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AmericanSkiBike.com



American SkiBike Association

ASA Newsletter *Spring 2019*

NEWS FLASHES

We would like to
welcome two new
Business Members



www.sno-go.us



www.snowfunbikes.com

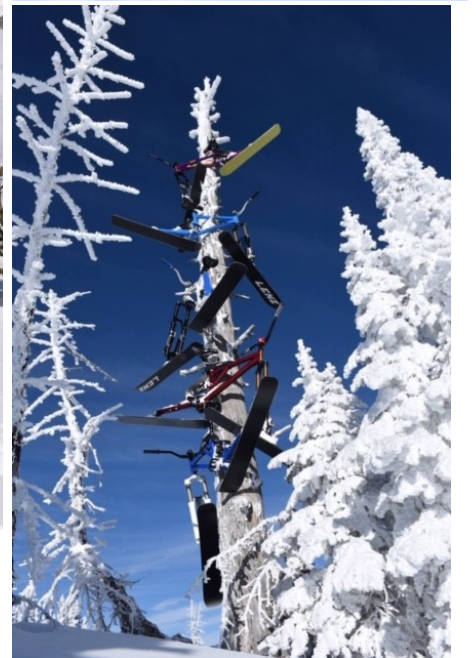
Some New
SkiBike Friendly
Resorts



www.powdermountain.com



www.skitaos.com



2019 Photo Winner

Photo by Nick Wigston, Skier Brian Redding
Some great entries this year. Lots of
powder shots in 2019
What A Great Snow Year!





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The ASA Board 2019

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Alfie Fernandez, Northwest
Monte Hand California
Wayne Peterson Southwest
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Education

International ASA Reps

Gregor Schuster, Austria
Jason Buckley, New Zealand

Chairman's Note

Dear Members,

What a fantastic 18/19 SkiBike season! We had great snow nationwide. Several new ski resorts came on board. We contacted the entire NSAA Resort membership and introduced ourselves again.

New products were introduced from several companies. Our bike builders are all growing

their sales numbers and continue to improve their offerings. It's an exciting time seeing the sport getting traction and moving forward!

My thanks to all of our volunteers who helped do the work to keep this organization thriving. Also my sincere shout out to the members who keep us alive with their dues and donations. Enjoy your summer!



SkiBike Leashing 101

Leashing can be a confusing aspect of SkiBiking. Different manufacturers and resorts may have vastly different recommendations and policies. The purpose of this article is to help clarify the two different types of leashes, and the leashing recommendations contained in the ASA SkiBike Best Practices (link) a document which is designed to give guidance to riders and to help SkiBike friendly resorts to develop safe, effective and consistent SkiBike policies.

The ASA Best Practices say "Review resort rules and manufacturer's leashing recommendations, and always follow the resort rules safely" and discuss the two types of leashes for SkiBikes - Riding Leashes and Anti-Drop Leashes.

The [NSAA Skier Responsibility Code](#) applies to all skiers, snowboarders and SkiBikers, and says "An anti-runaway device is required" to ensure that if equipment gets away, it doesn't continue downhill, pick up speed, and become a potential danger. Riding Leashes - which connect the rider to the SkiBike while riding - often using a coiled plastic cord which attaches to the rider's leg or arm with a Velcro band - can act as an anti-runaway device for SkiBikes.



Regarding Riding Leashes, the ASA Best Practices say: "Always follow manufacturer's recommendations for runaway prevention." The ASA Board of Directors, based on testing and years of experience, found that many types SkiBikes have built-in anti-runaway features - if a SkiBike becomes separated from the rider, it will fall over quickly, the handlebar and footpegs will dig into the snow and will stop the bike instantly. Therefore, unless required by the resort or the manufacturer, rider's leashes are only needed for certain very stable types of SkiBikes such as platform bikes, trikes, and SkiBikes with very wide boards.

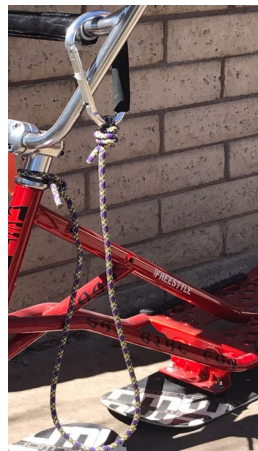
The second type of leash used is the Anti-Drop Leash, which connects the SkiBike to the chairlift (but not to the rider) and is used to ensure that the SkiBike cannot fall from the chairlift. ASA Best Practices state: "Always use an anti-drop leash while riding the chairlift" and "Use factory supplied or factory recommended anti-drop leash, or rated mountain climbing line and a rated mountain climbing non-locking carabiner."

Why do SkiBikes need an Anti-Drop Leash? For the safety of people and equipment! It is a common, everyday occurrence that people riding the chairlift drop things - cameras, phones, gloves, keys, and even heavier items such as skis, poles and snowboards. SkiBikes differ from skis and snowboards in that they are heavier.

