



Roller derby on skis

Ski cross, which was born at the X Games and combines freestyle skiing and downhill racing, debuts as an Olympic event.

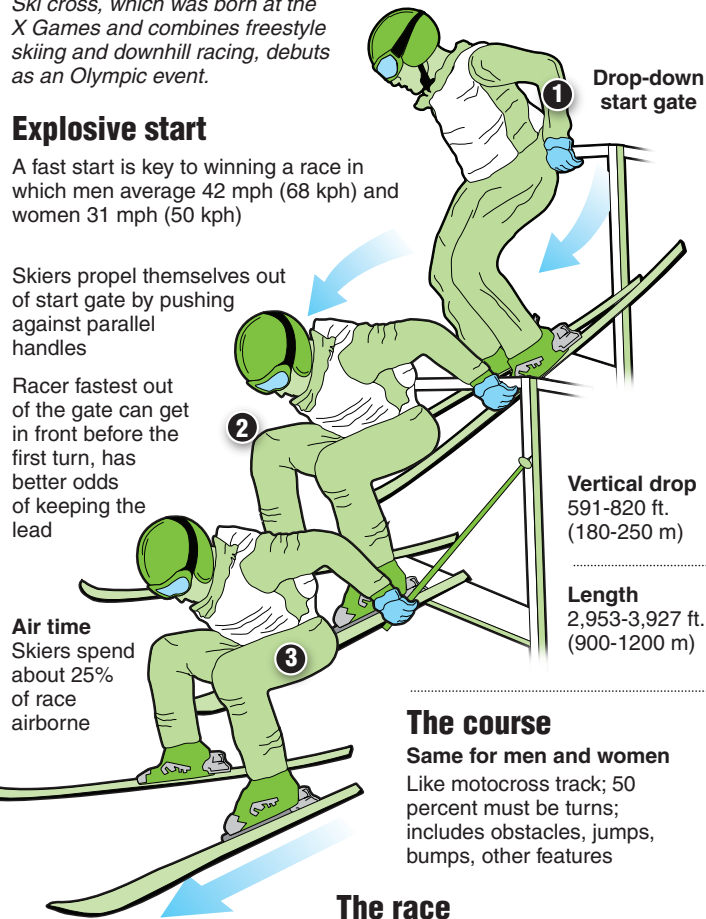
Explosive start

A fast start is key to winning a race in which men average 42 mph (68 kph) and women 31 mph (50 kph)

Skiers propel themselves out of start gate by pushing against parallel handles

Racer fastest out of the gate can get in front before the first turn, has better odds of keeping the lead

Air time
Skiers spend about 25% of race airborne



1
Drop-down start gate

2

3

Vertical drop
591-820 ft.
(180-250 m)

Length
2,953-3,927 ft.
(900-1200 m)

The course

Same for men and women

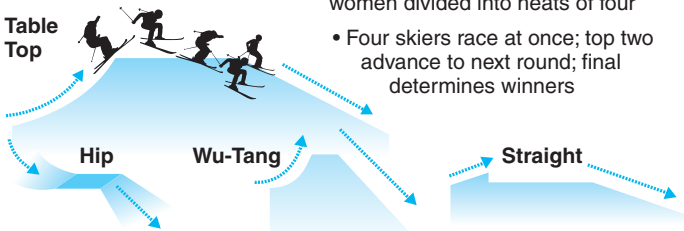
Like motocross track; 50 percent must be turns; includes obstacles, jumps, bumps, other features

The race

- After trials, top 32 men, top 16 women divided into heats of four
- Four skiers race at once; top two advance to next round; final determines winners

Jump variations

Table Top



Hip

Wu-Tang

Straight