



Welcome to the William Annin Middle School Ski Club

We look forward to seeing you on **Saturday, January 8th** for the first trip of the 2011 season.



The bus lists have been posted at the school. On the first Saturday, see any bus advisors if you forgot which bus you were assigned.

What to wear....

Layers of clothing are warmer and drier than bulky clothing. Remember, the weather conditions can and often do change significantly during the day: from cold and windy to sunny and warmer, snowy or rainy to dry. Please plan accordingly.

Remember your arm patch and bag tag/identification...

It is imperative that each skier/boarder wears the WAMSSC arm patch on the outside of his/her left arm at ALL times. Each child will be asked to show their arm patch each time they check-in with their bus advisor; when they enter the bus in the morning, during lunch time check-in and on the bus before departure from the mountain. (Do not leave your arm patch in your bag!). Since the skiers will add or remove layers of clothing during the day, the patch should be adjusted to easily slip on and off, but not so loose that it will fall off during the day.

Replacement patches can be purchased at any time for \$2 from an advisor. Arm bands are also available for \$4.

The yellow WAMSSC bag tag must be attached to the bag/backpack brought into the lodge by each skier/boarder. This identifies our bags from any other that might be in the area. This is especially important at the end of the day in the event a skier forgets his/her bag. Any

bag with a WAMSSC tag will be returned to the school. Any bag without a tag will be left at the mountain. Extra bag tags are available from any Parent Advisor.

Also, please identify – name/address/telephone # - inside or outside the bag to facilitate its return to the proper owner. Do the same with your skis and boards... remember, rentals are often from the same manufacturer and look the same, without a label you may not be able to tell your equipment from someone else's.

What happens during each Saturday of skiing...

Morning Arrival/Check-In

From 6:35 to 6:55 am, we load the equipment onto the bus and check in each skier.

Once checked in and boarded, no member may leave the bus for any reason. Have your arm patch ready and available at check-in.

The buses will depart PROMPTLY at 7:00 am. Once the doors are closed and the first bus rolls, no late-arriving member will be permitted on-board.

Anyone not making the bus may be brought up to Shawnee Mountain by parent or guardian. If you choose to do so, a parent or guardian **MUST** physically hand off the member to a Parent Advisor at the Advisor table located on the second floor of the Shawnee lodge and sign a form indicating we now have custody of your child. Whenever possible, please make arrangements in advance with your advisor so that we may anticipate the late arrival of a child.

The Bus Trip

The trip takes about 75 minutes. The only beverage allowed on-board is bottled water. No eating is allowed, other than on the return trip when the club will pass out some candy.

To and from the mountain, a movie (selected and screened by the advisors) will be shown on each bus.

On the way up, the advisors will give each child an individual, personalized lift badge, which will allow each child to ski/board on the four Saturdays. This badge must be worn all day and be visible to ski lift operators. The lift badge will be returned to the advisor during the trip home. Additionally, all students who purchased lessons will be provided a lesson ticket that will also be affixed to their clothing.

Also, on the bus trip advisors will review critical information pertinent to the day's schedule. **As with all school bus trips, boys and girls are not allowed to sit next to each other on the same seat.**

Arrival at Shawnee

When we arrive at Shawnee, we will park in a designated parking area. Members will then exit the bus, pick up their equipment and walk past the Group Sales Office, cross the bridge above the pond to the lodge on your left, and up the stairs to the reserved WAMSSC tables overlooking the large fireplace on the first floor. Chaperones will be available to direct our group.

This reserved area is our area. All members must remain in this area while in the lodge other than to go to the cafeteria and/or restrooms. **Seating for members is allocated for each of the buses.** Once members put on their boots and jackets all bags should be placed underneath the tables, on shelves or on the wall hooks for storage.

For those taking lessons – many of you – it is important to quickly go outside to the lesson area (see lessons below). For others, the mountain is least crowded early in the morning. This is a great time to get out on the snow and enjoy the skiing/boarding.

Lessons

Lessons start promptly at 9 am for beginners (weeks 1, 2 and 3) and 10am for intermediates (weeks 2 and 3). As you are facing the mountain, the lesson area is to the far right on the beginner's slopes. Several advisors will direct you to the area. They will be carrying blue/yellow "WAMSSC" signs to help you find your way.

On the first day, you will be assigned to skill-appropriate groups. Beginner lessons last for two hours the first week, and one hour each for the second and third weeks. Intermediate skiers will have their lessons during the 2nd and 3rd weeks. There is no lesson on the fourth week.

At the conclusion of the lessons you are free to ski/board. Please make sure that you do not try trails that exceed your ability. For novices, the beginner's slope is a great place to continue working on and improving your technique.

Lunch Check-In

At pre-determined times, all skiers are required to check in with their bus advisors, report any injuries or incidents, and have lunch. These times will be announced on the bus trip up to the mountain. Have your arm patch ready and available for lunch check-in.

There are NO exceptions to this mandatory lunch check-in. To check-in, you must personally speak with your bus advisor and ensure he/she acknowledges your presence and checks you in. Advisors for each bus will be in the vicinity of your table. All advisors wear name tags as well. Anyone not checking in at the required time will lose one hour of skiing.

Lunch options include bringing your own bag lunch or buying food from the cafeteria at Shawnee.

Departure from Shawnee

Members should begin gathering in the lodge no later than 2:45 p.m. By 3:00 p.m., members leave the second floor of the lodge, pick up their skis/boards from the racks, and gather behind the WAMSSC roped-off area between the lodge and bridge on your right as you are heading back towards the parking lot.

At 3:10pm, members are released SINGLE FILE to walk back across the bridge to their bus. They should load their equipment in the storage area, check-in, and take a seat. Again, have your arm patch ready and available for final check-in. Make sure you bring your lift ticket on the bus with you as they will be collected on the return trip.

