

PARA Gate Judge Education & Certification Program 2015

The PARA gate judge program finished the season with 157 certified judges and 28 chief gate judges. We added 11 new certified judges in the 2014-2015 season, the lowest number of new judges in 4 years. Since many of the athletes of the certified judges have been graduating out of their programs, the number of active judges is probably closer to 100. We encourage the Program Directors, coaches and club presidents to help promote the program within your clubs - particularly to parents of younger athletes.

The program does not include a requirement to take a regular update. To keep the judges updated on rules changes that affect them, there are two emails sent - one after the AO updates, and another around the holidays.

With only a few exceptions, all the clubs are well represented in the number of certified judges, and all the ROC's have at least one certified chief.

Club	Judges
BKST	1
BMRT	25
DCWST	3
EMR	23
HVRC	3
IND	3
JFRT	11
LMRT	15
PASEF	6
SHAW	5
SMRC	2
MMST	3
SRRRC	35
TMART	9
WPRC	9
WTSEF	4

We believe the program has contributed significantly to reducing the number of controversies and protests in PARA, and has helped make ski racing fairer and more equitable to all competitors. We will help you recruit judges for your races by sending out an email appeal to all certified judges prior to your race. We usually get several sign-ups from these appeals.

Thanks again to Gene Pavitt for grading the exams and helping to identify questions that could be worded better, and where we need to place greater emphasis in the educational materials.

Submitted by Bill Filling
PARA Gate Judge Coordinator