OFFICIALS PROGRAM



SKI CROSS

Level 1 Manual

This Manual is connected to PowerPoint Presentations

- **1** SX Officials Training Event Mgt.
- 2 FIS 2010 SX Safety for TDs' and Officials

CANADA SX LEVEL 1 OFFICIALS COURSE

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1 INTRODUCTION

WHAT IS SKI CROSS?

Ski Cross has a basic concept: 'let's take this ski run and see who can get to the bottom of the slope first'. Perhaps the nature of ski cross comes from this simple game that all children on skis have played – 'first across the finish line wins'.

Ski Cross was created as the part of very early alpine ski competitions, which had the socalled 'mass starts'. The mass start was used, for example, in the one of the first races, the 'Inferno' in Mürren Switzerland, developed by a group of British skiers. Modern variations of the 'mass start' concept were first used in snowboarding and now in skiing since the late 1990's.

Freestyle Ski Cross is an event of the FIS Freestyle Ski Discipline, with Athletes using a combination of Freestyle and Alpine Skills competing head to head on a Snowboard Cross Course, all done with an attitude.

Typically, each race is now limited to either 4 or 6 starters with the top half of the field moving onto the next round. In ski cross, there are series of quarter-finals, semi- finals and then final rounds.

Not restricted by formal structures and formats, the ski cross event found a home in the FIS Freestyle discipline. The bulk of the competitors now come from the Alpine discipline and structures on the course have been modified from the Olympic Snowboard cross event.

The ski cross course is specially designed to test all of the skiers' skills, with different features including turns of different types and sizes, jumps of varying size, flat sections and traverses, along with rolls, banks and ridges which are constructed on a normal ski slope. Each Ski Cross course will be very different in layout. A Ski Cross course is very much influenced by the terrain and location it is built on, as well the design of the builder.

Physical endurance and strength is also a key factor, since the winning skier must ski between 4 and 5 runs of 60 seconds or more.

A Ski Cross athlete will always be challenged with change, racing each heat with different opponents, different lines, speeds and split second decisions that will never mirror the last run. Truly a test of multi tasking at high speed.

The International Freestyle Skiing Rules (ICR) defines Ski Cross as:

4500: Ski Cross

After a timed qualification run, a group of competitors' compete against each other on a specially prepared Ski Cross course that includes different types of turns, jumps, waves and other freestyle terrain features.

Race Format

There are 4 phases in a Ski Cross race. These phases can be run in one or two days.

- 1: Inspection Phase
- 2: Training Phase
- 3: Qualification Phase
- 4: Finals/Heats or Knock Out Round

Each phase is an integral part of the competition format. This format is structured to provide safe training, structured qualifications and fair Finals seeding.

(Video presentation, action snippets)

2 LEVEL 1 OFFICIALS OBJECTIVES

The objective of the CSX Level 1 Officials course is to ensure all participants have a clear understanding of Ski Cross as a sport, its format and how it is run as a race. The level 1 Official will have an understanding of all the basic aspects of a Ski Cross race, Officials needed to run a race and a basic knowledge of Ski Cross rules and how they apply. A clear understanding of all safety measures and protocol used in a Ski Cross venue will be a major section. Understanding venue safety is mandatory to run a safe event at all levels.

Ski Cross, being one of the newest Olympic sports is here to stay. Its future success will be based in part by participation of Officials and Volunteers. CSX/Alpine Canada Alpin wish to educate current and new Officials to ensure safe growth of Ski Cross events and programs in Canada.

NATIONAL GOVERNENCE





OFFICIALS TRAINING PATHWAY



CODE OF ETHICS FOR OFFICIALS

"The sport federation's mission can only be accomplished successfully if all individuals involved in the sport (including athletes, parents, coaches, officials and administrators) share a common vision and understanding of their role to create and maintain a positive and safe learning environment. However, it is the actions of each individual that, ultimately contribute to or undermine the existence of a positive sport environment."

Excerpt adapted from Skate Canada Official's Code of Ethics.

- Officials are an integral part of any sporting event. Most of the officials at a Ski Cross event are volunteers. Without the support of volunteers in the role of officials, the competitive disciplines in Skiing would not happen.
- Officials must work together as a team: ensuring rules are followed, safety is at its highest, and fairness is at the forefront of the competition.
- An official must be objective and impartial when performing his or her duties.
- Dedicated to a common end result with the rest of their officiating team.

