

Methow Valley Nordic Ski Educational Foundation

We support a vibrant Nordic ski community in the Methow Valley

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Methow Valley Nordic stands with Black Lives Matter. We believe it is imperative to address the white privilege that is inherent in our sport as well as the legacy of systemic racism in our country. Our mission is to support a vibrant Nordic community in the Methow Valley. To deliver this mission, we must work to be more inclusive and equitable. We need to create structures of support and safety to ensure people of color and underrepresented members of our community feel welcome and comfortable.

What We Will Do:

1. Recognize that we are part of the problem, and that fixing the problem will require a consistent, sustained effort.
2. Educate ourselves on issues of systemic racism, implicit biases, and injustice in order to take positive action;
3. Listen with openness and acceptance to voices of color and other underrepresented members of our community;
4. Reduce or eliminate barriers to inclusion in our sport, including financial, structural, and cultural;
5. Speak out against acts that hurt or marginalize underrepresented groups in our community and sport;
6. Use language that respects and includes people of color and other marginalized groups;
7. Partner with or support groups that promote inclusion and equity of marginalized communities.

We must listen, learn, act, and reflect. We are not insulated from the larger systemic injustices that plague our country. We must understand how these injustices impact small, rural communities and how they affect our own learning and implicit biases.

Our society has a long history of injustice that will not be erased overnight. However, with empathy and self-reflection leading to sustained and informed action, we can grow wider participation in Nordic skiing and ensure all our participants feel welcome and accepted.

-MVNSEF Board Task Force, June 2020