

Q: Why have the race distances changed from years past? *THE COURSE IS THE SAME AS IT HAS BEEN THE LAST FEW YEARS....* but we are just being more honest about the distance. The race course has been modified slightly over the years to improve the track by creating more smooth curves, better approaches to hills, etc. This has made it easier to ski or snowshoe. It is closer to a 6K distance than a 5K distance. Also, we have eliminated a section of the Freestyle Race (seen as a pink line on the map). Here is what to expect for the races:

6K Freestyle - 1 loop around the race course

18K Freestyle - 3 loops

6K Classic & 6 K Snowshoe - 1 loop

12K Classic Ski - 2 loops

6K/6K Combined - 2 loops

12K/6K Combined - 3 loops

Q: Where are the Freestyle and the Classic Ski races held?

The CCSC is held on pristine forest property by permit of the Rio Grande Forest Service. This is a “quiet zone” and a non-motorized area... snowmobiles are not allowed (other than those that may be assisting the race or grooming). The parking at the race site is off Hwy 17, 12 miles north of Old Town Chama, just past the 2-mile Marker. If snow banks cover the mile markers, just check your car odometer for 2-miles past the State Line. Please follow the directions of the parking attendants. Overflow parking will use the street... please use caution when parking, exiting your vehicle and crossing the street. We ask all racers and spectators to CARPOOL as there is limited parking at the race site.

Q: May I register in person on race weekend?

Race registration will be held at the High Country Restaurant on Hwy. 17. on Friday and Saturday evening (before each race day) from 5:00PM to 8:00PM. **Saturday Race Day Registration will be at the Race Site ONLY from 8:30-9:45 am.** Sunday Race Day Registration will be from 8:30 am-10:30 am at the Race Site. **A \$5.00 late fee will be imposed if registering during the Ski Classic Weekend.** To avoid this fee, please register well in advance. Registration at newmexicosportsonline.com closes at 8:00pm, Friday.

Q: May I register up at the race site? Where do I pick up my bib if I pre-register?

Race Site Registration is Now Available on Saturday from 8:30-9:45 am and on Sunday from 8:30 am-10:30 am! Please have exact change for the registration fee! We do not have internet access at the race site for credit card transactions. All race registration ends by 10:15am on Saturday. On Sunday registration for the 12K race ends at 9:15am and the registration for the 6K race will end at 10:30am at the race site. Please allow 15 minutes prior to the close of registration.

When PRE-registering, you MUST indicate if you would like to pick up your bib at the race site. Your bib will also be available for pickup from our registration center at the High Country Restaurant and Saloon on Friday and Saturday evenings from 5 to 8 pm for all races.

Q: What is a “team entry”?

The CCSC has one category for team entries. Team competition will occur amongst the 6K classic ski racers. It works like this: A team consists of 2 to 4 participants who ski the 6K as individuals. The individual ski times are added together and divided by the number of team participants to create a team

time. The fastest team time wins their category of competition. In order to participate as a team, each member of the team must indicate their team name at the time of registration.

Q: What is the ski course like?

The ski course is a nearly-figure “8” loop course, with rolling hills, at close to 10,000 ft. elevation. An historic feature of the course is that you will ski a straight line for about ½-mile along the Cumbres & Toltec Scenic Railroad tracks. The 12K Classic course is two loops of the 6K course and 18K Skate Skiing ski course is three loops of the 6K. The 6K-snowshoe course is the same as the 6K ski and will start shortly after the start of the 6K ski, to preserve the “classic” tracks.

The 6K Freestyle (Skate) Skiing course will be groomed for Freestyle Skiing only before the Saturday race and then the 6K portion of the course will be re-groomed on Saturday afternoon with Classic tracks for the Sunday morning Classic style races.

Q: Is the CCSC racecourse “difficult”?

The CCSC offers a moderately challenging racecourse with rolling hills. The 12K classic ski (2-loops) will start approximately 1hr. and 15 minutes before the start of the 6K ski on Sunday. On Saturday the 18K freestyle ski (23loops) will start approximately 20 minutes before the start of the 6K ski. This is to allow the faster 12K & 18K skiers to pass through the start/finish line before the 6Kers begin. Less skillful skiers are encouraged to ski the 6K event. All skiers must be “in control” at all times.

Q: Can I “pre-ski” or “pre-snowshoe” the course?

Yes you can “pre-ski” the course the weekend before the race. The racecourse is only packed and groomed 3 weekends out of the year - the weekend before the race, the weekend of the race and the weekend after the race. *On race weekend, skiing on the racecourse is NOT allowed on Friday and Saturday while the grooming machines are out grooming and setting tracks for the races on Saturday and Sunday mornings.* The racecourse is open for skiing on Sunday afternoon and Monday, following the races.

Q: Is there aid or water provided on the racecourse?

There is no water or food provided on the racecourse. Skiers who desire water are advised to carry their own. Water will be given to skiers/snowshoers after they cross the finish line. Ambulance and emergency services will be available during the races in the parking area. Race Course monitors will be stationed at critical points on the race course and can assist skier/snowshoers who need help

Q: Can children ski the race?

Children over the age of twelve (12) may ski the race by themselves. Children under the age of twelve who possess “classic” ski skills, may ski the 6K race provided they are accompanied by a parent or guardian at all times while on the racecourse.

