

North Bethesda Middle School PTO, Inc.
2015 Ski Club Registration – FINAL NOTICE

Registration Instructions

1) Register & Pay Online for NBMS Ski Club

Visit <http://register.asapconnected.com/default.aspx?org=3483>. Click Login. Click Create New Account. Enter a PARENT'S information as the account holder on page 1. Add a child. Enter the STUDENT's information on page 2 (you can return later for bus buddies). Enter Emergency Contact Info on page 3.

Once your account is created, click 'Register' for the NBMS Ski Club class. Pay \$115 for a seat on the NBMS Ski Club bus.

2) Purchase a Night Club Card from Liberty Mountain – PRIOR to 11/4 midnight

Visit <http://www.libertymountainresort.com/ncclogin> to purchase a Night Club Card for \$179 (lift ticket only), \$224 (lift/lesson), or \$264 (lift/lesson/rental). Prices will increase after midnight on 11/4. Carefully follow the instructions on the attached "NCC Club Members – Purchase Your Liberty Mountain Night Club Card Online!" instructions. ***As a new club member, Create a New Guest in step 12.***

NCC CLUB REQUIRED LOGIN INFORMATION

Club Name: N BETHESDA (note the space between N & B)

Password: member (case sensitive)

The 'optional' purchases include the Advantage Card Option (+\$20) – this is good to buy only if the student intends to ski at times outside the 3pm-10pm time period that the Night Club Card is valid. The Protection Policy (+\$8) offers a prorated reimbursement on the Night Club Card if you move or the student gets injured/sick. The Helmet (+\$50) is a great deal if your student needs a helmet (and helmets are required!).

Do not purchase a 'Night Season Pass' or 'Season Pass' unless the student specifically intends to ski prior to January 2, 2015. The vast majority needs just a Night Club Card.

3) Upload a Photo (Recent Headshot) of the Student onto the Liberty website

Please complete this step while purchasing the Night Club Card.

4) Print & sign the NBMS PTO Ski Club Participant's Permission Form and Waiver Agreement (Pages 8 & 9 of this Info Packet) and the 2014-2015 LIBERTY/ROUNDTOP/WHITETAIL RESORTS 3-AREA NIGHT CLUB CARD RELEASE AGREEMENT (Online)

Visit <http://www.libertymountainresort.com/nconlinerelease> to print the latter form. Both the parent and student must sign and date all forms.

5) Turn In BOTH Forms to Ski Club Box in front of the NBMS Office by 11/7/14

North Bethesda Middle School PTO, Inc.
2015 Ski Club Procedural Information

**** IMPORANT – PLEASE READ ****

Before The Ski Season

- **Registering For Ski Club:** All participants must register and pay for a spot in the NBMS Ski Club following the Registration instructions. Only registered participants and approved Chaperones will be allowed to ride the bus on Ski Club trips.

- **Bus Buddy Requests:** In an effort to make the entire Ski Club experience as enjoyable as possible, we offer every participant the opportunity to choose up to five (5) friends to ride with on the same bus. (Buses are organized as such: 8th grade, 7th/8th grade, 7th grade, 6th/7th grade, and 6th grade). Please note that every effort will be made to accommodate requests, but we cannot guarantee placement. **Please make sure that each person in the group lists the same people to ensure placement on the buses.**

Bus assignments will be posted at NBMS in mid-December.

- **Night Club Card:** All participants must purchase a Night Club Card online through the **N Bethesda** Ski Club on the Liberty Mountain website. This card is required during Ski Club trips to Liberty Mountain and must be presented to purchase lift tickets, lessons, and/or equipment rentals (depending on which one you purchase) on any night from January 2, 2015 through the last day of the 2015 season, at Liberty (Carroll Valley, PA), Roundtop (Lewisberry, PA), and Whitetail (Mercersburg, PA). Discounted helmets (you must wear one), Advantage Cards (additional discounts), and a fee protection plan are also available for purchase.

