

Why are there Optional Offerings (or what's an EPP)?

We set ourselves some lofty goals for the future of the program and the club. The membership was consulted in a survey in 2007 to help determine the direction and focus of the club for the future. Many members responded either formally or informally to express their opinions and ideas and in part that helped form the idea of the EPP (Enhanced Performance Program) Options. These goals are based in part on the following points:



- Many members realised that they can benefit from additional training in order to progress. Whatever your personal goals many members made it clear that they want more opportunities to ski and receive instruction. To ensure that this does not affect the core program budget while at the same time providing additional coaching opportunities the EPP Options Program was born.
- Everyone recognises that the environments and challenges at mountain and out of town locations can greatly enhance or accelerate one's learning. To be able to ski better on longer runs or enjoy different terrain is one of the reasons we all keep skiing.
- Masters has a long history of members helping members to improve. This strong heritage of service was the core strength of our club programs for many years. Every year many members either upgrade their instructor or coaching certifications and experience or have just joined the ranks of new instructors or coaches (as trained status). Often their motivation was to personally improve or understand the sport better but many have participated in the program as volunteer instructors. Our goal is to promote more educational opportunities for the club membership and to help support and develop instructors who can work at the Bronze level. To do this we need to provide mentoring (which is a requirement for all coaching level trainees in order to attain a certified status) and additional training opportunities for coaches. The ultimate beneficiaries of this are the members who take advantage of the training that the club offers. Try a course this year!
- We support the aim of promoting Masters Racing in Canada by encouraging our members who are able to compete at a higher level than in our club series to push their limits. The physical and technical demands of this can require more targeted training than the club programs deliver.

This year there are 3 programs that are being offered this year by the club or to our members (2009-10):

- 1) Holiday Mountain 3 Pack (all members and friends can register)- with MMSC
- 2) Club Instructor Program (to volunteer contact our Program Coordinator)- with MMSC
- 3) **NEW FOR 09:** MMAST Training- (Manitoba Master Alpine Ski Team)- with Summit Ski Club

The EPP 3 Pack is in its third year and the feedback on this has been tremendous. For the past two years it also added new revenue for the club. It's a great way to get more out of your winter. This is the 2nd year of the Club Instructor Initiative and the goal is to pair aspiring coaches/instructors up with experienced staff on Wednesday nights in order to help develop leaders in the club program. The MMAST is a new high end offering open to any member interested in pursuing training at the K1/K2 level with the possible goal of competing either in a Provincial race (M.A.S.S.) or at a National Masters event.

To ensure that your registration for any of these programs is received in a timely fashion and to reserve a place in the program please fill in the linked registration forms and send them with payment to:

Manitoba Masters Ski Club
c/o Manitoba Alpine Ski Division
Sport Manitoba
200 Main Street,
Winnipeg, Manitoba R3C 4M2

As well e-mail or contact our Program Coordinator, Glenn Allen, at gallen54@gmail.com to ensure that your registration is received and accepted. Numbers will be based on the availability of coaches and in some cases some skill requirements may apply but all members are invited to attend.