



WINTER, 2023

WWW.SIERRALEAGUE.COM

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## 2023-2024 Racing

### Current Race Schedule

January 12 (Friday) Race Clinic at Alpine Meadows  
 January 13 (Sat.) AM: Race 1 GS at Alpine Meadows (race and seeding of new racers)  
 January 13 (Sat.) PM: Race 2 GS at Alpine Meadows  
 February 16 (Friday): Race 3 Northstar GS  
 March 15 (Friday) Race Clinic at Alpine Meadows  
 March 16 (Sat.) AM Race 4 SL at Alpine Meadows  
 March 16 (Sat.) PM Race 5 SL at Alpine Meadows  
 March 22 (Friday): Race 6 GS at Northstar  
 April 3-4 Far West Championships at Mammoth

- Pre-race clinics will be offered at Alpine Meadows on the Friday before each race day. Cost, times, information to follow when clinic arrangements are finalized.
- Further information regarding racing, including week-end parking, is found on page 4 of Race Chair message.
- 2023-2024 Race Waiver and Liability forms are found on the league website and in this newsletter



### LEAGUE RACE RESOURCES:

**Nan Carnal**; Sierra League Race Chair:  
[nan.sierraleague@gmail.com](mailto:nan.sierraleague@gmail.com);  
 530-550-5228 (h); 510-520-7338 (cell)  
**John Walsh**; Singles League Race Chair:  
[johnwalsh37@sbcglobal.net](mailto:johnwalsh37@sbcglobal.net); 416-596-7234  
**Debi Phelps**; Open League Director of Racing  
[openleaguerracing@gmail.com](mailto:openleaguerracing@gmail.com)



### **Board Members**

**President:** Jo Simpson

775-787-7556

jo\_simpson@sbcglobal.net

**Vice President:** Corey Doolin

coreydoolin@att.net

**Secretary:** Lisa VanDerVoort

lisavandervoort@charter.net

**Treasurer:** Open

**Race Chair:** Nan Carnal

530-550-5228

nan.sierraleague@gmail.com

**VP Travel:**

**Carlene Boutacoff**

(650) 208-4839

cboutacoff@gmail.com

**Head Gatekeeper:** Mark Ostroff

the\_ostroffs@hotmail.com

**Newsletter:** Beth Perryman

775-322-5805

slabanshee@aol.com

**Webmaster:** Pavel Bosin

408-685-6470

pavel@bosin.net

## **President's Message**

*By Jo Simpson,*

*Sierra League & Sierra Council*

*President*



Hello everyone! The snow for skiing is having a slow start but hopefully the snow gods will provide more soon.

The race schedule is set thanks to Debi Phelps and Nan Carnal. The current schedule is on the league website and first page of this newsletter.

Sierra has 39 folks traveling with us to Steamboat for the FWSA North American Ski Week Jan. 27 - Feb. 2. Thanks to VP of Travel Carlene Boutacoff for organizing the trip and the annual winter party.

The Copper Mountain Mini Ski Week, March 17-21, has openings. The flyer with details is elsewhere in this newsletter.

The 2023-2024 Skier's Guide is available electronically online on the Sierra and FWSA websites with a plethora of interesting articles. Check out the Sierra pages (95-96) for photos of Reno and Las Vegas club members.

Mark your calendars for June 6-9, 2024, when Sierra is co-hosting the FWSA Annual Convention with the Bay Area Snow Sports Council at the Atlantis in Reno. We will need all hands on deck to make the event successful. I will be soliciting volunteers soon.

I wish everyone a wonderful holiday season and a happy new year.

*See you on the slopes!*

*Jo*

## **Member Clubs and Contacts**

### **Alpine Ski and Snowboard Club**

Las Vegas, NV  
www.alpineskiandsnowboardclub.com  
Mark Zellmer, President  
alpineskiclub@embarqmail.com

### **Las Vegas Ski Snowboard & Sports Club**

Las Vegas, NV  
www.lasvegasskiclub.com  
Craig Caples, President  
info@lasvegasskiclub.com; craig@caples.net

### **Reno Ski & Recreation Club**

Reno, NV  
www.renoskiandrec.com  
Dianne Hilliard, President  
renoskiandrecreationclub@gmail.com

### **RU SKI Club**

Campbell, CA  
Pavel Bosin, President  
pavel@bosin.net

### **Sequoia Ski and Snowboard Club**

Visalia, CA  
www.sequoiaskiclub.com  
Woody Hogan, President  
wwhiii@hotmail.com

### **Sugar Bowl Ski Club**

Norden, CA  
www.sugarbowlskiclub.com  
Dan Gross, President  
president@sugarbowlskiclub.com

### **Tahoe Donner Senior Alpine Ski Club**

Truckee, CA  
www.tdski.com  
Celeste Leon, President  
president@tdski.com

### **Top Gun Ski Club**

Greg Peairs, President  
shifty@aol.com

## **Ski Area Websites:**

**Badger Pass:** [www.yosemitepark.com/BadgerPass.aspx](http://www.yosemitepark.com/BadgerPass.aspx)

**Bear Valley Ski:** [www.bearvalley.com](http://www.bearvalley.com)

**Boreal:** [www.rideboreal.com](http://www.rideboreal.com)

**Ski China Peak:** [www.skichinapeak.com](http://www.skichinapeak.com)

**Diamond Peak:** [www.diamondpeak.com](http://www.diamondpeak.com)

**Dodge Ridge:** [www.dodgeridge.com](http://www.dodgeridge.com)

**Donner Ski Ranch:** [www.donnerranch.com](http://www.donnerranch.com)

**Granlibakken:** [www.granlibakken.com](http://www.granlibakken.com)

**Heavenly Valley:** [www.skiheavenly.com](http://www.skiheavenly.com)

**Homewood:** [www.skihomewood.com](http://www.skihomewood.com)

**June Mountain:** [www.junemountain.com](http://www.junemountain.com)

**Kirkwood:** [www.kirkwood.com](http://www.kirkwood.com)

**Las Vegas Ski & Snowboard resort:** [www.skilasvegas.com](http://www.skilasvegas.com)

**Mammoth Mtn:** [www.mammothmountain.com](http://www.mammothmountain.com)

**Mountain High Ski:** [www.mthigh.com](http://www.mthigh.com)

**Mt. Baldy:** [www.skibaldy.com](http://www.skibaldy.com)

**Mt. Rose:** [www.skirose.com](http://www.skirose.com)

**Mt. Shasta Ski Park:** [www.skipark.com](http://www.skipark.com)

**Northstar:** [www.northstarcalifornia.com](http://www.northstarcalifornia.com)

**Palisade Tahoe:** [www.palisadestahoe.com](http://www.palisadestahoe.com)

**Sierra At Tahoe:** [www.sierratahoe.com](http://www.sierratahoe.com)

**Snow Summit:** [www.snowsummit.com](http://www.snowsummit.com)

**Snow Valley:** [www.snow-valley.com](http://www.snow-valley.com)

**Soda Springs:** [www.skisodasprings.com](http://www.skisodasprings.com)

## **Thank you to our sponsors:**

**Start Haus Ski & Bike Shop**

<https://www.starhaus.com>

**Tahoe Heartbeat Apparel**

<https://tahoeheartbeat.com/>

**Sports Basement**

<https://shop.sportsbasement.com/blogs/stores>

**Habervision**

<https://www.habervision.com/>

Habervision offers 50% off products



## Sierra League Race Chair Message

Racer registration is now open:

The season race “pass” fee is \$150; the drop-in fee is \$40 per race, payable before or on race day. 2023 Season Pass holders will receive an email from me with refund information for race cancellations last year. You can apply the refund to the 2024 pass, to drop-in fees, or request a refund. Season pass holder perks this year, pass holders will NOT have to check in on race days—you will be automatically checked-in. Racers skiing as Sierra Direct members who have not already paid the \$10 2023-2024 membership fee may elect to include the \$10 fee in your check. Those of you racing for ski clubs affiliated with Sierra League/Council will have paid dues/fees to your clubs.

