



30th Annual Alaska Mountain Wilderness Ski Classic 2017

*** Atigun Gorge – Wind River – Wiseman Route
Event Coordinator: Dave Cramer (907) 291-2339**

Participant Guidelines

1. The start is Sunday, April 2, 2017 at 11:00 AM, at Atigun River Gorge, Alaska, near Mile 275 Dalton Highway.
2. A mandatory check in point will be required at “Check Point” Mountain. It is located on the Wind River at 68°16.102'N. 147°23.911'W.
3. The finish deadline is midnight on Sunday April 9, 2017 at the Alaska's Arctic Getaway Bed & Breakfast, Wiseman, Alaska.
4. Minimum age is 18. The event coordinator reserves the right to deem any applicant unqualified.
5. All stipulations as outlined in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge Compatibility Determination and Final Permit are attached to and hereby made an integral part of these guidelines.
6. Maximum number of participants is 25. No applications will be accepted after 25 participants have registered. *Also see ANWR CD Item # 39 for additional information.
7. The entry fee is \$300 per participant. There is no reduced entry fee designated for students or for other groups of any kind. The \$300 entry fee is non-refundable unless the applicant withdraws by Wednesday, March 29, 2017.
8. Application deadline is Friday, March 24, 2017.
9. The plan is to rendezvous on Saturday, April 1, 2017 at the Arctic Getaway Bed & Breakfast located in Wiseman, Mile 189 of the Dalton Highway. The Arctic Getaway B & B has a restroom/shower facility available and ample floor space for sleeping bags, etc. Anyone wishing to overnight at the Arctic Getaway B & B on Saturday, April 1, 2017 must contact Dave Cramer at (907) 291-2339 prior to Wednesday, March 29, 2017. Participants will then travel on Sunday, April 2, 2017 via van from Wiseman to Atigun Gorge for the event start. The aforementioned facilities, food and transportation are covered by the event registration fee. Alternate lodging options are listed at the end of this document.
10. Any participant who turns back or drops out should notify other participants if possible, and should call Teresa, Heather or Estelle at (907) 291-2339 or the Arctic Getaway B & B at (907) 678-4456; if there is no answer, leave a message. Any participant not finished by midnight on Sunday, April 9, 2017, or who fails to call after dropping out, will be considered overdue.

** Reference Arctic National Wildlife Refuge Compatibility Determination “CD” and Permit Conditions*

11. Rescues cannot and will not be promised or offered. We will contact the emergency number supplied by the participant and the Alaska State Troopers. This will be the extent of Wilderness Classic's involvement in any search/rescue effort.

A word about BCNN style boots and bindings. Overflow is often encountered and can freeze the boots into the bindings. Skiers using that BCNN/BCSN gear may want to carry a small thermos of hot water so that they can melt the ice and release the binding. The boot toe bars are prone to tear out and/or breaking. Once the toe rips out, it is very difficult to reliably strap the boot to a ski. For more guidance on boots and bindings, go to Luc Mehl's ski touring equipment guide at <http://thingstolucat.com/ski-touring-equipment-guide>.

12. Participants are responsible for any expenses incurred for rescues or attempted rescues in their behalf. The Alaskan Alpine Club Mountain Rescue Expense Fund has been suspended at this time due to lack of funding.

13. No cash awards will be given; however, all participants will be issued a 2017 commemorative event garment, the cost of which is covered by the event registration fee.

14. Participants are encouraged to travel in groups of two or more for purposes of safety as well as fun (see item 19). *Also see ANWR CD Item # 39 for additional information.

15. Each participant should be independent in terms of gear and food; however, participants may share food and gear with each other. Participants may NOT share gear or food with non-participants. *Also see ANWR CD Item #'s 12 and 33 for additional information.

16. All travel must be self-propelled, without benefit of motorized vehicles, wheels, pack animals or pull animals. *Also see ANWR CD Item #'s 14, 15, and 16 for additional information.

17. All travel must be self-contained. Everything needed must be carried from start to finish without benefit of pre-planned caches, air drops or aid stations. Littering or purposefully dropping gear or food is grounds for disqualification. * Also see ANWR CD Item # 34 for additional information.

18. Participants are not permitted to carry or use any locator/tracking device that is limited to one way communication. Any locator/tracking or other communication devices utilized must have two way communication capabilities.

19. Participants select their own route. It is important that the route is described on the application form. At least one other individual should be notified if a participant decides to change his or her route. There will be no organized trail sweep.

