



2023-2024
LEARN TO SKI OUTREACH PROGRAM
GUNSTOCK MOUNTAIN RESORT
For Ages 6-18



PROGRAM:

EPRD's Youth Ski Program at Gunstock Mountain Resort (Gilford, NH) offers discounted season passes available to students **age six (6) through eighteen (18)**. Students are not required to attend lessons; however, it is recommended.

Gunstock's Outreach Program offers students two options for season passes (Midweek and Prime). *Included in either season pass* is four (4) 50-minute lessons, ski/snowboard rentals for lessons, vouchers for discounted lift tickets, admission to Gunstock's cross-country/snow-shoe area, and discounts on food/retail!

Program & Lesson Dates

The Outreach Program will occur at Gunstock Mountain Resort in Gilford, NH on Tuesday evenings at 6:30pm on 1/2, 1/9, 1/16, 1/23 with 1/30 serving as a make up day. You are welcome to use your season pass any other day the mountain is open and your pass is valid.

Important Information for families with 6- & 7-year old's:

6 & 7-year-old participants will be allowed to purchase a pass & receive complimentary rentals during the 4 schedule program days, **however lessons are no longer available for this age group.**

Pass Details:

Midweek Youth Season Pass: this pass has restrictions to include black-out dates on weekends, holidays and vacation periods (NH school vacation week is NOT a Black Out date!). The Midweek Youth Season pass is a great option for families who will be skiing/riding mid-week. Please keep in mind that the Midweek Youth Season Pass does include 50% off black-out date lift tickets. Midweek Pass Blackout Dates: 12/25/2023 to 12/29/2023 (vacation week), 1/1/2024, 1/15/2024 (Martin Luther King Day), and 2/19-2/23/2024 (vacation week)

*A Midweek Season Pass does not guarantee the purchase of a lift ticket during blackout dates when Gunstock has "Sold Out" days or nights. You must secure a lift ticket ahead of time.

Prime Youth Season Pass: this pass is unrestricted & has no black-out dates, including weekends. *Winter Youth Season passes will benefit those who will visit Gunstock on 4 or more black-out dates.

Once participants have registered with the Recreation Department and Gunstock, participants can pick up their season pass(es) **any time** Gunstock is open and start enjoying your pass and vouchers!

REGISTRATION:

Step 1. Register through Exeter Parks & Recreation: online, over the phone, or in person at our office. *Fee - \$20/child*

Step 2. **EPRD will email you a link specific to our group discount on the Gunstock portal.**

Step 3. Register for the Outreach Program on the Gunstock Website (registration for your seasons pass, rentals, and lesson level are completed through Gunstock. *See our website for instructions-> "2024 Step by Step Registration Guide"*). *Fee - \$175-\$375/child depending on pass selection and date of registration.*

Please read Gunstock's "2024 Student & Family Guide" found on our website in its entirety for important policy and registration information from Gunstock.

REGISTRATION FEE:

Participants must register through the Exeter Parks and Recreation Department. Outreach season pass and 4-week lesson must be purchased through the Recreation department. This is a unique program offered to schools/recreation agencies: Packages are as follows per person and no substitutions/changes can be made with Gunstock after deadline, Friday, November 17, 2023.

DEADLINE:

The deadline to register for this program is Friday, November 17, 2023. Gunstock will NOT make any exceptions this year. Please be aware that the mountain can close registration at any time. We STRONGLY ENCOURAGE you to register as soon as possible due to limited lesson availability.

Please note that it can take up to 24 hours after changing your child's account before you can create your new account using your address. **Do not wait until the last day of registration to login to your account. November 17th, 2024 is the hard deadline, no exceptions.**

Date & Time: Tuesdays, 1/2/2024 - 1/24/2024 (make up day 1/30/2024) 6:30pm Lesson Start Time	Fee *On or Before 10/27/2024	Fee * 10/28/2024 -11/17/2024
EPRD Administrative fee	\$20.00	\$20.00
Midweek Youth Season Pass (restrictions on weekends/holidays)	\$175.00 Includes 6 BFF lift ticket vouchers	\$225.00 Includes 4 BFF lift ticket vouchers
Prime Youth Season Pass (unrestricted/no black-out dates)	\$325.00 <i>Includes 6 BFF lift ticket vouchers</i>	\$375.00 <i>Includes 4 BFF lift ticket vouchers</i>

SCHEDULED LESSON TIMES:

Lessons will be held on Tuesdays evenings (6:30pm lesson start time) beginning January 2, 2024 and operate for 4 weeks (1/2/, 1/9, 1/16, 1/23). Gunstock only offers one make-up day, 1/30/2024. ***Gunstock reserves the right to change your class time to accommodate class sizes.**

Chaperones

Volunteers are necessary for this program and without parent support this program cannot operate. Gunstock requires a volunteer for each lesson group as well as a volunteer first aid chaperone. Gunstock will give 1 free chaperone ticket for every 6 registered participants (ages 8-9) and 1 free ticket for every 10 students (ages 10 and up). **Free lift tickets available for chaperones if we get 20 or more registered students.**

Gunstock Scholarships

In order to qualify for scholarships, there must be 10 students registered in this program. Gunstock offers 1 scholarship for every 10 students (families must qualify for the Federal Free Lunch program). Please call the EPRD Recreation Coordinator to fill out the scholarship application 603-773-6151.

