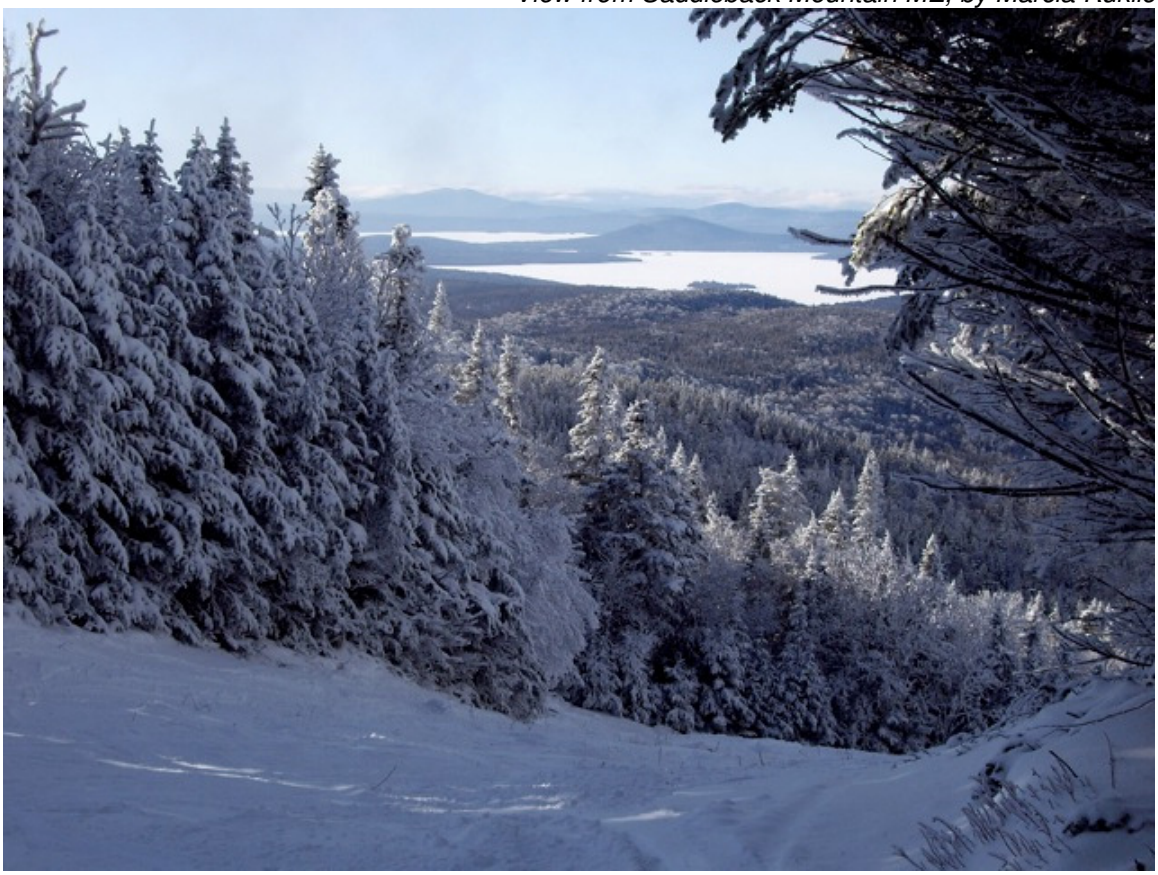
The Newsletter of the
ACE Ski & Board Club

Volume 21 Issue 3
December 2010

ACE Ski & Board News

General Membership Meeting December 16

View from Saddleback Mountain ME, by Marcia Ruklic



LOCATION: The General Meeting of the ACE Ski and Board Club will be **December 16** at the Franco-American Club in Westford, MA. Doors open at 6:30. Meeting starts at 7:00.

Meeting Highlights: Our speaker will be **Jon Schaefer** of Berkshire East, who will help us discover 'Southern New England's Fastest Growing Family Resort'. Lots of door prizes and giveaways!

