

Stevens Pass Snowsports School

THE WORD

Winter 20-21' | Issue 16 | Jan. 1, 2021

Happy New Year!



It's always good to have a backup plan... Hope everyone had a safe and fun NYE as we all said goodbye to 2020! I truly Hope your resolutions include sliding on snow as much as possible this season, staying safe and adopting a kitten... ☺ Thanks for all of your hard work in 2020 and we can't wait to see what adventures this new year brings us!

Full Time Opportunities

If you are interested in joining us in a full-time role in our school for the remainder of the season, we would love to hear from you! This would be a 5-day week commitment with Fridays-Sundays required.

Please send an email to spschoolstaff@vailresorts.com for more info. Thanks!

TERRAIN PARK UPDATE

At Stevens Pass we ensure the safety of our guests and staff who use the terrain parks as teaching terrain by designated by size of the features within and verifying staff sliding and teaching skills. Instructors with Park SMART Verification can use the terrain parks with students in a lesson up to the size of features the staff member is verified to. Currently there are only two parks open, Upper Ridgeline and Lower Ridgeline. Currently we have no SMALL terrain park options, so if you are an instructor with a GREEN – SMALL park sticker, there are no terrain parks available to use with guests in lessons. If you need access to the terrain park for your lesson, sign up for a Park SMART Verification Clinic through instructor.snow.com or see your Manager for more information. These clinics will begin once we have a small park built to verify instructor skills.



UPPER RIDGELINE (access point is off of Hogsback) - LARGE
LOWER RIDGELINE (access point is off of Daisy) - MED
SMALL PARK (Coming soon location TBD) - SMALL

KEY DATES:

- **January 2nd** - Level 1 Ski & Snb Clinic @ 4:00pm w/ DOD & Tiana
- **January 3rd** - Level 1 Certification Exam: 8:45am-4pm (AASI & PSIA)
- **January 6th**- Development "Finding Fun" 10:30am
- **January 8th**- Freestyle Friday "Jibber Jabber" @ 6:15

Foggy Goggles Getting You Down?

Skiing and riding the NW, most of us know how to handle foggy goggles, but this season wearing masks creates additional challenges. Below are some tips and tricks for avoiding the fog at least inside of your goggles.

When your glasses and mask are in a perfect position to where they don't fog up

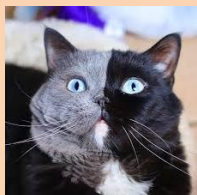


1. **Anti-Fog Products** – You can find a host of anti-fog products at any ski shop, my favorite is Cat Crap (probably because of the name). Avoid using any sprays on your goggles as the liquid can get trapped between your lenses which renders the lenses useless (speaking from experience here).
2. **Close The Gap** – Keep the warm air exhaling from your mouth from shooting through your mask and up into your goggles. Use tape at the top of your mask to seal it to your face. If you make your own masks use twist ties or pipe cleaners to shape the mask to the curves of your face for a better seal.
3. **Double Up** – Wear another mask under your ski mask, this will trap moisture in the first mask.
4. **Soap and Water** – Clean your goggle lens with soapy water, then wipe with a microfiber cloth. A clean surface is less likely to attract moisture.

TRAINING CORNER



If you have ever lived with a pet or human for a long period of time, chances are you developed a keen eye regarding their behaviors, moods, facial expressions and body language. This helps you decode their needs and wants. We use non-verbal communication as information to adjust and change the way we interact with people. At the mountain in our roles as instructors of support crews this helps us keep guests happy and engaged.



Some staff have a hard time relating to or communicating with children or adults. If this is you, I challenge you to observe your students with the same careful eye that you observe your pets. Monitor their behavior, participation, body language, facial expressions, and their communication. Most young children, have limited language skills to communicate the way they feel or what they want and need.



Use your observational skills to help keep your guests in the flow and address any issues before they become barriers to enjoying the mountain. If thinking of guests as fuzzy cats is not your jam, try having empathy for their journey by imagining they are a member of your family and you want them to have an experience of a lifetime.

Adult Programs Timing Change & Reminders!

- Line up times moving forward will be; 9:15am in the morning & 12.45pm for afternoon lessons
- Reminder that all **Adult lessons should finish at the designated finish time (12:00pm & 3.30pm)** regardless of what time lesson guests arrived.
****Lessons should only ever be extended with the express permission of a Supervisor****
- Reminder to **Instructors** there is **no need to "check in" at the PLO at 12.45pm if you don't have an afternoon assignment**, as all lessons are allocated ahead of time.
- Reminder to **support staff** to connect with the **lead instructor at 8am in the morning, before heading out to do setup.** (outside the front of the locker room)

