

British Alpine Ski Competitions
British Artificial Competition Rules
BACR Book I
Competition Rules
Version Dec 25: 6-Dec-2025

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1. General

1.1. ICR

The International Ski Competition Rules (ICR) provide the basic framework of rules for all Alpine ski events. However, some amendments are required for British, Constituent Group (CG) and club competitions on artificial slopes.

These amendments are detailed in the British Artificial Competition Rules (the "BACR", of which this document is the first part) and have been approved by the GB Snowsport Alpine and Telemark Technical Delegates Forum. They must be adhered to for all events on the British Artificial Calendar which are intended to count for British Artificial Seeding System (BARTS) points.

1.2. British Competition Framework

The British Artificial Competition Rules (the "BACR") comprises this document (BACR Book I) and a set of other documents that act as a compendium of rules, regulations and technical papers covering eligibility, registration, seeding, the British Calendar and other matters.

The British competition framework of which BACR forms a part also includes a corresponding set of documents (the "BCR") covering competitions on outdoor snow slopes.

1.3. Terms

For definitions and abbreviations, see Part 3.

The words "TD Forum" refer to the GBR Alpine and Telemark Technical Delegates Forum.

1.4. Amendments

Proposals for amendments should be submitted to the TD Forum Chairman. Precisions will be issued at intervals and will be identified by the date of issue.

1.5. Document Versions

All books in the BACR are re-issued annually, after each autumn meeting of the TD Forum, to apply through the following season. The document version in the form “Version MMM YY” will appear at the foot of each page. A summary of the changes in each edition is listed in a table at the end of each book.

Any rule changes that have to be made during the season will be issued as separate “Precisions”. The most up-to-date versions of all documents will always be available through the gbski.com web site.

2. Rules: Amendments to ICR

Unless specifically amended in this Section, throughout the ICR replace FIS with GB Snowsport and National Ski Association with CG. Where the equivalent body is not apparent, clarification should be sought from the TD Forum. Paragraph numbers apply to ICR Book IV.

200.3 **Participation**
All competitions listed in the British Calendar are open only to properly licensed competitors. Other limitations may be included if specified and published in the programme.

201.1.1 Competitions with special rules and/or limited participation or including non-members may be held under special competition rules as approved by the TD Forum. Any such rules must be published in the announcement.

201.3 **Classification of Competitions**
201.3.1 British
201.3.2 CG
201.3.3 Club

202.1.2 **British Calendar**
All CGs and their member clubs are entitled to organise competitions. Any competition, which is to be submitted for seeding, must be published in the British Calendar. All applications for inclusion in the Calendar must be submitted in accordance with BACR Book IV. The HNGBs will determine which events are to be included in the British Calendar.

203 Licences and Registration
203.1 The BARTS registration year begins on 1st January and finishes on 31st December.

204.2 **Competitors' Insurance**
By submitting a race entry, each competitor assumes full responsibility for ensuring that valid and sufficient accident insurance for training and competition is in place for themself.

212.4 **Insurance**
All racers participating in British Calendar events must have adequate public liability insurance. All competitors are responsible for obtaining their own adequate insurance coverage. All competitors must be able to show proof of the respective insurance coverage at any time on request.

215.3 **Entries**
Every entry must include:
215.3.1 Registration number, name, first name, gender, year of birth and the prescribed entry fee.

215.5 The entry for a race by a competitor shall constitute a contract solely between the competitor and the organiser and shall be governed by the Athletes Declaration. There will be no refund of entry fees as a result of injury, illness or cancellation or any other reason unless explicitly published by the organisers.

216.5 **Team Captains' Meetings**
Competitors who are not members of clubs or teams have the right to nominate representatives to attend team captains' meetings.

217.2 **Draw**

The competitors entered will only be drawn provided the entries on official entry forms or via the official entry system and the required fee have been received by the organiser by the closing date specified for the competition. The organisers may defer the draw to a date nearer the race date, in which case late entries received before that revised date will also be included in the draw.

Entries accepted after the draw will be added to the beginning (for outdoor races) or the end (for indoor races) of all start lists that are not generated from the result of prior runs. Such late entries to be added in the order the entries were received. The entry received last shall therefore run first in outdoor races and last in indoor races.

For start lists generated from the result of prior runs (including the final run of an outdoor Club National or any standard two-run aggregate time race) all competitors will be placed on that start list based solely on their time, even if they were a late entry.

217.3 There is no requirement that competitors be represented at a Team Captains' or other meeting to be included in the draw.

221.1 **Health and Fitness**

Each competitor or their guardian is responsible for the competitor's health and fitness for the competition entered.