*For an extra door prize ticket, bring at least two non-perishable **food items** which together can provide a meal for a family - for example, pasta and sauce, or a can of tuna and pasta* sides.

*Bring a **friend** – if he/she joins you will be entered to win two tickets to Whiteface!*

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Important ACE Club Dates 2010–11

General Meetings	Board Meetings	EICSL Races
September 14	September 2	January 8
October 27	October 13	January 29
December 16	December 2	February 12
February 1	January 25	March 5

Meeting Location

The general meeting on December 16 will be at the

Franco-American Club in Westford

55 West Prescott Street
Westford, MA 01886
(978) 692-7013 - Lounge

Directions from Westford Center:

Take Main Street to Forge Village Road, to Pine Street. Go 2.2 miles to a stop sign (it's a straight run from the center of town to the stop sign!).

Go right at the stop sign, and go down the hill to the railroad tracks. There is a stop light that might be flashing yellow (a couple hundred yards), then go left over the railroad tracks, and the Franco-American Club is 4-tenths of a mile on the left across from the baseball fields. If you pass the VFW, you have gone too far!

From Route 495/ Rt. 119:
Take exit 31 (Rte 119) toward Groton, MA. Turn right on Beaver Brook Road. Turn left onto Rte 225 West (Concord Rd). After the railroad tracks, turn left and continue on 225 (now West Prescott Street). The Franco-American Club will be on your left after the ball field sign.

ACE Club Officers

Jonathan Levy	President
Robin Temple Diamond	Vice-president
Betty Ann Tyson	Secretary
Dana Blanchard	Treasurer
Chris Gerber	Membership
Rob and Ilene Titus	Benefits Co-chairs
Dee McMaster	EICSL Rep
Gerry Welch	Racing Chair
Bill Tarkulich	Webmaster, Marketing Chair
Beatrice Chaney	Newsletter Editor

Club Retrospective

Bill Ralph *(right)* and ***Tim Allard*** *(below)* are two ski club members who gave their time and expertise for all the would be and wanna be racers.

Tim is a Past President and Bill was the Racing Chair during the oughts, as well as our top racer for many years.

A special thanks to both of them for their years of membership and volunteering for the ski club!

Benefits Committee Update

In July 2010, the Club through Benefits conducted a mail sale of Vermont and New Hampshire/Maine Tickets. A deposit of at least 50% of the total price was due at the time of the sale. The balance was due by November 1, 2010 by check or money order made out to Ace Ski and Board Club. If you have not paid your balance, or do not remember your balance due or what you ordered, email IleneTitus@charter.net and you will be emailed a PDF of your order form and explanation.

Members may purchase additional tickets at the General Meeting on December 16, 2010. Order forms for Vermont will be available at the meeting. The Vermont order form is posted on the Club's web site. The Club has sold out of several Vermont Mountains, and there are limited quantities of some Vermont Mountains so come to the December 16th meeting for the best opportunity to get the tickets you want. Restrictions for Vermont are currently 16 ticket maximum with no more than 2 tickets from any one mountain. With respect to New Hampshire tickets, the Club has seven "1 of 3 Loon/Sugarloaf/Sunday River Mountain Passes".

After the December meeting, Benefits will conduct an email sale of any remaining tickets. Keep your email current with the Membership Chair at membership@aceskiandboardclub.org

Benefits is also participating in the Wachusett Mountain GPS "Greatest Possible Savings!" club. To sign up for a Wachusett Mountain GPS Club – Century Pass - go to www.wachusett.com Click on Group Sales - In the drop down menu - click on GPS Club - Move your cursor to right to click on GPS Order on Line - Click on the pass you want to purchase - Enter your information. The Group Name is Ace Ski and Board Club and the Group Coordinator is Ilene Titus. If you sign up for your GPS Pass through the ACE Ski and Board Club prior to the December 16th meeting, and you are an ACE member with current dues paid, you will be eligible to participate in a drawing to win the benefit our Club earns for participating in the GPS Club. The drawing is held at the December General Meeting.

