

Cardinal Cruisers Ski & Snowboard Club 2023 / 2024 Welcome Letter Extended Version

Welcome to the 2023/2024 season of Cardinal Cruisers Ski & Snowboard Club (CCS&SC). Thank you for sending your child out to Powder Ridge with us. We hope they have a good time snowboarding and skiing this year.

Our first meeting is this Monday, December 4th. Powder Ridge has been busy most of November making snow in the colder weather, multiple runs are open.

The first Monday is rather chaotic, we have a large group, and a club room that's smaller than desired. Please pay special attention to these details to make sure things go smoothly.

- **Busses** leave from AES and AMS right after school. The AES bus goes to AHS after all the elementary kids are boarded. The AES kids should meet in the cafeteria where a club assistant (usually Sarah Jensen) will take attendance and assist with boarding. The AMS kids will board at the side door by the parking lot. A club coordinator (usually Sarah Wiles) will be present at AMS to assist and take attendance. The AHS students should wait for the bus to arrive from AES by the office. The AHS bus boards at the rear school entrance. The busses normally arrive at Powder Ridge around 3:45. The AMS bus arriving 5-10 minutes earlier than AES/AHS.
- **Parents are welcome** to come out any time, feel free to join your kids on the slopes too. Powder Ridge has given us sole usage of the downstairs area which is also the Powder Ridge Kids Club room. This is a private room reserved for our group. It is downstairs to the left immediately after entering the main chalet doors.
- **Pack WARM** gear for your kids, layers, extra gloves, socks, hand warmers, etc. Club will cancel on occasion for sub-zero temps and/or wind chill, but often we have nights that are pretty frigid especially if the wind kicks up. Keep in mind that your kids might wind up playing outside in wet snow for school recess so an extra set of gloves for club use only might be a good idea. Powder Ridge has glove warmers next to the main ticket office, they cost 2 quarters per use.
- Make sure your child has a plan for **supper**. Either pack food or make sure they have money to buy food at the chalet. Powder Ridge has a cafeteria style food service area that serves hamburgers, pizzas, fries, and sometimes a special that doesn't come out of a deep fat fryer. The worst thing as a coordinator that I've had to deal with is a kid begging for money because they have nothing to eat. NOTE Kids are not able to order from Chester's Lounge upstairs without an adult present.
- Make sure your child **knows their schedule** – whether or not they ride the bus to/from school to Powder Ridge, etc.
- If you are picking up your child from Powder Ridge, please come downstairs and **sign them out** so we know they are not riding the bus.
- We will try to have at a handful of parent **chaperones** with us on the slopes or in the chalet at all times and there should always be at least one club coordinator or chaperone in our downstairs area. If you are interested in chaperoning and need additional instructions, please email a coordinator.

For those that purchased Rental packages and/or lessons:

- Do NOT print any online rental forms and send them with your child, they must **pick up their rental card** from a club coordinator before going to the rental line. NOTE: We work with Powder Ridge to have the season rental cards ready to go on the first night. We often have to have a few reprints or corrections made as the equipment is fitted, the Powder Ridge staff will assist with this.
- After or hopefully on the first night anyone who purchased package 1 will also get their **season rental pass card** good for rentals any time the rest of the season. NOTE: This rental card is valid all season, not just club nights!
- If you forget your season rental card or season lift pass you need to ask the Powder Ridge front desk. They can look you up in their system.
- If you lose your season rental card there is a ONE-TIME free reprint, after that another reprint will cost \$5.00.
- All package 1 or 2 purchases include a free helmet rental if desired.
- If you purchased **lessons** for your child make sure you instruct them to actually go to the lessons. They start at 4:00 and last for one hour. They meet at the bottom of the bunny hill. If they miss the 4:00 lesson, there are additional lessons starting at 5:00.
- Each child is permitted a **ONE-TIME free switch** on their rental between ski and snowboard. This is only use if your child wants to try a different activity than they normally do.
- If you purchase your own equipment for Christmas or otherwise you can receive a **refund** on your season rental card in the form of a Powder Ridge gift card.
- Chaperones will be available to assist with the rental process.

