



THE POWER OF FOUR

SKI MOUNTAINEERING RACE 2011



Start Details: Snowmass Base Village @ 7:15am on Saturday, March 5, 2011 (both half and full course participants)

Cost: \$170 per team of two (+\$20 after March 1st). NO race day registration- the last chance to register is at check-in.

Water: Please fill-up your water bottle/reservoir prior to arriving at the start. While we will have water on-hand we will not have enough to fill everyone's bottle/reservoir.

Racer Requirements: This is a mostly self-sustained race with two aid-stations for full-course participants; one is between the base of Buttermilk and Aspen Highlands (approximately half-way) and the other at the end of the Highlands section at the entrance to the Congo Trail. Each racer must have a beacon, shovel, probe, skins, helmet, wind shell and teammate. Absolutely no nordic, NNN, or similar "nordic touring" gear; AT or tele gear only.

Mandatory* Racer Check-in: All racers must check-in on Friday, March 4th between 3pm and 7pm at Aspen Expeditions, located at the base of Highlands (plenty of free RFTA buses from Aspen and down valley) to pick-up your bib and racer bag. Both team members need to check-in though you do not have to check-in with your teammate.

* If you are coming in from out of town and are unable to check-in the night before you MUST email Jen Greechan (jgreechan@aspensnowmass.com) to arrange morning-of check-in unless you have already contacted me.

Optional Pre-race Meeting: We will be hosting an optional pre-race meeting on Friday, March 4th at Aspen Expeditions at 7pm, immediately following check-in. Topics will include transportation options to the start line, required gear, a detailed course walk-through, weather forecast and any questions which may arise. All of this information will be provided to each racer upon check-in as well. Bud Light will be available free of charge for racers 21 and over.

Parking/ Transportation: There is NO free parking near the start of the race. A free RFTA bus leaves Rubey Park (central Aspen) at 6:15am. There is free parking in the Town Park Station Lot (on the way to Snowmass Village on Brush Creek Rd.) with a shuttle departing at 6:40am to Snowmass Village. Additionally, there is free parking in the Intercept Lot (intersection of HWY 82 and Brush Creek Rd.) with a bus departing at 6:30am. Day parking is available at the Snowmass Base Village Garage for \$25. If you are staying locally make every effort to get dropped off at the start.

Morning of the Race: Prior to the 7:15am start you and your partner are required to pass an equipment check together. Each racer will be allowed to deposit one dry bag at the start that will be shuttled to the finish line for pick-up. (Note: in an effort to reduce waste we will not provide a dry bag, please bring your own) Please allow sufficient time to pass the equipment check.

Course Marking: The course will be marked with green pin flags on climbs and red panels and pin flags on descents. Transitions are to be marked with windblades.

Aid Stations: This is largely a self-sufficient race; however, we will have two Aid Stations for full course participants. There will be no Aid Station for half course participants. A full Aid Station will be located at the bottom of the Tiehack lift at the base of Buttermilk with water (to fill your bottle or reservoir) and Clif Bars available. A second water station will be at the entrance to the Congo Trail after the descent of the Highlands Bowl.

Cut-Off Times: To ensure racer safety we will have two cut-off times and locations for full course participants. The first cut-off will be *at 12pm at the Aid Station at the base of Buttermilk*. The second will be at the exit of *Aspen Highlands to the Congo trail at 2pm*.

Normal Mountain Operations: We ask each racer to keep in mind that each of the Aspen/Snowmass ski areas will be open to guests as usual. Thus, you will likely encounter traffic in the opposite direction of yourself while on-course. Also note that at any time you may encounter snowmobiles, snowcats and other mountain equipment while on course.

Racer Safety: For the safety of every racer, each athlete is required to notify the closest course marshal of any avalanche, injury or racer who appears to have ventured off-course ASAP.

Training in Aspen/Snowmass? Please note that in the interest of safety you may not uphill on Highlands beyond the Merry-Go-Round after 9:30am nor head into closed areas of any mountain. We understand there may not be a rope at the bottom of the closed area as the majority of traffic comes from above so we ask you to be extra alert to signs of an area being closed such as Ski Patrol bombing the area or extreme lack of traffic.

After Party & Award Ceremony: Following the race we'd like to invite all racers to the Red Onion in downtown Aspen (420 E. Cooper) from 5 to 7pm for a beer*, some food, a raffle and awards. Awards will be at 6:30pm.

* Must be 21+ to consume alcohol, other beverages will be available for purchase.

Please contact Maria Hidalgo at mhidalgo@aspensnowmass.com with any questions regarding the event and Pete Swenson at ussmaski@gmail.com with any gear related questions.