

CONNECTICUT SKI COUNCIL

skiclub.com

September, 2022

president@skiclub.com

FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear Fellow Constituents of the Council,

Hello from the very bottom of summer. As happens every year, I've been utterly caught from behind by the approach of the coming ski and snowboard season, but it was an incredible few months of sunshine, heat, and memorable vents. I hope your summers were just as good.

Longtime readers of this address have probably grown accustomed to the Tomczak brand of cheery-but-slightly-guarded optimism, but I really feel good about this year. Novel COVID variants have, knock on wood, been largely mild. As always, our position is that every one of our members should stay informed on the minute-by-minute and take whatever precautions make them feel comfortable, but my experience has been that we're *FINALLY* getting back to something like a pre-2020 normal. Let's just not do any *au naturel* skiing and I think we'll stay comfortably clear of that pesky Monkeypox.

Despite other non-COVID industry-related obstacles we'll carry forward from the past few years, there's also some new breath in the Council. At the same time we use one hand to wave a grateful farewell to one Treasurer, we use the other to welcome Thad Stewart of CT Soul Ski Club who has graciously volunteered to help us for the next term. We have, of course, also introduced a new event to our roster, the CSC Picnic. I'm sure you'll read more about it later in the newsletter, but I'm certainly hoping that it will become a staple. I also think that as we try to find new ways to bring more value to our members, summer events and programs will really come into their own and prove to be a lot of fun.

There's certainly a lot of room for us to streamline our organization and to reimagine the ways we do certain things, but I'm feeling up to the challenge and I hope you all are too. The timing feels right to get back on track and to reinvigorate the Council. I'm looking forward to seeing you all and doing just that, but especially enjoying some of the driving snow apparently promised in the Farmer's Almanac this year.

Your brother in Winter,
Ben

OnSnow Winter Carnival 2023

The CSC OnSnow Winter Carnival will not happen in 2023. Magic, Bromley, Sugarbush, Killington and Stratton have all declined to bid. We will be working on a day-trip to one of the Massachusetts mountains with racing. If anyone has any contacts at any of these mountains, please let me know. If this effort is not successful, we will be pivoting again to a Connecticut mountain, perhaps for some evening racing. In either of these cases, it would probably be best to hold the event in February.

Dave Zuraw
Chairperson
203-729-9060, or (cell) 203-232-9057

NEXT COUNCIL MEETING:

SEPT. 13, 2022

7:30 PM

**Back Nine at Stanley
Golf Course**

**Following meeting:
OCTOBER 11**

Newsletter Deadline

Deadline for the October newsletter is September 20. Please send info to me at: don.ludwig.45@gmail.com.

Thanks,
Ginny Ludwig

Webmaster's Email

Please send all information you wish to have posted on the CSC's website to Bill Leuze at: webmaster@skiclub.com

SnowBall 2022

Snowball 2022 has been cancelled. A vote was taken at the May, 2022 CSC meeting to not hold a SnowBall this season.

But, as your Ambassador, I am already planning the Spring Picnic for 2023, with much more information to come as the year goes on.

Dave Zuraw
CSC Ambassador

Greetings from the Vice President

Hello, Everyone, and I hope that you're enjoying a happy and healthy summer! This summer is not over yet and one doesn't need to be a rocket scientist to realize that this summer has been a scorcher! Let's hope that our current drought does not continue into winter!

Thank you to the many members of our CSC who worked energetically to conduct our first annual Spring/Summer Picnic. Over 325 tickets were sold, four food trucks were there to keep everyone well fed, the band played on into the evening, and the cornhole games were quite popular on that hot afternoon/evening. Sikorski Ski Club did a fabulous job of enthusiastically selling raffle tickets. Robert Kot was our site director and ensured that the site not only was reserved solely for the CSC, but was very clean.

