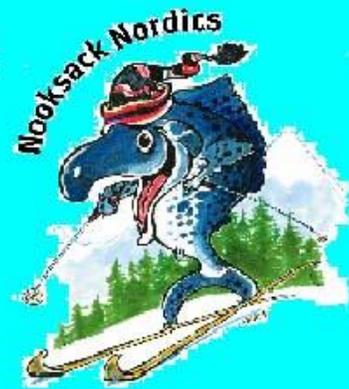


Snow News IS Good News

Newsletter of the Nooksack Nordic Ski Club

P.O. Box 28793, Bellingham, WA 98228
Website: www.Nooksacknordicskiclub.org



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Connie Cogburn 305-5435

Vice President

Debra Jusak 201-8624

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Joe Nolting 656-6995

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Lynne Oliver 592-9005

Program Coordinator

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Trip Coordinator

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Gail Garman 371-3554

Pete Tyron 922-7065

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Salmon Ridge Coordinators

Gail Garman 371-3554

Jim Rhodes 734-8246

Membership

Jim Rhodes 734-8246

Publicity & Hospitality Chair

Sharon Robinson Holmes
647-8606

Newsletter Editor

Lynn Alderson
509-885-6342

Webmaster

Pete Tryon
ski@tryonhayes.com

Day Trip Coordinator

Don Hicks 733-4815

Grooming Coordinators

Joe Nolting 656-6995

Peter Tryon 992-7065

December 2014



Everything You Need To Know For Successful XC Skiing in the PNW

Club Meeting

When – Thursday, December 4th

New member orientation is at 7:15 PM; Meeting starts at 7:30 PM.

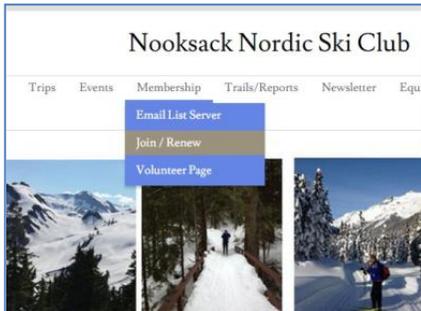
Who - Anyone is welcome!

Where – Garden Street Methodist Church at 1326 N. Garden St. in Bellingham, WA

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JOIN / RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP ON THE WEB

Sitting at your computer checking out the latest snow reports? While you are there, click on the NNSC web page (www.nooksacknordicskiclub.org) and renew your membership!



From the **Membership** tab, select **Join / Renew**. Look for the link to the **Online Membership Form** and fill in all of the pertinent information.

Note that many of the fields are mandatory – it won't let you finish without filling in entries. If you are buying a SnoPark permit, don't forget to enter your vehicle's license plate number.

After you click '**Submit**' you will

be shown a link to the **Online Membership Payment**. This page will allow you to pay your fees with your credit card

through PayPal. While this is new for our club, the system is thoroughly tested and a secure method of payment. An email will be sent to you confirming the receipt of your payment within a day or two of submission.

We hope that you find this method convenient, but remember, we're just as happy to see your renewal if you fill out the form at the back of this newsletter (and on the website) and mail it in with your check!

Pete Tryon

XC SKIING IN THE PNW

Local cross-country ski coaches Joe Nolting and Thierry Werderits will present *Everything You Need to Know for Successful Cross-Country Skiing in the Pacific Northwest*.

They will explain the different kinds of cross-country skis, boots, bindings, and poles, and the best places to purchase equipment in the Bellingham area. Next they'll discuss how to dress for success (and comfort) on the ski trails.

The main portion of the presentation will focus on basic technique for classic (diagonal) cross-country skiing. Joe and Thierry will describe the difference between walking on skis vs. actual skiing, including proper weight transfer and arm movement. Additional topics will include how to: double pole, herring-bone (uphill), snowplow (downhill), and step turn (downhill and flat terrain).

This clinic is free and open to the public. Participants should wear comfortable clothing, as they will be invited to try different (dry land) cross-country ski techniques. **Joe Nolting**

BUY YOUR SNO-PARK PERMIT!

