



UNIVERSITY SKI CLUB

**2023 Bookings and Club Handbook
Mt Buller | Mt Hotham | Falls Creek**

since 1929

Table of Contents



Welcome



4



Bookings Introduction

5

Accommodation Rates

6

Booking Periods and Limits

7

Booking Policy

8-9



The Thistlethwaite Scholarship

9



The Points System

10

Cancellations and Refunds

13

Lodge Management

14

Club Race Program

18

Mountain Information

19

Reciprocal Rights

20



Code of Conduct

21

Illness Policy

24

Club Calendar

25





2023
UNIVERSITY SKI
CLUB

*OPENING SEASON DRINKS &
FABULOUS FAREWELL TO MEL*

FRIDAY, 2ND JUNE 7-10PM
AMORA HOTEL RICHMOND

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Welcome

The nights are getting colder and the hint of winter is in the air so it's time to think about booking your weekends and ski weeks at USC. It may be too early to call what the season will look like in Australia but the USA and California in particular had a crazy season with massive snowfalls and base depths heading towards 5m.

The landslide on the road to Falls Creek remains a concern but the authorities have promised to have the road open by the end of April. The detour 'track' through Bogong Village may also be paved to allow AWD and 4WD access as a backup.

Clubman is the only way to book at USC (<https://clubman.app/welcome>) in 2023. We hope it will now be familiar and easy to use. Bed rates have been increased by 8% which is in line with general CPI although leisure and tourism CPI is closer to 20% at the moment. With the increase the base weekend rate goes from \$80 to \$86. The Committee believe the increase is required in order to maintain the financial health of the Club including rising insurance, utility and providing costs. This season we are also lucky to welcome back our on-mountain lodge managers, Sally Rodden at Buller and Liz White at Falls Creek.

Priority Points

Priority points accumulated from 2019 continue to be carried forward and can be used for bookings in the Priority Rounds. The points are factored up by 10 when entered into Clubman. Key dates for the season are set out at page 7 and 25.

Happy skiing!

Regards

David Cleland
President, and on behalf of The Committee



CONTACT DETAILS FOR BOOKING

Online via Clubman (preferred): <https://clubman.app/welcome>

Mail: USC BOOKINGS, Melissa Parsons, PO Box 93, Sandown Village Vic 3171

Fax: 03 8786 7899

Email: bookings@usc.com.au

Phone: 03 8786 7899 9am to 5pm weekdays only after 1 June.

The office is closed on weekends.

Bookings Introduction

Important items to note for 2023!

RACING ROUND

For 2023, the Club will open bookings for Mt Buller race weekend (nights 11/12 August) and Falls Creek Kangaroo Hoppet (nights 25/26 August) the week before the other priority rounds. To be eligible to apply for these weekends:

- Buller - at least half of people in the booking must be participating in the Club races on the weekend.
- Falls Creek - everyone over the age of 5 in the booking must be racing.

Priority Rounds

There will be a 2 Priority Rounds ahead of normal bookings where Members can make up to 3 bookings. Each booking in the Priority Rounds MUST be either a Weekend (2 nights, Fri & Sat) or a Midweek (5 nights, Sun-Thurs). The 3 bookings can be for the same dates at different lodges, different dates or could be successive, for example a Weekend followed by a Midweek and further Weekend booking. You cannot, within a single booking in the Priority Round (i.e one of your 3), book "long weekends" or "short midweeks" (except opening weekend) because of the difficulty in allocating priority points across different periods and with the goal of maximising lodge usage.



The 3 booking limit in the Priority Rounds is the same 2022 and replaces the limit of "2 weekends and a mid-week" which the Club applied in previous years. This system is more flexible and uses Priority Points more efficiently.

Each of the 3 bookings are made in order of preference and will be processed successively so all 1st preference bookings will be compared against each other, as will all 2nd and 3rd preference bookings.

**YOU MUST ENSURE BOOKINGS ARE ENTERED IN YOUR ORDER OF PREFERENCE
THE BOOKING OFFICE CANNOT ADJUST THIS.**

In the first Priority Round, Members can book their immediate family or themselves and three guests. In the second Priority Round, Members can book themselves, family and any number of guests subject to having sufficient Priority Points. Further details are set out from page 7.

Full Bookings

Once the Priority Rounds are completed, normal bookings will open with live availability and bookings generally confirmed in real time.

Payment/Cancellation

Note that if your Priority Round booking is not paid for within the given time frame, the system WILL automatically cancel it and the beds will be released. During the normal season you will have to pay when you book to confirm the booking. Credit card payments will be available through the Stripe gateway with a 1.5% surcharge. There is no surcharge for direct deposit payments to the Club's bank account.

BOOKINGS LINK 2023

<https://clubman.app/welcome>



Important items to note for 2023!

YOUNG MEMBER WEEKEND

To promote younger members of the Club to meet, ride and enjoy the Club, the weekend nights of 21 & 22 July 2023 at the Mt Buller lodge has been selected as a "Young Member Weekend". A limited number of rooms (one wing) will be reserved to encourage younger members to book.

Who can book?

- Members children up to age 26
- Provisional members up to age 26
- Any full member who would like to meet other young members of USC

Can I bring guests?

- There is a limit of ONE GUEST per member/member child/provisional member for this weekend.

To compliment this young member weekend, the committee is also hosting a young member social in mid June. More details are to follow, but we hope to see as many younger members there as possible.

