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A - Introduction to the Western Interior Ski/Biathlon Association (WISA)

By Chuck Hugny

This history of WISA is dedicated to Mr. John Miles in thanks for the many hours he has given toward the betterment of the sport of biathlon and more importantly for the time and care he has given our Western Interior Children. We all are better for knowing John, and his name will always be associated with the good competition and fun spirit that WISA has become. Thanks John, and god speed in all your future adventures.

Prior to the formation of WISA in 1986, the state athletic association (ASAA) had a rural ski championship, but it was always held on the road system.

In recent years, the WISA high school biathlon champions have been awarded positions on the Arctic Winter Games (AWG) biathlon team representing Alaska. Several WISA ski champions have been awarded spots on the AWG ski team. This is a tribute to the fine athletes developed by WISA coaches.

WISA has been held in the villages of White Mt., Kaltag, Galena, Tanana, Nulato, Fairbanks and Shagaluk. The need for a larger school to host this event excludes some of the smaller sites as the number of skiers to accommodate can be as high as 88 (Kaltag 1993 and White Mt. 1994).

There have been many coaches who have supported WISA through its years. Although there are too many to mention, there needs to be a focus on a few key individuals without whom WISA would never have developed into the successful association that today servers our rural skiers.

WISA would like to personally thank the following coaches for their many years of service to WISA: John Miles, Rudy Howard, Eric Morris and Jack Adams. Coaches who were instrumental in the early years of WISA included: Van Mitchell, Bill Strutz, Josh Miller and Howard Cloud as well as the above mentioned. Without their dedication to the sport and our students WISA would have never become a reality.

Due to the fire burning the White Mt. School in 2006 many of the WISA records were lost. The history at the end of this document includes the most complete record we know of. John Miles was able to fill the holes in our records and a few corrections have been made. Many of the results did not have summation sheets, just results, so Skimeisters needed to be refigured and sportsmanship trophies were unrecorded.

B – The Western Interior Ski and Biathlon Association Mission Statement

- 1) to promote cross-country skiing and biathlon in rural schools for all grade levels as individual and team sports on two levels, recreational and competitive.
- 2) to promote the interaction between different rural regions in Alaska.
- 3) to promote regionalism (decentralization) in state sporting activities.
- 4) to help provide native and other rural student/athletes with positive experiences that will help them attend college, via athletic scholarships, and to become successful adults.
- 5) to promote lifelong, healthy, outdoor activities.
- 6) to provide support for athletes who wish to compete at levels above WISA, including, but not limited to, Anchorage Biathlon races, The Arctic Winter Games, and Junior National

C - WISA Championships Participation - General

WISA provides skiers and ski biathletes with a yearly championship that is available to rural students in the state of Alaska. It is designed for students who do not have access to professionally groomed ski trails and areas, who have harsh winter ski conditions, and who do not have access in their communities to club coaches and training, club racing or organized ski events.

There is no qualification process. Any rural athlete may participate. Some schools have money for a certain number of skiers, and have an internal qualification process, but individuals can pay their own way if they do not make the internal qualifications. Host schools may have as many participants as they wish.

The WISA definition for rural is areas not being a part of the Kenai Borough, Mat-su Borough, Juneau Borough, Fairbanks-Northstar Borough, or Greater Anchorage area.

D -WISA Championships Participation - Specific

Participant in WISA (individual, or on a team) must satisfy the following criteria.

- 1) Athletes must be grade eligible. The Junior High category consists of athletes in 5th through 8th grades. The High School category consists of athletes in 9th through 12th grades.
- 2) Athletes must be full-time high school or junior high students affiliated with a WISA site team.
- 3) Athletes must be age eligible. The maximum age for any participant is 18 years old.
 - a) Athletes who skip a grade lose one year of eligibility.
 - b) Athletes who are retained a grade do not gain an extra year of eligibility.
 - c) The only exception to the age limit would be for special needs student athletes that have an IEP allowing them to receive public school services beyond the age of 18. Those students must have a coach that vouches for the athletes' ability to safely ski the course and/or perform the shooting during a biathlon race.
- 4) During the school year, athletes must reside in the location they represent. Athletes may be attendees of residential schools in Galena or Nenena, as long there are WISA coaches available to them. Athletes may not move to a ski site for only the ski season.
- 5) Athletes may be homeschooled students as long as they satisfy all other participation criteria.

E - WISA Participation Members List

Koyuk	Allakaket	Saint Michaels
Kaltag	Nulato	Stebbins
Tanana	White Mountain	Gambell
Aniak	Teller	Savoonga
Golovin	Galena	Brevig Mission
McGrath	Nenana	Wales
Elim	Nome	Little Diomed
Koyukuk	Unalakleet	Holy Cross
Huslia	Shishmaref	Ruby
Minto	Shaktoolik	Shagaluk
Anaktuvuk Pass	Manley	Buckland

F - Western Interior Ski and Biathlon Championships Race Formats

Introduction: 3-day Event – The annual Western Interior Ski and Biathlon Championships is a three-day event. It occurs as March transitions to April, typically on the last Thursday, Friday, Saturday in March, or the first Thursday, Friday, Saturday in April. It traditionally rotates between interior sites and west coast sites. Due to the logistics of teams traveling to the host site, the Ski Race is run on the first day. The Biathlon race takes more preparation time, has a morning shooting component, and takes the most time to run, so it takes place on day two. Since planes leave in the early afternoon on the last day, the Team Relay takes place on that morning.

Divisions and Race Length Ranges – There are four divisions for each of three events.

Division	Grades	Ski Race Distance (kilometers)	Biathlon Distance (kilometers)	Team Relay Distance (kilometers)
High School Boys	9-12	7.5 – 10	4.5 – 5.5	3.5 - 5
High School Girls	9-12	5 - 7.5	4.5 – 5.5	3.5 - 5
Junior High Boys	5-8	3.7 – 5	4.5 – 5.5	3.5 - 5
Junior High Girls	5-8	3.7 – 5	4.5 – 5.5	3.5 - 5

Ski Race Procedures (Day 1)

- A) Race Configuration - The junior high race is a single lap race. The high school race can either be two laps around the junior high course, or an alternative course that meets the distance.
- B) Wave Start Numbers - The Ski Race is a wave start race. The numbers of skiers in each wave is determined by the configuration of the ski course. Courses that do not have immediate constrictions will allow for a larger number of skiers in each wave. The maximum number of skiers in any wave is 10.
- C) Start Times - The first wave(s) of skiers will be the high school boys, followed by the high school girls. There should be a fairly long amount of time between the start of the high school race and the start of the junior high race. The amount of time will be dependent upon the ski course. As a general guideline, 30 minutes is enough time for the participants in the high school race to be in position to finish, (or be sufficiently spread out along the course), so that the top junior high skiers can proceed unimpeded along the trail.
- D) Configuration of Waves - The goal when setting up each wave is that it is faster than the wave behind it. That may necessitate that waves alternate between boys and girls. A case in point: the top 10 junior high girls are often faster than boys 11 – 20. In order to present the top junior high girls with a course that is not over crowded with slower skiers, the top wave of girls will go out second.
- E) Wave Determination – It is the responsibility of race officials to place skiers in waves with other skiers that are near to the same speed. A start list must be prepared. To do this, officials must use all available data. This would include last year’s race times (interior, NICE, BSSD, and WISA), this year’s race times, and should also take coaches’ input into consideration.

- F) Start/Finish Configuration – The start and finish area(s) must be blocked off for crowd control. Only athletes, coaches, and race workers are allowed in the start/finish area. The Start and Finish must be clearly marked with visible lines. The two must be far enough apart so as to not have early finishers come in contact with waves that have yet to start. The start line must have flags (preferably) or small cones that designate starting lanes. If a lap course is used, a clearly marked “second lap” lane must be created so that skiers can get around for their second lap without having their path blocked by wave starters or by race finishers.
- G) Trail Etiquette – When a faster skier comes upon a slower skier, they may call out “track” or “trail,” in which case the slower skier will move off to ski on the side of the trail. Do not say “on your left” (or right). The passing skier should call trail well enough in advance so that the slower skier has time to move to one side or the other. It should be the intent of the passer to not only pass, but to pass and extend the lead over the person they are passing.
- H) Final Time – Each racer’s final time is their total time on the course.

