



Steve Roti/Submitted photos

Skiers prepare to race in the Tour of Meissner at Meissner Sno-park in January 2021.

## Races

### Continued from B1

On Jan. 29, the Tour of Meissner 30K classic nordic race will be held at Virginia Meissner Sno-park, just southwest of Bend. There is also a wooden-ski division offered.

Registration for the Tour of Meissner is available at [www.webscorer.com/register?raceid=244164](http://www.webscorer.com/register?raceid=244164). The race is limited to 200 participants, and the registration deadline is Monday. There is no entry fee, but the suggested donation to Meissner Nordic is \$20.

The Tour of Meissner was staged last January but was limited to 50 skiers.

"It's nice we can do this, and we're taking a lot of precautions," said David Smullin, organizer of the Tour of Meissner. He added that masks will be required at the start and finish but not while racing.

The Tour of Meissner was an annual tradition for many years in Central Oregon, but it disappeared from the calendar for several winters until 2020, when Smullin brought it back.

Smullin, an avid nordic skier from Bend who coaches Redmond-area high school skiers, is entered into the wooden ski race along with one other skier and is trying to recruit other skiers with old wooden skis to take part.

"My first non-wooden skis were 1977," Smullin said. "There are people who still have them, I know that."

Signs that mark the challenging Tour of Meissner course will remain up through Feb. 6 for the virtual Boulder Mountain Tour ([bouldermountaintour.com](http://bouldermountaintour.com)). The Boulder Mountain Tour is an annual nordic ski race in Ketchum, Idaho, held every early February, that draws skiers from across the Northwest. The race is being held in-person this winter on Feb. 5, but there is also a virtual option Feb. 1-6.

Organizers of the event are encouraging nordic ski-



Skiers race in the Tour of Meissner.

ers from all over the world to participate virtually on a course of their choosing from distances of 15K to 30K. The website offers several suggestions throughout the country, including the 30K course for the Tour of Meissner.

Smullin said a big contingent of skiers from Bend make the trip to Ketchum each February to race the Boulder Mountain Tour. He even takes some of his high school skiers from Redmond to race there every year.

The Tour of Meissner is suitable for all skill levels, Smullin said, because touring classic skiers can take their time and go at their own pace.

"It's long and it has a lot of

climbing, but it's something that anybody can do," Smullin said. "Anybody can tour. It's not skating. It brings people together and gets them out on the course and gives them a good tour of the trails. A lot of people don't venture that far out on the trails, and this sort of introduces them to a lot of trails."

Last year, the winner finished in about 1 hour, 40 minutes, but some racers can be out on the course for five hours, Smullin said.

For more information on the Tour of Meissner, email [dhsnullin@gmail.com](mailto:dhsnullin@gmail.com) or call 541-390-8957.

Reporter: 541-383-0318, [mmorial@bendbulletin.com](mailto:mmorial@bendbulletin.com)

**Voltaire CYCLES** Serial 1 eBicycles  
Powered by HARLEY-DAVIDSON MOTOR CYCLES

**\$200 off all eBikes in Inventory**

2755 NW CROSSING | SUITE 133  
844-394-3809 | [vcoregon.com](http://vcoregon.com)

**RED WING SHOES®**

**LES NEWMAN'S**  
QUALITY OUTDOOR WEAR

On NE Franklin Avenue across from Les Schwab  
541-318-4868

## TOP PICKS WHERE TO EXPLORE

### Exploring around Redmond

**Redmond Caves** — Featuring five caves on the edge of Redmond, the system is part of the northernmost reaches of the Newberry Caldera. Open year-round, the caves were formed from the collapse of one single lava tube. Wear sturdy shoes and take nothing but pictures when visiting.



David Jasper/The Bulletin

Looking toward the low-slung entrance to Cave 4, which of the five Redmond Caves is located closest to Airport Way. Watch your head inside the cave, where the ceiling is low in places.

**Dry Canyon** — The urban trail runs nearly 8 miles through the center of Redmond, offering paved and unpaved sections for hikers and bikers to traverse. The trail is nestled in the wider rimrock canyon and is abundant with sagebrush and juniper trees. Several developed areas like playgrounds, ball fields and more can be found along the path as well.

**Smith Rock State Park** — There is a reason Smith Rock State Park, located a few miles north of Redmond, is one of the most popular hiking areas in Central Oregon. While parking — which costs \$5 — is at a premium on good days, you may be able to score a coveted spot and check out the stunning rock formations just outside of Terrebonne with a bit of snow this weekend. Be careful on certain trails as they may become muddy or icy with thawing.



Fyre of Bend is a locally owned and operated recreational cannabis dispensary located in the heart of Bend, Oregon. Our company was born in 2017 with the idea to provide Bend with the highest quality cannabis Oregon has to offer. We pride ourselves in delivering award-winning, small-batch, craft cannabis directly from farm-to-flame along with a customer experience that remains unmatched. Our skilled team is passionate about our mission. They're here to help guide you on your personal journey with cannabis, no matter what your level of experience.

OPEN @ 7AM  
OVER 100 STRAINS  
HIGHEST QUALITY LOWEST PRICE  
BRINGING THE VALUE BACK TO THE PEOPLE  
UP TO 30% OFF EVERYDAY NO MORE WAITING FOR "TOP SHELF TUESDAY!"  
Built by Smokers for Smokers!



**Fyre of Bend**

2650 NE Divison St.  
Bend, OR 97703

[@str8\\_fyre](https://www.instagram.com/str8_fyre)  
<http://str8fyre.com>

**541.241.9633**