

# The EDGE



HUDSON VALLEY  
SKI CLUB

NEWSLETTER OF THE

## Aside From Mikaela Shiffrin, the Outlook for U.S. Skiing in 2022 is Bleak

By Tim Layden, *Sports Illustrated*  
February 23, 2018

PYEONGCHANG, South Korea—There are two stories to every sport at the Olympics. There is the story for the world, and there is the story endemic to whatever country is telling the tale. Sometimes those stories are similar, and sometimes they are dramatically different. Think: Hockey in 1980. One story in the U.S. and a very different story in the Soviet Union.

Here at the 23rd Winter Olympics, Alpine skiing was dominated by two of the most ski-centric nations in history—Switzerland with six medals (one gold) and Austria with four (three gold)—and by another country that has been winning Alpine medals regularly for the last eight Games, Norway, with six medals (one gold). Marcel Hirscher of Austria, as expected, was the individual star of the Games, the only racer with two individual gold medals, in Alpine combined and giant slalom, but also a stunning DNF in the slalom, where he was a heavy favorite.

At home, where Alpine racing is a national obsession, his failure to win a third gold was a minor catastrophe. The most remarkable story of the whole competition was the shocking winner of the women’s super-G: Ester Ledecka of the Czech Republic, who was ranked No. 43 in the world in the event and is a world champion snowboard racer—a cross-cultural success that flabbergasted the sport. (One note: There is also an Alpine team competition on Saturday in Korea; nations and individuals will win more medals, but none of the top U.S. racers are competing.)

Meanwhile, there was the U.S. Skiing medals have been rare for the U.S., but they are remembered with a fondness out of proportion to their quantity. U.S. racers won three

medals in PyeongChang, all women. Mikaela Shiffrin, 22, took gold in the giant slalom and silver in the Alpine combined; Lindsey Vonn, 33, took bronze in the downhill.

Shiffrin’s gold-silver performance was, by definition, the best of any woman at the Games. Two other women won two medals each, but neither won a gold: Ragnild Mowinckel of Norway (two silvers) and Wendy Holdener of Switzerland (a silver and a bronze). Shiffrin’s work here, of course, has been treated to all sorts of subjective grading,

because of high expectations coming into the Games, both her own and others’. Shiffrin had hoped to contend for gold medals in three events, and if everything went perfectly, perhaps a fourth, or in some magical scenario, a fifth. But weather delays compressed the schedule and forced her out of her comfort zone almost from the start. The giant slalom, in which she was considered a strong contender, and the slalom, in



Mikaela Shiffrin

which she was a heavy favorite, were originally scheduled for the first Monday and Wednesday of the Games. Instead they were contested back-to-back, on the first Thursday and Friday. Shiffrin won gold in the giant slalom, but finished fourth in the slalom, a victim of nerves and weariness.

“If nothing else worked out, the slalom was going to work out,” said Shiffrin in a closing press conference on the final Friday

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## Club Information

### Club Officers

President:	John Feilen
Immediate Past Pres:	Frank Van Zanten
Vice-President:	Jeff Elwyn
Secretary:	Charles Shanes
Treasurer:	Jim Gahn
Sergeant at Arms:	Pat Cummins

### Board of Directors

Keith Faucher	Felice Hunter
Pat Marsh	Rich Partridge

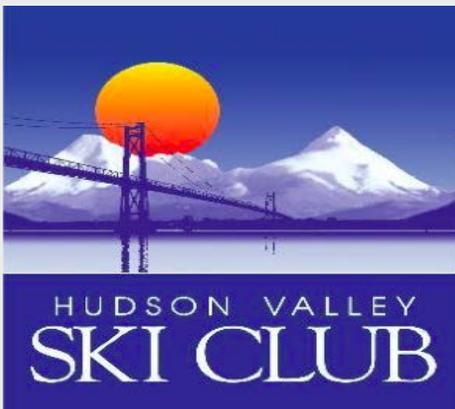
### Committee Chairs

Budget and Finance:	Pat Cummins
Constitution:	John Macek
Events:	Vacant
Instruction:	Herb Eschbach
Marketing/Publicity:	Craig Goldstein
Social Media Coordinator:	Vacant
Meeting Programs:	Vacant
Membership Services:	Pete Gray
Sub-Chair: Welcoming, Mentoring, Retention:	Susan Eschbach
Newsletter:	Melanie Michon
Website:	John Macek
Ski Council/Discount Tix:	Jim Gahn
Ski Trips:	Jeff Elwyn

Contact information is available in the  
*Online Membership Directory*  
on the club website.