Be sure to buy a Sno-Park permit! You'll need one to park at the Salmon Ridge Sno-Park, or across the highway at the Anderson Creek or Silver Fir campground, between Nov 1st to April 30th. You can purchase them through NNSC, REI, Backcountry Essentials, or at Crossroads Grocery in Maple Falls. Or purchase them on-line at: <http://www.parks.wa.gov/winter/nonmotorparks/permits/>. They are \$40 for a seasonal permit or \$20 for a one day permit, plus \$2 extra if you buy them through a retail store.

By buying a Sno-Park permit, you are supporting your community trails and ski club. Sno-Park fees go into a dedicated fund which supports the WA State non-motorized Winter Recreation program. This program is totally self sustaining (no tax payer money used). Proceeds are used to maintain and improve the 47 Sno-Park facilities throughout WA. They pay for plowing out the Sno-Park, sanitation facilities, trail grooming and signs, mapping, education, enforcement and program administration. Don't forget, the USFS received a Sno-Park grant to step up enforcement and education, so don't get caught without one; the fine is steep!

When you go, we want your feedback. Please send your Nordic ski and snowshoe conditions reports to Pete Tryon at ski@tryonhayes.com so we can post them on the NNSC website to share with others. You can also give feedback on the condition of a Sno-Park directly to the WA State Parks and Recreation Commission, by

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picking up a form at the trailhead or on-line at: <http://www.parks.wa.gov/FormCenter/Winter-Recreation-9/SnoPark-Onsite-Evaluation-Form-68> .

Gail Garman

KUDOS CORNER

Once again, volunteers have risen to the occasion to take care of Salmon Ridge trails. Since the last newsletter, the following folks have spent a day or more outside in the beautiful fall weather working away. Pete and Gail, in particular, have spent many days in the woods at Salmon Ridge.

Thanks to the "November Crew":

Herm Bakke
Linda Bakke
Connie Cogburn
Dana Downs
Pat Downs
Gail Garman
Mike Hilty
Sharon Holmes
Wendy Nichols
Lynne Oliver
Jim Rhodes
Pete Tryon



Volunteers are installing signs and opening a new road off White Salmon

SEPT – OCT BOARD MEETINGS SUMMARY

This is a summary of "virtual" board meetings held via email and in-person Sept 8, Sept 22 and Oct 27.

The concept of on-line membership registration and payment was proposed and is being implemented by Pete Tyron after board approval. Pete is also doing day to day web site maintenance and renovation. Jackson continues to do backups and other system work.

Garden Street Methodist Church was selected as 2014-15 meeting location since WECU is not available and other places not consistently at same date and time.

NNSC had a booth at the Farmers' Market.

Lynne Oliver was approved as board member to replace Bill Lawrence, who resigned.

The board voted to use \$800 of REI grant money to facilitate installation of gates on the Cougar trail. The used gates are being supplied by USFS and installed under their direction, but needed steel work. These gates will prevent damage by vehicles outside the ski season. Most of the REI grant is being used to survey various possible trail routes between White Salmon Rd and Razorthone Rd. Focus shifted from a Galena Creek route deemed too steep to a possible White Salmon Creek route. This is an ongoing effort spearheaded by Pete Tyron and Gail Garman that is expected to be a multi-year process.

Ski lessons have been discussed. Varying snow at Salmon Ridge, availability of

instructors, costs, USFS permits, and other issues all make instruction a challenge. The club will not pursue a special use permit this year, as last year's went unused. Discussion to continue.

John Sarich has a full year (through Mar) of meeting programs planned.

Salmon Ridge sani-can installation and sign raising depends on snow. Pete Tyron and Joe Nolting will coordinate with the groomer hired by WA state. NNSC has a separate contract with him to groom White Salmon, Hannegan, and possible the Sno-Park if Sno-Park funding runs out in a good snow year.

Lynne Oliver reported \$13,241.75 on hand as of 9/30/14 and presented a proposed annual 2014-15 budget (presented in a separate article).

Jim Rhodes

BOARD ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Your NNSC board has been busy and diligent in the interest of your club and Nordic skiing this past several months, including throughout the dormant Apr - Sept time period.

