



2021 - 2022



CRYSTAL COMMUNITY SKI CLUB ANNUAL REPORT

CCSKICLUB.ORG

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OUR MISSION

Our mission is to help kids in our 5-county community and beyond develop a love of outdoor activities, build leadership skills and create transformational relationships through our affordable downhill, nordic and outreach ski programs.

OUR VISION

Our vision is to create a sustainable family-centered snow sports club, partnering with Crystal Mountain, which offers affordable, certified instruction/coaching at all levels.

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WHO WE SERVE



CCSC serves all youth ages 7 – 17 in the Benzie County area and beyond. We also welcome youth from other parts of Michigan who do not have access to the programs and opportunities that our Club offers. We strive to create an inclusive community where youth with all levels of health, fitness, and ability are encouraged to come together.

In addition, we reach out to underserved youth to provide the opportunity to experience snowsports and other outdoor winter activities.



OUR PROGRAMS

NORDIC

- Nordic Rocks Outreach (grades 3-5)
- Nordic Squirrel (grades 4/5)
- Middle School Nordic Team
- High School Nordic Team
- Summer Rollerskiing

ALPINE

- Master the Mountain (learn to ski through advanced levels)
- Alpine Race Academy
- Middle School Race Team
- Freestyle (for alpine skiers and snowboarders)

TEEN LEADERSHIP PROGRAMS

- Junior Ski Instructor
- Junior Ski Patroller

OUTREACH

- We reach out to diverse, underserved kids for an introduction to winter fun outdoors through learning basic snowsports skills and meeting new friends who share a common passion.

A LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

It has been so inspiring to see how far CCSC has come in just four short years. In 2022, we served more than 850 kids, and that number will be beyond 1,000 kids in our 2023 season.

Our Nordic program is serving our community through Nordic Rocks, an inspiring school program putting 3rd-5th graders on cross country skis at school (read more on page 6), while our high school team ranked 4th in the state in its first ever state meet. Wow!

Our Alpine program has grown to include a Holiday Race Camp, Master the Mountain (a learn to ski and snowboard program for kids of all ages), Middle School Race Team, Alpine Race Team and a Freestyle Ski Camp - offering instruction to kids on skis and snowboards.

Beyond all of this, we also have a Junior Instructor Program and a Junior Ski Patrol Program that has kids learning important aspects of teaching and mountain safety. And I don't want to forget our Summer Rollerski Camp as well as our first-ever CCSC Grinder Rollerski Race, taking place in October.

We've also had the honor of partnering with Hamtramck High School from the metro-Detroit area to bring kids to ski at Crystal Mountain.

To say that I'm proud of all that we've accomplished in the last few years would be an understatement. As I look to the future, I'm excited about the number of kids we will reach - as we help them develop a love of outdoor activities, build leadership skills and create transformational relationships through our CCSC programs.

Cheers to Making a Difference,

Mark Hughes

Mark Hughes
President, CCSC

PS - None of this would be possible without the help of our amazing instructors, coaches, volunteers and generous supporters.

THANK YOU!



Mark Hughes with his wife Julie and twins, Will and Erin.

MEET THE BOARD



**MARK HUGHES
PRESIDENT**



**STEVE KERMODE
TREASURER**



**CAROLYN THAYER
SECRETARY**



MATTHEW K. BISHOP



ANDREW COOK



MATTHEW CLAYSON



SHAWN DENTON



ANNA LUTHER



MICHELLE RUSSELL

SPECIAL THANKS TO OUR PAST BOARD MEMBERS:

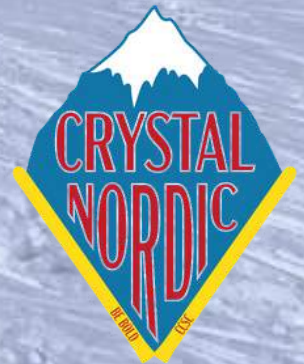
Tim Furbacher

Sammie Lukaskiewicz

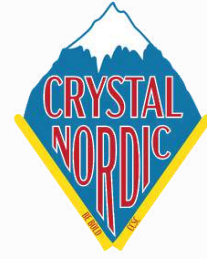
Ellen Kosmowski

Michael Musgrave

NORDIC ROCKS!



OUR NORDIC PROGRAMS



1 NORDIC ROCKS

In our largest club outreach program, Nordic Rocks offers free cross country ski lessons to area 3rd-5th graders. Instructors teach at the schools, and this year some classes also received instruction at Crystal Mountain.

