

The High School Nordic Coaches Association began a waxing truce policy last season, following suite with what is being done in other regions across the country, i.e. Alaska and New England. The largest health concern comes from the use of pure, or 100%, Fluorinated wax in the powder form, due not only to the high concentration of Fluorine, but also that the procedure for applying them involves the use of high heat, which creates a toxic wax vapor. Pure Fluoro's in the block form can be heated, but are just as effective when applied with a cork, so no vaporization. Pure Fluorinated wax also comes in a liquid form, but does not require heat, and is simply rubbed on.

For a variety of reasons, such as health concerns, cost, and helping to level the playing field, as an association we drastically reduced the use of pure, 100% fluorinated waxes, and left up to conference coaches to minimize the use of Low Fluorinated (LF) and High Fluorinated (HF) waxes during non post season competitions. (For example, the Lake Conference has eliminated the use of LF and HF waxes for their conference level races.) These LF and HF waxes have much lower %'s of Fluorine in them (5% - 20%) and are mixed with hydrocarbon wax, and drastically reduce fluorine vapors.

For the 2017-2018, we would like to propose the following:

- Complete ban of pure, 100% Fluorinated powder wax from any MSHSL sanctioned race.
- Restrict the use of pure, 100% Fluorinated block and liquid wax to Post Season, Section and State Championships only. Any use of these waxes must follow manufactures recommendations for application, i.e. Wearing of respiratory masks, and well ventilated air space. No heating of this wax is allowed. And no student athletes are allowed in areas where pure fluorinated wax is being applied.
- Eliminate the use of LF and HF wax at regular season conference level races. (In other words, CH waxes only during the regular season) The use of LF and HF wax will be allowed at Conference Championships, Section Championships, and State Championships.
- Continue the research into the use of Fluorinated waxes, and be prepared to modify this proposal at the conclusion of the 2018 season as is deemed necessary.