

CONNECTICUT SKI COUNCIL

skiclub.com

October, 2023

president@skiclub.com

GREETINGS FROM YOUR PRESIDENT

RISE UP!!

I can't say it enough! It's time for all members of every ski club to *rise up* to recruit, activate, and retain you club members! That sentiment bridges over to the many activities and committees within our CT Ski Council. The pandemic is over and we are embracing a "new normal." The Council needs you to embrace that among your members as well, and *rise up* to assist at the Council level.

You asked for the return of the SnowBall...it's back! You asked for a Race Day Event in Vermont...it's back! (More on that later.) You asked for Club Awareness Days...we still have some! You asked for benefits – our ski shops and local mountains will give you discounts. You asked for discounted lift vouchers... well, maybe they're decreasing in availability, but on our horizon are discounted IKON season passes. You asked for a CSC website that was enhanced and easier to navigate...take a look!! You asked us to grow our Kids' Day Instruction Program – it has! You asked for Monday Night Racing to continue and allow for booting up in the Ready Room – it has!

All of these benefits from your CT Ski Council are here, but we need individuals (like you!) to *rise up* and help out with activities and functions to enable our Council to prosper.

Our **Second Annual Online (Silent) Auction** fundraiser will open for bidding on Sunday, October 22, 2023. Bidding will close on Friday, November 10, 2023. The auction is the sole fundraiser of the CT Ski Council. The link to the auction is:

<https://www.32auctions.com/CSCAuction2023>.

The funds raised go to supporting the activities (benefits) of our Council. What are those activities that we subsidize, you ask?

Among them are: Kids' Day lift tickets and PSIA certified instructors; awards for racing; website hosting; and pizza at the first Council meeting of the season this September. If you want these activities to continue, then it's time to get behind your fundraiser! Items will continue to be added up to and through the opening date for bidding.

The next event on our calendar is the return of our **SnowBall**. The format has changed to lessen the workload of the volunteer commitment, but the hotel, music, and camaraderie remain the same. Saturday, November 18, 2023 is the date at the Hartford/Windsor Marriott. "Juice Box" is our band. It is imperative that every ski club in the Council donate at least one \$100. gift certificate for the reformatted raffle that will be held that night. The practice of having clubs pound the pavement and beg shopkeepers for donated items is over! So get out there and purchase a \$100. gift certificate from your favorite ski shop, mountain or other business as a thank-you for all the donations they've made over the years.

A **Vermont Race Day** event is now happening. Okemo Mountain will hold a Race Day for the CT Ski Council on their Wardance race slope, on Saturday, March 2, 2024!! The day will consist of 5 separate races – team, women's, club, snowboard, and children's races.

BUT – you as a Council member need to do your part to activate your members to be there to race!! We need at least (continued on page 2)

NEXT

COUNCIL MEETING:

Oct. 10, 2023

7:30 PM

**Back Nine at Stanley
Golf Course**

Following meeting:

NOVEMBER 14, 2023

Newsletter Deadline

Deadline for the November newsletter is October 20. Please send info to me at: don.ludwig.45@gmail.com.

Thanks,
Ginny Ludwig

Webmaster's Email

Please send all information you wish to have posted on the CSC's website to Cheryl Parmelee at: webmaster@skiclub.com

Stratton Awareness Days

There will be a link on the CSC website when it is ready to be accessed, but for your future planning: discounted Awareness Days at Stratton are Dec. 10 & 11, Jan. 5 & 16, March 8, 22 & 24. Stratton will also offer discounted nights (\$139. plus tax) at their Black Bear Lodge surrounding these dates.

CSC Auction Time!

SOLD! That's the word I'm looking to see on every auction item on our Second Annual CSC auction site. The bidding window will last for only 3 weeks (October 22-November 10, 2023). This is the sole fundraiser for our Council. Please check it out and invite your friends, co-workers and family to bid on any of the items on the site. The link is:

<https://www.32auction.com/CSCAuction2023>. You can't win if you don't bid!

SnowBall 2023 – Rise Up!

Rise Up is our theme, and your Council needs you to do exactly that on Saturday, November 18. Rise up and be part of the return of our annual SnowBall – the social event that kicks off our snow season. Advance ticket purchases are available for every club via their CSC representative and are \$30. Tickets are \$35. (cash only) at the door the night of the event. The bad is “Juice Box.” The Hartford/Windsor Marriott is our host for the evening, and overnight guest rooms are available at \$169. (plus tax) through the reservation link: [Marriott.com/event-reservations/reservation-link.mi?id=1674669519369&key=GRP&ap=resvlink](https://marriott.com/event-reservations/reservation-link.mi?id=1674669519369&key=GRP&ap=resvlink). You may call the dedicated reservation line at 800-228-9290 and specify CT Ski Council room block.

