

# NorAm IFSA JUNIOR SERIES 2014 UPDATES

In July, programs and coaches voted on revisions for the IFSA North American Junior Series 2014. We had our best vote turnout, with 35 programs participating in the vote. For full details please review the IFSA Junior Series document located on our website at [www.freeskiers.org](http://www.freeskiers.org). New this season:

- Athletes will be able to count one out-of region event finish toward their own region ranking
- Championship, National and Regional point systems will be altered from 2013 to award points for all finishes
- Snowboarder divisions will join the National Series, and top 2013 riders gain pre-qualified status
- New Under 12 (U12) freeski and freeride athletes will join the series at Regional level events.

(Continued on page 4)

## Newsletter Fall 2013



### A big thank you!

Congratulations to all the athletes that competed last season! We had 804 members and 54 programs that participated in the 2013 season. We had our first NA Championship hosted by SkiJETA and Revelstoke with snowboarders and skiers from ages 12-18. We'd like to extend a big thank you to all the event organizers, resorts, volunteers, parents, coaches, and athletes who made it all possible.



12-14 SKIER CHAMPIONS @ REVELSTOKE



12-14/15-18 SNOWBOARDER CHAMPIONS



15-18 SKIER CHAMPIONS @ REVELSTOKE





# Schedule Updates

Roughly 80% of the 2014 National and Regional events were announced in July. With over 40 total series events expected in 2014, the schedule is being updated regularly. Please check out [www.freeskiers.org](http://www.freeskiers.org) for more updates.

### UPDATES AS OF OCTOBER 14TH:

- SNOWBIRD CHAMPS - 4/8 -13
- SNOWBIRD REGIONAL 1/4-5
- VAIL REGIONAL TENTATIVELY 3/1-2
- TJFS SQUAW VALLEY 1/11-12
- TJFS ALPINE MEADOWS 1/ 25-26
- WINTER PARK REGIONAL 3/15-16

**NOW LIVE**  
**IFSA Membership Registration**  
**2014 - register here or go to**  
[regonline.com/ifsa2014](http://regonline.com/ifsa2014)



Sam Casper is awarded the Jim Norm Jack "Mayor of Freeride" at the Revelstoke 2013 NA Championships. Winners are nominated by fellow athletes.

## IFSA Canada

For almost a decade, Jeff Holden has been one of the most recognizable faces in junior big mountain freeriding in Canada. Jeff holds a position on the IFSA Board where he puts to work his valuable experience as a Head Judge and Technical Director. Jeff is currently evaluating the formation of a new IFSA Canada to work with specific goals in our sport unique to Canada. Interested in helping? Please contact Jeff at [holdenspace@yahoo.com](mailto:holdenspace@yahoo.com). All membership funds from Canadian athletes specifically benefit Canadian events and programs.



OVERALL IFSA 12-14 CHAMPIONS



OVERALL SNOWBOARDER CHAMPIONS



OVERALL IFSA 15-18 CHAMPIONS





## What Do Your Memberships Fund?

### IFSA's big plans

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A 501c3 non-profit organization, the IFSA has the mission of advocating for athletes in the big mountain community. We're doing this by developing freeriding through athlete engagement and a vibrant competitive series in addition to providing judging, coach and team development. For the 2013/14 season, the IFSA will be investing in three key areas:

1. Competition Expansion: We are building more competitions to expand access for freeriders, driving greater participation for snowboarding and female athletes, and creating a new college-level competitive series.
2. Core Development: To develop the discipline, we're investing in the development and deployment of lots more judges, technical directors and

coaches. We are building and standardizing ranking systems, competition guidelines and safety policies.

3. Freeriding Awareness: The IFSA seeks to build a stronger online technology platform to promote our athlete members' accomplishments. We want to increase the distribution and ease of access to event results, photos and videos, and use other media to highlight our athletes' accomplishments while building awareness of our sport in the larger community and in the business community that supports freeriding.

To achieve these goals we need your help. The IFSA is a 501c3 non-profit organization, and we're asking the athlete community that benefits from these programs to participate in the fall fund raising campaign. This is your opportunity to make a contribution and a big difference in

## Snowbird for Championships!

Results from this summer's coaches vote indicated strong support for holding this year's 2014 NA Championship event in the Intermountain Region. Considerations included venues, access, cost, snow conditions and mountain support. So we will head to SNOWBIRD, UT from April 8th to 13th. Snowbird will also serve as our end of season IFSA awards & celebration!

this year's activities. All membership fees are tax deductible, as are donations which can be made when you purchase your 2014 membership. Also, if you work for a company that offers matching funds for charitable donations, you can double your impact. All funds directly support the programs mentioned.

Even with our volunteer staff working 11 months of the year, membership fees alone do not cover our goals. Please consider a tax deductible donation with your 2014 membership, or visit the DONATE tab at [www.freeskiers.org](http://www.freeskiers.org) anytime.

The IFSA is also teaming up with businesses interested in supporting this great community of young athletes. Please contact us if you're interested in business sponsorship opportunities.



## JUNIOR SERIES UPDATES, continued

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- Pre-qualified status will be increased 25% to a total of 99 athletes
- The National Series team quota system to return in 2014 for freeskiers
- Registration will begin in mid to late November following the stepped registration format. Prequals can register first, then team quota, followed by open registration
- North American Championships eligibility will be based upon the athlete's National or Regional Ranking. The National Ranking will be determined by the best three finishes of four events. An athlete's Regional Ranking will be determined by the best two finishes at an unlimited number of Regional events.
- U12 Champions will be determined based on the total points awarded from the athlete's three best finishes.

