.

WHEREFORE, intending to be legally bound by the terms hereof, the undersigned have executed this Agreement on the date set forth next to their respective signatures.

(Race Director please initial here) By initialing you are stating that you have read and will follow the terms of the current United States Ski Mountaineering Association Event Sanctioning Application in addition to adhering to the terms of the sanctioning agreement.

INDIVIDUAL RACE DIRECTORS:

Printed or Typed Name Printed or Typed Name

Signature Date Signature Date

BUSINESS ENTITIES: (if party other than race director owns event)

_ Name of person or company Name of person or company

Position

Signature Date Signature Date

Failure to maintain minimum race sanctioning requirements will be a breach of this contract. If a claim for damages should arise as a result of the failure to maintain minimum race requirements, the race director may be responsible for any loss. This race is not considered approved and/or sanctioned until this agreement has been signed by a representative of the United States Ski Mountaineering Association. It will be sent back to you, signed by USSMA, as a binding contract for a sanctioned event.

Signature Date

USSMA

USSMA Standard Event Liability Waiver

This Waiver Must Be Signed By All Participants and Volunteers Associated With Any USSMA Sanctioned Event.

This Waiver Cannot Be Altered, Except With Written Permission From the United States Ski Mountaineering Association. Be sure to include yourself and all entities covered by this waiver where highlighted in the waiver. You must include this waiver in your event entry form.

I acknowledge that this athletic event is an extreme test of a person's physical and mental limits and carries with it the potential for death, serious injury and property loss. The risks include, but are not limited to, those caused by terrain, facilities, temperature, weather, condition of athletes, equipment, vehicular traffic, actions of other people including, but not limited to, participants, volunteers, spectators, coaches, event officials, and event monitors, and/or producers of the event, and lack of hydration. These risks are not only inherent to athletics, but are also present for volunteers. I hereby assume all of the risks of participating &/or volunteering in this event. I realize that liability may arise from negligence or carelessness on the part of the persons or entities being released, from dangerous or defective equipment or property owned, leased, maintained or controlled by them or because of their possible liability without fault. I certify that I am physically fit, have sufficiently trained for participation in the event and have not been advised otherwise by a qualified medical person. I acknowledge that the Accident Waiver and Release of Liability form will be used by the event holders, sponsors and organizers of the event in which I may participate, and that it will govern my actions and responsibilities at said events. In consideration of my application and permitting me to participate in this event, I hereby take action for myself, my executors, administrators, heirs, next of kin, successors, and assigns as follows: (A) Waive, Release and Discharge from any and all liability for my death, disability, personal injury, property damage, property theft or actions of any kind which may hereafter occur to me including my traveling to and from this event, THE FOLLOWING ENTITIES OR PERSONS: United States Ski Mountaineering Association (USSMA),

RACE DIRECTOR - PLEASE LIST YOURSELF AND ALL ENTITIES COVERED BY THIS WAIVER

, their directors, officers, employees, volunteers, representatives, and agents, the event holders, event sponsors, USSMA sponsors, event volunteers; (B) Indemnify and Hold Harmless the entities or persons mentioned in this paragraph from any and all liabilities or claims made as a result of participation in this event, whether caused by the negligence of releases or otherwise.

I hereby consent to receive medical treatment which may be deemed advisable in the event of injury, accident and/or illness during this event. I understand that at this event or related activities, I may be photographed. I agree to allow my photo, video or film likeness to be used for any legitimate purpose by the event holders, producers, sponsors, organizers and assigns.

The Accident Waiver and Release of Liability shall be construed broadly to provide a release and waiver to the maximum extent permissible under applicable law. I hereby certify that I have read this document; and, I understand its content.

PARENT / GUARDIAN WAIVER FOR MINORS (Under 18 years old) The undersigned parent and natural guardian does hereby represent that he/she is, in fact, acting in such capacity and agrees to save and hold harmless and indemnify each and all of the parties referred to above from all liability, loss, cost, claim or damage whatsoever which may be imposed upon said parties because of any defect in or lack of such capacity to so act and release said parties on behalf of the minor and the parents or legal guardian.

Signature
(If under 18 years old, Parent or guardian must also sign)

Date

Date

Signature of Parent or Guardian