20. All of the main routes require a steep ascents and descents. Participants should bring at least 10 point crampons and consider the following items:

- ice axe
- crampons
- 100 ft. 9 mm – 11 mm climbing rope
- rescue pulley
- carabiners: 2 locking gate, 4 standard gate
- Harness and belay device
- snow shovel
- ascenders
- ice screw - 1 each
- 4" picket - 1 each

21. Except for the Wiseman Access Road, all roads are out of bounds.

* Reference Arctic National Wildlife Refuge Compatibility Determination "CD" and Permit Conditions

Recommendations:

- ◆ This event starts and finishes above the Arctic Circle – be prepared for Arctic conditions
- ◆ If new, talk to those who have done this event before.
- ◆ Expect 60 mph winds, avalanche country, open water, -55°F/+40°F, deep snow, no snow, ice, breakable crust, overflow, slop, and storms.
- ◆ Waterproof your gear, especially if you use a sled.
- ◆ Take food and fuel for a minimum of 10 days. In past events, fuel needs have often been underestimated
- ◆ Consider metal edged skis - there can be a lot of overflow.

USGS topographical 1:250,000 maps: Wiseman, Phillip Smith Mountains, and Chandalar

- ◆ Consider taking: stove, fuel, pot, ski-skins, tent, repair kit, multi-purpose tool i.e. Leatherman, sunglasses, sun screen, extra skis and poles, sleeping bag good to -40°F, pad, sled and/or pack, compass and maps, ELT, flares, saw and satellite phone..

Route Description:

- ◆ **Route #1 Atigun Gorge to Phillip Smith to Robert Creek to Wiseman Route** (*Solo Travel is permitted*)

This route includes: Atigun Gorge - Accomplishment Creek or Ribdon River – Continental – Wind River-Wind River “A”- Phillip Smith - Robert Creek to Wiseman

- ◆ **Route #2 Atigun Gorge to Wind River to Your Creek to Robert Creek to Wiseman Route** (*Solo Travel is permitted*)

This route includes: Atigun Gorge – Accomplishment Creek or Ribdon River – Continental – Wind River – Wind River “A” or Wind River “B” – Your Creek – Thru Creek – Robert Creek to Wiseman.

- ◆ **Route #3 Atigun Gorge to Wind River to Chandalar River to Minnie Creek to Wiseman Route** (*Solo Travel is permitted*)

This route includes: Atigun Gorge – Accomplishment Creek or Ribdon River – Continental – Wind River – Minnie Creek to Wiseman.

Additional Information:

Bailouts

If a bailout is necessary, notify **Teresa, Heather or Estelle at 291-2339** (collect calls will be accepted at this number as long as someone is there to take the call) or the **Arctic Getaway B & B at (907) 678-4456**. No transport/pickups from the bailout location can be guaranteed. Refer to the Bailout Maps for more information.

There are three viable potential bailout points:

- ◆ **Chandalar Camp:** Participants must either return to the Dalton Hwy. and make their way to the *Chandalar DOT camp* South at mile post 239.5 or *Pump Station #4*, North at mile post 269 as shown on Map A and on the General Route Map
- ◆ **Arctic Village:** Participants should make their way to the community of Artic Village as shown on the AV Bailout Map
- ◆ **Chandalar Lake:** Participants can be picked up at the lake by Coyote Air but there are no phones or other two way communications available.

Airplane pickups can be arranged from any of the three locations. Contact **Coyote Air Service at (907) 479-5995** for pickup from bailout location with drop off in *Wiseman, Coldfoot or Fairbanks*. **Wright Aviation at (907) 474-0502** for daily scheduled service from Arctic Village to Fairbanks and/or Flag Stop service from Coldfoot to Fairbanks upon request. **Warbelows Air at (907) 474-0518** for scheduled service twice a day from *Anaktuvuk and Coldfoot to Fairbanks* and/or charter service available from *Gailbraith or Wiseman to Fairbanks* upon request.

Vehicles

There is adequate parking space at the Arctic Getaway Bed & Breakfast where vehicles may be left for the event duration at no charge. While no official security is provided, the area is not visible from the highway and is a safe location. Transportation from Wiseman to the starting point at Atigun Gorge will be provided for all participants and their gear by the event coordinator. This transportation cost is covered by the event entry fee.

Lodging/Food

- At the Start

One night's lodging and shower will be provided for all Participants at the Arctic Getaway B & B with ample floor space for sleeping bags, etc. Anyone wishing to overnight at the Arctic Getaway B & B on Saturday, April 1, 2017 must contact Dave Cramer at (907) 291-2339 prior to Wednesday, March 29, 2017. Food and beverages will be supplied by AMWC Ski Classic. Full cooking facilities are available for use by the participants, who cook their own meals and serve themselves. One nights lodging at the Arctic Getaway B & B, shower, food and beverage costs are covered by the event registration fee.

Alternate lodging, at the participants own expense, may be available at Coldfoot Camp located at mile 175 of the Dalton Highway. Contact the facility directly at (907) 678-3500 or (907) 474-3500 to make reservations.

- At the Finish:

One night's lodging and shower will be provided for all Participants at the Arctic Getaway Bed & Breakfast. Food and beverages will be supplied by AMWC Ski Classic. Full cooking facilities are available for use by the participants, who cook their own meals and serve themselves. The one nights lodging, shower, food and beverage costs are covered by the event registration fee.

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