



# Lift Lines

= No. 261, September 2022 =

Mountain High Snowsport Club, PO Box 2182, Portland, OR 97208



## Make the Most of Summer. Plan for Winter.

Check out our summer activities on pages 2 - 3. Three bike rides coming up!

Sign up for a winter trip. See pages 6 - 7.

Compare multi-area ski passes. The Indy pass is great for our Idaho trip. Pp. 8-9.

Note the color code.  
Our club is blue.

## 2022 CALENDAR

**Blue:** Mountain High events  
**Maroon:** NWSCC / FWSA / Multi-club  
**Black:** General interest events

### SEPTEMBER 2022

**Sept. 10 (Sat.)** Timberline-Trillium Lake-Rhododendron bike ride

**Sept. 12 (Mon)** Social & New Members Night  
Welcoming, trip signups, more.

**Sept. 21 (Wed)** Race Night  
Hillcrest Ski & Sports, Gresham

**Sept. 24 (Sat.)** Kenton Park to Kelly Point Loop bike ride

**Sept. 28 (Wed)** NWSCC Zoom meeting

**Sept. 30 (Fri.)** FWSA Golf Tournament

### OCTOBER 2022

**Oct. 1 (Sat.)** History Happy Hour.  
History of Mt. Hood National Forest Fire Lookouts

**Oct. 15 (Sat.)** The Dalles Columbia River bike ride

**Oct. 24 (Mon.)** Kickoff Party & Club Elections  
at Lucky Lab, 6 pm - 9 pm.

### JANUARY 2023

**Jan. 25 - Feb. 1** Canada Ski Trip. Whitewater and Red Mt. by bus

### FEBRUARY 2023

**Feb. 26 - Mar. 1, 2, or 3.** McCall (Idaho)  
Brundage Mt & Tamarack trip

## Mountain Biking



Are you interested in doing some mountain biking?

If so, let's do something together. Please contact Linda McGavin at [trips@mthigh.org](mailto:trips@mthigh.org)

## Fun Stuff



Sign up for next winter's trips



3 Bike rides coming up  
(See page 3)



Learn about Mt. Hood at History Happy Hours at the Museum



Participate in Social Activities  
Dinners, Parties, TGIFs ...

## Membership Renewal

It's time to renew. Our membership year runs from October 1st till the end of September of the following year. If you have joined the club this summer, your membership applies to the whole coming winter.

You can renew in three ways:

- By mail.** Just fill out the **Dough Transmittal Form** (on the Forms & Docs page on our web site). Or use the shorter version of the same form on the last page of this newsletter.
- Online** with a credit card. Start the process on our "[Signup & Pay](#)" web page.
- Renew in person** at our annual **Kickoff Party** on Monday, October 24, 2022.



**Bike Ride: Timberline - Trillium Lake - Still Creek Rd - Rhododendron****Sept. 10, 2022 (Saturday) -- 9 am.**

Timberline to Govy, then to Trillium Lake, and then follow Still Creek Road to Rhododendron. Almost all downhill. Most of it in the shade of trees, to escape the sun's heat.

We'll end the day at the Chicali Cantina in Welches, which has seriously good food and excellent margaritas.

This ride organized by John Davis and Emilio Trampuz.

Meet in Rhododendron at 9 am.

**Bike Ride: North Portland Loop: Kenton Park to Kelly Point****Sept. 24, 2022 (Saturday) -- 10 am.**

Kelly Point is where the Willamette River flows into the Columbia.

The ride is 24 miles. It's almost completely flat. It goes by Smith Lake. There is wildlife to be seen, such as egrets or herons. And, best of all, it's a loop, so there is no need for any car shuttling.

This ride organized by John Davis and Emilio Trampuz. RSVP to [Emilio](#).

Meet at Kenton Park at 10 am.

See more on our website.

**Bike Ride: The Dalles to Discovery Center (Columbia River)****Oct. 15, 2022 (Saturday) -- 10 am.**

From The Dalles, we'll bike along the Columbia River to the Discovery Center.

Meet in The Dalles, at the Lewis and Clark Festival Park, at 10 am.

The distance is only about 8 miles and we'll return the same way, for a total of 12 miles. We can also check out 15 new murals on buildings in The Dalles.

This ride organized by Linda McGavin RSCP to Linda at: [Trips@mthigh.org](mailto:Trips@mthigh.org)

## Mt. High Welcoming Party

**September 12, 2022.** (Monday)  
6:30 - 9 pm.

**Location:** Round Table Pizza  
10070 SW Barbur Blvd.  
Portland OR  
(near Capitol Hwy)



This gathering will be geared toward welcoming our new club members. Long term members, come meet our newest members and help introduce them to the club.

New members will get a good introduction to what our club is all about. Hear about our trips, racing, social events, and more.

For potential new members, come check out our club and hear about all the fun stuff we do year round. We will have trip leaders and board members present to answer all your questions.

See more info on our website: [www.mthigh.org](http://www.mthigh.org).

Contact: **Karen Michels**, Membership director,  
[skiklynn@gmail.com](mailto:skiklynn@gmail.com)

## Race Night at Hillcrest

**September 21 (Wednesday), 2022.**  
Wednesday, 4:30 - 8:30 pm.

The annual Hillcrest Race Night is a sale event to guarantee the best prices of the year, with the ski manufacturer reps showing their wares, and the prices are awesome!!