Overall, we reached more than 650 kids from 11 schools and offered more than 75 hours of free coaching!

2 NORDIC SQUIRRELS

Fourth and Fifth graders can participate in our Nordic Squirrels program. This 8-week program offers weekly lessons at Crystal Mountain, taught by PSIA certified instructors.

Students gained comfort and skill on their cross country skis through games, relays and other fun activities.

3 NORDIC TEAM

Students in grades 6-12 learn classic and skate techniques in a team environment, taught by PSIA-certified instructors.

Practices take place three times a week with optional, regional races taking place on the weekends.

In 2022, the girls team placed 4th in the Michigan High School Nordic State Championship!

4 ROLLERSKI CAMP

Skiing doesn't have to end in the summer! Our 11-week rollerski camp is for nordic and alpine skiers that want to improve their skills all summer long.

Students participate in agility courses, speed drills, endurance tests and even water balloon fights - all while improving their balance and skills on rollerskis.



MEET CAM

Cam is a 5th grader in Benzie County and participated in the Nordic Rocks program. This was his first time Nordic skiing. He's hoping to join the middle school team in 2022.



CCSC HOSTED

NORDIC EVENTS

FEBRUARY

**FLYING SQUIRREL JUNIOR
NORDIC RACE**

FEBRUARY

NORDIC AIRSOFT BIATHLON

OCTOBER

**CCSC GRINDER
ROLLERSKI RACE**



MAKING A DIFFERENCE ON AND OFF THE TRAILS

When Beth Major and her husband Tim Furbacher first moved to Northern Michigan, they never anticipated that they would become the founders of a Nordic Ski program. "This was never part of our plan," says Major. "But when you see the gorgeous groomed trails in the area with NO kids on them, and then you hear that there's no program for the kids to learn the beauty of Nordic Skiing, well, we didn't really have a choice."

So the Nordic arm of the Crystal Community Ski Club was born. Their goal? Get kids outside in the winter experiencing snow sports with as few barriers as possible. This meant getting grants and donations for skis and equipment, recruiting a team of PSIA-certified instructors and volunteers, and creating a program that takes kids that have never even heard of cross country skiing and building their skills until they are eventually able to compete on the high school nordic team (which they also had to create).

In its fourth year, more than 650 kids participated in the Nordic Program, and the girls high school team placed 4th in the state of Michigan.

"It's kind of like a miracle really; it's so amazing to see kids doing this sport. A lot of them never even knew what it was four years ago," Major says.

Major and Furbacher donate countless hours of their time teaching kids, fundraising and facilitating a sustainable program that can continue to build a culture of cross country skiing for years to come.

"Countless times I heard in our community, 'I've always wanted to try XC' or 'I used to'..." Furbacher says. "Turning thought into action: Step 1, lower the barriers, provide equipment, instructors, a facility. Step 2: Start with the KIDS - they will lead the way!"

SKI YOU LATER!



OUR ALPINE PROGRAMS



1 MASTER THE MOUNTAIN

Master the Mountain is the learn to ski/snowboard component of CCSC. Kids learn and advance alpine skiing and/or snowboarding in a fun and encouraging environment.

Kids are grouped by age and ability and get to know their "teammates" and form friendships throughout the season.

2 RACE ACADEMY

Athletes looking to improve their competitive race skills and race results work with our top coaches in Crystal Race Academy! Race Academy is geared towards experienced racers or those whose competitive skill level (or desire to race) is high. Racers enhance their race and skiing skills with specialized individual coaching 1-4 days per week.

3 MIDDLE SCHOOL SKI TEAM

Take racing to the next level with the CCSC Middle School Ski Team! Students from 6th to 8th grades enhance their race skills and participate in ski invitationals at various ski areas in the region.

This is a wonderful way to grow the love for racing and make friends with other racers in our area!

4 FREESTYLE CAMP

We offer techniques, movement analysis, and a variety of tips and tricks for those young skiers and riders who are on a creative freestyle quest. CCSC has talented, certified instructors on staff to teach and safely guide the Freestyle Squad, designing lessons to help the crew achieve their individual goals. 2021 was the first year for this program.

