



**Elite FIS Training Program  
Draft Proposal  
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**Current State:**

- PNSA has experienced a challenging era with decreased participation at most levels
- Elite athlete culture has suffered amongst divisional athletes
  - Lack of belief that PNSA athletes can compete at regional level
  - Has led to a sizable exodus of competitive PNSA athletes to seek programs outside of division for a number of reasons including:
    - Lack of competitive programming and pace
    - FIS cost of traveling individually
    - Lack of large scale academy with unlimited resources to support WR FIS
    - Surface misconceptions

**Main Objectives:**

- **Elite Level Programming-** Provide a competitive and elite level pathway for PNSA athletes via cooperative training blocks and pace
  - Demonstrate that PNSA supports competitive/ elite level pathways as a final piece to the PNSA athlete development model
  - Collectively provide the BEST training opportunities at specific times to peak for Western Region Calendar
    - In and out of division opportunities will be considered
  - Hold clubs more accountable to support highest level in division
- **Build culture of success-**
  - Drive a proud culture of achievement and success from within PNSA by creating an elite TEAM environment
    - Play up on historical success of athletes from PNSA achieving on world stage (beyond current era of USST athletes)
      - “You can do it from home” mentality
    - Gritty/ blue collar mindset being from the NW
- **Athlete Retention-** Retain athletes in PNSA and home clubs to keep upper level exposure to younger divisional/ home program athletes
  - By providing such programming current PNSA "Elite level" athletes will consider staying in division

- Current generalized thought is that PNSA is not in the business of being competitive and you must depart the division if you desire to reach a higher level outside of Northwest Cups and Devo FIS
  - Gives younger athletes/ parents awareness of a higher level to aspire to
- **Cost effective-** Utilize individual club resources for training and seek PNSEF financial support to assist with coaching cost during training blocks
  - *Pool and Exploit resources-* Take advantage of divisional strengths
  - Club corporation, experienced staff, 9 month access to snow, wide variety of terrain and snow conditions, PNSEF support, Elite Pass program

Proposed Project dates: (venues shall remain fluid based on hill space, cost, and conditions)

- **Big Sky Tech Prep-** (Big Sky, Bridger, Snowking)
  - Jan. 5 - 8. 2 days SL, 2 days GS
    - Off on the 9th.
    - Race Series begins on the 10th
- **SARS Speed Prep-** (SARS)
  - Jan. 25 - 27
    - Off on the 28th
    - Series starts on the 29th
- **Utah Tech Prep 1-** SARS Tech (between speed series and NWC #2)
  - Feb. 4 Off (after Speed Series)
  - Feb. 5-6 Training
  - Feb. 7 Travel to Spokane
- **Utah Tech Prep 2-** (Snowking, Ogden)
  - Feb. 19 Travel
  - Feb. 20 - 21 Training
  - Feb. 22 Off/ travel

Project eligibility:

- PNSA athletes selected to compete in the WR event corresponding with the camp
- PNSA Alpine Team members will receive a subsidy for participation in projects (see funding mechanism below).

Project Staffing:

- The U19/U21 working group will name a head coach and staff for each project. Similar to our PNSA Travel Policy, these projects will be arranged and managed by its coaching staff in an effort to remain fluid and cost effective
- Staffing costs could also be subsidized through PNSEF funding reallocation

Proposed Funding Mechanism:

- Utilize ½ of the current funds allocated for the NWC awards (roughly 5K) and apply to Alpine Team members on the projects
- The PNSA Elite FIS Program Committee is seeking another 5 to 10K from PNSEF to increase project subsidy to 10 - 15K
- Committee to present to PNSEF as desired by PNSA ACC