



NORTH STAFFS



SKI CLUB LTD

Newsletter

May 2019

CLOSURE AND OPENING TIMES FOR REST OF SEASON

Closed on Saturday afternoons in June

Sunday closing in June - 2.00 pm

Close for the summer - Thursday 27th June at 9 pm

Re-opens - Monday 2nd September

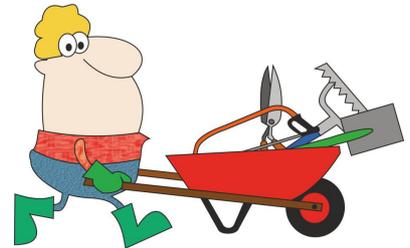
Summer Maintenance - Volunteers Needed

The club will be open for maintenance throughout July and August (from July 3rd) on:

Wednesdays 7 - 9 pm

Jobs to be done include:

- Boot cleaning
- Weeding / weed killer application
- Spray jets need cleaning
- Artificial turf to be put down
- More skis to be put on fencing
- General tidying up



And more....

If you think you can help with any of these tasks and would like to select what you do in advance please put your name on the notice at the ski club or let Ann Loton know either at the club or at ann.loton@ntlworld.com. If you would like to take charge of one of the jobs even better.

Also There will be other jobs identified which will need small working parties on other days e.g. weekends. If you are able to offer some time to join a working party please put your name on the list at the ski club or email ann.loton@ntlworld.com

End of season clear out



Please make sure any personal equipment or items for sale left are removed before closure on the 28th June. If you have left property at the club this is your last opportunity to claim it before it is disposed of!! We will be cleaning out the ski room, any unidentifiable personal skis/poles/boots/helmets etc. left in the ski room will be put into stock for general use.



**SNOWSPORT
ENGLAND**

Member of the British Ski Slope
Operators Association

Kidsgrove Ski Centre, Bathpool Park, Kidsgrove,
Stoke on Trent, ST7 4EF Telephone (01782) 784908

www.ski-kidsgrove.co.uk

Company Number:4337963



Active
Accessible
Accredited



LAST 4 PLACES for our
2020 Club Holiday
19th to 26th January 2020.

We have just **4** places left on our next holiday staying at
the Hotel Montana in La Tania in the extensive 3 Valleys ski area.

The cost for Flights/Hotel/Transfers is -- £675 per adult (based on 2 sharing)

Child Discount of £50 (for children 12 years and under on date of travel).

Ski carriage - We are unable to offer ski carriage with these places as we have filled our pre-booked allocation.

Ski Passes and Ski Hire – The costs for these will be available soon. The usual order form will be sent out to everyone who has booked.

For more details see the February Newsletter on the Club website and Alpine Elements own website.

If you are interested in joining us please contact Jo Stackhouse on nsscholidays@outlook.com



Members keep your eyes peeled

If you spot a problem or any damage inside the ski slope fence please tell an instructor or the boot room staff.

If you see anything which needs doing e.g. Sweeping up tree debris and you are fed up with just sitting there waiting for your child to come off the slope don't hesitate to ask someone wearing a ski club logo if we have the tools to get it done. The committee would be very pleased—one less job! Many thanks to those on Sunday who swept the path at the bottom of the slope. It certainly needed it.



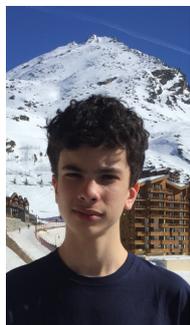
Speedy skiers and snowboarders take note

The blue cushions and netting at the bottom of the slopes are for emergency use only and should not be used as a fun way to stop!!!

The netting and cushions are being damaged, costly and time consuming to repair. The club Slope Rules and Code of Conduct state that members must be able to control their speed. If not they will be asked to leave the slope and take further lessons until they can. Parents please make your children aware of the consequences of continually using the cushions and netting to stop.

