



World Snowshoe Federation Snowshoe Race Officials' Certification Program



The World Snowshoe Federation wishes to recognize and thank the United States Snowshoe Association for the use of their long standing "Snowshoe Officials' Certification Program" as a template for the development of this program specific to WSSF competitions.

World Snowshoeing Federation

COMPETITION RULES

Distance races include any cross country race held on compacted or virgin trails for the purpose of selecting a competitor with the shortest completion time.

Rule 1

In all advertising and promotion, the correct distances and trail condition (packed or virgin) must be stated.

Rule 2

The course will have to be covered with both snowshoes on. In case a competitor loses a snowshoe during the final burst of speed in the last 50 meters, his trial will be kept valid only if he crosses the finishing line with at least one snowshoe on.

Rule 3

All competitors normally begin the race enmasse at a designated start line. For large groups of competitors, for ease of scoring, males and females or division groups may begin the race at different times. The race director may use his/her discretion in starting line grouping.

Rule 4

The race coordinator/director shall have the final discretion in determining the race distance and course layout.

Rule 5

The technical delegate may also serve as the race director.

5A

For WSSF sanctioned championship level snowshoe races, the race director and technical delegate need to hold current WSSF Officials' licenses.

5B

For national snowshoe races, the race director and technical delegate must be different individuals, each holding current WSSF Officials' licenses.

5C

Certification for WSSF snowshoe race officials' is obtained by completing an open book exam and returning it and a processing fee to the WSSF. In return, a lifetime certification/license will be issued.

Rule 6

The judges shall be placed at several designated spots along the trail to watch competitors.

6A

Race Course Marshalls (Officials) - Some officials will be along the course in order to verify that each runner goes, with his snowshoes on, along the whole route. Officials will take note of the pectoral number and possible infringements committed by competitors.

Rule 7

Trails, whether packed or virgin, must be clear of trees, branches or debris at least 3 meters (3 yards and 1 foot) on straight-a-ways to facilitate passing. On curves the trail must be at least 2 meters wide.

Rule 8

Course marking flags will clearly mark the designated race course trail. Competitors will have to cover exclusively the established race course, marked by small flags arranged along both sides of the course.

7A

Different colored course marking flags, for example, blue, green, or black flags (ideally one color per event) may be used to mark the race course.

7B

As one stands beside a flag marker, the next flag must be visible. This necessitates close flagging on turns.

7C

Red or orange flags are to be used to block off trails not in use for the ongoing race.

Rule 8

Timing may be done by stopwatch or electronic timing.

Rule 9

The starter shall work with the two finish timers to synchronize stopwatches at the race start..

Rule 10

The starter shall have total control of the competitors at the start line and shall be the sole judge of any fact connected with the start of the race. The starter will position himself/herself directly in line with the start line. When the starter has seen that each competitor is in position at the start line, he/she will begin the countdown. "You have 30 seconds till start. 15 seconds. 10 seconds. 5 seconds, 4...3...2...1...Start" For large mass starts a starting pistol may be used.

Rule 11.

At the start line competitors snowshoes must be behind the start line.

Rule 12

There shall be two (2) timers, each with a stopwatch at the finish line, whose times are in sync with the starter. They will call out bib numbers and finish times to the two (2) recorders at the finish line.

Rule 13

The two (2) recorders will record bib numbers and finish times of the finishers

Rule 14

An 'order of finish recorder' will be present with a clipboard to record only the order of the bib numbers crossing the finish line. (Several competitors may finish at once, the order may be confused by the timers)

Rule 15

To calculate a competitor's time, the start time must be subtracted from the finish time, and posted prior to the time of the awards ceremony. Race results are not official until the Official WSSF results have been posted after the conclusion of the event.

Rule 16

The competitor must cross the finish line with both snowshoes firmly attached to his/her feet.

