



Cross Country
Ski Areas Association

Fall Conference 2025
Jackson XC, New Hampshire – Oct 28 & 29 2025



Tuesday, October 28

- 1:30pm **Jackson XC Shop Tour** – We'll meet at the Garage behind the Eagle Mountain House where the Jackson XC shop is located to take a look at the groomers (outside) and an interior look at their maintenance facility. Hear from the groomers and mechanics that keep the machines running, along with representatives of vendors in attendance.
Location: Eagle Mountain House, 179 Carter Notch Rd, Jackson, NH
- 2:30pm **Snowmaking Workshop** – Following the shop tour, we will drive (.7 miles) to the Jackson XC Center, walk the 3K snowmaking looking at the equipment and layout to keep the system running. Learn about their startup plan and the modifications they have made over the 2 years of operation.
Location: Wentworth Golf Course, 153 Main St, Jackson, NH
- 3:30pm **Grooming Workshop** – We will walk the recently expanded Troll Trail, discussing the thought process that went into additions and reconfigurations based on the low snow starts to many seasons. What have they done to enable this trail to be one of the first to open?
Location: Wentworth Golf Course, 153 Main St, Jackson, NH
- 5pm **Happy Hour at Christmas Farm Inn**
Please join us to reacquaint and meet other owners/operators of ski areas and vendors. This is where the work gets done!
Location: 3 Blitzen Way, Jackson, NH 03846
- 6:30pm **Italian Buffet Dinner – \$39+ Gratuity** – Following Happy Hour, join the group for dinner at the Christmas Farm Inn and let the networking continue. You must make a reservation in advance as there is limited seating. [Reserve here.](#)
- 8pm **Fireside Chat**



Wednesday, October 29

Location: Christmas Farm Inn - 3 Blitzen Way, Jackson, NH 03846

8-9:30am **Registration, Continental Breakfast, Partner Expo and Silent Auction**
– *The Christmas Inn*

9:40am **Jackson XC Introduction** – Ellen Chandler, *Jackson XC Executive Director*

9:45am **Keynote – Jay Broccolo**, *Director of Weather Operations at the Mount Washington Observatory* - This three-part presentation begins with an overview of the Mesonet—a network of autonomous remote weather stations that share data with both the site owner and the Observatory. Jay will explain how the system works, outline opportunities for ski areas to become Mesonet sites, and show how collecting your own data can help guide better grooming and snowmaking decisions.

The second section explores the science of snow, detailing the atmospheric conditions that allow snow to form and how subtle weather variations influence snow quality.

Jay will conclude with a detailed forecast and outlook for the upcoming winter season, highlighting trends and insights most relevant to ski area operations.

Social Break

10:45am **Panel Discussions – (choose one to attend)**
Panel #1 - Community Outreach – How important is getting your local community involved?

The Community Outreach Panel Discussion will explore how ski areas can better connect with their local communities, from building strong neighbor relations to partnering with nearby ski centers. Panelists will share strategies for leveraging community involvement to create a stronger, more vibrant ski culture.

Panel to include: Facilitator – Nate Harvey – Great Glen Trails, NH, Mike Hussey - Oak Hill, NH, Nick Mahood – Woodstock Nordic, VT

Panel #2 – Staff Training Programs – The Staff Training discussion will focus on what makes training effective at cross country ski areas, highlighting both best practices and common pitfalls. Participants will

share experiences, explore dos and don'ts, and consider why strong staff development is vital for creating a successful guest experience.

Panel to Include: Facilitator – Reese Brown, CCSAA - Alexa Bernotavicz, Bretton Woods, NH - Matt Sabasteanski, Pineland Farms, ME – Robert Drake, Gunstock Mountain Resort, NH

Social Break

11:45am **CCSAA Update – Matt Sabasteanski, Pineland Farms, ME, CCSAA Board Chair**

11:55am **Discussion Groups – (choose one to attend)**

Group #1 – Working with the Forest Service

Discussion will delve into best practices of working with the Forest Service and likely touch on the sharing of bridge design plans. Attending from the Forest Service will be Justin Preisendorfer - Eastern Region Winter Sports Team Leader and Erica Dickerman - Winter Sports Permit Administrator.

Facilitator – Ellen Chandler, Jackson XC, NH

Group #2 – Operating as a Non-profit

Chat with other non-profits about organizational details, operations and funding of a ski area or club non-profit.

Facilitator – Richard Hodges, White Pine Touring, UT

Group #3 – Landowner Relations, Summer and Winter

Working with landowners can be challenging, never more than when the land changes hands. Speak with other ski areas that are having landowner challenges and how they are dealing with them.

Facilitator - Matt Sabasteanski, Pineland Farms, ME

Group #4 – Pet Friendly Skiing, Grooming, Signage and More.

This will be an operational discussion on how best to deal with many of the operational issues facing ski areas daily.

Facilitator – Nate Harvey, Great Glen Trails, NH

12:45 **Lunch, Silent Auction and Expo – Lunch**

1:15 Silent Auction Closes and cash out

1:45pm **Outdoor Sessions**

Session #1 – Groomer Modifications

An outdoor discussion and show and tell looking at modifications done to cats and smaller machines. If you have a machine to show, please bring it. If you cannot bring it, please bring pictures to share.

Facilitator – Matt Sabasteanski, Pineland Farms, ME

Session #2 – Walk Christmas Farm Trail and Solve the Grooming Issues

This trail is not long, but an operational challenge in so many ways. Speak with members of the Jackson operations team to analyze the challenges and come up with solutions.

Facilitators – The Jackson XC Operations Team

2:45pm **Final Goodbyes.**

SPONSORS



CCSAA Fall Conference Expo Attendees

- HKD Snowmakers
- PistenBully
- Prinoth
- Track Inc. – Snow Rabbit
- Mountain Grooming
- PSIA-AASI

Reese Script Adds

New Format

PSIA December event