



# GKHAT Chat

November 2019

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Items marked with an asterisk (\*\*) are articles you really must read.



## GKHAT Checklist

With ski season coming up on us REAL fast, you'll find that there is an increase in communications. It's a real challenge to get members informed while trying not to over do it. So it is with that in mind that this checklist is present. Be sure to check GKHAT.ca for important communications and for the latest of this checklist. Much of this is also present on the GKHAT calendar. Download the GKHAT phone app to help stay on top of all this!

Here are the important things that need to be done and dates, if applicable:

- [Waivers](#): Oct 31
- Payments: Oct 31
- Volunteering - [Pick your yurt cleaning date](#): Nov 15
- Pre-season skiing - [First weekend](#): Nov 8
- Donate auction item: Nov 11
- Pre-season skiing - [Second weekend](#): Nov 15
- Auction goes live: Nov 18-24
- Pre-season skiing - [Third weekend](#): Nov 23
- [World cup @ Louise](#): Dec 6-7
- Kicking Horse opening weekend: Dec 7-8
- [Meet the coaches social](#): Dec 13
- First GKHAT weekend (not Mini's): Dec 13

Note: Details are below or on the website.

## GKHAT Auction

Time is ticking!

All items are due on **November 11, 2019**. If you have not yet submitted one or more items for your family, please take the time to fill [out the form](#) with item description [here](#). Next, the item needs to be dropped off in Golden at Mountain Motorsports (Kim Bernasconi). For Calgary families, contact Tracy Van Zalingen to arrange a dropoff at 403-909-7395 or [tvanzalingen@gkhat.ca](mailto:tvanzalingen@gkhat.ca)

Please remember that ALL families are expected to donate one or more items and this is our most important club fundraiser of the year. All funds raised go directly to the program and your skier.

Once again, we will offer the option to make a monetary donation to the club in lieu of an item donation. If you would like to support the team in this way, please contact [treasurer@gkhat.ca](mailto:treasurer@gkhat.ca) to arrange an e-transfer or to discuss other payment options.

The auction runs November 18-26.

If you have questions about the auction, please contact [sshort@gkhat.ca](mailto:sshort@gkhat.ca)



## Pre Season Training

This year's early season training kicks off in November. We are offering three weekends (3 ski days per weekend) to interested athletes. It is available to athletes U10 and older (ages 8 and up). Preseason training schedule is as follows:

Nov 8-10: Sunshine Village

Nov 15-17: Panorama

Nov 22-24: Panorama

Do be aware that you do NOT need to attend all three days for the weekends. Just let Ryan know ([headcoach@gkhat.ca](mailto:headcoach@gkhat.ca)).

Also, if you are part of the Performance program and you are intending to attend, please be sure to sign up so we have an idea as about the numbers.

If you have not signed up but have an interested athlete, please email [headcoach@gkhat.ca](mailto:headcoach@gkhat.ca) to sign up

## BC Alpine Waivers

Payment for GK HAT and completion of BC Alpine waivers are now past due. If you have not yet completed your waiver, go to [bcalpine.com](http://bcalpine.com) and click on "Member Login". It's located in the center left of the page. When you sign the waiver, be sure to complete it for yourself and all the athletes. In this case "yourself" is the primary parent that you assigned the parent insurance to. If you encounter any problems, please email [registrar@gkhat.ca](mailto:registrar@gkhat.ca) to get help. Your athlete will not be permitted to ski if waivers are not completed. If you have issues relating to payment, please contact [registrar@gkhat.ca](mailto:registrar@gkhat.ca) as soon as possible.



## Yurt Cleaning



Unfortunately, there was a low rate of response from members to the recent survey regarding yurt cleaning. With input from those who completed the survey, the board has laid out a yurt cleaning policy as follows:

This year, as always, your family will be assigned days to participate in yurt cleaning at the beginning of the ski season. If you cannot make your yurt cleaning day, please email [laurell@gkhat.ca](mailto:laurell@gkhat.ca) to find an alternative as soon as possible.

New for this year, there will be a white board on the yurt door with the names of the families responsible for yurt cleaning each ski day. We hope this will help jog everyone's memory so that the yurt gets cleaned at the end of each and every ski day by its users. Please help us by showing up on your cleaning day to ensure that our children have a clean place to eat lunch and warm up.

You can choose your own date right now before we assign you by going to [gkhat.ca](http://gkhat.ca) and selecting a slot. [Check under "Volunteer"](#).