FREESTYLE NEWS 1

As we come to the end of another successful season we would like to tell you a little more about another of our young dedicated Freestyle Coaches who is also a Young Alpine Instructor.



Fifteen year old Joel Beeston has been skiing at Kidsgrove for more than 10 years and is a familiar face on Sunday mornings and Freestyle Fridays. In 2018, keen to pass on his enthusiasm and skills, he completed the UKCP Freestyle Coaching course and the Alpine Level 1 course for 14 to 16 year olds (when he is 16 he will be able to apply for his Licence). Earlier this year he also became the first club member to achieve the Black Level 9 Snowlife Award.

Why does he do it? Because he loves the sport of course.

His favourite Freestyle trick? A 360.

What next? A 540 and a Blind 2 ... of course!

Well done Joel. Keep it up!

Freestyle Dates



Remaining Freestyle Fridays 7 - 9 pm
All help welcome (setting up airbag etc)
24 May 7 June 21 June

The final Freestyle Friday will be on **Friday 21st June**. Hot dogs will be sale. Order them on arrival to avoid disappointment.



Futures Project

After the success of last years sessions more are to be held at Kidsgrove and other venues. Dates can be found on SSE`s website under **Courses**.

28th September 2019

CharityJam

We are honoured to be hosting this event for the second year running.

9th November

VI Annual Oatcake Jam

Our very own ever popular Jam!

Details for both events to follow. Keep your eyes open at the club and on Facebook/Instagram.

FREESTYLE NEWS 2

May 4th saw the annual pilgrimage to the black slopes of the lake district – it could only mean one thing – KJAM at Kendal!!

This freestyle ski event has become increasingly popular with our Freestyle Academy members who want to test out their fresh new tricks in a competitive, but hugely fun event. This year was no different, with a good cluster of our members turning out to turn heads.



Kidsgrove Freestyle Academy came away with a haul of medals and prizes. Representing the boys Hunter Minister and Jacob Welsh were throwing down some huge tricks, managing to get themselves spots on the podium bringing home Silver and Bronze in the under 10s. William Mason bagged Silver under 12s. Fynnlay Loupis stomped his way through tough competition to grab Bronze in under 16s. Representing the girls Ruby Painter didn't disappoint. To a crowd of cheering supporters she smashed in scooping a Bronze medal in under 13s girls.

Aside from being weighed down with medals, the real focus of the day is of course having fun, trying new things and pushing yourself, and sometimes your parents, to the limits. Doing things you never thought possible!! Its here that we have to mention Albert Hammond, who is one of our younger riders. It was Albie's first freestyle competition, but he sent it like a pro. Reaching terminal velocity he hit the kicker and the box like his life depended on it. Did he fail or bail it – of course not, he's a Kidsgrove freestyler!!!

It was great to see freestyle coach Luke Watts competing, showing the crew that coaches can do the moves, they don't just give instructions!! 11 from Kidsgrove took part : Paulie, Fynnlay, Ruby, Will, Hunter, Archer, Jacob, Albi, Joe, Luke and Cody. It was also Joe Fairlamb's first Jam.

And lastly, a thank you. A lot of this wouldn't be possible without the diehard supporters. Those cheering on our club talent, come rain or shine with relentless enthusiasm. The parents who find themselves wearing hoodies bearing logos they aren't cool enough to understand, talking about ski tricks like a pro but secretly having zero clue, using language they know makes no sense but it's such a huge part of the 'freestyle scene' you simply have to join in. So as one such parent, I'll unashamedly say I'm 'stoked' to be a part of such a 'sick' 'crew' of freestyle skiers!!

Well Done peeps, you represented our club impeccably!!!

More News from Club Member, Mia Brookes



Back home

Hi everyone, I hope you have all had a lovely winter! Mine has just finished (May 11th): in fact this past week I have been riding some

of the best powder I've had all season in Hintertux Austria at snowboard spring break, such a great week testing all next seasons kit & hanging out with some of my awesome sponsors.