Buses will depart PROMPTLY at 3:30 p.m.

If you miss the bus, proceed immediately to the **Group Sales Office** (between the parking lot and the bridge, on the parking lot side of the pond) and report into WAMSSC advisors and Mr. Amicone. Transportation back to the school will be arranged.

Return to William Annin

Typically, we return between 4:50 and 5:00 pm. Please be sure to be there to pick up your child. Any member not picked up by 5:15 pm will be transported to the Bernard's Township Police station for parent/guardian pick-up.

IMPORTANT

Please, park only in the designated parking areas at William Annin. Do not enter the circular drive! Cars in this area will delay the bus arrival. This area is reserved exclusively for the buses. We ask that you are **careful, courteous** and **considerate**. There will be approximately 640 tired kids with ski/board equipment all looking for their ride home.

If You Won't Be Taking the Bus To or From the Mountain...

Every now and then your schedule may require you to drive your child to the mountain (arrive late) or pick him or her up from the mountain (leave early). **For late arrivals when the student does not ride the bus, the parent/guardian MUST personally hand off the club member to an advisor in the lodge when you arrive and sign the member in. For early departures, the parent/guardian MUST personally come to the lodge, by 2pm, and meet with the advisor and club member and sign the student out.**

There are NO exceptions to this. In all cases, please make arrangements in advance.

Supervision...

Each bus has 2 or 3 advisors assigned to it. These advisors are the primary contact for your child. However, 36 full-time advisors are part of WAMSSC and any and all of them can offer assistance and resolve issues during the day.

Additionally, many day volunteer chaperones and teachers join the club each Saturday in order to provide additional assistance and supervision.

The club uses five 2-way radios for communication throughout the day between the lodge, the mountain, and first aid. We are in constant and direct contact with first aid in the event of any injuries or illnesses.

If you injure yourself or become ill...

We follow the rules and regulations of Shawnee Mountain and their trained personnel related to injuries and illnesses. All are taken seriously, regardless of the perceived severity.

In most cases, the situation can be handled at the mountain and the skier can return on the bus to William Annin at the end of the day. In the event of a more serious injury or illness, your child may be transported by ambulance to Pocono Hospital, about 5 minutes from the mountain. An advisor will accompany your child to the hospital. If he/she can return to the mountain and re-join us for the return trip, we will accommodate this if it occurs prior to 3:30pm.

In the event the injury requires greater and/or longer attention and your child cannot make the return trip by bus, it is your responsibility to travel to Shawnee Mountain or Pocono Hospital and pick up your child. This is also the case in the event an illness precludes your child from spending the day with us and/or making the return trip by bus. Again, in all cases, we will be in contact with you and advise you of all necessary actions.

In all cases, we will notify a parent/guardian. **It is imperative that we can always reach a parent/guardian during the course of the day, and we have the required emergency phone information.** At registration, you provided emergency contact information. If this information changes any particular Saturday, please notify your bus advisor on that particular morning. A note works best.

Lost and Found...

Anything left at the lodge is “swept” by a clean-up crew at the end of the day. Often, we’ll know of these items by Saturday night. These items will be in the William Annin lost and found room for pick-up on Monday morning.

Other lost items, and lost skis/boards, may be searched for at the Shawnee Mountain lost and found office the following Saturday.

Safety and security...

Safety is the number one priority of the club. Proper skiing/boarding skills are essential, as is proper etiquette on and off the slopes.

We ask that all parents/guardians provide their child with a helmet and encourage their use during the day.

ALWAYS yield to skiers/boarders ahead of you. They have the right of way. If you pass them, pass wide and communicate to them by “on your right” or “on your left”. Be courteous and always anticipate. Skiers/boarders often turn or stop abruptly. Give everyone on the mountain ample space.

Always lock your skis on the racks. This responsibility is yours. **Identify all equipment and belongings with your name. Masking tape works well on skis/boards and boots. An identification card or tag works best on backpacks/gym bags.** Many rental skis and boards look the same... it’s easiest if they’re identified with name to ensure someone doesn’t inadvertently take the wrong equipment.

If a stranger ever approaches you in a way that seems inappropriate, please notify an advisor immediately so we can deal with the situation promptly.

If you miss a day of skiing...

On the following Monday, you will receive a ski voucher good for one day of skiing/boarding at Shawnee, available for your use through the remainder of the 2010 ski season.

Discipline...

All school and mountain policies apply and will be vigorously enforced. Decisions by the advisors are final.

Cancellations/Delays...

When at all possible, announcements will be made during school on Friday.

Additionally, in the event of a delay (2-hours) or cancellation, the following will occur:

- An email will be sent
- WWW.WAMSSC.COM will have a posted message of the trip status

Finally, if you ever have any questions or concerns, please approach any of the Advisors. We are all there to help you have fun, improve your skiing/boarding skills, and to do so safely. Enjoy the skiing and boarding, and the camaraderie of the club!

John Fedorchak and Felipe Trucco
Co-Presidents
William Annin Middle School Ski Club

2011 Season Advisors

Brendan and Kristan Amicone (Teacher
Advisor and spouse)
Jonathan and Jenifer Behrins
Dirk Rausch and Wendy Carpenter
Chris and Lisa Ciullo
Bill and Regina Eifert
John and Denise Fedorchak
Matt and Michele Gratalo
Michael and Lisa Keenan
Rick and Fran Mallia

Paul Mocciano and Sandra Rivera
Chuck and Eleanor Molinary
Don and Roxanne Rica
Len Rocci
Charlie and Janet Smith
Mike Tenenbaum
Joanna Trainor
Felipe and Karen Trucco
Brian Workman
Dan Yuen and Monique Loh