



**NORTH STAFFS
SKI
CLUB LTD**

Newsletter

March 2022

OPENING TIMES as usual except the following	
Easter – Sun 17th and Mon 18th April	CLOSED
Last Saturday afternoon open - 2nd April	
May Day Holiday - Sunday 1st May and Monday 2nd May	CLOSED
Jubilee Bank Holiday Thursday 2nd and Sunday 5th June	CLOSED
Club Closes after Thursday 30th June until Monday 5th September for essential maintenance	



Thanks to all of you who bought a raffle ticket or who made a donation, you raised an impressive £481 towards the cost of a defibrillator. It has been purchased and can be seen on the shelf in the boot room. The defibrillator has been registered on The Circuit—The National Defibrillator Network making it available for park users when the ski club is open.



Ski Helmets

From March 1st 2022 the club is introducing the use of ski helmets for under 18s in all situations including lessons and open skiing. There are some available for use by the front door but we would hope that most recreational skiers will purchase their own. There is also a picture chart on the door showing the correct fitting.





Congratulations

To our six new Level 1 Instructors and to the three instructors who refreshed their Level 1 qualification on January 29th 2022. Your dedication and hard work has paid off. The assessment/refresher session delivered by Ryan from Snowsport England was enjoyed by all who attended. Another good day at Mount Kidsgrove.

A few photos and comments from the Club Holiday to Andorra 2022



'Holiday was absolutely fabulous wish we were all still there.'

'Great Location, Great Hotel, Great Resort, Great Skiing, Great Company—Fantastic Club Holiday—Thank you for organizing it Jo.'

'The skiing was great but the puddings were amazing.'

'It was great to have everyone together again for what was an excellent holiday.'

'Snow, Sun, Fun and great company.'

'Oz Blue Run was fab – but Mr Loxley did get a bit miffed with me!!!!'

'From a non skier - I had a wonderful week the weather was fabulous. So good to feel the sun on my face. The hotel was second to none the food excellent (must have

put weight on) with so much choice and variety. I passed the time by relaxing drinking wine and coffee reading walking and using the gondola to see more of the slopes. I must admit I was dubious because of the COVID restrictions and paper work but it was SOOO worth it. Thanks North Staffs Ski Club you did it again.'



Thank you for the kind words about the Club holiday. It was two years in the planning but I am so glad that the Club's first visit to Andorra has been voted a great success. Thanks to Facebook and seeing WhatsApp messages as people organised their day, I did feel part of it. Better to actually be there, but it is always good to see a plan come together.

Throughout this chaotic time Crystal Ski have been very understanding and supportive. Very early in the first lockdown, even before travel companies were cancelling holidays, they understood that we would not be able to complete our booking for 2021 and held our deposits safe until this season's holidays were on sale. They then honoured all the costings already agreed when the new booking was confirmed. Sadly though, some people could not travel because of the entry requirements for Spain.

None of this would have happened without the staff at the TUI shop in Cannock who are always there to help. Particularly during the last manic days before travel when we had some very late alterations. Since the beginning of the season Crystal have been deluged with calls and emails with call wait times going into hours. To have someone doing this for us was invaluable.

Where are we going next year?

Since the recent holiday was arranged in February 2020 the ski travel market has changed quite a lot. Several operators are no longer trading and hotels have closed or are now operated by different companies. Obviously after 2 years and with the effects of the pandemic, prices have risen.

One of our favourites, the Hotel Montana in La Tania is no longer leased by Alpine Elements and is being operated by the owners with Crystal having some allocation. We have enquired but they could not accommodate our numbers for next year. TUI Cannock are going to contact Crystal's trading section who are responsible for negotiating contracts for 2023/24 to see whether we are able to register an early interest for 2024.

Now for next year; In the meantime, through the TUI Cannock shop, we are actively negotiating with Crystal to arrange for a group of 74 to go to the **Hotel Diva, Tignes-Val Claret** for the week beginning **Saturday 21st January 2023.**

With the facilities in and around the hotel and the excellent access to the expansive Espace Killy ski area we hope that you will feel that this is a good choice. As soon as details are finalised, we will send out the usual information sheet and booking form. — Jo Stackhouse

Junior News

Snowlife Awards



Tom, Edward, Sophia, Emily, Alex, Harrison, Dylan, Darcy, Percy, Jasper, James, Elsie, Nicola, Rebecca T, George, Rebecca S, Adam, Alfie, Jackson, Harrison for getting your first Snowlife Award and joining Junior Club.

