



Memorandum

To: Special Olympics Washington Programs

**From: John Borgognoni
Sr. VP Sports and Programs**

RE: New FIS Helmet Regulations

Date: 8 January 2020

Special Olympics values the safety of all athletes and their use of appropriate protective equipment. This memo is to advise Special Olympics Washington Programs on new FIS standards for alpine ski helmets.

In order to improve safety, the USSA Alpine Sports Committee has confirmed that the regulations requiring the use of helmets for Giant Slalom, Super-G and Downhill that meet new FIS standards will be mandatory for all competitors beginning in the 2020-2021 Winter season. Special Olympics Sports recently adopted these requirements in 2017.

Special Olympics Washington will be implementing the new FIS helmet certification standards during the 2020-2021 Winter season. (USSA "Ski Helmet Regulations" are available on the USSA web site at <http://alpine.usskiteam.com/alpineprograms/masters/rules>).

Under the new regulations, helmets must bear a CE mark and conform to recognized and appropriate standards such as CEH.Din 1077, ASTM F2040, SNELL S98 or RS 98. In addition, in order to attest that a helmet fulfills all FIS requirements, it must have a conformity label affixed by the manufacturer in a non-removable way, at the back of the helmet, in a position where it is not covered by the goggle strap. The conformity label must contain the text "Conform to FIS Specifications RH 2013".

Helmets must cover the head and ears. Helmets with spoilers or edges that stick out are not permitted. Protective features, such as chin guards on SL helmets are permitted. Soft ear protection is only permitted for helmets used in SL. Helmet mounted cameras are not allowed on helmets during official training or competition.

The Special Olympics Sports Department has mandated that these regulations will apply to *ALL Alpine and Snowboarding* Special Olympics Washington events starting in the 2020-2021 Winter season.