Biathlon Race Procedures (Day 2)

- A) Race Configuration - The biathlon race is a two or three-lap race, depending on the site. Both high school and junior high racers use the same biathlon course, and race the same distance.
- B) Wave Start Numbers - The Biathlon is a wave start race. The numbers of skiers in each wave is determined by the configuration of the ski course, as well as the number of biathlon targets.
- C) Start Times – The wave start will use the same start guidelines as the ski race. As a general guideline, the junior high divisions are not started until the last high school skier has exited the biathlon range. This helps create a situation whereby the top junior high skiers find a range that is not congested, and are not subject to wait times. In order to further minimize, and hopefully eliminate, skiers waiting for an open shooting lane at the range, each wave should be separated by a greater amount of time than in the ski race. White Mountain, which has six working targets in the range, has had success with the following scenario: each wave of four skiers is separated by 3 minutes, with the last high school racers exiting the range before the first wave of junior high racers is sent.
- D) Configuration of Waves – See ski race configuration. In general, it is best to include only members from one division in each wave. For logistical purposes, it might be necessary to mix athletes from two different divisions.
- E) Wave Determination – Biathlon waves are determined solely by the finish order from the previous day’s ski race. If there is a person from the first day’s race ski that is unable to complete the course, a wave placement determination will be made by the race directors that uses past race performance. Biathlon waves can be mixed gender.

Some waves, especially those that help determine future Arctic Winter Games participants, can be arranged so that they are racing the same gender. In these circumstances, the moves must be agreed upon by all coaches of moved athletes.

- F) Start/Finish Configuration – The biathlon uses a lap course. See guidelines from the Ski Race.
- G) Biathlon Range Location/Configuration – The biathlon range is ideally in the middle third of each lap on a two-lap course. An adjacent penalty loop, approximately 65 meters in length, must be added.

- H) Shooting Component – The WISA Biathlon is considered a Sprint Race, where participants shoot a series of five shots each time through the course, for a total of 10 shots. All five shots must be fired during each shooting session (eg. any shells prematurely ejected by the shooter must be hand placed, and shot). Each missed shot will result in the participant skiing one penalty lap. A one-minute penalty will be assessed for any shots not fired. A time of one-minute will be added for each penalty lap not skied.
- I) Equipment – All shooters will use the same make and model of rifle, which will be provided by the host site. No personal rifles will be allowed. Participants are not allowed to adjust the rifles in any way during competition. Junior high shooters are allowed to rest their rifles on specifically designed rifle rests, which are provided by the host site. The rests should have multiple levels to accommodate a variety of different-sized athletes. High school shooters may not use a rest. All participants will use the same ammunition as supplied by the host site. Position of rifle: Follows IBU Rule 8.3.3 The lower side of the wrist of the arm supporting the rifle must be distinctly raised from the ground (snow surface). All participants will be briefed prior to the pre-race, morning shooting session. Range RSO (Range Safety Officer) will educate lane workers, who will notify RSO of any violations. Violation of this rule will result in disqualification.
- J) Penalty Lap Alternative – In all biathlon races, organizers should attempt to have a penalty loop. In extreme cases, where a penalty loop cannot be established, a time of 20 seconds will be added to the race time of each high school participant, and a time of 25 seconds will be assessed to the time of each junior high school participant.
- K) Other Time Adjustments – During the shooting process, there might be circumstances that cause a shooter’s time to be affected. If any of these situations are the fault of the shooter (eg. prematurely ejecting a shell) no time adjustment will be made. If a round of ammunition misfires, 10 seconds will be taken off the shooters time at the end of the race. If the athlete has to wait to get to a firing lane, range officials will use stop watches to determine the amount of “wait time” to be reduced from the racers overall time. For any other situations that are not the racers fault, the lead range official will help determine the time to be reduced from a racer’s overall time.
- L) Trail Etiquette – See item G in ski race.
- M) Final Time – Each racer’s final time is their total time on the course plus and/or minus any range adjustments.

Team Relay Procedures (Day 3)

- A) Race Configuration - The team relay is a two-lap race. Both high school and junior high racers use the same course, and race the same distance.
- B) Team Configurations – Each skier is placed on a team, either by their coach, or by a race official. If a site has an even number of skiers (in any one division) greater than two, it can form more than one relay team. Only one designated, point-scoring team from each site, however, may count toward Team Points. Subsequent teams from any site will race exhibition. (exhibition skier’s individual splits, however, will be used to determine Skimeister Awards). The odd numbered skier from any site, in any particular division, can be paired with another partner-less skier from the same site, and ski as an exhibition team. Coaches from sites may choose to form relay teams from different divisions (for example a long Unalakleet high school girl with a lone Unalakleet junior high boy, etc) Coaches have the option of allowing a single skier in a particular division to pair up with a skier from a different site in the same division. If the coaches of two paired skiers cannot agree to a particular relay team’s race order, a coin will be flipped by the race

- official to determine which skier in any formed exhibition pair will go out first. In the case where there is an odd number of participants in any one division, pairs may be created using skiers from different divisions and from different teams that have not skied, by using skiers from other divisions that have already completed their race, or by using coaches. In the last two cases, the skier that has yet to ski will always go out first.
- C) Relay Cards, and Designated and Exhibition Teams - Coaches should bring their relay cards to Friday night's relay meeting. All coaches will submit a relay card for all relay teams related to their site. The card will identify team members, and will identify which order they will go out. The card will also identify which team is being designated as the Team Points scoring team. Unless one of the racers from any particular team is unable to race the following day, these orders are binding upon submission.
- D) Wave Start Numbers and Determination - The Team Relay is a wave start race. The numbers of skiers in each wave is determined by the configuration of the ski course. Courses that do not have immediate constrictions should allow for all designated high school boys Team Point Scoring teams to go out together first. Where there are immediate constrictions, teams may have to go one at a time. The high school girls Team Point Scoring Teams should go out second. All subsequent waves will be exhibition waves and determined by combined times from previous races. For logistical purposes, it might be necessary to mix athletes from two different divisions. Mixed age division teams will race in the older division (for example, the UNK HSG and UNK JHB would race in the high school race).
- E) Start Times - The wave start will use the same start guidelines as the ski race. As a general guideline, the junior high age categories are not started until the last high school team has come across the line. Waves within each age categories are separated by one-minute intervals.
- F) Start/Finish Configuration - The race configuration and logistics should be such that the first skier in any age group will not complete their lap before the start of the last wave in that age group. Therefore, the start and finish line for the relay race should be the same line. This ensures that all racers are racing equal distances. A tag zone that starts at the start/finish line will be established and clearly marked, and extend approximately 15 meters out into the course. Furthermore, where space allows, a finish line should be established adjacent the start line so as to allow waves to start and finish simultaneously without interference. Care must be taken that both lines ensure equal distances for each racer's lap. ~~Optimal tag zone length is 30 meters long.~~
- G) Tagging - The first skier in a pair crosses the finish line and tags his/her partner within the tag zone. The tag must be any part of the body, including torso, back, arms, head, legs. A tag of equipment is not allowed. A tag zone official will identify proper tags. If a tag occurs beyond the tag zone, the official will say "back tag" and the team must come back into the tag zone to complete a proper tag.
- H) Trail Etiquette - see item G in the ski race.
- I) Final Times - The time for each relay pair (point scoring or exhibition) begins when the first skier enters the course, and ends when the second skier crosses the designated finish line. Individual split times for the first racer on a team begins and ends when that skier crosses the start/finish line. The individual split time for the second racer begins when his/her partner crosses the start/finish line, and ends when that second skier completes their lap by crossing the finish line.

