

MSHL Gatekeeper Duties

THANK YOU for volunteering to help at the MSHL Alpine Ski Races! Please:

- Check in with Chief of Course and/or Gatekeeper Coordinator
- Put on a gate keeping apron – it has pockets, keeps you warm and identifies you
- Take 2 pencils and 15 DQ cards to each station (gatekeepers share these at a station)
- Report to your designated Station 10 minutes before race begins and know which gates are in your station. You can ride the chairlift if your position is near the top of the hill.
- Check for extra red and blue gates, drill and key. Ask chief of course for missing equipment

On the Hill

- Stand in the center of the 2 courses – stay clear of skiers paths, always look up hill and watch for falls so you don't get hit by a skier.
- Usually one gatekeeper at a station watches the girls and the other one watches the boys course.
- If a skier passes illegally, it is up to the skier to realize this and hike to the appropriate gate to make a legal pass. Do not assist the skier except to say, "back red" or "back 2 blue", etc. If they look at you for validation on their pass, you can say, "go" if the pass is legal.
- If a skier passes "illegally" (see next page) and does not hike/make a "legal" gate pass, note the DQ (Disqualification) on a DQ card – one Skier DQ per card. Draw a diagram of the 3 or more gates in the section where the illegal pass occurred, draw the skiers path and fill out other info on the card. Hang onto the card until the chief of course skis by periodically to collect the cards.

Clarifications

- It is OK to note DQs even if the DQ did not occur in your assigned gate section. Better for more gatekeepers to note DQs than to miss a DQ. The REFEREE at the bottom of the course is also watching both courses for DQs and DNFs and noting them as well.
- If you are not sure of legality of a pass, note the situations on the card and speak with the chief of course.

Replacing/Fixing Gates

Gates that are broken, knocked out or leaning excessively need to be re-inserted.

- Gates should be vertical (not perpendicular to the hill).
- If gate can stand up straight in the original hole, replace gate here. You will most likely need to re-drill the hole a bit deeper. Using the same hole is the ideal situations for gate replacement.
 - If a new hole is needed (it got too big or too deep), drill 6" – 1' (depending on snow conditions) up the fall line for a new hole. Do not go sideways across the hill for your new hole as this would change the turn even more. The collar of the gate (just below the hinge) must be even with the snow to avoid injury if a skier were to fall and slide into the gate. The hinge needs to be above the snow to allow the gate to bend properly.
- If poles are leaning UP the hill, they need to be fixed immediately as they could impale a skier.
- Replace entire gate with a new gate if:
 - Hinge breaks or is non-functioning
 - Gate breaks apart
 - Plastic snaps off top (sharp tops can be very dangerous)

After the Last Racer – Course Tear Down

- Remove all gates and put them back into their holes upside down. This makes it easier for the assigned racers to collect the gates. You may need to use a drill to remove stubborn gates.
- Deliver any DQ cards that you still have to the REFEREE at the bottom of the hill.
- Return your apron, blank DQ cards and pencil to chalet.
- If your team's drill/keys were being used for gate keeping, make sure your coach gets the drills/keys returned.

Binding Releases

- In HS Racing, a skier can finish on 1 ski no matter where in the course they lose the ski.
- If a skier loses both skis, that run is over and is a DNF (or DQ if they tried to finish illegally).
- If a skier is finishing a course on 1 ski, both feet and the existing ski tip need to pass the gates legally (e.g., cannot straddle a gate, if skier falls, both feet and 1 ski must pass legally)
- *If a skier loses both skis in the last 1 or 2 gates of the course, can he/she run through the finish? What about tripping the finish clock with a ski pole?*
 - *FIS says if skier falls between the last gate and finish line and loses both skis, both feet must pass the finish line and the timing stops when a body part triggers timing.*
 - *FIS RULE TEXT : Crossing of the Finish Line and Recording of the Times*
The finish line must be crossed:
 - on both skis or
 - on one ski or
 - with both feet in case of a fall between the last gate and the finish line.*In this case the time is taken when any part of the competitor's body or equipment stops the timekeeping system.*

Re-runs & Missing Gates

- If a skier believes he/she should have a re-run (e.g., a gate is down that didn't get replaced or interference in the course by another skier) he/she must ski out of the course and

- If a skier chooses to finish his/her run even though a gate is missing/down, he/she must pass the gate legally with both feet/ski tips as if the pole(s) was/were in place. In other words, he/she cannot ski a faster line just because the gate was missing.
- If the skier chooses to finish his/her run with interference or gates missing, he/she does not get a re-run "after the fact".

