

ski

National Snowsports Centre of Ireland

club of Ireland

Piste Basher - NOV/Dec 2009



The video tells it all – go visit the FF&S Channel (Fahey Father and Son) at <http://www.youtube.com/user/SalomonUK>


SALOMON
SALOMON with Pat Sharples
FREESKI GROM CAMPS

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Some photos courtesy of Michael Costello

A word from our President

Welcome to all

We are now well into the 2009/2010 ski and snowboard season and I especially extend a warm welcome to all our new members. You will have noticed that we are having a particularly quiet season so I appeal to you all to use this opportunity to come out to practice and improve your skills before numbers on the slope increase. Thankfully we are getting increased bookings and have an advertising campaign on radio and press starting again this week. We have a greater number of advanced courses and clinics for adults and children, so no excuse, support your club.

I had hoped at this time we would be nearing the completion of the slope development - see Niall Carroll's update. Let me tell you all that everything that can be done is being done to get this project started. It is frustrating for us all not knowing when the work will begin but for those involved in negotiating the start of the project, it is even more frustrating, so please bear with us.

It is not all doom and gloom here, we already have had three successful events, starting with the Ski & Board Fest in September, the Open Club Championships in October and November saw the first ever very successful Salomon Grom Camp. Well done and thanks to all those who helped organise all three events.

Our club holidays this season to Courchevel France and Bad Hofgastein Austria are a great opportunity to meet up with new and "not so new" members with common interests. I will be travelling to Bad Hofgastein and remember these holidays are open to all level of skiers and boarders so get booking. We are all beginning to get excited about going to the snow and my wish for us all is a season of great snow, great fun and better Irish skiers and boarders on the slopes.

Happy season and see you with Santa on 6th December.

Rosemary Mayrhofer



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Another successful Ski Fest in Kilternan

The Ski and Board Fest was a great success this year. Highlight of the weekend was the apres ski party on the Saturday afternoon. It was organised by the Irish Austrian Society, Ireland's leading social and cultural society www.austria.ie. Beer and wine was provided by Paul Dubsy www.pauldubsky.ie. Tasty finger food was enjoyed by all. The schuhplattlers gave an exhibition of traditional dancing from the Tirol. The St. Johan instructors were joined this year by their colleagues from BadGastein. We look forward to their visit again in 2010.



To : Dearest Rosemary

Re : Ski Trip to Dublin Sept 23 – 28 2009

We would like to thank you for the invitation to teach Irish guests on the ski slopes of Kilternan. We very much appreciated to good organization done by the Ski Club of Ireland and like the last 15 years we had a fantastic time skiing in Dublin, meeting lots of nice people and good old friends again.

Although the difficult times with the crisis in the world ,we are looking very positive on the upcoming winter and our highly motivated team will do the best to keep all the guests happy and let them forget what all goes wrong in the world. The team of the teachers in Kilternan with their professional attitude does the same and we are very thankful in how you prepare the guests of every standard for their holidays.

One of our highlights in summertime is to come over to Ireland and so we hope that we are getting invitation for the next big Skifestival in Kilternan. Thank you for all the work and wish you a great season. Georg, Hubert, Fritz and Hannes on behalf of all our teachers and in the name of the tourist board St. Johann in Tirol.

Mag. Georg Weihs – Schischulleiter XXX



Schischule
Wilder Kaiser

Kaiser
St.Johann in Tirol

Snow grom comes to the Ski Club of Ireland

"We have just got back from Dublin where we ran the first ever Grom camp which was also the first ever freestyle event in Ireland. The Ski Club of Ireland was fantastic and we got so looked after from the minute we arrived until the minute we left. They made all the freestyle features specially for the grom camp and even put Salomon logos on them all. Most of the skiers had not tried freestyle skiing before but wow, are the Irish kids hard! They all fully went for it and the atmosphere was incredible! We took a big team of us over there which included Woodsy, Andy Bennett, JP Medland, Becky Hammond who were the coaches for the camp. We had Vanessa snapping all the action and she has some amazing photos and we also had Pete Cable who filmed all the action that took place over the whole weekend. This was the first time we have ever run a Grom camp on Dendex surface which can be tough when you fall but this didn't stop the campers. As always on the groms, we had people of all ages attending and the coaches even performed a demo which went down well and the kids wouldn't leave Woodsy alone after they saw him do his Woodsy lincoln flip! The Saturday evening party was just as crazy as the Camp and we got taken out by the guys who made the event possible, Wayne, Stuart and Diane who looked after us so well. We even met up with loads of the Snow and Rock staff over there and we had some mad dance-off comps in some club. Things are a little hazy after this but we have now all arrived back in England and have already started planning the next camp in Dublin. This camp was fully booked weeks before the event, so we strongly recommend you book your place on the next camp well in advance to avoid disappointment."

