

2020 December 29 email sent to DRXC members, including those from 2019/20

Subject: DRXC update, 2020 December 29



Hello Deep River Skiers,

There is lots of beautiful winter scenery to enjoy on the trails. Thanks to the efforts of many volunteers, the trails are smoother than ever. Here's a quick news update from your DRXC Executive.

Covid-19 and the DRXC The local ski trails provide a wonderful opportunity for healthy outdoor activity. Although skiing itself is not directly affected by the ongoing pandemic, many of the DRXC facilities and programs are. The chalet (Balmer Bay Road) and cabin (Bass Lake trails) are closed during the lockdown period. The junior instruction and equipment rental programs are postponed until further notice, as is the new member drop-in. Adult instruction (January 10 and 17) will take place, but in small groups with staggered start times.

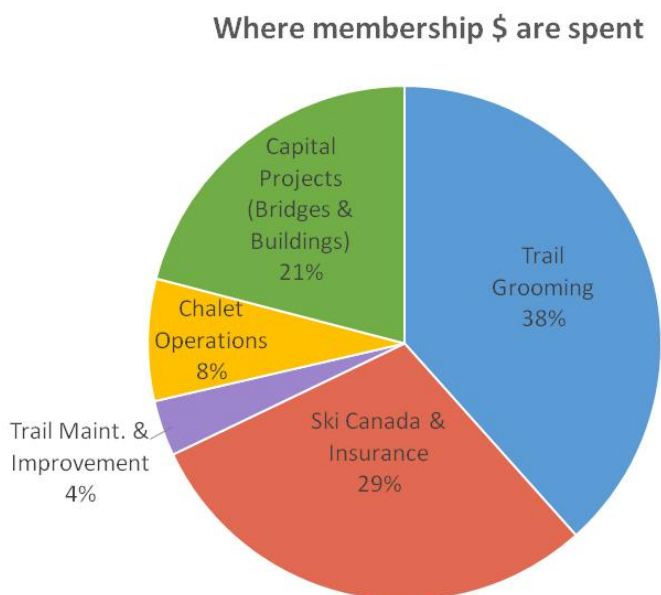
Once the lockdown period is over, we hope to open our facilities and resume our programs to the extent possible. For this to happen, Renfrew County will have to return to a "green level" under Ontario's Response Framework. At that time, more information will be provided on the opening of our facilities.

Trail Conditions and Trail Etiquette Trail conditions and grooming updates are provided on the <http://drxc.ca/category/trail-conditions/> page. Now that the ski season has started, we ask that walkers and snowshoers use the snowshoe trails, and please ***refrain from using the ski trails***. New this year is that portions of the C loop have been smoothed with fill, and an additional culvert was installed to improve drainage. B loop drainage was also improved, and some of the corners were widened. Last year the section of King's Road

between the two M loop crossings was maintained as a multipurpose trail. This was quite popular, and it will again be maintained, providing skiers with an “intermediate M” option that avoids the big M downhill.

Winter Parking on Balmer Bay Road Parking on Balmer Bay Road will be the same as last year. ***Only parallel parking along the chalet side of the road*** is permitted during the winter period. There are now five access points from Balmer Bay Road to the D loop. These will be maintained during the winter.

Membership Registration To become a member, visit the www.drxc.ca registration page, which provides a link for joining the club, or click on the link <https://zone4.ca/register.asp?id=25044&lan=1&cartlevel=1>. If you have not already done so, please sign up soon. We count on membership fees to pay for trail grooming, trail and facility maintenance, insurance, and memberships in Nordiq Canada and Cross Country Ontario.



Adult Ski Lessons Adult ski lessons will be held on Sunday January 10 and Sunday January 17 with staggered starts beginning at 1:30 p.m. Meet in the area directly behind the chalet. All new members are automatically invited to these lessons, as are returning members who signed up for the lessons with their membership renewal. A separate email will be sent to participants before the first lesson.

Moonlight Skiing Moonlight ski outings are planned for the following Saturday evenings: January 30 and February 27. Meet in the area behind the chalet at 7:00 p.m. These events will depend on weather and ski conditions. More information on these will be provided just before the events.

Silver Spoon Ski Fest For 2021, the 49th Silver Spoon Ski Fest will be a multi-day loppet rather than a race. Between Saturday February 6 and Sunday February 14 (eight days), skiers can rack up their kilometres toward bragging rights and a donation to local charities. The “course” will consist of the Silver Spoon trails, Forestry trails, Bass Lake trails, and Plant trails (for CNL employees). Participant skiers must be members of the DRXC. Snowshoers can participate as well. No timing, no cost, no pressure – so easy! More information about registration will be posted on the Silver Spoon website (<http://bright-ideas-software.com/silverspoon/>) and Silver Spoon facebook page (<https://www.facebook.com/DRXCSilverSpoon/>).

Do you have unused ski equipment? The DRXC rental program is hoping to obtain more used equipment for its rental program. If you have some unused equipment that is still in reasonable shape, please consider passing this on to the club. We can offer to buy good quality equipment at fair market value. To arrange for equipment drop-off, contact Bob Donders at 613-584-4321 or dondersr@magma.ca.

DRXC Community A great place to find out (or post) about ski conditions and happenings is our facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/DRXCSkiCommunity/>. Become a member of this group to share information.

Safety Tips When you are preparing to go out for a ski, please take some simple precautions before hitting the trails.

- If you have a cell phone, please remember to charge it up and bring it along. It is best to keep it somewhere warm so that the battery performs better. Be aware that the trails all have some spots with limited service, and that signals are better at higher elevations. There is cell phone coverage on most of the Silver Spoon trails, but coverage is spotty on the Bass Lake and Forestry trails.
- Know where you are going (there are trail maps on the DRXC website) and inform someone in your household or a good friend where you are going.

Cross-country skiing is a wonderful way to enjoy winter with family and friends and to stay physically and mentally healthy. See you on the trails!

Happy Holidays and best wishes for the New Year,

Bob Donders (dondersr@magma.ca, 613-584-4321)