

# NO FLUORO WAXING POLICY 2023



In line with the decision by the International Ski Federation (FIS) to ban the use of all fluorinated waxes, Snow Australia Cross Country Committee (SAXC) implemented a **no-fluoro policy for the 2022 Australian winter**. The same policy continues for 2023.

In contrast to the previous low-fluoro protocol endorsed by SAXC for club and school level competitions, which was designed to reduce costs and time spent on waxing, this new no-fluoro policy endorsed by Snow Australia and FIS is based on protecting the environment.

## NO-FLUORO IMPLEMENTATION

- **All Snow Australia organised events** are covered by the no-fluoro waxing policy. This includes **state and national championships**, and **all Interschools events**.
- Other club events listed on the national race calendar are encouraged to follow this policy.
- The **full range of new no-fluoro waxes are endorsed for use** in the above competitions.
- Where possibly, events should include a commitment not to use fluorocarbon-based waxes in the participant waiver as a condition of race entry.
- Coaches supporting club, state and national teams may be required to sign a similar declaration.
- Information will be distributed via state / club / school networks.
- TD's & FIS race organisers are working with FIS to develop appropriate Jury guidelines for enforcing the rule, and sanctions are included in the latest FIS rules.

## Focus on Race Preparation and Warm-Up

Though the new range of non-fluoro waxes may be used in all levels of competition, SAXC **recommends** for developing athletes and all national team athletes to focus on their pre-race mental preparation and warm-up on competition days, rather than on glide wax testing and application. The Australian season provides a good opportunity for athletes to refine pre-race routines and find their optimal psychological performance zone. Similar to the earlier low-fluoro protocol that was in place for club and state level competition from 2016, all developing athletes will benefit from a competition environment that allows them to demonstrate their true skiing ability.

## Fair Sport

The no-fluor policy is underpinned is an honesty system that relies on all athletes, parents and coaches following the principles of the fair sport. The protocol is supported by all the state committees and teams operating under Snow Australia, including the NSWACT XC Team and Victorian Cross Country Team. Self-policing, education, and the cooperation of the cross country community is needed to make these protocols viable.

## WAX RECOMMENDATIONS FROM AUSXC COACHES

- **Where possible state and national team coaches will confer and give a recommendation of glide waxes for each event.**

