

CONNECTICUT SKI COUNCIL

skiclub.com

December, 2023

president@skiclub.com

GREETINGS FROM YOUR PRESIDENT

"A thankful heart is not only the greatest virtue but the parent of all the other virtues." Cicero

This is the time of year when we strive to actively reflect on what we are thankful for. As I reflect on this past year within the CT Ski Council, I am thankful for the return of our annual SnowBall; thankful for the growth in Council Awareness Days from our mountain partners; thankful for the opportunity to conduct a revised OnSnow competition at Okemo; thankful for the team that came together to review the outdated By-Laws this summer; thankful for the loyal club representatives who faithfully come to the monthly CSC meetings; thankful for our Monday Night Race league that has continued non-stop for 50 years; thankful to Mount Southington for hosting our race league and our Kids' Learn-to-Ski/Snowboard event. Most importantly, thankful for the committee chairs and Council officers who unselfishly donate their "free" time to manage events and activities that sustain and benefit our Ski Council community.

We, as a Council, have endured and survived throughout a global pandemic. Although our numbers are smaller, we are and can continue to grow stronger. It is a time for growth and transition as we review and revitalize those practices and events that were in place before 2020. The team that stepped forward to manage the 2023 SnowBall did just that. They worked together cooperatively to streamline the event, reducing the overall workload, reducing the number of people required to manage the event, reducing expense areas, and in the end, produced an evening where we all danced, partied, and had a great time! The overall number of attendees was much smaller than in years before the pandemic, but that gives us room to grow!! It was a great evening!

The Council hosted another Online Auction Fundraiser that demonstrated growth in revenue over the prior year. In 2022 (the first auction for CSC), a total of \$2,700. was raised; however, this year, 2023, we raised \$4,500. That's the kind of growth that I am grateful for as it helps to sustain the events of our Council. I am grateful to the 55 merchant-donors who generously gave us products to auction and to the bidders who submitted their intent and money to win those items!

Lastly...I am grateful that we finally have a Vice President among our Council officers! When I transitioned to the position of President in January, 2023, I didn't think that I would need to assume the offices of both President and Vice President for as long as I did. Jane Suto, who served as CSC Vice President for several terms before 2013, has once again stepped forward to take on that position. THANK YOU, JANE.

The Council has had a busy and active autumn as we prepare for our season on the snow-covered mountains, hills, and forests. Time to get our gear in shape, keep our bodies healthy and strong, and please, take time to read and put into practice the revised Responsibility Code. I look forward to seeing you "on the snow" and thank you for being an active and vibrant part of our Council community! Happy Thanksgiving, and best wishes for a joyful holiday season!

Kindly,
Marsha

**NEXT
COUNCIL MEETING:
Dec., 12, 2023**

**7:30 PM
Back Nine at Stanley
Golf Course
Following meeting:
JANUARY 9, 2024**

Newsletter Deadline

Deadline for the January newsletter is December 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

SAVE the DATE!

*Kids' Day will be
Saturday, February 3,
at Mount Southington.
Details to come soon!*

CSC Racing

Monday Night racing is celebrating 51 years of competition. Southington will be open, and it should be very similar to last year. We plan to have a pizza party on Monday, December 11. Mount Southington will foot the bill for pizza.

We **WILL NOT USE** AdminSports for racer registration and lift tickets – all that will go through Mount Southington's web page. An RFID card will be issued to each racer. That card must be displayed or shown EVERY TIME prior to riding the lift. The deadline to sign up for racing is noon on the day of the race, similar to last year. Now, everybody who purchased a ticket for racing will be in that night's database, so fewer errors. You will need your CSC permanent number prior to signing up on the web page. Look at last year's results to get it, or if you are a new racer, contact me at skicouncil@gmail.com to have one issued.

Typically, we will have 2 runs on the main courses, but they will **NOT** count as NASTAR runs. If you want to qualify for NASTAR you may run on the NASTAR course (skiers' right) and there will be no extra charge.

If you have registered for a race, come to Southington to get your bib for the first time you race, or possibly get it on pizza night, December 11. If you do not make it to pizza night, make sure you come early to your first night of racing to get your bib. On the first night, there typically is a back-up, so give yourself extra time.