Significant accomplishments include:

- Official non-profit 501(c)3 status
- Receipt of \$5000 grant from REI
- Installation of Jerry Bourne snow shoe route
- Inclusion of Ridge Rd and

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connector to White Salmon Rd in our USFS use agreement

- Installation of gates on Cougar Loop to minimize vehicle damage
- On-line membership registration and payment up and running
- Board member managing web site content
- Ongoing investigation on connecting White Salmon and Razor Hone Roads
- Successful grant writing, resulting in continuing Sno-Park and NRTP funding
- Stable club finances
- Ongoing publicity via various venues

All 8 of your board members, plus others such as Lynn Alderson publishing Snow News, Don Hicks maintaining Google Groups, Sharon Holmes doing a huge publicity job, and Dave Gertstenberger writing the Sno-Park grant, are actively involved in keeping everything functioning and making improvements.

A couple of the existing board members will off the board because they've served a maximum of 2 each 2 year terms in January per our by-laws. If somebody phones or knocks on your door asking you to join the board near year end, please consider it an honor to be asked to join a high performance team and say "yes".

Jim Rhodes

SALMON RIDGE NOVEMBER 2014 UPDATE

Okay, it's only November 11th as I write this, so how exciting can an update on the Salmon Ridge trail system be? Well, you might be a little surprised. I was. This year we hired mowing of Razor Hone, White Salmon road and Ridge Road (aka Lodge Road to you MBC members). For those of you who may not have heard of or explored Ridge Road, it is the 1 mile road that runs off the far NW corner of the lower White Salmon Lodge parking lot. We used to maintain this road, over a decade ago, but hadn't kept it up since then. It just didn't seem like a high priority since few skiers ventured up there and the connectors from it down to White Salmon road are a little steep and difficult for skiers. Now, snowshoer's that love and frequent this road requested that we hold a work party there since it was getting heavily overgrown by alders, leaning in and impinging on the trail corridor. Since these alders were now over 12' tall and growing thickly, taking it over, I figured it would be easiest to just add it to the roads to be mowed. So that has been completed, at least to the "knob" or scenic viewpoint. The last 540' of the road that continues down towards White Salmon road however, were not done, so that section still requires brush cutting, or lopping by another work party. So the majority of Ridge Road has been mowed and is open for winter recreation!

But the bigger news is that the south branch of White Salmon Road has also been mowed and reopened. This is the lower end of the White Salmon Road

that when you come to the T, you turn right (south) and head back towards the ski area. We had quit maintaining it over a decade ago when there was a small washout and the club had no funds to fix it. This is exciting because it is an extremely beautiful, scenic rolling branch that adds back 0.9 miles of this road. Here you can see stunning views of Shuksan and Mt. Baker. There is still some work that needs done because the mower left lots of branches on the road, so these will need to be cleared. And there are some drainage issues that need to be dealt with, which I've asked the USFS for permission to do so it can be groomed.

So we've effectively added another 1.8 miles of upper trail back into the Salmon Ridge Trail System. Last month you'll recall we had added the Jerry Bourne route off Hannegan Pass road for another 0.8 miles of back-country trail that connects to the Twin Lakes road. And Pete has been working with the trail surveyor looking for a connector from WS to RZ. So there may be a possibility of another new back-country connector sometime in the near future if the USFS approves. Thank you Pete for working on this! Read Pete's article for exciting news there and check out "Snow News" for the latest.

Meanwhile, it's time to get ready for ski season. The snow level is down to 2000'. So it's time to put up the trail junction signs, maps, and later in December – the sanican base. So come join a work party and help us with signs, or pitching the branches off White Salmon road, or clearing out the end of Ridge road. Work parties will be announced via email or you can check the NNSC website. Later

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when snow comes, look for possible snowshoe work parties to clean up the Huckleberry trail near the bridge. More trails, means more work to maintain them. So come join us! It's fun and a great way to meet others

and get to know more about your trails.

