

# Learn to Ski/Ride Program Information

## Learn to Ski/Ride Program

- The program is for grades K-8. (Kindergarten children must be transported and have an adult on the mountain with them)
- The program meets in January, February, and March from 2:40-4:30 pm.
- The 1<sup>st</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> program meets for 7 weeks. Six weeks of lessons and the “Donut Hole Races” on the 7<sup>th</sup> week.
- The Kindergarten Program meets for 6 weeks. Five weeks of lessons and the “Donut Hole Races” on the 6<sup>th</sup> week.
- The program does NOT meet the week of the February Break.
- This program is **NOT** a field trip of the school, so **NO** Medication, Epi-pens, or others are sent by the school. Your child needs to have and bring with them to Cochran’s what they need to be successful in the program.

## Behavior

- Good behavior is always expected during the program.
- Children will be respectful to the people in charge, lead & student instructors, volunteers, bus drivers, and ski personnel.
- Any discipline problems or failure to obey the rules could result in a suspension or expulsion from the program or final trip.
- Parents are required to go over the Discipline Guidelines with their children before the start of the program.

## Learn to Ski/Ride Discipline Guideline

- The document is linked on the program page of the Ski/Ride Program.
- The document will cover the Discipline Guidelines for behavior before getting on buses at schools, riding the buses to and from the mountain, being in lessons, behavior on the mountain, and in the lodge, and respect for all those involved in the program; to include Lead & Student Instructors, Volunteers, Bus Drivers, and Cochran’s Staff.

## Weather Conditions & Cancellations

- Children must dress for the weather conditions. Dress in layers to stay warm.
  - If a child does not arrive with appropriate gear (ex. no mittens or gloves), they will be instructed to stay in the lodge.
- When it comes to wintry weather and cold temps, parents must decide if conditions are applicable for their child to participate.
- **Cancellations-** The ski area may cancel due to un-skiable conditions, or we may have to cancel due to unsafe travel conditions.
- If school closes on a Wednesday during the program, the program is canceled that day also.

## On the Mountain at Cochran’s

- No one ever skis or snowboards alone. The buddy system must be used, or your child must always be with an adult.
- Everyone is to stay on well-marked and groomed trails **ONLY**. Any reports of off-trail will jeopardize your child’s continuation.

## Lessons:

- This is an educational/instructional program. All participants are required to attend their lesson and be with their assigned group until dismissed from lessons by the lead or student instructor.
- Lessons are mandatory- if **NOT** in lessons a child can be suspended or removed from the program.
- Lessons begin at 2:40 pm and are an hour for levels 4 and above. Free Ski/Ride will begin at 3:40 pm for these levels.
- All other levels will have lessons until 4:30p. Children will progress at their own pace through levels.
- All NEW participants will begin at level 1 of lessons and can progress quickly, as they demonstrate the skills of each level.

## Equipment Loan

- If you plan on borrowing equipment for the program you must sign up for a fitting day and time.
- This must be done on the Recreation website. A link to the signup page will be on the Learn to Ski/Ride registration page.
- There is a \$30 fee for equipment loan for the season. Payable the night of the fitting.

## For those Registered with NO Transportation

### Parent Transportation to and from Cochran’s

- Parents transporting their children to the mountain should plan to arrive by 2:30 pm for lessons that start at 2:40 pm.
- Participants do not have to be checked in or checked out. They should proceed directly to their group for lessons.
- If parents are not able to do this each week, they should consider registering their child With Transportation.
- Kindergarten children must be transported to and from Cochran’s by a parent or guardian each week.

## For those Registered with Transportation

### Equipment Drop Off- Skis/Poles or Snowboards Only (for those who take the bus)

- Children taking a bus must have their equipment, Ski/Poles or Snowboard, dropped off before noon each Wednesday.
- The Rec. Truck/Trailer will be on the west side of WCS, near the tennis courts, from Tuesday after 5:00 pm until Wednesday at noon.
- Skis/poles go in the trailer and snowboards go in a truck bed.
- **SKI STRAP-** A Ski Strap **MUST** be used on equipment that goes into the trailer, this is to keep skis and poles together.

