

RAMSEY COUNTY PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT 2016-2017 CROSS-COUNTRY SKI USER POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

User Policy Statement

The mission of the Ramsey County Parks and Recreation Department is to enhance the quality of life for the people of Ramsey County. Within this mission, our role and commitment is to provide outdoor recreational opportunities and services for residents to enjoy. Ramsey County recognizes the need to provide special use facilities such as cross-country ski trails, which encourages use and development of outdoor recreational skills, promotes wellness and introduces people to recreation opportunities available within the system.

Cross-Country Ski Locations and Services

Ramsey County Parks and Recreation Department provides over 25 miles of marked and groomed cross-country ski trails at five locations (Tamarack Nature Center, Battle Creek Regional Park – Upper Afton and Winthrop, Snail Lake-Grass Lake Regional Park and Sucker-Vadnais Lakes Regional Park). Battle Creek is designated to host local school cross-country ski practice and competitive meets and special events.

Battle Creek – Winthrop Site

The Battle Creek – Winthrop ski area has been designated as our primary meet and special event host facility. Priority for scheduling meets and special events will be based on the following:

Priority #1 - national and regional events and/or Ramsey County sponsored events with recurring advanced publication (i.e., National Masters).

Priority #2 - metro area school groups that have historically used the Ramsey County ski facilities in the past; scheduling requests are typically accepted in the fall (October 22, 2013) on a first-come, first-served basis.

Priority #3 - area club and/or special interest groups.

Please note: *It is the responsibility of meet/practice organizations to make facility arrangements related to use of this facility for their event.* The Battle Creek Recreation Center is owned and operated by the Saint Paul Parks and Recreation Department: 651-501-6347. Battle Creek Recreation Center is an extremely busy facility so it is recommended that you make reservations early.

Other Ramsey County Cross-Country Ski Facilities

Other Ramsey County cross-country ski facilities (Tamarack Nature Center, Snail-Grass and Vadnais-Sucker Lake regional parks) have been preserved for general recreational use by the public. No competitive races or high school practices are to be conducted at these facilities.

Insurance

As a condition of granting a permit, a certificate of insurance for comprehensive general liability in the minimum amount of \$1,500,000 per occurrence is required for all event providers. The required insurance certificate MUST name **Ramsey County, its officials, agents, employees and volunteers as additionally insured**. A copy of the certificate must be submitted to the Ramsey County Parks and Recreation Department administrative office ten (10) days prior to the scheduled event. Email to parks@co.ramsey.mn.us or fax to: 651-748-2508.

Trail Conditions and Cancellations

In the event that questionable snow conditions would adversely impact the turf and/or facility, a representative of Ramsey County will notify Permittees to discuss the meet logistics and possible rescheduling of Permittee's event. Permittee will not be charged for events unable to be rescheduled.

If Permittee is canceling the event due to weather conditions or other factors, it will be Permittee's responsibility to notify the Ramsey County Parks and Recreation Department by 12:00 noon on the day of the meet. It is important that Permittee notify the Department of cancellations and arrangements for rescheduling dates. If possible, please contact Jennifer Fink, at 651-748-2500 x333.

Please remind students that they should not be skating on the classic ski tracks. Your students and athletes are the ambassadors of your school. As coaches, you are responsible for their behavior. During practices, they are sharing the trail with the public. They WILL model the same trail courtesy we expect from any user. Any misuse of trails or vandalism of our facilities by team members or spectators will result in the school losing all use privileges for the remainder of the season with no refund of fee.

We have a dedicated group of volunteer groomers at the Battle Creek-Winthrop site that make every effort to offer the best conditions possible with the weather and limited resources we have. It is important that we maintain an accurate schedule for grooming purposes. If you will be canceling a meet or making a change to your schedule please notify Jennifer Fink (jennifer.fink@co.ramsey.mn.us). We do not have a piston bully at this location.