Hillcrest Ski & Sports is located in Gresham, on your way to Mt. Hood! The address is:



Hillcrest Sports  
2424 SE Burnside Rd  
Gresham, OR 97080

See more info on our [Mt. High website](http://Mt.High website).

## Informative NWSCC Meeting



**September 28, 2022.** Wednesday  
6:45 - 8 pm.

Everyone is invited to the next NW Ski Club Council meeting via ZOOM!! This meeting is open to members of all local ski clubs.

**Special Guest Speakers:** **Dave Tragethon** from Mt. Hood Meadows and **Doug Fish** of the Indy Pass and Snowvana.

The Zoom link to the meeting is: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83276275381?pwd=cjNkV1p6ZG84VXZrblV3KzZ3TmtVUT09>

Meeting ID: 832 7627 5381 Passcode: SNOW

More at: <https://nwski.org/>.

## History Happy Hour: Fire Lookouts

**October 1, 2022.** (Saturday) Doors open at 6:30 pm. Presentation starts at 7 pm.

The history of fire lookouts around Mt. Hood. Be entertained and learn something new.

Speakers: **Lloyd Musser**, Museum Curator and **Michelle Richardson**, Clear Lake Fire lookout



There will be wine, beer and soft drinks available for purchase. Enjoy your drink and then sit back and enjoy the presentation.

The presentation is free. A \$5 donation to the Museum is welcome. For more information about the lecture series, please call the museum at 503-272-3301.

**Mt. Hood Cultural Center and Museum**  
ph: 503-272-3301, [info@mthoodmuseum.org](mailto:info@mthoodmuseum.org)  
[www.mthoodmuseum.org](http://www.mthoodmuseum.org)

## Fun FWSA Golf Tournament - Open to all!



**September 30, 2022.** (Friday) - 10 am shotgun start. Just a FUN event at McMenamin's Edgefield.

Cost is \$49 per person, including a barbecue lunch, & more. A two-club tournament (pitching wedge and putter). Bring your own clubs or rent for \$3. One sleeve of balls will be provided. And there will be a beverage cart to service thirsty golfers. To sign up, contact **Sheri Parshall** at [cougskier@aol.com](mailto:cougskier@aol.com).





## Kickoff Party & Club Elections

**October 24, 2022.** Monday  
6 - 9 pm.

**Location:** Lucky Labrador Public House, 7675 SW Capitol Hwy., Portland. See [Google Map](#).

Our biggest party of the year, marking the start of a new ski season.

- There will be free food.
- Join the club or renew your membership
- Pick up your new membership card.
- Sign up for ski trips.
- Join a 10-person PACRAT racing team.
- Win some door prizes!
- Meet other members. Have a great time!



**We will be holding elections at this Kick-Off meeting/party. Debbi is resigning, after 7 years, as president.**

**If you are interested in running for one of our many Board Positions, please read the job description, and let us know of your interest to be put on the ballot.**

**See the list of positions below.**

## Mt. High Board Positions Descriptions

Here are our club's Board positions and what is generally expected of the people filling these positions.

**PRESIDENT:** The President shall be the CEO of the Club. Job duties include but are not limited to:

- Chair the Board of Directors
- Preside over BOD and business meetings
- Appoint any additional Directors
- Shall delegate duties to officers, directors and committees as necessary
- Attend monthly meetings
- Estimated average time per month: 5 hours plus monthly meeting.

**VICE PRESIDENT:** The Vice President shall perform the duties of the President in the absence or inability of the President to act.

- Shall be the liaison between the President and committees
- Attend monthly meetings
- Any other duties that may be assigned by the President
- Estimated average time per month 2 hours plus meeting.

**TREASURER:** The Treasurer shall have custody of all funds and all items of value that may come into Club's possession.

- Will keep complete records of funds
- Provide financial reports at or before all regular Board meetings
- Be responsible for the management of all financial programs
- Draft Club's billings
- Provide basic budget information
- Pick up club's mail at the P.O. Box.

**TREASURER - continued**

- Attend monthly meetings.
- Estimated average time per month: 2 - 12 hours depending on the time of year, plus meeting.

**SECRETARY:** The Secretary shall take minutes at Board meetings. Job duties include but are not limited to:

- Draft and distribute the minutes prior to all Board Meetings - except committee meetings.
- Any other duties that may be assigned by the President
- Estimated average time per month: 3 hours plus meeting.

## Mountain High Appointed Positions

**V.P. OF MEMBERSHIP:** The V.P. of Membership is tasked with promoting Mountain High Snowsport Club in order to garner membership into the club.

- Plan for a Season Kick-Off Party to renew memberships or sign up new members
- Monitor memberships throughout the year, advising Treasurer and Newsletter editor of new members for financial history and to get signed up for newsletter
- Any other duties assigned by the President

**RACE DIRECTOR:** The Race Director shall work with the PACRAT Board and all racers from our club or who are on Mountain High Teams.

- Promote the PACRAT Race League to club members
- Provide information about races and requirements to be a racer in our club
- Work with Team Captains to obtain registrations for PACRAT in timely manner
- Provide dates of races to Newsletter Editor to be published each month
- Work with Treasurer to ensure that all racers have paid their club & race dues

**NEWSLETTER EDITOR:** The Newsletter Editor is tasked with putting out a monthly or semi-monthly newsletter and maintaining the Website.