Download the 2023-2024 Sierra Registration form AND Liability Waiver from the race page on the Sierra League’s website ([www.sierraleague.com](http://www.sierraleague.com)). The race fee can be paid by check, written to “Sierra Council”, or online via the PayPal link on our webpage. You MUST, however, mail the forms (and check if paying by check) to Nan or scan and email the completed forms if you are remitting payment online. Be sure to SIGN the waiver. Mail to Nan Carnal, 13081 Ski View Loop, Truckee, CA 96161. Email scanned documents to [nan.sierraleague@gmail.com](mailto:nan.sierraleague@gmail.com). Please send ASAP, this helps me set up racer data prior to the first race day so check-in can proceed more rapidly.

Parking: Both resorts (Alpine Meadows and Northstar) are requiring parking reservations on week-ends. Here is the link to reserve parking at Alpine Meadows: [ParkPalisadesTahoe.com](http://ParkPalisadesTahoe.com). I won’t swear to this, but it is my understanding pre-reservations are \$30; available spots for the week-end are released the Tuesday before and are free at that time. I don’t have Northstar’s process at this point. I will send more information when I have it - or check their websites.

Hope to see you on the slopes (and in the gates)  
*Nan Carnal, Race Director for Sierra League*

The Far West Skier’s Guide has gone digital.

Access the Far West website ([www.fwsa.org](http://www.fwsa.org)). From Member Corner dropdown menu, select Publications. From Publications screen, select Far West Skier’s Guide. Link for guide will display on right. Access to the guide is also available on the Sierra League website at the bottom of home screen.

## Holiday Party Recap by Jo Simpson

Thanks to everyone who came out to the Sierra Winter Party Sunday evening December 10th in Truckee at La Bamba Mexican Restaurant. In addition to having a great time, we raised \$575 for our Sierra Council Frank App Memorial Scholarship fund. Please see the list of donating local Truckee shops below and remember them when you shop. Thank you to Carlene Boutacoff, Nan Carnal and others for contacting the shops to request donations.

Thank you to Carlene Boutacoff for organizing the party and delicious dinner. Thanks also go to Nancy Ellis for handling the Grab and Go sale table and to Pat Ostroff for overseeing the silent auction. Rahnea Sunseri handled the raffle prize table and thanks to all who donated items for the raffle. Thanks to Kat Severin for selling raffle tickets and to Michelle Semiramis Ardalan for checking folks in and also selling raffle tickets. Beth Perryman and Jo Simpson baked and brought cookies.

Sierra Council is thankful for the donations that were successful in raising \$575 in a silent auction and sale for the Sierra Council Frank App Memorial Scholarship Fund. The scholarship goes yearly to a promising Tahoe area junior racer and is administered by the Far West Ski Association Scholarship Program. Charles Zaretsky returns as the recipient of the Frank App Memorial Scholarship for 2023-2024. Charles lives in Reno and trains at Palisade Tahoe.

Thanks to:

Tahoe Mountain Sports  
Mountain Sports  
Start Haus  
Tahoe Donner Ski Resort  
Blue Zone Sports  
Granite Chief  
Mark & Pat Ostroff  
Nancy & Bob Ellis  
Far West Racing Association  
Far West Ski Association

# FIS World Cup Ski Racing Returns to Lake Tahoe

Palisades Tahoe Cup Men's Giant Slalom and Slalom February 2024 - Volunteer Opportunity

FIS World Cup Ski racing returns to Lake Tahoe Area in February, 2024. This year, the men will try to tackle the race venue(s), scheduled to be hosted on Dog Leg and Red Dog Face. The Giant Slalom is scheduled for Feb. 25 with the Slalom on the following day. The efforts of many volunteers are needed. The following is an email with starting information on volunteering.

"From: Paige Mezger (PT) <[pmezger@palisadestahoe.com](mailto:pmezger@palisadestahoe.com)>

Date: Sat, Dec 9, 2023 at 12:51PM

Subject: Palisades Tahoe Cup Men's Giant Slalom and Slalom February 2024 - Volunteer Opportunity

To: (all potential volunteers)

Palisades Tahoe is honored to host the Stifel Palisades Tahoe Cup Men's Audi FIS Ski Giant Slalom & Slalom in February 2024.

Our team is extremely grateful for our volunteers last season in what turned out to be a herculean effort by all. Volunteers play a critical role in our ability to produce a world-class event. We would be privileged to have you help us at this year's event. While the races are set for February 24 & 25, we need help from February 19 through February 28th.

OFF HILL Opportunities: Volunteer Center, Media Center, Food & Beverage, Team Hospitality, Transportation, Parking, Venue Security and Venue Breakdown

ON HILL Opportunities: Course Maintenance, Finish Security, Course Security, Training Hill Credential check, Gate Judges, Boneyard and Finish Crew

VicNet is an online volunteer portal which we will be using to communicate schedules and other important information. Returning Volunteers: [Click Here to Download VicNet for Apple](#) [Click here to Download VicNet for Android](#)

New Volunteers: Please reply to this email with your full name, phone number and mailing address and we will get you into the system. Once you are in the system, I will email you back and then have you download VicNet so that you can get up and running in our system.

All interested volunteers, please email me your preference of the opportunities listed above and your date/time availability.

If are not interested in volunteering with us this year, please email back a quick message to that effect and I will take you off our distribution list.

Looking forward to working with you.

Thanks,

Paige Mezger

Volunteer Coordinator, [Palisades Tahoe](#)

Cell: (530) 563-8400/[PalisadesTahoe.com](http://PalisadesTahoe.com)

[Palisades Tahoe](#), host of the 1960 Winter Games in Lake Tahoe, California, is proud to host the [2024 Audi FIS Ski World Cup](#), February 23-25."

In addition to the races, there will be many other activities surrounding this race week-end. It should be an amazing time but many volunteers are needed to ensure the entire week-end is a success.