MEMBER CHILDREN AGE INCREASED TO 26

The long waiting list for membership has meant many members children are "aging out" of the member child bed rate whilst they wait for their membership offer. This means those children are then being charged full guest rates when they stay at USC facilities (plus they also effectively become unaccompanied guests which means they also cannot stay at any facility without a member.)

To help members and their families finding themselves in this predicament, the committee has agreed to increase the age at which members children become guests to be 26 - the same age at which members children also begin to pay a joining fee on membership.

FALLS CREEK BOOKINGS

At the time of bookings opening, the road to Falls Creek via Mt Beauty, remains closed without a permit. Current information from the resort indicates that the road should be open by the end of April, meaning access should be restored in time for the commencement of the 2023 season.

The committee believes there may be some requirements for people to prebook access to the resort this season, so please make sure you check the Falls Creek website for any requirements prior to your stay.

Should the Falls Creek resort NOT be open this season, full credits will be provided for all persons who have a confirmed booking for this lodge.

Accommodation Rates

BULLER, FALLS CREEK, HOTHAM	LOW MW	LOW WKND	HIGH MW	HIGH WKND
Members, Associate Member, Members Children, Member Affiliate	\$68	\$74	\$86	\$92
Guests				
Guest Adult	\$70	\$76	\$146	\$153
Guest Child	\$70	\$76	\$101	\$108
FALLS CREEK FLATS				
Flat 2 (DBL + 3 singles)	\$353	\$392	\$414	\$453
Flat 3 (DBL + 3 singles)	\$372	\$411	\$434	\$473
Flat 4 (DBL + 3 singles)	\$392	\$430	\$453	\$492
Extra Person in flat	\$70	\$76	\$146	\$158
Race Weekend Surcharge (18+ only)				\$70

KEY:

- All rates are per night
- Flat rates allow up to 5 people with the extra person rate applicable after that - max 6.
- Low Season: 9 June – 1 July and 3 September - Close
- High Season: 2 July – 2 September
- MW - Midweek (Sunday to Thursday nights)
- WKND - Weekend (Friday and Saturday nights which must be booked together)



Booking Periods and Limits

Round	Points	When to Book	Pay Before	Limits	Who
RACING Mt Buller 11/12 August Falls Creek 25/26 August	YES	Wed 12 April- Sun 16 April	20 April	Bookings open only for members who are participating in racing on these weekends. For Mt Buller 50% of the booking must be racing. Falls Creek – ALL over age 5 must be racing.	Member & family or member and 3 guests. Max 4 persons* For Mt Buller 50% of the booking must be racing. Falls Creek – ALL over age 5 must be racing.
1	YES	Wed 19 April- Sun 23 April	26 April	Place 3 bookings in order of priority. Each booking is a weekend (2 nights) or Midweek (5 nights)	Member & family or member and 3 guests. Max 4 persons*
2	YES	Wed 26 April- Sun 30 April	May 3	Place 3 bookings in order of priority. Each booking is a weekend (2 nights) or Midweek (5 nights)	Member, Family, Guests
	NO	May 10	On booking	No limit on bookings, except weekend bookings must be both Friday & Saturday night	Members, family, guests

2023 Provisional Member Booking Rights

Round	Points	When to Book	Pay	Limits	Who
	N/A	May 24	On booking	Excludes 2 nd week Vic July school holidays and August weekends**.	Provisional Members, their families and accompanied guests

Notes:

Each Member can nominate one Member Affiliate for the year (frequently a partner or spouse but not necessarily). A Member Affiliate is able to stay together with the Members' guests or family without the Member. However, during the Priority Rounds the Member with the priority points needs to be included in each booking. If the Member ultimately isn't going to attend for that booking, the Member Affiliate can be substituted by contacting the Booking Office after the Priority Rounds.

Unaccompanied guests are not permitted to stay at USC lodges at any time.

* Exceptions for larger families with children staying in the same room.

** 2nd week July school holidays may become available if vacancies exist. August weekends may become available during the season, however, no guarantee is provided.

All guests are the responsibility of the booking Member when staying at USC and should be made aware of the Code of Conduct and Illness Policies.

Bookings Policy

Bookings Policy Objective

The aim of the USC Bookings Policy is to:

- Provide equitable access to Club accommodation for all Members
- Encourage Member involvement in the Club
- Allow Members to bring family and friends to the lodges while balancing access for other Members
- Ensure the use of the lodges and Club revenues are maximized so that the Club remains viable and prosperous into the future

1. Book Online

During the Priority Rounds all bookings need to be placed online using Clubman. No phone or email bookings will be accepted. The Booking Office will assist where possible if you have difficulties using Clubman.

Once Full Bookings open you can contact the Booking Office to place a booking which will usually be confirmed quickly if space is available and the Booking Office is open. However, contacting the Booking Office adds an extra step to the booking process which may take longer during busy periods and we cannot guarantee bookings over those received via Clubman. As such, we recommend booking directly via Clubman at all times.

2. Booking Details

All dates, names of occupants and payment methods should be entered into Clubman when your booking is submitted. Guests and children need to be added when you first use Clubman but will be associated with your account going forward. Contact the Booking Office to add additional people.

3. Financial Members

You must be financial to book (ie. membership fees and bookings (including guest bookings) paid in full, which can be done on the online system under 'invoices').

4. Members Only

Only Members are able to make bookings. Guests should not contact the Booking Office unless the Bookings Officer has contacted the guest directly. The Member is the conduit for all guest bookings.

5. Observe the Booking Rules

The booking periods and limits are set out in the table on Page 7. Most rules and limits are also embedded in Clubman so please review the rules if you're having difficulty placing your booking.

