



## **Race Day**

There is much work, and many volunteers, needed to host a ski race. There are people (ie: parent volunteers) behind the scenes that begin to plan and organize the event months in advance. On race day there is a whole other set of people needed on the hill to properly and fairly officiate and to keep the racers safe. Some of these individuals are appointed by the Pennsylvania Alpine Racing Association, the governing body of ski racing in our state, but most others are parent volunteers such as you. Below you will find a list of positions and a functional description. For more detailed information on positions you can refer to the Alpine Competition Guide on the USSA website.

As a parent of a TMART racer it is incumbent upon you to volunteer. The Tussey race is a respected and valued stop on the Central PA race circuit. While we are small, we are able to host and staff an event that is second to none in our region. So, given that we are a small club, there is an expectation that at least one parent of each racer volunteer for race day positions. Of course there are circumstances in which that is not possible and that is understandable. I know from personal experience that my racer is proud that her Mom & Dad are involved. I know your racer will find it pretty cool that you too are involved.

A method to fulfillment of race day positions has emerged over the years. Returning parents have the right-of-first-refusal to their prior year position or a move to a vacated position. Once returning parents have committed, new parents are offered the remaining slots. New parents typically earn their wings, or skis I should say, as gate judges. Gate judging, in my opinion is a great way to see and feel the race as racers whiz by you at various speeds and skill levels. The key is to dress properly. If you do so, it will be a rewarding experience for you and your racer child.

While some of the positions require certification from USSA or PARA, most do not. There are some positions that are coming available and shadowing the current person for a year or two is a good idea. If you are interested in learning about those positions let us know.

And of course, any/all ideas that improve or help to sustain the club are welcome.

Please volunteer!

TMART and your racers need you!

**When reading and interpreting the below, keep in mind that the Tussey Mountain and Pierre Lallement Memorial Slaloms are Non-Scored races.**

Position	Certification required	Description
<b>Group I – Officials &amp; Coaches</b>		
Technical Delegate (TD)	yes	Appointed by PARA – makes sure that rules and directions of USSA are followed. <b>Jury member.</b>
Referee	yes	Appointed by TD. Oversees start/finish referees. <b>Jury member.</b>
Chief of Race	Scored race -yes	Directs all preparation of the competition. <b>Jury member.</b>
Chief of Course	no	Course preparation responsibility
Course Setter	yes	Determines gate locations
Course Assistants	no	Maintains course conditions during race
<b>Group II – TMART Parents</b>		
Start referee	Scored race - yes; Non-scorred-preferred	Positioned at start. Determines late/false starts, “did not start” (DNS) & other violations. Maintains reserve bibs so that racers that show up without bibs can still race. (“oops, I left it in the cafeteria”)
Finish referee	Scored race - yes; Non-scorred-preferred	Positioned at finish. Reports racers that “did not finish” (DNF) and other violations at the finish area.
Starter	no	Communicates with timing. Issues the start command to racer. Resets start timing wand.
Assistant Starter	no	Calls racers to que up in start area. “Cattle herding”.
Time of Day Start	no	Operates TOD stopwatch. Captures time when racer starts & relays time to Assistant.
Time of Day Start Assistant	no	Records Time of Day start times
Time of Day Finish	no	Operates TOD stopwatch. Captures time when racer crosses finish line & relays time to Assistant.
Time of Day Finish Assistant	no	Records Time of Day finish times.
Chief Gate Judge	Yes	Assigns gates to gate judges. Manages gate judges. Roams course during race to support gate judges. Utilizes an Assistant CGJ when available.
Gate Judges	No, but preferred	Monitors and records racer violations at assigned gates. Note: PARA offers a gate judge certification that, if passed, entitles you to a free lift ticket for your racer if you volunteer at other events.
Wiring	No	Works with the timing crew to troubleshoot any wiring problems. Bury wire at start/finish. This does not require any electrical knowledge as directions are provided by timing crew.
Bib collectors	no	Collects bibs from racers after afternoon run. Positioned at finish corral exit. After collection on Saturday, re-stuffs envelopes for Sunday registration.
Announcer	no	Positioned in timing loft. Announces racer info over public loudspeaker.
Posting to Manual Scoreboard	No	Stationed outside where the posting board is tacked. Writes racer times as they occur. Communicates with timing and/or announcer. Sets up scoresheet the night before each race.
Forerunners	USSA member	They “test” the course and give timing a trial run. TMART usually uses our U19 kids for this.

Data Management	no	Produces start/bib lists. Downloads from registration website, then imports into Vola software for bib # assignment. During race, works with timing folks to complete various race documents. After races, produces output necessary for filing race results with USSA and/or PARA.
Registration	no	Registers racers in the morning and distributes bibs. Sells lift and buffet tickets. Reconciles with Tussey.
Banner Hanger	no	Hangs sponsor banners each morning and removes at end of day.
Coaches' Breakfast	no	Order & pickup bagels/coffee and deliver before dawn (approx. 6am) to the coaches who are setting up the course.
Coaches' Lunches & Race Day Buffet	no	Works with Tussey for timely delivery of lunches. Delivers to coaches on the mountain at lunchtime. Coordinates buffet (when applicable) with Tussey.
Awards Ceremony MC	no	Announces winners & presents trophies.
Race Administrator	no	Responsibility for pre-race details.
Sponsor Fundraising	No	Sells race sponsorships to area businesses.