

## **Greek Peak Board Minutes**

**1/15/23**

Zoom

7 p.m.

**Board members in attendance:** Brian Boerman, Matt Hoff, George Tamborelle, Todd Shilliff, Sheri Freemantle

**Others in attendance:** Mo LaFalce, Wendy Weichert

**Board members not attending:** Jeff Rachlinski, Karl Granroth, Josh Finn, Amy Derito, Rebecca VonBergen, Kim Gorey

Meeting began at 7:06

1. Brian - We don't have a quorum yet. We can't approve minutes.
2. Thanks to everyone who scrambled to move the U14 race schedule. It speaks to the strength of our club.
3. Director's Report – Marisa LaFalce.
  - a. Moving a race takes so much work. Shout out to those people.
  - b. Holiday Camp had a lot of terrain. When you have so much space, it makes for a great camp. Despite the thaw, about 50 percent of our training days since Holiday Camp have been compromised visibility and hearing because of weather and snow guns.
  - c. This weekend, we had all age groups using the same course. One of the things I've been working hard on with the coaches is working together and collaborating. This is collaboration is a sign that things are going in the right direction.
  - d. Cornell and Ithaca College start this week.
  - e. We have one athlete – for the first time in my coaching career – ski with an older group. A U12 athlete is skiing up with the U14s. Coaches are collaborating and it's going well.
  - f. Coaching updates: LB going back to school soon. Matt Cook sent in resignation, but Nolan Erney is stepping in.
  - g. Homologation paperwork is done. Iliad is approved.
  - h. Mo is trying to forge a positive relationship with Toby, the new hill manager. Odyssey will be closed 3-8 p.m. Monday-Thursday. The terrain we are skiing on at Greek Peak is one of the best in the state. Whiteface has avoided much of the melt that other places have. Gore has gotten some recent snow. Everything south is rough. Song is running gates on one main trail with the general public, which is a safety concern.
  - i. Lab is committed to two races in the next two weeks and can't do either. We picked up a U14 slalom race. We are asking Lab to take the U10/U12 dual slalom. My hunch is that the U14 Song race will get cancelled. If Song doesn't happen, the U14 will have to travel to Hunt Hollow for 3 days.
  - j. At the U16/18 level, Bristol cannot hold SG. They have changed it to two GS races. The following weekend, this age group was supposed to have GS at Hunt Hollow and GS at Lab. They are trying to see if Hunt Hollow can pick up SL and Bristol pick up a GS. There

was talk of HV hosting, but no one wants to go out there for a short course. We'll know soon if people are going to be able to pull these races off.

- k. ESGW: You can go to any race in the state, but to quality, you have to stay in your region. In the East, they don't think they're going to get six finishes, so they've moved to best one finish. If you race out of your region, you get USSA points not matter where it is.
  - l. CNY Freeride would like to collaborate with us on skier cross. They don't have a course yet, and it will be hard to build with such little snow. The likelihood of pulling it off is very low. There is an open race at Gore on Sunday, Feb. 12. One day registration is \$35. Race entry is \$55. The timing of the Gore race is good if none of our races get moved. We could send a small group of U14+ who wanted to try it. There would probably be cost-sharing for coach expenses. How does the board feel? Matt, Sheri, George, Todd, Brian support the idea.
  - m. Coach visibility on the hill: George and Mo found a chest pack that will work with our radios. 1.5-inch imprint on front and back: \$62 a unit for everything. We would need 25-30, so \$1500-\$1800 total. We don't need action now, but we have an option. Wendy: I feel strongly about kids being able to identify coaches. I think the radio packs would work for that and would encourage Gatebusters coaches to carry radios. George: Motion to buy the radio packs. 30 packs. Up to \$1800. Sheri seconds. We will vote offline. (Approved unanimously via email vote.)
  - n. Big picture: We have a thriving program on the snow and a big social scene. There are times when the social part of the A-frame distracts what we're offering on the hill. We have athletes without the ski qualifications needed for our program or with no interest in being in the program, but their parents want to be involved in the social scene. This dynamic is detracting from kids who want to train. The buffet at hot chocolate breaks is leading to too long breaks. We need more emphasis on the ski aspect of the club. We need to be more explicit about what it means to be a beginner skier and criteria for being able to join each group. Moving into the U10 program, we are considering sending families with 8- and 9-year-olds a letter recommending their placement for the next year. We really need both the interest in skiing and the community piece.
4. Scholarship Program: Brian
- a. We talked in November about a scholarship program. I'm looking for some help in getting this off the ground. The club is given \$1000 in ski pass money every March. Historically, it's been performance-based. We're talking about making it needs-based. George: I agree with making it more needs-based. I think that would be need-based. Sheri: I support a needs-based program, and I think we need to ask people to self-identify. Matt: Julia's school has an online program that assess need through an application process. We could ask families for donations during the registration process. People could elect to donate their swap sales back to the club for the scholarship fund.
  - b. Brian would like to move these decisions away from the executive board. We'd like to create a committee to help manage this.
  - c. George: We should send out a letter. George will create a draft and send it around.

5. Bathrooms: The bathrooms were not clean this weekend. George: there is only one stall in the men's room that works. There wasn't enough toilet paper. The public also comes in to use those bathrooms. We are going to ask our cleaners for a quote for cleaning the bathrooms.
6. Next meeting: Monday, February 13.

Motion to adjourn: George motion to adjourn, Matt seconds.