G - Skimeister Awards

1. Skimeister Awards are presented to the outstanding skier in each age category for each gender.
2. The award goes to individual skiers using their placement in the ski race, their placement in the biathlon race, and the placement for individual splits in the relay race.
3. Each participant receives a point for each place they take in each race. The skier with the least amount of points at the end of three-day event is declared the Skimeister.
4. In the case of a tie, a cumulative time for each skier is determined using the individual times to the nearest second in each of the three events.
5. In case of a tie after cumulative times are determined, co-winners are declared.

H - The Western Interior Ski/Biathlon Association's Team Trophy Procedure

1. To be considered a team, you must have two skiers from the same site eligible to compete in each race in the meet (see WISA team eligibility requirements).
2. There will be team trophy awards for high school boys, high school girls, junior high boys, and junior high girls.
3. For each race, a team has a *Team Total* calculated from their two top skiers only. Each team's *Team Total* for that day's event would be a sum of their two top placed finishers.

Case Scenario - Assuming that all of the skiers in the particular race are on legitimate teams, then Team B's two top place finishers in the ski race come in 6th and 7th. Team B's *Team Total* for the race would be 13.

Team	Skier 1 Place	Skier 2 Place	<i>Team Total</i>
B	6th	7th	13

4. There may be competitors who are not on counted on their team for the day (ie third or higher place finisher from that team), or who are skiing without a partner. Spots for these competitors will not be included in skier places. This is a system used in cross-country running events to determine team scores, where only team competitors are competing against other team competitors for team points. The intent is to level the playing field for smaller teams.

Case Scenario - Team A places four skiers in the top 10. Team B places two skiers in the top 10. Team C places three skiers in the top 10. A school has a lone skier from the age category who is skiing without a partner. Only the top two skiers from each team are counted.

Competitor	True Race Place (for medals and ribbons)	Adjusted Team Score Place for Team Points
Team A -1	1	1
Lone Skier	2	
Team B-1	3	2
Team C-1	4	3
Team A-2	5	4
Team A-3	6	
Team B-2	7	5
Team C-2	8	6
Team A-4	9	
Team C-3	10	

Note the changes in team scores for each situation. In the old system, teams A and C had extra skiers that skewed the team scores. In the new format team B tied for second place

Team Score - Old System

$$A-1 + A-2 = 1+5=6$$

$$B-1 + B-2 = 3+7=10$$

$$C-1 + C-2 = 4+8=11$$

Team Score - New System

$$A-1 + A-2 = 1+4=5$$

$$B-1 + B-2 = 2+5=7$$

$$C-1 + C-2 = 3+6=9$$

5. During the first day's ski race, Team Points are awarded to each team as determined by the *Team Total*. The first-place team is the one with the lowest *Team Total*, and receives one Team Point. The team with the second lowest *Team Total* receives two Team Points, and so on.

Case Scenario – Using the teams stated above, Team A's *Team Total* is 5. A second team, Team B, has racers finish in 2nd and 5th place, for a *Team Total* of 7. For this race, Team A would receive 1 Team Point, and Team B would receive 2 Team Points.

Team	Skier 1 Place	Skier 2 Place	<i>Team Total</i>	TEAM POINTS
A	1	4	5	1
B	2	5	7	2

6. In the event of a tie for *Team Totals* in any particular race, both teams will receive Team Points for the place that they tie. The place number after the tie will be skipped. The next team completing the race would receive Team Points equal to the number of Team Points in the tie plus 2. So the next team would receive 4 *Team Points*. (ie, third place has been eliminated)

Case Scenario - If two teams, Teams B and C, tie for second place in a particular race, as determined by *Team Totals* (in this case 8 to 8 as shown in column 4), they would both be

awarded two Team Points. No team would receive three Team Points for that race. Team D has the next highest *Team Total*, would be considered the fourth-place team, and would be awarded four Team Points (see column 5).

Team	Skier 1 Place	Skier 2 Place	<i>Team Total</i>	TEAM POINTS
A	1st	4th	5	1
B	2nd	6th	8	2
C	3rd	5th	8	2
D	11th	13th	23	4

7. Team Points are determined for day two's biathlon race using the same *Team Totals* procedure as the ski race.

8) At the end of day two, each team's Team Points for the first two races are added up. A Combined score is posted. The team with the lowest total Team Points after day two is considered to have the lead going into the final day.

8) On the final day of the competition, a Team Relay (see Team Relay procedures) takes place. Only one relay pair from each site is qualified to count toward the Team Points. Each qualifying team is given Team Points that match their placement among qualified teams, The team with the fastest combined time receives one Team Point, and so on. (all remaining teams are considered exhibition).

9) At the end of the Team Relay event, a sum of Team Points for all three events is determined. Trophies are awarded to the three lowest scoring teams. If there are no ties for the top three places, the team with the fewest Team Points wins the Team Trophy, the team with the second fewest Team Points wins the second-place trophy, and the team with the third fewest Team Points wins the third-place trophy.

Case Scenario – In the case below team A would be the winning team by virtue of its two, first place team finishes in the Ski and Biathlon races, along with its second-place finish in the Relay. Team B would be the second-place team, and so on.

Team	Team Pts Ski	Team Pts Biathlon	Team Points - Relay	Total
A	1	1	2	3
B	2	2	1	5
C	2	3	3	8
D	4	4	4	12

10) Ties can occur for any place. If this happens, a tiebreaker formula is used. Regardless of the applicable tie-breaking criteria, the team that wins the tie-breaker is considered the higher placing team in the standings.

- a. The first tiebreaker takes into consideration the *Team Totals* from the two tied teams. The team with the lowest combined adjusted *Team Total* for the ski race, biathlon race, and individual split times in the relay, is declared winner of the tie.

Case Scenario - After three days of competition, Teams B and C are tied for second place with seven Team Points (see column 7). The event finishes (ski race, biathlon and team relay) and Team Points for Team B are 2, 2, 3 = 7. Team B's Team Points for the three events are 2, 3, 2 = 7. (see table 1)

	SKI RACE	BIATHLON RACE	TEAM RELAY	Final Tally		
	<i>Team</i>	Team	<i>Team</i>	Team		
Team	<i>Totals</i>	Points	<i>Totals</i>	Points	Finish	Sum of Team Points
B	6+7=13	2	5+7=12	2	3	2+2+3=7
C	4+9=13	2	6+8=14	3	2	2+3+2=7

- b. For the first tie breaker, team points for all three event finishes are considered. For the ski race, Team B's top skiers came in 6th and 7th place for a *Team Total* of 13, and Team C's top skiers came in 4th and 9th for a *Team Total* of 13. During the biathlon race, Team B's top athletes came in 5th and 7th for a *Team Total* of 12, while Team C's top finishers came in 6th and 8th for a *Team Total* of 14. During the team relay, Team B had skiers with the fifth and ninth fastest split times for a total of 14, while Team C had the fourth and eighth fastest splits, for a total of 14.

	SKI RACE	BIATHLON RACE	TEAM RELAY	TEAM TOTALS
	Team	Team	Indiv	
Team	Totals	Totals	Splits	
B	6+7= 13	5+9= 12	5+9= 14	13+12+14= 39
C	4+9= 13	6+8= 14	6+8= 14	13+14+14= 41

Team	Team totals	Final Place
B	13 + 12 + 14 = 39	2
C	13 + 14 + 14 = 41	3

In this case, Teams B would exit the competition as the second-place team, with C being the third-place team.

- c. In some cases, after determining the *Team Totals* for the two tied teams, (as done in the *Team*

Total tie-breaker format described above) two teams could remain tied. When this occurs, the total elapsed times would be added for the *Team Totals* finishers of each member of the relay team. Elapsed times would include relay team members race times and biathlon times, and the relay splits from a designated relay team. The team with the lowest total elapsed time would win the tiebreaker. Times are considered to the second as shown on the timing device.

11) In the event that a tie would still occur after elapsed times were calculated; the teams would remain tied for that position. WISA would be responsible for editing name plates for any of the team trophies.

