ISC NEWSLET Newsletter 13-14 www.texas-ski.org

Volume 2



THE TEXAS FACTOR

Reviewing 2012-2013 Preparing for 2015

By Gary Roth, VP Marketing

Another hot Texas summer has just ended and we are looking forward to the great trips we planned for 2014. At

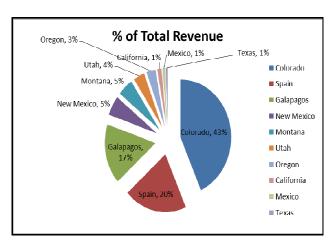


the same time, we are getting ready for the 2015 trip planning process. One of the first steps is to review the most recent travel season by conducting a survey of all the clubs in the TSC to find out where they went and how they did. The survey was conducted prior to the Ireland trip in September 2013, which will be included in next year's survey.

The table and chart below show the results of the survey. The TSC and the member clubs had over 1,500 participants and spent over \$3.1 million last year, which was a 23% increase over the previous year's revenue. While Colorado is still our biggest destination, non-skiing activities continue to grow in importance. The trip to Spain offered a lot of sightseeing activities and was the second strongest destination with 20% of the total revenue and the Galapagos Islands was third with 17% of the revenue. Some of the larger clubs supplement the TSC trip schedule with their own club trips. The "All Trips" column includes those additional club trips. Overall, the TSC is still an important contributor to the ski and travel industry.

We are also reviewing the Request for Proposals (RFP's) that will be sent out in early December. If you have suggestions for improving these documents, please send them to Gary at marketing@texas-ski.org.

For those of you who have not yet signed up for your trips in 2014, there are some wonderful destinations. The schedule



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starts with a terrific trip to Park City, Utah just after the New Year begins, which is a great time to start your ski season. Next is Garmisch, Germany with pre and post trip extensions to Berlin and Prague. These are "not to be missed" destinations. Then Jackson Hole is our destination for the week leading the President's Day Weekend. The resort has opened a lot more intermediate terrain. The last ski trip will be a family-friendly trip to Keystone. Year 2014 will end with a summer trip to South Africa, a new and exciting "bucket list" destination for the TSC.

A big THANK YOU to all the TSC member clubs for participating in the annual Marketing Survey and to all of the travel industry partners who arrange our trips and let us escape our daily routines.

NOW - MARK YOUR CALENDARS to meet again at the Ski BidFest in San Antonio, April 4 to 6, 2014.

Category	All Trips 2012-2013	TSC Trips 2012-2013	% TSC
Participants	1,564	773	49%
Travel Days	9,888	5,431	55%
Lift Ticket Days	4,826	2,431	50%
Pillow Nights	9,647	5,345	55%
Lodging Revenue	\$1,058,558	\$642,759	61%
Airline Revenue	\$594,629	\$401,537	68%
Lift Ticket Revenue	\$237,564	\$124,931	53%
Ground Transportation	\$67,569	\$40,089	59%
Foreign Extensions	\$104,926	\$99,826	95%
Foreign Excursions	\$55,260	\$45,521	82%
Daily Resort Revenue	\$988,800	\$543,100	55%
Total Revenues	\$3,107,307	\$1,897,763	61%

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Our President Speaks - By Tere Mayne, President



Just back from a fabulous trip to Ireland, our Summer Expedition trip. I hope everyone had as much fun as I did. I had to come home to rest up as there was so much to do and see in all the countries we visited. A big THANK YOU goes out to Andrea Yowman and Holidaze for organizing a great trip and getting all 270 of us across the pond on time.

That is the beauty of being involved in such a great organization as the Texas Ski Council and our member clubs. Together we send people skiing to all parts of the US and Canada and even to places beyond North America. And in the summer we visit non-skiing destinations to far-flung reaches of our planet. As both TSC and club trips come up, I

hope all of you will encourage your members to evaluate using travel insurance. Even with great planning and organization, issues come up. The trip interruption aspect of insurance can be just as important as the medical aspect, as those whose luggage was delayed on our Ireland trip experienced. Being reimbursed for unexpected overnight stays due to a weather/flight cancellation or for lost luggage can be a real benefit. There are a couple of travel insurance options available on the TSC website – texas-ski.org - with links for more information. Or contact your tour operator or check out numerous resources on the Internet.

