



**American  
SkiBike  
Association**

**Holiday  
Issue  
2020**

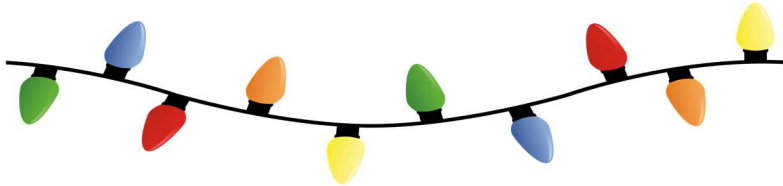


## Holiday Newsletter



Photo by Aaron Remkus

Rider Mickey Tomlin



As we celebrate the Holidays, the Facebook and Instagram SkiBiking pages have come to life with photos, videos, and lively and positive discussions of our sport. The manufacturers are promoting their SkiBikes and are out in the field selling bikes at a record pace despite the pandemic. The demand is surprising all of us. In 2020 we have seen more bikes under the Christmas tree than ever before.

What does this mean for us? Ski resorts are scrambling to change their business models to survive the season. This new ecosystem is an opportunity for SkiBiking. Maybe the resorts that would never give us the time of day will take a fresh look. SkiBiking is such a no brainer as new resort activity that checks *all* the boxes for their marketing departments. It is fun. It is safe. It's easy to learn. It's inclusive. Last but not least, it is retentive. We are working behind the scenes trying to get this message to the mountain operations divisions of the resorts.

You can help us too. If you see a patroller, a ski instructor sitting alone in the cafeteria, or a management person greeting guests on the plaza, go talk to them. You can always thank them for allowing us to ride. Tell them how riding changed your life. Tell them how it got your family back together on their mountain. This season they are listening! Have a safe and happy holiday season. - The ASA

### 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](http://www.americanskibike.com) to see the best resource for SkiBiking in the world and sign up. Thanks to our great tribe of riders for helping us push this sport forward!

#### Meet Our Volunteer ASA Board 2021

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#### Regional ASA Reps

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**Jarrod Heredia**, Pacific Northwest  
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**Jim Weiland**, National Education and Adaptive

#### International ASA Representatives

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*“Whether due to injury, age, disability, fitness level, or too many seasons getting banged up on traditional equipment, SkiBikes can be your ticket to getting back on the slopes.”*

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## ADAPTIVE SKIBIKING 20/21

Adaptive SkiBiking is defined as using a SkiBike to help overcome physical or mental limitations for people with special needs. Whether due to injury, age, disability, fitness level, or just too many seasons getting banged up on traditional ski equipment, SkiBikes can be your ticket to getting back on the slopes and having fun with friends and family.

SkiBikes are available in three basic platforms (link to 3 types of SkiBikes) all of which can be useful for adaptive snowsports. Many have comfortable seats - or can be fit with a standard padded bicycle seat - for sitting on while riding, or relaxing between runs.

**Traditional Ski Bobs with foot skis (Type 1 SkiBikes)** are ideal for former skiers and for people who like the low-to-the-ground stance, or have balance and joint/replacement issues.

**Freestyle SkiBikes (Type 2)** are mountain bike sized, and often have full suspension to cushion impact on painful joints. They can be ridden either standing or seated, and you can even remove the foot rests and add foot skis, if desired. People with knee, ankle, or hip joint issues and some amputees may enjoy Freestyle SkiBikes, as long as they have at least one good, strong leg.

**Trike style Bikes (Type 3)** can be used by people with a variety of conditions, with good stamina and strength. Some people who would enjoy a trike style include amputees who ride with prosthetic limbs. They require an athletic riding stance, and the ability to apply pressure with both the left and right legs.





"Mert's Hand" Prosthetic



Mert Lawwill (mertlawwill@gmail.com) was the 1969 AMA Motorcycle Grand National Champion racer. Mert has developed an innovative prosthetic hand (left). The device will enable hand and forearm amputees to use a Motorcycle or Mountain Bike. This new tool would certainly have applicability in adaptive SkiBiking.



