Mesabi East FAQ 2024 - Benji Neff, Giants Ridge - Director of Mt Sports

## I want to bring my team up on Friday where can we ski?

Unfortunately, there will not be an opportunity to Nordic ski on Friday. The alpine area will be open until 8pm, and then we will be grooming the race course after that. We want to be sure the course sets up for the race, so no night time practices. Early Saturday morning the race crew will be setting up the course and marking it. We will have course inspection from 8:30 -9:45 the morning of the race.

*Currently our Nordic trails have nothing more than a dusting of snow on them. So, there is NOT an opportunity to ski on those trails. For those of you who don't know, Giants Ridge does not have snowmaking capabilities on our Nordic trails.* 

## What will the course be/look like?

We are planning approximately a 2 km (measures 2.02km on google earth) course across the entire base of the alpine area. Athletes will ski the course twice. Attached is a tentative map of the course. It may vary a little bit by race day, but this is essentially what we will be planning. We will likely have one track around the whole course and the rest of the space will be groomed as skate deck. We do not plan to regroom between classic and skate, in an effort to keep firm snow conditions.

Wax testing will be available on the cat track

## We want to stay and ski after the race, what would that look like?

The Alpine area is re-opening at 4pm so the course will be closed at the completion of the race. Again, on Sunday if we don't have any natural snow for the trails, the only Nordic terrain we would have during the day would be the stadium area. Which is scheduled to host our MYSL group in the afternoon. Giants Ridge does not allow Nordic skiing through the base area in the morning.