



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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COSMIC BRINGS COMPETITIVE SKI MOUNTAINEERING TO COLORADO

In 1880, Englishman Cecil Slingsby crossed the 1,550 meter Keiser Pass in Norway on skis. Today, randonee ski racers throughout Europe take Slingsby's accomplishment to extreme levels travelling as fast as possible over varying terrain relying on their skiing and mountaineering skills to propel them up long climbs, down untracked slopes and through the finish line.

COSMIC is Colorado's first ever randonee ski mountaineering race series. The backcountry scene in Colorado and across the country has grown dramatically over the past decade making the atmosphere ripe for some friendly competition. A host of enthusiastic sponsors have come together to present COSMIC and continue the growth of backcountry skiing and the active lifestyle.

2007 Events Include:

- Sunlight Mountain - January 13th
- Snowmass - January 20th
- Loveland - March 3rd
- Silverton Mountain - April 21st
- Arapahoe Basin - April 28th

COSMIC races follow flagged courses both in and out of ski area boundaries on ungroomed terrain. Racers skin uphill to the first gate, remove their skins, ski down to the second gate and back up to the third and continue on to all gates.

Categories include: RACE, TELEMAR, RECREATIONAL, and SPLITBOARD. RACE division courses will include a boot pack and approximately 4,500 ft. of climbing. RECREATIONAL courses will climb approximately 2,500 ft.

Go to www.cosmicski.com for complete information on races, entry forms, clinics and updates.

Says series coordinator Pete Swenson, "We'll have challenging courses that will show off areas inside and outside of the ski resorts that most people probably haven't seen. If you like backcountry skiing, are an alpine skier looking for new terrain, or are a cross country skier wanting to add powder skiing to your weekend - this is your sport."

Skiers interested in learning about how to use skins and avalanche safety can catch free AMGA clinics before COSMIC races at resorts and at ski shops this fall.

SPONSORS:

Tokyo Joe's Restaurants - www.tokyojoes.com | **C.A.M.P.** - www.camp-usa.com | **Ski Trab** - www.skitrabusa.com

Arapahoe Basin | **Town of Aspen** | **Sunlight Mountain** | **Loveland Ski Area** | **Silverton Mountain**

Arc'Teryx | **Back Country Access** | **Scarpa** | **Ute Mountaineer** | Amazing Grace | Bent Gate Mountaineering
Black Diamond | CamelBak | Clif Bar | Colorado Avalanche Information Center | Conscious Coffees
Neptune Mountaineering | Pine Needle Mountaineering | Summit Canyon Mountaineering | Mountain Outfitters
The Mountain Shop | The North Face | Marmot