### Getting Ready to take the Bus to Cochran’s

- Children must wear all their ski/ride and outdoor gear to get on to a bus to go to Cochran’s (Helmet, Goggles, Ski/Ride Boots, Gloves, Ski Pants/Jacket, etc.)
- When children get off the bus at Cochran’s their equipment will be on the mountain and ready for them to get and go to lessons.
- Children must be able to identify their equipment and put it on. (Parents – please label all equipment and gear)
- All other items must stay at their school and not go on to the bus or go to Cochran’s (School Bag, Snow boots, etc.)

### **Bus Transportation for grades 1<sup>st</sup>-8<sup>th</sup>**

- Transportation to Cochran's is from Williston Central School for grades 3<sup>rd</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> and Allen Brook School for grades 1<sup>st</sup>-2<sup>nd</sup>.
- Buses leave the schools around 2:15 pm.
- Transportation back from Cochran's is only to Williston Central School arriving around 5:15 pm.
- **Bus Fee:** If your child will be taking the bus either way, both ways or occasionally they **MUST** be registered as a "with Transportation." If they are not, they will not be on the transportation list and not be able to ride.

### **Bus Procedures**

- No school or backpack items are to be taken on the bus. No items are to be left on buses. They do not stay!
- No food or drinks can be consumed on the buses, to or from the mountain.
- School bus rules apply to this program. See the rules on The Learn to Ski/Ride Agreement Sheet.
- Students who have behavior issues on the bus will be restricted or removed from transportation to and from the mountain.

### **Departure from Cochran's**

- At 4:30 pm, the light on the Rec. truck will be turned on and all participants will be notified via bullhorn that the program has ended for the day.
- Participants who will be riding the buses back to WCS need to bring their board/skis to the Truck/Trailer and proceed to the deck of the lodge. Participants will be dismissed from the lodge at 4:40 pm to load the buses.
- They will be checked off before getting on a bus. Buses leave by 5:00 pm.
- Participants who rode the bus to Cochran's but are being picked up by a parent/guardian at Cochran's, see Parent Pickup at Cochran's below, must be signed out by 4:40 pm.
- Participants who 'think' they are being picked up at Cochran's, but have not before the bus departure at 5:00 pm, will be put on the bus and transported back to WCS. Parents will have to pick them up at the school.
- Participants who rode the bus to Cochran's but will be staying at the mountain or who will be picked up by a parent later, must have a note stating this. **The note must be given to a lead instructor at the mountain.**

### **Parent Pickup at Cochran's**

- Parents who plan to pick up their child who rode the bus to Cochran's **MUST** be at the mountain and have their child checked out by 4:40 pm.
- Clipboards with the check-out sheets will be at the Recreation truck until 4:40 pm.
- After 4:40 pm clipboards will be with the lead instructors at the buses.

### **Pickup at the School- end of program day**

- Pick up for those riding the buses back from Cochran's will be in front of Williston Central School.
- Pick up at the school is no later than 5:30 pm. Buses will plan to arrive by 5:15 pm each week.
- **Do Not** park in front of the school or the bus area. Buses and equipment trucks need to be able to enter that area.
- Once at the WCS school, children must remain in the front of the school until picked up by a parent/guardian.

### **NOTE:**

Children who are registered for **With** Transportation are responsible for the following:

- For getting on all ski/ride and winter gear at school with help from parent volunteers
- For finding their equipment at the mountain and putting it on
- For knowing whether they are taking the bus or being picked up at the end of the program day
- For those taking the bus, returning their equipment to the Truck/Trailer at the end of each program day

If this is overwhelming for your child you should consider registering **WITHOUT** transportation or picking up at the end of each day at the mountain.