## 2023-2024 RACING SEASON REGISTRATION & RELEASE FORMS



<i>Treasurer Use Only:</i>	Race Pass @ \$150: \$ _____	Race Bib @ \$15: \$ _____	
	Day Racer @ \$40: \$ _____	Other \$ _____	Total Amount Paid: \$ _____

**If you do not fully accept the conditions below and on the Far West League Race Waiver– please **DO NOT** complete this form or in any way participate in any event.**

**PERSONAL INFORMATION (PLEASE PRINT):**

Name: _____		<b>BIB #</b>
Address: _____		
City, State, ZIP: _____		
Phone (Home): _____	Phone (Work): _____	
DOB: _____	E-mail: _____	

**AGE:**

**SEX:**

<input type="checkbox"/> Jr (0-17)	<input type="checkbox"/> Sr (18-49)	<input type="checkbox"/> Vet (50-64)	<input type="checkbox"/> Super Vet (65+)	<input type="checkbox"/> Legend (75+)	<input type="checkbox"/> Male	<input type="checkbox"/> Female
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**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:**

<input type="checkbox"/> 1 <sup>st</sup> Time Racer	<input type="checkbox"/> Skier	<input type="checkbox"/> Snowboard	<input type="checkbox"/> Telemark Skier
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**SKILL:**

<b>CLASS/HANDICAP:</b>					
<input type="checkbox"/> S0 (0-18.99)	<input type="checkbox"/> S1 (19-25)	<input type="checkbox"/> S2 (26-32)	<input type="checkbox"/> S3 (33-39)	<input type="checkbox"/> S4 (40-49)	<input type="checkbox"/> S5 (50-59)
<input type="checkbox"/> S6 (60-69)	<input type="checkbox"/> S7 (70-79)	<input type="checkbox"/> S8 (80-89)	<input type="checkbox"/> S9 (90-104)	<input type="checkbox"/> S10 (105+)	

HOME LEAGUE	RACING FOR SIERRA LEAGUE CLUB
Sierra _____ Other _____  Each racer must choose a “Home” league. Although you may race for multiple leagues during the season, the “Home” league is the league that will have the <b>first</b> right to select “you” for their championship team. If you are selected by the league you checked above, you must race for them or be disqualified. If you are not selected by your “Home” league, you may race for any other league that invites you to race for them!	Place X behind your club affiliation or circle club affiliation Reno Ski & Recreation: __ RU SKI Club: __ Sequoia Ski Club: __ Tahoe Donner Sr Alpine Ski Club: __ Tahoe Rat Pack: __ Top Gun: __ Sierra Direct (\$10) membership: __ Other: __

**EMERGENCY CONTACT NAME:** \_\_\_\_\_ **PHONE #** \_\_\_\_\_

**Please complete the 2023-24 waiver form and return with this registration form**

**FWRA LEAGUE RACE WAIVER  
2023-2024**

**SPORT PARTICIPANT RELEASE OF LIABILITY, WAIVER OF CLAIMS, EXPRESS ASSUMPTION OF RISK AND INDEMNITY AGREEMENT.  
Please read and be certain you understand the implications of signing.**

**Express Assumption of Risk Associated with Sport, Venue Use and Related Activities.**

I, \_\_\_\_\_ do hereby affirm and acknowledge that I have been fully informed of the inherent hazards and risks associated with all activities of FWRA League Racing including but not limited to alpine skiing, snowboarding, tubing, and tobogganing, certain additional risks, dangers and hazards including, but not limited to boarding, riding, and disembarking ski lifts, transportation of equipment related to the activities, and traveling to and from activity sites in which I am about to engage. **Inherent hazards and risks include but are not limited to:**

1. Risk of injury from the activity and equipment utilized is significant including the potential for broken bones, severe injuries to the head, neck, and back or other bodily injuries that may result in permanent disability and death.
2. Possible equipment failure and/or malfunction or misuse of my own or others' equipment.
3. **I AGREE THAT I WILL WEAR APPROVED PROTECTIVE GEAR AS DECREED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE SPORT I AM PARTICIPATING IN.** However, protective gear cannot guarantee the participant's safety. I further agree that no helmet can protect the wearer against all potential head injuries or prevent injury to the wearer's face, neck, or spinal cord.
4. Variation and/or steepness of terrain, variation or changes in surfaces including but not limited to snow surfaces, ice, bare spots, rocks, stumps, debris, cliffs, trees, fences, posts, trees, light poles, signs, buildings, roads, walkways, ramps, rails, stairs, pyramids, manual pads, bowls, half-pipes, jumps, padded and non-padded barriers, other persons, and other natural and man-made hazards.
5. My own negligence and/or the negligence of others, including but not limited to operator error and guide decision making including misjudging terrain, weather, riding surfaces or other obstacles.
6. Exposure to the elements and temperature extremes may result if frostnip, frostbite, heat exhaustion, heat stroke, sunburn, hypothermia, and dehydration.
7. Dangers associated with exposure to natural elements include but are not limited to avalanche, rock fall, inclement weather, thunder, and lightning, severe and or varied wind, temperature, and other weather conditions.
8. Accidents or illness occurring in remote places where there are no available medical facilities.
9. Fatigue, exhaustion, chill, and/or dizziness, which may diminish my/our reaction time and increase the risk of accident.
10. Impact or collision with other athletes, spectators, facility employees, pedestrians, motor vehicles, and cyclists.
11. Participation includes possible exposure to and illness from infectious diseases including but not limited to MRSA, influenza, and COVID-19. While rules and personal discipline may reduce this risk, the risk of serious illness and death does exist; and,
12. I KNOWINGLY AND FREELY ASSUME ALL SUCH RISKS, both known and unknown, EVEN IF ARISING FROM THE NEGLIGENCE OF THE RELEASEES or others, and assume full responsibility for my participation; and,
13. I willingly agree to comply with the stated and customary terms and conditions for participation as regards protection against infectious diseases. If, however, I observe any unusual or significant hazard during my presence or participation, I will remove myself from participation and bring such to the attention of the nearest official immediately.

**\*I understand the description of these risks is not complete and unknown or unanticipated risks may result in injury, illness, or death.**

**WARNING**

*I am aware and acknowledge that racing and training and practice for racing have inherent dangers and risks for any competitor. Race courses may be icy, rutted, and bumpy. I assume the risk of all course conditions including, but not limited to weather and snow conditions, course construction or layout, and obstacles. I am required to inspect physically and visually the course and area of competition prior to the beginning of competition and, by using the course, assume the risk of all course conditions. I am voluntarily participating in these races and training and practice for the race with the full knowledge of the dangers and risks involved and hereby agree to accept all risks or injury, or death that may result.*

**Release of Liability, Waiver of Claims, and Indemnity Agreement**

In consideration for being permitted to participate in the above described activity(ies) and related activities, I hereby agree, acknowledge, and appreciate that:

1. **I HEREBY RELEASE AND HOLD HARMLESS WITH RESPECT TO ANY AND ALL ILLNESS, INJURY, DISABILITY, DEATH,** or loss or damage to person or property, **WHETHER CAUSED BY NEGLIGENCE OF RELEASEES OR OTHERWISE,** the following named persons or entities, herein referred to as releasees: **Far West Race Association (FWRA) and their directors and officers, FWRA Race Leagues and their directors and officers, FWRA Ski Clubs and their directors and officers, Far West Ski Association (FWSA) and their directors and officers, and their successors and assigns.**
2. To release the releasees, their officers, directors, employees, representatives, agents, and volunteers from liability and responsibility whatsoever and for any claims or causes of action that I, my estate, heirs, survivors, executors, or assigns may have for personal injury, property damage, or wrongful death arising from the above activities whether caused by active or passive negligence of the releasees or otherwise. By executing this document, I agree to hold the releasees harmless and indemnify them in conjunction with any injury, disability, death, or loss or damage to person or property that may occur as a result of my engaging in the above activities.
3. By entering into this Agreement, I am not relying on any oral or written representation or statements made by the releasees, other than what is set forth in this Agreement.
4. This agreement shall apply to all illness, injury, disability, death, or loss or damage to person or property occurring at any time after the execution of this agreement.

