The Newsletter of the
ACE Ski & Board Club

Volume 30 Issue 2
December 2019

ACE Ski & Board News

General Membership Meeting December 10

Club trip to St. Anton and Prague, by Jon Levy

Location: The general meeting of the ACE Ski and Board Club will be **TUESDAY December 10** at the **Chelmsford Elks Lodge** in Chelmsford, MA.

Doors open at 6:30. Meeting starts at 7:00.

Meeting Highlights: Thanks to **Ryan Conway**, Faction Skis will host a premiere for their new movie.

*For an **extra door prize ticket** bring non-perishable food items for a pantry or a $5 supermarket gift card.*

Only current ***ACE Club members*** *are eligible for door prizes.*

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Pizza will be offered for **$2 CASH** per slice on a first come, first served basis.

Important ACE Club Dates 2019–2020

General Meetings	Board Meetings	EICSL Races
September 17 (Tue)	**August 27 (Tue)**	**January 4**
December 10 (Tue)	**November 19 (Tue)**	**January 25**
January 28 (Tue)	**January 7 (Tue)**	**February 8**
		March 7

Meeting Location

The general meeting on **TUESDAY December 10** will be at the

Elks Lodge in Chelmsford

300 Littleton Rd
Chelmsford, MA 01824

www.elks.org - Lodge #2310

Directions from the North:

Take 495 South to exit 34, and then merge onto Rte 110 West/Chelmsford St toward Rte 4. Turn right onto 110 West/ 4 North/Central Square. Continue to follow 110 West. The Elks Lodge will be on your left in about 4 minutes.

From the South:

Take 495 North to exit 32 for Boston Rd. Turn right onto Boston Rd. After a few lights, turn left onto Rte110/Littleton Rd (signs for Chelmsford/Lowell)

The Elks Lodge will be on your right after about 5 minutes.

From the East or West:

Get to 495 and then follow the above directions, or use your GPS ☺

ACE Club Executive Board

Jonathan Levy	President
Robin Diamond	Vice-president and Acting Race Chair
Open	Race Chair
Open	Secretary
Open	Meetings
Dana Blanchard	Treasurer
Michèle Grenier	Benefits Chair
Roscoe Diamond	Membership Chair
Bryan Woods	EICSL Chair
Open	EICSL Co-Chair
Open	Marketing
Ryan Conway	Webmaster
Beatrice Chaney	Newsletter Editor

President's Message

Well, it's December. Our lawns are white, so that can only mean one thing: time to hit the slopes!

Many members took advantage of our discounted lift tickets; the second year of online purchase went a bit smoother, and most should have received their tickets by now, either from picking them up at the December Meeting, or via postal mail.

Prices were just reduced on some slow sellers, so it might be worth another look to see what's still available, and what's now cheaper.

We have good numbers for our trip to ***Val d'Isère*** and ***Paris***, but it's not too soon to start thinking about next year's destination. Send a message to Bryan, or start a discussion on our Facebook page.

See you at the mountains!

Benefits Update

Lift Tickets

Discount tickets will again be available to members this season. The first two online ticket sales of the season were announced to club members through the members-only Google group.

See you at the ***December 10*** General meeting!

Michèle Grenier, Benefits Chair
benefits@aceskiandboardclub.org

ACEWOS Online Ticket Purchasing

Last season, after many years of using paper forms, paper checks and the US Postal Service, the club successfully transitioned to **online** ordering for discount tickets, membership and race registration!

A **member account** is required on the club's website, www.aceskiandboardclub.org for each person wishing to buy tickets.

Spousal/Family Memberships have been eliminated. Everyone joins as a Primary Member now.

Detailed **instructions** on how to create an account and purchase memberships and tickets is available at www.aceskiandboardclub.org/store/

Wachusett Mountain Group Season Pass

As in previous years, there is an ***"ace ski and board club"*** group set up to purchase discounted **Wachusett Mountain** Group Season Passes (referred to as GPS, for GrouPS).

Members and non-members may use this group to obtain the discount.

A minimum of 4 people are needed in order to get the discount.

In addition, incentives are offered when there are 4 or more members in the group; the name of one club member from the purchasers will be "picked from a hat" at the December club meeting to receive the incentives.

To see the **GrouPS** pass options, pricing, incentive listing, and to purchase a discounted pass, go directly to:

www.wachusett.com/Tickets-Passes/Groups/GPS-Club.aspx

Select the pass and quantity and then press the ***"Add to Cart"*** button.

