



October 10, 2014

As FIS introduced new rules for U14 and U16 racers for 2014/15, a proposal was passed at the 2014 USSA Congress in the Alpine Sports Committee to implement ski dimension regulations down to the U14 level of USSA ski racing. These standards were created in cooperation with representatives from the ski industry to progress athletes gradually from U14 to U18 standards, and were distributed widely in June 2014.

Unfortunately, at this time, the recommended skis are not widely available for purchase everywhere across the country. Given the difficulty some athletes are having acquiring skis that meet the new standards, a recommendation has been made to the Alpine Sports Committee to amend the equipment rules to the following:

U16 and U14 athletes may use the equipment of their choice in 2014/15, EXCEPT for athletes competing at the U16 National Championship and Assessment Project, where the standards in the matrix must be adhered to. In addition, any athletes participating in NTG projects in Europe will also be expected to use skis conforming to these standards.

It is the firm conviction of the coaching staff of the USST and USSA development staff, that athletes wishing to pursue ski racing at the FIS level should follow the guidelines passed in May.

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**Alpine FIS and USSA
Equipment Rules 2014-15
Ammended 10/10/2014**

		OWG, WSC, WC, WJC, all COC including NAC		FIS/ENL		USSA U18 (16 years old) and older *		USSA U16 (15 and 14 years old) For season 2014-15 the following specification are recommendations - not requirements ****		USSA U14 (13 and 12 years old) ** For season 2014-15 the following specification are recommendations - not requirements ****		Masters ***
		Men	Women	Men	Women	Men	Women	Men	Women	Boys	Girls	Men & Women
Minimum Ski Length	DH	218 cm	210 cm	213 cm	205 cm	210 cm	205 cm may use SG skis	may use SG skis		may use SG skis		see note below
	SG	210 cm	205 cm	205 cm	200 cm	200 cm	195 cm	180 cm	175 cm	175 cm	170 cm	
	GS	195 cm	188 cm	190 cm	183 cm	180 cm	175 cm	max 195 cm		max 190 cm		
	SL	165 cm	155 cm	165 cm	155 cm	165 cm (155 cm for U18 men)	155 cm	130 cm		130 cm		
Minimum Ski Radius	DH	50 m		50 m		45 m		may use SG skis		may use SG skis		see note below
	SG	45 m	40 m	45 m	40 m	33 m		23 m	23 m	23 m	21 m	
	GS	35 m	30 m	35 m	30 m	23 m	23 m	23 m	21 m	17 m		
	SL	no rule		no rule		no rule		not restricted		not restricted		
Profile Width Under Binding	DH					not restricted		not restricted		not restricted		see note below
	SG	<= 65 mm		<= 65 mm		not restricted		not restricted		not restricted		
	GS					not restricted		not restricted		not restricted		
	SL	>= 63 mm		>= 63 mm		>= 63 mm		>= 63 mm		not restricted		
Maximum Binding Stack Height	50 mm		50 mm		50 mm		50 mm required		50 mm required		50 mm	
<i>Measurement includes ski + plate + binding</i>												
Maximum Boot Height	43 mm		43 mm		43 mm		43 mm required		43 mm required		45 mm	
<i>Measurement from sole to top of foot bed</i>												

* In USSA U18 (16 years old) and older racing, athletes may use equipment that conforms to either the rules as outlined for USSA racing or as outlined for FIS/ENL racing. Athletes are encouraged to use equipment that conforms to FIS/ENL to enhance their adaptation to those specifications.

** U12 and younger athletes should limit skis based upon the recommendations in the Course Setting matrix. U12 - 2 pairs (SL, GS), length skill/size appropriate. U10 - 1 pair (multi-event), length skill/size appropriate.

*** USSA Masters rules conform to the FIS Masters equipment rules. USSA recommends that competitors in USSA Masters events compete on equipment designed for the particular discipline (DH, SL, GS, SG), but does not make any recommendations in regards to ski length, radius or profile width.

*** For FIS Masters Competitions, equipment rules in regard to ski length (except SG), radius and profile width are recommendations. The minimum ski length for SG skis is compulsory for MAS races. No length, width or ski radius restriction for ladies above 55 and men above 65 years of age. The FIS recommendations for ski length, ski radius and profile width can be found in the current *FIS Specifications for Competition Equipment*.

**** U16 and U14 athletes may use the equipment of their choice in 2014/15, EXCEPT for athletes competing at the U16 National Championship and Assessment Project, where the standards in the matrix must be adhered to. In addition, any athletes participating in NTG projects in Europe will also be expected to use skis conforming to these standards. It is the firm conviction of the coaching staff of the USST and USSA development staff, that athletes wishing to pursue ski racing at the FIS level should follow the guidelines passed in May.