

Copper Country

SKI



TIGERS

Youth Cross Country Ski Program

All Ages and Abilities

Thank You, Volunteers!!!

A sincere thank you to all of the Ski Tigers and Ski Tiger parents that volunteered with the US Senior Nationals at MTU trails this year. Your efforts made it possible for this event to occur in our community. Reports following the event are very positive and acknowledge the high level of enthusiasm, dedication and commitment displayed by the race volunteers and the Keweenaw community.

You're invited to Join the Ski Tiger Board of Directors

The Ski Tigers Board of Directors is seeking additional parents with an interest in Nordic skiing for youth to attend and participate as a member of the Board of Directors. The success of the Ski Tiger program is built upon volunteers willing to contribute toward a bright skiing future for Keweenaw youth. Please consider joining us at an upcoming meeting. For additional information please contact Betsy Rossini at 482-4824.

Group Photos

Photos of Ski Tigers are being taken this year by Bill Fink and posted to the following website: <http://billfink.smugmug.com/gallery/4231646> Families are welcome to browse the photos and purchase photos of their skiers or groups as desired.

Upcoming Events

MARCH 8TH – JUNIOR BEAR CHASE

PLEASE NOTE – The Ski Tiger Event for March 8TH is the Jr. BEAR CHASE RACE!

Registered Ski Tigers are may participate free of charge. Race participants not registered with Ski Tigers pay entry fees of \$5 for pre-registration and \$7 for those who register on the day of the race.

Races for age 16 and under at Michigan Tech Ski Trails, sponsored by Ski Tigers. More info can be found at www.keweenawtrails.com Separate awards for boys and girls in each age class. Race day registration closes at 10:45am.

Age	Distance	Technique	Start time
5 & under	1 km	Classic	11:00 am
6-7	1.5km	Classic	11:10 am
8-9	1.5 km	Freestyle	11:25 am
10-11	1.5km	Freestyle	11:25 am
12-13	6 km	Freestyle	11:50 am
14-16	6 km	Freestyle	11:50am

Other Races

FEBRUARY 16, Saturday - Book Across the Bay

Ashland, WI - 6 p.m. (Central Standard Time)
10k night race across Chequamegon Bay, from Washburn to Ashland, lit with large luminaries.
Fundraiser for the local library - (715)278-3659 www.batb.org for details.

This has become a major race with LOTS of skiers. Kids and families may enjoy this event with bands & fires along the route.

FEBRUARY 21, Thursday - Barnebirkie

Hayward, WI Main Street – 12:30 p.m. (Central Standard Time)

1k, 2.5k, or 5k non-competitive "race". FREE! This is a fun time for younger kids (3-13). A real circus with the main street lined with hundreds and hundreds of cow-bell ringing fans (read-parents!). Thousands of free home-made cookies and hot chocolate after the race and every skier wins a medal!

FEBRUARY 22, Friday - Jr. Birkie

Telemark Resort, Cable, WI -9 a.m. (Central Standard Time)

3.5k freestyle race for ages 10-15 with interval starts and a \$5 entry fee.

This is a good race for the more competitive-minded older kids. Lots of kids from all over the U.S. -some are quite fast, others aren't.

www.birkie.com for details

MARCH 1, Saturday - Lakeland Loppet

Winter Park, Minoqua, WI

2k and 4k freestyle youth races plus a 5k classic and races for adults. 1k "beat the bunny" race for younger kids- this is a very fun and well-done race.

www.skimwp.org for details

MARCH 15 – PICNIC IN THE SNOW

the last Ski Tigers of the year is the annual picnic sponsored by **Rick Oikarinen**, owner of **Cross Country Sports**. Meet at 10:00 a.m. at the Swedetown Chalet and ski down with your group (a 6 k gentle downhill) or drive to the site, along M-203, and ski in 100 meters. It helps if a few people with vans can shuttle the younger skiers back to Calumet after lunch. Bring your appetite, Rick will provide hot dogs, etc. The next time you see Rick, make sure you say thanks.

SUNDAY APRIL 13TH – POOL PARTY

Plan on attending the end of season potluck held at the Finlandia University, Paavo Nurmi Gym. Bring your swimsuit and a dish to pass. Finger foods that do not spoil quickly when unrefrigerated are recommended. The pool and gym will be open from 1-3 pm this year. Awards will be presented at 3:30pm and all skiers will receive a participation award.



Kilometer Club

It isn't too late! Join the Kilometer Club. Record the kilometers you ski this season until March 25, 2008 using the Kilometer Club chart found on the Keweenaw Trails website – www.keweenawtrails.com. Mail your completed Ski Tigers Kilometer Club Chart by **March 31, 2008** to: **Ann Mayo-Kiely, 26896 Amygdaloid, Calumet, MI 49913** or email Ann at mayokiely@msn.com Everyone in the Kilometer Club will receive special recognition and prizes will be awarded to the three skiers with the most kilometers skied in each group at the end of season Pool Party.

www.keweenawtrails.com

This is where you can find information about Ski Tigers such as KM Club, schedule, events, group lists, PIP duties, newsletters etc. From the home page, click on "Clubs" link found on the left hand side.

Win an Iditarod Hat

Ski Tigers who complete two races in the Ski Tigers season earn the **coveted Iditarod Hat**. Please contact **Chelley Vician** at cvician@mtu.edu with the name and date of the two races you skied. If you already earned an Iditarod Hat in a previous season, you are not eligible for a new hat (limit one per lifetime).

2008 Ski Tigers Schedule

Date	Location
Jan. 5	Swedetown Trails
Jan. 12	Michigan Tech Trails
Jan. 19	Swedetown Trails
Jan. 26	Michigan Tech Trails
Feb. 2	Swedetown Trails
Feb. 9	Michigan Tech Trails
Feb. 16	Swedetown Trails
Feb. 23	Michigan Tech Trails
March 1	Swedetown
March 8	Jr. Bear Chase Michigan Tech Trails
March 15	Swedetown - Picnic in the Snow
April 13	Pool Party- Finlandia University

Gear Swap/Team Fundraiser

Support the Ski Tiger/ Copper Country Nordic Ski Team at their 3rd annual All Season Gear Swap on April 26th. The swap is held at the Houghton High School multi-purpose room and provides an opportunity to buy and sell outdoor gear: bikes, camping, fishing, kayaks, canoes, hiking, skis, etc. AND support the junior race team at the same time Watch for details at the pool party and on www.keweenawtrails.com

Ski Tiger Board President
Betsy Rossini 482-4824

Parent Involvement Program Coordinator
Barbara Wheeler 487-9695

V.P. & Newsletter Editor
Steve DeLong 296-0094/delong@charter.net