

VOCene #25 0 December 8st, 2009

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I. Upcoming Events and Trips

- 1) Avalanche Skills Training Course - Dec. 12-13 or Jan. 16-17

Taking an avalanche course is a great idea for anybody who will be in the mountains in winter. On skis or snowshoes, with the VOC or without the VOC, no matter what this course will be of great benefit. The VOC is organizing four different avalanche courses; two in December and two in January. The courses are run by Canada West Mountain School, but are offered through the VOC for a significant discount!

This course is the AST1 course, which is the first level of training offered by the Canadian Avalanche Association. It is the first step towards being aware of and managing risks in the backcountry. Avalanche course students learn about some snow science basics, terrain, route finding, snow stability testing and rescue. The courses are being offered either at Mt. Seymour or a combination of Whistler and Mt. Seymour, and will cost \$170 or \$210 depending on whether you need a Whistler lift ticket. Spaces are limited, and it fills up quickly so make sure to sign up early if you want a spot. The payment deadline for the December courses has already passed, and is Dec. 14th for the January courses.

More info on the message board:

<http://www.ubc-voc.com/phorum2/read.php?f=3&i=10817&t=10817>

- 2) Avalanche Skills Training 2 Course - Jan. 23-24, 30-31

This is the next level for people who have already taken the AST1 course, or for those who feel they want more training than just a weekend course. This year's course is being done by Canada West Mountain School. The price is \$500 excl. backcountry passes to Whistler (add another \$80 for passes) and must be paid before December 14th. Payment can be made to any exec in the clubroom.

See the message board and wiki for details:

<http://www.ubc-voc.com/phorum2/read.php?f=3&i=10998&t=10998>

[http://www.ubc-voc.com/wiki/AST2\\_2010](http://www.ubc-voc.com/wiki/AST2_2010)

### 3) Ski Trips - Jan 12-13-14

There's a couple of ski trips shaping up for the weekend. If you're looking for something to do other than study, check the boards.

<http://www.ubc-voc.com/phorum2/read.php?f=3&i=11397&t=11397>

and

<http://www.ubc-voc.com/phorum2/read.php?f=3&i=11416&t=11416>

### 4) Winter Long Hike - Jan. 9-10

Is it that time of year already? Winter Long Hike is just a month away! Everything is different when you go into the backcountry in the winter; that's why there is Winter Longhike, an introductory trip for winter camping. This is usually a big trip with lots of keen people aboard who want to get out, learn some new skills, and sleep in their very own snow shelter while still managing to have fun too. It's an easy, beginner friendly trip, so if you've never even seen snow before you can still have a good time.

Signup isn't open yet, but you may want to mark the date on your calendar.

Find out more on the wiki:

[http://www.ubc-voc.com/wiki/Winter\\_Longhike\\_2010](http://www.ubc-voc.com/wiki/Winter_Longhike_2010)

## II. Miscellaneous

### 1) VOC Photo and Video Contests

In addition to the annual VOC Photo Contest, this year we'll also be holding the inaugural VOC Video Contest. Details of the contests have yet to be decided, but remember to keep shooting photos and video of anything you deem worthy while you're out with the club! Around this time of year there are guaranteed to be some spectacular tele bails which could make some interesting clips!

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CONTRIBUTIONS to the VOCene are welcome. Please send all inquires or additions to: [vocene@ubc-voc.com](mailto:vocene@ubc-voc.com). To unsubscribe from the VOCene mailing list, sign in at <http://www.ubc-voc.com/member/update.php> and uncheck the want VOCene box

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(This is no joke, no wimpy confirmation screens will appear, so don't mess around)

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Varsity Outdoor Club