A couple other notes specific to parents:

- We are not a day care service. We cannot keep tabs on every kid at every minute of the night. We have 2 coordinators and a couple chaperones for close to 100 members. **IT IS CRUCIAL THAT YOUR CHILD SHOULD BE ABLE TO HANDLE THEMSELVES FOR LONG PERIODS OF UNSUPERVISED TIME, IF THEY CANNOT DO THIS YOU MUST BE PRESENT WITH THEM TO CONTINUE ENROLLMENT IN THE CLUB.**
- The above point is especially true if your child is in 2nd grade or lower and does not have an older sibling in the club, please consider coming to Powder Ridge to help them out. Even if they have skied or snowboarded before, it can be intimidating for kids this young to be on their own for this amount of time.
- Please let us know if your child will not be riding the bus from school to Powder Ridge, this will help us with bus attendance. If you are providing transportation, please try to be at Powder Ridge no earlier than 3:30pm.
- Please let us know if your child is missing club night for any reason, or if there are any changes in transportation.
- If your child is injured, we can provide a pro-rated refund for any missed lift tickets in the form of a Powder Ridge gift card.

- Missing club results in loss of lift ticket – see <http://www.cardinalcruisers.com/faq/> page for more information on cancellations, absences, refunds, etc.
- If you pick up your child from Powder Ridge you must sign them out downstairs in our area OR text a club coordinator. If anyone other than a parent is signing your child out the parent must first contact a club coordinator. **A STUDENT CANNOT SIGN THEMSELVES OUT!**
- The bus from Powder Ridge to Annandale leaves at 8:00 SHARP, we will do 1st call at approximately 7:30. Depending on where the kids are on the hill it can be hard to hear the announcements so please make sure your child knows to watch for the clock or check a watch / phone / etc. There are clocks by the chair lift entrances and exits, if you know where to look (inside the worker warming hut)... Chaperones will be also taking roll at bus departure so we know who boarded the bus.
- The busses drop off at AMS around 8:20pm. PLEASE be prompt in picking up your child. A coordinator must stay at AMS until all children have been picked up. We will get crabby if we have to wait for late parents while their kids stand outside in the cold! One bus will travel from AMS to AHS for those high schoolers who drive themselves to school but take the bus to Powder Ridge.
- If you would like the bus to drop your child off in South Haven at Agave (formerly “Mom’s”) Restaurant at approximately 8:15pm, please let us know and we will coordinate with the bus company.
- Pictures are currently scheduled for January 15th. We will send the Zahler Photography order form in a separate email and they will be available to the kids on the prio club night to take home. Zahler usually brings forms with them as well.
- Behavior issues will be met with very low tolerance and depending on the severity could result in expulsion from the club without refund. This includes fighting, drug/alcohol use (including vaping), theft, vandalism, bus behavior, etc.
- Each office has a place where kids can store their equipment – contact your school office for details. M&M requires that all ski/snowboard be stored in a bag.
- If your child loses something we do not maintain our own lost and found – please have them check with Powder Ridge at the front desk or contact M&M for any items left on the bus.

Please also sign up to our Facebook group and bookmark the club website, another way to get notified of any changes/cancellations etc.

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/cardinalcruisers/>
<http://www.cardinalcruisers.com/>

The Cardinal Cruisers website should always have the most up to date schedule.

If you have additional email addresses or phone numbers that you check please let us know and we will add them to the notification lists. Once we get into the season expect 1-2 short communications per week at most.

We also have a lot of documented frequently asked questions and answers here:
<http://www.cardinalcruisers.com/faq/>

Sorry for the long read, it's a lot of stuff. If you have other questions please don't hesitate to contact us.

Everyone should receive a text message from the Remind system before club begins, we use this app for group text notification, if you have not received this let us know ASAP or use Remind code @ccssc23 to sign up.

Thanks, let's have a great season,

Josh & Sarah