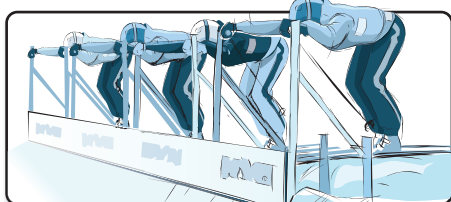


Ski Cross



New to the Winter Games, ski cross is an event within the freestyle ski discipline, with athletes competing head to head on a specially designed course. The event features a mass start with technical obstacles such as turns, traverses, banks, rolls and ridges. First one to the finish line wins.

Course highlights:



DETAIL

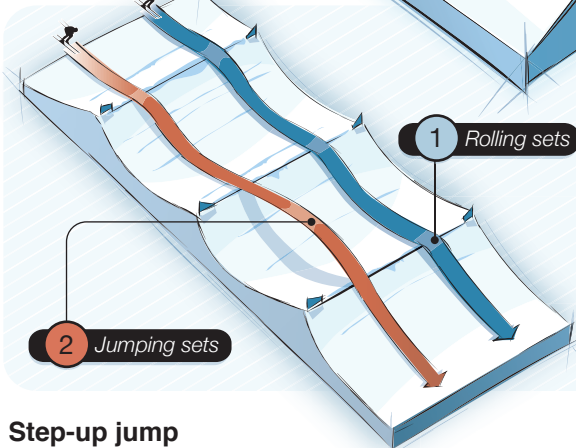
The start

One of the most critical parts of the race; four skiers line up side by side on a motocross-inspired drop down **start gate**



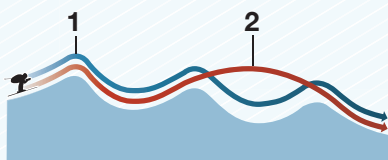
Skiers race down the course reaching speeds of up to **65 mph**

Skiers enter the gate and time their start to a series of **start commands**



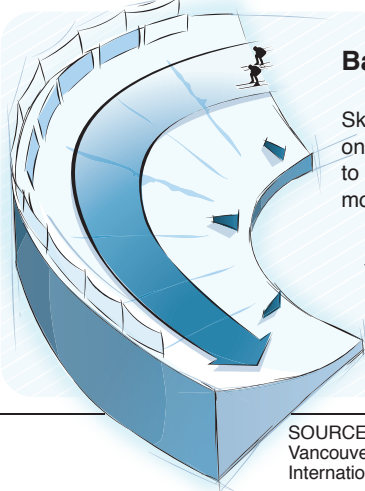
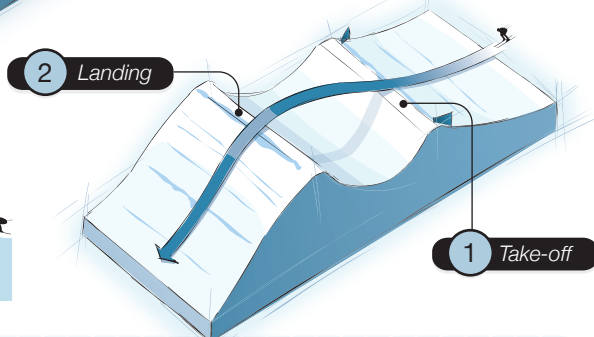
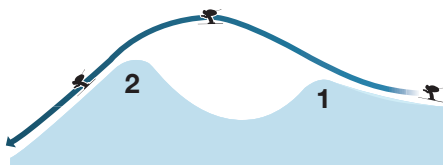
Roller sections

Sections of the course made up of rounded wavy terrain; a skier can stay on the ground (**roll**) through this section or **jump** sets of rollers



Step-up jump

One of many jumps throughout the race, the step-up features a landing that is higher than the takeoff



Banked turns

Turns set on an angle to help skiers stay on the course

Skiers can **block** opponents on a turn by using their body to cut off the trailing skiers movements



Trailing racers can **sling-shot** the leader by following close behind to pick up speed around the turn



SOURCES: International Olympic Committee; Vancouver Organizing Committee; International Ski Federation

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