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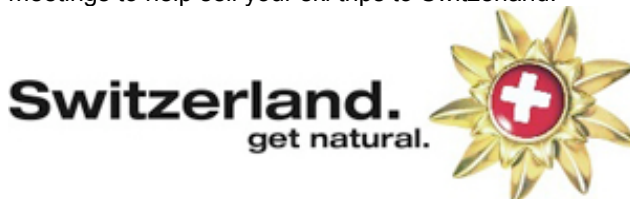
AUSTRALIA'S TREDBO ADDED TO MOUNTAIN COLLECTIVE

NEW WORLD RECORD SET FOR SPEED ON SNOW



The National Ski Club Officers' Newsflash is emailed each month to America's ski club officers by The National Ski Club Newsletter on a year-round basis to augment our four printed issues which published in November, January, March, and May. If you wish additional club officers to receive the Newsflash, please email their names, club name, their office within the club, and email addresses to wilbanks@ski-club.net.

Click on the logo below for a great video to play at meetings to help sell your ski trips to Switzerland.



<http://www.youtube.com/user/myswitzerland>



UTAH PROPOSES THE WORLDS SECOND LARGEST LIFT-CONNECTED RESORT

On March 19, 2014, Nathan Rafferty, CEO of Ski Utah, a marketing and trade organization of the state's ski resorts, and representatives from Alta, Brighton, Canyons, Deer Valley, Park City Mountain Resort, Snowbird, and Solitude held a joint news conference to announce their support for a connection between all seven of the resorts via chairlift and ski runs, forming a European-style mega resort to be called ONE Wasatch.

The resorts in the Wasatch Mountains that are close proximity to each other and connecting these resorts via chairlift and ski runs would allow access by intermediate level and above skiers to more than 18,000 skiable acres (7,284 hectares) and more than 750 runs, serviced by 100 lifts, and accessed on a single lift ticket. The proposed plan calls for connecting Big and Little Cottonwood Canyons, connecting Big Cottonwood to Park City Resort, connecting Park City Resort and Canyons -- all of which could be done on private property but would still require government approval due to watershed issues that must be addressed. Dropping the rope line that currently divides Deer Valley and Park City Resort would instantly connect those resorts and Alta and Snowbird have been connected for years.

At the news conference, Nathan Rafferty of Ski Utah pointed out that, at this point, ONE Wasatch is a concept, not a plan, and it's certainly not a reality. Right now, the idea is to establish a vision for a one-of-a-kind mountain experience by providing information, defining the process, encouraging dialog, and listening to feedback. But once a consensus is made, the resorts say that the connecting lifts could be installed in a single summer's construction cycle.

There are a few obstacles to the idea. How will they devise a revenue-sharing plan between the resorts? (It's done in Europe all the time.) Two of the resorts, Deer Valley and Alta, don't allow snowboarding. (That would probably have to change.) Park City's and Canyons' owners, Vail Resorts and Powdr Corporation, are currently in court deciding whether or not to dissolve Park City's long held land lease. (Both resorts are behind the idea of ONE Wasatch, and say that the idea should go forward regardless of who wins or loses the lawsuit.) And local environmentalists and backcountry skiers have yet to be sold on the idea. Nonetheless, all the affected resorts seem optimistic that this idea can and will work.

If successful, the connection would create North America's largest ski resort and it would be the world's second largest, after France's Les Trois Vallées with 24,711 acres (10,170 hectares) of terrain, but larger than Italy's Sella Ronda (currently the world's second-largest lift-connected ski resort at 6,900 hectares). See the list of the 50 largest ski areas in the world (as measured in hectares) on page 29 of the May-June, 2013 issue of The National Ski Club Newsletter. Clearly, if accomplished, this concept could be a game changer in the North American -- and the world's -- ski market! For more information, check out the One Wasatch website at <http://onewasatch.com/>.

SUN PEAKS TO BECOME CANADA'S JOINT 2ND LARGEST SKI AREA NEXT SEASON

Sun Peaks Resort in British Columbia will build new trails in the resort's West Morrisey and Gil's area, increasing the area to 4,200 acres for the 2014-2015 ski season and making it one of the largest in and joint second biggest in Canada, equal to Lake Louise, but after Whistler Blackcomb. The resort has grown significantly in the past two decades after being purchased by Nippon Cable in 1992.

