

MVC U14 RULES

1. MVC U14 series races are all USSS sanctioned events.
2. Participation Requirements: The minimum age participation in the U14 series is 12 years old. U14 racers must hold current VARA and USSS competitor memberships.
3. Race Entries: All MVC U14 race entries will be done through an online race registration process. The race registration deadline will be 24 hours prior to the start of the race. Any race registrations received after the deadline will be charged a \$25 late fee. Any Petitioned athletes (PAs) will need to contact the host mountain directly to be entered in the race.
4. Race Entry Fees: The recommended entry fee for U14 series races this season will be \$40 (plus applicable online processing fees) for tech events (SL/GS) and \$45 (plus applicable online processing fees) for SG. Entry fees will be collected via online registration.
5. Membership cards: U14 series racers will not need to display their VARA or USSS cards at Mid Vermont Council race registrations though they must hold both current memberships.
6. Bib and Ticket pick up: Will be done by a Team Captain on race day. Team Captain will distribute bibs and tickets to their athletes.
7. Running Order:
 - a. MVC U14 races should be run in the following order: U14 girls, U14 boys. A competitor need not complete his/her first run successfully to get a second run.
 - b. For the first two MVC council races the U14 start orders will be determined by random draw conducted by the event organizer.
 - c. Running orders: U14 races should be run in the following order: U14 girls, U14 boys. The second run will be in reverse bib order of the first run, with the DNF's and DSQ's running in their same place (but in reverse order) for the second run. Efforts within reason should be made to accommodate competitors who miss their start. Second run start order will be in the reverse bib order of the first run (complete flip of the fields by gender) for both boys and girls. (Except for duals, the start order will be the same for the first run and second run). The girl and boy with the last bib number from the first run will race first on the second run for their respective gender. The girl and boy with bib #1 from the first run will run last on the second run for their respective gender. All finishers, DNF's, DSQ's will be included in the reversed start order for the second run.
 - d. Following the second MVC race, the start order for subsequent MVC races will be by MVC place points. MVC Council standings, after the first 2 events, will be used as the start order for the remaining council events with the top 15 athletes in the current standings being drawn at random by the event organizer. The remaining competitors, #16 through the end will run in order of their current council standing. The 2nd run start order will be in reverse bib order of the first run (complete flip of the fields by gender) with bib # 1 in each gender starting last. All finishers, DNF's, DSQ's will be included in the reversed start order for the second run.
8. Rules Particular to MVC U14 Series Races:
 - a. MVC U14 series races courses should be giant slalom, single pole slalom, SG camp, and a SG race. The discipline of each race will be designated in the schedule prior to the beginning of the season.

- b. GS courses will be set in accordance with USSS U14 course setting guidelines. Gate distance will be 15-25 m (delay minimum 10m between successive gates-maximum 35m from turning pole to turning pole) and maximum vertical drop of 300 m.
- c. SL courses will be set in accordance with USSS U14 course setting guidelines. Poles must be FIS-B 25-27mm/60". Gate distance will be 7-11 m for open gates, 4-6 m for combinations, 12-15 m for delay gates and maximum vertical drop of 140 m. The course set will have 2-4 hairpins; 1-2 vertical combinations (3 gate max); 1-3 delay gates.
- d. SG courses will be set in accordance with USSS U14 course setting guidelines. Gate distance will be 25-40m (delay minimum 15 m between successive gates...50 m from turning pole to turning pole) and maximum vertical drop of 350 m. A minimum of 1 jump is recommended. A training run is required.
- e. Individual places will be determined by combined time of the athlete's two runs. The course may be reset for the second run at the jury's discretion. Male and female competitors may run on separate courses if necessary.
- f. If the course is reset for the second run, the athletes must be given ample time to inspect the course.
- g. The loss of one or both skis in the start will be grounds for a re-run. All other USSS rules regarding re-runs should be observed.
- h. In compliance with USSS rule U629.4, a competitor shall be disqualified if he/she loses a ski more than two gates above the finish and they may not finish their run. However, this shall only result in a DNF for this competitor's particular run since all athletes are given two runs in the U14 race series.
- i. Protests for U14 races against a competitor, an official, a disqualification or against the timekeeping may be made verbally to the jury (as per U644.2). A protest fee of \$20 must be deposited with the submittal of the protest.
- j. Super G Camp: A U14 Super G camp will be scheduled and will be open to all U14's. The camp will be held on one day with both genders. The camp will consist of skill stations and untimed sections. Speed guns can be utilized. The cost for the camp may be \$50 (plus applicable online processing fees). MVC U14 athletes must attend the SG camp to be eligible to participate in the MVC U14 SG race.
- k. MVC Super G race: A MVC U14 SG race will be scheduled and will be open to all MVC U14's. The SG race will be scored and will count toward MVC council standings. The race will consist of a training run prior to the race run. In the event the jury feels we cannot run the training run due to force majeure, the athletes will have an organized free ski run on the race trail. The cost for the race should be at the discretion of the event organizer.