Are you ready for ski season? It's time to start getting in shape and getting your ski gear ready or purchased. Fall is in the air (or was) and I know winter is right around the corner. As we look to the upcoming trips – enjoy the fall air and THINK SNOW!!!

TSC Traditional - Park City, Utah

January 4-11, 2014

By Linda Raymer, VP Traditional

Less than three months until we arrive at our first ski destination! We will be kicking off our TSC 13-14 season with family and friends in Park City Utah, the home of the 2002 Winter Olympics! Nine TSC clubs from all around Texas are converging on Park City to rock their world! And at our ski tips, three ski mountains!

WHY PARK CITY??

Most notably, the fact that it is home to the Greatest Snow on Earth® ranks way up there! If Mother Nature needs a little help, Park City has a state-of-the-art snowmaking system that guarantees a fabulous skiing experience. The town of Park City is at Elevation 6,900 ft. Jupiter, the top-most peak is at 10,000 ft. Park City is only 33 miles from the SLC airport. If you arrive in SLC in the morning, you could be hitting the slopes in the afternoon.

Variety! If you're planning on hitting the slopes for four days or more, the Skier's Choice designed by Sports America, gives you the option of skiing interchangeably between Park City, Deer Valley, and The Canyons. Since Vail Resorts recently leased The Canyons for upcoming seasons, polish off your season Epic Pass to use on your Canyons ski days! Zip around between mountains and all around town by accessing the convenient free town shuttle that provides transportation between all three mountains and all around Park City. The shuttle leaves every few minutes from all major lodging properties to ski locations and around town. Groceries, libations, and medical assistance are all accessible by the shuttle.

Ski all day-party all night!

Historic Main Street has a unique charm that originates from its flamboyant mining town days, and is where you'll find hundreds of shops, restaurants, bars and clubs to choose from during your stay. You party animals will be happy to know that Park City's night life consistently ranks





among the nation's top ski resorts.

Options!

Following in the TSC tradition, there will be lots of opportunities to gather with friends from across Texas. We will have daily après ski locations, TSC Welcome Event, Races, Dinner/Dance/Awards and a host of optional choices.

We are exploring day trips to Snowbird/Alta and into Temple Square in Salt Lake City. The additional charges will be made available to Trip Leaders to pass along to participants. As we get closer to December, we'll be checking for interest and firming up these excursions.

Racing!

Park City has a public NASTAR course that we will use on Thursday to conduct our club and individual races. We'll be premiering our new TSC race rules and format. If racers are not registered with NASTAR or have lost their #, register online. Each racer will



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need his/her NASTAR # and \$10 at the top of the course on race day. Stay tuned for details for racing from your Trip Leader.

Non-skier? No problem! Plenty of non-skiing activities abound!

Here are just some of the many snow activities and non-skier choices at our fingertips!

- Possible SLC day trip
- Possible day trip to Snowbird/Alta
- Welcome party w/ pass to the Alpine Coaster
- Nordic/Snowshoeing, ice skating, tubing, snowmobiling, dog sledding, ziplining
- An array of bars/restaurants!
- Wine tasting
- Spa Treatments
- Shopping mecca!

Collaboration!

The TSC is happy to partner with Sports America to create an Unforgettable "Traditional" experience in 2014. Join us by coming with your club, or use reciprocity to travel with another TSC club. Meet new friends, reconnect with long-time friends, and make new memories.

Can't wait to play in the snow with all of you in Park City, our January playground!



Garmisch-Partenkirchen: The Alpine Jewel

Garmisch: Jan. 24 - 31. Berlin Optional Pre-Trip: Jan. 20-24. Prague Optional Post-Trip: Jan. 31- Feb. 5.

By Ross Baker, TSC Winter Expedition Coordinator

Garmisch-Partenkirchen, Germany's #1 ski resort town, is Bavaria at its finest: breathtaking scenery, limitless opportunities for outdoor adventure, gracious hospitality, and unrivaled authenticity and charm work together to enchant visitors. Garmisch-Partenkirchen is an Alpine jewel located at the foot of Germany's highest mountain, the Zugspitze (9,717 feet).

The towns of Garmisch and Partenkirchen, with a population of about 30,000, offer more than 100 restaurants, with cuisine ranging from typical Bavarian (sausages, schnitzels and dumplings) to Thai, Mexican and French. For après-ski life, many hotels have dance floors and discos; some feature Bavarian folk dancing and zither music. Or try your luck at the town's casino, Spielbank Garmisch-Partenkirchen.

