**CHNSA Fall, 2023 Newsletter**

Hello CHNSA skiers! The bite of Fall is in the air now, and our sense of urgency is more palpable as the pace of ski season preparations quickens and we begin to contemplate the coming of winter! The trails are mowed and mostly weedwhacked.

We’ve made off-season progress both in the administrative realm and on the ground. We have applied for Act 250 permitting for two major projects that are scheduled for completion next summer. “Poole’s Haunt” is planned as an alternate route from Dead River Run to Upper Crow’s Foot. The “Gateway Loop” to-date has been partially groomed and partially not, so we intend to finish upgrading that loop to be fully groomable. This combination of projects is intended to provide more reliable groomed access to what we hope will be early season snow on gentle terrain at the 2000+ foot elevation.

More immediately, skiers will notice some significant changes in the area of Toothacher Swamp, Bear Scat Draw, and Skunk Brook. We have been looking for the right configuration for a race course loop so we might host some mid-week high school races. We think we’ve hit on the right solution with parallel trails into and out of the Toothacher meadow and another access (Cool Pool) to the Windekind Meadow loop.

Also of note is the fact that a logging operation, anticipated for three winters now, is planned for this winter in the area of Woodchuck Ramble. If the logging happens, skiers wishing to access Lion’s Ridge will need to take Crow’s Foot, through the Town Forest to the Catamount Trail.

The hut and parking area have also been in need of attention. The deck of the hut is pretty shaky, so that’s coming off (maybe renovated over time). We hope to have wifi extended to the hut for better phone service this winter, and there is still work to do in tidying up the parking lot, chief among them being a new sign to greet skiers!!

As for the nitty gritty, rates for season passes and day skiers will remain the same as last year. Day passes are $15, while season passes are as follows: Individual $100; Family $175; canine add $30. Pass purchases can be made through our website: [www.camelshumpskiers.org](http://www.camelshumpskiers.org) via Paypal. As a volunteer, non-profit organization, our administrative footprint is limited, so you won’t receive a paper receipt for your pass purchase. However, we will send you electronic confirmation of your purchase, and you may use this receipt for participation in the VSAA reciprocal pass plan, which entitles one to a single free day of skiing at all participating XC ski areas in Vermont.

Think snow!!

Dave Brautigam, President

CHNSA

P.S. We rely on your season pass purchases to cushion us in light snow years, so we hope you’ll consider a season pass in support of our volunteer efforts. Thanks!!