- **HELMETS ARE MANDATORY:** All participants (including Chaperones) must wear a snow sports helmet while on the slopes. Note that it must be for snow sports, not for bicycling, skateboarding, or other sports activity. **You will not be permitted on the bus departing NBMS for Liberty without a helmet in your possession!** Any Ski Club member observed on the slopes without a helmet will lose his/her lift ticket for the night. Repeat offenders will be expelled from Ski Club without refund. If a helmet is lost, the participant must then rent one at Liberty for the evening. No helmet? No slopes!

Helmets are available for purchase online from Liberty for \$50 when buying your Night Club Card. These helmets will be available for pick-up at NBMS in mid-December.

- **Beginner Skiers/Boarders:** **Beginners are welcome in the ski club, because lessons are available every night.** All beginner skiers/boarders (noted as “Type I” on the Night Club Card online application) must select the Lesson option. Skiing or boarding when you don’t know what you’re doing isn’t fun and is unsafe. Everyone at one point in their life was a beginner, just like you, and had to take lessons. Want to be like them? Learn!

Before Each Trip

- **Safety & Decision-Making Discussion:** Parents and students should **together** read, discuss, and agree to the information contained within this Information Packet, as well as the MCPS policies for student behavior, NBMS Ski Club Behavioral Expectations, and the Liberty Mountain Code of Conduct and Responsibility Code. In addition, we encourage all parents and students to have this discussion every week:

Ten Decisions Made Every Week by NBMS Ski Club Participants

1. Do I rent skis or a snowboard tonight?
 2. Do I take lessons tonight? If yes, at what time?
 3. What lifts and runs will I try tonight?
 4. Will I use the terrain park tonight?
 5. With whom will I ski/board, and what is their ability compared to mine?
 6. If my friends want to ski/board on a run that I'm not familiar, what will I do?
 7. If I get separated from my friends while on the mountain, what will I do?
 8. Will I ski in control or unsafely?
 9. Will I drink high-caffeine energy drinks?
 10. How will I behave on the bus, in the lodge, and on the mountain?
- **Cancelled Trips:** If NBMS is closed or closes early on the day of a Ski Club trip, that trip is cancelled. In addition, Ski Club coordinators may decide to cancel any scheduled trip due to weather conditions or other unforeseen circumstances. Notices regarding cancellation will be posted three places:
 - Via e-mail to all e-mail addresses you provide during registration.
 - On the NBMS PTO Website (www.nbms-ptd.org)
 - Via e-mail on the NBMS PTSA Information Listserv (to subscribe, parents should send an e-mail to northbethesdamsptsa-subscribe@yahogroups.com)
 - **Trip Dates:** The 2015 Ski Trip Dates are scheduled for:
 - Friday, January 9, 2015
 - Friday, January 16, 2015
 - Friday, January 23, 2015
 - Friday, January 30, 2015
 - Friday, February 6, 2015
 - Friday, February 20, 2015 (make-up date)

- **Ski Gear and Bag POD Storage:** A storage pod is available in the school's lower parking lot during morning drop-off from 7:15 AM to 8:00 AM on ski trip days. Upon arrival, you may bring up to one bag, one ski/snowboard equipment, and/or one pair of boots to the storage area. No loose items are allowed – they must be packed in a bag for storage. Do not take anything into the school that will not fit in your locker. The storage pod will be locked during the school day. **All items must be tagged with the participant's name, home or cell phone number, and a Ski Club provided color tag.** All items will be removed from the pod and placed in bus-specific piles by Chaperones before students are dismissed at 2:40 PM. **Participants will be responsible for moving their gear onto the bus before boarding.** Any leftover items will be placed in the pod, and accessible again during the next trip. Unfortunately, we can't open it any other time. **The PTO and NBMS is not responsible for lost or stolen items.**

- **Bus Transportation:** Chartered Ski Club buses depart NBMS by 3:00 PM and return to NBMS at *approximately* 11:10 PM. Buses are scheduled to leave Liberty at 10:00 PM, but we sometimes leave earlier. For departure from Liberty, **participants must return to the buses by 9:40 PM** so that equipment can be stowed and attendance taken. **Parents must arrive at NBMS by 11:10 PM for pick-up.** Please do not be late.