- Remains up-to-date on current membership
- Stays informed of club, council and Far West activity to post in the newsletter
- Distributes newsletter to club members wanting to get copies, whether that be email or mail

**TRIP LEADER:** Trip leaders are tasked with leading a trip or activity for the club.

- Propose your future trip to the Mountain High Board of Directors
- Plan and promote trips or activities
- Promote your trip through Facebook, Newsletter, and/or flyer
- Adhere to "Trip Leader SOP's" found on the Mountain High Website

**DIRECTOR AT LARGE:** A Director at Large could be appointed for any number of Committees, Activities Leader or other Chair Positions as deemed necessary by the Mountain High Board of Directors. Those positions will be named and announced as they come up.

**We need YOU to get more involved with the club!**



**Please volunteer for something, to host a party, to lead an activity, or to help as a co-captain for some upcoming event**



## Canada Ski Trip: **Red White and Blue**

**January 25 - Feb. 1, 2023.**

Join us at **Red Mountain** and **Whitewater**, B.C.

Full trip price includes:

- roundtrip charter bus transportation from Portland via Bluestar Coachlines Canada,
- 7 nights lodging (business class and above),
- 3 Red lift tickets,
- 2 Whitewater lift tickets,
- a few meals and
- a bus load of club members to enjoy the trip with!!



We will start our trip in the vibrant mountain town of Nelson, British Columbia. We will stay 3 nights in traditional hotel rooms with TWO people per room. Rooms have QQ bedding. There is a restaurant onsite and we are located on the edge of downtown within walking distance to shops and restaurants.

We will ski **Whitewater Ski Resort**, less than a 25-minute drive from town, on Thursday and Friday.

**On Saturday, a surprise awaits us on our travel day to Rossland, British Columbia.**

Once we arrive at Red Mountain, we will stay ON MOUNTAIN at the **Josie Hotel** for 4 nights. All hotel rooms will be QQ set up with TWO people per room. There is a restaurant and bar onsite and the town of Rossland is a quick 5-minute shuttle ride away. In addition, for a fee there is an onsite spa and 2 slope side saunas to enjoy during our visit!!

**Whitewater Resort** is in the Selkirk Mountains and typically receives over 40 feet of powder!! Whitewater boasts over 2300 acres, 82 runs and 2044 feet of vertical. The trail break-down is about 11% double black, 47% black, 34% blue and 10% green. Whitewater also offers Nordic trails for cross country skiing, snowshoeing and fat-tire biking. Please note that Whitewater is off the grid. That means no cell service and no Wi-Fi while at the resort. You are there to ski anyway!!

**Red Mountain Resort** is located 5 minutes from the town of Rossland in the Monashee Mountains. It has 8 lifts, 119 runs, 3850 skiable acres with 2900 feet of vertical. Red receives over 300 inches of snowfall on average and has three separate peaks to enjoy. Trail breakdown is about 26 % expert, 23% advanced, 34% intermediate and 17% beginner so there is something for everyone.

**Pricing** is per person based on double occupancy:

- Adult = \$1725
- Senior (65-74) = \$1627
- Super Senior (75 and up) = \$1305

If you have a reciprocal pass that includes lift tickets to either of these resorts, please reach out to the trip leader for special pricing.

**Signing up.** Early bird signups in person were held at our club's social event at the Round Table Pizza on **Tuesday, August 9**. Those who signed up in person were be given priority. Spots remaining after social will be filled by postmark date. Mail in deposits accepted starting August 10th.

\$500 deposit to secure your spot.

**Trip leader: Karen Michels, 503 984 9210. Text preferred.**

[Click Here for full trip flyer and details.](#) **Important info on pages 2 and 3 of the flyer.**

See our Mt. High [Trip Cancellation Policy](#).

**The Josie Hotel  
at Red Mountain**



## McCall (Idaho), Brundage Mt. & Tamarack Ski Trip

February 26 - March 1, 2, or 3, 2023. (Mon. - Fri.)

**2-5 days skiing: February 27 - March 3** (Monday-Friday)

Your choice, depending upon your free lift tickets and how many days you want to ski.

**START DATE: Sunday, Feb. 26** – Drive to McCall & check in. You can book up to 5 nights at our group rate.

Note that this trip (like the Schweitzer trip last year) will be different from our usual ski trips - because of the virus/pandemic:

1. Everyone will be driving their own car. We will NOT have a bus.
2. For lodging, select your own roommate or have a room to yourself. We will not assign roommates.
3. You are responsible for purchasing your own lift tickets, either day tickets, exchange tickets with Mt. Hood Meadows all access pass, or an Indy pass or Loveland pass.

**HOTEL** - Book your own room under our group rate at the [Best Western Plus](#) in McCall, 211 S. 3rd Street, McCall, ID; **208-634-2230**. [They are right across from the McCall airport, Raj.] Your trip leader usually books budget lodging, but this trip is an exception, as we will be staying at a beautiful hotel with lots of amenities (check out the pictures on their website!). Our group rate is **\$179.99 plus tax** (\$206.99 including tax) per night, per double queen room. To get this rate, just tell the hotel you are with the Mountain High club.

**Please book your hotel room early** – After January 15 our room block will expire, but you can still make reservations at our rate *if there is space*. There is no penalty for canceling up to one week before your arrival.

