

-History of the Buddy Werner Championship-

America's first international champion, Buddy Werner, skied with a break-neck style that made him the man to beat in the 1950's and early 60's. After competing in multiple Olympics and FIS ski Championships, Buddy's career ended tragically in 1964 when, in Switzerland, he was buried by an avalanche. He is the first, and one of only two, Americans to win at Kitzbühel, host of the mighty Hahnenkamm Downhill. Buddy's skill and spirit is celebrated by the youth ski championship that bears his name.

Across America, twelve and under skiers compete to represent their local ski programs at the Buddy Werner Championships. In the Pacific Northwest the event is held at a different location each season, rotating around Washington, Oregon, Western Idaho and Montana to insure equal participation across our region.

MARA has a long tradition of successful competition at "the Buddy's". In 2005, the team finished 5th of all participating teams and, in 1999, Riley MacGraw won the Giant Slalom!