Robert and Ilene Titus
Benefits Co-Chairs
P.O. Box 392
Southborough., MA 01772
ilenetitus@charter.net

Bring Donation for the Food Pantry!

Once again, at the December 16th General Meeting, the Club will be collecting food to benefit the ***Worcester County Food Bank.*** All contributions will be accepted at the Club meeting, but to qualify for an extra door prize ticket, bring at least two items which together can provide a meal for a family - for example, pasta and sauce, or a can of tuna and pasta sides.

Since its incorporation in 1982 the Worcester County Food Bank has collected and distributed more than 70 million pounds of food and grocery product through a network of local shelters, food pantries, senior centers, residential rehabilitation programs, soup kitchens, after-school programs and neighborhood centers that help feed hungry people of all ages in 60 communities in Central Massachusetts. The Worcester County Food Bank is a member of Feeding America, the nation's official network of food banks and food rescue organizations.

Thanks for the Food!

*"On behalf of the **Worcester County Food Bank**, I sincerely thank you and everyone that participated in your Food Drive last month. …increasing numbers of working families must choose between paying for housing, utilities, or medicine and putting food on the table. …these difficult choices are made easier by wonderful donors like you. …We appreciate the personal and collective contributions that you've given so generously. Thank you all for sharing in our efforts to make Worcester County hunger-free!"*

Recap of October's General Meeting

The October 17 meeting was well attended. Jon Levy gave the introduction, followed by additional remarks by ACE board members Chris Gerber, Dee McMaster, Gerry Welch, Ilene Titus and Bill Tarkulich, who revealed many deals and discounts.

The evening's main speaker, ***Julianne Ireland*** from Cannon Mountain told the club about recent developments at that ski area, including the acquisition of the nearby back-country area of Mittersill, which was abandoned in 1984.

Cannon is one of the highest mountains in New England. Julianne showed her enthusiasm about the mountain, where she grew up, and its ski area with 72 trails. Recent new developments include a learning area with its own ticket, lots of new buildings including a new bar ☺ serving beer from local breweries.

Mittersill is building a double chair that will be capable of carrying up to 1000 people an hour.

Julianne Ireland from Cannon Mountain

Ilene Titus: Halloween at the benefits table!

Jon Levy picks a door prize

Chris Gerber talks about membership

The check-in table

Julianne Ireland talks about Cannon Mountain

Gerry Welch waits for racers to sign up

Mary Mattock socializing with club members

Betty Ann Tyson, secretary

Members listen attentively

Bill collects ski resorts!

Marcia Ruklic gets a warm neck gator

October 27 Door Prizes

Smugglers Tickets	Dee McMaster
Headliner	Shelly Sage
Bolton Valley Tickets	Stan O'Riley
Mad River Tickets	Linda O'Clair
Hat	Ilene Titus
Neck Gator	Marcia Ruklic
Bromley Tickets	Ken Kozik
Heat Pocket Gloves	Marcia Ruklic
Magic Mtn Tickets	Janet Kennett
Mittens	Janet Kennett
Sun Shade Kerchief	Michelle Grenier
Ski Bag	Jean O'Donnell
Goggles	Alphonse Vautour
Under Armour Top	Ron O'Clair
Helly Hansen Jacket	Linda Dennis
Volkl Skis	Jeff Tobin
Cannon Mtn Tickets	Chuck Riley

Ron O'Clair shows off his Under Armour

Janet Kennett won Magic tickets

Jon Levy hands Jeff Tobin the grand prize!

Linda Dennis with her Helly Hansen jacket

Member Stories

Trip to Saddleback Mountain, by Marcia Ruklic

Last season, Greg and I went to Saddleback Mountain in Rangeley Maine from December 22-25, 2009. We stayed in a 1BR South Branch condo (clean and modern) with ski-in/ski-out access for $89 pp per night plus booking fee and tax, including lift tickets. It was snowing during the ride up, and we saw a moose off on the side of the road along the way.

