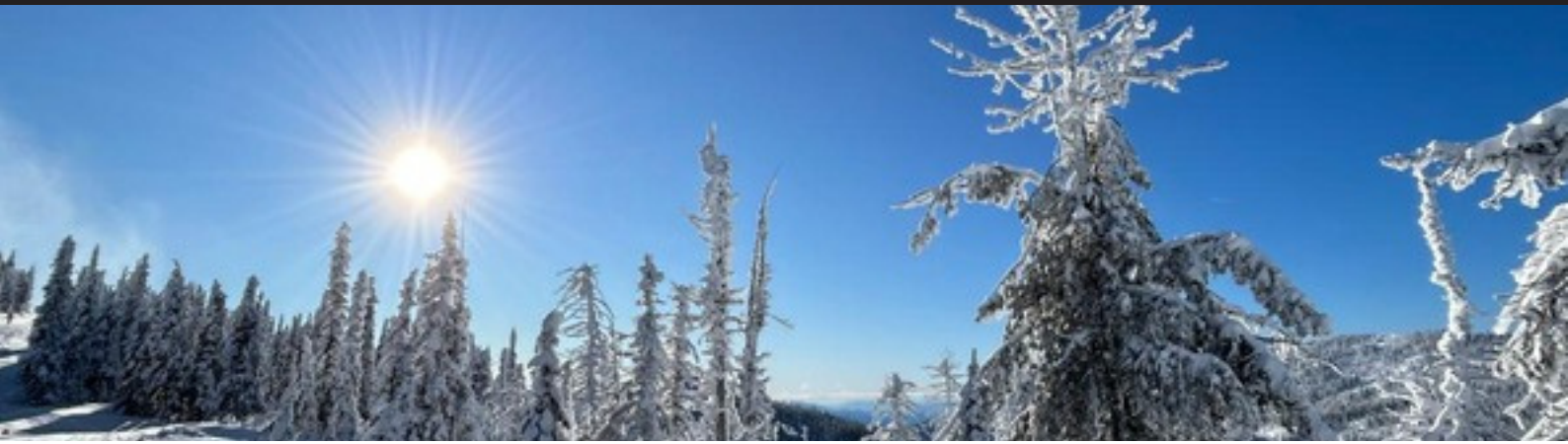




red mountain racers

NEWSLETTER

JANUARY 2026

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Hello and Happy New Year! It's been a tough start to the ski season at Red and we are grateful for all the efforts from the coaches to find alternative training plans. Thank you to all athletes and families for being patient and kind as we wait for cooler temps and more snow. The training at Whitewater and in Paradise has offered some new slopes to train on and we are excited to see the athletes progress.

As we look forward to the 2026 season, I'd like to invite families and athletes to participate in a brainstorming session for RMR. We'd love to hear your thoughts on what you would like to see in the club or what we can improve. Please add and rate ideas in the ThoughtExchange.

A huge thank you to [Trish Jamieson](#) for setting this up for us!

Andrea McCormick

**Participate in
Thought Exchange**

THE 2025/26 RMR TEAMS



U12 Team

Lead Coach Jeff Vibert
Coaches Colin Curtis & Emiri Harder



U14 Team

Lead Coach Kole Harle
Coaches Izzy Holly & Jesse Ludwig



U16 Team

Lead Coach Mike Osatiuk
Coach Ian Fry



FIS Team

Head Coach Phil Patterson

U12 Coach Update

- During the Christmas Camp with the U12s, we focused on developing a strong, athletic ready position on skis.
- Athletes worked on ankle flexion, outside ski pressure, and maintaining hips and hands forward to create clean turns.
- Proper pole plants were emphasized, with a focus on a quiet and stable upper body.
- Due to limited terrain, we were unable to introduce stubbies or gates during the camp.
- We plan to begin stubby slalom and GS training in preparation for the Panorama competition (Jan 16–18).
- This month, we will continue building strong ski fundamentals while introducing athletes to competition, with the goal of developing confident, lifelong skiers.

