

Think Snow!

St. Anthony de Padua Catholic School Ski and Snowboard Club

When: Typically Friday nights after school. We'll probably start the week after Christmas break when Mr. Fowler is back, but we could go Dec 17 (or earlier) if we are organized.

Where: Swiss Valley Ski Area, Jones Michigan

Who: St. Anthony's students, parents, and alumni. Parents should decide what is appropriate for their child, but 3rd grade and younger students should be accompanied by a parent unless special arrangements are made.

Included: 7 nights of skiing, rentals and lessons. Plus a punch so a parent can ski once with their child. 5 of the nights have to be Fridays and punches can be shared. Alumni, relatives, etc. welcome. Parent transport which works itself out quickly. Those are the basics. You may also access the "club program" on our website which has information from Swiss Valley.

Cost: \$173 per skier or boarder. (\$131 if you have your own equipment). Snowboards and skis are the same rental fee and conditions.

Checks should be made out to St. Anthony de Padua School. Give them to Mrs. DeBoe please. Checks and waivers should be taken to the school office. **MAKE** sure your name is on the roster before you leave the office. The waiver is at the bottom of this document.

Mr. Fowler's cell phone # is 574 850 1091. Swiss Valley phone is 269 244 5635. Parents-please write these numbers down.

We meet at the whiteboard in the gym. Come there as quickly as possible after school. The goal is to get the students and drivers matched and important information passed **AS QUICKLY AS POSSIBLE** We will try to find a system so students can change while this is happening but we have to figure it out.

Here are a few thoughts that you may find useful

Waiver filled out and turned in? _____ (waiver at the end of this document).

Parent phone #'s including cell phone #'s listed on the roster along with the skier info__

Try to load everything in one bag to make it easy to identify and move. Put names on it; they have a lost and found. Swiss Valley has lockers that take quarters if you need to lock something. It costs 50 cents to open it every time.

Wear 1 pair of socks and carry a spare. No ankle socks!

Wear 1 pair of gloves and carry a spare set

If you plan to be on the beginner hill, bring something to protect your gloves against the tow rope! Work gloves work well. _____

Bring clothes you can layer. If you don't know what that means, call Mr. Fowler. Bring plenty, you don't have to wear them all. Waterproof pants or a spare pair are nice, especially if you will be falling and/or the weather is damp. Consider what the weather forecast is. Wind will make things colder. Heavy clothes layered at 30 degrees are going to produce overheating, perspiration, and wet undergarments, not comfort.

Snack for the trip up. Include water in the healthy snack you send to be eaten on the trip up. Eating on the road saves time for skiing. Students, you will sweat. Hydrate. Please don't send anything that is going to make a mess in someone else's car.

Food is not included. You can pack a dinner. Food is available up there, standard cafeteria style. Students, I know you're dying to know how to eat healthy up there. You can do it but it isn't easy! I'm sure that's a major disappointment. I would not send any more than ten dollars food money and they should bring back change from that if they aren't starving when they get there.

Helmet Opinions only

FOR SKIERS. I saved this for last. Here's my opinion (only) on helmets. Swiss Valley rents helmets for \$10 a day. A new one costs 40-200+ dollars. If you want a helmet, I'd buy a cheap one rather than rent. I'm torn between saying helmets are always good (they are; I always wear one) and the fact that beginners typically move and fall more slowly and the risk on a one time experience is very, very, very low. However, by the end of the season, they won't be moving slowly anymore. Anybody playing in the terrain park should certainly have one. If you tell me that they are supposed to wear a helmet, I will certainly try to watch for it (no guarantees). Together we can come up for an unpleasant consequence for anyone who might 'forget'. Otherwise they wear what they wear but it should be warm.

FOR SNOWBOARDERS: I would not board without a helmet nor would I let my child board without a helmet. Again this is Mr. Fowler's opinion based on experience and not legal advice. We will doubtless have a lot of new boarders. In my opinion I would equip new boarders with every piece of protective gear possible especially helmet and wrist guards. I (Mr. Fowler) have some of this that may be borrowed. New boarders are going to fall a LOT and awkwardly. It is a lot of fun but the learning curve is steep.

Everybody wants to have a good time and we don't want anyone hurt. Parents and students should read the skiers responsibility code (below) and practice responsible behavior.

1. Always stay in control and be able to stop or avoid other people or objects.
2. People ahead of you have the right of way. It is your responsibility to avoid them.
3. You must not stop where you obstruct a trail, or are not visible from above.
4. Whenever starting downhill or merging into a trail, look uphill and yield to others.
5. Always use devices to help prevent runaway equipment.
6. Observe all posted signs and warnings. Keep off closed trails and out of closed areas.
7. Prior to using any lift, you must have the knowledge and ability to load, ride and unload safely.

It is your responsibility as a skier or snowboarder to know and follow these safety guidelines. This is a partial list. Be safety conscious!

Student Name _____
St. Anthony de Padua Ski and Snowboard Club

Parents and students must understand and agree:

Children will be skiing without adult supervision unless the parent accompanies the child.

Every club member needs to have an adult willing and able to commit to driving to Swiss Valley. St. Anthony's is not responsible for transportation to and from Swiss Valley.

Part of being a club is transportation coordination. All drivers must be licensed and insured. Children must be in seatbelts.

If there is a problem with transportation, it is the responsibility of the scheduled driver to find a replacement.

The driver of the night makes the decision on when the vehicle returns.

St. Anthony's does not carry insurance to cover medical emergencies or accidents. Neither does Mr. Fowler or the ski club sponsors.

Mr. Fowler will not be there for every session. Even when he is there he is often busy doing first aid.

Swiss Valley does not offer refunds in case of weather problems.

Attached you will find a copy of the skiers responsibility code of Swiss Valley. Parents and students should read, understand, and practice responsible behavior.

I have read and understood the above information and been given a chance to ask questions.

In consideration that my child is being transported to and is participating in the ski club, and on behalf of my child, my spouse, myself and my child's estate, I hereby recognize that such an activity may expose my child to risks and hazards not ordinarily encountered at school. I release St. Anthony de Padua Catholic School and/or Mr. Fowler from all claims, judgments, and liability that my child, his/her estate or my spouse now has or may ever have due to my child's participation in the Ski Club. I acknowledge that neither St. Anthony de Padua Catholic School nor Mr. Fowler are responsible for any liabilities incurred during the transportation of my child to and from Swiss Valley and while skiing or snowboarding.

Parent/Guardian Signature

Date