OFFICIALS PROGRAM CERTIFICATION STANDARDS

Level 1

Ski Cross Level 1 is an entry level course designed to provide a basic introduction to Ski Cross. The information covered will give the official an understanding of the Sport, Race format and venue operations. A particular emphasis will be put on Safety and course control. This will include in-depth look at Gate Judging and Section Chiefs, defining their role on course and how it relates to safety and the overall event. Basic rules, the introduction of the Freestyle ICR and definition of all officials' roles will be covered.

Course Description

Time required: 2-3 hours classroom, 2 hrs practical on hill Course Fee: TBD Pre-requisites: None Exam: Open discussion case studies

Level 2 pre-requisites:

Ski Cross Level 1 Officials course, Practical experience in 3 or more entry level or FIS level races, 3 different officials positions. Participation in Ski cross Training Camps may apply for Chief of Course, Start and section Chief positions.

Level 2

Ski cross Level 2 will cover a detailed understanding of event Flow and execution. An in-depth look at key Officials roles, responsibilities and expectations. Safety will be reviewed and updated from the Level 1 presentation with more technical explanations and descriptions. Study and discussion of the rules and rule book with a look at how the rules are applied by the officials using case studies as examples. Qualification timing and Explanation of finals Ladders and how they run. There will be an Introduction to course building and features.

Course Description

Time required: 3-4 hours classroom, 2 hrs practical on hill if conducted around a Camp or event Course Fee: TBD

Pre-requisites: Ski Cross Level 1 Officials course, Practical experience in 3 or more entry level or FIS level races, 3 different officials positions. Participation in Ski cross Training Camps may apply for Chief of Course, Start and section Chief positions

Exam: Open book exam and group case studies

Level 3 pre-requisites:

Completion and Level 2 certification, Participate as an official at 4 FIS level events. Participating as a member of the Jury in 2 of those events (Referee or Chief of Competition). Participated in a different Chiefs (Leadership) role at each event.

Level 3

Ski Cross Level 3 will involve study, discussion and interactive sharing of Case Studies and Rules as they apply to competition scenarios. Continued review of Safety and updates. Detailed look and the study of Key officials roles (the Jury) and the roles of the Technical Delegate. Course building theory and Maintenance. Race Administration, Timing and Tabulation.

Course Description

Time required: 6 hours classroom, 2 hrs practical on hill if conducted around a Camp or event Should be broken into 2 days

Course Fee: TBD

Pre-requisites: Completion and Level 2 certification, Participate as an official at 4 FIS level events. Participating as a member of the Jury in 2 of those events (Referee and Chief of Competition). Participated in a different Chiefs (Leadership) role at each event. Must have participated as Chief of Gate Judges.

Exam: Open book exam and group case studies

Level 4 / CSX Technical Delegate

Candidates for the Ski Cross Level 4 / CSX Technical Delegates designation must be nominated by the PSO or National Officials committee including other NSO's. (Canadian Freestyle Ski association, Canada Snowboard)

The nominee for level 4 /CSX Technical Delegate will have completed all levels of Ski Cross officials training and participated in all officials positions at a national level

