

Greeting Winter Friends!

Now that we have the first race weekend and our “how was your summer?” greetings out of the way, it is time to focus on MACC Race Weekend #2.

Two less hikes up the FIS hill. Superbowl course is ready for slalom gates.

Spotlight on Sponsors

This Saturday's Slalom race is brought to us by Mr. Medicare (MACC racer Jim Geisling). MACC racers need not be 65 or over to participate in the **Mr. Medicare Slalom Race!**

Updates:

- 1.) Slight changes were made to the results from first weekend since they were published due to some class moves.
- 2.) Please read letter from MACC Vice President Drew Hilger (attached)

Promote MACC in style, and do it NOW. Deadline is MONDAY, January 27

As of Wednesday night, only 6 orders have been placed. Snooze, you lose

Shop the Apparel Store online at this link:

<https://jimssportswear.com/collections/macc-apparel>

- Place your order BEFORE January 27, 2020 (so giddyup race friends)
- Orders need to be picked up between 2/7/20 - 2/9/20 (races 5, 6, and 7) at Boyne Mtn.
- If racers cannot pick up their orders that weekend they will need to select shipping when they place their order. More details about where orders can be picked up at races 5, 6, and 7 will follow.

More racing opportunities February 1&2 at Boyne Mountain

<https://www.boynemountain.com/upcoming-events/adgate-trophy-race>

<https://www.boynemountain.com/upcoming-events/everett-kircher-cup>

Recruit new racers! We have 119 registered racers, 5 of them new to the program. Key message: every racer is responsible for spreading the word about our great program, so please make an effort to bring in new racers. The younger the better, Publicity materials are on the website as PDFs so you can print or email them to prospective racers.

<http://www.maccracing.org/macc/publicity.php>

Award Banquet tickets will be on sale online and in person starting weekend #3. Same time, same location, same cost.

MACC group trip to Aspen/Snowmass is filled and Renee is scoping out group opportunities for 2021.

Here come the Gate Judge...

We have a few new gate judges this year. Here are a few things you might need to know (maybe even if you aren't new...)!

- 1.) Gate judge bibs can be found at the top of the hill on an "orange person".
- 2.) There is an "orange person" near the finish pen where you can return your bib. You don't need to go back to the top to return your bib.

- 3.) Did you know that those straps have Velcro fasteners to make it easier to get in and out of the bib?
- 4.) Bibs are stocked with pencils and gate judge cards before the start of every race day.
- 5.) If you need cards or pencils, look in the blue backpack near the "orange guy". There are plastic bags inside with cards and pencils.
- 6.) We only hang up 5 bibs.
- 7.) If you are gate judge #6 or #7, look in the blue backpack. We keep two extra bibs in the pack.
- 8.) The gate judge card has a list of things about how to do your gate judge job.

If you have questions, try to find the Chief of Course for your race.

Oh, and thank you for being a gate judge! Without you, we can't have a race -- you are the most important race official on the hill!!

From your pals in Course Operations!!

What you have all been waiting for...

Rules Corner – The Honorable Debi Koltoniak

Starring Debi Koltoniak with special guest Drew Hilger

Debi: Welcome back to rules corner Drew!

Drew: Thank you Debi. It is good to be back.

Debi: I know we are often short on course workers and I have been thinking about expanding my brand a bit and you know, diversifying.

Drew: You are still going to be our Director of Publicity right?

Debi: And Queen of the Toledo Ski Club, yes! Of Course! I was just thinking I would like to try being a gate judge.

Drew: That is a very honorable job and you don't miss a second of the action. How can I help?

Debi: What do I need to know about being a gate judge?

Drew: Well I would start by reading rule 6.9 thoroughly. Then if you have further questions you can ask your chief of course or our Director of Course Operations.

Debi: Do I need to use a radio, because I am more of a TV girl?

Drew: Radio's are an important part of the role, but Dennis Parrot has a YouTube video with everything you need to know about radios

(<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9N6YrwZCZGE>). The most important need for the radio is holding the course or communicating things are all clear. As a back up to the radio you can use your pole signals (both poles up and parallel is hold, poles crossed is a DQ, Swinging your pole in a circle is all clear).