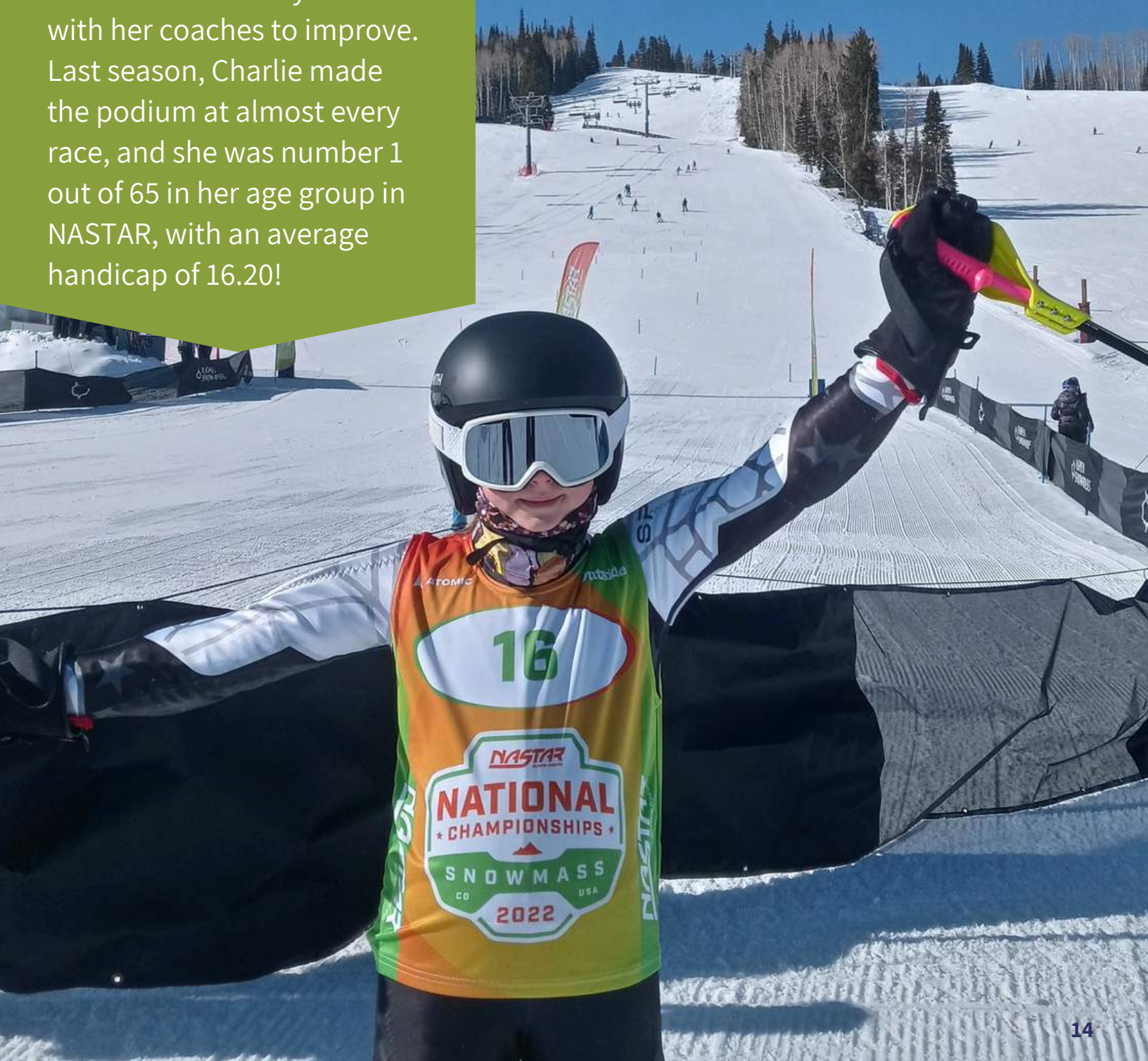


MEET MILES

Growing up in Cincinnati, Ohio, joining a downhill race team was little more than a dream for Miles. His dream came true when his family moved to Northern Michigan in 2020, and he joined Crystal Community Ski Club. His two years in the Alpine Race Academy were spent learning the ins and outs of ski racing from the certified CCSC instructors. He collected a lot of trophies in his final season, and he's looking forward to joining his high school race team in 2022.

MEET CHARLIE

Charlie is a fifth grader on her fourth season with CCSC. When Charlie joined the club, ski racing was new for her, but she worked very hard with her coaches to improve. Last season, Charlie made the podium at almost every race, and she was number 1 out of 65 in her age group in NASTAR, with an average handicap of 16.20!



