

## F. GUEST CLASS

1. **Purpose:** The Guest Class Provision is intended to provide a state meet level competition experience for individual HS skiers and HS teams bordering Wisconsin for inclusion in Wisconsin Nordic Ski League (WNSL) conference and state meet competitions.

This is to promote and grow the sport through overall WNSL and regional skier development, and to provide a state meet level competition experience to:

- a. Regional teams or clubs who are not recognized league members of their state league and/or eligible in their respective states to participate and qualify in their respective state meet competitions.
- b. Individual skiers in the region that are not a member of a formal/recognized high school team in their respective state.
- c. WI skiers to experience an expanded regional and diverse state meet competition experience.
- d. Expand regional Nordic skiing competition opportunities and contribute to the growth of the sport in the Midwest region.

2. **WNSL Championship Competitions Integrity Considerations:** To maintain WI State Championship integrity and history, only out of state guest competitors meeting the eligibility requirements (below) are invited to compete in the WNSL championship competitions. Guest teams and skiers are not eligible for WI individual or team awards in WI conference and State Championship competitions and will not factor into placement or displacement of WI team or WI individual awards. Guest Individual skiers will be included in overall results, and may be recognized, but not counted in WI skier individual awarding or team scoring.

3. **Eligibility:** The following rules define individual and team guest eligibility for the WI state conference and state meet participation:

- a. **States Eligible for Guest Skiers and Teams:** Only skiers or teams with geographical boundaries to WI may enter individual guest skiers or teams – Minnesota, Michigan, Iowa, Illinois.
- b. **Individual:** Individual guest skiers from eligible states can participate in WNSL conference and state competitions if:
  - i. Their state does not hold a state ski championship competition.  
OR
  - ii. They are not members of a recognized HS team or club at their school that participates in a league that holds a state championship competition. Note: They may be eligible to compete as an individual in their respective state ski meet, but still eligible to compete in WI if their high school does not have a formal organized club or team recognized by their states Nordic ski league.
- c. **Teams:** Guest teams from outside the state of WI can compete as a team if:
  - i. Their state does not hold a state ski championship competition  
OR
  - ii. Their team is not a current recognized member of their respective states recognized Nordic ski league, and thus cannot qualify to participate in their state's championship ski meet.
- d. **WNSL Roster Declaration:** Individuals or teams intending to compete in WNSL conference or the state meet competition must submit formal roster information to the WNSL secretary prior to Jan. 1<sup>st</sup> of the year of the competitions they intend to compete in. The roster information required is indicated in the WNSL rules of competition. Requests after this date will follow the rules outlined in the WNSL rules of competition.

- e. **League Fees:** Individual skiers and guest teams are required to pay the current league dues to the WNSL for the year they intend to compete. They are welcome to attend bi-annual league meetings as guests, but do not have voting rights in the WNSL.
- f. **Race Registration:** Guest skiers and teams are also required to register and pay the normal WNSL skier race registration fee for any conference meet and Wisconsin State Championship meet they attend.

#### 4. WNSL Guest Skier and Team Rules and Considerations:

- a. **Field Limits:**
  - a. **State Championship:** Limited to 100 guest skiers and individual skiers total, with guest teams limited to 40 total skiers per team (boys and girls combined).
  - b. **Conference meets:** No limit of skiers and teams, unless the organizer or contracted timer imposes a limit.
  - c. The field limits are subject to change yearly if voted on by the WNSL membership.
- b. **Registration:** Guest skiers and guest teams register for the WNSL State Championship on a first come first serve basis until the field limit of 100 guest skiers is reached. Conference meets are at the discretion of each conference meets organizer/timers bib and course capability. WI skiers have priority over all guest skiers and teams for registration purposes.
- c. **Seeding:** Guest skiers competing in WNSL conference and state meets will be seeded by their coaches following the guidelines of the conference and WI State Championship seeding criteria. No guest skiers will be eligible to qualify for top 20 automatic seeding consideration as determined in the conference meets, and will be seeded after all conference qualifying seeded skiers at the WI State Championship meet.
- d. **Guest Skier Identification:** To differentiate guest skiers from WI skiers during the race, an easily identifiable visible means of identifying guest skiers will be used. Examples, but not limited to: different bibs, bib colors, bib tags, arm bands or other (including uniforms).
- e. **Scoring:** **Guest skiers do not score team points and do not displace or take a placing of a WI skier**, but will be listed as their overall place in official results. WI skiers will officially be scored and places counted as WI skiers against WI teams only.
- f. **Awards:**
  - i. **Individuals:** Guest skiers are not eligible for WNSL conference or State Championship meet awards. However, they will be recognized (called up) at awards ceremonies if a skier finishes in the awarded placings at the meet. The next WI skier after them will be awarded the same placing for award purposes. Any guest skier awarding is at the discretion of the race organization hosting the competition.
  - ii. **Teams:** Due to the complicated nature of scoring teams and points, guest teams may be recognized (called up) for an awarded finish, but it is at the discretion and capability of the organization/company doing the timing and scoring and hosting organization to do so or not.
  - iii. **Awarding:** Organizers are encouraged but not required to provide a participation/placement award or gift for guests at awarding ceremonies for guest skiers placing in an awarded category. Guest skiers will not take any placing award of a WI skier.

**Note:** If more than 3 guests compete in a category, the top 3 guests in each race may be recognized (called up) for the guest class recognition.

- g. **Competition Rules:** Guest skiers and guest teams participating in WNSL conference and State Championship competitions will follow the WNSL Rules of Competition in any WNSL meet they participate in.