



Copper Country Ski Tigers (CCST)

Seeking Competition Team Head Coach

Copper Country Ski Tigers seeks an energetic head coach for its Competition Team (Comp Team). The CCST Comp Team consists of high school-age (U14 to U20) skiers who are interested in cross-country ski racing and having fun on skis. The head coach will bring knowledge of the fundamentals of skill development, formal training, competition and equipment preparation, and must enjoy working with high school-age kids. The emphasis is on skill and technique development, age-appropriate periodized training, equipment maintenance, and competition.

The competition team focuses on learning about ski racing. The team meets for dryland training throughout the summer months and during the fall. During the winter racing season, from late October through March or early April, the team typically meets three days a week after school and on Saturday mornings and participates in several weekends of racing.

Coaching Responsibilities

- Responsible for growth and development of U14 to U20 cross-country skiers on the Competition Team
- Foster a culture that gives full support to skiers striving to qualify for regional and national championships but is also inclusive of skiers with a range of abilities and aspirations
- Assist athletes with setting and achieving goals throughout the season
- Create, teach, and disseminate training plans that are age appropriate and designed to help skiers achieve their goals
- Teach classic and freestyle cross-country ski techniques
- Manage assistant coach(es) who will help to oversee ski practices
- Work with the Race Team Manager to coordinate annual race schedule, travel to races, and other logistics
- Communicate effectively and regularly with other coaches, athletes, parents, and the Race Team Manager
- Attend monthly CCST Board meetings and Race Team Advisory Committee meetings and provide Race Team updates at these meetings

General duties in each season

Preseason, dryland training (September–November):

- Organize and attend practice sessions on Saturday mornings

Winter and racing season, on snow (November–March):

- Organize and attend practice sessions on Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday afternoons and on Saturday mornings
- Travel with the Competition team to approximately four or five race venues per season in Michigan, Wisconsin, and Minnesota
- Provide athlete support and ski preparation support for races at “home” and remote race venues.
- Attend and coach at Thanksgiving and Christmas Camps

Spring/Summer season, dryland training (June–August):

- Organize and attend practice sessions on Tuesday and Thursday afternoons and Saturday mornings (optional but highly desirable)

Required Skills and Qualifications

- Certification as a USSA coach (or ability to become certified) at the 100-level or higher
- Complete SafeSport certification and appropriate coaching education/training.
- Strong cross country ski coaching knowledge and skills
- Ability to teach classic and freestyle techniques to Competition Team members with varied skiing and athletic backgrounds
- Experience with waxing and preparation of skis for kick and glide
- Strong leadership, organizational, and communication skills
- Clean background check and driving record required
- Ability to work well with other coaches, racers, and parents
- Be responsible, reliable, and punctual
- Must be at least 18 years old

Desired Skills and Qualifications

- Experience working with athletes from 13 to 19 years old
- Experience with cross-country ski racing
- Race-day ski waxing experience
- First aid training

Compensation and benefits

- Pre-season + winter stipend (tentatively set at \$3200); additional stipend provided for summer season coaching
- US Ski and Snowboard Coach/Official annual membership
- Continuing education and SafeSport certification costs paid by CCST (with prior approval)

The Competition Team head coach, along with all other Development and Competition Team coaches for the Copper Country Ski Tigers, are subject to successful completion of SafeSport certification and background checks in the time and manner specified by the CCST Board of Directors.

Qualified applicants should **submit a brief letter of interest and a resume or summary of qualifications** via email to skitigerraceteammanager@gmail.com. To receive full consideration, please submit your application materials by **June 15, 2021**. Any questions can be submitted via email as well.