221.6 **Medical Services required from Event Organisers**

221.6.1 Risk assessment form

The Organising Committee for each competition must fill in the assessment form prior to the commencement of Training at a Competition, the first Team Captain's meeting, or the start of race day, whichever is the earlier.

For the completion of all tables in this document, an example form is available to consult. This example is available to download from www.gbski.com, as are blank versions of this form.

221.6.2 Medical Services

The Organising Committee must confirm with the Technical Delegate that the required rescue facilities are in place before starting the competition. The specific requirements concerning facilities, resources and personnel are contained in the respective discipline rules. (also see BACR II, Art 3.13)

222 Competition Equipment

222.7 Subject to the following variations, the FIS "Specifications for Competition Ski Equipment" apply as amended by the current FIS precisions - see www.fisski.com rules section.

222.7.1 At all artificial ski slope competitions, competitors must wear long trousers, long sleeves and gloves during the practice session, course inspection and the race.

222.7.2 Ski poles with a minimum tip diameter of less than 15mm must be fitted with rubber or plastic tip protectors or otherwise altered to increase the tip diameter to at least 15mm.

222.7.3 Pending further research, Part B Section 1.2.1 (Geometric Features) of the FIS "Specifications for Competition Ski Equipment" does not apply at artificial ski slope competitions. Adherence to those regulations is however recommended in the interim. Section 2 Safety Bindings and

Section 3 Ski Stoppers apply in full. Snow Blades are not permitted for racing. See BACR Book VI.

223.3 **Penalties**

223.3.1 Replace "CHF 100000" with "£1,000".

224.17 **Benefit Fund**

All monetary fines are paid to the British Snowsports Fund.

225.1 **Appeals Commission**

The TD Forum appoints an Appeals Commission consisting of three of its members. The Commission decides on problems which cannot be resolved by the Jury. The Commission also deals with protests against the decisions of the Jury.

225.2 The decisions of the Appeals Commission will be sent by GB Snowsport to the parties concerned, the CGs to which they belong and to the members of the Jury against whose decision a protest was lodged.

226.1 Replace "CHF 100,000" with "£1,000".

601.4.6.1 **Jury Duties**

Add: "Carefully checking the matting on the course and in the finish area to ensure that it is in an acceptable and safe condition and that it is properly secured with no ruptured edges".

602 Technical Delegate

For information on Technical Delegate development and all issues relating to TD assessment, licensing and training, refer to BCR Book VII.

602.2.2 **Assignment**

For all seeded events on British Calendar, the TD Forum appoints the TD. CGs may make recommendations for appointments to their own Group or Club events. Where possible, the TD Forum should avoid allocating the same event to the same TD for more than two consecutive years.

602.2.3 When held in conjunction with British Calendar event, U10/12 races are to be overseen by the TD assigned to the overall event. Where programme constraints do not allow that, including running the U10/12 races on a separate slope or involving competitors outside the recognised age groups, the TD shall not oversee these races.

602.2.5 An additional TD may be appointed for races within an event where the Programme does not allow the principal TD to officiate.

602.4.3 For all British Calendar events, the TD should arrive at the competition site with sufficient time to become familiar with the race slope, safety requirements, medical facilities, and to meet with the ROC and Jury Members.

602.5 **Expense Accounts**

The TD has a right to reimbursement for travel expenses up to a maximum of £545 (mileage will be calculated at the current HMRC rate (45p)), unless otherwise agreed by the ROC, as well as free accommodation and meals during the assignment. This rule also applies to agreed inspections, as well as the competition. The expenses of the TD must be included in the organisational budget for the event and may be paid directly by the organisers or by the providing CG through an enhanced calendar fee.

In addition, a fixed daily rate of £100, is added for the travel days to and from, as well as each day of the assignment.

603 **Duties of the Course Setter**

603.7.3 All courses must be set according to the BACR.

604 **Acceptance / Rights and Duties**

604.1 **Officials, Medical and Technical Personnel**

Delete from "Quotas for the right" to "in an official capacity" and substitute: - "Each club will be allowed two accredited managers or coaches in the race area. All other support members, including competitors not involved in the race being run, will be excluded." ICR 613.1 also applies.

605 **Forerunners**

605.1 Append "Athletes will only be permitted to forerun in a higher age category if permitted to do so by the Jury."

606.2.5 **Competitors' Outfits at artificial ski slope competitions**

Competitors must wear long trousers, long sleeves and gloves throughout the practice session, course inspection and the race.

607 **Age Limits**

607.1 The Calendar Period is March 1st – November 30th. In order to compete, a competitor must have been born within the calendar years defined annually by FIS.

