

IMPORTANT

SKI CLUB INFO



Ski Club Parents and Members,

The purpose of this letter is to inform you of our revised schedule and to give you information on how you can help get Ski Club off to a great start for yourself and others. Please read through all of the questions and answers on **BOTH SIDES**.

20+ things YOU need to know about Ski Club

Mr. Sears



1. What are the Ski Club Dates? – 1/7/19, 1/14/19, **1/22/19**, 1/28/19, 2/4/19, 2/11/19, **2/19/19**.

Regular = Mondays, **BOLD = Tuesdays**

2. Do you ever CANCEL a trip without making it up later? NO! Canceled trips will be added to the next available week on the calendar.

3. Are we going to Swiss Valley tonight? or How do you decide whether or not to go?

On a scheduled Ski Club date we **always** plan to go to Swiss Valley, but it depends on 2 main factors:

A. Is Swiss Valley Open? <http://skiswissvalley.com>

B. Does the PHM transportation department believe conditions are safe enough to drive to & from Swiss Valley?

If both **A** and **B** are YES, we go!

4. How can I find out whether or not we are going to Swiss Valley if the weather is iffy?

SIGN UP for notifications and updates via text, email, or both! <https://www.remind.com/join/smssk>

To sign up for TEXT alerts :

To receive messages via text, text @smssk to 81010. You can opt-out of messages at anytime by replying, 'unsubscribe @smssk'.

To: 81010

Message: @smssk

To sign up for Email alerts :

Or to receive messages via email, send an email to smssk@mail.remind.com. To unsubscribe, reply with 'unsubscribe' in the subject line.

New message

Recipients smssk@mail.remind.com

Subject (You can leave the subject blank)

5. How do I order Ski Club apparel? (Online shop will be ready Mon, 12/24!) <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/skiclubshirts>

6. What do we do in the case of a 1-hour or 2-hour delay? Same answer as #4!

7. What bus do I ride? Check your bus assignment in the SMS cafeteria or on the wall outside Mr. Sears' room (230). Remember your Ski Club bus number (it will be 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5) because you need to put your bags on the corresponding cart on Ski Club mornings.

8. What about Ski & Snowboard Drop-off? On Ski Club days, all ski and snowboard equipment should be driven to Door I behind the school (the Greenhouse door by Mr. Sears' room) because you are **NOT ALLOWED** to bring them on the bus. In order to accommodate parents' schedules, we will have someone at the drop-off area from 7:30 am – 8:30 am. (please keep in mind that buses will be dropping students off between 8:40 & 9:05, so **DO NOT** drive back there within that time frame). Equipment must be sorted according to your drop-off location, so PLEASE HELP by bringing the skis and boards to the appropriate cargo vehicle (SMS Drop or Granger DQ Drop).

9. OK – I brought my skis/board to the morning drop-off (see #7). When/where will I see it again? SKIS and SNOWBOARDS loaded onto cargo vehicles in the morning may be retrieved by members as you get off the bus upon arrival AT SWISS VALLEY. **PAY ATTENTION to which cargo vehicle your equipment is in, and make sure you return it to the same one at the end of the night!**

10. What do I wear? Hat, gloves, scarf, snow pants, warm socks, and layers of warm clothing. We recommend layers because if you get too warm you can take off a layer.

11. What if my BAG, SKI CLOTHES, etc. don't fit in my locker? It can be dropped off and stored in the rolling carts by Mr. Sears' room (230). *At the END of the school day, the carts will be rolled down to the cafeteria where students can pick up their bags.* **Good Advice** – a lot of students have black bags. It helps to tie an easily-visible ribbon or have other unique markings on the bag so bags are easier to find and less likely to get mixed up.

– MORE on back →

12. What do I do after school? – Like – where’s my bag and stuff?! All Ski Club members should get their backpacks (or whatever you need from locker) and go to the **cafeteria** to wait to be dismissed to the buses. There is an assigned **waiting area** for each bus, and that is where you will find your bag (clothes, etc. – NOT skis/board) if you dropped it off in the morning. **You must wait in your bus waiting area. Failure to do so means that your bus will be dismissed last, and you will lose slope time!** The day of the first trip, we will have a brief meeting in the cafeteria regarding bus procedures and other important Ski Club announcements. The buses will arrive between 4:15 and 4:30 – BE READY to LEAVE!

