

Missoula Freestyle Frequently Asked Questions:

What is the Christmas Camp?

The Christmas Camp is a three day mini-camp where *all levels* of MFT ski for three days in a row. It is traditionally the 28-30 of December but you can check our calendar for the official dates. This means that Little Riders, the Snowboard Team, all the way through the comp team skis these days. We understand that not all of you can make it to all of the days. That is OK. Please let MFT know if you cannot make it and we will cross you off our list for those days.

How much does MFT cost?

Missoula Freestyle offers six different program opportunities. A detailed description of each team can be found here, <https://missoulafreestyle.submittable.com>

Competition Team: \$550

Junior Competition Team: \$475

Development Team: \$390

Freeride/All Mountain Team: \$390

Little Riders Team: \$360

Snowboard Team: \$390

Passes not included in price of programs.

How often do we ski?

We ski for the three day Christmas camp and then the next 10 Saturdays after. You can check out our schedule and see when each of the days is.

Where do we meet and when?

We meet at the bottom of the Griz Chair (the bottom chair) every day at 9:15. The lift opens at 9:30 so we try and separate out the groups before we get on the lift and make sure everyone is there. We ski until 2:30 with a short lunch break generally around noon. You child can bring a lunch (advised) or can purchase a lunch at Snowbowl. At 2:30pm your child will be brought back down to the base of the Griz Chair. You can count on picking them up there every day at 2:30pm.

How does our pricing compare to other programs?

We are the cheapest ski team in town by design. Link to other teams pricing (Landon). We are focused on providing the highest quality coaching at the lowest price that we can afford. Please shop around to other Missoula and Montana teams and I think you will be amazed at our pricing structure.

What are our team goals?

We strive to provide the most well rounded skiing experience possible. When your child leaves our team they will be a fantastic all mountain skier....period. They will be able to go to any ski area, in any condition, and confidently ski any run. Snowbowl provides an excellent training ground to become a well rounded skier; from carving balanced round turns on a groomer to shredding icy moguls on a steep pitch and skiing powder in the trees, we will make your child into a great skier.

How long have we been doing this?

MFT was started in the mid-80s. Since then our team has grown to around 100 athletes and 14 coaches. We have consistently placed a skier on the U.S. Ski team for more than 20 years. We have a committed group of coaches that have been coaching for decades (each) in most cases. We have two former U.S. Ski Team members on our coaching staff and bring more experience than any other team in Montana....period.

How old does my child have to be to ski with MFT?

We accept a few 6 year olds into the Little Riders but 7 is generally the cut off. We take exceptional independent 6 years olds on a case by case basis. The base line for any skier in our program is the ability to crash and put on your own equipment, the ability to ride up the lift with an adult that is not your parents, and the ability to ski off of Snowbowl. To ski off of Snowbowl you have to either be able to ski Spartan to Second Thought or be able to ski Paradise down. If your child cannot do this then they are not ready for our program. This is a base level that everyone is held to.

How are we different than MSEF or YSL?

We will focus on all mountain skiing with a bend toward Freestyle skiing. This means we will have different drills that are focused on making your child a well-rounded skier. We will not focus on groomed run skiing transitioning into skiing gates. Our groomed run drills will be focused on allowing a skier to navigate any condition on any part of the mountain whether it is an icy mogul field or a steep powder run in the trees. We also put a specific emphasis on jumping. We build and maintain safe jumps so that athletes can learn to jump in a safe environment focusing on basic techniques that will allow them to perform what could otherwise be dangerous tricks. There is a basic jumping progression that all of the athletes go through to make them comfortable and safe when they jump. We never force anyone to jump (or do anything else for that matter) that they are not comfortable with. If you really don't want to jump, then you don't have to and you will not feel bad about this decision. It really is all about having fun and empowering the skiers.

We have a competition mogul team and slopestyle team. If your child is interested in competing in either of these venues they will have the opportunity to train on a competition style "spec" venue that is both safe, fun, and extremely challenging.

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