

New Family Information

Welcome to the Mt. Washington Ski Club and the 2016/2017ski season. Here's some information you may find useful.

Season

Our season begins on Jan.7 (for Saturday skiers) and Jan.8 (for Sunday Skiers). The season ends on with a day for all on Saturday April 8th.

There will be a parents social /open house on January 7th from 2:00 till 4:00 pm

Throughout the season, we offer social gatherings and other fun events. Please take the time to read any notices posted in the club cabin and read the newsletters that will be regularly sent out.

Structure of the Day

Kids ski from 9:15 am to 2:45 pm with a 45 minute lunch. Please have your kids at the club cabin before 9:15 so that coaches can head out with their groups right away. Lunch is normally at 11:45; however, we often stagger lunches so that the club cabin doesn't become overcrowded. Since our coaches need a lunch break too, we ask that parents meet their kids at lunch and also make sure their kids clean up after themselves.

Skiers usually come in twice during the day for hot chocolate breaks. We would like the kids to limit themselves to 2 cups a day. The mugs are kept in the bottom drawer of the kitchen island. Dirty mugs can be put in the dishwasher.

Groupings

Skiers are put into groups based on skill and age. We also try to make sure there are equal genders, but that isn't always possible. There will be a bit of movement between groups during the first few weeks as coaches will be assessing skiers' abilities and re-organizing groups based on evaluations. We know this can be somewhat stressful for some kids. Please let us know if your child is having a tough time with any changes.

Skiers who are new to the club will most likely ski as a group, or groups, so that coaches can assess abilities. This means that there will be a mix of abilities and ages. Once the coaches have had a chance to evaluate skiers, they will be placed in more permanent groups.

While we are very accommodating with tailoring our programs to fit individual family needs, our coaching staff schedule is based on the days that you indicated on your registration form. In order to not be over or under staffed on any particular day, we usually don't do "make up" days for skiers who miss their regularly scheduled day.

Group lists and coaches are posted in the club cabin on the bulletin boards above the coat racks. Once you see what group your child is in, you can go outside and locate the pole with your group name on it. Just wait there until your coach arrives – usually shortly after 9:00. Please check the group lists each week as there will be changes during the first 3 or so weeks. It may be a good

idea to prep your child that groups will be changing a bit during the first few ski sessions.

Club Cabin

The club cabin is for families to use during the day. It is normally open from 8:30 to 3:30 at which time it gets locked. You are welcome to use all kitchen facilities but please remember to clean up after yourselves. Families are asked not to leave any skis at the club cabin.

MWSC families have use of the main level (kitchen level) of the cabin. The lower (racer) level is reserved for athletes U12 and older, this is an athlete only zone so if kids are using the area they must be able to clean up after themselves and they will be expected to assist with group clean ups. The upper levels are for coaches and officials.

We have cubbies and many hooks for day use, but please take all your supplies/equipment home at the end of the day as club cabin space is limited.

Volunteer Opportunities

During the season there are several volunteer opportunities, such as

- Cabin monitor (half day or full days). This entails staying in the club cabin with a club radio to contact coaches if necessary.
- Group Tail gunners: Some coaches of our younger groups may ask for a parent to act as a tail gunner/helper.
- Cabin clean up. This happens after skiing is finished for the day, usually between 2:45 and 3:15, and includes vacuuming, cleaning dishes or putting the dishwasher on, cleaning bathrooms, washing tables, etc.
- Race help. The MWSC will be holding several races throughout the season and is always looking for help. It takes many volunteers to hold a race, more than what the older racer families can provide. We are actually holding a U14 race on January 21 and 22. This is an early season race, and we would appreciate your help. Even if you don't know anything about ski racing, you can buddy up with someone and learn the ropes.

Our club's success is based on its volunteers. We would like each family to contribute 4 volunteer days during the season. Sign up sheets for volunteer duties are usually posted in the club cabin.

Races

There are always off hill races the skiers have the option to participate in (races aren't mandatory). However, if kids want to participate, there are extra costs involved. These costs would include personal travel, food and accommodation, race fees, and coaches' travel/expenses. The cost of the coaches expenses is divided up between all the skiers who are attending the race.

If you choose to participate in a race, fees are paid ahead of registration, since our club has to pay race fees up front. The U10 and the U12 coordinators will tell you about upcoming races and collect the associated fees.

For each race, we will send out information by email and there will be a link to an online registration form. Paper sign up sheets will also be placed in the club cabin.

Sun Peaks Festival – this event brings together 400 young racers from around the province. The two days of racing involve a downhill event and a skills event (bumps, speed, kombi and jump). Several MWSC families go to this race and it's a fun, family event.

MWSC will be holding a three race series for all club skiers! These are all one day events, but we invite all Saturday and Sunday skiers to participate, which means groups are changed up a bit.

1. **January 28th** will be the first race in the new club race series. Info on race specifics will be available closer to race date but events will vary from race to race.
2. **February 19th** will be the second race in the new club race series. Info on race specifics will be available closer to race date but events will vary from race to race.
3. **April 8th** will be the third race in the new club series and a great last day to celebrate your season in the club. Info on race specifics will be available closer to race date but events will vary from race to race. This is the last day of the clubs season!

Many newer athletes (and parents) are unsure about the races. Based on previous years, most kids in our program do participate in the local races and have a fun time.

Vests

The vests are like a MWSC uniform and go over the kids' ski jackets. New skiers can get their vest on the first ski weekend in December – they will be available early at 8:00. Skiers should wear their blue vests each day they ski with the club. Please keep vests in good condition as you can “upsized” them if required the following season at no extra cost. When you no longer need the vest, you can return it to the club for a \$30 refund (providing it's in good condition).

Communication

Most communication is done through email and monthly newsletters. Important notices are often put up on the bulletin boards and on the front door.

Social Events

We are a club that enjoys having fun. We have several events lined up – some more formalized than others.

The MWSC is hosting an Open House and Club Social On Saturday January 9th from 2-5pm. Come out and meet the great people involved with the club!

We also have informal potlucks throughout the season.

MWSC Clothing

We have some different types of clothing available for sale – ski pants, club jackets, soft shell jackets, rain ponchos. Our pricing is very reasonable – we don't expect to make money but just break even. If you're interested, contact our clothing coordinator – Kerri Perras (tkperras@telus.net)

We also have several club members who sell previously used clothing and equipment. Please go on the MWSC website and check out the “buy and sell” to see what is available.

Contacts

Please don't hesitate to contact the coordinators with any questions or concerns.

U10 Coordinators: Katie & Chris Leikermoser leikermoser@telus.net

LOOKING FORWARD TO MEETING EVERYONE

HAVE A GREAT SEASON