



PETER JEROME

Women's ski jumping likely would not have been accepted into the Olympic family this past year were it not for the efforts of one man.

Peter Jerome is an airline pilot whose daughter Jessica found purpose and passion on the ski jumps in their hometown, Park City.

Jessica, now 24, Lindsey Van, and Alissa Johnson were members of that same club team, but if they wanted to compete against the world's best women ski jumpers, their families had to send them overseas, and those competitions were sporadic and unofficial.

Armed with "Nonprofits Kit for Dummies" Peter consulted an accountant and an attorney and began to set up the Women's Ski Jumping USA. They received initial approval in Nov. 2003.

"It made a difference right from the get-go." he said of having a non-profit organization that oversaw the sport's development in the United States. "It immediately provided meaningful funding to get the athletes to the international competitions. And then as it started to get some traction with the FIS (the governing body of skiing). In July 2004, Utah hosted the first Women's Continental Cup ever."

With the inception of the FIS Women's Continental Cup series, there was finally an official international series for women.

Thanks in large part to the early and continuing efforts of Peter Jerome, women from all over the world will be participating in the 2014 ski jumping event in the winter Olympics.