

TUSCARAWA Skiing Coming To Area

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Skiing is coming to Tuscarawas County.

The Hidden Valley Snow Bowl will open Jan. 28 and skiers here will be able to experience the enervating thrill of gliding down hills on skis in an established, supervised ski facility without traveling any farther than the Dover-New Philadelphia area for the first time in history.

The site is the Hidden Valley Golf Club on Pleasant Valley road and the man most responsible is Dover architect Don Newland.

Newland, 40, a skier for 6 years and habitue of "big" ski runs from Aspen, Colo., to Whiteface, N.Y., is the husband of a skiing wife, Marian, and the father of 3 skiing children, Patty 9, and Bob, 14. He is a husky, soft-spoken man who looks equally at home in skiing togs or business clothes. As an architect, his most recent structures are the Mumma Furniture Store in Dover, the Shanesville medical clinic, the Broadway Methodist Church in New Philadelphia and several private residences.

The Snow Bowl, so-named because the huge, northerly exposed hill dominating the golf course forms an amphitheatre, will have an "Alpine meadow" an open, gradually sloping field free of trees or severe dips, 2 high runs, and 2 powered rope-tows each 1,500 feet long to pull skiers up to the summits.

Greater things are planned, too, perhaps even as soon as next skiing season: a snow-maker (Tuscarawas County does not have enough snowfall to support skiing regularly, though the average 5-month season's 35-degree temperature will preserve man-made snow), another rope tow, 2,000 feet long with "T-bars" to carry 2 skiers at a time to the top of the slopes, a ski-chalet which will have a warming room with a massive fireplace, around which the after-skiing festivities of singing, laughter and the reliving of the runs of the day over hot chocolate or hot-buttered rum, and a ski shop with clothing and equipment rental and sales.

Cost in the Snow Bowl will be moderate, according to Newland, and especially so when contrasted to skiing at the resorts. The tows, which are strung down the slopes on pulleys, will cost \$1 a child per half day and \$2 for grown-ups. For a full day the rate will be \$2 a day for the youngsters and \$3 for adults.

The Snow Bowl will encourage family skiing and will have a plan which will enable a family to have a weekend of skiing for no more than it would cost for a weekend of golf.

Skiers who wish to rent equipment will be charged \$7.50 a day for boots, skis and poles.

Certain questions present themselves when one considers that this county will soon have a ski area for its own. Isn't skiing a dangerous sport? Isn't there a chance that the range will become very commercial, to the exclusion perhaps of local enthusiasts? What will happen to the golf course over which the skiers will pursue their sport? Isn't skiing a sport generally enjoyed by the wealthy?

Here, in Don Newland's words, are his answers to these questions:

"Only 4 out of 1,000 skiers get hurt. This is considerably better odds than in swimming,



Glenn Hudson (left), Hidden Valley golf pro, points to slopes where intermediate and beginner runs will be made. Don Newland, responsible for the idea and development of the Snow Bowl, and his wife, Marian, are at the right.

boating or practically any other athletic sport. Those occasional injuries at the Mansfield ski slope are due to the newness of the great sport around this part of the state—the few ones which do happen get greater lip-service than they deserve . . . we don't hear much about the minor injuries people get swimming or boating.

"Concerning whether the Snow

Bowl will be horribly commercial before long—I don't think it will happen. At Hidden Valley, we want to have added facilities for winter sports for individuals and families who otherwise would just sit through the winter until summer.

"It's a wonderful, invigorating sport. It's stimulating and exhilarating to glide down over the snow when it's fresh, bright and

cold, clean . . . floating over the terrain with grace—a good bit like skin diving.

"So far as the golf course is concerned, the skiing won't hurt it at all. Glenn Hudson, the club's professional, has assured the board of trustees of that.

"Skiing used to be a sport which mostly rich people followed, but not any more. Besides having more open slopes and much better equipment which is safer besides being cheaper, it costs a lot less money to get to ski slopes now than it used to. Getting to the slopes doesn't really matter here, because it's right here in Tuscarawas County. Anyway, most people skiing now aren't rich at all."

The closest ski slopes equipped to handle and instruct skiers are at Mansfield, Newland says, and followers of the sport flock in there from Cleveland, Columbus and out of the state. A commercial aura has attached itself to the place which local skiers there are not content with, some report.

"We aren't going to have the slopes or the facilities such as hotels and ski lodges and such to handle those people. This will be a local thing."

Newland, who is the treasurer of the Hidden Valley Golf Club board of trustees, suggested making the course a winter ski area in January, 1962. He showed movies and slides to the board to create enthusiasm and, since there was no money to spend on the idea, he supplied it.

In the future, when the Snow Bowl will be operating, he will be reimbursed.

What remains to be done in the next few days is the clearing of the high slopes and the erecting of the rope-tows. But by Jan. 28 Tuscarawas County skiers will be gliding down the steep runs, carving graceful arcs on the slopes of the Snow Bowl of Hidden Valley.



This map shows the 3 skiers' slopes and the position of the 2 rope-tows through which participants can make many more runs a day than was the previous case.