



U.S. Ski & Snowboard Athletic Department Reorganizations - April 2018

As we move forward into the 2019 season and in pursuit of our Best in the World vision, U.S. Ski & Snowboard has reorganized its alpine and freestyle programs with a strong focus on development. We are fortunate to have two great new program directors leading these reorganizations.

ALPINE

Jesse Hunt [returns to us as our new alpine director](#), a role he last held with U.S. Ski & Snowboard in 2009 after 16 years with the organization. Jesse takes up the role with immediately, returning after nine years with Park City Ski & Snowboard where he was program director and general manager.

During Hunt's previous tenure with U.S. Ski & Snowboard, the U.S. Ski Team enjoyed arguably its most successful run of results in alpine racing in its history, including four FIS overall World Cup titles, 12 Olympic medals and 18 World Championship medals. As we move forward with the focus on development, Hunt's ability to develop a strong athletic pipeline will be vital to U.S. Ski & Snowboard's revised strategy.

Hunt will lead the reorganization of our alpine teams, which includes the appointment of Sasha Rearick to [head men's development coach](#) where he will work closely with alpine development director Chip Knight.

In Spring 2016, U.S. Ski & Snowboard began a comprehensive study of our own alpine development system and those of other major nations in our sport. As a result of that study, we created a plan that evolutionarily changed how U.S. Ski & Snowboard, along with our regional and club network, will approach national team selection and development programs in the future, specifically looking ahead to results at 2022 and 2026 Olympics and beyond.

These changes formed a new foundation of criteria for naming annual A-B-C Teams, as well as introducing an innovative methodology for inviting and managing athletes into the alpine development program. Future elements will dive down even further into younger age groups, as well as applying these initial learnings to other U.S. Ski & Snowboard sports.

Rearick, a 16-year veteran of U.S. Ski & Snowboard, is one of the most respected and experienced coaches working in snowsports worldwide. With this new position, we are able to leverage Rearick's tremendous experience and knowledge from his 10 years working as head coach for the men's alpine team. The goal is to drive the development of the next generation of alpine ski racing talent, in which Rearick will play a key role.



FREESTYLE

U.S. Ski & Snowboard has restructured its freestyle, snowboard and freeski programs into one integrated department under the leadership of Jeremy Forster.

Forster is one of U.S. Ski & Snowboard's most experienced and successful sport directors. As the longtime leader of our successful snowboarding program, he led the integration of freeskiing into the organization through a combined snowboarding and freeskiing effort. Jeremy's many achievements include development of U.S. Grand Prix events, elite-level training site partnerships and facilities development, including the new airbag landing project at Utah Olympic Park, and sustained Best in the World performance at the elite level in freeskiing and snowboarding.

The further integration of freestyle into this department will enable greater collaboration across these sports, and allow for a greater focus on domestic and development-level programming in the freestyle sport discipline. This integration aligns our programming with the FIS governance structure, in which Forster has been a catalyst, largely responsible for the integration of all three sports at the international level, and will give U.S. Ski & Snowboard a platform for the continued evolution of freestyle at the international level.