



Midwest Colleges Organize to Grow Nordic Competition

Years past saw the Midwest Region host some robust college Nordic ski programs and racing, including both varsity and club teams jointly skiing together. Since then, many former college varsity programs were dropped, and clubs lacked the financial and organizational support from their schools to maintain programs. Only a relatively small number of Midwest colleges and skiers are currently involved in organized collegiate skiing, with limited roster space to support varsity skiers.

However, there has been a movement in recent years at regional Midwestern colleges to organize and engage college skiers in competition once again. There are now many very active and sizable thriving college club teams who train and travel together to compete in citizen events. These clubs started to organize the concept of a Midwest Collegiate conference and schedule of common events that they could attend together but had little in organizational resources and support for this effort.

The United States Collegiate Ski & Snowboard Association (USCSA) also recognized this opportunity to develop and grow competitive college skiing in the Midwest. The USCSA has partnered with the Midwestern college club programs and skiers to organize a USCSA Midwestern Collegiate Ski Association conference and support to this initiative. The USCSA is a fully established national collegiate ski racing organization and is assisting in establishing a conference league and race schedule, while also offering a USCSA National Championship event for qualifying college teams across the country held in Lake Placid, NY, March 8-14, 2020.

The Wisconsin, Minnesota, Iowa, and Indiana college campus Nordic clubs are meeting on Sunday October 27, 1 p.m., at the UW-Stout (Menomonie WI) Memorial Student Center (Northwoods room) to continue organizing this effort. Roughly 20 schools are currently involved in this initiative. An additional effort is underway in lower Michigan. Under the auspices of the Midwest Collegiate Ski Association (MCSA), they plan to re-establish a Midwest college racing circuit starting with the 2020 season.

Any current Midwest college student, where their institution does not currently have a Nordic ski club, is also encouraged to attend the UW-Stout meeting. The MCSA (the central region conference of the United States Collegiate Ski & Snowboard Association (USCSA) provides substantial assistance and benefits to existing and forming college Nordic programs. For further details please contact:

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