- **Not Riding Bus Back Home:** If a participant is not going to ride the bus back to NBMS from Liberty, he or she must give the bus chaperone a dated note signed by the participant's parent while on the bus ride up to Liberty. Otherwise, the participant must return to NBMS on the bus. No exceptions!

- **What To Wear:** Bring clothing appropriate for skiing/boarding. Check the night before for the predicted temperature and precipitation (rain? snow?) for 5pm to 9pm in Carroll Valley, PA. A snow sport helmet, layered clothing, water-resistant pants, water-resistant coat, water-resistant gloves/mittens, socks, and snow sport goggles are recommended for all skiers and boarders. Find additional information on Liberty website.

- **Backpacks & Instruments:** You will have to bring all of your belongings on the bus with you, including your school backpack and instrument. There will be no access to the school or the storage pod on Friday night when we return. You can stow items in the bus cargo hold. Locker rentals are also available at Liberty. **Valuables should not be left in the passenger area of the bus!** Lock them up or carry them with you, as neither the PTO nor the bus company is responsible for lost or stolen items.

- **Movies on the Bus:** DVD movies will be shown during the bus rides to and from Liberty Mountain. Chaperones usually provide them, but if a participant wants to bring a DVD to share, please remember that only G-rated and PG-rated movies will be shown. No PG-13, R, or unrated movies. The PTO is not responsible for lost or broken DVDs.

- **Food & Drinks:** You are encouraged to pack and carry your own snacks, or even a meal, for eating while at Liberty. **All participants should have some type of after-school snack or meal packed for eating on the bus between 3 - 4:30 PM.** Skiing is an athletic activity and being well nourished and hydrated before and during skiing is important!

- **Money:** Bring sufficient money for food, drinks, and incidental expenses at Liberty. We recommend at least \$15 to \$20 per night, depending on your needs. Locker rentals range from \$3 to \$8, depending on size (many students share the larger lockers) and require exact change. Dinner prices range from \$7 to \$15, depending on selection. Chaperones are not able to loan money. You may load money on your Night Club Card and treat it like a Debit Card. Visit the Ski Liberty website for details.

On Each Trip

- **Chaperones:** Both adult and high school aged chaperones will be at NBMS for bus loading, on the buses, at the lift ticket line, in the rental areas, and at the bottom of the slopes to provide direction. You will also find them in the lodge and on the slopes throughout the evening if you need help or have a question. Look for the blue NBMS Ski Club jackets, and don't be afraid to ask for help. We are here for you. **Chaperones, however, are not supervising participants while skiing or boarding at Liberty Mountain.** With 100 acres of skiable terrain, participants are "on their own" while skiing and boarding at Liberty. Ski Patrol and lift operators are trained professionals who assist skiers and boarders as needed. Participants are expected to follow all Liberty Mountain rules and codes of conduct while on property.
- **Lift Tickets:** Upon arrival at Liberty Mountain, chaperones will direct participants and provide assistance in the both the lift ticket lines and rental areas. **You must have your Night Club Card in your possession to receive a lift ticket and to get rental equipment.** If you lost or misplaced your Night Club Card, alert your bus's lead chaperone when you get on the bus. Liberty will provide a one-time ticket at the Group Sales Office if you forget your card. Lost cards or forgetting your card a second time requires you pay \$25 to get a new card at the Group Sales Office. Don't forget or lose it – the delay is up to 30 minutes in getting a replacement card
- **Rentals:** All Ski Club participants who do not purchase the rental option on their Night Club Card must bring along equipment. **No out-of-pocket rentals will be permitted.**
- **Lessons:** Whether you are new to skiing/boarding or have been enjoying it for years, Liberty's skilled instructors make your time on the snow the best it can be. Small group lessons are available every night at 5:45pm (most common choice), and 7:00pm. Each lesson is one hour and includes several runs. Best of all, you go to the front of the lift line when with an instructor! Additional information available on the Liberty website.

