

# Deseret News

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## SKIERS HAVE SOME 'CLASSIC' FUN AT TELEMAR CHAMPIONSHIPS

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It was fun. Competitive, but fun.

They call it the Classic and for the first time Utah telemark fans got a look at it during the second day of the National Telemark Championships. It is, as one official explained, a part of telemark racing that the Norwegians sent to America some year's back. And, while it's not new to the racing format elsewhere, it is here in Utah.

The course goes something like this:

Out of the gate racers hit a few giant slalom gates, then a jump. This jump they simply have to make it over. From there they hit a few more GS gates and then a second jump. This one, however, is for air - big air. If racers don't clear a mark some 20 feet down the mountain, they're penalized.

Then the fun begins. The next obstacle is a gate racers must ski around - 360 degrees around. Then there are a few more gates and a sprint uphill about 100 yards, which took even the best about a minute to make. Now, tired and somewhat disoriented, they must skate and pole to the finish through even more gates.

The secret to this course is a good smooth run, followed by a quick-pace uphill race.

Winner for the men was Peter Mack of Australia. He posted a time of 1 minute, 59.73 seconds on the course and was only hit with one penalty second for a bad gate. Second was Christopher Rice of Gorham, N.H., with a time of 2:04.14 and two penalty seconds - 1 for gates and 1 for a short jump.

Finishing third was Chris Larson of Park City. His time was 2:04.92, but he was slapped with two penalty seconds for a gate and a jump. Fourth was Patrick Ledge of Salt Lake City with a time of 2:05.23, with two penalty seconds added on.

Christian Woll, winner of Friday's giant slalom event, fell on the course and did not finish.

In the women's event, Shannon Arrell of Stratton, Vt., won with a time of 2:38.53, with five seconds added for penalties - 3 for gates and 2 for jumps. Second was Tiffany Beck of Aspen, Colo., with a time of 2:39.16 and seven seconds added.

Ellen Guthrie, of Salt Lake City, winner of Friday's giant slalom for the women, finished 5th and had six penalties - 5 for gates and 1 for the jump.

Salt Lake's Jennifer Borzilleri was 6th and Carolyn Sterrett was 7th.

Under telemark rules, skis must be separated during a turn, with the heel of the trailing boot noticeably off the ski and back at least one boot length. Also, at no time can the skis be held parallel. One ski or the other must always be in the lead, with the knees bent.

Failure to follow the rules for each gate results in the loss of one second, which as Bowsell found out can be very damaging.

The event concludes today with a slalom at Snowbird. The first run is at 10 a.m.

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