

IAPS Skiing Championships

2027 Race Formats and Rules

The Skiing Championships include race formats for skiers of different abilities, allowing schools to select the most appropriate level for their teams.

We agree the competition formats with the Ski School. The Ski School may adapt the races or schedule where required by the weather, snow or course conditions. The competition structure and rules are set out below.

Competition Format Overview

The event includes:

- **Giant Slalom Time Trial** - an assessment run that helps schools select the most appropriate Giant Slalom competition for their teams.
- **Team Parallel Slalom** - a timed qualification followed by separate Championship and Plate knockout competitions raced as rolling relays.
- **Giant Slalom Championship Race** - for advanced teams.
- **Giant Slalom Plate Race** - for intermediate teams.

Giant Slalom

Format

- The Giant Slalom consists of a time trial followed by separate Championship and Plate races.
- The Championship Race is for advanced teams and the Plate Race is for intermediate teams. Each competition consists of two runs on a Giant Slalom course of approximately 23 gates.

Time Trial

- Each skier completes one run on a modified Giant Slalom course.
- Schools take part in a randomly allocated order.
- Results will be available online in real time.
- Times are recorded for assessment only. They do not count towards the Giant Slalom results or Team Parallel Slalom qualification.
- After the time trial, the Ski School will review all results and provide a suggested cut-off point to help schools decide whether to enter their teams in the Championship or Plate Race.

Team Composition and Eligibility

- All team members must attend the same school.
- Teams must include three or four skiers.
- A skier's race times may count for one team only.
- Schools may enter more than one team in the same category, for example U11 Girls A and B.

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Age Categories

- We offer U11 and U13 age categories.
- For individual fastest-skier placings, a competitor's age category is determined by their school year on 1 September 2026.
- For team placings, the oldest skier on race day determines the team's age category.
- The Ski School will set each course to suit the age group.
- We award individual fastest-skier medals in a competitor's own age category, even if they race as part of an older team.
- We award fastest-skier medals in both the Championship and Plate races.

Scoring

- We use each skier's fastest time from their two runs.
- The final team score is the combined total of the three best times recorded by three different skiers.
- For mixed teams, the three counting times must include at least one skier of each gender.

Team Submission and Changes

- We will confirm the deadline for teams at the event.
- Changes submitted after the deadline will not be accepted.

Bibs

- We allocate bib numbers at random.
- After a skier's second run, their bib must be returned in the finish area.
- Skiers who do not finish must also return their bib to the collection team.

Course Inspection

- Racers may inspect the course.
- During inspection, racers must move slowly and may only slip or snowplough down the course.
- Shadow turns beside gates and skiing through gates are not permitted and may result in disqualification.
- A forerunner will test the course and timing before racing begins.

Start Area and Procedure

- The Start Marshal controls the start area and checks helmets, bibs, gloves and other required equipment.
- Racers must arrive at the start gate in good time.
- Only one coach or team manager may accompany each skier in the start area.
- School representatives must collect jackets left at the start and take them to the finish area.
- At the gate, the racer places their poles over the timing wand.
- The starter calls, "Ready... 3, 2, 1, go."
- The racer must start within approximately 10 seconds of the instruction to go.

Obstructions on the Course

- A racer who is obstructed must tell the Finish Referee immediately. The referee will decide

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whether to grant a re-run.

Awards

- We award team medals for first, second and third place in each category.
- We award individual medals to the fastest skier in each category.
- Mixed teams compete in a separate medal category from single-gender teams.

Team Parallel Slalom

Format

- The Team Parallel Slalom consists of a timed qualification followed by separate Championship and Plate knockout competitions.
- During qualification, the individual times of the four skiers in each team are combined to produce an overall team time. The Championship and Plate competitions are then raced head-to-head as rolling relays.

Team Composition and Eligibility

- All team members must attend the same school.
- Each team must include four skiers.
- Teams may include both boys and girls.
- Each skier may compete for one team only.
- Schools may enter one team in the Team Parallel Slalom.

Qualification

- Qualification takes place on Tuesday morning.
- The Giant Slalom time-trial and Parallel qualification courses will be set up alongside each other.
- Once a school has completed the Giant Slalom time trial, its teacher must promptly select the four skiers who will represent the school in the Parallel competition. The skiers do not need to be named in advance.
- The four selected skiers will then each complete an individual timed run on the Parallel qualification course.
- The four individual times will be combined to produce the team's qualifying time.
- Teams will be ranked according to their combined qualifying time.
- The 16 fastest teams will qualify for the Championship competition.
- The teams ranked 17th to 32nd will qualify for the Plate competition.

Championship and Plate Competitions

- The Plate competition takes place on a dedicated course on Tuesday afternoon.
- The Championship competition takes place on Wednesday.
- Both competitions include up to 16 teams and follow a straight knockout format.
- Teams race head-to-head, with each team allocated either the blue or red course.
- Each skier completes one run as part of the team relay.

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- The winning team progresses to the next round.

Bibs

- Each team receives four bibs in the colour corresponding to its allocated course.
- One team receives four blue bibs and the opposing team receives four red bibs.
- Teams must return all four bibs after completing their race.

Course Inspection

- Racers may inspect the course before racing begins.
- During inspection, racers must move slowly and may only slip or snowplough down the course.
- Shadow turns beside gates and skiing through gates are not permitted and may result in disqualification.
- A forerunner will test both courses and the timing system before racing begins.

Start Area and Procedure

- The Start Marshal controls the start area and checks helmets, bibs, gloves and other required equipment.
- All four skiers must arrive at the start area in good time and line up in their agreed racing order.
- Only one coach or team manager may accompany each team in the start area.
- School representatives must collect jackets left at the start and take them to the finish area.
- The first skier places their poles over the timing wand.
- The starter calls, "Ready... 3, 2, 1, go."
- The first skier must start within approximately 10 seconds of the instruction to go.
- The race then operates as a rolling relay.
- When a skier reaches the finish, a flag at the bottom of the course will drop to signal that the next skier may start.
- The second, third and fourth skiers must not start until the flag drops to release them.

Obstructions on the Course

- A racer who is obstructed must tell the Finish Referee immediately. The referee will decide whether to grant a re-run.

Awards

- We award team medals for first, second and third place in both the Championship and Plate competitions.

Adverse Weather

- The Giant Slalom is the priority race. If the weather, snow or course conditions affect the schedule, the Ski School may move it to another day and rearrange, adapt or cancel other races.

Award Presentation

- Presentations for all competitions will take place at 5.00pm on Thursday evening.