View from the condo

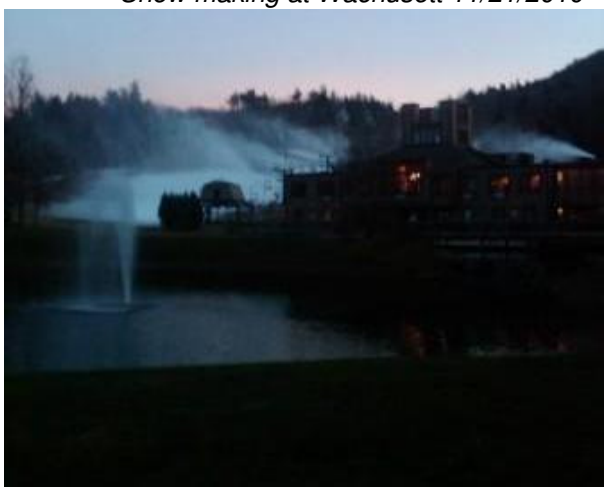
The upper part of the mountain was not open, as there was not yet enough snow for the early season. Coverage on the mid-mountain slopes was good – we skied the first two days there, and snowboarded on the lower mountain slopes (it had been a long time, so we weren't too daring) on Christmas Day (with Santa). We had a really nice time and plan to return when we can.

Marcia on the trail

Wine Cheese Chicks and Skis, by Mary Mattock

Every year in November Mt. Wachusett has their women's night with Wine, Cheese, Chicks and Skis, a great way to kick off the ski season. This year they discussed the new "rocker" skis, new boot technology and the latest clothing to keep you warm, including a vest with batteries for the heater.
They had great door prizes, including a new pair of skis! The Wachusett Village Inn donated a package worth $800.00 that included a suite for the weekend and ski tickets for four people.
Several ski club members attended, including Pam Beck, Cindy Westling, Betty Ann Tyson, Jean O'Donnell, Janet Kennett and Mary Mattock. The mountain provided an array of great food and wine including Cheese & Crackers, Butternut Squash Ravioli, and Flat Bread Pizza. For dessert there was a Chocolate Fountain with Biscotti … It was a great night out for the ladies!

Snow making at Wachusett 11/21/2010



Members, send us your stories and pictures!

Beatrice Chaney
newsletter@aceskiandboardclub.org

News, Trips, and More …

by Bill Tarkulich

Boston Ski and Board Expo

I spent six hours at the Boston Ski and Board Expo in November at the World Trade Center. Most every New England area was well-represented, and I had the opportunity to talk with a good chunk of them on behalf of our club. Areas like Burke, Whiteface, Mad River, Bromley, Pats Peak and Cranmore were anxious to work with us. I was told point blank by the Attitash Marketing manager that clubs should no longer expect any special considerations from them. The deals at Lake Placid/Whiteface are something you should really consider when planning your trips this year.

I came away with over 40 pounds of goodies which I'll share at the December club meeting! So I've made a lot of contacts which should serve our club well over the next year.

Bill with Olympic Snowboard gold medalist Seth Wescott

Wayne and Debra Potter with the Snowman

"ACE in the Valley" Weekend

Make it a day trip, make it a weekend, make it a weekday trip, make it cheap!
We've put together a pretty cool weekend using **free lift ticket** vouchers to **Cranmore** on **January 7th**.
Lodging is in North Conway at the beautiful ***Ski Wheelers Lodge*** for $28/night.
EICSL members ski the next day at **Bretton Woods** for $30. If you're "old enough" you can even ski the preceding Thursday at **Black** for $20! Mix and match any way you like.
We'll have a cash après-ski dinner on Friday evening in North Conway, for some quality member socializing time.
The only thing we ask is that you sign up at the December meeting or write to trips@aceskiandboardclub.org. Cranmore vouchers must be picked up at the meeting.
This is an ACE-sponsored trip.

Help Wanted

Looking for someone to organize a day trip to **Burke Mountain,** Vermont on January 14th.
Contact Bill at trips@aceskiandboardclub.org

New Members Wanted!