OUT OF COUNCIL RACERS:

The intent of allowing out of council racers to participate in MVC sponsored races is to further the sport of ski racing. Customarily, out of council racers are racers from out of state and/ or intra-council (NVC or SVC).

Intra-council and guest racers: If an athlete from another VARA council program would like to enter a MVC race (U14/U12/U10) the athletes' coach must place the request to the MVC council chair and be approved by vote by MVC. The request must be made one week prior to the race.

Out of council guest racers: If an athlete from another USSS state affiliation (outside of VARA) would like to enter a MVC race (U14/U12/U10) the athletes coach must place the request to the MVC council chair and be approved by MVC vote. The request must be made one week prior to the race.

The inclusion of an out of council racer in a council sponsored race occurs on an infrequent basis. In some cases, and out of council program may want to send a limited number of its racers to a council sponsored race to test the waters or to have its racers gain additional race experience. In other cases, a racer may be visiting a program to determine if he or she wants to join that program. If the visit coincides with the time that a race has been scheduled, the visiting racer may want the opportunity to participate in a race with his/her future teammates.

The following rules apply to those limited number of cases involving an Out of Council racer:

- Out of council racers can enter any council sponsored U14/U12/U10 race with approval from the MVC council chair and each MVC mountain one week prior to the race.
 - Out of council athletes will be allowed to race 2 races per year. MVC will allow 4 boys and 4 girls per race.
 - Out of council racers must meet the same USSS membership requirements as MVC and have a valid competitors license. VARA membership or their own state governing body membership is required for all out of council guest racers.
 - The membership status of non- council racers must be determined when arrangements are being made for the inclusion of the racer in a council sponsored race.
 - Out of council racers must have coach representation at the team captains meeting.
 - Out of council racers will run at the end of each seed (after every 15th racer if more than 1 guest) for the first run of the specific race day. The second run start order will be complete flip of the field and the guest racer(s) will be able to take part in the flip.
 - The out of council racers time(S), finish place and home program/mountain are to appear in all published race results.
 - Out of council racers regardless of run times and finish places are eligible to receive awards.
 - All out of council racers must be excluded from all calculations of place points for selection of the council teams. Place points for each run must be calculated as if the out of council racer did not participate in the race.

PETITIONING ATHLETES (SKI DOWN)

If an athlete is approved, they will follow MVC Council and VARA rules for the U14 age class. Petitioning athlete (PA) may qualify for the VARA U14 State Championships. The following conditions apply:

- PA will be considered and treated as any other participant in that age class.
- PA may ski in the VARA U14 State Championships but will not advance to a USSS post season event.
- PA will be seeded at VARA U14 State Championships according to their council placement.

- PA will be presented with award if so earned.
- PA will be purged from results for selections to post season USSS Championship events.
- PA will compete in only 1 VARA State Championship series.

For more information on PA athletes go to [VARA U14 Rules](#)

9. Awards:

- Medals will be awarded to the top 10 boys and the top 10 girls determined by best combined time. Medals are the responsibility of the host mountain. Per VARA rule, the host mountain is required to present awards between 5 to 30 minutes following the completion of the last competitor's run.
- The Bean Pot award (team award) is given based on the top 4 boys and/or girls with the lowest score by team. Team scores will be calculated as follows:
 - Each gender should be ranked separately.
 - Each team's top 4 place points based on best combined time (regardless of gender) are then added together.
 - The team with the lowest score wins. For example, a team with the 1st, 5th, 8th and 9th boys and the 2nd, 3rd, 4th and 12th girls would have a team score of 10.
 - In the event of a tie, the team with the best single place would win.

10. VARA U14 events, Post Season Series and U14 Eastern Regional Event Qualifications

- MVC U14's will have the opportunity to participate in the following U14 VARA Tri-council series, Vara/Eastern post season events: Vara U14 Tri-Council Series, The VARA U14 State Championships, Eastern U14 Finals, Eastern U14 Championships and the U14 Can-Ams.