The hotel is located 11 miles from Brundage and 20 miles from Tamarack. The City of McCall operates a mini bus called McCall Transit from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. 7 days a week, free public transport to anyone. In the winter time the city of McCall provides free transit for all hotel guests to their activity destination (skiing).

**SKIING AT BRUNDAGE:** 2 or 3 days (your choice, depending upon your pass). Brundage has been on an exchange program with **Mt. Hood Meadows all access passholders** and **Loveland Ski Area passholders**, who can get 3 days free skiing midweek. They are also on the **Indy Pass** (2 free days of skiing). Indy Pass holders do not need to pre-schedule visits. Simply bring your valid photo ID to the on-mountain Guest Services office to redeem your ticket for the day. In addition to the two days included in the pass purchase, you may purchase a third day at 25% off. You can make that purchase the day of your visit. Like many ski areas these days, Brundage will sell tickets online in advance, at some kind of discount which is not known at this time.

**SKIING AT TAMARACK:** 2 free days with the Indy Pass.

Both Brundage and Tamarack are on the **Indy Pass**. With this pass, you get 2 free day tickets at each place.

### OTHER ACTIVITIES

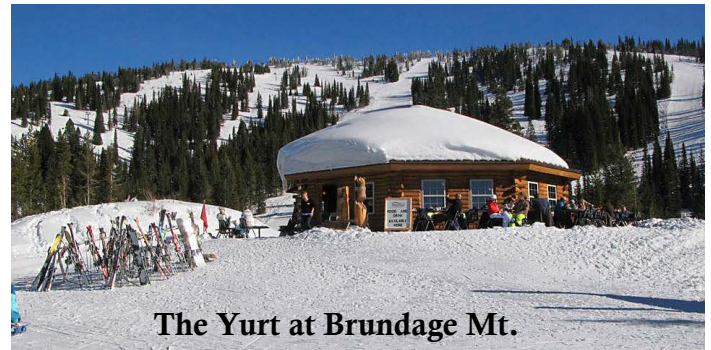
There are lots of restaurants in the area listed on the hotel website, which also lists many other activities in the area, including: HFP Sleigh Rides, a horse drawn sleigh to observe and feed elk in Donnelly (13 mi.), the Activity Barn tubing hill (3 mi.), Gold Fork Hot Springs (15 mi.), and Burgdorf Hot Springs (33 mi.).

### KEEP OUR TRIP LEADER INFORMED

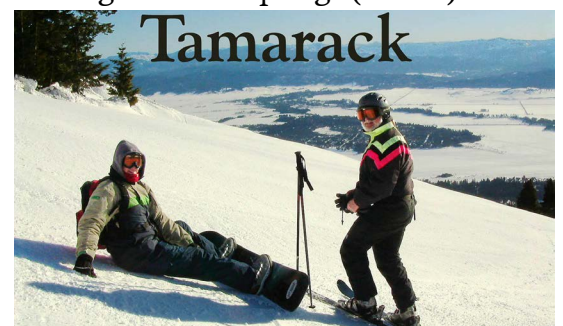
Everyone who signs up for this trip, please contact **Linda McGavin**, [Trips@mthigh.org](mailto:Trips@mthigh.org) and let her know:

- Did you make your hotel reservations, and for how many nights (2 or 3 or more)?
- Where do you expect to ski? Which pass(es) do you have?

See our Mt. High [Trip Cancellation Policy](#).



The Yurt at Brundage Mt.





## Multi-Area Ski Passes

As stated in several previous issues, it is almost impossible to present an accurate and up-to-date comparison because the situation keeps changing. Some ski passes go on sale at the start of summer (or earlier), others will not be available nor will provide any useful information until November. And some passes, especially the Indy Pass, keep adding new ski areas almost every month. So, here is just a general overview.

1. **The sooner you buy your pass, the less it will cost.** The increase can be just \$20 or as much as \$200.
2. **Each pass has its own schedule of price increases in 2 or 3 steps.** Some prices have already been raised.
3. **EPIC or IKON?** If you plan on skiing Colorado or some of the biggest names elsewhere, such as Whistler, Park City, or the Palisades (formerly Squaw and Alpine Meadows), or Mammoth Mountain, then choose between the EPIC and the IKON passes, which have partitioned Colorado between the two of them and purchased or formed alliances with some of the other ski areas. Pick between the two based on where you want to ski.
4. **INDY Pass** keeps growing and adding new ski areas. Mt. Hood Meadows is the latest one to join. Timberline and Skibowl are NOT part of the Indy Pass. The total number of ski areas is now 104, and it will most likely grow even bigger before this coming winter.
5. **Our Ski Trips** should be taken into account too. For example, if you plan on joining us on the McCall, Idaho trip at the end of February 2023, keep in mind that both Brundage Mtn. and Tamarack are on the Indy Pass, which means you can have 2 free days at each of them for a total of 4 free days. A great deal!

### SPECIFICS

**Indy Pass** 110 ski areas. Grown from 76 ski areas in 2021/22 to 110 in 2022/23. It offers 2 days at each ski area, for a total of 220 free ski days. A lot of the ski areas are in the East or Midwest. The Western ski areas currently number 33 ski areas (for a total of 66 free days). See the next page for a list of Western ski areas included. Cost = **\$299**, regardless of age.

