

# MIDLAND SKI CLUB NEWS

NOVEMBER 2010

## BIG SUCCESS IN SSE AWARDS

**MIDLAND SKI CLUB** have been highly successful in this year's **Snowsport England Club and Volunteer Awards!** There was some tough opposition for the awards - announced at the Birmingham Ski & Snowboard Show - from other clubs around the country, so we did exceedingly well:

**WINNER: Competitive Club of the Year**

**RUNNER-UP: Recreational Club of the Year**

We also did very well in the individual awards:

**WINNER: CESA Racer of the Year: Harry Hornsby**

**RUNNER-UP: Volunteer of the Year: Carron Thorley**

**RUNNER-UP: Unsung Hero: Rob Weeks**

Congratulations to all on achieving these awards - and thanks to those who submitted nominations.

## Autumn Social Programme

**Warren Miller Film Night** Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> November 7.30pm

Warren Miller's *Winter-vention* features acute cases of classic snow-addiction from across the globe.

There are the skiers who sail from Argentina to Antarctica in search of their next descent; there are confessions from a man whose six season passes simply aren't enough. There are the skiers and riders who venture far from the beaten track - deep into the Caucasus Mountains of Georgia or the northern reaches of the Arctic Circle - just because few others have.

From everyday terrain parks and lift-accessed powder to the most exotic settings imaginable, *Winter-vention* is the definitive solution for the snow obsessed.

### Christmas Party

This year's MSC Christmas Party will be on **3rd December** from 7.30pm until late! Come along and chat with everyone else about skiing, christmas and the universe.

*Both above events at Land Rover Sports and Social Club, Billsmore Green, Solihull.*

## Ski Holidays 2010-2011

**FAMILY TRAINING WEEK:** New Year, 27th Dec to 3rd January, Altenmarkt, Austria. Now over 50 members going - more places available.

**TRAINING WEEK:** 15th to 22nd January, Bormio, Italy. It may be possible that a few places are still available - contact John Arnold on 0121 357 1644 today! Everyone is reminded that if you haven't already paid it, the balance is **now due**.

**CLUB HOLIDAY:** 12th to 19th March, Verbier, Switzerland. **SOLD OUT**

## Diary

**Mondays @ 7.30pm**

Adult Coaching

Bryan Arnott 01827 893243

**Tuesdays @ 6.00pm**

Race Novices - Roger

Crombleholme 01785 714073

**Tuesdays @ 7.30pm**

Race Coaching - Roger

Crombleholme 01785 714073

**Thursdays @ 7.30pm**

Advanced Race Training - Roger

Crombleholme 01785 714073

**Fridays @ 6/6.30/7pm**

Junior Coaching

Jane Lee 01905 345416

**14th November 1pm**

Lockwoods Cup, Ackers

Also **Ski Mart**

**17th November, 6 to 9pm**

Decathlon Wednesbury opening evening

**18th November 7.30pm**

Warren Miller Film Night

LandRover Social Club, Solihull

**3rd December 7.30 pm**

Christmas Party

LandRover Social Club, Solihull

**27th December (to 3rd Jan)**

Family Training Week

Altenmarkt, Austria

## Ski USA 2012

Members interested in skiing in the USA in 2012 are asked to contact Diana Horth to express their interest and views. Trip would probably be in the February and be 10 to 14 nights. We would be looking to confirm a group booking by end May 2011. Are you interested? Resort ideas?

Please get in touch the sooner the better:

[Diana.horth@tesco.net](mailto:Diana.horth@tesco.net) or  
01889 800706 or 07806  
777049



# MSC Championship Race The Lockwoods Cup

**Sunday 14th November 2010, Ackers  
Adventure, Golden Hillock Road,  
Birmingham B11 2PY**

The Lockwoods Cup is the annual Midland Ski Club Championship race and entry is restricted to members of the club. The race consists of 2 timed runs with the total time from the two runs to count for medal positions. Medals will be awarded in all age categories for 1st 2nd and 3rd place.

The cost of entry is £7 per racer, including ski and boot hire if required. Completed entry forms should be posted to: Adam Beardmore, 23 Links Drive, Solihull, B91 2DJ by 5pm on Thursday 11th November 2010 together with a cheque for payment made payable to "Midland Ski Club". If an email address is included on the entry form, confirmation of receipt will be emailed to you.