Many thanks to our "Two-Year Ambassador," Mike Brown, from Newington Ski Club. He maintained his loyalty and dedication to the CSC throughout the height of the pandemic and was instrumental in planning and establishing our first CSC Spring/Summer Picnic. We hope that he can now spend more time dedicated to family, work, and racing for Newington Ski Club! *Kudos to Mike!*

Our current CSC Ambassador, Dave Zuraw, will go forward with planning the 2023 Picnic. As you may recall, at our May 2022 meeting, the General Body (Board) voted to suspend the SnowBall for November 2022. Given the state of our society and questionable health conditions, it was believed that our ski clubs and their members do not yet have the energy, drive, and sustainability to implement a successful indoor SnowBall with over 450 attendees, party rooms, and overnight guests. Let us all hope that we can go forward with an "unmasked" SnowBALL for Autumn 2023!

Please continue to enjoy these last days of summer with family, friends, and loved ones. Participate in all of the summer outdoor activities that can be enjoyed in New England. We are fortunate to live within a region that affords us the opportunity to enjoy a variety of year-round outdoor activities. I look forward to seeing many of you at our initial 2022-2023 CSC meeting on Tuesday, Sept. 13 at the Back Nine Tavern in New Britain.

Marsha Baretta

Vermont Adaptive Ski and Sports has opened a new, state-of-the-art facility at Sugarbush's Mt. Ellen Resort. The facility is named Murphy's Annex, with a focus on improving access to snow sports for people of all abilities. For more information, contact Vermont Adaptive Ski and Sports (VASS).

Ski Racing

Monday Night Race Series

Will be celebrating its 50th year at Mount Southington! Mount Southington did a great job last year, and I'm looking forward to another great job this year. That said, we have been dropping in total racing numbers. We have come up with some ideas to make racing more appealing and get our numbers back up there. It is a great league, and we want more people to enjoy it.

The CSC will be working with AdminSports to again have remote registration on-line. We have had that software for a few seasons now, so it should be even smoother. We will go with the same "everybody-gets-a-bib-for-the-season," and they should turn it in at the end. Bibs not turned in from last year include: Aleksander Landolf (New Haven), Chris Gulla (New Haven), Stacey Warren (NAVA), Marti Brueckner (Mt Laurel). Those clubs will have a \$30 extra racing fee for covering replacement bib costs.

I am hoping we will have the state races, but too early to say yet. First we need to get an increase in numbers for the Monday night league.

Whatever the health policy will be this winter, we will make sure all racers can stay as safe as can be, and will update you with whatever our process will be.

Start thinking about a big snow year.

Rob Dexter

CSC Racing Chairperson

skicouncil@gmail.com

BULK TICKET NEWS

Credit information from last season's returns and done and I will send it to club coordinators soon.

There are a few changes for this ski season. Killington and Pico will offer a program and I will pass on the details when I have the contract from them. Bromley is not offering a bulk ticket program this season, and they DID NOT extend any credits on last season's returns.

Enjoy the rest of the summer. I look forward to seeing you at the September 13th Council meeting.

Nancy Nolan

Southern Tier Coordinator

It's Not Too Early to Plan a Ski Trip!

Check out these trips sponsored by CSC member-clubs for this coming season.

VAL GARDENA, ITALY

Jan. 6-14, 2023 *Host:* Meriden Ski Club

Cost:

\$2625. pp/double; \$2890. single. Includes \$400 fuel surcharge.

Includes:

Round-trip air Boston to Innsbruck; airport transfers in US and Italy; 7 nights at Hotel Oswald; breakfast & 4-course dinner. Hoteloswald.com/en

Contact:

Meridenski.com

PARK CITY, UTAH

Feb. 12-19, 2023 *Host:* AE Ski Club

Cost: \$1810.

Includes:

Round-trip air Hartford to Salt Lake City; day trip to Snowbasin; 7 nights deluxe accommodations at Peaks Hotel; heated indoor/outdoor pool/hot tub; daily full breakfast; pre-trip gathering; welcome party. Lift passes NOT INCLUDED – Epic day passes start at \$354.