February 2019

February was amazing! I headed back out to Livigno, Italy to my GB coaches for half term. I felt much stronger this time after doing all the exercises that my Physio at Harris and Ross had set. My aim this two week trip was to start riding the proline jumps, it had been nearly a year since I'd hit the larger jumps so I needed to get myself back on them! The weather was perfect, so I built up slowly over a couple of days and then I felt happy to spin. I was feeling confident so I asked my coaches if I could try a 720 (I had only landed a few cab 7s before on medium size jumps!) Happy landing these I then asked "can I try a 9 or a 10?" My coaches said that I was ready, they helped and encouraged me so I just did it!!! I've never been so happy, my coaches were so stoked, everyone went crazy!! This was a big hurdle for me, but I worked hard and listened well and it paid off.

When I was back home for a few weeks schooling, ITV got in touch with my mum after hearing of me being selected for team GB at only 11yrs old. They wanted to follow and film me for the day at my school, then with my Physio and then some snowboarding action shots. This was such a fun day but very busy, I really enjoyed it, though. It was shown the following week on Granada reports.

March 2019

In March I headed back out for 3 weeks, with my dad this time. We went straight to Laax so I could compete in the Burton Laax Jnr open, I have won this for the past 2 yrs and wanted to do well again. I did my best and won for a third year running. While I was there I also entered the Laax Jnr half pipe comp and surprised myself, I came 2nd!!

Next, we drove straight on to the World Rookie Finals out in Kaprun via Livigno to pick up some spare kit and my team mate! My coach Ben met me there, the course was big, with good rails and I really wanted to do well again, a podium or maybe win! I needed to put down my 7s and 9s on the largest jump, but I hit it straight and only just

cleared it, so spinning wasn't an option. I had to be safe, but I still managed to qualify in first place in the u15 & u18s females hitting the medium jump! I couldn't believe it, but this gave the bigger girls no choice the next day but to hit the larger jumps in the finals. I stayed on the medium jumps but did nice 5s and 7s. This still got me a 3rd place, the other two girls that beat me are 15 and much stronger so hit the larger jump, but my tricks were more technical, so I was happy as I couldn't have done any more. I just need to grow a bit more.

April 2019

At the end of the week, we picked up my mum from Innsbruck and then all drove on to the Brits back in Laax. This is such a fun week and we all compete, my mum and dad really enjoyed SBX (snowboard cross). My dad made it through to the men's finals and my mum won silver in the women's finals!

I reaaaally wanted to do well here too, maybe even win the overall titles while still in the u12s categories, this would be amazing!!

It was so nice to see Katie O back riding, but she was also going to compete! So, if I was lucky I may still podium in overall women's?

Katie was looking strong in practice and I was riding my best, sadly Katie's heel started to hurt so she decided to pull out of the comp, but now I had a chance again to win! So, doing the best I could, even though the weather played against everyone for Big Air, but on both BIG AIR day and Slopestyle day I did well and took both overall women's titles at 12 yrs old. I'm so proud! In SBX I also had the 2nd fastest qualifying time of the day of all the females, but because I am still in the u12s category, they don't allow this age group to go through to the finals as it's too dangerous - we are too small to race against the big girls!

So, there you have my winter, it has had its highs and lows but it's been a fantastic season and I feel I have come a long way in many areas! I am now also officially a TEAMGB athlete!! I was so excited to see my GB Snowsport picture alongside the other athletes and Olympians! My grandad would be so proud right now! We finished the season flying out to collect our motorhome from Italy last week then drove onto Austria for a few days to enjoy snowboard Spring break. This was amazing fun!

I hope you've enjoyed sharing my winter too! Excited now for a summer of skating, surfing, tri club and catch up on school work! I'm not sure what snowboarding plans are just yet, but it's been mentioned we may be going with the team to train in Australia through August. If not, possibly be back to Hintertux in October.

