

THE GRIND



Building champions in life through ski racing



Granite Peak ***Ski Team***



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April

Decorative elements including several small orange flowers and sprigs of leaves and ferns scattered around the word "April".



Election Results for 2025 Board of Directors Election		
2025 Board Member Candidates		
.....		
Candidate	Votes	Percentage
Travis Marti (Incumbent)	32	26.23%
Tait Strand (Incumbent)	32	26.23%
Tim Busby (Nominee)	22	18.03%
John Loth (Nominee)	20	16.39%
Daren Cowan (Nominee)	16	13.11%
Votes tallied: 122		
Abstentions: 0		

Congratulations to: Travis Marti, Tait Strand and Tim Busby on their successful outcome in our recent election. We look forward to another 2 years of Travis and Tait's leadership along with Tim's future contribution.



<p>4/5/25-4/6/25</p>	<p>GPST Skills & Thrills camp <u>SIGN UP HERE!</u></p>
<p>4/5/2025 3pm-6pm</p>	<p>End of Season Party-Performance Center</p>
<p>4/6/2025 2pm-?</p>	<p>B net extraction/ PC deep clean and @ 5pm-remove rubber flooring</p>
<p>4/13/25- 4/17/25</p>	<p>Ron’s Colorado Spring Camps</p>
<p>6/30/25</p>	<p>GPST Golf Outing-Greenwood Hills</p>



FOR ALL CAMPS/PRACTICES/EVENTS CURRENTLY SCHEDULED, PLEASE KEEP IN MIND THAT WE ARE DEPENDENT ON THE WEATHER AND HILL OPERATIONS. PLEASE WATCH FOR CANCELLATIONS OR CHANGES TO THE SCHEDULE. (FACEBOOK, SPORTS ENGINE, GPST WEBSITE)

[APRIL CALENDAR](#)

Look how far we've come!!

Not so many years ago our Leaning Center was in a job trailer in the West parking lot of Granite Peak Ski Area. Now we have a "Performance Center"! A beautiful 1,200 sqft facility on the top of Rib Mountain that every team outside of some of the HUGE programs would die for. We have restrooms, a kitchen area and a fireplace. Not to mention a patio with a grill to enjoy during every one of our cookouts and parties. We own nearly 100 rolls of B-Net, a reasonably warm start shack and a HELLER HAUS that is THE BOMB! None of that got here without a lot of hard work, donations, volunteerism and membership fees...

Over the past three years, inflation and rising operational costs have placed a significant strain on our financial sustainability. Despite our best efforts to absorb these costs without increasing membership fees, the financial situation has become unsustainable. While we do not want to increase fees it is the obligation of the board and operational staff to protect the investment that you and that of the members before you have made in this team. If we were to leave prices as they were, and our cost continues to rise at some point we simply run out of runway.

In my humble opinion, we've done an excellent job of maximizing fundraisers, grants, donations and volunteerism to propel this organization from running in a hand to mouth scenario to not having a single worry about whether a check is going to clear. As a point of reference, the very first requirement in acquiring our Silver Certification status was financial stability. We had to prove to US Ski & Snowboard (USSS) that we had a years' worth of operating expenses tucked away and commit to maintaining it for them to even begin to consider us for that certification.

To ensure that we can continue to provide a high-quality program, we have made the difficult decision to raise membership fees for 2026. This adjustment is necessary to:

- **Cover the rising costs that have directly impacted our operational expenses, including**
 - **Increase in insurance**
 - **Increase in B-Net repair and replacement**
 - **Increase in equipment repair, maintenance and replacement**
 - **Increase in Coaching and Operations expense**
- **Ensure some sustainability in the level of service and programs that you rely on**
- **Invest in the growth of our coaching and operations staff**

Just to give you a bit more perspective, this was our first year with FIS level athletes. FIS caused the staff to be further spread out across multiple race venues (resorts) and at times in 3 different states literally thousands of miles apart. Between FIS, Junior Championship and Nationals, this is only going to continue to become a bigger challenge as the successes of our athletes continues. See Ron's March press release covering the aforementioned.