View the items in the cart, then press the ***"Check Out"*** button and add the information requested (you will need to register).

Enter **"ace ski and board club"** for the group name. **Marcia Ruklic** is the group coordinator.

Thanks for the Food!

Thanks to all who brought food to the September meeting. ***Robin Diamond*** delivered your donations to a food pantry in Derry, NH,

Bring Food!

For an **extra chance at a door prize**, bring canned goods, non-perishables, or a $5 supermarket gift card.

Think Holidays: boxed chicken broth, pasta, canned pumpkin or squash, canned veggies (green/yellow beans, peas, carrots, potatoes), boxed pie crust.

ACE Merchandise

We have fleece jackets, vests, and some cool hats and tote bags with the **ACE logo** for sale.

Come check them out at the ***December 10*** meeting!

Checks or PayPal – no cash

Trips

Trip to Val d'Isère and Paris

Jan. 31 - Feb. 11, 2020

$2,820 / person double occupancy

$3,435 single occupancy

For details and updates, visit:

www.aceskiandboardclub.org/trips/val-disere-and-paris-france/

Recap of September General Meeting

At the first meeting of the season, **Robin Diamond** welcomed everyone back from their summer activities. She strongly encouraged members to volunteer for one of several openings of the club's board, including the positions of ***Race Chair*** and ***Club Secretary***. She pointed out that people can exchange any door prizes they win if the size doesn't fit or for any other reason.

The featured speaker of the evening was **Charna Cumming** from ***Alphorn Tours*** www.alphorntours.com , back to present highlights of the club's upcoming trip to ***Val d'Isère*** and ***Paris***. She promised it would be ***amazing***, combining skiing and tourism at a great price point.

Val d'Isère and its old village are right next to the higher elevation resort of ***Tignes***, together forming a giant seamless ski area that offers many experiences, something for everybody: beginners, intermediate, advanced, including glacier tours with a guide. Val d'Isère has a fantastic night life and the hotel is right there, a walk away across a snow field. Also, there are many opportunities for culinary explorations!

She strongly recommended renting skis, to avoid lugging them through airports and ground transportation, and because conditions are likely to be very different from New England. She did say, however, that by all means bring your own ski boots, which are free as a carry on. Also, everybody should get travel insurance, including for trip cancellation. She noted that your checked luggage cannot contain any batteries, which must be stored in your carry on.

A useful tip is to bring a small back pack and water bottle. The area is very big, and spans a wide range of elevations; it can be very cold at the top and warmer at the bottom. The weather is much dryer than New England, so it is important to stay hydrated.

The currency exchange rate is favorable right now with a strong dollar, and if you are an ***Epic*** or ***Ikon*** pass holder, check your benefits for the Tignes/Val d'Isère area.

Charna concluded by mentioning that she grew up in the Mount Washington valley and is very happy to work with our club!

Marcia Ruklic gave an update on this season's ***Wachusetts Mountain GPS*** passes available at a group rate. She pointed out that prices are scheduled go up after November 13, including those for Juniors and Seniors! If you have any questions, just send her email.

Michèle Grenier talked about benefits and mentioned that tickets ordered so far will be available at the December meeting, and that another ticket sale would be announced shortly.

September 2019 Door Prize Winners

Chris Cole	Balaclava
Greg Ruklic	Jacket
Dana Blanchard	Jacket
Shelley Sage	Goggles
Kelley Gage	Goggles + 2 Pico tickets
Jean O'Donnell	Gloves + Beanie hat
Jeff Tobin	Gloves
Michèle Grenier	Boot bag
Barbara Patzner	Fleece
Jack Coady	Fleece
Marcia Ruklic	Burton beanie hat
Ken Kozik	Burton beanie hat
Bryan Woods	Atomic skis + 2 Mad River tickets
Marcia Melanson	2 Bromley tickets

Bryan won the grand prize!

Barbara shows off her warm fleece

Great ski bag, Michèle!

Nice colors, Dana!

Someone will look good in that fluffy hood!

Shelley won two prizes!

Nice balaclava,Chris!

Gloves for those cold chair lifts, Jeff!