By-Laws Review

The current By-Laws are due for revision and updating. The team that reviewed them this past summer presented its edits at the September meeting, and they distributed them electronically on September 13, 2023, via Nancy Nolan. There will be review and discussion at the regular CSC meeting on October 10, 2023. Please try to attend when we review the proposals.

From Your President, continued

150 racer starts (1 run only) across all 5 events. And yes, those who don't have a valid EPIC pass for that day can purchase a ticket (via AdminSports) for \$65. More details as we get closer, so *rise up* and get your racers ready!!

Monday Night racing will continue again under the leadership of Rob Dexter. **Kids' Day** will continue again under the leadership of Robert Kot. Both of these gentlemen have worked tirelessly on these events and will continue to do so but they could use a little help from anyone willing to learn what it takes to manage these events successfully at our home mountain – Mount Southington. *Rise up* and offer to help them...you won't be turned away.

Mark Robitaille and Nancy Nolan will continue to keep you aware of any offerings for vouchers from mountains in Vermont. Please thank them for their tireless and continued work over the years as this benefit is winding down. Do bear in mind that we will be able to offer discounted IKON season passes for 2024/2025, so stick around and get active.

Before I close, let me take time to thank Dave Zuraw for his tireless work on the Spring Picnic of 2023. The continuation of that event will be reviewed at a future meeting, but in the meantime, please thank him for managing that event. Please thank Cheryl Parmelee for her dedicated volunteer work to rebuild our CSC website, and take time to check it out. The team that reviewed and developed proposed changes to our By-Laws worked together via Zoom (another benefit) efficiently over the summer. Please be prepared to review the changes during our October CSC meeting. There is more I could add, but it's time to close...*rise up*, be active, and get involved! See you soon.

Kindly,
Marsha Baretta
President

Benefits

Please refer to the CSC website “benefits link” to see all the benefits that every CSC member is entitled to - only if they present their valid club membership card with a 2023/2024 CSC ID sticker. Stickers will be available at the October meeting. Our CT ski shops, CT mountains, and Northern Ski Works in Vermont offer discounts on full-priced items. In addition, if you log onto the NSCF website you will be entitled to the many online merchant discounts that appear there; for example, Bern helmets at 50%; Neve Ski Wear at 50%; Auclair gloves at 25%; Sierra Nevada Resort at 30%; and there are more!

SNOWBOUND EXPO

Nov. 3-5, 2023 at Boston Convention Center

Highlights include: Chiro Clinic by Beacon Chiropractic & Performance – helping to work through pain to return to the snow; Gear, apparel, tech support and resorts represented. Check media channels for ticket availability.

Sugarloaf, Maine

Hosted by Central CT Snow Snakes

January 7 - 12, 2024

This is a drive trip.

Includes: Lodging in condos or Sugarloaf Hotel.
Lift tickets rates available.

CT Snow Snakes membership is required; \$30 for individual; \$60 for family.

Deadline is Oct. 15; late fees apply after that date.

Contact: ctsnowsnakes.org

Chris Warren is the coordinator.

Ski Andorra with Danbury Ski Club

Plus 2 nights in Barcelona, Spain

January 19-28, 2024

Includes:

R/T flight to Barcelona NY/JFK (Iberian Air); and Boston/Logan (Swiss Air – 10 people minimum); Deluxe motorcoach transfers, all taxes, surcharges, portage; 6 nights in Sport Hotel Village at Grandvalira Ski Resort; welcome wine & cheese reception; full European breakfast and dinner daily; 2 nights at Hotel El Avenida Palace, Barcelona (no dinner). Grandvalira is part of Ikon Pass – no charge for passholders. Buy an Ikon pass through Danbury Ski Club and get \$100 off for a FULL Ikon pass and \$50 off Ikon base pass. No Ikon pass – 5-day lift ticket is 280 euros (est.) DSC members get 1-year free extended membership; non-members given free membership.

Cost: \$2,545 pp/double; \$3,545 single.

Land only: deduct \$650. Boston departure add \$250.

Questions: DSC.Andorra.2024@gmail.com.

Info at: DanburySki.com/Andorra2024.