While we understand that this change may be unwanted, we're committed to protecting the team's sustainability into the future. Registration will open May 1st for the opportunity to take advantage of the early bird pricing prior to July 1. Payment options will also be available at checkout. (please see pg 7 for next season's fees)

Continued on next pg...

Financial Assistance

Thanks to the Lawrence Family, we have the Max Shupe Foundation to assist with any challenges the new pricing may have caused.

HISTORY: Max Shupe was the twin brother of Lucas Shupe who was “still” born at birth on 4/29/2009. His family has set up a MAX SHUPE CHARITABLE FUND to help children accomplish their goals through Christian Education and Alpine Ski Racing.

MISSION: “...to make a difference in the life of at least one child.”

PURPOSE: To support children and programs for children that have a financial need in the area Christian Education and Alpine Ski Racing.

<https://www.gpst.org/maxshupe>

Help Us Keep Registration Fees As Low As Possible

Throughout the year we put on fundraising events. For example, the 2nd Annual Golf Outing on June 30th at Greenwood Hills Country Club. This is by far our most important and best opportunity for us to raise the funds required to keeping fees lower. Without this golf outing we wouldn't be talking about the modest fee increases we've posted. Therefore, it is VITAL you and everyone you know plan to attend and/or participate in this event. Please send the registration information to everyone you know. We need a whole host of sponsors, players and volunteers to make this event successful! Last year we netted nearly \$26,000 which is almost unheard of for a first-year event. This year our goal is to clear \$40,000 but we cannot accomplish this without your help!!! Please visit <https://www.gpst.org/golf> for the registration form.

The Challenges of Volunteerism & How You Can Help

Let's face it, volunteerism is dying and we are not immune to this issue!! We've seen and heard the same from many other organizations. We repeatedly communicate the need for help cleaning the Performance Center, provide Saturday lunches, operate the annual Ski Swap, deploy and extract B-Net, run races, operate fundraisers (golf outing) just to name a few.

There's a growing concern that is affecting our ability to run this team as effectively as we would like. Over the past few years, we have noticed a significant decline in volunteerism. With fewer people available to dedicate their time and energy, it's become increasingly difficult for us to sustain the level of support that we've always prided ourselves on.

As an organization, volunteers are at the heart of everything we do, especially as it relates to keeping membership rates as low as possible. Your time, passion, and expertise have been vital in driving our mission forward. However, in recent years, we've found it harder to recruit and retain volunteers, which has placed additional pressure on our resources.

Continued on next pg...

Despite these challenges, we remain hopeful. We believe that with your help, we can continue to make a meaningful difference. Here's how you can support the team:

- **Volunteer:** If you have some free time or skills to share, please ask what we need help with. Every hour and task make a huge impact
- **Spread the word:** Encourage others in your network to volunteer or support our organization in any way they can
- **Donations:** If you're unable to volunteer, consider a financial contribution to help us fund essential services such as a cleaning company for the Performance Center
- **Offer skills and expertise:** If you can't volunteer regularly, offering a specific skill or knowledge area for a short-term project could still be invaluable i.e. Newsletter writing, social media postings, on hill B-Net maintenance etc.

We understand that these are challenging times for everyone, and we deeply appreciate the continued support of our members. If you have any ideas on how we can better engage volunteers or make it easier for people to help, please don't hesitate to reach out. In the meantime, changes are coming for next season in regard to the athletes being held more accountable for cleaning the Performance Center. We will be adding up to 30 minutes to the end of every practice session for cleaning the entire facility before they are allowed to leave.

We greatly value your membership and we appreciate your understanding as we work to ensure the long-term health of our team.