7 THE RACE ORGANIZING COMMITTEE



8 BASIC EVENT DAY BREAKDOWN AND RACE SCHEDULE

F/1/S" =

PROGRAM FOR PROGRAMME POUR PROGRAMM FÜR

PGS 🗇 PSL 🗇 SBX 🗇

Date:	Site:	Nation:	Disc.:
Date:	Lieu:	Nation:	Disc :
Datum: Ort		Nation:	Disz.:
Lift open/Ouverture des re	montées mécaniques/Lift öffnet:		
Jury inspection/Inspection du jury/Besichtigung Jury.			
Warm-up and training are	alPiste d'échauffement et		
d'entraînement/Aufwärm- u			
Course setter at start/Trac Name and Nation/Nome et	ceur au départ/Kurssetzer am Start t Nation/Name und Nation		
QUALIFICATION			
Inspection/Reconnaissand	e/Besichtigung:		
	on start/am Start geschlossen:		
Training time/ Temps Entr			
	ers on place/Entraîneurs et		
	rainer und Fotographen am Platz:		
Entry for all closed/Entrée			
Zutritt für alle geschlossen:			
Forerunners Start time/Or	uvreurs Heure de départ/		
Startzeit Vorläufer:		(Number 4)	
Start time/Heure de départ	f/Startzeit :	Women :	
		Men :	
Start interval/Intervalle de	départ/Startintervall:		
FINALS			
Inspection/Reconnaissance			
	e on start/am Start geschlossen:		
	ers on place/Entraîneurs et		
	rainer und Fotographen am Platz:		
Entry for all closed/Entrée			
Zutritt für alle geschlossen:			
Forerunners Start time/O	uvreurs Heure de départ/		
Startzeit Vorläufer:		(Number 4 – 2 pairs	i)
Start time/Heure de départ	f/Startzeit :		
Start interval/Intervalle de	départ/Startintervall:		
	GENERAL		
Connection Coach / Entra	ineur liaison / Verbindungs Trainer	Name	Nation
Slip crews/Lisseurs/Rutsch	hkommandos:	As needed	
Prize giving ceremony/Re	ernise des prix/Siegerehrung:		
Press conference/Conference de presse/Pressekonferenz:		None	
Next team captains meeti d'équipes/Nächste Mannsc	ng/Prochaine séance des chefs haftsführersitzung:		
Miscellaneous/Divers/Vers			
	all athletes have signed the FIS athlete	es delcaration	
-			
-			
-			
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FIS Nakiska Ski Cross

Alpine Canada Alpin /Ski Cross Officials level 1 Course

December 1-2 2011

Tentative schedule Officials and Race Event

Thursday Dec 1.2011

8:00 – 8:30 am	Team Captains Meeting (Location TBA)	
8:30 - 11:30 am	Officials Classroom Training, Upstairs Main lodge	
11:30 - 12:00	Lunch	
12:00 - 12:30	Proceed to SX Course (Athlete Inspection)	
12:30 - 1:30	SX Athlete Training	
2:00- 3:00	SX Qualifying Runs	
3:30	Officials Meeting in Main Lodge (Race review/positions for Friday)	
Friday Dec 2. 2011		

E

8:00 am	Officials Meeting main Lodge (First lift to course immediately following)
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- 9:00-9:15 SX Athlete Inspection
- 9:30 10:30 SX Athlete Training
- 10:45 SX Finals

Awards 30 min after tear down of course.

This is a tentative schedule and is subject to approval of the Venue and Chief of Race.

9 ROLES AND RESPOSIBILITIES, KEY OFFICIALS

START SX RACEDAY PROTOCOL PRESENTATION (SLIDES 1-11)

MAJOR SKI CROSS OFFICIALS

- Technical Delegate
- Chief of Race (Competition)
- Referee



> JURY MEMBERS

- Chief of Course
- Chief of Start
- Chief of Finish
- Chief of Gate Judges
- Chief of Timing
- Course Builder
- Connection Coach/Course setter

MINOR SKI CROSS OFFICIALS

- Starter
- Assistant Starter
- Bib Coordinator
- Gate Judges
- Finish Judges
- Hand Timers
- Finish Timers/ Timing Crew
- Medical Services Coordinator/Patrol

Depending on the level of the Ski Cross event, all the officials on the list may not have to be present. For example ,course builder or medical services coordinator.

10 BASIC ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF EACH OFFICIAL

TECHNICAL DELEGATE

- Assigned by NSA or FIS
- Responsible for applying rules of the governing organization, supervises work by competition officials, inspecting Ski Cross safety procedures and installations
- Chairman of the Race Jury

CHIEF OF RACE

- Assigned by the Organizing Committee
- Responsible for overall race operations, liaison with the host resort
- Manages work of competition officials
- <u>Member of the Race Jury</u>

REFEREE

- Assigned by FIS, NSA, TD or Club (depending the level of competition)
- Assists the Technical Delegate
- Records reports from the Chief of Gate Judges about any rule infractions or gate faults
- Records results of heats provided by finish judges
- Provides results information data/timing group, signs official results and post results to notice board
- Member of Race Jury