6. Confirmations by Email

You will receive an immediate email acknowledgement from Clubman that your booking request has been received. **This is not a confirmation of your bookings but simply an acknowledgement that the booking has been placed.**

For Rounds 1 and 2, successful booking offers should be distributed to Members from Clubman before the following Wednesday after each round has closed with payment due by the following Sunday as set out in the table on Page 7. As this is the first year the Club has used Clubman, we've allowed extra time to iron out any issues.

Once full bookings open, acknowledgment of the booking, acceptance and invoicing for the majority of beds in a lodge will be almost immediate. Booking the last beds in a lodge may take longer to confirm as the Booking Office will need to determine room allocations and lodge capacity.

No booking is confirmed until payment is received in full by direct deposit or credit card. Bookings cannot be held without payment and will be released without notice if payment is not received.

Bookings Policy (cont.)

7. Payment

Members are responsible for all payments including guests. **ALL payments must be made via Clubman** - no cheques, direct bank transfers or Bpay payments are accepted. The preferred method of payment is by direct debit as it costs the Club \$0.30. You can pay by credit card subject to a 1.5% surcharge, noting the Club will be paying 1.9%. Credit card details are processed through Stripe so personal details are not kept by USC or Clubman.

8. Code of Conduct and Illness Policy

The Code of Conduct and Illness Policy are part of the terms of all bookings and apply to everyone staying at USC. Members are responsible for everyone in their bookings so please make sure they are aware of and comply with these policies which are set out on pages 21-24.

9. No Waiting Lists or other Lodge Nominations

Clubman is a live booking systems and does not maintain waiting lists or allow for a 2nd preference lodge. However, you can see lodge Availability between Priority Rounds and during the season to make your booking accordingly.

10. Falls Creek Flats

Flat bookings are for the entire flat. Rates are based on 5 people staying. A maximum of 5 adults are permitted and 6 people in total including children.

11. Booking Cancellation due to COVID-19

The Club reserves the right to cancel any booking in order to comply with the regulations or requirements of any authority. A full refund will be provided if your booking is cancelled. For example, if restrictions change and the total number of people allowed in the lodge is reduced, some bookings may have to be cancelled. In these circumstances, where possible, the Club will allow Members to elect to cancel their booking. If there are insufficient elections, a "last in/first out" approach will be adopted. For general cancellation and refunds see Page 13.

The Thistlethwaite Scholarship

The Club lost a valued member in Dale Thistlethwaite (& her husband Stuart Holloway) in late December 2015. In Dale & Stuart's memory, the Committee has established an annual scholarship to aid Members and member children aged up to age 25 in the pursuit of skiing/snowsports excellence.

Full details and how to apply will be posted on the Club website under the Member resources area.

Applications are open until 30 June 2022. Please contact the Bookings Office for further information.



The Points System

1. Priority Points

To encourage involvement in the Club, Priority Points are earned for volunteer activities undertaken by Members which benefit the Club. Priority Points are not available to Provisional Members. Priority Points are earned by Members during the calendar year preceding the winter booking period for the activities set out on Page 10. Other tasks may also attract Priority Points at the discretion of the Committee. You can register your interest in helping off mountain or outside the normal roles with the Bookings Officer.

From 1 January 2022, priority points no longer expire annually. Any points not used in 2022 have rolled over to 2023. When entered into Clubman, Priority Points are factored by 10 to allow the priority point booking algorithm to determine the minimum points required for a successful booking by a fraction of a point. You can check your priority points and other details in Clubman:

- <https://clubman.app/welcome>
- following the menu: **More>>User Settings**
- click the link <University Ski Club - Your Name>

2. Using Priority Points

When booking Priority Rounds 1 and 2, if there are more booking requests than beds available for a particular Midweek or Weekend period each Member's priority points will be used to allocate the successful bookings. Clubman will determine each Priority Round using the priority algorithm (with review by the Booking Officer, whose decision is final). If a Member has an issue with the booking procedure, they may write to the Committee. Priority Points are only used in Priority Rounds 1 and 2.

3. Application of Points to Bookings

Priority Points will be divided by the number of people in your booking at all times (previously this was only on weekends). However, you don't need to allocate points to each booking as Clubman will automatically determine the minimum number of points required to secure a contested booking. No Priority Points will be used for uncontested bookings. Please note, **each of the 3 bookings in a Priority Round need to be in order of priority** as Clubman will process everyone's first booking request first, everyone's second booking request second and so on.

Examples:

Say there were 5 beds available and 6 people with 60, 50, 40, 30, 20 and 10 Priority Points (factored after they were entered into Clubman) competing for the following bookings:

A. For the same Weekend or Midweek where each wanted 1 bed - the Priority Points required for a successful booking would be 11 (one more than the person who misses out) and the 5 successful members would be left with 49, 39, 29, 19 and 9 points. The person with 10 points would be unsuccessful and would retain their 10 points.

B. If we change Example A so that the Member with 60 points had 2 people in their first booking and everything else was the same, the cost would increase to 21 points as the Members with 20 and 10 points would both miss out but not lose any Priority Points. Remaining point balances instead would be 18, 29, 19, 9, 20 and 10.

C. If as their second booking in a Priority Round they all competed again, but each only wanted 1 bed as per Example A, the cost would be 10 as the person with 9 points misses out. Remaining point balances are 8, 19, 9, 9, 10 and 0.