Thank you for your ongoing support,

Michael Bautsch | President |

| 847-561-7579 | mbautsch@gpst.org |

**'25 - '26 GPST
SEASON**



	Early Bird Price (until June 30)	Pricing 7/1/25- 10/15/25	Pricing 10/16/25 forward
Development training (per session)	\$350	\$350	\$350
Home Training	\$1000	\$1300	\$1500
Travel/Day Training	\$1600	\$1900	\$2100
FIS training	\$2500	\$3000	\$3500
HS add on	\$300	\$300	\$300
Visitors indiv.	\$175/day		
Visitors team	\$300/session		
Coaching representation	\$150/day		
Adult league	\$125	\$125	\$125
Adult referral	\$75	\$75	\$75
Adult training add on	\$250		

**END OF SEASON PARTY, B NET
EXTRACTION AND PC FINAL CLEAN UP
INFO! WE NEED YOUR HELP PLEASE!!!!**

PARTY WILL BE 4/5 @ 3 PM. B NET EXTRACTION WILL TAKE PLACE 4/6 @ 2 PM WHICH INCLUDES GETTING IT TO THE TRAILER AND COVERED. WE WILL ALSO NEED HELP 4/6 REMOVING ALL THE FOAM FLOORING IN THE PC, AFTER CLEANING THE ENTIRE PC FOR THE SEASON.

PARTY RSVP



MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR JUNE 30TH, 2025 FOR OUR 2ND ANNUAL TEES 4 SKIS GOLF OUTING

UPDATES TO FOLLOW IN EARLY 2025.

SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES WILL BE AVAILABLE, GOLD, SILVER AND HOLE SPONSORSHIPS. WE'RE LOOKING TO FILL THE FIELD WITH 36 TEAMS (FOURSOME). YOU CAN REGISTER AS A SINGLE, TWOSOME OR THREESOME!! WE ALWAYS HAVE PLAYERS IN NEED OF ADDITIONAL TEAMMATES.

SIGN UP SOON! THE REGISTRATION IS AVAILABLE IN THE UPPER RIGHT CORNER. LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING YOU ON THE LINKS **MONDAY JUNE 30TH, 2025.**

SPONSORSHIP AND PLAYER REGISTRATION

BRULE RACE RESULTS!



**CONGRATULATIONS TO ANSLEY
BORCHARDT, EMILY HOSTETLER, &
RYAN MARTI WHOM ALL MADE THE
TOP 3 IN THEIR AGE GROUPS THAT
WEEKEND!**

**OTHER ATHLETES THAT RECEIVED MEDALS FOR TOP
10 FINISHES: ANNA BRILL, ANDERS BUSBY,
CADENCE COWAN, TANNER GREFE, ADDY HAYLETT,
MORGAN HAYLETT, MASON MARSOLEK, SOPHIA
SCHIPPERS,**

Way to GO!



Granite Peak Ski Team
PO Box 2151 | Wausau, WI 54402

RON LAWRENCE - PROGRAM DIRECTOR
906-282-6001

PRESS RELEASE - 2025 CHAMPIONSHIP RACES

The end of February and all of March is the Alpine Season's (Championship Season). Travel is a big part of what happens at the end of February and all of March. Many of the Granite Peak Ski Team (GPST) athletes were able to ski in Championships. Grace Kallio was selected to the U18 Nationals at Aspen, CO to compete in the Speed Events, Downhill and Super-G. Grace was the first women GPST athlete ever to compete in the US U18 Nationals from Granite Peak.

Three athletes, Grace Kallio, Brian Kleckner, and Sam Derner competed in the Rocky/Central FIS Championships held on the very challenging "Tech" course at Copper Mt., CO. What made this venue extremely challenging was the 70 inches of snow that was received 10 days before the event along with 28 inches of snow that was received during the event. This made the course extremely challenging for the athlete with very low finish rates in the two Giant Slalom races and the two Slalom races. The GPST athletes gained a great deal of experience from the competition.

Two athletes, Ellie McNamar and Grace Kallio moved on to the Western High School National Championships held at Grand Teton, WY. Again, a lot of snow fell during the event and provided challenging conditions, where Grace Kallio place 7th in the Giant Slalom.