Ski Grindelwald, Wengen & Murren, Switzerland

Hosted by Danbury Ski Club

February 16-24, 2024 - President's Week

Includes: R/T flight to Zurich from NY/EWR (Newark) and Boston/Logan on Swiss Air – skis fly free! 10 people minimum for Boston flight option. Deluxe motorcoach transfers, all taxes, surcharges, portage.; 7 nights at 3-star Hotel Derby in Grindelwald, the heart of the Jungfrau region; welcome wine & cheese reception; full European breakfast daily and dinner each evening. DSC members get their membership extended by 1 year; non-Danbury members get a free membership!

Cost: \$2,895 pp/double; \$3,345 single. Land only deduct \$750. Boston departure deduct \$100. Lift tickets are additional.

Questions: DSC.Grindelwald.2024@gmail.com.

Info: danburyski.com/Grindelwald2024

Go to the CSC's website for information on other club-sponsored ski trips this season.

Ski Racing

Monday Night Race Series:

We had a great year last year, celebrating our 50th year at Mount Southington. The racer numbers increased 18% from the previous year. Hopefully, this year will be even better. We have some new processes this season – Mount Southington will be using RFID cards rather than AdminSports for racer sign-ups. We hope that bib numbers, CSC permit and ticket for the night will all be a part of the RFID cards. There will be a \$5 charge for the cards (usable for the season) and sign-up for the races will be on the Mount Southington web page. Many details are yet to be worked out, so stay tuned. I hope we will do an early season pizza party to get your RFID cards as well as get your season bib. The date is still to be determined. Unfortunately, this season will be 8 weeks with only 1 makeup allowed, due to both Christmas and New Year's falling on Mondays. Racing dates are on the CSC racing web page.

Bibs not turned in from last year are: #72 Nick Racca, NSC; #74 Robert Strange, NSC; #253 Melissa Conway, NSC; #281 Felicia Watson, Hamden. These clubs will have a \$30. extra racing fee for covering the cost of replacement bibs.

I am hoping we will have the state races, but too early to say yet. Also setting up planning for the Senior Winter Games – still in the planning stages.

Start thinking about a big snow year.

Rob Dexter

CSC Racing Chairperson

Race Day at Okemo

Saturday, March 2, 2024 is the date Okemo Mountain will host racing for the CT Ski Council – as long as we can provide at least 150 racer entries of 1 run each! The race will be on their Wardance slope, and will consist of 5 separate races: team, women's, club, snowboard and children's. The team and women's races will start from the peak of the race slope and the other 3 races will start from the Midtrail Starting hut.

Registration will be via AdminSports with pricing available for those with EPIC season passes, as well as for those without. The trail will be open to us for racing in the afternoon; however, if we can provide upwards of 200 racers on that day, they will give us the trail starting at 10:00 in the morning for the balance of the day. Get your racers ready as more details will be available as the day draws near. Did I hear somebody say "wine"??

CONNECTICUT SKI COUNCIL

2023-2024 Season Officers

PRESIDENT: Marsha Baretta

skimars93@gmail.com

VICE PRESIDENT:

TREASURER: Tad [Stewart](#)

tstewartb2@gmail.com

SECRETARY: Jonathan Houck,

203-213-6991; jhhouck@cox.net

BULK TICKETS: *Southern Tier:*

Nancy Nolan, 28 Homestead Pl,
Cheshire, CT 06410. 203-272-4681

nancynolan@snet.net.

Northern Tier Bulk Tickets:

Mark Robitaille ,

marklrobitaille@gmail.com

AWARENESS DAYS:

NEWSLETTER: Ginny Ludwig

203-250-1560;

don.ludwig.45@gmail.com

RACING: Rob Dexter, 860-836-9304;

skicouncil@gmail.com

WEBMASTER: Cheryl Parmelee

webmaster@skiclub.com

HISTORIAN:

PAST PRESIDENT: Ben Tomczak;

president@skiclub.com

CONTACT INFORMATION:

Marsha Baretta

skimars93@gmail.com

CT SKI COUNCIL MEETING LOCATION:

The Back 9 Restaurant at Stanley Golf Course,
245 Hartford Avenue, New Britain

CONNECTICUT SKI COUNCIL

Visit our website at skiclub.com.

The purpose of the Connecticut Ski Council is to foster and encourage organized amateur skiing and riding, to assist in the development of new clubs, to sponsor and run inter-club competition, promote club activity on and off the snow, and to teach skiing and ski safety skills to others. The Council offers discounts on lift tickets, ski trips, lodging, competitive racing, Nordic programs, ski instruction, and social and sporting events, community involvement, physical conditioning, meeting people and having fun.