



Snobounds

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

November 2020

The 2020 Season

After a series of pretty good snow seasons some were expecting the run of luck to run out this year, but not so. The snow was good after a slow start, with big storms in early July and again in August. It ended for Guthega in early September with the warm wet La Nina conditions. So, for those who managed to get there, the skiing was OK. The season was of course dominated by the virus – our lodge occupancy was almost halved; many lodges and commercial establishments chose to simply not open. On the slopes and around the resort, masks and social distancing made for a unique skiing experience and the constraints on ticket numbers meant that some folks missed out on skiing or skiing as much as they wished. Club members from interstate missed out completely.

It is hard to summarise such a mixed-up season. It was great that some members were able to get in some great skiing; commiserations for those who missed out. And thanks to everyone for their patience and cooperation.

We would also like to extend a word of appreciation to the Perisher resort management and staff. In very difficult circumstances they managed to stay open, cheerful, and committed to the mountain experience.



Special general meeting

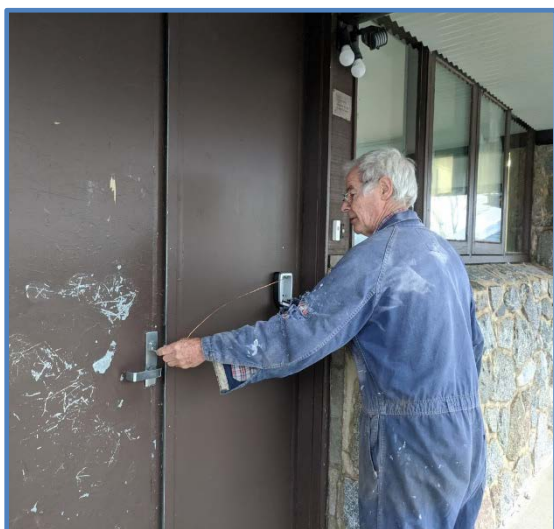
The Club Board has determined that we will be required to convene a Special General meeting in the near future. This is largely a consequence of the Covid emergency which has necessitated a technology based approach to our annual general meetings. We need to amend our club rules to confirm that meetings may be held using technology rather than requiring all attendees to be present in person. You will shortly receive notice of this meeting which will be held “in-person” rather than via technology and you will be invited to attend. The motions to be put to the meeting relate only to this rule change and are essentially a formality; you may choose not to attend. There will be no other business on the agenda. The Board will ensure that the necessary quorum of members is in attendance so that the objects of the meeting are successfully achieved.

SRSC Club Race Captain

Over the history of the club there have always been some members who have the ability and or enthusiasm to take their skiing to the next level. This would be helped along with a bit of organisation and on this front we are now seeing some action. Konrad Piotrowski has volunteered to take on the role of Club Race



Captain, to be a leader and focal point for members interested in participating in the annual Guthega Interclub ski races and, if there is interest, the Perisher race program. Perisher racing includes Alpine/Ski cross, Mogul and Freeski, and Snowboard competition. If you would like to be kept informed, train with like minded members and maybe even compete please contact Konrad at: konrad.anton.piotrowski@gmail.com



Key safe - new lodge access arrangements

From now there will be a key to the lodge front door permanently located in a key safe, immediately to the right of the door. Visitors to the lodge will be able to use this key, rather than having to pick up a key from the summer or winter booking officer.

The code for the key safe will be changed regularly and the current code will be provided to members when bookings are confirmed.

Geoff Chubb demonstrates the new key system at left.

Lockup on leaving

There have been several instances lately where the lodge closure procedures have not been followed. The procedure includes shutting down most of the power, including importantly the hot water, and locking the front door. Recently the lodge has been left unlocked and with power and appliances switched on. This is a security risk and unnecessarily costly as it wastes electricity. The procedure is clearly set out in the lodge manual, a copy of which is at the lodge. The member responsible for a booking must ensure full compliance with the closedown procedure.