CHIEF OF COURSE

- Assigned by Organizing Committee
- Responsible for maintaining the Ski Cross course, including the start area, installing timing system and managing course workers
- Sets the race course (i.e. gate panels) in consultation with the Course Setter/Connection Coach

START REFEREE (Chief of Start)

• Responsible for managing the start area and start procedures including directing the work of the Starter and Assistant Starter

CHIEF OF FINISH (Works closely with the referee)

• Responsible for managing the finish area and directing the work of the Finish Judges

CHIEF OF GATE JUDGES

• Responsible for directing the work of the Gate Judges and conveying necessary information to the Referee

CHIEF OF TIMING

- Responsible for directing the work of the Hand Timers and Time Keepers for the electronic timing system
- Responsible for setup and insuring the electronic timing systems are operating correctly
- Responsible for communicating with the Starter regarding operations of the timing system , starts and course holds
- To provide an accurate and detailed timing report to the TD

CONNEC TION COACH/COURSE SETTER

- Assigned at the Team Captains meeting
- Responsible for setting the course gates prior to training and competition on the Ski Cross course
- Liaison between all coaches and the Organizing Committee

COURSE BUILDER

- Assigned by the Organizing Committee
- Responsible for designing or redesigning the layout of the course in conjunction with the host venue
- Directing the construction and testing of the course (often operates the snow cat during construction)

STARTER

- Responsible for the warning signals and start command
- Start recording
- Assign duties to Assistant Starter as needed

ASSISTANT STARTER

- Responsible for calling competitors according to the start order
- Also checking competitors bibs, clothing and equipment for violations before they enter the start area

GATE JUDGES

- To observe and report accurately whether the passage of the competitor was correct through their assigned area of observation
- To observe and report accurately infractions to the rules governing DSQ and contact
- May be responsible for course clear in their assigned area of observation

FINISH JUDGES

- Responsible for determining the finish order of the competitors
- To assist the Jury with DNF and DSQ rulings if necessary

BIB COORDINATOR

- Responsible for preparation, assignment, distribution and collection of all bibs provided to competitors and other officials
- Keeps track of which athletes are assigned which colour bib during heats
- Works closely with the Assistant Starter

BIB COLLECTOR

- To collect numbered bibs from competitors as they leave the finish area following the qualification run.
- To collect coloured bibs from competitors at the end of each heat and coordinate their return to the start

MEDICAL SERVICES COODINATOR/PRO PATROL

 Responsible for organizing adequate fist aid and medical coverage during training periods and the actual competition (Lower level events may have medical covered by mountain Patrol services coordinated by the organizing committee, approved by the Technical Delegate)

Other minor positions that we may find at an event would include Hand Timers, Section Chiefs and course work crew. All these positions report to the appropriate Chief official

11 BASIC RULES INSIDE THE FIELD OF PLAY

Reference Material

The International freestyle Skiing Competition Rules (ICR)

Section 6 or the 4500 section of the Freestyle skiing ICR lists Ski Cross specific rules.

The most notable rules to observe on course are:

4501.2.5 Correct Passage across the Gate Line
 A gate has been passed correctly when both of the competitor's ski tips and both feet
 have passed across the gate line. If a competitor loses a ski, without committing a fault,
 e.g. not straddling the gate, then the tip of the remaining ski and both feet must have
 passed the gate line. Whenever 2 gates are required to be set the gate line is the
 imaginary shortest line between the 2 turning poles. (See ICR Alpine 661.4). Wherever a
 turning gate only is required to be set, the gate line is the extension of the line from the
 outside pole of the gate to the gate to the turning pole which lies past the turning pole
 and extends into the course.



