

Seven Ohio Sites to Be Represented at Cleveland Ski Fair

By THOMAS PLACE

Ohio skiing continues to improve and all the areas in the state have made significant changes on their slopes in anticipation of a record number of schuss-boomers this winter.

Seven of the ski centers will be at the annual Cleveland Ski Fair, Nov. 19-21 at the Statler-Hilton Hotel to show the visitors some of the advantages of "skiing at home."

The areas are Alpine Valley, Mont Chalet and Olympic Sports Camp in Geauga County; Boston Mills and Brandywine in north Summit County, and Clear Fork and Snow Trails in the Mansfield region.

THE FAIR, CO-SPONSORED by The Plain Dealer and the Cleveland Ski Club, is expected to attract at least 10,000 winter sports enthusiasts during the three days. The show will be open from 7 to 11 p.m. on Nov. 19; from 1 p.m. to 11 p.m. on Nov. 20, and from 1 p.m. to 7 p.m. on Nov. 21.

All of the areas are "open" now and it is surprising how many people stop on the weekends just for a look around. Boston Mills is prepared. It will have its Sports Shop open tomorrow and Sunday, displaying its new line of clothes and equipment.

Tom Kelsey, president of the Boston Mills operation, said the biggest improvement has been made on the landing area for the chair lift. It's been leveled considerably, making it much easier to disembark.

Incidentally, Ed (Ziggy) Baier, Brandywine's ski school director last winter, will join with Ed Strube as co-

directors of the Boston Mills school this year.

BERT FISCHER MOVES from Boston Mills over to Brandywine as the head man. This area on Highland Road has made improvement on the slopes to the left of the T-bars, and in its beginner areas. The former Pepsi Bowl has been widened considerably.

Tomorrow at Brandywine, the Cleveland Academy of Medicine will conduct a medical ski clinic that should be of considerable interest to skiers. All doctors on the panel are avid skiers. Everyone is welcome. The program:

2 p.m.—Pre-season Conditioning by Dr. William Rouds, pathologist at Lutheran Hospital; 2:30—The Ski Patrol, its functions, by Dr. Robert Richards, surgeon at Lakewood Hospital; 3:15—Common Ski Injuries, by Dr. Gordon Friess, orthopedic surgeon at St. Luke's and Martin Luther Hospital; 3:30—Skis, skis, skis, by Dr. Allen Wagner, orthopedist at Lakewood Hospital; 4:15—Equipment, by Roy Breidich, manager of May Company's Ski Hut.

The biggest slope changes took place at Alpine Valley on Route 322 in Geauga County. Larry O'Sickey's group has built a "mountain," by moving many thousands of yards of dirt. The base lodge also has been expanded. Sunday, Alpine will host district ski club race chairman in planning a metropolitan slalom later this winter.

MONT CHALET ON CAVES ROAD also has a new look. Most of the trees from the T-bar hill have been removed and the entire slope graded, widened and lengthened. The base lodge has been remodeled, with the addition of a fireplace. Ferdi Aster is the manager-ski school director here.

Olympic Sports Camp on Sperry Road gradually is moving into the skiing business and will have 150 rental units. Manager Dave Kasunic does have another innovation planned. It's "ski-joring," with the skiers pulled along trails behind horses. This camp has an active summer riding school, so it plans to make use of the horses.

Snow Trails, the "granddaddy" of Ohio areas, has carved out a beautiful new beginners area. It basically is in the same location as before, but now is wider and longer and serviced by multiple rope tows.

Clear Fork has continued grooming its slopes and still has possibly the plushiest lodge in the state. Halle's runs the ski shop here. Again, Arno Erath will direct the ski school.

They'll all be at the Ski Fair. Better plan to stop at the Statler next weekend, and visit for awhile.

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