

First Annual Tiki Torch Dash

Golden, British Columbia - From the same folks who brought you the epic Dogtooth Dash Ski Touring Race comes the first annual Tiki Torch Dash, a race season kick-off randonee on Saturday, December 5th, 2009.

"The Golden ski-mountaineering team and Kicking Horse Mountain Resort are excited to host this new nighttime ski-touring race on Saturday, December 5th," says Ian Gale, chief of course design. "The Tiki Torch Dash is a fun pre-season wind-up for an epic ski touring season that is just around the corner. Mountain climbing enthusiasts of all self-propelled snow sliding disciplines are welcomed to compete in a uniquely formatted race concept that will challenge competitor's early season ski legs."

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The action starts at 7 p.m. on Saturday with the main event, a solo and team (2 person) relay, where racers climb to the Big Mountain Centre at the Catamount mid-station and race down to the base area transition to tag their partner. Each racer will perform multiple 15-35 minute laps on the course illuminated by Tiki torch, headlamps, glow sticks, disco lights and the stars. The second heat of the evening is the King of the Hill event, where racers will sprint from the Gondola plaza to mid-mountain to determine the fastest climbers.

Celebrate the beginning of a new ski season at the Day Lodge awards and after party. With prizes for best costumes, everyone is encouraged to come out and take part in the action. Early bird race registration is \$25 and open until Friday, December 4th; last minute registration on the day of the event will cost \$35. Entry fee includes the race and après at the Day Lodge.

Come on out, bring a friend, dress up, meet some new ski partners and tour around the lower mountain to get ready for an epic ski season.

Headlamps, helmets, avalanche transceivers and the essential gear for backcountry survival are required by the Alpine Club of Canada to participate. For more information on what you need to participate or how to form a team check out kickinghorseresort.com or goldenskimo.wordpress.com.