

Newport Ski Club Guidebook

Updated September 2024

General Information

The Lodge is run by the Operations Committee which establishes the operating procedures and assigns Reservationists, Lodge Managers, and Assistant Lodge Managers. The Lodge is open whenever a Member is at the Lodge, and members and applicants must make a reservation using the online Reservation System. A list of reservationists and managers is made available to membership on the Club's website.

About our Club

The NSC is a "Do-It-Ourselves" organization in terms of time, talents, and support.

The goals and the purposes of the Club are to:

- Provide economical facilities for skiing and snowboarding through the individual and collective efforts of the members;
- Promote other outdoor activities; and
- Provide social activities for its members.

Club business meetings are held on the second Thursday of each month from September through June at a time and location established by the membership, in accordance with the Club Meeting Procedures. The Club does not meet in July and August but may schedule social activities. The social activities for the year may include banquets, cookouts, day sails, biking and hiking trips, a Holiday Party and other activities.

Minutes of monthly business meetings and announcements of social events, work parties and other activities are sent to each member and applicant and posted on the website. The Club operates on a Fiscal Year of June 1 through May 31.

Contact Information

The Club website is: <http://www.newportskiclub.org/>

The mailing address of the Club is **Newport Ski Club, P.O. Box 4253, Middletown, RI 02842**. All correspondence with the Club should use this address, as there is no mail delivery to the Lodge

The location of the Lodge is **120 Upper Crossroad, Ludlow, VT 05149**.

The telephone number at the Lodge is **(802) 228-8021**.

Membership

The success of the Club can be traced to active participation of its members. Membership is open to any person sharing in the interests of the Club. Members must be at least 21 years old, of good character and interested in participating in the activities

of the Club. Members are required to pay annual dues, perform an annual obligation, and participate in a work weekend or work function once every three years. The annual obligation may be fulfilled by assuming an elected office, serving on committees, serving as a lodge manager, assistant lodge manager or reservationist, or participating in a work party at the Lodge. Members are expected to attend meetings and support social and recreational activities. These activities perpetuate the Club and give members an opportunity to develop new friendships.

Application for membership is accomplished by submission of an application form and a non-refundable application fee to the chairperson of the membership committee. The application and fee are renewed annually. The application fee is applied toward annual dues upon acceptance as a member, and an initiation fee is required. To become a member, an applicant is required to show a sustained interest in the Club by participating in Club activities (socials, ski weekends and work parties) and attending meetings. Applicants are welcome to use the Lodge.

Governance

The Club is operated in accordance with its By-Laws and this Newport Ski Club Guidebook. The governance of the Club is vested in elected officers who serve according to the By-Laws. The officers of the Club are the President, Vice-President, Treasurer, Recording Secretary, Corresponding Secretary and Member-at-Large. The officers serve without compensation and are responsible for the administration, direction and guidance of the Club.

The By-Laws establish several standing committees. The work performed by these committees contributes to the smooth operation of the Club and is one of the keys to the Club's long-standing success. The committees offer ample opportunity for member participation in the Club.

Financial Obligations

Dues (and fees and assessments, if any) are billed in July of each year and payable by the September meeting. Any member whose financial obligations are not satisfied by the October meeting may be dropped from the membership rolls. The annual dues structure and assessments are listed in a separate document entitled Fee Schedule.

The Club cannot survive without member participation. The Board of Directors may levy an assessment on any member who has failed to perform an annual obligation or satisfy the work weekend requirement

General Lodge Operations

The Lodge is run by the Operations Committee which establishes the operating procedures and assigns Reservationists, Lodge Managers, and Assistant Lodge Managers. Members and Applicants must make a reservation using the online Reservation System. A list of reservationists and managers is made available to membership on the Club's website.

Reservation Information – Reservations are on a first-come, first-served basis, subject to the preferences detailed below in the event reservations exceed Lodge capacity. Reservations are open 2 weeks in advance. Reservations may be made up to the day of stay, however, for any reservation made after 5 pm two days prior to an organized ski weekend, food reservations must be confirmed with the Lodge Manager. Members may make a reservation for themselves, members of their family, and their guests. Reservations for an organized ski weekend must be cancelled by 5 pm two days prior in order to avoid being charged for food, and the Member must notify the Lodge Manager. A Reservationist assigned by the Lodge Operations Committee handles any issues relating to reservations.

