



red mountain racers

NEWSLETTER

FEBRUARY 2026

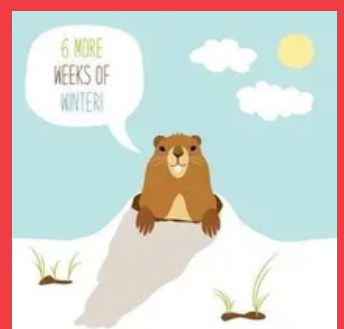
PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

As we continue to do our snow dance, this warm winter has presented a lot of interesting challenges for our athletes, coaches and ski clubs around the province. The U16 team is headed off to Kimberley this February for a speed camp due to a lack of training locally. U14 Provincials have been moved from Mount Washington to APEX due to the low snowpack on Vancouver Island, and Nancy Greene Ski League races have been rescheduled within our zone. This is just a few of the hurdles ski teams across the province are facing this winter.

Yet, with all of this, ski clubs, parents, and volunteers are working together to pull off a successful ski season for the athletes. We are grateful for everyone working hard to make this happen, and although it feels like spring out there right now, we are hopeful the groundhog will give us (at least) 6 more weeks of winter!

We are really looking forward to hosting the BC Winter Games later this month. Please sign up to volunteer here: <https://bcgames.org/volunteer/>

Andrea McCormick



UPCOMING RACES

It's Race Season

- NGSL: Feb 22 @ Phoenix Mtn
- U12: March 7-8 Teck Zone Race @ Red MTN
- U14: Feb 26-28 BC Winter Games @ Red (qualifying racers only)
- U14: March 7-8 Teck Zone Race @ Red MTN
- U16: Feb 19-22 Teck Open @ Panorama 2SL, 2GS
- FIS: Feb 21-22 BC Cup @ Apex - SL

See all training and race days per group
on the Calendars

[Calendars](#)



BC WINTER GAMES



We're excited to be part of the 2026 BC Winter Games coming to the West Kootenay area. Trail, Rossland and surrounding towns team up from February 25 to March 1 to host the Games. We're looking for volunteers to help make **Alpine Skiing** a success. It's a great opportunity to be part of a major provincial event right here in our community.

Our region has a proud history of hosting major sports events, including the 1982 and 2006 BC Winter Games, the 1996 BC Summer Games, and the 2011 BC Seniors Games. I am sure this will be another unforgettable celebration of sport, community spirit, and local pride.

If you're interested in volunteering,
Please register at: [BC Games Volunteer](#)
Be sure to select "Sport-Alpine Skiing."

RMR NGSL TEAMS



Stoke Sisters



Race Retrievers



Marshmallow Thieves



Golden Racers Dream Team



Sandy Senders



Ready Yeti Carving Crew

U12 & U14 AT PANORAMA

The U12 and U14 teams competed in the first of three Teck Zone Races in January. The three-day event featured Slalom (SL) and Giant Slalom (GS) racing, with U12 athletes also competing in a Kombi race—a combination of SL and GS set on a single course—on the final day.

This race series was particularly important for the U14 team, as it also served as the qualifying event for the BC Games, which will be hosted by Red Mountain Racers later this month. For those athletes who qualified, the opportunity to compete at the Games on their home mountain is truly something special.

All racers who participated demonstrated courage and perseverance, as course conditions were firmer and icier than we are accustomed to at Red. Congratulations to everyone who competed, and a special congratulations to our U14 athletes who qualified for the BC Games!



Congratulations to the RMR U14 BC Games Racers - (From left to right)
Alaina Coutts, Ira Laurie-Pouliot, Aspen Steen, Jaime Ansele, Zachary Zwicker



U16 TEAM UPDATE

The U16 Team raced for four days in Sun Peaks in January. They had two days of GS and two days of Slalom races with near-perfect race conditions. It was a great event for the team to get in several days of incredible racing and build confidence on the snow.

