

Results of 1964 Winter Olympic Games

No. of Competitors Name	Placement			
	Giant Slalom	Slalom	Downhill	Combined
	36	28	34	
Barbara Ferries (Arroyo)	20	Disq.	-	-
Joan Hannah	26	19	15	12
Linda Meyers (Tikalsky)	30	12	-	-
Jean Saubert	2 (tie)	3	26	4
Margo Walters	-	-	21	-
Starr Walton	-	-	14	-

The impoverished past of ski competition was not forgotten but the budget was enlarged and the program expanded. The United States Olympic Committee granted a request for \$20,000 in November 1964 with the stipulation that the United States Ski Association would not make a request the following year. In 1965 the competition development budget ranked second only to the National Rifle Association. This was important, especially to interested women competitors, since schools and colleges seldom entered into ski competition at the level of skill demanded of international racing. The launching of this endeavor began in 1964 after the Olympics. With an established budget of \$180,000, with coaches who assumed duties immediately and not just prior to the 1966 FIS, and with the formation of National Alpine and Nordic Teams, the development was carried out in depth.

At the United States Ski Association convention in Spokane, June 21, 1965 Bob Beattie was approved as a full-time national coach and, consequently, hired by the United States Ski Association. To assist Bob Beattie, as Head Alpine Coach, Charles "Chuck" Ferries was named as an assistant coach with specific duties of coaching the women's Alpine Team. In order to perform his coaching duties, he was given leave by his employer, the Head Ski Company. In 1966 he became full-time women's coach with the United States Ski Team. Gordon Eaton, another former Olympian who had assumed Beattie's coaching duties at the University of Colorado, was named as National Men's Coach, and in 1966 was hired, full-time by the United States Ski Association as men's coach. Included in this hard working group of officials was Willy Schaeffler, Denver University ski coach, who was named Alpine Technical Advisor and was responsible for course preparation and officiating. Their competitive experience and judgement were valuable assets in the costly and elaborate, but sound program. Although not considered adequate there were seven approved downhill courses in the United States, as of 1964: Stowe and Madonna in Vermont; Aspen and Vail, Colorado; Sun Valley, Idaho; Squaw Valley, California; Crystal Mountain, Washington. This was an improvement over the two that existed before the 1960 Olympics, but four more were needed.

Mention of the United States Ski Education Foundation must also be made. This is the tax-exempt, fund raising organization through which training funds and direct expenditures for competitive functions are financed by the United States Ski Association. It was founded in October, 1960, and granted tax exempt status December, 1964. Committees, like the national International Competitions Committee, however, had to still function on a predominately volunteer basis. The United States Ski Association committees are a budgetary expense of the United States Ski Association which depends for nearly half of its operating budget on the individual members of the United States Ski Association's eight divisions, which return fifty cents per membership to the parent organization. The operating budget for the United States Ski Association was approximately \$65,000.

The racing scene in 1965 was exciting in the United States. Four meets drew the international elite, and the United States' Alpine team did not travel to Europe for the usual training or seasoning experience. The highlight of the season was the American International Team Race held at Vail, Colorado, March 13-15, 1965. This race was held as a memorial to Bud Werner, America's leading alpine racer until his tragic death in a Swiss avalanche, April, 1964. Joan Hannah, Linda Meyers (Tikalsky), Jean Saubert, and Sandra Shellworth were the members of the United States Women's Team.

After three hard days of racing, the Austrians won, skiing better than they ever had; the French showed great flashes of genius; the Americans, as tense as ever, finished a relatively poor third. In the women's scoring, the French took the honors. Jean Saubert tied with Marielle Goitschel of France to win the Giant Slalom and had fifth in the downhill. Linda Meyers placed fifth in the Slalom. Jim Heuga took third in the Slalom and Bill Kidd was fourth in the Giant Slalom for the men.

Summer of 1965 marked the opening event of the National Alpine Program and the "new ski era" in the United States. At Bend, Oregon, two eight day training camps, all-expenses paid, were held. The women's session was held August 23-30. Invited racers were those women listed on the National Seeding List and any Junior girls who had finished in the top ten in the 1965 Junior Nationals.

In between the women's session and the men's session, September 1-5, 1965, a five day coaches school was conducted. Since 1963, National Coaching Schools had been held in conjunction with the training of the Olympic Team. This, however, was the first Annual United States Ski Association Coaches System Clinic and proved helpful to sixty-five coaches. Marvin Melville, an Olympian and University of Utah ski coach, was named the Chairman of the Coaches System. The experienced Olympians were involving themselves in organizational activities; it was realized that to develop competitors, knowledgeable coaches and a stimulating competitive program were necessary.

Another summer activity was a five week pilot training program trip to Portillo, Chile, July 14-August 22, 1965. Gordon Eaton accompanied Cathy Allen, Robin Morning, and five young men. In addition to training, they competed in the pre-World Championship events; it was hoped that they would be ready for top international competition in a year or so. Cathy was to return to Chile for the 1966 FIS.

There now was a national training camp East as well as the national training camp West.

The National Junior Camps were run on a divisional basis. Approximately twenty-five Juniors were invited to Thanksgiving Training Camps or pre-Christmas Camps as part of the United States Ski Team Development Program. Each of these camps had a United States Ski Association assigned coach to conduct the coordination of training.

The United States Ski Association Coaches System also conducted programs throughout the divisions. More people involved with competition were being exposed to the technical improvements of the sport.

The 1966 FIS World Alpine Championships were scheduled for the summer in Portillo, Chile by action of the International Ski Federation Congress at their 1963 spring meeting in Athens. Holding this event across the Equator extended the season but did not interfere with the two-semester calendar. An annual training program of nine months, however, was approved. The 1966 season of the National Program included coaching schools and clinics, training camps in summer, fall, and at Christmas for Juniors and Seniors of varying abilities, competitive meets, trail preparation, and continuing competition development.