



Sandpoint Nordic Club

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WINTER WELCOME SNOW

It was pretty special having it snow during our Winter Welcome event! We were able to raise over \$2,000 to support our season thanks to all of you who came out.

Huge shoutout to Rane Johnson-Stempson for helping with our auction and raffle. Also, big thanks to the businesses who donated items - we appreciate you!

In other news, we are getting some serious SNOW! We will be able to groom the PSW trails in the next few days. Keep checking the grooming report on our website. We can't wait to see everyone out skiing :).

Leanna & the SNC Board

NEWSLETTER

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The Outdoor Recreation Center is Open this Weekend

Our SNC Board and Rental Center staff are opening the ORC early this season!

Starting December 3rd, we will be open **Saturdays and Sundays from 9-4** for daily, weekly, and, seasonal rentals.

We have adult and youth skis, boots, and poles for both skate and classic Nordic techniques.



Seasonal Rentals & Pickup Days

Seasonal Rentals: We again bought new gear this summer, but we do limit our season rentals so that we have enough gear left over for our school groups, adult and family lessons, and assorted workshops; as well as our daily rentals on weekends. Remember- Seasonal Rentals are for club members and Youth Ski League participants only.



Pickup Days: Our Wednesday, November 30th 4-7pm pickup day was cancelled due to the snow storm and conditions of the PSW road. Please come by for seasonal rentals on the weekends during ORC open hours or on Wednesday, December 7th from 4-7pm.

Outdoor Recreation Center Offerings

by Rick Price

Have you been into the Pine Street Woods Outdoor Recreation Center? Our club's rental center offers both youth and adult cross-country ski gear. We also have both skate and classic skis. We even have a supply of snowshoes for those wanting to bust out and romp in the snow or check out the narrow trails at Pine Street Woods. We want to get Sandpoint outside and moving this winter!

Members will want to know we have a variety of Club Gear for sale; including new styles of both hats and buffs. There is lots of SNC Logo gear. Ski ties, stickers and magnets and an assortment of cups and glasses make great gifts for your skiing friends.

Know that we work hard to keep our website up to date with our Rental Center hours. We plan to be open on weekends and holidays whenever there is enough snow to groom at Pine Street Woods.

The building is a wonderful place to gear up, wax your skis, take a break from skiing, have a snack, or eat a lunch. We have hot cocoa! Come in and say hi to Tom, Patrick, and Rick this winter!



School Program and How to Get Involved

by Rick Price

There are plenty of volunteer opportunities for Nordic Club members. The biggest need is always help with our successful School Program. Run Tuesdays through Thursdays during January and February, one class or another from Sandpoint area schools will be heading up to Pine Street Woods to get outside and ski.



Last year we got almost seven hundred kids on skis. While it is often the first time on skis for many kids, now that the program has been running for three years, we have kids looking forward to getting back out and are seeing may acquire some great Nordic skills! Volunteers fit kids with gear, help get skis attached to boots and keep kids moving out on the trails. We have two classes going out on Tuesdays and Thursdays, and one class each Wednesday. Please email the club if you are interested in volunteering. It is the most fun you will have this winter.



YOUTH SKI LEAGUE

Registration is live!

Calling all kids ages 6-18. Whether your little one is a brand new skier or a seasoned Nordic athlete, we have just the team for them.

Little Steppers - A classic only team for kids aged 6-8 with little to no experience on skis.

Recreation Team - For kids 8+ with some experience on skis. Choose classic or skate.

Development Team - For athletes developing for the Race Team. Can participate in regional races.

Race Team - For advanced skiers. The Race Team travels together to compete in regional races.

Be sure to sign up on our website before December 15th. After the 15th, prices go up \$30.



SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

Our goal is to get as many kids out skiing as possible this season. If your family needs assistance, please apply for it!. We are accepting Scholarship applications for our Youth Ski League through **December 15th**. Funds can be used towards Youth Ski League program fees, cost of ski rentals, trails passes, and more.

To apply, email an essay of 500 words or less to sandpointnordic@gmail.com.

The essay should include a response to the following questions:

- Dollar amount of funds requested
- What the funds will be used for.
 - Fund use can include but is not limited to new boots, skis, poles, or other equipment, funds to participate in our Youth Ski program, funds for trail passes.
- Your families / child's nordic skiing experience to date
- How nordic skiing has impacted your families / child's life
- Goals and aspirations for your future in nordic skiing

Early Season Snow, What's a Nordic Skier to Do?