This release shall be binding to the fullest extent permitted by law. If any provision of this release is found to be unenforceable, the remaining terms shall be enforceable.

**I HAVE READ THIS RELEASE OF LIABILITY AND ASSUMPTION OF RISK AGREEMENT, FULLY UNDERSTAND ITS TERMS, UNDERSTAND THAT I HAVE GIVEN UP LEGAL RIGHTS BY SIGNING IT, AND I SIGN IT FREELY AND VOLUNTARILY WITHOUT ANY INDUCEMENT.**

**Name of Participant:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Participant or Parent/Guardian Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

(Parent/Guardian Signature required for child under 18 years of age)

ALL INFORMATION ON THIS PAGE MUST BE PRINTED ONTO ONE PAGE

FWRA 2023-11-26



# Sierra League and Council Membership Options

## Club Membership

There are 8 ski clubs affiliated with Sierra League and Council. Please contact a club near you for membership information. Their contact information is listed at <https://www.sierraleague.com/contact.html>. Several of them have websites updated with activities and member benefits. Contact information is also available on page 3 of this newsletter.

## Direct Membership

If you do not belong to an affiliated ski club, you may join Sierra League and Council as a direct member. To coincide with the [Far West Ski Association](#) our annual membership year begins May 1 and ends April 30.

The annual fee is only \$10 for each individual. This allows you all member privileges including:

- Sierra Council [Travel Program](#)
- Sierra League [Race Program](#)
- [Far West Ski Association Member Benefits](#), Services & Discounts
- The [Sierra League and Council Newsletter](#)
- Other Council sponsored events, including the annual Winter Paraty and the Summer BBQ.

## Application, Dues and Information

[Application Forms](#) for individuals:

Print out form(s), fill in and sign application forms (and associated waiver) for each individual joining. The form and waiver are available at the league website under "about". The form and waiver are included in this newsletter on the following two pages.

How to submit by mail:

- Write check for \$10 made out to Sierra Ski Council
- Mail both completed form including waiver and check to:

Corey Doolin, membership  
PO Box 394  
Tahoe City, CA 96145

How to submit online:

- Pay Sierra Direct [Online Membership Dues through PayPal](#)
- Scan completed application and waiver form, attach as a .pdf file and email to: [alpinesnow@att.net](mailto:alpinesnow@att.net)

Corey Doolin  
FWSA Sierra League and Council VP Membership  
[alpinesnow@att.net](mailto:alpinesnow@att.net)

**Sierra League & Council  
2023-2024 Membership  
Application**

New Member

Renewing Member

Name:

Address:

Phone: (home)

(cell)

Email:

Mark all that you are interested in:

Racing

Travel Program

Social

List Trips:

***Emergency Contact Information:***

Name:

Relationship:

Phone: (home)

(cell)

:

***I have read and signed the Acknowledgement and Assumption of Risk Agreement.***

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

***Dues: \$10***

*Completed Application can be emailed to [alpinesnow@att.net](mailto:alpinesnow@att.net), and payment through PayPal on the Sierra League and Council website, or:*

*Mail completed application and waiver, along with personal check, cashier's check, or money order payable to "Sierra League & Council" to:*

**Corey Doolin, Membership  
P.O. Box 394  
Tahoe City, CA 96145**

05/02/2023



# TRAVEL OPPORTUNITIES

The Far West Ski Association (FWSA) is one of the largest associations of snowsport enthusiasts in the U.S. FWSA covers 12 states with 10 regional Councils with more than 150 Clubs and combined membership of over 50,000 skiers and snowboarders. As a member of a club that belongs to the SIERRA Council, you are a member of FWSA and entitled to all benefits. You may also join FWSA as a Direct Member.



## North American Travel

FWSA Ski & Snowboard Week 2024: Steamboat, CO, January 27 - February 3, 2024

Note—Steamboat trip is SOLD OUT!

FWSA Mini Ski & Snowboard Week, March 17-22, Copper Mtn, CO

FWSA Mini Ski & Snowboard Week, 2025: Big White, BC, CA TBD

## FWSA Convention:

Annual Convention, June 6-9, 2024; Atlantis Casino Resort & Spa, Reno, NV  
Hosted by Bay Area Snow Sports Council & Sierra League & Council

## FWSA International Travel:

FWSA Int. Ski & Snowboard Adventure Feb 25-March 3, 2024: Madonna Di Campiglio, Italy  
Optional Trip Extension; March 3-10, 2024; Milan, Veron, Las Spezia; Italy

FWSA Int. Ski & Snowboard Adventure February, 2025: Val d'Isere, FR w/extension TBD

FWSA Int. Ski & Snowboard Adventure Summer, 2025: Val Nevada, Chili,  
w/Atacama Desert Extension

## Dive/Adventure/Cruises

Central/West Africa; 2024 TBD

Galapagos Islands, 2025, TBD

Please contact the trip leader and/or check the FWSA website for further information regarding travel/housing/schedules, registration forms, waivers, payment schedules, etc.

FWSA travel website: <http://www.fwsa.org/Travel/travel.html>

FWSA VP North American Travel:

*Nancy Ellis, [vpnorthamericantravel@fwsa.org](mailto:vpnorthamericantravel@fwsa.org)*

FWSA VP International Travel:

*Debbie Stewart: [vpinternationaltravel@fwsa.org](mailto:vpinternationaltravel@fwsa.org)*

# FWSA 2024 Int'l Ski Trip to Madonna Di Campiglio, Italy

## BASIC Ski Week – Madonna Di Campiglio, Italy February 25–March 3, 2024

(Group Air Departs US Feb. 23<sup>rd</sup>, 1 night stay at airport hotel on Feb. 24<sup>th</sup>, and returns to US from Milan Malpensa Airport on Mar. 4, 2024)

## Opt. Extension Trip: Milan, Verona and La Spezia, Italy, March 3–10, 2024

(Group Air Departs US Feb. 23<sup>rd</sup>, 1 night stay at airport hotel on Feb. 24<sup>th</sup>, and returns to US from Milan Malpensa Airport on Mar. 11, 2024)



HOLIDAZE SKI TOURS®

All Prices are based on an exchange rate of 1 Euro vs. \$1.10 USD and subject to change.

