



Mt. Mansfield Ski and Snowboard Club

Mt. Mansfield Academy Tutorial Program

WEEKDAY TRAINING FOR STOWE MIDDLE/HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETES

The Stowe public schools and the Mt. Mansfield Ski and Snowboard Club continue to offer tutoring and midweek training for the Middle and High School competitive alpine and snowboard athletes. The program, the Mt. Mansfield Academy Tutorial, offers 6th graders through high school seniors the opportunity to train mid week and make up their missed classes on non-training days. Back in the 1970's, when ski greats such as Tiger and Andrew Shaw attended school here, Stowe schools would let skiers take off most afternoons to ski. Increased regulations about attendance and other concerns brought that tradition to an end.

The Mt. Mansfield Academy Tutorial Program was formed in 1984 to allow ski club athletes (including past U.S. Ski Team member Lauren Ross) to train during the week. The interest in the program declined in the mid 1990's as the private, independent Mt. Mansfield Winter Academy became increasingly popular. MMWA, which is located on the Mountain Road and is not affiliated with the public schools, is a cornerstone of the MMSC program.

Now, through the combined efforts of committed school staff and faculty, parents and ski club coaches and staff, midweek training for both Stowe Middle and High School continues to thrive. This year, twelve 6th through 10th grade ski racers and snowboarders are heading to the mountain two or three afternoons during the week depending on their age/grade level.

The push behind weekday skiing and riding came largely from the athletes themselves, who wanted to get as much time on the slopes as snow conditions and their grades allow. Club Director Igor Vanovac said the expanded midweek training gives youngsters more one-on-one contact with the club's coaching staff, which benefits the athletes and the organizations.

Participating students must meet specific grade requirements, which are monitored regularly by school staff and the Tutorial Program administrator. They fulfill their required school attendance hours by getting tutored by their teachers after school on days when they are not skiing or riding.

"This is a great opportunity for local kids, and a good opportunity to get the younger-aged racers skiing and riding more," explained MMSC coach Mike Leach, who has had two children in the program.

The cost of the program for 2011/2012 includes a \$350.00 administrative fee, MMSC fees which vary according to participation levels and tutoring payments to teachers for classes after school. If you are interested in the program for next year, it is important to notify Evie Dworetzky eviedw@aol.com prior to the start of the next school year to allow for student schedules to be aligned, if possible.