By Jared France

The early arrival of winter has created a bit of a dilemma for us Nordic skiers. In typical North Idaho fashion, Mother Nature's abrupt transition from warm, smokey conditions to cold and snow has made ski addicts eager to get out and play. Unfortunately, the storm track a few weeks ago gave us the slip and didn't cooperate enough to allow for trail grooming at Pine Street Woods or Schweitzer. While we anxiously await for our local trails to be ready for skiing, what are our options? (Not everyone owns a snow bike).

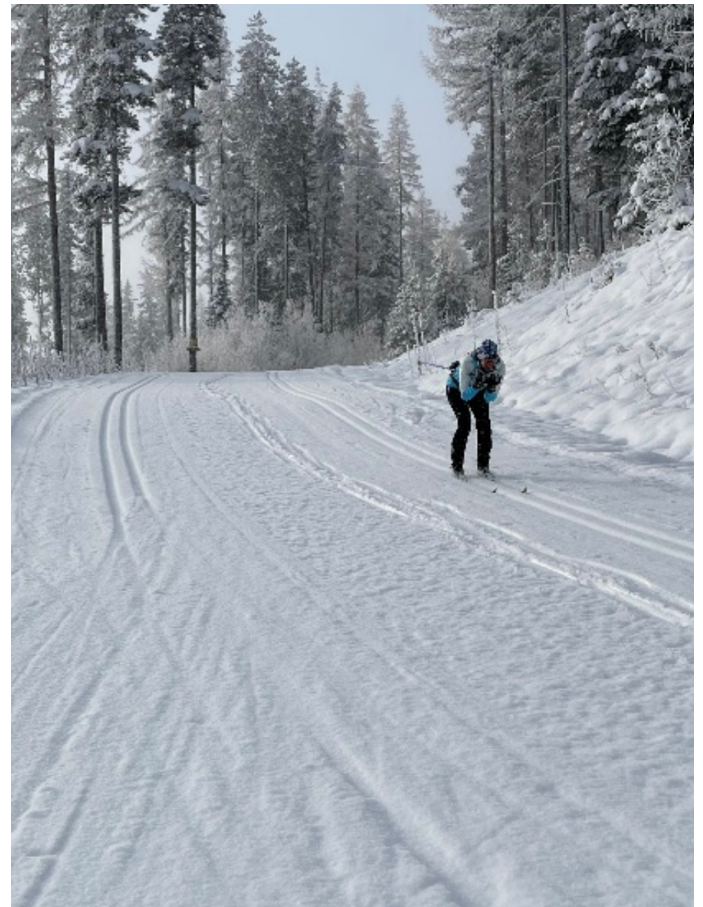
One easy way to get outside in the snow is to go for a hike. The View Ski trail at the Schweitzer round-a-bout has easy access and gets a fair amount of traffic so the snow stays relatively packed down. The views can be amazing and its pretty kid and dog friendly. There are also some interesting tree features.

Another option is to recruit a grandkid or two and create your own version of "Snowhenge".



Rick Price's intense desire to get on skis and start training for the American Birkebeiner had him trekking through the ungroomed snow on the Schweitzer Nordic trails all the way to Wolf Ridge where he was able to enjoy a personal winter wonderland and ski in his own set track. I don't think he was the only skier to make that journey.

Unwilling to follow Rick's lead, my family opted for a quick trip north of the border. Kimberly, British Columbia is a relatively easy (2.5-3 hour) drive that offers incredible scenery along much of the route. With the larch trees still clinging to their golden hue and the ample sunshine shimmering off the snow and mountains, the drive itself was worth the trip. Kimberly Nordic Club grooms 25 kilometers of trails for both skating and classic skiing as well as an additional 7 k of classic only single track for those who seek more solitude.



The facility offers a very comfortable day lodge, heated wax hut, ski rentals and a 3.3 k lit loop for night skiing. Trails range from the flat and gently rolling Centennial-Snowbird-Trapline-Spruce loop to the appropriately named Triple Bypass-Cardiac Arrest-Defibrillator loop. One can ski with some of the tallest larch trees in British Columbia by venturing out on the Larch loop. The Nordic trail system is adjacent to the Kimberly Alpine Resort, so lodging options are available including the Kirkwood Inn which is located within walking distance to the ski trails and the Trickle Creek Lodge which is only a five minute drive away. The area adjacent to the lodge offers a wide flat zone to allow people to find their “ski legs”. It’s also a great place for kids and beginners to work on their skills.

Don’t let the gray dreary skies get you down. Options exist, you just have to seek them out. Now where did I put those ice skates?

