

## **Ski Club Procedures:**

It may seem confusing the first trip, but we promise it is easy and fun!

**Who is eligible?** This program was designed for New Milford 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> graders, but since these students usually want to continue when they reach high school, we have extended the program to the high school students as well. So far, this has worked out, siblings and friends can usually be grouped together and the older students help out a great deal. Of course, all participants must be able to ski/board independently or sign up for lessons. Students must demonstrate the ability to follow all safety guidelines on the bus and at the Mountain.

**How do I sign up? N E W !** Register online at [www.myyouthagency.com](http://www.myyouthagency.com). If you do not have an account already, please create a family account, and then an account for each student. This will also give you access to all other Youth Agency programs and events. If you have any issues, please contact [jason@youthagency.org](mailto:jason@youthagency.org). You can also register by visiting the Youth Agency, and using our front-desk computer. Please make sure to drop off \$10.00 registration fee with Student/Parent agreement so we can accommodate special requests or pairings.

**When do the trips start?** Our first trip is usually the first week Mohawk is able to open during the week nights. Check out Mohawk's website or email Jason for approximate dates. We usually start before the winter break. You will be notified which group you are in and what weeks you are scheduled to go.

**Where do we drop off equipment/gear?** Please arrange to drop off gear the day before a trip. **GEAR MAY NOT BE DROPPED OFF THE DAY OF THE TRIP AFTER SCHOOL**. We have found that this holds up the entire group! Please bring everything up to the Youth Agency, 3<sup>rd</sup> floor. This also confirms who we are picking up. There are occasional exceptions to this rule, such as last minute add-ons or unexpected weather.

**How is payment made?** Checks may be made out to the New Milford Youth Agency. Cash must be in an envelope with the student's name on it. **Payment should be dropped off when equipment is dropped off.** Your money will be returned if the trip is cancelled or you do not go on the trip. Online payment is also available through your [www.myyouthagency.com](http://www.myyouthagency.com) account.

**What is the cancellation policy?** In order for Mohawk to offer us a group discount, we must try to bring a full group when we go. When your group is scheduled, your seat has been reserved for you on the bus. If you cannot attend that week, please give us as much notice as possible. Occasionally, a last minute cancellation is necessary (usually due to illness or homework). We do not charge for cancellations, but if someone repeatedly cancels without proper notice, we may need to put them on the waiting list.

**How do students get picked up?** Pick up will be available via Youth Agency Bus at both New Milford High School and Schaghticoke. The bus will be in the parent pick up lot (not lined up with buses). Parents may also drive their own student to the YA (we are not responsible for carpooling), and the school buses may be able to drop off at YA if necessary and pre-arranged with the school. PLEASE remind your child to be careful in the school parking lots. Also, please follow school procedures for notifications for Youth Agency pick up. Contact the school and the Youth Agency Office in the event of last minute changes.

**What about the Weather?** Keep in mind that safety is our number one concern. We will watch the weather reports and Mohawk's website for our weather updates. If needed, we will do our best to cancel the day before a trip. Occasionally, unexpected weather does occur. If plans change at the last minute, we will communicate our plans with you. When skiing on very cold nights, the staff has frequent check-ins and monitors the students. Occasionally, a student will be asked to stay in the lodge to warm up or rest if needed.

**How does pick up work at the end of the trip?** Pick up is in the back parking lot of the Youth Agency. We try to return at approximately 8:30, but students are urged to call home when we reach Gaylordsville (usually have cell service by then). Our return time may vary due to weather or other reasons. Please be sure someone is waiting for us, our staff will want to go home.

**What about Dinner?** Mohawk has a delicious menu! Homemade soups and the usual burgers and fries, and much more are available. In the past, we have stopped at a market along the way, where students purchase drinks and snacks. We find that students spend about \$10 per trip. Students are welcome to pack food, drinks, water bottles, etc., inside their ski bags. Energy drinks, such as Red Bull or Jolt, will not be allowed to be purchased on the trip.

**Who is supervising the trips?** There will be two Youth Agency staff members chaperoning. The chaperones do NOT stay with the students while out on the slopes, although the chaperones will probably be skiing or boarding. Students will be required to check in at the lodge at designated times and to meet at the bus on time as scheduled.

**Are Rentals/Lessons Available?** Yes, Mohawk makes rentals and group lessons easy and affordable. Please go to Mohawk's website and download any required paperwork. Please be sure rental paperwork is faxed to **MOHAWK** in advance as outlined on the website and notify the Youth Agency so we can help on arrival. The Youth Agency will be billed for this additional expense and parents can reimburse the Youth Agency.

**Are Helmets Required?** HELMETS are now **REQUIRED** to be worn with other equipment. Helmets are available for rent at Mohawk for \$10 per visit, but are only about \$60 to purchase.

**Can Season Passes or Gift Certificates be used?** Yes. There will still be an additional charge for the Youth Agency services (\$7). Please notify us in advance so proper billing is arranged with Mohawk.