I - The Western Interior Ski/Biathlon Association's Arctic Winter Games (AWG) Biathlon Selection Process

I. Arctic Winter Games Qualification Background

The Arctic Winter Games (AWG) occur on even numbered years. Team Alaska (the organizational body for AWG's athletes from Alaska) offers six spots to Western Interior Ski/Biathlon Association (WISA) athletes. Three spots are awarded to ski biathletes, and three to snowshoe biathletes. WISA uses its WISA Championships biathlon race, on odd numbered years, to determine its Arctic Winter Games qualifiers.

The financial limitation of travel in the bush makes this early qualification a necessity. This gives pre-qualified, rural athletes a full year to train for the upcoming Arctic Winter Games event. It also provides additional time for rural athletes to fundraise to cover expenses and secure a passport.

NOTE 1: In 2018 WISA received an additional two Team Alaska biathlon spots. WISA has averaged 54 racers at the qualification race series over the last six AWG cycles (dating back 12 years). Those numbers do not include the racers from regional WISA qualification races. When those numbers were added to the 2018 WISA Championships numbers, a total of nearly 100 rural athletes participated in the AWG process. By contrast, in 2018 the road system had 12 participants attend qualification races for 12 available spots.

It is an honor for WISA to have six guaranteed spots for Team Alaska's Biathlon squad. WISA helps Team Alaska represent the entire state. WISA athletes lend ethnic and cultural diversity to Team Alaska, which is the mission and spirit of the Arctic Winter Games. Our rural and predominately native populations are proud to have the opportunity to attend AWG events.

II. WISA's AWG Participation Process

WISA has established a system whereby the two top-ranked, qualified biathlon race finishers from both the high school boys (Juniors born in 2002, 2003, 2004), and high school girls (Juniors born in 2002, 2003, 2004) have priority to earn spots on Team Alaska. The top-ranked, qualified finisher in each high school biathlon race is placed on the ski biathlon team, the second-ranked, qualified finisher is placed on the snowshoe biathlon team. Athletes who accept WISA's Team Alaska spots must meet all the criteria below to be accepted by WISA. (see Qualification Criteria)

Two Team Alaska spots have been reserved expressly for junior high (juveniles born in 2005 or later) athletes. One spot will be for a male athlete and the other for a female athlete. One of the spots will be used for ski biathlon and the other for snowshoe biathlon. The WISA board will make the determination for which division receives which spot at the annual WISA Board of Directors meeting. This meeting occurs the night after the WISA/AWG biathlon qualification race. Strength of each division will be one determining factor. Another factor will be the availability of junior athletes (see NOTE 2 below).

WISA Qualification Criteria for AWG

- Athletes must be from schools that are small and rural. (Athletes attending the WISA meet from large, urban areas may compete as an exhibition, but are not allowed to qualify for WISA's AWG spots. Please refer to Section C for more details).
- Athletes must attend high school or middle school during the AWG's competition year, and live at the site of the team in which they qualified. The only exceptions are intra-WISA transfers, including moves to attend a residential school in Nenana or Galena.
- The WISA Board must determine that each athlete will be competitive in his or her category. These discussions are based primarily on athletes having no other major conflicting activities during the training period. (for example; students participating in high school basketball have scheduling conflicts that make participation in both sports difficult). In the case of tie votes by the board, the president will make the final decision.
- Athletes must have coaching from an on-site WISA coach. This coach not only helps with training, but aids in communication and paperwork handling between the athlete and Team Alaska. The coach vouches for, and agrees to supervise, the athlete in regards to training commitments. This person also helps the athlete secure funds for the added expenses involved in each sport.
- Athletes agree to train for the sport of skiing or snowshoeing, and develop proficiency in shooting a rifle.
- Athletes must be able to secure finances. While Team Alaska pays for some of the costs for transportation to the event site, room, board, and Team Alaska gear, the athlete is responsible for an entry fee. The athlete must pay a ski uniform fee. For skiers, there will be an additional wax fee, and for biathletes, an additional fee for ammunition.
- Athlete agrees to secure a passport for years that the games are outside of Alaska. Passports should be secured soon after accepting the WISA spot.
- In the case of biathlon, an athlete agrees to secure a competition grade biathlon rifle, and practice extensively with it throughout the year.

III. Conditional qualifications and Exceptions

As noted above, some top finishers are racers that cannot qualify due to age restrictions. Age categories are changed from one game cycle to the next. Anticipated age restrictions for the 2020 Arctic Winter Games: – Junior Division, born during the years 2002, 2003, 2004; and Juvenile Division, born in 2005, or later). For specific age requirements to upcoming games refer to the website - <http://www.teamalaska.org/>).

There have also been instances where top WISA biathlon finishers have declined the offer to represent WISA at the AWG's. In these cases, the WISA board will determine worthy representatives to fill WISA's vacant spots (see below). In the case of a tie vote by the board, the president will make the final decision. To aid the board in this decision-making process, the following rubric is used to guide the coaches in the decision-making.

1. Athlete is a lower place finisher. Finishers lower than second will be considered in order. The board must determine each prospective participant to be competitive in their respective category. These athletes must fulfill all the criteria in Number II above.
2. Top Junior High finishers who fulfill the criteria in number II can be chosen if no viable high school candidates are found.
3. Race results from regional qualifying races can also be used. Athletes from these events are considered to be on the "alternate" athletes list.

NOTE 2: As per tradition, Junior high (juvenile) athletes will be used to fill any unfilled High school (junior spots). This situation will influence the determination of which Junior High gender gets the ski spot. For example, in 2010, the top female junior declined the position to concentrate on basketball (she later became the top scorer on the National Championship runner-up UAA Seawolves basketball squad). The second ranked female was a graduating senior. The third ranked female accepted the Junior Ski Biathlon position. But, there were no other junior female athletes willing to make the commitment for the Snowshoe Biathlon spot. This position was then offered to, and accepted by, the top Junior High female.

If the above situation was to occur again, WISA would keep the balance of spots by having the WISA junior high female division use one ski biathlon spot and one snowshoe biathlon spot. The male junior high male division would then receive a snowshoe spot.

J - The Western Interior Ski/Biathlon Association's Arctic Winter Games (AWG) Selection Process: Cross-Country Skiing

WISA has established a system whereby the top cross country ski race finishers (one from the high school boys, and one from the high school girls) can earn spots on Team Alaska's Cross Country Ski Team. Athletes who accept WISA's Team Alaska spots must also meet all the base criteria (see bullets for AWG Biathlon Selection).

The board will determine worthy representatives to fill WISA's vacant cross-country spots. In the case of tie votes by the board, the president will make the final decision. To aid the board in this decision-making process it will consider race results, a participant's ability to meet base criteria, and coaches input.

In some cases, a skier that is not a ski race winner will be considered for the Team Alaska spot. In these cases, the following rubric is used to guide the board in the decision-making.

1. Athlete is a lower place finisher. Finishers lower than second will be considered in order. The board, must determine a prospective participant to be highly competitive and competent in their respective category. These athletes must fulfill all the base criteria.
2. Athletes must agree to further their proficiency in both the skating and classic techniques.
3. Top Junior High finishers are chosen who fulfill the criteria in number II if no viable high school candidates are found.

Team Alaska Categories for Cross Country Skiing: The team consists of 24 skiers, plus three coaches. The athlete pools consist of 4 Junior Boys, 4 Junior Girls, 4 Juvenile Boys, 4 Juvenile Girls, 4 Midget Boys, 4 Midget Girls.

Age categories are changed from one game cycle to the next. Juniors, born in 2002 or 2003: Juveniles, born in 2004 or 2005: Midgets, born in 2006 or 2007

For specific age requirements to upcoming games refer to the website – <http://www.teamalaska.org/>.

K - The Western Interior Ski/Biathlon Association's Arctic Winter Games (AWG) Selection Process: Contingency Plan

In case the WISA Championships are not run due to weather, or other unforeseen circumstances, the WISA Board of Directors will meet via tele-conference call to determine the six WISA spots for the upcoming Arctic Winter Games.