At the end of each Priority Round you'll be notified of your successful bookings with payment due by a specific date to confirm the booking. If you choose not to accept a priority booking, there is no cost other than lost Priority Points. The points are used because your successful booking will have denied others those beds and contributed to the Priority Point cost of that booking.

Points Awarded



ROLE	POINTS
Senior & Deputy Party Leader Hotham (no Lodge Manager)	
Mon - Fri (mid-week)	4
Part of mid-week or two day weekend	2
Party Leader - Falls Creek & Buller	
Mon - Fri (mid-week)	2
Part of mid-week or two day weekend	1
Membership of USC	
Every 10 years of membership	2
2 day work party	
Mt Buller	4
Falls Creek	6
Mt Hotham	6
Committee or Sub-Committee work	
per 4 hours	1

Points are factored by 10 when entered into Clubman.
 Points are only awarded to the Member attending and fully completing the work party. Any additional family members or friends attending the work party are not eligible to earn points.



Cancellation and Refunds

1. General Cancellation Policy

A booking must be paid in full when it is invoiced. Extra time to pay is allowed in the Priority Round. As such, the following refunds are available if you cancel a confirmed booking, depending on when you contact the Booking Officer:

Time from first night's stay	Lodge beds	Flats
Greater than 14 days	90%	90%
Between 7 to 14 days	80%	no refund
Less than 7 days	no refund	no refund

However, if less than 14 days notice is given but the Booking Officer is able to re-book the cancelled beds, a 90% refund will be given for those beds which are re-booked. Cancellations can be made at any time by phone, email or fax, up to 5pm as per the above table. Please give the following details when cancelling:

- Member's name and telephone number.
- Names of people in party requiring cancellation.
- Dates of nights being cancelled.

A fee for all cancellations was introduced because it deters the practice of speculative booking which deprives others of the opportunity to make skiing plans early in the season.

The Committee believes it is equitable to make a nominal charge for early cancellation notice, progressing to higher penalties the later the cancellation, as this encourages early notice of any changes thus giving others the chance of making a booking for the cancelled beds.

2. Illness Policy Cancellations including COVID-19

In accordance with the Illness Policy, it is important that no one attends the lodges when unwell to protect Members and guests and keep the lodges operational. Please cancel or postpone your booking or leave the lodge early if you become unwell with a viral illness including any of the symptoms set out in the Illness Policy.

A 90% refund will be given for your booking (or any unused nights) for genuine illness cancellations if:

- the Bookings Officer is notified as soon as reasonably possible at the time of developing symptoms and prior to departure from the lodge; and
- a medical certificate or evidence of a positive COVID-19 test is provided with the request for a refund.

A full refund will be made if a booking is cancelled by the Club in accordance with paragraph 11 of the Booking Process, *Booking Cancellation due to COVID-19* (see page 9).

3. Refund Process

Refunds from cancellations made in the prescribed manner are refunded immediately using the same method as payment (bank transfer or credit card). There is no longer the option of holding a credit for future bookings.



Lodge Management

1. Lodge Roles and Responsibilities

To reflect the different management of Lodges the following structure applies. Role descriptions are posted on the Club website.

Senior Party Leaders

Senior Party Leaders represent the USC Committee in “on-mountain” situations and receive priority booking points in return for volunteering their time and energy while on holiday.

The Senior Party Leader is appointed at Mt Hotham and during the Summer Season at any lodge where there is no resident Lodge Manager. The Senior Party Leader has ultimate authority in the lodge, as representing the Committee and must be supported by all residents.

Party Leaders

The Party Leaders support the Lodge Managers at Falls Creek and Mt Buller and are required to coordinate the volunteers. This includes Club dinners and ensuring that the cleaning and other task duty rosters are notified to Members using the lodge and that those Members actually do the tasks allocated to them during their stay at the Lodge and on departure. This is an important role and will often mean that a party leader is one of the last to leave on a weekend. Please note, difficulties experienced with party leaders not properly discharging their role have resulted in those individuals not receiving priority points. At Mt Buller and Falls Creek, whether or not an individual has discharged his or her role as party leader will be determined by the Lodge Manager who will make a report to the Bookings Officer. At Hotham the incoming party leader can make this determination. An unsatisfactory performance may well impact on your ability to be a Party Leader in the future which will impact on your ability to earn priority points.

Deputy Party Leaders

Deputy Party Leaders are appointed at Hotham. They coordinate food deliveries and assist the Senior Party Leader. As for Party Leaders, entitlement to Priority Points is dependent on discharge of the obligations as Deputy Party Leaders.

Lodge Managers

Lodge Managers live in residence at the lodge at Buller and Falls. They are responsible for managing the lodge in terms of incoming and outgoing Members and their guests, lodge maintenance, in-season providing and ensuring Party Leaders discharge their responsibilities. They are important ambassadors for the Club. Please note, the Lodge Managers are not there to keep the lodge clean and tidy or complete the duties missed by Members. Those tasks are the responsibility of the Party Leaders to organise and ultimately, the responsibility of the Members using the lodge.

