



Alpine Skiing & Snowboarding – Sport Rules Modifications, Interpretations, and Points of Emphasis

The Official Special Olympics Sports Rules for [Alpine Skiing](#) and [Snowboarding](#) dated October 2022 will be in effect for the 2023-2024. This section is intended to be used in conjunction with the [United State Ski and Snowboard Association rules](#) and SOI Rules; therefore, those rules are not repeated here but they will be enforced unless in direct conflict to SONC modifications.

Appropriate Attire and Equipment

- For proper placement/size/color of SONC and local program logos on uniforms and equipment worn and used by athletes and coaches, please refer to the SONC Uniform and Logo Guidelines document.

Competition Interpretations and Modifications

- Due to the layout and terrain of Appalachian Ski Mountain, SONC reserves the right to modify the courses as illustrated in the SOI rules in order to better fit the needs and abilities of athletes and the mountain itself.¹
- During competition, if a competitor should move out of the general direction of the line of course (fall, miss a gate, ski comes off, etc.), he/she shall have 2 minutes from the time of the deviation to re-enter the course. A competitor who fails to adhere to this 2 minute time limit or receives assistance of any kind shall be disqualified. Disqualification shall be determined by the gate judge assigned to the gate closest to where the infraction(s) occurred.²
- A competitor is disqualified if he/she fails to complete the course on both skis with the following exceptions: 1) He/she finishes on one ski from the last gate before the finish line or 2) when a competitor falls in the immediate finish area, he/she must cross the finish line with both feet. With hand timing, the time is taken when the competitor's foot crosses the line. The finish referee is responsible for all such decisions.³
- **Assisted Competition:** Athletes who require assistance during competition will be assigned to the yellow 3 group. Yellow is the universal color for "caution". Athletes in the yellow 3 group can be assisted. Assistance during a race may not be given in the yellow 1 or 2, green, blue, or black groups.⁴
- **Timing Competition:** Timers for the competition will be selected by the Games Director from people having experience in timing race events. Timing for all competitions will be timed with handheld equipment.

Southeast U.S. Winter Games

- All athletes must participate in divisioning at Southeast U.S. Winter Games. If athletes do not participate, they will not be permitted to compete during the rest of the event.

¹ Refers to SOI Section 7 Levels of Competition. Due to this range and the variety of terrain needed for each level, SONC games management competition staff will make necessary modifications to help the athletes be successful and at the same time retain their level of independence.

² This is an SONC modification of SOI Rules for Alpine Skiing section 6.5 and SOI Snowboarding Section 6.4; added 2 minute limit instead of 1 minute.

³ This is a modification of FIS International Ski Competition Rules 614.2 Competition.

⁴ This and other color levels (green, blue, and black for alpine; 1-5 in snowboard) are SONC modifications on the SOI Alpine levels and events in section 2.1, and Snowboard events and levels in Section 2.