

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Race registration now open for 33rd Buckwheat International Ski Classic

Registrations are now being accepted for the 33rd annual Buckwheat International Ski Classic, which will be held on the Log Cabin Ski Trails north of Skagway, Alaska on Saturday, March 23.

A link to the race's Zone 4 registration site is available online on the Race Entry page at:

<http://www.buckwheatskiclassic.com> .

The race typically draws around 400 participants, marking the end of the racing season in Alaska-Yukon-BC, with a popular theme, snow carvings, banquet, and lots of fun for all ages. This year's theme is "Alice in Wonderland." Racers are encouraged to put on their best Lewis Carroll-themed costumes (Alice, Rabbit, Mad Hatter, Queen, others) to be eligible for a Best Costume Prize, a coveted overnight package to Skagway's Upper Dewey Lake cabin presented by the Skagway Recreation Center, Temsko Helicopters, and Packer Expeditons.

The race is a fundraiser for the Log Cabin Ski Society, based in Skagway, whose volunteers groom and set track on about 30 kilometers of ski trails in the cross-country skiing recreation area managed by BC Forestry. The trails are located on the S. Klondike Highway, 27 miles (43.5K) north of Skagway. LCSS was formed in 2012 to continue the ski race founded by Skagway's Buckwheat Donahue and keep these trails maintained for the benefit of all users. Updates on trail conditions are posted weekly on the website through the winter. LCSS also is raising money for a series of warming huts on the trails.

The Buckwheat International Ski Classic will again have 50K, 25K and 10K classic cross country ski races, as well as a 5K kids race, with prizes for the top 3 by sex in all races. Racers can sign up by clicking on the Race Entry tab on the website and following the registration link. There is a discount for registering before the end of February, then fees go up in March. Racers also have the option of joining the society for \$10 per year and donating to the Log Cabin warming hut fund. There is a \$10 late fee for registrations received online after March 17. Late registrations will be accepted at bib pickup locations in Whitehorse on Thursday, March 21 and in Skagway on Friday, March 22 until 6 p.m. ADT, the final cutoff time for all registrations. See website for details and schedule.

Start times for the race on Saturday, March 23 at Log Cabin are as follows (Alaska time):

50K- 10 a.m. **25K-** 10:15 a.m. **10K-** 10:30 a.m. **Kids 5K-** 11:30 a.m.



BUCKWHEAT INTERNATIONAL
SKI CLASSIC 2019

Skagway's prestigious snow carving crew, "Team Alaska," just returned from winning three events in Europe and is planning a grand "Alice in Winterland" snow castle at the main aid station. See some of their recent sculptures on the [Team Alaska Facebook Page](#)

After the race, the fun moves down to Skagway for a fabulous awards dinner at the Skagway Recreation Center. Then the party shifts downtown, where there will be music at local establishments. Watch the race site or Facebook page [@logcabinskisociety](#) for updates.

About 150 volunteers are needed during race week. Email race secretary Jeff Brady at wjbradyak@me.com for a link to the race's Volunteer Local site to sign up.

Major sponsors and contributors of the Buckwheat Ski Classic include: Alaska Shirt Co., Municipality of Skagway CVB & Rec. Center, Salree, Inc., Holland America-Princess Cruises, White Pass & Yukon Route, The Mountain Shop, Elliott Financial Management,

Duff's Backcountry Outfitters, Alaska Travel Publications – The Skagway News, Skagway Book Co., Whitehorse Cross Country Ski Club, BC Forestry, and Alaskan Brewing Co. A full breakdown of 2019 sponsors and race partners appears on the website.

The Buckwheat was named one of the top 49 things to do in the north by the editors of Alaska magazine. And, keeping up the spirit of its founder, the race still howls!

IMPORTANT TRAVEL INFO •

FERRIES - One ferry is coming north to Skagway on Friday, March 22. The LeConte leaves Juneau at 7 a.m. with a stop in Haines and arrives in Skagway at 1:00 p.m. After the race, the LeConte sails south on Sunday, March 24 at 2:00 p.m. to Haines and Juneau To book space on these ferries, go directly to the state's Alaska Marine Highway site at www.ferryalaska.com .

• **PASSPORTS** - Skiers are also reminded of document requirements for crossing the U.S.-Canada border. You must have a passport or passport card to cross the border. The border is open from 7 a.m. to 11 p.m. (8 a.m. to midnight Yukon time). For more info. contact Skagway Port of Entry at 907-983-2325. *IMPORTANT: Racers should plan on leaving Skagway at least an hour and a half before their race start times to insure they have plenty of time. First race starts at 10 a.m. Alaska time.*

MEDIA CONTACT: Jeff Brady, LCSS secretary: wjbradyak@me.com or 907-973-2354.

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