LODGE MANAGER IN RESIDENCE		
ROLE	KEY CONTACT	RESPONSIBILITY
<i>Buller</i>		
Lodge Manager	Sally Rodden	Manage the Lodge, Mt Buller
Lodge Admin	Felicity Koch	Lead Mt Buller Sub-Committee
<i>Falls</i>		
Lodge Manager	Liz White	Manage the Lodge, Falls Creek
Lodge Admin	Fiona Hellier	Lead Falls Creek Sub-Committee
HOTHAM - NO LODGE MANAGER IN RESIDENCE		
ROLE	APPOINTMENT	RESPONSIBILITY
Senior Party Leader	Volunteer Member	Manage the Lodge and duties roster
Deputy Party Leader	Volunteer Member	Coordinates food orders and deliveries
Lodge Admin	David Cleland	Lead Hotham Sub-Committee

Lodge Management

2. Arriving before the 5pm

All luggage should be placed out of the way in the luggage room at Mt Buller or basement at Mt Hotham and Falls Creek and as directed by the Lodge Manager or Senior Party Leader **until changeover at 5pm.**

Early arrivals should report to the Senior Party Leader or Lodge Manager as soon as practically possible. Early arrivals are entitled only to tea/coffee and biscuits. At all times, consideration for the comfort and amenity of existing lodge occupants is a primary requirement. **Members entering rooms before 5pm without the permission of the Lodge Manager or Senior Party Leader and unreasonably consuming pantry items, may have their booking immediately cancelled.**

3. Members and guests visiting the lodge when not staying

A Member who is not booked into USC lodges should only use the lodge by prior arrangement with the Bookings Officer, Senior Party Leader at Hotham, or Party Leader at other lodges. Any such visits must not inconvenience those staying and factors to consider are how full the lodge is, time of day, etc. Catering is as per early arrivals. USC does have a tradition of occasionally welcoming guests for a drink or meal and there is no reason why this tradition should not continue when the guest is invited and if the above considerations are met. If a non-staying member or guest wishes to stay for a Club dinner, a fee of \$30pp is payable. This can only be done with the approval of the Lodge Manager/Party Leader and Booking Office.

4. Lodge Dinners

Please note the different arrangements at lodges for dinner. Club Dinners at Falls Creek and Mount Buller are generally Saturday night only. Hotham holds Club dinners each night given the size of the kitchen, the joint provisioning of fresh food and as this is an important Club tradition in that lodge. People travelling to Hotham should inform the Booking Officer if they want dinner at the lodge on the first night of their arrival.

5. Lockers

A limited number of lockers may be available. Lockers are only allocated to active members of the relevant Lodge. A waiting list is maintained and allocation is in order of receipt. A \$100 deposit is taken for lockers and the key should be returned with a locker in good condition to receive a refund. An annual fee is charged for each locker, currently set at \$25. The Club takes no responsibility for the contents of any locker. If a Member has not stayed at the Lodge at which their locker is located for more than two seasons they may be required to return the locker to the Club. The Club will make their best effort to have any contents returned to the owner. Any contents not collected by the start of the following Ski Season following a request to do so, will be given to a charity.

6. Internet Access

Wireless broadband internet connections are available in all lodges. From 2023, both Mt Buller and Mt Hotham have Stalink installed to increase the speed and accessibility of internet access for members at those resorts. The committee looks forward to receiving feedback from members about this addition. The Club endeavours to maintain a working internet in communal areas but it may be limited by the quality of on mountain connections and the number of users. For this reason the Club reserves the right to limit access to movie and gaming applications. Details to connect to the internet are provided with the door codes and in the lodge. **Please do not disconnect or interfere with the Club's routers, wi-fi or connections.**

Lodge Management

7. Falls Creek Flats and Use

Configuration and use of the wider lodge.

- The flats have a single bedroom containing a double bed and three single bunks and are comfortable for four people, or a family of 5.
- Cooking equipment includes hot plates, microwave oven and electric frying pan.
- Flat occupants have access to the lodge pantry and communal refrigerator for foodstuffs.

Cleaning Flats and vacating - Occupants are required to keep flats clean and tidy. Check out is strictly 5pm. Regular commercial cleaning is no longer able to be provided for the Falls Creek flats. It is the member/guest responsibility to ensure the flat is clean upon departure for the next guests. Contact the Booking Office for a cleaning quote if self-cleaning is not practicable.

- A surcharge will be charged should your flat not be left in a suitably clean state. A cleaning checklist will be in each flat which will need to be signed and returned to the Booking Office upon completion of your booking.

Duties for Flat occupants

As users of the flats are entitled to, and usually do use, communal facilities as well as their flat, the Party Leader will assign lodge duties to all flat occupants. Names of all flat occupants should be confirmed to the Party Leader. If flat occupants do not complete assigned duties, a fee will be levied against the Member making the booking.

8. Transport

Members are responsible for their own transport. The Booking Officer will try to help people who require transport by seeking if any other Members might have a spare seat available. It is the Member's responsibility to make appropriate arrangements.



Wendy Camier in 2015 with Hotham logbooks



Lodge Management

9. Club Security Systems , Lodge Access

Members and guests must never convey door codes to people other than Members and their accompanied, staying guests. Members and guests are to assist in maintaining safety and security by ensuring that all doors and ground floor windows are secured (locked) to prevent unwanted access by strangers. Lodges may have security surveillance systems installed.

Mt Buller

The building has a security access number keypad that operates in winter. This number is for use by Members and paying guests only. The number is changed on Sunday night. Door codes are distributed with booking confirmations. There is a year-round security and fire system installed. There is also a camera system installed in the communal TV/Movie/Pool room areas. Codes will no longer be displayed though out the Lodge for security purposes. Members MUST ensure they have the code and are not reliant on obtaining it from the Lodge Manager or other members to access the lodge. In an emergency situation only, they can call Salley Rodden the Lodge Manager or Melissa Parsons (during office hours).

Mt Hotham

The building has a keypad security system, which is operated during the ski season. Members will be advised of the door code with their booking confirmation.

