



SNOWBOARDING



The Park City resort.

Origin

Snowboarding is a sport combining elements of surfing, skateboarding and skiing. It developed in the 1960s with the first mass-produced snowboard being sold in 1966, termed the 'Snurfer'. In the late 1970s, snowboarding became more popular and snowboarders began to 'invade' traditional snow resorts, often met by opposition from skiers who tried to exclude the snowboarders from 'their' mountains. By the 1990s, almost all ski resorts allow snowboarding. Competition in snowboarding developed in the late 1970s and early 1980s. FIS World Championships were first held in 1995. At the FIS World Championships and the FIS Snowboard World Cup, there are five events contested: giant slalom, parallel slalom,

parallel giant slalom halfpipe, and snowboardercross.

At the Olympic Games

Men's and women's snowboarding made their Olympic debuts at the XVIII Olympic Winter Games in Nagano in 1998 with alpine and freestyle competitions. One of the most popular sports in Nagano, snowboarding returns to Salt Lake City with two men's and two women's events. The alpine event has been changed from the traditional giant slalom to a parallel giant slalom featuring head-to-head competition and an exciting elimination format. The halfpipe returns as a freestyle event.

Salt Lake City Olympic venue

Park City Mountain Resort, Park City, Utah, is about 54 kilometres (34 miles)

east of Salt Lake City. With a base of 2,117 m (6,945 ft) and a summit of 3,048 m (10,000 ft), Park City has held numerous alpine skiing and snowboarding World Cups since it opened in 1963. Its capacity is about 16,500 spectators.

