

Fall Issue 2020

Fall Newsletter 2020



Aaron Raymond cutting loose @ Purgatory, CO

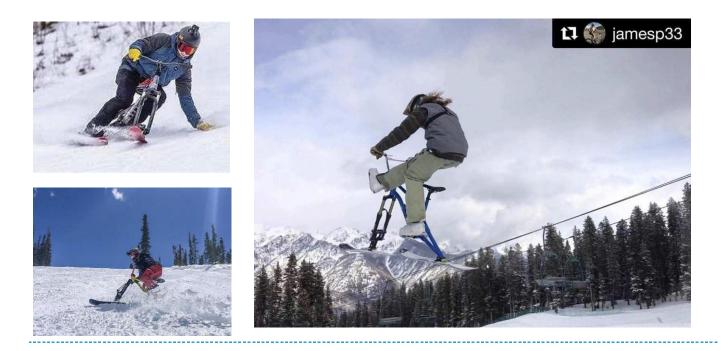
EXPECT A CHALLENGING SEASON AHEAD

The virus that hijacked our ski season last Spring is going to motivate most ski areas to ration our on-hill experience this season. New rules and restrictions will make it a different experience and likely frustrate many of us. The good news is resorts are opening and we will be on the hill soon! Just as Summer saw more people outside than ever, the winter season should experience the same demand to play outdoors.

Ski area operations will look and operate quite different this winter. Expect to see things like grab and go food, masks required anywhere inside and in lift lines, outdoor warming tents, and signs, signs and signs. The big resort operations will certainly have to limit capacities through reservation systems and parking restrictions. Other operational changes will likely see are reduced lesson sizes, new rental & retail store protocol, and a reduced number of riders per chair. This is easy with a SkiBike next to you on the chair since many resorts require this anyway.

But how are SkiBikers going to react to these modifications? We need to be patient and be thankful we have the privilege to ride. We are a sturdy bunch. It may change our travel patterns, lodging choices, and what dates we choose to go. Many of us will ride mid-week and avoid the crowded Holiday weekends. Let's get out there and have some fun!





"The range of SkiBike styles and prices this season is the best in the sport's history"

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THE CLASS OF 2021 SKI BIKES

The 2020/21 Season is here with all our brands moving forward regardless of this summer's Covid delays and challenges with their production plans. All are shipping new bikes this fall and are reporting brisk sales. Most of the product changes are evolutionary improvements. Models offered in the USA have all proven their place in the marketplace and riders have more to choose from than ever. Entry level prices remain affordable for riders new to the sport. Some of the business member brands of the American SkiBike Association will be offering free shipping on new bike purchases through the end of the 2020 calendar year. Current members of the Association qualify for offer. Check their websites or call for details.

Freestyle Type II Bikes

The **SkiByk** brand will continue with it's two model offering. The SB100 is still their cornerstone full suspension product. It returns with some subtle production improvements under the chassis. The primary change consumers will see this year are a change to their new Ripper 99 skis that feature an "early riser" profile to allow the ski to enter the turn with a bit more ease. The running surfaces will feature their inlayed logo in it's sintered base material. The geometry and glass reinforced wood core remains unchanged.



The upgraded SB 200 features the same frame in a reversed black graphic and an upgraded RST air suspension front suspension. Both models can be upgraded with their Liberator Skis. The front and rear ski have a unique shared sidecut teaming the front and rear ski in a continuous radius shape.

SkiByk SB200



The **Tngnt** lineup has grown to 3 models. The Carve 2.0 is their flagship offering with full suspension. Improvements include a narrower frame in the mid section for improved leg clearance and the new SRS Ski Retention System. The block system allows swapping their colored "Skiblox" to achieve the desired feel you want on the ride (stiff, soft, or medium) The 2.0 Pro model offers an upgrade in suspension with some extra travel for extreme riding. Pow Bomb Powder Skis are available for all their models.

The Drift is their hard tail entry level model with the best retail price in the business. It features a hardtail design with their other standard features that have proved popular last year.





Sno-Go has been growing their sales with acceptance of its 3-ski bike design (Type III) in North America. New for the coming season is a brand new graphic look and some improvements in their frame-to-chassis S2 system. This change improves leverage and angulation transference to their skis. Other changes include an improved stomp pad and the availability of a new Powder Ski.

The new Sno-Gos are also much easier to assemble with 90% of the bike pre-assembled in the box. Just a few simple connections and the bike is ready to hit the slopes.