CCSC HOSTED

ALPINE EVENTS

DECEMBER

HOLIDAY RACE CAMP

JANUARY

CCSC INVITATIONAL

FEBRUARY

FOUNDERS MIDDLE SCHOOL RACE

MARCH

CCSC SPRING CLASSIC





CCSC: COMPETITION NOT REQUIRED

CCSC is a club that strives to fit all niches in snowsports, forging a path for all youth to participate in a way in which they find enjoyment and fulfillment. We are looking to add to the traditional competitive ski club model, and offer diversity in our programming that is both competitive and non-competitive.

On our alpine side, Master The Mountain (MTM) serves as our “learn to ski & ride” program - although the program provides learning at all levels, not just at the beginner level. MTM often serves as the point of entry for the alpine side of the club; some students stick with MTM to improve their skills in a non-competitive fashion, and others transition to Race Academy, Freestyle Camp, Junior Instructor, or Junior Patroller programs.

“All of the programs mentioned above are about the future of what ski clubs can be,” said MTM Director Marco Dedenbach.

“Ski clubs used to just be all about competition (which is still amazing for many kids), but what we’re doing here is offering each kid a chance to participate in a way that is best for them.”

One example of this is seen when students “graduate” from CCSC programs. Several alumni of our Junior Instructor Program are now certified by the Professional Ski Instructors of America, and use the skills they acquired in CCSC to work as instructors.

CCSC Coach Joe Dasin, who has been assisted by these youth in his groups, often remarks at his satisfaction when seeing them get certified and work as instructors. “It’s so cool to see the evolution of these kids,” remarked Dasin. “What a great way to get the next generation involved. I wish I had a club like this when I was a kid.”

TEEN SNOWSPORTS LEADERSHIP PROGRAMS



TEEN SHOWSPORTS LEADERSHIP PROGRAMS



1 JUNIOR SKI PATROL

In just its first year, three students became Jr. Ski Patrollers. They learned basic first aid skills, skiing/riding techniques, and mountain safety with special emphasis on skills practiced by the National Ski Patrol.

2 JUNIOR INSTRUCTOR PSIA

This rigorous training program includes 12 hours of on-snow training, 9 hours of instructor shadowing and 3 hours of online coursework. Upon completing the program, teens receive national recognition as a junior ski instructor.





JR. SKI PATROL TO THE RESCUE

Members of our Junior Ski Patrol program met every week last season to learn the ins and outs of helping everyone stay safe on the mountain.

On the third week of practice, the team was called to an incident on the mountain. While the ski patrol members were attending to the skier, members of the Junior Ski Patrol were stationed near the top of the run to tell skiers to avoid the area.

“It was pretty serious. We could tell the boy was in a lot of pain. He fell on a really narrow run with a tight turn. Anyone going down that run wouldn’t know what was happening until it was too late. It felt really good to know that we were actually helping by directing skiers to another area,” said Alice Luther (13).

One of her fellow Junior Patrollers, Sebastian Dunaway (13), put his new skills to use when he was free skiing with a friend just a couple weeks later. “We saw a kid in front of us take a really hard fall. I was able to get to him quickly and assess the situation while my friend skied down to ski patrol to ask for help.

I asked him the concussion questions that I had learned, encouraged him to stay still and helped him stay calm until help arrived. It felt really good to know that I was helping, even if it was just a small thing.”

Alice says her desire to join the Junior Ski Patrol came about after she herself was assisted by them last season. “On my last run of the night, I fell at the top of Buck and broke my thumb. Luckily a nice man stopped to help me. He got ski patrol and also called my mom. I rode down the mountain on a sled. It was scary but also really cool.”

During their Junior Ski Patrol sessions, the students learned how to sweep a hill to close it down, how the toboggan works and some general first aid, including using a cravat, general bandaging, bleeding management and administering splints. They also met with an avalanche guru to learn more about avalanche safety on the mountain.

“Alice and I are definitely going to do this program next year!” says Sebastian.



OUTREACH

OUR OUTREACH PROGRAMS



1 HAMTRAMCK WEEKEND VISIT

In partnership with SOS Outreach, The Bus for Outdoor Access and Teaching (BOAT), Crystal Mountain, Detroit Outdoors and PSIA-AASI Central Education Foundation, CCSC had the honor of hosting 22 students from Hamtramck High School in the metro-Detroit area for a weekend of skiing, learning and camaraderie at Crystal Mountain.