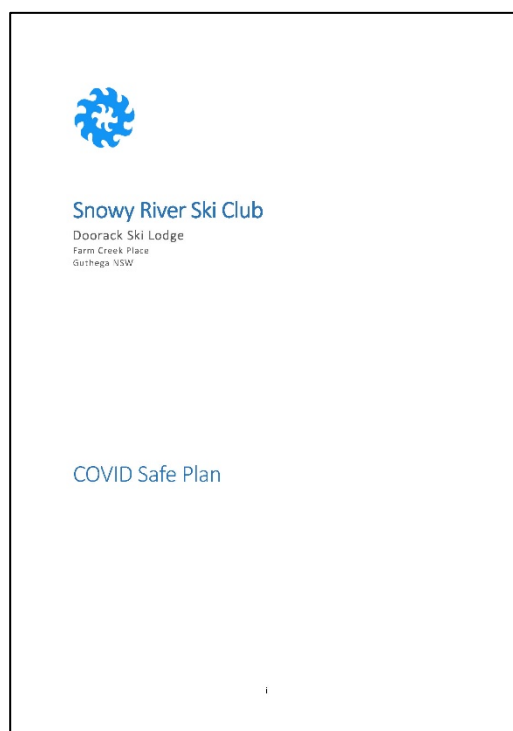
Fire alarm

As reported in the November 2019 Snobounds, the problem of fire alarms being set off very easily by things such as steam from the showers has been resolved; We have been authorised to modify our alarm system so the fire brigade is only called out if the sprinklers are set off. If there is a false alarm, the alarm will still go off, but the fire brigade won't come out unless we ask them too. Of course, under no circumstances should the alarm sensors be covered or removed.

The Covid Safe plan

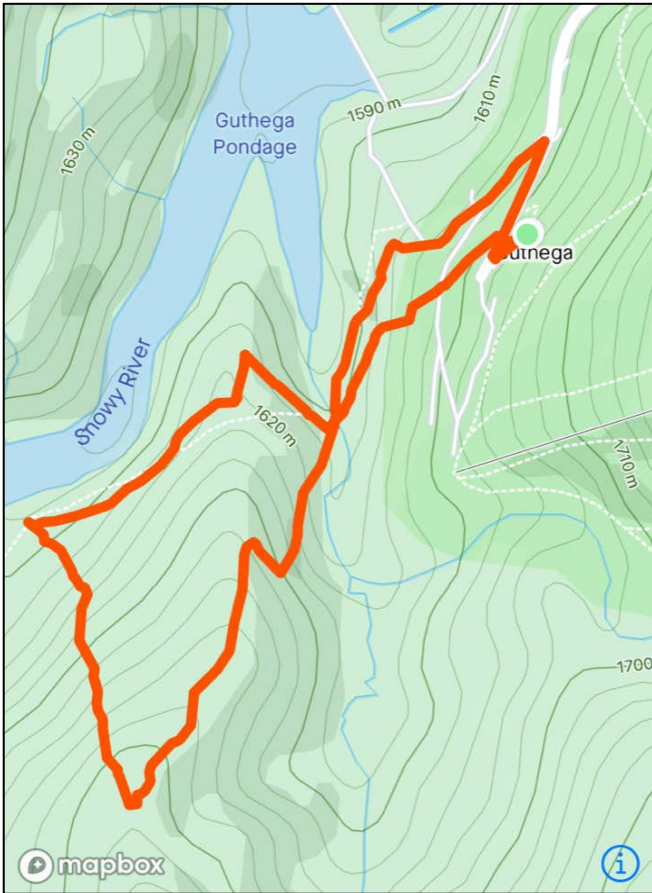
Members will be aware that we were required to prepare a Covid-safe plan which had to be implemented to allow the operation of the lodge through winter, and this has now been revised to cater for the summer season. The main change is that the occupancy level which was limited to 14 persons (compared to the usual bed limit of 24) is now up to 20 persons. This has been made possible due to a relaxation of the limitations imposed by the NSW Government health requirements.

A copy of the new plan has been sent to all members and if you are visiting the lodge please make sure that you are familiar with the requirements of the plan. We all need to play our part in getting through these difficult times. Hopefully 2021 will be an improvement on 2020. If you need a copy of the plan please contact Tony Adams (details at the end of Snobounds)



Membership matters

Geoff Smith, a long-term member of the club and our treasurer for many years before handing on the accounts to David Hogg, has transferred his share to his son Julian; welcome to Julian and farewell to Geoff, although we trust that Geoff will continue to be a regular visitor. The transfer does signify Geoff's formal retirement as a member, and the Board has asked that Snobounds take the opportunity of thanking Geoff for his great contribution.



