Welsh Outdoor Championships 2024
National & Open races

Pontypool Ski Slope
7th & 8th September 2024

Race Bulletin No: 1 - Invitation

We invite registered racers to compete in the Welsh National and Welsh Open Outdoor Championships to be held at Pontypool Ski Slope on Saturday 7th and Sunday 8th September 2024. This event is organised by Snowsport Cymru Wales. We would like to thank the management and staff of Torfaen Ski Centre, Pontypool and all volunteers for their assistance, without whom there would not be a race.

Race Secretary	**Event Welfare Officer**	**Chief of Race (National)**	**Chief of Race (Open)**
Gwyneth Watson	Georgina Kellen	Les Jones	Abi Silvester
029 2062 3840 gwynethski@gmail.com	07866 445523 safeguarding@snowsportwales.net	07775 557470 lesojones@gmail.com	07730 511227 abigailsilvester@gmail.com

Entry Criteria and Race Format

Seeded Competition

These races consist of two runs down different Slalom courses and are open to Home Nation registered racers in the following categories: U14, U16, U18, U21, Senior, and Masters. Prizes will be awarded based on the best aggregate time from the two runs.

Para Entries

Entries will be welcomed from para athletes to the GBR races. There will be a special category for para skiers. Para entries may be in any age category, and do not need to have seed points, but must comply with the other eligibility criteria for the event. Para athletes will ski the same courses set for the GBR event and would run as first racer(s) down the relevant courses for each run.
Awards will be made for the para category by gender.

U10/U12 Races

The championships include races for U10/U12 age categories. These will be run using stubbie gates, with two runs down the same course and prizes awarded based on the best time from any run. Children born after 2016 are not eligible to enter.

Entry Limits

The number of entrants is limited to a maximum of 180. In the event of the seeded race being oversubscribed, acceptance will be determined by seed points using the BARTS list current as at the closing date for entries. Racers with lower seed points will be given preference.

Race Entry and Refunds

The entry fee for the Championships is £29 per day. On line entry is available via https://racesignup.co.uk/?sport=skiing

Entries close 1600 (4pm) on **Friday 30th Aug**. Late entries may be accepted at an additional fee of £10.00 per day.

Racers may withdraw themselves at any time up to the closing date using the online entry system, incurring a £5 admin fee. After closing date racers should apply to the Race Secretary if they wish to withdraw.

Practice Session

There will be two practice sessions available on Friday 6th September. The first will start at 6pm, the second at 7.30pm. Cost is £15 per person. These will also be available to book using the online entry link above.

Awards – Welsh National Championships

Overall Awards will be made to:
1st, 2nd & 3rd Welsh Male & Female racers and to 1st, 2nd & 3rd Male & Female racers regardless of nationality.

Age Group awards will be made in each age group (including U10/U12) to:
1st 2nd & 3rd Welsh Male & Female racers and to the 1st Male & Female racers regardless of nationality.

Awards – Welsh Open Championships

Overall Awards will be made to 1st, 2nd & 3rd Male & Female racers.
Age Group awards will be made to 1st 2nd & 3rd Male & Female racers in each age group (including U10/U12).

Start Order

The start order will be drawn on Wednesday 4th Sept using the BARTS Outdoor Seed List current at that time and verified by the Jury. This seed list can be found at www.gbski.com/seeding#BARTS.

For the first run the top 15 seeded competitors will be drawn, with competitors seeded 16th onwards running in seed point order, followed by a random draw of all registered racers with no points. Competitors will run in reverse bib order starting with the highest bib numbers.

For the second run, start order is determined by the results of the first run with competitors running in reverse time order.

Start lists will be published on GBSKI and on the official notice board on race day.

Race Rules and Health and Safety

The race will be run under FIS rules (ICR) as varied by GB Snowsport (BACR) and Snowsport England (Race Manual). Links to rules and guide books are listed below, all racers and coaches are encouraged to make themselves familiar with these documents:

FIS Rules	https://gbski.com/icr
British Rules (BACR)	https://gbski.com/bacr
SE Race Manual	https://gbski.com/serm
Guide to Racing	https://gbski.com/guide
Guide to Helmets	https://gbski.com/helmets

The Jury has decided that all courses for this event will be set with single pole gates in accordance with ICR 804.