[www.hudsonvalleyskiclub.org](http://www.hudsonvalleyskiclub.org)

Or queries may be sent to  
[info@hudsonvalleyskiclub.org](mailto:info@hudsonvalleyskiclub.org)



Hello fellow skiers!

We are now heading into March and finishing up our skiing for the season. After the extreme cold in January and warmer weather in February, ski conditions have been improving and hopefully getting back to normal for the remainder of the season.

As of this publishing, the Schweitzer and Attitash trips are in progress. Thanks to our marvelous trip leaders and the well planning of our outstanding Vice President and his committee.

We are continuing our "Wednesdays on Snow" program, led by Herb Eschbach. Check our Facebook page for March locations.

The Board of Directors has discussed the Reward Points System as per the bylaws of the constitution, and Jim Gahn handed out a "Point -Redemption Request" form to be filled out.

Nominations have been submitted for the elections coming up for the club on April 4th. If there are any members interested in running for any of the club's positions, please do not hesitate to reach out and contact Susan Eschbach ([rudbecki@optonline.net](mailto:rudbecki@optonline.net)) so you can be placed on the ballot.

Think snow!

John Feilen  
President

## Get Your Discount Tickets Here!

There's no reason to pay full price for lift tickets.

There are many, many ways to reduce your lift ticket spending, and the HVSC website is the place to find out how. Just go to the recently revised **Discounts** page at [hudsonvalleyskiclub.org/discounts](http://hudsonvalleyskiclub.org/discounts).

**Council Days** – These are deep discount days at many ski areas in the Northeast. The compilation under the title, *Ski Council Discounts*, combines NJ Ski and Snowboard Council (NJSSC) and NY Capital District Ski Council (NYCDSC) discount days. The list is sortable by clicking on a column heading and searchable by entering the resort name or year/month in the search box.

**Advance Purchase Lift Tickets** – HVSC's representative to the NJSSC (Jim Gahn) administers this program. See program guidelines, available ski resorts, prices, and order form in the **Members Only** section of the website.

**Mountain Specials** – A number of ski areas offer season long special pricing to HVSC members.

**Potter Brothers** – stores in Kingston and Fishkill. Daily ticket savings up to \$31 per ticket. Flex tickets with pre-determined dates provide the lowest prices for that day. Go to [www.potterbrothers.com/discount-tickets/](http://www.potterbrothers.com/discount-tickets/) for Flex tickets pricing and dates.

In addition, for the seniors among us, check the ski area price lists for senior discounts. Gone are the days of free skiing after a certain age... sorry Frank... but savings nonetheless.

Enjoy your skiing and save money at the same time.

John Macek

## From the Membership Desk

The 2017-2018 Membership Directories are now available. You can pick up your copy at any HVSC meeting.

**Welcome New Members!**

**Brian Barrett**  
**Barbara Goldberg**

## Lift Ticket Lotto

The club holds Lift Ticket Lotto contests at each club meeting during the ski season, as a means of generating some revenue for the club.

Several local ski areas have given the club lift tickets in exchange for ads in the newsletter. We will be giving away lift tickets to different ski areas at each meeting through March 2018.

All you need to do to get in on the hot action of this cool deal is be sure to buy Lift Ticket Lotto tickets at the next meeting – don't get left out in the cold. When you win and later use a lift ticket from Lift Ticket Lotto, please take a moment to thank the ski area for their support of the HVSC.

There will be "LTL" drawings at both March meetings with tickets from area mountains, including Catamount, Mt Snow, Hunter, Attitash/Wildcat, Windham and Thunder Ridge.

Ticket prices for the Lotto will be: 1 for \$1, 6 for \$5, and 15 for \$10. See Felice Hunter for tickets.



## Northeast Ski Report

Before hitting the slopes, click here to check out the latest conditions at your favorite mountain!

[On The Snow](#)



## Connect on Facebook

Check the [HVSC Facebook page](#) to connect with members on current club events and happenings.

Want to hike, bike, or hit the slopes for a day but need a buddy? Post the details and find other club members to join you. Don't go it alone, that's why you joined a club!