Contact:

Mark Chester, 860-342-4271, chesterm@aetna.com.

John Baker, 860-558-1113.

ZERMATT, SWITZERLAND

Feb. 17-26, 2023 (President's Week)

Host: Danbury Ski Club

Cost:

\$3098./pp double; \$3545./single;

Land only deduct \$650. Family pricing & more pricing info at DanburySki.com/Zermatt2023Register

Includes:

Round-trip non-stop JFK to Geneva; transfers, taxes, surcharges, portage & tips; 7 nights at Hotel Ambassador adjacent to lifts & train; indoor pool; welcome wine & cheese party; full European breakfast daily; nightly dinner; final night in Geneva. No additional charge for IKON pass holders. 6-day lift ticket \$475.=/-.
Suites available for families with children.

Contact:

dsc.zermatt.2023@gmail.com.

RED MOUNTAIN RESORT, BC, CANADA

March 4-11, 2023 *Host:* Winterset Ski Club

Cost:

\$2300. Double Occ. 3-bed condo

IKON passholders deduct \$381.

Includes:

Round-trip air Newark to Spokane; ground transfers; 5-day lift ticket; 7 nights at 5-star Slalom Creek Condos (each w/ private hot tub); ski in/ski out; welcome breakfast Sunday; mid-week event; farewell dinner.

Info:

5-peaks; 300" average snowfall; tree skiing; \$10 inbound CAT skiing; \$89 for 6th-day pass. Must be Winterset member to participate.

Contact:

Peter Gorczynski, pgorczynski@snet.net.

And This Fall!

Don't miss the newly formatted SNOWBOUND EXPO coming November 18-20, 2022 at the Hynes Convention Center, Boston. Times vary. Features include an indoor dry slope, Rider's Lounge, Shred Stage, Skate Mini Ramp, and Alpine Apres Bar with live music. Also: latest gear, equipment, and products.

Check it out at snowboundexpo.com.

CONNECTICUT SKI COUNCIL

2022-2023 Season Officers

PRESIDENT:

Ben Tomczak;

president@skiclub.com

VICE PRESIDENT: Marsha Baretta

skimars93@gmail.com

TREASURER: Thad Stewart

SECRETARY: Jonathan Houck,
203-213-6991; jhhouck@cox.net

AMBASSADOR: Dave Zuraw
dscwebmaster@yahoo.com

BULK TICKETS: *Southern Tier:*
Nancy Nolan, 28 Homestead Pl,
Cheshire, CT 06410. 203-272-4681
nancynolan@snet.net.

Northern Tier Bulk Tickets:

Mark Robitaille ,
marklrobitaille@gmail.com

AWARENESS DAYS: John Filakovsky
203-372-6683;
jgfilakovsky19@gmail.com.

NEWSLETTER: Ginny Ludwig
203-250-1560;
don.ludwig.45@gmail.com

RACING: Rob Dexter, 860-836-9304;
skicouncil@gmail.com

WEBMASTER: Bill Leuze,
webmaster@skiclub.com

HISTORIAN: TBA

PAST PRESIDENT: Jonathan Houck
203-213-6991; jhhouck@cox.net

CONTACT INFORMATION:

Ben Tomczak

president@skiclub.com

CT SKI COUNCIL MEETING LOCATION:

The Back 9 Restaurant at Stanley Golf Course,
245 Hartford Avenue, New Britain

CONNECTICUT SKI COUNCIL

Visit our website at skiclub.com.

The purpose of the Connecticut Ski Council is to foster and encourage organized amateur skiing and riding, to assist in the development of new clubs, to sponsor and run inter-club competition, promote club activity on and off the snow, and to teach skiing and ski safety skills to others. The Council offers discounts on lift tickets, ski trips, lodging, competitive racing, Nordic programs, ski instruction, and social and sporting events, community involvement, physical conditioning, meeting people and having fun.