

October 2011

Greetings from the Ausblick Ski Race Team! We hope you had a great summer and are looking forward to another exciting season of ski racing. Enclosed you will find the information you need to register for the 2011 – 2012 season.

Please follow these steps to register:

STEP 1 – Review the enclosed General Information for 2011-2012 Season.

STEP 2 – Complete the on-line registration process. Each athlete must register separately.

STEP 3 – Print out and complete the enclosed Release Form. A separate form must be completed for each athlete, signed by the athlete, and signed by the athlete's parents.

STEP 4 – Make checks payable to Ausblick Ski Race Team, for the amount determined when completing the registration process.

STEP 5 – Mail the completed Release Form and payment, **by DECEMBER 1st, 2011**, to:

Ausblick Ski Race Team
c/o Mike Hipp
W302N6045 Spence Rd.
Hartland, WI 53029

Notes:

1. Registration materials sent after December 1st should include a \$25 late fee (not applicable for first year race team members).

2. If you are going to the Thanksgiving camp at Copper, we **must** have your registration, Release Form, and payment prior to the camp.

If you have any questions, please contact:

Mike Hipp
262-853-6632
mhipp@ausblickskiraceteam.com

Ausblick Ski Race Team
General Information for 2011-2012 Season

Below you will find some basic information which we hope you find useful as you consider joining the team and/or complete your registration for the upcoming season.

I. OVERVIEW OF THE AVAILABLE SKI RACING PROGRAMS

Ausblick offers athletes the opportunity to compete in various programs:

WJR – Wisconsin Junior Racing, or WJR, is a local recreational ski racing program involving five SE Wisconsin teams and approximately 400 athletes ages 4-18. The season typically consists of 6 races held on Saturdays in January & February, followed by an inter-league Spring Fling race with the Madison area league WIJARA.

USSA –United States Ski & Snowboard Association, or USSA, is a national ski racing organization which splits the country into geographic sections. Ausblick competes within Region II of the Central Division, which includes Wisconsin, the western UP, eastern Iowa, Illinois, and Missouri. Region II typically hosts 5-6 races each season over weekends in December through February, with most races held in the UP. USSA racing is generally more competitive than WJR, and offers opportunities to participate in post-season competitions against other Regions and Divisions across the nation.

FIS – International Ski Federation, or FIS, offers more competitive ski racing opportunities for advanced athletes at least 15 years old by December 31st.

High School - Many Ausblick athletes compete on their high school ski teams in addition to the programs listed above, and several Ausblick coaches also coach a high school team. Ausblick does not have a separate program for these athletes, however, athletes in this group are sometimes referred to as the High School program.

II. AGE CLASSES

Athlete age classes for the upcoming season are as follows:

- Class 1: birth date 1/1/93 thru 12/31/94
- Class 2: birth date 1/1/95 thru 12/31/96
- Class 3: birth date 1/1/97 thru 12/31/98
- Class 4: birth date 1/1/99 thru 12/31/00
- Class 5: birth date 1/1/01 thru 12/31/02
- Class 6: birth date 1/1/03 or later

III. SCHEDULES

Practice:

Ausblick team practice begins with “Christmas camp” which consists of morning practices over a 4-5 day period during the holiday school break. The exact dates for this year’s camp have been posted to the www.ausblickskiraceteam.com website and/or sent to you via email. For USSA/FIS athletes, there are training opportunities prior to Christmas camp, which you will be notified of by email.

Beginning in January, practices are held Tuesday and Thursday nights 5:30-8:00pm at Ausblick.

Races:

The WJR race schedule, once it is finalized, will be posted on the team website at, www.ausblickskiraceteam.com and the WJR website at, www.wjracing.org

USSA/ and FIS race schedules can be found via the Central Division website at, www.ussacentral.org (you will find links to Region II), and on the team website at, www.ausblickskiraceteam.com.

IV. TEAM REQUIREMENTS

Age and ability – athletes must be at least 4 years of age and must be able to board and ride the chair lift on their own, as well as ski down the hill in a controlled, safe manner, on their own.

