

OLYMPIC NEWS

Volume 3 Issue 1 – Alpine Skiing

ALPINE SKIING IS A POPULAR EVENT AT WINTER OLYMPIC GAMES

Alpine skiing is an exciting and popular Winter Olympic sport. Athletes participating in the alpine skiing events at the Winter Olympic Games are not afraid of traveling as fast as they can down a ski run. They try to build up as much speed as possible while skiing down the runs. Athletes want to ski down the runs in the shortest amount of time in order to win gold. At the start of the run, there is a thin fiberglass wand that runs across the knees of the athlete. Once the athlete pushes across the wand, the clock starts timing the length of the athlete's run.



ALPINE COMBINED IS FIRST MEDAL EVENT IN ALPINE SKIING AT 1936 WINTER OLYMPIC GAMES

Alpine skiing was first introduced as a demonstration sport in 1924 at the Winter Olympic Games in Chamonix, France. It did not become a medal

sport until 1936 at the Winter Olympic Games in Garmisch-Partenkirchen, Germany. Men's and women's alpine skiing was introduced with the alpine combined event. In 1948, at the Winter Olympic Games in St. Moritz, Switzerland, the downhill and slalom events became a part of the alpine skiing program. The giant slalom event was added at the 1952 Winter Olympic Games in Oslo, Norway. The super giant slalom event did not become a part of the Winter Olympic Games until 1988 when the games were held in Calgary, Canada.

SPEED AND CONTROL REQUIRED TO WIN GOLD IN ALPINE SKIING EVENTS

There are five events for men and five events for women in alpine skiing at the Winter Olympic Games. The events for both men and women include the downhill event, the slalom, the giant slalom, the super giant slalom, and the alpine combined. Both men and women follow the same rules for each event but they ski down

The downhill event is the fastest time is the course for the longest course of events. Athletes reach speeds in this event course is marked

Directions: Print your name and class.

- The bobsled event is the fastest time in the Winter Olympic Games.
- The winners of the bobsled events are often the teams with the fastest start times.
- A boblet is a bobsled that holds four men.
- The bobsled and luge drivers share the same track.
- Athletes have 15 kilometres to get into their sleds before the clock starts.
- Bobsled teams need to go high on the walls or they will flip their sled.
- The bobsled run is made out of concrete that is covered with layers and layers of ice.

ALPINE SKIING

Name: _____

Directions: Answer the following questions in complete sentences.

- Why do athletes try to build up speed going down alpine events?

- What was the last alpine skiing event to be added to the Olympic Games program? What year was this event added?

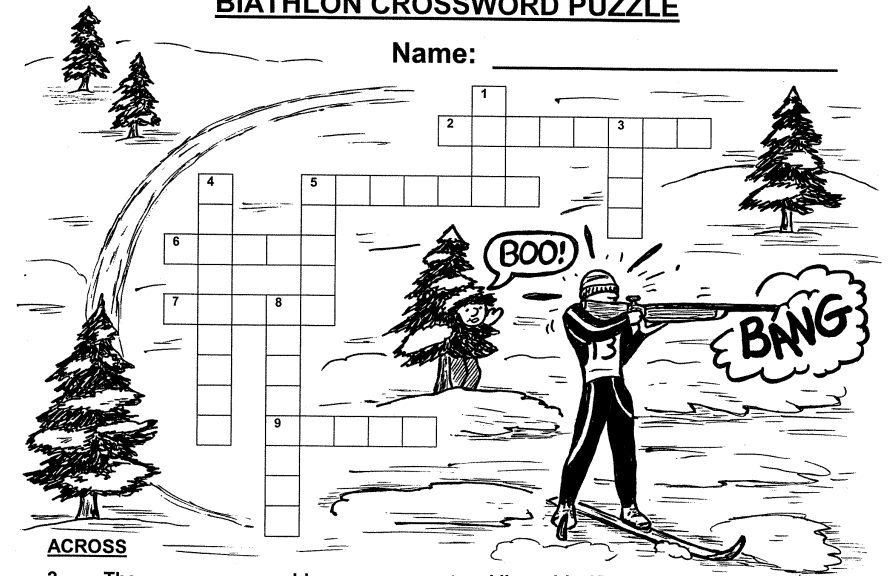
- How are the slalom event and the giant slalom event different?

- What event is known as the 'Super-G'?

- Do you think 'gate bashing' should be allowed at the Winter Olympic Games? Give three reasons to support your answer.

BIATHLON CROSSWORD PUZZLE

Name: _____



ACROSS

- The _____ combines cross-country skiing with rifle shooting.
- Targets used by athletes in a prone position are _____ than targets used by athletes in a standing position.
- Athletes shoot at targets from a _____ position and from a standing position.
- The biathlon was introduced as a _____ sport during the 1960 Winter Olympic Games in Squaw Valley, USA.
- Four athletes each ski 7.5 kilometres in the _____ event.

DOWN

- Athletes shoot at _____ targets at each stop.
- Athletes ski a 150 metre penalty _____ if they miss a target in the sprint event.
- Athletes carry their rifles in _____ on their backs.
- The targets are made of wood and _____.
- The biathlon combines speed and _____.

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BOBSLED DESIGN

Name: _____

Winter Olympics Trivia Game

Question:

What are the five alpine skiing events for men and women at the Winter Olympic Games?

- What are the downhill, the slalom, the giant slalom, the super giant slalom, and the alpine combined.
- What is the difference between the course of the giant slalom event and the course of the slalom event?
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WINTER OLYMPIC GAMES

Name: _____

A. Answer the following questions in complete sentences:

- What are the two ways that an athlete is penalized for missing a target during a biathlon event?

- Why is luge a dangerous sport?

- What are the names of the four members on a curling team?

- Why do players get penalties in a hockey game?

- What two sports are a part of the Nordic Combined?



Winter Olympic Games



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