Planning an outing? Post on our Facebook page and invite your HVSC friends!

## Ski Improvement Days

With many of you going on one or more of the ski trips scheduled for well into March, we continue to receive requests for lessons to improve skiing skills and techniques. Obviously taking a lesson is a great way to enhance your skiing enjoyment.

When taking into account the availability of instructors, trip dates, and Potter Bros Flex tickets, we are delighted to schedule a lesson day for Monday, March 5 at Windham Mt Ski Resort. Check with Windham Mt and Potter Bros for discount lift tickets.

Sign up with Mark Searle @ hvscskiteach@yahoo.com or (914)456-2823.

### Hello to all!

Paul and I want to thank you all for a Wonderful time on the Mt Snow trip! We felt very welcomed and enjoyed meeting and getting to know so many of you.

It was so much fun to ski with a "bunch," to see fellow "HVSC" flags all over the slopes and to share hot cocoa on the top. We enjoyed the hot tub chats and the delicious dinners and breakfasts together, only to name a few of the highlights!

Thank you for bringing us into the folds of your club, we look forward to more adventures with you in the future!!

Karen & Paul



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### Notes From The Nominating Committee

Thanks to our Nominating Committee, chaired by Susan Eschbach, the slate of officers up for election on April 4 is as follows:

- President..... Keith Faucher
- Vice President..... John Macek
- Treasurer ..... Jim Gahn
- Secretary..... Charlie Shanes
- Sergeant at Arms..... Patrick Cummins
- Board of Directors ..... Nonie Kelly  
Lorna Thompson

*Additional nominations may be added.*



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# Trailsweepers' Annual Spring Banquet

*Please Join us for a fun evening of elegant dining, dancing,  
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**Saturday May 5th, 2018 • 6:00PM to 10:00PM**

## **Le Chateau**

240 Boulevard, Route 32 • Kingston, NY 12401

**Cocktail Hour (cash bar) • 3 Course Dinner • Dancing to the **Harvest Band****

**Carving Station:** Top Sirloin of Beef w/Horseradish Cream Sauce

Burger Sliders & All Beef Mini Hot Dogs with all the fixings

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**The Chateau Market Table:** Artisanal Cheeses, Cured Meats and Ham,  
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Platter, Seasonal Fruit Display, Assorted Hummus, Spreads, Dips, and Salads

**\$50.<sup>00</sup> per person (\$55.<sup>00</sup> after April 26<sup>th</sup>).**

Send Check Payable to TSSC, & dinner choice (below) to: **Marla Brucker**  
**161 Cottekill Rd, Cottekill, NY 12419**  
**More info call 845-687-2312**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Entrée Choice:

Chicken Francaise

Pan Seared Atlantic Salmon

Vegetable Lasagne

of the Games. "I was feeling so good about my slalom coming in here. But then the delay. I had no idea how to handle that." The super-G came a day after the slalom, the third consecutive women's race. Shiffrin skipped it. Then she skipped the downhill four days later, after making two training runs, the first better than the second. "I didn't think I was going to be a better medal contender than the other [U.S.] girls who have been racing speed," she said.

Shiffrin returned in the Alpine combined, on the last day of individual Olympic Alpine competition, and won a silver medal. Even that was mildly bittersweet. After a rocky downhill run, Shiffrin trailed Vonn by almost two seconds, but there was little chance that Vonn would complete the slalom in a competitive time—she rarely skis the event at this point in her career (she missed a gate 12 seconds into the race). After the downhill segment, Shiffrin trailed eventual gold medalist Michelle Gisin of Switzerland by 1.21 seconds, a surmountable challenge. But the slalom course was short, and easy, which made it difficult for Shiffrin to make up time. She didn't help by skiing less than her best at the top of the run before crushing the bottom. She finished nearly a full second behind Gisin, but easily in front of Holdender, who won bronze.

Shiffrin's performance at the Games has already been analyzed endlessly. Against the weight of expectation, gold

and silver will be painted by some as a disappointment. In a vacuum, it's a terrific achievement by a skier who is still very young. She became just the fourth U.S. skier to win three career Olympic medals, after Bode Miller (six), Julia Mancuso (four) and Vonn (three), and did it much younger than any of the others. She is also one of only four U.S. skiers—Miller, Ted Ligety and Andrea Mead Lawrence are the others—with two career Olympic golds. In a fast and dangerous sport, there are no guarantees moving forward, but Shiffrin could render many of the U.S. Olympic records obsolete.

