

## UNITED STATES SKI AND SNOWBOARD ASSOCIATION

### Alpine Competition Exceptional Athlete “Ski Up” Assumption of Risk, Release and Indemnity Agreement

THIS ALPINE COMPETITION “SKI UP” ASSUMPTION OF RISK, RELEASE AND INDEMNITY AGREEMENT (the “Agreement”) is provided by the ATHLETE/COMPETITOR signing the Agreement (the “Athlete”) and his/her parent(s) and legal guardian(s) (the “Parent(s)”) to UNITED STATES SKI AND SNOWBOARD ASSOCIATION; the REGIONS, DIVISIONS and STATES of the UNITED STATES SKI AND SNOWBOARD ASSOCIATION; and the ORGANIZERS AND OFFICIALS of alpine ski racing competitions entered by the Competitor (sometimes hereinafter referred to collectively as the “USSA”).

**“Ski Up” Definition:** On October 30, 1998, the USSA Alpine Sport Executive Committee stated that circumstances may exist for certain athletes in alpine ski competition to be authorized to compete in an age group competition with a class of competitors which are older than the age group designated by USSA. For example a U12 competitor (age 11 years or younger) who is technically and/or physically more advanced than other competitors in his or her age group may request to compete as a U14, or compete on courses set for U14s, (that is, with competitors who are 12 and 13 years of age). The intention of the authorization is to accommodate the very top athletes nationally. ***This release authorizes the athlete to compete in the next older age group, but only in the events (DH, SL, GS, SG, SC) in which they are normally eligible and only in the specific competitions authorized by the USSA National Development Director (September 2001 ASC executive).*** A competitor who advances to an age category with older competitors will be referred to in this Agreement as “Skiing Up.” The opportunity to Ski Up is not automatic, however, and competitors may do so only after they have received authorization through the procedure set forth below and have met additional local requirements that may be competition specific.

#### **Ski Up Procedure:**

1. The procedure for Skiing Up is a request made by a competitor, his/her parents and the competitor’s coach to the Regional, Divisional or State Alpine Committee where the competitor resides and the USSA alpine staff person responsible for the respective State or Division and the National Development Director.
2. Authorization to Ski Up is granted and only valid for, the Region, Division or State from which the authorization is provided, based upon a determination by USSA alpine staff and the applicable Regional, Divisional or State Alpine Committee that the competitor has demonstrated the technical athletic ability to train and compete with an older age category.
3. The parents and competitor acknowledge the additional risks and dangers associated with Skiing Up by signing this Agreement.

**General Assumption of Risk – Skiing Has Risks and Dangers:** The Competitor and his/her Parents acknowledge that participation in alpine ski competition and training in connection with such ski competitions is hazardous and involves great risk of physical injury or death. The Competitor and his/her Parents expressly assume any and all risk associated with competing or training for or otherwise participating in such competitions, including without limitation, the risks and inherent dangers of ski racing course conditions and those associated with skiing and riding the lifts generally. This assumption of risk also includes changing weather conditions; existing and changing snow conditions; bare spots; rocks; stumps; trees, collisions with natural objects, man-made objects, or other skiers; variations in terrain; and the failure of skiers to ski within their own abilities.

**Specific Assumption of Risk – Skiing Up Involves Greater Risks and Dangers:** The Competitor and his/her Parents acknowledge that permission to Ski Up is granted by the USSA and the Regional, Divisional or State Alpine Committees, only at the request and recommendation of the Competitor’s coach and Parents, and the request of the Competitor. The request and recommendation has been made by them to provide the Competitor with enhanced opportunities to compete on alpine training and competition courses that will be of greater vertical drop on more challenging terrain in a more intense competitive environment than provided for in USSA rules developed for the standard assigned USSA age class.

By signing this Agreement, the Competitor and his/her parents fully accept the more hazardous, demanding and difficult competition and training situations, and that Skiing Up involves greater risk of physical injury or death with the greater vertical drop on more challenging terrain in a more intense competitive environment.

**Release of Claims:** In exchange for receiving permission for the Competitor to Ski Up, the Competitor and his/her Parents release and forever discharge the USSA and its trustees, directors, officers, employees, contractors, volunteers, insurers, and all other persons from any and all claims which might arise from accidents, injuries or fatalities that may occur as a result of Skiing Up. This release of claims includes, but is not limited to, those based on negligence, contract and/or breach of warranty.

**Covenant Not To Sue:** The Competitor and his/her Parents agree not to sue or file any lawsuit, action, arbitration or claim against the USSA if the Competitor or any third-party is physically injured or property is damaged as the result of or connection with the Competitor Skiing Up.

**Defense and Indemnity:** The Parents of the Competitor agree to defend, indemnify, and hold the USSA harmless from any and all claims or lawsuits brought against the USSA arising out of or in connection with the Competitor Skiing Up.

Competitor’s Name \_\_\_\_\_ USSA Number \_\_\_\_\_

USSA Division/State \_\_\_\_\_ Birth Date \_\_\_\_\_

Competitor’s Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Competitor’s Father’s Name \_\_\_\_\_

Competitor’s Father’s Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Competitor’s Mother’s Name \_\_\_\_\_

Competitor’s Mother’s Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Coaches Name \_\_\_\_\_

Coaches Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Divisional/State Alpine Committee Name \_\_\_\_\_

Divisional/State Alpine Committee Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

<b>USSA National Development Director Approval</b>	
I, _____, grant permission for the above Competitor to Ski Up only during the following competitions or time frame: _____	
Signature _____	Date _____

UNITED STATES SKI AND SNOWBOARD ASSOCIATION  
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