Great to have you all over here in Ireland - thanks to Pat, Woodsy JP, Becky, Andy, Dion, Vanessa and Pete



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Snow grom comes to the ski club of Ireland



A big thank you to Wayne, Frank, Stuart, Diane, Tony and many others for their work and commitment in making the Grom such a success for the Club. The Grom camp will be the first of many (watch this space) and we also intend to have freestyle lessons as a regular part of the club's offering in place shortly.

Irish Skiers take to the Freestyle



There are a lot more great photos available at www.photoboxgallery.com/gromcamps

Club News

Our Development Although we got permission from our landlord last July to commence work on the nursery slopes, and our contractor arrived on site, the appointment of the Receiver to the Hotel complex introduced additional delays. As the Receiver became our new landlord (our seventh at Kilternan), we had to engage in lengthy discussions with his staff, providing detailed specifications on the development, information on our planning permission, broadening our insurance cover, providing various undertakings, etc. These discussions have now concluded satisfactorily. We are now coming to the end of our legal arrangements with the Sports Council in respect to our grant, and anticipate that these will conclude shortly. Then, weather conditions and Ski Club practicalities permitting, it will be "all systems go". In anticipation of the development, which requires the contractor getting access to the nursery slopes via the bottom of the intermediate slope, a counter slope has been put in place in the middle of the nursery slope to permit the upper portion of the intermediate slope to continue to be used. After the nursery slopes have been upgraded with the Snowflex matting and Travellator lifts, we plan to upgrade the Clubhouse – though this requires planning permission. This will take place at the end of the season. Although the weather is gloomy and grey at present, and there's water everywhere, it is important to remember that a major feature of our development plan is the upgrading of the entire approach to the ski slopes, to include a new entrance and extensive landscaping. All-in-all a much brighter future. *When Winter comes – while to skiers' delight – can Spring be far behind.* **Niall**

- ✓ The Tuesday night Adult Racing Group are busy training and honing their skills around the gates. Up to 18 participants have been enjoying working on a combination of technical skills improvement and skiing gates. A healthy and friendly rivalry is developing here with plenty of League Race antics.
- ✓ Wednesday Nights Adult Clinics (Racing and Personal Performance) are also drawing large numbers of committed followers. These classes all provide great fun and value for advanced and advancing skiers and we hope to provide more over the season.
- ✓ The Saturday morning Minis Racing Group continue to enjoy their mix of race training and fun and games. The coaches and kids are busy getting ready for Santa's arrival on Sunday 6th of December. As always new members are welcome to join in. Contact the office for further details.
- ✓ We have lined up a significant number of one-day clinics and evening clinics for our members to enhance their skiing ability. Do check our website www.skiclub.ie to get the latest information on the availability of such clinics. The feedback on them is always very positive.
- ✓ For example, a set of E classes (strong intermediate/advanced) is starting Fri 8th Jan for 6 weeks and a set of beginner Snowboard classes starting Fri 8th Jan for 4 weeks. Gerhard Mayrhuber has also just commenced a Personal Performance Class on a Thursday night. Likewise there is a one-day beginner ski course on every Saturday except 26th December.
- ✓ A warm welcome to the office volunteers who have commenced work in the office at different times – daytime, evening and weekend.