608.6 In competitions for U14 and U16, 621.3 will apply.

611.1 **Communications and Cabling**

Voice communication between starter and timing must be assured by fixed wire connection or radio. In the case of radio, this must be on a separate channel from that used by another function of the ROC.

611.2 **Timing Equipment**

For all seeded events on the calendar, electronic timers, start gates and photocells homologated by FIS must be used. Timing devices which have been homologated by FIS may continue to be used for a maximum of two years after they have been removed from the official list of FIS homologated equipment. A list of all approved devices is published on the GBSKI web site. Races using timing equipment other than those on this approved list will not be considered for seed points.

611.2.1 Replace first paragraph with: "The minimum requirement is for one electronic system and a manual (hand timing) system, operating in Time-of-Day mode.". The remainder of ICR 611.2.1 still applies, ignoring references to system B.

611.2.1.1 Start Gate

If a start gate or start wand requires replacement during a run, it must be replaced with identical equipment in the same position.

611.2.1.2 Photocells

Photocells must be secured to the slope in such a way as they do not present a risk of injury to competitors. Any mounting system such as tripods must not be rigidly fixed to the slope but must be installed using a method that allows them to break away if struck by a competitor.

611.2.4 Timing without Cable

It is permitted to use homologated timing equipment in such a way that hill cable connection between start and finish is not required. Refer to the FIS Timing Booklet for a detailed discussion of how this is possible.

613.1 **Start Area**

613.1.1 For artificial slope races, skis may be carried into the start gate/start hut and attached immediately prior to starting. All ski preparation (including waxing or spraying) must be completed outside the immediate start area/start hut.

614.3 **Competitor Inspection**

614.3.2 Add "or correctly leashed snowblades" after "without skis".

614.1.2.2 Marking of the gates

For competitions on outdoor slopes, the position of the gate poles must be marked with an easily recognisable colouring substance which remains visible throughout the entire race.

621 **Start Order**

(also see BACR Book II Art 6.7 and BACR Book IV Art 3.4, 4.3, 5.3, 6.3 and 7.3 as appropriate)

621.2 The IBARTS/OBARTS list that applies at the date of the race must be used for the classification of competitors and the draw for start order. If a competitor does not appear in that points list, they will be assigned to that group of competitors without points.

621.3 The starting order of all the competitors in the first run of artificial slope competitions is determined by their BARTS points.

For indoor snow events, a first group of the 15 best competitors will be drawn and run first. All remaining competitors with points will start in increasing order of their points. All registered competitors without points will be drawn in a separate group to run before any day registered competitors. Day registered competitors will be drawn in a separate group to run last.

For outdoor (dry slope) events, day registered competitors will be drawn in a separate group to run first; the group of registered competitors with no points will be drawn and start first; the remainder, up to the best 15, will run in descending point order; the best 15 will be drawn and start last.

621.3.1 In competitions for U14 and U16, 621.3 above will apply. U10 and U12 do not have seed points, and will be drawn and start as a separate group.

621.3.2 Special regulations may apply to individual events.

621.6 **Draw**

The draw may take place at any time after the closing date for entries but before race day. The Start List must be published either as part of the Acceptance Bulletin or before course inspection. All entries received and accepted by the time of the draw shall be included in the draw. Entries accepted after the draw shall be added to the top of the start list in the order the entries were received.

621.11.1 For indoor snow events, in competitions with two runs the starting order for the second run is determined by the result list of the first run except for the first 30 places.

621.11.2 For those first 30 places the starting order is as follows:
- the 30th in the result list starts 1st
- the 29th in the result list starts 2nd

- etc
That is, the top 30 are reversed. If more than one competitor is ranked 30th, the competitor with the lowest start number will start first.

621.11.5 For outdoor competitions with two runs, the starting order for the second run is determined by the result list of the first run. For 'Club National' and similar three-run races, the starting order of the second run is the same as the first, and the starting order of the third and final run is determined by the result list of the first two runs.

625.2 **Award of Prizes in the Case of Terminated Competitions**
For Slalom and Giant Slalom events the 1st run has to be completed. i.e. all competitors on the start list must have had the chance to start. If this is not possible, the race is invalid. If the 2nd run is not completed, then the results of the 1st run become the race results.

627 **Not Permitted to Start (NPS)**

627.3.1 A competitor with a suspected or confirmed concussion will not be permitted to start (NPS) unless a certificate of fitness to race, signed by an appropriate licensed medical practitioner (doctor, medical practice or hospital), is provided to the Jury.