Friends not taking lessons, or encourage you to skip it? Hard to do the opposite, but we know you will be making the right choice by taking lessons at Liberty! **All lesson takers will have their lift ticket punched by the instructor. Everyone who takes lessons will be eligible to win prizes on the bus ride back to NBMS!**

- **Skiing Alone – Don't Do It:** No one should ever ski or snow board alone. Please make sure you meet up with a friend on the slopes, or join an existing group of skiers or boarders at your ability level. This is a club, and no one should be excluded from joining in with others. If you find yourself without a "ski buddy," please ask a chaperone for assistance in locating a group. Best place to find similar skilled participants? Lessons!

About Family Members Participating in Ski Club

- Any family member of a participating NBMS student may purchase a Night Club Card as part of the N Bethesda Ski Club. To do so, follow just instructions #2, 3, 4, & 5 under Registration, except you are not required to turn in the 2-page Permission Form/Waiver.
- We will **not** have any extra seats on the buses for parents or non-NBMS students. Only registered Ski Club members and approved Chaperones ride the buses.
- A parent driving a minor – NBMS student or not – on Ski Club trip nights is solely and legally responsible for the supervision, safety, and welfare of the child for the entirety of the trip. NBMS PTO assumes no responsibility for those not registered as Ski Club members, even if they purchase a Night Club Card at the NBMS Ski Club price, and/or visit Ski Liberty on the same night and times as the NBMS Ski Club.

A Word About Safety – READ THIS WITH YOUR STUDENT!

- The NBMS PTO, Ski Club, volunteer Chaperones, bus drivers, and Liberty Mountain staff all take skier and boarder safety very seriously.
- **We need parents and students to take safety very seriously as well.**
- Each year, an NBMS student gets hurt while participating in Ski Club. Sometimes it's minor. Sometimes it's very serious. In almost every case, the student wasn't being safe. In all cases, it is the student's sole responsibility to act in a safe manner at all times.
- That's why we emphasize with great passion the behavioral expectations, code of conduct, and responsibility code. **But we can only do so much – we need parents to emphasize these things with their children, AND THE STUDENTS TO BE SMART!**
- **Chaperones are not supervising your children while they ski/board.** With more than 100 acres of terrain, the chaperones cannot be more than a resource for Ski Club members. Ski Patrol and Lift Operators are "in charge" on the mountain.
- We highly encourage you to go through the Ten Questions on page 4 **before every trip.** Help your child make the right decisions before they head to the mountain. They will thank you for it when they return home in great shape. And so will the Chaperones!
- Please also read and review the NBMS Ski Club Behavioral Expectations, Liberty Mountain Code of Conduct, and Skier/Boarder Responsibility Code on the next page.
- **Should a participant become injured or sick while on an NBMS Ski Club trip, every effort will be made by the NBMS PTO, volunteer Chaperones, and Liberty Mountain personnel to seek appropriate medical treatment and/or hospitalization. Parents and/or designated emergency contacts will be called, as time permits, should such actions be necessary. Parents may be required to drive up to Liberty Mountain or a hospital (Gettysburg or Baltimore) to provide transportation home to their child.**

NBMS Ski Club Behavioral Expectations

All Ski Club members are expected to adhere to all MCPS and Liberty Mountain rules and codes, and always be safe, cooperative and respectful. Always!

These behaviors are **absolutely unacceptable**, and are cause for loss of Ski Club membership:

- Threatening, abusive, obscene, or violent language, gestures, or behavior.
- Throwing of **anything** on the bus or out of a bus window.
- Refusal to sit properly and remain seated on the bus, or refusal to use safety belt (if there is a safety belt in a seat, it must be used).
- Vandalism, graffiti, or defacement of the bus in any way.
- Any inappropriate use of the on-board bus bathroom.
- Interfering with the bus driver or the safe operation of the bus.
- Drug, alcohol, or tobacco use.
- Sexual activity of any kind.
- Refusal to cooperate with a chaperone's direct request.
- Violation of the Liberty Mountain Code of Conduct or Skier/Boarder Responsibility Code.
- Leaving the immediate vicinity of the lodge and slopes. *Shuttle buses and the tubing area "Boulder Ridge" are strictly off limits.*
- Pranks, practical jokes, use of novelties, etc., that threaten the safety or well-being of self or others, or that create a perception thereof.