CHANGE: men's age group 65-66 will go back to the younger men's course (blue). Men born in 1958 (turn 66 in 2024) and older, women, and all snowboarders will have bibs 1-199 (blue course). Men born 1957 and younger (turn 67 in 2024) will have bibs 200-399 (red course). Bibs will be handed out on a first-come, first-served basis, and since we have the lottery for race bib order each night, a low number is not necessarily an advantage. Give yourself extra time when you get your bib on the first night.

The Monday Night CSC race series at Mount Southington, CT schedule: December 18 (we skip Christmas and New Year's Days); January 8, 15, 22, 29; and February 5, 12, and 19. That is 8 weeks. Make-up date is February 26.

BIBS: We will do as we did last year and hand out CSC bibs for the year. Racers will be responsible to bring their bib each week. Each week will be the same sequence bib order, but the first racer number will vary. Racers **MUST** turn in their bibs at the end of the season (racer's last race night) or their club will be billed for the missing bib.

TICKETS: On-line ticket sales will eliminate money/credit card interaction. Ticketing/racing prices will be shown on the Southington web page, and NASTAR will be free to all, ONLY on the skiers' right course.

Please stay safe out there, and pray for LOTS of snow.

Rob Dexter

CSC Race Chairperson

Other Races

There will be no State Slalom, nor Giant Slalom, nor Cross Country races. **We will have an OnSnow event this year**, and it will not be a 3-day event. **A one-day OnSnow race day is scheduled for Saturday, March 2, at Okemo.** We need to have an estimate now of how many are interested in racing. There will be a: 1) team race, 2) women's race, 3) club race, 4) kids' race, and 5) snowboard race. The format will be similar to OnSnow Carnivals in the past.

The hill will be Okemo's race hill – the Wardance trail. This registration will be through AdminSports. Discount tickets will be available for those who do not have an Epic pass that is valid on weekends at \$65. This includes racing registration and a ski-all-day lift ticket. If you have an Epic pass that is valid on weekends your price is \$35. Either way, that is an amazing price with racing included!

We are trying to bring back the **CT Senior Winter Games** (typically at Ski Sundown). I have been in contact with them a few times, but do not have a commitment from them as yet.

Rob Dexter

CSC Racing Chairperson

Discounted Council Appreciation Ski Days

Discounted ski days will be offered by many of our cooperating mountains once again this year. The Council is in need of a volunteer to step forward to coordinate these dates in a grid for the ease of use for our Council members. It would be “appreciated” if someone would take over this duty, as currently a variety of Council officers are each reaching out to one or two ski areas. The first requirement for all our CSC ski club members to understand is that you must present your valid 2023/2024 ski club member card at the ticket window when you pick up your ticket, and most likely you will need to pre-order the tickets online.

Killington and Pico have both made discounted days available in January and March. Killington also has days available in December. The pricing is different depending on date and mountain. Access to dates and pricing are found at:

<https://www.killington.com/ski-council>. You must purchase your tickets in advance online, and then go to a ticket window and present your valid ski club card to receive the lift ticket.

Stratton will offer discounted Council Appreciation days as well. You will need to order/purchase your ticket via the direct link on the Benefits pages of our CSC website. You will then need to go to a ticket window and present your valid ski club member card to receive the lift ticket. Discounted pricing for the Black Bear Lodge at Stratton is available surrounding the Appreciation dates as well. Please refer to the Benefits page of the CSC website for the document with the dates and links.

Magic Mountain will release its dates for discounted Council Days on November 1, 2023. We will keep you posted.

Jiminy Peak Resort is offering discounted Council Days to us this year. There is no need to pre-order your ticket...just go to the ticket window and present your valid 2023/2024 CSC member card. The dates are posted on the Benefits page of the CSC website. In addition, we might be able to schedule a Council/State Downhill (GS) race there on Monday, March 4, 2024. We will keep you informed.

National Ski Areas Association

Responsibility Code

1. Always stay in control. You must be able to stop or avoid people or objects.
2. People ahead or downhill of you have the right-of-way. You must avoid them.
3. Stop only where you are visible from above and do not restrict traffic.
4. Look uphill and avoid others before starting downhill or entering a trail.
5. You must prevent runaway equipment.
6. Read and obey all signs, warnings, and hazard markings.
7. Keep off closed trails and out of closed areas.
8. You must know how and be able to load, ride, and unload lifts safely. If you need assistance, ask the lift attendant.
9. Do not use lifts or terrain when impaired by alcohol or drugs.
10. If you are involved in a collision or incident, share your contact information with each other and a ski area employee.