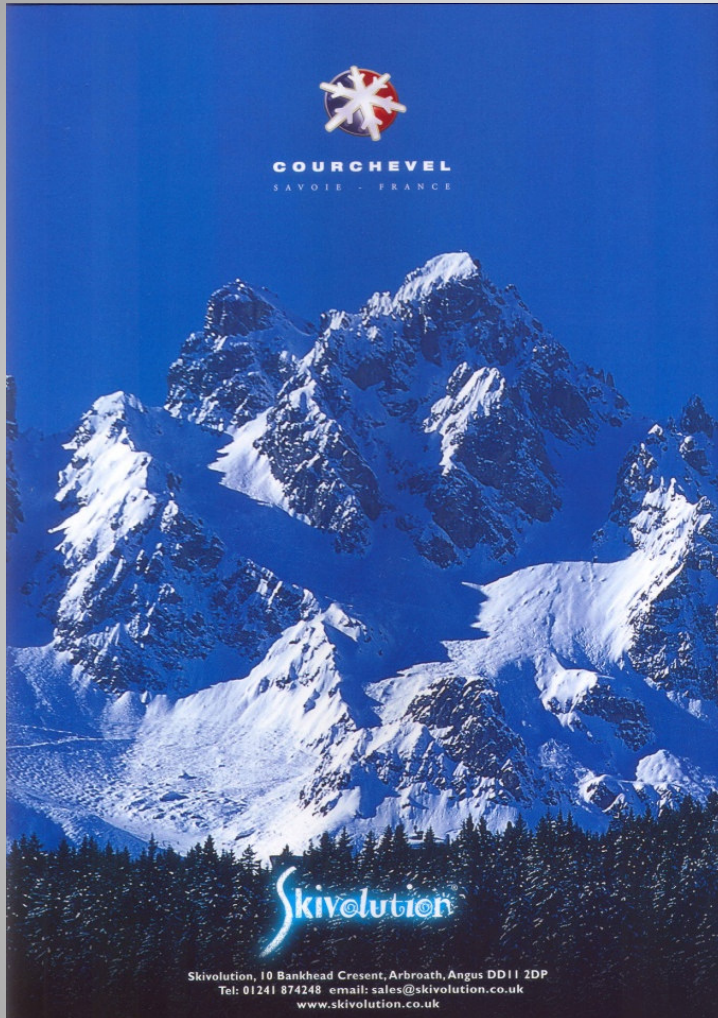


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Club Holidays



The popularity of the Club holidays continues to grow. The January holiday with Dave Beattie (Skivolution) in Courchevel (Jan 16th to 23rd) is now fully booked out at this stage. We look forward to the Les Peupliers Bar, the hot tub and the free wine accompanying the meals – not to mention top class instruction and skiing.

The take-up of the February Holiday to Bad Hofgastein (Feb 20th to 27th) has been great. There are currently 53 people booked to go, with a small number of places left. Catering for all grades of skiers, it offers great skiing and great sociability. Staying in the four-star Palace Hotel, we look forward to being away from Ireland and hearing nothing about depression, recession, repossession, succession (in AIB) but instead having our own “sessions” (apres-ski of course) !!!



Santa is due to arrive on December 6th at 4.30

Dates for your social calendar

The club's 3rd snow ball is planned for March 6th – this time it's not a black tie affair given these recessionary times – but it is an opportunity to blow the bad vibes away with your ski and snowboard friends – more anon.

Our popular Table Quiz is scheduled for January 30th in Eamonn McCormack's Merrion Inn – more anon.

Congratulations to Conor and Janine Columb on the arrival of their new baby girl Miller Columb. Miller joins Carter and Baily in this fast growing skiing dynasty.



This year he promises not to scare the little ones – so do come along – its also fun for the parents !!

TGI Saturdays

The Saturday teams celebrated recently with Corona being the favourite drink with Marie, Marta and Julia – but what about that hairy arm – surely it doesn't belong to Julia ??



IASI Level 1 Weekend

Congratulations to Cillian Worrall
Darren Lawlor
Don McManus
Stuart Ryan on successfully completing
their Level 1 Assessment over the October Bank holiday weekend.

And we look forward to Dave Murrie, Ken O'Connor, Claire Plunkett and John Ryan completing theirs in 2010.