COACH SPOTLIGHT



Mike Osatiuk
U16 Lead Coach

Mike Osatiuk has been sharing his passion for the sport of alpine ski racing with youth for over 25 years. Mike is a CSCF Level 3 Coach who has been working with the Red Mountain Racers for more than 15 years. As a former FIS racer himself, Mike is able to bring both coaching and racing experience to the table as he works with our athletes?

When Mike isn't coaching or watching World Cup racing, you can find him enjoying some downtime with a fishing rod in hand. Whether it is fly fishing on the Salmo River or ocean fishing near Port Renfrew, Mike definitely enjoys his annual fishing trips



Kole Harle
U14 Lead Coach

Kole ski raced growing up in Mount Washington, BC until the age of 18. He competed in NorAm races, Canadian Nationals, and was a forerunner for the Lake Louise World Cup Downhill. Kole also comes with freeride and freestyle skiing experience on both the athlete and coaching side.

Currently, Kole balances his coaching duties while being a professional Freeride skier. His coaching career includes 2 years of freestyle ski coaching in Whistler and in Mount Washington and 5 years of coaching alpine racing with the Red Mountain Racers. He is a Development Level coach and with his wide range of skiing skills make him an asset as our U14 Head Coach.

IMPORTANT REMINDERS

- All registration fees for programs are due by **December 1**. Please make sure your fees have been paid.
- Each race group (NG, U12, U14, U16, FIS) has a calendar with all training and race days. You can subscribe and add to your personal calendar. [View Calendars](#)
- Remember to check the RMR second-hand gear online spreadsheet if you have gear to sell or are looking to buy.

**RMR Second Hand Gear
Online Spreadsheet**

IMPORTANT DATES

It's Race Season

While it has not been the start to the season we all were hoping for in terms of training conditions at Red, we are a resilient group and will persevere. The FIS team already has two races under its belt, and more are upcoming. Here is a list of the races in the very near future.

- **FIS:** Jan 12 - 14 Nakiska - FIS GMC CUP
- **NGSL:** Jan 18 - Race @ Red
- **U12, U14, U16:** Jan 16 - 18 Panorama Teck Kootenay Zone Race 1
- **FIS:** Jan 21 - 30: Kimberly - DreadNaught Speed Series
- **U16:** Sun Peaks Teck Open Rd 1

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 sport 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"

NANCY GREENE SKI LEAGUE PROGRAM

We had an amazing Christmas Camp and New Year Camp, filled with energy, smiles, and lots of eager young skiers who came ready to have fun and learn with our incredible coaches. It was great to see such enthusiasm and commitment from everyone! Be sure to check out some highlights in our photo gallery, and we can't wait to see you all again next Saturday, January 10th, for the first official day of our program.

First Days of the Program

Friday, January 9th - 9am to 1pm (Friday Skiers Only)

Saturday, January 10th - 9:30am to 2:30pm

The program will run for 10 weeks and include four Sunday races. Race dates and locations are listed below.

Sessions will run weather and conditions permitting.



NANCY GREENE RACES



2026 West Kootenay Nancy Greene Ski League Race Schedule

January 18th - Red Mountain - **Postponed**

February 1st - Salmo Ski Hill

February 22nd - Phoenix Mountain

March 15th - Whitewater Festival

Participation in NGSL races is optional. The four race days are on Sundays. There is no additional cost, and even the lift tickets are covered. You can choose to go to only one or all four. We are hosting the first race at Red, and if you are new to NGSL races, this is a great opportunity to see what it is all about. The NGSL racers will do two 'race runs', but the bulk of the time is spent free skiing with their team. The race runs are low-key, and it's all about participation at this level. The last race of the season is the NGSL Festival at Whitewater. This is a favourite among racers & parents, and we highly recommend attending if possible.

VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT



Christa Ford
Christmas Tree
Coordinator

Christa has been an incredible support to our organization, playing a key role in one of our most iconic fundraisers, our Christmas Tree sale, for the last 3 years. Where she went above and beyond by expanding the fundraiser to include beautifully made, locally sourced Christmas wreaths.

Christa's help has been truly instrumental to the success of this event. From managing logistics and orders to coordinating communication and working closely with our Treasurer to balance the budget, her dedication made everything run smoothly. If you see Christa, please be sure to thank her. Without her efforts, and the continued support of all our amazing volunteers, much of what we do simply wouldn't be possible.



Tove Pashkowski
Board Member

Tove and her family joined RMR in 2020 and quickly became an essential part of our community. With her passion and experience for ski racing, she has dedicated countless hours to volunteering—supporting the Nancy Greene Ski League, creating the NG Coordinator role, serving as Vice President, coaching athletes, and helping with races. This year, she continues on the board, working with Katie and the NG team to ensure a fun, inclusive, and safe experience for all athletes.

Tove's impressive ski career includes 3 Junior Olympic Gold Medals, NorAm Gold, membership on the U.S. Development Team, the University of Colorado Ski Team, and two World University Games appearances.

We are so lucky to have Tove—thank you for everything!

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**](#)

WHITEWATER

The U12, U14, U16, and FIS teams all spent a few days at Whitewater over the holidays training.

Thank you Whitewater Mountain Resort and Whitewater Ski Team for hosting our athletes, coaches and families.



RMR U14



RMR U12

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.

MOUNTAIN ETIQUETTE

A quick reminder that several athletes have already been observed entering the lift line very fast this year. This happens mostly at the base, which is congested and also 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 in advance of 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 enjoyable holiday season at RED!

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

FEATURED VOICE



**James
Brotherhood**

James Brotherhood is a leader in high-performance sport with experience ranging from community programs to the Olympic and Paralympic podium. He holds a Master's degree in Exercise Physiology and a Diploma in Business Administration. James is deeply passionate about sport and its ability to bring out the best in individuals and communities. His athletic career naturally evolved into a professional one, transitioning from training full-time to working in sport science laboratories and traveling the world supporting Canadian National Teams. His work has taken him to mountainsides, lakes, and training venues across the globe, measuring physiological markers such as blood, urine, and sweat in real-world performance environments. Over the past 15 years, James has worked as a sport physiologist with the Canadian Sport Institute Pacific, held a senior management role with UBC Athletics, and served as a Podium Pathway Advisor with Own the Podium and the Canadian Paralympic Committee. He has supported dozens of Olympic and Paralympic athletes both in the lab and in applied training settings. Through continued growth and leadership opportunities, James has worked closely with others to co-found PacificSport Columbia Basin, where he now focuses on growing, developing, and supporting the sport sector across the region—from playground to podium. His areas of expertise include athlete growth and development, performance in heat and altitude, and injury prevention.

James Brotherhood

Executive Director
PacificSport Columbia Basin

[Full Interview to James Brotherhood](#)

COMMUNITY UPDATES



NANCY GREENE KOOTENAY

Nancy Greene Ski League
Dual GS - Jan 18 -
Postponed



BC WINTER GAMES

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

[LEARN MORE](#)



BOTTLE COLLECTION

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

[LEARN MORE](#)

Rossland Winter Carnival Parade

Rossland Winter Carnival is just around the corner, and RMR will be joining in this year's parade! Bring your creativity! Wear RMR Jackets, hats, ski helmets, etc. Don't be afraid to add lights, retro ski costumes — anything that represents the ski team and brings joy to the crowd.

Parade Date: Friday, January 24

- Time: 6:30–7:00 PM
- Route: Starts at St. Paul St., travels down Columbia Ave.,
- and ends at Spokane St.

We will send out specific details by email closer to the parade.

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.



PHOTO GALLERY