## SPECIAL THANKS TO OUR 2013 VOLUNTEERS

Ever wonder who are those friendly faces at an event registration desk, the starter with the booming voice, the announcer with the questionable music taste, or the slightly graying gear pirate ripping down the most menacing section of the venue to grab an athlete's ski?

Yes, many of those folks are resort staff, but a steadily growing number of event positions are now being filled by volunteers. Many of those volunteers are athlete families and friends. There are plenty of opportunities on and off the slopes at events or working with the Board of Directors to make the season run smoothly. The IFSA would like to take a moment to thank the volunteers who went above and beyond helping make the 2012-13 season the best yet. Thanks to:

**Julie Shipman - Trina Gold - Pratt family - Susie Rose - Ellen Mason - Paul Mosley - Mats Andersson - Cathy Howard - Phillip Patterson  
Douglas Patterson - Brad Ashton - Susan Riley Erin Stege  
Michele Nichols - Shannon Moller - Lisa Mahoney - Barbara Westfall - Anne Elgard - Dan & Jeannine Eckles - Andrew Goldman - Paul Beasley  
Randy Tagawa - Doug Townsend - Chris Ward - Tom Lund  
Dave Klein - Mike Ladd - Greg Sivinski - Howard Foster  
Ben Johnson - Jessie the Human Tomahawk - Jeff Lovenuik  
Dante Valentino - Josh Mattson - Peter Hillis - Blair Fontana  
Robb Gaffney - Davis Souza - Troy Cook - Jeff Hartley  
Gordo Klenk - Jim Seeley - Leif Zapf-Gilje - Chris Westfall**

## VOLUNTEER IN 2014

With 2014 just around the corner, we are looking for all types of on-hill and off-hill volunteers for the upcoming season. Do you have time to give to the IFSA to make the 2014 season even better than the last? While we certainly need parent, family and friend volunteers at every comp, the IFSA's effort are not restricted to just weekend work between February and March. We are active eleven months of the year, weekends and weekdays, and we can always use help running the organization that makes winter so much fun for the kids (and the parents!) Want to help? Let us know at [info@freeskiers.org](mailto:info@freeskiers.org). Volunteer positions include:

### Event Support

Registration, photo/video, scorekeeping, announcing, starters, setup, teardown, ninjas and volunteer roundup

### Season Support

Social media, website presence, Facebook, Athlete Path rankings, media, fundraising, sponsorships, judge/technical director development, marketing and scheduling

### Tech Mastery

Computer or programming master? We have a pretty tall wish list of items we would love to tackle to make info flow better on mountain and off



**IFSA BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

**President** - Scott Mahoney

**VP** - Rob Greener

**IFSA Canada** - Jeff Holden

**Marketing** - Cathy Howard

**Head Judges** - Brant Moles, Jonny Manwaring

**Administration** - Nicole Greener

**Interim Treasurer** - Chris Paulding

**IFSA ADVISORY BOARD**

Trevor Tanhoff

Eric DesLauriers

Wayne Grevey

Wood Lindenmeyr

Sherry McConkey

Randy Tagawa

Chris Westfall

Jason Dobbs

Josh Mattson

**Collegiate Rep-** Taylor Merritt

**NOW LIVE**

**IFSA Membership**

**Registration 2014 - click**

**here to register**

or go to

[regonline.com/ifsa2014](http://regonline.com/ifsa2014)

# Board of Directors Changes and Other IFSA Updates



**Board of Director Changes** - With another season kicking off, the BOD is delighted to have Cathy Howard join the board. Cath, mother of Xander Guldman out of Sugarbowl, CA, has been one of the core crew running the highly successful Tahoe Junior Freeride Series for several years. Cath will be assuming the recently vacated VP of Marketing position.

Scott (Mullet Man) Mahoney will be moving from VP Marketing to President of the Board, filling the position recently vacated by Jason Frazier.

**Advisory Board Changes** - The Board welcomes Chris Westfall to the new Fundraising Board. Chris, father of IFSA athletes Nicholas and Morgan Westfall, will be lending his experience from the non-profit world to help develop funding for the multitude of programs planned for 2014 and beyond. Chris will also be working on the new Collegiate/Young Adult League currently under development at the IFSA.

The Board also welcomes Josh Mattson out of Silt, CO to an Advisory Board position. Josh, most recently sighted with a double mohawk in Revelstoke, has long been a supporter of the IFSA. Josh has contributed countless hours working as event staff and a regional judge. He will be working on several programs, including fundraising, judging and video capture which kicks off this season.

**Collegiate/Young Adult League** - New this year, we welcome our first IFSA graduate athlete to the ranks of the Volunteer Board. Taylor Merritt skied in IFSA events for Team Winter Park for several seasons before graduating and heading to the University of Utah. Taylor is working with the Board to evaluate the demand for a new Collegiate/Young Adult League for the 2014 season. Hey grads! Interested in more comps? Let Taylor know at [info@freeskiers.org](mailto:info@freeskiers.org).

## LAST YEAR'S NUMBERS

Athletes

804

Events

31

Programs

54



Congrats to Erik Hilb skiing out of Vail, CO. As our spring 2013 CMR Video Challenge winner, he receives a new Go-Pro!

Keep those POV and Edits flowing please! Post to our Facebook site and the Claim My Run page at [freeskiers.org](http://freeskiers.org). Watch for another contest starting soon!