Notes On Passage:

- 4505.6.2 Ranking of competitors that Do Not Finish (DNF)
 In the case where more than one competitor does not complete the course nor cross
 the finish line, the rankings in that heat will be based on the location where the
 competitor(s) have completed the course. The competitor that has made it further down
 the course will receive the higher ranking.
- 4508.1 Definition of contact and Blocking
 Intentional contact by pushing, pulling or holding another competitors arm, leg or pole
 or other means, which causes another competitor to slow down, fall or exit the course is
 not allowed and is an automatic disqualification. A competitor is not allowed to bring
 their arm leg or ski pole in front of other competitors' body to avoid being passed.
 Blocking, by intentional movements of the body or leaving the natural skiing line is not
 allowed. The "natural skiing line" is defined as the fastest way between the features and
 around the gate line. All contact infractions will be at the discretion of the Gate Judges
 and the Jury.
- 3056.7 Disqualifications (DSQ)
 If a competitor alters course or jump or trains on a closed course or does not stop, when flagged in Ski Cross.

Discussion Notes:

12 EVENT DAY ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

CONTINUE SX RACEDAY PROTOCOL PRESENTATION (SLIDES12-42)

Use the space provided below to take notes for future reference

Refer to Event Day hand out for examples and detailed timelines of event day.

- 1. Ski Cross training day event schedule and major officials roles
- 2. Ski Cross competition day event schedule and major officials roles
- Race Format and start of day

<u>Course Inspection</u>

• <u>Training</u>

• <u>Time Trials / Qualifications</u>

• Finals or Heats format

• Finals on course

• Finals at the finish Line

13 SKI CROSSS SAFETY AND SECURITY

REVIEW FIS SKI CROSS OFFICIALS TRAINING PRESENTATION

SAFETY INFORMATION FOR TECHNICAL DELEGATES AND OFFICIALS

Use the space provided below to take notes for future reference

• <u>Athlete Protection</u>

• Course Inspection as an official

• <u>Course inspection as an athlete</u>

• <u>Course colouring and dye</u>

• Use of safety installations

B-net

Padding

Medical plan

• On course safety

Course control flags

Athlete spacing in training

Radio protocol

14 BASIC MATERIALS FOR GATE JUDGES AND SECTION CHIEFS

Gate Judge Card

- How to fill out and when
- Remember, Report, Record, Review
- Listen for CONFIRMATION from Referee or TD

Heat Sheet

- What is a heat sheet and why is it used?
- Track DSQ
- In the case of 2 competitors not finishing it helps confirm ranking of those competitors.
- Pros and cons

Course Placement

- Line of sight
- Understand your section and its flow
- Identify challenges and advise appropriate Official

Responsibilities in your section

- Monitor the safety of everyone in your section, having a 360 degree awareness of what is happening in your section is imperative as a Section Chief or Gate Judge.
- Constantly monitor all radio communications; they all pertain to you and the safety of others. Your radio will tell the story of what is happening and keep you aware of the execution time of the event as it runs throughout the day.
- Working together and communicate with everyone in your section Course crew, Media, Coaches etc.





Diagram				
⊗ Your position	◆Blue Ga	ite O Green Gate		

BIB # OR COLOUR	GATE #

SX

GATE JUDGE HEAT CARD

GATE JUDGE: _____ GATE #(S):

HEAT	RED	GREEN	BLUE	YELLOW
1				
2				
3				
4				
5				
6				
7				
8				
9				
10				
11				
12				
13				
14				
15				
16				

AS SKIERS SUCCESSFULLY PASS YOUR GATE(S), CHECK OFF. OTHERWISE NOTE INCIDENT ON 'GATE JUDGE CARD' AND NOTE THE INFRACTION ABOVE.

GATE JUDGE AND SECTION CHIEF PLACEMENT



14 RADIO PROTOCOL ON THE SKI CROSS COURSE

Radio protocol is the integral link to running a safe Ski Cross event at any level. Ski Cross is a very dynamic and fast sport with a training format that is similar to a busy highway. Unlike other skiing disciplines Ski Cross training allows multiples of athletes on the course at the same time. Even though these athletes are safely spaced at the start there is opportunity for overtakes and collision if an incident was to occur on course.

A clear line of radio communication on several levels is important. It is optimum to use radios that have 5 channels programmed. At a minimum 2 channels will work safely.

Here is an example of a 5 channel communication and each official linked on each channel.