Falls Creek

There will be a separate keypad code allocated to each flat and for Club lodge access. Members will be advised of this with their booking confirmation.



Club Race Program

The Club has a longstanding history of encouraging a flourishing race program and appoints a volunteer Race Director each year. Preference is given where possible to bookings for those Members who wish to book for Club race events. Ski racing is a great way to get to know other Members and have a fun. Please come along and join in. Everyone is welcome and we have many generations of families of all abilities who give it a go!

USC ski race events are posted on the Club Calendar of events. If you would like to get involved in racing, please contact the Bookings Officer who will arrange for our Race Director Rob Walker to get in contact with you.

Buller Race Weekend

The USC Alpine Ski Races will occur over the weekend of Saturday 13th August and Sunday 14th at Mt Buller (booking nights 11th & 12th August). Weather permitting, the weekend consists of all the usual races - Saturday: Slalom, Giant Slalom and Sunday: Jumps and Moguls. Snowboarders are also able to participate. Even if you are not staying in the Lodge you are welcome to participate, provided you notify the Booking Officer well in advance of the event. Please book early for this weekend, as it is always extremely popular.

Kangaroo Hoppet and X-Country Race Weekend

The Kangaroo Hoppet is an international cross country race run annually at Falls Creek (27th August, booking nights 25th & 26th August). Events staged are 42km, 21km and 7km, all "freestyle". Members should arrange their own entry. X-Country race weekend has been combined with the Hoppet from 2022. While there is no surcharge for the weekend, beds at the Falls Creek lodge are preferred for Members who are Hoppet racers.

Pub to Pub Race

This weekend is planned to be a social weekend only at this stage on the 5 and 6 August in 2023 (booking nights 4 - 5 August).

Inter Club Races

Mt Buller Team challenge is expected to be held in August. USC enters teams of 3+ competitors in various classes to take on other ski Clubs and alpine management. With a history of over 75 years this is the event to win and bring home the cup for USC. If any Member is interested in participating in Inter Club on any of the mountains, please contact the bookings office.



Mountain Information

The Club website will contain current links to mountain information. The following information may be helpful as a quick reference.

Snow reports: 1902 240 523

Web: www.vicsnowreport.com.au or link to each mountain's website via:
www.falls creek.com.au www.mtbuller.com.au www.mthotham.com.au

Mt Hotham

Great Alpine Road report (daytime recorded service) 03 5759 3531.
VicRoads 24 hr Emergency Road Conditions 13 11 70.

The road to Mount Hotham, particularly via Harrietville, can be closed due to blizzards and poor road conditions. Before leaving for Mount Hotham all Members should check the road conditions. Alternative access is usually the Gippsland route via Omeo. **Refunds due to road closures are not guaranteed, particularly when Mount Hotham Alpine Resort or government authorities have given public notice the road has been closed and there has been reasonable alternatives available and time for members to take access via Omeo.** Entry and Parking fees are pre-paid on the Mount Hotham web site or at the administration office in the village during working hours. Late arrivals may arrange payment the next morning.

Short term parking to unload is available on the road above the lodge - observe the signage - generally between 7am and 11pm. Overnight parking is from below the Davenport sub-division to Slatey's Cutting or beyond. The Mt Hotham Alpine Resort Management provides free bus transport between car parks and the village. USC is at bus stop number 4.

Falls Creek

Entry and parking fees are now paid online. Proceed to the Falls Creek parking/overland transport depot on arrival. Unload and arrange over snow transport if required. If the parking space provided is some distance from the over snow transport, complimentary transport back to the over snow depot is provided by the Rangers. Ride or walk uphill to the USC lodge.
If the driver is unaware of the location of the Club, ask for Geelong Ski Club in Parallel Street. USC is next to the the Geelong Ski Club .

Mt Buller

Resort entry is paid at Mirimbah and parking is controlled by Resort Management some distance below the village. For day visitors, a free bus service is available (no luggage permitted) to complete the journey and for overnight visitors a taxi service is available. Costs can be found on the Mt Buller website.
Club onsite parks are allocated to the Lodge Manager and members of the Committee who contribute to the management of the lodge in the first instance. Additional sites are allocated at the discretion of the Committee and to Members who make an exceptional contribution to the Club and are high frequency users of the Mt Buller Lodge. Members must apply through the Club Secretary for roadside carparks generally before March each year. Club approval is required for permits or they will be denied by Mt Buller.

Seasons Passes, Lift Passes and Mountain entry offers

Don't forget that all resorts normally offer discounts for early purchases on lift tickets & gate entry, with particularly good rates for passes purchased.

Reciprocal Rights

USC has reciprocal rights with the Brindabella Ski Club in NSW and Akademischer Ski Club, Tübingen (ASCT).

If you would like to make a booking with either Club please contact the Bookings Officer, Melissa Parsons.

The Brindabella Ski Club

This is a Canberra/Sydney based club with a skiing history dating back to 1957. Until 1997 the club was called the YMCA Ski Club. Brindabella currently operates two lodges in Guthega, Kyilla and Tiobunga, and a newer lodge in Thredbo. (The Club's original Thredbo lodge, Carinya, was swept away in the July 1997 tragedy that killed 18 people, including one YMCA Club member.) First contact must be done via USC Bookings Office to allow confirmation to BSC of membership status. Bookings are made offline using the form found under "Bookings" at www.brindabellaskiclub.org.au which can be scanned and emailed or faxed to their booking office. Information on availability, BSC bookings procedures can also be viewed at the above site.

