

Subject: Proposed Junior Membership Category - October 2009

Background -

Some ski areas now require proof of club membership to redeem NJSC lift ticket vouchers. For example, Sugarbush absolutely requires a membership card to be presented for each person redeeming a voucher. Currently, as the TCSC constitution is written, only people who are 21 or older can have a TCSC membership card.

Proposed Solution -

Create a type of membership that would allow persons under-21 to carry a TCSC membership card. The new membership category would be called "Junior Member." Amend the constitution to include language that creates a Junior Member category.

Details -

The new language in the constitution would provide the ability for the club to issue a card designated "Junior Member." It does not provide anything else besides the card. The new language clearly will state that the same restrictions on event participation apply to junior members as are currently in place for under-21 non-members.

A junior membership will afford the holder the same discounts on skiing that a Regular Member has. There are no other benefits or privileges associated with a Junior Membership.

A Junior Member will be required to have a sponsor who is a Regular Member and they must reside at the same address.

Question and Answer -

Question: If my wife and I join, will our children be able to participate in club events?

Answer: TCSC is primarily an adult club. Most events are restricted to adults only, 21 and older. TCSC has some events that are designated to be open to families including children. Currently, the Saturday, Plattekill ski trip is one such event and some of the summer barbecues are also open to families.

Question: But if I purchase a Junior Membership for my son, will that open the doors for participation in additional club events?

Answer: No. The proposed Junior Membership only provides a membership card that facilitates discounts on skiing; the same discounts that Regular members can obtain at ski areas with their TCSC membership card. The proposed Junior Membership will not allow additional participation in club events.

Question: I don't ski and neither do my children. Is there any advantage to my purchasing a junior membership for my son or daughter?

Answer: No, there would be no advantage.

Question: So now every member of my family can have a TCSC membership card and get all the discounts that the card provides?

Answer: Yes, unless the ski area or merchant has their own age-based restrictions.

Question: I joined an adult club because that is exactly what I wanted. Will we see a lot more youngsters at our events?

Answer: For the most part, no. We don't expect big numbers in the junior membership category. If it does result in increased family memberships, we may see a few more children and young adults at the summer barbecues and on the Plattekill ski trip, which are already open to families.

Comments requested -

Please send your comments and questions about the Junior Member proposal to:

JuniorMember (at) TripleCitiesSkiClub (dot) com

(That address forwards to the Club President, Judicial Committee and the committee that is studying the possibility of junior memberships.)

Based on the comments that are submitted, the committee will suggest the next steps in this process. If the proposal does go forward, it would require a vote of the general membership for it to be enacted. I hope that everyone thinks carefully about how this proposal would affect the club, both positive and negative, and the same for how it might affect your own interactions with and enjoyment of the club. And please keep in mind that the number of junior members may be a very small number and that the net effect of all this may be unnoticeable.

Thank you.

Committee to Study Junior Memberships