VARA U14 TRI-COUNCIL SERIES

This series is open to all eligible U14 Vara athletes. The series is meant to promote head-to-head racing between all 3 councils throughout the season. These races will be single gender to allow for maximum number of athletes to participate. Entry fee is \$65

Registration process: Registration is on a first come first serve basis with 2nd year U14 athletes having an opportunity to register 24 hours prior to opening registration for all U14s. Field size max recommendation is 120. Running order: 1st run will be random draw. 2nd run will be reverse 30 then by rank order.

Jan 31 Burke Mountain, VT Boys GS

Feb 1 Burke Mountain, VT Girls GS

Feb 13 Pico Mountain, VT Girls SL

Feb 14 Sugarbush Mountain, VT Boys SL

Eastern U14 Projects

*Selection/Criteria based on Eastern Region [Eastern Region Handbook](#)

Dec 13-14 SL Girls

Dec 16-17 SL Boys

Jan 20-21 GS Girls

Jan 24-25 GS Boys

Feb 28- Mar 1 SG Girls

March 3-4 SG Boys

VARA U14 STATE CHAMPIONSHIPS

The VARA U14 State Championships will be an all-inclusive event all eligible VARA U14 athletes will be able to participate in the VARA U14 State Championships. The technical events will split genders for racing (Girls and boys will race on separate days for GS and SL). The SG event (training day and race day) will be done with both genders and a field size limit of 120 per gender. To be eligible to participate in the State SG event, athletes MUST have raced/participated in their council SG event (can be controlled training, SG camp, or SG race) that will be completed before intents for the State SG. Councils will submit intents for State SG race prior to registration opening. Intents will come from council chairs and will verify participation in council SG event and seeding. Councils may also do intents for Council SG event to verify that SG training has occurred at the club level. This supports athlete development, safety, and skill building.

SEEDING for VARA U14 STATE CHAMPIONSHIPS

Seeding of MVC athletes to the VARA U14 State Championships will be based on the final MVC Council Standings after the last MVC Council event. The scoring will be based on 1 less than $\frac{1}{2}$ (50%-1) of the racers lowest place points. MVC will score 2 SLs, 2 GSs and 1 SG. If the season scoring total is an odd number of runs, the number of runs taken into consideration will be rounded down. Ties will be broken externally by taking the next best result.

REGISTRATION for the VARA U14 State Championships: Registration criteria for VARA U14 State Championships: an athlete must have participated in 1 less than half of all council races. Rounding down.

Registration process - Open online registration with councils submitting final season standings order AND intents for the Var U14 State SG event.

VARA U14 STATE CHAMPIONSHIPS

STOWE, VT

March 3 & 4 SG training and race

March 7 & 8 SG weather dates

March 11/12: Girls Technical events

March 13/14: Boys Technical events

REGIONAL POST SEASON QUALIFYING EVENTS

EASTERN U14 CHAMPIONSHIPS

SUGARBUSH, VT

March 19 - March 22, 2022

Vermont's quota is 51 (gender split). The Vermont U14 Championship Team will be determined as follows: (this quota includes council automatics) Selection to the Eastern U14 Championships is determined by scoring the best single result from the runs and combined places of the VARA U14 State Championship events.

- TIES: broken externally by taking the next best results for ranking and selection of the team.
- AUTOMATICS: Each council will have 2 automatic spots (1G/1B) to the Eastern U14 Championships.
- AUTOMATIC SEEDING: Council automatics will receive seeding in at least the second seed for the Eastern U14 Championships.
- RACE REQUIREMENTS: To attend the Eastern U14 Championships, the athletes are required to compete in the majority (>than ½) of races at VARA U14 State Championships unless injured.

Top finishers from the Eastern U14 Championships will represent the Eastern Region at the U16/U14 National Project U14s can attend with a WIN and a podium at the Eastern U14 Championships. Selection procedure can be found in the USSS Eastern Handbook . [Eastern Region Handbook](#)

EASTERN U14 FINALS

WEST MOUNTAIN, NY

MARCH 26 – MARCH 27, 2022

U14 CAN-AM

Sunday River, ME

March 31 – April 3, 2022

It is an Eastern quota of 60 athletes (30G/30B). Selection procedure can be found in the USSS Eastern Handbook [Eastern Region Handbook](#)