#### Age categories:

Super mini: born 2003 or after Mini: born 2000-2002  
Children I: 1998-1999 Children II: 1996-1997  
Junior I: 1994, 1995 Junior II: 1991, 1992, 1993  
Senior: 1990 and earlier

#### Timetable (approximate)

13.00 - 13.45 Bibs/registration and open practice  
13.45 - 14.05 Course setting  
14.05 - 14.30 Course inspection  
14.30 - 16.00 Timed runs  
16.00 Prize Giving  
Helmets are compulsory.

A barbeque will run from 13.00 to 16.00 with food and drink at competitive prices.

Enquiries to [lockwoodscup@midlandski.org.uk](mailto:lockwoodscup@midlandski.org.uk) or telephone Adam Beardmore on 07920077574.

**(Entry form on Page 5)**



# SKI B'UM

Ski B'um are pleased to be able to offer members of MSC a 10% on their already keen prices, the discount will be available on all products except To Clear Items.

The discount code to be entered on [www.skibrum.co.uk](http://www.skibrum.co.uk) is **sbmsc** this will deduct the discount on each product.

Example prices after discount: 1 kilo dry slope wax £18 - half kilo £10.80; Universal alpine-indoor 1 kilo £15.30 - half kilo £9; 150g race graphite top coat £6.30.

We've just about got everything up and running ready for winter so just keep an eye out on the web site home page: [www.skibrum.co.uk](http://www.skibrum.co.uk)

If any of the MSC members would like to see any particular Items being stocked locally can they please email us at [enquiry@skibrum.co.uk](mailto:enquiry@skibrum.co.uk), If they can leave details of the brand, item & an equal alternative etc, and we will see what we can source.

#### About Ski B'um

A year ago my kids started to ski much more seriously, at this time the company I worked for closed and I suddenly had a lot of free time,

So we joined MSC and I found myself constantly at the Ackers, so I decided that if I am going to be around ski slopes and working on skis I may as well learn a bit more about it, We have been to a few ski workshops and I found I was quite Interested to know more about the service side of things, this led me to Andy Taylor at Anything Technical on his ski tech course in Kendal ( highly recommended open to anyone and you get to play with lots of very expensive equipment )

I have made a few contacts within the UK winter sports distributors and decided to sell some ski & board sports bits and pieces, mainly to keep me busy, we will be offering UK & EU delivery by mail, a next day collection point in Stratford on Avon, and a same day collection from Berkswell, for collection from the Ackers - just give us a call to see when we are there.

## Decathlon Opening Night

Decathlon's new sports megastore in Wednesbury (by Ikea, just off M6 J9) will be having a VIP opening night on Wednesday 17th November. Refreshments will be provided, and all guests will also be presented with a £10 gift voucher for use on the night.

If you'd like to come along, contact [kate.mcneill@decathlon.com](mailto:kate.mcneill@decathlon.com) or call her on 07754 072648 saying you are a member of Midland Ski Club.

## Cash in and bag a bargain

Now's your chance to turn outgrown-but-not-outworn ski gear, out-of-favour skis and duplicate tools into cash in time for this season's new purchase. The club is running a sale of second hand equipment, clothing, tools and accessories at the Lockwoods Cup on Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> November.

There's no commission or sellers fee to pay, so there's never been a better time to have a clear out. Here's how it works:

1. Clearly label each item with your name, phone number and sale price. Add a note to draw purchasers' attention to brand new items or where repairs are required.
2. Print off and fill in an inventory of your items and bring it with you we need it so we can record your sales and make sure you get your cash. You can get an inventory template by emailing [ruth.jewkes@btconnect.com](mailto:ruth.jewkes@btconnect.com).
3. On the day, check your items and inventory in with the sale desk anytime after 12 noon. Please note that we won't accept goods for sale that aren't properly labeled and accompanied by a completed inventory.
4. Collect your cash and unsold items before you leave, and by 5pm on the day of the sale at the very latest. Sorry but we can't store any unsold items so what's left after 5pm on the 14<sup>th</sup> will be gifted to the British Heart Foundation Charity Shop.