Stalmach's Adaptive "Quan" SkiBike

## ADAPTIVE SKIBIKING 20/21 CONTINUED

For people with a mild disability, cognitive issues, or an early degenerative disease or Parkinson's a standard SkiBike should work. When choosing a SkiBike, consider: Do you need a seat? Think Type 1 or 2. Are you comfortable with foot skis? Think Type 1. Are you fit enough to push a trike style SkiBike on slight slopes? Consider a Type 3.

Adaptive lessons are highly recommended to get you started. Most Ski resorts have adaptive ski lessons - call the Ski School Director or Adaptive Coordinator. Call well in advance to schedule your lesson, as adaptive lessons usually provide a specialized instructor, and are one-on-one lessons customized to your individual goals and needs.

Often adaptive ski lessons are quite affordable - sometimes the same price as a group ski lesson - to help welcome people with special needs to snow sports. They may have a few different SkiBike models to try, or let you bring your own SkiBike for the adaptive lesson. Check out the ASA list of SkiBike friendly resorts and call the ski school for info.

On the day of your lesson, dress for the weather, and in layers. Include Helmet, goggles, gloves and check with your instructor to bring the right boots (snow boots for Type 2 and 3, while Type 1 or foot skis may require Alpine, Snowboard, or snow boots). You may want to consider a small bicycle handlebar bag for your water, Chapstick and a snack.

Adaptive SkiBiking can open up a whole new world of winter options! So get out there, take a SkiBike lesson, stay hydrated, take it easy and have fun! For more info check out the ASA website Adaptive page <https://americanskibike.com/adaptive> or email your ASA Adaptive Representative, [SkiBikeJim@gmail.com](mailto:SkiBikeJim@gmail.com).

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## NEWS Flashes

- EUROPE restrictions are much worse than what we are experiencing in the USA. These have forced the European SkiBike Association's Austrian event to be postponed. Lockdowns and closures in Austria, Germany, and Italy have made it very difficult to travel. Hotels, restaurants and bars are also closed in many areas. Travel is also very restricted between countries.
- USA restrictions are causing some confusion and discouraging last minute planners. Our reservation systems for tickets and parking are frustrating some, but reports are positive once these barrier's are mastered. Reductions of skiers on the mountain are making for less crowded slopes. Our SkiBiking events are moving forward, but with less ambitious schedules for the events. Purgatory and Hoodoo are still welcoming riders and planning their Festivals with our help. See our calendar on the back page
- BOOKINGS for the 2021 winter season for lodging at western resorts are down 35% according to Inntopia's metrics (a company that measures resort bookings across the 17 western ski destinations). Resort towns are also bracing for Covid impacts. Park City, Utah for example, is expecting major retail revenue impacts from this and events like the Sundance Film Festival reducing their footprint in town by offering virtual movie screenings for this coming January.
- SPORTING GOODS stores are reporting that Covid-19 is fueling record interest in winter outdoor activities just as it did camping, biking, and hiking during the summer. Nordic, Alpine Touring, and Snowshoe sales have exploded. Any snow related gear is selling out with dealers. They are having difficulty getting restocked as supply chains have slowed. Cabin fever is creating new opportunities for winter resorts and retailers. SkiBike sales are strong!





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### Upcoming Events

- January 23, 2021 Snow Basin, UT Ski Bike Rally
- January 23-24, 2021 Purgatory, CO SkiBike Festival
- March 5-7, 2021 Hoodoo Resort, Oregon SkiBike Festival



We will be participating in the NSAA February 2021 Trade Show virtually this year.

Rider Shea Thompson Angelfire, NM



## WINTER PARK, CO



SkBiking has been part of the Winter Park scene since the 1960s. This classic Colorado Ski Area has been operating since 1940. It has grown in size to feature seven mountains offering over 3,000 acres of awesome terrain for Skibikers. When you get there it feels like you are so far deep into Colorado's Rockies, but you are only 67 miles from Denver.

Over the years their SkiBike rental fleet has consisted of SkiBobs and Freestyle Bikes. Currently they offer Type 3-SkiBikes in their Adventure Center and all styles are welcome on the mountain. Rentals of other styles are also available off site. Go to the ASA Rental map for more information. If you get a chance to sample Winter Park this season, have fun and spread the word. It's quite the ride!



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