

# HOW TO QUALIFY TO PARTICIPATE IN THE 2017 NATIONAL SNOWSHOE CHAMPIONSHIP EVENTS

## **Bend OR hosts 2017 U.S. National Snowshoe Championships for the second time!**

For the second time in USSSA history, the national snowshoe championships will return to a previous site. The 17th edition of the United States National Snowshoe Championship Program will culminate in the 2017 Dion Snowshoes U.S. National Snowshoe Championships Friday - Sunday March 24<sup>th</sup> – 26th, 2017, in Bend, OR at the Mount Bachelor Nordic Ski Center.

Many of the country's finest winter endurance athletes, representing 25 - 30 different U.S. States, are expected to heed the starter's call. Junior A (15-19 yrs. of age) and Junior B (14 and younger) Boys and Girls will compete over a 5km course, while the Senior Men and Women (20+ years of age) will race 10km of groomed, single track and powder trails. The top three overall Junior Boy and Girl finishers, the top five overall Senior Men and Women and the top three overall Masters Men and Women will earn berths on the 2017 U.S. National Snowshoe Team. After adding the Half Marathon Snowshoe National Championship event in 2015, the Snowshoe Marathon National Championship was added in 2016! Athletes of all ages may qualify to compete for National titles and awards in these championship events by joining the USSSA as a member.

[Download the National Championship Entry Form Here](#)

***To be eligible to participate in the annual National Snowshoe Championships events, one only needs to be a current USSSA member.***

The National Snowshoe Championships include the following events;

- 1) Junior A and Junior B Boys & Girls 5km National Snowshoe Championships,
- 2) Senior Women's 10km National Snowshoe Championships,
- 3) Senior Men's 10km National Snowshoe Championship,
- 4) A 5km Citizen's Run/Walk,
- 5) A Kid's Kilo,
- 6) a 4 x 2.5km Snowshoe Team Relay,
- 7) A Snowshoe Half Marathon National Championship
- 8) A Snowshoe Marathon National Championship

Plus a Vendor Expo, Prize Raffles and lots of ancillary social events.

For more information on the 2017 Dion Snowshoes U.S. National Snowshoe Championships, visit [www.snowshoeracing.com](http://www.snowshoeracing.com) or call the USSSA Sports Director at 518-420-6961.

**How to qualify to compete in the 2017 Dion Snowshoes U.S. National Snowshoe Championships;**

**How to Qualify to Compete in Jr. 5km or Sr. 10km National Champ. Events:**

1. An athlete must be a current member of the U.S. Snowshoe Association. The annual membership fee is \$30.00 and that includes a one year subscription to the Trail Runner Magazine, among other benefits.
2. **ALSO...**the USSSA offers two other categories of participation at the National Snowshoe Championships. **ACTIVE** members of all branches of the U.S. Armed Forces are invited to participate and compete in the All-Military Division of the Senior 10km, Half Marathon or Marathon events. These participants **MUST BE** current USSSA members.
3. The USSSA also offers an International Division of competition in the Senior Men's and Women's 10km, Half Marathon and Marathon events. Athletes who **ARE NOT** US citizens may compete for awards. These athletes **DO** need to be current USSSA members.

**How to Qualify to Compete in the Snowshoe Half Marathon and Snowshoe Marathon National Champ. Events:**

1. An athlete must be a current member of the U.S. Snowshoe Association. The annual membership fee is \$30.00 and that includes a one year subscription to the Trail Runner Magazine, among other benefits.
2. The Half Marathon and Marathon Snowshoe National Championship events have time limits. Athletes should enter expecting to complete these arduous events, sometimes at altitude, in 4 hours for the Half Marathon and 8 hours for the full Marathon event.