These were likely Vonn's last Olympics, and dragging her battered body to a bronze was rightly hailed as gold of a different shine. She has one goal remaining in the sport: Taking down Swedish legend Ingemar Stenmark's career record of 86 career World Cup wins. Vonn has 81, and will chase the record next season. "I won four races this year, and I think next year will go a lot better without the Olympics to worry about," said Vonn. "I think next season I can get it, because, I'm not getting any younger."

*Continued pg 10*

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# HVSC Ski Trips 2018



*The Selkirk Lodge*



*February 24 – March 3, 2018*

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**Email: skiercom@hvc.rr.com**  
**Make Checks to HVSC Trips**  
**Put Schweitzer on memo line**  
**Mail to: 26 Country Lane**  
**Lake Katrine, NY 12449-5217**



**Schweitzer**

**Schweitzer Bowl**

**Outback Bowl**



**TRIP INCLUDES:** RT air from Newark airport to Spokane, Washington. Via United Airlines  
 7 nights lodging at the ski-in, ski-out Selkirk Lodge, Sandpoint, Idaho  
 5 days of ski lift tickets ( 6<sup>th</sup> day group ticket available for additional charge)  
 RT bus from Highland, NY Park and Ride to Newark airport  
 RT bus from Spokane airport to Selkirk Lodge, Schweitzer Mt.  
 Package includes 6 hot breakfasts and one "quick tip" voucher .

**Price: \$1620**

**Payment schedule: \$300 at June sign-up**  
**\$220 per month due on the first of month**  
**July through December (6months @\$220 = \$1320)**

**TRIP INSURANCE HIGHLY RECOMMENDED**  
**CANCELLATION PENALTY MINIMUM \$100**

# HVSC Ski Trips 2018

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March 12-15 (M-Th) • [Grand Summit Hotel, Attitash, NH](#)

## Package Includes:

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- 3 full breakfasts • 1 group dinner
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Payments: \$100 at sign up  
\$100 by 10/15/17  
\$100 /55 pass holders by 12/15/17  
\$84 by 1/15/18

**Trip Leader: Patricia Marsh**

Phone: 845-340-1729 • Email: [h2oopr2@gmail.com](mailto:h2oopr2@gmail.com)

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Tuckerman Ravine

## HVSC Ski Trips Cancellation/Refund Policy

- Minimum cancellation penalty is \$100 for week long trips and \$25 for shorter trips.
- Cancellation requests must be in writing and will take effect the date they are received by the trip leader.
- Penalties vary from trip to trip. Anyone who cancels a trip will be assessed penalties as per our contract with the vendor. Whatever the club loses, the person who cancels will lose plus the \$100 cancellation penalty, however, the penalty will not exceed the total cost of the trip.
- Refunds will not be issued until after the final accounting of the trip.

**The Trip Committee strongly suggests participants purchase trip insurance.**

The price for trip insurance runs approximately 7% of the trip cost. An option to purchase trip insurance "for any reason" may be available. If you are interested in trip insurance please let the trip leader know at the time of sign up.



(The elephant in the room here is Shiffrin, who is 11 years younger than Vonn, and already has 41 World Cup wins. At her current pace she could be in the 80s before the 2022 Olympics. But again... ski racing. No guarantees.)

As for the larger U.S. picture, a program that won just one medal at the 1998 Olympics in Nagano (Picabo Street's gold in super-G) and then rose to win a remarkable eight in Vancouver 12 years later appears to be headed into fallow times, save for Shiffrin. Vonn is highly unlikely to ski another Olympics. Ligety, who finished a game fifth in the combined and a disappointing 15th in the giant slalom after winning gold in the event in 2014 (he had two serious injuries in the interim), is also finished with the Olympics at age 33. Two-time super-G medalist Andrew Weibrecht failed to finish that race in PyeongChang and is 32 years old.

Miller and Mancuso were both at the Games, both working for NBC and retired from skiing. The U.S. Alpine cabinet looks bare. On the women's side, 25-year-old Jackie Wiles landed on two podiums this season, but was injured late in the season. Alice McKennis, 28, won a World Cup downhill

four years ago. Breezy Johnson has a fourth on the World Cup this season and was seventh in the Olympic downhill.