Gail Garman

NNSC FINANCES

Fiscal Yr 2013 Actual 7/1/2013 - 6/30/2014		Fiscal Yr 2014 Proposed 7/1/2014 - 6/30/2015	
Income	Expenses	Category	
\$ 1,826.54		carry forward ck	\$ 4,284.66
\$ 8,005.21		carry forward mm	\$ 3,665.13
\$ 2,424.00		Dues	\$ 2,500.00
\$ 5,738.97		NRTP Grants	\$ 10,263.03
\$ 1,440.00	\$ (1,440.00)	SnoPark Permits	\$ 1,450.00 (\$1,450.00)
\$ 9.92		Interest	\$ 9.00
		Donations	\$ 5,000.00
\$ 4,151.24	\$ (4,827.24)	Ski Trips	\$ 5,000.00 (\$5,000.00)
	\$ (540.08)	Ski Trail Maintenance	(\$500.00)
	\$ (2,000.00)	Grooming - sno	(\$5,000.00)
	\$ (3,477.43)	Grooming - maint	(\$3,000.00)
	\$ (150.00)	Special Use Permits	(\$150.00)
	\$ (145.22)	Newsletter	(\$150.00)
	\$ (800.26)	Web Page	(\$800.00)
	\$ (1,024.16)	Publicity	(\$1,000.00)
	\$ -	Speaker Fees	\$0.00
	\$ (1,385.70)	Administrative	(\$1,400.00)
	\$ -	Connector Trails exp	(\$5,000.00)
	\$ (130.00)	Misc	\$0.00
		Room Rentals	(\$140.00)
Totals	\$ 23,593.88 \$ (15,720.09)		\$ 32,151.82 (\$23,390.00)
Financial Statement Addendum:			
non-budge	\$ 3,000.00	Got Sno-park grant for 2014-15 season	
non-budge	\$ 4,748.00	Got Addit Sno-park grant for 2014-15 season	
budget	\$ 10,263.03	NRTP grant 2013/14 -14/15 was \$16,000; \$5738.97 used in 13/14 yr	
	\$ 18,011.03	Total available for 2014-15 season	
budget	NRTP Grants are written in odd years; supposed to start funding in even years (unless delayed)		
budget	\$16,000 NRTP grant (RCO#12-1025M) for 2013/14 & 2014/15 season originally was delayed to start in 2014/15 season		
	However, it was funded to start for 2013/14 season. Therefore, \$8,000 was allocated for the budget for 13/14 season; whatever not used in 13/14 season allocated to budget for 14/15 season		
	\$20,504 has been requested for NRTP grant for 15/16 - 16/17 seasons		
	NRTP Grants have to be used or will be lost.		

Last month, Gail discussed Salmon Ridge operation and funding. This month, I hope to give you an overview of the entire club budget. The table below shows a comparison of actual 2013-14 results versus anticipated 2014-15 expenses and income. The club is in a stable position financially, and the 2014-15 budget looks much like the previous one, and the one before that.

The numbers look quite large. A number of line items are essentially "flow through" funds where income eventually equals expenses. SnoPark permit revenues exactly match SnoPark permit expenses. Club trip funds go through our checking account, but expenses should equal receipts.

The club pays for Salmon Ridge trail maintenance and grooming

of White Salmon and Hannegan Rds, then seeks NRTP reimbursement. We quickly adjust NRTP-funded activities on the size of biennial (every 2 years) NRTP grants. If NRTP funds are not awarded, as happened just a few years ago, then we curtail snow grooming outside the SnoPark and reduce or delay paid maintenance. The club simply cannot afford those kinds expenses out of the

treasury. We juggle allocation of that NRTP funding between 2 years of budget as well.

This year, we received a \$5000 grant from REI upfront that we are committed to spend on specific types of trail development expenses (shown on the 2014-15 budget as Connector Trails exp and a \$5000 Donation).

After all of these large expenses are done, the bottom line is that the club, outside of Salmon Ridge, runs on about \$2500 in dues. Dues pay for meeting room rentals, web site maintenance, newsletter preparation and mailing, publicity and administrative expenses. Administrative expenses are things like 501(c)3 filing, state non-profit fees, any legal expenses, post office box, postage, and anything else that comes up.

On rare occasion, the board has approved use of club funds for work at Salmon Ridge. Survey work on the original snow shoe trails was one such expense. Another was drainage work on Razorhorne and Cougar Loop critical to life of those ski trails that USFS would not do and also was not eligible for NRTP funding.

Jim Rhodes

STAKE & LOGAN LAKES & KANE VALLEY

December 26th – 29th, 2014

This trip is full, however there is a waiting list. Call Sharon Holmes if you wish to be put on the waiting list.

Trip Coordinator: Sharon Holmes, 552 Rainbow Dr., Sedro Woolley, WA 98284.

Phone (360) 647-8606 or email smrconsulting98229@msn.com.

