



It may not seem much like it but the racing season is here! Although Mother Nature is not being the most cooperative at this time, you are fortunate to be a member of an association who has very supportive ski area venues even with limited open terrain. VARA race sites are committed to providing trails for competition training and registration space in their busy lodges. They work closely with the ski club directors to provide the best venues possible. It is important to show your appreciation while at the venues and to be aware of the fact that they do not have to host any races! It is a privilege for our VARA competitors to be at these sites not a right. Awareness of the general public and being courteous to everyone at the ski area is important not only because every VARA member is representing Vermont and the sport but also because your actions may impact the future of ski racing in this state. Be sure to thank ski area personnel, race volunteers and race crew. Have a fantastic start to the Vermont racing season and enjoy the journey.

Below is a listing of the December events for U16 and up racing and open mixed age. Council racing for the U14 and under will begin in January.

Dec 2015 VARA Competition Events:

12	<a href="#">Vermont Cup SL Sponsored by Fischer</a>	Okemo	U16-Sr
13	<a href="#">VC GS Sponsored By Fischer</a> <i>Rebecca Ann McGill Memorial</i>	Stratton	U16-Sr
19	<a href="#">Vermont Cup SI Sponsored by Fischer</a>	Bromley	U16-Sr
20	<a href="#">Vermont Cup GS Sp by Fischer</a>	GMVS	U16-Sr
28	<a href="#">Vermont Cup GS Sp by Fischer</a>	Okemo	U16-Sr
29	<a href="#">Holiday Slalom</a>	Cochran's	U16-Sr
30	<a href="#">End of Year Open GS</a>	Okemo	U12-U14

New for the U16's this year there will be no council racing series. The U16's will compete in the VARA open, Vermont Cups sponsored by Fischer, The George Tormey Series and U16 State Championships. For a rule refresh please see the [VARA U16 Rules](#) (hyperlink).

As you are aware the U18 age class is no longer a membership option. The U19's are year of births 97-98-99. There will be a U19 Nationals coordinated by USSA at Copper Mtn in Colorado on 2-28-3/4. The U19's will compete in any FIS events that they are eligible as well as any Vermont Cups sponsored by Fischer, George Tormey event s and any open VARA/USSA races.

[USSA EASTERN REGION COMPETITION CALENDAR](#) – (Hyperlink) – this calendar has all FIS events and USSA Eastern championship events as well as the Eastern Youth Calendar. All VT events should be on the [VARA Calendar on line](#). Here is the link for [VARA Youth Coordinator info](#).

Please note that there is a new timing software that will be used for 2016. It is new to everyone in the entire country so please be patient with the race secretaries and organizers. The changeover to the new system was done late in the fall and people will definitely need time for adjusting to the new VOLA system. The training time before race season was very short so the early season races may require thoughtful patience by parents, athletes and coaches! There is also a new place to find live timing on the USSA website. <http://ussalivetimes.com/>



Please contact the VARA Office with any questions [Julie@vara.org](mailto:Julie@vara.org) or 802.236.4695  
Check out the [VARA Facebook Page](#) and Twitter @skiVARA

