

NORTH STAFFS CLUB LTD

NOVEMBER 2023

DATES FOR THE DIARY:

**Friday 30th
November**

Freestyle Friday

**Friday 14th
December**

Freestyle Friday

**Sunday 17th
December**

**Junior Club
Christmas Party**

**Thursday 21st
December**

**Last day before
we close for
Christmas.**

**Tuesday 3rd
January**

Reopen

**Friday 12th
January**

**Freestyle Friday
Air bag session**

**Friday 26th
January**

Freestyle Friday

Friday 9th Feb

**Freestyle Friday
Air bag session**



CURRENT OPENING TIMES:

**Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday
& Thursday**

7-9pm

Saturday

2-5pm

Sunday

Junior beginner lessons

9.30 - 10.30am

Junior Club

10.30-11.30 and 11.30-12.30

Lessons and recreational skiing

12.30 to 4.30

MIA BROOKES WINS YOUNG SPORTSWOMAN OF THE YEAR!

Mia Brookes has deservedly won The Times Young Sportswoman of The Year Award 2023.

Mia burst on to the scene in dramatic style, winning the Slopestyle World Championships in Bakuriani, Georgia earlier this year as a 16 Year Old at her first attempt! Mia showed her incredible winning mentality when already guaranteed a silver medal, she decided to throw in the first-ever CAB 1440 double grab in a Women's FIS competition to take the Gold medal and assert herself as the new benchmark for Freestyle Snowboarding whilst also being the youngest ever Snowboard World Champion and the first British person to win a Snowboard Slopestyle World Championships!

Having grown up Snowboarding from a very young age around

Europe, Mia was a regular at the Chill Factore and was picked up by the GBS Freestyle coaches as a 10 year old whilst in Laax.

Mia has also won the gold medal at the 2022 Junior Big Air Championships, whilst picking up the silver medal in the Slopestyle at the same Championships.

Mia's Grandfather and Father were instrumental in designing our freestyle slope. Mia had her first slides at Kidsgrove. She recently dropped in to see us, kindly donating a signed snow board, which is now hung on the wall in the club house. Mia spent some time having photos and signing autographs.

Thanks for popping in to visit Mia, and good luck for this season!

FREESTYLE

THE 2023 OATCAKE JAM RESULTS:

BOARDERS:

12 AND UNDER:

- 1ST CAMERON LONG
- 2ND THEO MACMILLAN
- 3RD LUCAS MACMILLAN

OVERALL WINNERS

- 1ST HARRY FIFE
- 2ND TRISTAN BROOKES
- 3RD CAMERON LONG

SKIERS:

FEMALE:

- 1ST ELLA HALL
- 2ND HATTI WILSON
- 3RD FIFI TURNER

WITH A SPECIAL PRIZE FOR LOLA FARRUGGIA FOR THE BEST NEWCOMER

MALE:

12 AND UNDER

- 1ST MAXIMUS BAXTER FOX
- 2ND HUNTER MINSTER
- 3RD JACOB WELSH

UNDER 18:

- 1ST WILLIAM NORRIS
- 2ND MAXIMUS BAXTER FOX
- 3RD AKAI CARTER BELL

OVERALL:

- 1ST JAY HEBBLETHWAITE
- 2ND TYLER NICHOLLS STUBBINGTON
- 3RD WILLIAM NORRIS

SPECIAL PRIZE FOR ALFIE SEWELL FOR SHOWING TALENT & AN OUTSTANDING PERFORMANCE



THE 2023 OATCAKE JAM

On the 7th of October we hosted our 9th Oatcake Jam. The popular event attracted competitors from as far afield as Kendal & Bournemouth to show cased their ski & board skills on our newly refurbished freestyle features.

After the morning warm up session, the afternoon competition began with a surprise pyrotechnic display behind the competitors as they descended the slope in an impressive wave.