When the legendary **Nancy Greene** herself comes up to get a picture with the Red Mountain Racers, it's pretty special to be part of this club!



With the limited terrain at Red this year the U16 team has decided to head over to the East Kootenay's to put on their Super G skis and get in some speed training before their next race in Panorama later this month.

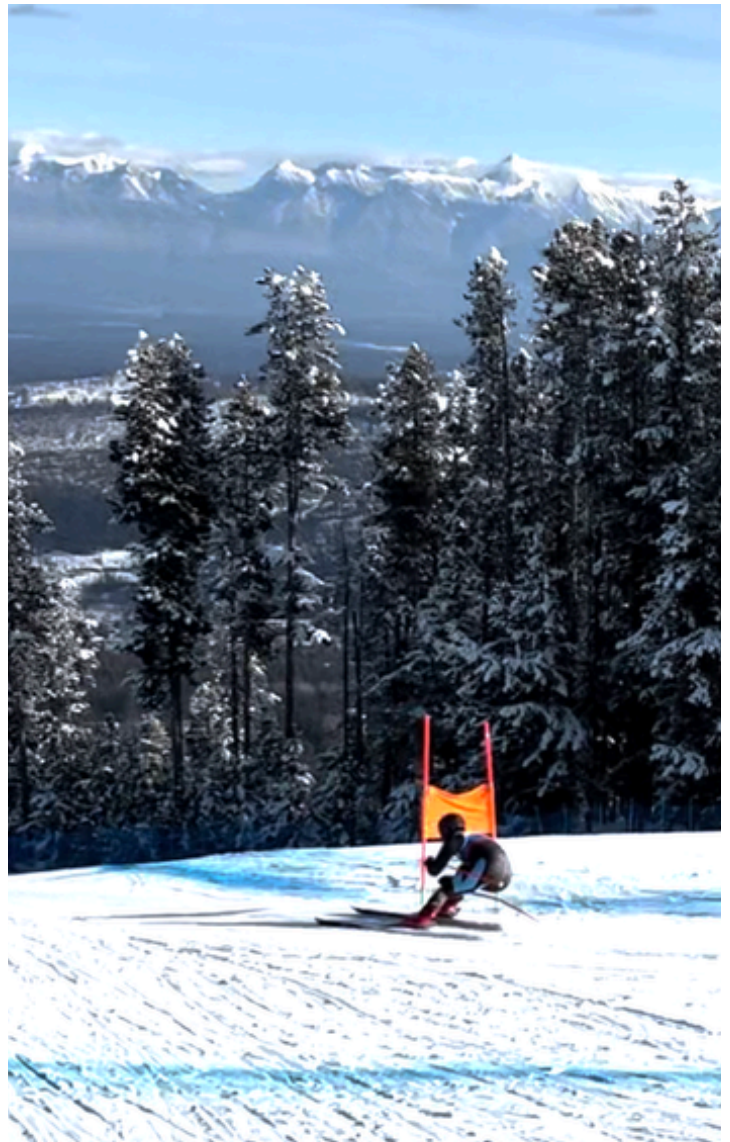
Coaches Mike and Ian have done an incredible job making these opportunities happen for the athletes. Thank you both!

FIS TEAM UPDATE

For those unfamiliar, FIS is the next step after U16. Stepping up from U16 to FIS ski racing is about moving into a more competitive, results-driven environment. Races are longer, courses are more challenging, and every run counts toward earning FIS points. It's a stage where skiers start focusing on strategy, consistency, and building the foundation for higher-level racing.

This season, RMR has five first-year FIS racers on the team, and they've had a very busy month with two race series. Jen Cerello and Dylan McDowell competed at the Nakiska GMC Cup, racing in two GS events and one SL. Later in the month, the team travelled to Kimberley for a speed camp, where the athletes were introduced to downhill racing—a new discipline for them, with speeds exceeding 110 km/h. After five days of training, they competed in two days of downhill races. The team performed exceptionally well, also taking part in a night slalom (after racing downhill earlier the same day) and finishing the series with two days of Super-G racing.