Pictured on slope (L to R) : Stuart Ryan, Don McManus, Dave Murrie, Cillian Worrall, Ken O Connor, Derek Tate , Darren Lawlor, Claire Plunkett and John Ryan

ski club calendar

DECEMBER	
Sat 5 th	One Day Beginner Snowboard Course
Sun 6 th	Santa Sunday
Sat 12 th	Advanced Personal Performance All Day Clinic
Sun 13 th	League Races 3
Thu 24 th & Fri 25 th	Christmas Eve & Day- Slope closed
Sat 26 th	Stephen's Day - slope open p.m. to STHs
Sun 27 th to Weds 30 th	Normal operations plus afternoons (Mon to Weds)
Thu 31 st	New Year's Eve – Slope closed
JANUARY	
Fri 1 st	New Years Day - slope open p.m. to STHs
Sat 2 nd & Sun 3 rd	Kindergarten recommences
Sat 9 th	One Day Beginner Snowboard Course
Sat 9 th	Advanced Personal Performance All Day Clinic
Sat 16 th	First Club Holiday to Courchevel
Sun 17 th	League Races 4
Sat 23 rd	One Day Beginner Snowboard Course
Sat 30 th	Club Table Quiz – Merrion Inn
FEBRUARY	
Sat 6 th	One Day Beginner Snowboard Course
Sun 7 th	League Races 5
Sat 13 th	Intermediate/Advanced 1-day Course
Sat 20 th	Second Club Holiday to Bad Hofgastein
MARCH	
Sat 6 th	SNOW BALL
Sat 6 th	One Day Beginner Snowboard Course
Sun 7 th	League Races 6
Sat 13 th	Final Sat Evening Opening
Wed 17 th	St. Patrick's Day - slope open p.m. to STHs
APRIL	
Thu 1 st	Final Classes of Season
Fri 2 nd - Sun 4 th	Good Fri, Easter Sat & Sun slope closed
Mon 5 th	Easter Mon - slope open p.m. to STHs
Sun 18 th	Club Championship Races

- All-day ski beginner classes each Saturday, bar December 26th
- Further Snow Grom Camps will be advised when dates are agreed

Awards for last season

We don't feel our two winners got the full recognition they deserved , so lets remind ourselves of why they were honoured at the AGM .



Instructor of the Year

Marcella Brady

She has always undertaken her role as an instructor with a high level of professionalism. Always on time, ready for action and does not look to leave until all is completed with the session. She is a "worker" not a "talker" and will get on with the job with good humour, even if things are not going to plan. She coaches the Kiltiernan Karvers Special Olympics Team and often assists with the visually impaired skiers.

Person of the Year

Tony Ingram - for his sterling commitment to keeping our facilities running.

A wonderful person to have on a team. He works really hard, not only Din Setting but at any aspect of the facility that needs attention whether it is the lift, misting system, electrical etc. Often working with Brendan, Don and Alan, he sees to its resolution without a fuss, He is so reliable and so willing, it's just great.



Racing Update - Shane O'Connor

As we all know Shane O'Connor is training hard for the 2010 Winter Olympics – when we say training hard, we mean **hard** and are talking about the equivalent of any professional sports individual. He has maintained a blog since last year of his training and reading it gives you a great sense of the discipline and effort which goes into competing at world level. Read about it all at :-

<http://shaneskiracing.wordpress.com/>



Blog Extract - Tuesday 17th Nov – Finland, mist, mist and more mist

Almost 30 hours travelling saw us arrive in Ruka (close to the the border with Russia) at 1pm Finnish time Sunday 15th. It was a unique experience jumping from the plane onto an overnight train – unique and surprisingly easy. Someone made the joke it's like the film "Planes, Trains and Automobiles" – two flights to get to Helsinki followed by the overnight train and then a hire car from Rovaniemi to Ruka. We arrived in Rovaniemi to fresh snow which made the drive to Ruka interesting – it's little wonder that the Fins are known for having such skill behind the wheel as even little old grannies were sweeping past me on the snow covered roads. When we arrived in Ruka we had a six hour wait for our apartment which gave us plenty of time to organise the slalom gates, a training lane and lift passes. It turns out there are a lot of teams here across Alpine, Ski Jumping and Freestyle so I guess there must be competitions in each discipline over the weekend.