NEW SKI RESORT IN UTAH

Next ski season, there will be a new ski resort in Richmond, Utah (near Logan), bringing the state's total to 15 ski resorts. Cherry Peak Ski Resort, a 200-acre resort will be a teaching mountain with three lifts on private land with its base at 5,800 feet and which receives 322 inches of snow annually.

NEW INTRAWEST PASSPORT

Intrawest Resorts Holdings, Inc., the parent company and/or manager of Steamboat, Winter Park, Blue Mountain in Ontario, Mont Tremblant in Quebec, Vermont's Stratton, and Snowshoe Mountain in West Virginia, is introducing its new IntraWest Passport for the 2014-2015 season tomorrow, March 7. The pass will include six days of skiing at each of their six resorts and offers kids under the age of 12 free skiing. Prices for adults are \$549 for the first pass within a family and \$399 each for up to additional adult passes. Passes for kids ages 13-20 are just \$199 each with a limit of five passes per family. What makes this different is that family can be described as just a collection of good friends.

WORK ON ANDERMATT – SEDRUN CONNECTION DUE TO START THIS SUMMER

Work on a major project to connect the ski resorts of Andermatt and Sedrun is expected to get underway this summer with a target completion date for the connection of the 2016-17 ski season. The linking of the two areas will create the largest ski area in Central Switzerland with around 120 kilometers of runs. The separate lift companies have already merged to help facilitate the ski areas' connection. Andermatt has seen major investment in a new resort village over the past few years and eventually will include six 4 or 5-star hotels, 490 apartments in 42 buildings, about 25 chalets, an indoor pool and an 18-hole golf course.

REVAMPED TURKISH SKI AREA ON COURSE TO BE TURKEY'S LARGEST

A small Turkish ski area will, as of the 2014-15 ski season, become the country's largest with 150 kilometers of pistes. Mt Erciyes, 40 minutes from the city of Kayseris will offer 160 kilometers of interconnected ski slopes next winter, overtaking the long-standing Turkish number one ski area, Uludag, and the more recent Mt Palandoken. The ski area's growth is largely thanks to the Kayseri mayor, Mehmet Özhasseki, who gained control of the ski slopes in 2005. Famed for its heli-skiing and high altitude slopes year round snow cover, the area currently now has 11 modern lifts but a further nine will be installed by next winter. Erciyes Ski Centre has a summit of 3,916 meters, parts of which are covered in snow year-round. Many volcano cones can be seen from Mt. Erciyes and it is close to the famous beehive caves of Cappadocia for interesting post- or pre-trips.

NEW SIX-SEATER CHAIRLIFT IN NEW ZEALAND

As part of the \$45 million redevelopment, the Remarkables ski area is installing a new six seat 1.2 kilometer Curvey Basin lift from the bottom of the expanded learners' slopes at 1,600 meters to a top terminal at 1,900 meters above sea level.

AUSTRALIA'S TREDBO ADDED TO MOUNTAIN COLLECTIVE

Australia's Tredbo resort has joined The Mountain Collective, a collaboration independent snow resorts, including Aspen in Colorado, Jackson Hole in Wyoming, Squaw Valley and Mammoth in California and Alta/Snowbird in Utah. Other resorts that are part of the collective include Whistler in British Columbia, Canada, and Chile's Valle Nevado. The addition of the Australian resort will give passholders access to more than 12,000 hectares of terrain and 186 lifts, the new partnership will allow Tredbo skiers and snowboarders to take advantage of big discounts at the partner resorts. Tredbo Season Pass holders will receive 50 per cent off The Mountain Collective partner resort lift passes, while they will also receive two free days skiing at all of the partner resorts for the 2014-15 winter season.

NEW WORLD RECORD SET FOR SPEED ON SNOW

An Italian speed skier has broken his own eight-year old speed record by a little under one mile per hour to set a new speed skiing record – the fastest speed man has travelled on land without mechanized propulsion.

Racing on the intimidating Chabrières speed run at the French resort of Vars as part of the Speed Masters event, Simone Origone reached 156.87 miles per hour.



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