



Dear Ausblick Ski Race Team Families,

The 23rd annual Ausblick Thanksgiving Race Camp will again be at Copper Mountain, Colorado with an arrival on Saturday November 18th. Athletes will be on snow Sunday November 19th thru Friday November 24th. Copper Mountain is located about 1½ hours west of Denver on I-70. Open to all Ausblick Ski Race Team athletes who have completed at least 1 year of racing with the team. The Ausblick Thanksgiving Race Camp provides our athletes with an early season opportunity to train with great coaches in conditions and on terrain that we simply cannot replicate in the Midwest.

Skiing will start on Sunday November 19th and continue thru the end of training on Friday November 24th. Skiing may often start early due to racing lane space availability; each day's schedule will be communicated the night before (sometimes as late as 8 or 9 pm) by text or email once we have confirmed the following day's training lane space availability. Following skiing, there will be 1-2 hour meetings for the athletes with their coach(es). For families new to the camp, please be aware that the schedule and training can be rigorous for everyone involved – and schedules can change quickly and at the last minute.

Our Ausblick coaches will lead the on-snow activities throughout the week. The athletes will be put into age and skill appropriate groups at the beginning of the week, and, while skiing primarily under the direction of one coach, will have exposure to several coaches throughout the camp.

Participation

The camp is open to all members of the Ausblick Ski Race Team who have completed at least one year of racing with the team. Skiers must be fully capable of getting on a lift by themselves and skiing in a group of 6-10 other similar skiers and a coach at high altitude on their own. The schedule and training can be demanding. If you have questions regarding the suitability of the camp for your young athletes, please contact Matt Katzfuss at 608-345-7746 or email him at ktzfss@yahoo.com. All athletes are expected to conduct themselves in a manner that reflects positively on the Ausblick Ski Race Team. Any problems in this regard will result in disciplinary measures.

Those who want to participate will have until **October 20th, 2023**, to return the Registration Form as well as a check for the full amount of the Camp. Checks need to be made out to the Ausblick Ski Race Team and mailed to my address listed on the Registration Form.

Lodging * Please read in full. You are responsible for directly reserving and paying for your family's lodging with Copper Mountain *

Copper Mountain Resort has set aside a lodging block for our families and athletes. Our lodging block for the 2023 Camp will be at the Copper Mountain Resort condominiums located in the Center Village and providing very convenient access to the lifts, restaurants and shops. Each family participating in this year's Thanksgiving Camp is entirely responsible for reserving and paying for their lodging directly through Copper Mountain. To ensure that we are getting the best rates available, Copper Mountain has provided us with a discount code to be used when securing lodging reservations. To reserve your lodging, please:

1. Contact Copper Mountain Resort lodging at (866) 837-2996.
2. Inform them that you are with the 2023 Ausblick Thanksgiving Race Camp.
3. Provide them discount code: **6193 Fall Racing & Training**.



Attached you will find a description of available lodging by room/condo type along with lodging rates. Athletes will typically meet and load lifts at the Center Village base area. **PLEASE REQUEST LODGING IN "CENTER VILLAGE"**. In past years, most (if not all) families chose "Gold" level lodging.

As in past years, most of our families arrive on the Saturday (November 18) before on-snow activities begin (November 19) and depart immediately following the last Friday training session (November 24); you are free to work with Copper Mountain Lodging to obtain an earlier arrival date or later departure date. Every year, a few families arrive or depart Copper mid-week. Mid-week arrivals or departures are acceptable this year as well – please be sure to indicate your arrival and departure dates on your Thanksgiving Camp registration form.

All camp participants should be sure to verify the accuracy of your check-in and check-out dates on the lodging confirmation you receive from Copper Mountain.

Please note that you may also find lodging options at Copper Mountain using other property management companies such as VRBO, Vacasa.com, Sky Run and Copper Vacations. If you do arrange lodging other than Copper Mountain Resort Lodging, you will not have access to discounted Friends & Family Lift Tickets (see below).

No Food Vouchers

In prior years, each condo unit came with 4-6 food vouchers per day for use at several Copper Mountain dining locations. Like the last couple of years, food vouchers are **NOT** included with lodging this year. While we anticipate that on-mountain dining options will be available during camp, families should also plan for "bag" lunches for their athletes.

Camp Fees

The Athlete Fee per racer will be **\$600 plus** the applicable Lift Pass Fee. The Athlete Fee includes all coaching, lane space, dry land training and meetings for all days of the camp. Copper Mountain no longer offers a daily racer lift pass. Lift pass options are listed on the registration form. The lift passes will give athletes access to all open chairlifts throughout the mountain for the entire camp and allow athletes to board the chair lift before 9am when training lanes have been reserved.

Friends & Family Lift Tickets

Copper Mountain currently plans to open to the public on November 13, although snow conditions could delay the opening. Non-racer lift tickets are offered at Copper Mountain's current group rates (**\$114/day 18yrs +; \$79/day 5-17yrs**) and are available to purchase in advance at the time you book your lodging (no discount is offered on-site).

As stated in the Participation section of this letter, full payment is due by **October 20, 2023**. If you have any questions, please contact me at 608.345.7746 or ktzfss@yahoo.com.

Sincerely,

Matt Katzfuss