MANNING PARK

Martin Luther King Weekend January 16th – 19th, 2015

Ski pass prices for winter 2015 are not posted yet, but last year Nordic day passes were:

- Adult: \$20; from 12:30 to 4:30: \$15
- 65 and over \$12; from 12:30 to 4:30: \$9

Last year grooming was excellent. Ski 4 days (stay 3 nights). Features include groomed trails, snowshoe trails, hot tub, sauna, steam room, and swimming pool.

This is always a great trip. Chalet members plan the meals for their group and we share the cost of the food. We will have three dinners and three breakfasts. Bring your own food for lunch. Alcohol is not included in the food costs. This trip provides a great opportunity for group camaraderie as there are 5 to 6 people in each bedroom and 10 or 11 of us sharing meals that we have taken turns to prepare.

We stay in 1 chalet. The chalet has 2 Bedrooms and a central living room. Each room has 1 double bed, 4 bunk beds (8 twin size beds), a bathroom with tub and shower. There is also a third full bath for everyone's use, a full central kitchen and dining/social area. Bedding and linens are supplied with BASIC dishes and cutlery, a small microwave, a coffee pot and some cooking utensils. Washing dishes is our responsibility.

Lodge phone 800-330-3321 and website www.manningpark.com

Carpooling is preferable. We can work together setting up carpools.

The cost per person is \$169. This is based on the 9/26/14 exchange rate. If the CDN dollar changes then the cost per person will change accordingly.

To hold a space on this trip send a check for the full amount (made out to NNSC) to the trip coordinator. Spaces are assigned based on payment date. Elizabeth will be at the October, November, and December meetings to accept deposits or they can be mailed to her.

Trip Coordinator: Elizabeth Martindale, 103 Morey Avenue, Bellingham, WA 98225. Email emartindale@comcast.net or phone 360-393-4732

You must be a member to go on this trip.

WENATCHEE LAKE AREA Jan 30th – Feb 2nd, 2015

This area offers 7 different skiing locations within 16 miles of where we are staying. Accommodations are in Plain WA at Beaver Valley Lodge. Stay is for 3 nights and 4 days of skiing. More information about the lodge is available at: beavervalleylodge.com

The Wenatchee River bisects Lake Wenatchee State Park, thus creating the South Park and North park. The South Park has 18.6 miles and the North Park has 3.1 miles of groomed trails. Skate skiing is available in the North Park. South Park also offers tubing and a snow play area. There are 4.9 miles of snow shoeing trails. Another location is Nason Ridge that offers tracks and a skate lane.

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Additionally the trail leads to back country skiing for the more adventuresome. Total trail length is 17.9 miles of which 12 miles are groomed. Nearby is Chiwawa with the See and Ski trail groomed for track and skate skiing for 4 miles. Flying loop and Squirrel Run are 2.9 and 2.5 miles, respectively.

A Sno Park Permit is required and also a Special Groomed Trails Permit sticker. Drivers are responsible for the Sno Park Permit. Riders will share the cost of the Special Permit. Special permit stays with the driver after the trip is completed.

Meals will be planned and members will share the cost of the food. There will be 3 dinners and 3 breakfasts. Bring your own food for lunch. Alcohol is not included in the food costs.

Cost is \$200 USD per person for lodging. Make checks payable to NNSC for the full amount and mail to the trip coordinator.

Trip Coordinator: Lynn Alderson, 3310 Burch Mountain Rd, Wenatchee, WA 98801. Phone 509-885-6342 or email lalder3122@yahoo.com

You must be a member to go on this trip.

STAKE & LOGAN LAKES & KANE VALLEY

February 13th – 16th, 2015

This high altitude destination is less than 5 hours from Bellingham on good well-maintained roads. We will stay at the fabulous Highland House B&B in Logan Lake, BC. offering 5 luxury bedrooms with 2 beds and private full bathrooms. This

place is really nice! The cost includes meals (hearty breakfasts with many choices, sack lunches, substantial dinners, accommodation of special dietary needs). The outdoor hot tub and setting are as outstanding as the rest of the B&B. Their web site is: <http://www.highlandhouse.ca>.

