



## WMSC Volunteer Policy

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At WMSC, we take great pride in being a strong community where members care for each other and work together to create high quality races and events. Volunteering with the Club can be a highly rewarding and fun experience and many of our families have become life-long friends while working on races or on Club committees. Although the fees for ski racing are significant they do not cover all the costs of running a first-class ski program. The role of parent/guardian volunteers supplements our program costs and contributes to the Club's ability to deliver a high quality program. When families do not meet the minimum volunteering commitments, they are asking other families to subsidize their athlete's participation. The added benefit of hosting events in Whistler means less time and money spent by families travelling to races at other mountains.

### The Club's minimum volunteer commitment per family per season by age group is as follows:

- U14, U16 & FIS - eight (8) days of volunteering
- U12 - six (6) days of volunteering
- U10 - four (4) days of volunteering
- Fast Fridays: one (1) day of volunteering

For families with multiple athletes, volunteer commitments will be calculated for the oldest athlete, plus 50% for the next oldest athlete (to a maximum of two athletes). For example:

*Example 1:*

Child one: FIS = eight (8) days required

Child two: U14 = eight (8) days / 50% required number of days = 4 days

Total Volunteer days required: 12 days

*Example 2:*

Child one: U14 = eight (8) days required

Child two: U12 = six (6) days / 50% required number of days = 3 days

Child three: U10 = four (4) days, but is not included = 0 days

Total Volunteer days required: 11 days

In meeting your family's volunteer commitment keep in mind that in addition to the minimum number of days noted above, there is a requirement to participate in certain Club events:

- At least one parent/guardian is expected to volunteer each day your family has an athlete in a race at Whistler Blackcomb (ie. Zone and Provincial races, FIS Races, Parsons, Janyk Cup) – full days on or off hill count towards the minimum day volunteer commitment.
- Parents/guardians are expected to volunteer a minimum of three (3) days at the Whistler Cup, regardless of whether they have an athlete participating in the competition – full days on or off hill count towards the minimum day volunteer commitment.
- Parents/guardians and U16/FIS athletes are expected to volunteer at the Ski Swap – full day counts towards the minimum day volunteer commitment.
- Athletes may also be asked by their coaches from time-to-time to volunteer their time for Club and community activities - does not count towards the minimum day volunteer commitment.
- Volunteering at away races, although strongly encouraged, does not count towards the

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minimum day volunteer commitment.

If something happens that causes you to be unable to fulfill your family's volunteer commitment, please contact the ED or the Board Chair sooner rather than later.

### **Non-Volunteer Payment**

Should any family fail to meet the volunteer commitment set out above over the course of the season as determined by the ED and the Board, WMSC will charge a "non-volunteer fee" at the end of the season as follows:

- U14, U16 & FIS - **\$1000**
- U12 - **\$800**
- U10 - **\$500**

This non-volunteer fee is intended to cover expenses for additional staff support necessary when families do not meet their volunteer responsibilities. The amount will be determined by the age of your oldest athlete in a WMSC program (not cumulative). The Board retains discretion to decide whether this payment will be charged in full or in part for any family that does not meet the minimum volunteer commitment.

### **Homestay/Foreign Athletes**

The Club also recognizes that a few families are legitimately unable to meet the volunteer commitment, such as athletes living in Whistler on a homestay without the support of their parents. To ensure that all families are treated fairly, the Club is asking that parents who cannot meet our minimum volunteer expectations donate \$1,500 per athlete to the Club. The \$1500 in lieu payment is not available as an alternative to volunteering: it is only for parents who cannot volunteer.

### **Volunteer Code of Conduct**

Parents/Guardians and athletes must follow the WMSC Code of Conduct, WMSC Teamship Values and the BC Alpine Code of Conduct. As a volunteer, the following code of conduct has been developed to ensure that each of us supports the mission, vision and values of the Whistler Mountain Ski Club.

- Be courteous and helpful - regardless of the circumstances. Remember, we are all volunteers. If you do not know what to do, just ask a more experienced volunteer.
- Represent our Club well to others on the mountain and follow all rules and regulations.
- Be sure to thank other volunteers for their contribution.
- Ensure both you and others have a good time and meet new people.
- Show up on time for your scheduled shift, dressed appropriately and ready to work.
- Commit to a shift and avoid last minute cancellations. Races and events cannot proceed without a certain number of volunteers and last minute replacements are challenging to find for the volunteers coordinating events.
- Do not abandon your duties without first talking to the person in charge of the event or function.
- All on-mountain volunteers are subject to Whistler Blackcomb's Site Safety Policy including the requirement to wear a helmet when on skis.

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All volunteers must be members of WMSC, or another ski club that is a member of BC Alpine (or equivalent in other Provinces) or Alpine Canada. A WMSC volunteer membership is free. Please obtain your volunteer membership [here](#) [\[add link\]](#).

### Volunteer Opportunities

WMSC is known for running excellent races and we are often awarded the opportunity to host events by BC Alpine and Alpine Canada. Ski races are our biggest events in terms of the numbers of volunteers required.

The **Level 1 Officials course** is a great introduction to racing and all parents new to the club are strongly encouraged to attend a course in their first year with the club. Information about offerings are listed on the BC Alpine website and in communications sent out by the Club.

Below is a list of volunteer opportunities, both on-and off-hill:

#### ON-HILL

- Course Crew
- Timing Team
- Start and Finish Referees
- Starter and assistant starters
- Gate Judging

#### OFF-HILL

- Race Office
- Off-hill logistics
- Social events and fundraisers
- Sponsor events and award presentations

### Other Ways to Get Involved

We rely on the ongoing involvement of our membership in support of WMSC. There are many other ways to get involved in our ski racing community including:

- Help facilitate team logistics as an age Group Parent Rep, Socials Rep, or Volunteer Rep.
- Join a Race Organizing Committee, the Alpine Committee or our Board of Directors
- Volunteer at away races (does not count towards WMSC volunteer commitment)
- Bring us an idea!

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT OF OUR CLUB AND OUR ATHLETES!**