

# ALPINE DEVELOPMENT

FEBRUARY 2025



# AGENDA

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Current Situation

Guiding Principles

Goals & Outcomes

Strategy

Organizational Structure

Regional Programming & Costs



# ALPINE DEVELOPMENT

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## Objective

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- Develop Athletes for long-term National Team/World Cup success

## Challenges

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- Limited junior density constrains National Team performance at the World Cup
- Current developmental reach is too narrow to be impactful at scale

## Solutions

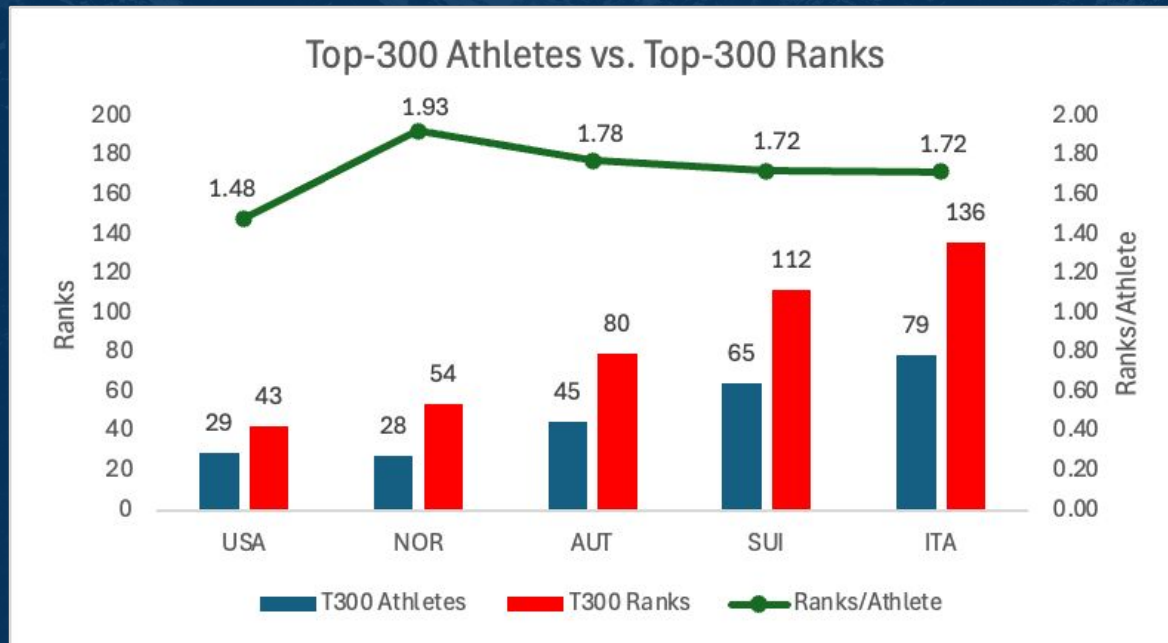
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- Create a “funnel” model, rather than a “pipeline”
  - Broader youth development opportunities
  - Focused FIS performance opportunities
  - Flexibility to allow for entry points at multiple age levels and at anytime
  - Performance focussed Regional teams with National engagement and International opportunities



# ALPINE PIPELINE IS WEAK

*USA has significantly fewer athletes ranked in the Top 300 than AUT/SUI/ITA and those athletes are not generating multiple world ranks across disciplines like other nations*



# GUIDING PRINCIPLES

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Performance  
focus



Drive & enable club  
collaboration



Inclusive vs. Exclusive



Impact a broader group  
of high performing  
development athletes



Develop multi-discipline  
athletes with GS as the core  
discipline



Reduce redundancies  
to reduce costs



Regions staffed fairly &  
effectively



# STRATEGY

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- Focus the National Team on podiums at NorAms, Europa Cups and World Cups
- Invest in the Regions making them more performance focussed
- Further staff the Regions with experienced and respected coaches
- Offer Region-based performance projects for fastest athletes in the Region
- Name Regional Teams off of criteria and provide National and International opportunities to train and race together
- Invite additional athletes well performing athletes within the Region
- Allow for flexibility in the system to invite athletes based on current results
- Focus on fitness at all levels
- Allow for clear “stars” to be elevated to USST level
- Enable, encourage and support athletes skiing for college
- Leverage USSS position to provide elite athletes in a Region better training venues
- Centralize and when possible subsidize select athlete costs for high performers
- Rebrand and lean into the Regions as USSS Regions