Amongst the familiar faces were Tyler Nicholls-Stubbington from the GB Park and Pipe Development Squad, Jay Hebblethwaite and Hunter Minister from the Snowsport England Park and Pipe Development Squad. The youngest competitor was 8 year old Hattie from Dorset who wowed us all.

It was great to see so many of our own members joining in, Billy Fishwick, Hunter Minister, Harvey Harrison, Tyler Carr, Cameron Long, Lola Farruggia (her first Jam!!), Finlay Buchanan and Jacob Welsh. Luke Watts, who has never missed an Oatcake Jam, even managed to arrive just in time for the afternoon session after traveling from Canada.

Once again there was a fantastic atmosphere as everyone encouraged each other to push themselves to their limit. Well done everyone!

THANK YOU

To our sponsors, The Snowboard Gurus, Eden Pottery and June Coupland.

To Andrew Norris and Martin Carr for judging. Mike Lawton for providing the music and a great atmosphere.

Chris Watts our resident compere and who, with help from Peter Brindley refurbished the rails and cleaned the slope.

Our slope marshals, Paul Kordupel, Steve Loxley and Ross Ankers, who turn up every year come rain or shine.

Gareth Bott and Diane Watts for making sure that everything and everyone was in the right place at the right time.

Last but not least, our fantastic kitchen team who never fail to deliver and anyone else who gave their support.

We are looking forward to V.10!

DAVE DICK AWARD

This year the Dave Dick Award was presented by last year's winner, Tyler Carr, to 11 year old Hunter Minister for his positive attitude, being a good ambassador for Freestyle at Kidsgrove and being a positive role model. He has also successfully earned himself a place on Snow Sport England Park and Pipe Development team. Well done, Hunter!



FREESTYLE FRIDAY AIRBAG SESSIONS 2024!

Spring dates tbc!

12th January

9th February

Slope open 7-9pm, volunteers needed to assist with air bag get out and put away!

Able to volunteer? contact Ross on 07913 850560

Freestyle Jam

Airbag for advanced Freestylers only. Freestyle and limited main slope open as usual

FREESTYLE FRIDAY'S

30/11/23

14/12/23

12/1/24

26/1/24

9/2/24



Skiing Abroad- What you need to know.

From January 1st 2023, Italy's new laws for those taking part in Winter Sports came into effect. These include making third party liability insurance compulsory for everyone to have, anyone under the age of 18 must wear a helmet on the slopes, and it is illegal to ski/snowboard under the influence of alcohol or drugs.

Third Party Liability Insurance

Italy have brought in new rules that state anyone participating in Winter Sports in the country must have third party liability insurance in case you cause injury or damage to another person or their property. Everyone must carry a copy of this with them. If you cannot produce this if asked you may have your ski pass confiscated. Furthermore, if you do happen to be involved in an incident, authorities will check whether you have cover and there are hefty fines in place if you do not.

Whilst most good quality Travel Insurance policies will include third party liability insurance as standard, this is not always the case. It is therefore vitally important that, before you leave for your holiday, you check your Travel Insurance policy to see if you have third party liability insurance.

Equally, it is important that you have appropriate Winter Sports Insurance on your travel policy. In most cases, a standard Travel Insurance policy will not provide cover specifically related to Winter Sports which can be problematic if you happen to require cover whilst you are skiing or snowboarding. Specific Winter Sports cover should be taken out before you travel to ensure you have cover should the unexpected happen on your travels.

U18's Must Wear Helmets

Previously, the law stated that any child under the age of 14 must wear a helmet whilst on the slopes, however, this has now been extended to anyone under the age of 18. This is not just for skiers and snowboarders but for any 'Winter Sports Enthusiasts'. 'Winter Sports Enthusiasts' includes skiers, freestyle skiers, telemark skiers, snowboarders, and tobogganers.

Head injuries are unsurprisingly quite common on the slopes and as such the law amendments have been brought in to further protect minors.

Skiing under the influence of drugs or alcohol is now prohibited.