If we all remember at least one of these codes while we're on the hill, we will all have a better day on the slopes!

CSC Member-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 November 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!

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

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

Loon Mountain, New Hampshire

Hosted by Meriden Ski & Snowboard Club

February 1-4, 2024

This is a drive trip.

Includes: 3 nights at Kancamagus Lodge; 3 days skiing at Loon. IKON pass holders can purchase just the hotel room.

Check-in from 3:00-9:00 PM on Feb. 1. Hotel is 1 mile from Loon and has an indoor pool.

Junior/Senior discount available. Checks to MSSC by mail. PayPal to

treasurer@meridenski.com.

Cost: All rates include club membership.

PayPal - \$581/pp, doub. occ.: Cash/check - \$560/pp, doub. occ.: PayPal for IKON

passholder - \$265/pp, doub. occ.: Cash/check IKON passholder - \$255: Subtract \$35 if already a 2023/2024 member.

Contact: Neil Young at young.nd@comcast.net or 860-808-6989. Mailing address for checks: 12 Alscot Dr., East Lyme, CT 06333.

Burke Mountain, Vermont

Hosted by Meriden Ski and Snowboard Club

March 7-10, 2024

Includes: 3 nights at Burke Mountain Hotel/Conference Center; 4 days skiing at Burke. Space is limited. Outdoor hot tub, restaurant and bar on site. All rooms have cooking facilities. Check-in Thurs. at 4:00 PM but can pick up lift tickets early Thurs. to ski. Meet and greet Friday evening.

Cost: All rates include club membership. Cash/Check: \$461. per person.

PayPal \$478./pp. PayPal to treasurer@meridenski.com. Checks to MSSC to Sharon Mann, 203 Chestnut Hill Rd., East Hampton, CT 0642.

Contact: Sharon Mann at sbmann2@comcast.net. Or text 860-301-2778.

Jay Peak, Vermont

Hosted by Meriden Ski and Snowboard Club

March 20-24, 2024

Includes: 4 nights in Cottage lodging; 4 days skiing. Space limited. Cottages include 2 bedrooms w/ split king beds (splits into 2 twins); full kitchens and washer/dryer. 3-minute shuttle ride to mountain from cottages. Check in Wed. at 5:00 PM. Meet and greet Thursday evening.

Cost: All rates include club membership. Cash/check \$700/pp;

PayPal is \$726/pp. PayPal to treasurer@meridenski.com. Cash/checks made out to MSSC and mailed to Sharon Mann, 203 Chestnut Hill Rd., East Hampton, CT 06424.

Contact Sharon Mann at sbmann2@comcast.net or text 860-301-2778.

Burke Mountain offers CSC members STEEP discount!

Save 15% on your hotel stay with ski-in/ski-out accommodations. Burke Mountain Hotel & Conference Center features 116 suites ranging from studio to 3-bedroom units. Relax and enjoy the hot tub, on-site pub, coffee shop, cafeteria, fitness center, arcade, and shopping. Use promo code: SKICLUB.

Ski Club Appreciation Days at Burke are: midweek on Dec. 19, 21, 22; Jan. 19; Feb. 13; Mar. 21 & 22. Tickets are \$50 for 1 day; \$90 for 2-day. Weekend dates are Jan. 20 & 21; Mar. 23 & 24. Tickets - \$60 for weekend. Purchase tickets with proof of current membership at Sherburne Base Lodge ticket windows.

SEE CSC WEBSITE FOR ALL DETAILS.

CONNECTICUT SKI COUNCIL

2023-2024 Season Officers

PRESIDENT: Marsha Baretta

skimars93@gmail.com

VICE PRESIDENT: Jane Suto

TREASURER: Tad [Stewart](#)

tstewartb2@gmail.com

SECRETARY: Jonathan Houck,
203-213-6991; jhhouck@cox.net

BULK TICKETS: *Southern Tier:*

Nancy Nolan, 203-272-4681

nancynolan@snet.net.

Northern Tier Bulk Tickets:

Mark Robitaille ,

markrobitaille@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.