



Snobounds

*Newsletter of the Snowy River Ski Club Cooperative Ltd
Doorack Lodge at Guthega in the Kosciuszko National Park*

December 2015

New Winter Booking Arrangements

On several Saturday nights during the recent season the lodge was partially unoccupied, even though there was plenty of snow. This situation was also apparent to a lesser extent on some Fridays. What seems to be happening is that members are booking for a seven night stay and leaving early. In some cases to travel to far flung homes in other states, in some cases because of a need to get home early to meet other commitments, kids sports seem to be a particular issue. When this happens it is not always possible to fill the unused beds with casual bookings due to, in some cases the short notice, timing, logistics and communication difficulties. Whatever the reasons it is an inefficient use of our marvellous lodge. The Board has discussed this at length, and consulted with various members, and we think that there is a better way.

The Board has approved new booking procedures and these are available in detail on the web site. In summary they are as follows:

The entitlement of each member to 28 bed nights per season remains unchanged.

From 1 January members will be able to make week long bookings, as before, the difference being that there will now be an option of booking seven, six or five night weeks against entitlement. A seven night week will be Sunday night to Saturday night inclusive, a six night week is from Sunday to Friday night and a five night week will be from Sunday to Thursday night.

From 1 March members will be able to book two day weekends (being Friday plus Saturday nights) against entitlement. Availability will be dependent on how many spare weekends are left over after the first round of week-long bookings. There will be a maximum of 4 weekends per member.

From first of April members will be able to book individual Friday or Saturday nights against entitlement. Again, availability of these will be dependent on how many Fridays and Saturdays are left over after the first two rounds. There will be a maximum total of 4 individual Fridays or Saturdays per member.

By way of example, the following bookings could be made utilising a member's full entitlement:

- 1 x 7 night week for two persons – 14 entitlement nights
- 1 x 5 night week for two persons – 10 entitlement nights
- 2 x Friday plus Saturday weekend booking for two persons - 4 entitlement nights

Iris Bramley, our very hard working winter booking officer, will be taking bookings from 1 January as per the new rules. With any new system there may be glitches and if this happens please be patient.

Implementation of this system in 2016 will be a trial and there may be further tweaks or improvements warranted for the following season. Any feedback from members would be welcome. As always, bookings

cannot be accepted from members who have outstanding payments for subscriptions and levies owing from 2015.

The fees for winter bookings have been rearranged to align with the new booking timetables. The fees for members are as follows:

7 nights (in Sunday out Sunday)	\$110
6 nights (in Sunday out Saturday)	\$85
5 nights (in Sunday out Friday)	\$65
2 nights (in Friday out Sunday)	\$60
1 night (in Friday or Saturday out Saturday or Sunday)	\$35
1 weeknight (mon – thur night)	\$20

Guest fees will be adjusted in a similar fashion and all the new fees will be posted on the web site.

Lodge maintenance and renovations

In the last edition of Snobounds we reported on the successful completion of the first (and largest) stage of the new deck and listed the following for completion over the next few years:

- 2015/16 – fire escape railings (and decks of required)
- 2016/17 – north deck extension
- 2017/18 – mezzanine window

This was going to be a reasonably long and tedious process, maximising the workload of the maintenance officers (Tony Slatyer, now ably assisted by new Board member Geoff Chubb). It was also likely to be more costly as the project was broken into three separate construction contracts. The recent appeal for advance payment of levies and for loan funding contributions from members was successful and we can now happily report that sufficient funds will be available to complete the project in one go, this summer. Our thanks to those members who have been able to contribute to this scheme. Completion of the deck project is dependent also on those few members who still owe subscription payments for 2015 making those payments as soon as possible.

So next season you will have a choice of the western or the northern deck for your Après Ski cocktails, and if the weather is inclement you can enjoy spectacular new views to the north from the mezzanine lounge.

To undertake routine maintenance on the lodge and chores like stacking firewood, we rely on members and friends volunteering for work parties. Work parties will be scheduled for some weekends next February to May depending on the timing of the construction works. Members attending work parties also earn credits on their account with the club to defray out of pocket costs such as fuel and park entry associated with attendance. If you think you will be able to attend a work party, please register your interest with the Maintenance Officer Tony Slatyer (slatyer@velocitynet.com.au). When the construction schedule is known, Tony will then notify all who have registered with him of work party dates and tasks and work out who can attend which work parties.

Summer bookings

Guthega is Australia's best kept secret in summer.



Do your lungs a favour, make a booking now!

Snobounds would like to wish a merry Christmas and a happy and prosperous new year to all SRSC members, and we'll see you next season.