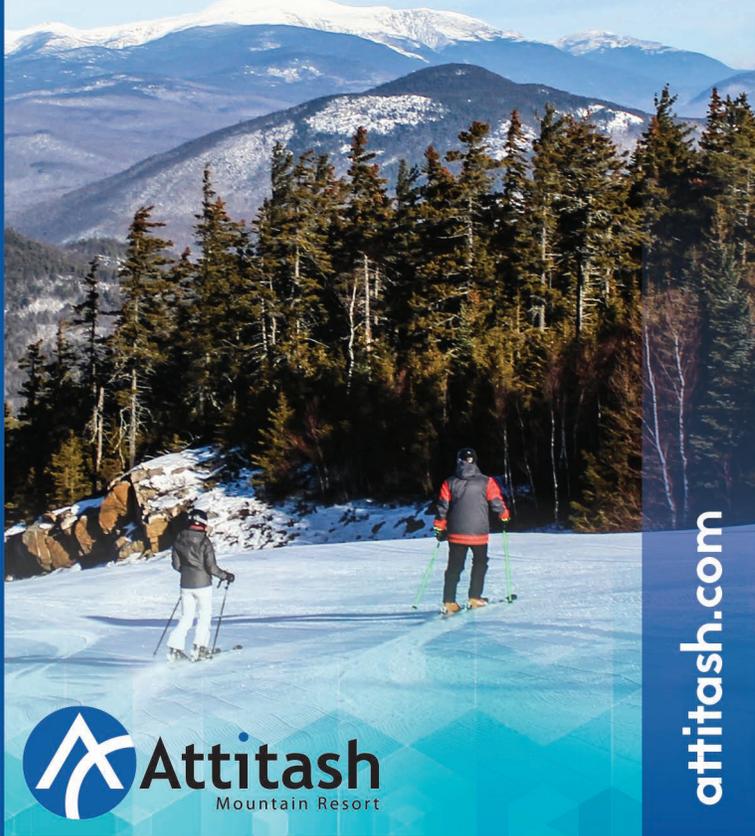
Among the men, after Ligety and Weibrecht, and 35-year-old Steven Nyman, who missed the Olympics with a torn ACL, no skier has ever finished in the top three in a World Cup race.

Four years is forever. But athletes like Ligety, Mancuso, Miller and Vonn are not easily replaced, or replaced at all. There is work to be done, or Shiffrin could find herself the only one in a U.S. uniform fighting for medals in four years. If so, it will probably be against Austria, Switzerland and Norway. Again.



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Thank you Steven Domber for continuing this important mission in our community.



Terri Searle



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Sunday, 1/7 - \$49  
Monday, 1/8 - \$40

Sunday, 1/28 - \$49  
Monday, 1/29 - \$40

Sunday, 2/25 - \$49  
Monday, 2/26 - \$40

Sunday, 3/25 - \$39  
Monday, 3/26 - \$30

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2/18-20, 2017

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## Friday Race Training

Every Friday evening, Club members meet at an area restaurant for a couple hours of friendly conversation. We welcome new members and old.

Any questions, comments or suggestions, contact Susan Kokosa @ 845-229-6786 or [race\\_training@hudsonvalleyskiclub.org](mailto:race_training@hudsonvalleyskiclub.org)

### March

- 2 Bonefish Grill - 2185 South Rd, Poughkeepsie
- 9 Di'Vine Wine Bar - 1 Market St, Wappingers Falls
- 16 Olive Garden - 2044 South Rd, Poughkeepsie
- 23 The Mill - 46 Vassar Rd, Poughkeepsie
- 30 Paula's Public House -  
2186 New Hackensack Rd, Poughkeepsie

## Calendar of Events

### March

- 5 Ski Improvement Day - Windham
- 7 Wednesdays on Snow - See Facebook page Club Meeting, Umberto's @ 7:30 pm
- 14 Wednesdays on Snow - See Facebook page
- 21 Wednesdays on Snow - See Facebook page Club Meeting, Umberto's @ 7:30 pm
- 28 Wednesdays on Snow - See Facebook page



HUDSON VALLEY  
**SKI CLUB**

**Hudson Valley Ski Club**  
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