



Recreation Center of New Hampshire

IMPORTANT: PLEASE BE SURE TO READ ALL OF THE ENCLOSED INFORMATION.

December 15, 2020

Dear Parent(s),

I'm sending this letter as a reminder that the Downhill Learn to Ski/Snowboard Lesson Program runs for 4 consecutive Tuesdays starting January 5th, 2021 and finishing January 26th, 2021. The lessons run from 5:30 PM - 6:20 PM each evening at Gunstock Ski Area.

Due to COVID-19, there are number of restrictions at the mountain and changes to our program for this season. Please be sure to read carefully **ALL** of the following information:

1. COVID-19 Restrictions:

- All skiers and snowboarders on the hill should plan to wear masks at all times (neck warmers/gators are acceptable).
- General Lodge access is limited on a first-come basis.
- Restroom access is available with the regular restroom in the basement level in the main lodge, deck level adjacent to the ski and sport shop or in trailers near the "Pistol" lift side of the main parking lot. (Restrooms in the Stockade Lodge are available to us, but only during our lesson time)

2. Prior to the first week of the season, all participants must pick up their season pass in the Gunstock Welcome Center. If you have not already done so, you will need to have their photo taken at the mountain prior to retrieving their pass. If your child still has their pass from last season that you have re-activated, they must stop by the welcome center to have an updated photo taken.

3. If your child is **renting equipment** through Gunstock, it is recommended that you bring them by the rental shop prior to the first day of the program so that they can be properly fitted. **All children renting equipment should plan to meet outside the rental shop at 4:30 p.m.** each program day, so that you have time to pick-up your equipment and confirm the fit prior to the start of lessons.

4. Access to the lodge is extremely limited this season. All participants should plan to arrive dressed and ready to go on the mountain. Ski/Snowboard boots should be put on in the parking lot at your vehicle and all your belongings should be left in your vehicle for the duration of our program. **We do not have a designated group space where you can leave your belongings!** If your child is renting equipment, they should arrive in the rental shop dressed to go out on the hill. They will be allowed to change into their rental boots in the rental shop and will leave their own boots there until they return their equipment at the end of the evening.

5. All children **must** be dressed appropriately - i.e., layered clothing, one pair of heavy socks, hats, weather/water resistant gloves (not knitted mittens), goggles and helmets (recommended), etc.. Please remember that it is much colder on the mountain at night.
6. Each week, all children and their chaperone (unless in grade 7 or 8) should plan to arrive at the lesson flag meeting location (between the Stockade Lodge and the Magic Carpet) **ready to go by 5:15 p.m.** This will allow us time to organize our lesson groups, so that they can get right out onto the hill at the start of the lessons by 5:30 p.m. Please understand that lessons will begin on time and will not wait for late arrivals.
7. Either Herb or Sue will be on the hill at the start of each evening to help organize lesson groups. We will try to get a sense of which area of the mountain each lesson group is planning to begin for the evening. If you arrive late, please check-in with us and we will try to direct you to the proper location.
8. Following initial lesson check-in, Herb and/or Sue will be located in the Stockade Lodge (upper lodge near the lesson check-in flags). We will have copies off all registration forms and contact information in case there are any medical emergencies involving our participants. We will remain in this location for the duration of the program as a point of contact for Gunstock Staff. During this time, we will be available to help late arrivals try to find their lesson group. Additionally, all children should be instructed to come find us in the lodge if they become separated from their lesson group and chaperone. If this happens, we will supervise them until such time as their chaperone comes to collect them. **Please be aware we are not permitted to have more than 15 members of our group in the lodge at any one time!**
9. **ALL** participants should remain with their group for the length of the lesson program (5:30 PM - 6:20 PM). **There will be no exceptions to this rule.** At the conclusion of the lessons, children and chaperones are welcome to leave or to stay longer to free ski on their own. We will not have an official check-out procedure this year, as all children will be with their own chaperone. However, we will remain onsite long enough to ensure that no children have been separated from their chaperones and have safely made it to the end of lessons.
10. After the first week, the Gunstock ski/snowboard instruction staff may find that your child is not in the correct lesson group for his/her level of ability. If this occurs, we will make the appropriate change to their assigned lesson group for the following week's session. **A child will only be moved if the ski/snowboard instructor notifies us that the child needs to be moved.**
11. For any child renting equipment, all equipment **must** be returned to the rental shop at the end of the evening program.
12. Every attempt will be made to reschedule any sessions canceled due to inclement weather or any other unforeseen reason.

13. If your child will be absent from the program on any given Tuesday, **please be sure to notify us in the Parks and Recreation Department Office** no later than 12:00 Noon on that Tuesday.

Safety is our #1 priority, as it is with Gunstock. These rules have been set up to assure that the program is safe and fun for all involved. Thank you for your help and cooperation. If you have any questions, please call me at the office at 527-4722.

Sincerely,

Herb Greene
Gilford Parks and Recreation Director