The closest ski areas to Garmisch-Partenkirchen are Alpspitz Kreuzeckand, and Hausberg. Between them they offer around

25 miles of runs accessed in a number of ways, including a combination of a funicular railway and gondolas. Garmisch's other main ski area is on the Zugspitze mountain, Germany's highest peak and the country's only glacial ski area. The 14 miles of pistes here reach up to 8,530 ft., and there's



also 2,362ft of vertical slopes. Here, advanced skiers will get a buzz out of the historic Kandahar run, one of the most intimidating on the World Cup circuit.

Even if you don't ski on the Zugspitze, a must excursion is the ascent to the summit, where 360-degree panorama afford views

all the way to the Swiss Alps and Dolomites of Italy. The 55-minute trip to the top involves the Zugspitzbahn cogwheel railway (built in 1933) and a four-minute cable car ride to the summit.

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MAIN TRIP ITINERARY

Saturday, January 25. Fly into Munich, bus transfer. Arrive Garmisch. Check into hotels. Ski rentals. Welcome drink and area briefing with local guides before dinner approx 6:00pm.

Sunday, January 26. Ski Garmisch. Or, Optional ¾-day day tour of the old town of Mittenwald with visit to the Violin Museum. Evening Welcome Party.

Monday, January 27. Ski Garmisch. Or, Optional day tour to Linderhof Castle, Oberammergau and the Ettal Monastery. Linderhof Castle is the smallest of three palaces built by King Ludwig II of Bavaria. Oberammergau is home of the Passion Play and famous local woodcarvings and finally The Ettel Monastery is one of the largest Benedictine Monk houses in Bavaria.

Tuesday, January 28. Ski Garmisch. Or, Optional day tour of Innsbruck. Tour will include a stop at Olympic Ski Jump and the Swarovski Crystal Factory.

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MAIN TRIP ITINERARY (cont'd)

Wednesday, January 29. Ski Garmisch. Or, Optional day tour to Hohenschwangau Castle & Neuschwanstein Castle, one of King Ludwig's II most extraordinary creations. Party night with DJ, snacks and 2 drinks.



Thursday, January 30. Ski Garmisch. Or, last minute shopping in Garmisch and to relax before departure. Perhaps a hike in the beautiful, easily-accessible, Partnach Gorge just beyond the Olympic Ski Jump Stadium.

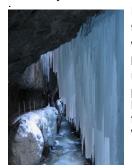
Friday, January 31. Main Trip Departure.

BERLIN: Other than the included city tour there is an Optional Visit to Potsdam and the Sans-Souci Palace. Potsdam was the residence of Prussian Kings and the German Czar until 1819. Sans-Souci was the former summer palace of Frederick the Great, King of Prussia. The extensive gardens became a UNESCO World Heritage Site in 1990.

PRAGUE: There are two options other than the included city tour:

1.Half Day tour to Karlstein Castle, a large Gothic castle founded 1348 AD by Charles IV, Holy Roman Emperor-elect and King of Bohemia. The castle served as a place for safekeeping the Imperial Regalia as well as the Bohemian/Czech crown jewels, holy relics, and other royal treasures.

2. Full Day Tour to Pilsen and Entrance to the Pilsen Brewery.



It is the fourth most populous city in the Czech Republic. The city is known worldwide for Pilsner beer known better by its German name Pilsner Urquell, a bottom-fermented beer. produced since 1842. Pilsner Urquell was the first pilsner beer in the world

TSC Winter Shootout - Jackson Hole, WY February 8-15, 2014 By Camille LaRoe, VP Winter Shootout

Once Extreme, Now Mainstream: Jackson Hole is Named North America's No. 1 Ski Resort

Business Week - Title By: Brad Weiners (I am not that clever!)

Jackson Hole Mountain Resort has been ranked the No. 1 ski resort in North America by <u>SKI</u> magazine. The official 2014 ranking came from 10,000 responses with feedback across 20 categories (e.g., snow, lifts, service, on mountain food, lodging, family programs...) and from a total of 40,000 resort evaluations.

How is the skiing - will it be too hard?

