

Incline's Lapanja 3rd in U.S. Championship's slalom

By USSA

CARRABASSETT VALLEY, Maine – Resi Stiegler (Jackson, Wyo. – U.S. Ski Team) and AJ Ginnis (Vouliagmeni, Greece – U.S. Ski Team) were victorious under a sunny, bluebird spring day in Sunday's slalom at the U.S. Alpine Championships in Sugarloaf.

On the women's side, Stiegler found herself atop the podium at U.S. Alpine Championships for the first time since 2007, when she won the giant slalom and slalom national titles. Canadian Roni Remme, who skis for the University of Utah, was second, while Lila Lapanja (Incline Village – U.S. Ski Team) was third.

Nina O'Brien (Edwards, Colo. – U.S. Ski Team), who was the junior champion in Saturday's super G, was the top junior finisher once again, landing in seventh.

It's been a career full of ups and downs for the veteran Stiegler, who was stoked to find her way back to the top of the podium. "I won the year I got injured, and I haven't won since," Stiegler said. "I've been second to Canadians for quite a few years, so I thought, 'I've gotta get this one!'"

It was Ginnis' first national title, and he had stiff competition. Four-time national champion and tech team leader David Chodounsky (Crested Butte, Colo. – U.S. Ski Team) – who is one of the best slalom skiers in the world – landed in second by just 15 hundredths of a second while World Cup mainstay Michael Ankeny (Deephaven, Minn. – U.S. Ski Team) rounded out the podium in third. All three U.S. Ski Team athletes have attended or are currently attending Dartmouth. Erik Arvidsson (Woodside – U.S. Ski Team) was the top junior,

finishing seventh.