

GREAT FALLS SKI CLUB

INTRODUCTION

The Great Falls Ski Club started back in 1936/37. They were the original owners of Kings Hill (now called Showdown) and even had a part in the making of the hill. Along the way they sold their interest in the hill with the club receiving yearly dividend checks from Showdown until the amount owed dropped to \$5,000.00. The dividend was converted to complimentary lift tickets for annual club membership. This is where the club stands today with a verbal agreement between George Willett and the Great Falls Ski Club to continue lift tickets for new members as long as our club brings value to Showdown.

The Club has anywhere from 150 to 250 members per year. Membership and the annual Ski Swap are clubs only source of revenue. Depending on how well the Club does at these annual events, donations are given to Eagle Mount, Special Olympics or more recently used to support ski education in the middle schools of Great Falls. Some other organizations that we have contributed to in the past are: Great Falls Ski patrol, Central Montana Racing Foundation and on occasion, Big Brothers & Sisters.

Expenditures for the Club consist of the monthly newsletter (the Panhandler), insurance, monthly meetings, and the cost to run the annual events and other miscellaneous items.

The Club puts on two ski trips per year; an out-of-state and an in state. These events pay for themselves. Once person puts together the entire trip. The cost of their trip is split between all members going on the trip.

To end the season the Club has a final meeting or Awards Banquet. Awards are given for events participated in at Fun Days. Awards are also given for fun things people, did on trips or during the year.

The Club is here to promote skiing in Central Montana. That is what the Board is designed to head up.

Good luck!!

BYLAWS BY-LAWS

of the GREAT FALLS SKI CLUB

ARTICLE I.

NAME

Section 1. The name of this organization shall be "GREAT FALLS SKI CLUB"

Section 2. This corporation shall be a non-profit corporation incorporated in the state Montana.

Section 3. The office and principal place of business of the corporation shall be located in Great Falls, Cascade County, Montana.

ARTICLE II.

MEMBERSHIP

Section 1. Any person of either sex interested in skiing or affiliated sports is eligible for membership in the Great Falls Ski Club.

Subpart 1 Members under the legal drinking age who participate in club activities where alcohol may be provided (Ski bus trips for example) must be accompanied by a member who agrees to be responsible for and to ensure that any and all laws regarding the consumption of alcohol by minors is strictly adhered to. Additionally, that the Great Falls Ski Club and it's officers will not be held responsible.

Section 2 Any member may have their membership revoked for failing to comply with stated rules or behavior that is not appropriate as judged by general membership.

Section 3 Trial membership may be offered on a one-time basis to preview club activities such as ski trips. There will be a fee of \$10.00 for this membership. Trial membership gives the holder no regular club benefits such as newsletter mailing or access to other club functions.

ARTICLE III.

DUES

Section 1. The Board of Directors shall set the annual dues for membership in this organization at their September meeting.

ARTICLE IV.
GOVERNMENT

- Section 1. The government of this organization shall be vested in the Board of Directors elected as provided in these bylaws, subject to approval by the members.
- Section 2. The Board of Directors shall have control and custody of the property and finances of this organization. Provided that, said Board of Directors shall have no power to expend or authorize expenditures or incur any indebtedness in excess of Three Hundred Dollars (\$300.00) for any purpose or project unless approved by two-thirds vote of the Board of Directors at a regular or special meeting.
- Section 3. Funds of this organization may be withdrawn from the bank with which they are on deposit by the signature of the Treasurer and/or President, and in no other way.
- Section 4. Vacancies in the Board of Directors or the position of any officer shall be filled by appointment by the President with the approval of the Board of Directors, the appointee to serve for the duration of the term of the individual whose position he was appointed to fill. Vacancies in the office of the President shall be filled by appointment by the Board of Directors.

ARTICLE V.
COMMITTEES

- Section 1. The Board of Directors shall decide upon committees deemed proper and necessary to fulfill the object and purpose of this organization. The President subject to the approval of the Board of Directors shall appoint committee chairmen and members.
- Section 2. It shall be the duty of the Membership Chairman, duly appointed by the current President and approved by the Board of Directors, to choose a committee and actively pursue all means of soliciting members for the club each year. The Membership Chairman will be responsible to the Board of Directors, attend its meetings, and be governed by its decisions.