# ALPINE STAFFING STRUCTURE

Anouk Patty, Chief of Sport

**Mark Tilston**  
Head Men's Elite  
Team Coach

**Paul Kristofic**  
Head Women's  
Elite Team  
Coach

**Chip Knight**  
Development  
Director

Mens World  
Cup Speed

Womens WC  
Speed

**B. Gunesch**  
Western Region  
Director

**D. Nolting**  
Rocky/Ctrl  
Director

**M. Guyer**  
Eastern  
Director

Mens World  
Cup GS

Womens WC  
Tech

Mens World  
Cup SL

Team Shiffrin

Mens Europa  
Cup

Womens EC  
Tech

Womens EC  
Speed

- Each Region will have a Womens and Mens coach
- One regional womens coach will also serve as the Head Womens National Development Coach
- One regional mens coach will also serve as the Head Mens National Development Coach
- The National Development Coach unites elite athletes from the Regions for national programming and exposure to the National Team

20 athletes  
28 staff

20 athletes  
28 staff

~60 athletes  
12 staff



# REGIONAL PROGRAM - U16

## *Developing Athletes for U16 Regional and National performance*

Project-based: one USSS staff with club coach support

### Training

- April/May (in region) - 8 days - GS/SG technical focus w/terrain
- Summer (in region) - 3x4 days - conditioning exposure
- Nov/Dec (in region) - 5 days - SL/GS technical focus (
- Jan (in region) - 5 days - SL/GS surface race-prep focus (
- Feb (in region) - 5 days - speed fundamentals

### Competition

- National Performance Series - (if qualified)
- U16 National Championships
- European competition trip - 8 days - (if qualified)

Total Gross Cost = \$13,000

USSS target subsidy of 50% = \$6,500

### Development Focus

*Aspirational focus  
Intro to USST Camps  
First National exposure  
First European exposure*

*8-12 athletes/region/gender*



# REGIONAL PROGRAM - U18

*Elite Athletes seeking NorAm points and U18 National podiums*

Project-based: overlapping U22 program with club coach support

- April/May (in region) - 8 days - GS/SG technical focus w/terrain
- Summer (in region) - 3x4 days - conditioning camps
- Sept/Oct (southern hemisphere or Europe) - 16 days - GS/SG or SL/GS
- NorAm Cup trips
- Dec/Jan/Feb (in region) - 16 days - training/racing
- U18 National Championships
- European competition trip - 16 days - (if qualified)

Total Gross Cost = \$30,000

USSS target subsidy of 50% = \$15,000

Only athlete's making the Regional Team objectively will have their costs subsidized by USSS

**Elite Development Focus**

*Conditioning focus  
European exposure  
National competitions*

*6-8 athletes/region/gender*



# REGIONAL PROGRAM - U22

*Elite Athletes seeking NCAA, NorAm and JR World podiums*

Project or full-time: one USSS coach per gender per region

- April/May (in-region) - 8 days - GS/SG technical focus w/terrain
- **National** - May/June - 8 days - SL/GS fundamentals
- **National** - Summer - 4x1 weeks - COE conditioning camp
- Sept/Oct (southern hemisphere or Europe) - 16 days - GS/SG or SL/GS
- **National** - Oct (Europe) - 12 days - GS/SL
- **National** - November - 8 days - SL/GS/SG
- NorAm competition trips - 26 events, 42 days
- Dec/Jan/Feb (in region) - 16 days - training/racing
- U.S. Alpine Championships - 7 days
- World Junior Championships (if qualified)

Total Gross Cost = \$43,000

USSS target subsidy of 50% = \$21,500

## **Elite Focus**

*Conditioning focus  
World Junior Championships  
NorAm Cup performance*

*2-4 athletes/region/gender*



Only athlete's making the Regional Team objectively will have their costs subsidized by USSS