



USCSA COVID-19 2021-2022 Resource Guide

December 1, 2021





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Introduction

Generally, skiing and snowboarding are considered sports that have a lower risk of transmission. Participants are outdoors, distanced from each other, generally wear gloves, goggles/sunglasses and face coverings while engaged in the sport.

The United States Collegiate Ski & Snowboard Association has developed the following information for our members, athletes and volunteers. We will be updating this information on a regular basis.

We have developed these recommendations in accordance with current information from these sources: CDC, OSHA, NCAA, USASA, National Ski Areas Association (NSAA), US Ski & Snowboarding. They are intended to help ensure USCSA events have the lowest risk of transmission possible.

The USCSA COVID-19 Task Force

Chris Shumeyko - President
Bo Bigelow - Executive Vice President
Sarah Geiger - Vice President of Conferences
Doug Grayson - Vice President of Sport
Brittney Jackson - Executive-at-Large
Jay Moyer - Executive-at-Large
Collin Casper - Executive-at-Large
Eric Plausteiner - McBrine Division Coordinator
Luke Dykowski - Student Athlete Representative
Charlie Naples - Student Athlete Representative





USCSA COVID-19 Policy

- Event Organizers will follow the US Ski & Snowboard Domestic Comp Guide (10/2021)
- USCSA event participants must comply with any additional requirements put in place by a governmental agency or host venue.
- USCSA Conferences may add additional requirements, with approval of the USCSA Board of Directors.
- Face coverings are required for all members indoors, regardless of vaccination status.
- If you are not feeling well or are experiencing any symptoms of COVID-19, please stay home.

USCSA COVID-19 Registration Protection Program

The USCSA will refund any Competitor or Team registration through December 31, 2021 or the start of their home Conference's competitive season, whichever is sooner. Competitors or Teams may request a refund by contacting the National Office and completing the application. The Membership Committee will review all submitted applications.

General Guidelines

The USCSA recommends that everyone participating in its sanctioned events wear face coverings and practice physical distancing. Our goal is hold events where the risk of transmission is as low as possible. We need everyone's help to achieve that goal.

Communication will be critical this season as many of our normal practices will be changing on a regular basis.

USCSA National Office – will regularly update Conference Coordinators about changes to regulations that may impact their events. The National Office will update the full membership on a regular basis as to activities within the organization to help reduce the rate of transmission.

COVID-19 Task Force – will remain in contact with industry partners and share best practices within the organization. They will also make recommendations to the USCSA Board of Directors as warranted.

Conference & Division Coordinators – need to remain in close contact with their venues, volunteers and team leaders. It will be critical to share all relevant event information electronically prior to the event to ensure smooth operations.

Compliance – The USCSA will use sections 2.7.14 & 2.7.15 of the USCSA Bylaws for any COVID-19 Guideline compliance enforcement.





General Practices

The USCSA has adopted the US Ski & Snowboard COVID-19 Domestic Competitions Guidance (10/2021) as our guiding policy for events & competitions during the 2021/22 season. As the US Ski & Snowboard updates or changes their Guidance, USCSA likely will adapt the updated guidance and will notify membership and leadership if and when that occurs.

[Document Link](#)

We recommend all Conference Coordinators, Division Coordinators and key volunteers read and familiarize yourself with the guidance and make modifications to your operations as necessary.

COVID-19 Coordinator

Each Conference and Division shall appoint a COVID-19 Coordinator. The COVID-19 Task Force recommends the COVID-19 Coordinator be a Conference or Division Coordinator. Each designated COVID-19 Coordinator needs to be report to the COVID-19 Task Force prior to the start of your season.

Academic Affairs Information

- The Academic Affairs Committee in conjunction with the COVID-19 Task Force has reviewed and updated necessary guidelines for eligibility based on current NCAA DII guidance.
- If you have a specific question, please contact Collin Casper - ccasper@uscsa.org.
- The USCSA has created a Release Form for each individual athlete to complete and sign during registration.
- Any student enrolled in a minimum full-time program of studies at a collegiate institution during the 2020-2021 academic year, regardless of if they have participated in USCSA competition, will be granted an additional year of academic eligibility for circumstances beyond their control due to the negative impacts associated with logistics and competition due to the COVID-19 pandemic. No waiver of NCAA Division II rule 14.2 Seasons of Competition: 10-Semester/15-Quarter Rule would be required to be submitted for any athlete who seeks to participate in a 5th year of competition within the first 10 semesters or 15 quarters in which the student is enrolled in a collegiate institution in at least a minimum full-time program of studies. You do not need to submit a waiver to USCSA to enact this waiver.





COVID-19 Crisis Communication Plan

Overview

COVID-19 presents unique challenges for this winter's season. Our plan is to be prepared in advance with procedures and messages to help communicate effectively during an emergency COVID-19 situation. COVID-19 cases at any USCSA training or competition site trigger crisis communication responses from the USCSA. The communications plan will serve as a road map for various scenarios that may occur.

Objectives

- Communicate to our membership and partners that the USCSA is prepared for the challenges of the 2021/22 season.
- Be prepared to quickly respond or assist in the response of any COVID-19 related situation that may occur during the 2021/22 season.

