



Far West Masters Ski Racing

www.farwestmasters.org

2016 – 2017 MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

Last year we were very pleased to be able to introduce the option to renew your Far West Masters membership online at **SkiRaceReg.com**. We strongly encourage all members to renew online!!

To join or renew your membership online, go to the Far West race series home page on **SkiRaceReg.com** at <https://www.skiracereg.com/fw>. If you already have an account, click on **log in** and follow the steps to activate your account for the new season by reviewing/updating your contact information and providing current credit card information for any charges you will make on the site. If you are a new member, click on **sign up** to open an account on **SkiRaceReg.com**. Be sure to choose "Far West Masters" as your home race series; follow the steps to provide your personal information and credit card. The final step of activating your account allows you to pay your Far West membership dues. There is no charge for opening your account; charges will be made only when you elect to pay your dues or sign up for races during the season.

If you are unable to use the online membership system, you can still print and mail your membership application with a check – the form is included in this information package and is available on the farwestmasters.org web site. Please ensure that the membership application is completely filled out.

Most important, we need to have your correct e-mail address!! Over the past few seasons, we've been able to give schedule updates and provide other pertinent program information via e-mail, making it easier for our racers to have up-to-date information throughout the season. Check our website www.farwestmasters.org for more racing information and news throughout the season.

Note: renewals received after the **November 13th** deadline will be charged a \$5 late fee.

We're looking forward to another exciting season of racing. If you have membership questions, don't hesitate to contact membership@farwestmasters.org and president@farwestmasters.org.

President	Dan Simmons	president@farwestmasters.org
Past President, Vice President Officials	Mark Mirviss	mmirviss@farwestmasters.org
Vice President, Racing Scheduling	Mike Braun	mbraun@farwestmasters.org
Vice President, Memberships	Mary Feddis	membership@farwestmasters.org
Vice President, Communications	Hamish Butler	forerunner@farwestmasters.org
Secretary	Diann Laing	dlaing@farwestmasters.org
Treasurer	Ray Tulloch	treasurer@farwestmasters.org
Chief Technical Officer	Deb Lewis	dlewis@farwestmasters.org

See you in December!

Mary Feddis, VP, Membership

Briefly, competitors MUST have a USSA license in order to compete, either a masters season membership or a short-term masters membership – this is essential for insurance purposes. Competitors also MUST provide proof of primary medical insurance coverage on either USSA license application. The deadline for renewing your USSA membership without penalty is October 15th. The late fee is \$25.

Competitors who race more than one weekend per season must also join Far West Masters, which provides benefits such as a permanently assigned stretch bib, a subscription to our regularly published newsletter, and eligibility for season awards, along with access to special member offers.

Eligibility

Men and women age 18 and over may compete in the Far West Masters Ski Racing Series. A USSA masters membership or short-term masters membership is required. Membership in the Far West Masters is required if you race more than one weekend.

For USSA membership, competitors need to go directly to the USSA web site <http://my.ussa.org/membership/start> and complete the application process online. All USSA membership services have moved online, so you will need to have an account on the USSA Membership site to purchase your masters membership.

You will need proof of medical insurance coverage for a USSA license, so have your insurance card with carrier and policy number available when you fill out a USSA membership application.

Note: For racers who wish to compete only in a specific competition, a short-term membership may be obtained online on a daily basis at <http://my.ussa.org/membership/start> and must be completed **at least one day PRIOR to the start of the event**. A one day license is \$15 and there is no limit to the number of short-term membership days per season. Note that full USSA masters membership is required for Regional, National and International races.

Far West Masters Registration – deadline November 13th 2016

Membership in the Far West Masters is required if you race more than one weekend. To be a member, you can purchase your membership online through our race registration system at <https://skiracereg.com/fw>, or complete the enclosed application form and write a check for \$20 (\$35 if you elect to receive the newsletter by mail) payable to Far West Masters Ski Racing and then submit by mail to Mary Feddis, P.O. Box 7691, Mammoth Lakes, CA 93546. **RENEWALS ARE DUE BY NOVEMBER 13, 2016.**

Courses

Masters races are intended to be more challenging than club races or NASTAR. FIS and USSA competition rules are followed, with a few modifications as appropriate for age-class Masters racing. Two runs are mandatory for SL and GS events. Training runs are mandatory for DH and competitors must start at least one timed training run to be eligible to race. Training runs are not required for SG but are strongly encouraged.

Protective Equipment

***** NEW IN 2017: FIS-certified race helmet is now mandatory for GS, SG, and DH *******

Helmets certified for ski racing are required and must cover the head and ears. Helmets with spoilers or edges that stick out, such as helmet cams, are not permitted. Protective features integral to the discipline being contested, such as chin guards on SL helmets, are permitted. Soft ear protection is only permitted for helmets used in SL. Leg braces must be worn under one's speed suit/ski pants or

be otherwise covered. Race helmets for GS, SG and DH must have a conformity label with the text “Conform to FIS Specifications RH 2013”.