2 LITTLE RIVER BAND

This season we collaborated with the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians (LRBOI) to plan an outreach program to engage their youth (ages 10- 17) through a Nordic (cross country) learn-to-ski program. Through grant money and the support of the LRBOI we were able to provide two Nordic learn-to-ski sessions at Crystal Mountain with no cost to the participants. This program was very successful, and we expect to work with LRBOI to expand the program for next season.





REACHING OUT WITH HAMTRAMCK

On a snowy weekend in March, 22 students from metro-Detroit arrived at Crystal Mountain.

“Hamtramck is a unique community whose wealth lies in its diversity of cultures. Many of the students participating in the SOS Learn to Ride program are recent or first-generation immigrants from Yemen, Bangladesh and Poland,” Hamtramck English Teacher Jessica Madden said. “These students have not had the chance to venture much further than the metro-Detroit area to experience the beauty of the Great Lakes that is now their home.”

SOS Outreach is a progressive mentor-driven organization focused on teaching kids the life skills they need to live happy, healthy and successful lives despite social, societal or economic barriers.

One way they do this is by taking kids to the slopes.

“We have lots of big, wide-open spaces at Crystal Mountain,” Crystal Community Ski Club Alpine Coordinator Hunter Steinkamp said. “Being able to work with kids who otherwise may not have had the opportunity to try snow sports – and connecting them with other skiers and riders their age – is a phenomenal opportunity.”

The weekend with the Hamtramck and CCSC kids kicked off with s’mores around a campfire, a snowsports lesson and lunch on Saturday, an overnight at Crystal Mountain, and a snowshoe tour through Michigan Legacy Art Park on Sunday. They also spent time getting to know CCSC students and learning about mountain safety.

One highlight? On Saturday night, the Hamtramck kids prepared their ethnic food for dinner and dined with CCSC instructors and staff. “It was an absolute highlight of the weekend,” said ski instructor Allen Parkes.