ASCT (Altherrenverein des Akademischen SkiClubs Tubingen e.V.) - Owns lodges in Stuben (Austria between Lech and St. Anton) and Kneibis (Black Forest, Southern Germany). For further information (in German) go to www.asct.de and <https://www.facebook.com/asctuebingen/> www.asct.de. Although this arrangement has been in place for a number of years we don't think any USC Members have stayed there. Please investigate if you have the opportunity!



Code of Conduct

University Ski Club has a Code of Conduct that has been developed to provide clear guidelines on the expected conduct for everyone who attends University Ski Club's facilities to promote safe, fair and appropriate behaviours for a Club.

Members, Provisional Members and Associate Members of University Ski Club are responsible for ensuring their Affiliate and/or Guests, including children uphold the Code of Conduct. It is the Member, Associate Member and Provisional member's responsibility to ensure they are familiar with the current version. It will be available on the Club website and posted in Lodges. Hard copies are available from the Bookings Officer. It forms part of the terms and conditions of booking and entry to lodges. Members should ensure their guests are familiar with this Code of Conduct before entering Club premises or events.

Lodge Managers and Senior Party Leaders, manage lodges and compliance of lodge occupants to the Code of Conduct with the support of the Committee.

The current version of both policies is included in this document and also available on our Member resource centre at www.usc.com.au.

EARLY ARRIVALS - PLEASE DO NOT ENTER BEDROOMS BEFORE THE 5PM CHECK IN TIME UNLESS THE LODGE MANAGER OR SENIOR PARTY LEADER HAS DETERMINED THE ROOM(S) HAVE BEEN VACATED. THE MEMBER'S BOOKING CAN BE CANCELLED IMMEDIATELY BY THE CLUB IF THIS IS NOT OBSERVED.



SAFETY, FAIRNESS AND RESPECT

Code of Conduct (cont.)

1. Respectful Behaviour in Lodges

USC lodges operate on a cooperative basis and everyone's input and collegiate conduct is essential. We ask that everyone behave with consideration for other people and their property to make it a pleasant stay.

1.1 Quiet times - between 10.30pm to 7.00 am in communal areas and 7.30pm to 7.00am in bedroom areas.

1.2 Arriving or returning during quiet times - When arriving or returning to the lodge in quiet times, you are requested not to disturb occupants. Forgetting a code and waking up others to obtain it, is not well received. **Entering a room before the 5pm check in time and without the permission of the Lodge Manager or Senior Party Leader, may result in the booking being immediately cancelled.**

1.3 Please clean up as you go - please ensure communal areas are cleaned immediately after use so the facility is available for another member eg. Kitchen, Bathrooms, Lounges and Dining areas. Please don't leave areas for other to clean up. Speak to the Lodge Manager or Senior Party Leader if you have any concerns.

1.4 Duties - all Members, Associate Members, Provisional Members and their Affiliate and/or guests are required to perform an allocated duty and ensure the area is maintained in a useable state during their stay. Children over the age of 12 are encouraged to take on age appropriate roles with guidance from their parent or nominated member.

1.5 Duties are posted on Club notice boards. Seek help from lodge leaders if you need assistance.

1.6 Facilities to be used for the intended purpose - all lodge facilities should be used for their intended purpose. Anything otherwise is not acceptable. Running, climbing and causing damage is not tolerated. Report any damage or accidents immediately to the Lodge Manager or Senior Party Leader.

1.7 Inclusive use - lodge facilities should not be used in a way that excludes other members and occupants enjoying. 'Taking over' spaces unreasonably in communal areas including entrance, lounge, bathrooms, drying room, corridors, cinema rooms, pool table rooms, ski racks, kitchen and dining areas is not allowed. Television viewing must be inclusive, cordial and age appropriate as per Australian standards ratings. All paying occupants should be able to readily enjoy Club facilities first and foremost.

1.8 Responsibility for guests and visitors - At all times the member making the booking is responsible for his/her guests.

1.9 Any serious cases of unacceptable behaviour - either by a Member, Associate Member, Provisional Member or their Affiliate or guest including rude, irresponsible or inappropriate behaviour will be reported by the Lodge Manager or Senior Party leader to the Committee. The Manager or Senior Party Leader has support of the Committee to ask the offender to leave the lodge, if need be. The Member, Associate Member or Provisional Member may be subject to disciplinary processes including for behaviour of their Affiliate and/or guests. Bookings and membership privileges may be denied. In cases of serious misconduct the individual (s) (Member, Associate Member, Provisional member or their Affiliate and/or guest(s)) may be instructed to leave the lodge.

1.10 Supervision of children - the presence of another adult or a security camera does not constitute adequate supervision of children. Supervision from a distance or offsite is unacceptable if the child is unable to comply with the Code of Conduct. Children must comply with the Code of Conduct and failure to do so is taken very seriously. Leaving children under the age of 10 in the lodge without supervision is not allowed. Babysitters need to be 18 years and older unless it is a member's child who should be 15 years and older. Babysitters who are not lodge occupants, should be signed in as a visitor, introduced to the Lodge Manager or Senior Party Leader and be given full details of your destination and mobile contact.

1.11 Responsible drinking of alcohol - the Club holds a BYO liquor license. All lodge occupants are obliged to comply with all regulatory requirements associated with this and ensure their behaviours are appropriate, as we have children in our lodge. Unacceptable behaviours should be brought to the attention of the Lodge Manager or Senior Party Leader in the first instance who will assist. Under age drinking is taken very seriously and the Club as a holder of a liquor licence, is obliged to report any incidents immediately to the local police who will deal with the matter. The the member related to or associated with the minor(s) will be investigated by the Committee in relation to point 1.10. The Club is a member of the local liquor accords.