We train slalom 7am to 9:30am which (although early) is ideal as we have the slope completely to ourselves. The only downside is the mist which seems to roll in each morning – it gives you about 3 gates visibility which is an annoyance but I guess tough conditions are good at this point. The two races in Rovaniemi are cancelled because, believe it or not, it's too warm for snow. It's hard to believe it could be too warm in mid November to make snow in Lapland. It changes our plans slightly but no matter, we'll train slalom all week, do the two races here in Ruka and then stay in Ruka to train GS all next week. In some ways it might work out for the best to get a full week training GS.

The first two days have been long and tough – we trained slalom both mornings and then after a couple of hours rest we free skied for a while before heading to the gym for some power and plyos. My big failing is not getting to bed early enough and this morning it really hurt getting up. My skiing is ok – I don't feel like I'm going especially well and at times have felt a bit stiff and conservative. But Nicky reckons I'm going ok which is a small comfort (it's too misty for any decent video). I've been impressed with how Nicky is skiing himself – he's definitely going better than I remember last season. All conjecture at this point and the first big test is next weekend with the most important outcome being to go fast .

Racing Update



The November League Races coincided with Halloween and some of the participants entered into the spirit of the season. Not the most aero dynamic but high on style marks !!!

65 racers took part which was a very good turnout and the overall results are shown overleaf – more detailed results are available on our web site www.skiclub.ie



November League Racing Results

Name	Best Run	Place
Byrne Brian	12.59	1
Worrall Cillian	13.01	2
McKelvey Nicholas	13.20	3
Mitchell Matthew	13.60	4
Dent-Neville Stephen	13.74	5
Anselmi Giancarlo	13.75	6
Power Stephen	14.09	7
Comerford Cormac	14.37	8
Horan Cillian	14.39	9
Irvine Iain	14.62	10
McCarthy Kyle	14.76	11
Murray Sean	15.22	12
Fahey Wayne	15.65	13
Byrne Denis	15.72	14
Power Darragh	15.92	15
Skinner Gary	16.01	16
Sharkey Ronan	16.01	16
Horn David	16.01	16
Cunniam Cameron	16.03	19
Fahey Frank	16.14	20
Anselmi Ben	16.24	21
McCarthy Conor	16.71	22
Bolger Brendan	16.85	23
O'Sullivan Kevin	16.93	24
Ryan Jordan	17.30	25
Johnson Rick	17.32	26
Horan Brian	17.44	27
Carroll Niall	17.56	28
Costello Michael	18.07	29
O'Sullivan Zach	18.10	30
Bolger Enda	18.19	31
O'Riordan Karl	18.22	32
O'Reilly Gareth	18.38	33
Johnson Arthur	18.80	34
Ennis Arthur	19.06	35
McKelvey Brian	19.32	36
Ryan Lee	19.32	36
Singleton Cillian	19.61	38
Lynch Darren	19.73	39
Lynch Dedeker Tiarnan	19.90	40
McGlinchy Cathal	20.04	41
Johnson Hugh	20.29	42

Name	Best Run	Place
Lyons Niamh	13.91	1
McShera Kate	14.16	2
McShera Lisa	14.42	3
Carroll Orlagh	14.68	4
Dent-Neville Carolyn	15.45	5
Val Escudo Martha	15.59	6
Hillard Catherine	15.59	6
Pisarnik Emer	15.64	8
Bradley Siobhan	16.05	9
Byrne Meabh	16.20	10
Smeaton Aoife	17.43	11
Power Rebecca	17.44	12
Ryan Imogen	18.12	13
Brazil Alexandria	18.33	14
Cunniam Lillie	19.22	15
Smith O'Connor Aisling	20.02	16
McCann Anna	20.24	17
Whelan Lorraine	20.42	18
Hayes Sophie	20.60	19
Herlihy Rachal	20.73	20
Ryan Bryanna	21.47	21
Lynch Anne Marie	24.34	22
Cunniam Holly	28.71	23



WWW - Watch the Waist line Wayne

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And to finish how most of us aspire to ski !!!



Talk again in the New Year !