

Area Qualifiers

In September each year we hold our Area Qualifiers. These are held at various locations in England. Schools compete in teams of 4 in four Age Categories against Schools in their area.

We use the results from these races to form the basis for individual selection to Primary, Junior and Senior English Schools Ski Squads. Once the Area Qualifiers have been completed Schools are invited to the National Finals dependant on their results at the Area Qualifiers.

National Finals

Held in October our National Championships bring the best School Teams in England together to compete against each other in the various Age Categories on the Saturday.

We also hold an "Open" Competition the very next day on the Sunday.

The Open Championship forms the basis for Team selection to compete at the British Schools Championships against the Home Nations. ***You need to indicate NOW if you wish to take part in the Open Competition also.***

British Schools' Artificial Slope Championships

In November we take part in the British Schools' Artificial Slope Championships. We compete against other Schools teams from the Home Nations.

Esskia National Finals

In October we hold our National Finals. Schools who have qualified will be invited to take part and will be sent a Bulletin in the week following the Area Qualifiers.

Some helpful advice about entering our races

We are often asked for guidance, particularly from parents and teachers from Schools new to Esskia, as to the procedure for entering our annual races.

- Esskia races all take place on Artificial Ski Slopes.
- Esskia hold Area Qualifiers across England on a single weekend in September.
- In May or June of each year Affiliated Schools will receive a Bulletin 1, which is effectively an invitation to take part in the race.

Please remember that if you are a Parent Helper the Bulletin is sent to School, so ensure that the Teacher in Charge knows to discuss this with you when it arrives. If you are a long-established Parent Helper the Area Rep may send you a copy.



IF YOUR SCHOOL IS AN ESSKIA MEMBER THE BULLETIN HAS ALREADY BEEN SENT TO THE SCHOOL. THIS MUST BE RETURNED TO ESSKIA AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

IF YOUR SCHOOL HAS NOT GOT THE BULLETIN (or has lost it!) CONTACT THE RACE SECRETARY AND ASK FOR ANOTHER TO BE SENT TO THE SCHOOL.

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ESSKIA Race Secretary

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Dependant on which Area Qualifier you are invited to, you may find that they become full very quickly. It is important to return the "Team Entry" form to the Race Organiser as soon as possible.

You will also be asked to re-affiliate for the following year and pay an entry fee per team.

At this stage you only need to tell your Race Organiser how many teams you intend to enter, which age category and whether the teams are Girls or Boys. That's all we need to know at this stage.

You will then be sent Bulletin 2. (Normally just before the end of the Summer Term, although it can sometimes be a bit earlier)

This asks you for the names and dates of birth for each competitor and the order in which you would like them to ski. Remember that all Esskia races are TEAM events.

Teams are made up of 4 girls or 4 boys. However, if one of your team is injured, or you only have 3 skiers you can still enter, but you need to be aware that it may be more difficult to qualify as the race results are based on the 3 fastest times from a team of 4.

At the Area Qualifiers we also run a MIXED category. This is for Schools who are unable to raise a team of at least 3 children of one gender. Mixed Teams have to be made up of 2 boys and 2 girls.

Mixed Teams cannot progress to the National Finals, however, members of a mixed team can still be selected for National Squads.



Please ensure that your Bulletin 2 paperwork is returned to the Race Secretary on time. (All our Race organisers are volunteers and organising a race is very time consuming.)

You will then be sent Bulletin 3. (Usually a few days before the start of the race). This will give you all details that you will need to know before the race starts, it will also tell you the timetable for the day.

PLEASE NOTE: A volunteer **MUST** be named for every **TEAM** that is entered, as it is impossible to run a race without officials. Each volunteer will be given a simple job to do on the day and there will be experienced officials to help anyone who is unsure.



More information and guidance can be had from the race secretary, (Sarah Campbell-Woodward) , your local area rep, (see the website for details) or the ESSkiA Facebook page. (Just search for ESSkiA or use the link on the website)