Don't forget to bring your cash and cheque book along on the 14<sup>th</sup> to bag a bargain.

For more information or for an inventory template please email [ruth.jewkes@btconnect.com](mailto:ruth.jewkes@btconnect.com).

# National Championships

Each year late August through to early October sees the hosting of the most competitive and hard fought races of the season as the home nations run their national artificial slope championships. This year at these championships the attendance and performances of our racers has been higher than ever and has led to an exciting close to the season.

Kicking off this string of races was the **Scottish Championships** on 28th August, with five MSC racers, Emily Dawes, Sophia Phelps, Nick Phelps, Alisdair Thorley and Duncan Thorley, making the long trip up to Edinburgh to compete at one of the most daunting challenges on the dryslope circuit. With courses of nearly 30 gates, there is plenty of time for things to go wrong on the descent. Despite this Alisdair picked up his first age group podium of the season, and at one of the most hotly contested races so many congratulations to him for his performance.

A week later, the venue was Norwich for the **All England Championships**. Nineteen of our racers made the journey across the country to compete at what is probably the best maintained and designed facility in the country for both spectators and competitors alike. While the first course was negotiated by most without much problem, Sally Bartlett's second course caused a lot of trouble for many racers. With an exceptionally strong field present (50 seed points would net you a starting bib of 49), it was telling that only 4 of the top 15 racers at the start finished above 75th place, if at all. Despite the tricky course, there were age group podiums for Mark Hawkins and Rachel Bill, as well as a number of good overall results especially when the strength of the field is considered.

Another week, another race, and this time it was the **Welsh National Championships** and the **Welsh Open Championships**, again enjoying a strong MSC turnout. Eighteen racers represented the club at Pontypool across the two days. On the opening day of racing there were four age group podiums, with Oliver Weeks winning the Minis category, and podiums for Elisabeth Thomas, Mark Hawkins, and Sam Doherty. While I say "another week, another race", this clearly was not the attitude of Harry Hornsby come Sunday. Sitting in second place overall after his first run, he came down with superb composure to overcome a tricky final combination of gates and clocking a time that was sure to heap pressure on the race leader from the first run. The final racer down looked to be skiing strongly, but ultimately lacked Harry's coolness under pressure, pushed too hard and was forced to ski out of the course a couple of gates from home. This left Harry sitting at the top of the standings, and the winner of the 2010

Welsh Open Championships. Many congratulations to him on his achievement - and you can watch his second run via the videos page on the MSC website. Other excellent performances at the Welsh Open with age-group podiums for Elisabeth Thomas, Chloe Care, Adam Beardmore, and Mark Hawkins.

Then a break of a week, and it was time for the **British Championships** at Hillend in Edinburgh on the 25th September. There were three racers from MSC competing over the weekend, Emily Dawes, Alisdair Thorley and Adam Beardmore. Skiing at Hillend certainly requires a technique a little different from that employed at most dry slopes, and so it was to prove a challenging weekend for some of us. However, Alisdair Thorley seems to have the measure of Hillend's nuances, and while he ran in to trouble on his second run, his first run had him in the mix for the top spots in his age. Emily Dawes came away with an age group podium for her efforts on Saturday. On the Sunday a GS race was run, with mixed fortunes for our racers. Alisdair had the most notable result, finishing 13th overall and 4th in age, an excellent result. I personally had a disagreement with my skis about which way up I wanted to be while half way down my first run, and as a result ended up with a few fractures, so many thanks to Louise and Nigel Dawes for helping me get back to Birmingham.

Finally to close the season's proceedings was the **Irish and European Championships** at Kiltiernan, just south of Dublin. Emily Dawes made the trip across for both days racing alone. She finished 7th overall in the Irish, and 4th in age. Unfortunately she ran into trouble on her first run at the European Championships, and so did not finish strongly. For next year we are looking to organise a way for more of our racers to take part at this race, which I hear is one of the best on the calendar.

The end of year seed points list is due out on the 11th November, and will be worth a look. Keep an eye on [www.gbski.com](http://www.gbski.com) for this.

## Half Term Ski Trip

Penny Stott has brought to our attention a ski trip being run by Johnson's Coaches to the Three Valleys, La Plange, and Val d'Isere from 19th to 27th February. Price is £770 for adults, including travel, accommodation, half-board and Three Valleys lift pass. For more info contact [john@johnsonskoaches.com](mailto:john@johnsonskoaches.com) or phone 01564 797000.

