

Dear Racer,

Enclosed you'll find this year's membership renewal packet. This packet includes:

- Information about the program
- The schedule.
- A membership application with release notice. **Please remember, you must completely fill out and sign the release notice before you can race.**
- Temporary memberships are available for one weekend only

Please ensure that the membership application is completely filled out. Most importantly, I need to make sure that I have your correct e-mail address. Over the past few seasons, we've been able to give schedule updates and provide other pertinent program information via e-mail, making it easier for our racers to have up-to-date information throughout the season. We're also moving toward internet and e-mail distribution of membership renewals and items like the newsletter, so don't get left out of the loop!

We're looking forward to another exciting season of racing. If you have any questions, don't hesitate to contact any of the board members:

President	Mark Mirviss P. O. Box 3293 Olympic Valley, CA 96146 markmirviss@att.net
Past President	Marietta Frinell PO Box. 907 Mammoth Lakes, Ca 93546 Mariettaf@verizon.net
Vice President, Race Scheduling	Mike Braun P.O. Box 2486 Mammoth Lakes, CA 93546 lapdski@verizon.net
Vice President, Membership	Marcie Pettigrew P.O. Box 7181 Mammoth Lakes, CA 93546 liskigal@earthlink.net or membership@farwestmasters.org
Vice President, Communications	Ingrid Braun P.O. Box 2486 Mammoth Lakes, CA 93546 ingridemma@verizon.net
Secretary	Sandy Hogan P.O. Box 8432 Mammoth Lakes, Ca 93546 sandyghogan@verizon.net
Treasurer	Mark Smallhouse 14460 Quiet Meadow Drive Reno, NV 89511 mark@smallouselaw.com

See you in December!

Marcie Pettigrew, Membership VP



Far West Masters Ski Racing Series

<http://farwestmasters.org>

2011 – 2012 PROGRAM INFORMATION

For adult, NASTAR, club racers, and good skiers in general, Masters ski racing is a new challenge. It's USSA sanctioned racing – more competitive and more fun. We welcome racers of all levels – from beginners who enjoy exciting race courses, to former Olympians, U.S. Team Members and everyone in between. The competition is exhilarating!

Eligibility

Men and women age 18 and over may compete in the Skier's Edge Far West Masters Ski Racing Series. USSA membership and competition license are required. For USSA membership and competition license competitors need to go directly to the USSA web site (**ussa.org**) and complete the application process there or write to USSA, P.O. Box 100, Park City, Utah 84060.

Racers may purchase a temporary-only, ONE weekend, USSA license on the morning of the race for races held within the division only once per season. This is a change from previously allowing two weekend temporary licenses. Again, weekend licenses are \$25, and are limited to one weekend per season. Note that full USSA membership is required for Regional, National and International races.

Far West Masters Registration

Registration in the Far West Masters includes a permanently assigned racing bib, detailed race schedule, entry cards, and our newsletter. Send a \$20 check (\$25 if you elect to receive the newsletter by mail) payable to **Masters Series Ski Racing** with a completed application form (enclosed in this packet) to the address on this brochure PRIOR TO OCTOBER 31, 2011.

Courses

Masters races are intended to be technically more difficult than club races or NASTAR. FIS and USSA rules are generally followed, and modified as appropriate for Masters racing. Two runs are mandatory for SL and GS events, and two training runs are mandatory for DH's. No training runs are required for SG. One-piece helmets are required for GS, SG and DH. Slalom helmets cannot be used for speed events, unless the face guard is removed. A full helmet which is solid over the ears is required.

Age Classes

Men and women race against their age peers in the following **5-year categories** (age on December 31, 2011 – you remain in this class for the entire season):

Class	Age Range	Class	Age Range
18	18 – 20	55	55 – 59
20	21 – 24	60	60 – 64
25	25 – 29	65	65 – 69
30	30 – 34	70	70 – 74
35	35 – 39	75	75 – 79
40	40 – 44	80	80 – 85
45	45 – 49	85	85 – 89
50	50 – 54	90	90 and over

The start order is Women 90, Men 90, Women 80, Men 80, Women 70, Men 70, Women 60 through 20, Men 60 through 20, unless conditions dictate a change in the start order. In addition, the top 10 men and top 5 women after the first run in SL and GS, regardless of age class, have the option to run in the Open Class. The women's class will run after the Women's 50's and the men's class will run after the Men's 50's.

Awards

First, second and third place awards are given for each men's and women's age class and the open seeds.

The Skiers' Edge Masters Ski Racing Series consists of approximately 20 SL, GS, SG and DH races. Points are tabulated throughout the season based on race finishes.

Racers keep points for their best results from 75% of the total number of races held, rounding up to the next whole number. For example, if 18 races are actually held, racers will keep their best 14 results. This means you don't have to attend every race to be competitive.

We present awards to the top three racers in each class and the open classes at the season-ending banquet..

Race Entry Fees and Registration

Entry fees for each race are published in our newsletter and on our website, www.farwestmasters.org. GS and SL races are generally \$25 per race day. DH and SG's generally cost more, and usually include training runs.

Racers should register by mail **at least 10 days** prior to the race. Fees not received **at least 5 days** prior to the race will be considered late (a late registration fee of \$5.00 may be added by the area). No race day entries will be accepted. Please send a separate check for each race day. We have a "torn check policy" for races cancelled due to bad weather or snow conditions.

You may also register for races on line at **SKIRACEREG.COM**. You will not be billed until after the race is held. This is a very convenient way to register for races. There is no extra fee for using this service. The "torn check policy" is used for this method of registration as well.

If you cannot attend a race for which you are registered, you must notify the ski area contact at least one day before the race weekend to avoid being charged for the race. Exceptions are made in case of injury.

IF YOU ARE REGISTERING BY MAIL, please remember that an entry consists of one check for the race fee for each race day and an "event entry form" with check offs for multiple races at an event. On our website www.farwestmsters.org there is a "print race entries" page.

We have several SuperG's on the schedule this season. For those of you who would like to race in the Open Class in these speed events, you must declare your intention on your race entry card. Note "Men's Open" or "Women's Open" in the age class box. The Women's Open Class will run at the end of all the women and the Men's Open Class will run at the end of the men.

USSA Masters Regional Championships

The USSA Masters Regional races are scheduled to take place at Big Sky, Montana 2/2/12- 2/5/12. The races consist of a Super Combined, Super G, GS and Slalom. You must be a member of USSA and Far West Masters.

USSA Masters National Championships

The USSA Masters Nationals are scheduled to take place at Park City, Utah 3/19/12 - 3/23/12. The races consist of a Super Combined, SuperG, GS and Slalom. Racers from the US and Canada compete in this event. To be eligible, you must qualify in your division by January 31, 2012, and have your USSA membership and license no later than January 15, 2012. A minimum number of race entries may be required, along with other criteria. Qualification requirements will be published on the Far West Master's web site and in the newsletter closer to the entry deadline

World Criterium

The Masters World Criterium will be held at Mammoth Mountain, California, 3/27/12 – 3/31/12. In addition to being a Member of Far West Masters and USSA, you must also hold a Masters' FIS card. You can obtain this through the USSA web site. Look for "Alpine Masters FIS 2011/2012" application. The fee for this is \$30. All ski equipment must follow FIS standards for age and event. More information on this will be coming at a later date.