



Welcome to our Autumn Newsletter. As ever the Committee is looking forward enthusiastically to the new season. Goodness knows we all need something to look forward to right now! Details below of how to get a season ticket for 2020/21.

The 2019/20 season began on Sunday 15th December. During the next two days we enjoyed some really good skiing both on the main run and in powder gully. It always feels good to get some pre Christmas skiing in.



Unfortunately there was then a long spell of mild weather until the next skiable conditions at the end of February. The snow built up gradually but the thin conditions were really fast in the cold air. More snow fell and the skiing improved further. It seemed to be a case of either good snow and wind or good snow but poor visibility. We couldn't quite get sunny and light winds at the same time!

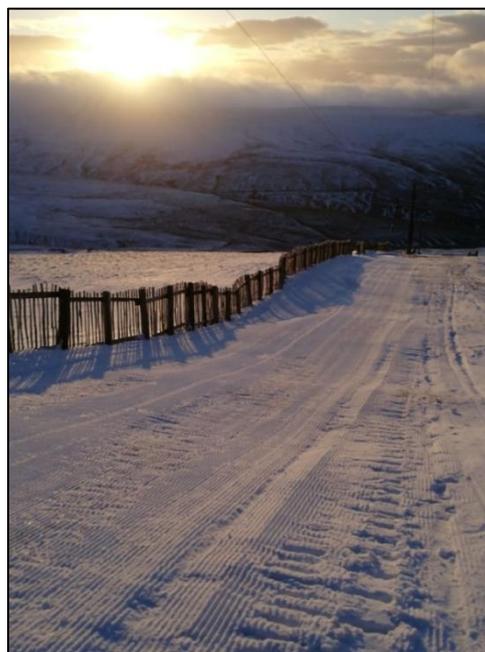
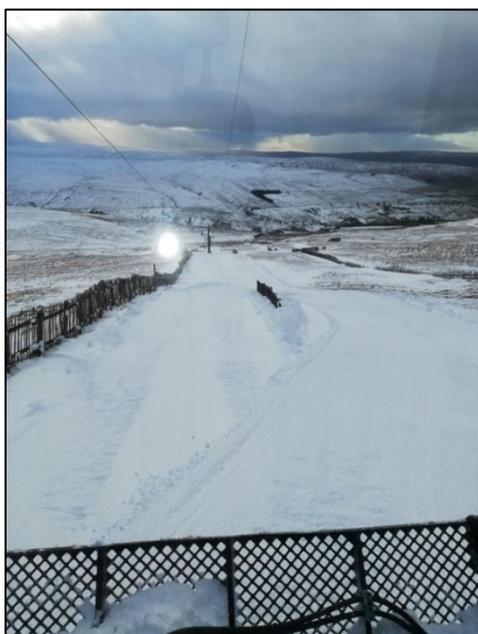




The next skiable session was only a few days later in March. The main run was excellent with fast laps possible and only light winds this time. And then that was it! Lockdown at the end of March closed the hill although at Yad Moss we didn't really miss out on any good skiing after that. In all we had an 8 day season with some rather good, if limited snow cover, across each of the three skiable spells. With hardly any queuing we clocked up some impressive daily mileages and ran out of energy well before we ran out of light.



The snow had predominantly come from the south west again which in the past has not been a very favourable direction at Yad Moss. In recent years though we have been steadily replacing the tow track fence with a higher 5 foot version which now extends from the summit down as far as the crossover. This year the new fence really paid off and caught sufficient snow for the piste basher to create a really good pisted run, almost to the bottom. Of course it wouldn't be Yad Moss without a bit of grass skiing!



Often the best conditions are later in the day when the snow starts to refreeze and everything suddenly gets faster and easier.

In Scotland COVID ended what would have been a classic spring season. Conditions had been building since February at Glencoe but unsettled weather had so far prevented a full weekend of lift served skiing. Then on the 22nd March the lifts were closed for the rest of the season. Scotland went into lockdown and naturally the West Highlands then enjoyed its sunniest and driest spring on record. The skiing would have been superb well into May !



Main basin, Glencoe, 22nd March



Looking south, Clath Leathad 1099m from Meall a Bhuiridh



Corrie Fionn, Glenshee, 15th March

Fortunately this summer we didn't have any big projects planned or any repairs that necessitated significant engineering works. We have been up to Yad Moss but just to do some small jobs and check the tow occasionally. The Committee is now planning its response to COVID-19. We think that Yad Moss is a low risk environment because of the amount of space available up there and its abundance of fresh air! In accordance with advice from our governing body, Snowsport England, we have prepared a Covid 19 risk assessment. This is focusing on the pinch points around the ticket office, the club room and the toilets. Subject to various mitigations we intend to run as normal again this winter, unless Government advice changes in some fundamental way. We'll issue details of the precautions we will be taking, on the website.

With the new winter season approaching, it's time to renew your Yad Moss Season Ticket.

Once again we have frozen the price for those renewing their tickets at £40 for adults and only £10 for children. This will enable you ski at any time the tow is running. Compared to buying a day ticket the cost of a season ticket is recouped by day two. For children a season ticket is half the price of two day tickets! Please click here [REGISTER NOW](#) for your 2020/21 season tickets.

Season tickets will only be on sale until the end of October, so make sure you apply in good time. Note that we no longer issue hard-copy membership cards. Instead you will be emailed an electronic version.

We cooperate with our fellow ski clubs over at Weardale, Allenheads and across at Raise in the Lake District. All four areas have some great skiing available when the conditions are right. Season Ticket holders can ski at these clubs for a reduced daily price and even on days when they are not permitting day memberships ([see our website for full details](#)).

Thank you so much for supporting us. We look forward to skiing with you again at Yad Moss. As a non-profit organisation, all funds are ploughed back into the facilities on the hill. We can only secure the long-term future of Yad Moss through the support of people like you, our Season Ticket holders and volunteers.



March 2020

Did you know ?

- Almost everything you can see from Yad Moss lies within the North Pennines Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty. Sometimes referred to as **'England's Last Wilderness'**, the North Pennines is a national landscape designation, rather like a National Park, but perhaps ironically without the same statutory recreational purpose
- The landscape has been shaped by nature but is **managed** by farmers for livestock grazing and by rural estates for grouse shooting
- The North Pennines is a **UNESCO Global Geopark**, highlighting its remarkable geology.
- The ski area lies entirely within the **North Pennine Moors Special Protection Area**. This is an collection of semi-natural habitats extending from West Yorkshire as far as the Scottish border. It is of European significance for upland breeding species such as Black Grouse and birds of prey such as Hen Harrier and Merlin.
- The **peatland** all around, is a carbon store of international importance. Projects are underway throughout the Pennines to prevent the peat from drying out and releasing vast amounts of carbon dioxide.



www.yadmoss.co.uk