The Rocky/Central U16 Junior Championships were held in Vail, CO with six GPST athletes competing: Aimee Derner, Kathryn Floyd, Kate Hostetler, Ella Tieman, Alex Meller, and Alber Hayek. All six athletes competed in the Downhill where GPST athletes had their best finishes of the championships: Aimee 4th, Kathryn, 16th, Kate Hostetler 30th, and Ella Tieman 37th for the women, with Alber finishing 18th for the Men. U16 Championship Series was interrupted by a chairlift failure at Vail which caused the loss of the Super-G race which all of our GPST athletes excel at and were disappointed in not being able to compete in the event. The race series was moved to Beaver Creek, CO for Slalom & Giant Slalom. The GPST athletes skied well but struggled with consistency and had difficulty scoring in each of these events.

The Rocky/Central U14 Junior Championships was highlighted by Cyrus Laudenbach representing GPST at Winter Park, CO. Again, Cyrus scored a top 20 in Super-G one of his favorite events. Cyrus continued to ski well throughout the series and just missed out on a Podium finish on the last day, which highlighted the Dual Slalom. Cyrus made tremendous progress throughout the season and is looking forward already to next season.

The U14 and under athletes (17 GPST athletes in total) took part in the Central Brule Finale Championships held at Ski Brule. The conditions were again very challenging with rain on the first day and extremely icy conditions on day 2. Our athletes didn't let the tough conditions keep them from having fun and still being competitive with other teams!

Finally, at the end of the month, the GPST FIS Team (7 athletes) competed in the Central FIS Championships held over four days at Lutsen Mtn., MN. Gavin Hristov highlighted the GPST FIS team results with a podium finish on the last day of Slalom with the U18 Bronze Medalist. On Saturday of the that event, Grace Kallio was presented the prestigious "Bill Slattery Award" for outstanding sportsmanship. Earlier in the FIS season, Grace disqualified herself when she straddled a gate in Slalom and it was not reported by any of the gate judges. Her continued sportsmanship throughout the season and nomination by the US Central Manager, Patrick Mich earned her this award. CONGRATULATION GRACE!!!

Coach Ron stated, "...we (coaches and athletes) learned a lot about our young team during the last 5 weeks. Coach Justin McNamar, Coach Gavril Hristov, Coach Patrick Floyd, Coach RJ, and Coach Brian Trybula were able to evaluate our athletes at very high competitions around the country. All the athletes faced different levels of adversity. The coaching staff were able to evaluate our strengths and have already begun to plan for areas of focus for the 2025-2026 season. This tremendous group of young people will continue to improve and we are all looking forward to coaching them next season."

A BIG "Thank You" for all the support that GPST athletes and coaches have received from our GPST parents, the Granite Peak Ski Area, sponsors and board members.

2025 COLORADO SPRING RACE CAMP

Camp Leader: Ron Lawrence assisted by Guest Coaches

CAMP GOAL: *To provide an opportunity for Athletes to ski into late April with the focus on GS Fundamentals and provide them an opportunity to Cat Ski in a great environment.*

ALL Athletes from **(U12/U14/U16/U18)** are welcome and encouraged to attend. To ensure personalized attention and best results EACH CAMP size will be limited (20 ATHLETES). Athletes will be rotated among the camp coaching staff to ensure maximum results. The focus will be on what each individual athlete needs to move to the next level.

This includes:

- Ski Technique Improvement to the next level
- Summer Physical Fitness Improvement Program
- Development of Mental Attitude to be successful.
- 1 Day of Cat Skiing on the RIDGE at Loveland Ski Area (Weather Permitting)

Payment by APRIL 1st

TEAM LC Camp (SESSION 1) April 13–April 17th Arrive April 13th \$900 without LOVELAND ski pass, \$800 with pass

NOTE: CAMP FEES include Room at the Dillion Inn, Lift Ticket, Cat Skiing (1 day – weather permitting) and all coaching.

Payment after April 15 will only be allowed with prior approval.