Jackson Hole offers an authentic, friendly, western getaway with incredible skiing and snowboarding on a variety of terrain. Climb 4,139 vertical feet to the summit of Rendezvous Mountain aboard the world famous Aerial Tram for amazing powder skiing for those adventurous souls. If you are not that adventurous, buy a ticket and ride the tram up to Corbet's Cabin and enjoy the world class waffles! However, for those of "us" who are asking the before mentioned question, check out the **ALL NEW ALL BLUE** – the Casper Lift and associated trails. It is the Intermediate Playground that Jackson Hole has been working on for the past three years. Beginner and intermediate trails make up half of Jackson Hole's terrain, meaning that their non-advanced/expert terrain acreage –

1250 acres – is larger than many ski resorts' total terrain. Jackson Hole offers complimentary Mountain Host tours twice every day so you can get to know the mountain through an intermediate guided tour and choose your favorite trails.



The Mountain Sports School offers beginning to advanced lessons at discounted TSC prices. They will even coordinate a special group class tailored to your specific needs.

Do you want a Steep and Deep class? They have it. A class for all ladies? They will make it. The TSC has secured some great discounted lift ticket rates and rental rates for our group. There will also be an optional side trip to Grand Targhee. As I write this article, Jackson Hole has just received their first snow so they will definitely be ready for us in February. Makes you want to sign up today doesn't it?

What can I do besides ski and snowboard?

Whether trekking to the top of a mountain or taking in the art there is more to do than you can possibly do in one week! From the hub of downtown Jackson radiates many spokes

worthy of exploration. Galleries, restaurants and boutiques ring Town Square, making a day downtown a busy one. Stay into the night because when the sun goes down, Jackson's restaurants, bars and pubs light up with great food, drink and entertainment. If you like to stay closer to home, Teton Village



has shopping, spas and Après ski locations that will fill up the holes in your calendar. Teton Village holds claim to one of the best ski bars in the world – The Mangy Moose.

The National Wildlife Museum is another venue not to be missed with an in house café for lunch. Transportation to the town of Jackson Hole and other local venues is only a short ride on the "START" bus from our lodging in Teton Village.



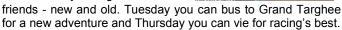
If exploring the great outdoors is more your thing, you can take sleigh rides through the National Elk Refuge, Yellowstone trips and hikes through

the Tetons. The list goes on with Nordic skiing, dogsledding, snowshoeing, backcountry yurts, heli-skiing, snowcat skiing and even Snow Kite boarding! Snow King Resort offers night skiing and tubing and even more dining options. Your club might want to consider making an evening of dining and tubing! Makes you want to sign up today doesn't it?

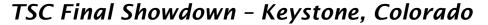
This is a TSC trip, isn't it? What are you worrying about? We are well on our way to having 200 of your closest friends join you in Jackson Hole. Your lodging will be convenient and comfortable with seven TSC clubs staying at Teton Village, complete with heated pool and hot tubs. Sports America will

start your week off with a great Welcome Party at the Town Tavern in Jackson with music, appetizers and a couple of drinks.

We will coordinate daily Après ski locations for you to gather with



Sometime during the week we plan to imbibe in some Korbel/Kenwood champagne and wine. Thursday night we will round out the week with a ride up the Gondola for a fabulous view and a Final Party with dining and dancing at Couloir, leaving Friday, February 14th, for you to celebrate Valentine's Day in your own special way! **Makes you want to sign up today doesn't it?** Come to Jackson Hole with me and you'll experience the best that a resort has to offer. Those 10,000 Ski Magazine readers that voted Jackson Hole the No. 1 Resort in America couldn't have all been wrong. **Sign up today and you won't regret it come February! Happy Ski Trails!**



March 8-15, and 15-22, 2014

By Derlyn Gordon, VP Final Showdown

Spring Break 2014 will be here before we know it! Make plans NOW to be in Keystone, Co. for the TSC Final Showdown! The trip will be offered for two weeks: March 8-15, 2014 and March 15-22, 2014. Keystone is a high altitude resort which has long runs, consistent snow and plenty of activities after skiing and instead of skiing. There is something for everyone! It is an excellent family resort, and for that reason, Texas Ski Council Youth Foundation

(TSCYF) is endorsing this trip.



TSCYF is reimbursing families \$50 for each lesson up to \$200 for four lessons taken for ages 3-18, with documentation of lesson completion. Sports America has an excellent program for children 3-14. For \$119/day, lift ticket, lesson, rentals and lunch are all included. They also have some lesson packages for ages 15-18.