**Price will go up after September 13.**

**Fusion Pass/Powder Alliance** (21 areas)

Unlimited skiing at Timberline and Mt. Hood Skibowl + 3 free tickets at each of 14 other ski areas. Note that there is no single "Powder Alliance" pass. Instead, this is just a cooperation between the ski areas that have decided to honor each other's season passes. For us in Oregon, that means purchasing the Fusion Pass to Timberline and Skibowl. Cost: **\$369 for seniors** (65+) or **\$899 for adults**. **Prices go up Nov. 1st. Pass not available after Nov. 27.**

**Mountain Collective Pass** (24 areas) 2 tickets at each of them, for a total of 48 free days. Cost is \$549 for both adults and seniors.

**Epic Pass** (Vail Resorts and more): Unlimited access to 34 ski areas, of which 11 are in the West, plus either 5 or 7 days at a few other ski areas. **Cost: \$859** for both adults and seniors..

**IKON Pass** (Aspen/Snowmass and more). It comes in two flavors: a) Unlimited access to 13 ski areas with some blackout dates plus additional 5 days at another 30 ski areas, for a cost of **\$869**. Or b) Unlimited access at 14 resorts without any blackout dates plus up to 7 days at 35 other destinations, for a cost of **\$1,179**.

**Loveland with Powder Alliance** Unlimited skiing at Loveland, CO, plus 3 free days at **all Powder Alliance ski areas**, plus: 3 days at another 15 ski areas. This pass is better than a Fusion Pass if you will travel a lot and won't ski more than 3 days each at Timberline & Skibowl. Cost: **\$179 for seniors**, **\$549 for adults**. **Prices will go up December 1.**





## Indy Pass Benefits

**Q** What are the benefits of the Indy Pass now that Mt. Hood Meadows has joined it?

**A** The addition of **Mt. Hood Meadows** to the Indy Pass this year does nothing for people with a Meadows Pass. But, for the rest of us, it gives us two free days at Meadows. This by itself is worth around \$200.

On top of that, the Indy Pass gives you access to another 103 ski areas (in addition to Meadows). Not all of them are near the west coast. The Indy Pass ski areas in the West are:

1. **British Columbia (3 ski areas):** Apex, Sasquatch, and Manning Park, all within driving distance from Oregon. Just follow I-5 and Canada highway 5 north.
2. **California (3 ski areas):** Mt. Shasta, China Peak (near Fresno), and Snow Valley.
3. **Oregon (3 ski areas):** Hoodoo, Mt. Ashland, and Mt. Hood Meadows.
4. **Washington (5 ski areas):** 49° North, Bluewood, Hurricane Ridge, Mission Ridge, and White Pass.
5. **Alberta (1 ski area):** Castle Mountain (steep, big, and challenging).
6. **Arizona (1 ski area):** Sunrise Park.
7. **Colorado (1 ski area):** Sunlight Mountain.
8. **Idaho (6 ski areas):** Brundage Mt., Tamarack, Kelly Canyon, Pomerelle, Silver Mt., and Soldier Mt.
9. **Montana (3 ski areas):** Blacktail MT. Lost Trail, Red Lodge.
10. **Utah (3 ski areas):** Beaver Mt., Eagle Point, and Powder Mt.
11. **Wyoming (4 ski areas):** Antelope Butte, Snow King, White Pine, and Meadowlark.

You get **2 free days** at each one of the above **33 ski areas**. It's time for a road trip or two!

If the above list is too long, here are a few suggestions for nice free weekends you can have in the Northwest with the Indy Pass:

1. **Mt. Ashland** and **Mt. Shasta**, only about an hour's drive apart.
2. **Brundage Mt.** and **Tamarack**. Our club has a trip there.
3. **Silver Mt.**, **49° North**, and **Bluewood**. A 3-day weekend.

Day tickets to all of the above add up to hundreds of dollars, maybe thousands, but you can have it for the cost of an Indy Pass: \$299.

Oh, and that includes 2 free days at Meadows!

See details and buy it at: <https://www.indyskipass.com/>

And don't forget the **Fusion Pass** with unlimited access to Timberline and Skibowl, plus 3 free days at 14 other ski areas, including Angel Fire, NM, Bogus Basin, ID, Dodge Ridge, CA, Loveland, CO, Marmot Basin, AB, and more. See all the Powder Alliance ski areas at: <http://www.mthoodfusionpass.com/powder-alliance/>.

## Mountain High Ski Area

The Mountain High ski area in Southern California is now on both the **Indy Pass** and the **Powder Alliance**. If you have both passes, you could ski there for 5 free days.

Mountain High consists of 3 close but separate ski areas, West, East, and North, connected with a shuttle bus.

Find out more about the ski area that shares our club's name on their website at: <https://www.mthigh.com/site>.



## THINGS GOING DOWNHILL

### Ski Magazine Reduced to One Print per Year.

Instead of one issue per month during the ski season, Ski Magazine will now publish only one printed issue per year, shifting focus to digital publishing.

Ever since Ski Magazine was swallowed by **Outside Inc**, things have started to deteriorate. This is just the latest symptom. The company has already laid off a number of employees.