Liberty Mountain Code of Conduct

- Be courteous and polite to other guests and employees at all time.
- Ski/board in a safe, responsible manner.
- Don't ski/board fast or in a reckless manner.
- Observe all posted signs.
- Do not use foul or offensive language, comments, or gestures.
- Do not throw snowballs or other items at any time or place, including from lifts or in the lift lines.
- Understand and abide by the "Skier/Boarder Responsibility Code" at all times.

Skier/Boarder Responsibility Code

1. Always stay in control and be able to stop or avoid other people or objects.
2. People ahead or downhill of you have right of way. It is your responsibility to avoid them.
3. You must not stop where you obstruct a trail or are not visible from above.
4. Whenever starting downhill or merging into a trail, look uphill and yield to others.
5. Always use devices to prevent runaway equipment.
6. Observe all posted signs and warnings. Keep off closed trails and out of closed areas.
7. Prior to using any lift, you must have the ability to load and unload safely. Do not jump from the lift. In the event of a prolonged stoppage, the Ski Patrol will evacuate you.
8. Do not go down trails that are too difficult for your ability.
9. If you have a collision resulting in injury to another person, you must stay with that person until Ski Patrol arrives.

**North Bethesda Middle School PTO, Inc.
8935 Bradmoor Drive, Bethesda, Maryland 20817**

SKI CLUB PARTICIPANT'S PERMISSION FORM AND WAIVER AGREEMENT

**** IMPORANT – YOU MUST READ, SIGN, AND TURN IN AFTER REGISTERING ****

I, the undersigned, as the parent or legal guardian of the participant _____, give permission for my child to participate fully in the North Bethesda Middle School (“NBMS”) Parent Teacher Organization, Inc. (“NBMS PTO”)’s Ski Club activities, and to travel by chartered bus from NBMS, Bethesda, MD, to Liberty Mountain Resort, Carroll Valley, PA, and back to NBMS, on the following dates: January 9, January 16, January 23, January 30, February 6, and (if needed) February 20, 2015, and any other make-up dates, if scheduled by the NBMS PTO.

I, the undersigned, fully understand and agree to the following:

Operations and Rules

- Ski Club buses depart NBMS promptly after school dismissal, no later than 3:00 PM. Parents are solely responsible for transportation from NBMS should their child miss the afternoon bus departure. Participants will return by bus to NBMS at approximately 11:10 PM. Parents are solely responsible for being at NBMS before the buses arrive back from Liberty, and transporting the child home after Ski Club. Participants or parents who are late for any announced bus loading, departure, or arrival time are subject to the loss of Ski Club privileges with no refund.
- Any participant who was transported up to Liberty Mountain by Ski Club bus, but has made other arrangements for transportation back to NBMS or home must provide his or her bus chaperone with a signed and dated note from the parent indicating permission not to ride the bus back to Bethesda.
- **All Ski Club trips are made on a “weather-permitting” basis, and only on dates where NBMS is in session for the entire day of school.** A decision may be made by the NBMS PTO to cancel any scheduled trip due to weather conditions or other unforeseen adverse circumstances. Notice of trip cancellation will be posted on the NBMS PTO website, through the NBMS PTSA listserv, and sent to e-mail addresses provided by parents.
- Ski Club participants are expected to adhere to all MCPS policies for student behavior as described in the NBMS Student Handbook and other MCPS publications. Ski Club participants are expected to adhere also to the NBMS Ski Club Behavioral Expectations, Liberty Mountain Code of Conduct, and Skier/Boarder Responsibility Code. All Ski Club participants must wear a snow sports helmet while on the mountain. **Failure to comply with these policies, expectations, and codes may result in the loss of privileges, from one night up to and including expulsion from the Ski Club, without refund.** Additionally, participants may be referred to NBMS administrators for additional adjudication per MCPS guidelines.
- **The NBMS PTO Ski Club registration fee covers the cost of bus transportation and club administration only.** All other expenses, including but not limited to the Night Club Card (lift tickets, lessons, and/or rentals), optional fees, helmet, winter clothing, food and drinks, locker rentals, and, if needed, medical care and/or emergency transportation, are the sole responsibility of the parent and participant.
- The NBMS PTO Ski Club and its volunteer Chaperones do not take responsibility for the decisions made by participants, including but not limited to their choice of activities while at Liberty Mountain, choice of rental equipment (skis or snowboard, regardless of what they signed up for initially), choice of trails or terrain, attendance at lessons, and/or choice of food and drinks. **The NBMS PTO Ski Club and its volunteer Chaperones do not monitor, supervise, or take any responsibility or liability for participant activity or choices while at Liberty Mountain. Parents and participants are solely responsible for this.**
- Participants are expected to manage their time, money, equipment, and personal belongings themselves. Each participant is personally responsible for securing their belongings and purchasing food, drinks, and other incidentals. While Chaperones are numerous (about 1 per 12-15 participants) and available as