The team has now returned home for a few weeks of at-home training.



Elliott Roscoe, Quin Clark, Jennifer Cerello.
Not pictured: Dylan McDowell, Charlotte Anderson

COACH SPOTLIGHT



Isabelle Holley (Izzy)
U14 Coach

Izzy was born and raised in New Zealand, where she ski raced until the age of 18. Since then, she has obtained her level 1 & 2 alpine ski certifications and her level 1 adaptive instructor certification. With over 3 years of teaching adaptive and able-bodied skiers of all ages, a passion for skiing and a BSc

in sport, exercise and psychology, Izzy has a strong foundation in athlete performance, mental skills training (MST), biomechanics, and conditioning.

Her coaching career also includes hands-on experience as a strength and conditioning coach for the Otago Women's Ice Hockey Team.

This is Izzy's second season with us and we can not be happier to have her.



Jeff Vibbert
U12 Lead Coach

Jeff is from Orillia, Ontario and has been coaching alpine skiing in Canada for more than 30 years. Jeff is an ACA Performance Level (Level III) Certified Coach and Coach Mentor/Evaluator. He has coached all levels, from Nancy Greene to FIS-level athletes.

In the 2017/18 season, after retiring as a Senior Commander in the Ontario Provincial Police, Jeff spent a season here at Red as the U12 Coach.

Jeff's coaching philosophy is Fun and Fundamentals! We are lucky to have him again, coaching our U12 athletes.



VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT



Tammy Salway
Registrar &
Board Member

Tammy is the club's registrar and a long-serving board member. She dedicates countless hours to the registrar role, ensuring that every athlete and family is properly registered and in good standing with both the club and BC Alpine. Her attention to detail and behind-the-scenes work are critical to keeping the club running smoothly each season.

Tammy previously served as the NGSL programs coordinator. She is also a familiar face at race events, where she volunteers regularly and serves as a Level II official. Tammy has two boys racing with the club—one in U16 and the other competing at the FIS level.

Next time you see Tammy around the hill or at an event, please be sure to thank her for the incredible amount of time, energy, and dedication she gives to our club.



Mike McDowell
Board Member &
Co-Chair Race
Management
Committee

Mike is a long-serving board member and the head of the club's timing team. A Level III official, he also serves as co-chair of the Race Management Committee. It's safe to say Mike is all-in on ski racing. In recent years, he has led the charge to educate and empower others to step into leadership roles at the race events we host.

Mike has two sons in the program—one racing in U16 and the other enjoying his first year of FIS competition. In the off-season, you'll often find him on Red, testing and repairing our aging race timing wires. If you have questions about how ski races are managed or how you can get involved, Mike is your guy.

The next time you see him around the hill, please be sure to thank him for the countless hours he dedicates to our club.

VOLUNTEER REPORTING

To help us better understand the volunteer effort that keeps our club running smoothly, we ask anyone who volunteers to complete a short reporting form. Whether you helped at the ski swap, sold Christmas trees, or assisted as a tail gunner for a Nancy Greene group, your contributions are truly appreciated. The information will help us plan volunteer needs and maintain a simple record of everyone's efforts. All responses will be kept confidential.

To get the reporting started, we need to do a little catch-up. Please take a moment to report any volunteer activities you've participated in since July 1, 2025—whether it was at the ski swap, running wire at the mountain, selling trees, or any other way you've helped out.

[Report Your Volunteer Hours Here](#)

HISTORY OF RMR

The Rossland Museum's Fiona Lane and Sarah Taekema-Slot interview Brian Fry, Chris McIver, Grant Rutherglen, Don Stevens, and Derek Trussler about their skiing careers, particularly focusing on their time as Red Mountain Racers. Topics include ski racing, Red Mountain Racers, BC Ski Team, Canadian National Ski Team, Red Mountain Talent Squad, ski coaching, and dryland training. This interview was conducted on July 12, 2025, as part of the Rossland Memories Oral History Project.