### 4\* Lodging at Hotel Relais Des Alpes!

**Lodging packages start at \$1979.00pp double occupancy. Single Supplements are available.**

Prices are based on a minimum of 67 people and are subject to change if the minimum is not met. Air transportation is sold separately.



Madonna di Campiglio, a discreet and elegant town nestling at an altitude of 5085 feet in the stupendous valley between the Brenta Dolomites and the glaciers of Adamello and Presanella, is today most certainly Italy's number one ski resort as well as one of the most important resorts in the Alps and they have **3 Michelin Star Restaurants**. The variety of its mountain surroundings means that in winter it is possible to ski over countless miles of runs, up to an altitude of 8530 feet and with different degrees of difficulty. What's more, you can set out from the center of the town and return there without ever removing your skis. Today the Ski Area has 57 lifts, and 93 miles of ski runs, with a capacity of more than 31,000 people per hour, 12 acres of snow park, 25 miles for Nordic skiing with access to Pinzolo, Folgarida and Marilleva.

#### Lodging Package includes:

- Transfer between Milan's Malpensa Airport via private coach to Madonna Di Campiglio.
- 7 nights' accommodation at the 4 Star Hotel Relais Des Alpes – includes portorage, local taxes & fees.
- Bus transfer from the Malpensa Airport Hotel to Madonna di Campiglio.
- Breakfast daily & 5 nights' dinner at the Relais Des Alpes Hotel (2 nights to dine out in Madonna Di Campiglio).
- Multi-lingual guide meeting the FWSA Group Air people upon arrival.
- Wi-Fi for 1 device per person (*Additional devices for 15 Euro at front desk*).
- Welcome/Orientation on Feb. 25th at The Hotel Relais Des Alpes – 2 beverages and lite snacks.
- Après Ski & Farewell events – details to be provided.
- Optional mid-week, day tour - details to be provided.

## Ext. Trip No. Italy – Milan, Verona, and La Spezia-Cinque Terra

March 3 to 10, 2024

**\$1785.00pp - Double. Occ. & \$2396.00pp - Single Supp.**

**Based on a minimum of 35 people. Pricing is subject to change if the minimum is not met.**

Prada, Versace, Dolce e Gabbana...these luxury brands find their home in the fashion capital of the world and find irreplaceable experiences in Milan. Milan, Italy's second largest city and capital of the Lombardi region, is home to elegance, art, luxury, castles, museums and much more. Our group will crane their neck to take in all that the Duomo di Milano, Milan's staggering cathedral and we'll be offering an optional tour to the Santa Maria delle Grazie church, home of Da Vinci's "Last Supper".



#### Trip includes:

- All airport ground transfers for both weeks.
- 2 nights in Milan - 4 Star Hotel Nasca or similar hotel.
- 2 nights in Verona - 4 Star Hotel Palace Verona or similar hotel.
- 3 nights in La Spezia - 4 Star CDH La Spezia Hotel or similar hotel.
- 1 night hotel stay at the Malpensa Airport Hotel – Mar. 10<sup>th</sup>.
- English speaking tour escort/manager for entire tour.
- Breakfast daily
- Day excursions – details to be provided.
- Day tours in Milan, Lake Como, Balsamic tasting in Modena, Verona, Cinque Terre, Portovenere & Genova
  - Stand Alone Northern Italy ONLY is available. (*Excludes Madonna Di Campiglio ski week*)
  - Contact Debbie Stewart for details and pricing.

For more information contact: Debbie Stewart at [FWSAIntTrvl@prodigy.net](mailto:FWSAIntTrvl@prodigy.net) or cell: 559/737-0882

State of California Registered Seller of Travel #2036983-40



## 4 Star Hotel Relais Des Alpes Madonna di Campiglio

<https://www.hotelrelaisdesalpes.it/en/>



The **Relais Des Alpes** is ideally situated in the center of Madonna di Campiglio. This elegant hotel features a traditional restaurant, and all rooms offer views of the Adamello Brenta National Park. Skiing enthusiasts will enjoy the 5-minute walk to the Spinale Ski Slopes, ski storage and ski school. All rooms have classic appointments in furniture, private bathroom, and a flat-screen TV. The restaurant offers a mix of local cuisine and Italian favorites. Breakfasts and dinners are all buffet style. Other amenities include free Wi-Fi in the room (1 device per person, one can pay for additional devices at the front desk), outdoor fireplace, and on-site ski rental.

### Lodging Information

Lodging Type	All rooms have a single bath, except the Deluxe Suite #2. Valley Views and Deluxe Suite #2 have a balcony	Pricing is tentative and subject to change	
Standard Singles	1 small single bed	\$2479.00	SOLD OUT
Valley View Singles	1 larger bed	\$2699.00	SOLD OUT
Standard Room - Double Occupancy	2 single beds or 1 French double bed	\$1979.00pp	 <span style="color: red;">SOLD OUT</span>
Valley View Deluxe Rm. – Double Occ.	2 single beds or 1 French double bed	\$2125.00pp	
Valley View Triple – 3 persons	3 single beds or 1 French Double bed + 1 single. 3 <sup>rd</sup> bed is using the sofa bed. You must have roommates agreed upon before selecting this option – no roommate matching for this room.	\$2090.00pp	
Family Junior Suite – Double Occupancy	1 French double bed	\$2305.00pp	
Suite #1 Double or Quad Occ. (Best for family of 4)	1 French double bed in Master bedroom & 2 single bunk beds in Second bedroom. You must have roommates agreed upon before selecting this option – no roommate matching for this rm.	\$2565.00 Dbl. Occ. \$2070.00 Quad. Occ.	
Deluxe Suite #2 Best for family of 4-6	1 French Double bed – Master bedroom 1 French Double bed – Second bedroom 2 bunk beds – Third bedroom	Only 1 available. Contact Debbie Stewart for pricing	

State of California Registered Seller of Travel #2036983-40

"The Voice of the Western Skier"



## Far West Ski Association's

2024 Mini Ski Trip

March 17—22, 2024

*Copper Mtn., CO*

**TRIP PACKAGE PRICE STARTING AT**

**\$944**

*Based on double occupancy. Single supplement pricing is available  
Price does NOT include air, transfer, or lift tickets.*

*Sign up by October 1<sup>st</sup> and you will get a discount on your trip price.  
Early Bird discount expires October 2, 2023*

*Trip Insurance is highly recommended to protect your trip costs*

Gold Quality Condo Lodging is supreme level of accommodation strategically located throughout the Center Village allowing convenient access in all the Resort's exciting activities. Amenities include a fitness center, outdoor spa and heated pool, underground parking. Buildings are within 0-4 min. walk to closest chairlift. Gold lodging have one bed in each bedroom and a sofa sleeper in the living room.