## Ski in the Awesome Chamonix Valley

Former Midland Ski Club Junior racer and Friday night MSC coach Sarah Hutchinson takes the plunge into the world of chalet holidays with her partner, SnowDome's ex-ski-school manager Chris Webb.

Sarah and Chris are based at Chalet Jasmine, a lovely little 8 person chalet just 4 minutes walk from the Grands Montets cable car in Argentiere at the very heart of the Chamonix valley.

With an impressive combined 40 year wealth of ski experience, Sarah and Chris have developed an ethos based around skiers looking after skiers. They have also undertaken to be fully flexible and can therefore offer a holiday that suits the most peoples needs. (i.e short breaks, long weekends etc..)

They are able to give advice and share their love of skiing whilst escorting their guests on a personalised orientation tour of the awesome Chamonix valley.

You are invited to join them this winter, and as a member of MSC you will be eligible to a 15% discount.

Check out their website now.....or simply call Sarah on 07794095161

[www.mountain2valley.co.uk](http://www.mountain2valley.co.uk)



## Travel Insurance

Members are reminded that Midland Ski Club operates a Travel Insurance Agency via N.J. Heritage Partnership Ltd and we can offer you very competitive rates as we keep premiums low by reducing the amount of commission you'd normally pay.

Single trip premiums are available but if you are taking more than one holiday per year our annual multi-trip policy is usually the best buy.

The Traveller's Choice policies are underwritten by ETI - International Travel Protection and authorised and regulated by the Financial Services Authority.

For full details and prices please see [www.midlandski.org.uk/insurance](http://www.midlandski.org.uk/insurance) or call Malcolm Gratton on 01676 523505, daytime or evenings.

# Winter Development programme 2010/11

In early summer we introduced a new Early Tuesday Race Training session - and this has been a great success. Whilst originally only to run until the end of August, due to its popularity and all the racers keen to improve their skills for next season it will now be continuing all year round and the early Thursday race training session aimed at Minis will be moved into and combined with this Tuesday session. This session provides great links into the later Tuesday session and an opportunity to mix with better racers, the creation of an aspirational environment by seeing them perform, and endorse a natural progression thought to Club National racing and beyond.

We have reviewed last year's programme and can assure you that we have a great programme of training aimed at rapidly improving your skiing/racing skills. The programme we have developed covers the next 12 months and will take us from now, through the end of this year and into 2011 and beyond.

Unfortunately due to poor attendance figures last year, Ackers Trust has decided to discontinue the extended service form 9:00pm to 10:00pm over the winter months between November to the end of March as in previous years. This means that currently we will not be able to offer the 8:30pm to 10:00pm Adult Performance Improvement Session / Instructor Training that we have in previous winters.

The Full Development Programme is thus as follows:

## Monday Evenings

7:30pm to 9pm - Adult Coaching

Coaches: Clem Chacky, Shaun Gault

Co-ordinator: Brian Arnott (Tel 01827 893243, bryan.arnott@sky.com)

## Tuesday Evenings

**6:00 to 7:30pm** - Development Race Training

Open to all training session that complements Friday evenings generally aimed at our talented youngsters. Hopefully this new session will run all year, including school holidays. Ideal for Club National, Gloucester Summer Race League and Fun Race racers.

**7:30 to 9:00pm** - Development Race Training

General open race training session at Club National standard. This session runs all year, including school holidays

Coaches: Roger Crombleholme, Guy Hornsby

Co-ordinator: Roger Crombleholme (Tel 07736821147, roger@wiredforideas.com)

## Thursday Evenings

**7:30pm to 9:00pm** - Advanced Grand Prix Race Training

A high intensity evening for those that are competitive in their age group also below 300 seed points. As you can see have decided to expand the reach of this session. This is a tough night with tough race courses and challenging no holds barred training, zero tolerance for time wasters and those who are not fully committed to improving their skill level. Selected Minis will be allowed by invitation on a trial basis, to be reviewed at the end of the year.

