

Northern Division Proposal

PG Athletes to be able to opt out of ND projects

Currently if ND is organizing a ND project (Spring Series, Tech Elites, Snowking) all athletes entered have to share the cost of the ND coach and transportation and lodging. This makes sense for the U-16/U-19 athletes as attending as a project makes sense for coaching, lodging etc. Many of the very few PG athletes that we have in the division attend races and projects on their own on a regular basis (arrange for representation or represent themselves) and also tend to work very hard to keep their costs down.

Option A: Allow all PG athletes to opt out of ND projects. They (and their coach) would be responsible for contacting ND about entries and paying for them (they should get their own lift tickets which also has the benefit of limiting their exposure should they have to cancel). They would be responsible for their representation. Alternatively, if they want coach support, they opt in.

Option B: Allow Eric Haferman to opt out of ND projects as an exception to the rule. His is still a member of BSF, but trains all over the world and is generally represented by a Utah/Slovenian coach. He doesn't attend any of the races with BSF or ND, and to have to pay for a coach that isn't representing him just adds incremental costs for him with no benefit. This last year it was an extra ~\$762, but it could be more if more projects are done. All he needs is the entries for Western Region races and in the past he has additionally been a Western Region automatic for those events so he isn't even taking any quota spots. There is no "benefit" to him in racing out of ND (the other PG's he races with generally stay "out of" their home division, but incur no extra costs). In fact another club/division has offered Eric some benefits if he "moved" to their club and division because they would like for him to represent them. I would just personally rather have Eric representing BSF and ND as he races around the world and would hope the ND would feel the same.

Please note, this is a time sensitive request (can't wait for Fall meeting) as the USSA registrations are currently underway.