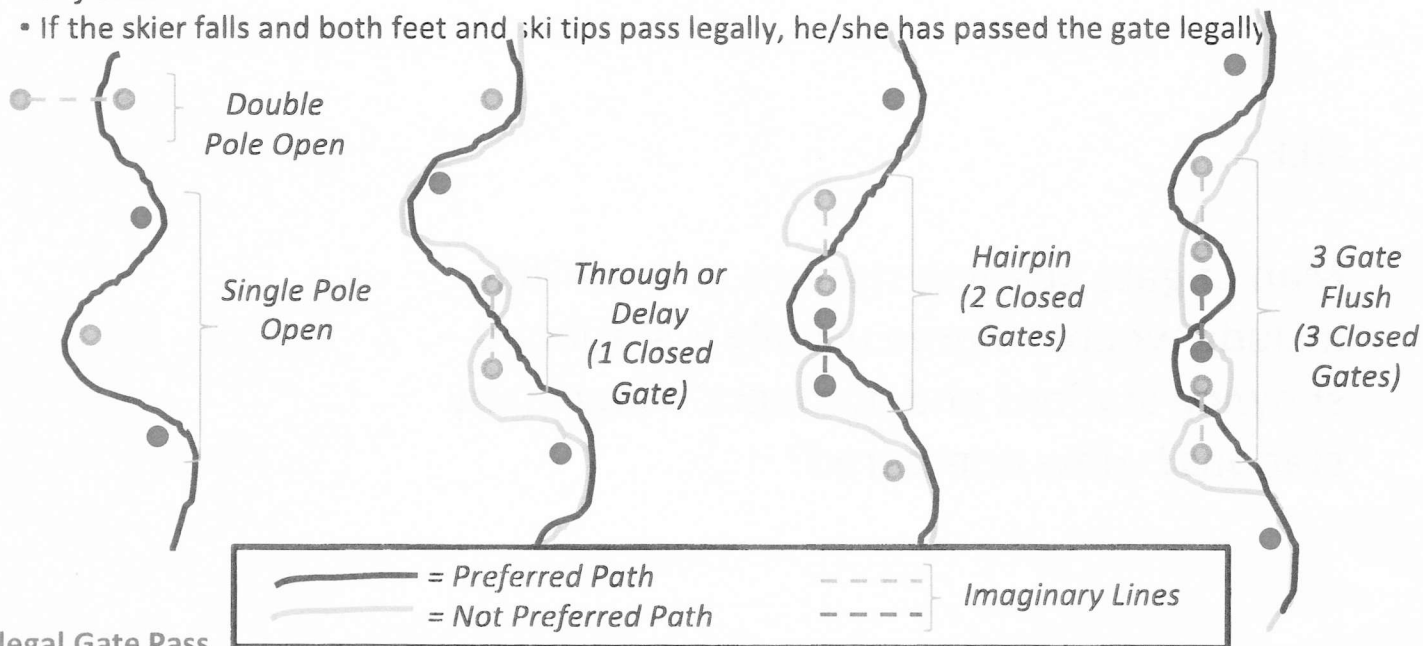
ANY OTHER RULES? SWEARING? SHADOWING the course during inspection, not slipping properly? Numbers on skiers for inspection?

Legal Gate Pass

- All slalom course are set Single Pole Slalom – which means there is no outside pole on gates *except* for the first and last gates in a race course and closed/vertical combination gates (i.e., through/delay, hairpin, flush gates).
- OPEN Gates - Single Pole
 - Both feet and both ski tips must pass the “correct” path around the gate
- CLOSED (or Vertical Combination) Gates (i.e., Through/Delay, Hairpin, Flushes) and Double Pole OPEN Gates
 - The skier's feet (both) and ski tips (both) must break the imaginary line connecting the 2 poles of the “gate”. A skier can cross this plane the “preferred way” (fastest) or the “not preferred way” (slowest) and both are still a legal passes.

Clarifications

- If the skier falls and both feet and ski tips pass legally, he/she has passed the gate legally



Illegal Gate Pass

- Skier straddles any pole (one ski/foot on each side of any pole)
 - One or more of skier's feet/ski tips go on wrong side of a Single Pole OPEN Gate (e.g., skier cannot ski over a gate with their inside leg – both tips and boots must completely pass on the proper side of gate)
 - Both of skier's feet/ski tips fail to break the plane on a Double Pole OPEN or CLOSED Gate
 - Skier falls and both ski tips AND both feet don't go on correct side of Single Pole OPEN gate
 - Skier falls and both ski tips AND both feet don't break the plane on a CLOSED gate or Double Pole OPEN gate.
- IF a skier has an illegal pass, he/she must do the following to make the pass legal and avoid a DQ:
 - Single Pole OPEN Gate: Skier must hike and **make a loop** around the gate that he/she missed
 - Double Pole OPEN Gate and all CLOSED Gates: Skier must hike and **cross the plane with both feet and both ski tips**. NOTE: the skier can go forward, reverse, up or down, from either side of the plane to accomplish this - as long as both feet **and** both ski tips cross the imaginary plane.

GATEKEEPERS: Please fill out a DQ Card for each skier who has an Illegal Gate Pass that is not made a Legal Gate Pass.