For several years club members have enjoyed great skiing because of the 3 xc-ski areas to choose from: ultra-groomed Stake Lake, semi-groomed Logan Lake, and seldom groomed Kane Valley. 5 min. from our B&B, Logan Lake at 1180 meters has 36 km of skate and classic track. Trail fee is \$7. They have 2 km of night-lit groomed trails. Web site: <http://www.loganlake.com/>.

20 min. from our B&B, Stake Lake at 1315 meters has 60 km of skate and classic track. Trail fee is \$15. It features a large warming hut. Web site: <http://overlanderskiclub.com/>.

1 hr. from our B&B, Kane Valley at 1160 meters has 50 km of classic and un-groomed trails. Trail fee is \$7. It can be skied on the way up and/or back. Web site: <http://www.nicolanordic.ca/>. All 3 are unique and enjoyable.

Ski 4 days and stay 3 nights for \$256 USD per person including meals.

You must be a member to go on this trip.

Trip Coordinator: Kurt Duey, 2631 Sunset Dr., B'ham, 98225, Phone 360-820-4174 or email kurt.duey@comcast.net

NICKLEPLATE / CHINA RIDGE

Feb 27 – Mar 2, 2015

This is a great trip. Our first ski stop at China Ridge has stunning views and great runs. Our primary destination, NicklePlate (above Apex Ski Resort), is noted for its grandeur, scope, and the variety of beautifully groomed XC, skating and snowshoe trails. The Sandman Hotel boasts all the amenities and is walking distance from Starbucks, Tim Horton's, etc. The hotel has a lounge as well as a spacious lobby. This is a wonderful opportunity to ski world class runs in comfort and style.

Cost is \$141 USD per person. Based on 8 adults and exchange rate at time of trip. Hotel reservation and payment is on your own. Sandman Hotel phone number 250-493-7151 or (800) SANDMAN and quote Group #235665. Must reserve before Feb 1 to get the group rate! NicklePlate Trail fee: \$20 each day, China Ridge Trail fee: \$15. Meal charges are on your own, however we do have a kitchen room available if you'd like to fix your own food.

Trip Coordinator: Dawn Groves Contact dawn@dawngroves.com after you've booked your hotel reservations. You'll pay for everything directly and you'll need to arrange your own carpooling. Dawn will keep the group posted on updates and developments. ☺

UPCOMING MEETINGS

Monthly meetings are the first Thursday, 7:30 -9 PM

December 4
January 8



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Nooksack Nordic Ski Club Membership Application and Sno~Park Order Form

Use this form to purchase Sno~Park permits, or to join the club or to renew your membership.

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____
Street/PO Box City State Zip

PHONE 1: _____ (Home, Cell, Work) PHONE 2: _____ (H, C, W)

EMAIL 1: _____ EMAIL 2: _____

(Please check the appropriate items)

NNSC MEMBERSHIP DUES: \$30 per individual _____ \$45 per household _____

Student \$15 _____ Sno~Park permit*: \$40 _____ Total amount: _____

*Vehicle License _____

Please read this agreement carefully before signing and dating:

In signing and submitting this form, I recognize that cross-country skiing involves strenuous activities, is potentially hazardous, and involves inherent risk. I knowingly and voluntarily assume all responsibility and risk for my actions and my family's actions while cross-country skiing, during travel related to Nooksack Nordic Ski Club (NNSC) activities, and during use of facilities and equipment. This includes, but is not limited to falls, collisions, effects of weather, conditions of equipment and trails and other areas while skiing or participating in NNSC activities. I hereby for myself, my heirs, administrators, or anyone else who may bring claims on my or my family members' behalf, covenant not to sue, release and discharge the NNSC, its Board and Committee members, and all related organizations or individuals, from any and all claims of liability for death, personal injury, or property damage arising from my or my family members' participation in NNSC activities.

Name (Print please): _____

Signature: _____

Other family member(s): _____

Other signatures: _____

Date: _____

Please distribute my contact information to the membership. We omit street address from the distribution list, showing only city, phone and email address(es), (Please note, if you decline to be listed, then you won't get the list, either)

Yes _____ No _____

Please check preferred alternative for receipt of Snow News is Good News newsletter:

Email: _____ U.S. mail: _____ or NNSC website: _____

Please make checks out to: Nooksack Nordic Ski Club and mail with this form to:
Nooksack Nordic Ski Club, P.O. Box 28793, Bellingham, WA 98228

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