Super well done to those below who have attending Junior club regularly and worked hard to get the following awards.

Blue Level 2—Jack, Holly, Chloe, Jessica, Gracie, Megan, Isla, Aarav, Arnav, James.

Blue 3—Megan, Amelia, Louis

Red 4— Olivia, Neve, Izzy.

Red 5—Freya

Hi everyone, who is reading this, I am Robert. I have just turned 11. I am currently (February) in the Austrian alps, in



a little town called Radstadt, doing race training with the race team, team Evolution alpine racing.

We do race training in the week, have Saturday off and on Sunday do park or powder. I get up at 6:00 to get ready for fitness at 7:00(The usual workout is 30 clean & jerks 20 kilos, 30 Russian twists with a 6-kilo medicine ball, 30 over head squats, 20 push ups, 15 pull ups, 500 skips and 60 seconds of box jumps.) After that we sometimes have to service our skis before we get in the vans and drive off to wherever we're skiing that day (which is mostly in Reiteralml!).

We're out on the hill weekdays from about 8.30am till 1pm then we go back to base for lunch. Sometimes we free ski, or our coach reserves a lane and we practice GS or stubby slalom.

On Saturdays we sometimes go to do fun activities like going to the swimming pool diving off the 3 metre diving board. We also play ice hockey.

When I'm in England I come most Sundays freestyle at 10.30 AM. I also do freestyle Friday all the time. I am part of Stoke ski slopes race team -called Stoke Scorpions.

I'm really enjoying It out here. Bye everyone.

Adventures on the club holiday in Andorra



An early morning start, 4 o'clock at Manchester Airport and then a 4 hour coach trip from Barcelona Airport, made for a very long day for Jacob and Albi, but they were up bright and early next morning to start their Adventures in Andorra.

On the first day on snow they Skied Blue and Red runs and they discovered the Ski Cross and the Snow Park and had great fun doing 360s and Kickers.

On the Tuesday they found another Snow Park with Kickers and Rails. They went Off Piste and they did their first Black run.

They returned to the Snow Park on the Wednesday and spent nearly all day doing ' Tricks ' then they went up and down Gullies.

On Thursday they went to the highest point on the slopes 2.723m came down from the top on Reds and Blacks reaching speeds of 50mph.

Friday involved some more Off Piste, when they went over as far as they could go, to Pas de la Casa where there are lots of Red and Black runs.

Saturday it was Ski Cross and more Black runs, coming down the slopes like rockets.

On holiday Albi tried out Snowboarding and loved it, something else he is now good at.

Jacob and Albi said that they had great fun and that it was a brilliant holiday.

FREESTYLE NEWS



2022 has got off to a great start with lots of new faces joining us on a Friday night.

Open to ALL ages and ALL abilities. Skiers and boarders are welcome. (Subject to minimum requirements. Please ask if you are unsure).

These sessions are as popular as ever. Join us for a fun session with informal coaching available.

Dates for Freestyle Fridays

7pm to 9pm

- Friday 4th March 2022
- Friday 18th March 2022
- Friday 1st April 2022
- Friday 29th April 2022
- Friday 13th May 2022
- Friday 27th May 2022
- Friday 10th June 2022
- Friday 24th June 2022

REMEMBER...

Our Freestyle slope, with it's bespoke features, is **ALWAYS** open.

Airbag Sessions

Volunteers are needed to help set up, supervise and put away the airbag safely.

If you can help please speak to Gareth Bott or Diane Watts.



Freestyle Sessions

Our popular Junior Club coaching sessions (free to members age 7 to 16) are on a Sunday morning:

9:30 am to 10:30 am

10:30 am to 11:30 am

11:30 am to 12:30am.

Helmets **MUST** be worn, back protectors and gum shields are recommended. Sessions should be booked in advance.



YOUNG INSTRUCTORS PROJECT

Are you a NSSC member aged 14 to 18 years and would like to volunteer whilst improving your skiing skills?

You need to be prepared to attend regular training sessions on a Sunday afternoon and gain experience in the boot room and administration of bookings etc.

Please note that you will need to meet minimum skiing standards.

If you are interested or require further information please contact/leave a message for Gareth Bott or Diane Watts. Alternatively come and have a chat on a Sunday afternoon between 12:30 pm and 1:30 pm.

We look forward to hearing from you.