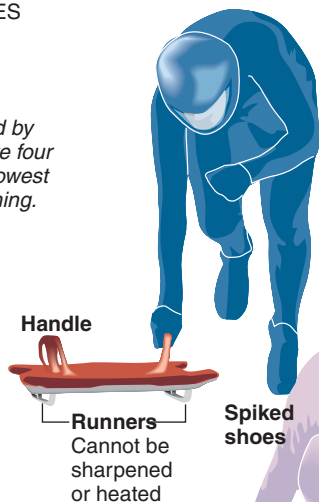


Skeleton

Skeleton is an individual sport raced by both men and women. Races involve four heats held over two days, with the lowest combined time of all four races winning.

The race

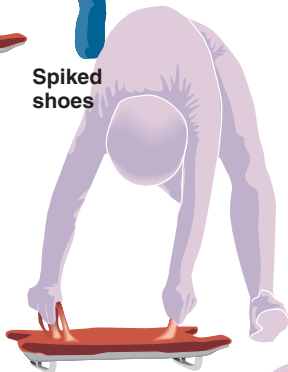
- Racers start with sled on track, one hand on sled
- At start, they sprint forward about 164 ft. (50 m), grasping sled with other hand
- Racers then dive head-first onto sled; they shoot down 1,450-meter track on their stomachs, reaching up to 85 mph (137 kph)



Handle

Runners
Cannot be sharpened or heated

Spiked shoes



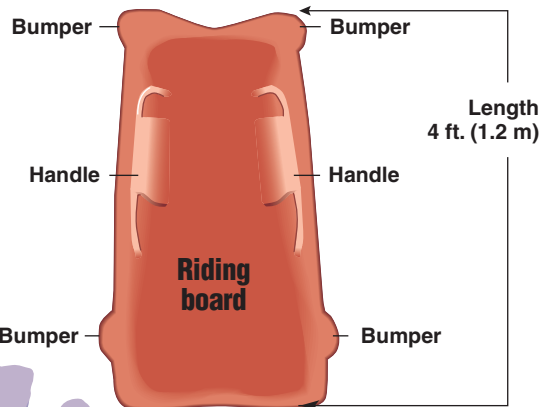
Upper start
(Elevation:
3,077 ft./938 m)



Helmet
Has clear, rounded visor for maximum visibility that extends under racer's chin to increase aerodynamics

The sled

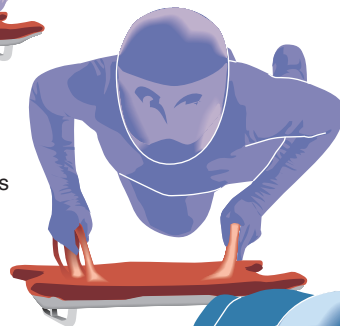
Simple and heavy, the skeleton sled is less maneuverable than a bobsled or luge sled; there is no steering mechanism or brakes; bumpers along sides protect against hard jolts with the track; racer sits up, puts feet on ground to slow sled at finish



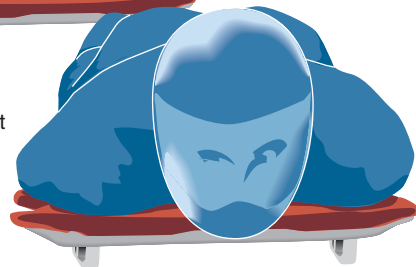
Max. weight

Men's sled: 253 lb. (115 kg)
Women's sled: 203 lb. (92 kg)

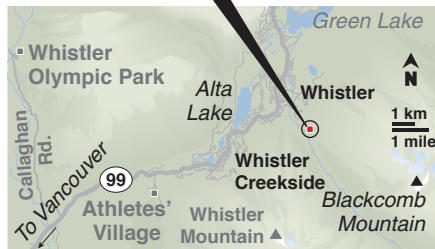
The start
To position body properly on sled, racer raises legs into air, then settles onto sled; move must be quick, precise so racer doesn't lose balance



Steering
Racer slightly shifts weight left or right to steer or accelerate



Sliding Center



Events

Men's and Women's
Heats 1 & 2, Feb. 18
Heats 3 & 4, Feb. 19