The Cambria Hotel is the newest building at Copper Mtn. located on the Ten Mile Creek in Center Village. Sophisticated, modern finishes throughout and a short walk to the slopes, retail, and dining. Other amenities: lobby bar open every evening and breakfast available to purchase each morning, mini fridge, comp WIFI, two outdoor hot tubs overlooking the creek, exercise room and outdoor uncovered parking.

150 Runs—25% Beginner; 24% Intermediate; 34% Advanced; 17% Expert

Contact: Nancy Ellis – 530-414-8261 – [FWSAtravelnancy@sbcglobal.net](mailto:FWSAtravelnancy@sbcglobal.net)

Information & Online Signup: <http://fwsaminiCP.sat.tours>

FWSA CST #2036983-40

### Included:

Five night's lodging

- Cambria Hotel
- \*1bdm Condo (K/Q Bedding)
- \*2bdm Condo (K/Q Bedding)
- \* Gold Quality Condo Lodging

Welcome Reception

### Optional for Purchase:

3-day Adult Lift Ticket--\$273

4-day Adult Lift Ticket--\$346

Discounted Equipment Rental

**Copper is on the IKON Pass**  
(Resort Access w/out reservations;  
Unlimited Access without Blackout  
dates)

### Optional Activities:

- Sledding
- Ice Skating
- Mountain Coaster
- NASTAR Racing
- Snowshoeing
- Sleigh Rides
- Free Mountain Tours
- Snow Maze

"The Voice of the Western Skier"



# 91<sup>st</sup> Annual Far West Ski Association Convention June 6 - 9, 2024

at the



CASINO RESORT SPA • RENO



FWRA & FWSA



Hosted by *Bay Area Snow Sports Council*  
and *Sierra League & Council*



## Atlantis Casino Resort Spa

3800 S. Virginia Street, Reno, NV 89502

Reservations <https://reservations.travelclick.com/98418?groupID=2016540>

or call 800-723-6500, Group-Name: **Far West Ski Association**

**Room Rates per night plus tax** single or double occupancy —

**\$119** (Wed - Thurs) **\$179** (Fri & Sat) + \$17.50 daily resort fee

**Room Registration Deadline - May 16, 2024**

## Hotel Features

- World Class Casino
- Forbes 4-Star Spa Atlantis
- Indoor & Outdoor Pools & Outdoor Whirlpool Spa
- 8 Award Winning Restaurants; 10 Bars & Lounges
- Atlantis Family Entertainment Fun Center
- FREE Wi-Fi in guest rooms, FREE Parking
- Rates are available 3 days pre and post Convention

## Transportation

- Air transportation is via Reno-Tahoe International Airport, located just 15 minutes from the Atlantis
- The Atlantis offers free airport shuttle service (4:30 am - 12:15 am)

## Convention Highlights

- Silent Auction & Trade Show
- Snowsports Leadership Academy
- Celebrity Speakers
- Public Affairs Panels
- Saturday Awards Luncheon
- Saturday Awards Banquet
- FWSA General Meeting & Elections

## Optional Activities

- **Thursday**
  - Bike Ride along Tahoe River
  - 27th Annual Pub Crawl
- **Friday**
  - 17th Annual Michael German Memorial Golf Tournament
  - Pool Party
  - Club Happy Hour

### Debbi Kor

FWSA Convention Chairperson  
[fwsadebbi@comcast.net](mailto:fwsadebbi@comcast.net)  
or 503.314.7078

### Barbara Razo

Silent Auction Chairperson  
[SilentAuction@fwsa.org](mailto:SilentAuction@fwsa.org)  
or 714-401-7341

### Paul Vlasveld

BAC Host Council  
Convention Coordinator  
[pvasveld@comcast.net](mailto:pvasveld@comcast.net)  
or 408.314.4649

### Jo Simpson

Sierra Host Council  
Convention Coordinator  
[jo\\_simpson@sbcglobal.net](mailto:jo_simpson@sbcglobal.net)  
or 775.722.6468

**A portion of the Silent Auction proceeds will benefit "Achieve Tahoe".**

[www.fwsa.org](http://www.fwsa.org)



## SAFETY—Avoid Frostbite and Hypothermia

As the weather continues to get colder yet we enjoy outdoor activities, it is good to have knowledge of the issues associated such as frostbite and hypothermia.

The following is an article from the National Safety Council website (<https://www.nsc.org/community-safety/safety-topics/seasonal-safety/winter-safety/frostbite>) with great information about the above topics.

“Cold weather can be dangerous for anyone who spends time outdoors for either work or pleasure. Be mindful of the risks. Excessive exposure to low temperatures, wind or moisture can cause two dangerous conditions: frostbite and hypothermia.

Before venturing outside in winter, be sure to:

- Check the temperature and limit your time outdoors if it's very cold, wet or windy.
- Bundle up in several layers of loose clothing
- Wear mittens rather than gloves
- Cover your head and ears with a warm hat
- Wear socks that will keep your feet warm and dry

Frostbite:

Even skin that is protected can be subject to frostbite. It's the most common injury resulting from exposure to severe cold, and it usually occurs on fingers, toes, nose, ears, cheeks and chin. If caught early, it is possible to prevent permanent damage. If not, frostbite can cause tissue death and lead to amputation.

Superficial frostbite affects the skin surface while the underlying tissue remains soft. The skin appears white, waxy or grayish-yellow and is cold and numb.

If the condition progresses to deep frostbite, all layers of the skin are affected and the outcome likely will be more serious. The skin will become completely numb, blisters may form and eventually the skin tissue dies and turns black.

If you suspect frostbite:

- Move the victim out of the cold and into a warm place
- Remove wet clothing and constricting items
- Protect between fingers and toes with dry gauze
- Seek medical attention as soon as possible
- Warm the frostbitten area in lukewarm water (99 to 104 degrees) for 20 to 30 minutes only if medical care will be delayed and if there is no danger of the skin refreezing
- Do not use chemical warmers directly on frostbitten tissue
- Protect and elevate the frostbitten area

## SAFETY—Avoid Frostbite and Hypothermia

### Hypothermia

Hypothermia occurs when the body's core temperature drops below 95 degrees. It is most associated with exposure to extreme cold, but it can also occur at higher temperatures if a person becomes chilled from being soaked with rain or submerged in water.



Severe shivering, one of the first signs of hypothermia, is beneficial in keeping the body warm. But as hypothermia progresses, shivering gives way to drowsiness or exhaustion, confusion, shallow breathing, irregular heartbeat, slurred speech, loss of coordination and, eventually, unconsciousness and death.

Paradoxical undressing is an extremely rare symptom of hypothermia. The victim undresses instead of bundling up. Researchers believe that in the final throes of hypothermia, victims may feel like they are overheating due to a rush of warm blood to the extremities.

If you encounter someone suffering from hypothermia:

- Check responsiveness and breathing, and call 911; except in mild cases, the victim needs immediate medical care
- Provide CPR if unresponsive and not breathing normally
- Quickly move the victim out of the cold
- Remove wet clothing.
- Warm the victim with blankets or warm clothing
- Only if the victim is far from medical care, use active rewarming by putting the victim near a heat source and putting warm (but not hot) water in containers against the skin
- Do not rub or massage the victim's skin
- Be very gentle when handling the victim
- Give warm (not hot) drinks to an alert victim who can easily swallow, do not give alcohol

### If You Go to Extremes

Winter is fun. So go make those snow angels and tackle that double black diamond. Just make sure to limit your exposure and bundle up.