Coaches: Roger Crombleholme, Guy Hornsby

Co-ordinator: Roger Crombleholme (07736821147, roger@wiredforideas.com)

## Friday Evenings

**6:00pm to 7:30pm** - Juniors Level 1 learn base fundamentals for children progressing from Ackers Starter 4 sessions onwards

**6:30pm to 8:00pm** - Juniors Level 2 and 3 reinforcement of fundamentals, onward skill development to parallel turns and consolidation of techniques gained

**6:30pm to 8:00pm** - Juniors 4 more fundamentals,

consolidation and further skill development into carving for both racing and recreational skiing

**7:00pm to 8:30pm** - Junior Racers exploring the fundamentals at a higher level for all round skill development and race development

**8:00pm to 9:00pm** - Adult Performance Development and regular Race Coaching when appropriate

In general, Friday sessions don't run during school holidays, but there are exceptions - ask your coach!

Coaches: Roger Crombleholme, Jane Lee, Rob Weeks, Steve Wragg, Dave Hancock, Kim Hancock, Adam Lee, James Elgy

Co-ordinator: Jane Lee (Tel 01905 345416 canal.cottage@btinternet.com)

## Training Days and Race Timing Nights

And if the above was not enough our coaching programme will be supported by a series of 'must go to' Race Training Days, on either a Saturday or Sunday, at longer slopes offering a variety of terrain to further enhance your development.

Race Training Days:

Saturday 13th November 2010 - Ackers Trust

Sunday 5th December 2010 - Rossendale

Sunday 30th January 2011 - Rossendale

Also a series of Race Timing Nights will be held at the Ackers designed to help performance development, three at Club National level on Tuesdays and three at Grand Prix level on Thursdays, we may also do some on Fridays when appropriate.

Planned dates:

Tuesday 1st February 2011 Club National Standard

Tuesday 1st March 2011 Club National Standard

Thursday 7th April 2011 Grand Prix Standard

Tuesday 7th June 2011 Club National Standard

Thursday 7th July 2011 Grand Prix Standard

Thursday 4th August 2011 Grand Prix Standard

## Racing Ahead - Training for Next Year's Challenges

This has been one of our most successful years to date, however we are losing some of our top racers to universities. If we are to maintain and enhance our status as a racing club, represent England, get more podium finishes, win the Club National Competition, win the Inter Club Dual Slalom, represent the region, do well at Gloucester etc. we need our young skiers to continue to develop their skills and step up to the challenge.

We need to push on and develop our next stream of racing talent to take on all the other clubs at Club National and Grand Prix levels treading in the same footsteps as Harry Hornsby, Emily Dawes, Dan Yeomans .. Can you live up to or even exceed their achievements?

**ARE YOU THAT PERSON or is your CHILD that person????**

The next six months is a very important time of year as we move into the development phase. We have finished all the main racing and now it is time to start developing skiing skills further for the winter skiing season and the next race season. We need to build, enhance and consolidate your skiing ability to match the challenges of next year. Those that train regularly will see the usual expected improvements, those that don't train regularly will see that their performance will remain at best static or may even deteriorate - and that is not the way we want to go into the next season!

**Let's strive to be as prepared and competitive as we can be!**

# Entry Form

## Midland Ski Club Championship Race Lockwoods Cup

### Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> November 2010

Surname		Forename	
Year of birth		Age Category (see page 2 for categories)	Sex Male / Female
Address			
Email address			
Home telephone			
Race day emergency contact telephone			

Photographic consent NOT given for: \_\_\_\_\_

Acceptance of entry to this race will be deemed to relieve the Sponsors, Organisers, Midland Ski Club, its Officers, members, voluntary helpers, and all others associated with the race of any liability for injury, loss or damage incurred by me or caused by me to any other party whomsoever, whether due to negligence, breach of any contractual or statutory obligation or otherwise.

I have read the above paragraph and enclose the entry fee of £7 per racer. ;  
(Midland Ski Club)

Signed \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_  
(By parent or guardian if the racer is under 18)

Print name \_\_\_\_\_

### Lockwoods Cup 2010 Commentary Slip

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

AGE \_\_\_\_\_ MALE/FEMALE

What item is going to be top of your Christmas list? (just one!)

\_\_\_\_\_

What do you think your parents want for Christmas?

\_\_\_\_\_