

League skiing focuses on fun

The "city league" concept no longer applies only to softball and basketball. Forty-two teams competed in city league ski racing this past winter on Mt. Hood.

It's estimated that close to 100 teams, or about 700 skiers, throughout the Northwest are affiliated with the Northwest City League Circuit. About 22 teams participated in a championship meet at Bend the weekend before last.

The resorts run their leagues differently. At Multitorpor Ski Bowl, an area also popular with high school ski racers, skiers are handicapped according to their abilities.

There is a handicap night, and then the individual's handicap changes according to how they ski throughout the season. The season was to be eight weeks long, but because of snow conditions lasted only six weeks.

To set up a "perfect" handicapping system would be difficult in any sport, Jonathan Lohnes, Multitorpor ski school director, pointed out. And, the handicapping system may even favor the intermediate teams more than those with "hot" skiers as it's difficult for a good team to lower its handicap.

At the end of the season awards are given to the scratch team winners, the fastest overall team, as well as the team that wins according to the handicap system.

It's like a "league within a league," Lohnes said.

He said they investigated all the methods of running a league before settling on their particular system.

"We're happy with it at this point," Lohnes said. "It takes more time, but I think that it's time well spent."

Six skiers comprise a team at Multitorpor, and one of those skiers must be a woman.

Eighteen teams competed in the city league at Multitorpor, compared to 11 at Timberline and 13 at Mt.

Hood Meadows.

The format used at Timberline, which was the same as the one used at Mt. Bachelor for the Circuit championship, employs a scoring system similar to Nastar's, only with a team format.

A person is handicapped according to age and sex.

Timberline's season lasted eight weeks, and a four-week season is planned in August.

Jeff Lokting, Timberline ski racing director, said city league ski racing is competitive as well as social.

"Anytime you're in a city league situation, be it softball or skiing, there will always be rivalries between teams and individuals," Lokting said. "I don't think age has anything to do with the competitive spirit."

A Timberline team, Hanna Industries of Portland, won the Circuit title on the slopes of Mt. Bachelor recently.

The city league concept "is definitely good for skiing," said Scott Montgomery, ski racing director at Mt. Hood Meadows.

It's "popular and growing," he added.

"The focus is on fun. Basically it's set up as a social event."

"It's non-intimidating competition instead of a win-at-all costs type of thing," said Lohnes.

"Everyone can compete at their own level and still have fun," he said. "The city league is an opportunity for people to work into another aspect of skiing, besides just recreational skiing."

Bowling

Sandy Early Birds (second half standings) April 18

Eagle Foundry	38 1/2	21 1/2
Brightwood Store	37	23
Zig Zag Inn	33 1/2	26 1/2
West Coast Bowling	27	33
Toni's	22	38
Raggedy Ann's	22	38

Individual game and series: Irene Blount, 211 and 553; Team game: Toni's, 755; Team series: Raggedy Ann's and Andy Too, 2111.



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Julie Harris of Hideaway Stables puts High and Mighty Pride through his paces.

Walking Horse show to be held at Center

The annual Walking Horse Show of the Tennessee Walking Horse Exhibitors Association of Oregon will be held at the Mt. Hood Equestrian Center in Boring April 23 and 24.

"The Tennessee walker is a horse that is being used more and more in the west for a variety of purposes other than just as a show horse," said Rae Nelson, an exhibitor from East

County. "The horse's endurance and extremely smooth gait suit it ideally as a pleasure horse," Nelson said.

Nelson and her daughter, Julie Harris, have entered several walkers in the show. One of these is the stallion Roger's Hardrock R, who has sired a colt now in contention for a national championship.

The show will feature several divisions.

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PAOLA'S PIZZA BARN

Congratulations to: **Stacy Fisher**

SUHS freshman Stacy Fisher is prep of the week.

She finished second in zone competition at Sellwood last week in an Optimist Club-sponsored speech contest. The theme was "Serve with Pride," with Fisher speaking on nuclear war.

She also participates in drama and vocal music at the high school.

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