

SARA Gate Judge Education & Incentive Program

Recognizing that the fairness of ski racing is often determined by the quality of the gate judging, SARA and its member clubs have created a program to help gate judges improve their knowledge and confidence. Volunteers become eligible for additional incentives at some races if they choose the option of becoming a certified Gate Judge or certified Chief Gate Judge. Whether you are interested in certification or not, we strongly encourage all SARA members to attend a gate judge educational clinic or review the educational materials available on the SARA website, because it is the responsibility of all parents to assist their member clubs as gate judges. Clubs that do not fulfill their responsibility of providing an adequate number of willing, qualified Gate Judges may jeopardize their ability to host SARA races. By learning this material, you are helping to ensure that your club will continue hosting races in the future, that races are conducted fairly for your child and others, and that you can help your child learn some of the basic rules of ski racing.

Gate Judge Certification & Incentive Program:

If you choose the option of becoming a certified gate judge, you must attend an educational clinic OR study the educational materials on the SARA website, and pass the online gate judge certification exam. Exams will be graded by the SARA gate judge coordinator within two weeks of submission. The clinic and online self- study course both take approximately 60 minutes, and the exam takes about 30 minutes

Certified gate judges will be added to an email distribution list and will be notified when a ROC is requesting additional volunteers for their race. Certified volunteers have an obligation to their own clubs to volunteer at home races. **You should not expect any additional incentive when volunteering at a race hosted by your own club even if other non-members have been offered the incentive.**

Note: Where one complimentary lift ticket is offered, **the lift ticket must be used by the Gate Judge. Complimentary lift tickets may not be sold or returned for a refund.** Certified Gate Judges who volunteer but do not fulfill their duties will lose their certification.

Chief Gate Judge Certification:

SARA is requiring all Clubs to use only certified Chief Gate Judges (CGJ) at their USSA races. The CJG certification program requires passing the Gate Judge exam, studying additional online educational material about the duties and responsibilities of a CGJ, and passing the CGJ exam. SARA is recommending that Clubs provide Chief Gate Judges the additional incentives explained above for every race where they function as a CGJ (unless they are members of the host club).

If you would like to schedule a gate judge clinic for your club, please ask a ROC officer to contact the SARA gate judge coordinator.

[Return to SARA Gate Judge page](#)