In the case where the Lodge is reserved at capacity, a Member may be placed on a waitlist. At 7 pm three days prior to a reservation period, the Reservationist will rearrange bunk assignments as necessary to accommodate the Member according to the following priorities: Active Members, Children of Active Members, Applicants, Guests, Children of Guests, a person who makes a reservation for a partial weekend. Any Member who cancels after this occurs must pay lodging fees.

When making a reservation for an organized Ski Weekend, Weep Sheet requests may be noted for consideration by the Lodge Manager.

Accommodations – Members select their bunks when making a reservation. Bunk selections for men are on the upper right side of the lodge, for women on the upper left side of the lodge. **Note: "All rooms may be used by families, provided that the designated first floor family rooms and the two second floor six-person rooms are also occupied by families. A "Family" is defined as one or more adults with children aged 13 years or younger.** Young children may stay with either parent in any of the bunkrooms. The bunk assignment sheet (bunk sheet) is posted in the main entry.

The Lodge supplies the bunk; members and guests must provide their own bedding (sleeping bag, blankets, pillows, mattress pads, etc.), towels, face cloths, soap etc. Personal belongings should be kept in the assigned bunk room, and the room should be left clean upon departure.

The Lodge is kept at 65 degrees, although there may some variation in individual room temperatures. Do not tamper with the thermostat settings and be cautious in opening windows.

On the Personal Side – Upon arrival, check the bunk sheet for room assignments, or during periods when there is no Lodge Manager, indicate your preferred room on the posted bunk sheet, and then store personal items in your room. Do not clutter the living area with sleeping bags and luggage.

Bedrooms are shared with three to five other people. Consideration is the key. Personal belongings should be kept together in the appropriate areas. Reading lights and electronic devices should not disturb others. The room nightlight should be left on for those arriving later. Late arrivals should be considerate of people sleeping. All belongings should be moved off the bedroom floor on Sunday morning to permit the floors to be cleaned.

The Lodge should be maintained in an orderly fashion. Clean up after yourself and leave the Lodge in good condition.

Conserve water by taking short showers. Water supply is limited.

A number of lockers for storing personal gear is available for a yearly rental fee. No ski or board equipment or other personal gear may be stored at the Lodge except in rented lockers.

Children – Children are welcome at the Lodge, particularly when they are well-behaved and supervised. Parents are responsible for their children's behavior and will be held accountable for same. Children may not be left alone in the Lodge. Children are expected to do age-appropriate Weep Sheet duties.

Guests – Guests must be sponsored by a member or applicant who is present at the Lodge. Reservations for guests must be made by the sponsoring member or applicant.

Note: "Guests are the responsibility of the sponsoring member or applicant. However, guests aged 21 or older may stay alone during the day if they:

- Understand how to operate the lodge's heat, stove, fireplace, coffee pots, alarm system, etc.
- Know who to contact in case of an incident or emergency."

Guest expenses are to be paid by the sponsor. Lodge operation should be explained to guests and guests should introduce themselves to the Lodge Manager and others at the Lodge.

Noise – Socializing is welcome as long as it does not interfere with the normal Lodge activities. Except for designated weekends, quiet should be maintained from 11:00 p.m. to 7:00 a.m.

Parking/Transportation – Parking facilities are limited. Drivers are to leave a set of keys on the keyboard near the front entrance so cars can be moved in emergencies, snow removal or if a car is blocked in. When parking, beware of ice and snow sliding off the roof.

Storage of personal food – While you are staying at the Lodge, any personal food or drink items should be stored in the cubbies by the stairway or the refrigerators outside the kitchen. All personal items must be marked, and any unused food or beverages must be removed when you leave.

Storage of skis, boards, and boots – These items are to be stored in the basement in the racks provided but must be removed or stored in lockers before departure. Skis and boards are not permitted above the basement.

Electronic Devices – The use of electronic devices is permitted at the Lodge. Use of such devices must not interfere with the use and enjoyment of the Lodge by others.

Internet – The Lodge has internet service. Details are posted above the Lodge Manager's desk.

Pets – Pets are not allowed in the Lodge.

Smoking – Smoking and illegal substances are not allowed in the Lodge.

Ski Season Weekend/Holiday Weeks Lodge Operation

During the ski season and work weekends, the Lodge Operations Committee assigns a Lodge Manager and Assistant Lodge Manager for the weekend. The Lodge Manager has full authority for the week/weekend's operation. The Assistant Lodge Manager orders and purchases the food, making sure that there is sufficient food for the menu assigned, and is responsible for taking inventory at the end of the weekend.