Should the competitor loose a shoe during the race he/she must step off the track and re-attach the snowshoe in order to finish the race. An athlete who covers more than 3 meters of the race course without both snowshoes attached to their feet may be disqualified.

Rule 17

If a competitor falls he/she may stand and finish the race.

Rule 18

Should any competitor who is hindered, cut off, or touched by another competitor decide their finish time was altered, that person may submit a description of the offense in writing to the race director within 30 minutes of the offense. The Race Director or Jury of Appeals may later the hindered athletes time and/or place of finish.

Rule 19

Upon receipt of a written complaint by a competitor, the race director shall consult with the any of the Jury of Appeals, the technical delegate, and/or any race official who may have seen the incident, in an area away from the public, to determine within 30 minutes the outcomes of the complaint.

Rule 20

Coaches and spectators must remain in the viewing area and off the trail.

Rule 21

An athlete must retire from competition at once if ordered to do so by a member of the appointed medical staff, any certified and duly recognized course official and/or or the race director.

Rule 22

22A

Disqualifications or Sanctions –

The disqualification or sanctioning of a competitor is fixed by the race jury in case of:

- ☐ material not in compliance;
- ☐ anticipated departure (False Start);
- ☐ run without snowshoes outside the areas set out by the race director;
- ☐ run outside the passageway marked by the small flags;
- ☐ check-point Non-passage;
- ☐ unsporting behaviour and obstructionism;
- ☐ arrival at the finishing line without snowshoes on.

22B

An athlete shall be disqualified if the untied or unfastened snowshoe interferes with another athlete competing in the same race.

22C

An athlete shall be disqualified if, in the officials estimation, he/she purposefully jostles, obstructs, bumps or steps on another competitor's snowshoe.

22D

If an athlete is disqualified in any WSSF sanctioned event, reference shall be made in the official results to the WSSF, and the rule which was broken shall be stated.

Rule 23

No established record can formally be considered broken or set unless the event is a WSSF sanctioned race with a certified race director and technical delegate, and the competitor holds a current WSSF Sporting License, if available.

Rule 24

WSSF Recognized Age group CATEGORIES: The Race Director/Local Organizing Committee does have the discretion to propose suitable age group divisions to the WSSF for recognition at the awards ceremony.

Male and Female Categories

Determination of Age Group:

- | | |
|----------------------|---|
| • Junior Men & Women | Must not turn 20 by 12/31/of event year |
| • Open Men & Women | 20-39 yrs. of age and do not turn 40 prior to 12/31/of event year |
| • Master Men & Women | 40+ yrs. of age by 12/31/of event year |

Rule 25

Snowshoe Requirements

Snowshoes may be commercial or prototype models. Snowshoes may be modified but must respect the following minimum measurements:

Length: 53.34 cm (21 inches) by Width: 17.78 cm (7 inches)

The snowshoe has to be provided with at least 4 crampons.

Participants are free to choose the shoe styles they prefer.

Direct mounting of shoes to snowshoes is permitted.

Rule 26

CLASSIFICATIONS:

26A Participation conditions:

Only competitors enrolled in a sports society and in possession of a health certificate allowing them to practice sports activities may be classified in an WSSF event.



Examination For WSSF Snowshoe Race Official Certification

Answer the following questions on the spaces provided

1. How many certified/licensed WSSF Distance Racing Officials must be present at a Championship event? _____

2. At National Championship events how many certified WSSF Distance Racing Officials must be present? _____

Name them _____

3. Name the race official who has control of the order of starting of athletes _____

4. Name the race official who has control of the trail layout and distance raced. _____

5. List two reasons why course marshals/officials must be placed along the trail at crucial points to observe competitors.

A. _____

B. _____

6. Please reiterate the count-down at the start line.

7. Describe the placement of competitor's snowshoes at the start line.

8. How many timers are at the finish line? _____ How many recorders? _____

9. What is the purpose of the order of finish recorder at the finish line? _____

10. Describe what a competitor must do if he/she loses a snowshoe during competition.