Code of conduct (cont.)

1.12 Attire – Casual dress is the dress code of lodges. Ski boots or dirty shoes are not to be worn in carpeted areas. They can be placed in drying rooms.

1.13 Conduct awareness - Conduct that reinforces inappropriate stereotypes based on gender, race, age, ability, sexual orientation or other discriminatory ground is not tolerated. Harassing, bullying and victimising behaviours are prohibited. Reasonable direction from the Lodge Manager, Senior Party Leader or Committee members to ensure the general amenity of members and a safe environment should not be interpreted as such.

1.14 Authority – The Lodge Manager, Senior Party Leader or Committee member in the absence of Lodge Manager or Senior Party Leader, has the authority to issue directions with regard to any behaviour in breach of the above. Directions must be complied with.

2.Safety

Your safety check list on arrival

2.1 Members and Guests should know before arrival how the security system operates at each mountain and bring the access code provided with them. (see section 32). Never give your security code to anyone other than your paying guests. Do not provide to visitors.

2.2 Members and Guests are expected to introduce themselves to the Senior Party Leader or Lodge Manager who is in charge at all times.

2.3 All members and guests should familiarize themselves with the operation of the building fire alarm system and emergency exits.

2.4 Carry chains and know how to fit them to your vehicle before heading up the mountain. Use alpine diesel (in diesel vehicles only) and carry a shovel and be ready to dig your car out if need be. Some mountains have snow tyre specifications for entry to the village, please check on resort websites.

2.5 Areas around the perimeter of the lodge and near the roof line of the lodge are out of bounds. Death or serious injury can result from snow and ice falling and snow may be deep in these areas. Children should NEVER be allowed play in these areas.

2.6 The kitchen is out of bounds for children under 7. Supervise children over 7 at all times, if in the kitchen.

2.7 No bare feet are allowed in the kitchen.

2.8 Don't let strangers into the lodge.

2.9 Sleep walking children need to be supervised. Emergency Exit doors near bedroom areas are not locked

2.10 The Club's linen provided in rooms on arrival (fitted protection sheets, pillow cases and doona covers) is not to be directly slept on. It must be protected by sheets, pillowcases or sleeping bags at all times. If the Club linen is soiled please wash and replace on beds.

2.11 Everyone must bring their own sheets or sleeping bags, towels and pillow cases.

2.12 Smoking and illicit drugs are prohibited in Lodges and Flats at all times.

2.13 Lodges have commercial kitchens and are obliged to comply with any food handling regulations.

Please follow all signage directions provided and seek assistance if needed.

2.14 Keep the lodge clean and neat and tidy at all times.

Illness Policy

The illness policy is designed to ensure that:

- a) the occupational health and safety of occupants in the lodge is protected; and
- b) the general amenity of paying members and their guests is not impacted.

USC recommends all Members and Guests to be fully vaccinated against COVID-19.

Members and guests staying in the lodge are at risk of spreading and acquiring infectious diseases. This is particularly important in winter when there are high rates of viral illnesses and the lodge is full, with close proximity of beds and the communal living environment.

USC encourages Members and guests to cancel or postpone their booking, or leave the lodge early if they become unwell with a viral illness.

If you have gastroenteritis or influenza-like symptoms such as:

- fever
- cough
- sore throat
- body aches
- headache
- chills
- fatigue
- needing to stay in bed
- vomiting
- diarrhoea

please consider the health and safety of other lodge users and refrain from staying at USC.

Help prevent the spread of colds, influenza and gastroenteritis in the lodge:

- Cover your mouth when you sneeze or cough
- Keep hands away from your eyes, nose and mouth
- Use tissues to blow your nose and throw them in the bin after use
- Wash your hands thoroughly with soap and warm running water for 30 seconds after using the toilet, blowing your nose, before eating and before preparing food.

Cancellation Due to Illness

Please see page 13.



Club Calendar - 2023

Bookings Australia Opening Dates (Winter)

Racing Round	2- 17 April
Round 1: Priority Points (3 bookings total)	19- 23 April
Round 2: Priority Points (3 bookings total - no guest limits)	26 -30 April

Full Season bookings open

1 June

Seasons for Accommodation Rates

Low	9 June – 1 July 3 September - Close
High	2 July – 2 September

Work Parties

Mt Hotham	5-6 May, 26-27 May
Falls Creek	28-29 April, 19-20 May
Mt Buller	5-6 May, 19/20 May

Social Event

Pre-season drinks celebration, Amora Hotel Richmond

Friday 2 June

Racing

Buller Race Weekend	11-12 August
Pub to Pub Hotham (TBC)	4 - 5 August
Kangaroo Hoppet (Falls Creek) XC Weekend	25 - 26 August
Mt Buller Inter-Club Team Challenge	August (tbc)
Victorian Interschools (Mt Buller)	20 – 26 August
Australian Interschools (Mt Buller)	5 - 10 September

Summer Events

Mountain Biking, Mt Buller	Next events 2024
Cycling and Fly Fishing Weekend	
Walking Weekend, Falls Creek	
Oktoberfest	

Guaranteed Lodge Openings

Mt Buller, Mt Hotham (usually Labour Day weekend), Falls Creek

Please note: Summer bookings are currently taken all year, plan your special event now.