Camp Price does not include airfare. Transportation from/to the Denver International Airport to the Dillon Inn is the responsibility of the participant. If this is a problem, please contact Coach Ron. Fees do include all local to mountain transportation (Assisted by Coaches & Parents), rooms, lift tickets, coaching and 1 day of Cat Skiing (Weather Permitting). ***We will be insisting on STUDY HALL for all athletes each day so they can keep up with School & Homework.***

Lodging will be at the Dillon Inn in Dillon, CO. Rooms have 2 queen beds, microwave, refrigerator, and free breakfast. These reservations will be made by Coach Ron Lawrence. **First Team Meeting will be at the Dillon Inn at 7pm (MST) April 13th.**

Rooms for Parents: Shared \$45/night eachSingle \$80/night

Circle dates room needed: April: 12 13 14 15 16 17 18

Please submit: Registration & Medical FORM and check payable to Ron Lawrence or you can **VENMO to: [RonLawrence1902](#)**

Send to: Ron Lawrence, 8752 South Cedar Trail, Baileys Harbor, WI 54202

Any questions please feel free to call Ron at 906-282-6001; Email: rklawrence@live.com

IMPORTANT INFO: What to Bring – A Great Attitude!

Plus:

Homework & Backpack

GS Skis & Powder Skis,

boots, poles, helmet, boot dryer

GS Suit (we train in our GS suits)

Water bottle, sunscreen, bathing suit

workout clothes & tennis shoes

TEAM LC SPRING CAMP REGISTRATION & MEDICAL RELEASE FORM

Athlete's Name: _____

Date of Birth: ___/___/___

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____

Zip: _____

Home Telephone Number: _____

Father's Name: _____

Phone No.: _____

Mother's Name: _____

Phone No.: _____

CAMP FEE: \$900 CAMP FEE with LOVELAND SKI PASS: \$800

TEAM LC RACE CAMP requires that all participating athletes have medical insurance coverage prior to any "CAMP" activity on and/or off snow. Please state the name of your medical insurance company, the policyholder's name, and policy numbers below.

PRIMARY INSURANCE COMPANY:

Policy Holder's Name: _____

GROUP NO. _____

Policy Number: _____

MEDICAL CONDITIONS OF THE ATHLETE WE SHOULD BE AWARE OF:

If parent(s) are not available, additional person we can contact in case of an emergency: Name: _____

Relationship: _____

Address: _____ City: _____

State: _____ Phone No.: _____

Cell No.: _____



A note of thanks to the following for stepping up this season. Whether it was team meals, cleaning, announcing, timing, etc.

- Aebly family
- Bautsch family
- Benes family
- Brill family
- Buchkowski family
- Cowen family
- Derner family
- Forman (Dia) & family
- Gordon family
- Hayek family
- Haylett Family
- Hostetler family
- Kallio family
- Kleckner family
- Loth (John)
- Marti family
- McNamar family
- Sharon family
- Schippers family

*We sincerely appreciate all that you have given to the team!



MEET ELLA TIEMAN!

- 1.) How old were you when you started skiing?** I first learned how to ski when I was 3 years old.
- 2.) When did you start ski racing and what do you like about it?** I started racing with the Blackhawk Alpine Race Team when I was 8 years old and I like continuing to set and reach goals. I am a U16 skier on the travel team and this is was my first season skiing with Granite Peak.
- 3.) What keeps you coming back each year?** The teammates and families are fun and supportive. I also like setting and achieving new goals each season.
- 4.) Do you have a coach or professional skier/snowboarder that you look up to and why?** I enjoy following the whole US women's team because they are incredible skiers and very inspiring.
- 5.) Is there any special thing you do for good luck/motivation?** Gummy's!!!
- 6.) What other hobbies/sports do you enjoy? What school do you go to/grade?** In the off season, I play soccer, run cross country and track, and water ski with the Mad City Ski Team. I'm in 8th grade at Glacial Drumlin Middle School in Monona, WI.



MEET DANIEL FLANDERIJN !