Kelley will see clearly on the slopes

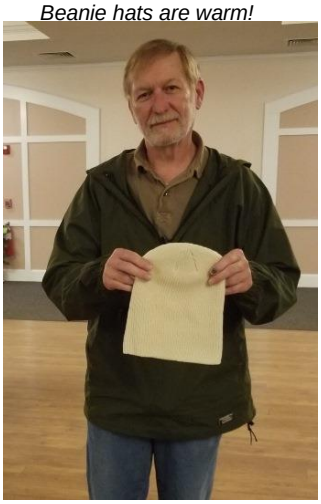
A warm fleece for Jack

Beanie hats are fun!

Lucky Jeannie: gloves and a beanie hat!

Enjoy Bromley, Marcia!

Beanie hats are warm!



Membership Update

Thank you everyone for being so patient through this first year of transition of purchasing your membership online and using PayPal! If you haven't already, be sure to renew your membership for the season!

For detailed instructions on how to purchase your membership and tickets through the online ***ACE Web Ordering System (ACEWOS),*** see: https://www.aceskiandboardclub.org/store/

Spousal/Family Memberships have been eliminated. Everyone joins as a Primary Member now.

Although the club strongly encourages everyone to purchase memberships through **ACEWOS**, you can still sign up or renew your membership by downloading forms from the ACE website at www.aceskiandboardclub.org/membership and mail your completed form and dues (checks, no cash) to:

Roscoe Diamond
ACE Ski and Board Club
50 Hillside Ave
Derry NH 03038

If you are a **PayPal** user, you can send your payment to payments@aceskiandboardclub.org.

If you are purchasing your membership through **ACEWOS** or if you are paying by **PayPal you will still need to complete the membership process by sending your signed form to the above address**, or you may **scan and email** it to membership@aceskiandboardclub.org or bring it in person to any general meeting. I will email you a confirmation that I received your membership application.

You may also get help in signing up or renewing your membership at every general meeting.

Roscoe Diamond, Membership Chair
membership@aceskiandboardclub.org

New and renewing members will be added to the club's ***"Members Only" Google Group*** unless they explicitly request not to be included. This email list is used to send club news and important announcements to ACE Club members.

For details on winter trips, tickets, EICSL, racing, meetings and membership, see the club's website: ***www.aceskiandboardclub.org***

What the 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 snowboarding

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 nonprofit corporation, and an IRS 501(c) 7 organization in 2003
- Members are adult fans of skiing and snowboarding 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)

Benefits of Membership

- Social meetings with presentations on aspects of skiing and boarding
- Discount lift tickets
- Eligibility to win gear worth over $ 2,000 at general meetings
- Newsletter published four times a year
- Active race program
- Occasional ski trips to the west or Europe and to Northern New England
- Member organized day trips to New Hampshire / Vermont
- Shop discounts
- Timely information on coupons, special discount days and other deals
- Cross-country skiing outings
- Summer activities: cycling, hiking, camping trips
- Members-only Google Groups list
- Optional EICSL membership
- Opportunities for family member racing

Groups

Members-only Google Group

New and renewing members are added to the club's **"Members Only" Google Group** unless they explicitly request not to be included.

If you are **not** receiving emails, please contact the Membership Chair at membership@aceskiandboardclub.org.

To **post** to this group, send email to aceskiandboardmembers@googlegroups.com

To **unsubscribe** from the Google Group and stop receiving emails from it, send an email to aceskiandboardmembers+unsubscribe@googlegroups.com

It is necessary that you be on this "Members Only" list to hear about **benefits, newsletters** and late breaking **deals** that the club offers.

The club's Google Group is **private** and not listed in the Google Groups directory. Membership to this group is **restricted** - all group members must be approved and must be members of the ACE Ski and Board Club.

As a member of this group you can send out messages to the whole group – see email address above for posting. However - to avoid spam - all messages are approved by a **moderator** before they are released.

Updating your Email Address

Please let Membership know ASAP if your email address changes from when you filled out your Membership form, so that you continue to receive the latest news and updates from the club.

Links and Forms

Check out the club's public website at www.aceskiandboardclub.org.

In addition, look for news about coupons, special discount days and deals available only to club members in your members-only email.

