

2020-2021 SNOW SPORTS PROGRAM AT OTIS RIDGE SKI AREA



The PTA is pleased to announce that the Otis Ridge Ski Area is offering a six week special snow sports program on Wednesday evenings from 4:00-9:00 PM for our students from **age 6 thru grade 6** and their families. Lessons are from 6:00-7:30 for weeks 1 and 2, from 6:00-7:00 for weeks 3 thru 5. Week 6 is an open ski night with no ski lessons. Lessons start promptly at 6P so if you are renting equipment, give yourself at least 45 minutes to get ready before class time. The program will run from Wednesday Jan 6, 2021 thru February 10.

Adults – you are welcome to participate in the lesson program if space allows (our capacity is limited this year because of COVID and the kids get priority) but keep in mind that the lessons are geared to children and there are no separate adult classes.

The cost per participant is \$65 for a lift/lesson/rental program, \$50 for lift/rental only. **There is no discount for season passholders.** If you are a student at FRRSD the PTA will pay \$25 of the program cost, you pay the balance - \$40/\$25 – when you register. Lessons are available for skiers age 6 and up, snowboarders age 8 and up. The snowboard class will be for beginners only and will be on a first come/first served basis. All registration must be done on-line this year (www.otisridge.com, ski school tab, Wednesday night tab, FRRSD). Registration will open on 10/26 and will remain open until 12/6 or until classes are full, whichever comes first.

COVID has changed our world in many ways and the school programs will not be the same as they have in the past. We have had to make some difficult decisions in our commitment to keep everybody as safe as possible. Be sure that you take time to read our on-line COVID statement before you register and are sure that you are going to be able to adhere to our requirements and that your children meet the guidelines for participation.

Our mantra for this year – DON'T BE THE REASON TO END OUR SEASON

Free Beginners' Day is tentatively scheduled for Saturday, December 12. The free lessons are for level 1 and 2 skiers age 6 and up, boarders age 8 and up and this year are **BY RESERVATION ONLY**. Classes will start promptly at 10:00, 11:30 and 1:00. Groups will have a maximum of six students.

We plan to hold our pre-season teaching clinic on Saturday Dec 19. If you are age 16 or older and at least an intermediate skier/boarder interested in teaching, please let us know. No teaching experience is necessary but the clinic is mandatory for new instructors and recommended for those of you who are returning. Any questions please feel free to call us 413/269-4444 and leave a message or email info@otisridge.com.

PROGRAM GUIDELINES

All participants in the Otis Ridge Ski Area's programs are expected to ski courteously, safely and under control at all times. Failure to comply will result in removal from the program with no refund. See Your Responsibility Code

- Pillars of respect will be upheld at Otis Ridge. Failure to comply will result in removal from the program with no refund.
- All programs must be prepaid. No refunds will be issued for any reason.
- All program participants will be issued an ID/pass which is your lift ticket and must be worn each week. Lost ID cards will be replaced for a \$5 fee.
- Parents are responsible for their children outside of lesson time.
- Equipment must be returned to the rental shop **with the boots buckled** .
- Program participants in any program are entitled to the following discounted lift ticket rates on non-program days. You must present your program ID to receive the discount. There is no discount on rental equipment.

Midweek/non-holiday periods day or night \$10

Weekend/holiday periods \$25 (blackout dates 1/18/21, 2/15-2/18/21)

SCHOOL PROGRAMS – COVID GUIDELINES

We will follow all guidelines/mandates from the state/CDC/local BOH – as these change so may our policies. There are sanitizer stations throughout all buildings. All staff will be temperature checked daily at shift start and complete a health survey. All buildings will be fogged every night.

We will require that all participants in school programs bring a completed health survey each week and be temperature checked. If your temperature exceeds the recommended limit you will be unable to participate in the program for the night or remain on the property.

Masks that cover your nose and mouth are mandatory for everybody over age 2 – NO EXCEPTIONS – except when you are seated at a table actively eating/drinking. Having a drink you are sipping or a bag of snacks you are grazing does not count.

You must maintain social distancing – currently 6'. This means there cannot be a crowd of observers at the bottom of the pony/outside the ski shop or people congregating in the lodge.

There will be reduced occupancy in all buildings. It will take longer to get through the rental shop on program days. You will not be able to claim a table in the lodge for your family since lodge space also will be limited.

Our goal is to limit class size to 6 students. We have always in the past opened enrollment to adults/older students outside of the elementary school system. That may not be possible this year for the lesson program.

Instructors will be able to ride the lift with their students. However, we cannot ask random adults/older kids to ride as helpers for students who need it. Nor can we load random pairings of kids – one person per chair except for family groups.

Everybody must be bathroom independent, able to get dressed and undressed without help.

For more COVID information, check out our **COVID statement** and **COVID Responsibility Code**.

A big part of keeping everybody safe will fall on you. We will do everything we can do to have procedures in place to keep our guests and staff safe – but we can't do it alone. You may or may not agree with COVID restrictions and that is your right. However, when you are on Ridge property we ask that you respect our policies and guidelines. Be patient, be kind while we navigate a different world and we can all enjoy another ski season, albeit a bit different than in the past.

Our mantra for this year –

DON'T BE THE REASON TO END OUR SEASON

COVID-19 RESPONSIBILITY CODE

– **Keep Your Distance** Maintain a minimum 6-foot distance from others when possible. Please do not congregate.

- **Cover Your Face** Wear a face covering that covers your mouth and nose to protect yourself and others.

- **Wash and Sanitize** Wash and sanitize your hands routinely.

- **Hands to Yourself** Avoid handshaking, high-fiving or other unnecessary physical contact.

- **Feeling sick?** Stay Home Be responsible and respect others. If you feel unwell or are experiencing a fever, cough, muscle aches and pains, sore throat, shortness of breath, or sudden changes in taste or smell, please stay home.

- **Stop the Spread** Sneeze and cough into a tissue, cloth, elbow, or sleeve, not into your hands.

YOUR RESPONSIBILITY CODE

Skiing and snowboarding can be enjoyed in many ways. At areas, you may see people using alpine skis, snowboards, telemark skis, cross country skis, and other specialized equipment, such as that used by the disabled. Regardless of how you decide to enjoy the slopes, always show courtesy to others and be aware that there are elements of risk in skiing that common sense and personal awareness can help reduce. Observe the code listed below, and share with other skiers and riders the responsibility for a great skiing experience.

- Always stay in control, and be able to stop or avoid other people or objects.
- People ahead of you have the right of way. It is your responsibility to avoid them.
- You must not stop where you obstruct a trail, or are not visible from above.
- Whenever starting downhill or merging into a trail, look uphill and yield to others.
- Always use devices to help prevent runaway equipment.
- Observe all posted signs and warnings. Keep off closed trails and out of closed areas.
- Prior to using any lift, you must have the knowledge and ability to load, ride and unload safely.

Know the code. It's your responsibility.

Note* This is a partial list. Be safety conscious.