



MHS Ski & Snowboard Team FAQs

What do I need to turn in? In order to be a part of the 2016-17 team, all paperwork, online registration and athletic fee need to be turned in by **Thursday, November 17, 2016**. The registration packet and information is available at: <http://middletonskiteam.yolasite.com>

What equipment do I need? All skiers and boarders need to furnish their own equipment: helmet, board, skis, boots, goggles, etc. **HELMETS** are required to be worn at all races. Your coach will tell you any new rules. Skiers need full hard-sided helmets and should have a slalom guard for racing slalom. Boarders have been able to wear soft-sided helmets, and nothing more than a thin, insulating beanie can be worn underneath the helmets.

Is there bus transportation to races and practices? **NO.** You are responsible for your own transportation to Tyrol for both races and practices.

Do my parents need to do anything? **YES. SKI PARENTS:** each high school is given a race night for which they have to provide all the volunteers. All volunteer positions are easy! No experience needed! You do not need to ski or snowboard, but if you do, let us know and you can get a free lift ticket for the night (for the 3 positions at the top of the hill, you can either hike up or ski/board). Our assigned race night is **MONDAY JANUARY 2nd**. In addition, we will need to provide volunteers for the Conference Championships in February. **BOARD PARENTS:** Since we have full-season volunteers for the snowboard races, we only need the snowboarders (students) themselves stay after the January 2nd race to tear down the course after the races are completed.

Do I need a Tyrol Basin pass? It is highly recommended that you purchase a season pass at Tyrol Basin as all practices are held there as well as most races. You will need to pay for your lift ticket each time if you do not have a pass, and this can get expensive.

When and where are races? Races are held on Monday nights beginning in January through mid-February. Most races are held at Tyrol Basin. The skiers have one race at Cascade Mountain on Monday, January 16th; racers are responsible for buying a discounted lift ticket (\$25) for that occasion.

What time do I need to be at the race? Racers need to be on the hill by 5:00 for course inspection at 5:15 (boarders "slip" the course with coach and team to familiarize themselves with the run). Races begin at 5:45. Each race is comprised of 2 runs.

When and where are practices? Practices are held on Wednesday evenings at Tyrol Basin (your coach will let you know what time -- typically 6-8pm). In addition, the coach may hold practices on weekend mornings.

Do we race against other teams? Yes. We are part of the Southern Conference of WHSARA (Wisconsin High School Racing Association), comprised of high school ski and snowboard race teams from South Central Wisconsin including; Deforest, Edgewood, Madison East, Memorial, West, LaFollette, Middleton, Monona, Verona, Mount Horeb, Portage, Oregon, Sun Prairie and Waunakee.

What kinds of races are there? Boarders will have a Giant Slalom race one week, and a Boarder Cross race the next. Skiers will have a Giant Slalom race one week and a Slalom race the next. All will have a set course and athletes will compete for the fastest times. If a racer does not maneuver the course correctly, they will be DQ'd (disqualified). Each boarder/skier races through the course 2 times. Girls and boys race separately.

How are the races conducted? Racers are assigned a run order. All racers line up in that order at the top of the hill. All races are individual races -- one boarder/skier races at a time. An automatic timing mechanism is tripped when the boarder starts their race, and stops when the boarder goes through the finish line.

What happens if I fall during a race? Falls are not uncommon. If a racer falls, they need to get up and continue a race. If they have missed a flag, they will need to hike up and around the flag they missed in order not to be DQ'd.

Is the race ever called off due to weather? If the hill is open, the race is on. On rare occasions, a race may be limited to 1 run for extreme weather and/or if the 2nd run has not started by 8:00.

How is my team scored? A team score is comprised of the sum of the 4 fastest times for the 1st race and the 4 fastest times for the 2nd race. The winning team has the lowest time, etc.

How is an individual scored? Each person is timed as they race. Individual points are given to those racers who finish in 1st-14th place. Earning enough individual points may allow an individual racer to be eligible for the state snowboard race even if their team is not.

What is the Conference Championships? Conference is a two-day event and is the last race of the season in which the entire team participates. 2017 Conference is Sunday, February 12 at 5:00 PM & Monday, February 13 at 9:00 AM. Students will miss their entire day of school for this race. There will not be a bus; students are responsible for getting to/from the races. Conference is comprised of 2 races: Giant Slalom (2 runs) and Boarder Cross (2 runs). An awards ceremony follows shortly after all races have been completed and scores tallied. Individual awards are typically given to those who finish in the top 4 places in the entire Conference. Teams that have qualified for the State competition will be announced.

What is State? The state race is held at Mt. LaCrosse in LaCrosse Wisconsin the weekend following the Conference Championships: February 18th-20th, 2017. In the past, boarders have competed on Saturday and Sunday, while skiers compete on Sunday and Monday. If your team does qualify for State, the coach determines which racers will compete. If you are selected, you are responsible for your own hotel room and fees related to that race. Even if your team does not qualify to participate at State, you may earn enough individual points to be eligible.

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