



SKI CLUB HOCHGEBIRGE

TO: All Members

SUBJECT: Special Meeting, November 15, 1954, to discuss Annual Hochgebirge Race

The Franconia Ski Club has recently advised us that they will not be able to put on our usual race in 1955. They are, however, willing to handle the usual administrative details (entries, publicity, dinner, etc.) but feel that they cannot count on enough support from their own membership for the various assignments on the mountain (patrol, starters, gatekeepers, timekeepers, etc.).

The Franconia Ski Club would like to keep our race in their area for several reasons. First, it helps promote Franconia; second, they are attached to the race and many of the Hochgebirges by sentiment and friendship; and, third, they believe our race is one of the most outstanding in the East and, if not held, would be a serious loss to New England skiing.

Up through 1953, the race was always put on by the Hochgebirges. Large numbers of Hochies and Daisies patrolled the cold corners of the Taft Trail year after year to put on one of the most successful and best known races in the country.

The 1953 race was postponed twice and finally held on Mt. Washington in spite of floods and the fact that only six Hochies showed up. Many of the clubs represented had twice as many members on hand to help us out. In fact, had it not been for the White Mules who started packing the downhill on the Wildcat on Thursday, there would have been no race at all.

In 1954, Roger Peabody, head of the Cannon Mountain area and the Franconia Ski Club, offered to take the race off our hands because it was apparent we could no longer run it. This was on a one-year trial basis. We had over 120 contestants (men, women and veterans). Fortunately for ourselves and the Franconia Club, the Eastern Interclub League had an earlier race postponement and ran their race with ours. They provided the necessary help. Two girls went up for a full week to handle administrative work prior to the race. Several men took Friday off, not to ski but to assist in planning for the next two days. All ski patrol met on Friday night, all gatekeepers met on Saturday night for instructions while many of us attended the banquet. In short, the manpower requirements to put on a big race properly are tremendous.

It seems that the future of the Hochgebirge Race depends upon our ability to field a work force. We must either come out in large numbers or quit and make the best deal possible. We cannot continue as we have in the postwar years where the same small group of Hochies were loaded with the full burden.

It would appear that we have at least the following alternatives open to us for 1955 and thereafter:

1. Cancel the race entirely.
2. Put on our regular race or a smaller race ourselves or together with another club. An example of a smaller race might be a

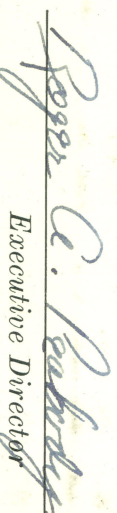
This is to certify that the

SKI CLUB HOCHGEBIRGE

is a Member Club of the

United States Eastern Amateur Ski Association

for the year nineteen hundred and FIFTY-FOUR AND FIFTY-FIVE


Executive Director