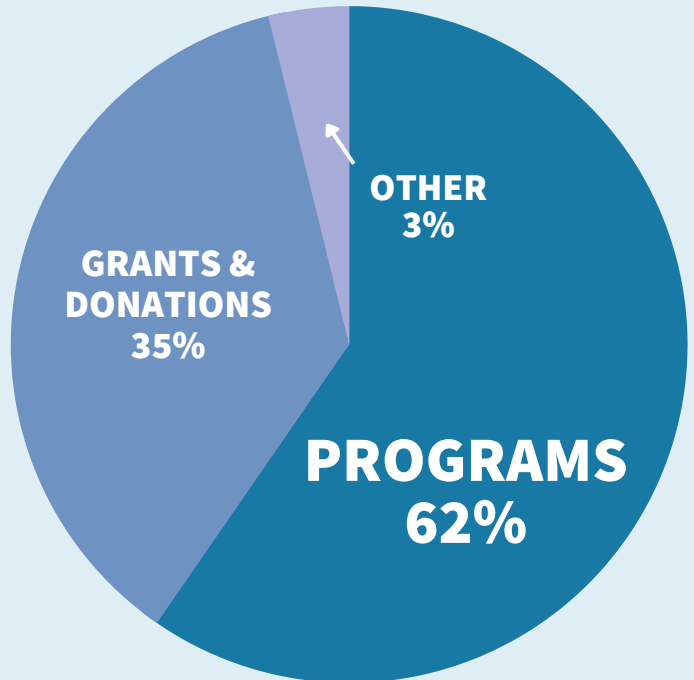
BY THE NUMBERS



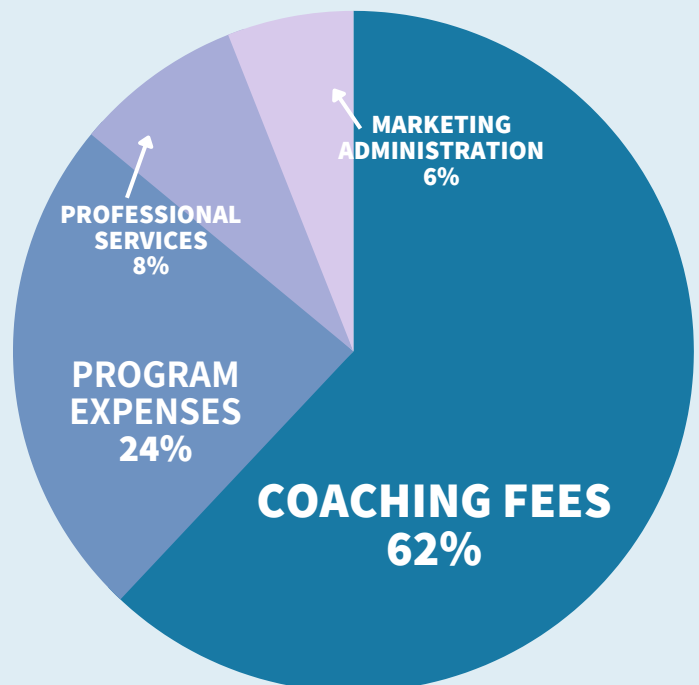
REVENUE

FISCAL YEAR OCTOBER 2021 – SEPTEMBER 2022

REVENUE
\$121,839



EXPENSES
\$80,961.73



REACH



PROGRAM	YOUTH
NORDIC ROCKS	652
MASTER THE MOUNTAIN	55
RACE ACADEMY	54
NORDIC TEAM	38
OUTREACH	22
NORDIC SQUIRREL	19
ROLLERSKIING	17
FREESTYLE	8
JR. SKI PATROL	3
JR. INSTRUCTOR	3

871

students participated in a CCSC program in 2022.

53

Instructors across 10 CCSC programs.

1,433.5

Hours of instruction provided to kids in our 2022 season.

4TH

The place our Nordic Girls Team placed in the Michigan State tournament!

2

New programs offered in 2022, including Freestyle Camp and Jr. Ski Patrol.

500

kids were new to CCSC this year!

44%

of CCSC students qualify for free and reduced lunch programs.

99%

of kids surveyed agreed that Coach Hunter has the worst dad jokes on the planet.

98%

of kids surveyed made a friend through Crystal Community Ski Club.

.001%

of kids in Race Academy ditched practice to do jumps in the park. (SIMON!!)

100%

of kids surveyed agreed that drinking hot chocolate after practice makes them better skiers.

1,000%

of kids surveyed can't wait for next season!



**SPECIAL
THANKS**

THANK YOU!

CRYSTAL MOUNTAIN



It goes without saying, but we wouldn't be the club we are today without the ongoing and extensive support from our Premier Partner, Crystal Mountain. Their generous in-kind and monetary contributions to the club have allowed us to continue expanding our programs, helping more kids and dreaming of an even bigger future with more kids, more programming and more outreach. From the bottom of our hearts, Thank You Crystal Mountain!

THANK YOU!

2021-2022 FOUNDATIONS AND BUSINESS SUPPORT
BASED ON FISCAL YEAR OCTOBER 2021 – SEPTEMBER 2022

Our work would not be possible without the generous support of foundations and local businesses. Thank you!



Manistee County
community foundationSM



BENZIE SUNRISE
ROTARY FOUNDATION



live
marketing

FEATHER
FOUNDATION



THE SEABURY FOUNDATION

Founded by Charles Ward and Louise Lovett Seabury - 1947



THANK YOU!

2021–2022 INDIVIDUAL DONORS

BASED ON FISCAL YEAR OCTOBER 2021 – SEPTEMBER 2022

Our work would not be possible without the generous support of individual donors. Thank you!

George & Martha Bailey

Matthew Bishop

Judith & James Bosma/Olson

Anne Breed

Mary C Byl

Matthew Clayson & Family

Andrew Cook

Marco Dedenbach

Dick & Barb Dehn

Constance Deneworth

Shawn Denton

Shawn Edie

Cynthia Fant

Marsha Fewell

Bonnie Fewell

Dan Gidcumb

Zelma Hirst

Sue Holcombe

Mark Hughes

Roy Inglis

Dennis Johnson

Daniel & Peggy Jonkhoff

Steve & Dosie Kermode

Kirby and Jennifer King

Cathleen Knauf

Charles & Judith Kraus

Phillip Lambert

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Michelle Russell

Milt Shapiro

Allison Sleight & Ross Reuterdaahl

Kim and Connie Simon

Barb Skurdall

Hunter Steinkamp

Christina Swanson

David & Dian Taghon

Teddy Bear Daycare & Preschool

Carolyn Thayer

Marcia Tomkiewicz

Diane Tracy

Stephanie Videan

IN MEMORY OF ALTHEA PETRITZ 1923-2022



All of us at Crystal Community Ski Club would like to express our sincere condolences for the loss of Althea. While we know that saying goodbye is never easy, we also know that the many things Althea advocated for and fostered will live on in perpetuity. From strolling Crystal Mountain's beautiful gardens, or a walk in the Michigan Legacy Art Park, or reading the history of the formation of Buck Hills, or learning about one of the many community projects for which Althea advocated (and we know the list could go on indefinitely), her work is clearly present and continues to shine.