If you're considering taking the Polar Plunge, make sure to consult a doctor first to determine if you have any underlying health problems. The enormous shock of these types of activities puts a strain on the heart, doctors say. Keep in mind:

- Cold shock will have you gasping for air
- Blood flow will divert to your organs
- You may become paralyzed or weak
- Blood pressure increases due to constricted blood vessels, causing greater risk of stroke”

# SKI INDUSTRY NEWS—2023

Ski industry news from the National Ski Club News, National Ski Council

## August

Colorado Ski Traffic is About to Get a Whole Lot Better. Thanks to a major project by the Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT), I-70 will be a much more enjoyable ride from Evergreen to Idaho Springs. The expansion from Evergreen to Idaho Springs will eliminate the bottleneck experience when three lanes merge to two, by way of an additional express lane. [Freeskier](#)

Utah Dept. of Transportation Approves Little Cottonwood Canyon Gondola. The Utah Department of Transportation (UDOT) has released its final record of decision (ROD) to move forward with construction of a controversial eight-mile-long gondola in Little Cottonwood Canyon. When complete, the gondola will feature a central station at the base of the canyon along with a new 2,500-stall parking lot. It will have the capacity to transport 1,050 passengers per hour at 35 people per cabin to Snowbird and Alta. [SAM](#)

Stratton Mountain Resort, VT, Announces \$6.9 Million Investment. Stratton Mountain Resort, Vermont, has announced a \$6.9 million investment for the 23/24 season. The resort's press release states that the investment will go into enhancing multiple facets of the guest and employee experience beginning in the base area with RFID lift gates and a reimagined beginner area. [SnowBrains](#)

Fire Destroys Lake Louise Ski Resort Employee Housing. Summer operations at Lake Louise Ski Resort were temporarily shut down after an arson fire. A 40-year-old man was charged with arson after a July 3 fire destroyed a 100,000 square-foot building that houses hundreds of resort staff. There were no fatalities and summer operations have resumed although with some reductions in services. [SAM](#)

Crested Butte Lift Mechanics, Electricians Vote to Unionize. Lift mechanics and electricians at Crested Butte Mountain Resort (CBMR) voted 7 to 3 to form the Crested Butte Lift Maintenance Professional Union, joining the Communications Workers of America (CWA) 7781. This is the second ski area lift maintenance crew in the country to unionize, following the unionization of Park City Lift Maintenance last October. [SAM](#)

## September

Alterra Announces 3,700 Acre Expansion For Deer Valley, UT. Alterra has announced a major 3,700 acre terrain expansion for Deer Valley Resort, UT that will be serviced by 16 new lifts a new 10-person passenger gondola. The development of the New Village and Portal at its base (formerly referred to as Mayflower Mountain Resort project) will bring an additional full-service access point to the resort, along with world-class lodging, dining and retail amenities. [Powder](#)

Brighton Resort, UT, to Add New 6-Seater Chair and On-Mountain Restaurant Among Improvements For Upcoming Winter. Brighton's plan is to have a new six-pack chairlift, a new on-mountain restaurant, and new parking policies for the 2023/24 season. The intention is to provide Brighton's guests with a better overall experience while visiting its resort. [SnowBrains](#)

## SKI INDUSTRY NEWS (Cont.)

September (cont.)

**Sugarloaf Preparing New England's Largest Ski Terrain Expansion Since The '70s.** The resort has been working tirelessly throughout the summer to prepare a massive expansion (by east coast standards) on West Mountain. The expansion will include 12 new trails across 120 acres of skiable terrain, nearly doubling Sugarloaf's beginner and intermediate trails. Powder

**Sugarbush Provides Update On Multi-Million Dollar Infrastructure Project.** Sugarbush, Vermont, shared that as part of an ongoing multi-million dollar capital investment, it's improving snowmaking capabilities on the Inverness trail. Throughout the summer, Sugarbush has provided insight into two other areas of the resort receiving a capital investment touch-up: improvements to the Lodge at Lincoln Peak (previously known as the Sugar Lodge) and the Reverse Traverse trail. Powder

**Taos Ski Valley, NM, Completes 1 of 2 New Chair Installations For Next Winter.** Taos Ski Valley announced the completion of its new Pioneer Chair, which accesses predominately beginner terrain. Along with Pioneer, Taos is replacing its Chair 4 lift on the backside of the mountain, which gives ready access to the Kachina Basin area including the Kachina Peak Lift which provides access to some of Taos's most extreme terrain. SnowBrains

**Aspen Skiing Co's Ambitious Plan for Cell Coverage on Aspen Snowmass, CO, Slopes.** SkiCo's new initiative proposes the addition of nine towers across seven locations at Snowmass Ski Area, with plans underway for the remaining ski areas. If approved, construction will commence in summer 2024 with hopes of completing the project by 2025. SnowBrains

October

**The End of Cash is Nigh.** More and more resorts, spurred by the unique needs of the pandemic, are moving toward making cash payments a thing of the past. And while a small percentage of skiers and riders are pushing back, most are finding the transition to cashless systems not just semi-seamless, but beneficial in many ways. *SAM Magazine*

**Peak Lift Ticket Prices to Hit \$299 at Some U.S. Ski Areas This Winter.** What is happening to day ticket prices at American ski areas? Only three years ago, we were sharing news of resorts breaking through the \$200 mark which seemed absurd; now that appears to be the norm. SnowBrains

**New Winter Park Chairlift to Open this Season.** Vasquez Ridge is a popular part of Winter Park, and this year skiing and riding it will be much easier, thanks to a new six-pack chairlift, the Wild Spur Express. Powder

## SKI INDUSTRY NEWS (Cont.)

### October (cont.)

**Sun Valley Releases Updated Trail Map With New Trails, Lifts.** Sun Valley, Idaho, has unveiled a new resort trail map that includes the chairlift alterations associated with the Warm Springs Enhancement Project. Powder

**Hunter Mountain NY Announces New Six-Person Lift.** Hunter Mountain has announced the upcoming construction of a new six-person high-speed lift. The lift is slated to replace the Broadway four-seater chair. If approved, the resort intends to complete the lift before the 2024-2025 ski season. Powder

**Michigan's Norway Mountain to Reopen with New Owners.** Norway Mountain, idle since 2017, has been purchased by a local family who plans to reopen the 160-acre ski and snowboard area situated in Michigan's Upper Peninsula for the 2024/25 season. SAM

**Blue Mountain, Camelback Join Ikon Pass.** Alterra Mountain Company announced today that Pennsylvania's Blue Mountain and Camelback Resort will join the Ikon Pass for the 2023-24 season. SAM

**Netflix CEO Acquires Majority Share of Powder Mountain.** Netflix co-founder and CEO Reed Hastings became the majority owner of Powder Mountain following a \$100 million investment. Hastings acquired a minority stake in the ski area back in April. SAM

