

# PARA U19 Age Chair Report

## 2018-2019 Season

### ***PA Cup Series and State Team***

This season 34 female (down 6) and 63 male (up 5) U19 athletes competed in the PA Cup Series. Overall field size for the PA Cups 1 thru 5 **including U16's** – Men 50(low) to 104(high) Average 81.  
-Women 38(low) to 69(high) Average 59.

Allowing U16's to compete in the PA Cup series will continue to allow U16's to establish and develop a point profile earlier. Long term, this helps the overall point profile of PARA athletes. Lower point profiles help our athletes going to post season events or events outside of PARA, to get more competitive start positions.

PA Cup races were hosted by Seven Springs (2SL), Blue Mountain (2GS, 1SL) and Elk Mountain (2GS, 1SL). PA Cup 3 and 4 were also used as GS qualifiers for the Central U16 athletes.

The 2019 PARA State Team was comprised of the top 5 ranked female and the top 8 ranked male athletes based on the final PA Cup results at the conclusion of PA Cup 6, 7 and 8 at Elk Mountain. The number for the state team remained the same as the previous year at 13.

### ***2019 PARA State Team U19***

Anna McDermott	EMSC
Brianna Lucas**	2002
Isabel Keating	WPRC
Catherine DeScisciolo	2001
Alexandra Howard	EMSC
*Elizabeth Gentner	2001
*Megan Greloch	LMRT
*Mia Zwally	2001 WTSEF
	2002
	BMRA
	2000
	BMRA
	2000
	LMRT
	2001

Duncan Bedell **	SRRC	2001	Florian Knollman**	WTSEF	2001
Omar Boukhriss**	SRRC	2001	Conor Newman**	EMSC	2000
Sam Reilly**	SRRC	2001	Joey Cichon**	PASEF	2000
Weston Greloch	BMRA	2002	Trevor Harrison	LMRT	2000
*Aiden Gonder	SRRC	2002	*Mark Matusinsky	BMRA	2001
*Mason Ridgway	BMRA	2000	*Zach Bonner	SRRC	2001
*Shaun Clem	SRRC	2000	*Matthew Young	BMRA	2002
*Maximillian Block	WTSEF	2002	*Alex Silverstein	BMRA	2001

\*Alternates competing at Eastern Finals at Gore as members of PARA State Team

\*\* Did not attend Eastern Finals at Gore

### ***Post Season Events***

**US Ski and Snowboard Eastern Finals** were held at Gore, NY from March 21st through March 24th.

PARA sent 10 male and 7 female athletes to this event. Our PARA quota for this event was revised from previous years and was increased to a total of 26 spots. Based on our U19 membership, those quota spots were split into 9 female and 17 male spots.

Athletes attending were: Anna McDermott, Alexandra Howard, Catherine DeScisciolo, Mia Zwally, Elizabeth Gentner, Megan Greloch, Isabel Keating, Aiden Gonder, Mark Matusinsky, Mason Ridgway, Weston Greloch, Shaun Clem, Zach Bonner, Trevor Harrison, Maximillian Block, Matt Young and Alex Silverstein.

Events were modified to accommodate changing weather conditions. SG training was held Thursday morning followed by the SG race Thursday afternoon due to the weather forecast for Friday. SL and GS events were flipped with SL run on Saturday and GS on Sunday.

We had some great results in **SG**, with one podium and four of our athletes placing in the top fifteen across both genders. **Anna McDermott (EMSC)** podiumed at 3<sup>rd</sup>, **Catherine DeScisciolo (LMRT)** 4<sup>th</sup> and **Elizabeth Gentner (BMRA)** 13<sup>th</sup> for the women. For the men, **Mark Matusinsky (BMRA)** tied for 7<sup>th</sup> followed by **Weston Greloch (BMRA)** at 12<sup>th</sup> respectable finishes.

In **GS** our men, **Weston Greloch (BMRA)** 8<sup>th</sup>, was followed by **Aiden Gonder (SRRC)** 16<sup>th</sup> and **Mark Matusinsky (BMRA)** 19<sup>th</sup>. On the ladies side, **Isabel Keating (EMSC)** 7<sup>th</sup> was followed by **Catherine DeScisciolo (LMRT)** 9<sup>th</sup>, **Mia Zwally (LMRT)** 15<sup>th</sup> and **Alexandra Howard (WTSEF)** 17<sup>th</sup>

In **SL**, our men had really great results along with some fantastic individual runs. **Mason Ridgway (BMRA)** 1<sup>st</sup> followed by **Mark Matusinsky (BMRA)** 2<sup>nd</sup>, took the two top spots on the podium. **Trevor Harrison (LMRT)** 17<sup>th</sup> had consistent runs to stay in the top twenty.

