



Race Notes

Speed Protocols

Applicable for GS, Super G and Downhill

Movement

Start Interval

Zone Control

Course Clearance

Yellow Flags

Racer Down

SPAA Safety Preparation Awareness and Assessment Program

Funded for 2002 by Ontario Ski Council grants.

Version 2002.01-SP1

1. INTRODUCTION

This **Race Notes** is intended as a summary of protocols for speed events. It is desirable that it be handed on race day to every person at the event, including racers, coaches, officials, ski patrol, spectators, trainers, area staff, media and sponsor rep's.

It is necessary to limit access to the track and to educate those who are granted access to the track about speed protocols.

No training or racing should be undertaken unless all positions filled, adequate safety is in place and course movement protocol are know and manageable.

2. MOVEMENT

There must be **NO** movement on the course while a competitor is on the track during training or races.

Movement is potentially distracting to competitors as they must be free to concentrate maintaining control during their runs. Movement is only permitted while the course is closed and during a **START STOP**.

Course holds will be clearly announced **BY THE JURY** and zone controllers. Permission to move must be authorized by a jury member (Chief of Race, Technical Delegate, Referee, Assistant Referee, Start Referee, Finish Referee) or a Zone Controller.

Slip Crew must perform their duties during the intervals and in such a manner as to be invisible to competitors on the track. As such, slip crew must ski fast close behind competitors for about 3/4's of an interval, exit the track and then not move.

Spectators and coaches are restricted in placement to separate designated areas.

Red clothing at SG and DH events is not a good choice of colour (looks like a gate panel). If you can choose an alternate colour, please do so.

3. Start Interval

Racers will be started at a regular interval of not less than about 40 seconds and not more than 1 minute. The interval will be determined announced by the jury.

4. Zone Control

Zone Control positioning requires line-of-sight from Zone officials both above and below.

Sample Coverage Deployment:

Official	Positioning	Sight Lines
Finish Referee	Finish corral	Corral to Zone Controller 3.
Zone Control 3	Bump Area	Sight lines overlap Finish Referee and Control 2
Zone Control 2	Flats	Sight lines overlap Control 3 and Control 1
Zone Control 1	1 st pitch	Sight lines overlap Control 2 and Start Referee
Start Referee	Start	Start to Control 1

The Jury members should be stationed along the course, preferably in proximity of the zone controllers in order to give direction and manage control of the course.

5. Course Clearance

At the request of the Technical Delegate, the Start Referee will conduct a "Course Clear" roll call in order from the finish area up the track ending with them.

With ordered clearance, the Chief of Race will announce "COURSE OPEN. START START".

The Start Referee will confirm the **START START** order, and announce **RACER #X** in the gate". The start of the racer will then commence.

6. Yellow Flags

A YELLOW FLAG signal may be ordered in the event of a fall or hazard on the course (See 4. - 6. in Racer Down). Zone controllers above the site of a hazard or fallen racer will use yellow flags to waive on coming racers off the course.

Competitors coming upon yellow flag signals must cease their runs immediately, quickly stop in a controlled manner, exit the track and report to the nearest zone controller. The zone controller will give instructions to the racer concerning returning to the start.

7. Racer Down Protocol

The possibility of well-meaning, but untrained, individuals attempting to assist athletes following an on-course fall could in fact add to any injury or lead to injury.

The following protocol **MUST be strictly adhered to** recognizing that good judgment and circumstances will dictate actual actions.

Patience with discipline is required of those in the proximity of a fall. Time slows down and things seem to take longer than normal.

Keep calm, assess what you see and communicate clearly. Don't leap without thinking. Take only those actions you are sure will not create a greater danger, a hazard or increase the risk of harm.

1. The Jury member or Zone Controller nearest the fall will be responsible for the orderly conduct of any rescue. Care should be taken to control the number and status of those persons attending the site.

Only two people need to be on the radio during the first few seconds . . . and one of them is the START REFEREE. This is critical.

2. The Jury member or Zone Controller closest to the fall will call a **"START STOP Control Zone XX"**.
3. The Start Referee will confirm the START STOP order immediately on the Course Control Channel **"START STOPPED RACER #N in the Gate"**

4. Control Zones above the site of the STOP START are to locate any racer on the course. If a racer is on the course, the Zone Controller in of that section announces **Racer #Y through Zone ZZ"**.

The priority is the safety of any racer on the course above the incident site. They are to be protected from any hazard created at the incident site. At the same time, that racer is a hazard to those who must attend to the fallen racer.

5. The Zone Controller at the incident site is responsible to determine whether a YELLOW FLAG signal is necessary based on the hazards observed and the seriousness of the incident. Where a YELLOW FLAG is necessary, that Zone Controller announces **"Yellow Flag"**
6. Stoppage of the racer is to be announced by the YELLOW FLAG marshal where the racer is stopped. **"Racer #Y Stopped at YELLOW FLAG DD"**

Attending To A Fallen Racer

NO person is to move onto the course or approach the racer down until the START STOP has been implemented, and during the START STOP, only if ordered to do so by a member of the Jury, Zone Controller or the Chief of Medical. This means SKI PATROL must not move until the START STOP has taken hold. SP's, see 4. – 6. again.

7. Only persons trained in emergency first aid and one person with contact with the jury should approach a fallen racer.
8. The medical team will then take charge of the accident and communicate on the Medical Channel as to the medical assessment of the accident and the need for equipment and personnel.
9. The Chief of Race, and **ONLY** the Chief of Race, will communicate with the Chief of Medical and Ski Patrol, the location of the accident.
10. **ANY** person, (other than the Ski Patrol, or Chief of Medical) attending at the site may remove "debris" from the course, only. They may **only** assist the athlete under the **specific** direction of

the Chief of medical or the Ski Patrol person in charge of the accident site. **Under no circumstances** (other than life-threatening) is **any** person other than the Ski Patrol in charge of the accident site **to attempt to remove the athlete's equipment, remove the athlete from the nets or attempt to move the athlete in any way.**

11. During the conduct of the rescue, the Chief of Medical will coordinate the repositioning of the Ski Patrol personnel to ensure adequate coverage upon commencement of the event.

RESTART:

12. Immediately upon the accident site being clear and safe for the event to re-commence, the Jury member or Zone Controller closes to the accident site will advise the Chief of Race.
13. The Chief of medical will advise the Chief of Race on the Medical Channel the status of the racer and the disposition of the ski patrol members of the Ski Patrol members as soon as the information on these items is known.
14. The Chief of Race will confirm that that all areas of responsibility are ready to proceed and ask the start referee to complete a **"Course Clearance"**.

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