

General Alpine Information

- **Divisioning for Level 1 and Level 2** – Athletes will compete in each of their events (timed runs) to determine their division for competition.
- **Divisioning for Level 3 and Level 4** – Athletes will have two runs on a Modified Giant Slalom course in their ability level, with the fastest time used to determine their division for both of their alpine events.
- **Bullpen** — Alpine events will be staged at the top of each hill.
- **Rental Equipment** — Athletes renting alpine equipment will be given an equipment tag at registration which must be taken to the Ski Shop on Tuesday afternoon. Please allow adequate time to have athletes fitted. Rental equipment must be returned at the end of competition on Thursday. Secure equipment in rooms when not in use. Special Olympics Illinois will provide ski rental equipment to registered alpine athletes only. Coaches or ski escorts will be responsible for their own ski rental equipment.
- **Helmets** — All alpine athletes are required to wear a ski helmet during practice, time trials and competition. Athletes will not be allowed to wear hats under their helmets. Athletes not properly attired **will not** be allowed to compete.
- **Lift Tickets** — Only athletes competing in alpine skiing will receive lift tickets. No athletes will receive a lift ticket if they have not completed the skill/level assessment.
- **Restricted Skiing Areas** — During the three days of events at Chestnut Mountain, athletes will only be allowed to ski on the Bunny, Old Main, Blackhawk, Geronimo, Acorn, Chute and Fever ski slopes. **All other ski hills are off limits to athletes.** If an athlete is found skiing on hills that are off limits, they will be disqualified from competition and coaches could face disciplinary action.
- If an athlete and coach wants to ski on restricted slopes, both individuals must purchase a ski lift ticket from Chestnut Mountain and athletes must **take off** their competition bibs while skiing on the restricted slopes.
- No chair lift skier will be allowed on the slopes without a ski escort. Level I skiers must remain on the “Bunny Hill.” **At no time may an athlete ski unsupervised.**

ALPINE LEVEL/SKILL ASSESSMENT FOR ATHLETES

Level Assessments:

All Alpine athletes regardless of level must report at 1:30pm in order for Venue Directors to assign levels for competition. On Tuesday, athletes must report to the course with proper competition attire and be ready to ski.

Failure to report for the assigned level assessment before 3pm will result in the removal of the athlete from competition.

When an athlete is being considered for a more advanced hill, the following procedure will be used:

1. The Alpine Official will contact the Alpine Venue Director.
2. The Alpine Venue Director will make every attempt to contact the athlete's coach.
3. The athlete's coach, with the Alpine Venue Director, will decide if the athlete can safely attempt a more advanced course.
4. The alpine athlete **will not** be switched to a more advanced hill if:
 - a. The coach believes the change is not in the best interest of the athlete.
 - b. The coach cannot be found and no one is available to consult with the Alpine Sport Director.
 - c. The athlete is reluctant to change.
5. If a move to the advanced course is acceptable, the athlete will ski his/her events on the advanced course so new times can be recorded.
6. At no time will a coach, other than the coach of the athlete in question, be allowed to suggest a change of course.
7. All athletes wishing to compete on Level 3 or 4 must report on Tuesday for an assessment. It is not to be assumed that a successful completion of Level 2 means the athlete is ready for Level 3.

ALPINE SKI ESCORTS

Ski Escorts are assigned to Level II, Level III and Level IV ski venues. These individuals will be assigned to a specific hill and will be wearing arm bands indicating they are ski escorts and will only be allowed to ski on assigned hills.

The ski escort is matched with an athlete at the top of the hill and follows approximately 10 feet behind that athlete for the duration of their run down the hill. At the bottom of the hill, the ski escort and athlete will ride the lift to the top of the hill. These volunteers will serve as first responders to trouble as well as offering encouragement to the athletes. **There is no guarantee that it will be the same match-up each time.**

The arm band will only allow individuals to ski on Special Olympics assigned competition hills, chair lifts and can be used only during the hours of competition.

If a ski escort wants to ski on other hills during non-competitive hours (3:00pm-close), then the escort must purchase his/her own lift ticket from Chestnut Mountain.

Coaches and family members that would like to be Ski Escorts can register at the volunteer table and pick up their Ski arm bands.