We would also like to offer a heartfelt expression of gratitude for gathering tribute donations to Crystal Community Ski Club. We will put all funds received to good work. Our goal is to shatter a new record by reaching 1,000 youth in programming this upcoming winter. We are very grateful that contributions in Althea's name will be a part of making this a reality.

THANK YOU TO THOSE WHO GAVE TO CCSC IN ALTHEA'S MEMORY

George & Martha Bailey

Anne Breed

Mary Byl

Barb & Dick Dehn

Constance Deneworth

Shawn Edie

Cynthia Fant

Mark + Julie Hughes

Daniel & Peggy Jonkhoff

Judith Bosma & James Olson

Kirby & Jennifer King

Charles & Judith Kraus

Phillip Lambert

Margaret Laubach

Anna + Matt Luther

Scott & Wendy Papineau

Laura Lee Petritz

Kim & Chris Pickell

Michelle Russell

Kim & Connie Simon

Sue Peters & Dave Murphy

David & Dian Taghon

Marcia Tomkiewicz

Diane Tracy

Stephanie Videan

Grand Traverse Regional Community
Foundation

Teddy Bear Daycare & Preschool

The Roadhouse

Traverse City Tourism

THANK YOU!

PROGRAM DIRECTORS, MANAGERS & COORDINATORS

In addition to coaching, our program directors, managers and coordinators manage our many programs to ensure a successful season for all. Thank you!



CHRIS FISHER
ALPINE RACE
DIRECTOR



TIM FURBACHER
NORDIC
DIRECTOR



MARCO DEDENBACH
MASTER THE MOUNTAIN
DIRECTOR



CAROLYN THAYER
JR. INSTRUCTOR



JESS MCCALLUM
JR. SKI PATROL



JAYSON SPAULDING
FREESTYLE



JENNIFER POWELL
ALPINE
COORDINATOR



HUNTER STEINKAMP
OUTREACH & ALPINE
COORDINATOR



ANNA LUTHER
NORDIC
COORDINATOR

THANK YOU!

COACHES

In 2022, our coaches offered more than 1,443 hours of instruction. Special thanks to all of our highly skilled CCSC Coaches. We couldn't do this without you!

Kayla Bruan

Andy Cook

Joe Dasin

Corinne Davis

Ian Durand

Matt Durand

Ryan Durand

Mark Fisher

Tom Fleming

Tim Furbacher

Shaun Johnson

Nick Killian

Karen Kirt

Michael Landers

Anna Luther

Beth Major

Jess McCallum

Mackenzie McLane

Jodi Monteith

Will O'Dwyer

Allen Parkes

Aubrey Parker

Abby Pasanki

Eran Rhodzell

Sandy Schmaltz-Hill

Austin Skibowski

Barb Skurdall

Jayson Spaulding

Hunter Steinkamp

Collin Stewart

Carolyn Thayer

Matilde Torgersen

Fran Upton

Christopher Wilde

THANK YOU!

TO OUR VOLUNTEERS



From attending meetings to coaching kids, organizing post-practice snacks, managing race schedules, setting gates, getting kids to the right place, and SO MUCH MORE, our organization could not exist without the support of our volunteers. Thousands of hours donated, and we cannot thank you enough.

You are helping us help kids, and we couldn't do it without you. THANK YOU!



SUPPORT CCSC

MEET ANNIE

Annie is a refugee from Haiti and a 5th grader in Benzie County. As part of our Nordic Rocks program, she got to experience the joy of skiing for the first time in 2022. She loved it!

Help us help more kids like Annie by making a tax-deductible donation to Crystal Community Ski Club.

Visit CCSCKICLUB.ORG to donate now, or scan the QR code below. Your gift will make a difference in the lives of kids.

