

It's time for shows, swaps & fun Sac. Ski Show, Icer Air 2006 kick off season

Skiers and boarders, be sure and mark Saturday, Nov. 4 on your calendars.

That's when the ski season officially kicks off in Northern California with two huge events in Sacramento and San Francisco.

The Fifth Annual Sacramento Ski & Snowboard is set for Cal Expo, Hall A, in Sacramento on Saturday and Sunday, Nov. 4-5, while Icer Air 2006 and SnowBomb.com's inaugural San Francisco Ski Fest is set for San Francisco's AT&T Park (home of the San Francisco Giants) on Saturday, Nov. 4 only.

The Sacramento Ski & Snowboard Show has become one of the largest events of its kind in Northern California. Featured at this year's show will be local and regional winter resorts, winter sport tourism associations and adventure travel companies, manufacturers of ski, snowboard & winter sports equipment, and fitness & conditioning services and equipment.

There will also be ski & snowboard retailers offering money-saving "show specials" and a one million dollar ski & snowboard sale with holiday shopping bargains for the entire family.

Everyone who purchases a regular adult admission will receive a free lift ticket to either Northstar-at-Tahoe or Sierra-at-Tahoe resorts.

Also returning this year will be the popular 20-foot by 70-foot indoor ski school ramp and rock climbing wall for you to test your skills on.

For more information on the Sacramento Ski & Snowboard Show, visit www.SacSnow.com.

SACRAMENTO SKI & SNOWBOARD SHOW

Cal Expo, Hall A
1600 Exposition Blvd.
Sacramento, CA
Saturday, Nov. 4
11 a.m.-8 p.m.
Sunday, Nov. 5
11 a.m.-5 p.m.
www.SacSnow.com

ICER AIR 2006 SAN FRANCISCO SKI & SNOWBOARD FEST

AT&T Park
San Francisco, CA
Saturday, Nov. 4
10 a.m.-8 p.m.
www.IcerAir.com



In San Francisco, Icer Air 2006 enters its second year and is joined by the inaugural San Francisco Ski Fest. This year's events will both be held at AT&T Park.

With a giant 100-foot high and 350-foot long ski and snowboard jump constructed and descending from the scoreboard at AT&T Park, athletes will be competing for over \$100,000 in cash and prizes. The ramp will be covered with 200 tons of snow and competition will feature both men's and women's events in both skiing and boarding, including athletes such as X Games Gold Medalist Jon Olsson, Pep Fugas, U.S. Olympian Andy Finch and Olympic Silver Medalist Danny Kass.

Joining Icer Air this season will be SnowBomb's San Francisco Ski Fest. The event will feature interactive exhibits and high-energy entertainment that will draw a new and diverse crowd, unlike any traditional ski and snowboard expo.

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What to look for at swaps & sales

By Sam Morishima
Contributing Editor

Ski and snowboard swaps can be a bit overwhelming with endless rows with racks of used skis and boards.

Here are some general considerations in making your choice:

Do some research before you go. Checking on boards and ski types and which ones match your ability, type of skiing and preference of terrain (groomed, powder, park, moguls, etc.) can help narrow down your search.

Familiarize yourself with the brands of skis or snowboards that



exist. This can provide some guidance. Internet searches for "skis" or "snowboards" with "ability" and type of terrain can help narrow down choices.

Early in the season ski and snowboard magazine issues usually give reviews on the latest and greatest equipment. They may compare the same models to previous years.

Last, but not least, walking into your local ski and snowboard shops and asking questions can be very helpful if you can talk to a knowledgeable person.

Get to the swap as early as possible and hold onto whatever you're certain of buying.

If you have boots, be sure to bring them to the swap. You can check to make sure that the bindings with their limited range of

adjustment are able to fit your boot. Otherwise re-setting bindings or needing new ones can add cost as well as increase the chance of damaging the equipment.

You can usually spot most problems with a good visual inspection and flexing the board or skis.

Avoid boards or skis that have the following issues:

Metal edges that are bent or missing.

Sides that are torn or with chunks missing. It's a good chance that moisture has entered and will further weaken the board.

Have the edges been repaired? If you notice that a section of the metal edge is not continuous with the rest of the metal edge it may represent that the section had been torn and the metal was replaced.

If the repair was a good one with little or no gaps, it may be useable, but it is a weak spot that may tear out again especially if it encounters a rock or other hard or snagging object.

When you bend and flex the ski or board, place your ear near the bottom of the board and listen for crackles. If you hear crackling coming from the base of the board it means that the board bottom is dry and brittle due to lack of care and poor storage.

Most surface scratches on the top of the ski or board are mostly cosmetic and if you can live with it, it is not usually a problem.

Have someone you can trust and has repair knowledge to provide you with another opinion if the bottom of the board or ski is scratched or gouged.

There is a chance it may be removed by a base conditioning
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Moseley, two others enter National Ski Hall of Fame

ISHPEMING, Michigan - The U.S. National Ski Hall of Fame and Museum has announced that three former members of the U.S. Ski Team have been elected to the Class of 2006.

Freestyle skiers Jonny Moseley and Trace Worthington, along with alpine ski team member, Julie Parisien, will have their names added to the Honor Roll of the Hall of Fame at Induction Ceremonies to take place in January 2007. This will bring the



Jonny Moseley

number of Honored Members recognized by the Ski Hall of Fame to 349.

Moseley started out as an alpine skier but turned to freestyle by the age of nine. He became the most talked about

moguls skier of his time although he excelled at all three freestyle disciplines.

He won the Junior U.S. National Moguls and Combined Championships two years running in 1991 and 1992. After being named to the U.S. Ski Team in 1993 he gained his first World Cup podium in 1994 and his first World Cup victory the following season.

His career record includes two U.S. freestyle championships four

World Cup titles, 15 World Cup wins, a World Championship bronze medal (1995) and an Olympic Gold medal in moguls, won in Nagano in 1998.

Parisien is a graduate of Vermont's famed Burke Mountain Academy and was the U.S. Junior Olympic Super G and giant slalom champion in 1989.

That same year she won a bronze medal at the World Junior championships.

She became a U.S. Champion in 1990
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