Item's used in the determination will include this season's race results, last seasons' race results, and coaches' recommendations.

L - Western Interior Ski/Biathlon Association Championships Hosting Responsibilities

1. Trophies, ribbons, medals, plaques

I) **Supplied by host site.**

- a) Team Plaques – 1st, 2nd, 3rd for High School Boys (HSB), High School Girls (HSG), Junior High Boys (JHB), and Junior High Girls (JHG). A subtotal of 12. Plaques have dimensions no larger 8x10 inch photo plaque.
- b) Sportsmanship Plaque - one plaque, to bring the total to 13 plaques. Plaques have dimensions no larger 8x10-inch photo plaque.
- c) Skimeister Trophies – 1 each for HSB, HSG, JHB, and JHG. (total of 4) Trophies are no taller than ? inches.
- d) Rosettes – 4th -10th place for Ski Race and Biathlon race for each division - HSB, HSG, JHB, and JHG. (total of 28 for each event/56 total for both)
- e) Individual Medals – Gold, Silver, and Bronze for Ski Race and Biathlon race for HSB, HSG, JHB, and JHG. (subtotal of 24)
- f) Relay Medals – Two of each - Gold, Silver, and Bronze for Relay Race teammates, HSB, HSG, JHB, and JHG. (subtotal of 24) (48 total medals – Individual and relay)
- g) Participation Ribbons – One for each participant. (Approximately 80)

II. Suggested engraving for medals (for example)

WISA
2012 Galena
X-Country Biathlon
High School Boys
1st Place

III. Suggested writing on rosettes

Button: Biathlon or X-C Skiing
Ribbon: WISA Championships, Site, Event, Year,

IV. Participant Ribbons: WISA Championships, Site, Event, Year

V. Trophies: WISA Championships, Site, Event, Year, HS or JH, Gender,
Skimeister

VI. Plaques: WISA Championships, Site, Event, Year, HS or JH, Gender, Team
Place (1st, 2nd, 3rd)

2. Event Coordinator (one who is the central communications liaison for the meet)
3. Race Marshal. May be a different person for each race. This person is responsible for lining up, and starting each race.
4. Race Workers (beside the Race Marshal).
 - Ski Race – ????
 - Biathlon Race – ????
 - Relay Race - ????
5. Data Entry Specialists. Who will produce, among other things, a start-time list – based on past race results first, and coach’s input second. This should be determined as early in the week prior to the meet as possible.
6. Trail
 - assuring appropriate, safe course
 - clearing trail of brush
 - flagging to mark possible wrong routes along race course
 - marking start zones and biathlon range
 - Although there may be sections that are narrower, the trail should be at wide enough to pass the majority of the trail.
7. Trail Dragging and grooming before and after each race
8. Food (B-L-D & Snacks) and cooks to prepare the food
9. Race Packets which includes: guest expectations, job responsibilities, emergency and contact (clinic, principal, coach phone numbers) information, local store hours and schedule.
10. Copy Race Maps for each race (if the course is different)
11. Bus (transportation to race course if not in walking distance).
12. Ammunition (at least 3 bricks)
13. Guns (all guns must be identical make and model, WISA currently uses Anschutz Model 64.)
14. Targets preferably 6 targets, with a minimum of 4.
15. Numbered Bibs (should say WISA, year, and host site)
16. Biathlon Range, The biathlon range must be in place, and tested at least 1 week prior to the WISA meet. The following items will be necessary for each race:
 - a trained biathlon ranger master
 - one volunteer per lane to monitor guns
 - clip loaders
 - markings for lanes (flags, spruce boughs, etc.)

- penalty loop and penalty loop personnel
 - mats
 - rests with various height levels for JH
17. Wax Room with posted hours of usage.
 18. Room Assignments (chaperones secured if there are not enough of either gender from the coaching pool)
 19. Accurate timing devices and people who know how to use the equipment
 20. Data recording software and someone to enter data
 21. Local health officials notified about the race event
 20. Trail Preview Time and local skiers to help preview (see schedule of events)
 22. Transportation to and from the airport to the hosting school.
 23. Radios for communication between Race Marshal and Range Manager

2. Supplied by WISA:

- a) Marksmanship medals for competitors who shoot clean (10 of 10) in the biathlon race. Since it is never known how many skiers will shoot clean, these medals should be undated and bought in bulk.
- b) Wax for all ski conditions.

M – Sample 3-day Schedule

Day 1 – Thursday

8:00 - ???? Teams arrive
8:00 -12:00 Trail Preview
11:15 pm Lunch
1:00 pm Coaches meeting
2:00 pm Skiers meeting
3:00 pm Ski race
5:00 pm Dinner
7:30 pm Awards
8:30 pm Students relax and visit
Wax Room is available.
9:30 pm Snacks
10:30 pm Lights out

Day 2 – Friday

7:30 am Wake up
8:00 am Breakfast
8:00 am to 9:00 a.m. Breakfast
9:30 am to 12:00 noon Marksmanship practice
11:15 am Lunch
1:00 pm Coaches meeting
1:30 pm Skiers meeting
2:30 pm Biathlon competition
5:00 pm Dinner
7:30 pm Awards
8:30 pm WISA annual Meeting
8:30 pm Students relax and visit in the gym
9:30 pm Snacks
10:30 pm Snacks and lights out

Day 3 – Saturday, March 26

8:00 am Wake up and breakfast
9:30 am Skiers meeting in the gym
10:30 am Relay race
11:30 am Lunch
12:30 pm Clean up school and pack up in preparation for departure
1:00 pm Awards
2:00 pm Teams begin to depart

N - WISA Wax Protocol

The day prior to each race, a member of the host competition committee will determine the wax to be used in the ski race on Day One. The choices will range from Swix CH green, CH blue, CH purple or CH red. Racers who choose to wax are obliged to follow the chosen wax for that day. The wax for each subsequent race will be determined in a similar manner. Wax will be provided by WISA, as long as adequate funds exist in the WISA account. An assortment of wax will be distributed to as many sites as possible prior to the WISA meet. Good sportsmanship will be called upon to help all WISA skiers prepare their skis for the race. Communication will be made announcing the first day's wax to traveling coaches prior to their travel for the Day 1 ski race.

O – Western Interior Ski and Biathlon Championships Participation Fees

WISA teams are asked to contribute a yearly meet fee. These fees go to paying for things like medals for marksmanship, and snowshoes for Arctic Winter Games participants. The fees have been set at \$15 per participant. These charges may vary depending on the needs of the host site. The traveling coach for each team is responsible for bringing one check for the entire traveling team to be presented to the WISA president at the first coach's meeting at the WISA Championships.

P – WISA Participation Invitation Letter (Sample)

Western Interior Ski Association
PO Box 1333
Nome, Alaska 99762

Dear rural ski program director and/or coach:

The Western Interior Ski Association (WISA) would like to offer a most heartfelt invitation for young skiers and biathletes from your site to participate in the 2019 Western Interior Ski and Biathlon Championships in White Mountain on March 28-30.

WISA was established in 1987 by Bering Strait School District ski coordinator John Miles and several ski coaches from interior Alaska. John, who was inducted into the Alaska Cross Country Ski Hall of Fame in 2016, realized the best ski conditions (snow amount, temperature and usable daylight) in much of off-road system Alaska occur in the five weeks after ASAA's February state ski meet. The WISA founders recognized the impracticality of small, rural schools competing against Alaska's large, urban institutions. The solution was to create The Annual Western Interior Ski and Biathlon Championships, an event attended by off-road system schools.

ASAA's urban, road-system meets feature classic and skate ski races. WISA coaches would like to teach both techniques, but since rural programs currently provide ski equipment for most of their participants, this is cost prohibitive. In lieu of a classic race, WISA has created a biathlon race, which taps into the inherent hunting skills of rural athletes.