## Lake Louise World Cup Social

Come cheer on the fastest downhillers in the world and have a blast with your ski team in our very own backyard! GKHAT families are welcomed to come and attend the free events for the Lake Louise World Cup Ladies Downhill December 6-7. Watch skiing, roast marshmallows and meet your favorite racers at the finish line from late morning onwards and attend the evening Bib Draw at Chateau Lake Louise. Kids under 12 ski free with purchase of a parent lift pass. For more details see [here](#). To let us know you're coming (you know, to socialize!), sign up at GKHAT [with this link](#).



## Zero Waste Lunch Policy

In 2019, we are piloting a zero waste lunch policy. For athletes packing lunch to GKHAT, please try to bring food in non-disposable wrappers or containers. If you choose to pack using disposable wrappers, athletes will pack the garbage home with them. We hope to help cut down waste and mess in the yurt this way. Coaches will be helping remind skiers of this and we will be looking for your feedback about this through the season.



## Ski Gear Swap

Is your skier growing like a weed? Do you have any gear you would like to sell to another ski family? Are you looking for a place to find quality used gear for next season? Have a look or post an ad on the GKHAT Facebook gear swap "event". To get to this "event", simply search for "GKHAT" on facebook, select the "GKHAT" page, and look for "events". This event is an ongoing event to allow you to post what you would like to sell. Feel free to connect for purchases. GKHAT is not involved in these transactions in any way.

## Lannie Rae Gourmet Flapjack Fundraiser

Where are our pancake fans?! Our performance 60 families will be running a Flapjack fundraiser from Nov 15-30 (with a December 7th delivery). Kids like pancakes? Buy some Lannie Rae Gourmet pancakes! Have a ski cabin? Buy some Lannie Rae Gourmet pancakes! Need some hostess, coach or teacher gifts? Buy some Lannie Rae Gourmet pancakes! More details will be shared mid-November, but in the meantime, prepare you massive Christmas and Ski season pancake order! These pancakes WILL NOT disappoint!



## 2020 Race Schedule

The 2019/2020 race season is just around the corner! Please see the race schedule below to help plan your season.

If your child plans to attend away races, you can begin signing up by clicking on the links to registration, or by following the links on the GK HAT website under "events" in the calendar section.



Home Races for *all GK HAT athletes* including those skiing Friday gates only

- Cookie Cup: Tentative date Jan 11 or 12 2020
- 2020 Skitacular event: March 14 2020

Home Races available to all Nancy Greene athletes (ages 4-11)

- GK HAT Nancy Greene festival: two day race this year, date TBA.

BC Alpine has announced a **tentative U12/U14 schedule** for the 2020 season.

- Jan 18-19 Red Mountain Zone Race, Rossland. [Signup link here](#)
- Jan 24-26 Kimberley Zone Speed Camp. [Signup link here](#)
- Jan 24-26 Canyon Resort Ski Cross, Red Deer. [Signup link here](#)
- Feb 21-23 Fernie Ski Cross Race. [Signup link here](#)
- Feb 29-Mar 1 Panorama Zone Race, Invermere [Signup link here](#)
- March 12-15 Grouse Mountain U14 Provincials, North Vancouver. [Signup link here](#)
- Mar 27-29 Big White Ski Cross Race, Kelowna. [Signup link here](#)
- April 11-12 Lake Louise Zone Race. [Signup link here](#)



## Ski Tuning

As you get geared up for the ski season, remember to give your equipment some love. Tuned and waxed skis will up the fun factor for you and your little rippers!

- Higher Ground is offering tuning, skis can be dropped off with Paul Coatesworth is managing this service.
- Selkirk Sports offers tuning, with a punch card for GK HAT athletes

# GKHAT Auction Q and A

If you have a child ski racing with us this coming season, now is the time to get thinking about the online auction. Many businesses are more receptive to donation requests if they are made earlier in the year.

- **What is the GKHAT online auction?**

The silent auction is held annually by the club to collect donations to be auctioned online as a club fundraiser. It is our most important fundraiser and vital to keep registration costs as low as possible.

- **What's in it for me?**

The silent auction is a great opportunity to get out and contribute to the development of a strong ski club, and, if you choose, to be able to bid on some great items and services. Additionally, it is the club's only annual fundraising activity so it's a one-off investment which we hope is manageable for everyone

- **What kind of items are needed?**

Any item or service that someone would want to buy for themselves or their family is welcome! We encourage both ski and non ski related items; feel free to get creative! Items, goods and services are all popular.