Keystone has 1,900 acres of terrain over three unique mountains to fit all skiing abilities. It boasts of the longest green run in

Colorado. Your day lift ticket may be used for Keystone's largest area night skiing. It has wide-open slopes and bowls for the intermediate skier. North Peak is packed with moguls and steeps for intermediate to advanced skier. The Outback has 81% advanced terrain to challenge the expert skier.

Your Keystone lift ticket is valid at Arapahoe Basin and Breckenridge. With a multi-day ticket of three or more days, your ticket is valid at Vail and Beaver Creek. That is a total of FIVE areas you



could experience in a week! You won't go wrong spending Spring Break 2014 with us at Keystone, Co.

For more complete information, check out the website http://texas-ski.org/trips/tripweb-13-14/TSC-Final-showdown.htm l'II be in Keystone during Spring Break 2014, will you?

TSC Summer Expedition - South Africa

Summer 2014

By VaNisha Mallory, Expedition Coordinator

All TSC clubs have started preparing for the 2014 Texas Ski Council trip to South Africa. As noted in the our first newsletter of the 2013-2014 season, this 11-day journey will take participants from Port Elizabeth to Cape Town, following the Garden Route of South Africa. During that time we will visit Kariega Private Game Reserve, Tsitsikamma, Knysna, and Outdshoorn.

There will be wildlife safaris, a featherbed excursion of the Knsyna Lagoon to the Featherbed Nature Reserve, a caving experience in the Cango Caves. While in Cape Town we will have the opportunity to visit the Boulders Beach to see the Penguins – that's right the



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Penguins, the Kirstenbosch Botanical Gardens as well as a few wineries in the region for a taste of South African wines.

Plans for the trip are still being finalized but I can tell you we have added extension options to Victoria Falls, a Kruger Safari, a Namibia Safari or an option to actually ski for a day at Lesotho.



My site inspection for the trip will be over Thanksgiving and a lot more details will be made available in December

Make sure you get in touch with your local ski club trip coordinator and get signed up for the unique experience being offered. If you do not currently belong to a club, I am more than happy to put you in touch with a club in your area.



TSC Summer Expedition - Ireland

Summer 2013

By Andrea Yowman, Expedition Coordinator

London Pre Trip

If people tell you it always rains in London, I beg to differ. Just ask 86 Texans who enjoyed record temperatures the first two days of our trip. London is everything you expect it to be – history, royalty, guards in red suits and big fuzzy hats, high tea, pubs, rock and roll, double-decker buses, and so much more.

Some of our group enjoyed a tour of the Buckingham royal palace and an evening visit to London Eye. Many visited the Tower of London, seeing the crown jewels, and then went to Westminster Abbey where the royals are crowned, married and some buried. Another stop was Trafalgar Square in the borough of the City of Westminster. Others tried to experience all modes of transportation available to them, including the TUBE. And just a few ventured to the north-west side of London to walk across a road made famous by the Beatles.

Whatever anyone did, they did it in style and had much fun doing it with great people, either fellow Texan or charming, friendly British folks.

Ireland

The Emerald Isle will never be the same since 271 Texans descended upon Limerick and Dublin. We truly experienced 40 Shades of Green. The country side was magnificent, the tours were amazing and the shopping was non-stop. And of course there were Pubs, Pubs and more Pubs. We started with a visit to the Newbridge Showrooms and Museum of Style Icons, the premier silverware and jewelry producer in Ireland. The museum had a permanent collection of memorabilia and costumes belonging to Audrey Hepburn, Marilyn Monroe, Grace Kelly and other idols of the silver screen. We next made a visit to the National Stud and Japanese Gardens, with 958 acres of land. This was our first experience of Irish rain. But this did not deter the Texans from experiencing the scenery. We knew to carry our raincoats and umbrellas. However, we did experience a bit of Irish liquid sun throughout the week!

Twisters & Jammers at Powerscourt Gardens







The tours were at capacity and staggered to ensure everyone had a positive experience.

