



Frequently asked questions:

Can I request a coach and/or a friend to be with? We will certainly try to accommodate coach and/or friend requests. The goal is to match age and ability in every group, so if your athlete is a good fit for a requested coach, chances are your child will be placed in that group. If your child and his/her friend are a good match (age/ability), then it makes it very easy to place them both in the same group.

Can my athlete try the program for a day or two? Nope. "Drop-in" athletes would be impossible to predict or staff for; also we would find ourselves duplicating what is already offered through the Winter Park Ski and Ride school. Out of the hundreds and hundreds of kids who have experienced the program, there is only a small handful who decided that they didn't like it and decided not to continue.

Why can't the groups cut lift lines? Our philosophy is to teach skiing skills and, just as important, introduce the values and practices of skiing as part of a lifestyle in the context of lifelong skiing. The majority of skiers do not get to cut lift lines. One of the lessons in becoming a skier is learning the etiquette of waiting in line. One of the strategies of our expert coaching staff is to pass along the knowledge of the rhythms of the mountain as far as which lifts are busy when. Also keep in mind that even on the busiest days, our groups get in plenty of skiing.

How are groups determined? Your child will meet a group of 2-4 coaches and 20-30 kids on the first morning of the program. The 20-30 kids will be in the same age range, and, as far as we can tell based on prior programs and ski evaluations, same ability. The coaches will then head up the hill and perform another skiing evaluation over the course of a few runs. Groups of 6-8 will then be split off from the bigger group to ski with one coach.

What is the difference between ATP Devo and ATP? ATP Devo is geared toward 6-12 year olds, ATP is geared toward 10 and older. The age overlap is intentional as ATP Devo includes program lunch at Snoasis and gives parents of 10-12 year olds the option of a supervised lunch. ATP has one extra session in March and an option for Christmas Camp. ATP Devo has a supervised lunch included but no Christmas Camp. *If you are at all uncomfortable with your athlete being unsupervised at lunch, please register for ATP Devo.* Other than that, the groups are split the same way with age and ability matched as closely as possible.

What is the difference between ATP and ATP Short? Essentially, only the dates. ATP starts earlier in the season and goes one more weekend in the spring. Other than that, groups are about the same size, they ski the same places and take advantage of the same great coaching staff. ATP Short is designed for kids who may be playing a fall sport, a spring sport, maybe juggling High School AP courses, and still want to get into a great skiing program with kids their same age.

Why don't ATP and ATP Short program athletes get lunch with the program? ATP and ATP Short athletes are recognized as athletes of an advanced Comp Center program. As such, they are expected to exhibit the responsibility required to have lunch on their own, then show up for the afternoon ski session at the predetermined time and place. *If you are at all uncomfortable with your athlete being unsupervised at lunch, please register for ATP Devo.*

Why don't ATP Devo athletes have a Holiday Camp? We schedule the week of Christmas as an off week to make it easier on families with younger kids. It is typically one of the busiest weekends of the ski season. Also, it seems a fair tradeoff to provide lunch instead of camp as an economic decision.

Will my child get a chance to compete? There will be chances to compete in Internal Mogul competitions for all ATP/ATP Devo/ATP Short athletes, and ATP/ATP Short athletes will be able to ski in our version of a Freeski Comp on Brian's Run. You will be provided information on these opportunities well in advance.

Is a season pass included? No, a season pass is not included in the program fees. A WP/MJ Season Pass is available to purchase with program registration for an additional \$155.

Is equipment included? Equipment is not included.

What type of equipment should my athlete have? All mountain skis, approximately eyebrow high. Front entry boots. Helmet. Poles, goggles, mittens/gloves, neck gaiter, season pass, layered clothing (no cotton), ski jacket/pants. Other great items to have in pockets are handwarmers, lens cleaner, a snack.

Is there a telemark program? Yes. Telemark skiers are assimilated into alpine skiing groups with a coach with telemark expertise. The coach will spend time on both types of equipment.

Why isn't there an Adult ATP program? There is! There are two sessions and they are set up for any level skier.

Does ATP Devo need parent volunteers? You bet! We can use parent volunteers at lunchtime at Snoasis. Helping set up and serve lunch takes about 2 hours, and we can compensate you with a ½ credit towards a lift ticket or ski day with Adult ATP.

Is there a day that I can ski with my kid's group? We do not have an official "parent day." Coaches are happy to accommodate any request to ski with the group (provided you can keep up). Please be aware of your child's reaction to you in the group, and please refrain from becoming another coach.

Where will they ski? It depends on the group. The high end groups, snow conditions providing, might only be on a named trail a relatively small percentage of the time. The goal is to choose terrain that will develop the skills to navigate trees, glades and chutes, as well as preparing our athletes for other Competition Center disciplines.

How much time will the kids spend on different skills? It depends on several things. We have coaches with freestyle, racing, ski instructor, patrol, and recreational backgrounds who will tend to coach to their areas of strength. They will also balance the curriculum with the snow conditions and terrain availability. Bottom line is that every coach will teach the skills necessary to progress through any of the Comp Center programs as well as being great all mountain skiers.

What does a typical day look like? Given that a day in early Dec is going to be different than a day in late Feb, here's an example: Meet at 9am, head to the lift, warm up run, then a run focusing on stance and balance. Look for some powder in the trees, head over to Eagle Wind (toward the end of the season, just about every group can ski the Eagle Wind territory) to ski some glade and chutes, then head in for lunch. After lunch, hustle over to Panorama lift, ski the Cirque, then a run or two in Vasquez glades, then down to meet Mom & Dad at 3:15.

I can make it only every other weekend. Can you prorate the program fees? Nope. We try to provide as much continuity as we can with the groups. Prorating is a slippery slope to a drop-in type of program which would essentially be a duplication of the Ski & Ride School.

What if we need to miss a day? Make-up days are not offered.

What if I'm running late? You will be provided your coach's phone number, so please try to contact him/her directly. Depending on the ski crowd for that day and how late you are running, you may have to meet your ski group at lunch.

Why don't you offer an ATP Devo program shorter in length? One of the ATP programs goals is to prepare kids for the competitive Comp Center disciplines. Part of that goal is to prepare athletes for the rigors of skiing all season long. Shorter (4 & 8 week) programs are offered through the Winter Park Ski & Ride School.