



NORTH STAFFS SKI CLUB LTD

Newsletter

October 2018

OPENING TIMES

Sundays:	9.30 to 10.30	Children's lessons
	10.30 to 12.30	Junior Club
	12.30 to 5.00 pm	Recreational skiing and lessons
Mon-Thurs:	7.00 to 9.00 pm	Recreational skiing and lessons
Fridays:	7.00 to 9.00 pm	Freestyle Fridays (fortnightly)
Saturdays:	2.00 to 5.00 pm	Recreational skiing

The new season is well underway and the first snow is already falling in the Alps. The annual AGM in October was a chance to recap on the many achievements at the club last year.

October kicked off with our open day, which was a great success - 147 people had a taster. Thanks to the staff who gave up their time to allow it to take place.

The improvements to the freestyle slope are just one of the many benefits of some £25k that has been invested in our slope facilities



Ski Wear Bring and Buy

18th November to 2nd December.

Sell unwanted ski items or grab a bargain



Clearly label sale items with price, name and telephone number (the club cannot accept responsibility for items left for sale).

Money received will be kept at the club until collected. Unsold goods must be collected on **November 26th** or they will be donated to charity.

Please do not bring any items before Sunday 18th November as they are likely be given away at the Oatcake Jam.



Off-Piste and Mountain Safety Awareness Training

Last year we ran some successful courses about safety off piste. The courses consisted of lectures and theoretical training, a short series of exercises on the slope and avalanche transceiver exercises in the park. Another course has been arranged for January 12th 2019. If you are interested in attending please leave your name at the ski desk .



**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



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Always Learning - A Skiing Journey

When you look at skiing it is full of journeys, all at a different scale, each skier having their own final destination; all are equally important and valid. At one level the target could be the next hot chocolate stop (Chantilly cream optional). A scaled up target could be to get to all four corners of the piste map in Les Trois Vallees in a day (a challenge for the club holiday if you like) and it goes on, perhaps it could be completing the Haute Route from Chamonix to Zermatt. Etc, etc, etc.

But there's a scale beyond all of these - the journey we all go on learning to ski, a journey which never ends, where there are infinite targets and endless twists and turns along the way. This huge journey supports all the targets described above. Ask any of our instructors and I guarantee they will have done some form of learning in the last 12 months; from training for an assessment to spending a day in a fridge on a Warren Smith course, from attending an avalanche awareness session to spending a week learning to ski in the backcountry. We love to learn, acquiring new skills and knowledge.

So what about you? The club offers a range of lessons for all levels:

Personal Performance

Snowplough to parallel

Group size 4



If you've reached the recreational standard, this session is for you with coaching aimed at skiers looking to progress their snowplough turns to parallel

Book a set of 3 lessons on consecutive weeks

Members £15 for the set

Non members £45 for the set

Parallel Performance

Group size 4



Aimed at intermediate and confident parallel turners, an opportunity to push your skills and fine tune your style.

Book a set of 3 lessons don't have to be consecutive weeks.

Members £15 for the set

Non members £45 for the set

Academy Sessions

Bumps clinic

Your chance to tame the 'beast of the piste'.

Learn the skills to ski moguls in control like a pro.

These sessions sell out quickly so book your session ASAP.

Book a set of 4 lessons

Members £20 for the set

Non members £60 for the set



Carving clinic

From lazily riding the ski to obscene edge angles at 80mph

Carving is for everyone.

Learn how to make the most of modern ski design during these dynamic sessions.

Book a set of 4 lessons

Members £20 for the set

Non members £60 for the set



All sessions are run by qualified, volunteer instructors. Why volunteers? By relying on volunteers, you are assured that they are motivated and keen to see you improve - unlike some sessions on holiday where you feel that the instructor would rather be off skiing with their mates!! Our instructors are passionate about your skiing and love to see people improve at whatever level. Their love of skiing and learning is passed to you during all sessions where the focus is on safety, fun and improvement.

So, treat yourself to a lesson, at whatever level you maybe.

They will be available at various times of the week, just ask at the desk.