Tours included:

- Cliffs of Moher, Ireland's most visited natural attraction.
- Bunratty Castle and Folk Park, the most complete and authentic medieval castle and Folk Park in the country, with a medieval banquet, an extraordinary experience with the beautiful harp and violin music performed by period costumed musicians.
- Galway city tour, famous for its pubs, festivals and lively entertainment scene and Connemara, a magnificent wilderness populated largely by sheep and dotted with hundreds of small lakes.
- Rock of Cashel, one of Ireland's great historical sites
- Muckross House and Gardens, a magnificent Victorian mansion and one of Ireland's leading stately homes.
- Kilkenny Castle A 12th century castle remodeled in Victorian times and set in extensive parklands
- Powerscourt Gardens, one of the world's great gardens that stretches out over 45 acres

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Tours (continued)

- Dublin city tour with 18th century streets, squares and landmarks
- Trinity College, the most famous university in Ireland and view of the world famous Book of Kells
- Guinness Storehouse, a whole museum dedicated to Ireland's most famous export, Guinness stout
- St Patrick's Cathedral Ireland's largest church
- Wicklow, the "Garden of Ireland".
- Glendalough, early Christian monastic site founded by St. Kevin in the 6th century
- Avoca Hand Weavers, the factory of the traditional Irish hand weavers and beautiful items.



"Irish" Lasses at the Lakes on the Ring of Kerry

Scotland Post Trip

127 Texans visited Edinburgh, the Scottish capital and one of Europe's most attractive and historic cities. Participants visited the Edinburgh Castle, perhaps the most famous of all Scottish Castles, and the Royal Yacht Britannia which was the home at sea for the Royal Family. Some participants enjoyed days of leisure, golfed and enjoyed the local scenery while others participated in tours such



as the Glasgow panoramic city tour including George Square, Kelvingrove Art Gallery, Glasgow Science Centre, St Mungo's Cathedral, Burrell Collection which included 9,000 works of art. Other tours included Loch Lomond, The Trossachs and Stirling Castle. All in all, Texans experienced the history, heritage and had a great time.



Special thanks to Bob McErlean and the Holidaze team for organizing a great TSC Summer Expedition. And last but not least, we had the best Trip Leaders ever. Thank you Todd Riggle, Karen Halloran, Charles Chapman, Tony Arthur, Susan Riewe, VaNisha Mallory, Christine Mason, Sean O'Brien, Kim Barksdale, Janet Reed and Peggy Montgomery for your collaboration and organization to ensure the Texans enjoyed their adventure to the Emerald Isle.



Club Saint Bernard at Cliffs of Moher



Space Citv Ski Club at the Rock of Cashel





Flatlanders & Twisters



LAST BUT NOT LEAST -Revised Overall Race Results

Division III -1st-- Dallas Ski Club, 2nd - Dallas Young at Hearts, 3rd - Capital Downhillers. The error was discovered after the last newsletter was sent out. Apologies were given to all concerned. Thanks for your understanding.

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Important TSC Dates

November 2, 2013	Board of Directors Meeting – Houston		
	Board of Directors Meeting – Houston		
November 19, 2013	Participation Fees due to TSC Treasurer for TRADITIONAL		
December 7, 2013	Quarterly Delegates Meeting – Dallas		
December 10, 2013	Participation Fees due to TSC Treasurer for WINTER EXPEDITION		
December 24, 2013	Participation Fees due to TSC Treasurer for WINTER SHOOTOUT		
January 4-11, 2014	TSC TRADITIONAL – Park City, UT		
January 15, 2014	TSC 2013 Officer Applications due to Nominating Chair		
January 15, 2014	Ski Area Bids for 2013-2014 ski season due		
January 21, 2014	Participation Fees due to TSC Treasurer for FINAL SHOWDOWN		
January 24-31, 2014	TSC WINTER EXPEDITION – Garmisch, Germany		
February 8-15, 2014	TSC WINTER SHOOTOUT – Jackson Hole, WY		
February 22, 2014	Board of Directors/Pre-Select Committee Mtgs – Dallas		
TBD	Bid Mtg Room Reservation/Registration Deadline		
March 8-15, and 15- 22, 2014	TSC FINAL SHOWDOWN—Keystone, CO		
TBD	Participation Fees due to TSC Treasurer for SUMMER EXPEDITION		
April 4-6, 2014	Quarterly Delegates Meeting – San Antonio Ski Area Bid Selection, Officer Election & Installation		
April 6, 2014	Annual Marketing Survey due to VP Marketing		
May 3-4, 2014	Officer Training/Planning Meeting & BOD Mtg - TBD		
Summer 2014	TSC SUMMER EXPEDITION - South Africa		

TEXAS SKI COUNCIL 2013-2014 SPONSORS









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