Age Classes

Far West Masters compete in 5 year categories for Masters competitors age 18 and up. Your age class for the duration of the season is determined by your age as of December 31, 2016.

Men and women race against their age peers in the following classes:

Class	Age Range	Class	Age Range
14	90+	13	85-89
12	80-84	11	75-79
10	70-74	9	65-69
8	60-64	7	55-59
6	50-54	5	45-49
4	40-44	3	35-39
2	30-34	1	18-29
0	18-21	00	Under 18

Class start order is generally oldest to youngest, women before men in descending age class order for all 70+ classes, followed by all other women’s classes and then all other men’s classes. In addition to the age group classes, an Open class is available for both men and women. Racers can elect to be scored in the Open class rather than their age group class at the start of the season, or on a race by race basis, provided that they make this election no later than at race check-in, before the start of the day's racing.

Anyone participating in the Open class will race in their own age class under the standard start order rules in both first and second runs, but will be scored for race results and season standings in the Open class rather than their age class.

Points awarded for race finishes are scored using the current FIS position points system, scoring the top 30 racers in each class.

Bib assignment for the top 10 men and top 5 women in the season rankings are determined based upon season standings within the Open class.

Race Entry Fees and Registration

There is an early registration deadline of midnight on the Sunday prior to the start of the event. All entries received after the early registration deadline, whether mailed or online, are subject to a \$5 per race late fee. You are encouraged to sign up for the races at least a week in advance of the event. Because of the flexible cancellation policy, there is no penalty for signing up early – you can cancel without penalty any time up until the published deadline when registration is closed.

Complete event information, including entry fees and deadlines for each race, are published on the *Season Schedule* page of our website www.farwestmasters.org, as well as on the online registration site <http://www.skiracereg.com/fw> and in our newsletter. GS and SL entry fees are \$30 per race for

entries made before the early registration deadline. DH and SG entry fees are \$40; there may be additional fees for training runs. Late entries submitted after the early registration deadline are subject to a \$5/race late fee. We encourage early registration so that race organizers can be well prepared for an on time start on race day. Registrations on race day will generally not be accepted.

There are two options to register for races:

Racers can register online at <http://www.skiracereg.com/fw> for every event. This option is strongly encouraged. There is no extra fee for using this service and if races are cancelled due to bad weather or snow conditions there will be no charge. You will not be billed until the race is held.

If you prefer to register by mail it must be received by the race organizer by the Sunday prior to the race event otherwise it will be considered late. Please send a separate check for each race day. You may cancel a race entry without penalty up to the published deadline. We have a “torn check policy” for races cancelled due to bad weather or snow conditions.

IF YOU ARE REGISTERING BY MAIL, please remember that an entry consists of one check for the race fee for each race day and an event entry form with entry checks indicating each race that you wish to enter at the event. Entry forms can be printed from our website from the *Race Entries* page at <http://farwestmasters.org/services/raceentries> or from the *Season Schedule* page.

Entry fees are charged for all entries made as of the entry deadline for the event. If you must cancel a race entry after the entry deadline has passed, you must notify the race organizer at least one day before the race. You may request a refund of your entry fee if you must cancel due to injury or illness; refunds are granted at the discretion of the race organizer.

Season Awards

Racers must have at least 6 starts to qualify for a season award and must be paid members of the Far West Masters for the current season. First, second and third place awards are given for each men’s and women’s age class and the Open classes at the end-of-season banquet.

Points are tabulated throughout the season based on race finishes. Racers keep points for their best results from 75% of the total number of races held, rounding up to the next whole number. For example, if 18 races are actually held, racers will be scored based on their best 14 results. This means you don’t have to attend every race to be competitive.

USSA FIS Masters Cup / Western Region Championships

Park City will be hosting FIS Masters Cup races on February 3 - 5, 2017. This event is also the Western Region championships. All Masters’ racers age 30+ are eligible to race if they have a current FIS license – which can be purchased through USSA at the time of USSA renewal or later in the year. Competitors under 30 are not eligible for FIS Masters, but will compete for USSA regional championship awards. Additional information is available on the USSA Masters web-site at <http://ussamasters.org>; online registration will be available at <https://skiracereg.com/fismasters>.

USSA Masters National Championships

The annual Masters National Championship is scheduled to take place at Mammoth Mountain CA from March 13-18, 2017. Racers from the US and Canada compete in this event. To be eligible, you must have a current USSA Alpine Masters membership. Additional information is available on the USSA Masters web-site at <http://ussamasters.org>; online registration will be available at <https://skiracereg.com/nationals>.