A sturdy Anti-Drop Leash securely attached to the SkiBike and clipped to the chairlift will keep the SkiBike from falling in the rare occurrence that a SkiBike may accidentally slip out of a rider's grip. The SkiBike will dangle safely below the chair, ready to be retrieved by the rider at the top of the lift, with just some mild embarrassment, rather than falling and potentially injuring a fellow skier, and damaging the SkiBike.

Sure, it is a little more effort for the SkiBike rider to remember to detach their rider's leash (if required) and attach the Anti-drop Leash after boarding the chairlift, and then detach the Anti-Drop Leash before unloading from the chairlift, but like other safety measures - such as buckling up the seat belt in your car - once you get into the habit it will feel totally natural. And you can feel good because by taking safety precautions you are helping to protect other resort guests, protecting your equipment, being an ambassador for our sport and helping to promote safe SkiBiking for all.

If you need more information on leashing, refer to your specific resort's SkiBike regulations, your SkiBike manufacturer's instruction manual, and to the ASA SkiBike Best Practices. Questions and comments on SkiBike leashing? E-mail us at info@americanskibike.com



New Products

[americanskibike.com/
merchandise](http://americanskibike.com/merchandise)



We're on the Web!
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We need your help.

**Ideas on a race series
for the next Season?**

*Interested resorts and
members contact us at
info@americanskibike.com*

or

**Contact our Race
Committee organizers:**
Patrick Neelan
Leif Larson

PSIA Contacts?

*We need your help to develop-
ing a positive and collaborative
relationship with PSIA. We are
in the early stages of creating
lesson plans for a SkiBike
certification program. Do you
have contacts or experience to
help our ASA Educational
Committee?*

Contact:
Jim Weiland
Devin Lenz



**American
SkiBike
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Is Racing Still Alive in America?

By Patrick Neelan

I will never forget 2007 at Sipapu Resort, my first two days ever on a bike, after a 2 hour Lesson from an Instructor, who changed my Life. Sipapu's SkiBike Event in 2007 offered racing at the end of the Event, with a Race program that is easily replicated: Select one short Lift as a location for two or three laps, just after the lifts close.

As a life-long biker that looks for any adventure behind handlebars, I realized how much fun this Sport could be. My next time on a SkiBike, I found myself in Purgatory, a Ski Resort in Durango, Colorado that was conducting the largest SkiBike Event in the Nation, were I entered my first ever competition on snow.

Purgatory's NASTAR dual-track Slalom race course consisted of approximately eight gates,



Patrick Neelan Racing in Austria

enjoyed by Freestyle bikes and Skibobs, as it greatly improves our riding skills. A few years later in 2010, it was truly an honor to be invited to the World's largest SkiBike Event in Kirchberg, Austria. This Event had seventy plus competitors from fourteen Nations, for the SkiBike World Cup Championship.



Photos Chris Marriott (top) and Mike Sparkman at the NASTAR finals Steamboat Springs, CO

I spent the first part of the week practicing with the Austrian Team, followed by three days of competition. Waving the USA Flag while walking through the town was a real privilege with fellow USA competitor Mike Sparkman and his wife Donna, as the whole town of turned out for Tuesday evening's opening Ceremony.

I am pleased to report that SkiBike competition is alive in the USA, after recent reports from Hoodoo! I look forward to competing in Hoodoo's Events next year with all of you. Also, NASTAR www.nastar.com has numerous competition options at Resorts across the Nation, and I would encourage everyone to sign-up, not as a Skier or Snowboarder, but as a biker (currently noted by NASTAR as "Snowbike") as the ASA promotes this growing Snow Sport for all types of SkiBikes!

2019 SkiBike Events Wrap Up

Another great season of events just finished at Sierra @ Tahoe with Jeff Butcher and Don Koski hosting another great demo day showing off bikes and introducing new riders to the sport. Riders came as far as San Diego to get in on the fun.

Brighton, Utah hosted a great day of demos drawing from Utah's growing local riding scene. We saw license plates from California, Colorado and New Mexico. SkiBike brands Boomerang, SkiByk, and Tngnt were in attendance showing off their latest offerings.

Sunrise Park Resort in Arizona hosted three events and with strong support from resort management, is fast evolving as the newest ski biking mecca of the Southwest. ASA Reps Wayne Peterson and Jim Weiland, Sunrise SkiBike instructor and chair of the ASA Education Committee, assisted by ASA volunteers and Sunrise staff were busy introducing enthusiastic new riders from all over Arizona and New Mexico to a wide variety of SkiBike makes, models and platforms.



Business Member Links



www.boomerangskibikes.com



www.lenzsport.com



www.skibyK.com



www.sledgehammer.at



www.sno-go.us



www.snowfunbikes.com



www.tngntskibikes.com



www.utahskibike.com



Springtime SkiBike Fun!



Longtime Member Joey Bonang Water Biking!

Have a Great Summer!

We always need help. if you have any interest in helping the ASA or becoming a regional Representative, call us at 801-792-0150. or send us an e-mail at info@americanskibike.com

