



## Craftsbury Academy

### **The Craftsbury Outdoor Sports Academy (COSA)**

Beginning in the 2017-2018 academic year, Craftsbury Academy and the Craftsbury Outdoor Center are joining together for a collaborative academic/athletic venture that we are calling the Craftsbury Outdoor Sports Academy. Craftsbury Nordic Ski Club athletes will be given the opportunity to combine their existing Nordic ski training at the Outdoor Center with the academic program at Craftsbury Academy.

The Outdoor Center will provide coaching support through its existing Nordic programming and the Academy would support those goals by offering participating students class scheduling flexibility. By providing a schedule that allows for specific, scheduled morning free periods and some longer-term academic flexibility for travel, the Academy will allow participating students more time at the Outdoor Center, pursuing their training and racing goals, while still largely participating in the Academy's excellent public school curriculum. There will be online class options and tutoring available to accommodate the times students miss regular school periods for morning training.

#### **Mission:**

Our mission is to provide expanded educational and athletic opportunities to Vermont students by integrating Craftsbury Academy and Craftsbury Outdoor Center programs.

#### **Goals:**

1. Attract more students to Craftsbury Academy and the excellent academic opportunities that it offers.
2. Enable Craftsbury Nordic Ski Club athletes to further their athletic goals while remaining in local public schools.
3. Further cement the life lessons taught through training and competition in outdoor sports.
4. Simplify daily academic/athletic schedules for existing Craftsbury Nordic Ski Club families and improve communication between coaches and school staff.

#### **Staff:**

The program will be primarily staffed by current Craftsbury Outdoor Center and Craftsbury Academy employees.

**Timeline:**

A pilot program will be launched for the 2017-2018 school year for 3-6 students. See the following page for dates and deadlines.

**Application:**

In the first year, the applicant pool will be restricted to current Craftsbury Nordic Ski Club athletes. Students must be entering at least 7th grade to apply. Students not yet in high school will typically *not* participate in morning training but *will* participate in afternoon training. Beyond the 2017-2018 school year, admission as a full-time athlete to the Craftsbury Nordic Ski Club is a prerequisite to attending the Craftsbury Outdoor Sports Academy.

Applications will be made available by March 1, 2017, and will require the following:

- Academic transcript
- Letters of recommendation from current teachers
- Personal essay
- Current training log for U16s and up

**Dates and Deadlines:**

- Late February, 2017: school choice request forms due to your home school (deadline varies depending on school--for some it is as early as 2/22!)
- March 1, 2017: school administrators must submit school choice requests to Winooski Valley Regional Public School Choice Collaborative
- March 1, 2017: COSA applications available
- March 20, 2017: COSA applications due
- April 1, 2017: COSA decisions sent out and lottery results announced
- April 15, 2017: Winooski Valley Region Public School Choice Collaborative commitments due
- May 1, 2017: commitments due to COSA

**Structure and schedule:**

8:00 am - School begins with first period at CA (Mon - Fri)

9:40 am - Bus to COC for morning training (Tues, Thurs) **\*for U16s and up only**

11:00 am - Return bus to CA for lunch (Tues, Thurs)

2:40 pm - Final period ends at CA

3:00 pm - Bus arrives at COC (Tues - Fri)

3:30 pm - Regular practice begins at COC (Tues - Fri)

5:00 pm - Regular practice ends at COC (Tues - Fri)

Teachers and students will work together to make up missed class time, whether through online study or tutoring.

**Costs:**

Out-of-town students without school choice will be required to pay tuition set at the real per-student cost to Craftsbury taxpayers. The 2017-2018 school year tuition cost is \$17,900. Craftsbury Academy will still allow up to 3 students to attend via the current lottery system. While Outdoor Sports Academy applicants are welcome to apply via the lottery system, know that lottery spots will continue to be open to any students whose school participates in the Winooski Valley Region Regional Public School Choice Collaborative. Selection via the lottery is based on a random draw done by the Winooski Valley Regional Public School Choice Collaborative; results of that draw are announced April 1, 2017.

Additionally, program participants would be expected to pay the program fees for Outdoor Center programs. Craftsbury Outdoor Sports Academy students will pay a higher cost for ski programming due to the extra sessions. Regular fees for the Eastern Cup racing program are anticipated to be approximately \$400 for summer/fall 2017 and \$500 for winter/spring 2017-2018. For COSA students, the winter fee is expected to be approximately \$800.

**Scholarships:**

The Craftsbury Nordic Ski Club currently offers scholarships for program participants in need. The club intends to continue to make those scholarships available for the skiing portion of the program. Funding has not yet been identified for families hoping to offset tuition costs, but we will continue to explore possibilities.

**Transportation:**

Depending on home locations of students, there are various options. Craftsbury Academy buses currently pick up students in the morning in Wolcott (at Wolcott Elementary and at the Mennonite church on Route 15), Hardwick (at the intersection of Routes 14 and 15), and Greensboro (at the Lakeview school). Craftsbury Academy and the Outdoor Center will work together to transport students between the school and the Outdoor Center. We are also looking into other transportation possibilities with various local transportation organizations. The intention is to minimize the driving burden on parents, but our planning is somewhat limited by not yet knowing from where prospective students will be coming.

**Expectations:**

1. Maintain a minimum 3.0 GPA
2. Maintain and update a training log
3. Regularly attend training sessions year-round, including summer
4. Maintain satisfactory communication with teachers and coaches
5. If appropriate, conduct a relevant independent study to earn PE or elective credit

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