



Age Class Open - U10/U12 Skills Festival - Steamboat

This unique event is designed to challenge the kids to do everything on skis, from exciting side-by-side racing and a skiing skills assessment, to trying Nordic jumps, a speed trap (how fast can you go in a tuck), and learning how to use the whole mountain to have fun and improve your ski racing skills. It is a weekend that stands out in the kids' memories at the end of the season and it's great for their development, it's one-of-a-kind!

RACE DATE AND LOCATION: (Note we are at different ski areas each day)

Saturday, January 21 – Howelsen Hill Ski Area – Non-Elimination Parallel race and optional jumping & games

Sunday, January 22 – Steamboat Ski Resort – SkillsQuest skiing assessment and all-mountain skills activities

ELIGIBILITY: RMD skiers U12 and younger, U.S. Ski & Snowboard membership is required

EVENT DETAILS:

Saturday: The racers take over Howelsen Hill with a **non-elimination dual panel slalom race**, training courses, open jumping on the 20 and 30 meter nordic jumps, a speed trap on the 75 meter jump outrun, air bag jumping (weather permitting) and other outdoor activities. *U10 racers start their day at 9:30am. U12 racers start their day at 11:30am.*

Sunday: Athletes will ski at Steamboat Ski Resort in groups with skiers from other clubs and led by a coach through the **SkillsQuest assessment** (Phase 2 for U10's and Phase 3 for U12's). SkillsQuest, along with race results, gives a more complete evaluation of a racer's abilities. In addition, groups will take part in skills challenges around the mountain getting lots of skiing mileage. *All racers meet at 8:15am at the base of Steamboat Ski Resort ready to ski. Awards at the end of day at 3:15pm.*

NON-ELIMINATION PARALLEL FORMAT:

This exciting format allows every racer to compete head-to-head until the end, with every dual run having the potential to be a photo finish! After the first heat, athletes are paired with the skier closest to their time for the next race. Each run is individually timed, with all the runs counting toward their result. Skiers who do not finish get to continue to race (with a penalty time), and with multiple runs anything can happen in the final result!

SKILLSQUEST:

Watch the videos here to learn about the assessments. U10's do all four phase 2 activities, U12's do all four phase 3 activities. <https://videos.usskiandsnowboard.org/alpineed/category/videos/skills-quest>

ENTRY PROCEDURE:

Athletes pay entry fees online at my.usskiandsnowboard.org using the Athlete Event Registration tool. A \$25 late fee will be charged for all late entries received after January 18. NO ON-SITE OR PHONE ENTRIES.

ENTRY FEE:

\$36 Saturday (includes parallel race, jump complex activities, and pizza)

\$22 Sunday

RACE REGISTRATION:

Saturday – 8:30am-9:30am (U10's) & 10:30am-noon (U12's) at Olympian Hall (2nd level Howelsen Hill Lodge)

Sunday – 7:30am-8:30am by the stage near the base of the Christie Peak Express Chair and the Main Gondola

LIFT TICKETS:

\$31 Saturday Howelsen Hill, purchase day-of at ticket office (CSCUSA Passports are not accepted on race days)
\$65 Sunday Steamboat Ski Resort, must pre-purchase online here
https://packages.steamboat.com/packages/package/69215/?code=ALPSK23_LIFT. CSCUSA Passports may be used, see redemption instructions at <https://www.coloradoski.com/ski-passport-redemption-instructions/>. Parent & sibling tickets available using the ticket ordering link above at 20% window pricing.

LIABILITY RELEASES:

Athletes must complete two waivers:

SSWSC/Howelsen Hill: <https://waiver.smartwaiver.com/e/fC3XYUWJhCdfeeRwcoveDB/>

Steamboat Ski Resort: www.steamboat.com/sign and choose Winter Waiver

COACHES TICKETS:

All coaches register for the event as a coach at my.usskiandsnowboard.org. Clubs must submit a list of their coaches with phone numbers for any coaches working on Sunday to raceadmin@sswsc.org by January 19. Coaches must have a current U.S. Ski & Snowboard **coach** membership for a lift ticket. Coaches for the SkillsQuest day on Sunday will be assigned to lead a group with another coach with athletes mixed from different clubs. Bring good skis and poles you can ski the whole mountain on, a sack lunch will be provided for coaches on Sunday.

TEAM CAPTAIN'S MEETINGS:

Friday, Jan 20 6:00pm via Zoom

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84086875088?pwd=ekRvSXRzUUlFNXRdZVU3ZEF2blhxUT09> or call (346) 248-7799 and enter meeting ID 840 8687 5088 and passcode 894319

Sunday, Jan 22 7:45am on the outdoor stage in Gondola Square, Steamboat Ski Resort

AWARDS:

Top 10 parallel by class (U10 & U12) immediately following each age group's races
SkillsQuest awards (top 10 by class) presented at 3:15pm on Gondola Square Stage on Sunday

PARKING:

Howelsen Hill: Parking is free at the base. Overflow parking at Rodeo Grounds and Ice Arena.

Steamboat Ski Resort: Free shuttle-service parking in Meadows Lot beginning at 7:30. Free parking at Knoll Lot and walk to base, fills early. Close-in pay parking available around Gondola Square and Ski Time Square.

SPECIAL NOTES:

- **Soft-ear helmets are not permitted for the parallel race.**
- Athletes must wear their helmets for all on-snow elements of the event.
- Twin tips or freeskiing skis recommended for air bag jumping on Saturday.
- Slalom or GS skis may be used for SkillsQuest assessment and all all-mountain activities on Sunday. Twin tips or freeskiing skis are not recommended for SkillsQuest.
- All of Saturday's events can be viewed from the base of the ski area. Sunday's activities are all over the mountain and not designed for viewing. Parents – enjoy the mountain or the town!

LODGING:

Mountain Resorts <https://mtn-resorts.com/sswsc> use the promo code SSWSC23. Note later start times on Saturday, especially for U12's, was intended to reduce the need to Friday night lodging.

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

Contact the SSWSC Office at 970.879.0695 or email sswsc@sswsc.org
or go to our event webpage <https://www.sswsc.org/events/skillsquest>
(results will be posted here). Stay in touch for any event updates on
WhatsApp by scanning the QR code on the right, or go
<https://chat.whatsapp.com/BCnBZf9lt579Giy7GdGa0B>

