

# **NORTHWEST REGION SPEED RULEBOOK**

## **1.0 Beginner Eligibility**

No skater shall compete for more than three years (consecutive or non-consecutive) in the Beginner category of any age division in the Northwest Region. The three-year timeframe shall be counted from the first competition season that the skater purchases an amateur card from USARS, even if the athlete does compete during that season.

Note: A skater is no longer eligible for the Beginner class if they place in any race at Nationals in any age division.

### *Enforcement/Responsibility*

- It shall be the coach's responsibility to ensure that all skaters competing under said coach are following the three-year rule.
- Skaters shall be honest about the number of years that they have competed when registering for a competition.
- If it is discovered that athletes have entered, but are ineligible to compete in the Beginner category, they may be subject to disqualification from the Beginner event.

### *Examples*

- Jane Doe purchases an amateur card prior to Regionals during the 2013-2014 season. The only competition skated that season is the 2014 Regionals. 2013-2014 will count as her first year of competition.
- John Doe purchased an amateur card in March of 2014, but never competes that season. 2013-2014 will count as his first year of competition.
- Jimmy Doe purchases an amateur card in April of 2014 and skates the remaining competitions that season. 2013-2014 counts as his first year of competition. Jimmy purchases an amateur card for the 2014-2015 season, but does not compete or practice. Since he purchased a card, 2014-2015 will count as his second year of competition.
- Jill Doe purchases an amateur card at the beginning of the 2014-2015 season, and competes all year. She does not purchase a card for the following 2015-2016 season. She purchases an amateur card for the 2016-2017 season. The 2016-2017 season will count as her second year of competition.

## **2.0 Hip Numbers**

Any athlete registered with a Northwest Region speed team, and participating at NW Region competitions will be issued a permanent hip number. The hip number will be ordered by the athlete's coach. A database consisting of each athlete's permanent hip number will be maintained by the NW Region Board of Directors. Numbers are assigned in chronological order.

### *Enforcement/Responsibility*

- It shall be the responsibility of the coach to request numbers from the NW Region Treasurer for athletes registering for a NW Region competition for the first time.

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- Athletes are responsible for the care of their hip numbers
- Hip numbers are required to be attached to the uniform, just below the hip.
- Hip numbers shall be viewable from the left side of the athlete, in order for the officials to identify the athlete from the inside of the track.
- Athletes may not trade or loan their assigned number to another athlete.
- Athletes are responsible for the cost of the hip numbers, including any replacement hip numbers, and payment must be made when upon receipt.

## *Out-of-Region Athletes*

- Athletes that participate in a NW competition from another region will be issued a temporary hip number upon check-in at the competition. The number will be issued by the NW Region treasurer. Visiting athletes will pay a refundable deposit to use the numbers during the competition. Upon return of the numbers, the full amount of the deposit will be returned to the athlete. If the hip numbers are not returned, or are damaged, the deposit will be applied to the replacement cost.

## **3.0 Competition Sanctions**

All Northwest Region coaches, speed teams, or rinks that are hosting a competition shall be required to obtain the proper sanction, insurance, officials, etc. per USARS rules.

### *Enforcement/Responsibility*

- It shall be the responsibility of the host of the competition to request and receive a USARS Sanction prior to the date of the event.
- It is expected that all competitions will obtain the proper sanctions and insurance as required.

### *Exceptions*

- Competitions being hosted under another organization are not subject to this requirement.
  - Example: The State Games of Oregon hosts an outdoor speed skating competition in Gresham, OR each year. That event is covered under the State Games in Oregon, and therefore, is not required to be sanctioned by USARS.

## **3.1 Required Number of Officials**

All competitions must have a minimum of four officials per meet. The meet host must confirm with each official at least 60 days before the scheduled competition to ensure attendance.

## **4.0 Coach Requirements**

All NW Region coaches must have current certification through USARS. Coaches are required to take and pass the coach's test, pass a background check, and take and pass the Safe Sport courses. Each team must have at least one certified coach (identifiable on the USARS membership website – [www.usarollersports.org](http://www.usarollersports.org)).

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Only USARS certified coaches are permitted on the floor during a competition.

Only USARS certified coaches will be permitted to attend and vote at the NW Region meetings.

Only USARS certified coaches are authorized to write a formal protest, or request information from the meet director.

All certifications must be current/reflected on the USARS coaches list prior to coaching at any competition.

## **5.0 Annual Speed Team Dues**

All NW Region speed skating teams must pay an annual registration fee to NW/USARS to be considered a member in good standing.

Dues shall be \$30 per year, and are payable prior to the first day of the first competition of each season.

A late fee of \$30 will be assessed if payment is not received prior to the first competition of each season.

### *Enforcement/Responsibility*

- Meet directors will be notified by the NW Region treasurer of any teams that are not current with their dues.
- The meet director will contact the coach and the meet host regarding non-payment.
- If dues is not paid, teams may not be able to participate in NW Region competitions.

## **5.1 NW Region Teams and Contact Information**

The NW Region treasurer will maintain a roster of teams, to include all coaches and certification level, and contact information. This information will be posted, and kept up-to-date on the NW/USARS website.