



Press Release

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Subject: Methow Valley Olympic Festival

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Methow Valley Olympic Festival

Presented by the Methow Valley Sport Trails Association

February 12-28, 2010

Winthrop, Washington- The Methow Valley Sport Trails Association presents the **Methow Olympic Festival February 12-28, 2010**. The best place to be during the 2010 Winter Games for Olympic enthusiasts who want to do more than just watch! This festival invites visitors to participate in the winter Olympic sports as well as watch the real Olympic action with fellow enthusiasts on big screen TV's commentated by former Olympic athletes. Don't miss this unique opportunity to be surrounded by the Olympic atmosphere.

The Methow Valley Olympic Festival kicks off February 12 with the opening ceremony of the Winter Olympic Games. The Methow Valley opening ceremony will include a torchlight parade around the Winthrop Town Trailhead 1km ski oval.

Spectators can skate at the Winthrop Ice Rink or gather around outdoor burn barrels while watching the Vancouver opening ceremony via a giant screen TV.

During the first weekend of the Winter Games, Methow Valley Olympic Festival guests may enjoy ice skating and pick-up hockey in Winthrop's award winning outdoor ice rink. Snowshoe softball tournament teams will be playing at the town ball field.

For the next two weeks, events include Nordic skiing, biathlon, ice skating and hockey activities for all ages as well as other exciting local and cultural events.

A full schedule of events can be found on the Methow Olympic Festival website at <http://www.mvsta.com/winter/olympicfestival.html> and will be updated as new events are scheduled.

Schedule of Events:

Friday February 12

- **Torchlight Ski Parade** around the Winthrop Town Trailhead Oval
- **Vancouver Opening Ceremony Live Broadcast** viewing at the Winthrop Ice Rink

Saturday February 13

- **Wenatchee Wilds Hockey** appearance and autograph signing at the Winthrop Ice Rink
- **Tour of the Methow**, a non-competitive ski of the Methow Valley Trails where skiers may choose to ski 20-80k
- **Snowshoe Softball Tournament** at the Winthrop ball field
- **Live Broadcast of the Winter Olympic Games** all day at the Winthrop Ice Rink
- **Guided Snowshoe Hikes** at Sun Mountain and in Mazama

Sunday February 14

- **Doggy Dash**, a 6 legged ski race for humans and their best friend, all with an Olympic theme
- **Live Broadcast of the Winter Olympic Games** all day at the Winthrop Ice Rink
- **Guided Snowshoe Hikes**

Monday February 13- Friday 19

- **Special Lodging Packages** all week
- **Live Broadcast of the Winter Olympic Games** each day at the Winthrop Ice Rink
- **Seattle Admirals Ice Hockey Skills Clinic** at the Winthrop Ice Rink
- **Free Cross Country Ski Lessons** for youth at the Winthrop Town Trailhead
- **Free Ice Skating Lessons** for youth at the Winthrop Ice Rink
- **Try Biathlon** at the Mazama Biathlon Range
- **Evening Ski Groomer Tours** leaving from Mazama

- **Winthrop Ski Art Walk**
- **Guided Snowshoe Hikes** at Sun Mountain and in Mazama

Friday February 19

- **Taped Rebroadcast of the 15kmx2 Nordic Pursuit** at the Twisp River Pub with Commentary provided by ex-Olympic athletes and coaches. Food, beer and wine available for purchase.

Saturday February 20

- **Winthrop Winter Cowboy Races**, rope cattle on skis and three legged ski races
- **Live Broadcast of the Winter Olympic Games** all day at the Winthrop Ice Rink
- **Wanderlust Circus**, a family friendly acrobatic performance at the Winthrop Barn presented by Methow Arts
- **Guided Snowshoe Hikes** at Sun Mountain and in Mazama

Sunday February 21

- **Live Broadcast Men's Olympic Hockey Game, USA vs. Canada**, at the Winthrop ice rink
- **Guided Snowshoe Hikes** at Sun Mountain and in Mazama

Monday February 22- Friday 26

- **Special Lodging Packages** all week
- **Nordic Classic and Skate Ski Camp** with former Olympians Laura McCabe and Leslie Hall
- **Try Biathlon** at the Mazama Biathlon Range
- **Live Broadcast of the Winter Olympic Games** all day at the Winthrop Ice Rink
- **Guided Snowshoe Hikes** at Sun Mountain and in Mazama
- **Winthrop Ski Art Walk**

Saturday February 27

- **30km Timed Freestyle Skate Ski** from Mazama to Winthrop
- **Live Broadcast of the Winter Olympic Games** all day at the Winthrop Ice Rink
- **Taped Rebroadcast of the 30km Mass Start** at the Winthrop Barn with Commentary provided by ex-Olympian athlete and coach. Food, beer and wine available for purchase.
- **Guided Snowshoe Hikes** at Sun Mountain and in Mazama

Sunday February 28

- **Live Broadcast of the Winter Olympic Games** all day at the Winthrop Ice Rink
- **Live Broadcast of Men's Gold Medal Hockey Game**, at the Winthrop Ice Rink

A full schedule of events can be found on the Methow Olympic Festival website at <http://www.mvsta.com/winter/olympicfestival.html>

The Methow Valley Sport Trails Association is a non-profit organization dedicated to developing and promoting environmentally sound recreation on or near the trail system in the Methow Valley



Funds for the Methow Olympic Festival made available through Washington State Department of Commerce and Washington State Tourism Commission