Debi: I think I can do that. So, what are my lines?

Drew: Your lines ... well, we talked about hold and all clear as your lines on the radio. Beyond that, if a racer misses a gate you keep saying "back" until the racer clears themselves or retires. If a racer has skied through a gate property, you can say "Go On". I guess those are your lines.

Debi: Drew, I am starting to get excited. Where do I go and when do I have to be there?

Drew: Have you seen the orange guy on top of the hill?

Debi: Orange, you mean like Trump?

Drew: No, I am talking about the bright orange PVC guy at the top of the hill with all of the gate judge bibs.

Debi: Oh yeah, he is not really my type. He needs a little more meat on his bones.

Drew: Regardless, that is the meeting place for gate judges. You will meet the chief of course there about 10 minutes before the start of the race. That is where you get your gate judge bib, radio, etc.

Debi: Oh, Okay. Do I have to wear the bib? I mean, my wardrobe is kind of a big deal.

Drew: Yeah, I think you will find the gate judge bibs quite lovely and also very functional. It will have your radio, clipboard, and a pencil so you can write all of the DQs down on your card.

Debi: Well, I will give it some thought. I do like accessories.

Drew: I think you will be able to pull off the look.

Debi: Well, duh?! I will see you out the hill everyone! Thanks for joining us Drew.

One final item. Please read Letter from MACC VP Drew Hilger below:

Fellow MACC racers:

It is an honor and a privilege to serve this great organization. I want to assure you, as a valued member of MACC, that all complaints are taken seriously and handled with the utmost care. Our goal is to grow the organization and ensuring the satisfaction of our current racers is paramount to this mission.

As some of you may be aware, we received a complaint from a member of MACC about not being asked to re-join the course setting crew in 2020. To be clear, this issue was related to the course crew only and everyone involved is welcome and encouraged to continue participating in MACC. Regardless, this complaint was taken very seriously by the officers of MACC. Further, this issue was addressed transparently and in full detail at the board meeting on January 8th, 2020. While who is on a particular crew is not handled directly by the board, we appoint directors to handle these tasks. We maintain the right to review the conduct of our appointed directors. The allegation is the Director of Course Setting removed a member from the course crew solely for personal reasons. The Director of Course setting was adamant the 2020 course crew was selected with MACC's best interest in mind. With the facts available, which were not conclusive one way or another, the board did not see fit to take any action at that time. While I cannot speak for the entire board, I believe most view this issue as isolated and personal in nature. Further, the director in question has an exemplary record with our organization and his contributions go well beyond the course setting operation.

Approximately a week after this discussion an open letter to MACC racers was distributed, by a former MACC racer, to a select group of current racers. This letter was very concerning, for our organization and me personally, because it contained a number of false statements and other embellishments. I promptly responded to the sender highlighting several of the false or inappropriate comments. The next day I received a revised letter, from another former racer, with fewer inaccuracies. I have responded to these as well and asked the group to try to work with our organization, to resolve this matter, and not against it.

In the interest of full transparency and accountability I have shared all of my correspondence on the issue with the board of directors, which includes your team's representative. Due to the personal and sensitive nature of the complaint it is not appropriate to distribute the details more broadly at this time. If you have any concerns regarding this matter or others I welcome you to reach out to me or your team's representative. The board discussed this issue again at great length, including a session without the Director of Course setting present, and ultimately decided to unanimously accept the course setting crew he proposed.

For personal reasons MACC President, Alexandra Carrico, chose to remove herself from the conversation and all votes related to this matter. She has given me her full support to handle this situation, at the direction of the board, on her behalf. She remains dedicated to serving our racers and leading our program.

If you have comments, questions or additional information to share please feel free to do so. Otherwise, please rest assured your board worked diligently to make the best decision possible with the information available.

Thank you for choosing to be a part of MACC.

Drew Hilger
Vice President
Michigan Alpine Competition Council