The location of the annual WISA event alternates between west coast and interior sites. This coming year the Championships will take place in White Mountain. Our three-day get-together starts with a skate race on Thursday, March 29. A biathlon race will be held on Friday, and relays occur on Saturday. Distance-appropriate courses are set up for junior high (5th-8th grade) and high school athletes. The biathlon range is well managed for safety. Meals, housing and transportation from the White Mountain Airport to the school is provided. WISA supplies wax, and assistance with waxing. All WISA asks is a \$20 per skier fee to help cover site costs.

WISA is excited to see skiing and biathlon growing in rural Alaska. In 2017, we had participants from Buckland and last year from Anuktuvuk Pass. They all did great! We are excited about the possibility of more athletes from NANA, ASRC and other rural regions attending the 2019 WISA Championships.

One of the greatest joys for us is to see young, rural people from all over the state get together annually to celebrate the sports of skiing and biathlon. The development of community at a WISA meet is truly magical. WISA kids race together, meet and make lifelong friends, and form important future cross-cultural and cross-regional relationships.

I am here to support you, and answer all your questions. My goal is to help make your visit to the 2019 WISA event a reality. Please call, text or email at any time.

Sincerely,

Keith Conger
WISA President, Nome Nordic Head Coach
(907) 434-2268
congo6@gci.net
<https://wisaskiing.org>

Q – Annual WISA Board Meeting

The Annual WISA Board Meeting closely follow the conclusion of Relay Meeting

Current Board:

Keith Conger – President

Nancy Persons

Chuck Hugny

Sandy Scotton

Board members must be active WISA coaches. Board Members serve until they choose not to.

The WISA meeting takes place the second night of the Western Interior Ski and Biathlon Championships. Once the short meeting to discuss the relay race has been concluded, coaches of the teams attending the meet will gather to discuss the items below. This group will be known as the Western Interior Ski/Biathlon Association Board. Other people are invited to give ideas to the board. The meeting is to be facilitated by the current president. This board will be the governing body for the year until the beginning of the subsequent year's meeting.

1. News from around the state in regards to biathlon
2. Next year's championship site
3. WISA fee change determination (if any), and uses of funds
4. Rules and procedures issues
5. Other topics
6. Voting for president

It is expected that the board president will seek out the WISA board spot of the Alaska Biathlon Association.

R - WISA Contacts and Resources

Current WISA President

Keith Conger
(907) 443-2268
congo6@gci.net

Past President

Jack Adams
jadams@wmo.bssd.org

Unalakleet Coach

Nancy Persons
907-625-1263
skibc@icloud.com

Galena Coach

Sandy Scotton
(907) 656-7100
wildthings@exede.net

WISA Historian/ past president

Chuck Hugny
PO Box 4
Nenana AK 99760
chugny@yahoo.com

Past President

Rudy Howard
907-229-3945
rudyalaska@mac.com

Past President

Eric Morris
907 638-3051
emorris@ak.net

Bering Straits School District Athletic Director

Jeff Erickson
jerickson@bssd.org

Galena School District Athletic Director

907-656-1205

Nenana School District Athletic Director

Tanana School District Athletic Director

Arnold Marks
907-366-7203

Nome Public Schools Athletic Director
Pat Callahan
pcallahan@nomeschools.com

WISA Webpage Manager
Matthew Stark
mattdstark@gmail.com

Arctic Winter Games/Team Alaska
<http://www.arcticwintergames.org/>
<http://www.teamalaska.org/>

Alaska Biathlon Association
Steve Wilson
Anchorage, Alaska

Biathlon Alaska
Tom Grenier
907-345-1084
tomgrenier@alaska.net

Nordic Journeys
Robin Kornfield
Anchorage, Alaska

United States Biathlon Association (USBA)
<http://www.teamusa.org/US-Biathlon.aspx>

Nordic Ski Association of Anchorage (NSAA)
<http://www.anchoragenordicski.com/Racing/Biathlon/index.htm>

Cross Country Alaska
<http://www.crosscountryalaska.org/>

S - Historical Results

The first WISA was held in 87 in Kaltag.. The date of the first WISA was April 2 –4 1987. The High school skied 7.5K and the Jr. High distance was 5K.

High school boys Skimeister – Josh Gillespie (Koyuk)
High school girl Skimeister – Madeline Solomon (Kaltag)
Jr. High boy Skimeister – George Woods (Tanana)
Jr. High girls Skimeister – Marion Nicoli (Kaltag)

Team winners

High school boys – Anoka
High school girls – Kaltag
Jr. high boys – Tanana
Jr. high girls - Tanana

Sportsmanship - Kaltag

White Mountain 1988 WISA

High school boys Skimeister – Josh Gillespie (Koyuk)
High school girl Skimeister- Helen Amaktoolik (Golovin)
Jr. high boy Skimeister – Shannon Barker (McGrath)
Jr. high girl Skimeister – Marion Nicoli (Kaltag)

Team winners

High school boys – Tanana
High school girls – Tanana
Jr. High boys – Elim
Jr. High girls – Koyukuk

Sportsmanship – Tanana

Shagaluk1989 WISA

High school boys Skimeister – Charles Sachems (Elim)
High school girl Skimeister- Beverly Lincoln (White Mt.)
Jr. high boy Skimeister – Eric Walker (Holy Cross)
Jr. high girl Skimeister – Anna Nagaruk (Elim)

Team winners

High school boys – Elim
High school girls – Tanana
Jr. High boys – Elim
Jr. High girls – Elim

Sportsmanship – Tanana

Nulato 1990 WISA

High school boys Skimeister – Charles Morgan (Ruby)
High school girl Skimeister- Anna Nagaruk (Elim)
Jr. high boy Skimeister – Dustin Gillespie (Koyuk)
Jr. high girl Skimeister – Kim Marvelous (Koyuk)

Team winners

High school boys – Ruby
High school girls – Nulato
Jr. High boys – Keokuk
Jr. High girls – Keokuk

Sportsmanship – Nulato

White Mt. 1991 WISA

High school boys Skimeister –	John Ekada (Nulato)
High school girl Skimeister-	Abby Anasoguk (Koyuk)
Jr. high boy Skimeister –	Dustin Gillispie (Koyuk)
Jr. high girl Skimeister –	Kim Kavairlouk (Koyuk)

Team winners

High school boys – Nulato
 High school girls – Huslia
 Jr. High boys – Koyuk
 Jr. High girls – Koyuk

Sportsmanship – Nulato

Tanana 1992 WISA

High school boys Skimeister –	Harvey Agloinga (Golovin)
High school girl Skimeister-	Jeneva Sam (Huslia)
Jr. high boy Skimeister –	Nathan Nagaruk (Elim)
Jr. high girl Skimeister –	Corinna Moore (Tanana)

Team winners

High school boys – Tanana
 High school girls – Koyuk
 Jr. High boys – Kaltag
 Jr. High girls – Tanana

Sportsmanship – Bering Straits team

Kaltag 1993 WISA

High school boys Skimeister –	Harvey Agloinga (Elim)
High school girl Skimeister-	Jeneva Sam (Huslia)
Jr. high boy Skimeister –	Marvin Takak (Elim)
Jr. high girl Skimeister –	Anjoli Guthrie (Tanana)

Team winners

High school boys – Elim
 High school girls –Huslia
 Jr. High boys – Elim
 Jr. High girls – Kaltag

Sportsmanship - Huslia

White Mt. 1994 WISA

High school boys Skimeister –	Carl Erhart (Tanana)
High school girl Skimeister-	Bess Greenan (Minto)
Jr. high boy Skimeister –	Aaron Marks (Allakaket)
Jr. high girl Skimeister –	Anjoli Guthrie (Tanana)

Team winners

High school boys – Tanana
 High school girls – Minto
 Jr. High boys – Tanana
 Jr. High girls – Nulato

Sportsmanship - Allakaket

Tanana 1995 WISA

High school boys Skimeister –	Carl Erhart (Tanana)
High school girl Skimeister-	Anjoli Guthrie (Tanana)
Jr. high boy Skimeister –	James Ione (White Mt.)
Jr. high girl Skimeister –	Andrea Durny (Nulato)

Team winners

High school boys – Elim
High school girls – Tanana
Jr. High boys – Tanana
Jr. High girls – Nulato

Sportsmanship – Galena

Kaltag 1996 WISA (10th annual)

High school boys Skimeister –	Aaron Marks (McGrath)
High school girl Skimeister-	Stephanie Marks (Tanana)
Jr. high boy Skimeister –	Arnold Marks (Tanana)
Jr. high girl Skimeister –	Trisha Gray (White Mt.)

