



MacConnell Division 2015 Information State



2015 MacConnell Division Race Schedule

January 8, 9	Okemo, VT	SL, GS
January 16	Sunapee, NH	GS (FIS-University Race)
January 17	Blackwater, NH	SL (FIS-University Race)
January 24, 25	Whiteface, NY	GS, SL
Jan. 31, Feb. 1	Crotched Mt. NH	GS, SL (FIS-University Race)
	***Annual Pink Weekend and Alumni Race.	
February 7, 8	West Mt. NY	GS, SL
February 21, 22	USCSA/Eastern Conference Regional Championships TBA	
March 2-7 or 9-14	USCSA National Championships TBA	

FIS-University Races Information

Decision

The MacConnell Division has decided to host two of the regular scheduled weekends of races as FIS-University races. The main reason for this decision was to market the MacConnell Division and USCSA as a whole to club and academy high school racers who have not viewed USCSA and the MacConnell Division as a viable collegiate alpine ski racing option. As host, the MacConnell Division, will be able to invite and open a fixed number of USSA high school athletes to race with us. We will also be able to invite selected non-MacConnell Division colleges. The decision was made based on the long term benefits of more inclusion by the USCSA and the MacConnell Division of athletes who are leaving the sport. This was an unanimous decision by each of the MacConnell Division's coaches or athlete representatives.

Facts

Entries-Each of the MacConnell Division is guaranteed 6 entries per gender per race.

Field Size-The field size per gender is capped at 80 racers, so as to provide for a second run for all competitors who completed the first run.

Captains Meeting-There will be a proper seed meeting the night before each race. All competitors must be represented.

MacConnell Division Scoring-The FIS-UNI races will purge all non-MacConnell athletes and score our races for the purposes for post season (ECSC Regional Championships) competition. In the past we have counted the best 8 of 10 results to rank our schools for Regional Championship scoring. We are entertaining the possibility of scoring the best of 6 races this year so as not to punish any athletes who choose not to participate in the FIS-UNI races. This decision will be finalized at the fall meeting in October.

FIS Licenses-The FIS license costs \$85.00 and must be purchased before August 15. A late fee is charged after August 15. Your USSA License must also be purchased at the same time. This year USSA is requiring that Division/State dues accompany the USSA membership. Your Division/State Membership should be in that state where your school is geographically located. Normally, you are requested to state which club you are from. Since none of our schools are USSA clubs, many athletes have put their former clubs or incorrectly put their schools. One option is to put the MacConnell Division, which is a USSA Club.

Equipment Skis-We all know, that to race in a FIS GS race, the specs are different from USSA specs. We have reached out to a ski shop in Massachusetts, and Atomic and Volkl, who all have inventories of FIS approved GS skis for the MacConnell Division available at greatly reduced prices.

Equipment Helmets-The provision for a FIS approved helmet for FIS races has been in effect for the past two seasons. USSA would have required the FIS approved helmets for this past year, but availability was not sufficient because a helmet factory burned down in China last year. This year USSA has “recommended” use of the FIS approved helmet for any USSA race above U-14 races for the 2014-2015 season. The helmet will be required in 2015-2016 for all USSA races above U-14. We have been able to locate a couple of vendors who can sell any MacConnell Division athlete the FIS helmet at reduced pricing. This information will be shared in September.

MacConnell Division Notes

***New England College has formed a varsity ski program and will be joining the MacConnell Division in 2016. We would like to extend a huge welcome to the Pilgrims!

***Bob Kimball who did a great job for both Smith College and UMass this past season is moving on. He has taken a job with World Cup Supply. So, Bob may be gone but we will surely see him floating around the ski world...Good Luck Bob!