Pass & Rental Fitting Night

A Pass and Rental Fitting Night is scheduled at Gunstock for December 13, 2023 from 5pm – 8pm. It is a great opportunity to have a rental fitting to be sure the right sizes have been selected, to update your child's photo, and to pick up your child's RFID card. Significant discounts on helmets and other items will be available at the Gunstock retail store during our Pass Night event.

Program Refunds

The purchase of an outreach season pass and associated services is a final sale, with no refunds or transfers, for any reason.

A refund, in the form of a gift card or Mountain Money, can only be issued for season-ending injuries. All Outreach passes are Gunstock Season passes and therefore follow the refund policies published in the Season Pass Terms and Conditions, which state: "In the event of an injury, issued passes may be eligible for a prorated credit onto a gift card or Mountain Money. I must provide a note from a doctor's office on letterhead prior to gift card or Mountain Money being issued. If a pass is not used a credit may be issued onto a gift card minus a \$29 processing fee prior to 3/31/24. Season passes are non-refundable".

NEED HELP WITH LESSON PLACEMENT?

First Timer

Groups will spend most or all of their lesson time in the area of the carpet lift. A student should be placed in a First Timer group if ANY of these statements are true:

- I have never skied or snowboarded at all.
- I have only ever played around with it in my back yard.
- The last time I tried skiing or snowboarding, I was less than half the age I am now.
- I have tried it once or twice, but I didn't learn how to stop.

Beginner

Most beginner lesson groups will begin with a skills assessment on the carpet lift before moving to the beginner chairlift. Although they may need a brief review, most Beginner level students will agree with all (or most) of these statements:

- I can put on and take off my own equipment
- I can stand up on my own after I fall
- (If I'm a skier) I can walk up a small hill with my skis on.
- (If I'm a snowboarder) I can do a straight glide with a flat board down a very small hill
- I can change directions and stop while skiing or riding slowly.
- I can load and unload the carpet lift and safely ski or ride on my own in the beginner area around the carpet.

More advanced beginner groups may go directly to the Penny Pitou chairlift on their first day. Beginner students in those groups will also agree with most of these statements:

- I can successfully load and unload a beginner chairlift.
- I can ski or ride safely on easier green circle (beginner) terrain.
- I can use a turn to control my speed (called a "J-turn")
- I can link multiple turns together.
- (If I'm a snowboarder) I can traverse across the hill (instead of down it) on one of my edges.

Intermediate

Most Intermediate lesson groups will begin with a skills assessment on the Penny Pitou chairlift before moving to intermediate terrain. Although they may need a brief review, most Intermediate level students will agree with all (or most) of these statements:

- I can ski or ride confidently and safely on all green circle terrain.
- I can turn and stop while skiing or riding steeper green circle terrain (such as "Try Me" trail).
- I am (mostly) using linked, rounded turns to control my speed instead of a wedge ("snowplow") on skis or a "falling leaf" on snowboards.
- I am developing the confidence and skills to ski or ride on blue square terrain.

More advanced Intermediate groups may go directly to the Ramrod Quad on their first day. Intermediate students in those groups will also agree with one or more of these statements:

- I am skiing or riding safely on blue-square terrain.
- (If I'm a skier) I am skiing with parallel skis all or most of the time.
- (If I'm a snowboarder) I'm starting to carve my turns instead of skidding them.
- (If I'm a skier) I can do a hockey stop.
- I'm using my feet and legs to turn my equipment instead of my shoulders, arms, or whole body.

Advanced

Most Advanced lesson groups will begin with a warm-up run on the Ramrod Quad to confirm appropriate skills before moving to more advanced terrain. Some higher-level groups MAY move directly to the summit lift. Advanced level students will agree with most of these statements:

- I am safely skiing or riding the entire mountain, including black diamond terrain.
- I am confident in a variety of conditions and comfortable at higher speeds.
- I can change the size and shape of my turns to control my speed.
- I am interested in lessons that tackle higher-level skills and tactics for steeps, glades, powder, moguls/bumps, carving, dynamic turns, or freestyle skills (tricks and students).

Gunstock Outreach Program Frequently Asked Questions

What if my child already has a season pass to Gunstock?

If you have previously purchased a season pass for your child, we will refund your purchase to Mountain Money. Once the refund has been made to your account, you can follow the on-line instructions and check-out using the Mountain Money that has been credited to your account. Please contact the Ticket Office at (603) 737-4388 or email: services@gunstock.com to request assistance with converting to an Outreach Pass. When emailing, please use "OUTREACH PASS CONVERSION" in the subject line.

What if my child misplaces or forgets to bring his or her season pass for a scheduled visit?

Each student will be issued a season pass with his or her name on it. ANY child who loses or forgets their pass will need to purchase a replacement pass for \$5 to participate with their school or group that day/night. We're sorry, but we cannot make exceptions to this policy. Please consider adding Mountain Money into your child's account to cover the fee for a lost/forgotten pass and/or any purchases while at Gunstock.