644.4 **Protest Fee**
£25 or the equivalent in another valid currency must be submitted with the protest. This deposit will be returned if the protest is upheld, otherwise it goes to the account of the British Snowsports Fund.

645 **Authorisation**
The following are authorized to submit protests: -
- CGs,
- trainers,
- team captains,
- all competitors not otherwise represented.

646.2 **Settlement of Protests by the Jury**
Add "Video evidence which is to be offered in support of any protest against disqualification must be submitted to the Jury in the required format immediately after the lodging of the protest. It is the responsibility of the person protesting to provide this facility".

646.2.1 Whenever possible when attending a Jury meeting, minors should be accompanied by an adult to represent their interests.

647 **Right of Appeal**

647.1.2 Appeals must be submitted in writing to GB Snowsport or CG office as appropriate.

647.1.3.1 Any additional supporting evidence must be sent to the GB Snowsport or CG office as appropriate within 14 days after the announcement of the Jury decision.

647.1.4 The decisions against the appeals are taken by the Appeals Panel convened by TD Forum or corresponding group designated by the CG as appropriate.

650.1 **Homologation**
All British calendar competitions may only be run on courses which are homologated by GB Snowsport or HNGB in accordance with the criteria defined in BACR Book VIII.

801 Slalom Technical Data

801.1 **Vertical Drop**

The vertical drop of the course will be determined by the choice of ski slope.

801.2 **Gates**

801.2.4 The number of gates will be determined by the length of the course and the characteristics of the slope.

801.2.5 **Artificial Slopes**

Artificial slopes used for competitions must conform to the specifications as defined in BACR VIII (Homologation).

803.2 **Number of Gate Combinations**

A Slalom must contain horizontal (open) and vertical (closed) gates as well as a minimum of one and a maximum of three vertical combinations consisting of three to four gates. It may also contain a maximum of three delay gates.

803.2.1 **Gate Combinations for U14 and U16**

Maximum 2 hairpin combinations and maximum 2 vertical combinations consisting of 3 - 4 gates.

803.5 **Checking the slalom course**

For competitions on outdoor slopes, replace "If necessary the position of the poles is marked" with "The position of the poles is marked".

805 The Start

805.3.1 **Start Signal**

Replace the first sentence with "A competitor must be ready to enter the start gate as soon as the competitor before them has started".

901 Giant Slalom Technical Data

901.1 **Vertical Drop**

The vertical drop of the course will be determined by the choice of ski slope.

1220 Parallel Slalom and Parallel Slalom Relays

1222 Vertical Drop

The vertical drop of the course will be determined by the choice of ski slope.

1223 Choice and Preparation of the Course

1223.2 The slope must be in the same condition throughout a run, including the use of misting or watering, so that it is possible to offer consistent race conditions to all competitors.

1223.4 Attention should be paid to protection measures installed to protect racers and spectators, particularly in the finish area.

1224 The Courses

1224.1 The course will normally be marked by single poles, or pairs of poles with a gate panel in GS style.

1224.4 The first gate in each course should be placed at the same angle from the corresponding start gate, and in such a position that the direction of the first turn is obvious.

1225 Distance between the two courses

The distance between two corresponding gates (from turning pole to turning pole) should be no less than 4.5m and no more than 8m. The

distance between the starting gates should be the same as between the two courses. Adequate clearance must be maintained from both sides of the slope.

1226 Start

1226.1 Standard Slalom start gates shall be used for the start. The gates must be connected to the timing system.

1226.1.1 For a team relay, if an electronic timing system is not available, the start may be controlled using flags to indicate when the previous competitor in the team crosses the finish line.

1226.3 Start Command

The Starter ensures that the competitors are ready by stating "Red course ready - Blue course ready – Attention".

The Starter will after a short interval trigger the start which will signal the competitors via audible and/or visual indicator.

1226.4 If one or both start signals fail to operate the start must be repeated.

1226.5 One false start is permitted per competitor. In a team event, a false start is only allowed for the first competitor in the team. If the second or subsequent competitors in a team event false starts then the entire team shall be disqualified.

1226.6 A competitor returning to the start after a false start is not permitted to re-wax or otherwise 'prep' their skis before re-entering the start gate.

1227 Finish

1227.2 The finish line is split into two parts and clearly marked.

1229 Timing

The timing system must be capable of detecting false starts, relaying signals from finish to start to allow the second and subsequent competitors to start their run, and indicating the result of the race (win/loss/draw). The timing system to be used must be approved by the Jury.

1230 Format

1230.1 Parallel slaloms will normally be in the form of a knockout, which may be preceded by a league stage or preliminary rounds. The format of the competition shall be decided and announced by the Organisers.

