

**BENSON SKI RACING TEAM  
PARTICIPATION CRITERIA  
Adapted from OISRA By-Laws #6**

Participation on the Madison Ski Racing Team requires the athletes to:

**(6a)** attend all mandated training sessions and race meetings. It is recognized that there may be circumstances where it is not possible for an athlete to attend a mandated activity. The following regulations will apply under those circumstances.

**TRAINING:**

**Excused Absences;** must be verified in writing to the Head Coach within three\* days of an absence as set out below. Failure to request that the absence be considered as an excused absence not made to the Head Coach within three days will constitute an unexcused absence.

*\*The Head Coach may accept a request by parental telephone call. Confirmed in writing if it is not possible to adhere to the three-day requirement. All written requests must be from parents or guardians unless otherwise specified.*

**(6b)** (1) A physical injury that renders the athlete incapable of participating in any training. Written verification may be required.

(2) A verifiable absence from school. This requires parental verification/request in writing, either directly to the coach or via the school administration. School closure is a verified absence that does not need notification.

(3) Recognized dry land training that has been approved by the Head Coach and the parent Board in writing prior to commencement of on mountain training in December. Application for this needs to be made in writing to the Head Coach by the athlete not later than the Monday preceding Thanksgiving. If an athlete has a conflict with another sport or a recognized High School activity\*\* that cannot be accommodated within the present exemptions, it is the athlete's responsibility to draw this to the attention of the respective coaches, tutors etc., as soon as possible and at least prior to the Monday preceding Thanksgiving, so that the situation can be discussed between the parties involved. *Only under exceptional circumstances will dispensation from mandated training for more than one day in a week be allowed.*

**UNEXCUSED ABSENCES:** Athletes will be allowed:

**(6c) Four (4) unexcused absences** from mandated training sessions and/or races during the season, which commences the 1<sup>st</sup> week in November. **N.B.** There are OISRA regulations governing the number of races an athlete must participate in to be eligible to compete at State.

**5<sup>th</sup> unexcused absence;** at the next race the athlete will be seeded at the end of varsity II.

**6<sup>th</sup> unexcused absence;** the athlete will be suspended from competing at next race, but will attend the race meeting and train or assist at the instruction of the Head Coach.

**7<sup>th</sup> unexcused absence;** the athlete will be dismissed from the team. :

**RACING:**

**(6b) EXCUSED ABSENCES** from a race meeting are, for a verifiable injury, or a recognized High School etc., activity\*\* or force majeure

**(6c) UNEXCUSED ABSENCE.** A member of the Varsity I Team will be seeded to Varsity II, and a Varsity II team member will be seeded last in that category. Other punishment may be decided at the discretion of the Head Coach and/or the Parent Board.

Any ruling by the Head Coach and the Parent Board will be reviewed only upon receipt of a written request from the athlete and his or her parent/guardian.

**VARSITY TEAM SELECTION:**

The Varsity I team for the first two Mt. Hood League events will consist of the number of boys and girls as allowed for in the Mt. Hood League regulations who have been selected by the coaches following suitable time trials to establish a seeding. Should there be no time trials the coaches will select a Varsity team that is representative of the fastest athletes taking into account known past performances.

Alterations to the Varsity I team for subsequent races will be based on merit, and the teams needs. Should a member of a Varsity team, seeded in the top five not be able to compete in an Mt. Hood League event because of their need to participate in a recognized activity\*\*, consideration may be shown the athlete by allowing him/her to start in the next Mt. Hood League event as the fifth seed\*\*\* of their respective (male/female) Varsity team.

If it is considered necessary to make an alteration or substitution in the team to benefit the team or an individuals standing, such an alteration will be made only after consultation between the Head Coach and the Parent Representative.

\*\* Recognition may be extended to an athlete that has the need to participate in a recognized High School or comparable artistic or athletic event. A written request for such recognition needs be made to the Head Coach prior to participation. Similar recognition may be considered for some academic requirements.

\*\*\* The seeding of fifth is not a penalty, it is to acknowledge the efforts and results of those who did compete at the event involved.

**(6d) VARSITY LETTERING;** A varsity letter will be awarded for scoring a top twenty point at more than one event.

**STATE CHAMPIONSHIP.**

Should the Benson Ski Racing team earn the right to compete at State, the athletes selected to be part of the team will, where possible, be identifiable as the fastest members of the team who meet the OISRA eligibility criteria.

Should circumstances arise that require the need to waive any of these requirements, such action will be taken only after adequate consultation between the Head Coach, the Parent Body and the team captains.