

NYSSRA Program Director's Report – 5/7/11

Report from Eastern ACC Meeting-

Tim Maguire, Dirk Gouwens and Alex Krebs's review from USSA Staff Meetings –

Walt Evans is returning to his former job description as Sport Development Director. He will oversee all sport disciplines.

USSA has recently hired Jesse Hunt's replacement as Head USSA Alpine Coach. Patrick Riml who was with USSA coaches staff about 5 years ago as Head Women's coach has been hired.

Tim Maguire's title is now – Eastern Alpine Development Director with a focus on athlete development.

Dirk Gouwen's title is Eastern Competition

Alex Krebs –Eastern region is promoting the concept that she continue in the East with the various Youth Development projects we've initiated.

Rich Smith - His job description will remain the same.

Mike Morin – Eastern & National Development Chair – Mike is enthusiastic about the concept of USSA Alpine creating an NDS Team. This team would include top Jrs from U.S. Nationals etc. They would hold a testing camp at Park City to address goals, conditioning, equipment etc. Approximately 30 athletes would have a common path to progress on. Eastern Region needs to keep emphasizing free skiing.

Age Change - This wasn't discussed in depth as we're waiting for confirmation of the FIS vote in May.

We all agreed that interaction between the age group committees is important. We need to continue to grow this concept. We need to be in touch from bottom to top.

There was general discussion regards to we need to be creative and get our athletes on challenging terrain.

Another projects for our Eastern J3's will be a J3 Can Am (to be tentatively called Am Can) modeled after the current J4 Can Am. The projects would rotate every year. The Jr project would involve about 50-60 Eastern athletes With these projects many are winners and there will be no de-selection. Many of our athletes will still be able to play other sports. With our J3 Championships later the kids will have a slightly longer time to peak.

There is interest in Park City and the East to create recommendations for age appropriate racer starts and in general review this age group. A working group was set up to pursue this with Jon Nolting. USSA East Children's Committee recommends a max of 18 starts – including post season. It would need to be reviewed by each state as it might vary some.

Gate height discussion was lengthy.

Regards to possible changes due to '12-13' age change – please remember we're just beginning these discussions and will go to states to get their input – possibly allow J3 races to earn points etc. They might have access to USSA points while still doing head to head racing. For qualification purposes select from non point based races. It could be seeded via a state process. In the East we could generate points at ERS using random seeding.

J4 Eastern Speed Project – It was a huge success. Next year Alex Krebs would like to see the 3 Eastern sites hold 2 one day events – different 40 athletes per day. One day of speed at this age is good. Alex recommends that host sites should have the incentive to name 3 athletes per day from their club to join in.

Respectfully submitted by Connie Webster