Backcountry

As we all know, one of the best features of our lodge at Guthega is the access it gives us to miles and miles of backcountry skiing. You can opt for a multi-day trip or just go for an afternoon jaunt. Allison Jones reports on just such a short jaunt on a snowy day this past season:

On 22 August, Nat, Andy, Rob and myself headed out for an afternoon backcountry ski in the wild conditions. After waiting all week for a window of opportunity when the snowing conditions eased, we gave up and headed out! Nat and I were testing our backcountry gear for the first time in a lot of fresh powder.

We headed from the lodge across the bridge, up the Paralyser to around 1705m, then down through the trees towards the flat area before Illawong, before putting skins on again for the final section over the ridge and home.

An excellent afternoon had by all, in VERY deep snow, with lots of laughs and a few diversions into walls of snow when it was hard to see up from down. Distance was 3.5 kilometres and took around an hour and fifty minutes.

Tony Slatyer also runs the 'Backcountry Enjoyment Group' for club members and associates with occasional walks and ski tours and the opportunity to have some company if you are planning an outing. If you are not already a member of this Group, and wish to be on the mailing list please email tony.slatyer.srsc@gmail.com.



Summer at the lodge

Doorack Lodge is a great destination for your summer family, or multi family, holiday. The cost is low and well within family budgets. A whole of lodge booking is a great holiday if you can organise two or three families together. For example, three consecutive week nights with the whole lodge to yourselves, is currently, due to covid restrictions limiting occupancy to 20, only \$600 (normally \$720). Apart from the magnificent walking opportunities around Guthega you are only a short drive from everything else that the Snowy Mountains have to offer in summer. Walks, mountain and road biking,



fishing, golf, heritage trails, rock climbing, shopping, fine dining and more. Visit the Snowys web site at:

<https://snowymountains.com.au/> to get a taste of what's on offer, then contact the summer booking officer to fix the dates. The weather is usually great, and 10^o cooler than the sweltering cities, and if its not, then curling up in front of the fire with a book and a glass of wine is always an option.

The Snowies Walking Track

The latest news is that the Guthega to Charlotte Pass construction has been delayed by bushfires and then the virus. Sections of the track have been constructed north from Illawong up to but not across Spencers creek, and for about a kilometre south of the main range track below the Charlottes pass carpark. Hopefully work will recommence soon and be completed this summer.

Autumn 2021 Work Party

The Club is maintained in good condition due to the continuing efforts of our volunteers. You can help by attending the annual Work Party, to be scheduled for a weekend in the Autumn. It will be suited for all ages and abilities. If you wish to be kept informed of timing and arrangements for this work party or for occasional ad hoc visits for special maintenance projects, please register your interest with the Maintenance Officer at tony.slatyer.srsc@gmail.com.

Snobounds for associates and guests

The mailing list for Snobounds is limited to the SRSC membership. This is generally adequate but not so in some cases. Often, associate members share a household with "their" member, but sometimes this is not the case. Could all members please forward Snobounds to their associates if the associates are unlikely to otherwise get it, and also to guests whom they regularly invite to the lodge. The information in Snobounds (much of it anyway) is important for all club users. As ever, members and associates contributions to Snobounds are always welcome.

Board Contacts

Position	Contact	Phone numbers	In relation to
MAINTENANCE OFFICER	TONY SLATYER	02 6260 6696 0417 040 158	BUILDING AND EQUIPMENT GENERAL MAINTENANCE
MAJOR PROJECTS	GEOFF CHUBB	02 6288 1234 0437 772 860	BUILDING AND EQUIPMENT MAJOR PROJECTS
PROVIDORE	ALLISON JONES	0433 643 857	COMMUNAL STORES/ HONOUR SHOP
WINTER BOOKING OFFICER	IRIS BRAMLEY	0402 202 563	WINTER BOOKINGS AND CANCELLATIONS
SUMMER BOOKING OFFICER	POLLY ADAMS	0400 483 073	SUMMER BOOKINGS AND CANCELLATIONS
TREASURER	SUSIE KLUTH	0438 663 104	LOCKERS, REIMBURSEMENTS, FEES
CHAIRMAN	TONY ADAMS	0438 571 511	
SECRETARY	MATTHEW BARNARD	0449 263 521	MEMBERSHIP AND SHARES

Thanks for your attention, all the best for the summer and have a happy and safe Christmas