- **I don't have an item to donate, what should I do?**

Speak to a business that you frequent to request a donation, create your own item, or auction off a service you could provide (such as meals or baking).

- **What is the minimum value for an item?**

Items of any value are accepted; However, each family is requested to donate a minimum total value of \$150 to the auction. This could be via multiple different items. We encourage you to donate over the value of \$150, as all funds go to support the program and we are a nonprofit organization. We encourage families to seek items in donations from businesses rather than purchase them themselves as the auction is not meant to be an extra cost burden to families.

- **I absolutely cannot provide an item for the auction, what should I do?**

If you cannot find an auction item, GKHAT accepts a \$150 donation to the club.

- **When do I need to submit my auction item?**

Auction items are required to be submitted before **November 11th**. We encourage early donations and are ready to accept items as soon as you have them!

- **How should I approach businesses to donate items?**

Many businesses in Golden are familiar with the ski team and the auction. Although we cannot provide tax receipts for donations, please consider printing off the attached sponsorship document and bringing this to business owners when you ask for donations. We recognize donors on the auction website so they will receive some acknowledgement of their gift.

- **I have more questions about the silent auction. Who should I ask?**

Please direct your silent auction questions to [sshort@gkhat.ca](mailto:sshort@gkhat.ca) to find out more about the silent auction



# GKHAT App for iPhone and Android

Along with the new website, there is now an APP for Apple and Google devices that allow you to connect to the platform we are using for the website. What does this mean for you?

Well, sure, you can still do registration and event sign up via the website as well as within the app. The big improvements that we hope the app brings is to provide parents and the club with an improved way of arranging shared rides for away races, meeting up to socialize, receiving quick feedback on club issues, and making it easier for different age groups and focuses (Minis vs Performance vs Development) to communicate. We also hope that coaches and parents will be able to leverage this to improve communication. You know, if you get stuck at the train, you'd be able to quickly tell your group!

Now... this is all pretty new, so I'd like to ensure that we moderate your expectations by saying that all of the above can be accomplished... in theory! It is going to take time to figure this out.

In the meantime, do take the time to get the app and play with it.

Suddenly you have a question... Why is there a charge for the app? Well... Apple and Google don't give anything away! So either the club incurs the cost and we add it into fees, or we pass it on. Given that we're still not 100% sure on this, we decided that it is not yet a "must have". Though we're sure hoping that it'll become that!

Some interesting features in addition to the standard stuff you see on the web are:

- Chats
  - Chat will allow you to discuss things amongst the group in the channel.
  - We will need to determine what are the channels that work for everyone. Perhaps there will be a channel for each coach? Let us know of any suggestions you have.
- Meets
  - This feature allows you to make your location visible for a while. Say, show people where I am for the next hour. This could be great when we go to away races to make it easier to meet up for socials or to locate everyone.
- Polls
  - From time-to-time, we're always wondering what your opinions are on small things. A poll allows us to post a one question 'survey' to the website and its available on your phone.
- Channels
  - Channels are a way to group the above means of communications. Be sure to set the channels that are relevant to you. You can also opt in or out as you see fit.
  - You are by default added to a number of 'channels'. You can opt-out of by editing the chat channels in your profile. Check under Mobile App->Channel Membership.



## Registration Numbers

Registration has now come to an end. Current registration is as follows:

	2017	2018	2019
Total	141	142	140

## Yurt Survey

The recent survey regarding maintenance and cleaning of the yurt has gone less well than expected. We sent out over 90 emails to members. The tracking system shows that half viewed the email. Eleven members completed the survey.

Why is this a concern? One of the goals for the new platform is to *improve communication with GKHAT members*. We would like to ensure that people are receiving the communications and that we can receive feedback to act on. Of course, it is possible that yurt maintenance is not considered important to members!

The good news is that yes... over half received and read the email. Still not good enough, but it is a start.

As an FYI, the feedback from the survey has been:

- Pay for clean up: No = 9; Yes = 2
- Implement a bond: No = 1; Yes = 10
- Suggestions:
  - Have a few parents that cannot do hill/race work handle it
  - Reminders: Via email, on the yurt, in the yurt, on the door, etc.
  - Email all parents regularly
  - Insure that there are cleaning supplies
  - Delegate to the kids



# GKHAT Sponsors