CHANNEL 1- RACE OR COMPETITION CHANNEL

- Starter
- Chief of Gate Judges
- Gate Judges
- Chief of course
- Start Referee
- Finish Referee/Chief of Finish
- JURY- TD, Chief of Race, Referee (channels 1 and 3)
- Race Director (WC)

CHANNEL 2- SCORING AND TIMING CHANNEL

- Referee
- Finish Referee
- Finish Judges (can also communicate via Finish Referee)
- Timing and data
- Notice Boards

CHANNEL 3-JURY

- Technical Delegate
- Referee

- Chief of Race
- Race Director (WC)

CHANNEL 4- MEDICAL

- Technical Delegate
- Chief of Medical
- Event Doctors
- EMS Personal
- Patrol

(Lower level events will use Patrol or Mountain Ops radios linked to the TD or Chief of Race)

CHANNEL 5- TECHNICAL OPERATIONS

- Chief of Race
- Chief of Course
- Chief of Course Maintenance
- Course Builder
- Course Workers
 (This is used at WC, OWG level events)

TIMING COMMUNICATIONS

- Hard-line communication with headsets between the Start and Finish is standard with most timing systems. The starter should also have radio communication on the race channel during qualifications for safety reasons.
- It is recommended if a headset is used in the start that only one ear is used to allow the starter to hear other communications from the assistant or separate radio.

15 STOP START! THE MOST IMPORTANT COMMUNICATION ON COURSE

The radio command 'STOP START' is used to communicate the immediate need to <u>close the</u> <u>start</u> and <u>stop</u> any further athletes from entering the course.

When the starter hears this command he will close the start and reply on the radio 'START IS STOPPED'.

In Ski Cross, this command is used by Gate Judges and or other officials to stop all movement on course in the case of an accident or something on course that may put athletes at risk.

Each Gate Judge/Section Chief on a Ski Cross course is assigned a section or area of the course that he/she will be responsible for. This command is used to stop athletes from entering that section of the course. This command will queue each other section to wave a safety flag and stop athletes from proceeding down the course, thus stopping all movement on course until it is safe to resume the race or training.

Each section is numbered and assigned to an official. For example the course will be numbered from the start to the finish.

Start, Section 1, Section 2, Section 3, Section 4,Finish.

Let's say a Racer falls during training in section 4 and is impeding the race lane or has an injury. The Gate Judge or section chief needs to immediately do the following in the listed order so it is clearly understood.

1: Call - STOP START

2: Identify section - SECTION 4

3: Reason- SKIER DOWN

This will indicate to the Start and sections 1, 2 and 3 that there is immediate danger in section 4 and they must stop all athletes from proceeding. (using the flag)

At this point the TD or another assigned official will call that section to assess the problem.

Each section below section 4 will allow the athletes in their sections to proceed.

This protocol is essential to running a safe event.

Once the course has been stopped and the situation that caused the stop start has been solved the Starter must call for a course clear for the bottom (finish) up. This will clear the race course so training or racing can continue.

Starter: Can I have a course clear from the bottom up starting with the Finish please!

Finish Referee: The finish is clear

Gate Judge 5: Section 5 is clear

Etc until it reaches the start.

The Starter can resume competition or training at that point.

GATE JUDGE AND SECTION CHIEF RADIO PROTOCOL



CASE STUDIES AND RACE SENERIOS FOR DISCUSSION

1)

- View helmet cam video from Meiringen
- Wiki contact video http://video.google.de/videoplay?docid=-430903601778276965#

Can you spot the infraction that would cause a DSQ in Qualifying or heats?

2) A skier falls during training in section 8 before the finish stretch and appears to be injured.

What is the next course of action by the officials team?

- Refer to the 'Gate Judge and Section Chief placement' page
- Discuss what's happening in all areas of the course from the start to the finish.
- 3) Two gate flags come off in your section during training. What should you do?
- 4) Two gate flags come off in your section during Finals Heats. What should you do?
- 5) Your section 4 Gate Judge. You hear "stop start, Section 3, skier down" over your radio.

How do you react to this call?

6) During training 4 skiers approach a corner you're attending. Two of the skiers have contact and spin through the B-Net at the end of the corner causing 4 poles to come out. They both stand up quickly and continue down the course uninjured.

What did you see happen?

Do you go over and fix the net?

What is the radio protocol for this?

Note: Ski Cross is a very active and fast moving venue with lots of variables. It is of the highest priority as a TEAM of officials to control all movement at all times.