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#### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

# Tahoe's most scenic SkiMo race returns March 23

Diamond Peak's 5<sup>th</sup> annual Luggi Foeger Uphill/Downhill Festival has races for all ages and skill levels

**INCLINE VILLAGE, Nev. (Feb. 24, 2024)** – The Lake Tahoe region's most fun and scenic SkiMo competition – the <u>Luggi Foeger Uphill/Downhill Festival</u> – returns to Diamond Peak Ski Resort on March 23 & 24, 2024 for another weekend of human-powered adventure and friendly competition.

Named in honor of Luggi Foeger – the founder and original general manager of Diamond Peak ski resort when it opened in 1966 – the Uphill/Downhill Festival is a family-friendly event that celebrates human-powered sports, mountain culture, local craft beer and springtime in the Lake Tahoe region.

Competitors race up the mountain using whatever human-powered method they prefer - skins, snowshoes, running shoes, etc. - then ski, snowboard, snowshoe or run back down to the finish line.

Competitive SkiMo racers and experienced uphillers looking to challenge themselves are invited to take on the **Elite Luggi** course, consisting of two laps to the top of Diamond Peak Ski Resort for a total distance of 4.6 miles (7.4 km) with 3,315 feet (1,010 m) of total elevation gain.

Racers looking for a less strenuous but still challenging route can tackle the **Big Luggi** course, consisting of one lap to the top of the mountain for a total distance of 2.6 miles (4.2 km) with 1,840 feet (561 m) of total elevation gain. The Big Luggi race also offers a Masters division for competitors 50 and older.

For those looking for a less-challenging, family-friendly route, the recreational **Lil' Luggi** course goes up to mid-mountain and features 1 mile (1.6 km) of total distance with 450 feet (137 m) of total elevation gain.

Finally, the most popular category is the **Beer Luggi** – a non-competitive division where participants can choose any of the courses they would like to do. Instead of competing for prizes and podium finishes, Beer Luggi "racers" will receive a souvenir Beer Luggi stein and a 16oz. craft beer from local craft brewery <u>Alibi Ale Works</u> after they finish.

Costumes are highly encouraged in all divisions, with prizes available to competitors who show up decked out in their best outfit. Few mountains offer as scenic a backdrop for a SkiMo race as Diamond Peak, which features panoramic Lake Tahoe views from both courses.

In addition to the races at the heart of the Uphill/Downhill Festival, there will be on-snow backcountry/alpine-touring/SkiMo demo gear available to try for free at the resort on March 23 from 10 a.m. – 3 p.m., presented by Tahoe Mountain Sports.

On Sunday, March 24, the fun continues with a Winter Wildlife Snowshoe Hike presented by the <u>Tahoe</u> <u>Institute for Natural Science</u> at 7:30 a.m. All are welcome to meet at the Base Lodge deck for a 1-mile interpretive snowshoe hike and presentation in the Base Area about the local ecosystem.



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## More than just a race – it's a party!

While the focus of the festival is certainly on getting up and down the mountain, the atmosphere in the Base Area will be festive, with spectators enjoying beautiful views, music, and food and drink specials on the outdoor sun deck at Diamond Peak.

## Registration is open now

Early-bird registration for all Luggi Foeger races is available through March 9 with discounted prices ranging from \$35 for the Elite Luggi and Beer Luggi divisions, \$30 for the Big Luggi race, and \$15 for the Lil' Luggi division. After March 9, prices go up, so register early! Registration links are on Diamond Peak's website at: https://www.diamondpeak.com/event/luggi-foeger-uphill-downhill-festival/

#### **Volunteers** needed

Diamond Peak is actively recruiting volunteers to help ensure the SkiMo races run smoothly. We are looking for course marshals, on-course photographers, and finish-line attendants/timekeepers on the afternoon of March 23. Please reach out to <a href="marketing@diamondpeak.com">marketing@diamondpeak.com</a> if you can volunteer at the event.

## **SkiMo Race Descriptions & Categories**

- Elite Luggi = 4.6 Miles (double lap) Men's & Women's divisions
- **Big Luggi** = 2.6 Miles (single lap 1.3 miles uphill to the top) Men's, Women's, Men's Masters (ages 50+), Women's Masters (ages 50+), and Youth (ages 15 & under) divisions
- Lil' Luggi = 1 Mile (short course .4 miles uphill to mid-mountain) Adult (16 & up), Youth (ages 11-15) and Child (ages 10 & under) divisions
- **Beer Luggi** = Non-competitive choose either the Big or Lil' Luggi course and have fun. No prizes awarded, but registration includes a 16oz. Alibi beer and souvenir beer stein. Cheers! (ages 21+)

## Race Schedule - Saturday, March 23

- 8 a.m. 12 p.m.: Day-of registration (Ticket Windows)
- 10 a.m. 3 p.m.: On-snow gear demos presented by Tahoe Mountain Sports
- 2 4 p.m.: Race bib pick up (Base Lodge Deck)
- 4:30 p.m.: SkiMo race start
- 6:30 p.m.: Awards ceremony (Loft Bar)

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#### **About Diamond Peak Ski Resort**

Since 1966, Diamond Peak Ski Resort has been North Lake Tahoe's hidden gem. Located in Incline Village, Nevada, the affordable, family-friendly resort offers 655 acres and 1,840 vertical feet of skiing and snowboarding, with incredible views of Lake Tahoe, terrain for all levels, and some of the best tree skiing in the Tahoe Basin. For more information or to check the snow report, visit DiamondPeak.com or call (775) 832–1177.