ARTICLE VI.
ELECTIONS

- Section 1. The members shall elect the Board of Directors and Officers.
- Section 2. At the first regular meeting in January each year, the President shall announce a Nominating Committee of five (5) members in good standing. The immediate Past President shall be Chairman of this committee. If he is unavailable, his nearest predecessor shall be Chairman.
- Section 3. Elections of Officers shall be held at the March meeting. Directors elected at that time shall serve for two years.
- Section 4. The members at the February meeting will make nominations for candidates for office. The Nominating Committee shall see that two candidates be listed for each elective office.
- Section 5. Officers to be elected consist of a President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, and six Directors. Three of said Directors shall be elected to a two-year term, and the remaining three Directors shall be elected on the alternate year to a two-year term. The immediate Past President shall automatically assume the position of Chairman of the Board of Directors. Officers are members of the Board of Directors.
- Section 6. The Board of Directors may approve deviations from normal election procedures in those cases where individuals resign as an Officer or Board Member.

ARTICLE VII.
OFFICERS

Section 1. The Officers of this organization shall be a President, a Vice President, a Secretary, and a Treasurer. Officers must be members in good standing and likewise members of the Board of Directors.

Section 2. All Officers' duties shall be such as ordinarily pertain to and are indicated by the titles of their offices.

Section 3. The President shall direct and supervise the affairs of the organization, preside at all meetings and shall make an annual report to the members.

Section 4. The Treasurer shall report in detail monthly to the Board of Directors and to the organization all sums expended and received all outstanding obligations and such

other matters as may be deemed proper.

Section 5. The Secretary shall give notice of all meetings and shall keep the minutes of all meetings.

He shall be custodian of all official records of this organization.

Section 6. The Trip Trustee position was created to serve as a clearinghouse of information for all in country club trips. Trustee using his/her contacts can normally secure group discounts based on experience dealing with travel industry. Trip Trustee is a non-voting Board position and will not run in-country trips but get them started passing them off to coordinator. Trip coordinators will consult will trustee prior to booking in an effort to ensure club gets best value for each trip (complimentary rooms etc.). Trip Trustee serves Board as travel consultant specializing in out of country travel running international trips (does not include Canada). Trip Trustee term has no specific limit but Board reserves right to replace trustee for cause or vacation of position by trustee. Trustee may hold other position within club simultaneously.

Section 7, Officers and Directors shall take office immediately upon election.

ARTICLE VIII.

MEETINGS

Section 1. The annual election meeting of this organization will be held in March. The purpose of this meeting will be the election of officers and the consideration of other business. Notice of this meeting will be given each member at least ten days before the date of this meeting.

Section 2. This organization shall hold regular monthly meetings.

Section 3. Special meetings of this organization shall be called by the President or the Secretary upon the request of six (6) members, or upon the decision of the Board of Directors.

Section 4. Any Director who fails to attend three (3) successive meetings of the Board of Directors shall automatically lose his right to serve, as a Director until the next annual meeting and a vacancy on the Board of Directors shall thereby occur.

Section 5. Meetings of the Board of Directors shall be held at the call of the Chairman or President.

Section 6. The President or Secretary shall call special meetings of the Directors at the request of four (4) Directors.

Section 7. Any number of members present at any regular monthly meeting of the members

shall constitute a quorum.

ARTICLE IX.
AMENDMENTS

Section 1. These By-Laws may be amended by a two-thirds vote of the members present at any general meeting, or at any special meeting, a notice of such meeting and the fact of such intended amendment being necessary.

Section 2. Any new By-Law which does not amend these By-Laws may be adopted by a majority of the members present at any general meeting or special meeting, a notice of such meeting and of such intended amendment being necessary.

ARTICLE X.
LIFE MEMBERS

Section 1. The Secretary shall keep an official list of Life Members of this club. The list shall consist of the names of Life Members as presented to the Board of Directors at their meeting in December of 1975, and such other names as shall either be selected or qualify automatically under this provision.

Section 2. Each Life Member shall be entitled to membership in this club for life, free of charge imposed directly by the club.