If you bring a non-member friend to a meeting, you will be eligible to win two tickets to ***Whiteface Mountain*** if that friend becomes a member! There will be another raffle at the February 1st meeting for those who get new members to sign up.

Post the Poster?

If you haven't already, print and post just one copy of our cool new club poster anywhere you see fit – At your local ski shop, your office, the library, your gym or any other place you like. Here's a link to the poster: **http://tinyurl.com/2d4zyxd.** There will be copies at the December meeting if you don't have access to a color printer.

P.S.: Santa will be checking to see if you were naughty or nice!

Questions? Tips? Want to Volunteer?

Contact Bill at 978-799-2930 or email info@aceskiandboardclub.org

Membership Update

We are looking to increase our membership - if you are already a member, please **bring a friend to the meeting!** If he or she joins the club you will be entered to win two tickets to Whiteface. Drawing on December 16th!

*If you are already a member, please make sure you are signed up with our **Yahoo group**. See detailed instructions on how to sign up on the next page, or send email to the membership chair at* membership@aceskiandboardclub.org.
***New members** will be signed up with the Yahoo group automatically unless the '… do not add me to the Yahoo Groups …' box is checked.*

If you haven't yet joined or renewed your membership, please fill out the **2010 – 2011 Membership Form** on the ACE Ski and Board Club website and return it along with your membership fee to the membership table at the next meeting or to the club mailbox:

ACE Membership
43 Ashcroft Rd
Medford, MA 02155

Brief History of the Club

- 25+ years old – the former Digital Ski Club
- Became the ACE Ski & Board Club, a Compaq employee club, in 1998
- Became a MA Chapter 180 non-profit corporation, and an IRS 501(c) 7 organization in 2003
- Members are adult fans of skiing and snow boarding in the greater New England area including some former Digital, Compaq, Intel, Cabletron, and Hewlett Packard employees
- An original EICSL club (Eastern Inter Club Ski League)

What ACE Ski & Board Club Does …

- Encourages camaraderie and enjoyment of skiing and riding
- Encourages and promotes an active recreational race program
- Provides availability of reasonably priced tickets
- Encourages participation in skiing in new and exotic places
- Promotes a greater knowledge of ski/board techniques, ski resorts, and technical knowledge of skiing and boarding

Benefits of Membership

- Bimonthly newsletter
- Free classified ads
- Discount lift tickets
- Social meetings with presentations on aspects of skiing and boarding
- Active race program at: the White Mountains
- Occasional ski trips to the west or Europe and to Northern New England or
- Member organized day trips to New Hampshire / Vermont
- Some shop discounts
- Cross-country skiing outings
- Summer activities: of cycling, hiking, and camping trips
- Yahoo!Groups distribution list: AceSkiandBoardClub@yahoogroups.com
- Optional EICSL membership
- Opportunities for family member racing
- Eligibility to win gear worth over 2,000 $ at general meetings

For details of our winter trips, tickets, EICSL, racing, meeting, and membership, look at the club website:

www.Aceskiandboardclub.org

Chris Gerber, Membership Chair
membership@aceskiandboardclub.org

YAHOO! GROUPS

The club uses a Yahoo list distribution as our means of communicating with members. It is necessary that you be on the list to hear about the benefits that the club offers, but you can also communicate with each other. You can ask if others want to organize a last-minute ski trip, find some extra ski tickets, or pass on tickets that you cannot use.

Signing up with the Yahoo Group

NOTE: New members will be signed up with the Yahoo group automatically unless they check the *'Please do not add me to the Yahoo Groups Email distribution'* box on their membership application form.

It's very easy; all you have to do is send email to:

ACESkiandBoardClub-Subscribe@yahoogroups.com

Or go to our website www.AceSkiandBoardClub.org . At the bottom of the home page, type in your email address.

Go one step further and create a YahooGroup UserProfile by going to www.YahooGroups.com and clicking on "click here to register". With a YahooGroups Profile you'll be able to post photographs of your latest ski trip and view other members' photographs and documents like the membership form (also available on the website). We are using the YahooGroups Calendar to send out reminders to members about upcoming meetings and trips.