much as possible, and Liberty Mountain personnel are also numerous and available as much as possible, each participant is considered "on their own" while at Liberty Mountain, particularly while skiing or boarding on the mountain. **All participants are highly encouraged not to ski alone at any time.**

- **The NBMS PTO Ski Club registration fee is not tax deductible, and is non-refundable regardless of reason.** The optional Night Club Card protection plan offered by Liberty Mountain does not cover this fee.

Health, Safety, and Property Damage or Loss

- The sports of skiing and snowboarding (collectively "recreational snow sports"), which includes the use of snow sports equipment, mechanized chair and other lifts, are **DANGEROUS ACTIVITIES WITH INHERENT AND OTHER RISKS THAT COULD LEAD TO PERMANENT CATASTROPHIC INJURY OR DEATH. INJURIES ARE A COMMON AND ORDINARY OCCURRENCE OF RECREATIONAL SNOW SPORTS**, and therefore I freely and voluntarily assume for myself and/or the minor I am representing all of the risks involved.
- A snow sports helmet must be used at all times while skiing or boarding. While such use may help reduce the risk of some types of injuries, **SERIOUS INJURY OR DEATH STILL CAN RESULT** from both low-energy and high-energy impacts, and therefore I freely and voluntarily assume for myself and/or the minor I am representing all of the risks involved.
- As parent or legal guardian of the participant named, I do hereby grant the NBMS PTO Ski Club and its volunteer Chaperones the right to authorize emergency medical treatment, transportation, and/or hospitalization for my child in the event that I or my designated emergency contact cannot be reached at the telephone numbers provided by me during registration, and/or such care is deemed critical to the health and well-being of my child, thereby providing no time to make such contact with me or my designated emergency contact. **I assume full responsibility for any such action, including payment of all costs related to the medical treatment, transportation, and/or hospitalization of my child.** I also acknowledge and agree that the Good Samaritan Acts of Maryland and Pennsylvania apply in all cases.
- I agree **TO HOLD HARMLESS, TO NO SUE, TO INDEMNIFY, TO DEFEND, AND TO RELEASE FROM ANY AND ALL LIABILITY**, the NBMS PTO and all of its directors, agents, suppliers, and volunteers (collectively "providers"), including any and all liability arising out of an accident, loss, or emergency medical situation or that otherwise results in injury, death, emotional distress, or property loss or damage from participation in the NBMS Ski Club, participation in recreational snow sports, and/or results from the negligence of providers or any other person or cause. Providers are not responsible for the loss, damage, or theft of equipment or personal belongings.
- To the best of my knowledge and belief, I am, or the minor that I am representing is, in good health, physically fit, and able to participate fully in this activity. Should this change at any time during the time period of this activity, I will take full responsibility for removing the participant from the activity.

NBMS PTO Ski Club Parent/Guardian Permission Form and Waiver Agreement Certification

I, the undersigned, have read, understand, and agree to the above, and have reviewed all information provided in the NBMS PTO Ski Club Information packet. I understand and agree that I am signing on behalf of myself and/or the minor child I am representing, and all other parents/guardians, agreeing to be legally bound hereto.

Participant Name (Print)	Date of Birth (MM-DD-YY)	Grade
Participant Signature	Date	
Parent or Legal Guardian Name (Print)	Relationship to Participant	
Parent or Legal Guardian Signature	Date	