



multiclass sports
ASSOCIATION

MULTICLASS SPORTS ASSOCIATION

**Multiclass Snowsports Program
and the
Victorian Interschools Snowsport
Championships Multiclass Event**



OUR BACKGROUND

The Multiclass Sports Association was founded in 2013 by group of teachers and parents from specialist schools, in Melbourne.

The aim was to hold a snowsports event in conjunction with the Victorian Interschools Snowsports Championships.

The Multiclass Snowsports event was established to provide the support necessary for students to participate and compete in snowsports, in a safe environment alongside the mainstream program.

The Multiclass Snowsports programs are open to all people with an intellectual or physical disability, from both mainstream and special schools, as well as via the Special Olympics pathway.

KEY PRIORITIES

1. **Athlete Experience:** Provide an excellent experience for athletes taking part in our inclusive snowsports programs and events. Provide athletes with the supports necessary to participate and compete in snowsports and delivering a pathway for continued engagement and opportunity.
2. **Organisational Viability:** Progress fundraising, grow partnerships and sustain program viability year on year, to scale snow sports programs, develop new opportunities for athletes, reduce financial barriers and increase participation.
3. **Engage and Inform:** Continue to build our brand and awareness within the disability and broader community. Drive the growth of athlete and volunteer numbers through engagement with schools, disability providers and local government.





PROGRAM GOALS

Offer a Multiclass Snowsports event for all Primary and Secondary aged students with an intellectual or physical impairment and Special Olympic athletes, through inclusion as part of the mainstream Interschools event.

Develop a greater sense of opportunity and inclusion for all within the Alpine community through a common love of skiing / boarding and foster understanding, achieve respect and receive recognition from their peers and the wider community.

Provide an opportunity for people with special needs to demonstrate courage and compete safely and confidently against their peers in a race environment.



Special Olympics
Australia



PATHWAYS TO NATIONAL & WORLD GAMES

2024 is the fifth year, both Victorian and NSW Interschools Multiclass participants, will qualify to race at the Australian Interschools Snowsports Championships.

Our partnership with Special Olympics and their Wintersports program provides athletes with a pathway to qualify and participate in the Special Olympics National Winter Games and Winter World Games. The next Special Olympics Winter World Games will be held in 2025, in Turin, Italy.

MULTICLASS SNOWSPORTS IN NUMBERS....

Has included over 60 athlete participants, most having an intellectual impairment, some with physical disability and few with combined intellectual and physical disability.

- ✧ 10 under the age of 15
- ✧ 31 young people aged 15-24
- ✧ 21 adults aged 25-54
- ✧ 32 female and 33 male
- ✧ 3 from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds

Over 40 volunteer members, 11 of which make up the MSA committee.



DRYLAND PREPARATION PROGRAM

Thanks to the generous sponsorship of the Cassandra Gantner Foundation, we offer a multi-session Dryland Preparation Program for all participants at no cost, in the months leading up to the Multiclass Event.

Designed and delivered by a certified personal trainers, this program helps develop essential fitness and conditioning, preventing injuries and helping improve the quality of training for athletes once on the show.

Beyond the physical benefits, the program provides participants the opportunity to re-connect and nurture friendships prior to the winter season. It also drives growth of confidence and independence.





Welcome & Equipment Hire

Sponsored equipment hire and group welcome, where athletes receive their Multiclass uniform



Guided Development Clinic

On the slopes, athletes are accompanied by volunteer guides and coached by certified instructors over 2 days



Athlete Presentation Dinner

An athlete dinner is held at the Ski Club of Victoria, with guest speakers and race bib presentation



Multiclass Championship Race

The highlight of the event is race day with Multiclass athletes completing their Alpine GS race



Athlete Medal Presentations

Multiclass athlete achievements are celebrated at the Victorian Interschools medals presentations

THE MULTICLASS SNOWSPORTS EVENT



The Multiclass Event was established to provide the support necessary for people with an intellectual or physical disability, who participate in and love skiing or snowboarding, to train and compete in a safe and supportive environment, alongside the mainstream snowsports programme.

Together with Disabled Wintersport Australia (DWA), we organise a three-day event at Mt Buller, with two days of training and preparation on the slopes, followed by a race day, as part of the Victorian Interschools competitions.

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

The Multiclass Event is open to students with an intellectual or physical disability, as well as to adult participants via the Special Olympics pathway.