Members - you need to read this



As we are heading to the busiest time of the season it speeds things up for you and those in the queue behind you if you have your membership card ready to show the ski room staff. If you do not have a membership card just bring a passport sized photo (a digital one you have printed yourself or one you have cut from a photo is sufficient) and a card will be issued. Each member of the family should have one if you have a family membership.

We are using a new system for setting up your skis when you come to the club.

The ski binding releases the boot to minimise skier injury. It has settings which should be altered to meet the individuals needs.

You will be asked to fill out a form asking for

- your weight in kilograms (we have scales at the club if you don't know it)
- Your height in centimetres (there is a height line at the club)
- Your shoe size or boot length (if you have your own)

Some of you have already done this.

This will enable us to calculate the recommended release settings on your ski binding (DIN setting). DIN is a German standard for the release settings on your ski bindings. Adjusting the DIN setting either compresses or decompresses a spring in the binding. There is a DIN setting on both the front and back binding. Once you have completed the form the information will be transferred to the card-ex containing your membership information.

This number may need to be changed.



Here's where you need your membership card.

The ski technician will need to know the calculated din setting for your skis each time you come to the club. So once it has been calculated the information will also be put on the back of your membership card.

At the moment we are concentrating on teenage and adult members.

😊 The process may mean that getting your skis and boots will take a little longer than usual so please be patient with the staff.

A membership card form with the North Staffs Ski Club logo at the top. The form contains fields for: NAME _____ DATE _____, AGE _____ WEIGHT _____ HEIGHT _____, SA _____ DIN _____ TECH INTLS _____. At the bottom, it says "MEMBERSHIP CARDS MUST ALWAYS BE PRESENTED".

Congratulations to Lynn Stewart, Paul Kordupel, Adam Billingsley and Lauren Finney on getting your UKSS Level 1 licence to teach. Instructor Development sessions are ongoing. We are always on the look out for new recruits to join the instructing team. For more information, get in touch: nssc_instructors@yahoo.co.uk.

The AGM was held on Monday 22nd of October.

Thanks to all those who attended.

If you would like to read the Directors report please go to the website.
[Ski-Kidsgrove .co.uk](http://Ski-Kidsgrove.co.uk)



FREESTYLE NEWS

Wow!!!

What a start to the season!

Attendance on Freestyle Fridays is increasing, even though the airbag hasn't had an airing due to adverse weather conditions (...minor things like hurricanes...), and we've already had two Jams!!!!

The 9.30 am to 10.30 am Freestyle session for Junior Club members is becoming increasingly busy so please remember to put your child's names down in advance as places are limited.

Our new coaches have been busy putting their new skills to good use on Tuesday and Wednesday nights as well as on the established Freestyle Friday nights and Junior club sessions.



It Happened on Saturday 8th September

This was our first event which Andy Bennett, a well known and respected freestyle coach, organised and we hosted. The event was to raise money for the **Callum Wylie Foundation** which has been set up by the friends of 18 year old Callum Wylie who took his own life. He was a keen freestyle skier and mountain biker who had Aspergers.

The aim of the Foundation is to assist in:

- Raising awareness and supporting adolescents with Aspergers/High Functioning Autism in times of depression, anxiety or crisis.
- Providing support for their families and carers through these difficult times.
- Providing education for teachers in schools/colleges about the hidden dangers of Aspergers.

Callum's friends have taken part in many fundraising activities, you may have seen one of them on the news, kayaking around Wales. Other friends have designed **#SHRED4CAL T-shirts which the wearers are encouraged wear when having fun in the outdoors and then post pictures of themselves on the Callum Wylie Facebook page.**

Although the weather was atrocious, torrential rain being the order of the day, the event was well attended and the atmosphere was electric, as Callum's family and friends were joined by some of our own members, Ashton, Fynnlay, Hunter, Logan, Luke, Casius, Theo and William. For Ashton and Theo it was their first time participating in a Jam.

Well done to you all!

Over £1300 was raised, but more importantly everyone had fun in memory of Callum.

(P.S. Did you spot the Freestyle celebrities at the prize giving?)

A few photos by Bluebird Photography from the Charity Jams

— a video and more photos available on the website, Facebook and Instagram



MORE FREESTYLE NEWS



The 4th Charity JAM 2018 took place on **Saturday 28th September 2018**

This Jam in aid of **SportsAid**, also gave a generous contribution to the **Callum Wylie Foundation**, was organised by Helen Taylor-Tipton and her family.

