

A Guide to Understanding Ski Race Points



Ski racing in New Zealand uses two points' lists to rank athletes:

NZ National Points rank athletes nationally, and FIS Points rank them internationally.

Points are used to score races, rank competitors and establish start orders. As there is no standard racecourse, a formula is used to calculate the points by relating a racer's time to the winner's time. The winner is given 0.00 race points, and then a penalty is calculated and added to each racer's points to produce the racer's results. This penalty is based on the points of the best competitors in the field, and the difference in time between the winner and the other competitors. This procedure allows the scoring of different races on different slopes and different days, each with different levels of competition to be based on a common scale.

The average of a racer's best two results, (or if they only have one result, 20% will be added to their results), in each scored discipline will be the points posted to the NZNP or FIS list, which are updated several times throughout the season. In both cases, lower points reflect better performance. These lists are used by race organisers to establish the start order for races, and for coaches to make selections to teams and certain events.

NZ National Points

Athletes who compete in scored NZ National Points events will earn NZNP. Athletes may participate in NZ National Points races in the year they turn 12. Junior Interfield races do not earn NZ National Points.

The NZNP and FIS points systems are based on the same formula for scoring, however due to different dates of publication and a couple of other factors, a racer's NZNP and FIS point profile may differ somewhat. NZ National Points are used to qualify for Junior Development Squads and Camps, and they enable athletes to compare their performance to racers across the country.

FIS Points

Racers may register with FIS and participate in FIS races in the year they turn 16. FIS racing is a progression from NZ Youth Series racing, and your racer's coach will help decide when it is appropriate to participate at this level.

Please refer to the NZ Alpine Handbook for more detailed information on Points and the Points Lists.