

September 2011

Dear Mighty Mite Parents,

Welcome Mighty Mite parents. The leaves are turning yellow and the nights are becoming longer. Pull out your warm socks and defrost the hot buttered rum mix. It's time to start thinking about the 2011-2012 ski season.

I wanted to update everyone on a couple of things:

First Day: The first day of Mighty Mites is Sunday December 4, 2011. Meet at the RTC at 10:15am to meet your coaches.

Age Parameters: The age parameters for Mighty Mites has been changed. The program is open to children **ages 7-12**, as of 12/31/11. **However, All children who were in Mighty Mites last year are grandfathered in this year!**

Mini Mites: For children ages 5 and 6 years old as of 12/31/11, the program available is the Mini Mites, offered through the Alyeska Resort. The Mini Mite program will be offered every Sunday starting December 4, 2011 through March 25, 2012, with the exception of December 25 (Christmas). Please call the Alyeska Resort Mountain Learning Center anytime at 754-2280 for additional information or visit their website at <http://www.alyeskaresort.com/events-activities/kids.aspx>.

Website: The website will be updated the next few weeks with information for this upcoming season. The Parent Handbook is under review and will be posted by Thanksgiving. Please click onto our site: www.alyeskamightymites.org.

Schedule: There will be no Mighty Mites on Christmas, but there will be Mighty Mites on New Years Day. There will be Mighty Mites for a full day on Super Bowl Sunday. There will be only one grouping race this year on **January 8, 2012**. Please review the entire schedule on our website: <http://alyeskamightymites.org/schedule.html>

Registrations: Online registration will be open on October 15th. You can choose to either register on-line, or you can download the paperwork and send in the mail. The PO Box is on the website. Registration will continue to be open through the month of December, however, this year the **Mighty Mite program will be capped at 200 children for operational reasons.**

Registration fee: The annual fee for Mighty Mites has been raised. It is now **\$175 per child** for the season. The reason behind the increase is an increase in insurance costs incurred by the Alyeska Ski Club, additional maintenance needs for the Race Training Center, and a capital savings plan for the aging Tanaka Lift.

Payment: You can pay through Pay Pal online, or via check through the mail. Mighty Mites will accept payment through December at the RTC each Sunday. Please note, the grouping race is on January 8, and any child who has not paid by then will not be permitted to race.

Liability Forms: There are several new liability and safety forms for parents to complete and sign this year. Please be sure to download and complete those forms prior to December.

New children: Please note that all children new to Mighty Mites must try out through the Alyeska Mountain Learning Center (ski school). Information on this process can be found on our website. If your child tries out on a Sunday, he/ she will receive attendance points for doing so. For more information, please visit our website at: <http://alyeskamightymites.org/tryouts.html>

Ski Swap: The Annual West High Ski Swap will be held the weekend of Nov. 5-6. This is a good way to get great ski gear for your kids at a discount. Kjersti Von Wichman is the new organizer for this fundraiser. This is her first year organizing this event and she needs our help. We need a volunteer or volunteer(s) to step-up and assist with the check-out system and credit card machines. There are people on hand to train you. Please contact Kjersti at, norsk@acsalaska.net, for additional details.

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