13. What’s for dinner? You may pack your own meal or purchase food from the cafeteria at Swiss Valley.

14. What do I do when I get to Swiss Valley? You may leave your bags, etc. on the bus AT YOUR OWN RISK, but you MAY NOT go back to the bus until the end of the Ski night. **Follow instructions** from the Ski Club Chaperones regarding lift tickets, rentals, & other issues. Need Help? **ASK** an adult chaperone– that’s why we’re here!

15. What is the best way to PREVENT INJURIES? *Being able to ski or snowboard UNDER CONTROL* will prevent injuries to yourself and other participants. Swiss Valley offers FREE LESSONS to all Ski Club members!!! Lessons begin with the first visit and continue for three weeks. **BEGINNERS MUST TAKE A LESSON on their first ski trip!** You will learn some basic skills that will make your time more enjoyable, and it will help prevent injuries to yourself and to others on the slopes. Intermediate and advanced lessons are offered to enable any member to take advantage of this valuable program. Check at the “Ski School Desk” or listen to announcements to see when they are available.

16. When do we leave from Swiss Valley? You should be at the bus by **8:15** since we will need to load equipment and take attendance. We LEAVE promptly at **8:30**. There will be an announcement at approximately 7:45 p.m. saying to return your rentals. If we have to wait for you, you will serve an after-school detention or you will not ride the bus the next trip. This rule may sound strict, but it is necessary because there are about 200 people who want to get home on time!!!

17. When/where* should my ride pick me up?

Granger Drop-off --- at the Granger Dairy Queen by 9:10 pm

Schmucker Drop-off* --- BEHIND SMS by 9:15 pm (Along WESTERN edge of parking lot – closest to football field)

*please DO NOT PARK ALONG THE SIDEWALK! The Ski Club buses need to be able to pull up along the curb/sidewalk, so the transportation department has requested that I make all Ski Club parents aware of the situation.

18. Is there an emergency phone number for me to call in case I am unable to reach my son/daughter at Swiss Valley? If there is an emergency and you need to contact your son or daughter during a Ski Club trip, please call Swiss Valley’s number and ask for them to page a Schmucker Ski Club chaperone: **269-244-5635**.

19. I am at Swiss Valley, and I need help! Contact a Schmucker Ski Club chaperone, Swiss Valley Employee, or Ski Patrol member. In addition to being on the slopes, **there will always be at least one chaperone in the cafeteria** – usually at the first or second table you see on the left as you enter.

20. What if I want to ride home from Swiss Valley with my parents or friend’s parents on a Ski Club night? You must give a note to Mr. Sears OR your bus chaperone from your parent/guardian giving you permission.

Example - **“Ski Club member _____ from bus # _____ may ride home with _____ on _____ (date). Signed _____”**. This is essential since we take attendance by name both before and after skiing to ensure that we have accounted for all members.

21. Where is my black glove? EVERY week, items are left on Ski Club buses. Strangely, there is always at least one black glove. Even more strangely – most of the time nobody asks or attempts to claim it. SO – double-check that you have everything, AND if you are missing something – tell us!

22. Will my phone or electronics be OK at Swiss Valley in cold temperatures? No - The best place for electronics is in a locker at Swiss Valley. Cold temps can affect electronics in a couple of different ways. Some phones will shut down even with plenty of battery power left. Also – many people are aware of the damage water can do to most phones, but they do not realize that their phone could get wet as a result of condensation even if tucked away in a dry zippered pocket. The problem is that if your phone is cold and there is warmer (and moist) air around – it will get wet. A waterproof case such as Lifeproof or similar – or even a *sealed* Ziploc bag – can prevent the phone from getting wet. Cell phone coverage in Jones is rather spotty, so that is another thing to consider.

23. What does Swiss Valley want to tell me about my Ski Club card & membership? You will receive your Ski Club card at Swiss Valley on our first trip. If you go to Swiss Valley before then, you may pick it up from the Customer Service window when you go. Your card has 2 papers stapled to it. Please read these so you are aware of Swiss Valley’s policies and guidelines.