[Check out Rossland Museum YouTube channel for the full interview](#)



MOUNTAIN ETIQUETTE

A quick reminder that several athletes have already been observed entering the lift line very fast this year. This mostly happens at the base, which is congested, and at Paradise, which has been very busy and has marginal conditions right around the lift! Our racers are very comfortable at speed, but with such limited terrain, many new skiers are in Paradise and are scared by racers zipping around at high speed.

Racers were also seen taking the singles line and then having all 3 athletes ride together. Please talk to your racer about slowing down before the merge point, before the chair, and entering the line-up with the general public (unless they are truly riding single).

Of course, MOST racers are entering the line at an appropriate speed and joining correctly. Thank you!

1. Respect Lift Lines

Join the lift line calmly, avoid cutting in, and follow all loading instructions from lift staff.

2. Give Space on the Slopes

Holiday traffic means crowded runs. Maintain safe distances, ski in control, and always yield to the downhill skier.

3. Be Aware in Training Areas

Please keep clear of designated training lanes and respect closures. Coaches need space to run safe, effective sessions.

4. Gear Zones Only

Store skis, poles, and bags in designated areas. Avoid leaving equipment scattered around lodges, decks, or walkways.

5. Be Mountain-Ready

Arrive on time, dressed appropriately, and with all necessary gear. Well-prepared athletes help keep the group moving efficiently.

6. Show Kindness and Patience

Staff, visitors, and fellow athletes all feel the holiday rush. A little patience and courtesy go a long way.

7. Pack In & Pack Out

Help keep the mountain clean, take all garbage with you and leave spaces tidy. Thank you for helping our athletes set a positive example and contribute to a safe and an enjoyable holiday season at RED!

Remember, Red Mountain Racers are ambassadors of our mountain and our community. Wear your jacket with pride.

COMMUNITY UPDATES



NANCY GREENE KOOTENAY

Nancy Greene Ski League
Dual GS - March 1st
(tentative)



BC WINTER GAMES

If you're interested in
volunteering, please
register at: [BC Games
Volunteer](#)



BOTTLE COLLECTION

Our newest Fundraiser &
we need your help! We
will be collecting at the
Slalom Creek Condos.

GEAR BAGS IN THE LODGE



Attention Racers:

Please use the new metal shelving located
just outside the conference room doors to
store your gear bags during the day.

Remember, we are guests in the lodge.
Please clean up after yourself.

OUR SPONSORS

THANK YOU!



INTERESTED IN BECOMING A SPONSOR?

The legacy of ski racing at Red Mountain runs as deep as the powder on our storied slopes. From hosting Canada's first National Championships in 1898 to our formal establishment as Red Mountain Racers in 1947, we've been cultivating alpine excellence for generations.

As a not-for-profit dedicated to developing exceptional ski racers across all alpine disciplines, our impact is measured both on snow and in the community. Our alumni proudly represent BC and Canada on national teams and NCAA rosters, while the fundamental skills we foster have launched successful careers in Skier Cross and Freeskiing competitions.

Beyond competitive achievements, we've helped hundreds of young athletes develop into skilled, passionate skiers who carry the values of dedication, camaraderie, and mountain stewardship into adulthood. Red Mountain Racers isn't just a club—it's a cornerstone of our community's identity and a proven pathway to athletic excellence.

[LEARN MORE](#)

[DONATE NOW](#)



Thank you for reading!

PHOTO GALLERY

We want your pictures. They can be of just about anything ski-related. Training, racing, pow-day, fun with friends, etc... We will feature as many as we can each month at the end of the newsletter.

Email your pictures to vicepresident@redmountainracers.com and put 'Newsletter Pictures' in the subject line.

FIS Team - DH Race

