

Dear Coaches and Parents,

The Hans Fund Youth Ski Mountaineering Course, run in conjunction with Exum Mountain Guides, will take place this year in the Tetons from June 14-18. The course is offered to talented young skiers who have been recommended by a mentor. If accepted, all students will receive a partial scholarship for the course bringing the tuition for the 5 days of guided ski mountaineering to \$250. Scholarships, which do not include travel and lodging, are provided by the Hans Saari Memorial Fund (www.hansfund.org) in Bozeman, Montana.

Since 2007 Exum has run the Hans Saari Ski Mountaineering Course on behalf of the Hans Saari Fund. We offer this opportunity to a select group of athletes who are dedicated to the sport of skiing and wish to expand their world to include wilderness peaks. The guides who work on this course are experienced ski mountaineering guides with decades of ski mountaineering and guiding experience. Participants can expect to ski with guides like Brendan O'Neil, Kent McBride, Hans Johnstone, Nat Patridge and Zahan Billimoria.

The camp is best described by Mike Gardner a 09 camp grad. "I can quite honestly say that my own camp experience was one, if not the most influential moment I have had on skis. Learning how to safely ski and live in the high alpine environment, from a highly skilled and knowledgeable cast of ski mountaineering legends, drastically changed the way I ski and experience snow covered peaks. Throughout the camp I learned invaluable lessons and skills that I now use on a regular basis. A week at the Hans Saari Memorial Ski Camp is bound to teach many things, but first and foremost it is a rare opportunity to ski magnificent lines in an incredible mountain range with some of the most "genuine" ski mountaineers out there."

For the 2012 course we are looking for ten 14-18 year olds from around the West who are strong skiers (no backcountry experience necessary), mature and motivated, and have the desire to learn about ski-mountaineering under the guidance of qualified guides. The course will be put on specifically for the scholarship recipients and tailored to individual abilities. If you have kids to recommend, please pass on the attached application and encourage them to participate.

Feel free to give me a call with any questions.

Thank you,

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