

# NO FLUORO WAXING POLICY 2024



In line with policies of the International Ski Federation (FIS) and Snow Australia, the use of fluorinated waxes is banned in all FIS and Snow Australia organised events due to health risks and environmental concerns. This is essentially the same policy that was in place for 2023.

## 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**.
- All club events listed on the national race calendar are encouraged to follow this policy.
- The **full range of no-fluoro waxes are endorsed for use** in the above competitions.
- Where possible, 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.
- Snow Australia is negotiating with FIS as to whether a FIS-endorsed testing machine can be made available for use in Australian FIS events.
- Race organisers **may** decide to implement a common waxing protocol, whereby athletes are required to submit their skis to be waxed with the same product.

## 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.