There will also be a 1K to 3K Snowshoe and Ski Rookie Race on Sunday at 1:00 pm. All participants will receive a Tshirt and a participant ribbon for finishing the race. The philosophy of the Rookie Race is “If you had fun, you won!”. Please do not participate in the Rookie Race if you are already racing in another race, unless you are accompanying a “rookie” racer.

Parents are encouraged to ski or snowshoe with their children during the Rookie Race. There is no extra charge.

Q: How do I find the start line?

From the parking lot, you will follow a groomed walking path that will take you to the start line. Please use the groomed path to access the start/finish line and watch out for skiers, snowshoers or snow bikers when crossing the racecourse as racers may be on the course before you arrive for your race and/or slower skiers may still be on course when you leave the finish area toward your car.

Q: How is the racecourse groomed?

The racecourse will be machine packed for the Freestyle skiing races and Snow Bike Races on Saturday and then will be set with “classic” tracks on Saturday afternoon for the Sunday classic race. Slower skiers, please ski to the right side of the course to allow faster skiers to use the left side or set of tracks when passing. The ski course will be marked with wood stakes with flagging tied on.

Q: What are the race start times?

All Racers must be in the staging area at 10:15 am for the Saturday Freestyle races. On Sunday Racers must be in the staging area at 9:45 am for the 12K race and 11:00am for the 6K Ski and Snowshoe race. Race start times are approximate. Every effort will be made to start the races on time.

18 K Freestyle Ski will start at 10:30AM on Saturday, with 6K Freestyle starting shortly after.

12K Classic ski will start at 10:00 AM on Sunday.

6K Classic Ski will start at 11:15 AM on Sunday.

6K Snowshoe will start shortly after the 6K ski start on Sunday or individuals may start after finishing their ski event for combined events racers.

The 6K and 18K Snow Bike Races will be on Saturday after the Freestyle races (TBD)

If you are late to the staging area, please use caution when working your way to the start line as you will be crossing over the racecourse at least twice, often while races are in progress.

Q: May I bring my dog?

Dogs are NOT permitted on or near the racecourse on race day. **Bringing dogs to the race site on race day is discouraged however if present, they must be leashed and kept in the parking lot area at all times.** You may ski or snowshoe with your dogs on the racecourse following the races on Sunday and on Monday. The race staff is not responsible for illness, injury or death of your animal.

Q: Will food & drink be available at the race site?

TBD – we are in the process of looking for a food truck or business to serve food and hot drinks.

Q: Will the race be held “storm or shine”?

The race will be held regardless of weather. Road closures (on Hwy 17) however, may force race cancellation without warning. In the event of serious storm weather on race morning, please telephone 575-756-2294 for race status update. Visit NMRoads.com for road conditions.

Q: Are the race entry fees refundable?

Entry fees are non-refundable, non-transferable and non-deferrable to another year. In the event of race cancellation due to weather or road closure, the entry fees paid will be used to support race expenses already incurred.

Q: Where do the race profits go?

The CCSC benefits the Rotary Club of the Chama Valley and the Chama Chile Ski Classic. The race profits go to support community service and vocational programs local to the greater Chama River Valley. Typically, these programs benefit the youth and elderly. The funds may also be used to build up funds for improving the Chama Chile Ski Classic next year.

Q: What is there for my family to do while I'm skiing?

Spectators are welcome at the race site to cheer for competitors. Spectators must comply with course rules and course monitor instructions. There will also be a children's play area where young children can gather.

Q: When and where are the Awards Ceremonies?

The Awards Ceremony for the Freestyle and Snow Bike Races will start at 5:00PM on Saturday at the High Country Restaurant on Hwy 17, in Chama (Results will be posted by 3:00 pm at the High Country). The Awards Ceremony for the Classic Ski Races, Snowshoe Race & Combined Events & Rookie Race will be at 4:00 pm on Sunday. There will be live music at the High Country Restaurant for both Awards Ceremonies. The High Country Restaurant and Saloon has an excellent menu and full bar for those desiring to eat and drink. The High Country is also host to the All-You-Can-Eat Breakfast Buffet on Sunday morning.

Q: How are the "Awards" categorized?

Awards will be given, as follows: Ristras will be awarded to the top male and female placers in all the race categories. 10 year age division medals are given to the 1st and 2nd place winners in each of the these races (6K & 18K Freestyle, 6K & 12K Classic Ski, 6K Snowshoe). 1st and 2nd place medals (but no age division medals) are also given to M/F racers in these race categories: 6K/6K Combined, 12K/6K Combined, 6K & 18K Adult Snow Bike Race, Youth Snow Bike Race.

Other prizes and race categories include: Wood Ski Division, Costume Contest (Adult and Youth), Team Awards for 6K Ski.

Q: Will race awards be mailed after the race?

Race and raffle awards will NOT be mailed but must be claimed in person at one of the Awards Ceremonies at High Country Restaurant. Please present your race bib to claim awards and raffle prizes.

Please Support Our Sponsor's - they make the Chama Chile Ski Classic possible!

For more information, contact the race directors by e-mail:

skichama@gmail.com

or by telephone, 575-265-0590