Purchase Membership and Tickets:

www.aceskiandboardclub.org/store/

Membership:

www.aceskiandboardclub.org/membership/

Email: membership@aceskiandboardclub.org

Tickets:

www.aceskiandboardclub.org/membership/tickets

Email: benefits@aceskiandboardclub.org

Racing:

www.aceskiandboardclub.org/membership/racing/

Email: racing@aceskiandboardclub.org

Newsletters:

www.aceskiandboardclub.org/newsletters/

Email: newsletter@aceskiandboardclub.org

Facebook:

www.facebook.com/aceskis

EICSL:

www.eicsl.org

ACE/EICSL Update

Bryan Woods,
ACE EICSL Representative

Haven't skied in the last couple of years? Last couple of decades? Never skied at all? What's your excuse? No money? No time? No skis? Whatever your reasons, we've got an answer.

The **Eastern Inter-Club Ski League (EICSL),** which began in 1950 as a small group of ski clubs, is an organization comprised of clubs with over 1,200 members. Don't let those numbers scare you. Each of the clubs has anywhere from 25 to 150 members and likes to keep things as intimate and family-like as possible.

Each individual club has its own elected board of directors and numerous committees to take care of the needs of its members. EICSL binds all clubs together. EICSL' s most important function, according to **John Bycina**, Past President (1998-2000) of EICSL, is *"to help clubs communicate and to obtain benefits for a large group such as a race program, social activities and discount tickets."*

Once a 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.

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 people decide the night before where they'll be skiing and share rides the next morning.

Although ACE doesn't have a lodge, we have standing agreements with a few clubs if you are interested in staying at their house as a guest. Cost is very low (about $25/night), so don't expect the Marriott.

The **ACE Ski & Board Club** would like to invite **YOU** - to join EICSL as well. For just $10 per member in addition to your ACE Membership dues you can take advantage of all the discounts - but most important - the social atmosphere!

Join now! Contact **Bryan Woods**, ***ACE Ski and Board EICSL Chair,*** to inquire.

For more information about EICSL, go to www.eicsl.org.

EICSL Guest Lodging

For EICSL Members interested in weekend lodging in the North Conway area, one option is to stay at the ***Wedeln Ski Club***. Contact VP **Rob Murphy**, robertmurphy.wedeln@gmail.com by the Wednesday prior to the weekend you wish to stay.

Cost is $25/night, payable via ***PayPal*** in advance to treasurer@eicsl.org .

2019-2020 EICSL Applications

The EICSL signup or renewal **deadline for the 2019-2020 season was October 31, 2019**.

EICSL Season Kick-off

Bretton Woods - 12/14/19

Jay Peak EICSL Trip

5.5 Day Trip: 12/12 to 12/17/19
3.5 Day Trip: 12/12 to 12/15/19

Registration for the EICSL ***Jay Peak*** trip is now open.

You must be an EICSL member to go on this trip.

This trip is dependent on early season snow conditions.

Price is lower than past few years.

Check out www.eicsl.org/trips--discounts.html for details and updates on this season's EICSL trips.

ACE/EICSL Racing 2019–2020

Robin Temple Diamond, Race Chair

Race Program Details

- Four races per year.
- Participate in two races to qualify for championship.
- $20.00 to register for the year
- Discounted lift tickets available at each race.
- You must be an active member of EICSL and the ACE Ski & Board Club.

If you are interested in racing, please contact ***Robin Diamond*** at: racing@aceskiandboardclub.org with Subject: ACE RACING 2019-20 INQUIRY ***or see Robin at the meeting!***

You must be an **ACE Ski & Board Club Member** and **EICSL Member** to race. The EICSL membership payment and signed form must be submitted to the ***ACE Ski & Board Club Membership Chair***.

You can get forms at the upcoming General Meeting or by visiting the Club's website at www.aceskiandboardclub.org.

2019-2020 Race Dates and Locations

1st	**January 4, 2019**	**Bretton Woods**
2nd	**January 25, 2019**	**Attitash**
3rd	**February 8, 2019**	**Wildcat**
Champ.	**March 7, 2019**	**Attitash**

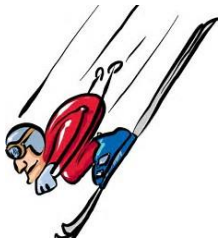
Stay tuned for further details on racing at:

www.aceskiandboardclub.org/membership/racing/

Robin Diamond - Acting Race Chair

Race Registration and Payment

Race registrations can now be purchased online through the **ACEWOS** system on the Club's website at www.aceskiandboardclub.org.

If you are a ***PayPal*** user, you can also send your payment to payments@aceskiandboardclub.org.

Or you can mail a check payable to ***ACE Ski & Board Club*** to Robin.