Once you have a YahooGroups Profile, you can also choose how you receive the email sent out. You can choose to get each individual email as it is sent out or as a daily digest of all the email from that day.

Our club's General YahooGroups is Private and not listed in the YahooGroups directory. Membership is restricted—all members must be approved. Any member can send out a message, but all messages are approved before they are released. The club Archives are for members only; Email attachments are allowed but are not stored.

Yahoo Group Email Addresses

Related link: http://www.aceskiandboardclub.org

Post message: AceSkiandBoardClub@yahoogroups.com

Subscribe: AceSkiandBoardClub-subscribe@yahoogroups.com

Unsubscribe: AceSkiandBoardClub-unsubscribe@yahoogroups.com

List owner: AceSkiandBoardClub-owner@yahoogroups.com

Updating your email address

Once you are a member, and signed up with the Yahoo group, please make sure that your email address is up-to-date, for you to receive the latest news and updates from the club.

If you need help …

If you need any help with signing up to the Yahoo Group or updating your email address, send mail to the Membership Chair at membership@aceskiandboardclub.org.

Forms

You can print the following forms posted on the ACE Website www.aceskiandboardclub.org :

- 2010-11 ACE Membership Form
- 2010-11 Vermont Lift Ticket Order Form

The **2010-11 Racing Form** is attached to the end of this newsletter.

EICSL News

The Eastern Inter-Club Ski League (EICSL), which began in 1950 as a small group of ski clubs, is an organization comprised of clubs. EICSL binds all clubs together.

Realize that the lodging at any of the clubs is not designed with the glitzy Ritz-Carlton person in mind. Lodging varies greatly from club to club, but most are bunk-style rooms. The ***Ski Bees*** for example have segregated floors with seven women's bunk rooms on the second floor and seven men's bunk rooms on the third floor. Two bathrooms are shared by the women on the second floor, and two men's bathrooms are shared on the third floor. Club rules for smoking and quiet hours are instituted. The clubs vary and are all within 10 miles of each other.

We have a standing relationship with the ***Ski-Wheelers*** for lodging; they are located at Kearsarge Road, North Conway, NH 03847 (603) 356-9793. The Ski Wheelers make their home in a turn-of-the-century grand style lodge. It's one of the largest lodges in the Mt. Washington Valley. It was the site of the 1970's movie, "Return of the Secaucus Seven." The spacious 3-story lodge (also known as the Winwood Lodge) has 23 bedrooms with 88 beds. All bedrooms are semi-private with a sink and sleep from 2-6 people. Beds are available to accommodate guests almost every weekend. There are 9 bathrooms, a large dining room (also the party room!) with a fireplace, a cozy living room with a wood stove, a fully equipped industrial size kitchen, and plenty of room to store your gear.

Once an EICSL member, perks like 10% off purchases from certain merchants and restaurants in the North Conway area, plus--the important thing--discounted lift tickets, are organized by EICSL. This year's deals include discounted tickets at Mount Cranmore and Wildcat. Because the clubs are centrally located in the Mount Washington Valley, mountains like Wildcat, Attitash and Sunday River in Maine are all within an hour from the clubs.

Most clubs have a race team members can join. Team levels range from Snow Plow Division to AA and Open Divisions. Club teams race against one another about four times per year and some organizations have their own club race once a season. Don't think just because they're called ski clubs that's all they do. To be honest, some members have never skied a day in their lives. The night life après ski is an experience like no other.

IMPORTANT – Every Ace Ski & Board member that joins EICSL **MUST** sign the **EICSL Release Form** separately. It is has to be printed independently from any other document - in other words, **one sided**. If a couple joins there must be two (2) forms submitted.

The deadline to join EICSL through the ACE Ski & Board Club has passed. You may still join, but I cannot guarantee when you will receive your EICSL membership card and you must have your card to enjoy the EICSL benefits.