See you all over summer!

Snowsport England's "Skilful Skiing" course

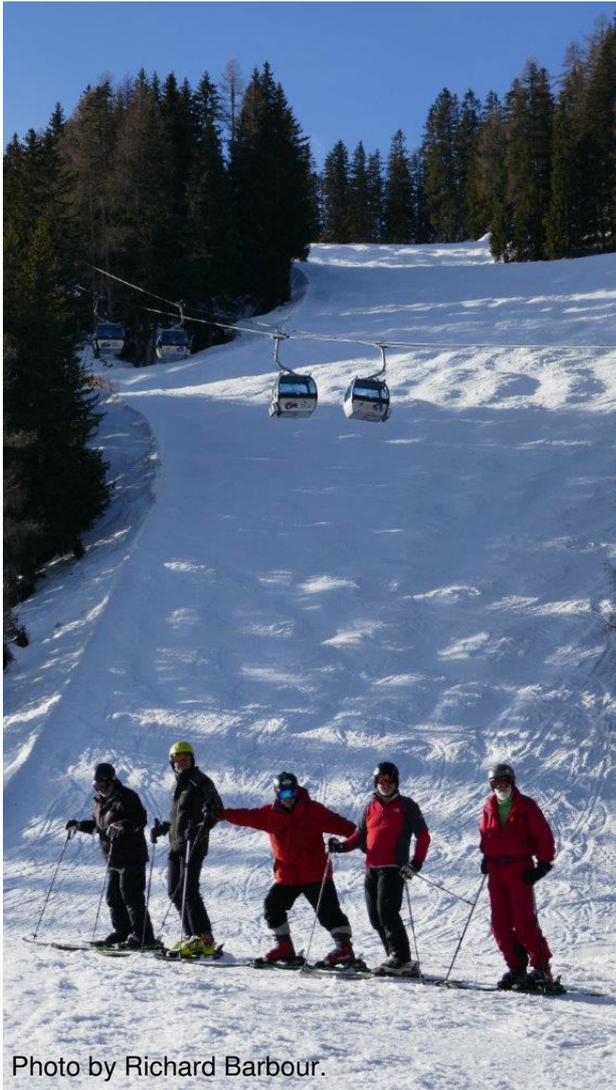


Photo by Richard Barbour.

In March I went on the Skilful Skiing course in Zauchensee, Austria: a wonderful week from my perspective.

It was the 6th time I had attended the Personal Performance / Skilful Skiing programme and personally I cannot speak too highly of the event. The chance to be coached (not instructed) by people like Richard Barbour and Tomasz Ondrusz is just amazing and has made major improvements to my skiing: at 75 I may be an older person but my skiing is still improving and I expect it to continue improving with more coaching and practice.

When I have been, there have been varying numbers of other attendees but the important thing is that, whatever the ability of the attendees, each person is analysed and coached appropriately so that, at the end of the week, each person has made measurable progress and gone home with a big sense of achievement and a smile on the face. It also permits the opportunity to network and share experiences.

The people who go on the course are mainly instructors but this year there were two members of a club who were basic parallel skiers. At the end of the week each of them

had made great strides and, I suspect, achieved more than he had expected.

Richard made a video during this year's course - look out for it in SSE emails and on their website and social media.

I think that many more Snowsport England members (not just instructors who tend to make up the numbers but ordinary club members as well) could benefit from this course. I first went when I saw something about the course and realised that I'd done hundreds of days on snow but never had any lessons on snow – so what to lose? That year there were enough folk to warrant two coaches and the numbers included Bob, who subsequently did a write-up (at https://snowsportengland.org.uk/Bob_Saunders-Personal_Performance_Course_Review), having had the same experience as me before going.

I believe that Snowsport England is currently working on the 2020 version and I'm on the waiting list. When more info is available you should see it in the email Newsletter that Snowsport England sends out but I'll also put something on the noticeboard.

John Daines