- 1.) **How old were you when you started skiing? When I was 7 (at Granite Peak)**
- 2.) **When did you start ski racing and what do you like about it? What part of GPST are you currently a part of/age group? (development/home/travel/FIS). I joined the development team when I was 8 and started racing. Currently I'm in the home team. I like the speed and the different courses each race.**
- 3.) **What keeps you coming back each year? The fun of skiing and friends.**
- 4.) **Do you have a coach or professional skier/snowboarder that you look up to and why? Coach Mike helped me a lot this year.**
- 5.) **Is there any special thing you do for good luck/motivation? up to and why? I have a special pump-up song that I play in my head.**
- 6.) **What other hobbies/sports do you enjoy? What school do you go to/grade? Soccer, Basketball and cross country. I go to Olga Brener Intermediate school in Shawano, I'm in 5th grade.**



"The long awaited GPST Apparel Store is finally up and running!

We have apparel from Spyder, North Face, Under Armor, Carhartt and brands in between to satisfy just about any budget. You'll find things like hats, shirts, sweatshirts, vests and jackets in a whole host of colors.

Even though this season is ending, one should always be buying for next year - right 😊 There is some great summer wear to be had. T-shirts, polo's, sweatshirts, quarter/half zips and maybe a vest are always needed year round in WI...

Visit the [GPST STORE](#) to show off your Team Pride. Let us know if we've missed anything you're specifically looking for related to apparel.

Drinkware has proved to be a bit more difficult. They have not been added yet as those items need to be purchased in bulk. If there's a specific type of drinkware you think would be a hot item that many would like, we can certainly investigate adding them. For example tumblers need to be ordered in 50 count...

In the near future we can discuss adding Tote Bags or Drinkware if there's enough request for them.

The online store is powered by [FULLY PROMOTED OF WAUSAU](#) a proud sponsor of the Granite Peak Ski Team!

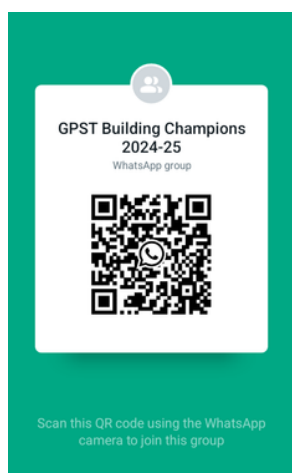
Happy shopping!"

>>> ODDS & ENDS



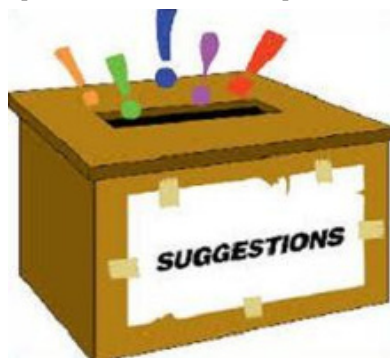
PLEASE CHECK OUT THE SHARED GOOGLE DRIVE LINK TO SEE PICS AND VIDEOS OF YOUR ATHLETE! THIS INCLUDES RACER DEVELOPMENT TOO!

[GOOGLE DRIVE LINK](#)



[ORDER HERE!](#)

- **CONCUSSION BASELINE TESTING/PROTOCOLS**- please sign up if you're interested! the Max shupe foundation plans to fund the cost of this for all current GPST Home and Travel athletes age 12 and up.
- **TEAM JACKETS**-Coach Ron has a number of GPST jackets for sale in various sizes. Youth : size S (1), M (4) , XL (1). Mens: XS (1) and Women: Med (1). We would really like to sell these and proceeds will go directly to the team. If interested, please reach out to coach Ron at 906-282-6001.
- **BOOKKEEPER**-Our team is in need of a bookkeeper to help manage invoices/payments etc. If you can spare some time and help the team out, please send an email to info@gpst.org



>>> FEEDBACK/QUESTIONS?

We need your feedback! If you have an idea/suggestion to bring forward please email: info@gpst.org