

Abigail Bushman 2023

Rib Mountain Ski Club Scholarship essay

This year I decided to do an essay that displays the perspective of a Rib Mountain Ski Club member demonstrating the wonderful aspects of the Ski Club. I had the pleasure of interviewing Mrs. Katherine Mathey who has been a part of the Ski Club for about 26 years. I found that her story and what she has found to value in the ski club is very similar to mine.

One of the things Mathey has enjoyed about being a member of the club is how it allowed her to ski with her family and build lifelong friendships. I feel the same because this sport has given me the opportunity to meet new people, try new things and go new places. The friends we have made through the club have become a “second family” on and off the hill. Mathey said, “The Rib Mountain Ski club allowed my family to meet other families with children. It gave us a “community” in Wausau. We were able to not only make friendships, but we have been able to stay life long friends. Riding the chair lift gives people a chance to catch up, and our time after we ski is the social part that I enjoy.” I have also enjoyed being one of the “children” and the opportunity the club has given me to ski with my family and build relationships with people in the community.

The ski club for Mathey (as well as our family) has allowed us to be a part of a fun but expensive sport and experience the various ski hills around Wisconsin and upper Michigan. “Skiing has always been an expensive sport. That makes me sad, because I feel more people would like to try it if they could afford it” Mathey stated. Without the club, our whole family probably would not have been able to afford or enjoy skiing together as much as we have. Seeing the other ski hills around the area has been a fun and educational experience. Mathey stated, “The Ski Club has also allowed my family to ski at various ‘hills’, and that gave us a

chance to find new places we love!” Our family has also enjoyed learning about other hills in the area and the road trips have been a time for our family to reconnect with each other and just enjoy time together. According to the Rib Mountain Ski Club website, some of the various hills that are visited include Ski Brule, Devils head, Porcupine Mountains, Snow River Mountain Resort, Jackson Creek/ Black River Resort. Another trip I have been on with the Ski Club was to Whitecap Mountain. The Afton Alps has been another location the club has visited. It has also been fun to spend time with friends we have made in the club, especially now that I am away at college and don’t get to see them as much.

I have enjoyed the sport of skiing since I was around five years old. The ski club gave us the opportunity as a family to enjoy many great trips together where we can all enjoy the sport of skiing as well as the many ski hills surrounding us. This sport has taught me a number of things as well as allowing me to connect with members of the community as well. I am so appreciative of the opportunities the Rib Mountain Ski Club has given us and hope to continue going on these ski trips and making memories.

Works Cited:

Interview: <https://docs.google.com/document/d/1MWsTVpC-QnwqdaEypLcUWIAFyCjD7YWae-t2-CyJMG9c/edit>

Rib Mountain Ski Club Website: <https://ribmountainskiclub.org/>