The Lodge Manager posts the bunk sheet, assigns Weep Sheet duties among members, applicants and guests, collects all fees and bills, and attends to problems inherent to property ownership and communal living. Any changes to the bunk assignments must be approved by the Lodge Manager. Weep Sheet duties are to be performed by everyone. Fees must be paid to the Lodge Manager before you leave the Lodge.

Weep Sheet Duties – Members and guests are assigned duties that are listed on the Weep Sheet posted on the Lodge Manager's bulletin board. Each person is responsible for checking the Weep Sheet, performing assigned jobs and initialing the Weep Sheet for completed jobs. The number of jobs assigned each person is determined by the number of people at the Lodge for the weekend and the job point value. Cooperation is expected in fulfilling job obligations.

Some jobs must be done after the majority of members leave on Sunday (such as bathrooms, kitchen floor, vacuuming etc.). If a job assignment presents a problem, jobs may be swapped with the Lodge Manager's approval.

Meals – Breakfast and dinner are served at 7:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m., respectively, unless otherwise announced. Lunch fixings are put out during breakfast. Dress is informal at all meals; however, no inappropriate clothing should be worn in the main dining and living areas.

Departure – After skiing on Sunday, please return to the Lodge by 4:30 p.m. or make suitable arrangements with the Lodge Manager.

Mid-Week Ski Season and Off-Season Lodge Use

There is no organized operation of the Lodge during non-holiday mid-weeks, except for scheduled special week events. The Schedule of Food & Lodging Charges applies.

The following guidelines apply:

Members using the Lodge with groups should coordinate with other members who plan to use the Lodge during the same time period in order to make adequate provisions the use of the kitchen facilities.

The Lodge Opening Procedure and Lodge Closing Procedure posted on the Lodge Manager's bulletin board should be followed.

The member who opens the Lodge shall post a Bunk Sheet for each person to indicate their selected bunk room.

The member who opens the Lodge shall post the Mid-Week Cleanup Checklist on which each attendee shall indicate the cleanup jobs performed.

Upon arrival during mid-week and off-season members, each person must indicate their choice of bunk room on the posted bunk sheet.

All persons staying at the Lodge are expected to select one or more jobs from the MidWeek Cleanup Checklist, complete the job(s) and sign-off on it when finished. Weep sheet duties are not assigned mid-week.

Members should fill out the appropriate form to pay for lodging and food, and forward it along with their fees to the Treasurer at the Club's P.O. Box address, or during ski season, leave them at the Lodge Manager's Desk.

Newport Ski Club History

The Club was founded in 1954 by a group of ski enthusiasts from the Naval Underwater Ordnance Station. Since then the Club has grown in size and stature, and it has developed a community identity.

From 1956 to 1966, the Club leased lodges for the ski season in various areas such as West Dummerston, Weston, Ludlow and Rochester, Vermont; and Woodstock and Conway, New Hampshire. After an extensive study in 1965, the Club voted to construct a Lodge at Okemo Ski Area in Ludlow, Vermont. Ludlow, less than a 4-hour drive from Newport, is a growing community; providing church, shopping, medical services and recreational opportunities. There are many other ski areas within a one-hour drive of the Lodge, as well as recreational facilities nearby (fishing, swimming, hunting, hiking, and golfing).

A Club member designed the Lodge. Construction began in October 1965 and was completed in September 1966. A contractor erected the basic shell, and the interior finish work was done by the membership. There have been many improvements and major renovations to the Lodge since that time. The Lodge is a chalet in appearance and atmosphere and is conveniently located 500 yards from the Okemo Base Lodge and lifts. Sleeping accommodations for 46 people are provided in men's and women's 4-, 5-, and 6-person bunk rooms. The 5-person rooms downstairs may be used for families. Both the kitchen and dining areas are spacious. The large living room has a fireplace, balcony and cathedral ceiling with a large picture window. In the basement are a small recreation area, a ski repair and work area, a place for skis and equipment and rental lockers.

The Lodge is maintained by the work of members under the direction of both a Lodge Maintenance and a Major Maintenance Committee. Weekend work parties are held during the fall and spring to clean, repair and upgrade the Lodge.

Conclusion

The Lodge is the culmination of the efforts of many people over a period of the year and is a valuable asset. The organization of the Newport Ski Club has changed very little over the past years. It is a credit to the ideas, guidelines and concepts of the past members that the Club has lasted and been successful and has made possible the skiing and boarding opportunities and friendships members enjoy today. The Lodge is here for your use and pleasure. Your cooperation is the key to our success! **As an owner-member, take personal responsibility for the success of the Newport Ski Club.**