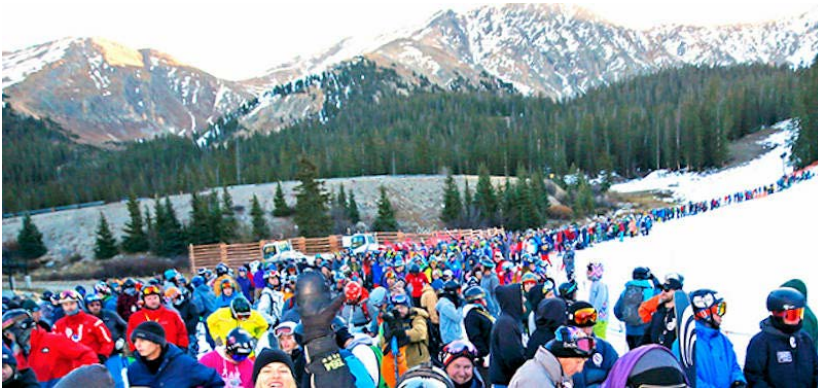
**Powder Magazine** has already been discontinued since November 2020.

Outside Inc now wants you to subscribe to their digital content for \$4 per month (every month of the year), for a total of \$48 per year. By comparison, a subscription to Ski Magazine used to be only \$12 per year.

## EPIC Pass Causes Grief

Both the EPIC and the IKON Passes have made great strides in recent years. On the surface, it looks like a great deal. For less than a thousand dollars, you get access to some of the largest resorts in the United States, at places where a day ticket costs as much as \$200 or more.

But there are negative aspects too.



**CROWDS & LONG LIFT LINES.** Due to their popularity, these high priced resorts are also among the most crowded ones to begin with. Then the Pass itself makes it even more attractive, drawing even larger crowds.

**Forget about fresh powder.** It all gets skied out within less than an hour. And even with high speed lifts, be prepared for longer lift lines.

**Vail Resorts** sold 2,100,000 Epic Passes in 2021/2022. That's 2.1 million passes. At one point they even lowered the price of the Epic Pass by 20%, from \$979 to \$783, and the Epic Local Pass from \$729 to \$583. The corporation was mainly aiming at selling as many passes as possible. Aiming for profit. They care about their shareholders more than about skiers' comfort or their employees' barely livable wages.

For some ski areas on the Epic Pass, this has generated a lot of grief. They have been overwhelmed with more skiers and snowboarders than they can handle. Local resorts were ill-equipped to deal with the additional burden.

As a result, social media is full of negative stories and bitterness about Vail Resorts. The main complaint is being inundated with too many people, while also shutting down many lifts, causing crowded slopes and long lift lines. Also, mismanaging snow-making, especially in the East.

Grievances ranged from **very low wages** for ski area employees to a **centralized decision making** where directions about what to groom and when to make snow were made by people at the central office in Broomfield, Colorado instead of by the local ski areas.

Complaints came from as far as **Stevens Pass**, Washington to **Mount Snow** in Vermont. Here are some examples from a variety of different people:

"Vail isn't listening to their local managers and employees."

"Vail deceived the public by selling them full-priced passes while intending to keep 60 percent of the terrain and many lifts closed for the season."

"At Stevens Pass, only 5 out of 10 chairlifts have opened this season. Customers feel ripped off."

"Vail has ruined the culture of Stevens Pass. And people don't want to work here anymore. Our poor little mountain is getting run into the ground by big corporate America."

"New leadership stopped regular events that catered to local customers and live music on the weekends. Employees lost their regular "ride breaks" during their shifts. When you're doing this job for minimum wage and you don't get to participate in your passion, it drains people and makes unhappy employees."



Vail claims that most of the issues are due to the overall difficulty in finding enough employees, due to COVID. But employees say: "We're wondering why Stevens Pass doesn't have the staff, but Mt. Baker does and Crystal does."

**Epic lift lines at Park City, with wait lines of 45 minutes or more.** "The worst part is that Vail resorts makes no effort to manage the issues. No signs at base or employees directing traffic to alternate resort. The **epic app** showed a 4 minute wait for Orange bubble and 10 minute for gondola - I would image it was more like **45-1 hour**. This is deceptive advertising and if you bought a ticket with that information borders on fraud."

"I have been to **Deer Valley** and **Snowbasin**, all within close proximity to Park City Mountain. All runs are open and fully staffed ....yet Park City Mountain has problems and thus cannot open full mountain? Things that make you say hmmm."

"This sounds like a great example of a company becoming **too big** after a period of "engulf and devour" and being more interested in the bottom line and most likely big executive bonuses (or profits from inflated stock prices) than the treatment of customers and employees."

"VAIL DID A WONDERFUL JOB WITH giving the Ski Industry a HUGE BLACK EYE. I am 67 years old and have worked in the Ski Industry since I was 20 years old. What VAIL has done is DISGUSTING TO THE INDUSTRY. I don't even know where to begin. 1st, you don't go out and buy 40 resorts over a few years UNLESS you are TOTALLY QUALIFIED and PREPARED to PROPERLY MANAGE them. VAIL thinks that they can be the Walmarts of the Ski Industry. IT'S NOT GOING TO HAPPEN. Most all of there resorts in the Midwest and Eastern are ALL going through the same problems. Long lift lines, employee shortages, reduced operating hours, customer service issues. The list is on and on. For me personally it is SAD to see what they have done to some of these mom and pop areas."

Arapaho Basin in Colorado has already quit being part of the Epic Pass.

**The problem is not only in the West.** Eastern ski areas also suffer under Vail Resorts mismanagement.

"Monopolies are not good for skiing. Vail resorts closed down much of Vermont. That should be a local decision, not a Vail decision."