The weather was much kinder for this jam, the infamous John Wetherley was MC for the day and Tommy provided the music. Lots of fun was had by all and over £2800 was raised.

If you had sharp eyes you may have spotted some up and coming GB talent on the slope as well as our own members having fun: Ashton, Cody, Fynnlay, Harvey, Hunter, Jacob W, Logan, Luke, Casius, Ruby, Theo and William. It was good to see Cody and Harvey enjoying their first Jam experience.

Again well done to everyone!

More photos and videos of these events can be found on our Facebook and Instagram pages.

Thank you to everyone who took part and supported these events by giving up their time in the kitchen and on the slope to ensure that everything ran smoothly.

What Next?

The 5th Oatcake Jam 2018 **Saturday 10th November 2018**



This is the date for North Staffs Ski Club's own successful annual **Oatcake Jam**, now its fifth year, when we are joined by freestyle skiers and boarders from across the country, usually with a loyal contingent from Kendal.

Entries are now being taken either online or pick up an entry form at the club.

If you can offer any support on the day by being a marshal, providing First Aid or helping to set up please let Ann, Gareth or Diane know.

Sponsorship for prizes would also be appreciated. If you or anyone you know could provide appropriate sports or ski related prizes we would be very grateful, (beanies, socks, t shirts, helmets, ski wear, hoodies, equipment, servicing tools, vouchers, cash etc...).

Hopefully our new feature will be installed and ready for use on the day, along with a session on the airbag, (weather permitting).

The aim is to have FUN.

It is **NOT** a super serious competition!

It is open to **ALL** enthusiastic freestyle skiers or boarders regardless of age or ability (from novice to expert).

The **Jam** format adopted by the club encourages the participants, who all enjoy freestyle, to spend a day together having fun and encouraging each other.

YES there will be medals and prizes but the main aim is to have participate and have fun.

Registration begins at 9 am and the practice session begins at 10 am. At 12pm there will be a break for lunch and the fun will begin in earnest at 1pm with prize giving at 3.30 pm ish. This year the airbag will be available for those who wish to polish their tricks or try out new ones for the day (conditions apply).

It's great just to watch too.

Entry forms are available from the club or you can register online, £20 in advance or £25 on the day.

At NSSC we have always been complimented on the warm welcome and friendly atmosphere at this event so please join us. Spectators and volunteers welcome.

AND MORE FREESTYLE NEWS

Dates for your diary: 2018 - 2019

Saturday 10th November:

The Oatcake Jam

Saturday 17th November:



Snowsport England`s Futures Project

The club has already hosted three successful sessions which were attended by our own members and by those from further afield. Many visitors complemented us on our warm welcome and our facilities, expressing surprise that our club is run entirely by volunteers.

The Futures Project is a new initiative which replaces the Park and Pipe sessions. It's purpose is to encourage 8 to 16 year olds, novices and the more experienced, to participate in Freestyle. It also aims to identify future talent.

SSE provide coaches and the courses are a combination of physical activities "on snow" and "off snow". There is also a new award scheme.

The final session at Kidsgrove this season can be booked on Snowsport England's website.

Hopefully they will be back next year.

Freestyle Fridays 7pm - 9pm

All help welcome (setting up the airbag etc.).



2018

October 26th	November: 9th & 23rd	December : 7th & 21st
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2019

January: 4th & 18th	April : 12th & 26th
February: 1st & 15th	May: 10th & 24th
March: 1st & 15th	June: 7th & 21st

Finally, has anyone spotted a familiar face on Tamworth`s new promotional trailer for Tamlands Tuesday? There are also familiar faces and scenes on the **FRIDGE BANGERS** trailer for their new video, "ALWAYS ALRIGHT".



Freestyle lessons

You too can have fun on the jumps and rails. Freestyle lessons for beginners are available on Sunday mornings 9.30—10.30 for juniors and 12.30 to 1.30. Tuesday and Wednesday evenings for ages 10+ 7.30 to 8.30 Please book as demand is high. There is also informal coaching on Freestyle Fridays.