

Decorah Ski Jump Is Set For Feb. 21

DECORAH (UPI) — This Northeast Iowa community will host an old-fashioned ski-jump tournament next month as the inaugural of the Nor-Ski-Runs jump.

More than 30 jumpers, mostly from Minnesota and Wisconsin, have already entered the event Feb. 21.

It will be the first time in the 110-year history of the town that a ski tournament has been held. The jump, located on a 160-foot natural slope hill, was built last fall by members of the Decorah Ski Assn.

Even the lack of snow won't stop the event.

Dr. G. E. Rahn, who runs a ski run at Mt. Vernon, has promised to come to the aid with his snow-making machine if the weatherman doesn't cooperate.

The ski jump here is a part of a developing ski area which includes 3 ski slopes. There is the beginners slope and a 1,250 intermediate slope.

Experts have a 900 foot slope on which to practice. An 865-foot rope tow has been installed to pull the skiers to the top of the hill.

The Ski Association has arranged to rent out skiing equipment.

Hans Solum, Decorah, a veteran jumper and chairman of the ski meet, said he plans to attend the Rushford, Minn., ski meet Feb. 14 to sign up some more jumpers for the event here.

Solum hopes to have enough jumpers to have 4 different classes, including junior and senior classes.

The jump and ski slopes are located on the Fred Jewell farm about one mile northwest of here. The jump was built by Solum and other association members.