Team winners

High school boys – Elim
High school girls – White Mt.
Jr. High boys – Tanana
Jr. High girls – White Mt.

Sportsmanship -

White Mt. 1997 WISA

High school boys Skimeister –	Louie Carlo (Tanana)
High school girl Skimeister-	Stephanie Marks (Tanana)
Jr. high boy Skimeister –	Arnold Marks (Tanana)
Jr. high girl Skimeister –	Trisha Gray (White Mt.)

Team winners

High school boys – White Mt.
High school girls – No team
Jr. High boys – White Mt.
Jr. High girls – White Mt.

Sportsmanship – White Mt.

White Mt. 1998 WISA

High school boys Skimeister –	Arnold Marks (Tanana)
High school girl Skimeister-	Trisha Gray (White Mt.)
Jr. high boy Skimeister –	Jay Adams (White Mt.)
Jr. high girl Skimeister –	Ella Morris (White Mt.)

Team winners

High school boys – White Mt.
High school girls – White Mt.
Jr. High boys – White Mt.
Jr. High girls – White Mt.

Sportsmanship – White Mt.

Tanana 1999 WISA

High school boys Skimeister –	Arnold Marks (Tanana)
High school girl Skimeister-	Katie Morris (White Mt.)
Jr. high boy Skimeister –	Jay Adams (White Mt.)
Jr. high girl Skimeister –	Dora Hughes (Teller)

Team winners

High school boys –White Mt.
High school girls –White Mt.
Jr. High boys – White Mt.
Jr. High girls – White Mt.

Sportsmanship – Shaktoolik

White Mt. 2000 WISA

High school boys Skimeister –	Henry Titus (White Mt.)
High school girl Skimeister-	Jolene Arkell (Kaltag)
Jr. high boy Skimeister –	Travis Gray (White Mt.)
Jr. high girl Skimeister –	Vera Shoogukwruk (White Mt.)

Team winners

High school boys – White Mt.
High school girls – no team
Jr. High boys – Koyuk
Jr. High girls – White Mt.

Sportsmanship -

Kaltag 2001 WISA

High school boys Skimeister –	Jory Barnhill (Galena)
High school girl Skimeister-	Janelle Williams (Koyukuk)
Jr. high boy Skimeister –	Charles MacKinnon (Koyuk)
Jr. high girl Skimeister –	Kristie Ione (White Mt.)

Team winners

High school boys – White Mt.
High school girls – No team
Jr. High boys – Nenana
Jr. High girls – White Mt.

Sportsmanship – Koyuk

White Mt. 2002 WISA

High school boys Skimeister –	Jory Barnhill (Galena)
High school girl Skimeister-	Janice Arkell (Galena)
Jr. high boy Skimeister –	Jory Peterson (Golovin)
Jr. high girl Skimeister –	Kristie Ione (White Mt.)

Team winners

High school boys – White Mt.
High school girls – Nenana
Jr. High boys – Nenana
Jr. High girls – White Mt.

Sportsmanship – Galena

Galena 2003 WISA

High school boys Skimeister –	Jay Adams (White Mt.)
High school girl Skimeister-	Jessica Brown (White Mt.)
Jr. high boy Skimeister –	Hunter Gray (White Mt.)
Jr. high girl Skimeister –	Alice Ione (White Mt.)

Team winners

High school boys – White Mt.
High school girls – White Mt.
Jr. High boys – White Mt.
Jr. High girls – Golovin

Sportsmanship – Nenana

White Mt. 2004 WISA

High school boys Skimeister – Hunter Gray (White Mt.)
High school girl Skimeister- Alice Ione (White Mt.)
Jr. high boy Skimeister – Darrel Takak (Golovin)
Jr. high girl Skimeister – Sara Morris (White Mt.)

Team winners

High school boys – Golovin
High school girls – Golovin
Jr. High boys – Koyuk
Jr. High girls – Tanana

Sportsmanship - ???

Galena 2005 WISA

High school boys Skimeister – Tobin Hugny-Farr (Nenana)
High school girl Skimeister- Hailey Scofield (Nome)
Jr. high boy Skimeister – Jeff Bue (Fairbanks)
Jr. high girl Skimeister – Ruby Campbell (Tanana)

Team winners

High school boys – Nenana
High school girls – Galena
Jr. High boys – Galena
Jr. High girls – Tanana

Sportsmanship – Koyukuk

Tanana 2006 WISA (20th annual)

High school boys Skimeister – Tobin Hugny-Farr (Nenana)
High school girl Skimeister- Kallie Brown (Galena)
Jr. high boy Skimeister – Richard Sommer (Galena)
Jr. high girl Skimeister – Nikki Fennimore (Galena)

Team winners

High school boys – White Mt.
High school girls – Galena
Jr. High boys – Galena
Jr. High girls – Galena

Sportsmanship –Nenana

White Mt. 2007 WISA

High school boys Skimeister – Colin Campbell (Tanana)
High school girls Skimeister - Nikki Fennimore (Galena)
Jr. high boys Skimeister - Emerson Conger (Nome)
Jr. high girls Skimeister - Sierra Corsetti (Unalakleet)

Team winners

High school boys – Tanana
High school girls – Galena
Jr. High boys - Nome
Jr. High girls - White Mt.

Sportsmanship - Nome

White Mt. 2008 WISA

High school boys Skimeister – Emerson Conger (Nome)
High school girls Skimeister – Nikki Fennimore (Galena)
Jr. high boys Skimeister - Shyler Johnson (Unalakleet)
Jr. high girls Skimeister - Jenna Buchanan (Galena)

Team winners

High school boys – Tanana
High school girls – Galena
Jr. High boys – Galena
Jr. High girls – Unalakleet

Sportsmanship - Galena

Nenana – Birch Hill, Fairbanks, 2009 WISA

High school boys Skimeister – Emerson Conger (Nome)
High school girls Skimeister – Jenna Buchanan (Galena)
Jr. high boys Skimeister - Asa Bergamschi (White Mountain)
Jr. high girls Skimeister - Season Haugan (Unalakleet)

Team winners

High school boys – Nome
High school girls – Galena
Jr. High boys - Unalakleet
Jr. High girls - Unalakleet

Sportsmanship – Nome

Sharp Shooters

High School Boys – none
High School Girls – none
Junior High Boys – Ben Currier (UNK)
Miranda Murphy - (Nome)

Tanana 2010 WISA

High school boys Skimeister – Emerson Conger (Nome)
High school girls Skimeister – Sierra Corsetti (Unalakleet)
Jr. high boys Skimeister – Corey Ningeulook (Shishmaref)
Jr. high girls Skimeister - Aly Daniels (Unalakleet)

Team winners

High school boys – Nome
High school girls – Nome
Jr. High boys - Shishmaref
Jr. High girls - Unalakleet

Sportsmanship – Unalakleet

Sharp Shooters

High School Boys – none
High School Girls – none
Junior High Boys – Dominic Richardson (St. Michael)
Junior High Girls - None

White Mountain 2011 WISA

High school boys Skimeister – Emerson Conger (Nome)
High school girls Skimeister – Rosa Schmidt (Nome)
Jr. high boys Skimeister – Kaleb Korta (Galena)
Jr. high girls Skimeister - Aly Daniels (Unalakleet)

Team winners

High school boys – Nome
High school girls – Nome
Jr. High boys – White Mountain
Jr. High girls - Unalakleet