Whilst many like to enjoy Après Ski on their holidays, this will have to be reserved for the bottom of the mountains and not halfway up. Italy now has a zero-tolerance approach to those skiing under the influence of drugs or alcohol.

Whilst there isn't a specific, numerical limit, it is assumed that it will mirror that of the driving blood alcohol limit which is 0.5mg per litre of blood. Please note that this limit may be different than any specific blood alcohol limit on your Travel Insurance policy.

Remember to always check your own insurance policy & resort website before you travel for the most up to date information.

Advice on skiing abroad:

- * Always carry your up to date GHIC card. If you do need medical help, your Insurance Company may not pay for any treatment that is covered under this scheme.
- * Wherever you are going on holiday you should carry details of your travel insurance policy together with a form of identification.
- * Smartphones are wonderful, but battery life can be shortened by the cold. A hard copy of the resort map & Printed copies of your documents are essential, together with details of where you are staying, and contact numbers for someone you are skiing with may be useful to have in your jacket pocket.
- * Be stylish and wear a helmet.
- * Check the requirements of the country you are travelling to well in advance.
- * Don't forget your sunscreen!



JUNIOR CLUB NEWS

Christmas Party

The Junior Club Christmas Party will take place on Sunday the 17th of December.

The party involves a fun session on the slope (Santa has been known to put his skis on and join us!)

This is followed by food in the club house.

Booking is essential for this very popular event, so please sign up at the kitchen.

As the club is run on a voluntary basis, please will parents contribute by donating food items for the party such as: - Sandwiches, Crisps, Cakes, Sausage Rolls, Drinks, and Biscuits etc.

Please complete the contribution list by the kitchen.

Any offers of help are always greatly appreciated, especially on occasions like these. If anybody wishes to help with the party, could you please leave your name with someone behind the kitchen counter.



THANK YOU

We would like to say thank you, goodbye and good luck to Izzy who has joined us recently as a junior club instructor. Izzy has proved to be a popular new addition to the junior club team. She is off to spend the season working in Val d'Isere.

Also thank you to Luke, who has temporarily stepped in to cover Sunday morning freestyle lessons whilst Adam and Cameron have been helping out in Junior club. Luke is heading back to Canada for the winter.

SNOWLIFE AWARDS



Congratulations to the following Junior Club Members who have been awarded Snowlife Awards already this season.

Blue 1

Jamie H
Elizabeth C
Dexter C
Thomas E
Lucius X
Arthur G
Sophia B
Harry J
Reuben J
Grace H
Emilia G
Alfie C

Blue 2

Anabella N

Red 4

Amelia H
Emily G
Jack L

Red 5

Amelia G
Jack L

Red 6

Amelia H



OPEN DAY



The Sun shone for our annual open day on October the 14th. We welcomed 160 people for a free taster lesson. The day was a great success, with lots of people booking in for a set of lessons after their taster session. Thank you to all the volunteers who came to help and everyone who took to the slope for the first time.

Looking for a Christmas gift idea?



Gift vouchers are available for ski lessons and membership. Ask at the main desk, they can also be sent by post or email.



OTHER NEWS

Christmas Raffle:

We have some fantastic prizes in our Christmas Raffle including clothes, ski backpack, chocolates and the fantastic snowboard bench, crafted from hard wearing sleepers and a donated board, making it perfect for the garden.



Tickets are available for £1.00 each from the kitchen. (Cash only). Proceeds will go to the defibrillator fund. The Raffle will be drawn on the 17th of December.

THANK YOU, GOODBYE & GOOD LUCK

Izzy and Chris are temporarily leaving Kidsgrove behind and heading to Val d'Isere and Meribel respectively for the winter season.

Izzy has been teaching on Wednesday evenings and Sunday mornings with Junior Club and is continuing to progress through the BASI system.

Chris has been teaching at the club, doing Instructor training and maintenance over the summer. He will be teaching in Meribel.

We would like to take this opportunity to wish all of a members a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.