

SKI Racing & How it works



As there are a lot of new skiers coming into the racing scene this year I thought it might be useful for some information on dry slope racing



and how it all works.

Firstly some clarification regarding the artificial races: there are in the main two types of race, un-seeded races such as schools championships and Gloucester summer league races, and seeded races such as the Celtic Cup series, club national races, grand prix races and national championships. The un-seeded can be entered by any skier, registered or not, and are a good introduction to the racing scene, to enter seeded races however you need to be registered with your governing body i.e. Snowsport Wales.

Once registered you will be able to enter a number of the seeded races, namely the Celtic cup series, club national races and the Welsh and Irish Championships. You will only be able to enter Grand Prix and the other national championships when your seed points drop below 250.

The reasoning behind this is to allow for a progression in racing, the un-seeded races are less demanding than the Club nationals and they are in turn less demanding than the Grand Prix and National Races. Below is a breakdown of how the races compare.

Race type	Seeded / un-seeded	Seed point limit	Race description
Schools Championships	Un seeded	No limit	Practice through course allowed. Two runs through same course.
Gloucester summer league	Un seeded	Racers > 160 only	Practice through course allowed. Two runs through same slalom course. Followed by dual slalom, 3 runs through same course.
Club National Races	Seeded	No limit but priority given to racers with high seed points	Practice through course NOT allowed only course inspection. Three runs through same course, with best time of either of the first two runs plus the third run time to count to total time
Celtic cup series	Seeded	No limit	Practice through course NOT allowed. Course inspection. One run through course, <u>course changed</u> . Another course inspection and run through second course. Combined times for both runs count.
Grand Prix Races	Seeded	Racers <250 priority to lower point racers	Practice through course NOT allowed. Course inspection. One run through course, <u>course changed</u> . Another course inspection and run through second course. Combined times for both runs count.
Welsh and Irish championships	Seeded	No limit	Practice through course NOT allowed. Course inspection. One run through course, <u>course changed</u> . Another course inspection and run through second course. Combined times for both runs count.
English, Scottish and European championships	Seeded	Racers <250 priority to lower point racers	Practice through course NOT allowed. Course inspection. One run through course, <u>course changed</u> . Another course inspection and run through second course. Combined times for both runs count.

There are a number of things you need to look at before the season begins. First is the artificial race calendar, which is the definitive list of seeded races for the summer this can be found on the Britski website at: WWW.Britski.org. And is an invaluable source of information for ski racing. The other thing you need to look at is how to enter the races once you've decided which ones you would like to do. There will be an invitation posted for each race in advance on Britski this will list entry criteria and other relevant information such as who the race secretary will be. The entry for each seeded race can be done online via secure web site the link to which will appear on Britski at the start of the season.

Seeding

As you can see above, the whole point in being a registered ski racer is to drop points (oh and to have fun). Once your points start going down you can enter more races and eventually you start becoming eligible for national squad selection. The seeding system is not difficult so below are the basics:-

- A newly registered racer starts with 999.99 seed points.
- Each registered race awards race points, to all successful racers who finish the race.
- The race points are calculated using this formula.

$$\text{Race Point} = \frac{(\text{Competitor's Time} - 1) \times F}{\text{Winner's Time}}$$

The value of F can be obtained from the results sheet for each race.

- From each completed race you will now have a set of race points it is these points that make up your seed point. After one race your seed points will be your race points + 20%. E.g. 300 race points +20% = seed points of 360.
- After you have completed more than one race your seed points are calculated as the average of your two best race point results.
E.g. 300 (race2) and 290 (race 3) seed points = 295.
- It is these seed point that determined which events you can enter (see table above).

This is a fairly basic description of how the seeding system works and is intended only as a guide. The latest seed points are published on the GBski website at <http://www.gbski.com/seeding.php>
An excellent site to keep track up your season is <http://www.skireresults.co.uk/> .