If there is a possibility my child may receive ski or snowboard equipment as a gift, should I sign up for rentals?

YES! If your child does not currently have their own equipment or if they have outgrown their equipment, we highly encourage you to sign-up your child for rentals. Signing them up for rentals guarantees they will have the equipment they need for their first Program Day. If you later determine they don't need them, we ask that you let your coordinator know as soon as possible. Please do not call Gunstock directly to add or subtract rental gear.

What if I forgot to sign my children up for lessons and/or rentals when I bought their passes?

If you realize the mistake prior to November 17th, please contact your coordinator.

Lessons cannot be added after November 17th. No exceptions. Instructor staffing is determined by the number of students who are registered by the close of registration. Unfortunately, we are unable to accommodate additions after November 17th.

If you realize you need rentals after November 17th, please attend the Pass & Rental Fitting Night on 12/13 from 5pm – 8pm or contact your Coordinator. Please do not call Gunstock directly to add or subtract lessons or rentals. The option for adding rental equipment in advance of your first program day closes 12/13 for both sessions.

If you determine your child needs rentals after 12/13, they will need to go to the Ticket Office with a responsible adult to complete the rental process on their first Program Day. This will take extra time and we cannot guarantee they will be ready for their first lesson. However, their rentals will be pre-set with the rest of their group for the remaining scheduled Program Days.

If my children take lessons before the program starts and are no longer first-timers (or beginners), how do I change their lesson level?

We love your commitment! Please inform your coordinator of any changes to your child's lesson levels at least one week prior to the first program day. We will do our best to accommodate any changes to their ability, but we cannot guarantee changes will be made for their first Program Day.

What if my child does not want to take the lesson?

Gunstock offers lessons for every ability level and highly recommends (but does not require) that every student participate. However, many schools and organizations do require participation in lessons, and you must follow the policy of your school or organization. The cost of the program does not change if the student does not participate in the lesson.

What if my child is ill and cannot participate for a given week during the program? Will they be entitled to a refund?

We do not issue refunds or schedule make-up lessons for short term illnesses such as the flu, covid, a cold, or for scheduling conflicts that may arise outside of the program.

What if my child has an injury or illness and cannot continue to participate in the program?

If your child cannot complete the remainder of the program due to injury or health issues (withdrawing completely), Gunstock will gladly issue a pro-rated refund onto a gift card or Mountain Money. You must provide a doctor's note stating the date of the injury or illness and submit a refund request via email to (outreach@gunstock.com or services@gunstock.com). Please submit these documents within 10 days of the injury or illness.

What if I forget to submit a refund request for my child? Can I do so once the program ends?

All refund requests must be submitted within 10 days of the date of the injury or illness. No refunds will be issued outside of these time frames.

What if my child feels that the lesson group they are in is not appropriate for their level and ability?

Please go over the Ski & Ride Ability Chart carefully with your child to select the appropriate lesson level before the program begins. Any concerns relating to the lesson level should be brought to your group Coordinator. Please also understand that lessons are designed to build the skills of the group, and as such, lessons may be conducted on easier terrain than your child typically skis or rides. Gunstock's instructors, in conjunction with the Program Coordinator, will make the final decision as to the appropriate lesson level for each student.

My child's instructor said my child should move up or down a level for the next class, but my child wants to stay with his or her current group because that's where his or her friends are. What do I do?

You can begin by reassuring your child that they will have free ski/ride time to be with his or her friends. You can direct your concerns about your child's lessons to your Program Coordinator. Please keep in mind that Gunstock's instructors are working to improve the skills of all the students in a group—a student who is significantly less advanced than the rest of the group hinders learning for the rest of the group, and a student who is significantly more advanced will not get as much benefit out of that lesson time. We do our best to group students as close to similar abilities as possible, but not all groups will be perfectly matched every time.

What if my child wants to switch from skiing to snowboarding or vice versa each week?

While in the Outreach Program, your child may switch discipline only one time within two days of the first Program Day. No exceptions. We cannot accommodate switches after the first week because it becomes difficult to fit students into existing lesson groups. Students who have been progressing in their lessons are at a different place than a student joining the group for the first time. This is especially true for our 1st Timer and beginner lesson groups, as those groups tend to make the most progress from week to week. Students will not be permitted to switch back to their original discipline within the parameters of the Outreach Program.

What happens during inclement weather?

At Gunstock, we love winter weather! However, your group's coordinator may determine that it is best to cancel on a particular day. We advise coordinators to weigh this decision carefully as programs have only one make-up day built into the schedule. If the group cancels, no program lessons will be held that day.

If I have any other questions about the program, who should I contact?

Please direct all questions, concerns, and comments to your local Outreach Program Coordinator - Caroline Thuma cthuma@exeterNH.gov .

EXETER PARKS & RECREATION DEPARTMENT

32 Court Street, Exeter, NH 03833

Phone: 773-6151

Website: <http://exeternh.gov/recreation>

Business Hours: Monday-Friday, 8:15am-4:15pm