- Access to the slope is for officials, accredited coaches and racers only.
- During open practice and inspection bibs **MUST BE WORN** so that the number is visible from back and front. Racers without a bib will be asked to leave the slope.
- Inspection on foot by racers is not permissible. Racers will be given further information prior to the start of course inspection.
- Helmets and gloves must be worn by anyone on skis at all times whilst on the slope. Please also note the helmet rules for competitors can be found at www.gbski.com

Race Office

The race office will be at Cardiff until 6th Sept 2024. After this the race office will transfer to Pontypool Ski Slope from 09:00hrs on 7th Sept 2024 and contact can only be made by phone or email to the Race Secretary.

Notice Board

The official race notice board will be located outside the race office.

Photography

Racers will only be photographed by an accredited photographer if they have given consent whilst entering the race, either via the race entry system or in writing to the Race Secretary if entering on the day.

Officials

Please note these races can only run with sufficient race officials. If you can assist please contact the Race Secretary or Chief of Race.

Referee's Report

Protests against the Referees Report must be made on official forms, which will be available at the race office. These must be completed and handed in within the set time limit and accompanied by a fee of £25.00.

Race Bibs

Race bibs must be returned to the finish marshal on completion of their final run. Failure to do so will result in a charge of £50 for each missing bib.

First Aid

First Aid cover will be available on the day provided by St John Ambulance. An Event Medical Assessment form (containing information about medical facilities and procedures) will be on display on the official notice board and published on GBSKI.

Provisional Programme

The times given below are provisional and may alter on the day. Please ensure you are ready to start on time and listen carefully for any announcements

Saturday 7th Sept 2024 Welsh National Championships		Sunday 8th Sept 2024 Welsh Open Championships	
08:00	Officials Access	08:00	Officials Access
08.30	Race office opens for registration, and Bib Issue	08.30	Race office opens for registration, lift pass and Bib Issue
08:30-09:30	Warm Up	08:30-09:30	Warm Up
09.00-09.15	Race Officials Meeting	09.00-09.15	Race Officials Meeting
09:30-09:50	Course Set Run 1	09:30-09:50	Course Set Run 1
09.50-10:10	Course Inspection Run 1	09.50-10:10	Course Inspection Run 1
10.10-10.20	U10/U12 Course Set	10.10-10.20	U10/U12 Course Set
10.20-10.40	U10/U12 Course Inspection	10.20-10.40	U10/U12 Course Inspection
10.45-11.10	U10/U12 Run 1	10.45-11.10	U10/U12 Run 1
11.10-11.20	Switch gates to full poles	11.10-11.20	Switch gates to full poles
11.20-12.20	Run 1 Females / Males	11.20-12.20	Run 1 Females / Males
12.20-12.30	Switch to Stubby gates	12.20-12.30	Switch to Stubby gates
12.30-12.50	U10/U12 Run 2	12.30-12.50	U10/U12 Run 2
12.50-13.20	Lunch	12.50-13.20	Lunch

12.50-13.20	Course Set Run 2	12.50-13.20	Course Set Run 2
13.20-13.40	Course Inspection Run 2	13.20-13.40	Course Inspection Run 2
13.40-14.40	Run 2 Females / Males	13.40-14.40	Run 2 Females / Males
15.15	Prize Giving	15.15	Prize Giving

Every attempt will be made to keep to the event schedule; however, the organisers reserve the right to amend the schedule as appropriate.

Logistics

Vehicle Access to the Ski Centre will only be permitted to those cars holding permits issued by Snowsport Cymru Wales. Disabled persons requiring access should contact Snowsport Cymru Wales (07869 257843). Lifts will be arranged by the race organisers for any disabled person needing access to the ski centre.

In the interests of personal safety there must be no turning or jumping on the ski lift and track. Please remove ski stick straps before mounting the lift.

An official electrical point will be made available at the ski centre for hot waxing, it will not be permitted for additional extension leads to be plugged into this or any other of the ski centre's electrical points for any purpose.

Only bona fide officials will be allowed access to staff areas within the ski centre, ie behind the counter. Racers may leave skis in the ski centre workshop overnight on Saturday evening at their own risk. No liability for loss or damage will be accepted by the race organisers or Torfaen Borough Council.

Refreshments

Refreshments will be available to purchase from a mobile commercial unit at the slope. Additional limited refreshments and toilets are available at the Leisure Centre café near the car park

Directions

Leave the M4 at Junction 25a signposted Newport/Cwmbran and follow the A4042 towards Pontypool. At Pontypool take the A472 following signs to the ski slope. Parking is at the Leisure Centre car park.
For SatNav users – the postcode is NP4 8AT

Nearest Accommodation

The nearest hotels are Premier Inn http://www.premierinn.com and Travelodge www.travelodge.co.uk both of which are on the roundabout at the junction of the A4042 & the A472.