

Hope you are all ready for another fun-filled and fast 2020 on the race hill. Your Board of Officers, Directors and Race Reps have been busy over the summer keeping the various balls in the air so we can get going this weekend. Thank 'em if you see 'em.

Here is the latest info:

- 1.) Slalom and GS will be held on FIS because there is not enough snow cover for safety purposes on Superbowl yet. So, you will be hiking the FIS hill four times this weekend.
- 2.) Boyne has made some improvements to the Othmar and start/finish shacks. See if you notice.
- 3.) Be a MACC ambassador. It's all about Fun, Friendships and Fast Finishes!
- 4.) Registration is at an all time low. We have 106 registered racers, 3 of them new to the program. Key message: every racer is responsible for spreading the word about our great program, so please make an effort to bring in new racers. The younger the better, Publicity materials are on the website as PDFs so you can print or email them to prospective racers. <http://www.maccracing.org/macc/publicity.php>
- 5.) Promote MACC with style. Shop the Apparel Store online at this link:
<https://jimssportswear.com/collections/macc-apparel>
 - Place your order BEFORE January 27, 2020 (so giddyup race friends)
 - Orders need to be picked up between 2/7/20 - 2/9/20 (races 5, 6, and 7) at Boyne Mtn.
 - If racers cannot pick up their orders that weekend they will need to select shipping when they place their order. More details about where orders can be picked up at races 5, 6, and 7 will follow.
- 6.) MACC group trip to Aspen/Snowmass is filling up nicely, and we can add 1-2 4-person condos before January 20, 2010 for the great price as published. Renee will have fliers to pass this weekend, so again, giddyup boys and girls.

And now, your favorite eNews segment...

Rules Corner – I think I am slip sliding away

Starring Debi Koltoniak with special guest Drew Hilger

Debi: Welcome back to rules corner Drew!

Drew: Thank you Debi. It is good to be back.

Debi: Well, looking at the forecast we are going to have some snow this weekend. So, I want to talk about slipping. What are the rules on slipping?

Drew: Great topic. The rule is 5.2.4 and it is really about course inspection.

Debi: Oh enough about rule numbers. Geez, Drew! For our readers, viewers, listeners, followers and everyone else out there... I have a lot of fans! ...could you explain this "in and out" only business?

Drew: Sure, typically under the rule I cited earlier you are only allowed to inspect the course, but not ski or slip the course. The whole idea is to preserve the snow for the race. You are free to ski into the course, from the side to look, but then you must exit and ski beside the course to your next viewing point.

Debi: So, is this always the case?

Drew: No, this is the default for MACC races. If the course setters feel we need to clear snow from the course, racers will be asked to slip the course.

Debi: How will we know?

Drew: There should be a sign at the top of the course with pertinent information like this. If you do not see a sign, then it is best to assume an in and out only inspection.

Debi: What should racers do if they are asked to slip?

Drew: Great question. The idea is to remove snow from the course. So, the first person down will slip the race line. The second person should try to push the first person's snow out wider, the third person should slip the snow out even wider than the second, and so on.

Debi: So you don't want a big berm built up along the course?

Drew: No we don't as that can be dangerous.

Debi: I kind of like banked turns!

Drew: Well safety is a concern. Another approach to remove snow from the course is to get a line of people side slipping the hill. This works well unless we have a lot of fresh snow. If we have a lot of fresh snow, berms are inevitable. Then all we can do is push the snow out far enough, so it will not be a hazard for racers.

Debi: If I am going to be busy slipping, when will I get a chance to inspect?

Drew: The best recommendation I have is go get out there early. It takes time to do a good job slipping, especially if you are pausing to inspect the course along the way.

Debi: If my peeps are all with me, I don't mind getting out on the hill early.

Drew: That is the spirit.

Debi: So the key is to slip wide?

Drew: Yes, The most important thing is not to just slip the race line. If everyone does that we will have ruts before we start the first racer. We need to push the excess snow out of the way and preserve the race line.

Debi: Sounds great. I can't wait to get out on the hill and see everyone again. Until next time, thanks for tuning in to rules corner.