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First Annual Nor'easter Ski Day at Killington Ski Resort

The Vermont GCSA hosted the first annual "Nor'easter Ski Day" on February 28, 2013 at the Killington Ski Resort in Killington, VT. Golf course superintendents and industry representatives, along with their families came together for a day of camaraderie, powder skiing and competition on the slopes of Vermont. In 1993 members of the Vermont GCSA and the Northeastern GCSA began a friendly rivalry to be held on the slopes of Vermont's ski areas each year. This year, members of both associations decided to open up the event to all the GCS associations throughout the Northeastern US and Canada.

The turnout was fantastic for the inaugural event as over 100 members from the Northeast made the trek to Killington for the day's festivities. The weather gods blessed the event

with 12-14 inches of new snow the night before so the skiing was superb! Ironically enough the giant slalom race had to be canceled due to the heavy snowfall the night before. Conditions were deemed unsafe on the course and all racing was halted for the day including the Killington Mountain School program.

That did not stop anyone from having a great day in the fresh powder. The 2013 trophies will be stored until next year's event, so start making plans to join us in 2014! After a great day on the slopes, attendees were treated to an outstanding Après Ski party at the Wobbly Barn on the Killington access road. Killington was very gracious in hosting the group by providing affordable pricing on lodging and highly discounted lift tickets for those who stayed and skied through the week-

end! The Planning Committee, after seeing what a great success the day was, is already working on plans for the 2014 Nor'easter Ski Day. Watch your emails this fall for registration information! The combined ski day is a great way for the golf industry to get together in the off-season, enjoy the outdoors and to build on the unique camaraderie that the industry presents. The ski race will be a team event in which each association fields at least a 6-man team with prizes for individual accomplishments as well as the coveted team "Nor'easter Cup" which was custom built by local superintendents.

This year's Nor'easter Ski Day also served as a fundraising event for fellow superintendent Matt Dutremble of Ardsley C.C. Matt was seriously

injured after Hurricane Sandy while cleaning up storm damaged trees on his golf course. Matt is recovering and the funds raised by the attendees will help him and his family get through these difficult times.

The Nor'easter Ski Day was made great, because of the overwhelming support of its sponsors! We would like to thank the following companies for their help in making this event a huge success; Harrell's, Agrium Advanced Technologies, Syngenta, Atlantic Golf & Turf, N.E. Specialty Soils, Valent, Jacobsen, Toro, Sportscapes, Yamaha, Bayer, MTE, Sipcam, Arysta Life Science, Reliable Racing, Grassland Equipment, Fertl Soil, BASF as well as the support of the VTGCSA and NEGCSEA.

Hope to see you next winter on the slopes!!!

- Andy Drohen-Agrium