For the women, **Alexandra Howard (WTSEF)** had a podium at 3<sup>rd</sup>, followed by **Catherine DeScisciolo (LMRT)** 8<sup>th</sup>, **Mia Zwally (LMRT)** 11<sup>th</sup> and **Isabel Keating (EMSC)** 13<sup>th</sup>. Catherine DeScisciolo was our most consistent female finishing all three events in the top 10. Mark Matusinsky was our most consistent male with a 2<sup>nd</sup>, tie for 7<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup>.

USSA Penalty for US Ski and Snowboard Eastern events were as follows:

SG- 202.24 (M) 236.26 (W)

GS- 112.86 (M) 134.62(W)

SL- 111.73 (M) 137.75(W)

**Eastern High School Championships** were hosted by Attitash NH on March 8-10, 2019.

PARA sent a team consisting of 10 male and 4 female athletes as well as a COMPOSITE team of 11 male and 7 female athletes that compete as PARA athletes, but attend high school in New Jersey, Delaware, Maryland, Virginia or D.C.

This is a large event with **over 125 male and 115 female athletes** in the field for each discipline.

USSA Penalty for these events were as follows:

SL- 81.52 (M) 85.63(W)

GS- 91.70 (M) 94.56(W)

As you can see, this continues to be a good points event for those looking to establish or improve on their point profile.

This year again, we allowed our PARA athletes to sign up for High School Championships in advance rather than wait for results from the PA Cup Finals and the U16 State Championships.

Again this improved attendance of our PARA athletes and helped parents making travel plans for post season events. Time off school for post season events remains a factor with some athletes, after taking time off to compete during the regular season.

### ***FIS and Development***

PARA does have Development (DEVO) opportunities available at a limited number of races throughout the season in Vermont, Maine and New Hampshire. Athletes looking to develop or improve on an FIS point profile may be able to attend some of these events.

***Athletes desiring to attend these events MUST first contact the head coach for their home program, who will then contact the U19-U21 Chair.***

***DEVO spots are awarded by lowest points(per discipline) for athletes on the PARA FIS DEVO list. PARA usually has three spots for each gender. Intent to compete in these events MUST be made +30 days in advance of the event. There are no guarantees that you will be entered.***

***Entry to these events is based on USSA/FIS points. These guidelines may be subject to change.***

PARA does NOT provide coaching staff for athletes attending these events. Other arrangements for representation at these events must be made prior to attending.

## **Summary**

-The PA Cup races were again complimented this year by having many U16 athletes competing and starting to establish their USSA point profiles.

-Attendance for the High School Championships remained similar to last year. 14 athletes (10 male, 4 female) made up the PARA team with 18 athletes (11 male and 7 female) competing as the PARA Composite team. Filling the 48 spots continues to be a challenge due to the timing of the event. This year there were only four days between our last PA Cup races until the start of the event. This left little time for athletes to make a commitment to the event if they had not already signed up. Again, we did "open" sign-ups to attend HSC, prior to our PARA final events. Sign-up documents were posted on the PARA website, which allowed for some early commitments to the event. Plans are to continue this with an earlier release of the sign-up forms allowing more time for athletes to make commitments and travel plans.

HSC is a challenging and well run event with low points. It is also great exposure for younger U16 athletes or any high school athlete looking for some great competition. Students from the Mid-west as well as New England region provide some fantastic teams to this event.

-Attendance for post season events this year was challenging. Scheduling time off from school was not possible, practice for other sports had begun, conflict with spring break schedule, timing of the event in general and other vacation plans, all made it challenging to fill our quota spots. This season we had a quota increase from 13 to 26 additional quota spots for the US Easterns at Gore. This provided an opportunity for additional athletes to attend a quality post season event.

-Recognizing our PARA athletes at post season events continues to be something that we should be supporting and have started to address. Providing access to a "TEAM" garment is a nice addition for the athletes at any post season event. It is the one thing that most post season athletes would like to have and have repeatedly asked for. A prototype "online" store was up for a short time this season and we will work to make this site accessible earlier for next season.

-Thank You to all ROC's, officials, coaches, parents, volunteers and especially the athletes for making this season happen...we couldn't do it without all of you!

Submitted 4/25/2019

Curt Schramm  
U19 Age Chair