If you cannot attend the meeting when the cards will be dispensed, you can mail a SASE (Self Addressed Stamped Envelope) to Dee McMaster, 25 Pierce Street, Pepperell MA 01463-1402 and your card(s) will be mailed to you in the SASE.

SKI TELURIDE - with EICSL

February 22 – March 1, 2011.

Our "West" trip this year is to the historic ski town of Telluride, Colorado. www.tellurideskiresort.com

$1,200 base price - Add $335 for 5 day lift pass or add $399 for 6 day lift pass

This trip is open to current EICSL members only.

Contact trip@eicsl.org for more information.

Visit www.EICSL.org for a listing of the discounts available to you in the North Conway area and more!!!

If you are not receiving EICSL e-mail from me, please ensure that I have your correct e-mail address.

Recreational Racing 2009–2010

Gerry Welch - Chairperson

EICSL Racing Update

The race schedule is confirmed and the season is ready to get started!

We will be hosting the first race at **Bretton Woods** along with our co-team the **Polecats.** Our EICSL team name will be **ACE/Polecats** which will consist of at least 18 members, seven from ACE/Digital and the remainder from the Polecats. The rest of the races we will have gate keeping duties.

Some changes to the scoring system will take effect this year: the biggest is that the entire Vet class has been dropped and some class movements both up and down have been done to handle this adjustment. Note the optional SuperVet is still at age 55 for men and 50 for women.

Anyone who has not yet signed up for EICSL has till the 27th of December; after that all ACE/EICSL members who would like to try one free race can do so at one of the first three qualifiers. Please contact your Race Chair for more details regarding this race opportunity. The official race schedule is listed below.

2011 EICSL Race Schedule

All events are on Saturdays:

1st Qualifier	**Bretton Woods**	**1/8/2011**
2nd Qualifier	**Wildcat**	**1/29/2011**
3rd Qualifier	**Sunday River**	**2/12/2011**
Championship	**Wildcat**	**3/5/2011**

MT DEW - Mountain Dew Vertical Challenge 2011 Eastern Tour

Complimentary magnetic race schedule will be available at the December 16th General ACE Club meeting, while supplies last.

For more details on this fun and free racing program please see www.snocountry.com/ (Eastern Tour)

NASTAR Racing

An informational listing of race locations and racing details can be found in our Oct 27th ACE Ski and Board Newsletter or online at www.NASTAR.com.

Good luck to all this year and if you have any racing experience you want to share we'd like to hear about it!

Anyone needing more info regarding EICSL racing membership please contact your Race Chairperson.

Other than that, Racer Ready !!!

Gerry Welch - Race Chairperson
41 Mathew Circle
Goffstown, NH 03045
978-387-2893
gjwelch@netzero.net

EICSL RACING APPLICATION 2010 / 2011

Participant Must Be a EICSL Member of the ACE Ski and Board Club
Note: If this application is being submitted for multiple racer fill out one application and
Release form signed for each racer. Use the same release form for ACE Ski & Board EICSL membership.

[ ] EICSL ACE Ski and Board Racing Team

Submit application to : Gerry Welch – 41 Mathew Circle Goffstown , NH 03045. Include $25.00 check for EICSL race fee Junior racer are $25.00 also. (made payable to ACE Ski and Board Club). This race fee is in addition to the $8.00 EICSL membership fee on the Club Membership Application. Cut-off date is November 30th, 2010 for a EICSL racers. A Release Form (available from Gerry Welch) must also be completed, signed, and submitted with this application.
Note: Racers submitting applications after November 30, 2010 must pay an additional $5.00 to participate in the first race in early January 2011.

Racer Information

Name: _____ Home Phone: (____)_____

Work Phone: (____)_____

Email:_____

Home Address:_____

City: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____

Date of Birth: _____ Age: _____ Sex: _____Male _____Female ____

Describe Previous Racing Experience and/or Current Skiing Ability

(Not Necessary if Recent ACE EICSL Racer):

_____

_____

Typical NASTAR Handicap: _____ Best Recent NASTAR Handicap: _____