Equipment – Ski helmets are mandatory at all practices and races without exception. Skis, poles, boots, helmets, etc are the responsibility of the athletes and are not provided by the team.

Attendance – Attendance at practices and/or races is encouraged but not mandatory. We do ask that you inform your coach in advance if you will be missing a practice or race.

Parental presence - the race team is expected to comply with all rules and policies of the ski club, including having all children under age twelve accompanied by a member sixteen or older.

V. COACHING

Practices: Early in the season the coaches will divide the team's 140+ athletes into several groups, based upon various factors including age, ability, experience, and program (WJR, USSA/FIS). Generally the groups will remain the same, and have the same coach, for practices throughout the season. However, it is likely that some changes will be made to the groupings as the season progresses. Also, groups may be combined at some practices if a coach is unable to attend, or if several athletes from a given group are absent.

Races: Coaching at races is handled differently and the groupings used at practice do not apply at races. Most races only require 6 or fewer of Ausblick's 13 coaches, so many athletes will have a different coach at the races.

VI. PARENT VOLUNTEERS

Throughout the season we will be looking for parent volunteers for a wide variety of tasks. Many of these do not require the ability to ski or any knowledge of ski racing. The best way to support your athlete is to become involved and make it a family activity. Please help out!!

VII. COMMUNICATIONS

Please check the following websites regularly:

Ausblick Ski Race Team, www.ausblickskiraceteam.com

WJR, www.wjracing.org

USSA Central Division, www.ussacentral.org (you will find links to Region II)

Also, email is a primary communication channel for the team, so please be sure to check yours regularly, and let us know if you change your email address.

VIII. FEES

Fees for the 2011-2012 season are as follows:

WJR - \$430

WJR and USSA 1-race option (available only to 1st year USSA athletes) - \$430

WJR and Limited USSA (1-3 USSA races) - \$925

WJR and Full USSA (1-6 USSA races) - \$1,160

WJR, USSA, & FIS (1-6 USSA & FIS races) - \$1,335

A late fee of \$25 applies after December 1st, except for first year team members.

Additional fees will be charged for USSA/FIS training projects, or post-season races held in the Wisconsin/UP area, or if you attend more than 6 USSA/FIS races, at the rate of \$50/day.

Other post-season USSA/FIS event fees include:

Topolino Time Trials: \$450

J3/J4 Championships at Marquette: \$150

Brule Finale: \$50

J4 JO's: \$460

J3 JO's: \$550

J2 Nationals: \$550

J1/J2 Regional Championships (JO's): \$500

FIS Central Championships: \$200

ADDITIONAL REGISTRATION INFORMATION FOR USSA/FIS ATHLETES:

To fully register for USSA/FIS for the upcoming season, you must:

1. Register for the Ausblick team
2. Obtain a USSA/FIS license (you do this directly with USSA, not thru Ausblick)
3. Register with the local chapter of USSA, Central Division Region II, if you plan to do USSA races (you do this directly with Region II, not thru Ausblick)

If you do not complete steps 2 & 3 above on a timely basis, your child will not be allowed to race when they show up at a USSA race, which we obviously don't want to happen. These are USSA rules, which Ausblick has no control over.

To obtain a USSA or FIS license:

Go to www.ussa.org and click on "Members" then "Membership Tools". This will guide you through how to get a license, which involves completing the online registration forms and credit card online payment to USSA. This process will get you into the national USSA (or FIS) database, and you will receive a USSA (or FIS) membership card with your USSA (or FIS) membership number.

To register with Region II of the Central Division of USSA:

Go to, www.ussacentral.org, scroll to the bottom and click on "Region 2" (our region) then select "register online".

Additional information for new USSA athletes:

Most USSA races are held in the Upper Peninsula and typically start early Saturday mornings and again on Sunday, so most Ausblick athletes typically stay over Friday & Saturday nights. Hotels tend to fill up early in the season so book your rooms early.