To be eligible, participants must meet one or more of the following criteria:

- Be registered with [Sport Inclusion Australia](#) and hold a valid eligibility number
- Hold a current eligible or provisional [School Sport Victoria](#) or [Para-alpine](#) classification pertaining to a physical impairment
- Have a formal diagnosis of Autism and be able to provide supporting documentation
- Be a current year member of [Special Olympics Australia](#)
- Be a current year member of [Disabled Wintersport Australia](#)



CAPABILITY CRITERIA

Multiclass race competitors must also have enough experience to:

- ✧ Independently stand on skis or a snowboard;
- ✧ Ski or ride unassisted, confidently and safely on blue runs (e.g., Little Buller Spur, Shakey Knees runs at Mt Buller);
- ✧ Shift from snowplough to parallel (skiers);
- ✧ Come to a complete stop unaided, on blue runs at speed;
- ✧ Execute an efficient hockey stop or demonstrate progression of skills toward an efficient hockey stop (skiers); and
- ✧ Ride a chairlift and T-bar independently (e.g., the Fox chair at Mt Buller).



multiclass sports
ASSOCIATION



**Special
Olympics**
Australia



KEY PARTNERSHIPS

Disabled Wintersport Australia. DWA assists thousands of individuals with disabilities to participate in winter sports annually. Together with DWA, we organise a three-day event at Mt Buller, with instructed clinics supported by volunteer on-the-snow guides. These guides give up their own time to obtain the necessary qualifications and support the participants across the three days.

Special Olympics Australia. Once students graduate from school, they can still compete in the Multiclass division of Interschools, as members of Special Olympics Australia. This provides a pathway for young adults through the Special Olympics space, bringing with it, ongoing healthy competition, and social engagement; building confidence and long-term friendships.



SPONSORSHIP

Thanks to the generosity of our sponsors, many of the on-snow costs are covered or subsidised. The extent of coverage varies by year, depending on the nature and level of sponsorship. Some of the costs covered partially or fully by sponsorship over the years have been:

- * Dryland training preparation program
- * Participant development clinics, including professional ski instruction
- * Participant equipment hire
- * Participant attendance at the Ski Club of Victoria dinner, including guest speaker(s), e.g., Paralympians
- * Multiclass tops or vests for participants
- * School CRT and event teacher attendance costs

Black Mountain Equipment provides all gear hire for competitors, including a discount for parents and carers.

Grants and sponsorship provided by private companies, have enabled the provision of athlete event tops / uniforms.

Our Key Sponsors for the 2023 season are the **Snow Sisters** and the **Cassandra Gantner Foundation**.



OPPORTUNITIES...

There are opportunities for increased participation levels for the event, via focussing on four target areas:

1. Special schools not currently involved in interschools snowsports
2. Students in mainstream schools with intellectual or physical disabilities
3. Increasing the number of events to include additional training camps, come and try day(s) and exploring additional events such as Border X / Ski X and Cross Country.
4. Increased participation in the Interschools National Event

COME AND JOIN US!

If you or someone you know meets the criteria to participate and is interested in our Multiclass Event and Race, we would **LOVE** to hear from you!

Please contact us at
info@multiclasssnowsports.asn.au or
register via our website:
www.multiclasssports.asn.au/event-2023

We are extremely keen for Multiclass to continue a strong presence on the mountain, through community commitment to inclusion at Interschools, which now boasts 6,000 competitors from 170 schools



LEARN MORE!

- ✿ 2024 Multiclass [Flyer](#)
- ✿ 2024 Multiclass Participant [Handbook](#)
- ✿ Multiclass Sports Association [Website](#)
- ✿ Snow Australia VIC Interschools Multiclass [Webpage](#)
- ✿ Multiclass Snowsports [Overview Video](#)
(closed captioned – 10 minutes)
- ✿ Multiclass Snowsports Event [Experience Video](#) (2019 event – 2 minutes)
- ✿ [Donate](#)
- ✿ Follow us on [Instagram](#)
- ✿ Follow us on [Facebook](#)
- ✿ Follow us on [Flickr](#)
- ✿ Follow us on [Twitter](#)
- ✿ Follow our [YouTube Channel](#)





multiclass sports
ASSOCIATION

QUESTIONS?



THANK YOU

www.multiclasssports.asn.au

👤 CALLY BAUMAN

📞 0439 552 220

✉ info@multiclasssports.asn.au