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SKI TRAILS

Growing tribes of skiers, are laying plans for the busiest season this section ever has had. Most of the clubs already have planned tentative downhill and slalom races filling the weekends until late in February.

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The Moon Valley Ski Club will meet informally (snow permitting) every Monday evening at Moon Valley, directly across from Shakopee on highway 169, Harry Tyson, president, says general tests will be given the second and fourth Wednesday of each month to classify members according to their ability.

This should be encouraging to newer entrants who found that in other years advanced skiers usually won all the races. Moon Valley will open the racing season with slalom and downhill event, January 8.

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INCIDENTALLY, MOON VALLEY HAS THE ENTIRE VALLEY LIGHTED THIS YEAR . . . A NEW SKI TOW AND A CHALET SERVING COFFEE AND DOUGHNUTS MAKES ITS DEBUT. SEPP BENEDIKTER REIGNS AS INSTRUCTOR.

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Lone Lake Ski Club, south of Hopkins, has tripled the size of its skiing domain. A general meeting will be held in the near future, according to Fred Nash.

Al Lindley has taken charge of the Gokey Ski Club (5 miles south of the Minnesota River on Lyndale) where a 60-foot practice jump is being erected. Last year the corn stubble made a nasty ending for many good runs over the slalom course. But crops didn't include corn this year. With about 12 inches of snow, this hill can give most skiers around these parts plenty of lightning turns.

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Bush Lake Ski Club, minus the ski scaffold that was badly mangled in last summer's storms, has transferred its activities to the Gokey Hill. This ski club believes in an all-around program, including slalom racing and jumping. Bush Lake and Gokey are combining for a slalom race to be held January 15.

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Glenwood-Arlberg skiers will stem at Glenwood park under lights with lessons every Tuesday evening for the advanced and every Thursday evening for beginners. Columbia-Arlberg will gelandesprung at Columbia park with lessons every Saturday. Wyman Smith, instructor, will give lessons at both parks. Helen Slocum is director of these ski clubs.

Linus Ward is working hard over at the University getting an Intramural meet under way for January 20 at the recreation field on the University Golf Course.

P. S.: ANY SKIER MAY HAVE FULL USE OF SKI FACILITIES AT ALL HILLS WITHOUT BELONGING TO CLUBS. TRY THEM ALL!

SKI THUMPS

Julius Blegen and Al Lindley are attending the annual meeting of the National Ski Association in Milwaukee today.

Bush Lake plans to erect another ski scaffold next summer . . . Hannes Kohr, three weeks out of Austria, has learned the shag, and says it's the best limbering up exercise for skiing he has ever tried, so get out your ski boots and truck on down . . . Fred Thiene of Union Pacific and Glenn Reed of Northland Ski should be contacted if your club would like to see some grand movies on skiing . . .

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Sepp Benedikter didn't even forsake skiing during the summer months. He taught a girls' camp in Northern Minnesota how to ski on pine needles . . . The St. Paul Winter Carnival is erecting a $15,500 ski slide and a three-lane toboggan slide, the largest ever in the country . . . Lucky Don Fruen, he steps out of his back door in Tyrol Hills and has some nice long practice slopes . . . One Minneapolis store has already plans for three or four ski trains.

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A new type of ski indorsed by Birger and Sigmund Ruud is made with eight ply wood with a lignostone edge. It's much lighter and reputed to be very strong . . . J.

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