Check the Region II website and the Central Division website www.ussacentral.org regularly. Schedules, race results, parent volunteer sign-ups, and various other information and breaking news can be found here, as well as links to other useful sites.

Registration Form – Please Complete ONLINE at www.ausblickskiraceteam.com
AUSBLICK SKI RACE TEAM 2011-2012 SEASON

A SEPARATE REGISTRATION FORM MUST BE COMPLETED FOR EACH ATHLETE.

Athlete Last Name: _____ First Name: _____

Male ___ or Female ___ Date of Birth: _____

Street Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone Number: (_____) _____

E-Mail Address: _____

2nd Email Address: _____

Parents Names: _____

Program & Fees (Select only one of the following choices):

___ WJR: \$430

___ WJR and USSA 1-race option: \$430
(available only to first-year USSA racers)

___ WJR and limited USSA (1-3 USSA races): \$925

___ WJR and full USSA (1-6 USSA races): \$1,160

___ WJR and FIS (1-7 FIS races): \$1,335

Note: If you are registering for USSA/FIS, you must also obtain a license and register for races directly with USSA/FIS. Refer to the attached General Information pages.

If you are registering for USSA/FIS, please tell us which races you are planning to attend:
(note: the schedules below are subject to change)

USSA Region 2

FIS

___ Norway 12/10-11

___ BoynNubs 12/15-18

___ Chestnut 12/17-18

___ Lutsen/Thunder Bay 1/7-10

___ Mont Ripley 12/30-31

___ Indianhead 1/20-22

___ Marquette 1/13-15

___ Spirit 2/3-5

___ LaCrosse 1/28-29

___ LaCrosse (Nagy) 2/25-26

**RELEASE OF LIABILITY, AGREEMENT NOT TO SUE,
HOLD HARMLESS AND INDEMNIFICATION AGREEMENT**

“Participant” means undersigned, being at least 18 years old, or a minor and his/her undersigned parent or legal guardian, signing on behalf of him/herself and the minor.

In consideration of Participant’s participation in the AUSBLICK SKI RACE TEAM PROGRAM provided by AUSBLICK SKI RACE TEAM CORP (“TEAM”), the receipt and sufficiency of which is expressly acknowledged, Participant understands, warrants and agrees as follows:

- Alpine, nordic and freestyle skiing are inherently dangerous action sports, carrying with them the significant risk of serious personal injury, death and property damage, which risks are substantially increased by practicing for and actually participating in competitive ski racing which is, at least in part, designed to test the limits of each Participant’s speed, skill and control.
- The elements of nature, mechanical and environmental conditions and risks and other similar factors, which are beyond the control of the TEAM, may, independently or in combination with the Participant’s TEAM related activities, cause property damage or severe or even fatal injuries to the Participant or others.
- The TEAM, Wisconsin Junior Racing Inc. (“WJR”), the United States Ski Association, the United States Ski Coaches Association, the National Ski Patrol, and the ski area at which any event is held, (collectively, the “Ski Organizations”), cannot control or supervise the activities of other skiers, other participants or spectators in all circumstances and, as a consequence, Participant may be at risk of serious personal injury, death and property damage from these individuals notwithstanding the reasonable efforts of the TEAM, WJR and/or the Ski Organizations.
- Participant understands that as a condition to his/her participation in the TEAM, Participant shall, at all times, be required to exercise reasonable care for his/her own safety and the safety of others, and shall abide by and conduct him/herself in a manner consistent with the rules and regulations of the TEAM, WJR and the applicable Ski Organizations. If Participant has any questions about these rules and regulations, or is in any way uncertain about the intent or meaning of this Release of Liability, Agreement Not To Sue, Hold Harmless and Indemnification Agreement, Participant will contact the TEAM on TEAM line at 262-820-0509 prior to signing this document.
- Participant shall be solely responsible for procuring and wearing the appropriate safety equipment, including (without limitation) head, eye and other protective gear, before and during any practice, race or other activity associated with any TEAM or WJR event.