"Very disappointed in how Vail is running Crotched Mountain. I have been there a number of times and the summit lift is not running along with the Valley lift being closed. I did not drive there to be stuck in a long lift lines for the double that only goes part way up the mountain. Also, we had a number of very cold days earlier in the season and they were not blowing snow. Vail management will not respond to phone calls or emails. I have heard this from many, many loyal Crotched Mountain customers. The sad part is I have supported Crotched Mountain for many years. No more. I will not be renewing my Epic Pass next season. I never thought I would be saying this, but Peak Resorts, even with all their problems as a company, ran Crotched far better than Vail. Vail simply does not understand eastern skiing, and they need to sell their eastern ski areas to somebody who does. If the people who ski in Colorado are willing to put up with this crap service, I feel sorry for them. I will not, so no more Epic Pass for me."

**MOUNTAIN HIGH****Our club / Our web site****SNOWSPORT CLUB****Web Site Tips for mthigh.org****How to get back to the top of a long page.**

Hit the **"Home"** key on your keyboard. It will take you to the top of the page. This is so much faster than scrolling back up until you reach the top of the page.

**How to go back to the previous page.** Most browsers have a back-arrow (pointing to the left) to go back to the previous page. But, you can do the same by hitting the **Backspace** key on your keyboard.

**Home****How to get back to the Home page, www.mthigh.org.**

There are two ways:

1. Click on the **"Home"** button on the menu. Or, ...
2. Click on the **Mountain High logo** at the top of the page. That will have the same effect. It will take you to our Home page, which is our Calendar of Events.

**To Share or Not**

On the **Membership signup form**, we ask you if it's OK to share your email address. Let's clarify that.

Some people have asked us if we will ever publish a **Members' Directory**. We probably will never do that, in part because many members opted NOT to share their email addresses

We only give your email address to a few Board members ( our President, Treasurer) and to trip leaders for trips you have signed up for.

Occasionally, a club member will ask for another club member's email address, in order to contact him/her about something. Before we give out the address, we consult your expressed preference. If you said NO, we will not give out your address. This is pretty much the only circumstance where your choice to share or not to share your address comes up. And that's the only reason we ask you that question.

**Passport**

If you are going on a trip to Canada or Europe this year, make sure your passport is still valid.

**Facebook Page**

We have a **Facebook** page you can use to communicate.

This is just one more way for our members to communicate with each other, in addition to emails, our web site, Bulletin Board, and our two Forums (which are in fact Google Groups).

Check out the Facebook page at: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/1528330064067232/>

The easiest way to get there is to simply click on the Facebook button on our website's main menu.

**Club Awards**

At the latest Far West Ski Association Convention, held in Portland, Oregon in June 2022, our club received two first place awards:

**1st place for Newsletter in the Masters category****1st place for Website in the Masters category****How to Find Info about our Club Events & Trips**

Our website, **www.mthigh.org**, is full of information. For example, check out our **ARTICLES** section, where you can find useful articles on many ski related topics.

To find about **upcoming events and trips**, check out the **EVENTS** and **TRIPS** web pages.

To find out about **past activities**, such as: when was the last time we went on a trip to Crystal Mountain, WA, first go to our **Newsletter** page, which is a relatively simple table of contents for everything we do. Find the word **"Crystal"** on that page (Ctrl-F or Cmd-F or "Find on this page"). The first find shows you it was in **2016**. Then go to our **PHOTOS** page and click on the year 2016. You will find the **Crystal Mt. Trip** there. Click on it, and you will see a brief description of the trip as well as photos from that trip. Easy!



## MOUNTAIN HIGH

## Contacts / Club info

## SNOWSPORT CLUB

## 2022 Volunteer of the Year



**Bill King** is our club's Vice-President and a ski trip leader. He is also the Treasurer for the NW Ski Club Council. He has been nominated by our club as our Volunteer of the Year.

NOTE: The Far West Ski Association has discontinued the Man & Woman of the Year competition and replaced it with the Volunteer of the Year. Bill King is our club's first nominee.

## Mountain High Board Meeting

Usually last Monday of the month.

**September 26 (Mon.):** Open to all who want to get involved with the club.

Gather at **6 pm**. Start at **6:30 pm**.  
**This will be an online meeting via GOTO Meeting.**

## Mountain High snowsport club contacts:

**President:** Debbi Kor H: 503-314-7078  
**Vice-President:** Bill King H: 614-371-4762  
**Secretary:** Michele Gunness  
**Treasurer:** Nancy Pratt H: 503-593-9427  
**Past President:** Kurt Krueger H: 503-625-1492  
**Membership Director:** Karen Michels H: 503-984-9210  
**Racing Director:** Alan Bean H: 503-849-8009  
**Newsletter Editor:** Emilio Trampuz H: 1-503-378-0171  
**Social Activities:** Debbi Kor H: 503-314-7078  
**Trips Director:** Linda McGavin H: 503-652-2840

[President@mthigh.org](mailto:President@mthigh.org)  
[willie2k@ymail.com](mailto:willie2k@ymail.com)  
[Secretary@mthigh.org](mailto:Secretary@mthigh.org)  
[Treasurer@mthigh.org](mailto:Treasurer@mthigh.org)  
[PastPresident@mthigh.org](mailto:PastPresident@mthigh.org)  
[skiklynn@gmail.com](mailto:skiklynn@gmail.com)  
[Racing@mthigh.org](mailto:Racing@mthigh.org)  
[newsletter@mthigh.org](mailto:newsletter@mthigh.org)  
[ijustwannarun1@comcast.net](mailto:ijustwannarun1@comcast.net)  
[Trips@mthigh.org](mailto:Trips@mthigh.org)

General info:  
[info@mthigh.org](mailto:info@mthigh.org)

Web site:  
[www.mthigh.org](http://www.mthigh.org)

## DOUGH TRANSMITTAL FORM

Mail check payable to: Mountain High Snowsport Club, PO Box 2182, Portland, OR 97208.

PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY: ☐ New membership or ☐ Renewal

Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_ Birthday (MM/DD) \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone (Hm): \_\_\_\_\_ Phone (Wk): \_\_\_\_\_

Email (Hm): \_\_\_\_\_ Email (Wk): \_\_\_\_\_

I certify that I am 21 years of age or more. I acknowledge that I am responsible for my own safety and conduct. I hereby agree to be bound by all Mountain High Snowsport Club bylaws and regulations, including the Trip Cancellation Policy. I hereby release Mountain High Snowsport Club, and any of their agents (officers, directors, trip captains, and any other Club representatives) from liability for personal injury, property damage, or any other liability of any kind connected with my participation in any club-related activity. Furthermore, I agree to indemnify and hold the Club and any of their agents harmless from any and all liabilities of any kind which may be incurred or asserted against the Club or any of their agents in any way relating to my negligence or willful misconduct connected with my participation in the club's activities.

**Email Preferences:** - Newsletter (once a month): ☐ yes, link only ☐ yes, complete file ☐ no  
☐ No changes - Club news & events (between newsletters): ☐ yes ☐ no  
 (same as last year) - Other ski news (NWSCC, FWSA, ski areas, trips...): ☐ yes ☐ no  
 - Is it OK to share your email address with other club members? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Please take my money, and apply it toward the following Ski Club fun stuff: Deposit? Paid in full?

- ☐ **Annual Membership** (Oct. 1 - Sept. 30): Single (\$30); couple (\$50) \$ \_\_\_\_\_
- ☐ **CANADA trip: Whitewater & Red Mtn.** (January 25 - Feb. 1, 2023) \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 Adult = \$1725.00, Senior (65-74) = \$1627.00, Super Senior (75+) = \$1305.00
- ☐ **McCall (Idaho): Brundage Mtn. & Tamarack** (Feb. 26 - March 1, 2, or 3, 2023) \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 The club is not collecting money for this trip  
 Make your own hotel reservations. Tell them you are with Mt. High.
- ☐ **Mountain High Cookbook:** 34 pages of recipes from our members \$10 \$ \_\_\_\_\_
- ☐ **Other:** \_\_\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_
- Total:** \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Comments (For whom you are paying. Roommate requests,...): \_\_\_\_\_

Signature(s): \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature(s): \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

See our Trips cancellation policy on our web site: <http://www.mthigh.org/Documents/Trip-Cancellation-Policy.pdf>

**Club membership = 203    Newsletter Distribution**

The September 2022 issue is posted on our web site. Also:  
**203** copies sent via email (as PDF file)  
**0** paper printed copies sent via US Mail.  
 Copies are also sent to potential members, other clubs, the National Ski Club Newsletter, etc.

**Count Your Ski Areas**

Set up your own counter of ski areas visited. Use a modified form of John and Jewel's spreadsheet with 3 added columns, for up to 3 more people. Make one of these your own. Enter a "1" for every ski area visited. See: <http://www.mthigh.org/Documents/North-American-Ski-Areas-2022-03-03.xls>

**Mt. High    Credit Card Payments**

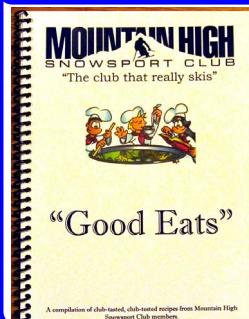
We are now able to process your payments by **credit card**. We are doing it through PayPal.

No need to have a PayPal account to make a payment by credit card. Just go to our new web page: "**Signup & Pay**" at: <http://www.mthigh.org/Signup-Pay.htm>

**Stories from Skiing History Magazine**

Find the Skiing History Magazine at: <https://www.skiinghistory.org/skiing-history-magazine>

- \* [Conservatives against Gunstock](#)
- \* [Skiing below the Mason-Dixon Line](#)
- \* [Ski Mag slashed to one per year](#)

**Mt. High Cookbook**

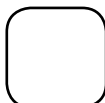
This 34 page cookbook is available for \$10. It has soups, salads, entrees, desserts, from our club members.

The cookbook includes recipes from the late Swiss chef Kurt Mezger. Contact Debbi Kor: [ijustwannarun1@comcast.net](mailto:ijustwannarun1@comcast.net), or call 503-314-7078.

**Stories from Seniors Skiing**

A good resource for skiers and riders of all ages. Check out: [SeniorsSkiing.com](http://SeniorsSkiing.com). Subscribe to weekly or monthly emails from them. Click on the Community tab and select "Subscribe". Examples:

- \* [Jon Weisberg, Seniors founder, dies](#)
- \* [Sustainability in Skiing](#)
- \* [Test your knowledge. Who is this?](#)



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 Mountain High Newsletter editor  
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 Salem, OR 97302

Please check our web site,  
[www.mthigh.org](http://www.mthigh.org)  
 for updates.