1230.2 Individuals may be seeded according to their current seed points. Teams may be seeded according to the aggregate seed points of team members. In either case, seeding may be done using the current published BARTS seed list, or by some other method as determined by the Organisers.

1230.3 The Jury shall decide in advance which colour course shall be skied by each individual or team and shall ensure that, as far as practicable, competitors ski alternate courses throughout the competition.

1230.4 In determining the order in which individuals and teams compete, the Organisers will attempt to ensure that the best seeded individuals or teams are placed in opposite halves of the draw.

1230.5 At the start of the knockout stage of a seeded competition, individuals or teams at opposite ends of the seeding shall be run against each other. So in a round of 16 teams, the team placed 1st would race against 16th, 2nd against 15th, and so on. In a competition where the knockout stage is preceded by a league stage where two teams per league progress to the knockout, the winner of one league would race against the second placed team from another league. If the knockout round is not preceded by and league or seeding stage, teams will be drawn for start position in the first knockout round.

1232 Disqualifications / Did Not Finish

1232.2 If a pole has been displaced and it is not possible to replace it in time, then competitors should ski round the place where the pole should be.

1232.3 In a team competition, if both teams are disqualified, the team that has travelled further down the course before the disqualification shall be deemed to be the winner of the tie.

1232.4 The procedure for dealing with Protests against disqualification must be announced by the Jury at the start of the competition. The normal procedure is that the Protest must be made to a member of the Jury immediately after the announcement of the disqualification. A protest will not be accepted after the start of the next race.

3. Definitions

British Competition Year. The period from 1st May to 30th April of the following year. This differs from the FIS Competition Year, which is the period from 1st July to 30th June of the following year

Fédération Internationale de Ski (FIS). The International Ski Federation.

Force Majeure. Unforeseen and unavoidable circumstances for which a deviation from the rules may be required.

GB Snowsport - GB Snowsport Ltd.

Home Nation Governing Bodies (HNGBs). Snowsport England, Snowsport Wales, Snowsport Scotland.

Hors Concours. Literally 'outside competition'. A racer competing but not for prizes or honours.

International Ski Competition Rules (ICR). The FIS Rules for International Alpine Skiing.

International. A competition approved by the GB Snowsport Alpine Executive in which Great Britain and at least one other overseas nation takes part.

League. A group of ski organisations competing in knockout or American style to rules of their own making but with the approval of the TD Forum.

Licence. An authorisation to compete in various specified grades of competition.

Member Groups:

Snowsport England - trading name of English Ski Council Ltd (SSE)
Snowsport Wales - trading name of Ski Council of Wales Ltd (SSW)
Snowsport Scotland (SSC)
British Association of Snowsports Instructors (BASI)
United Kingdom Armed Forces Winter Sports Association (UKAFWSA)
Ski Club of Great Britain (SCGB)

Registration. A listing or categorisation of licensed competitors.

Seeding. The classification of competitors into a ranking list of expected ability formulated from past results.

TD Forum A technical sub-committee of GB Snowsport.

4. Document History

Edition	Date	Description of changes
2007	15-Nov-2006	Approved by TD Forum for use in 2007 season onwards.
Nov 18	4-Nov-18	602.5 TD's Expense increased to £80 per day.
		606.7 Catsuit rule deleted to align with the BCR.
		611.2.4 Allow wireless connection of start and/or finish to timing unit for artificial slope races.
		Replace BSS with GB Snowsport.
Nov 19	3-Nov-19	217.2 Addition of the Online Entry system.
		221.6.2 Clarification on the required medical services.
		602.2.3 Clarification of the TD's responsibilities for U10/12 held in conjunction with a Calendar event.
		621.2 & 3 Start order clarification for non and registered racers without points.
Nov 20	15-Nov-20	Gender neutral amendments.
Dec 20	21-Dec-20	627 NPS due to Concussion.
Nov 22	6-Nov-22	1226.3 to 1226.6 replaced and 1227.2 added to align to the ICR.
		1232.2 deleted and 3,4 & 5 renumbered.
		217.2 Amended to clarify late entries process.
		602.5 TD travel expenses increased to £500.
Dec 23	5-Dec-23	602.5 TD travel expenses increased to £525.
Nov 24	5-Nov-2024	Remove BARSC from list of CGs
		602.5 TD travel expenses increased to £535.
May 25	27-May-2025	611.2.4 Wireless timing allowed at all events under BACR
Dec 25	6-Dec-2025	602.5 Increase TD travel expenses to £545. 602.5 TD's daily expense increased to £100 per day.