

Montana State Skiers Ready for NCAA Championships

March 8, 2022 – BOZEMAN, Mont. – The Montana State alpine and Nordic ski teams will compete at the 2022 NCAA Championships March 9-12 in Park City and Midway, Utah, respectively. The alpine slalom giant slalom events will open the championships on Wednesday at 9 a.m. at Park City Mountain Resort. The championships will be hosted by defending national champion University of Utah.

2022 NCAA Skiing Championships Schedule:

March 9	9 a.m.	Giant Slalom	Park City Mountain Resort, Park City, Utah
March 10	10 a.m.	5/10K Classic	Soldier Hollow, Midway, Utah
March 11	9 a.m.	Slalom	Park City Mountain Resort, Park City, Utah
March 12	9:30 a.m.	15/20K Freestyle	Soldier Hollow, Midway, Utah

The Bobcats will be paced by Nellie Talbot and Kristiane Bekkestad, who were tabbed as the Rocky Mountain Intercollegiate Ski Association's Most Valuable Skiers in giant slalom and slalom, respectively. Talbot, a junior from Vail, Colo., was a Second Team All-American last winter after placing ninth in giant slalom at the NCAA Championships in New Hampshire. Two years ago, Talbot was a First Team All-America selection after finishing second in GS.

Bekkestad also garnered Second Team All-America kudos last winter after placing ninth in slalom. This season, she had five podium appearances, including first place finishes at the RMISA Invitational and the RMISA alpine qualifier.

Brynne Hitchcock completes MSU's NCAA women's alpine contingent and is making her first championships appearance.

The MSU men will be led by Riley Seger. Seger was a First Team All-RMISA selection this winter. The junior from Vancouver, B.C. was a Second Team All-American last season, placing sixth in giant slalom. Seger will be joined by first year qualifiers Dawson Yates and Isak Staurset.

Sophia Mazzoni, a sophomore from Hailey, Idaho guides the Bobcat women's Nordic squad. Last winter, Mazzoni placed 16th in classic and 20th in freestyle at the NCAA Championships. This season, she notched her best showing with a seventh-place finish at the University of Fairbanks Invitational.

Mazzoni will be joined by Anna Pryce, who is making her NCAA debut. The product of Canmore, Alberta, had two top 10 finishes, including seventh in freestyle at UAF.

Reed Godfrey anchors the Bobcats' men's Nordic team. The native of Canmore, Alberta will be making his second NCAA appearance after notching a 13th place finish in classic at last year's NCAA meet. Godfrey is coming off a sixth place showing in 20K freestyle at the RMISA Championships, last week.

Godfrey will be joined by freshman Kai Meyers, who is making his first NCAA Championships appearance. Meyers had a season-best eighth place showing in classic at the RMISA championships.

2022 Montana State NCAA Championships Qualifiers:

Women's Alpine: Nellie Talbot, Kristiane Bekkestad, Brynne Hitchcock

Men's Alpine: Riley Seger, Dawson Yates, Isak Staurset

Women's Nordic: Sophia Mazzoni, Anna Pryce

Men's Nordic: Reed Godfrey, Kai Meyers

Alternates: Jamie Casselman, Henry Heaydon, Ylva Falksete, Tegan Wold

Montana State Team Finishes at NCAA Championships:

Last season, the Bobcats finished fifth in team scoring.
2021 5th

2020	7 th (shortened due to COVID)
2019	9 th
2018	6 th
2017	6 th
2016	4 th (best finish in school history)
1969	4 th (best finish in school history)

Montana State Individual National Champions:

With Nellie Talbot and Kristiane Bekkestad being named RMISA Most Valuable Skiers in the alpine events, and with the strong international experience of Riley Seger, the Bobcats are looking to see one of their own on top of the podium. MSU's past national champions include:

1962	Tor Fageraas	Nordic	Combined
1978	Dan Brelsford	Alpine	Slalom
2016	Anika Miller	Nordic	Freestyle
2017	Benedicte Lyche	Alpine	Giant Slalom

Montana State All-Americans:

1962..... Tor Fageraas Nordic 1st
 1964..... Jan Stenerud Nordic 1st
 1977..... Dan Brelsford Alpine 1st
 1978..... Dan Brelsford Alpine 1st
 1979..... Dan Brelsford Alpine 1st; Rusty Squire Alpine 2nd
 1980..... Rusty Squire Alpine 2nd
 1981..... Trond Solvang Nordic 1st; Rusty Squire Alpine 2nd
 1982..... Karen Jeske Nordic 1st
 1983..... Ingrid Gustafson Nordic 2nd
 1996..... Liz Watkins Alpine 2nd
 2000..... Suzan Dole Alpine 2nd
 2001..... Marianne Magnus Nordic 1s; Maria Kalnaes Nordic 2nd
 2006..... Spela Bertonselj Alpine 2nd/2nd
 2010..... Kaelin Kiesel Nordic 1st/2nd; Bernhard Roenning Nordic 1st/2nd; Tyler Reinking Nordic 2nd; Ryan Scott Nordic 2nd
 2012..... Michael Schallinger Nordic 1st; David Norris Nordic 1st/2nd; Tyler Reinking Nordic 2nd; Michael Radford Alpine 2nd
 2014..... Jessica Yeaton Nordic 1st; Sawyer Kesselheim Nordic 2nd
 2015..... Cambria McDermott Nordic 1st; Forrest Mahlen Nordic 1st; Benedicte Lyche Alpine 2nd; David Neuhauser Alpine 2nd
 2016..... David Neuhauser Alpine 1st/2nd; Morten Bakke Alpine 1st/2nd; Benedicte Lyche Alpine 1st; Stephanie Gartner Alpine 1st; Sawyer Kesselheim Nordic 1st; Anika Miller Nordic 1st; Cambria McDermott Nordic 1st; Garret Driller Alpine 2nd; Jocelyn McCarthy Alpine 2nd
 2017..... Benedicte Lyche Alpine 1st/2nd; Stephanie Gartner Alpine 1st/2nd; Anika Miller Nordic 1st; Addison Dvoracek Alpine 2nd; Garret Driller Alpine 2nd; Johanna Taliharm Nordic 2nd
 2018..... Stephanie Gartner Alpine 1st/2nd; Morten Bakke Alpine 1st; Emma Tarbath Nordic 1st; Anna Fake Nordic 2nd; Kari Hole Alpine 2nd
 2019..... Åge Solheim Alpine 2nd; Louis Muhlen-Schulte Alpine 2nd; Jocelyn McCarthy Alpine 2nd
 2020..... Nellie Talbot Alpine 1st; Åge Solheim Alpine 2nd; Louis Muhlen-Schulte Alpine 2nd