Plan Details

Key Messaging

- The health and well-being of our student athletes, volunteers, coaches, industry partners and families is the number one priority to the USCSA Board of Directors.
- We believe that safety comes first and it is up to every member of the organization to do their part to protect the health of our community.
- As an organization, we are encouraging all members, athletes, spectators and volunteers to practice physical distancing and follow all local health guidelines.
- Competition Organizers will ensure venue specific information is shared with team leaders on a regular basis.
- Our competition venues are in compliance with all applicable local, county, state and federal COVID-19 regulation and guidance.
- We will share any information we are allowed to with our membership and community related to a COVID-19 situation.





Activation

Should a COVID-19 situation (including COVID-19 like symptoms or knowledge of a positive test result) arise to the attention of any USCSA member, they should immediately email the USCSA COVID-19 Task Force at covid@uscsa.org, including the basic known information and contact information. During the season a member of the Task Force will be monitoring the account and will respond immediately.

Activation Steps

1. USCSA COVID-19 Task Force monitoring member activates the plan.
2. USCSA President will be the official spokesperson for the organization.
3. USCSA Managing Director will field and manage all media requests, social media posts, press release distribution and email communications. The Marketing Committee Chair will assist the MD.
4. USCSA Executive Vice President will manage Contract Tracing efforts.
5. USCSA VP Conference Coordinator will work with the local Conference & Division to gather information.

Positive Test on a Team or Volunteer outside an event

- 1) Notify all USCSA members and partners of the test result
 - a) Detailed notice to members (**athletes, coaches, volunteers, institution contacts, parents if under 18**) of the home Conference and or Division
 - i) Date of positive result
 - ii) Date individual(s) last attended Conference and or Division event
 - iii) CDC testing guidelines
 - b) Notify all Conference Coordinators
 - i) Date of positive result
 - ii) Date individual(s) last attended Conference and or Division event
 - iii) Conference
 - c) Notify USCSA Board of Directors
 - i) Date of positive result
 - ii) Date individual(s) last attended Conference and or Division event
 - iii) Conference & Team
- 2) Teams, athletes, and volunteers with a positive test will not be allowed to participate in USCSA events until CDC guidance on quarantining following a positive test has been met.





Positive Test on a Team or Volunteer at an event

- 1) Notify all USCSA members and partners of the test result
 - a) Press Release
 - i) The Press Release will be posted to the USCSA website
 - b) General Membership notice to include Conference and or Division information.
 - i) Basic details - that a member of the USCSA community has tested positive for COVID-19
 - c) Detailed notice to members (**athletes, coaches, volunteers, institution contacts, parents if under 18**) of the home Conference and or Division
 - i) Date of positive result
 - ii) Date individual(s) last attended Conference and or Division event
 - iii) CDC testing guidelines
 - d) Notify all Conference Coordinators
 - i) Date of positive result
 - ii) Date individual(s) last attended Conference and or Division event
 - iii) Conference
 - e) Notify USCSA Board of Directors
 - i) Date of positive result
 - ii) Date individual(s) last attended Conference and or Division event
 - iii) Conference & Team
 - iv) Local Contact will notify venue
- 2) Teams, athletes, and volunteers with a positive test will not be allowed to participate in USCSA events until CDC guidance on quarantining following a positive test has been met.

Positive Test from venue staff

- 1) Notify all USCSA members and partners of the test result
 - a) Press Release
 - i) The Press Release will be posted to the USCSA website
 - b) General Membership notice to include Conference and or Division information
 - c) Detailed notice to members of the home conference and or division
 - i) Date of positive result
 - ii) Date individual(s) last attended Conference and or Division event
 - iii) CDC testing guidelines
 - d) Notify all Conference Coordinators
 - i) Date of positive result
 - ii) Conference & Venue
 - e) Notify USCSA Board of Directors
 - i) Date of positive result





- ii) Conference & Venue
- iii) Known Status of Members
- f) Establish communication channel with venue PR contact

All media requests should be directed to the USCSA National Office.

Contract Tracing Protocol

On a monthly basis Conference Coordinators in conjunction with the National Office will share and request updates to member contact information. This will ensure the National Office has the most up to date lists available in the event of COVID-19 situation.

Contact Tracing on the phone will be managed by a COVID-19 Task Force Members and members of the USCSA Board of Directors.

Steps in Process

1. Conference Coordinator notifies USCSA COVID-19 Task Force & Executive Vice President.
2. Conference Coordinator will send notification to team contacts (leadership):
XXXXX - I was recently informed that (athlete/team/volunteer/venue staff) has tested positive for COVID-19. At this time I am gathering additional details and you will be receiving an update for the USCSA shortly. (add timeline when follow-up will happen)
The health and safety of our members are the top priority for the USCSA. XXXX / CC of XXXX
3. Executive Vice President will begin creating Contact Tracing Lists
 - a. Date member last event contact
 - b. Names phone and emails of all others in attendance
 - c. List of lodging venues, restaurants visited
 - d. Notification sent via text and email
 - e. Contact lists shared to TF members for phone calls
 - f. 24 hour follow-up
 - g. Keeps Board of Directors and TF informed of results