Accordingly, Participant, for him/her self, spouse, heirs, assigns, related individuals and related entities, does hereby release, waive, absolve, discharge and agree to hold harmless the TEAM, WJR and the Ski Organizations, including their representatives, volunteers, officers, directors, employees, officials, coaches, promoters, members, agents, affiliates, insurers and attorneys (collectively, the “Released Parties”), from and against any and all rights, claims, demands, causes of action, obligations, suits, liens, damages or liabilities of any kind and character whatsoever, whether known or unknown, suspected or claimed, which Participant shall or may have in the future against the Released Parties arising out of, based on, related to or connected with Participant’s participation in the TEAM and TEAM related activities. Participant also agrees to indemnify and hold the Released Parties harmless from the payment of any and all judgments, settlements, costs, disbursements and attorney fees that are associated with the Released Parties having to defend or investigate any claim, action or proceeding of any type whatsoever arising out of Participant’s participation in the TEAM including, but not limited to, claims for breach of contract, negligence (whether caused by the sole negligence of the Released Parties, the concurrent negligence of the Released Parties with

Participant or any other person, or otherwise), strict liability, or otherwise. This indemnification obligation and this Release of Liability, Agreement Not To Sue, Hold Harmless and Indemnification Agreement does not, however, absolve the Released Parties from any liability, damages, costs, disbursements and attorney fees incurred due to their intentional or reckless conduct.

Participant understands that if any fact with respect to which this Release of Liability, Agreement Not To Sue, Hold Harmless and Indemnification Agreement is executed is later found to be other than or different from the fact in that connection now believed by Participant to be true, Participant expressly accepts and assumes the risk of such possible difference in fact and agrees that this Release of Liability, Agreement Not To Sue, Hold Harmless and Indemnification Agreement shall be and remain effective notwithstanding such difference in facts.

Participant covenants and agrees to forever refrain from instituting, prosecuting, maintaining, proceeding on, assisting with or advising to be commenced a suit which arises out of, or may be, in whole or in part, based upon, related to or connected with the released matters herein or any part of them. Participant further covenants and agrees that in the event that Participant is injured during a TEAM related activity, Participant consents to treatment of any injury by an athletic trainer or other professional, subject to the provisions of this Release of Liability, Agreement Not To Sue, Hold Harmless and Indemnification Agreement. Participant authorizes the TEAM, at its discretion, to arrange for transport to a hospital or other medical facility for further medical attention. Participant understands and agrees that the TEAM is not responsible for transporting Participant to a hospital or medical facility that participates in his/her insurance/managed care plan, and Participant represents and warrants that s/he has sufficient medical and accident insurance that will be maintained throughout the entire period of Participant's participation in the TEAM and TEAM related activities, to cover all costs of medical care and treatment required as a result of any injury or accident.

Participant acknowledges that this Release of Liability, Agreement Not To Sue, Hold Harmless and Indemnification Agreement is executed in exchange for the opportunity to participate in the TEAM and the TEAM related activities. This Release of Liability, Agreement Not To Sue, Hold Harmless and Indemnification Agreement shall remain in force until written revocation thereof is delivered to the TEAM; however, Participant recognizes that such revocation will result in Participant being prohibited from further participation in the TEAM and the TEAM related activities.

PARTICIPANT HAS READ THIS RELEASE OF LIABILITY, AGREEMENT NOT TO SUE, HOLD HARMLESS AND INDEMNIFICATION AGREEMENT IN ITS ENTIRETY, UNDERSTANDS IT, VOLUNTARILY AGREES TO IT, AND FURTHER UNDERSTANDS THAT PARTICIPANT HAS GIVEN UP SUBSTANTIAL RIGHTS BY SIGNING IT. THE PERSON(S) SIGNING THIS DOCUMENT HAVE THE FULL AUTHORITY AND CAPACITY TO DO SO.

Dated this _____ day of _____, 20____.

Participant _____ (Sign) _____ (Print name)

PARENT: _____ (Sign) _____ (Print name)

PARENT: _____ (Sign) _____ (Print name)