Sportsmanship – Galena

Sharp Shooters

High School Boys – None
High School Girls – Miranda Murphy (Nome)
Junior High Boys – Sikulik Johnson (UNK), Jacob Moos (Galena), Kadyn Erickson (UNK)
Junior High Girls – Amanda Homekingkeo (Koyuk)

Galena 2012 WISA

High school boys Skimeister – Asa Bergamaschi (WMO)
High school girls Skimeister – Caitlyn Tozier (Nome)
Jr. high boys Skimeister – Kaleb Korta (Galena)
Jr. high girls Skimeister – Carolyn Sam (Galena)

Team winners

High school boys – White Mountain
High school girls – Nome
Jr. High boys – Galena
Jr. High girls - Galena

Sportsmanship – Teller

Sharp Shooters:

High school boys – Asa Bergamaschi (White Mt.)
High school girls – none
Jr. high boys – Jacob Moos (Galena), Sigfred Brown (WMO)
Jr. high girls – Kameron Reitan (Gal), Anika Mudge (Nenana), Amanda Homkingkeo (Koyuk)

White Mountain 2013 WISA

High school boys Skimeister – Kaleb Korta (Galena)
High school girls Skimeister – Aly Daniels (Unalakleet)
Jr. high boys Skimeister – Sikulik Johnson (Unalakleet)
Jr. high girls Skimeister – Sarah Brown (Galena)

Team winners

High school boys – Galena
High school girls – Unalakleet
Jr. High boys – Galena
Jr. High girls - Galena

Sportsmanship – Saint Michaels

Sharp Shooters:

High school boys – none
High school girls – none
Jr. high boys – Jacob Moos (Galena)
Jr. high girls – Shayna Warnke-Green (Nome), Jennifer Hanson (White Mt.)

Birch Hill/Nenana 2014 WISA

High school boys Skimeister – Kaleb Korta (Galena)
High school girls Skimeister – Rosa Schmidt (Nome)
Jr. high boys Skimeister – Jacob Moos (Galena)
Jr. high girls Skimeister – Kiana Korta (Galena)

Team winners

High school boys – Galena
High school girls – Unalakleet
Jr. High boys – Galena
Jr. High girls - Galena

Sportsmanship – Unalakleet

Sharp Shooters:

High school boys – none
High school girls – none
Jr. high boys – Jacob Moos (Galena)
Jr. high girls – none

White Mountain 2015 WISA

High school boys Skimeister – Jacob Moos (Galena)
High school girls Skimeister – Bianca Trowbridge (Nome)
Jr. high boys Skimeister – Daniel Kopp (Galena)
Jr. high girls Skimeister – Mallory Conger (Nome)

Team winners

High school boys – White Mountain
High school girls – Nome
Jr. High boys – Galena
Jr. High girls - Nome

Sportsmanship – Unalakleet

Sharp Shooters:

High school boys – Wilson Hoogendorn (Nome)
High school girls – none
Jr. high boys – Percy Agloinga (White Mountain)
Jr. high girls – Mallory Conger (Nome), Breanna McLain (Galena)

Galena 2016 WISA (30th annual)

High school boys Skimeister – Jacob Moos (Galena)
High school girls Skimeister – Bianca Trowbridge (Nome)
Jr. high boys Skimeister – Daniel Kopp (Galena)
Jr. high girls Skimeister – Mallory Conger (Nome)

Team winners

High school boys – Nome
High school girls – Nome
Jr. High boys – Galena
Jr. High girls - Nome

Sportsmanship – Teller

Sharp Shooters:

High school boys – none
High school girls – none
Jr. high boys – David Gomez (Manley), Cashious Bergman (Galena),

Jr. high girls – Maya Kralik (Nome)

White Mountain 2017 WISA

High School Boys Skimeister – Ben Cross (Nome)
High School Girls Skimeister – Mallory Conger (Nome)
Junior High Boys Skimeister – Tobin Hobbs (Nome)
Junior High Girls Skimeister – Clara Hansen (Nome)

Team Winners

High School Boys – Nome
High School Girls – Nome
Junior High Boys – Galena
Junior High Girls – Galena

Sportsmanship - Nome

Sharp Shooters

High School Boys – none
High School Girls – none
Junior High Boys – Carter Commack (UNK), Cashious Bergman (GAL), Tristan Hobbs (OME)
Junior High Girls – Sable Scotton (GAL), Zoey Brown (Nena)

Birch Hill 2018 WISA

High School Boys Skimeister – Tobin Hobbs (Nome)
High School Girls Skimeister – Mallory Conger (Nome)
Junior High Boys Skimeister – Joe Riddle (Galena)
Junior High Girls Skimeister – Clara Hansen (Nome)

Team Winners

High School Boys – Nome
High School Girls – Nome
Junior High Boys – Galena
Junior High Girls – Nome

Sportsmanship – Nenana

Cloud Cup - Nenana

Sharp Shooters

High School Boys – none
High School Girls – none
Junior High Boys – Caedon Merriner (GAL)
Junior High Girls – Virginia Nassuk (Koyuk)

Multiple Skimeister award winners (Junior high and high school combined)

<u>Boys</u>	<u>Girls</u>
Emerson Conger- 5 (Nome)	Mallory Conger 4 (Nome)
Arnold Marks – 4 (Tanana)	Trish Gray – 3 (White Mt.)
Kaleb Korta – 4 (Galena)	Anjoli Guthrie – 3 (Tanana)
Jay Adams – 3 (White Mt.)	Nikki Fennimore – 3 (Galena)
Jacob Moos -3 (Galena)	Aly Daniels – 3 (Unalakleet)
Jory Barnhill – 2 (Galena)	Alice Ione – 2 (White Mt.)
Carl Erhart – 2 (Tanana)	Kristie Ione – 2 (White Mt.)
Josh Gillespie – 2 (Koyuk)	Stephanie Marks – 2 (Tanana)
Hunter Gray - 2 (White Mt.)	Marion Nicholai – 2 (Kaltag)
Tobin Hugny-Farr – 2 (Nenana)	Anna Nagaruk – 2 (Elim)
Aaron Marks – 2 (McGrath)	Jeneva Sam – 2 (Huslia)
Harvey Agloniga – 2 (Elim)	Jenna Buchanan – 2 (Galena)
Asa Bergamaschi - 2 (White Mt.)	Sierra Corsetti – 2 (Unalakleet)
Daniel Kopp – 2 (Galena)	Rosa Schmidt – 2 (Nome)
Tobin Hobbs – 2 (Nome)	Bianca Trowbridge - 2 (Nome)
	Clara Hansen – 2 (Nome)

High school team championship

<u>Boys</u>	<u>Girls</u>
White Mt. – 10	Nome – 7
Nome – 6	Galena – 5
Elim – 5	White Mt. – 4
Tanana – 4	Tanana - 3
Galena – 2	Huslia – 3
Nulato – 1	Unalakleet – 2
Golovin – 1	Nulato – 1
Nenana – 1	Nenana – 1
Aniak - 1	Golovin – 1
Ruby – 1	Koyuk – 1
	Kaltag – 1

Jr. High school champions

<u>Boys</u>	<u>Girls</u>
Galena - 10	White Mt. – 8
White Mt. – 5	Galena – 5
Elim – 4	Tanana– 4
Koyuk – 4	Unalakleet – 4
Tanana – 3	Nome – 3
Nenana – 2	Koyuk – 2
Kaltag – 1	Kaltag – 2
Nome – 1	Nulato – 1
Unalakleet -1	Golovin – 1
Shishmaref -1	Koyukuk – 1
	Elim – 1

Sportsmanship leaders

Galena 4
Nome 4
Unalakleet 3
Nenana 3
White Mt. 2
Nulato 2
Tanana 2
Teller 2
Huslia 1
Allakaket 1
Koyukuk 1
Koyuk 1
Shaktoolik 1
Kaltag 1
Saint Michaels 1