2021 Sno-Go

CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE



If you haven't noticed, the American SkiBike Association continues to evolve into more of an advocacy

organization than just an enthusiastic club.

What's new is our focus on growth and acceptance as a resort activity. We have heard the "chicken or the egg" argument for growing the sport. I believe we need to lay the eggs throughout our ski resorts to realize significant growth. That's where we are focusing much of our efforts now. Education and clear communication is our goal. As our resort numbers continue to increase, rider numbers will follow. That's when the snowball begins to roll really speeds up and pick up momentum

SkiBiking is being recognized by more and more resort operations every year. The industry is beginning to respect that we are organized, thoughtful, and that safety is a cornerstone of what we are promoting. We will continue to encourage our manufacturers and resorts to do demos and communicate to resorts why we should be a part of their lift served options. The SkiBike Association is making progress each year.

This new focus is helping our bike builders grow their businesses too. The old days of homemade bikes is giving way to awesome out-of-the box SkiBike models. There are bikes for beginners through state of the art innovative models for world class riders. That product overview is in this issue.

Fear not, we have not abandoned our club of riders that have supported the Association since it's humble beginnings. We will still be very active with Festivals, Workshops, and Rallies. We remain your best source for schedules of our gatherings and latest news about resorts and developments within our sport.

As our resorts begin to open, let's all stay safe out there and enjoy!

- Jim Cameron



CLASS OF 2021

The 20/21 Lenz offering is introducing a broader size selection of its two core models Recon and Launch. Riders will be able to select from 4 frame sizes to customize the bike to their height and weight. Lenz is also making evolutionary changes to its line with new colors, improved fittings, and Lenz Branded bars and saddles.

Devin Lenz is also rolling out a revolutionary quick release system to attach and release the skis from the bike frame. This has been an exciting move forward with back country riders for transporting their bikes into the back country. Details will follow later this winter. Cliff Pinto, SkiBiking's premier back country rider, has been tapped to help develop and test the new system in the mountains above Silverton, Colorado.

SkiBobs Type I

The Classic Type 1 **Brenter** and **Stalmach** brands from Austria are unchanged for 20/21. Both SkiBob brands can still be purchased new from their websites, in Austria or domestically through Snowfunbikes.com based in Steamboat Springs, Colorado. These well established European SkiBob styles are still the choice of many traditional riders and are the core of many rental fleets across N. America. These bikes are all ridden with footskis made to fit either Alpine or Snowboard boots.





Stalmach Cayman



SKIBYK NOLIMITS



SB100 \$1089

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www.boomerangskibikes.com

Join us to help move the sport of SkiBiking forward with education and outreach. Your donations and memberships help fund our all volunteer efforts to attend trade shows, and organize demos and rally events. We increase our "SkiBike Friendly" resort list each year by reaching out to resorts, developing Industry best practices and Educational tools. Go to www.americanskibike.com to see the best resource for SkiBiking in the world and air up. Thenlas to surgenerat tribe of

and sign up. Thanks to our great tribe of riders for helping us push this sport forward!

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Taos Ski Valley is a gem in Northern New Mexico and has an interesting heritage of SkiBiking. Their founder Ernie Blake was one of the last holdouts to not allow snowboarding at the resort. Of note is that years ago this very independent mountain



has had a small fleet of SkiBikes that employees would ride down from the restaurant at the end of their work day. In the very early days of the resort in the 1960s the lifties would ride down the slopes on their lift ramp grooming shovels at the end of the day. They discovered ski bikes steer much better! Their adaptive program has experience using SkiBikes too. The new owners took a fresh look at our sport a few years ago and finally gave us the official green light allow SkiBike riding at Taos.

The mountain is growing right now and is in the midst of a huge revitalization project to add more amenities, and on-hill lift improvements to the mountain. SkiBikers will certainly appreciate this infrastructure growth to enhance skiing and riding opportunities. We are also certain the Taos management will be delighted at the fun new customers visiting their resort with their bikes adding diversity and new options for their guests. Thanks for your support Taos!

UPCOMING EVENTS



- December 12, 2020 Angel Fire, NM Opening Day Ski Bike Rally
- January 23, 2021 Snow Basin, UT Ski Bike Rally
- January 23-24, 2020 Purgatory, CO SkiBike Festival
- March 5-7, 2020 HooDoo Resort, Oregon SkiBike Festival

PARTING SHOT

