

Summit Nordic Ski Club

www.summitnordicskiclub.com

Welcome! We want to take the first lines of this to welcome you to Summit Nordic Ski Club. This is a place where friends will be made, people will grow, and dreams will be realized. We ask for your attention while you read through this packet. There will be fewer surprises through the season if you take the time to read carefully. Think snow, and dream big!

Mission Statement:

The mission of the Summit Nordic Ski Club (SNSC) is to provide the youth of Summit with a well-balanced ski racing program including fitness, self-esteem, and character building through training and competition within a nurturing environment. The club operates as a competitive Nordic skiing program enabling skiers to progress from the learn-to-ski programs into competitive skiing at the local, state, and national levels in accordance with their respective abilities and desires. SNSC participates in the Rocky Mountain Nordic Club (RMN) and observes the rules sanctioned by RMN. SNSC values healthy competition, individual effort and team spirit.

History and Non-Profit Status:

The Summit Nordic Ski Club has existed for over 30 years but was formally established in October 2004 and was granted 501(c)(3) status in June 2005. SNSC previously existed as an informal extension of the Summit School District's Nordic Ski Program, and was the only club in the state requiring no dues beyond the school activity fee. All functions of SNSC, including coaching, waxing and race organization were handled by an all-volunteer network of involved individuals (mainly parents and school coaches). Longtime coach Gary Giberson estimates that between 250 and 300 Summit athletes have participated in the Junior National Championships, many have gone on to compete on college teams and several have participated in the Olympics.

The club started back in 1966-67. The first coach was Steve Rechiele. The founding fathers and mothers were the Zdechliks, Andersons, Armstrongs, Wellingtons and others. I believe the first High School Start Championships were in 1967 or 1968.

Jim Balfanz took over as coach in 1968. In order to help raise funds to support the club, the Frisco Gold Rush was started in 1971.

Olympic skiers include Twila Hinkle, Pat Ahern, Ingrid (Langell)Butts, and Matt Dayton. Numerous skiers have skied for the US team.

SNSC Board of Directors:

The SNSC board is comprised of parents, coaches, community members and students. Current officers are

President - Karen Perkins

Vice President – Lowell McCoy

Treasurer – Colleen Richmond

Secretary - Dan McCreery

Fundraising & Sustainability:

The Summit Nordic Ski Club is committed to providing the very best coaching possible, high-level race opportunities, and a generally inviting environment for ALL participants. In order to accomplish all of these goals and keep cost as low as possible the club relies on several different means of financial support.

SNSC will again host our fall fundraiser at the Silverthorne Pavilion on Friday November 6th, 2009. The food will be catered by Hearthstone Catering again this year, and music will be a live, 5 person band – including Heidi Schmidt.

Continuing on this note, it is worth taking a moment to mention that having too many fund raisers stretch the club too thin, and dilutes the presence the club can have within Summit County. Therefore, a shift toward sponsorship is beginning. There will be a tiered support structure that takes into consideration financial donations and in-kind donations as well as cash contributions to the Club. Please take a moment to consider this, and help us actively approach philanthropic entities within our own community.



TEAM:

The first line of the Mission Statement for Summit Nordic Ski Club states:

The mission of the Summit Nordic Ski Club (SNSC) is to provide the youth of Summit with a well-balanced ski racing program including fitness, self-esteem, and character building through training and competition within a nurturing environment.

In order to insure we provide balance through this program, a sense of unity must be recognized. Unity will grow as we continue to see Summit Nordic Ski Club as a team. This sense of identity will be necessary as we begin to set collective goals, and work together to achieve them. The expectations of this team are going to be simple, but mandatory. Below there are four areas where we will outline how this will happen naturally.

Races: SNSC will be focused on balancing the schedules of school-related races with races that are sanctioned by Rocky Mountain Nordic (RMN). This will involve systematic training to make sure each athlete is prepared for all races they will participate in. There will be certain times when RMN races will be given slightly more weight, but this simply reflects that those races are longer and more rigorous. Our training will address this.

The expectation of each athlete at races is that they represent this club and their school with dignity and respect. At each race we will cheer for other members of our team, and be gracious to our hosts. **A motto that every athlete needs to be familiar with is, “Humble in victory. Graceful in defeat.”** Please understand that there will be no tolerance for disrespectful behavior by athletes or fans, because this will surely disrupt the positive momentum of our collective efforts.

Lodging and Transportation: Due to the nature of our club’s relationship with the Summit County school system, many races will have bus transportation provided for us. When we go to RMN Junior National Qualifiers we will travel as a team in a 15-passenger van. Lodging arrangements will be made by the club for the coaches and for athletes. Athletes will room with each other, and the location of this lodging will be passed along as soon as the arrangement is made. J3 athletes will be required to have a parent present at races, or have arrangements with another parent. Please clear your arrangements with the SNSC coaches.

The reason for having everyone in one place is that we are a team. The information athletes will receive the night before a race is important. Logistically everything is simply easier when the group is at the same location during race weekends. A typical evening before a race will include waxing, a team meeting, and a team dinner. If you are representing SNSC you will be expected to attend the meeting and have your skis waxed with the team. If there are instances where this is a problem, communication with the Head Coach is going to be necessary.

Waxing: Every athlete should take steps toward learning how to care for their own skis. A well-waxed ski is a fast ski. When we are at races the club or the school will provide wax. There will be different procedures before different races, so being attentive is going to make waxing skis easier on race day.

Kick wax for practice is something that each skier should begin to have. Nothing fancy is necessary for practice wax, and tricky kick waxing days will likely be avoided in practice (read: we'll skate instead). An ideal athlete wax kit will include SWIX Blue Extra, SWIX Special Violet, SWIX Extra Violet, SWIX Special Blue, a cork, two (2) scrapers (one for kick one for glide wax).

Practice: If you will not make it to practice we want to know about it. Practices during other parts of the year are less mandatory, but participation is ENCOURAGED whenever possible. Being a year-round skier is always an option, but we understand the value of participating in other sports. We simply want everyone to be aware that there are coaches who are ready to support athletes to the highest level they want to strive toward.

Throughout the fall, spring, and summer there will be a long workout on one day of the weekend (most often Sunday). These are meant to be fun and exploratory. Parents and athletes will be invited to participate in these practices – they are going to be FUN!

Coaches:

Head Coach/Director: Justin Easter

Program Assistant: Peter Richmond

J3 & J4 Coach: Jessica Wald

J4 & Younger: Willie Trowbridge

INFORMATION:

All the information you should ever need or want will be on our website. Special thanks to Hannah Taylor for her work getting the website up and running. Please take a moment to get familiar with it, and be sure to send photos – these will be added frequently.

<http://www.summitnordicskiclub.org>