



Pennsylvania (PARA) Alpine Officials 2019-2020 Report

April 22, 2020

Submitted by Rob Lipton, PARA Alpine Officials Chair

Ski Racing Season Highlights:

This year's report will mark my 18th year in which I have had the privilege of serving as the PARA Alpine Officials chair-person.

The 2019-2020 alpine ski race season was once again off to a slow start. Once again, the weather didn't cooperate. The race schedule had some events that canceled some dates and venues changed to accommodate mother nature! Once again, there were many ski races, occurring "simultaneously" stretched to the limits of the availability of qualified alpine officials.

The PARA community managed to complete all of the alpine state team selection races. Our racers were eager to compete in the many post-season contests throughout New England. Unfortunately, the Coronavirus Pandemic happened, forcing the cancelation of the entire world's alpine ski racing season.

Our PARA's Alpine Officials, with help from the PARA alpine racing community, performed exceptionally well. I am proud to be part of a group of dedicated volunteers who give freely of their time and effort to our athletes. I am genuinely appreciative of every one of you who perform their Official Alpine duties no matter the weather, temperature, adverse circumstances, etc.

Alpine Officials by the Numbers:

During the 2019-20 season, there were **368** Alpine Officials in PARA. This is an increase of twenty-one **Alpine Officials** in PARA from the previous 2018-19 year. At least **260** had attained at least one AO certification, which is an increase of fifty-six from the 2018-2019 year. **Ten** alpine officials have all nine specialty certifications. This represents five less AO's than last year. There are **15 active certified Technical Delegates** in PARA. Of the 15 certified Technical Delegates, **12 TD's** (*one less than the previous year*) officiated the PARA's race calendar as Technical Delegates.



There are: (As of 4/21/2020)

260 (+54) alpine officials with a **competition official certification**,

134 (+2) alpine officials with a **referee certification**,

134 (-14) alpine officials with a **jury advisor certification**,

37 (+1) alpine officials with a **chief of course certification**,

35(-1) alpine officials with a **chief of race certification**,

40 (+2) alpine officials with a **race administrator certification**

54 (+5) alpine officials with **timing and calculation certification**.

Again, we have a dedicated alpine official community in Pennsylvania, and I am very proud and honored to represent them. Thank you for everything you do for alpine ski racing ... without you, there would be no ski racing in PARA.

Educational Opportunities:

PARA provided four general Alpine Officials workshops, geographically dispersed throughout the state*. They were held at Camelback Mountain (East, North East), Seven Springs (Western), Tussey (North Central), and at Liberty (Central). There was a total of 130 participants, an increase of 40 participants than last year. Those AO's attending these four Alpine Official workshops represent (35% of current PARA AO members). These four PARA **Divisional AO workshops** were held throughout the state and were facilitated by Sam Ganow and myself.

These workshops continue to emphasize and clarify all of the material included in the US SKI & SNOWBOARD 2019-20 Alpine Officials Fall Update, highlighting those rules specific and common to alpine ski racing in PARA. Other current and relevant information on the upcoming US SKI & SNOWBOARD ski racing season was also covered in these sessions. For example, the "COURSES" AND "B-NET" PowerPoint presentations were a mandatory part of the Alpine Officials' Clinics. Alpine Official Exams were offered to those who requested them.

There were also club level workshops (Elk, Whitetail, etc.) provided throughout the state. *Note: these workshop participants were not counted in the 130 who attended PARA AO divisional workshops.* These workshops are designed to educate the parents of the racers on the basic rules of Alpine ski racing. The Competition Officials exam document was covered, and a USSS Alpine Officials **CO designation** was awarded to all current US Ski & Snowboard members who attended these clinics.

The PARA AO Website Paraa.org continues to be used by the Alpine Officials' community to retrieve the most recent versions of all US Ski & Snowboard forms and documents. Alpine Officials also access it to find out about pertinent updates, rule changes, clarifications, and additionally timely information useful to our AO community.



The TD assignment race schedule for the current year is posted on the website. I also have our PARA webmaster (Carrie Scheetz) post all relevant documents to the PARA website. All pertinent AO information or links to that information can be found on the [Para Website](#)

Alpine Ski Race Statistics:

PARA hosted forty-four (39) U10 – U21, (Men & Women) Races, training days, and (1) Super G camp that was 2-days in length. This year, *no race or training days were canceled*. Six race days were rescheduled.

A total of 41 race/sanctioned training days (*two less than last year*) was completed

Month & Year	Number of Race Days Men and Women events counted as one race
December 2019	1
January 2020	11
February 2020	25 +2 days (SG Camp)
March 2020	2

Forty-four (44) Scored – Non-Scored Races:

- 14 - Scored
- 16 - Non-scored/training
- 13 - Both

For the 2019-2020 Ski Season, PARA has 11 Active Technical Delegates who worked at least one race.

1 TD Officiated 6 races	5 TDs Officiated 3 races
2 TD Officiated 5 races	2 TDs Officiated 2 races
2 TDs Officiated 4 races	

Upgrades and Promotions:

368 Alpine Officials Registered in PA
 44 Exams Administered (some exam takers were not members of PARA)
 8 – Failed = 88% pass rate!

- 21 - Referee exams
- 5 Jury Advisor exams
- 7 Timing and Calculation exams
- 2 Race Administrator
- 1 TD Exam



There are **71** PARA Alpine Officials recommended for promotion to a **level 1 or 2** for the 2019-2020 year

Classification	Number of Requests
CC: CHIEF OF COURSE	1
CO: COMPETITION OFFICIAL	23
CR: CHIEF OF RACE	1
JA: JURY ADVISOR	7
RA: RACE ADMINISTRATOR	4
RF: REFEREE	23
TC: TIMING AND CALCULATIONS	11
TD: TECHNICAL DELEGATE	1
Total	71

There are **(3)** Level 3 and **(1)** Level 4 PARA AO Upgrades Requested 2019-2020

Classification	Number of Requests
TD Level 4 5522503 John Reihner	1
TD Level 3 5940747 Bruce Wickersham	1
CO Level 3 5882584 Eric Updegrove	1
CoR Level 3 4719993 James Dibiase	1
Total	4

Respectfully Submitted - April 24, 2020
 Rob Lipton
 Pennsylvania US SKI & SNOWBOARD- Alpine Officials Chairman
 US SKI & SNOWBOARD # 5413679