

April Issue 2021

Spring 2021



THE '20-'21 SEASON WAS BETTER THAN WE EXPECTED!

We are finishing a season we were not even sure would happen this year! Thankfully were able to do a bunch of rally events instead of our traditional festivals. The turnouts were great and the enthusiasm was at pace with our best years. The bike builders reported excellent sales. We even saw interest from consumers at a record pace. Jeff Butcher, who answers the inquiries for the Association, had a busy winter! Hits on our website were up and our analytics look better each season. Our rider and resort membership continues to grow. Our list of resorts in the USA and Canada allowing SkiBiking also continues to expand. Take a look at our latest ASA website lists. It now features Google Maps with all the SkiBike Friendly Resorts in North America with links to their specific policies.

The resort industry as a whole pivoted in every way imaginable to operate safely. Most remained open all season long with very few problems reported. Weather took it's toll on days resorts were open more than Covid did. The pent up demand to get outside to play was huge. We saw more new people outside again. Just about any winter sport drew renewed interest. This had many resorts taking a new look at us. To cap off the season we saw at least a dozen new rental operations open their doors across the nation. We all know that broadening this category will ensure that our numbers continue grow.

-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 help 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 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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International ASA Representatives

Gregor Schuster, Austria Jason Buckley, New Zealand



SKIBIKING HERITAGE PROJECT

There are ideas flying around the ASA about organizing a museum entity to honor the legacy of the sport. Jim Weiland and Don Koski have quite the collection of SkiBikes from years past. The idea is to form a heritage non-profit organization to celebrate the history of SkiBiking. The mission would be to create a traveling museum to preserve antique SkiBikes and advance the knowledge of the sport.

Talking with Jim Wieland, the ASA's Education leader he said "Covid had many of us thinking about new ways to grow the excitement for our sport this past season. The older guys have been comparing stories about classic bikes we have collected. We realized we have enough bikes and expertise to create some sort of a museum". What a fantastic and fun way to grow the sport and educate the public. They need to know that this sport didn't just pop up in the last 10 years. Members interested in this project or willing to donate a bike gathering dust in the garage should reach out to Jim Weiland at 520-508-5070.











Covid put a damper on our traditional festivals, but Purgatory, Hoodoo Sierra, and Woodward Park City each turned into more of a Summit event to share ideas and strategize how to grow the sport. Some of the best riders in N. America and several manufacturers were are all seen collaborating on the chairlifts and riding together.









RALLY EVENTS 2021

They say make Lemonade out of Covid Lemons and that's what we did at our 2021 Annual SkiBike Festivals. Covid restrictions had us change the events to Rallies. These were easier to organize and allowed us to ride and network with everyone that showed. All the events had great turn outs for riders from all over the USA. Congregations at the host resorts were as enjoyable as ever. The big change was not having races, prizes, raffles, and awards. We were still able to have awesome ride time and create some great camaraderie to build on for Next Year! Thanks to all that attended.





Our Business Contributors



















Do I Need To Tune My SkiBike's Skis?

We are seeing this question on more and more in Facebook posts this season as the volume of sold SkiBikes continues to grow. The answer is YES. Note that all of the brands building brand new rides come with exceptional out of the wrapper skis. But all skis need some occasional love during the season.

Before your bike even hits the snow, find out if it comes waxed from the factory. Sintered bases love that first coat of wax. Also take a look and feel your edges. Most new skis are tuned very sharp right up to the tip and tail. Many recreational riders who are learning the sport would benefit from de-tuning or dulling these back a bit (just the first 10 cm of where the skis contact the snow). This can really help a brand-new rider learn to drift their turns easier.

As riders progress in their learning and the bikes start to get used, it is really important to keep your skis tuned. Well-tuned and waxed skis will improve your riding by creating predictable ski performance.







Basic Tuning

There are many benefits of keeping your skis tuned and waxed. You want your investment to perform its best. Sharp and Smooth edges give you much better grip and edging on really hard or icy slopes. Dull skis can make for an uncontrollable experience. Rust and burrs on your ski edges cause drag and slow you down. It's also important to wax your bases regularly. The best way is to hot wax with heated application with a ski wax specific iron that melts the wax and allows it to penetrate more deeply into the ski. If this is too difficult, you can use many of the rub-on paste waxes available. These work fantastic with the very wet slushy snow in the springtime that can slow you down.

There are many very good YouTube videos on tuning and waxing. SkiBikes are relatively easy to tune and wax because you can turn them upside down and have your skis at table level. Here is a list of the basic tools you will need.

- P-Tex Candle for base repair
- Metal Scraper for scraping off P-Tex
- 3. Files for edge sharpening
- 4. File guide for beveling edges
- Diamond stone for smoothing edges
- 6. Ski Wax Iron for applying ski wax
- Ski Wax, universal or good 3 part system
- 8. **Wax Scraper** to scrape hardened wax off

There are many wax brands out there to choose from. The biggest brands in the business are Swix and Toko, but there are another couple dozen smaller companies that produce outstanding products. You can mouse click your way to great systems used by most companies. The majority have different temperature systems consisting of cold, medium and warm formulas to match the conditions during the ski season. But, as you search you will find virtually every wax brand offers a good quality all-temperature wax. Most riders will gravitate to these "all in one" offerings which will suffice unless you are racing Rob Nichols, James Perry, or Leif Larson.



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Upcoming Events

 Loveland Pass Expert Rally Romp

May 1, 2021

Learn to SkiBike



Americanskibike.com



PARK CITY, UT



Park City, long a famous silver mining town, was transformed into a ski town in the 1960s. The resort, originally called Treasure Mountain, became Park City Resort at the end of that decade and grew into a world class ski area. In the 80s and 90s it grew to become one of the largest in the West and eventually hosted the 2002 Olympics. Park City is now owned by Vail Resorts. It is proud to now be the largest ski resort in the United States.

Most SkiBikers don't realize that In the early 1970s Park City was filled with many really good SkiBikers riding Classic Skibobs. This was when the sport was at it's zenith in the USA with talk of the sport in Denver Olympics 1976. The headquarters of American Skibob Instructors Association (The ASIA) was organized in 1971 and was based in Park City. Their mission was to educate the public about skibobs (what we now call Classic or Type I) and certify instructors in the sport.

Park City still has a few old timers that remember riding classic skibobs at Park City and Park West Resorts in the 60 and 70s. They are all very supportive of the sport's rebirth and current growth. The '80s and '90s explosion of snowboarding forced ski areas to re-evaluate what devices they would allow. The result was a not allowing Skibiking for many years. Thankfully we gained that back through efforts of manufacturers and the ASA. Currently SkiBiking in Park City has been thriving with a growing population of riders each season. Park City, UT is once again home to the current American SkiBike Association.