Section 3. Each past President of this club shall automatically be a Life Member.

Section 4. The Board of Directors may, in their discretion, award one Life Membership each year which, if awarded, shall be presented at the awards meeting in the spring.

ARTICLE XI
DISSOLUTION

The Great Falls Ski Club can only be dissolved by a majority vote of the general membership. A full accounting of all assets and liabilities of the club must be presented to the general membership prior to a dissolution vote being taken. Prior to any vote it must be clearly explained to the membership what a positive vote for dissolution involves regarding assets and liabilities.

1. If there are any outstanding club liabilities the club membership is responsible for payment. This may involve assessing each member of record a fee to fulfill the obligations
2. In the event there are assets remaining, the club assets will be disbursed as follows:
Any remaining cash after payment of expenses will be donated to a local non-profit organization that promotes skiing activities. Eagle Mount or Special Olympics for example.

ARTICLE XII
TRIPS

- Section 1. Only members in good standing may attend ski club trips. The only exception to this is a one-time trial membership that will be purchased at the time of trip for a fee of \$10.00
- Section 2. Members that are not of legal drinking age must have a trip sponsor that; will participate in the trip, ensure that alcohol is not consumed by underage member throughout the entire trip and a release signed by both parties agreeing to conditions.
- Section 3. It is the responsibility of the Trip Coordinator to ensure that all under age members have a sponsor and signed release prior to departure. Additionally all under aged members will be identified to the trip participants once all have assembled on the bus. (This should be done in a very light manner to avoid embarrassment however the seriousness of the matter should be stressed.)
- Section 4. Trip Coordinators: Must be willing to dedicate a large amount of time to the planning and execution of trips they volunteer for.
- Section 5. Deposit amounts must be established to protect the club and insure trip integrity. Moneys for trips must be received by (date established by coordinator). A non-refundable cutoff date shall be established for each trip, at this time that spot opens up for anyone else that wishes to participate in the trip. In matters of extenuating circumstance a forfeited deposit may be returned only after the Board of Directors reviews all facts during a regular board meeting. All moneys forfeited shall be placed in the general fund.

Section 6. The Great Falls Ski Club will not be responsible or held liable for any actions of individuals during a trip, nor will any consideration for refund be entertained when a member has violated any local laws/ordinances that prevent participation in trip activities at anytime during a trip.

CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD:

This person is the previous year's President. This person has no voting power but serves as an advisory person for the new Board of Directors.

PRESIDENT:

The President serves a one-year term beginning April 1st. This position presides over the Board and runs the Board meetings and general membership meetings. The President selects a chairperson to run each event and can select a Board Member to run each monthly meeting if he so chooses. Their name is to be on the signature card for the Ski Club bank account.

VICE PRESIDENT:

The Vice President serves a one-year term beginning April 1st. This position takes over duties the President is unable to do. This officer also may chair an event.

SECRETARY:

The Secretary serves a one-year term beginning April 1st. The Secretary takes minutes at all Board meetings and notes statistics at general membership meetings and all annual events. This position provides the Panhandler editor with all statistics. If the Secretary is unable to attend a meeting or event he/she must find a replacement. This Officer may serve as a chairperson for any event if requested by the President. Meeting Minutes will be prepared and mailed one week prior to Board Meeting.

TREASURER:

The Treasurer serves a one-year term beginning April 1st. This position's duties consist of maintaining the Club's checkbook and bank account. He/she prepares all financial statements and maintains a current budget. This position handles all memberships and the Panhandler mailing list. He/she must keep track of all ski trips (money-in, money-out) and keep in close contact with the Trip Coordinator. He/she must attend all Board meetings and general membership meetings. It is urgent that this position be available to work the annual Ski Swap. If he/she cannot work the Swap, a replacement must be found. This person's name will be on the signature cards for the Club's bank accounts. This individual will have basic computer knowledge and understanding of accounting spreadsheet applications.

BOARD MEMBERS:

The Board consists of six elected members and one alternate. Each board member serves a two-year term beginning April 1st. Alternates will serve a one-year term and will be available to become a full-time board member if necessary. Each Board member will chair an event or take a general membership meeting if requested by the President