

Press Release
Ironwood, MI
Dec 27, 2017



SISU Ski Fest January 5-7, 2018 Ironwood, MI Course Update

SISU Ski Fest organizers are ready! We've had 62 inches of snow this year and our race course has about a 9 inch base. Grooming of the entire course with both Pisten Bullies has begun. The portion of the course on ABR has been worked by Eric Anderson and his crew since the snow started. SISU Trail through the Miners Memorial Heritage Park likewise has been subjected to the TLC of that crew. The part of the course from ABR into town that can only be skied on race day is also shaping up nicely. Innumerable hours of brush cutting have taken place since the unseasonable snow storm in late October obscured trails across the area with downed limbs and branches. Through the amazing efforts ABR staff, Friends of the Miners Park, and many volunteers, all trails are nice and wide again.

The forecast is excellent for race day. Our good snow cover is expected to remain as we are in the midst of a deep freeze reminiscent of SISU '17. Moderate snow is in the forecast, and temps are expected to rise into the teens by race day.

A new warming shack has been erected at the River House aid station and a new winter shelter will be in place at the Penokee Rd aid station. Both structures will provide heated shelter for volunteers, Ski Patrol/First Aid, and skiers in need of care along the course.

The race course itself remains essentially the same as last year, when we redesigned the course to a 31K/15K format that flows well while providing an early season challenge in terms of distance and terrain. There are several minor changes to the 31K course on ABR; all continue to improve the flow of traffic and the overall skier experience, but the course distance remains around 31K (maybe 32K?). The 15K course remains unchanged from last year. Both courses debuted last year with good reviews.

Online registration continues through 10pm Friday, January 5th for the races Saturday, January 6th.

In-person registration and our ski expo will take place on Friday, from 4-10pm, with an increase in vendors this year.

To register or for more details, please visit our website at sisuskifest.com.