

December 13, 2020

Hello Snow Drifters,

As you all know, this has been a difficult time for social activities organizations and the Snow Drifters Club is no exception. We have been attentive to current developments regarding COVID-19 and what we know of the plans of the Tahoe ski resorts that we frequent. Safety has been a major driver in our decisions and ultimately has become the deciding factor. We are a social organization; our activities and our ski cabin bring people together into close contact, which, these days, is not a good thing. So, after much consideration our Board has decided that the Snow Drifters will not organize any activities for the coming ski season or until it is deemed safe to operate normally. Our organized non-snow activities – hiking, biking, social events, and our monthly Club meetings -- will be suspended as well. We also will not offer our ski cabin this winter. We anticipate returning to normal operations again for the 2021-2022 season. Thank you for your understanding in these difficult times.

We appreciate that this is a radical move – essentially putting club activities into a “hibernation” state – so we would like to open this decision up to discussion for a brief period before making a final decision. After this discussion period, we will take any comments into account and act accordingly. If you would like to comment, please send an email to snowdriftersclub@yahoogroups.com with the subject line “Hibernation”. Note that your comments will be public. Please reply with any comments that you have by the end of December.

Membership will be continued through the coming year. If you are a paid-up member of the club for this last year, then you will continue to be a member for the year that we are beginning now with no dues due.

We will continue to facilitate communication between members and from members to the Club Board. We currently use Yahoo Groups to manage communications. As you may know, Yahoo Groups will be shutting down operations in mid-December. We are in the process of migrating off of Yahoo’s services and will announce what we will put in place of the Yahoo Group structure when it is ready. In the meantime, we encourage you to join the Snow Drifters Meetup group at <https://www.meetup.com/SnowDrifters/> if you are not already a part; you can easily communicate with others in the Meetup group through Meetup’s usual mechanisms. Please note that the Snow Drifters Meetup group and the Snow Drifters Club are separate memberships – being in one group does not put you into the other.

Although the Snow Drifters will not be organizing any ski/board trips this winter, the Tahoe resorts are open, but under special COVID protocols and schedules. Vail Resorts (Northstar and Heavenly) has one set of protocols; Alterra (Squaw/Alpine, Mammoth/June) has another. If you do plan to go to the snow this winter, we advise you to check their websites and plan accordingly.

Again, thank you for your understanding and for being a part of the Snow Drifters community.

Jeff Persoff
Snow Drifters President