**Silverton Mountain Sold to Aspen-based Adventure Company.** Colorado's Silverton Mountain has been sold for an undisclosed amount to Andy Culp and Brock Strasbourger, owners of Aspen-based Heli Adventures, a heli-skiing and adventure travel company. SAM

**Who Wants to Buy a Colorado Ski Resort?** The former Slopes at Saint Mary's Glacier is up for sale. It's listed for a cool \$7 million. It includes a 373-acre parcel of land about 10 miles northwest of Idaho Springs Powder

**Yes, Jimmy Buffett Was a Skier.** While most people will remember Jimmy Buffett for the Florida Keys life that he sold as part of his persona, Buffett was a bonafide skier and spent considerable time in Aspen for more than 50 years. He even played the closing set for the JAS Aspen Snowmass Labor Day show in 2021. Powder

### November

**Black Mountain (NH) to Open, Assisted by Indy Pass.** A week after announcing that it would not open for the 2023-24 season, owners of New Hampshire's Black Mountain have reconsidered after reaching an operating agreement with Indy Pass and its parent company Entabeni. Black Mountain officials announced on Oct. 11 that the ski area would remain closed due to "circumstances beyond our control," citing soaring energy costs, staffing shortages, and unpredictable weather among other factors. SAM

## SKI INDUSTRY NEWS (Cont.)

November (cont.)

Windham (NY) Unveils Rebranding, New Master Plan. The Windham Mountain Club, formerly known as Windham Mountain, unveiled its rebranding and capital upgrades for the 2023-24 winter season and beyond. SAM

Mountain Capital Partners Inks Joint Venture with Sandia Peak, NM. Mountain Capital Partners (MCP) and Sandia Peak Ski Company have entered a joint venture agreement for the operation of Sandia Peak Ski Area, located 35 miles northeast of Albuquerque, N.M. This is MCP's third New Mexico ski area. SAM

California Mountain Resorts Company Buys Bear Mountain. California Mountain Resorts Company (CMRC) has acquired Bear Valley. It's the third acquisition in three years for the growing Golden State conglomerate, which is headed by CEO Karl Kapuscinski. CMRC, which has owned Mountain High since 1997, purchased California's Dodge Ridge in 2021 and China Peak in 2022. SAM

Alterra Purchases Mike Wiegele Heli Ski Operation. Alterra Mountain Company has initiated the purchase of Mike Wiegele Helicopter Skiing (MWHS) in Blue River, BC, Canada. Officials at Alterra said the addition will complement the company's BC-based CMH Heli-Skiing and Summer Adventures operation, and is expected to be completed late this year, pending closing conditions that include regulatory approvals.

New Owners for Alberta, Canada's Rabbit Hill. Rabbit Hill Snow Resort, founded in 1955, has transitioned to new ownership—business partners Chuck and Lara Amerongen and Derek and Anna Look. The independently owned ski area is located about 20 miles southwest of Edmonton.

The Steepest Ski Run in the U.S. Rambo, located at Crested Butte Ski Resort in Colorado, holds the prestigious title of being the steepest ski run in the United States. The pitch is set at an astounding 55 degrees, meaning you'll be holding on for dear life almost every turn. SnowBrains

Aspen's Terrain Expansion Shows Us What Climate-Resistant Slopes Will Look Like. Wind turbines and energy-efficient snow guns help but planning for real climate-impacted skiing requires next-level tactics. SAM

Ski Towns Dominate the Most Expensive Housing in the U.S. with Jackson, WY, #2 and Breckenridge, CO, #3. Lending Tree recently published a report analyzing micropolitan areas with populations between 10,000 – 50,000 to find the 50 with the most expensive median home values. It may come as no surprise that the list is dominated by ski towns known as popular vacation spots. SnowBrains

Analyzing Growth in the Number of Skier Visits in The United States Over the Last 44 Years. The National Ski Areas Association (NSAA) keeps data on the number of skier visits each year in the United States. Those numbers have been recorded since the 1978/79 season and are broken down into six categories representing sub-regions throughout the United States. SnowBrains

## SKI INDUSTRY NEWS (Cont.)

December

Vail Resorts to Acquire Crans-Montana in Switzerland. Vail Resorts has entered into an agreement to acquire Crans-Montana Mountain Resort in Switzerland from CPI Property Group (CPIPG), the majority owner of Remontées Mécaniques (French for “ski lifts”) Crans Montana Aminona (CMA) SA, which controls and operates all the resort's lifts and supporting mountain operations, including four retail and rental locations. SAM

Vail's Vision for \$16 Billion Rail Revival Gains Momentum. A proposal to rejuvenate a passenger rail service is gaining traction among local officials. The plan aims to connect the Eagle County Regional Airport directly to the town of Vail. It is seen as a potential solution to the region's growing transportation and environmental challenges. SnowBrains

Park City and Deer Valley eye public-private partnership for Snow Park. Deer Valley will pay \$15 million towards the creation of a regionally significant transportation and parking facility. These funds may also be used for affordable housing in connection with that facility. Park City Town Lift via NSCF

Snowbasin Utah Forgoes Parking Reservation System. Several major ski resorts, from Palisades Tahoe to Solitude Mountain Resort, have implemented parking reservation systems ahead of winter 2023-2024. However, after much deliberation, Snowbasin Resort, Utah, is marching to a different tune. Powder

Fastest 6-Person Chairlift In North America To Open at Sunday River Maine. According to officials at Sunday River, "the Barker 6, one of the most advanced and fastest 6-person chairlifts in North America." It is a "Doppelmayr D-Line design, [featuring] ergonomic heated seats, an automatically lowering and locking restraining bar, weather-blocking bubbles..." Powder

Salt Lake Named Preferred Host for 2034 Winter Games. The International Olympic Committee (IOC) yesterday named Salt Lake City as the “preferred city” to host the 2034 Olympic and Paralympic Winter Games. Once a preferred host has been selected, no other cities are permitted to apply to host the same Games, making Salt Lake now the sole candidate for 2034. SAM

Female Ski Patrollers at Palisades Tahoe, CA, Create Calendar to Help Raise Funds for 3 Worthwhile Causes. The female members of the Ski Patrol at Palisades Tahoe, California, have created a beautiful calendar for 2024 that will raise funds for three worthwhile causes. SnowBrains

Palisades Tahoe Employee Dies in Collision Involving a Snowmobile. Palisades Tahoe employee Brian Gimbert, 34, of Tahoma, CA, died as a result of a collision involving a snowmobile early Thursday morning, the California Highway Patrol (CHP) reported. Officials at the resort said the accident happened during snowmaking operations on the Alpine side of Palisades Tahoe. SAM

These 10 U.S. States Have The Most Ski Resorts. New York leads the way with 52 ski resorts, offering a variety of winter experiences near the bustling city. The best months for skiing are January and February. Michigan and Wisconsin are second and third. The Travel via Google Alerts



[www.sierraleague.com](http://www.sierraleague.com)

